



Preservation of Monuments Board
An institution of the National Heritage Board

PMB training programme for the docents

Aims of the docents training programme

- To gather a group of fun-loving and adventure seeking docents to promote Singapore's National Monuments to the public
- This group of docents will create awareness for Singapore's national monuments and foster appreciation for these buildings and structures because they are
 - Aesthetically appealing
 - Architecturally notable
 - Historical landmarks
 - Socially significant

The Programme for YOU

- Thirteen week programme starting on 3 February 2010, Wednesday morning
 - 4.5 hours meeting time per week
 - Minimum of 2.5 hours of preparation time per month
 - 4 week- foundational course followed by 9 weeks of **specialist training course** for the docents
 - The specialist course training may take place on a different day, which is to be confirmed
- 1 year commitment upon completion of the course
 - Minimum 6 hours per month. The hours can be carried forward should the docent be unable to complete the minimum
- Applicants will be interviewed prior the commencement of the training programme (scheduled to take place in mid January)
- There will be a course fee (projected to be between \$150 to S250) involved for successful applicants, to cover training materials and field trips.



Foundational course

This foundational course will get you started in thinking about issues of preservation, conservation, memory, history and heritage.

The course will cover Singapore's built heritage through three aspects

1. History, memory and heritage
2. The human aspect: to be covered through Communities, settlement patterns and people
3. The architectural aspect!

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>WEEK 1</p> <p>Introductory programme</p> <p>Duration: 4.5 hours</p> | <p><u>Topic: Landmarks in our heritage, memory and history</u> Lectures to be delivered by guest speakers</p> <p>Thinking questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who and what makes a landmark? - What are the roles of landmarks in our heritage, memory and history? <p>Take home task</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowing the monuments and gaining a cursory view of the monuments |
| <p>WEEK 2</p> <p>Introductory programme</p> <p>Duration: 4.5 hours</p> | <p><u>Topic: The People, the Communities and the Settlement Patterns in Singapore</u> Lecture to be delivered by guest speaker</p> <p>Issues to be covered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migrants in early Singapore- why they came and where they settled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The communities and the ethnic enclaves - Singapore river as the source of life <p>Thinking questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who creates the ethnic enclaves? - Why are the prominent buildings situated along the river? - Why are these buildings prominent in the first place (ties back to 1st week lecture) |
| <p>WEEK 3</p> <p>Introductory programme</p> <p>Duration: 4.5 hours</p> | <p><u>Topic 1: Conserving architecture beauties in Singapore and the issues behind conservation and preservation.</u></p> <p><u>Topic 2: Relating art to buildings/understanding Singapore's built landscape from an architect's perspective</u></p> <p>Lecture to be delivered by guest speakers</p> <p>Issues to be covered (mentioned in the topic titles)</p> |



Preservation of Monuments Board
An institution of the National Heritage Board

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>Thinking question(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the concerns of conserving architecture beauties in Singapore |
| <p>WEEK 4</p> <p>Introductory programme</p> <p>Duration: 4.5 hours</p> | <p><u>Topic: Architectural styles of Chinese temples</u></p> <p>Lecture to be delivered by PMB’s architectural consultant</p> <p>Thesis title: Homogenously heterogeneous?</p> <p><i>The Diversity of Traditional Chinese Architecture in Singapore</i></p> <p>A temple trail may be included, where you will get to see the beautiful architectural features of the temples!</p> |



Course for the Docents

Brief: Our docents will be taken through the steps of designing their personalized trails.

Objectives:

1. To equip our docents with the basics of the trails offered and encourage them to add their personal touches to these trails

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>WEEK 5</p> <p>Meeting session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration: 4.5 hours • Preparation time: 2.5 hours | <p>Step 1 of tour preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce to docents the available routes and monuments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trails in the North of Singapore River, trails in the South of Singapore River, and trails in the Bras Basah and vicinity • Form teams of 2-3 and allocate the trail routes to the teams • Familiarize the teams with the monuments on the routes • Provide basic information on the routes and the monuments and the framework for preparing the tour • Main objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teams to be able to sift out information from the information provided ○ Then establishing additional information required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ And where to find the information <p>Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splitting the Docents into teams and assigning them a route • Activity 1: Familiarizing the docents with the respective routes and monuments • PMB to provide the framework for the basic information for each monument <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When was it constructed; who commissioned the work; what were its past functions, how is it related to the present landscape; any historical event and persons association; when was it gazetted as a national monument etc • Providing the Docents with the basic information on the monuments on the route • Activity: Groups to sift out the points of information for their trail and collate them into point forms for sharing. Then brainstorm on interesting ways to share information and other interesting information to include in the trail • Presentation: Using NLB's online catalogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take home task: drawing up a list of sources for consultation on the relevant monuments |
| <p>WEEK 6 (3 days allocated in Week 6 to do field trips to 3 areas)</p> <p>Meeting session</p> | <p>Step 2 of tour preparation: field trips</p> <p>Field trip Day 1 with your cameras and journals!</p> <p>Area to explore for the day: North of the Singapore River</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Docents will be brought on the trails to visit and explore the monuments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They are encouraged to capture images of the monuments or even video tape parts |



| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 4.5 hours per day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of the monuments which interest them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The idea is for our docents to personally engage with the monuments Our docents are also encouraged to start on their personal journals on what they have learnt about the monuments (through the information provided), how they feel about the monuments (e.g. what are the parts of the monuments which interest them, how do they connect with the monuments etc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This journal will form part of the foundation for their personalized trails <p>Field tip day 2 Area to explore for the day: South of the Singapore River</p> <p>Field trip day 3 Area to explore for the day: Bras Basah Rd Vicinity</p> <p>Each session will be rounded up</p> |
| <p>WEEK 7</p> <p>Non-meeting session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total preparation time: 7 hours | <p>Step 3 of tour preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and preparation for the trail To prepare for a presentation in Week 8, where the docents will do a presentation on 2/5 of the trail (2 monuments, sights and sounds along the trail out of the 5 possible monuments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements and evaluative criteria will be set Teams to present on power point, and prepare a short write up on 2/5 of the trail This will be followed by feedback to the teams Main objectives of the presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To nurture self- confidence in presenting the monuments and the trails To acquaint docents with the materials they have prepared and sharing their experience |
| <p>WEEK 8</p> <p>Meeting session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 4.5 hours (may be split into meeting and self-guided activity time) Preparation time: 2.5 hours | <p>Step 4 of tour preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on the 2/5 of the trails (2 monuments, sights and sounds along the trail out of the possible 5 monuments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams to present on powerpoint and prepare a short write up on 2/5 of the trail This will be followed by feedback to the teams Main objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve and build up on existing work To nurture self- confidence in presenting the monuments To acquaint docents with the materials they have prepared and sharing their experience Take home task: finishing the tour paper and adding final touches |
| <p>WEEK 9 and 10</p> <p>Non-meeting</p> | <p>Step 5 of tour preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups to complete the tour paper and submit to PMB for evaluation |



Preservation of Monuments Board
An institution of the National Heritage Board

| | |
|---|---|
| session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration: 7 hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMB will then arrange for mentor tours in Week 11 (which may spillover to Week 12) |
| WEEK 11 and 12 Duration: To be confirmed | Mentor tours will be conducted in this week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluative criteria will be provided to the mentors • Trails will be evaluated on the possible criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interest factor- in terms of delivery of information, quality and interest level of the trail ○ Engagement with the trail participants ○ Tour paper quality ○ Uniqueness of this trail |
| WEEK 12/13 | Graduation! |

At the end of the day, we are not tour guides but people who have our stories to share with the public. Your trails not only include stories of these monuments, but your personal touch and experience of sights and sounds along the trail ;)



Preservation of Monuments Board
An institution of the National Heritage Board

The outcome: What will YOU gain with us?

- The intangibles:
 - Knowledge on our historical buildings
 - A priceless experience and
 - A fitter you!
- This is on top of the tangibles:
 - Complimentary *Singapore's Monuments and Landmarks book* upon graduating from the programme

Beyond this training programme

- PMB will also invite our FOM for future public talks, which may enrich their knowledge on the monuments

Do you want to come on an adventure with PMB?