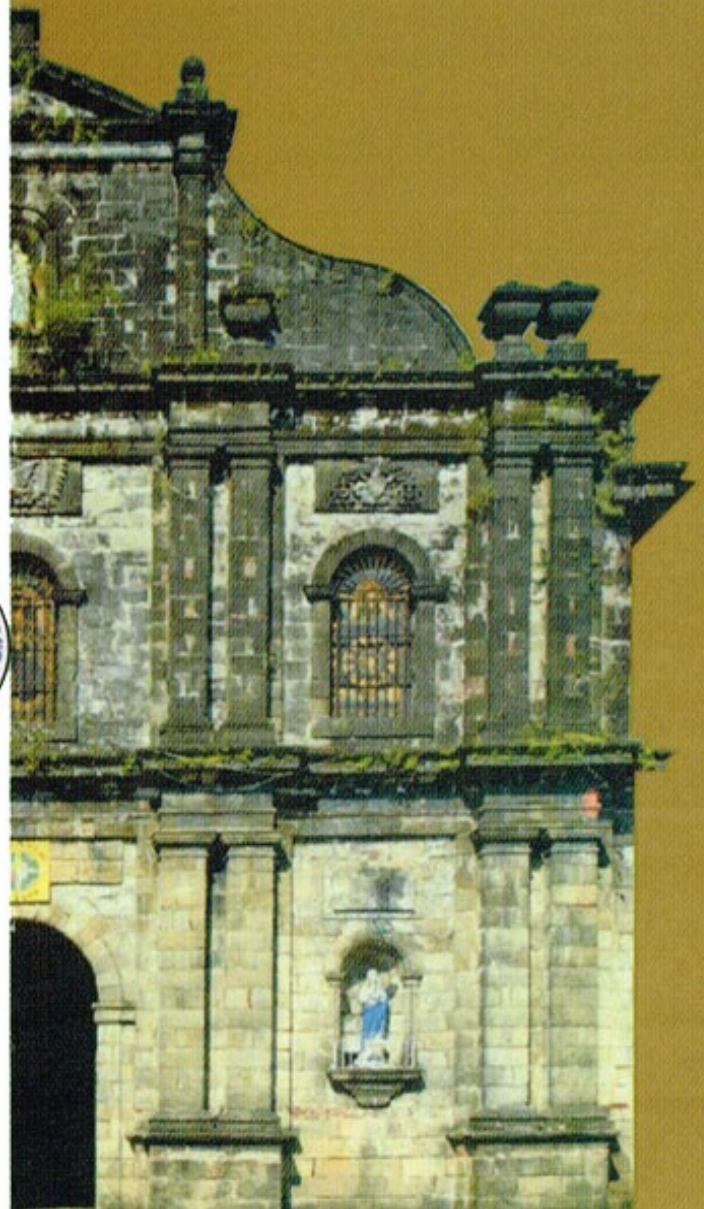


NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES



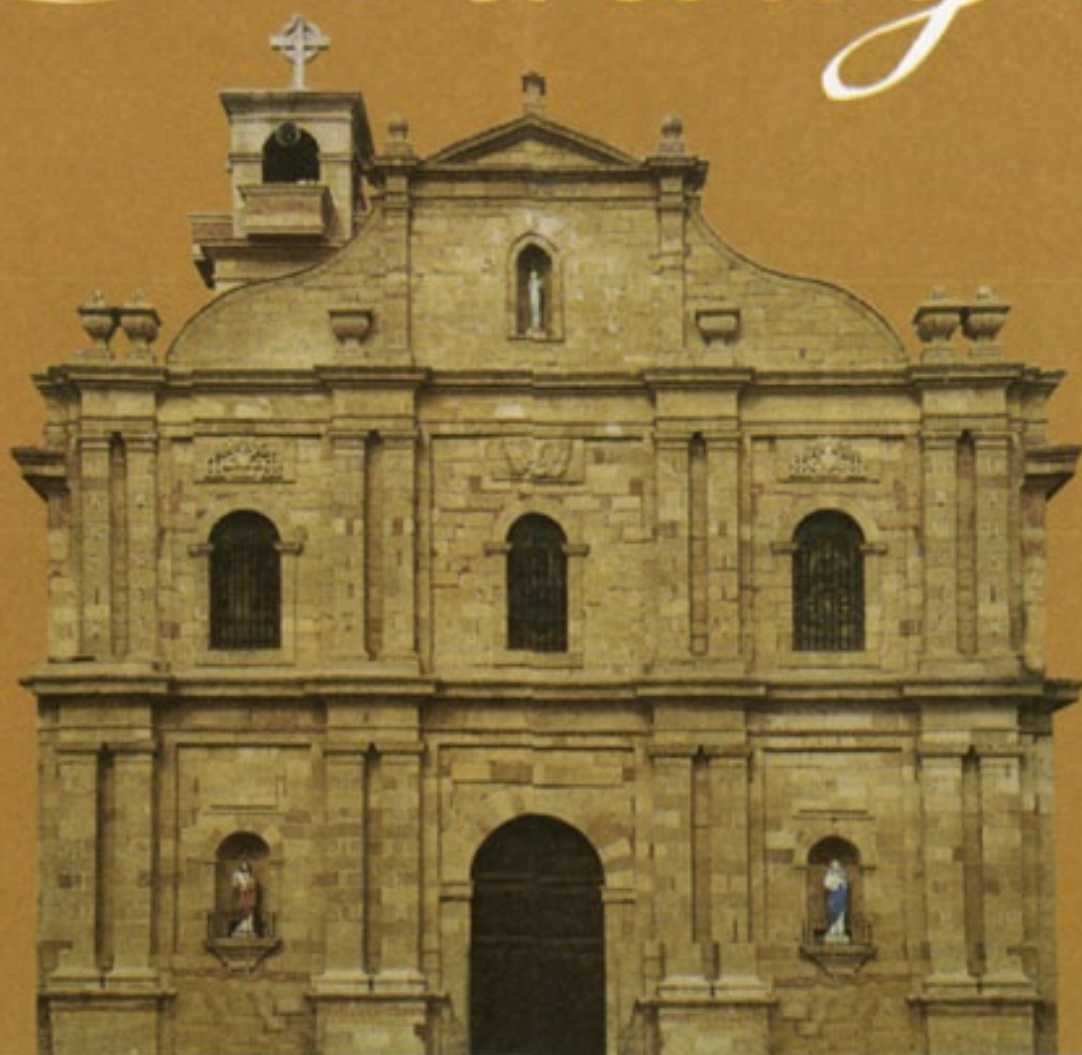
ANNUAL REPORT

2015

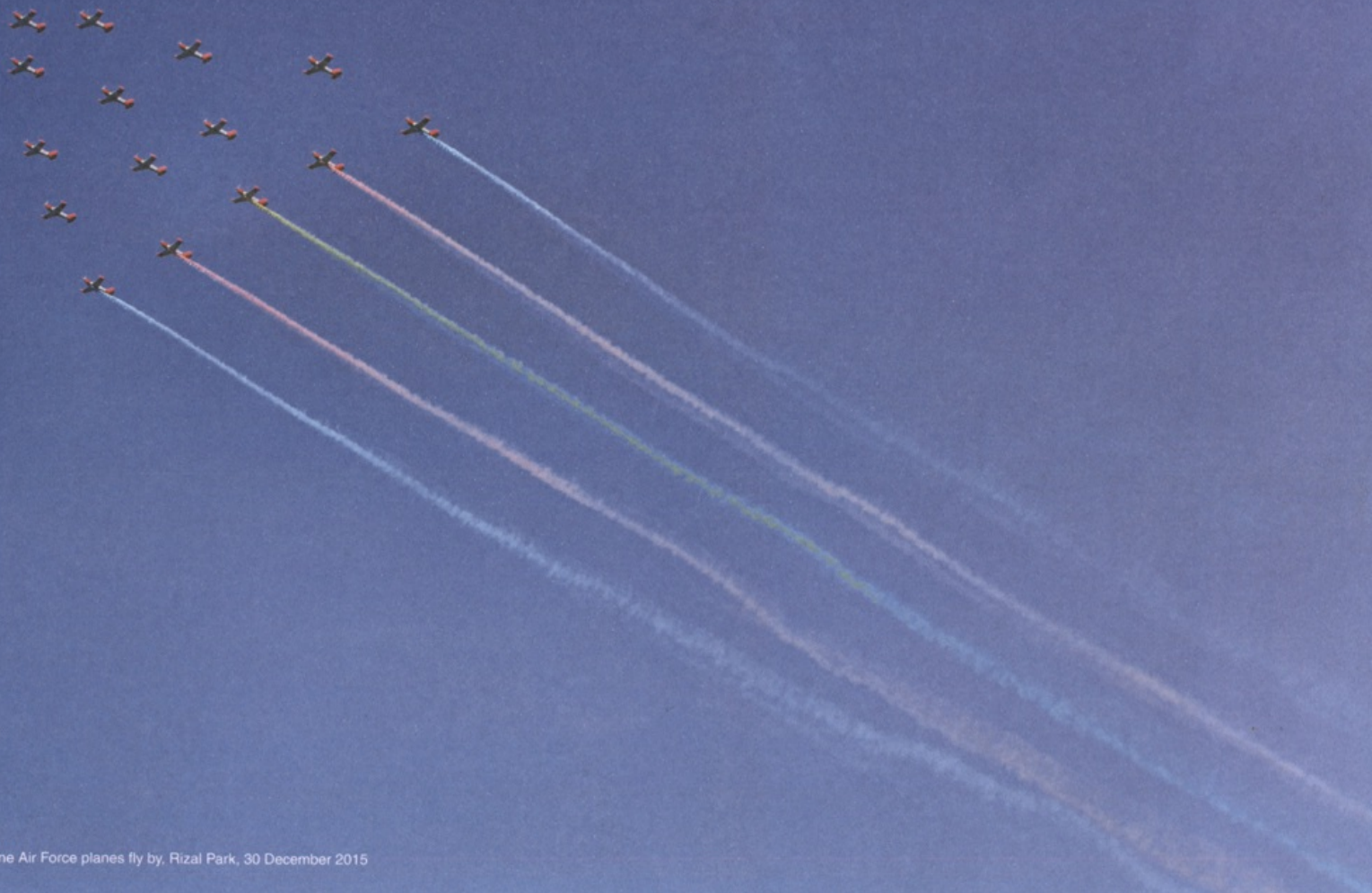




# *History and Heritage*







Philippine Air Force planes fly by, Rizal Park, 30 December 2015





Rizal Park, 30 December 2015



THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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I.

Word from  
the Chair



The nation celebrated Independence Day in 2015 in Sta. Barbara, Iloilo, in front of the church and convent where the Philippine revolution first raised its voice in the Visayas and unfurled the flag of the nation, the first outside Luzon, in 1898. Damaged by the strong earthquake of 1948, the church had undergone only partial repair over the years. Hence it was with pride that the NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES presented the fully restored church and convent in time for the Independence Day celebration in historic Santa Barbara. The COMMISSION also rehabilitated the plaza.

In 2015 the COMMISSION entered the final phase of its museum modernization program, inaugurating five museums with President Aquino as the guest of honor on two occasions. The impact of the modernization program is evident in the marked increase in the number of visitors, as this report shows. Some of the museums that were almost totally ignored in the past, such as the Apolinario Mabini Museum in Tanauan, Batangas, now figure prominently in the roster of NHCP museums.

As the COMMISSION approaches the completion of this program, the core of its first five-year plan (2011-2016), it prepared to embark on its second five-year plan mainly in response to realities on the ground.

On the one hand, the danger to heritage posed by natural disasters has grown. Aside from the usual



wear and tear of heritage structures, various other factors have had an adverse effect on heritage preservation: human neglect, poor planning, over-development and crass commercialism, and lack of knowledge about heritage preservation and basic conservation methods. At the policy level, changes in local leaderships (in government and churches) sometimes create inconsistencies that potentially affect the state of heritage, and weaknesses in national and local laws on heritage have yet to be addressed and made consistent with laws on zoning, the national building code, and the like. While tourism has gone up, there remains the need to develop sound heritage tourism that springs from and centers upon the nation's history as a people and the wealth and value of heritage assets throughout the country.

On the other hand, more and more local communities are forming societies of citizens concerned about heritage, and local tourism councils are increasingly becoming aware of the value of heritage. The Local Historical Committees Network of the NHCP precisely gathers these groups in order to push for greater historical and heritage awareness. Museums, national and local, are becoming important centers of such awareness. Equally important, the national government has entrusted significant sums of money to the COMMISSION to foster the production of historical and heritage knowledge through the modernization of its museums and the restoration of damaged structures. In short, the environment is fertile ground for the kind of programmatic action that the COMMISSION seeks to carry out in its second five-year plan.

In the latter half of the year the COMMISSION welcomed its new Board member, Dr. Filomeno V. Aguilar, Jr., former Dean of the School of Social Sciences of the Ateneo de Manila University, just as it faced its most challenging heritage case, the Torre de Manila behind the Rizal Park, before the nation's highest court. Jun's calm and steady support and his insightful questions and suggestions helped the Board immensely.

In all 2015 was a year full of activity. Having undertaken the necessary pre-restoration measures in Bohol and Cebu, the COMMISSION began the actual restoration of six of its nine projects in Bohol and thirteen of its sixteen projects in Cebu, and completed two projects in Cebu in October: Fort San Pedro and the Mactan Shrine. As this report suggests, the COMMISSION expects to harvest significantly more projects in 2016.



MARIA SERENA I. DIOKNO

The background of the cover is a textured, aged, light brown surface. Overlaid on this is a faint, historical map of the Iberian Peninsula, specifically showing the region of Castile. A prominent compass rose is visible on the right side of the map, with lines radiating from its center across the landmass. The map includes various geographical features like coastlines and rivers, as well as some handwritten-style text in Spanish, such as "Castilla" and "entre las partes de".

# II. I.

## Second Five-year Plan, 2016-21





Interior of the Loay church in Bohol

As the NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP) completes the modernization of its 21 museums—the core of the agency’s first five-year plan, 2011-2016—the next five-year period is envisioned to consist of the following strands:

- Restoration of built and movable heritage;
- Development of monuments and local museums;
- Historical and heritage conservation research;

- Training and accreditation; and
- Strengthening of the Local Historical Committees Network.

These strands consolidate new and existing activities in a programmatic sense guided by strategic directions emanating from the NHCP mandate and shaped by current needs and realities.

## BUILT AND MOVABLE HERITAGE

The first program calls for the restoration of built and movable heritage structures and objects that meet the following criteria and are subject to these conditions:

1. The site/structure/object shall have been proven to possess historical significance. Historians generally measure the historical worth of a person, event, site, structure, or artifact in terms of the following questions:
  - a. How long has it lasted? (*durability*)
  - b. Of what larger story is it a piece? (*context*)
  - c. How does it shed light on the past? How does it help us understand and appreciate the past? (*means to the past*)
  - d. How were people affected by it? (*profundity*)
  - e. How many people's lives were affected by it? (*quantity*)
  - f. What meaning did it have to people in the past? In the present?  
What might it mean in the future? (*value, resonance, relevance*)
2. The site/structure/artifact shall be publicly owned (by the national or local government). Except for a heritage church or mosque (which provides an essential non-profit, non-commercial community service), privately owned heritage structures and artifacts shall not be restored using public funds.
3. The degree of damage or deterioration threatens the historical integrity and/or physical stability of the structure.
4. If the structure or site does not yet bear a historical marker, one may be installed following the criteria above and with the approval of the NHCP Board. The owner shall maintain the marker and ensure that it is not defaced or removed. The historical marker shall not be relocated without the prior written consent of the NHCP.
5. The restoration project shall prioritize the use of indigenous or historic materials and the application of indigenous methods of construction. Modern methods, where necessary, may be introduced with prudence, guided by scientific data and the sole end of preserving the safety and integrity of the heritage asset and the safety of the public.
6. Restoration methods shall comply with international and national protocols on conservation.
7. Stakeholders shall participate in the project through consultations before and during the project and by such other means as they and the NHCP find necessary.





1 On-site conservation at the NHCP mobile laboratory



2 Restoration of a statue at the Molo Church, Iloilo City





3 Paper conservation workshop for the parishes of Tubigon, Inabanga and Carmen, Bohol



4 Book and paper restoration workshop in Dumanjug, Cebu





5 Chemical cleaning of silverware of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Bantayan, Cebu



6 Lecture on polychromy and textile restoration





7 Paper restoration in St. Michael the Archangel, Argao, Cebu



8 Hands-on textile conservation in Immaculate Conception Parish, Baclayon, Bohol

8. During the project period, the owner shall provide the NHCP and its contractor full and unhampered



access to the site.

9. Further, the owner shall comply with safety measures prescribed by the NHCP and shall ensure that the restoration site is off limits to the public and unauthorized persons.
10. The project shall include a training component on basic conservation and maintenance of the heritage asset.
11. Once restored, the heritage asset shall benefit the local community. Benefits may include the contribution to social or community cohesion, enhancement of public awareness and appreciation of history, development of local knowledge and skills in conservation, creation of jobs, and promotion of heritage tourism. The adaptive reuse of the structure shall be allowed provided it offers any of the benefits above.
12. The owner of the heritage site/structure/artifact shall commit in writing to respect its historic integrity, maintain it (including the provision of the necessary resources), secure the approval of the NHCP before any changes are undertaken, and use it for the benefit of the community.
13. The NHCP shall turn over the structure/site/artifact to the owner after the written memorandum of agreement is secured and the project, completed. The list of maintenance requirements shall be provided by the NHCP, for implementation by the heritage owner.

The NHCP will also exert every effort to select heritage assets that are representative of different parts of the country.



Martin Delgado monument, Santa. Barbara, Iloilo

## **MONUMENTS AND LOCAL MUSEUMS**

In furtherance of its mandate and in partnership with local governments and communities, the NHCP aims to promote heritage tourism in the country through a deeper appreciation of history and historic artifacts. Toward this purpose the second strand of the five-year plan calls for the erection of monuments and provincial or district museums around which heritage tourism can develop and flourish.

The following criteria and conditions will guide the NHCP in the choice of monuments and museums to build.

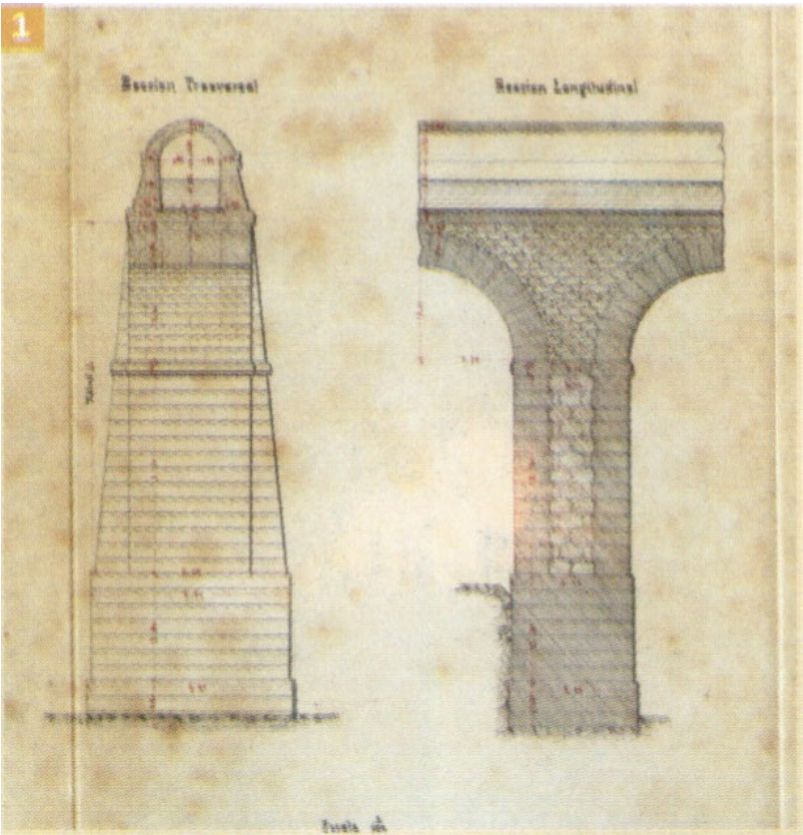


1. The monument or museum shall be publicly owned.
2. In the case of a monument, the person, event or site to be honored shall possess demonstrable historical significance (following the definition provided earlier).
3. In the case of a museum, the community does not yet have one or is too far from an existing museum in the province, or the present museum is badly in need of structural and/or curatorial renovation.
4. The site of the museum, moreover, shall be easily accessible to the public. Preference shall be given to sites where:
  - a. There is a viable presence of or potential for tourism, local and foreign (*feasibility*);
  - b. The local government has a distinct heritage plan or strategy for heritage tourism (*vision*); and
  - c. The local government possesses the resources to staff and maintain the museum (*sustainability*).
5. The NHCP and the local government shall collaborate in the making of the museum, from framing its goals and narrative to setting its structural and curatorial design and content. Such collaboration shall be spelled out in a written memorandum of agreement specifying, among others, the duties and responsibilities of each party and the project's overall terms of reference.
6. The project shall include a training component on basic conservation and maintenance of the monument and, in the case of the museum, fundamental concepts of museology and curatorial management and maintenance.
7. The monument or museum shall benefit the local community. Benefits may include the contribution to social or community cohesion, public awareness and appreciation of history, development of local knowledge and skills in conservation, museology and curatorship, creation of jobs, and promotion of heritage tourism.
8. The local government shall commit in writing to maintain and preserve the monument (including the provision of the necessary resources), and secure the approval of the NHCP before any changes are undertaken. The monument shall not be relocated without the prior written consent of the NHCP.
9. The local government shall provide the museum personnel and operating and maintenance expenses, including the repair of the museum, its exhibits, and public programs. Future improvements of the museum, such as upgraded exhibits and new displays, shall be the responsibility of the local government.
10. The NHCP shall turn over the monument or museum to the local government after the written memorandum of agreement is secured and the project is completed.

The NHCP will also continue to provide technical assistance to local governments and communities.

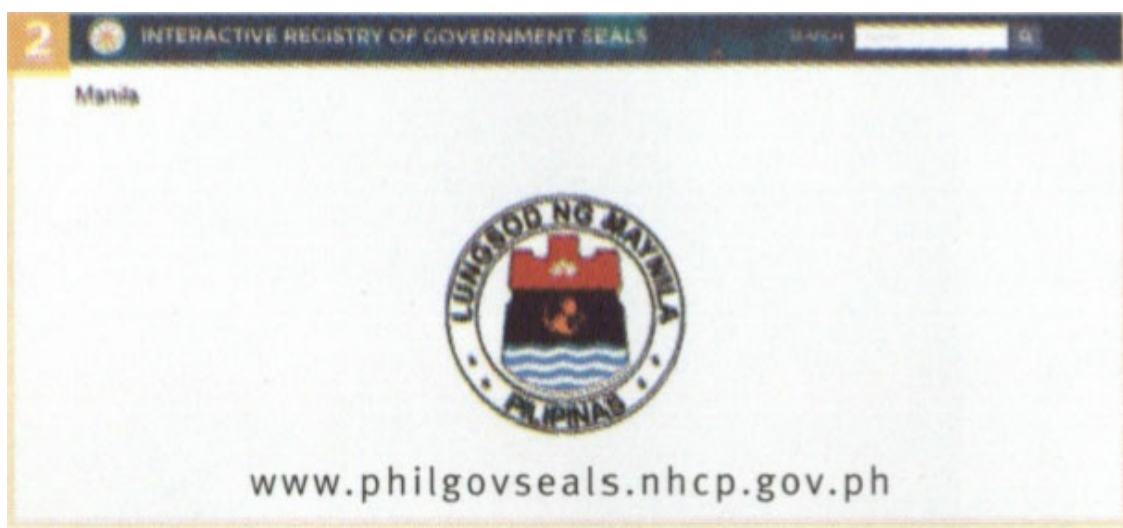


Casa Tribunal in Loay, Bohol to be restored and adaptively reused as a musuem



1 Archival plan of the *El Depósito* in San Juan City, *Archivo Histórico Nacional*





2 Online collection of officially approved seals



3 Online interactive lessons developed by the NHCP



**4** Grade school students using e-lessons on Philippine history at the Museum of the 1899 Republic in Bulacan

## **HISTORICAL AND HERITAGE CONSERVATION RESEARCH**

Much remains to be done in the fields of historical and conservation research. Numerous archival documents remain untapped, for example, while sources of compatible indigenous construction materials have yet to be identified and tested. The NHCP intends to support further research in history and heritage conservation in close collaboration with Filipino historians and history departments, architects, engineers, chemists and professional societies.

The NHCP historical research and dissemination program includes the following:

- **National Registry of Historic Sites and Structures (R.A. 10086, Sec. 20).** Recognition of historic sites, structures and events, and documentation (in print and online) of historical markers, national historical landmarks, national monuments and heritage zones. The registry may be used in schools and by the public as a basic reference.
- **Registry of Government Seals.** Online collection of officially approved seals of government agencies (national and local). The registry is useful in teaching local history in school (grades 2 and 3 of the new K-12 curriculum).
- **E-lessons on Philippine History.** Ongoing project on history lessons online about heroes and subjects in NHCP museums, based on primary (archival) and other sources, including visual imagery. The interactive lessons are designed for fifth and sixth graders.
- **History Retrieval Project.** Entails several phases: (i) research in Spanish archives and acquisition of digital copies of selected archives; (ii) formation of research groups based on the collected archives; and (iii) publication of papers produced by the research group.
- **Oral History Project.** Collection of oral narratives by and/or about Filipinos who figured prominently in Philippine history, for use in NHCP museums and with open, online access (subject to the interviewee's approval) for use by social studies teachers, students, history majors,



researchers and historians, and the interested public.

- **Heroes Documentary Series.** Began in 2015 with a documentary on the life and legacy of Apolinario Mabini. The five-year plan calls for the production of documentaries on Jose Rizal, Andres Bonifacio, Emilio Jacinto and other heroes. The documentaries will be featured in the NHCP museums and may be accessed by teachers and students alike.

Heritage conservation research, on the other hand, focuses on the structural, architectural and material aspects of conservation, such as:

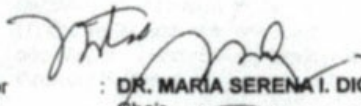
- **Archival research on structures to be restored, tracing the history of construction, its method and materials;**
- **Nature, composition and molecular properties of historic materials based on on-site and laboratory analysis;**
- **Stability of the foundation of heritage structures, including guidelines on the structural requirements of unreinforced masonry and timber construction that are not address by the National Structural Code of the Philippines;**
- **Use of historic materials and traditional methods of masonry construction;**
- **Identification and documentation of alternative, compatible materials;**
- **Conservation techniques and related scientific and technical issues;**
- **Role of stakeholders in the conservation process; and**
- **Standards of conservation.**

INSPECTION REPORT – MACARTHUR LANDING MEMORIAL NATIONAL PARK


Materials Research Conservation Division  
7-14 October 2014



For

  
: DR. MARIA SERENA I. DIOKNO  
Chair

Thru

  
: LUDOVICO D. BADOY  
Executive Director III

Subject

: CONSERVATION REPORT  
MacArthur Landing Memorial National  
Park Red Beach, Palo, Leyte

Date

: 4 November 2014



Before and after photographs of Anastacio Caedo's double life size statues of General Douglas MacArthur and companions.





Technical report on Memorial Park of McArthur's Landing





Training on conservation for heritage workers in Batanes, 2014

## TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION

This program aims to: (i) create a pool of skilled heritage workers, curators and local historians, and (ii) upgrade the practice of history, museum management, and heritage conservation through the following means:

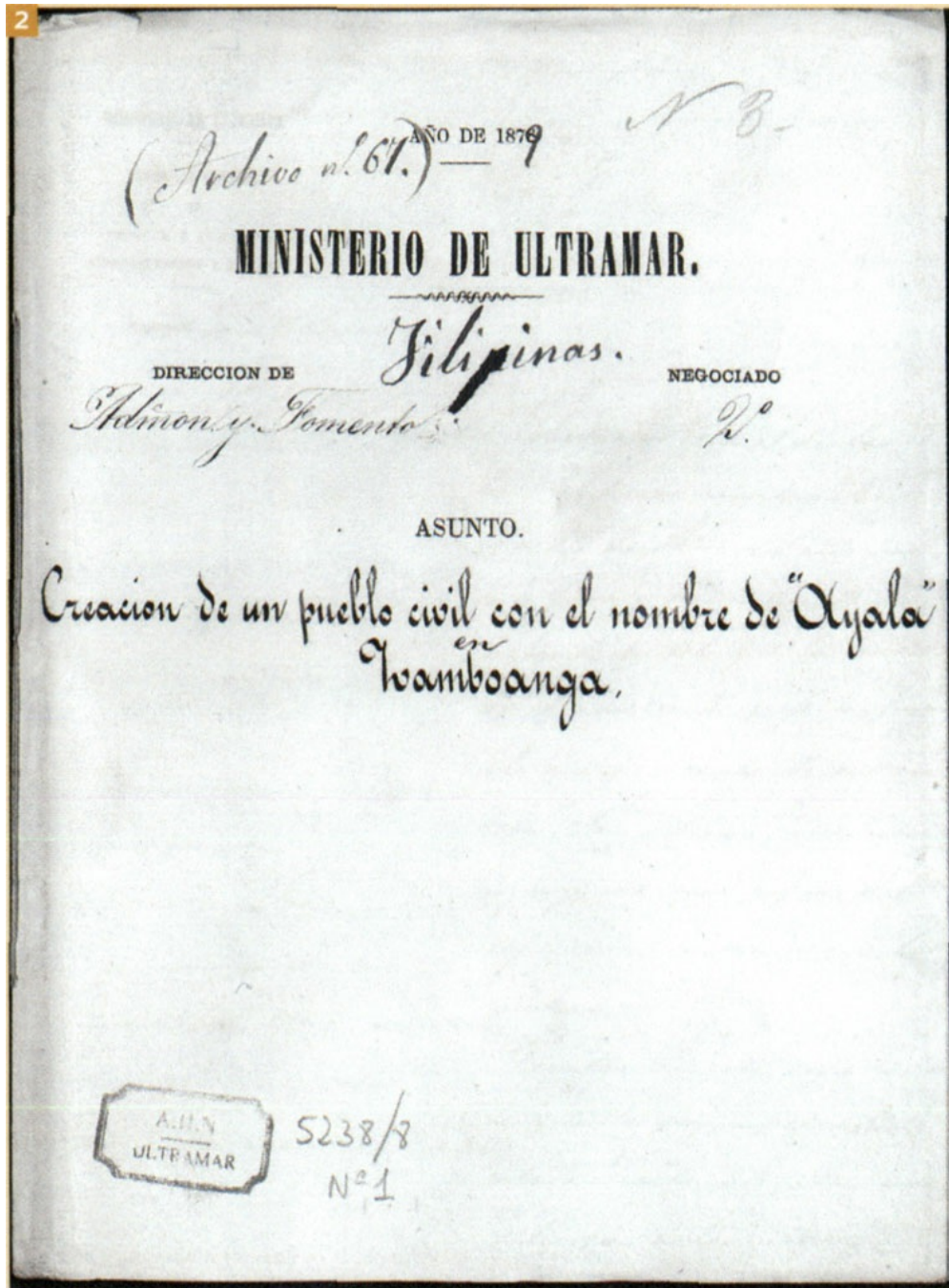
1. Training such as intensive seminars and hands-on workshops
  - a. On various topics, ranging from flag awareness to curatorial management, scientific analysis of indigenous materials, conservation techniques, methods of historical research, museum management, and heritage tourism;
  - b. At different levels, from basic to advanced; and
  - c. For different sectors—students, heritage workers, local tourism councils, collectors, curators, researchers, historians, architects, engineers, travel agents, real estate developers, church workers—with NHCP certification,
2. Linkages with schools, TESDA, and universities for the promotion of heritage conservation in formal education



3. Linkages with international heritage conservation organizations
  4. Accreditation of local heritage conservators in cooperation with professional societies and educational institutions
- Through this program, scholarships will be offered to conservation students and specialists who wish to pursue or further their career in conservation, museology and local history.













2<sup>nd</sup> National Assembly of the LHCN, August 2014, Iloilo City

## LOCAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEES NETWORK (LHCN)

The NHCP charter provides for the establishment of the Local Historical Committees Network to

*monitor, coordinate, support and, upon approval of the Board, affiliate various local historical bodies engaged in the collection, documentation, popularization, conservation, restoration and preservation of extant historical materials found in different parts of the Philippines. It shall also record the oral histories of towns, cities, provinces, regions and peoples. (Sec. 21, R.A. 10086)*

Activated in 2012, the LHCN held regional and national assemblies that led to the approval of the LHCN membership code and national action plan. During the LHCN assembly in 2015, the NHCP launched the inaugural issues of its *Journal of Philippine Local History and Heritage*. To give life to the LHCN action plan, the NHCP will support one or two major projects such as:

- Validation, updating and expansion of the Historical Data Papers on local history, commissioned by President Elpidio Quirino in 1953 when the Philippines had only 48 provinces. This project can be used as reference material for grades 2 and 3 in the new K-12 curriculum as well as for local tourism councils;
- Monitoring and documentation of the condition of local historic sites, structures, monuments, and

historical markers for possible restoration or repair;

- Study of significant sites that can be recommended as bearers of historical markers or that can be declared as national historical landmarks;
- Documentation/inventory of indigenous materials used in local heritage structures.



# III.

## Challenges of Heritage Restoration

CONSTRUCTION  
AREA  
KEEP OUT!









The bulk of the NHCP budget in 2015 went to the restoration of heritage structures in Bohol and Cebu that were damaged by the earthquake of 15 October 2013, most of them churches built from traditional masonry, the earliest dating back to the eighteenth century. The restoration of these structures posed a challenge not encountered in previous conservation projects owing to the nature and magnitude of the damage.

Foremost among the challenges was the requirement that heavily used historic structures like churches (as distinct from, say, preserved ruins) must be structurally sound. Over the decades parishes had added portions made of reinforced concrete to unreinforced coral stone churches, such as the bell tower of the Basilica Minore del Santo Niño in Cebu and the pediment of the Church of the Holy Trinity in Loay, Bohol. These were among the parts that crumbled because of the overbearing weight of the concrete. In the case of Sto. Niño, the base—made of coral—remained intact while its upper concrete portion fell; in that of Loay, the entire pediment detached from the structure and collapsed. How might the damaged portions best be restored with their structural stability ensured without, however, destroying, denigrating, or altering the historical and architectural integrity of the structures?

An important answer lies in the formulation of structural guidelines for buildings constructed through unreinforced masonry. One of the major lessons learned from the international experts' conference in 2014 is the absence of Philippine structural guidelines for historic buildings. The National Structural Code of the country pertains only to structures of reinforced concrete, rendering the code inadequate or unsuitable to buildings of traditional masonry. Hence in 2015 the NHCP requested the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines, led by seismic engineering specialist Carlos Villaraza, to undertake a study that would serve as the basis of a national structural code for unreinforced masonry.

Meanwhile, the COMMISSION had to grapple with the need to introduce modern materials and methods that would address the requirement of structural stability while preserving the structure's inherent historicity. Wherever and to the extent possible, the agency has used traditional stones, including those retrieved from the site. This was the case, for example, in Fort San Pedro in Cebu, which the NHCP restored completely through the traditional method of unreinforced masonry. Where necessary, however, modern retrofitting methods were integrated. The damaged upper part of the Sto. Niño belfry, for example, was reconstructed with lightweight concrete clad in coral. No epoxy was applied on coral stone in the restoration process.

...the COMMISSION had to grapple with the need to introduce modern materials and methods that would address the requirement of structural stability while preserving the structure's inherent historicity.

A related consideration was the insufficient supply of historic materials such as wood, lime and coral stones; those retrieved from the damaged structures were insufficient and in varied states of usability. The NHCP therefore had to identify and test alternative compatible materials prior to their use. In the process the COMMISSION built up a wealth of information on the material properties of historic structures in Bohol and Cebu, which it expects to publish in the near future.

Another practical concern was (and is) the fairly limited number of construction firms and professionals with experience in heritage restoration. In bidding out its projects, for example, the NHCP has had to select from a small pool of contractors. Given the large number of restoration projects going on at the same time, the limited number of potential contractors caused a few, though not insurmountable, delays. Thus in 2016, the COMMISSION plans to offer training seminars on restoration to interested contractors and practising professionals in architecture and engineering. Similar training will continue to be offered to local communities so as to acquaint them with the basics of restoration and expand their involvement in restoration projects.

Notwithstanding these challenges, the national government's effort to restore the heritage structures of Bohol and Cebu has fostered awareness of the nation's historic heritage. The NHCP's partnership with dioceses, parishes, local government units, and communities—cemented through continuous dialogues—is a key element of the conservation effort. In addition to regular stakeholder dialogues that typically included the diocese, parish council, community members, and local government, questions or issues that emerged in the course of restoration were immediately discussed with stakeholder representatives. Numerous and interesting local beliefs, sentiments and preferences surfaced during the dialogues, which have helped guide the COMMISSION's approach to restoration. The COMMISSION's experience has confirmed that no restoration project can succeed without the support of the community.



1 Participants of the conservation and restoration workshops in Loay, Baclayon and Dauis





2 Participants of the conservation and restoration workshops in Carmen, Tubigon and Inabanga

Stakeholder meetings in Bohol:





1 Daus



2 Baclayon



3 Loay





4 Tubigon

## A. Status of Restoration Projects in Bohol and Cebu





In 2015 the COMMISSION completed the pre-restoration phase in Bohol and Cebu and began actual restoration. On 27 October 2015, the NHCP turned over two completed projects to their respective local government units: Fort San Pedro in Cebu City, and the Mactan Shrine in Lapu-Lapu City, along with the list of maintenance requirements.

As of 30 December 2015, the status of structural restoration projects in Bohol was as follows.



**STRUCTURES IN BOHOL**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, BACLAYON**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

50.9

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

228



**STRUCTURES IN BOHOL**

**CORELLA BUILDINGS (2), CORELLA**

**STRUCTURAL**



|  |      |
|--|------|
| RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED         | 63.9 |
| NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED | N/A  |



|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| STRUCTURES IN BOHOL                       | HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, LOAY |
| STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED | 30.7                      |
| NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED    | 99                        |



|   |   |
|---|---|
| STRUCTURES IN BOHOL                       | OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH, DAUIS      |
| STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED | 20.5  |
| NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED    | Sala de Ayala ceiling painting and 26 objects |



|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN BOHOL</b>                       | <b>SAN ISIDRO LABRADOR CHURCH, TUBIGON</b> |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> | 16.4                                       |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    | 23   |



|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN BOHOL</b>                       | <b>ST. PAUL CHURCH, INABANGA</b> |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> | 15.0                             |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    | 7                                |





**ST. ANTHONY THE ABBOT CHURCH, CARMEN**

Project awarded; will commence in January 2016

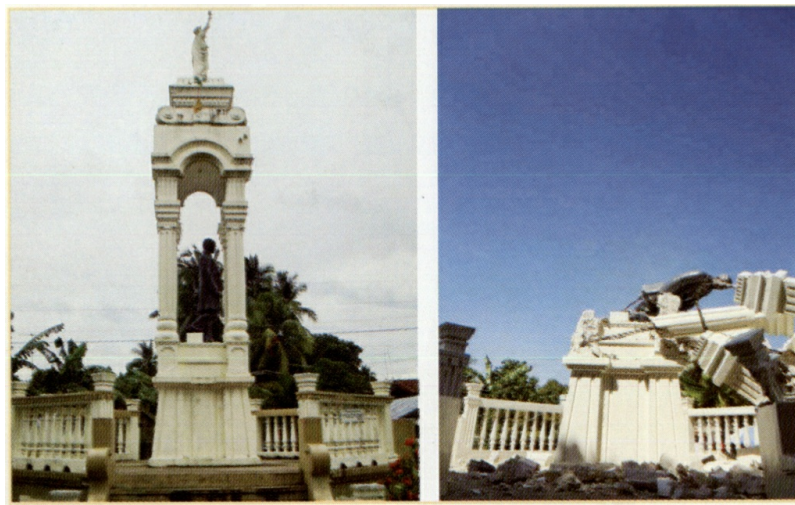
42



**PAMILACAN WATCHTOWER, BACLAYON**

Project awarded; will commence in January 2016

NA



|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN BOHOL</b>                       | <b>RIZAL MONUMENT AND PLAZA, LOON</b> |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> | Project to be awarded in 2016         |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    | NA                                    |

In the course of restoring the structures, the COMMISSION generated 239 local jobs in Bohol, 82 of which were devoted to the conservation of church artifacts. The COMMISSION also conducted conservation training seminars for parish members from May to December, in which a total of 69 parishioners took part.

As of the same period, the NHCP completed restoration projects in Cebu as follows. In the process the COMMISSION generated 223 local jobs for structural restoration and 76 for the conservation of ecclesiastical artifacts. The NHCP also trained 165 students and local participants from various parishes on basic conservation.



|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN CEBU</b>                        | <b>FORT SAN PEDRO, CEBU CITY</b> |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> | 100                              |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    | NA                               |





**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**MACTAN SHRINE, LAPU-LAPU CITY**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

100

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

NA



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH, DUMANJUG**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

98.4

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

86



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**BASILICA MINORE BEL STO. NIÑO, CEBU CITY**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

96.0

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CHURCH, ARGAO**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

96.5

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

264





**MAGELLAN'S CROSS, CEBU CITY**

95.2



**MALABUYOC WATCHTOWER, MALABUYOC**

95.0<sup>1</sup>

NA



**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CHURCH, SAMBOAN**

|  |
|--|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN CEBU</b>                        |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    |

85.0  
57



**NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PILAR DE ZARAGOZA CHURCH, SIBONGA**

|  |
|--|
| <b>STRUCTURES IN CEBU</b>                        |
| <b>STRUCTURAL RESTORATION: PERCENT COMPLETED</b> |
| <b>NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL OBJECTS RESTORED</b>    |

40.0  
235





**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**MUSEO SUGBO (CARCEL DE CEBU), CEBU CITY**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

31.3

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

NA



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**NUESTRA SEÑORA DE PATROCINIO DE MARIA CHURCH, BOLJOON**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

15.0

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**



**ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA CHURCH, CARCAR**

15.0



**SANTO TOMAS DE VILLANUEVA CHURCH, PARDO, CEBU CITY**

15.0





**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**CAPILLA MORTUARIO OF CEBU METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL, CEBU CITY**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

Project awarded; will start in Jan 2016

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

NA



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**SAN GUILLERMO DE AQUITANIA CHURCH, DALAGUETE**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

Project awarded; will start in Jan 2016

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

220



**STRUCTURES IN CEBU**

**STS. PETER AND PAUL CHURCH, BANTAYAN**

**STRUCTURAL  
RESTORATION: PERCENT  
COMPLETED**

Project awarded; will start in Jan 2016

**NO. OF ECCLESIASTICAL  
OBJECTS RESTORED**

63



## B. Special Projects

Apart from the projects in Bohol and Cebu, the NHCP undertook restoration projects in other parts of the country.



| PROJECT                | <b>STA. BARBARA CHURCH AND CONVENT, SANTA BARBARA, ILOILO</b>   |
|------------------------|---|
| DESCRIPTION AND STATUS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Damaged by the 1948 earthquake, the church was fully restored in 2015; convent also restored and plaza, rehabilitated.</li><li>■ Formally turned over to Jaro Archdiocese on 2 December 2015</li><li>■ Additional funds from Office of Iloilo Governor Arthur Defensor, Sr. and TIEZA</li></ul> |



| PROJECT                | <b>MOJO CHURCH STATUES, ILOILO CITY</b>  |
|------------------------|--|
| DESCRIPTION AND STATUS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Statues of saints (all female) in deteriorated state, some of them hollow</li><li>■ Completely restored by May 2015 and officially turned over to the Archdiocese of Jaro on 2 December 2015; church facade and side elevations also cleaned</li><li>■ Funded by a grant from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts</li></ul> |

# CONDITION

Prior to restoration





## CRACKS

These developed as a response of the wood to abrupt changes in temperature and relative humidity.



## DIRT AND GRIME ACCUMULATION

Wood is an organic material and as such is subject to wood-eating insects and fungi which multiply abundantly, given the humid environmental condition.





## CORROSION OF METAL FASTENINGS

Iron fastenings were corroded, hastening the embrittlement and detachment of paint layers.



## PAINT LOSSES

The detachment of paint and gilded decorations is attributed to the poor environmental conditions. Movement within the wood, moisture, heat and light caused pigment, binder and gesso to detach and deteriorate.





## LOSSES OF PARTS

Fingers, accessories and other protruding parts were most vulnerable to damage and loss.



## PREVIOUS RESTORATION

Three prior restorations of the images (the most recent in the 1970s) included overpainting and unnecessary additions.





# RESTORATION

## The Process



# 1

- Assessment
- Sample collection
- Demounting

The preliminary step involved the collection of paint, wood and dust particle samples, and a general assessment of the stability of the paint layer and wood in preparation for demounting the statues from their pedestals. Elemental analysis (using XRF) was also undertaken.



# 2

- Mechanical cleaning
- Facing
- Documentation

Initial cleaning, securing the fragile paint layers through facing with Japanese tissue and paste, solubility tests and 360° photo documentation were performed after the images were brought down from their pedestals.





### 3 • Fumigation • Wood treatment

This crucial phase involves treating the wood to eliminate wood-boring insects that infested the images. This is done in two phases: fumigation in a controlled environment, and direct treatment of the interior (hollow cavities) of the images with wood preservatives.



- 4** • UV light examination  
• Chemical cleaning

Visual investigation with ultraviolet light helped establish the presence of organic paints and varnishes which in turn determined the conservation approach. Chemical cleaning removed the previous varnishes that had caused the yellowish appearance of the paint layer.



- 5** • Replacement of wood losses  
• Treatment of corroded parts

A local sculptor was hired to undertake the replication of detached and deteriorated parts. Corroded nails and metal fastenings were identified and treated with an inhibitor.



- 6** • Filling of cracks  
• Levelling

Deep cracks were filled with wood filler with the use of a scalpel and spatula. Gesso was then applied on top of the filler and levelled with the original surface in preparation for the initial retouching.





## 7 • Retouching

The images were initially retouched with watercolor followed by pigments in archival varnish. As a general rule, only damaged areas were retouched and painting over the damage was kept to a minimum. The gilded trims were replicated based on the existing designs.



## 8 • Protective coat • Drying

To provide stability, a thin coat of Paraloid B72 was applied on the gilded trims. Two coats of matte archival varnish were applied to the rest of the image as an overall protective layer, designs.



- 9 • Remounting  
• Presentation of the restored images

After a drying period of one week, the images were carefully returned to their respective pedestals. New stainless steel bolts replaced the weakened iron fastenings at the base, while silicon-covered wire cable and new hooks secured the back of each image to the posts. Full photo documentation (360o) of each saint was made.





# POLYCHROMY

## and its Many Layers

### (The Creation of Molo Church's Female Saints)

Polychromy is an intricate process of decorating architectural elements, sculpture and objects in a variety of colors. The most common supports for polychrome are stone and wood.

## 1 ASSEMBLY

The images are made using several pieces of hard wood glued together and reinforced with wooden pegs and metal nails.



## 2 SCULPTURE

The sculptor begins by using a chisel, hand saw and mallet, gradually moving to finer tools as the work becomes more detailed and intricate. Various grades of sanding paper are then used to smoothen the finished surfaces.



### 3 APPLICATION OF *GESSO*

After the sculpting process, several thin coats of gesso (chalk and animal skin glue) are applied to seal the wood in preparation for the application of paint. For gilded surfaces, a red clay called bole is applied on top of the gesso in preparation for the gold leaf application.





## 4 PAINTING

Mineral pigments suspended in drying oil like linseed are then applied to create the patterned dresses (estofado) and the delicate skin tones (encarnaciones).



## 5 VARNISHING

A final coat of varnish serves as protection of the paint layer from dirt and grime. The varnish also deepens the intensity of the pigment colors.



After  
**RESTORATION**







Preventive maintenance is the key to the long-term preservation of the sacred images. Regular mechanical cleaning and periodic inspection to guard against insect infestation are essential to the longevity of the images.







**PROJECT**

**COA BUILDING, ILOILO CITY**

**DESCRIPTION  
AND STATUS**

- Detailed architectural and engineering studies of sprawling two-storey building completed; bid to restore the building awarded. Restoration to start in 2016 as scheduled
- Funded by COA



**PROJECT**

**EL DEPOSITO, PINAGLABANAN, SAN JUAN**

- Excavation and cleaning of entrance to tunnels leading to aqueduct, 95% complete



DESCRIPTION  
AND STATUS

- Coordinated with Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Museum, and UP Archaeological Studies Program; memorandum of agreement with UP awaits formal signature of parties



PROJECT

JESSE M. ROBREDO MUSEUM, NAGA CITY

DESCRIPTION  
AND STATUS

- Monument sculpted by Priscillano “Jun” Vicaldo; to be installed in 2016
- 96% of museum building complete; interior and curatorial development to start in 2016



PROJECT

VARIOUS STRUCTURES IN BATANES

DESCRIPTION  
AND STATUS

- Ongoing restoration in Sabtang Island of Savidug Chapel, Beateria house complex, vernacular house in the old industrial shop, municipal building Home Economics building, and rural health unit



## C. Heritage Issues



Rizal monument with Torre de Manila at the background

The year 2015 witnessed an escalation of heritage concerns. Most publicized was the case of Torre de Manila, which landed in the at the Supreme Court and entailed six oral arguments that started on 21 July and ended on 1 September. The case emanated from a petition for prohibition by the Knights of Rizal asking the Court to create and issue a remedy, the writ of *pamana*, to stop the construction of the condominium. Without asking the Knights to amend their petition, the Supreme Court converted it into one for mandamus, citing the NHCP, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, National Museum, and City of Manila as respondents. In January 2015 the Solicitor General submitted his consolidated comment asking the Court to discharge the NHCP (among others) as a respondent since the physical integrity of the Rizal Monument was in no danger of destruction or grave alteration from its original state—the grounds for the issuance of a cease and desist order (CDO) prescribed by the heritage law. The NHCP, therefore, had no basis to issue the CDO even as it expressed its dislike of



the construction of the Torre.

On 29 July, however, the Solicitor General changed his mind and informed the NHCP the day before he was to submit his position paper to the Court, that the grounds for the CDO include the sight line to the monument, contrary to the comment he had submitted to the Court six months earlier. The COMMISSION in his view was, therefore, remiss in not issuing the CDO. Owing to this turnabout and upon the advice of the Court, the NHCP engaged its own counsel, Dean Jose Manuel I. Diokno, pro bono. The NHCP submitted its memorandum and annexes to the Supreme Court on 21 September 2015, explaining why there was no basis under existing laws to charge the COMMISSION as a respondent. The case awaits resolution by the Court.

Other heritage concerns in 2015 involve the following:

### **TAAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

The school principal and the local DPWH unit proposed to add two four-storey buildings in order to accommodate students completing the K-12 program. The NHCP did not approve the plan, however, because the additions would violate Taal's building height (the school is within the historic zone of Taal) and obstruct the Gabaldon building within the premises. Instead the NHCP offered a proposal for two two-storey buildings and the conversion of an existing building into additional classrooms, which the school accepted. The NHCP continues to work closely with local Department of Education officials, the DPWH and the local government.



Taal National High School



## CALOOCAN SKYWAY PROJECT

The Philippine National Railway sought the COMMISSION's advice in preserving the old Caloocan Railway Station and Higgins Hall, which would be affected by the Skyway Project of the Manila North Tollways Corp. The NHCP accepted the first option offered by the MNTC, namely, the incorporation of the proposed railway pillar into the brick wall of the old station (so as to save the latter). The MNTC also adjusted its design to retain Higgins Hall.

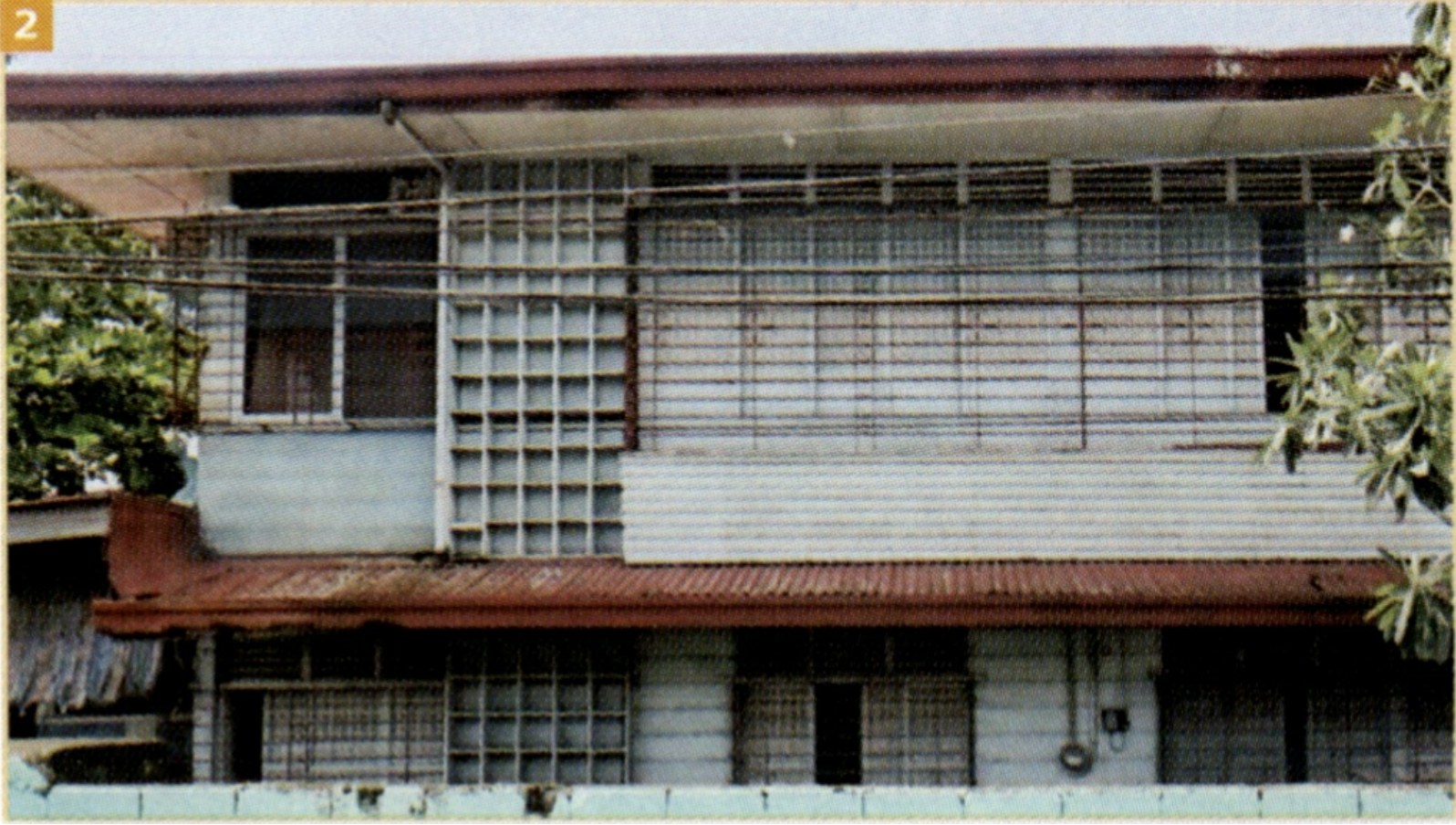


1 Higgins Hall, Caloocan City

## PIO VALENZUELA HOUSE

The family requested NHCP's approval of the demolition of the house where Pio Valenzuela had died, and the construction of a new one as envisioned by his grandson, Arturo Valenzuela. The NHCP Board, however, did not approve the proposal, opting to retain the original house because of its authenticity. Because the house is situated in an extremely flood-prone area, the COMMISSION referred the problem of flooding to the local government of Valenzuela.





1 Pio Valenzuela House

### **PEDROSA ACEBEDO ANCESTRAL HOUSE**

The Pedrosa-Acebedo house and similar others in Palo, Leyte would be affected by the proposed road-widening project of the DPWH Leyte First District Engineering unit. District Engineer Angel Sia, Jr. contended that all important cultural properties (ICPs) require historical markers in order to qualify as such, and since none of the ancestral homes had markers, they could not be considered ICPs (and could therefore be demolished). The NHCP objected, explaining that although the house does not bear a historical marker, has not been declared a historical landmark, and has not been listed in the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property, it is still presumed to be an ICP under the heritage law owing to its age. As of year's end, the DPWH had not pursued the road-widening project.





1 Cuartel de Santo Domingo

## CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS

In 2015 the NHCP issued CDOs to stop the removal of materials from the El Hogar building in Binondo, Manila (6 July 2015) and required the owner to submit all development plans to the COMMISSION for approval prior to any construction or alteration of the building and site; to suspend the construction of an access road by the DPWH near the Cuartel de Santo Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, a national historical landmark, because the road was too close to the *cuartel* (30 October 2015), and asked the DPWH to submit a revised plan; and to stop the demolition of the Nichols Air Base water/aerodrome beacon tower and all ongoing development of the area by the Travellers International Hotel Group Inc. (11 November 2015) in order to preserve the original tower built in the 1920s. The CDOs have thus far been respected.





2 El Hogar



# IV.

## Museums and Knowledge Dissemination



## A. Museum Modernizarion

In 2015 the COMMISSION happily opened five museums, bringing the number of its modernized museums to eleven.







EMILIO AGUINALDO in Kawit, Cavite, 20 March 2015, with President Aquino as guest of honor.







JOSE RIZAL in Calamba, Laguna, 19 June 2015, with Budget and Management Secretary Florencio Abad and Tourism Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr. as guests of honor.











# MUSEO NI MIGUEL MALVAR

MIGUEL MALVAR in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, 13 July 2015, with Agrarian Reform Secretary Virgilio de los Reyes as guest of honor.









# MUSEO ni MANUEL QUEZON

MANUEL QUEZON in Quezon City, 19 August 2015, with President Aquino as guest of honor.











# MUSEO NG KASAYSAYANG PANLIPUNAN NG PILIPINAS

PHILIPPINE SOCIAL HISTORY, Angeles City, Pampanga, 24 August 2015, with Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo as guest of honor.













The modernization of the museums has resulted in a greater number of visitors in all the renovated museums. The table below shows the average monthly number of visitors prior to and after modernization.

| Museum   | Date Re-opened | No. of Average Monthly Visitors |                                    | Percent Increase |
|--|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
|  |                | Pre-modernization               | Post-modernization                 |                  |
| <b>Republika ng 1899 Malolos, Bulacan</b>                | 12 Sept 2012   | 7,062 (March 2011- Feb 2012)    | 9,544 (12 Sept 2012- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>35.1%</b>     |
| <b>Apolinario Mabini PUP Sta. Mesa, Manila</b>           | 23 July 2013   | 369 (Feb 2011-Jan 2012)         | 3,341 (23 July 2013- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>805.4%</b>    |
| <b>Katipunan, San Juan City</b>                          | 27 Aug 2013    | 11,308 (Jan 2012-Dec 2012)      | 18,283 (27 Aug 2013- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>61.7%</b>     |
| <b>Jose Rizal Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila</b>      | 21 Mar 2014    | 25,966 (March 2012-Feb 2013)    | 26,163 (21 Mar 2014- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>0.8%</b>      |
| <b>Apolinario Mabini Tanauan, Batangas</b>               | 23 July 2014   | 2,143 (Jan 2013-Dec 2013)       | 10,466 (23 July 2014- 31 Dec 2015) | <b>388.0%</b>    |
| <b>Paglilitis ni Andres Bonifacio Maragondon, Cavite</b> | 28 Nov 2014    | 2,200 (June 2013-May 2014)      | 4,513 (28 Nov 2014- 31 Dec 2015)   | <b>105.1%</b>    |
| <b>Emilio Aguinaldo Kawit, Cavite</b>                    | 20 Mar 2015    | 14,164 (March 2013-Feb 2014)    | 21,123 (20 Mar 2015- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>49.1%</b>     |
| <b>Jose Rizal Calamba, Laguna</b>                        | 19 June 2015   | 19,688 (March 2014-Feb 2015)    | 38,478 (19 Jun 2015- 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>95.4%</b>     |
| <b>Miguel Malvar Sto. Tomas, Batangas</b>                | 13 July 2015   | 1,036 (March 2012-Feb 2013)     | 3,072 (13 Jul 2015 - 31 Dec 2015)  | <b>196.5%</b>    |
| <b>Manuel Quezon Quezon City</b>                         | 19 Aug 2015    | 11,582 (Sept 2012-Aug 2013)     | 34,319 (19 Aug2015-31 Dec 2015)    | <b>196.3%</b>    |

The rest of the NHCP museums underwent structural rehabilitation and or curatorial development and are scheduled to open in 2016. A new addition, meanwhile, to the NHCP's roster of museums is the Presidential Car Museum (the 22<sup>nd</sup> museum), which will house the presidential cars (with space for special car exhibits). On 22 December 2015, the NHCP entered into an agreement with the Quezon City local government, which will provide land for the museum under the terms of perpetual use (free of charge).

## B. Special Commemorations 2015

January February

**25 March**

- 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of blood compact between Sikatuna and Miguel Lopez. Commemorative lecture at the University of Bohol



**30 April**

May June

- 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Patrocinio Gamboa. Unveiling of historical marker and commemorative program at her ancestral house in Jaro, Iloilo City





## 11 July

- 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Pio del Pilar. Commemorative lecture at the University of Makati





## *22 July*

- 200<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Hermano Pule. Commemorative program at Hermano Pule monument in Lucena City, Quezon





23 July

August

■ Closing of Mabini@150. Unveiling of Mabini National Monument and marker at the National Library, and Rock Mabini concert at SM North EDSA



## 3 September

■ 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of end of World War II. Commemorative rites at the American Ambassador's residence in Baguio City





## 27 September

- 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Miguel Malvar. Commemorative ceremonies and lecture at the Malvar Museum in Sto. Tomas, Batangas







October

**16 November**

- 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Elpidio Quirino. Lecture series, teacher training, awards for teachers, school tours, unveiling of museum in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, and book launch







## C. Historical Markers Unveiled in 2015



| Marker and Location   | Date Unveiled |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Unfurling of the Philippine Flag in Cagayan de Misamis</b><br>City Hall, Cagayan de Oro City         | 13 January    |
| <b>Ruins of Bulusan</b><br>Tanggulang Punta Diamante Bulusan, Sorsogon                                  | 7 February    |
| <b>Benigno S. Aquino Jr. "Ninoy" (1932-1983)</b><br>Ninoy Aquino Monument, Ninoy Avenue, Paranaque City | 12 February   |
| <b>Blood Compact</b><br>Sitio Kuntang, Brgy. Ochando, New Washington, Aklan                             | 2 March       |
| <b>Church of San Isidro Labrador</b>  |               |



|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Tubigon, Bohol  | 9 March      |
| <b>St. Michael the Archangel Church</b><br>Jagna, Bohol   | 10 March     |
| <b>Immaculate Concepcion Church</b><br>Duero, Bohol   | 10 March     |
| <b>Most Holy Trinity Cathedral</b><br>Talibon, Bohol  | 10 March     |
| <b>St. Paul Apostle Church</b><br>Inabanga, Bohol   | 10 March     |
| <b>Battle of Zapote</b><br>Zapote Bridge, Las Piñas City  | 10 March     |
| <b>Midanao Garden of Peace Corregidor Island</b><br>Corregidor Island, Cavite                                     | 18 March     |
| <b>Francisco C. Baltazar (Balagtas)</b><br>Balagtas Monument, Brgy. Wawa, Orion, Bataan                           | 27 March     |
| <b>Epifanio de los Santos</b><br>Epifanio de los Santos Monument, San Isidro, Nueva Ecija                         | 7 April      |
| <b>Headquarters of Military Operations in Manila</b><br>Old Polo Train Station, Brgy. Dalandanan, Valenzuela City | 15 April     |
| <b>Patrocinio Gamboa</b><br>Cor. Jayme and Commission Civil Sts., Brgy. Benedicto, Jaro, Iloilo City              | 30 April     |
| <b>Port of Laylay, Boac</b><br>Boac, Marinduque   | 4 June       |
| <b>Philippine Expedition Force to Korea</b><br>Taguig City  | 25 June      |
| <b>La Liga Filipina</b><br>Ylaya Street, Tondo, Manila  | 3 July       |
| <b>Apolinario Mabini</b><br>Mabini National Monument, National Library, T.M. Kalaw, Manila                        | 23 July      |
| <b>Provincial Capitol of Laguna</b><br>Sta. Cruz, Laguna  | 28 July      |
| <b>Galleon Port</b><br>Palapag, Northern Samar  | 10 August    |
| <b>Church of San Roque</b><br>Pateros, Metro Manila   | 15 August    |
| <b>Church of San Bartolome</b><br>Malabon City  | 27 August    |
| <b>San Miguel Brewery, Inc.</b><br>40 San Miguel Avenue, Mandaluyong City   | 29 September |
| <b>Teodoro Morada Ancestral House</b><br>4 Cinco de Noviembre St., Silay City                                     | 5 November   |
| <b>Digna Locsin Consing Ancestral House</b><br>Cinco de Noviembre St., Silay City                                 | 5 November   |
| <b>Generoso Reyes Gamboa Ancestral House</b><br>Cinco de Noviembre St., Silay City                                | 5 November   |
| <b>German Lascon Gaston Ancestral House</b><br>Cinco de Noviembre St., Silay City                                 | 5 November   |
| <b>German Locsin Unson Ancestral House</b><br>Cinco de Noviembre St., Silay City                                  | 5 November   |
| <b>Jose Benedicto Gamboa Ancestral House</b>  |              |

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Gomez cor Zamora St., Silay City  | 5 November  |
| <b>Severino Building</b><br>Rizal St., Silay City                                   | 5 November  |
| <b>Soledad and Maria Montelibao Lacson Ancestral House</b><br>Rizal St., Silay City | 5 November  |
| <b>Angel Araneta Ledesma Ancestral House</b><br>Gamboa St., Silay City              | 5 November  |
| <b>Benitajara Ancestral House</b><br>Gamboa St., Silay City                         | 5 November  |
| <b>Church of San Joaquin</b><br>San Joaquin, Iloilo                                 | 15 December |









## D. Lectures and Conferences



Round table conference, “Women in History, History of Women,” Sulu Hotel, Quezon City, on the



occasion .of the 130<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Gregoria de Jesus, in coordination with the International Visitor Leadership Program-Philippines and the Women in Development Foundation, Inc., 27 June 2015.







1<sup>st</sup> National Youth Forum on Heritage, “Entering the Future, Remembering the Past,” in collaboration with the TOSP Foundation, Project Saysay, Philippine High School for the Arts, in Los Banos, Laguna, 11-14 November.





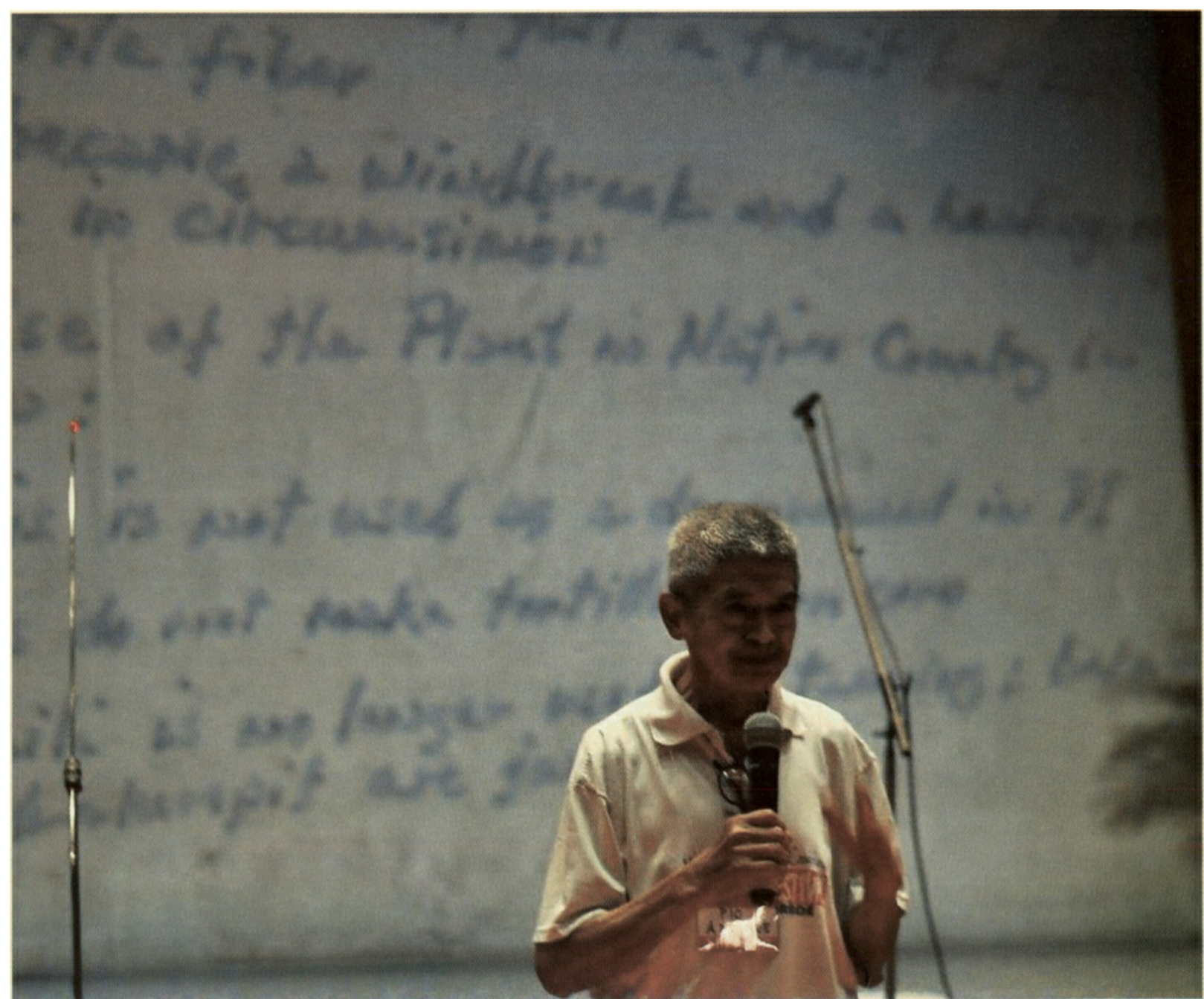
International conference, “The Global Impact of the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade,” in collaboration with Museo del Galeon Foundation, El Colegio de San Luis in Potosi and El Colegio de Michoacan, Mexico, and the Embassy of Mexico, at the NHCP Building, 14-15 November.





1 3<sup>th</sup> Philippine Spanish Friendship conference, “Transitions, Trade & Transpacific JL Exchanges,” UP Diliman, 8-9 October 2015. Small round table discussions on the same theme were also held at Wesleyan University Philippines, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, 23 September; Silliman University, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental, 28 September; Universidad de Sta. Isabel, Naga City, Camarines Sur, 13 October; MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology, Iligan City, 28 October; and Kalinga-Apayao State College, Tabuk, Kalinga, 7 December.





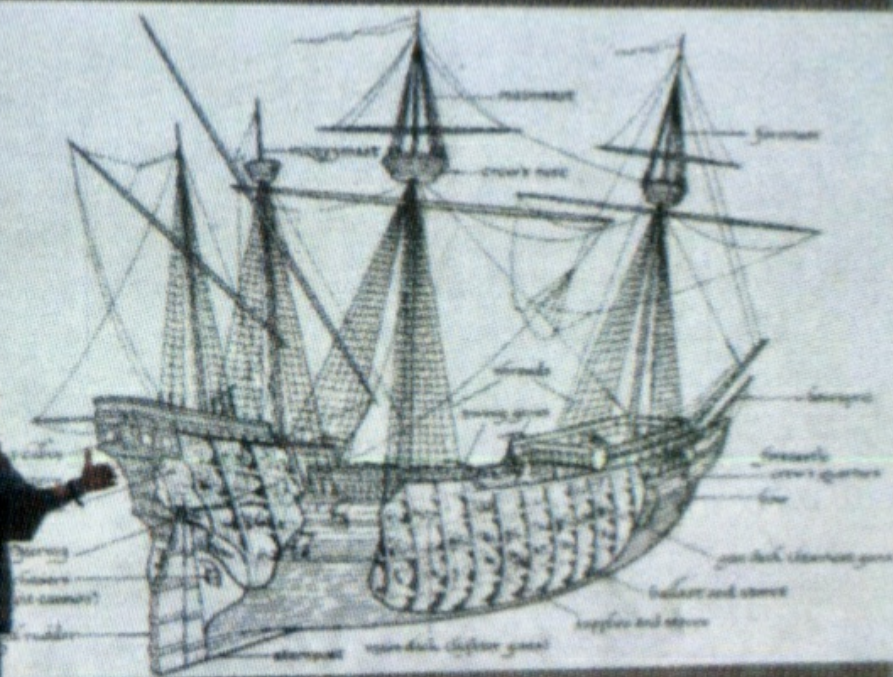


THE NATAL in cooperation with  
**SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
through  
History and Political Science Department and  
Languages Department  
invite you to  
**A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**  
on Cultural Assimilation and Accommodation  
the Cultural Influences of the Spanish  
on Filipino Life and Culture  
September 28, 2015  
9 a.m. at the Audio - Visual Theater  
in celebration of the Philippine - Spanish  
Theme: "Transitions, Trade, and Transpacific Exchange"





## PARTS OF A GALLEON

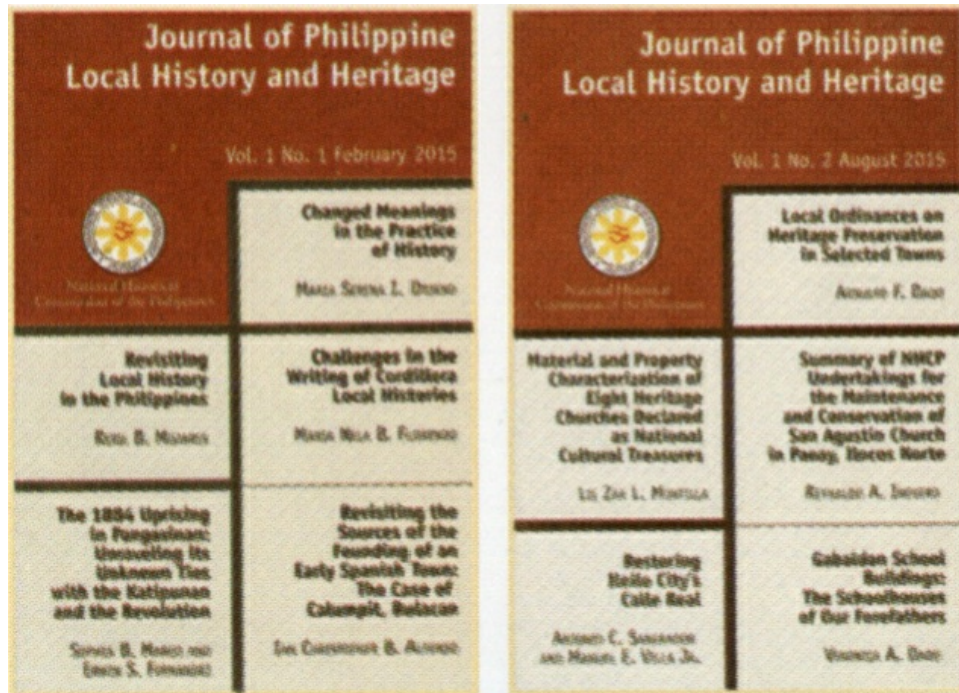


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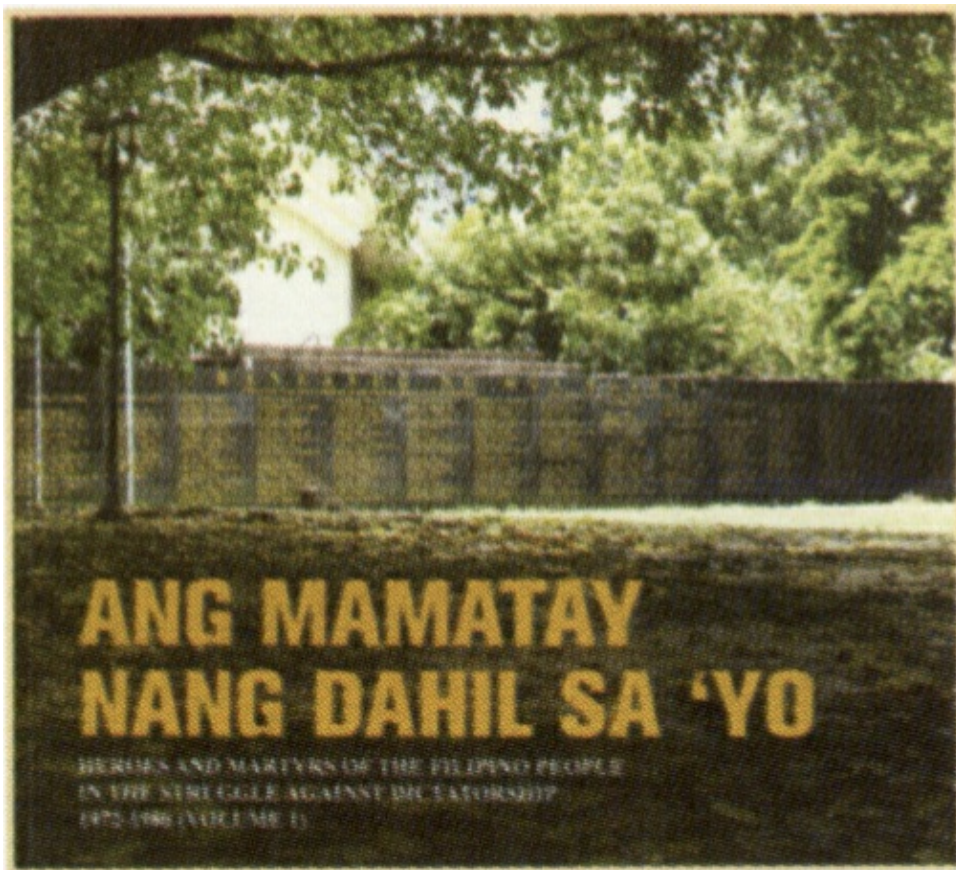




## E. Publications

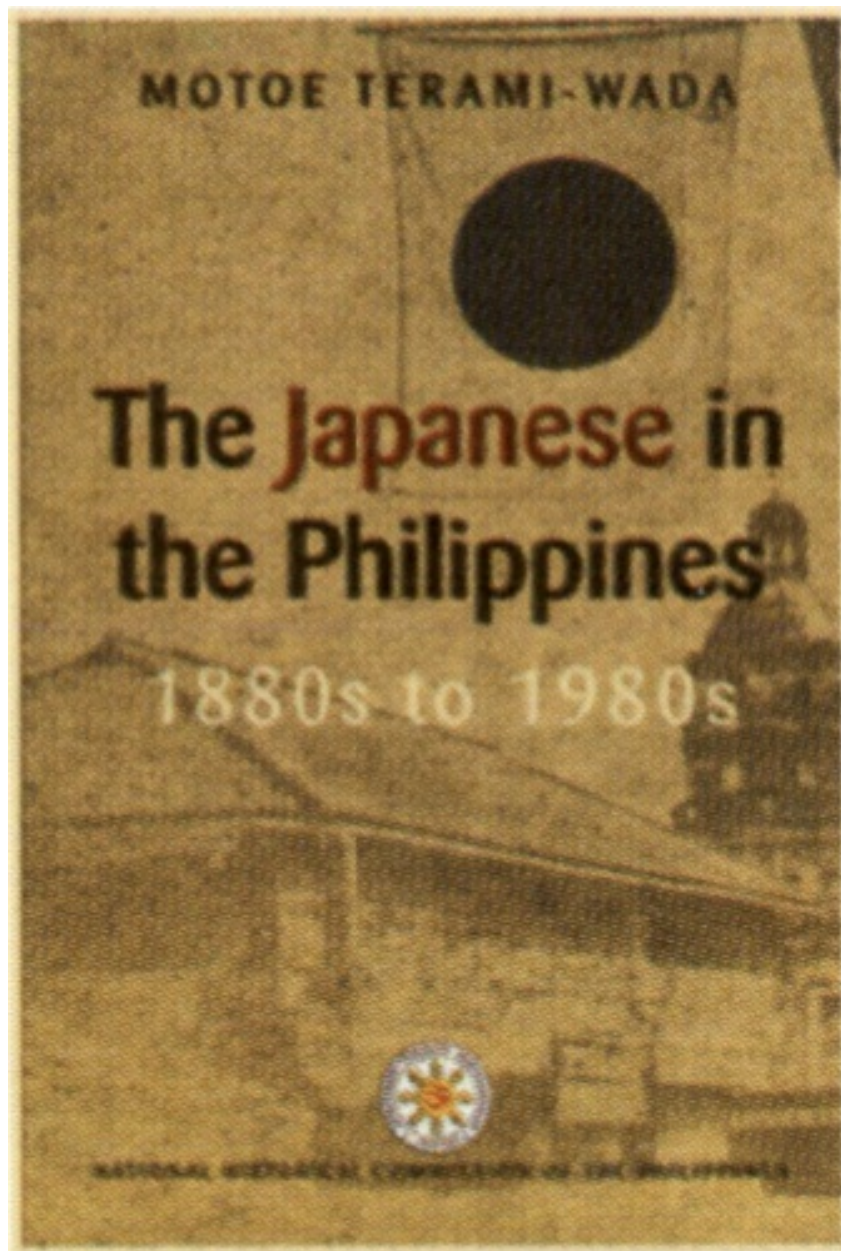


■ ***Journal of Philippine Local History and Heritage***. A peer-reviewed publication that comes out twice a year (February and August). Issues 1 and 2 of the first volume were launched in Bacolod City, 3 August.



■ *Ang Mamatay Nang Dahil Sa 'Yo*. Funded by the nhcp and edited by Carolina Malay, the book honors the martyrs inscribed on the wall of remembrance of the Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation; launched 21 August.



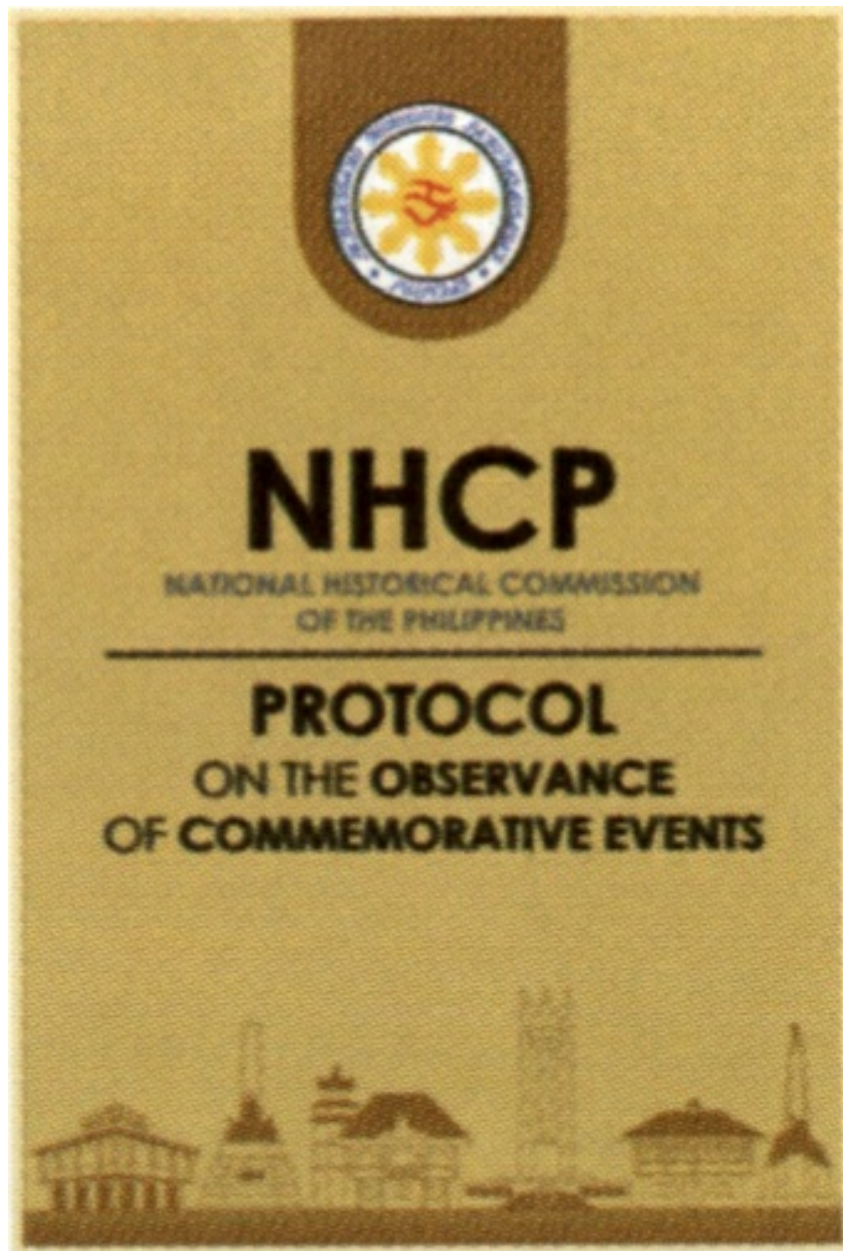


■ *The Japanese in the Philippines, 1890s to 1960s*. A revised edition of the book of Motoe Terami-Wada.



■ ***Elpidio & Alicia: The Love Letters.*** Published in memory of President Elpidio Quirino and his wife Alicia, and edited by Rene Guatlo; launched at the Ayala Museum, 28 November.





- ***Protocol on the Observance of Commemorative Events (National Historical Commission of the Philippines)***. Prescribes the protocol for commemorative programs organized by the nhcp.


The commission also digitized 600,000 pages of documents from the archives of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, as a project of the NHCP's Martial Law Historical Advisory Committee. The documents are still being catalogued.

## F. Heroes' Documentary Series

The first of the heroes' documentary series features the life and legacy of Apolinario Mabini. The rest will focus on Jose Eizal, Andres Bonifacio, and Emilio Jacinto.





A vintage-style photograph with a warm, yellowish-brown tint. In the center, a young boy with dark hair, wearing a light-colored short-sleeved shirt and dark shorts, sits on a simple wooden chair. He is looking down at an open book he is holding in his hands. Behind him, a woman stands, partially obscured by the back of the chair. She is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved blouse and a dark, patterned skirt. The chair has a high back with a woven lattice pattern. The background is dark and indistinct, suggesting an indoor setting. The overall mood is quiet and focused.

Amidst poverty, Mabini's parents, especially his mother,



## G. Training and Linkages



Reynaldo S. Lita at Carrara for the international course on Stone Conservation 2015, Rome, Italy.

The following members of the NHCP attended international conferences or underwent foreign training.

- AZHEL MIRAL, MELANIO GUEVARA, and ANGELO AGUINALDO (museum staff) took the online course, “Managing the Arts: Marketing for Cultural Organizations,” offered by the Goethe Institut and Leuphana University of Luneburg, Germany, 19 February-28 May.
- AZHEL MIRAL and ZARAH ESCUETA (museum staff) took the course, “Behind the Scenes at the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Museum,” offered by the University of Leicester, United Kingdom, 1 June-12 July.
- JANICE TAMBO (curator) attended the conference, “Bridging Gaps: Museums in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Jerusalem, Israel, 21-23 June.



- REYNALDO LITA (Historic Preservation Division) took the international course on Stone Conservation organized by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property and the Getty Conservation Institute, Rome, Italy, 15 April-3 July.
- LARRY CRUZ (Materials Research and Conservation Division) presented his concept paper at the inception workshop on Heritage Conservation in Southeast Asia, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 25-27 July, organized by the SEASREP Foundation. In that workshop CARMINDA AREVALO (Deputy Director for Administration) and JIM FRANKLIN KALAW (Materials Research and Conservation Division) were tasked to co-write a paper summarizing heritage policies in Southeast Asia. MARIA SERENA I. DIOKNO heads the research project.
- CHRISTINE DULNUAN (Research, Publications and Heraldry Division) read a paper at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Sciences, Jinan, China, 23-29 August.
- FRISCIAN PANGANIBAN (Historic Preservation Division) attended the course on Cultural Heritage Protection in the Asia-Pacific Region 2015: Preservation and Restoration of Wooden Structures, Nara, Japan, 2 September -1 October.
- ZARAH ESCUETA (curator) took the course, “Making Sense of Art History,” offered by the Open University, United Kingdom, September.



1 Friscian Panganiban at the seminar on Cultural Heritage Protection in the Asia-Pacific Region 2015: Preservation and Restoration of Wooden Structures, Nara, Japan.



2 Christine Dulman at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Sciences in Jinan, China

## LOCAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEES NETWORK

The NHCP also held the third general assembly of the Local Historical Committees Network (LHCN) in Bacolod City on 3-4 August. The theme, Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Structures, was discussed by a panel composed of Dominic Galicia, Paulo Alcazaren, and Mark Richard Evidente. In the afternoon the assembly approved the guidelines and procedures for the election of LHCN officers and chose its officers. Dr. Emmanuel Calairo of the Cavite Historical Society was elected President.









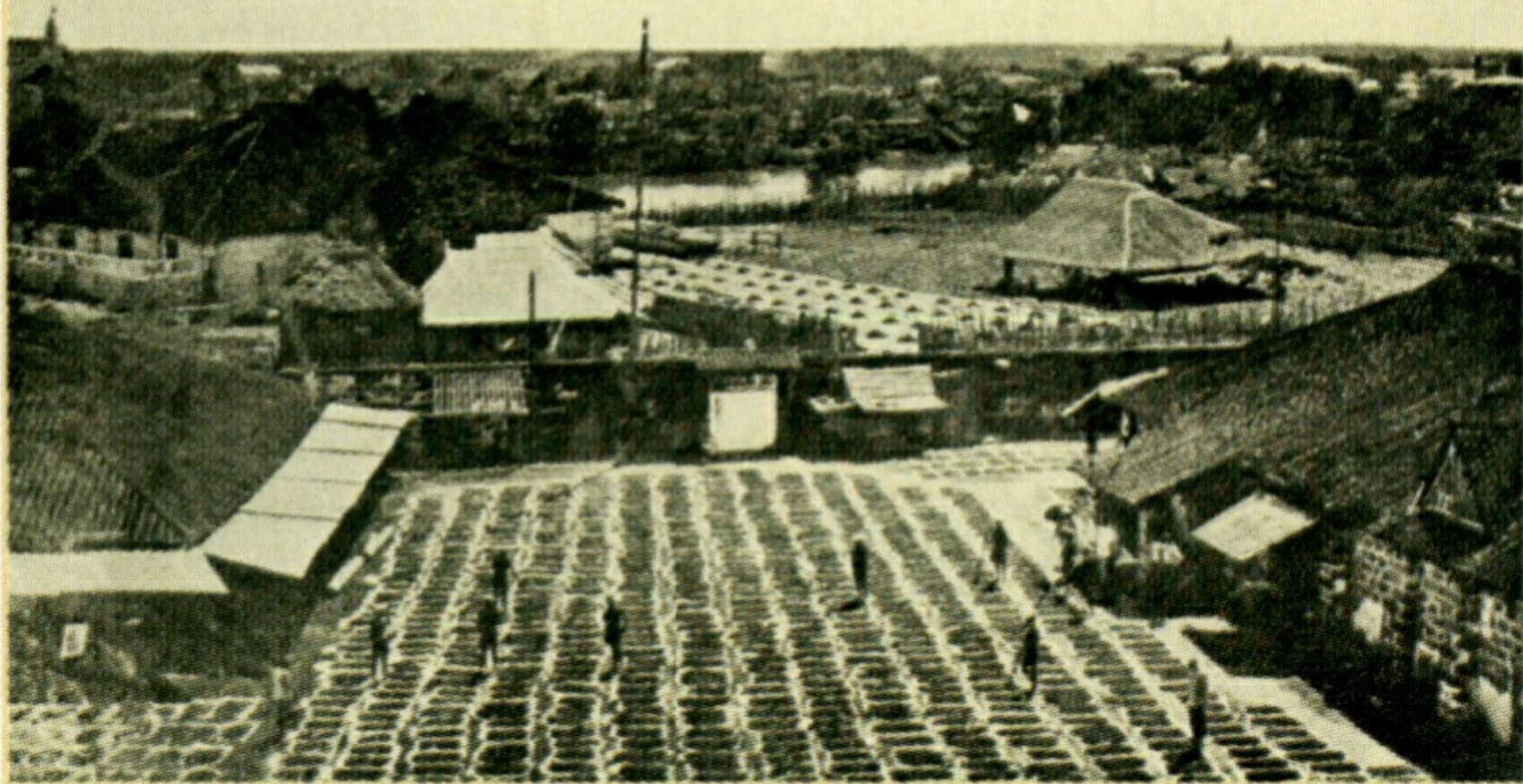
## INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

In 2015 the NHCP further expanded its international network of partnerships by entering into agreements with several Spanish institutions: the History section of the *Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas* for the purpose of promoting research collaboration among Filipino and Spanish historians; and several Spanish archives in order to digitize selected documents (not available online) at a heftily discounted price. The result of the first agreement is an ongoing joint project on the modernization of the Philippines in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the areas of public education, infrastructure and resource management, the economy and urbanization, and health and medicine. Seven Filipino and seven Spanish historians are involved in the research project.





1



1 *Farderia*, place where sugar was dried and packed, 19<sup>th</sup> century. From *The Inhabitants of the Philippines*, by Frederic Sawyer, 1900.





2 *Observatorio Meteorológico de Manila*, late 19<sup>th</sup> century (University of Michigan)





3 Fort Gen. Corcuera, Malabang, Mindanao, late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century. From J.J Pershing Collection (University of Michigan)



As for the agreement with the Spanish archives, the NHCP selected some half a million images of archival documents for digitization, which will then be used by research groups in the Philippines to be formed by the NHCP:

- 66 bundles (*legajos*) from the *Archivo General de Indias* in Sevilla;
- 422 bundles from the *Archivo Histórico Nacional* in Madrid; and
- 50 maps from the *Museo Naval* in Madrid.

[illegible]

4



# Universidad Literaria de Valencia



V. R. D. V. Rector.

Por cuanto Don Graciano Lopez y Jaena, natural de Jaro Distrito de Hecla en las Islas Filipinas, ha justificado que tiene hechos los estudios académicos que son necesarios para adquirir el grado de Bachiller ante el Tribunal de exámenes para los estudios literos formado con arreglo a las Bases Reales de 6 de Junio y 29 de Octubre de 1875, y habiéndose en su presencia en el día veinte y ocho de Setiembre de mil ochocientos ochenta ante dicho Tribunal que aprobó la prueba a que se sujetó con la calificación de **Aprobado**, haciéndolo así de la autoridad que me está conferida por el R. D. y ordenes expuestas, se me da este título en favor de Don Graciano Lopez y Jaena, para que sea reconocido como tal Bachiller.

Valencia a 10 de Setiembre de 1880

V. R. D. V. Rector

Graciano Lopez y Jaena

V. R. D. Secretario general.

D. Juan Calvo de la Cruz

Título de Bachiller a favor de D. Graciano Lopez y Jaena  
Aprobado al folio 12a del libro correspondiente número 562





6 *Archivo General de Indias*









V.

# Financial Responsibility



The COMMISSION'S budget in 2015 grew by 117% over the past year, with the largest increase going to its locally funded projects, primarily for the restoration of damaged structures in Bohol and Cebu.

| Category                   | Budget             |                    | % Increase over 2014 |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
|                            | 2014               | 2015               |                      |
| Personal services          | 62,616,515         | 50,188,000         | (19.58)              |
| Maintenance and operations | 46,854,000         | 108,861,000        | 132.34               |
| Equipment outlay           | 4,032,000          | 5,000,000          | 24.00                |
| Locally-funded projects    | 249,474,000        | 624,000,000        | 150.13               |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>362,976,525</b> | <b>788,049,000</b> | <b>117.10</b>        |

In addition, funds were transferred from various agencies to the NHCP to implement special projects, namely:

| Source of Fund                               | Project  | Amount            |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Municipality of Kawit, Cavite                | Reenactment of the declaration of Philippine Independence  | 350,000           |
| Quezon City government                       | Modernization of Quezon Memorial site                      | 4,000,000         |
|  | Repair and rehabilitation of Quezon Museum                 | 10,000,000        |
| National Commission for Culture and the Arts | Local Historical Committees Network                        | 300,000           |
| Commission on Audit, Region VI               | Restoration of COA building in Iloilo City                 | 40,000            |
| Department of Agrarian Reform                | Research and publication of the history of agrarian reform | 540,798           |
| <b>Total</b>                                 |  | <b>55,190,798</b> |

In 2015 the NHCP obligated P645,082,822.63, representing 80.71% of the budget. This figure is lower than last year's (93.2%) owing to the unforeseen additional work required in Bohol and Cebu. This was inevitable given the nature of conservation; as work was being done, additional damage was discovered that had to be addressed but could not be done until the original scope of work had been completed. The fund for additional work was to come from the balance of the capital outlay for these projects. By the time additional quotations were compiled, the end of the year had approached. Nonetheless, as reported earlier, the COMMISSION completed two projects and the majority were ongoing by year's end.

The larger budget in 2015 meant more work but this did not faze the NHCP staff. Challenged by public trust in the COMMISSION, the NHCP worked to achieve its targets and for the third straight year received the performance-based bonus from the Office of the President.





## Endnote

- <sup>1</sup> This represents Phase 1 of the project.  
Phase 2 is set for bidding in 2016.