



PHT *newsletter*

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SUPPORT CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

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**PENANG
HERITAGE
TRUST**

*Persatuan
Warisan
Pulau
Pinang*

PHT

EDITORIAL

Dear Members,

Well into 2004, the PHT continues to remain true to its NGO status, being concerned, being level-headed, being informative and being responsible in questioning questionable decisions.

We have been approached by the Ad Hoc Committee of Koay Jetty Residents to help them in publicising the dire circumstances they find themselves in. The Koay Jetty is in the way of development, they have become land-locked and their surroundings are badly in need of sanitary up-grading. The PHT has helped them to translate and publish an informational booklet as well as hold press conferences aimed at raising awareness of their historic uniqueness, their Persian Muslim origins and their current status. Our first site visit of the year included the Jetty.

AsiaExplorers, a web-based citizens group has also alerted PHT to join them in publicising their concern for the seeming lack of foresight in the 'eco-development' of Pulau Jerejak. A historic leper colony from the early 1800's, then a quarantine camp for contagious diseases and later a penal colony for the most dangerous of our criminals - our very own 'Alcatraz' - the value of Pulau Jerejak lies in the fascination it carries as a reflection of the times. Instead of capitalizing on its past and having the vision to 'market' something entirely different

to visitors, a mediocre eco-tourist resort has been developed. Historic structures have been demolished, there is a general lack of recording, documentation or interpretation of the site. The high level PATA Report Card of 2002, sponsored by the State Government itself, had specifically mentioned the fragility of the island and warned against careless development of Pulau Jerejak. Let us hope that the press publicity will lead to some caution being exercised.

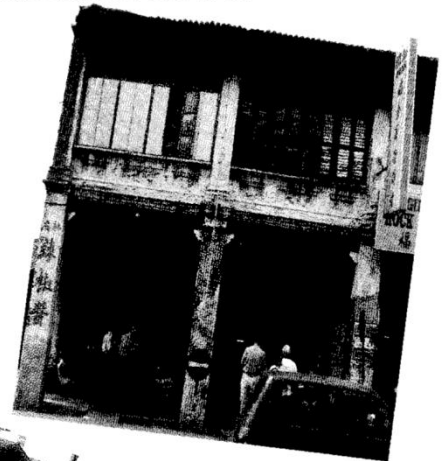
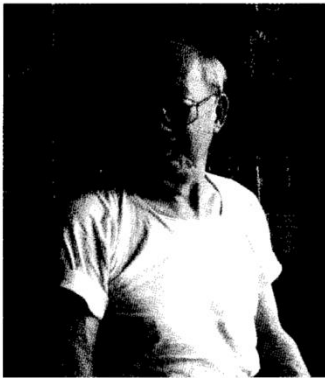
MONTHLY SITE VISITS 2004 - we are orientating our site visits this year slightly differently. The focus will be more on 'Living Heritage' - i.e. cultural property - people - at least when & where we can find them. Kickstarted in February with the Grand Master of Soya Sauce - the 'Tow Ewe Si Fu', 84 year old Mr Leong, we will continue in March with the Master of Batik Painting, 90 year old Dato Chuah Thean Teng. In April we have been invited by the proprietor of the renovated Chung Keng Kooi house in Church Street, to view his antique collection and in May, we will cross the waters to Kulim to have tea (& hopefully cucumber sandwiches) in a genuine 1930's estate manager's house in a rubber/oil palm estate.

L.L.Loh-Lim

FUTURE SITE VISITS PGS 10 & 11

SITE VISIT REPORT 28 JANUARY 2004

THE SOYA SAUCE MASTER 'TOW EWE SI FU' OF GEORGE TOWN



The 75 PHT members who turned up for the February site visit were welcomed by the sight of hundreds of old earthen urns filled with soy sauce, left exposed to the elements sitting under the blazing sun. Some of the contents of the urns were crusted by a layer of fermenting soya beans; and others were of the siphoned soya sauce, left to evaporate to thicken, its surface sprinkled with dried leaves and dead insects.

Giving members the tour of the 69 year old business was Mr Leong Fook Soong @ 'si yau sifu' (Soya Sauce Master), himself 84 years old

Apart from the actual recipe (which some may have obtained from him or the workers on the side-line), the questions were sufficiently detailed as to enable one to start home production of the sauce. Mr Leong and his workers genially provided all with answers, glad to pass on their know-how (perhaps secure with the knowledge that they are not about to be faced with any business competition from members). We were told that basically :

- A new batch is prepared each week, when about 500 kgs of beans are cooked with salt and wheat flour.
- The mixture is then left to air dry and ferment on large rattan trays. The yeast left on the trays from previous batches act as catalyst for the fermentation.
- A week after dry fermentation, the beans are then transferred to the earthen urns to continue with the fermentation process, but with the addition of brine.
- Six weeks later, the solution is siphoned off, providing the factory with the first yield of soya sauce to be obtained from that batch. (The sauce is pumped out from the urn by making a hole through the crust of fermenting beans floating at the top. The crust is not disturbed/broken up.)
- Once siphoned, more brine is added to the urn, and another week later, the second yield is obtained. This process is repeated another three times over the next three weeks, providing the factory with five yields of sauce from the one batch of beans.
- Just like olive oil, the first yield produces the best quality sauce, being more full-bodied, smoother, and completely naturally flavoured. By the third yield, artificial flavouring is used to supplement the process. This is reflected in the price of the different yields, where the first is the most expensive.
- By the end of tenth week, after the fifth and last yield is obtained, the crust of fermented beans is carefully removed, to harvest the fermented bean paste that lies under it.
- Dark soya sauce undergoes another process of being left to evaporate under the sun to thicken it.

Mr Leong's factory "Swee On Woh Soya Sauce Factory Sdn Bhd" produces the "Hand" brand light and dark soya sauces, and also Vinegar, Plum Sauce and Chilli Sauce. They distribute their produce at the Northern Region of the Peninsula, up north from Baling, to down south Kuala Kangsar. They employ 7-8 workers. We were informed that there are now only about 3-4 of such soya sauce factories still operating in Penang, of which Swee On Woh is the largest. This figure represents about 20% of the approximately 20 over factories which used to be in business in Penang.

To many PHT members familiar only with soya sauce bottles sitting on supermarket shelves, the sight of the actual operational process (of exposed sauces and hand packaged bottles) may have been of some shock to their sensitivities, but the fragrant aroma wafting through the compound does not belie the flavour of the produce. The exclamations of pleasure of those who sampled the ware on offer was proof of the taste of the sauces, and many members took the opportunity to support this dying trade by buying bottles of it. Ask Lin Lee – she bought enough bottles to braise 'tau-eu-bar' (soya sauce pork) weekly for the next year! (For those interested, the urns are covered nightly, or when it rains.)

Note from L.L. : you can actually 'feel' soya sauce between your fingers to tell its quality!!

AND FROM SOYA SAUCE TO THE NEARBY KOAY JETTY...

All pictures of site visit - courtesy of L.Loh



Our olfactory senses were assailed by aroma of a different kind at our next stop. The Koay Jetty was once a thriving community perched on top of an active beach with free flowing tide. However, with recent development and reclamation work for the Jelutong Expressway, the sea has been blocked off and no longer flows in to drain the area, and the refuse and sewage which is channelled from the houses on the jetty straight down to the sea is left stagnant. This is one of the many issues facing residents of the Koay Jetty.

The Koay Jetty has been in the news lately as it will have to make way for redevelopment of the Nordin Street area, a new transportation hub that will include the Light Monorail Transit (LMT) system, 'park and ride' facilities, as well as Phase Two of the Jelutong Expressway. Although the Koay Jetty is similar to the other Clan Jetties which has been identified by UNESCO experts as totally critical in Georgetown's submission for the world heritage listing, it is not located next to the others, and hence has been side-lined in the consideration for its conservation. In fact, the State authorities has also insisted that Koay Jetty has lost its heritage value as the Koays have lost their cultural identity, and hence, are not worth preserving.

The Koay Jetty in Penang was set-up in the 1950s, moving from the seaside community they had nearby on Bridge Street. There were similar Koay settlement jetties established in Singapore and Vietnam, but these at the other two countries have been demolished by their respective governments, leaving the one in Penang as the sole example of such a community in the world.

The Koays at the Jetty are unique as a subset of the Chinese community in Penang in that they are descendents of Baiqi Koays in China who were Muslims. This lineage is traceable back to 1376 to Koay T'ng Hui, of the village Pek Kee in Chuan Chew, Hui Aun Province. In contrast to what some may believe, in remembering their Muslim roots, the Koays at the Jetty still follow the Muslim practise of not consuming pork on religious days and during mourning periods. To this effect, they even maintain two sets of crockery, china and cutlery – one for normal use, the other for pork-free occasions.

PHT's members were briefed on the history of the Koay Jetty by Mr Koay Theng Hai, Chairman of Ad-hoc Committee. He informed us that the Committee was formed to deal with potential disintegration of the Jetty and its 200-strong community, and that 26 of the 32 homes on the Jetty have elected to stay on as a community, instead of accepting the possibility of being dispersed and rehoused elsewhere. Amongst their requests is that they are to be kept as a community intact, but with improvements to the Jetty, namely sewage and sanitation

Despite being a most concrete demonstration of living heritage and of cultural content, but with urban conservation approaches that merely focus on built heritage conservation, endangered historic communities like these are threatened, with little justification for their conservation. Although not much could be done to reverse the ill-effects of chocking of the sea where the Jetty is located, but perhaps a solution could be formulated to maintain the community as a whole. A possibility of relocation, potentially to be with the rest of the Clan Jetties at Weld Quay, could be considered as an alternative solution

JACK ONG Feb 2004



The Malaysian Nature Society has also noted that the area has the only viable mangrove ecosystem in George Town. It is a stopping place for 80 different species of migratory birds from as far as China and Siberia. It is also the largest nesting grounds for the Black Crowned Night Heron. Are we once again bent on pushing 'development' without the slightest consideration for other issues? Who is this 'development' for? Is it really for the general public of Penang, if so, shouldn't the public have a voice in the direction this development is taking? Or is it to enable the making of mega profits with mega projects?



PHT MEMBERS WITH AD-HOC COMMITTEE OF KOAY JETTY

Call to preserve Koay Jetty, mangrove

PENANG, Tues. — Residents of the Koay Jetty in George Town here have a unique ancestry as they are descendants of the Hui minority group in China.

Baiqi Koay Cultural Revitalisation Ad-Hoc Joint Committee chairman Koay Teng Hai said because of this historical significance, the Koay Jetty had the potential to become a tourist attraction.

He urged the State Government to help preserve the Koay Jetty located in the foreshore area off Pengkalian Weld, near the ferry terminal.

For their part, Koay and his clansmen have produced a brochure entitled, "The Endangered Koay Jetty".

A simple ceremony was held to launch the brochure. Present at the launch were Penang Heritage Trust chairman Dr Choong Sim Poey, Malaysian Nature Society Penang branch chairman Kanda Kumar, Malaysian Chinese Muslim Association committee member Danial Hakim Boey, and several tourists from New Zealand and Germany.

The brochure described the origin of the Hui group as a result of inter-marriages between Arabs and the Han Chinese in Fujian, China during the 14th century.

The Huis adopted the surname Koay, and came to Penang as merchants more than 100 years ago.

In the 1960s, some Baiqi Koay clansmen here set up the Koay Jetty where they lived in a closely-knit community.

At present, there are about 200 residents living in 32 houses on the jetty, and 80 per cent of them have the surname Koay.

Dr Choong urged the State Government not to demolish the Koay Jetty to make way for high rise flats and commercial buildings but instead to upgrade the jetty's facilities.

Together with the new Islamic Museum in Lebuh Armenian, the Kapitan Keling Mosque and Mesjid Melayu, the Koay Jetty would

enhance Penang's Islamic heritage, he added.

Kanda said the Koay Jetty was also home to the only mangrove ecosystem in inner George Town.

"This small area of mangrove attracts over 30 species of birds including migratory species from as far as China and Siberia and is the largest nesting area on the island for the Black-crowned Night Heron. This area definitely has rich heritage and bio-diversity."

NEW STRAITS TIMES

3/3/04



UNIQUE HERITAGE: (From left) Boey, Koay, Dr Choong and foreign tourists admiring the brochures at Koay Jetty, Penang.

We welcome to Penang, Leslie James and his wife, Kok Pow Lin. We are honoured that they have chosen Penang to retire to and we look forward to seeing lots of them at PHT. Leslie contributes his first article....

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIES OF OLD PENANG

Since my retirement from the Canadian diplomatic service in years as Counsellor at the Canadian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur my wife and I have realized our dream of living in Penang. We are delighted also to become members of the PHT. Both of us have family connections with the Pearl of the Orient. The maternal grandfather of my wife, Kok Pow Lin, was the artist Yong Mun Sen whose studio for many years was on Penang Road. In my case, both my parents lived in Penang before the Second World War. My father Leslie K. James worked for the Chartered Bank (1935-37) and my mother Doris M. Preston was a nurse at the General Hospital from 1934. Penang must have been a big place even for the small European community in those days because surprisingly they did not meet while they were living here. They met later when they were both working in Kuching. They married and returned to Britain in 1940.

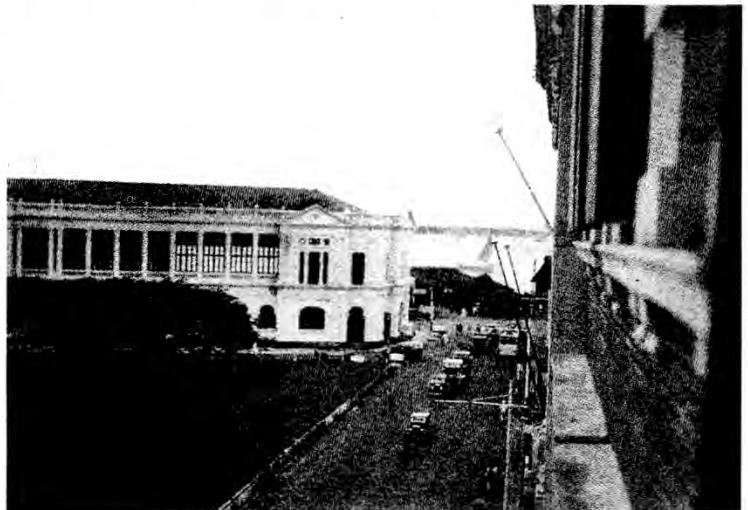


2003 following five
Lumpur my wife and

Among my father's photographs are three taken in the mid-1930s from the old Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank building on the corner of Beach Street and Downing Street:

The first is a view along Downing Street towards Weld Quay and the Harbour showing the Post Office building (destroyed by Allied bombs in the final months of the Second World War) and Victoria Jetty at the end of Downing Street.

Notice the boat under sail off Victoria Jetty, the jinrickshaws plying Downing Street and the trolley-bus coming up Downing Street on the right (the overhead wires being suspended from two white poles). The grassy open space on the left side of Downing Street was the Government Quadrangle surrounded on three sides by the Straits Settlements Government Offices, of which the Post Office formed one side along Weld Quay.



The second view from the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank is along Beach Street towards Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Clock Tower. On the right is a corner of the Land Office Wing of the Government Offices (the only block of the former Government Offices still standing, currently occupied by the State Islamic Religious Council). On the left are the three-storey Police Station and the two-storey current Immigration office above which the Flagstaff of Fort Cornwallis is visible. A corner bastion of the Fort can be seen to the left of the Clock Tower while warehouses are seen to the right.





The third photograph taken from the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank is a view across the rooftop of the two-storey Logan's Buildings at the corner of Union Street and Beach Street looking towards cloud-shrouded Penang Hill. On the right is a corner of the Chartered Bank. Notice the Union Street sign at the bottom of the photograph and signs on the Union Street facade for the "ROBINSON PIANO CO." and "PRITCHARDS THE STORE FOR EVERYTHING", two shops that occupied premises in Logan's Buildings.

In addition to these three photographs are photographs of two houses where my father lived when he was working at the Chartered Bank, the first a single-storey bungalow (address not known) and the second a double-storey house at 42 Kelawei Road (sadly replaced in recent times by a small nondescript apartment block). Another photograph shows the front garden of the Chartered Bank Mess (address again unfortunately not recorded).



If any PHT members recognize the single-storey bungalow or know the location of the former Chartered Bank Mess, recognizable perhaps by the unusual structure (or monument?) seen across the street in the photograph, I should be most interested.

Leslie A.K. James
Penang, February 2004

SRI LANKA
IN JULY**WORLD MONUMENTS FUND**

in co-operation with ICOMOS Sri Lanka

and in association with The Asia Society, New York

Heritage Conservation**New Alliances for Past, Present and Future**(Conference on heritage conservation in South and Southeast Asia
Colombo, Sri Lanka, July 28-30 2004)

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The World Monuments Fund is pleased to announce the holding of an important conference – *Heritage Conservation: New Alliances for Past, Present and Future* – designed to address key issues of heritage conservation in South and Southeast Asia.

The working sessions of the conference will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from July 28 to 30, 2004 and will be followed by an optional site visit to the World Heritage sites of Kandy, Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa which will take place from July 30 to August 1, 2004.

The conference will be organized in cooperation with ICOMOS Sri Lanka (the Sri Lankan National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites) and in association with The Asia Society.

Rationale

Asia's built heritage is extremely rich and diverse. Yet public awareness of the need to conserve it as a precious non-renewable resource is still weak. Heritage conservation is a low priority for governments throughout the region and public sector investment in this domain falls far short of real needs. It is urgent, therefore to promote greater commitment to conservation on the part of the private sector and through private/public sector partnerships. We must also increase recognition that the private sector and civil society (particularly at the local level) can contribute significantly. The challenge is to stimulate, facilitate and strengthen the degree, depth and reach of such non-governmental commitment as well as forge innovative private/public sector partnerships for this purpose.

The World Monuments Fund (WMF) seeks to build on its unique global experience and lead the way in building the new inter-sectoral alliances now required. It therefore proposes to organize a conference that will enable a new mix of concerned actors to debate key issues and stakes related to heritage conservation as well as begin to build new connections and working relationships. Integral to the advancement of this primary agenda is the secondary purpose of promoting understanding and critical appraisal of the ground-breaking World Monuments Watch program as well as regional linkages and partnerships to buttress it.

The successful and sustained outcomes of its 2002 Sao Paulo conference – which pursued similar goals for Latin America – have inspired the WMF to launch a long-term process of awareness-building, commitment-raising and outreach throughout Asia. Because of the continent's scale and diversity, however, this long-term campaign must be pursued in manageable sub-regional stages. Thus the first conference will focus on heritage conservation in South and Southeast Asia. It will be held in a country with an excellent record of building multi-sector partnerships for the conservation of its cultural heritage.

Objectives

1. To promote greater private sector commitment to the conservation of built heritage in South and Southeast Asia, as well as recognition by governments at all levels, including the local, of the need to facilitate and encourage inter-sectoral alliances for this purpose.
2. To make the World Monuments Watch program better known and launch a regional network of participation, appraisal and partnership in and for the program.

Participants and audience

- Conservators, conservation architects, urbanists and planners in South and Southeast Asia¹
- Representatives of international/regional/national/local foundations and business sponsors committed to (or interested in) heritage conservation
- Civil society activists in this field: NGOs, local associations, citizens' groups, etc.
- Officials from all levels of government
- Representatives of the media (particularly cultural journalists and editors)
- Academics and others interested in heritage conservation

Program Highlights

Speakers will include front-rank practitioners, specialists and public officials such as Dr Roland Silva, President Emeritus of ICOMOS, Dr Senake Bandaranayake, Elisabeth Cardoso, Vishakha Desai, Richard Engelhardt, Karan Grover, Laurence Loh, the Hon. Eva Marie S. Medina, John Sanday, Augusto Villalon and Gamini Wijeyesuriya, together with the WMF's Bonnie Burnham, Amita Baig, Y. Raj Isar and John Stubbs. They will be joined by panels of discussants representing the diversity of cultural settings and issues in the sub-region.

The conference will address key issues pertaining to heritage preservation such as:

Concepts of 'built heritage' in South and Southeast Asia: What historical, religious and cultural conditions, architectural characteristics and building technologies provide the normative and methodological frameworks for conservation? How are buildings and sites defined as being of historic or cultural worth? What is the relationship between conservation practice, contemporary use and religious buildings and sites? What is authenticity in the South and Southeast Asian context? What is the relationship between built form and intangible knowledge and know-how? How to ensure that living vernacular traditions survive? Does colonial architecture deserve protection? How to address the recent manifestations of political exploitation of heritage and conservation? What social patterns and ruptures influence attitudes towards and commitment to heritage conservation

The policies and institutions for heritage stewardship: What are the strengths and weaknesses of the 'conservation infrastructure' in different countries of the region, both governmental and non-governmental? What is the role of traditional forms of cultural stewardship such as temples, monasteries, the waqf, etc.? How well do governments recognize the potential of private and civil society actors? Who are or should be the stakeholders in the shared responsibilities of care, conservation, maintenance and contemporary usage? Success stories, as well as instructive failures, will be presented. What role has the World Monuments Watch played?

Sustainable conservation: *If sustainable conservation is to become a reality, how can existing tools and assets be mobilized? These include: safeguarding traditions of great antiquity, repertoires of traditional knowledge and know-how; community energy; a range of traditional guardians of built heritage, particularly with regard to sacred sites...To what extent and for how long can these assets survive? How can obstacles such as the following be overcome: the lack of resources to inventory the built heritage and assess its present state of conservation; inadequate legal and regulative frameworks; limited understanding of specific materials such as adobe/mud brick; limited commitment to upkeep and maintenance faced with the pressures of urbanization; the paucity of training opportunities; limited employment in this sector? What are the lessons of adaptive re-use of heritage buildings?*

Conservation, community development and public awareness: Limited resources and the ethic of participation make it imperative for local communities to take part in heritage conservation, viewing it as a key ingredient of local development. A commitment to monuments and sites must be developed and propagated far more widely if people are to shoulder what the Venice Charter defines as their 'common responsibility to safeguard them for future generations' so that they are transmitted 'in the full richness of their authenticity.' What are the conservation-related initiatives and processes with which national and local communities have been successfully engaged already? What lessons can be learned from these experiences? What sorts of incentives and recognition mechanisms could governments provide?

Heritage and tourism: *It is necessary everywhere to develop a better understanding of the promise of cultural tourism as well as its limitations, not to speak of the growing threats posed by excessive mass tourism flows. As the tourism industry is principally a for-profit activity how can its quantitative imperatives be reconciled with the preservation of the integrity of historical ensembles and sites? Can tourism development policies be developed that place the built heritage in a 'joined-up' context with other aspects of culture and contemporary life?*

New alliances for heritage conservation: *How have alliances between government, civil society and the private sector been built? How does Asia compare with other regions in this regard? Do the public authorities encourage such partnerships? If so, how? Are there negative attitudes that need to be overcome? If so, how? Are there agencies that have already done so? What are the success stories in this area? What role for inter-governmental organizations such as UNESCO and for financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank?*

A detailed conference program is currently under preparation and will be circulated as soon as it becomes available. The program will also be posted on the WMF website. For regularly updated versions of this program, please visit <http://wmf.org/html/programs/conferences.html>

There is no registration fee.

■ **Board and Lodging**

Our Travel Agent, Quickshaws Limited, Colombo (website: <http://www.quickshaws.com/>)

has secured discounted rooms at the 5-star Trans Asia Hotel (website: <http://www.lanka.net/transasia/>) in downtown Colombo, where the working sessions of the conference will be held.

The bed and breakfast package for the three nights of July 28 through 30 will cost \$ 385 for a single room. All meals and refreshments beginning with the Welcome Dinner on July 28 will be provided courtesy of World Monuments Fund.

Additional nights (bed and breakfast) before and after the conference will cost \$85 for a single room and \$95 for a double room.

Reservations should be made directly with Quickshaws at tours@quickshaws.com. The mailing and fax address is the following: Quickshaws Tours Ltd., PO Box 1830, #3, Kalinga Place, Colombo 00500, SRI LANKA. Tel: 0094 - 11 - 258 3133 - 4 - 5, 258 2995, 250 8368 and 9. Fax: 0094 - 11 - 258 7613

■ **Travel to Colombo**

Travel arrangements (with discounted fares on Sri Lankan Airlines) can be made through Quickshaws Limited (see above). Participants are encouraged to book as early as possible in order to guarantee optimal airfare pricing and prompt delivery of tickets. Please ensure visa and passport update requirements are met well in advance. Airport transfers will be provided to all participants by Quickshaws Limited.

■ **Site visit (Optional)**

The cost of the optional post-conference site visit to Kandy, Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa will be \$340 per person (\$275 if sharing a double room). This cost includes 2 nights at the award-winning Kandalama Hotel, all meals, transportation and transfers to Colombo Airport. Reservations for the site visit should be made directly with Quickshaws Limited.

Weather

Temperatures in Sri Lanka at the end of July average around 27 – 30 C in Colombo. Some showers may also be expected as the monsoon season in the southwest is between May and July.

Special Assistance

Please advise Quickshaws Limited of any special needs regarding health or dietary conditions for flights and hotel in advance.

Registration

Please confirm your attendance as soon as possible to guarantee your space by sending the completed registration form via email to paliw@eureka.lk or eps@eureka.lk.

Although it is being designed for participants from South and Southeast Asia, the conference will be open to people from other Asia/Pacific countries and beyond who have a professional interest in these regions and/or expertise based on direct experience of its needs and potential...



Tuesday February 10, 2004

Suffolk House receives RM2m boost

by Regina Williams
newdesk@theundaily.com

PENANG: Efforts initiated since 1961 to restore the first "Great House" of Penang – Suffolk House, built by Francis Light in 1792 – received a RM2 million boost yesterday which will enable Phase Two of the project to start immediately.

The contribution was made by HSBC Bank Malaysia Bhd, the main anchor sponsor for the RM5 million restoration project, which will take three years to complete.

HSBC, represented by its deputy chairman and chief executive officer, Zarir Cama, and the Penang state government, represented by state financial officer Ng Kam

Cheng, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the project.

The state government will also spend RM1.5 million over the next three years, and the remaining RM1.5 million will be sourced from other sponsors.

"Once the house is restored, it will be an attraction for tourism, especially among British tourists who form 15% of the tourists visiting Penang annually," Koh said.

Built in the vast estate of Suffolk, and owned by Francis Light, the founder of the British settlement in Penang, Suffolk House was the home of the early governors and the place for many important events.

The detached double-storey building is set in open

grounds along the banks of the Air Itam River.

The first "Great House" of Penang, Suffolk House was unsurpassed in its architectural and historical significance and is said to be a fine example of Anglo-Indian architecture outside of India.

It served as a government house from 1810 to 1820, and critical political issues, such as the founding of Singapore, were first discussed by Stamford Raffles in Suffolk House.

The campaign to restore Suffolk House began as early as 1961 but waned and Suffolk House continued to fall into ruin.

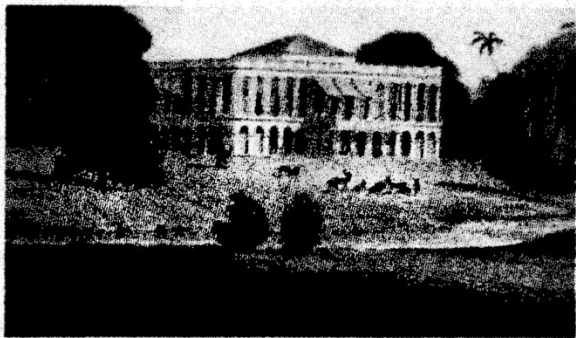
In 1993, the Penang Heritage Trust conducted a dilapidation survey with the help of Saxon International, a group specialising in conservation and heritage projects from Adelaide, the town founded by Light's son, William.

Stabilisation works were carried out.

The state formed the Suffolk House Committee after the 1994 election but it stayed idle.

Finally in 2000, the state government acquired the property by exchanging neighbouring land with the Methodist Church.

Phase One of the restoration works to restore the roof started in November 2000 with a RM500,000 allocation from the state government.



View of Suffolk House in the early 19th century, as shown in a painting by William Daniell, 1821.

PICTURE COURTESY PENANG MUSEUM

Move to conserve heritage buildings hailed

PENANG: Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon yesterday welcomed the proposed amendments to the Town and Country Planning Act in efforts to conserve heritage buildings.

He said that with legal provisions and guidelines, including the setting up of the Heritage Fund and a National Heritage Board, more can now be done.

"It has taken a long time for awareness and consciousness of preserving heritage buildings, especially among the leadership echelon, to set in," Koh said.

"Heritage was often viewed by everyone, especially those in development projects, as a stumbling block rather than an asset and

there was tremendous pressure from these parties," he said.

"It was also viewed as a shame rather than an asset but it is now gaining momentum, especially through the efforts of Badan Warisan Malaysia and others, who have played an important role in contributing towards this consciousness."

Koh was speaking at a signing ceremony between the state government and HSBC Bank Malaysia Bhd.

Under the amendment, owners of heritage buildings and sites will get tax deductions and financial aid from the government.

The amendments are expected to be passed by parliament next month.



Ng exchanges documents with Zarir Cama after the signing of the MoU yesterday, witnessed by Koh.

After more than 40 years of public agitation, the restoration of Suffolk House is finally going to be completed. Phase One to restore the central core and jack roof, was completed in 2002. Money ran out, the house was once again abandoned. Finally, the white knight arrives in the form of Zarir Cama, Deputy Chairman and CEO of HSBC. Taken on a tour by Laurence Loh, he had been charmed by Suffolk House and convinced of its great historical importance. Therein lies the rest of the tale... Standards of restoration will be along the lines of international best practice, full completion is expected in 2 years time. Given the age and fragility of Suffolk House, future uses will be limited to low impact activities. The Ground Floor will have function spaces for theme events, the First Floor will house the most comprehensive collection of Early Paintings of Penang in the world, currently owned by the State Museum & Art Gallery. The location is ideal given the nature of the collection and its compatibility with the cultural significance of the site.

VERY LARGE SUFFOLK HOUSE POSTERS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE PHT OFFICE FOR RM10/ EACH



Chuah Thean Teng Born 1914

Father of Batik Painting in Malaysia

PHT SITE VISIT SUN 28TH MARCH 04 – 3.30 P.M.

YAHONG ART GALLERY,

BATU FERINGGHI (opposite Holiday Inn)

Chuah Thean Teng, pioneer artist of Malaysia, Master of Batik Painting, was born in Fujian, China in 1914. Joining his grandparents in Penang as a teenager, Chuah married a Penang girl in 1943 and has lived here ever since. Teng, as he is popularly known, was the first to adapt the ancient Asian craft of batik or wax-dyeing cloth into a medium of fine art. His colourful images of Malaysian life are internationally acclaimed, not just in Malaysia, but hang in major galleries, museums and private collections throughout the world.

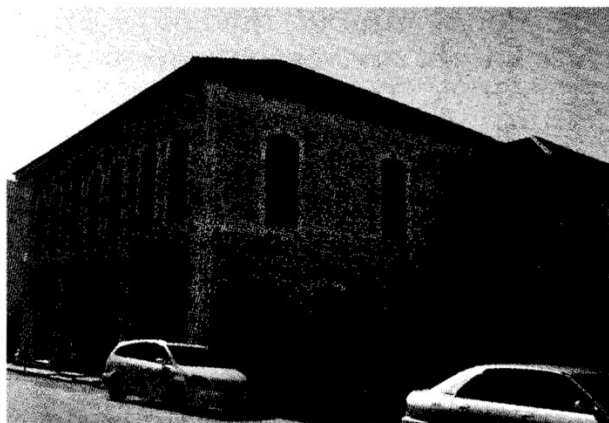
His paintings have been selected by UNICEF; in 1977 he was the first Malaysian artist to be invited to the Commonwealth Artists of Fame Exhibition in England.

Extensively exhibited throughout the world, he has been featured in books and magazines and is listed in the 'International Who's Who of Intellectuals', 'Who's Who in the World' & 'Men of Achievement'.

Statement by the artist, "Art is the vision of the artist, his creation, imagination and expression reflecting the artist's many degrees of feeling. It is an interplay of both emotional & visual expression where the illusions created convey the statements across. And through the different modes of expressions, we are compelled to seek some standard of value to enable us to distinguish between them. This distinction is called the transformation of things."

Dato Chuah Thean Teng runs the Yahong Art Gallery with his two sons, Siew Teng & Siew Keng, both acknowledged artists in their own right. He is considered by PHT to be a 'Living Cultural Treasure' and we are very honoured that he has agreed to meet with us. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to be in the presence of a truly great and humble man.

SUN APRIL 25TH SITE VISIT-3.30 P.M. THE CHUNG KENG KOOI HOUSE, CHURCH ST.



Recently renovated and now the site of an enviable antique collection, the Chung Keng Kooi house will be the venue for the April 2004 site visit. The restored "Hai Kee Chan" now houses Baba & Nyonya artefacts with a nyonya bridal chamber, costumes, nyonya slippers, beadwork, porcelain ware, etc showcasing the Baba & Nyonya lifestyle of the 1920s and the 1930s.

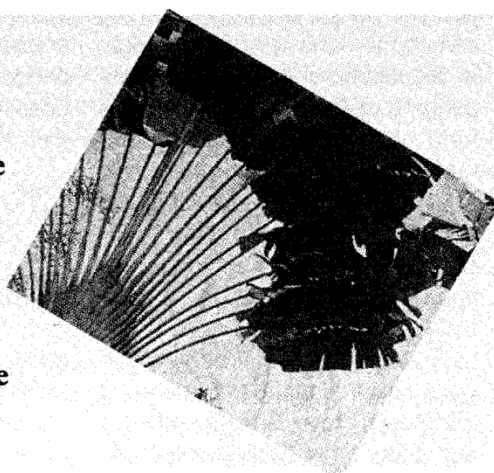
Michael Cheah, staunch PHT member who manages the antique collection, has very kindly invited us to view the extensive collection of the proprietor, Mr Peter Soon.

Don't miss this opportunity, whether you are a serious collector or just a browser. Although the Memorial Hall remains unrestored this is a very important historical site. It was the head-quarters of the Hai Sans, the dramatic centre of the Larut Tin Wars in Penang, where purported massacres of the enemy Ghee Hins took place. If you missed earlier site visits here, join us in April.

MAY SITE VISIT - SUNDAY 30TH 3.30 P.M.

We have been invited to Kulim - rubber / oil palm estate - 1930's manager's house - a glimpse into the past - 'white man's big house, coolie barracks, stengahs on the verandah, immersed in the chirping of crickets and the sounds of the jungle..'

All details re. location, maps, car-pooling etc will be provided via e-mail soon.



[Editor's Note: The following article written in 1938 allows us a view of Penang before WW2, written by a local. Mr C.S. See of Kuala Lumpur was very well known in his day and authored the book 'A Chinese Sees the World' All perceived 'errors', are original to the text]

THE MALACCA GUARDIAN, MONDAY MARCH 7 1938

Hollywood On Location In Penang

FIRST TECHNICOLOUR FILM IN MALAYA

MALACCA MAY BE THE SCENE NEXT YEAR

Special Article by C.S. See

Within a few months time you will hear on the screen, "This is James A. FitzPatrick, the 'Voice of the Globe', presenting the world to the world. In our trip round the world, we came to the charming island of Penang, one of the most beautiful spots which lies off the scenic coast of Malay Land.."

When you hear that at the theatre, you will be seeing the first technicolour film of Penang; so glorious will it depict the beauty spots that it will make you believe that Penang is after all an earthly paradise. The wonderful climate, the scenic Hill Railway, the swaying coconut palms, the faint sea breezes, the beautiful sunset, are some of the wonderful things which James FitzPatrick will tell about Penang to millions of people throughout the world.

To-day James FitzPatrick is a potential producer of Travelogue films of which he has already made over a hundred in number. His voice is heard by over a million people everyday. His pictures are released by Metro-Goldwyn Mayer and they are shown in over 20,000 theatres in all countries. Before the cameramen of the

FitzPatrick Pictures Incorporated landed in Penang from the "Empress of Britain", Mr FitzPatrick intended combining the two biggest places in Malaya and making a travelogue "Highlights of Singapore and Penang". That is pretty tame! I would suggest, "Penang, Paradise of the Tropics" or "Penang, Pearl of the Malay Archipelago". I know that contrary to their expectation several thousand feet of film were taken of Penang yesterday, which in the opinion of Mr Paul Weil, Director of the Advertising & Publicity Department, "was beautiful and we have shot enough of Penang to make one picture. We could not resist filming the loveliness of your Island to show to the world"

NOTHING NEW

To watch the shooting of a scene in the studio is nothing new to me but it was a pleasant experience to go on 'location'. Hollywood cameramen may get stale after a time when their location scenes do not extend further than San Bernardino valley, but travelogue cameramen who are fortunate to go around in search of beauty spots get quite a thrill in every strange place they visit. It was fun for the 'boys'

when they held up traffic in Penang to take pictures of the traffic policeman and his 'wings' when they cast their eyes on sacred snakes for the first time, when they skirted along Penang harbour on board the motor launch.

With the modern technicolour camera costing \$26,000 gold, we set out at eight in the morning in two automobiles in the personnel of Mr. Paul Weil, Bob Carey, ace cameraman of Hollywood, Dick Glendinning, co-cameraman, Mr & Mrs Martin DeMuth and myself. I was supposed to be guide but I played scout, casting Director, actor, leading man and did bits of directing myself.

READY FOR ACTION

With the camera all fixed ready for action in the open car we looked for likely places to include in our film of Penang. Susceptible like all other tourists who come East of Suez for the first time, cameraman Bob Carey fell for the 'winged' policeman standing on the top of a tub on the Penang Road-Burmah Road junction. Those who were returning from the market and young office clerks who were cycling to work were surprised to find a traffic

jam and people crawling round the cameramen who were shooting right in the middle of the junction. Passengers in the trolley buses were held up, rickshaw pullers were huddled together, poor innocents who didn't understand what it was all about at first - smiled at the sturdy constable who raised his hands, signalled right and left and did a complete 'about-turn' in order to oblige us. Publicity-Director, Weil then held up a small blackboard showing "FitzPatrick Travel Talk, World Cruise and a few other chalk jottings" and the camera snapped that for reference. We hurried away before the traffic controller had a chance to come down on us for the crowds who were gathered around were causing a serious congestion.

GORGEOUS PENANG

We then drove across 10 miles of well paved asphalt road, passed Jelutong and then arrived at Glugor. Don't tell me Penang is not enchanting in this part early in the morning! The cameraman looked up at the whispering coconut palms and exclaimed "Oh how gorgeous!" Publicity Director Weil burst into a series of exclamations which perhaps do not occur to those of us who live on this island & have never been out elsewhere. "Look how lovely are those hills - is that the mainland over there? - isn't this beautiful? - oh, you have paddy fields here- and the green trees - this island is wonderful!"... We reached the snake Temple before the other three hundred tourists came to scare the sacred snakes.

We took a scene at the temple. When you see the film you will find an old Chinese lady praying devoutly, obviously unmindful of the world around. But she was kind enough to rehearse around for us and we were obligated to her for walking out to the entrance again where she 'kow-towed' three times and proceeded to burn her incense, paper money and two packets of crackers. She misunderstood our request, threw the crackers near our feet and all of us jumped up; but when 2 half burnt ends

of the fire crackers crashed on cameraman Dick Glendinging's head he shouted "Oh by! I never knew an offering like that could hurt me. It sure scared me if not the devils"

FOOD FOR SNAKES

We entered the temple to survey the statues of the gods and looked at the hen's eggs on the table for the food of the snakes. It was too early and the sacred adders were still sleeping. The light was too poor inside but the priest who understood our mission allowed us to carry out to the entrance the two large vessels in which scores of poisonous snakes in various colours and sizes were resting a bit too peacefully. The sacred things wouldn't budge and for the sake of making a better picture for FitzPatrick I had to handle the snakes and play around with them. I tried to take a big fellow in my hands but he wouldn't let me. The others with rather odd looking spots on their heads didn't seem to like my intrusions. When millions of cinemagoers see me on the screen playing with these snakes they will think I am a snake charmer. Nothing of the sort and don't you fling your coppers at me. The snakes were feeling uncomfortable in the hot sun & popped up their heads in the air & showed their poisonous fangs at this unaccustomed treatment & attention they were receiving." We better beat it" said Martin DeMuth, and we drove back to town.



SPECIAL INTERVIEW

I had a special interview with Mr James A. FitzPatrick on board the Empress Britain. He first told me "Penang is a paradise for cameramen. To-day's technicolour

film of Penang will simply sell this charming Island of yours to the rest of the world. I am pleased to say my boys took some very lovely pictures and, knowing Penang as I do, I cannot wait for the picture to finish and see it shown in every theatre in the world" You have something there, Mr FitzPatrick. Penang is 'Honolulu unadvertised' & 'Bali unappraised' You sing our praises for us & when you come back next year we will know how to welcome you.

Being very interested in this point I told Mr FitzPatrick I hoped he could come back to make a couple of technicolour pictures of the Malay States. "I already have it in my plan" he replied and I hope to be able to present your interesting Malay customs on the screen in future. People in Europe and America are 'crazy' about this type of educative film. At the same time it is an advertisement for the Malay States"

After an interesting day in Penang when we shot numerous pictures of the Island I was a guest at tea of Mr FitzPatrick's company on board the luxury liner, the 'Empress of Britain'. The troupe were glad to accept an invitation to broadcast from the Penang Wireless Station and I had the privilege of bringing them there and introduced them on the air. Mr Weil read a message on behalf of Mr FitzPatrick, "Voice of the Globe", Mr Dick Glendinging spoke about Penang from a cameraman's point of view and Mr Martin DeMuth, lecturer on board the 'Empress of Britain' who had been around the world eleven times spoke on the 'Empress of Britain' and her present world cruise after which they all hurried back to the steamer that was sailing away from Penang harbour after all the passengers had a glorious day in the Island of Penang.

I was naturally happy to have had the opportunity of 'going Hollywood' for a day. When Mr FitzPatrick returns next year I will persuade him to make a Technicolour picture of Malacca.

C.S. See [thanks to H.C. Lim for copy]

PULAU JEREJAK REVISITED Feb 29th 2004**[J.R ROBERTSON REPORTS]**

Recent reports and alerts from a web-based group, Asia Explorers prompted the Penang Heritage Trust to join several other groups to reconnoitre the Island and report back their findings. The visit included representatives from the Star Publications, Press Kwong Wah and Guang Ming Daily and Sahabat Alam Malaysia

The chief concern of the PHT was the possible loss of important landmarks relevant to Pulau Jerejak's history. It is generally known that the island was used as a leper colony from the turn of the 20th century later including cases of open TB that required isolation facilities. The visitors were able to confirm that in the very recent past almost all of the buildings from this historical site have been demolished by the developers "Tropical Island Resorts", presumably acting for the Penang State Development Corporation. The PHT noted that the site actually has considerable natural beauty, and sensitively developed could enhance the island's attractions. But plans for landscaping the area should include some clear commemoration of its medical history. Care should be taken to conserve the graves of two Russian sailors, which are currently so overgrown as to be almost hidden from view. In 1914 at the start of World War 1, these two sailors were killed in Penang harbour, when the veteran German cruiser Emden sank the Russian light cruiser Zhemchug, the latter under the breathtakingly incompetent command of Baron Cherkassov. The events which led up to that action, and what happened subsequently are a famous part of World War 1 naval history and worthy of commemoration.

On the other side of the island, alongside the site formally used as a prison, a holiday resort has been recently opened, marred unfortunately by a muddy and heavily polluted foreshore opposite the industrial estate of BayanLepas. What can be done with the few prison buildings that remain is hard to envisage, but the site needs to be acknowledged and commemorated, having served various purposes, not least the accommodation of 2000 detainees following the events of May 13th 1969. The site also includes several Muslim, Chinese and Christian graves set directly along side each other.

Sadly the whole area adjacent to the new holiday resort is in a serious, unsightly state of neglect and disorder with much unregulated dumping and tonnes of hazardous looking flotsam and jetsam thrown up by the narrow sea channel onto the shore in front.

The PHT recommends that a close inspection of these areas and a decision about their future designation is essential if the history of the island is not to be obliterated.

**AND JACK ONG, EQUALLY DISTURBED WRITES.....****Leper Colony**

The trip started at the south-eastern end of the island, where the group visited the former leper colony. Forest Ang, the guide for the visit, highlighted the non-presence of buildings there. No structures could be seen, including the shed that once covered the well.

The graves of the Russian seamen, which were reported initially by AsiaExplorers to have been demolished, were discovered amongst the tall weeds that were overrunning the area.

Further down the stretch, three buildings were left standing. They are believed to be the dispensary, store-room and guards' post. Forest Ang showed several photographs taken during his previous trips there in 1999 and 2000. We could see some buildings were standing then, but which are no longer in existence. However, even with no photo comparison, one would expect to see more buildings there, reflecting what was from all accounts, a thriving community. Obviously some party had demolished the buildings between 2000 and 2004.

We met a group of Indian gentlemen at the Hindu shrine (near the store-room), and spoke to a Mr Bala. He informed us that he once lived on the island, where his father was the cook in the hospital, and proceeded to talk to us about their lives then. He informed us that the lepers and tuberculosis patients were settled together, and that the island had three camps, the largest being Camp Three, where we were.

Mr Bala indicated that he has met with the subcontractor in charge of the demolition of the structures, and that the clearing was performed about six months previously. However, a mound of rubble not far from the site was overgrown with ground cover and saplings. Looking at the general condition of the land that was covered with long luxuriant weed/grass, and at the rubble mound, it was generally felt that the destruction had taken place more than six months earlier.

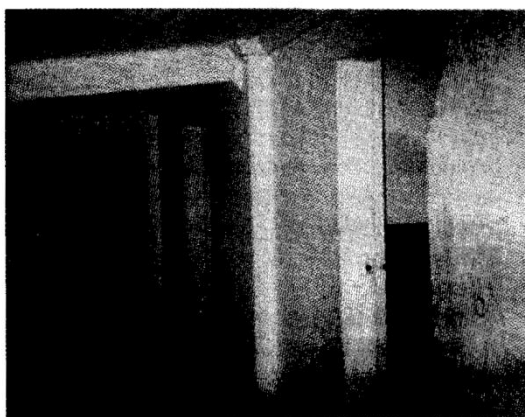
Puzzling Observation

A very mystifying factor was the decision to develop the Resort at its present location. From what was described above, it would not seem to be an ideal location – muddy beach, facing industrial area, unswimmable sea – when over at the south-eastern side near the leper colony, there was a lovely white beach overlooking the sea with nothing perceivable beyond. It would be on that side of the island that would better serve eco-tourism.

To hazard a guess, it could be that the developers are earmarking that side of the island for greater things, perhaps building exclusive (and higher priced) chalets and accommodation. If this were to be so, the authorities have to act before full-scale development proceeds there, where the scant remaining buildings from the island's history are completely eradicated.

Ecological Issue

More an ecological issue than heritage issue would be the distressingly large amounts of rubbish found on the island. Those washed up on the beaches could be excused as beyond the Resort's control, but there were many inland sites where blatant mass dumping had occurred. The mounds of rubbish are presumably from the Resort, as no other individuals or parties were perceived to be operating from the island – apart from the occasional visitors who cross the channel to trek there or to offer prayers at the Hindu shrine – none of which were capable of generating the large amount of trash.



In the article by Neil Khor in the Star, he also reported the existence of wild dogs on the island. In fact, Mr Bala also spoke about the island's commanding officer who shot the dogs as a favourite pastime. However, no such pack of canine residents was spotted. Perhaps, just like the buildings, they were deemed as eye-sores, and eradicated en-masse.

Tuberculosis Compound

Proceeding to the central backbone of Jerejak, on the way to the tarred road linking the eastern and western sides of the island, we came upon what we believe to be the quarters of tuberculosis patients. We were briefed by the AsiaExplorers that the structure previously had heavy metal doors for each room/cell. However, the doors are no longer there. Heavy hinges remain, alluding to the strength and solidness of the doors. A building next to the rows of rooms was also without its roof.

The jungle had encroached onto the buildings, and trees were growing right up to the edge of the compound. If these were indeed accommodation for the patients, they would have been a very dismal place in which to recuperate; the cells being windowless, with heavily barred small ventilation holes, and the heavy metal doors.

Resort and Spa

Crossing the hill-range that separated the eastern and western sides, we reached the Resort and Spa at the end of the tarred road. For an eco-resort, we noticed very uneco-friendly practise of dumping of rubbish, including many empty plastic water bottles, in the area. It is hypothesised that the pristine white beach fronting the resort is man-made, as the sand was more akin to construction sand than to beach sand, and the sand nearer to the waterline after the retaining wall that held the white sand was in fact a muddy grey. There was a large sign board that strongly recommended not swimming in the sea, and the view from the resort was that of the Bayan Lepas industrial zone. Not exactly the idyllic escape one imagines.

all attempt to educate the public on the history of the island is seen on a mural off the Lobby, where brief information of its past was recorded.

Female Detention Centre

Leaving the resort, we observed many buildings were left in dilapidated condition, with rubbish literally overflowing from the rooms. Some of these had signs of recent construction work (bricked up walls and patched mortar), perhaps indicating potential use by the Resort management. We believe these buildings were used by the Drug Rehabilitation Centre.

Before arriving at the Female Detention Centre were the graves for Muslims, Christians, and Chinese. The graves were generally covered in weeds, and had they not been located just next to the path, would not have been noticed. Structures at the Female Detention Centre were mostly destroyed, and not a single whole building could be seen.

Male Detention Centre

Three metal and zinc roofed structures were still standing at the grounds. We were informed that these are remnants of a compound that once had about thirty buildings. There were still to be seen the attempts of the detainees to personalise their little personal living areas in the dormitory-styled accommodation.

Puzzlingly, there was a fairly similar styled new building recently constructed by the resort at the site that had "1911" on its façade. It perhaps reflects an attempt to give provenance to the new buildings.

The group left by boat for Penang Island after this.

[pictures courtesy of Mag]

RECOMMENDATIONS**Commemorate the history of the settlements on the island, specifically at each respective site.**

The location of each settlement should be clearly identified on the island itself. At present, there is no indication of the location of the different settlements on the island. Future development of the island should not merely leave the existing structures standing, but to clearly identify and label each building on site; perhaps through signboards, or even more enduring memorials.

The history of the place should be commemorated and celebrated, rather than be eradicated with no trace of its prior existence.

The recommendations of the PATA Task force of 2002 be highlighted for review when considering the development.

This high level review of the tourism potential of Penang had specifically mentioned the fragility of Pulau Jerejak and how any attempts to develop it should be conducted with great care.

Stop further destruction of more structures until they are properly identified.

What has been done in removing the original structures cannot be undone. The buildings and structures are gone. However, what can be done is to prevent further destruction of the buildings left.

The public did not even have the opportunity to decide on whether it would have been desirable to retain for preservation every single structure that was previously on the island. However, looking at what is left standing, I am of the opinion that we cannot afford for anymore to be demolished, especially the three left on the south-eastern side of the island.

Recognise and acknowledge the importance of the settlements at the island, and the contributions they made to the growth of the nation's development.

In addition to the contagious disease settlements and penal colony, Jerejak also functioned as a quarantine center for incoming immigrants, especially from India. It was effectively the gateway for the country's new citizens to their new lives.

Without the contagious disease settlements and penal colony, Malaysia would also have been unable to contain the problems of a new nation dealing with the influx of human resources and its accompanying issues. These may not constitute the enchanting side of the growth of a country, but would still be mandatory elements in its progress.

Research and document the history of the island and its different settlements.

Little is known on the chronological history of the island and of its different settlements. For example, our group had no definite information about what was located where. Meeting a person like Mr Bala who had resided there sheds some information, but no definitive or substantiated proof is available.

Further Comments:

1. Although its history and artifacts not so well known or seriously documented, the PHT is concerned that there has been so much neglect and possible vandalism of these sites as reported at their recent visit.
2. The Island's history dates back to at least the turn of the last century. Generally known as a leper and TB colony and later as a detention centre for suspected hard core criminals esp those involved in triad activities. Although these activities have not left impressive or beautiful buildings they nevertheless reflect an important aspect of our past.
3. We feel that any plans for its future development should include a proper survey of the island's historic artifacts and their significance before tourism type activities catering for large nos of visitors are approved.
4. Some grants for basic maintainance and signage should have should have been established for the JKR to undertake as caretakers of public buildings
5. We believe there is an urgent need for the State Museum Board to be strengthened so that it can in future undertake such responsibilities in coordination with the Museum Negara.
6. Meanwhile, the state authorities should take immediate action to ensure no further deterioration or vandalism takes place on these sites.

Dr Choong Sim Poey. President PHT.

VISITORS TO PHT ...

- Study visit by Ms Utaivan Chokbunyasit, the Thai National Commission for UNESCO on 12th February 04. She was accompanied by En Mohd Faizal Karim of the Ministry of Education Malaysia. They were greeted by Dr Choong and Joanne took the guests for a short heritage tour of the inner city.

- On 16th February the PHT received a courtesy call from Dr Kobayashi Hideyuki, a member of the Nara Machidzukuri Center, near Kyoto. Dr Kobayashi is the Research Coordinator for Housing Information at the Research Centre for Advanced Information Technology in Tsukuba-city Japan. Given an introduction to Penang by Dr Choong, Loh-Lim, Ahmad Chik, Clement Liang and Sheau Fung, he was so enchanted by George Town, PHT and the Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion that he joined us as a life member and he returned for a 2nd visit after a few days in Langkawi. Dr Kobayashi enthusiastically took to Char Koay Teow, walking the streets of George Town and playing his classical violin in the Cheong Fatt Tze courtyard

Ms Elizabeth Cardoso, Executive Director of Badan Warisan Malaysia, Ms Helena Hashim, Council Member of Badan & Lim Huck Chin, ex-Council member of both PHT and Badan, also joined us at our February site visit.

- Mr Richie Lam of the Hong Kong Antiquities and Monuments Board was in Penang at the end of February 2004. He was very thrilled to join us at our monthly site visit at the Soya Sauce Factory and the Koay Jetty.

Lynn de Stephano & Lee Hoi Yin of the University of HongKong visited Penang in February in order to organise a project visit for students in the Masters Programme in Conservation Studies at the University. 21 students & 4 lecturers will arrive in April for a conservation planning study of the Muntri Street /Stewart Lane area. It will include trials of cultural impact assessment surveys. The U.of HK has been running this 2-year Masters Programme for the last 3 years, as a part-time weekend course. Students are mainly practitioners - architects, planners, economists etc.





The Asian Academy for Heritage Management

The 1st Annual Asian Academy Field School was held in Macao, SAR, 22 November to 5 December 2003.

This inaugural event marked the kickoff of a UNESCO-ICCROM joint mission to build capacity in conservation management in Asia in response to the increasing demand for improved professional services.

The Academy, a consortium of the region's premier universities, is engaged in the research and teaching of heritage conservation and cultural institution management. It aims at training the trainers and targets both advanced students and in-service professionals as well as other important actors in the conservation and management of heritage resources, who then carry the message in their work and train others in specific national and local settings.

While strengthening the linkage between its member institutions, the Asian Academy promotes the cross-registration of and the exchange of faculty members within the network as well as the common licensing and a shared information base.

The theme of the 1st Field School was **Integrated Conservation** which means integration and concern for and protection of cultural heritage within the general process of planning and management of cities and regions. It seeks sustainable development by transforming cultural heritage into an asset that contributes to the cultural, social, political, economic, environmental and physical dimensions of the development process. By making protection of cultural heritage a part of overall development strategy, integrated conservation puts heritage in a position where it can establish its own place among many other competing development interests.

Besides UNESCO and ICCROM, the organizers were the Cultural Institute of Macao, the Institute of Tourism Studies of Macao and the University of Hong Kong. There were 28 participants with lectures delivered by 23 guest speakers, which included Richard Engelhardt from UNESCO, Bangkok, and Laurence Loh from Penang.

The 2nd Annual Field School in 2004 would possibly be in India.

For more information go to
www.unescobkk.org/culture/asian-academy

NYONYA BEAD WORKSHOP For Inner City Women (CIDA Project)

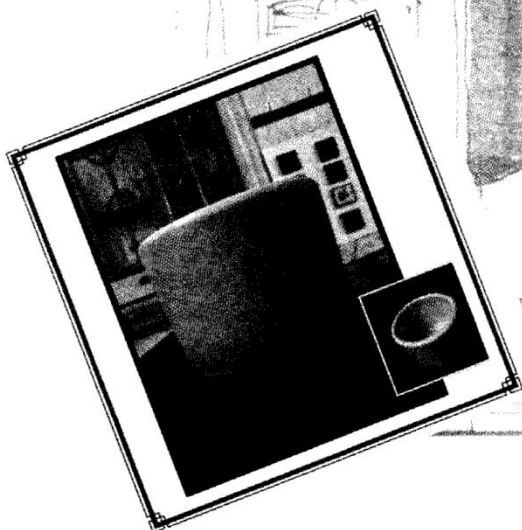


The workshop started on the 6th of March, four sessions on four Saturdays. The workshop was conducted by Puan Maria Francisca Neelakandan, a committee member of the Women and Family Development of the Penang State Government. The workshop is aimed at raising awareness of the meaning and significance of heritage by using the craft as an educational tool. It is also to promote cottage industry for inner city housewives, the end-products can be sold at any gift shop in George Town, thus helping to generate a little side income for the targeted group. The workshop began with a session introducing the basic sewing patterns. Then participants were guided to produce different kinds of beaded products, for example beaded shoes, evening bags etc.

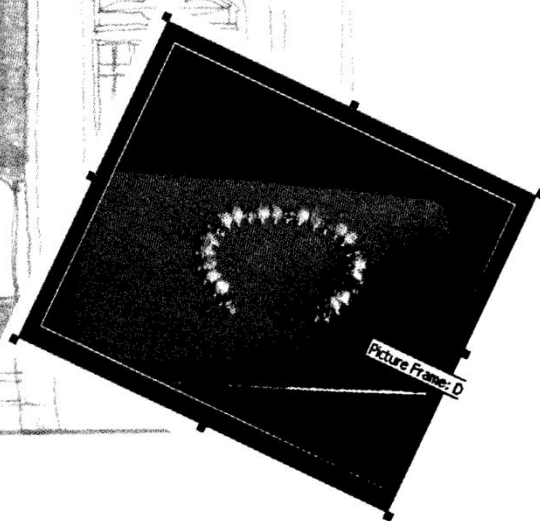
To note: workshop postponed for 2 Saturdays due to involvement of the women in campaigning & elections



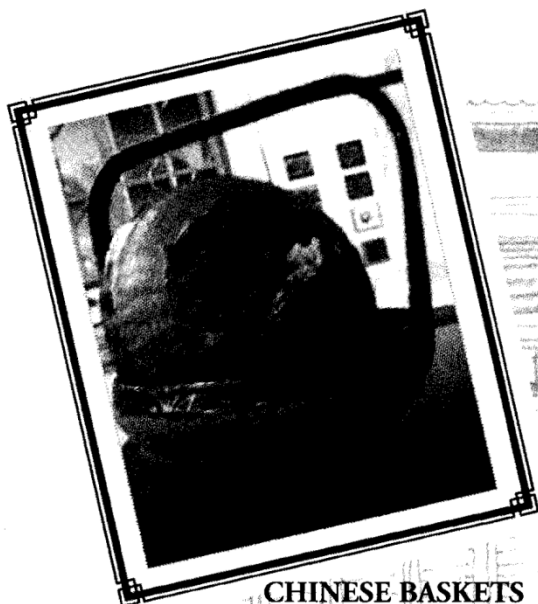
...AND LEFT OVER ITEMS FROM OUR LAST FUND-RAISER



CELADON VASE -RM100

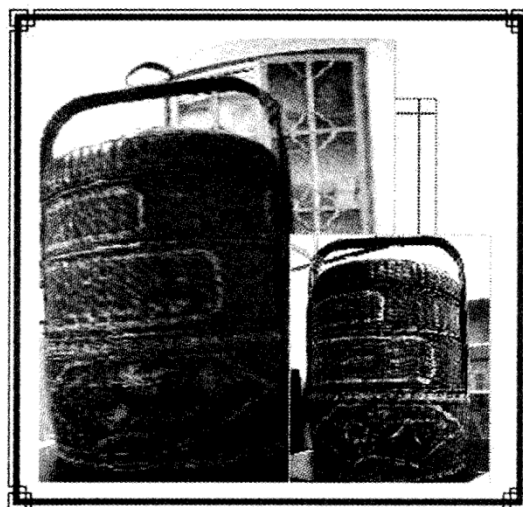


JADE BRACELET - RM50

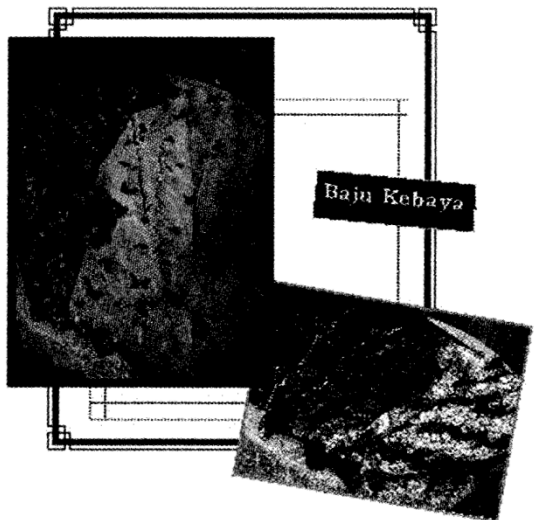


CHINESE BASKETS

- RM 120



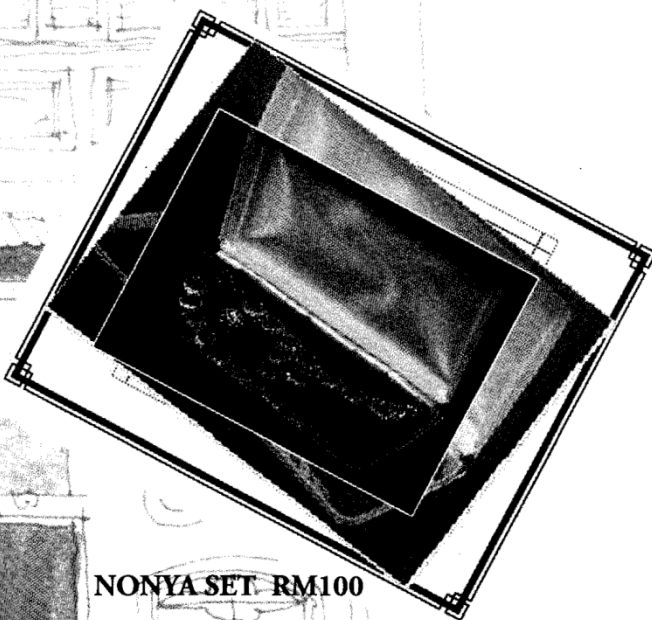
RM280



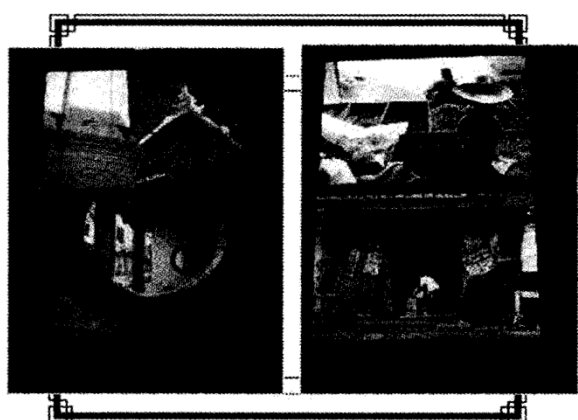
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Treasurer : Dr Tan Chong Guan

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