



PAM
Pertubuhan Akitik
Malaysia
Sarawak Chapter

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THE
LAYERS
UNSEEN

Chairman's Report



I write this message five days before PAM Sarawak Chapter's 42nd AGM, while recuperating from staging a series of major events leading up to and alongside the Building Trade Show (BTS 2017). The Architect Run for the Community (ARC 2017) registered 1300 runners; tickets for GALA Dinner were sold out faster than we anticipated; the Sarawak Design Forum received 240 participants, reaching its full capacity; and 28 PAM Office Bearers, Council Members and Secretariat came to Kuching for the last PAM Council Meeting of the current term.

These activities drained a lot of energy from the respective organising chairmen, their sub-committee members, Past Chairmen and our Secretariat staff. Salute to all who had contributed selflessly to bring about the events' success! Though exhausting, it was exhilarating to receive positive comments from members, industry partners and the public. We were pleased to see that the PAM Council members really enjoyed themselves here. They wish to convey their gratitude to our Chapter for the warm hospitality extended which made their stay especially memorable.

At the closing of the nomination for new Chapter Committee (2017-18), I was pleased to learn that there were no challenges to all the proposed candidates. I shall be handing over my Chairmanship to Ar. Bong Joon Hin during our 42nd AGM on 1st April 2017. Ar Bong will lead the same team, with Ar. Peggy Wong added as a new committee member, to serve our members for 2017-18. This tradition of continuity is admired by PAM and other Chapters. It is a critical factor that drives PAMSC to be the most active Chapter in Malaysia.

INTERSECTION has been an effective platform to record the activities conducted by various sub-committees during our term. I shall refrain from tabulating a 'report card', but would instead like to thank all the sub-committee members for their hard work for our institute. I am confident that they will be committed to keep up their good work. I hope our members will continue to support our new committee under Ar. Bong's leadership.

At this juncture, I felt very much relieved. It was the same feeling conveyed to me by the Past Chairmen towards the end of their term. I may not have been the best Chairman in living up to everyone's expectations, but like the other Past Chairmen, I have tried my best. We all agreed that the camaraderie is what we will treasure the most through our role. Thank you for all your support during my term. Cheers!

Ar. Mike Boon
PAMSC Chairman 2016 - 17

Editor's Letter

THE LAYERS UNSEEN by Iain S. Thomas

As this is the last issue for this term, I thought that I'll open with a poem.

"There is magic even here, in gridlock, in loneliness, in too much work, in late nights gone on too long, in shopping trolleys with broken wheels, in boredom, in tray returns, the same magic that made a man write about a princess that slept until she was kissed, long golden hair pricked with needles. There is magic even here, in potholes along back-country roads, in not having the right change (you pat your pockets) arriving late and missing the last train home, the same magic that caused a woman in France to think that God spoke to her, that made another sit down at the front of a bus and refuse to move, that lead a man to think that maybe the world wasn't that flat and the moon could be walked upon by human feet. There is magic. Even here. In office cubicles."

A reminder to look beyond the mundane

At my first reading, it reminded me of how architects (the good ones) look beyond the mundane and the tedious, and see opportunity and challenge. My attempt to end the term on a high note.

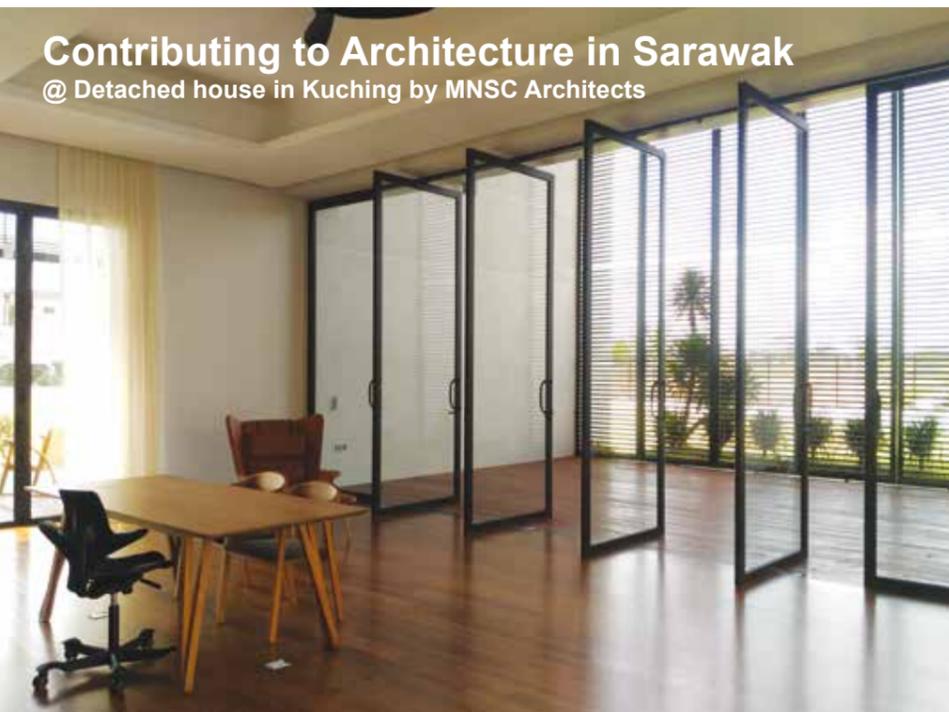
Luckily for the editorial team - we have plenty of high spirited events to report - thanks to our fellow committee members who have recently successfully completed the Building Trade Show (BTS 2017), the 'Roman' Gala Dinner, the Design Forum, PAMSC Colouring Competition and the Architect Run for the Community (ARC Run 2017), the Inter-Professional Telematch amongst other more sombre duties and activities.

Find out more inside, happy reading.

Min
with the invaluable help and encouragement of
Leong Pik Shia, Chen Hui Joo, Ivy Jong and Chai Si Yong.



The PAMSC Committee for 2017-18.



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Building Trade Show (BTS 2017)

24 - 26th March 2017

The recently completed PAMSC Building Trade Show was one of the most successful in recent years. Months of careful planning and new events such as the ARC Run 2017 and the Colouring Competition no doubt helped to boost attendance at the BTS 2017.

One of the factors which contributed to the successful were the hold up of the Gala Dinner and the PAMSC Design Forum at the same venue - BCKK.

PAMSC record their thanks for the strong show at support from industry partners especially WEIDA and DML who were the main sponsors.



The PAM Council coincided their last meeting for this term in Kuching; and were in attendance at BTS 2017.



The opening ceremony was officiated by the Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas.



At this BTS, there were new categories such as lifestyle products, home ware and furniture.



The best booth winners are : (from left) 3rd Prize - DML, 2nd Prize - WEIDA, 1st Prize - Lysaght.



Intersection would like to congratulate BTS Organising Chairman Ar. Bong Joon Hin and his team for a job well done. Ar. Bong Joon Hin was ably aided by Ms. Kao Choo and Ms. Suki Chai from PAMSC Secretariat.

Report by **Ar. Bong Joon Hin**
Organising Chairman of the PAMSC Building Trade Show

Architects Run for Community (ARC Run 2017)

19th March 2017 - Square Tower

One weekend before BTS, PAMSC held their first public run event organised by Ar. Leong Pik Shia, Ar. Annie Narodden and Ar. Ivy Jong with logistics by Grit Management.

The ARC Run had 2 main objectives:
1. to raise money for charitable organisations;
2. and to raise awareness about BTS 2017

Both objectives were admirably achieved - ARC Run 2017 donated RM5,000 each to 3 charities - Barefoot Mercy, SKUP (The Society of Kuching Urban Poor) and HOPE Place.

ARC runners were encouraged visit BTS where they can participate in the Grand Prize Lucky Draw by dropping their bibs after visiting the exhibits.

Reported by **Ar. Leong Pik Shia**



The run was divided into 5km and 10km for men and women, starting and finishing at the Square Tower, Kuching Waterfront.



BTS Chairman, Ar. James Bong and Ar. Leong Pik Shia drawing Grand Prize for the ARC Run, which was a 6D5N trip to Taipei.



The run raised money which was donated to three charities; SKUPS, Hope Place and Barefoot Mercy.



Gala Dinner 2017

24th March 2017

This year's theme for the Gala Dinner is "Roman Times". Most of the visitors got dressed up in keeping with the theme. Those who forgot or were reluctant to dress in costume were 'assisted' into Roman 'togas' at the Preparation Hall, just before dinner.

Traditionally, the Gala Dinner was a vehicle to encourage networking between architects and other professionals bodies. In recent years, PAMSC has deliberately strived to be more inclusive - using the Gala Dinner to meet industry partners and to thank them for their support at the BTS.

Reported by **Ar. Ivy Jong**



A dressing up area was set up for dinner guests to get into the 'mood'.



'Sarly and Annie' circa 64 A.D.



Many of the guests came prepared dressed in full costumes, including a few council members from Kuala Lumpur.



There was a 'best dressed' competition for the dinner guests.

Colouring and Drawing Competition (BTS 2017)

This is the Inaugural PAMSC Colouring and Drawing Competition, which was held in conjunction with BTS 2017 - with the intention to promote children's interest in art and architecture, and at the same time draw crowds to the BTS event.

The competition is divided into 2 groups: Group 1 Colouring (Primary 1 to 3) and Group 2 Drawing and Colouring (Primary 4 to 6). The event attracted approximately 70 children and about 200 of their family members. Three winning entries and four consolation prizes were selected from each group and the prizes included cash, certificates, Yap Han Zheng's sketch book and other goodies.

The competition took place on Sunday, the 26th of March at the BCCK and was successful concluded by lunch time. The members of the organizing committee were amazed by the performance of the young participants, we were also rewarded by their youthful enthusiasm. We thank everyone who was involved especially our judges, Tay Tze Yong, Bong Kuet Leng and Peggy Wong, who lent us her lovely sketch for the Group 1 colouring competition.

Our thanks also to Khao Choo and Suki from the PAMSC Secretariat for their cheerful involvement in the event.



Ar. BC Tay (last row, 3rd from left) is the Organising Chairman for the Colouring Competition.



Reported by **Andy Ngu and Ar. Tay Buan Chuan**

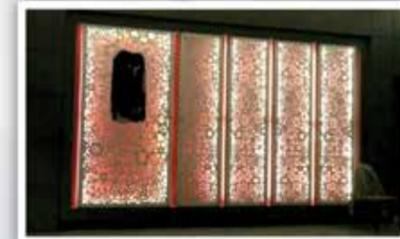
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PAMSC Design Forum 2017

The PAMSC Design Forum this year featured 5 very diverse speakers from the region. They were Ramesh Seshan from Kuala Lumpur, Mok Wei Wei from Singapore, Budi Pradono from Jakarta, Yossapon Boonsom from Bangkok and Donald Moa from Kuching. The event was sponsored by NS Bluescope Lysaght Sarawak.

Coming from Kuala Lumpur, Ramesh of Seshan Design had the closest connection to the local architects. Like most youngish practitioners, the works lean more toward residential projects. Using modest materials but with a keen eye for detail – the houses featured are aesthetically pleasing with some clever ideas like one house which had a compactor wardrobe. Ramesh also talked about some of his Interior projects – including an office for an ad agency which had Steam Punk furniture that were designed as kit-of-parts that can be easily swapped and changed.



Mok Wei Wei from Singapore was the keynote speaker.



Yossapon Boonsom from Thailand.

Mok Wei Wei has been at the forefront of the Singapore architectural scene for over two decades – having practiced with William Lim Associates and later on starting his own firm W Architects. His talk focused on some of his most recently projects – starting with the stunning Oliv which featured undulating planter boxes on the façade that are covered in Balau timber boards. Mok confessed that most of their apartment designs had been the result of finding creative opportunities within the very strict regulatory framework of Singapore – trying to push the interpretations to the limits. The generous sky terraces were the result of taking advantage of free GFA allowed under new regulatory guidelines. Other projects featured included the Lee Kong Chiang Museum of Natural History and the conservation of the Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall. Mok's designs are sleek and modern – yet with a thoughtfulness which invite a deeper appreciation of the design ideas.

Yossapon Boonsom from SHMA Company Limited is a landscape architect based in Bangkok. Like most Thai speakers – he speaks with a very calm and quiet demeanor – but it belies a strong activist streak. SHMA is one of the leading landscape architecture firms in Thailand with many sleek corporate



The speakers answered questions from the audience after the talk.



Chee Wee took the speakers on a walking tour of Kuching on Sunday.

projects under their belt, however Yossapon chose to feature mostly their community oriented projects. These include urban revitalization schemes which invite the local stakeholders together to develop landscape amenities and bring life back into the neighbourhoods, as well as out-there ideas meant to provoke public response and action. One of their most recent community projects is an attempt to push back the Government's proposal for the Chao Phraya Riverside Promenade – which would further aggravate the already disconnected river and the City and would possibly have very adverse ecological impacts on the river. Those who would like to know more about this community movement can visit the Friends of the River Thailand (FoR) web site.

Ar Donald Moa from Jurubina Unireka Kuching focused his presentation on the SEB Headquarters Building – which is the first GBI Certified building in Sarawak. The building has been certified GBI Silver – and is in the process of being upgraded to GBI Gold. The EE strategies include both passive and active approaches. The building features an atrium which serves to harvest daylight into the centre of the building – and also light shelves and sleek sun-shading louvres. With a BEI of below 100 – this is the most energy efficient office building in Sarawak to date. Many of us would have driven past the building without knowing much about it – so the talk was quite informative.

The most intriguing speaker was Budi Pradono of Budipradono Architects. He has a curious and amusing speaking style – and had the tendency to stray into interesting tangents. His projects are visually seductive, quirky and sometimes provocative. A house for his parents was built by local builders without construction drawings – yet it was visually complex and architecturally refined – with an undulating roof form which evokes the nearby mountains. He managed to convince a wealthy client to do away with the usual show-off big Classical columns but instead to build a slanted house - which was a subversion of the normal power villa. He is now a much sought-after designer for luxurious villas on exclusive islands throughout Indonesia, and is in the process of setting up an office in London.

Though the speakers all had very different approaches to architecture – there was a common thread that run through all their projects – which was a sensitivity to climactic response, a grounding of the projects in the local context, and a strong commitment to passive tropical design. It was a great Design Forum and it is time to work on the next one.

Getting to Know Kuching

On the Sunday after the Design Forum – the visiting speakers were taken on a quick tour around Kuching. Besides Mok and Budi who had been to Kuching many years back, the other two were first time visitors. They were charmed by the quaint Old Town, and enthusiastically lapped up Kuching *kolo mee* and laksa at the *Lau Eya Keng*. A visit to the Sarawak Museum, Fort Margherita and the Brooke Gallery enlightened them on Sarawak's unique politically history and architectural heritage.

The tour ended with a visit to Mr Yap Han Boon's estate. Mr Yap is a prominent lawyer, architecture enthusiast, rabid gardener and Belian lover. His house is surrounded by a lush tropical jungle which has been painstakingly cultivated over many years. An early modern detached house next door which he bought up has been transformed into a showcase for the many uses of Belian in architecture. A secret attic is accessed through an interesting Japanese ladder which at first looked impossible to negotiate - but is actually quite practical. Another house next door is used as storage yard for all the old Belian he has collected, and also featured a treehouse made up of a circle and a triangle. Mr Yap is realizing his childhood fantasies which many of us can only dream of.

Kuching did not fail to work its charm on the speakers – and they all pledged to return for a longer visit in the *not-too-distant* future.



Our visitors were treated to local hospitality by local 'celebrity' Yap Han Boon.



Secret attic

Reported by Ar. Ng Chee Wee



Public Design Lecture Series No. 1 Media & Publication Sub-committee

This series of 4 public lectures aims to raise public awareness about the value of design in our lives, and to give exposure to talented local designers. The main sponsor for this event is UGI - United Galvanised Products Sdn. Bhd. These lectures are free of charge to everyone. Next year, the public lectures will be sponsored by Nippon Paints who will introduce one of their winners of their Asian Young Designers Award, whom PAMSC will supplement with a local speaker and one from out-of-town/overseas.

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2.0 Vertical Campus by Hanis Abd Razak.

UPC INTER-PROFESSIONAL TELEMATCH 2017

The first UPC Inter-Professional Telematch 2017 was concluded successfully on 8 April 2017 at MBKS Indoor Stadium Pending, with PAMSC emerging as the overall Champion. Congratulations to all the PAMSC team members, supporters and also special thanks to **Michelle Lau Mei Siew, Emmeline Ong Say Chiun, Kong Yan Wei and Choo Shaw Cheng**. The Telematch was designed as a departure from the previous Inter-professional Games – to be more inclusive; family members and friends are encouraged to join the games. Each participating profession puts forward an event, which the other teams compete in to score points. The events are designed as a means to get together and have fun. It was truly enjoyable morning with everyone cheering and having fun.



UPC INTER-PROFESSIONAL TELEMATCH 2017 RESULTS

8 April 2017 (Sat) Pending MBKS Indoor Stadium (8:30am – 1pm)

Games	IKM	IEM	SIAS	MIA	MIP	RISM	PAM
1. STRETCHY STRING PUTTY	Organiser	5	1	1	7	1	9
2. LIFE CIRCUIT	1	Organiser	5	1	7	1	9
3. EGG RUNNERS	1	7	Organiser	5	9	1	1
4. CATERPILLAR WALK	7	5	1	Organiser	1	1	9
5. FERRYING BALLOON BACK TO BACK	1	7	1	9	Organiser	1	7
6. THE MINE FIELD	5	1	1	9	1	Organiser	7
7. GUESS THE SKETCH	1	5	1	1	9	7	Organiser
TOTAL POINTS	16	30	10	26	34	12	42
POSITION	5th	3rd	7th	4th	2nd	6th	1st

Congratulations to the Overall Champion, **Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (Sarawak Chapter)**, for taking home this year – **YB Datuk Haji Abd Karim Rahman Hamzah's Inter-Professional Tele-Match Challenge Trophy**.

For other teams, the Challenge Trophy will be up for grabs in the next series.

Hope that all the teams had enjoyed the fun, excitements and memorable times during the games.

Thank you for your organising efforts, participations and supports.

Reported by **Ar. Tay Buan Chuan**

Graduates, Education & BIM [GEB] Committee

Revit Architectural Workshop and Presentation

4th March 2017, 9.30am - 12pm, PAMSC



The Workshop was designed to give participants the general idea of Building Information Modelling (BIM) and introduce one of the tools for parametric building design and documentation using Revit Architecture software. 23 PAMSC members attended the session.

After a short introduction, participants in less than 2 hours were taught step-by step to draw a simple block of building from ground up in 3D, to prepare the schedule, drawings/ documentation and to render it.

It is certainly an eye opening exercise on how effective and fast working with Revit can be. With architectural offices across the world embracing Revit, it is a software and knowledge to be explored. Using Revit allow the designer to look ahead of potential impact of one change on the whole project.

The speaker, **Mr. Wong Kooi Kam** is an experienced Revit trainer from Penang. Any companies interested in Revit training can email him at 2kamwong@gmail.com.

LAM Part III Professional Exam: Revision Course - Discussion on September 2016 Examination Papers

11th March 2017, 1.30pm - 6.30pm, PAMSC



The session was led by Ar. Wong Ming Ming.

Taking a different approach this time round, a workshop style session was carried out, with 19 participants who were divided into 4 groups. Each group was given 30 minutes to answer 1 question from each paper. During the workshop, the Facilitators shared their tips in studying and answering exam questions.

This method allows the Graduates to actively participate in the discussion and assist others who are just sitting to get the 'feel' for exams preparations. The Facilitators assisted the groups and taking turns with Ming Ming to discuss the answers. Jayne Ting who recently passed Paper 1 also chipped in with her answer.

We hope to garner and continue this spirit to build a stronger bond among the graduates and young architects.

[In the spirit of pay-it-forward, the facilitators: Ar. Royzaid Musa, Ar. Kushahrin Kushairy, Ar. Wong Ming Ming, Ar. Wee Liang Cheng, Ar. Mitchell Moss and I met up a week earlier to prepare the answers]

LAM Part 3 Examination held on 25th March 2017.

Reported by **Ar. Noraini Narodden**

Chinese New Year Open House



As part of a continuing tradition, PAMSC invited members and friends from the building industry for an after-work CHINESE NEW YEAR Get-together. The event was organised by Kevin Phua, and Suki and KC from the Secretariat.

The event is a popular one, especially for the suppliers and contractors, many of whom are exhibitors at BTS 2017.

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Creative Zone at SJK Chung Hua No.5, Kuching

The following is a chronology of this project, starting with the teachers' brief for us.

Teachers' expectation – to 'beautify' the school environment with cartoon-type illustration in a fantasy or imagined scenery.

Our response and intent – to expose the children visually to basic geometry in 3-dimensional form; combining environment + object + activity to achieve an interactive creative zone.

Presenting to the teachers – we convinced the teachers to adjust their perception of learning environment and the importance of creative learning in education. Teachers were enlightened and agreed to do something different.

10th December 2016 – Calling for volunteers <Be the Wall Mural Artist!>

Testing public response via Facebook – we attracted art and architecture students, and school alumni.

18th - 23rd December 2016 – Painting the wall with the community: <Everyone Can Be Wall Mural Artist>

A joint effort between INTODESIGN Lab, students, teachers, family, friends and walk-in volunteers, everyone enjoyed to being part of this community project. We believe that this type of community engagement is rewarding, and gives all involved a strong sense of achievement.



8th – 9th March 2017 - <An Affair of Mobile Library, Trapezoids and The 5 Towers>

The launching of the Creative Zone at the school was held in conjunction with an exchange program from Ke Ming Primary School of Singapore.

It was an event of 555 (5th Mobile Library placed in front of the 5 towers for SJK Chung Hua No.5). The Mobile Library was sponsored by a student and his grandfather on his birthday with wish to transformed the school to the most creative and fun place.

The zone was furnished with 15 Trapezoids; a portable lightweight furniture made of eco-friendly material. It is strong, self-assembled, easily transported and the children friendly product designed by INTODESIGN Lab. Children love the possibilities of making their own arrangements - blocks, tables, walls, sofa, couch, platform, bench or slide, all were left for their own creation.

A spontaneous story telling session by Yit Ping from IKA Picture Story House, kept the children enthralled for the whole morning. She is interested in promoting the reading habit through interactive story telling with picture story books.

Program updates available at [facebook.com/intodesignlab](https://www.facebook.com/intodesignlab)



五塔

壁画的主要目的是让同学们接触到艺术作品中的几何、数学、物理和3D视觉效果所衍生的基本原则与构思;借此激发同学们思维上的创新、批判和创造性。壁画可以是象征繁华的都市景象、或是数理系统结构的扩展和延伸、或是充满乐趣的游乐场.....这些,都可透过不同角度的观点和思维来诠释。而壁画背后蕴含着更深层的意义——就是莘莘学子寻求知识、找寻出路的决心

Concept Statement for The Five Towers

This mural aims to expose the students to artwork with basic principle of geometry, mathematic, physic and 3D visual effect. With this, students can think creatively and critically. It could be a representation of urban skyscrapers; a system of structure with possibility of expansion and extension or their own imagination of playground with ample of fun...etc. it is up to the individual perception and imagination.

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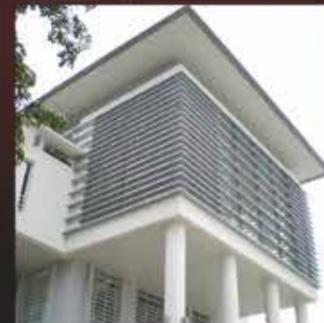
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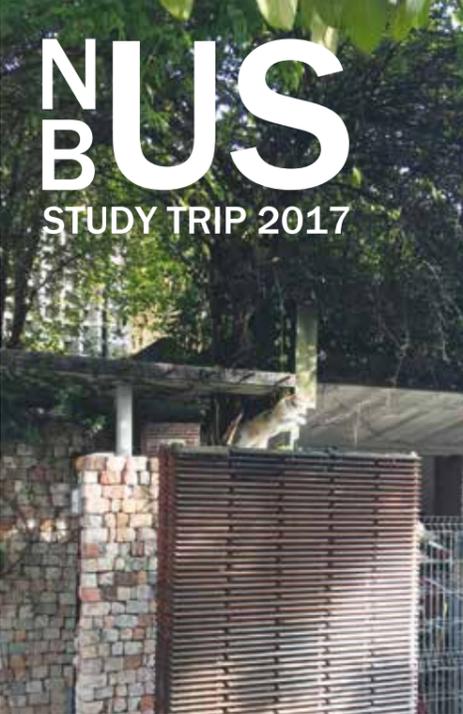


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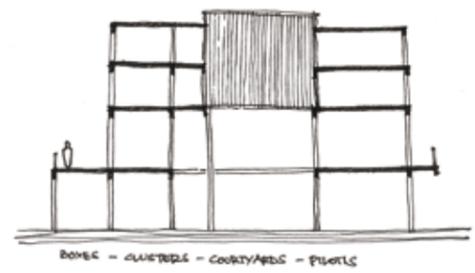
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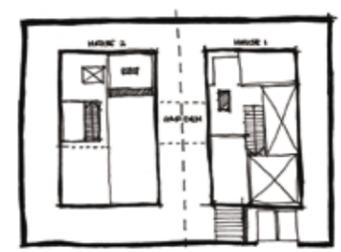
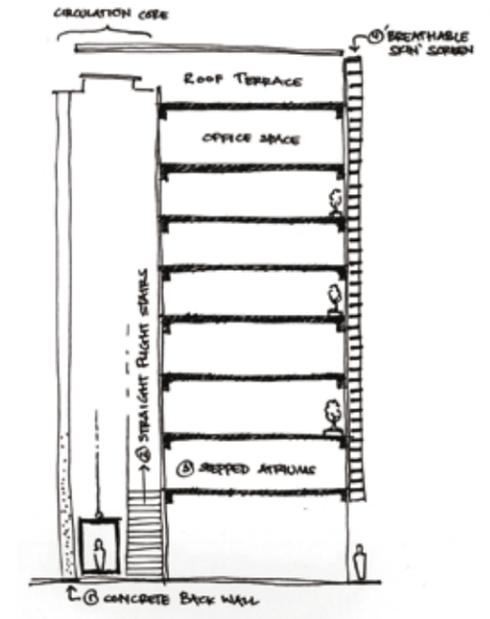
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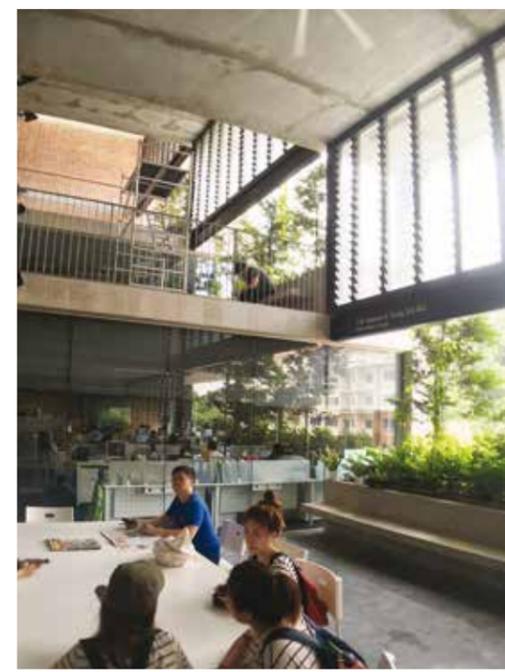
In February, I tagged along on an architectural study trip organised by the architecture school of the National University of Singapore. The trip covered various points of architectural interest in the state of Johor, Selangor, and Pahang over the course of 3 days.



Far left: Tetawowe Atelier
 Left: Middle School Resource Centre, BDW
 Above: Chung Hwa High School, BDW



We visited a selection of architectural works by a handful of young Malaysian practices, with the objective being to understand how they synthesise various forces as well as what issues they faced in the development of their architectural design process, and how they negotiate issues such as materiality, instrumentality, regulations, and finances.



Far left: Batu Pahat House, BDW
 Above Left: 31 22/42, WHBC Architect
 Above: PAM Centre, HMA & Associates
 Left: Art Printing Works, Studio Bikin

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I was very fortunate to be able to meet and learn from the architects and practitioners at local practices such as Basic Design Workshop, WHBC Architects, Seksan Design, Studio Bikin, Mentah Matter and Tetawowe Atelier. The extra exposure to the architectural movement in my country was something that I learnt from and could use in the future.



by Sean Wee



Visit to Mount Hope Training Centre

This is a follow up article to one we published in October last year, about an organisation who has been successful running a school for the past 17 years in Balai Karangan, Kalimantan. The school has since grown into a small village with their own vegetable farm, fishery and other self-sustaining facilities. Mount Hope or Yayasan Gunung Pengharapan is home to 150 boarding students, with another 350 who attend school from Primary 1 until Form 3. There are 65 teachers who live and work with them in the 'village' - together with other workers who keep the place running - many of them are student's parents.

After publishing the article last year, we followed up with our promise to visit Craig Pilcher, and measure an existing timber classroom block, and draw up its extension adjacent to it. The timber building measuring 7 metres wide by 75 metres long is slowly falling apart and Craig is keen to have the new block ready as soon as possible. The timber building will not be demolished completely, instead its internal walls will be dismantled, its structure reinforced and converted into a verandah space for school and social activities.



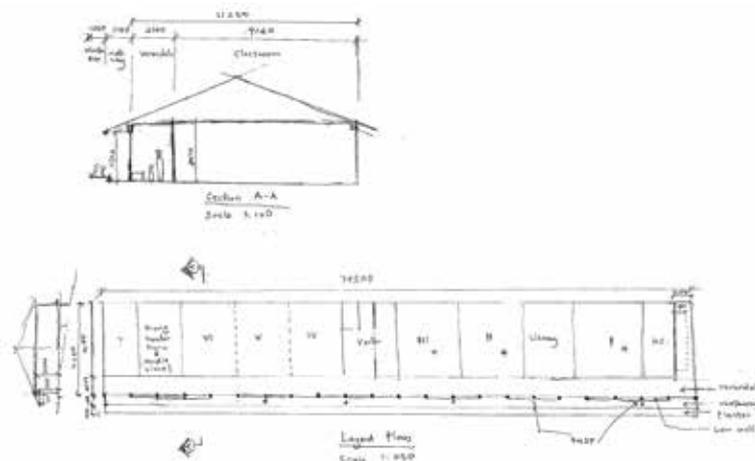
One of the foundation's success stories is their Manna Bakery, which produces bread and other baked goods for the school while selling up to 5000 loaves weekly in nearby towns.



The organisation intends to slowly replace all their timber buildings to cement block ones, to reduce the amount of time spent on maintenance and repairs. Craig has a local team that makes their own cement blocks, even customising them to suit their construction method.

Craig is from New Zealand, where he has a construction company. He has spent the past 11 years in Balai Karangan, overseeing the construction of new buildings and projects, and also coordinating overseas volunteers. During the site visit, Min was the photographer, while Vivian and Yvonne were the day-slaves.

Intersection will be organising several follow up visits to Balai Karangan; as volunteers to build the new school. People who are interested can contact me personally or email intersection.editorial@gmail.com. We cross the border at Terbedu, and Tony will meet us there - the school is about 30 minutes drive from the border check point. Mount Hope will provide food and lodging to volunteers.



by Min