

# Intersection

July 2011



**PAM**  
Pertubuhan Akitik  
Malaysia  
Sarawak Chapter

For Members Only

PAMSC Quarterly Newsletter No. 03/2011

www.pamsc.org.my



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**PAM** Sarawak Chapter has chalked up another milestone by successfully organising the BTS 2011 in March 2011. My congratulations to the Organising Committee for the hard work they put in over the past two years to make this a success. PAMSC has also taken the bold move of changing the event venue to Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK) for the first time after having the last five BTS at Permata Carpark Building.

We would like to record our thanks and gratitude to our Chief Minister, YAB Pehin Sri Hj Taib Mahmud who took the time to officiate the launching of BTS 2011 Opening on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

The participation from the exhibitors for this year's Building Trade Show was overwhelming. We had a total of 184 booths for the show, which is 35% more than the previous show and it is one of the biggest show ever.

BTS is becoming an increasingly important platform for suppliers and distributors to showcase their latest products to the building professionals, especially our fellow Architects.

BTS benefit both the Architects & designers as well as the product manufacturers/suppliers in providing a venue for creative synergy, where products can be promoted directly

to those who can innovatively use them to benefit society as a whole. We hope that this year's show will lead to more fruitful and creative design solutions, which to elevate further the architectural quality that Sarawak enjoys.

Aside from the BTS Trade Show, PAMSC also organised several other interesting events during the BTS week; such as Networking Golf, the "Hippies' Night" Gala Dinner and the Design Forum on Sustainable Architecture. We would very much like to thank our members and the public for their support as all the events were very well attended. With an attendance of 220 participants for the Design Forum, PAMSC achieved another 'first' as the event became the biggest participated design forum event for PAMSC to date.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform our members that the 36<sup>th</sup> PAMSC AGM is confirmed on 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2011 (Saturday) at PAMSC Centre. The Notice and nomination forms has been sent on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011. I urge our members to support and attend the coming AGM so that we can make PAMSC a significant chapter to spearhead Sarawakian Architects' interest nationwide !

Best Regards

**Ar Desmond Kuek**  
Chairman  
PAMSC

## EDITORIAL



It has been a most eventful time for PAMSC since March 2011 with the Building Trade Show 2011 kick starting a chain of events that brought the public, industrial players and members together to share and exchange views and ideas as well as to gain an insight into our industry and the latest architectural products available.

After over a year of planning and effort by PAMSC, especially the organizing committee, the various events was successfully launched and the public and our members who were participated benefitted immensely from them.

The support from all levels were tremendous and **INTERSECTION** hope that we can share with our members these events in this issue.

We also hope that this will also encourage more members to participate and support PAMSC events in the future.

Together we make PAMSC relevant.

Thank you!

Ar. Ivy Jong

Please contact the secretariat at 082-457189 (Melinda) or mail: [pamscintersection@gmail.com](mailto:pamscintersection@gmail.com) should you wish to contribute.

## PAMSC SUB-COMMITTEE STRUCTURE 2010 - 2011

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Ar. Bong Joon Hin

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Lee Chai Guan

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**Other Member**  
Ar. Tan Kiat Soon (co-opt)

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## 36TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The **36th** annual general meeting of PAMSC will be held at PAMSC Centre, Lot 7915, 2nd Floor, Queen's Court, Jalan Wan Alwi, 93350 Kuching. On **SATURDAY 30th July 2011** at **9.00 a.m.** Do come and support your chapter and collect the CPD points at the same time!

## DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THIRD SCHEDULE OF S & P FOR MEMBERS REVIEW

PAMSC practice committee have put up the draft guidelines for Third Schedule of S & P in PAMSC website for member's comments. Those interested to review please go to the website. A proposed workshop on this will be arranged in the near future. Members to look out for workshop notice. Please omit this.

## INTER PROFESSIONAL GAMES 2011

Graduate sub-committee Mr. Lee Chai Guan and co-opt member Mr. Ricky Hong will be organizing the games. The following games to be included are:

- Bowling - Organised by the Sarawak Advocates Association
- Badminton - Organised by PAMSC
- Golf - Organised by ISM
- Futsal - Organised by IEM
- Darts - Organised by MIP & others.

Those interested to participate in any of these games, kindly contact PAMSC Mr. Lee Chai Guan via PAMSC centre.

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The launching of the BTS; officiated by the Chief Minister of Sarawak, attended by the PAM President Ar. Boon Che Wee, PAMSC committee and main sponsors of the BTS.



# BTS 2011

## Building Trade Show



Some of the major booths in the BTS.



### BTS 2011 OPENING CEREMONY

By  
The Right Honourable Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud  
Chief Minister of Sarawak  
Borneo Convention Centre, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia  
24 March 2011

Ar. Desmond Kueh delivering his speech at the launching of the BTS 2011.



Once every two years, the PAMSC organises the key Building Trade Show in Sarawak; bringing together a multitude of partners in the building industry under one roof for a long weekend. This year the BTS 2011 was launched on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at the BCCK (Borneo Convention Centre Kuching) – an event officiated by the Chief Minister of Sarawak. This year there were a total of 184 booths on display, visited by 10,000 people over the 4 day-period – the objective of the BTS is primarily to showcase buildings products and services available locally, especially in Sarawak. The event also highlights the role played by the PAMSC in partnership with the building industry.

## BTS Best Booths

**Gold Award Winner**  
- Welda (M) Sdn Bhd

**Silver Award Winner**  
- Kingres Marketing Sdn Bhd

**Bronze Award Winner**  
- Home Max Design Sdn Bhd  
Goodrich Global (E.M) Sdn Bhd  
Wee Hua Boo Trading Sdn Bhd



Gold Award Winner - Welda (M) Sdn Bhd



Silver Award Winner - Kingres Marketing Sdn Bhd



Bronze Award Winner - Home Max Design Sdn Bhd

## BTS 2011 NETWORKING GOLF

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2011 in conjunction to the BTS 2011; a friendly golf competition was held at the KELAB GOLF SARAWAK ( KGS ) between local Architects, PAMKL Council Member and exhibitors of Building Trade Show (BTS). The results of the competition are as follows :

2<sup>nd</sup> Gross Prize Winner : Mr. Kho Hua Sin with a score of 84 on count-back.

1<sup>st</sup> Gross Prize Winner : Mr. Dylan Tan Sie Loong with a score of 81.

4<sup>th</sup> Nett Prize Winner : Ar. Wan Liz Farawa with a score of 77.

3<sup>rd</sup> Nett Prize Winner : Mr. Joseph Lau with a score of 76.

2<sup>nd</sup> Nett Prize Winner : Mr. Teo Bee Hong with a score of 75.

1<sup>st</sup> Nett Prize Winner : Mr. Louis Yong Lin Lin with a score of 70.

PAMSC would like to thank UGI Building Products Sdn Bhd for sponsoring the golf umbrellas and DML Building Products Sdn Bhd and Axel ( Building Solutions Gateway Sdn Bhd ) for co-sponsoring the golf T-shirts and caps.



(L to R) Ar. Gerald Law, Alphonsus Law & Francis Chang



(L to R) Ar. Peter Wong, Thomas Ling & Chan Hiok Guan



(L to R) Sam Lau, Jacob Yong, Jong Bui Kiong & Ar. Goh Kheng Ghee



(L to R) Joseph Lau, Dylan Tan & Ar. Wan Liz Farawa



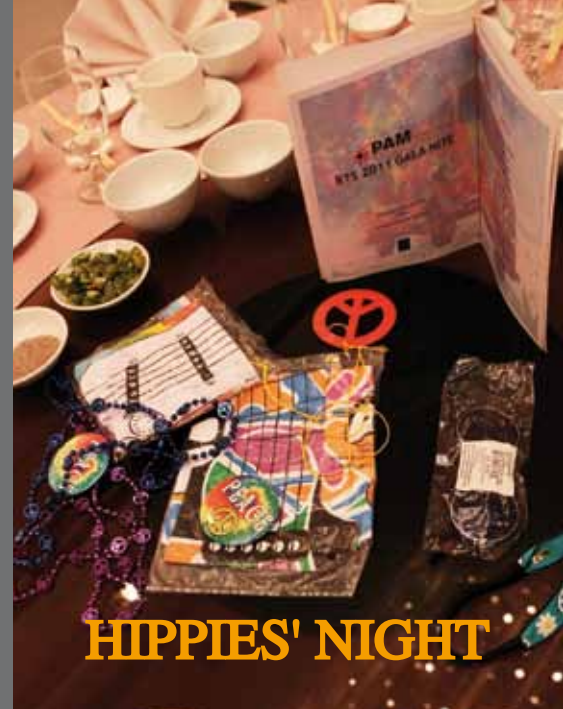
(L to R) Ar. Alvin Lim, Ar. Mike Boon, Teo Bee Hong & Peter Chia



Air guitar jam session



Giving out golf competition prizes



# HIPPIES' NIGHT



Dinner guests are given hippies props to help them get in the mood



Gala dinner was held at the Crowne Majestic attended by over 800 guests



MC Non conducts proceedings for the evening



Joanne Kam struts her stuff



Ar. Henry Chuo 'grilled' by Joanne



PAMSC Chairman gives his 'thumbs-up'



...all that is left at the end of the evening



A joint of hippes



The magic school bus



Rainbow nation - Ken, Des, Sasha, Mel, Stevie Baby

## Notes from the organising committee:

*Ar. Mike Boon, Ar. Ken Chan & Mr. Kevin Phua*

The Countdown started months back and on 24th March 2011, the time machine landed at the Riverside Majestic and took us all back to the 60's in keeping with the theme for the PAM Gala Dinner 2011. This year's theme of "Hippies Night" with the slogan "Make Love Not War" was met with enthusiasm and high expectations.

When the curtain lifted on the night, it was worth the effort with record crowds of "hippies" rolling in with high spirits. PAMSC provided each table with props from the era; Lennon glasses, peace sign necklaces, headbands and "air-guitars". The guests came dressed in keeping with the theme; rasta-wigs, tie-dye shirts and bell-bottoms.



Dinner guests letting their hair down

DJ Non was the M.C. for the evening; supported by a local band and accompanied by music from the 60's. There were lucky draws, donations to local charitable bodies, prize giving for the golf competition competition and best-dressed men and women for the evening. The highlight of the evening however, was the show by Diva Extraordinaire Joanne Kam Po-po and her divas; whose raunchy style of physical humour left many of the dinner guests with a silly grin on their faces for the rest of the evening (and the night).



Former hippies catching up

Over 800 guest attended this year's Gala Dinner making it a tremendous success; the Organizing Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the architectural fraternity and our industry partners in making this Dinner a success. For us, the reward is in seeing the fun and laughter that was had by all that evening.

See you all again in 2 years.



... you can check out anytime but you can never leave



Past chairman Phillip Chang lets his hair down

# DATO' JOHN LAU

This is the third in the series of interviews that INTERSECTION has conducted with the Pioneers of Architecture in Sarawak. In this issue, INTERSECTION caught up with Dato' John Lau; Architect, entrepreneur and public figure at his office at Taman Seri Sarawak for a candid look at his life in Architecture.



Dato' John in his Kuching office March 2011

## Tell us about your childhood in Sibü; schooling, hobbies – did you know then that you wanted to be an architect?

I was brought up in a humble Chinese village near Sungai Ma'aw in Sibü; studying in a Chinese School until Senior Middle Three (Year 12). My hobbies were collecting stamps and pen-pals, listening to pop music on Radio Sarawak. While my friends were tapping rubber; I sketched and daydreamed until they returned from work to play marbles (using rubber seeds) My world view was tiny then, it was only in 1976 (after Matriculation in Melbourne) that I became interested in Architecture after being told about the course by a school-mate.

My parents wanted me to be a doctor!



Sibü - 1959

*Kumpulan Design was established on the 4th of July 1977 in Sibü. Following a re-structuring in October 1989; Kumpulan Design was renamed KDI with an office set up in Kuala Lumpur the same year. In February 1993, KDI was corporatized as Arkitek KDI Sdn, Bhd with offices in Abu Dhabi, Kuala Lumpur, Kuching and Sibü.*



Melbourne - 1968

## You studied Architecture in University of Melbourne – were those your formative years? What did you learn from the 'Australian' experience?

Yes, those were my formative years. Imagine the culture shock for someone who had undergone traditional Chinese schooling; the lasting impression of University life in Melbourne was the students' freedom of expression, openly challenging the lecturers whom to my amazement listened carefully to our points of view. This was completely different to how we were taught in school in Sarawak, but I quickly caught on and learnt to develop my own thinking and opinions.

## After that, you returned to Sarawak and entered the 'workforce'; what was the architectural scene like at that time?

I returned to Sarawak in December 1973, and in March 1974 commenced my two years compulsory service at the PWD, which was staffed mostly by expatriates with only 3 local architects – Ar. John Chua, Ar. Stephen Hong and Ar. Freddie Chiam. There was an acute shortage of architects at the time; the Assistant Director of the Building Branch was an Engineer – Ir. Michael Parker. Projects were small in scale with conventional implementation methods without turnkey contracts and the such.

SesCo HQ, Kuching 1985



Competition perspective of the SesCo HQ





**When and how did you decide to start your own practice?**

I had always wanted to set up my own firm. After my 2-year stint with PWD ended in April 1976, I left to join Ting dan Rakan-rakan with Ar. Ting Ing Chew in Sibul. After 15 months in partnership, I set up my own office on the 4th of July 1977 with a staff of two; Robert Ling and Pauline Fung.



*"... my parents wanted me to be a doctor!"*

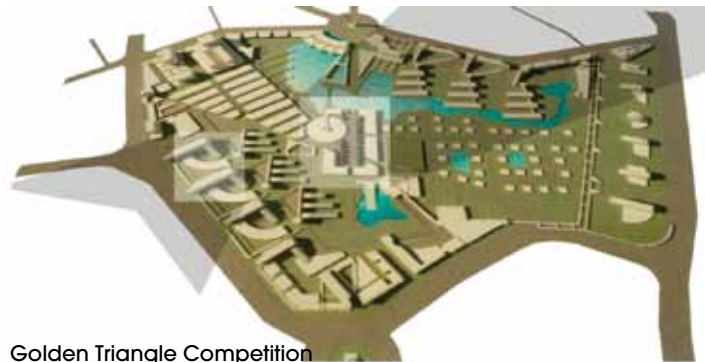
I taught Robert (who was 18 years old then) how to draught; I would spend the mornings with clients and return to the office in the afternoon to review his work and give draughting lessons.

**Tell us about your most memorable project? We realize that with your vast repertoire; this might be difficult - how about a memorable project for each decade?**

Our most significant project in the 80's was SESCO HQ which we won in a competition. In fact, this was the project that got us going as an architectural firm in Kuching. The Bau Civic Centre in the 90's won the 1991 PAM Award in the Institutional Buildings category. The Bintulu Civic Centre was another significant project in the 90's; again we won that appointment by competition. Although Marcel Wu and I were principally responsible for the success of Bau Civic Centre & Bintulu Civic Centre, it was the team effort with our colleagues that made the task a success.



Kuching Hilton - 1988



Golden Triangle Competition  
Second Prize Winner of Urban Design Competition for Golden Triangle Kuala Lumpur.

**Your firm was one of the first few to venture to West Malaysia and beyond - what were the challenges then and now?**

In Chinese chess, the "elephant" can only operate within its own territory (not having the ability to cross the river); one of my mentors taught me to play a bit of leap frog and move out of my own turf (and comfort zone).

Looking back, the 90s' was a mixed bag of success; our venture into Shanghai in 1992 was a failure - we went in way too early (before all the large international firms). However, our office in Kuala Lumpur was a success until today; Mr. Ngu Ung Hieng has grown our KL practice to be on par with the players there.



OSK YKS Condominium KL - construction stage



Golf Villa in PJ - design development stage

RH Corporate Tower SibU - design development stage



Travillion Development



*"I am into humanity ,.....I believe in empowering people and give them an opportunity to excel."*

Meena Plaza-Abu Dhabi - under construction



**Cont'd**

Our venture into Abu Dhabi caught the tail end of the UAE boom and we did well for few years. But now we are trying to survive; it is tough with many challenges.

After 2000, I started in property development and construction; the First Silicon Administration Building and the Travillion Development are some prime examples. These projects were very rewarding and liberating; their success proved to me that as an architect, one does have the capability to expand our role to developer and builder as well. However, that does not dilute our passion for design; this year we won a closed competition for the Rimbunan Hijau Headquarters in SibU where we were able to demonstrate our design flair and expertise in local planning guidelines.

**Your son is also architect; are there any plans for him to take over the reins at KDI? (in other words, will you be doing a Lee Kwan Yew?)**

You can only do a Lee Kwan Yew if there are 2 persons who share the same aspiration. Lee Hsien Loong always wanted to be in politics. I have a succession plan which involves a team; Kumpulan Design stands for Team Design. I intend to keep it that way.

**You were involved in various civic and community activities; tell us a bit about that aspect of your expertise.**

I am into humanity. I strongly believe that we ought to have a minimum wage – not only to survive but to retain a sense of dignity. I also believe in empowering people and give them an opportunity to excel. Charity does not need big organizations to implement. For instance, I donated all the ang-pows collected from my son’s wedding to charitable organizations throughout Sarawak for Study Aid in Kuching, bicycles for school children in Mukah, awards for outstanding students in SibU and Kapit.

Mazaraa Organic Building Abu Dhabi - design development stage



*"... our foundation in architecture enables us to be adaptable and resourceful; we should capitalize on that."*

**Any thoughts about the future of architecture and architects in Sarawak? As a senior practitioner, do you have any pertinent advice for the younger generation of architects?**

The architecture scene in Sarawak is evolving and developing fast; becoming cosmopolitan with new suburbs emerging - Batu Kawah (MJC), Kota Sentosa (7th Mile Bazaar) and the 10th Mile Bazaar. High land price is making it difficult for first home-owners to gain entry into the market. I foresee higher densities in residential development and more "Big Box" commercial developments such as The Spring and The Boulevard. We have to look at what KL was doing 20 years ago; the prospects for architects are bright provided we can keep up with the changes.

My advice to our younger generation is to figure out your strengths early on in your career and if architecture is not your cup of tea, then diversify into other related businesses such as real estate development, building products, design and build, etc. Our foundation in architecture enables us to be adaptable and resourceful; we should capitalize on that. There are many other choices nowadays - concept design, project management, architectural publications and teaching to name a few. In essence, you should develop to your fullest potential in what aspect of architecture you wish to excel in. I am reminded of a popular song in the '70s; "Do what you do do well, boy" by Ned Miller. A practice can be very successful when it is specialized - be it in design, services or production.

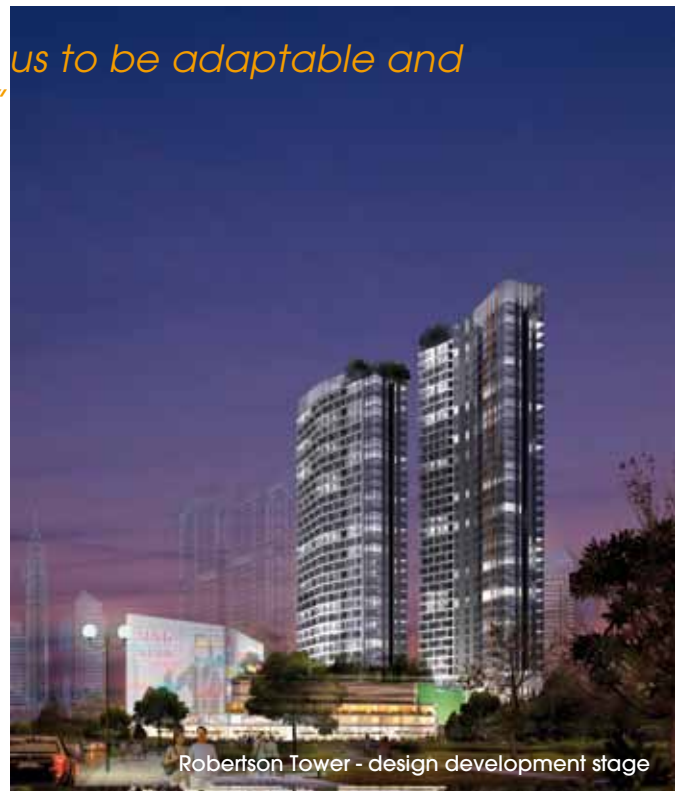
**Any thoughts of retirement?**

We all have to go one day. Since 2010, I feel that I am ready to enjoy life even more with less stress. The offices are pretty much running on their own without much involvement from me. I am grooming up some of our young Turks to take over the reins. I'm scouting for more.

**END.**



Dato' John with his staff in the Kuching office - 2011



Robertson Tower - design development stage



UCSI Resort Hotel - under construction



C15 - Abu Dhabi - under construction

## PAMSC Bangkok Study Tour 2011

PAMSC organized a Study Tour to Bangkok from 19th to 24th May this year. During the trip the delegates visited the Association of Siamese Architects, the Architect Council of Thailand, and also several notable projects in Bangkok. This is a preview of some of the projects visited. A more detailed write-up will follow in the next issue of Intersection.



Honda Motor Showroom



### Honda Big Wing

This is a Honda Motor Showroom on Pradimanutham Road in Bangkapi, Bangkok. The architect is VasLab. The building is completed but not occupied yet.

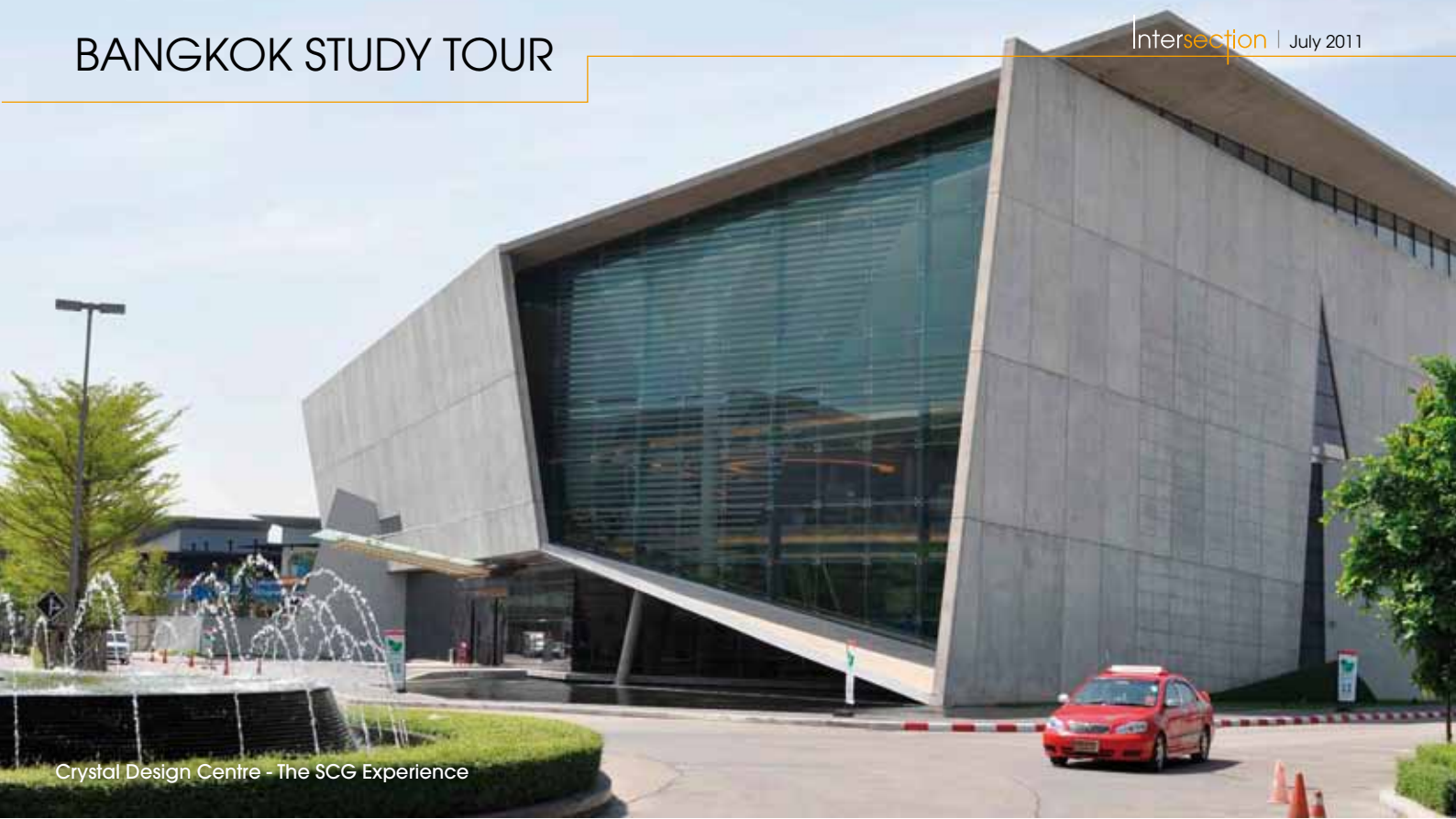
## Crystal Design Centre

This huge lifestyle retail centre is also on Pradimanutham Road in Bangkapi. It consists of several buildings showcasing furniture and building products, and an outdoor mall.



Crystal Design Centre





Crystal Design Centre - The SCG Experience

## SCG Experience

A part of the Crystal Design Centre - the SCG Experience is a purpose-built pavilion to showcase the products under the Siam Cement Group - one of the largest building products companies in Thailand. It is designed by Architect 49.



## New Government Centre

The New Government Centre was built to accommodate the federal government ministries and departments of Thailand. Designed by Dr Soontorn Boonyatikarn and his team, the building is a showcase of state of the art thinking in energy efficient design.

New Government Centre



## Bangkok Good Eats



Chotechitr Restaurant Interior



Banana Flower Salad



Prawns in Yellow Curry

Chote Chitr is one of those obscure little places which has been discovered by foodies and now has become one of the must visit foodie experience in Bangkok. It has even been glowingly reviewed in the New York Times. The place is really a tiny family-run restaurant in the old part of Bangkok City called Saochingcha.

The food here is really great - easily one of the best I have tried in Bangkok. You must have the patience to wait though as there is only one lady cooking all the dishes in the tiny kitchen. Must haves - Banana Flower Salad and Prawns in Yellow Curry.

Chote Chitr  
146 Soi Phraeng Pu Thorn, Thanon Tanao Rd.,  
Bangkok, Thailand  
Monday to Saturday, 11 am to 11 pm  
Telephone: +66-2-221-4082  
(Not far from the Grand Palace and the Democracy Monument)



Yim Yim Restaurant



Or Chien



Crab Claws

Based on a few bloggers recommendations we decided to try this obscure Chinese restaurant in Chinatown. It is run by an old Teochew couple. The old man's father started the restaurant and he is carrying on the tradition. It felt like a trip down memory lane - the restaurant looking very much like many of the old Chinese restaurants in Kuching.

They are famous for serving up a whole platter of giant crab claws, so that was the first thing we ordered. At first the old man said they did not have stock, but after ordering several pricey dishes like shark's fin and roast suckling pig, he suddenly said they had just the right number of crab claws for us - 20 in total. It was the most impressive serving of crabs I have ever experienced so far - a mountain of giant crab claws simply steamed with ginger and light seasoning - and tasted divine. The cost - RM 500 per plate which works out to be around RM 50 per crab claw. Extremely pricy but it was worth it - some of the best crab claws you would ever taste !

The other dishes paled in comparison, but were all good and reminiscent of the old recipes dished up by the top Teochew restaurants in Kuching.

Yim Yim Chinese Restaurant  
Yaowaphanit Road, Chinatown

# BANGKOK CULINARY



Nahm Restaurant



Nahm Ulam



Nahm Appetizer



Nahm Appetizer

Australian Chef David Thompson has made his name with Thai food in London, at his Nahm Restaurant in the Halkin Hotel. He was one of the first chefs cooking Thai cuisine to have received a Michelin Star.

When Chef Thompson decided to open a branch of his Nahm Restaurant in Bangkok last year, many local food pundits were irked by his audacity – that a Mat Salleh would dare to show the Thais how to cook Thai food! Now months down the road, the restaurant is doing well and receiving many accolades even from the locals – though there are some who still would not walk in the door.

A meal at Nahm is best reserved for an occasion – it is not a cheap affair. The Set Menu is priced at THB 170 ++, which will work out to around RM 200 per person. Drinks extra.

And the food? Really top notch Thai food – with perfect balance of sweet, salty, spicy and savoury. There are also some dishes which you will not find anywhere else, as Chef Thompson scour the whole of Thailand searching for long lost recipes which he recreates and updates in his kitchen.

Nahm Thai Restaurant  
Metropolitan Hotel Bangkok  
27 South Sathorn Road  
Tungmahamek, Sathorn  
Bangkok 10120  
Tel +66 (0)2 625 3333  
Fax +66 (0)2 625 3300

## BANGKOK STREET FOOD

People always say you can't go hungry in Bangkok – and it's absolutely true. You can't walk 2 steps without coming across a stall selling satays, sausages or som tam – the famous green mango salad. The street food here is delicious and cheap, and the Thais are fastidious about cleanliness so I have yet to have a bad experience eating street food here.

The famous street food areas are Chinatown, Soi Thong Lo and Saochingcha area around Thanon Tanao – but it's really everywhere.

Just see what you like and try.



Roast Pork



Satay



Sausages



Spicy Noodles



Young Coconuts

By: Ar Ng Chee Wee  
May 2011

# PAMSC STUDY TRIP: Bangkok: Care for A-Bhisit?



This hotel sign is also a painting; showing Thai Innovation with materials



...and design 'sufficiency' - ceilings in our boutique hotel are rarely over 8 feet high proving convenient for hanging laundry

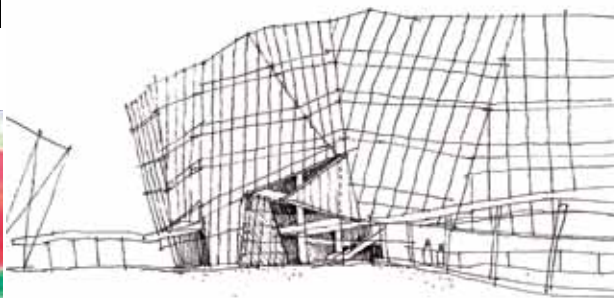


Under the grey hulk of the motorway, a well-turned concrete heel catches the eye

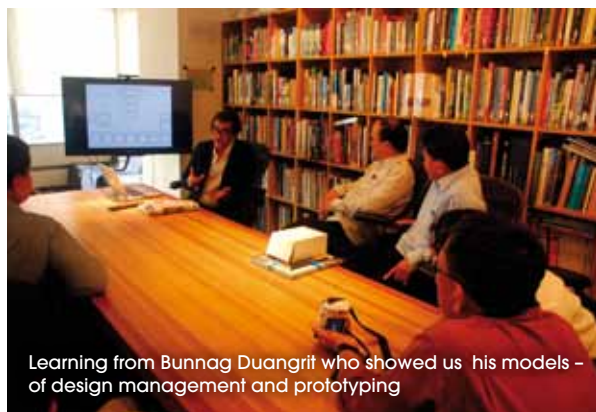
We were the centre of attention at the Government Centre for Design when PAMSC visited Dr Soontorn Boonyatikarn



A visit to Bangkok on your own typically involves shopping, sights and sampling Thai food - a visit with the PAM Sarawak Chapter has all that and much more. Chee Wee has put together the right blend of architecture, food and sights while allowing adequate time out for individual pursuits - I was able to comfortably fit several runs in the mornings. The camaraderie fostered through 5 days of sharing meals and a small bus (and indeed sharing meals IN a small bus) makes for 5 days of interesting insights and lessons learnt; here are some of them.....



Bangkok University School of the Arts



Learning from Bunnag Duangrit who showed us his models - of design management and prototyping



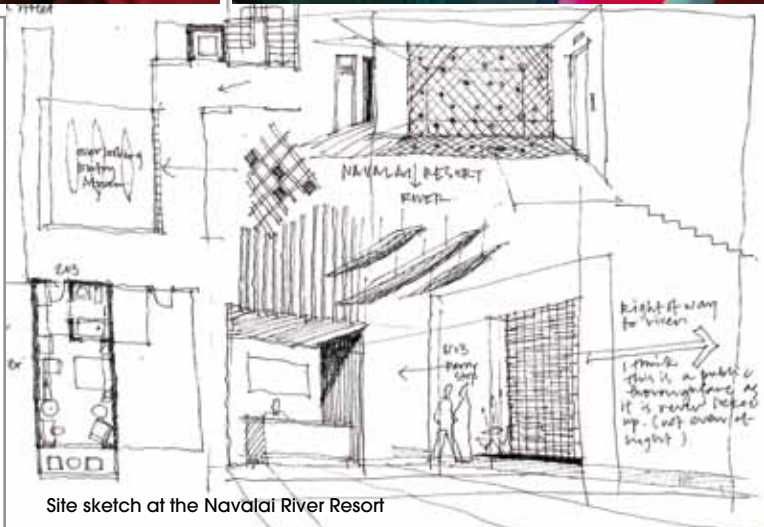
During the pre-election - it is wise to wear 'neutral' colours such as green; avoid yellows and reds



Thai taxi-drivers insist on driving to the 'doorstep' of your destination. My cab driver told it would be 'shameful' for him if I had to walk

## Interesting discoveries

1. There are 6-foot long monitor lizards at the Lumpini Park; runners stop to let them pass.
2. Thai runners also stop mid-stride when the National Anthem played in the Park at 8 a.m.
3. If you behave and sit quietly in the Public Library; the librarian will fetch you a cup of coffee.
4. Thai mall security patrol on locally-made Segways.
5. In her campaign poster, Ying Shinawatra reminds me of Catherine Zeta-Jones.
6. Adding a 'kup' or 'ka' at the end of a word makes it sound more polite...try it.



Site sketch at the Navalai River Resort



The 49 Terrace is a good example for a small city mall See more at [www.the49terrace.com](http://www.the49terrace.com)



'Curious George' lifts the lid on the local cuisine




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Tel: 014-877 1999, Fax: 084-328 044

Email: jerus\_deco@yahoo.com

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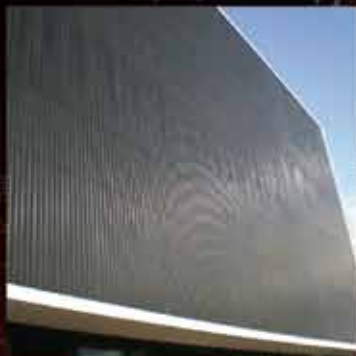


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Tel: 082-432062 Mobile: +6016-889 0172 (Angeline Lim) / +6016-889 0173 (Alex Ting) Fax: 082-432049

**NX@Curve, (Damansara) Selangor.**

**Petronas Warehouse, (Ulu Kelang) Selangor.**

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Aerial photograph of the nurses quarters before the 2011 demolition

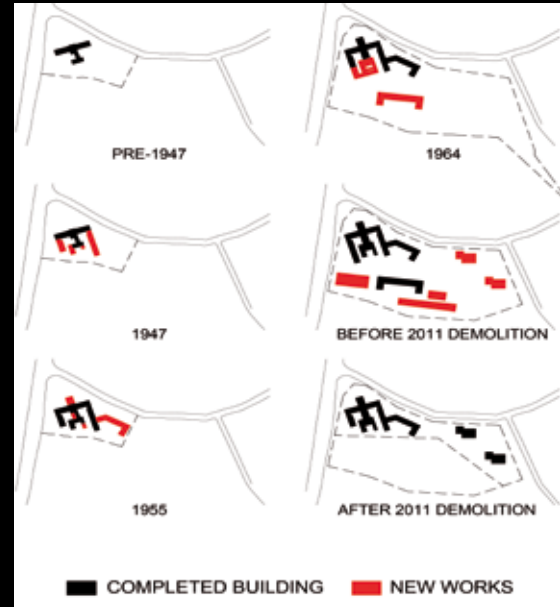


The ex-nurses' quarters at the junction of Crookshank Road

# REMINISCING KUCHING

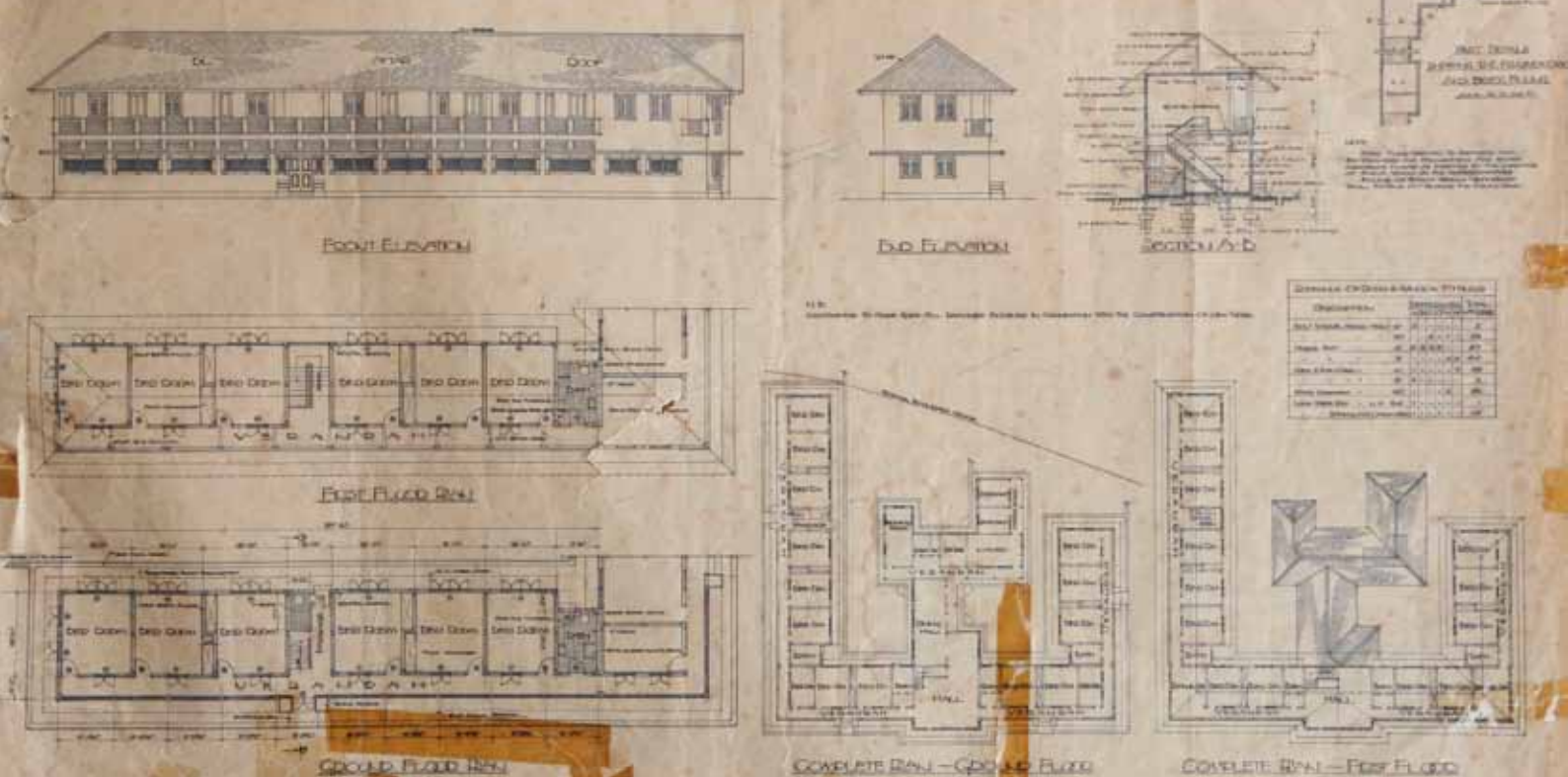
The nurses' quarters located at the intersection of Rock Road and Crookshank Road do not exactly fulfill the criteria of what constitutes a heritage building under the National Heritage Act. However, their somewhat low-profiled and enduring presence provided a respite from the many recent architectural works in the city which dabbled with vernacularism and pseudo post-modernism.

After being abandoned for more than a decade, the 3 blocks facing Crookshank Road are now being converted into a games village as part of Sarawak Lawn Tennis Association's Proposed Integrated Recreational Centre at the Kuching Civic Centre car park. The rear blocks have been demolished and the land alienated for private development.



ABOVE - An artist's impression of the proposed completed SLTA Games Village  
 LEFT - Sensitive adaptation of climate and site. These are evident in the steep gable roofs with deep overhangs, the high and low level air vents as well as the horizontally cantilevered RC ledges that span the entire building length

BELOW - The oldest PWD drawing dated 1948 detailing the earliest extension works to the original building. The drawings were prepared by Julian Law and the Director of Public Works at that period was P.E. Edwards



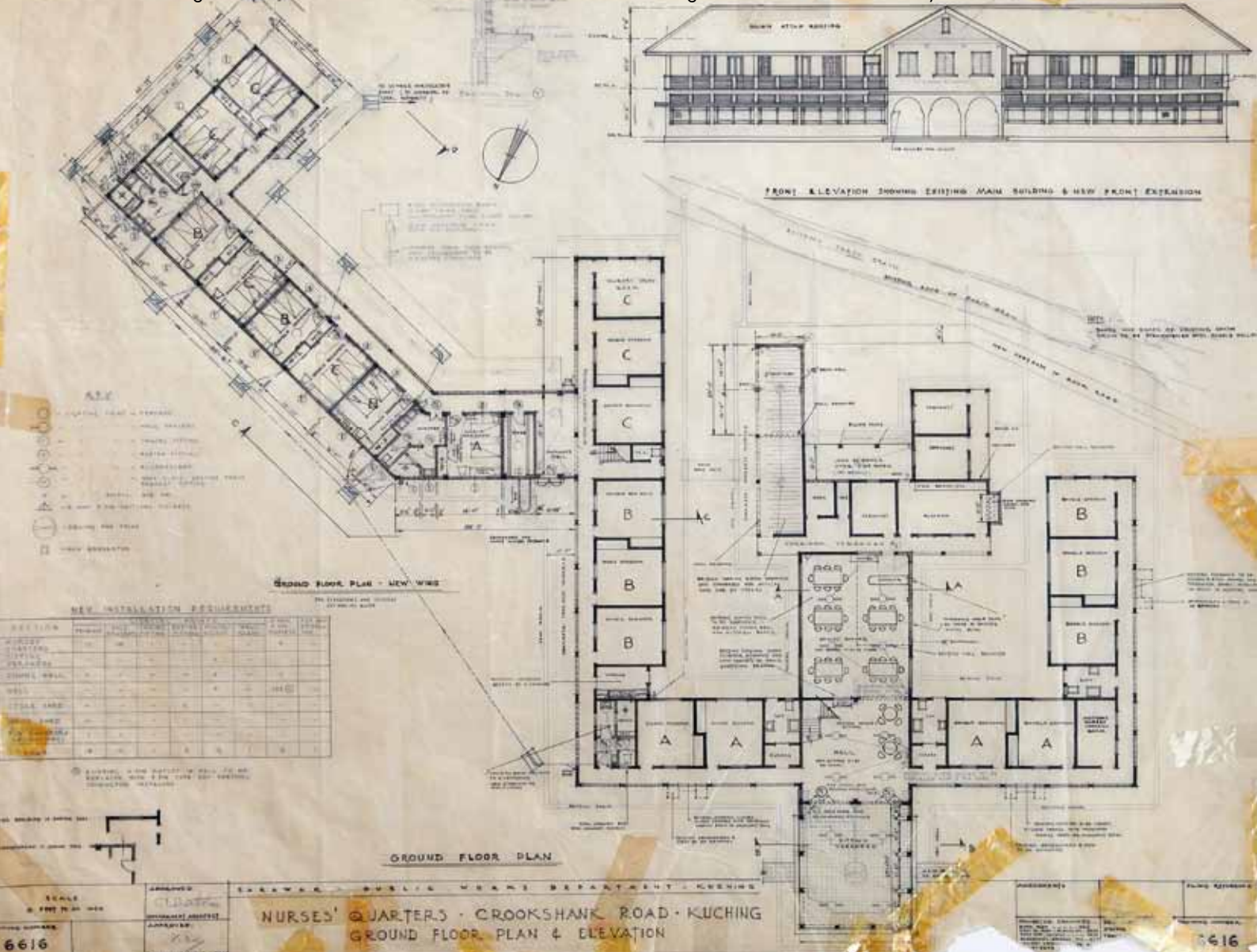


The rear section of the nurses' quarters site has been cleared to date and alienated for private development

The nurses' quarters embody simple, functional and mostly linear floor plans which consist mainly of dormitory rooms on one side and verandahs on the other. Typical cross sections of the naturally ventilated building blocks would reveal a deep reverence for sensitive adaptation of climate and site. These are evident in the steep gable roofs with deep over-hangs, the high and low level air vents as well as the horizontally cantilevered RC ledges that span the entire length of the building blocks at various heights.

The nurses' quarters exude a preference for a more universal and progressive ideal to ethnic centered expressions. They derive their appeal from the honest formal expression given by their structural clarity, use of local materials, passive climatic control, uncompromising pragmatism and economic constraints. Therein lies their muted elegance and relevance.

BELOW - This 1955 drawing shows the new iconic front verandah and extended residential wing which we are familiar with today





Proposed Criteria:	
Natural Lighting	Working Education
Harvesting Rainwater	Brand New Habitation
Natural Ventilation	Increase Soil Storage
Reducing Environment Cost	Sustainable Design

Why Brick?	
Less Expensive	High Thermal Mass
Permeable Material	Environment Friendly Material
Low Maintenance	Excellent Life Cycle Performance

Site: Penang National Park

Concept and Idea Development

1. Site History Book  
2. Land Use  
3. Strategy  
4. Structure  
5. Material  
6. Function

1. Possibility of space usage of a tree trunk  
2. Habitation for minor species and birds  
3. New habitation for humanity and vegetation

# The 7<sup>TH</sup> Habitat

Sectional view of Retreat Centre    Sectional view of Eco Centre

Explode Asymmetric of Eco Centre    Explode Asymmetric of Retreat



# ECO RETREAT STUDENT IDEAS COMPETITION 2010



2nd prize winner - Stanley (left) & Jong Si Hong (right).

The "Eco Retreat" student competition was initiated by PAM and GBI last year in May 2010; it was opened to all architectural students in Asia. The sponsors for the competition were the GBI and ARCASIA Committee for Architectural Education; it closed in December 2010.

The project site is located in the Penang National Park at Teluk Bahang. This project brief was carried out as the final project for LIMKOKWING Institute of Creative Technology (LICT) Diploma Students in the final semester of Architectural Design 352. 2 out of 6 LICT entries have won 2nd prize and merit respectively.





Merits winner - Eddy Erwan (left) & Lee Joon Kien (right).

**IDEA DEVELOPMENT** AND RETREAT

**THESE PULSAR** | **THESE PULSE**

**ROOTS**

**SITE ANALYSIS** diagrams

**WATER PANS & WATER PLANTING SYSTEM**

**STRUCTURAL & LIGHT TUNING SYSTEM**

**FUNCTIONAL DIAGRAMS**

**EXPLODED DIAGRAM**

**INFUSE WITH NATURE**

**REPLICATING NATURE**

**LINKING BACK TO THE NATURE**

**"NO SHADE, TREE? BLAME NOT THE SUN BUT YOURSELF."**

We congratulate the winners as follows:

- First Prize – Lee Car Rol of Taylor’s University
- Second Prize – Stanley Sim Chin Poh and Jong Si Hong of Limkokwing University (Borneo Campus)
- Third Prize – Lim Ker Chwing, Koh Hern Lit, Chok Kwan Kin and Teoh Jin Yong of Taylor’s University

**5 Merits**

- Loo Jie Hsin and Teoh Lee Moi of UPM
- Lim Gim Huang and Lee Woon Wei of UTM
- Chua Kwee How of Taylor’s University
- Beta Chan of Limkokwing University
- Eddy Erwan bin Abu Bakar Shamsidin and Lee Joon Kien of Limkokwing University (Borneo Campus)

**6 Jury recommendations**

- Lim Tze Ling and Kua Wen Teek of USM
- Tan Khang Hung of UPM
- Murugadass a/I Ganathipan, Suyen Lim Sinnadurai and Wan Badrol Asyraf bin Wan Basiron of UTM
- Lee Ping Fuan, Xie Qilin, Yeap Li Sa and Sharina Law Sze Lin of UPM
- Wong Yow Han of UPM
- Goh Chun Sing of USM

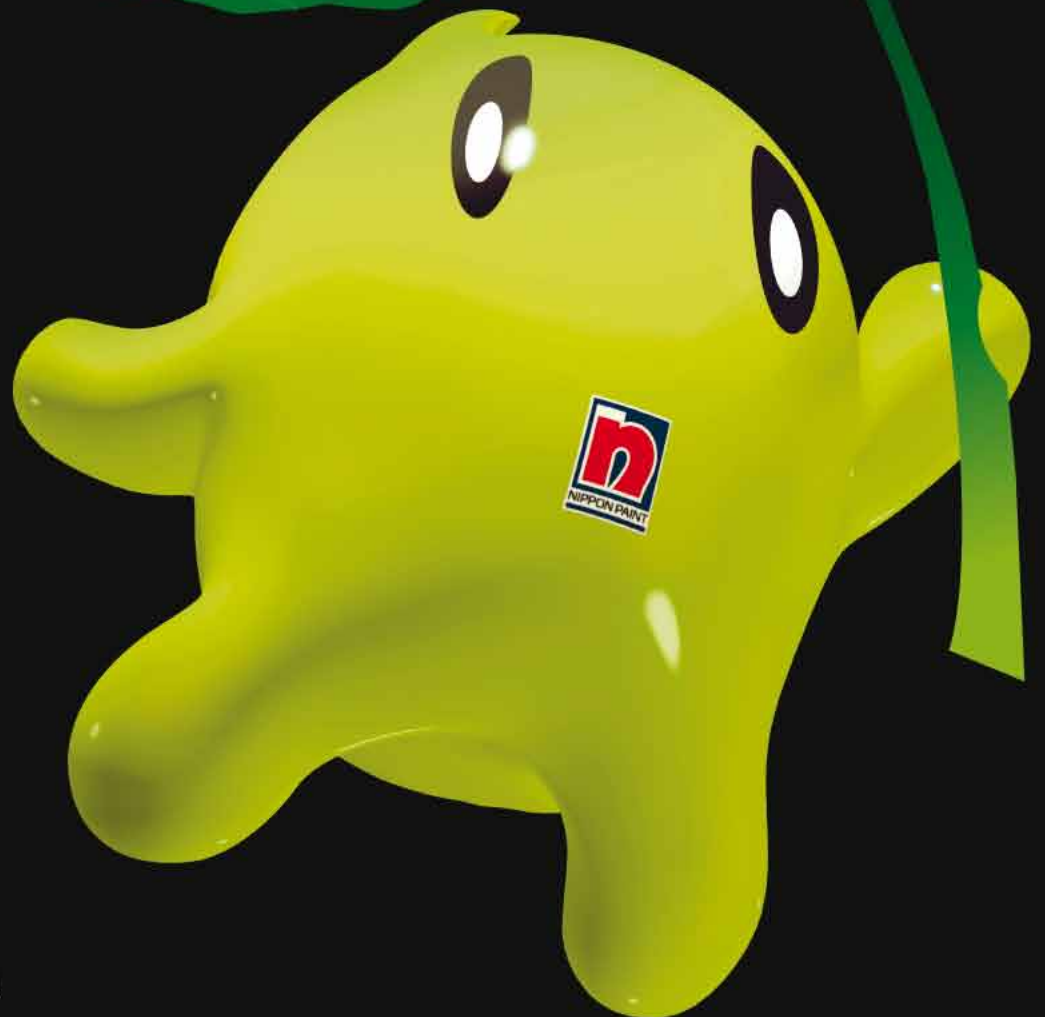
Over 80 entries were received in this competition and the Jury was impressed with the quality of the submissions.

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