

# No. 1 DALVEY ESTATE

A Frank Brewer Original Restored



**Owner:**  
*Mr Ong Teng Cheong*

**Architect:**  
*Ong & Ong Architects Pte Ltd*

**Engineer:**  
*Mr Hou Ke Hua*

**Contractor:**  
*Lum Chang Building Contractors Pte Ltd*

**T**his two-storey Art Deco bungalow, located in the White House Park/Nassim Road Conservation Area, was designed by Frank Brewer and built in 1927. The owner chose to restore the outhouse together with the main house even though the retention of



*A sensitively restored bungalow*

the outhouse was optional. A new two-storey extension sympathetic to the main bungalow was added at the rear and a stand-alone open-sided garage was built to the side of the bungalow.

The bungalow was in fairly good condition prior to restoration, except for some localised areas of wood rot, roof leakage and damaged plaster on the external wall surfaces. These were repaired and strengthened. Minimum additions and alterations were carried out. The

3-R principle of maximum retention, sensitive restoration and careful repair was observed.

All existing decorative mouldings including the sunrays brick arches and rough plaster corner buttress piers were carefully restored. The oriel windows and

window openings in geometric patterns were retained and restored. The internal layout was adjusted to suit present day living while respecting the character and spatial quality of the bungalow. An attic was created in the roof space over the two-storey extension, with dormer windows to provide light and ventilation.

The result is a sensitively restored bungalow with a well-designed new addition.



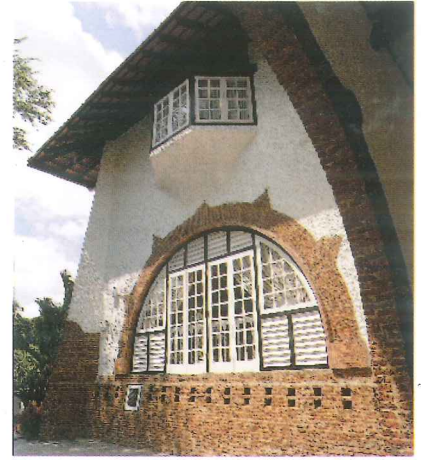
*Geometric spiral brickwork and vents to space below ground*



*Oriel windows restored*



*Dormer windows for light and ventilation to attic*



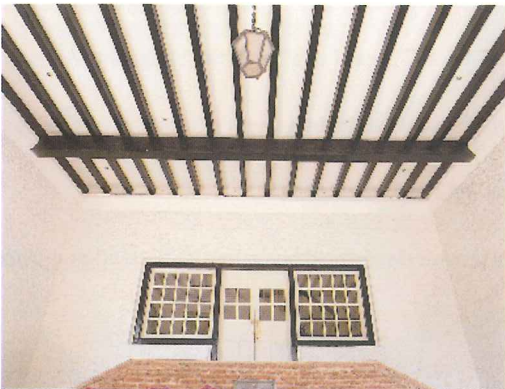
*South wing of the house restored to original*



*View of mainhouse and outhouse*



*Spacious interior*



*Exposed timber joists over car porch and main entrance*



*Old chimney stays kept*



*Original metal grilles retained*

The main house and outhouse were designed in 1927 by **Frank Brewer (1886 – 1971)** who was greatly influenced by the Arts & Crafts movement. Architectural elements of No. 1 Dalvey Estate strongly reflect these design and planning characteristics:-

- (i) heavy and robust style
- (ii) exposed brickwork on corner buttresses and arches
- (iii) steep pitched roof (with deep overhangs) up turned at hips
- (iv) oriel windows
- (v) textured rough cast plaster rendering of external wall surfaces
- (vi) window openings in geometric patterns

The main house was built according to the “3 bay colonial bungalow plan” with living and dining rooms at each side of the building with carporch and an entrance foyer in the centre for the 1<sup>st</sup> storey. Correspondingly, bedrooms at each side directly above the Living and Dining rooms with a family room in the centre for the 2<sup>nd</sup> storey above the carporch. The outhouse houses the servants’ quarter and guest room.

A structural framework of brick piers and concrete beams support the main house. Studies revealed that the old single storey kitchen and swimming pool were later additions.

## History of Building

original building typology and architectural element

