



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SURVEYING  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND SURVEYING  
MARA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

**“THE INFLUENCE OF REFURBISHMENT PROJECT TO ECONOMY &  
LIFE QUALITY FROM PUBLIC PERCEPTION”  
CASE STUDY: CENTRAL MARKET AREA, KUALA LUMPUR**

NOOR AZIZAN BINTI AB AZIZ  
(2004227886)

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## **ABSTRACT**

Malaysia is one of the privileged countries that have many historical buildings which are of immense of architectural and historical values. It is believed that there are more than 37, 000 historical buildings built between 1800 and 1948 throughout the country which are worthy for preservation and conservation. Conservation by definition is guardianship providing for maintenance, preservation or protection of what presently exists, from being destroyed or changed in an inappropriate manner. In the past few years, many historic buildings in our country have been preserved and conserved while others have been refurbished to meet current need of function for such building example bank, restaurant, information centre or a printing office. With regard to this, I therefore decided to identify the influence of refurbished project to economy and life quality in Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur with case study at Central Market area which was built in 1936 and addressed nearly at Jalan Hang Kasturi, 50050, Kuala Lumpur.

The main content of this dissertation is to identify the contribution of Refurbishment Projects to the Kuala Lumpur's economy and life quality. Discussion of the dissertation will be the general view of refurbishment including the trend in Malaysia and then observation of Kuala Lumpur life

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## 1.1 ISSUE STATEMENT

Heritage conservation is a global concern as people in different countries and cultures struggle with the challenge of conserving things from the past. Conservation by definition is guardianship providing for maintenance, preservation or protection of what presently exists, from being destroyed or changed in an inappropriate manner. More over it is important to conserve these heritage pieces as Sultan Shafarudin Idris Shah has made a clear statement where he said that, "each administrative building, lighthouse, fort, place of worship and school was an excellent mirror of the values and circumstances that shaped them"<sup>1</sup>

Briefly, a 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 architecture, aesthetic, historic, documentary, ecological, economic, social and even political and spiritual or symbolic values, for it is a symbol of our cultural identity and continuity - a part of our heritage. Historic buildings differ from most other cultural property in that they generally have to be used and also withstand dead and live loadings and resist all the causes of decay. Often it is necessary to find an appropriate

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<sup>1</sup> RAJENDRA, E., Heritage is Important, Star Publication, December 11, 2004