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News+FLASH is the digital offspring of INTERSECTION. It is published digitally each fortnight for the foreseeable future, until we run out of ideas, articles or money.



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The curved building's façade embraces the view of the school field.

RIAM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MIRI

by James Sie & Associates

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

Riam Institute of Technology (RiamTec) started with a humble beginnings some 20 years ago as a vocational college, sharing its compound with the pre-existing Riam Road Secondary School. Over the years, the Institute evolved and thrived to become a renowned centre of higher learning based on the culture of learning by doing.

This featured building is RiamTec's new administrative block; an architectural design specifically tailored to 'showcase' the institute to the city. Placed majestically on the edge of an existing sports field, the five-storey building is strikingly visible to passers-by of Jalan Riam.

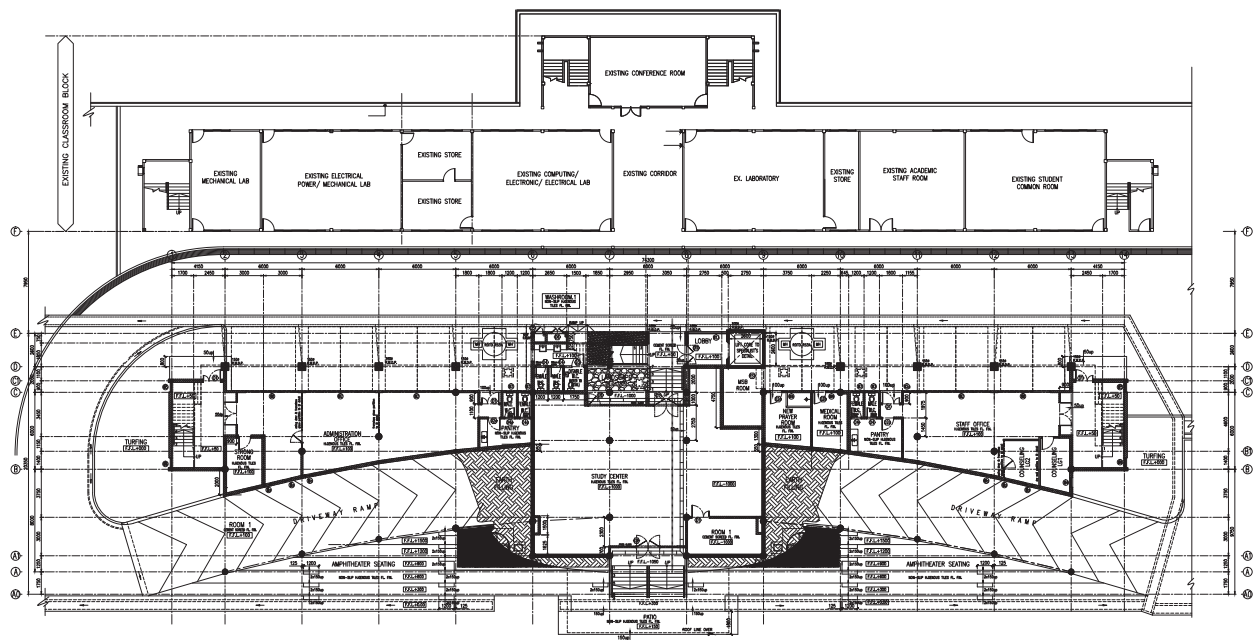
As it is an infill development, the building is constructed above an existing road and carpark. The main floor sits on a plinth that connects directly to the existing classroom block behind via a sky bridge. Its curved façade embraces the view of the field like wings that reflect the institute's vision for its students to soar to greater heights.

This administrative block also houses a multi-purpose hall and laboratories among others, gives emphasis to its relation with green sports field. The amphitheater styled seating at the building's main entrance is aligned to the running track and provides optimal viewing experience. Equally notable is the sprawling curtain glass frontage that brings forth generous greenery view to the interior space. A series of lattices are used to filter the sun penetration along the double-volume open corridor at the centre.

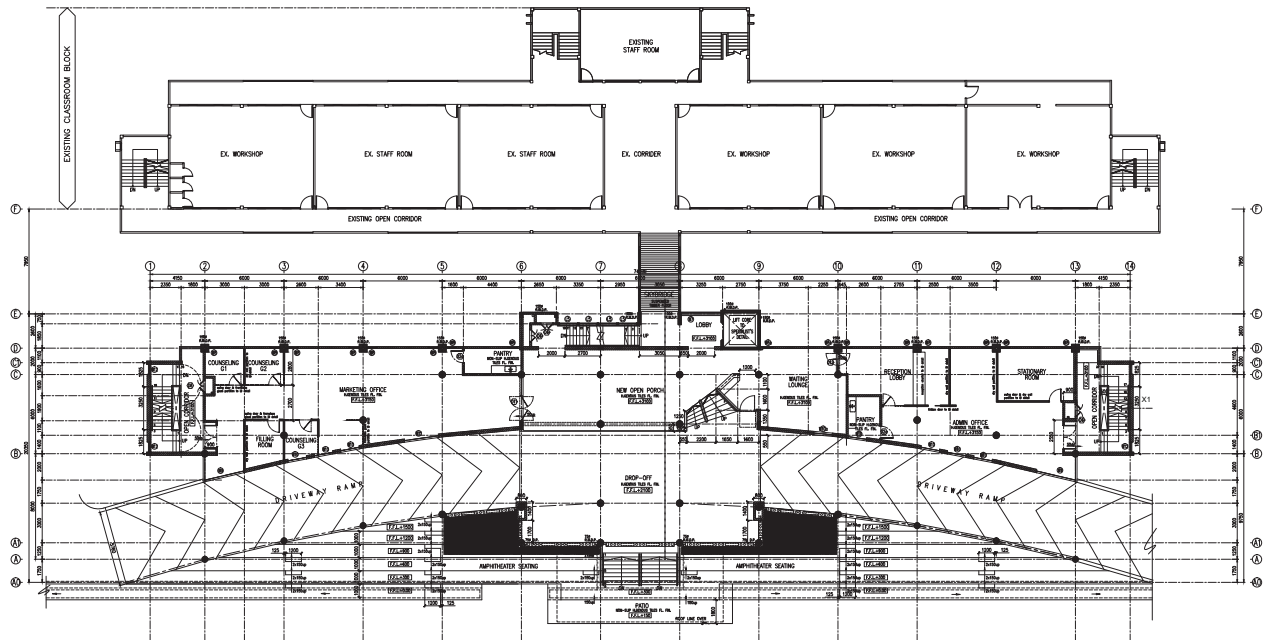


Amphitheater-type seating alongside the existing 100m running track.

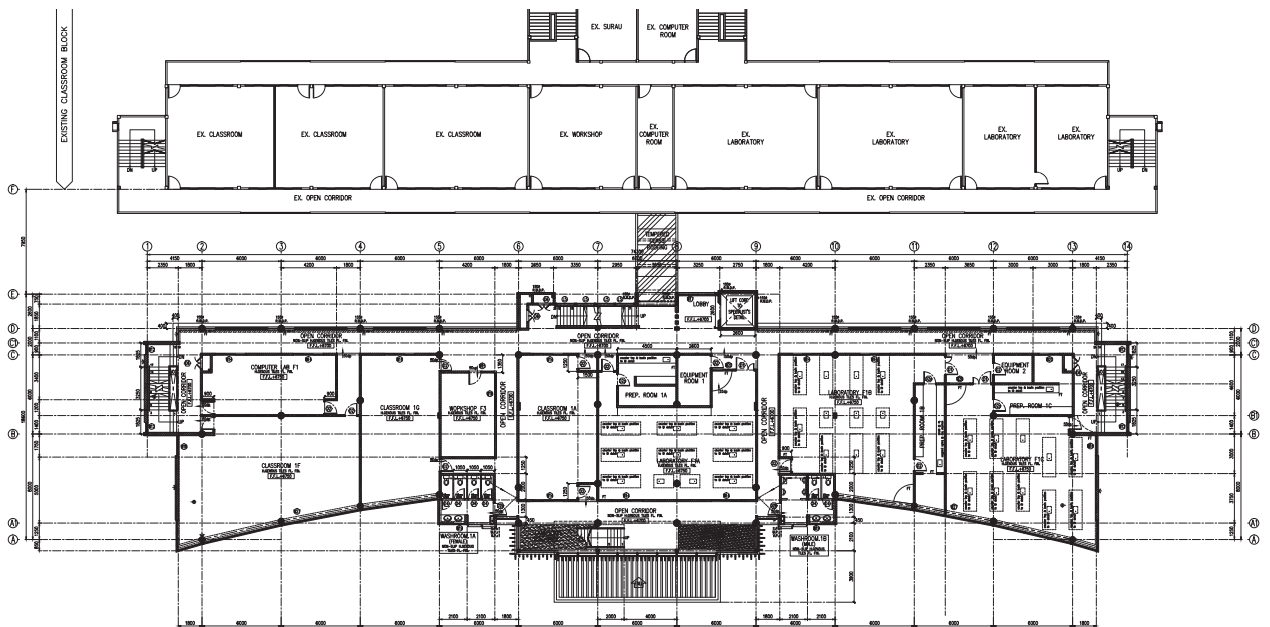
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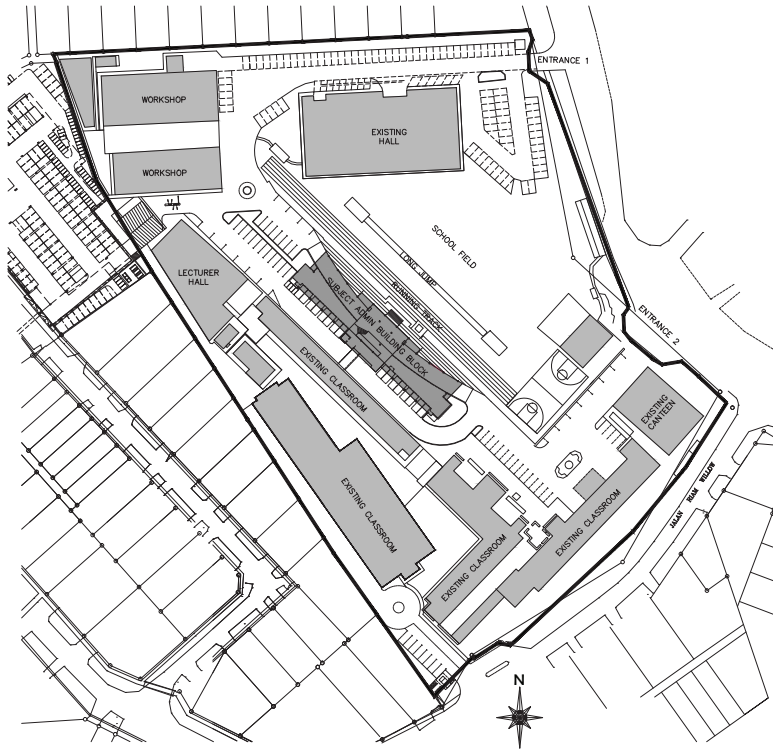
LOWER GROUND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1:125



UPPER GROUND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1:125



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1:125



SITE PLAN



Protection works carried out for existing Trophy Statue and 100m Running Track.



Demolition work begins.



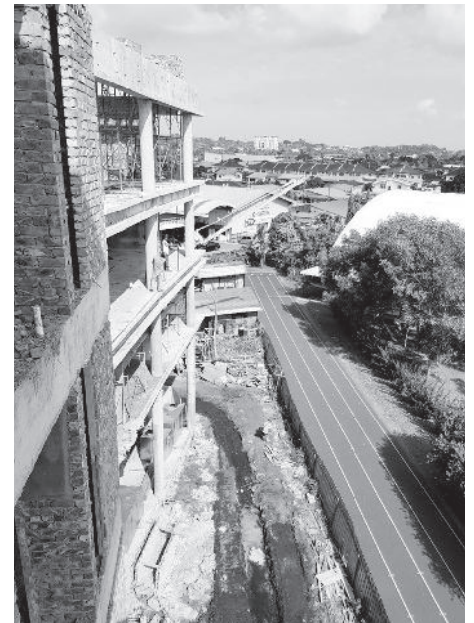
Construction of Lower Ground Floor (below existing ground level).



Construction of Upper Ground Floor Driveway Ramp, Drop-off Lobby (to connect the existing first floor classroom level).



Construction was divided into 3 construction stages due to limited access into Site. The left wing and right wing of the building were only started after middle block was constructed.



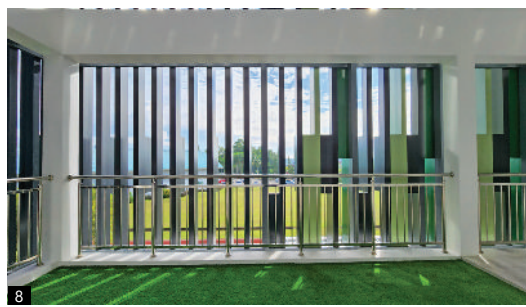
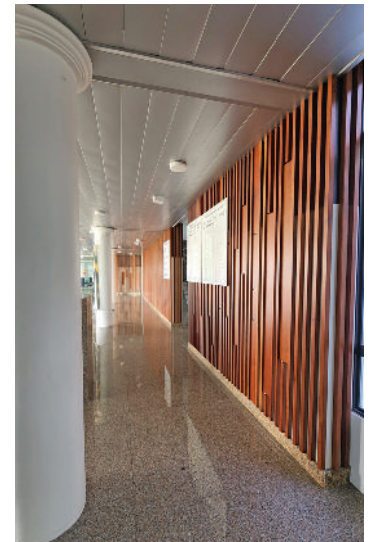
Viewing down to new amphitheatre seating and existing running track.



Construction of Roof Canopy.



Installation of Aluminium works.



CAPTIONS:

- 1 & 7. A new bridge that connects the existing classroom block with new admin block.
- 2,5,8. Open corridor and staircase design with views through the lattice façade.
- 3. Building with amphitheatre step seating design alongside the existing 100m running track.
- 4 & 9. Due to lack of land, the perimeter road was designed below the main building block. The drop-off lobby is designed 2.1m above the existing road level to have views towards the school field, a space below and an equal access level to another existing first floor classroom block.
- 6. The drop-off lobby with 6m cantilevered roof design.
- 10. Double volume Library on second floor.

Architect	: James Sie & Associates
Design Team	: Chin Chee Hong, Andrew Wong, Chin Jun Liang, Eveline Yoong
Client	: Riam Institute of Technology Miri
Quantity Surveyor	: ELP Quantity Surveyors (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd.
M&E Engineer	: Perunding CH Engineering Sdn. Bhd.
C&S Engineer	: PCS Konsultant Sdn. Bhd.
Builder	: Green Summit Construction, Sukiada Engineering (Sarawak)



MOON MISSION : Realising urban resilience through art and design installations

Written by Tay Tze Yong

Image courtesy of Chai Jee Sing



COVID-19 affected the lives of many people around the world. We are now two to three years after the pandemic, the question now is **what's next for our city?** Should urban development follow the path it took before the pandemic hit? I really think our city should be allowed to freely re-imagine possible futures and experiment with more sustainable and creative ways of life. At the very least, local communities, creative and cultural organizations should be encouraged - should be allowed to create spaces that inspire the creativity in the city's dwellers.

To this end, PAMSC's World Architecture Day (WAD) celebrations have become a 'testing ground' to promote creativity, and to re-imagine our future cities. In the past, we have taken the opportunity to work closely with PAMSC to organize events such as Cardboard City, the 'Walking City' and other installations involved in efforts to foster creativity and sustainability within local communities, particularly among the young generations.

In conjunction with this year's WAD 2022 celebration - the temporary installation of Moon Pavilion has been set-up in the public park at the Palmerium, MBKS (Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan). This place-making project also aims to promote cultural event through celebration of Mid-Autumn Festival (Mooncake Festival), promote community engagement and celebrate endemic. We foresaw that it could serve as a backdrop for lectures, mini concerts and night movie screenings in the park. Aside from PAMSC, the event was a combined effort of MBKS, SCACA

(Sarawak Creative Art and Culture Association) and FECCA (Free & Easy Chinese Calligraphy Association).

The concept of the Moon Pavilion was derived from the poems of Song Dynasty: At Lantern Festival - Tune: Song of Hawthorn by Ouyang Xiu (欧阳修): <生查子·元夕> 之 '月上柳梢头, 人约黄昏后' - **'When the moon hung behind the willows, young people went out on dates under them'**. This verse aims to illustrate the artistic conception of Moon Pavilion during the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The design process for the Moon Pavilion was also inspired by the Serpentine Gallery by OMA - 'The centrepiece of the design is a spectacular ovoid-shaped inflatable canopy that floats above the Serpentine's lawn. Made from translucent material, the structure is illuminated from within at night. The canopy will be raised into the air or lowered to cover the amphitheater below according to the weather' (www.oma.com).

We envision the Moon Pavilion to be simply a white spherical object floating in the park. It would be translucent in the day with shadows cast from the internal frames, and illuminated at night. It can be seen from the main road or within the park, intentionally creating interest for the public. Some children claim it is a Star Wars spaceship ready to take off, a Kongming lantern, big eggs, a lantern that you can hide in, etc. . . it can be interpreted in any way. Most importantly, to connect architecture, art installations, and creativity to the local community.

DIAGRAMS & MODEL

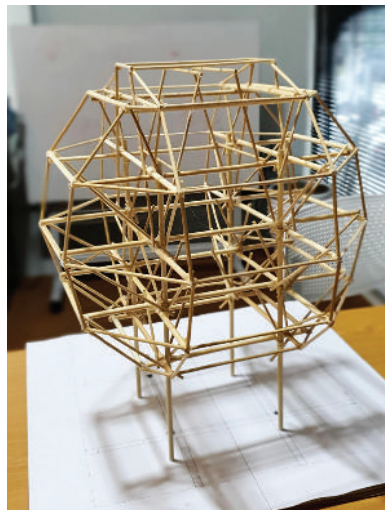
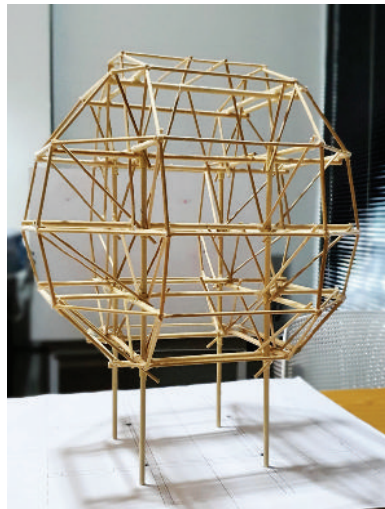
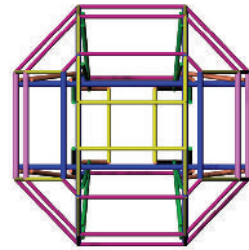
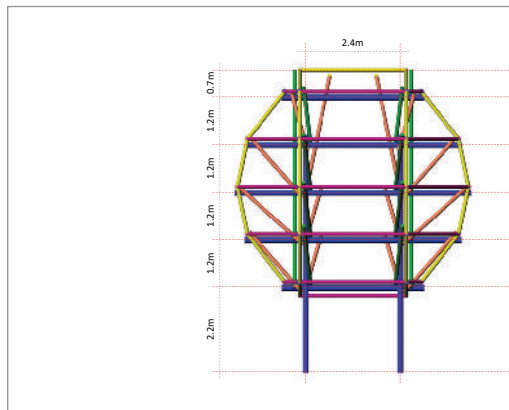
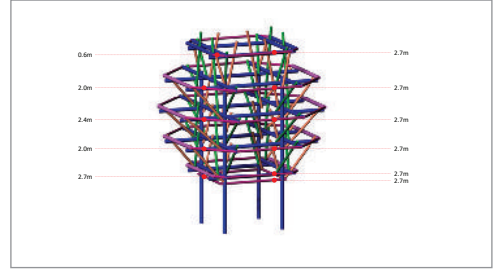
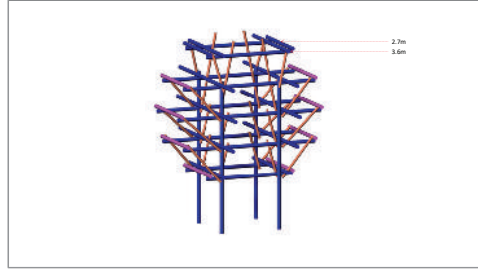
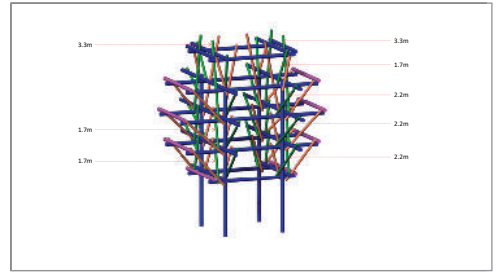
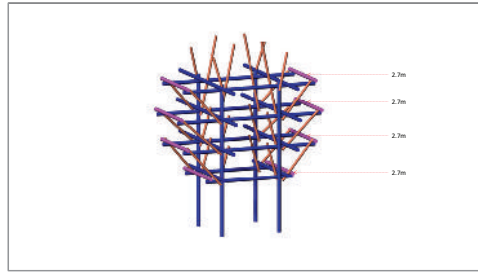




Photo source : Facebook



In terms of building materials, the structure is made of bamboo, just like traditional lanterns. Bamboo was harvested and cured earlier in August by the skillful Bidayuh community from Puncak Borneo. It took a month from harvesting to installation in the park.

There is a one-day university students event held at MBKS Auditorium and Palmerium Park in the midst of the Moon Pavilion construction - 'PAMSC WAD 2022 : The Moon Pavilion Installation & Students Workshop'. The event consisted of a bamboo crafting workshop, bamboo design lectures led by Dr. Bambang Karsono and Cr. Wadel Boyod, site visit and installation of the Moon Pavilion. This event was participated by 110 students across five universities in Sarawak (UNIMAS, Swinburne University, UITM from Kuching, Kolej Laila Taib and UTS from Sibiu).

Kuching has a rich and diverse culture and community. Our heritage is made up of the tangible, the intangible and the natural. Ultimately, we might consider what we could do next to ensure that the city's development allows organic intervention in creative, cultural and community spaces. We could also re-imagine what our city needs in the near future. With that in mind, it is hoped that the Moon Pavilion will continue its mission to inspire.

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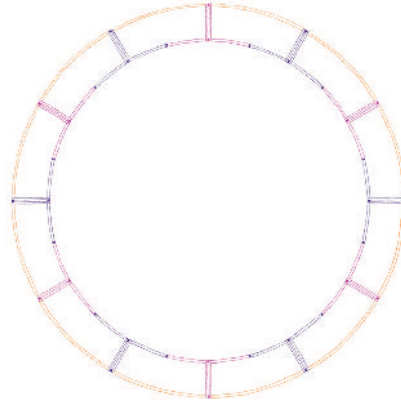
MOON PAVILION PROJECT

Designed by	: INTODESIGN Lab
Design team	: Tay Tze Yong, Lam Choi Suan, Sim Siok Pheng
Structural Engineer (Foundation)	: N.D. Konsultant
Foundation Contractor	: Precious Buildility Construction
Bamboo Installer	: Bidayuh community led by Cr. Wadel Boyod
Supported by	: MBKS, SCACA & FECCA
Sponsored by	: Nippon Paint & iMetal

THE ALLEYWAY PROJECT

BODY

An experience to open your body sensation



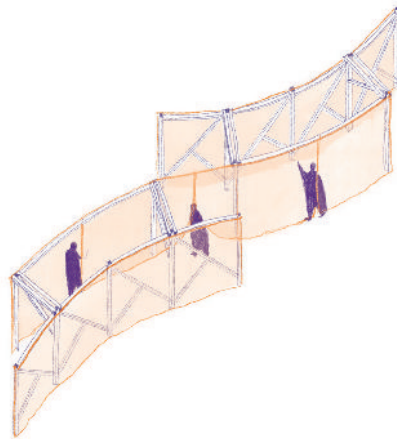
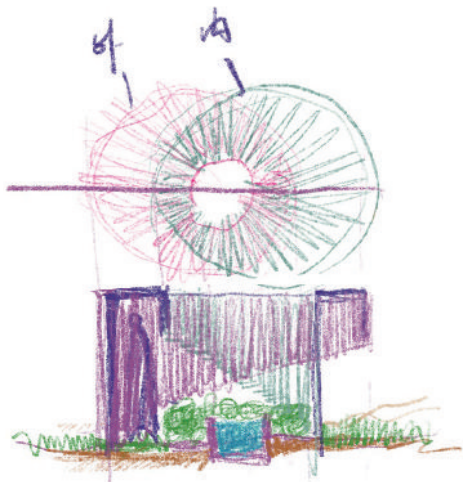
CONCEPT

Under the theme of Body, I was thinking about the relationship between the body and the space. I interpreted it in an intimate way, in which I came out with fabric, something that is soft and gentle.

The *BODY* installation was inspired by a perceptual experience; I want to invite people to become more aware of their senses (the eyes and the touch) when they walk inside the installation.

FORM & STRUCTURE

In this strong geometry context of the Old Courthouse, I encircled the fountain as an alleyway, which is where the curvature of the installation initially came from. Now it is presented as a deconstructed fragment of T; one-sixth of the circle, to break the strong geometry in the square courtyard.



This installation is designed with four units of curvy T structure as a module, two of it is tilted 180 degrees to create a playful circulation. The T structure can stand by itself, and it is easily portable and adjusted with designated functions.

PERCEPTION

Visual

The wrapping cloth around the framework creates a sense of being surrounded yet visually eliminates the interruptions from the surroundings. Playing between the visible and the invisible. Sometimes it is just you with the blank moment of the white fabric; let yourself embrace the moment of me-time.

Touch and Body Movement

The cuts and openings of the cloth are set at the height of eye level; people have to lower their bodies a bit to go through the openings. The circulation in the *BODY* installation is playfully intertwined across the openings of the cloth. You could go anywhere through the openings and let yourself be caressed by the soft fabric when the wind blows.

seni
kita

PICOLAB

WAK
2022

Designer : Eunice Chai
Project Duration : 3 weeks
Studio : Picolab
in collaboration with SeniKita by HausKCH & WAK2022



With years of practice in architecture school under her belt, *Eunice Chai* has cultivated a strong perception of spatial sense. She is currently practising her profession as a freelance designer and is still on her way in search of her own belief in architecture.



DESIGN LECTURE MINI-SERIES 1.0

3.12.22 (SAT)

9:00am - 1:00pm
PAMSC Centre @ Saradise

FREE Admission
CPD Points Applied



Ar. Shyuan Kuee
(PAM/LAM) (RIBA/Arb) Member (Malaysia Green Building Council)
UCL Bartlett, London – 2005-2007
University of Sheffield – 2001-2004

The **Design Lecture Mini-series 1.0** is PAMSC's first physical design lecture series post-pandemic.

It is a platform to showcase emerging Malaysian architects working locally and abroad, by inviting them to share their projects and ideas with us; to inspire our young architects, to re-refresh our design thinking and re-establish design conversations halted by the pandemic.

In this first series, we have :



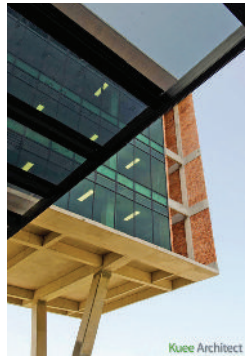
Ar. Shyuan Kuee

KUEE ARCHITECTURE IPOH

<https://www.kueearch.com/>

Shyuan worked with Foster + Partners in London, involved in the Zayed Museum Abu Dhabi, Masdar City and UAE Pavilion in Shanghai Expo 2010, before setting her own practice in 2014.

Kuee Architect has built many award winning projects; her 1 Lasam project won PAM Silver Awards in the Sustainable Development Goals category, and was also won The Edge – PAM Green Excellence Awards 2022.



STAY TUNED FOR REGISTRATION LINK

Yap Shan Ming
WOHA SINGAPORE

<https://woha.net/>



Shan Ming received a Master of Architecture from National University of Singapore in 2012. She is a registered architect in Singapore and joined WOHA in 2018. Since then, she has been involved and completed many significant residential projects such as the MeyerHouse.



Organizer:



PAM
Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia
Sarawak Chapter

The series started as re-discovery of the forgotten corners of our towns in 2012, recall the places and memories of our youth, re-visit them through architectural sketching with some details recorded with photography.

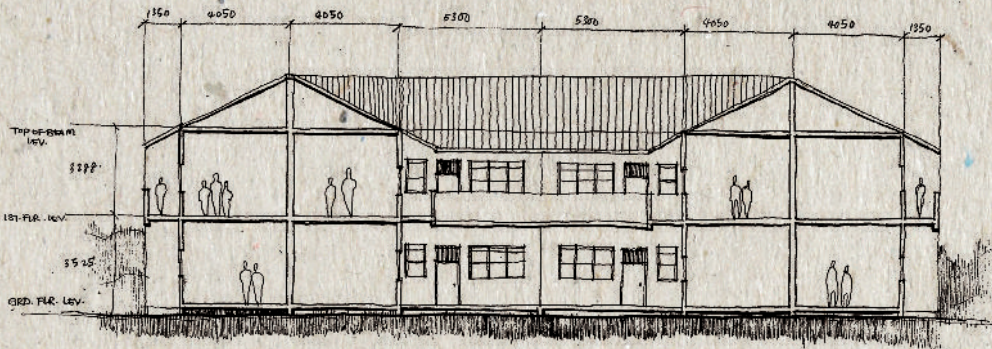
TOWNSCAPE : Discovering our towns one picture at a time

In this issue, we go to SibU in search of the distinct streetscape and town life – shop houses, bicycles and its relationship with the Rejang River. We document the unique link houses along Jalan Bukit Assek, which typifies the local people’s practical approach to life and livelihood. We met up with a local gentleman, Mr Hwong Yew Tuong* who has raised a family in one of these houses along Jalan Bukit Assek. Ar. Chai Si Yong interviews him and provides a photographic journal for this issue.

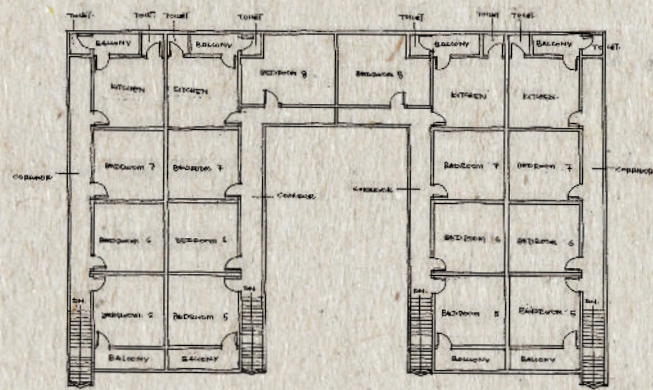
* He is Ar. Hwong How Hing’s father.



Front elevation from Jalan Bukit Assek.



Section through the housing units.



Floor plan



BUKIT ASSEK HOUSING

Upon closer study of the floor plans, it becomes clear that practicality takes priority over conventional planning, circulation and personal boundaries.

And upon an even closer look, you find yourself looking at strata titled housing, built in the days before such planning prototypes were used.

Both floors are laid out in almost the same way; both with their own kitchen with rooms accessed from the corridor.

This enables flexible usage of the rooms which can be used as the living room, study, dining room. The kitchen, bathroom and toilet are shared, which means that one family can occupy the whole house, one floor or one room!

Mr Hwong was kind enough to explain the 'life-cycle' of his house through his collection of family photographs and newspaper clippings.



Found artwork.



MR HWONG YEW TUONG, 75 is a man of diverse talents which probably explains why his house has served wideranging functions in its life span. Mr. Hwong was trained in electronics in Hong Kong in the early 60's after which he returned to work in Sibu as a telephone switchboard engineer. He also taught electronics, electrical wiring and book-keeping (!) at home in his spare time. He spent several years in Indonesia managing the accounts in a remote timber camp. When he returned to Sibu this time, he developed a new abacus and mental arithmetic system which he taught from his house and introduced to the schools in the area. Spare rooms were used as classrooms or tuition centres to earn a bit of extra income.

Nowadays, he admits he has 'slowed down' a bit although he still tutors mental arithmetic and memory training (he gave us a demo) in his house.

FLASH would like to record our thanks to Mr. Hwong for taking the time in sharing his archive of photographs and memory.



Mr Hwong looks through his extensive archives.



The graduating class of 1960.



Spare rooms were used as classrooms or tuition centres to earn a bit of extra income.



All the rooms were accessed from the verandah, making it quite common for rooms to be let to 'out-station' government officers and their families.



The verandah is also the games room.



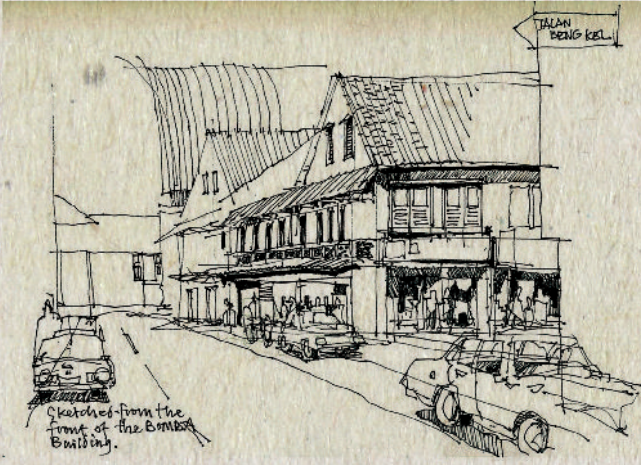
As the family was growing up, all the rooms were used by the family members.



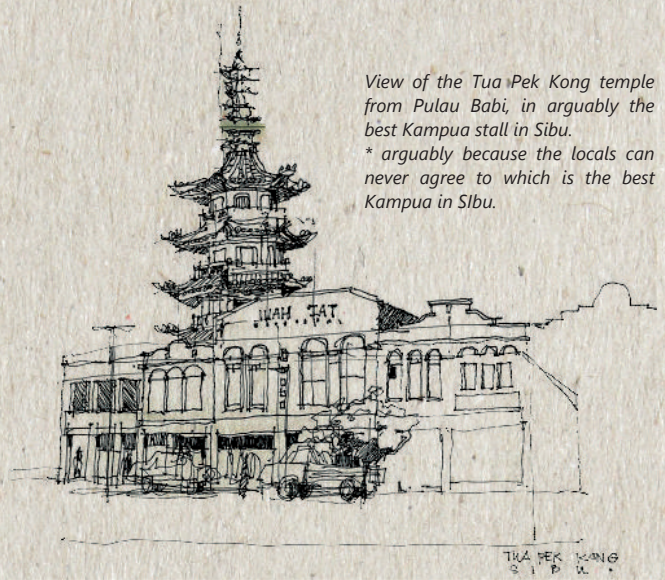
Ar. Hwong tells me he used to do his homework in the verandah as it is brighter and more airy.



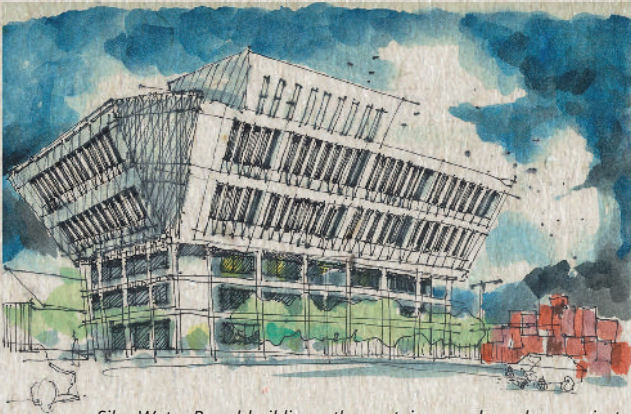
Morning walks in Sibü ; Sketching



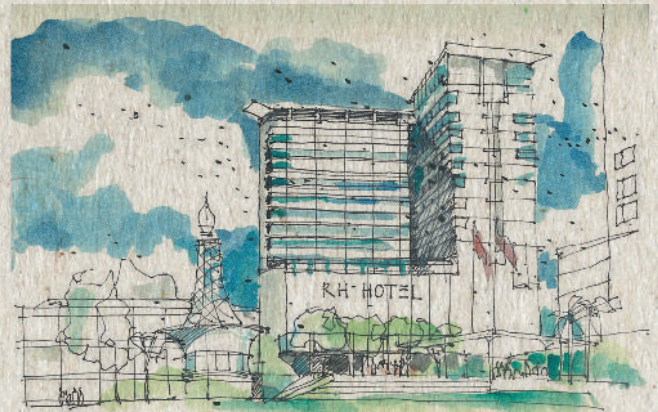
Jalan Bengkel - sketched from the front of the Bomba building; the ends of these shop houses are particularly delightful with rooms that opens to a side balcony.



View of the Tua Pek Kong temple from Pulau Babi, in arguably the best Kampua stall in Sibü. * arguably because the locals can never agree to which is the best Kampua in Sibü.



Sibü Water Board building - the container yard can be seen just next to the Rejang River.



View of the RHotel from across Town Square - drawn early in the morning. The black specks in the sky are swifts flying from tree to building to tree.

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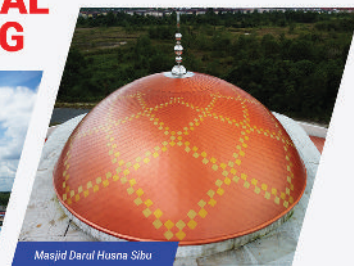
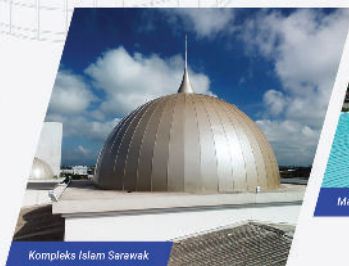
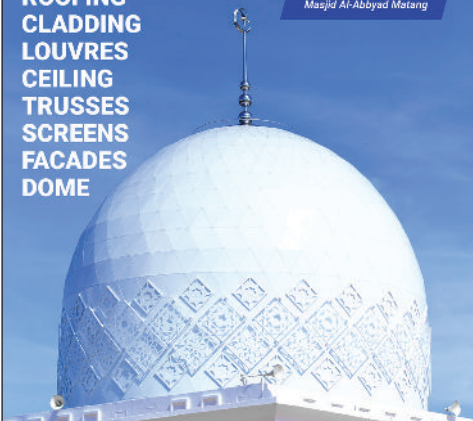
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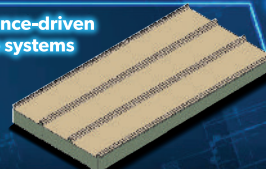
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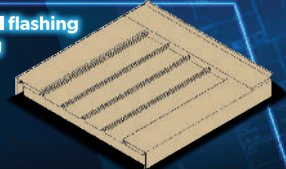
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