Housing Accommodation: There are about 8,046 holdings in Gauhati (1958). Thus the average number of persons per holding comes to 14. The total number of registered houses stands at about 10,546. The average distribution of persons per house is about 9.5.

House Type: House type in Gauhati, as in the rest of Assam, are usually of two kinds either the houses may be of the common type elsewhere i.e. the Reed Walled houses on REED TYPE and Brick walled houses or BRICK TYPE.

1) Reed Type: The commoner type of houses in Assam are generally made up of reed walls. These reed walled houses are found to be most important in Gauhati town also. In the construction of the houses, the framework is first built up either by timbers or by bamboo bars, supporting posts of which are either wooden pole or the strong and stout kind of bamboo pole (locally known as Bhaluka Banh). The walls are generally made up of thin reeds or bamboo bars kept close to one another and then plaster with an admixture of mud and cowdung. In this type of houses there is no terrace. The roof is either thatched completely or half thatched and half cover by bamboo or may consist of a cover of corrugated Iron Sheets (C.I.Sheets). Generally the poorer folks live in houses which are of the REED TYPE and which have only thatched roofs. Some of these houses have only mud walls and with neither a wooden framework nor the reeds. These are really huts which invariably have only thatched roofs.

The well-to-do men live in Reed walled houses roofed with C.I.Sheets. Some of these houses have two storeys also. Many of
the ordinary shops and retail firms are also housed in reed-walled houses. In many such cases, there is provided a cloth ceiling or a reed ceiling below the actual roof, this protects the dwellers from the heat and also make the roof look, so to say, cleaner but it is not supposed to be water-proof.

The REED TYPE is better known as Assam Type House. This type may be classified under three categories - Such as A, B & C types. There are about 3,132 A-class houses which are of wooden framework with C.I. Sheets roof and pucca walls and floors. A typical A-class dwelling house consists of 4 rooms and each room occupies an average space-area of 168 sq. ft. Out of these 4 rooms one room is generally used as a drawing room and other 3 are used for sleeping and domestic purposes. The cook-shed is separately built up near or attached to the main building. The total area occupied by such a house is generally 780-85 sq. ft. The B-class is Assam Type semi-pucca with thatch roof. The structure is semi-permanent with wooden frame but walls and floor are not pucca. This type account 586 houses. This type of houses consists 2-3 rooms with or without cook-shed. The average space area occupied by these houses is from 450-600 sq. feet.

Category D signifies kutchha structure of mud walls and thatch roofs and there are about 6,200 houses which fall in this category. These houses are far below the desirable standard and in deplorable condition.

11) Brick Type: - There are about 624 brick houses in the town. These are made of brick walls and with or without a terrace. Tiles and bricks used in constructing Brick Buildings are obtained
from Brick fields which are located in the immediate neigbourhood of the town. Sand is obtained from the river bed of the Brahmaputra and stone is brought from the quarries of the gneissic boulders of the Shillong foot-hills that encircle town. Generally people do not wish to build themultistoried house here because of the frequency of the devastating earthquakes.

Brick buildings are most common in the central region i.e. Panbazar and Fancy Bazar area. This area from Panbazar to Fancy Bazar is characterised by the presence of a large number of shops, godowns, small industrial units and banks, many of them are terraced and some have more than a single storey.

While passing through the Machkhowa Road one can see a series of houses, all of brick, with two or three storeys or even more. The ground floor is generally used as office or shop while the upper floors are used as for residential purposes.

Reinforced-Cement-Concrete Buildings :- Now a days modern type of buildings have invaded some parts of Gauhāti. Such of these houses which are built with a permanent end in view are usually of reinforced concrete. They have one or two storeys and have a terrace e.g. the new D.C.'s Office, the new University Buildings at Jalukbari, the Assam High Court Building, Assam Tribune building and many others.

Examining the house-type of this town one can find a perfect example of human geography here. The nature of the roofs and construction of walls, frame show a great adjustment of man to Nature. The building materials (reeds and
bamboo) are those available locally and in abundance. Brick houses or the modern reinforced cement concrete buildings are far less susceptible to damage from earthquakes and violent storms. The C.I. Sheet roof is very good in the rainy season because it checks the force of rain and resists the impact of hailstones, though it is not quite suitable for the hot, dry weather preceding monsoon season.