

**CONSERVATION APPROACHES ON HISTORIC GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS IN  
MALAYSIA**



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## 2. Letter of Offer (Research Grant)



Surat Kami : 600-RMI/SSP/FRGS 5/3/Fsp (43/2010)  
Tarikh : 22 Mac 2010

**Puan Rohaslinda Ramele @ Ramli**  
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Y. Bhg. Prof/Prof. Madya/Dr./Tuan/Puan

### **KELULUSAN SKIM GERAN PENYELIDIKAN FRGS FASA 01/2010**

Tajuk Projek : Conservation Approaches on Historic Government Buildings in Malaysia  
Kod Projek : 600-RMI/SSP/FRGS 5/3/Fsp (43/2010)  
Bidang : Sains Sosial dan Kemanusiaan  
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Dengan hormatnya perkara di atas adalah dirujuk.

Sukacita dimaklumkan pihak Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi melalui surat JPT.S(BPKI) 2000/011/010 Jilid. 2 (19) telah meluluskan cadangan penyelidikan Prof/Prof. Madya/Dr./Tuan/Puan untuk di biyai di bawah Skim Geran Penyelidikan Fundamental (FRGS) Fasa 1/2010.

Bagi pihak Universiti kami mengucapkan tahniah kepada Prof/Prof. Madya/Dr./Tuan/Puan kerana kejayaan ini dan seterusnya diharapkan berjaya menyiapkan projek ini dengan cemerlang.

Untuk tujuan mengema-kini, pihak Prof/Prof. Madya/Dr./Tuan/Puan adalah di minta untuk menyusun perancangan semula bajet yang baru seperti yang diluluskan. Sila lihat lampiran bagi tatacara tambahan untuk pengurusan projek.

Sekian, harap maklum.

**“SELAMAT MENJALANKAN PENYELIDIKAN DENGAN JAYANYA”**

Yang benar

**PROF. MADYA DR. SABARINAH SH AHMAD**  
Ketua Penyelidikan (Sains Sosial & Pengurusan)

## **5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary**

The objectives of this research are to identify the conservation approach and guidelines towards the historic government buildings and at the same time determine the issues and problems in conservation projects of historic government buildings, by achieving these two (2) objectives, this research will come out with recommendation for a better approach in preserving and conserving the historic government buildings. This study began with the selection of a total of six (6) case studies in Kuala Lumpur, Malacca and Penang. Then, data in form of conservation approaches and guidelines were collected by using semi-structured interview to the related parties and observation to the case studies. The approaches and guidelines are then analysed based on the issues and problem raised by the conservators. The results show that there is no standardization in conservation approaches and guidelines in conservation works, the approaches and guidelines were depended on the related conservation bodies. However this situation can be further improved should the recommendations suggested being considered and implemented in future conservation works in Malaysia

### **5.3 Introduction**

The historic building is one that gives us a sense of wonder and makes us want to know more about the people and culture that produced it. It has architectural, aesthetic, history, documentary, archaeological, economic, social and even political and spiritual or symbolic values. The first impact is always emotional, for it is a symbol of our cultural identity and continuity (Feilden B.M; 1994). The historic buildings in Malaysia are unique and valuable assets to this country for their historical values and tourism potential. Historic buildings in Malaysia may possibly classified into six(6) categories, namely shop houses, commercial buildings, religious buildings, private houses, palaces, and institutional buildings (Kuala Lumpur City Council ; 1996).The term conservation has become familiar to almost everybody. People often raise issues of conservation in regard historic buildings. The term of conservation defined as guardianship providing for maintenance, preservation or protection of what presently exists, from being destroyed or changed in an inappropriate manner. It is a process which leads to the prolongation of the life of cultural property and for its utilization now and in the future (Ahmad, A.G; 2008). All elements of historic buildings tend to deteriorate at a lesser or greater rate depending upon various factors such as aging, location and function. Buildings that were built in the early period of British occupation, for instance, often face problems in building materials. Therefore, proper treatment of building repair and maintenance should be given full consideration. The conservation must preserve and if possible enhance the messages and values of cultural property.

Our country has many architectural landmarks built over the last 200 years (The Star; 2009). For instance, Kuala Lumpur has many interesting historic government buildings such as Merdeka Square, Sultan Abdul Samad Building, Kuala Lumpur Memorial Library, National Museum of History, Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, and also Masjid Jamek. Meanwhile Malacca which is also well known as historical city, situated many historic government building, some of it has been transformed into museum such as Muzium Yang Di Pertua Negeri, Museum of History in Stadhuys, Museum of Arts, Cultural Museum and many more. On the other hand, Penang also