

When soul touches wood

Written by straits-mongrel

Sunday, 20 September 2009 12:58 - Last Updated Wednesday, 23 September 2009 14:50



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When heart meets matter, beauty happens. The Rumah Terengganu is a fine example of craft reaching for its potential - something increasingly rare in the mindset of our population - and serves as a wonderful repository of a people's pride in the work they do.

The spaces harken the spirit of sopan, of kehalusan, and a soft-spoken confidence.

Records show that Terengganu was part of the Malay kingdom of Langkasuka, which thrived on the extended throat of the Kra peninsula from the 2nd to 16th century.

The region was an active trading partner with the neighbouring communities of Monsoon Asia including India, Siam, Cambodia and the Nusanatara islands. It was a fertile playground of cultures. No doubt, the Rumah Terengganu is shaped by these influences.

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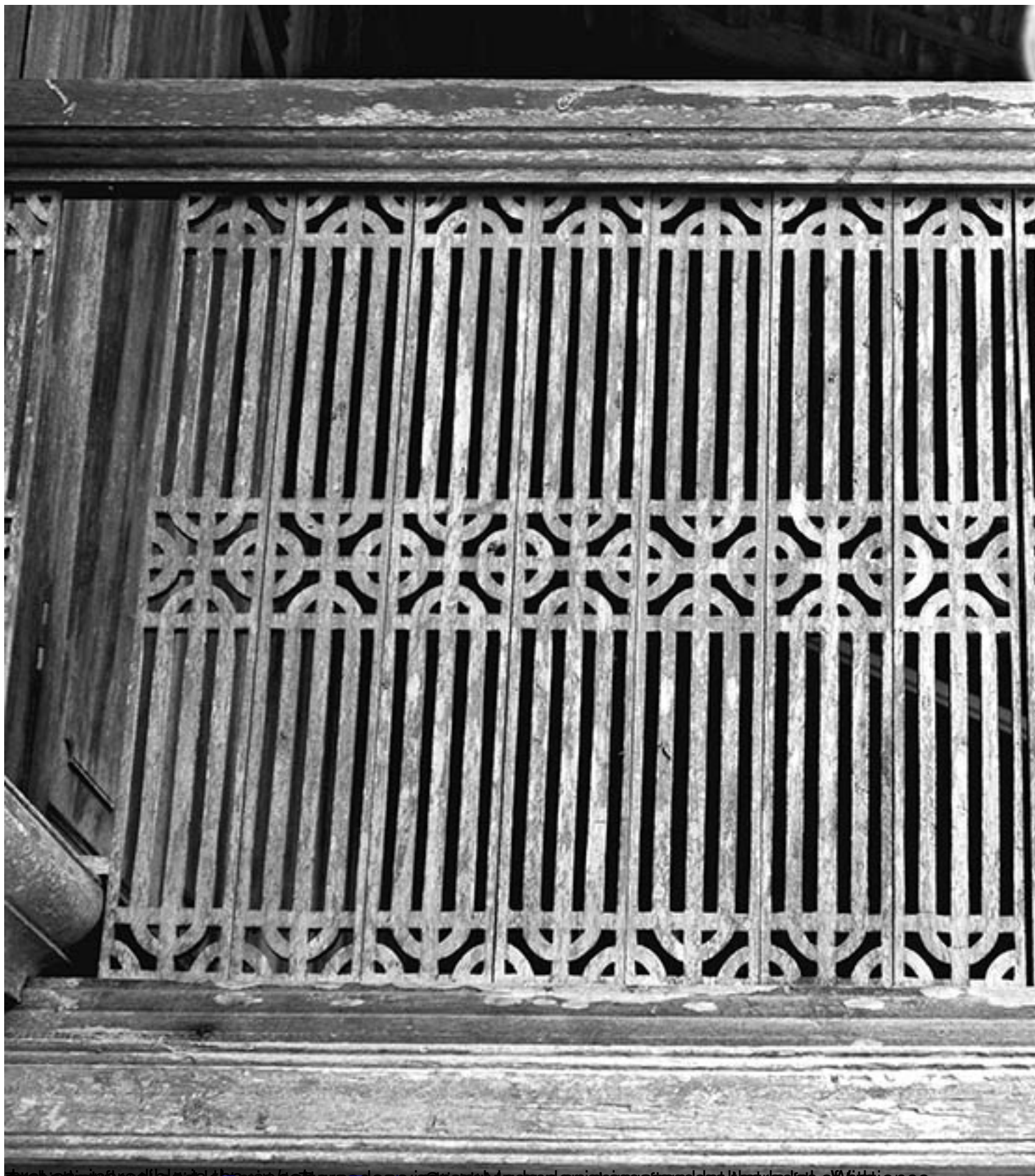


[http://www.bangkokpost.com/1/Traditional-Temple-as-tradition-Of-Southern-Thai.html](#)

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On the left side of the image, there is a small, dark, rectangular object, possibly a handle or a lock. The overall texture of the wood is rough and aged.