

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**1 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**PENANG GROCERS' ASSOCIATION HERITAGE BUILDING RESTORED**

**GEORGE TOWN:** The Penang Grocers' Association heritage building in No. 4 Jalan Pintal Tali, George Town has been restored, after six months of conservation works carried out to repair and upgrade the 82-year-old building premises, which houses artefacts such as flags, photographs, banners, and lion dance heads dating back to 1914.

The total cost of RM142,000 for the restoration works of the Category II Art Deco style shophouse was funded by George Town World Heritage Incorporated (RM100,000), the Tanjong parliamentary constituency (RM12,000), and the Penang Grocers' Association committee (RM30,000).

The restoration works which began on 25 January 2019 included the installation of approximately 10,000 pieces of new roof tiles to fix the leaky roof, replacement of roof beams that were infested with termites, installation of a retractable roof, cleaning of exterior walls, repair of peeling plaster, repainting of interior walls, upgrade of toilets and office area, and installation of new floor tiles. Works were completed on 29 July 2019.

George Town World Heritage Incorporated General Manager Dr Ang Ming Chee said they had conducted several site visits to the building to assess the condition and determine the extent of the repair work.

“We have since collaborated closely with the association and monitored the conservation works throughout. Our aim is for the heritage building to be properly restored so that it can continue to be used as a gathering place and meeting point for the local community, as well as the training place for their lion dance troupes. This is another milestone project for George Town World Heritage Incorporated in promoting holistic management on cultural conservation, involving the building, people, culture, objects, and the environment,” she said.

The association held the official re-opening of the building with an opening ceremony and lion dance performances on 1 September 2019.

The Penang Grocer's Association was founded in the early 1900s as a sundry shopkeepers' guild, which is also famous for their lion dance troupe. They represent the local grocers and workers of sundry shops, with 200 active members in the northern region.

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