66 Pheng Geck Avenue

A Spirited Revival



2015 AWARD

CATEGORY B

Owner:

Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura & Alkaff Upper Serangoon Mosque

Architect:

Shing Design Atelier Pte Ltd

Engineer:

Keon Consult Pte Ltd

Contractor:

Tangs Engineering Pte Ltd

with great care and effort. Surfaces,

columns, capitals, plaster mouldings

and the historic flooring, among

others, have been thoroughly

cleaned and given a new lease of life. Long missing elements such

as the mild steel windows, have

been reintroduced. The sense of

airiness of the building has also been expertly recaptured, while

the distinctive minaret remains a

beacon for the Mosque community

and a landmark for the wider

neighbourhood.

A significant specimen of architectural and social history has been preserved and renewed - thanks to the generosity of the community that has always rallied together with pride over the 80-plus-year old building. Working on a modest budget, the restoration has secured a living heritage site for the Mosque's growing congregation and its neighbouring community, for now and for generations to come.



Alkaff Upper Serangoon Mosque restored as a landmark

Faithful From The Start

Sensitive to the layers of change over time and respectful of the original fabric of the building, the restoration proceeded according to the 3R principles, informed by careful research on the site's history and architecture. Much of the Mosque's original architectural form, its masonry and period detailing have been reinstated. The original roof profile – a one-of-a-kind in Singapore, lost in a previous renovation – has been reintroduced along with the authentic ceiling design. The team is commended for making the concerted effort to bring back these important elements of old that add to sustaining the building's historic aura.

All useable materials, including the original timber doors and the cast iron balustrades, and useable parts of the roof timbers were retained

Enduring Serenity

Modern materials have been used for the new extensions to avoid visual competition with the historic building. They serve the Mosque in its current need for space without stealing its glory. Many meaningful extra touches add to the appeal of the project, such as the incorporation of the Mosque's name in the patterns of the new carpeting at the prayer hall.

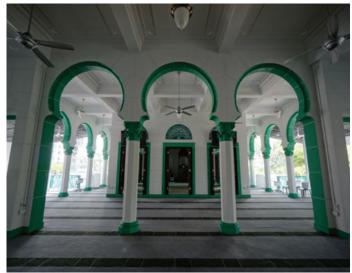
Born Again

Overall, a well restored building that is inspiring despite the constraint of a limited budget. Beyond the physical restoration work, the installation of the wall-mounted historical timeline serves the good intent of tracing the history and importance of the Mosque for the appreciation of its modern-day visitors.





Main Prayer Hall



Unique horse-shoe arches framing naturally ventilated interior



Original timber doors and cast-iron grilles retained



Finely restored capitals



Cast-iron balustrade



Restored columns and capitals



Coffered ceiling