



Restoration of Historic Masonry – the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Talk by Mr Wong Chung Wan
Director, MAEK Consulting Pte Ltd

Date: Friday, 14 November 2014

Time: 3:00pm-5:00pm

Venue: The URA Centre, Level 5, Function Hall

Admission is free

To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/restoration-of-historic-masonry-tickets-13817744245>

CPD Accreditation

This talk is accredited 4 points under the BOA-SIA Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme.

SYNOPSIS

Common deteriorations and distresses encountered in historic clay brick masonry include rising damp from the ground, salt attack, cracking, poor quality clay bricks and damaged brickworks due to poor maintenance and past interventions. To restore the masonry, frequently a concoction and combination of different methods and materials **(The GOOD)** will be required. These include consolidation, injection, chemical stabilisation, poulticing, strengthening etc. The principles of these techniques and their shortcomings will be highlighted. The use of unsuitable and incompatible materials and poorly executed works **(The BAD)** for instance the use of cement rich finishes and non-breathable coating have in the past caused further damages to the historic masonry rather than protecting it. The long term adverse effects **(The UGLY)** of such poor practices had resulted in moisture retention, disintegration and fracture of the clay brick units and debonding of the plasters and renders. These will be discussed in the presentation.

SPEAKER'S PROFILE



Mr Wong Chung Wan *M.Sc. (Bldg Sc), B.Eng (Civil & Struct)*

Director, MAEK Consulting Pte Ltd

Trainer, BCA Academy on Green Mark Facilities Managers Course

Member, Technical Committee for Architectural Finishes, Singapore Productivity and Standards Board (SPRING)

Mr. Wong has more than 25 years of experience in Building Pathology and Diagnosis, and as a Materials Consultant in Conservation and Restoration of Historic Buildings and Monuments. He has investigated immense numbers of building related failures and defects such as debonding of tiling works, water seepage, shattering and cracking of glass, defects of stone, deterioration of timber, failure of paint and coating, failure of flooring, corrosion, indoor air quality, slips and trip hazards etc. Amongst the conservation and restoration projects that Mr. Wong has been involved in recently are the National Art Gallery (former Supreme Court and City Hall), Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall, Capitol Theatre, Stamford House, Cathedral of Good Shepherd, Myanmar Railway Building and CHIJMES. In the course of his works, Mr. Wong has employed a variety of state of the art techniques from petrography to thermography, radar, microwave tomography and timber resistography. His works has spanned across Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar and India. Mr. Wong has recently been invited to provide a key note presentation on restoration of historic buildings at the International Conference on Sustainable Building Restoration and Revitalisation -2013 in China. Mr. Wong is also a trained Concrete Petrographer with TNO of Holland and is a pioneer in petrographic examination in Singapore since 1997.