

# 2 CABLE ROAD

Beauty In Symmetry



**Owner:**  
Mr Ong Kok Thai

**Architect:**  
RT+Q Architects Pte Ltd

**Engineer:**  
E3 Consulting Engineers

**Contractor:**  
Huat Builders Pte Ltd

*B*uilt in 1913 by a former government architect, David McLeod Craik for the Municipal Commissioner, Mohamed Namazie, this two-storey grand old Black-and-White bungalow has been faithfully restored and given a new pair of wings. The placement of the symmetrical new extensions and a linear lap pool at its front demonstrates a novel approach to integrating the “old and new”.



*Black-and-white Style bungalow restored with symmetrical wings and linear lap pool*

## Expertly Refinished

A stunning structure to begin with, the original bungalow has been beautifully rescued and enhanced to meet its owner’s brief for additional living spaces for his grown-up children. Much of the original fittings and features of the house have been retained and repaired where possible. Components that were in advanced state of disrepair, such as the original doors and windows, were removed and sensitively replaced.

The patterned floor tiles, which cover much of the ground level living spaces, were cleaned and kept. Existing timber balustrades of the main staircase and ornamental timber lattices in the interior of the house were also meticulously reinstated along with the handsome original columns at the entrance foyer of the bungalow.

## High Notes

Among the prized architectural features of the house is its original lantern roof, the timber structures of which have been left exposed to dramatic

effect. Providing a constant visual reminder that one is within a heritage house, the accentuation also shows off the grand height of the bungalow as it allows natural air and light in. The verandah above the square front porch of the house has also been cleverly revitalised into a beautiful feature sunroom that extends from the master bedroom.

Both the entrance porch and the verandah which were previously

open-air have been enclosed by frameless glass to cater to the owner’s preference for air-conditioned spaces.

## Future At The Fore

As the bungalow was sited on an odd-shaped piece of land, the final layout of the new against the old was not an easy decision to arrive at. Having the symmetrical, new wings flanking the linear pool in front of the bungalow was bold and unconventional. Keeping them to a single-storey each has ensured that the new additions do not obscure the front façade of the main house.

The look of the new is intentionally kept modern, abstract and simple so as not to distract from the old. The materials used, such as grey granite and white marble, plaster and paint, complement the restored bungalow well.

The result is a charming extended family home that retains strong ties to its heritage.



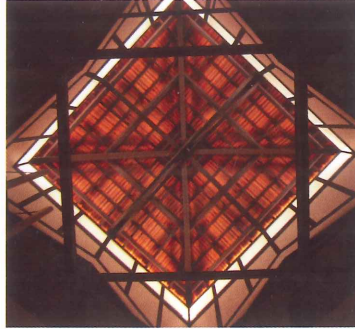
*View of bungalow from main entrance*



*Juxtaposition between old and new which is kept low*



*Bedroom at second storey*



*Original lantern roof*



*Original patterned floor tiles retained*



*Verandah at first storey*



*Original full-height timber French doors and exposed timber beams kept*