



ORPC
ORCHARD ROAD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The ORPC Alteration and Addition (A&A) Project

***Building a
Disciple-Making Church***

***Our Legacy of Faith
for Future Generations***



Building today with tomorrow in mind

In 2023, Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC) celebrated its 167th anniversary.

Successive generations have witnessed how God has grown the church to what it is today. From a standalone building established to minister to the needs of the Scots community, ORPC has become a multinational, multigenerational church family with deep local roots, serving both the young and old. He has faithfully multiplied our numbers and our various congregations have been experiencing steady growth over the years.

The development of our physical premises must support our vision of building a disciple-making church. As we share more about the plans in this booklet, let's visit the reasons for embarking on this project.



Space for a Growing Church Family

01



The Church has the privilege of housing not just the ORPC English congregation but also Providence Presbyterian Church, the Indonesian and German congregations who all use our church grounds on Sundays and during the week.

When Tomlinson Hall was demolished in October 2002, ORPC encountered a loss of worship and classroom space. Over time, as the congregations grew — particularly the English congregation and PPC — the church is approaching full capacity for its worship services.

With Sunday as the busiest day for the church, the short turnaround between ORPC's AM service and PPC's service has brought about limitations for post-service activities such as fellowship, Bible study and classes. As ORPC strives to expand its ministry, we hope to evolve the building facilities to support our vision.

To meet current guidelines & maximise space usage

02



The church's Main Sanctuary was constructed in 1878 and the last restoration, which included the construction of the Dunman Building, was in 1985. Over the last 20 years, the church building has experienced wear and tear.

Structural, roof, waterproofing, and electrical work will need to be done for the Main Sanctuary. The integrity of the back slope will also need to be secured to prevent soil erosion. Lastly, the Dunman Building needs to be restored to meet current building codes which have been revised since 1985, alongside latest fire and safety considerations.

With the Dunman Building heavily used by church members and staff, especially the critical need to have a safe and inviting environment to support the Children's Ministry, the leadership would like to be proactive in making sure that all guidelines are met. At the same time, we can incorporate modern and enhanced facilities with the well-being of our youngest, oldest and those with mobility challenges in mind, so that all can use our spaces.

Support the growth God's kingdom now and into the future

03



Since the Covid-19 pandemic, construction costs have risen, and it is likely that costs will continue to rise in future. While there is no perfect time to embark on these works, we now have a unique opportunity for the members of the congregation to leave a legacy for future generations to continue to come to know, love and serve God.

RATIONALE FOR EXPANSION OF FACILITIES

Reinstatement of Tomlinson Hall

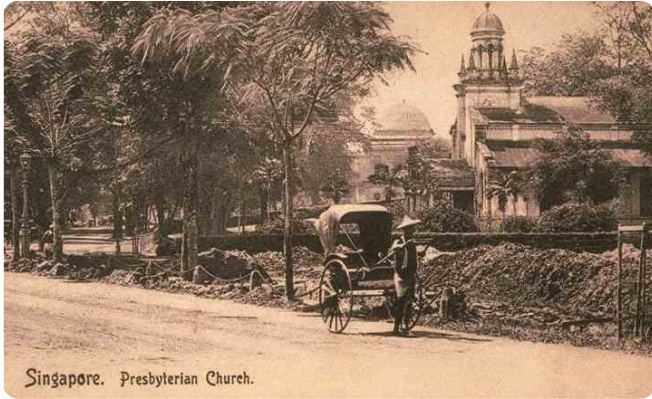
- Additional space for main worship service.

Restoration and Expansion of Dunman Building

- More space for Sunday School and post-worship activities, e.g. Bible study, fellowship, SoCM.
- Less competition for space among congregations during Sunday worship sessions.
- More available facilities for weekday small group gatherings.
- More suitable facilities for different age groups to maximise utility of our space.

Our historical background

ORPC was founded in 1856. Its first building on the present site was completed in 1878.



Over the years, new buildings have been added to the site. Tomlinson Hall was added in 1920, and the Chapel in 1953. The Dunman Building which currently houses the church offices, meeting rooms as well as Sunday school facilities was completed in 1985.



Previous ORPC site with Tomlinson Extension (Before Dunman Extension)



Current ORPC site with Dunman Extension

Since then, the size of the congregations of ORPC and Providence Presbyterian Church have grown. At the same time, the existing buildings require upgrading.

As such, the church’s leadership has, for several years now, planned for the restoration, enhancement, and expansion of the church’s physical facilities.



Our Vision

As ORPC moves forward to fulfill the biblical mandate of building a disciple-making church, we plead with God to draw the hearts of the rising generations to study God’s Word to know Him, embrace Christ, and serve the church.

It is therefore our hope that we may augment these plans and ensure our facilities continue to support the evolving needs of the Lord’s work, as we look towards a vision of making disciples of Jesus Christ by teaching and applying God’s Word to equip a community that serves as God’s witness in Singapore and beyond – not just for the present.

We believe the plans for our A&A project must be closely intertwined with our church’s vision and move in tandem with our ministry plans. God has blessed ORPC with a prime location, resources, and many gifted individuals to help equip our people to be his witness in Singapore and beyond. As previous generations have bestowed us with many good gifts, it is now the time for this generation to provide for the next, to ensure the continuation of God’s faithful work in ORPC.

Therefore, the following tagline for the project has been chosen to represent our broader church vision of disciple-making, as well as our desire to prepare the next generation by equipping them with the suitable infrastructure, adequate resources, and a sound spiritual foundation to run the race ahead.

Building a Disciple-Making Church Our Legacy of Faith for Future Generations

The new mandate

In the past years, much work has been done in pursuit of this goal, including technical studies and concept plans.

In January 2020, a new proposal was presented to the congregation. Instead of the initially suggested full redevelopment of the church, this proposal outlined a more pragmatic, reduced scope from previous iterations with a priority on restoration of key areas: also known as the Alteration and Addition (A&A) project.

At the Extraordinary Congregational Meeting on January 19th of 2020, the congregation of ORPC granted a new mandate to the session to formally begin the process of A&A works, which include the following:

1. Strengthening of the rear slope areas behind Sanctuary, Chapel and Dunman Hall
2. Strengthening of the main Sanctuary structure and certain conservation works
3. Reinstatement of Tomlinson Hall
4. Basic restoration of Dunman Building



The church is considering two approaches: A & B.

The base case is Approach A. It will focus on the strengthening of existing structures. It will include the reinstatement of Tomlinson Hall. With approach A, ORPC will experience a reduction in total usable floor space due to the relocation of the water tank and power sub-station into the basement of the Dunman Building.

Therefore, an alternative Approach B, has been considered by the A&A Steering Committee. This will include all the works in Approach A, but also increase the church’s square footage by the reconstruction of Dunman Building as a five-storey building with a lift (approx. 40% bigger). A new access point can also be included from Fort Canning Road (subject to LTA’s approval).

Here are the two approaches summarised with estimated costs:

Approach A (Base)

- Sanctuary Restoration
- Rear Slope Strengthening
- Reinstatement of Tomlinson Hall without basement
- Restoration of Dunman Building

S\$38.85m

Approach B (Alternative)

- Sanctuary Restoration
- Rear Slope Strengthening
- Reinstatement of Tomlinson Hall without basement
- Reconstruction of Dunman Building as 5-storey building

S\$42.8m

The Church leadership and pastoral team is unanimous in supporting the recommendations from the A&A Steering Committee for Approach B.

Fundraising

To meet the funding goal of **S\$42.8 million**, fundraising efforts will be split between ORPC and PPC. After the sale of the church’s 33 Holland Grove property (**est S\$7.5m**), the amount to be raised by ORPC and PPC are **S\$22.94m** and **S\$12.36m** respectively.

For ORPC, the existing funds which has been set aside for this project is **S\$13m**.

Funding gap which needs to be covered by ORPC

S\$9.94m



What to expect from here?

Congregational approval - Members of both the English and Indonesian congregations will need to come forward to vote in January 2024 on the A&A project, and if so moved, to grant Session the mandate to proceed with Approach B.

Fundraising - A Fundraising Committee has been convened to devise an appropriate strategy. More updates will follow.

Organ Preservation - The Organ, a beloved instrument by our congregation and an important heritage that is integral to the ORPC story, will be specially looked into during the A&A project. We are in the midst of getting the right technical expertise to provide advice on this matter.

Interim Worship Location - A committee has been set up to look into the search for an alternative worship location during the construction.

Approval and Fine-Tuning: Upon approval from ORPC and PPC for the A&A project, more technical studies, planning, tenders and approvals will need to be done. This process is expected to take **18 months from approval**.

Construction and Internal Works: The actual site construction is expected to take **24 months** after all technical studies and necessary approvals have been provided.

A&A Steering Committee

The 2024 A&A Steering Committee comprises the following members:

- Elder Gabriel Tan (Convenor)
- Elder Richard Law (Fundraising Deputy Chairperson)
- Elder Alvin Ooi
- Elder Derrick Lee (Fundraising Chairperson)
- Elder Tang Yew Chung (Liaison-Offsite and Logistics Chairperson)
- Deacon Rita Soh (Technical Chairperson)
- Deacon Debbie Seah (Liaison-Offsite and Logistics)
- Deacon Benjamin Goh (Fundraising)
- Mr Koh Chit Yee

The Project Management Subcommittee will be formed later.

We welcome feedback on the A&A project. Please scan the QR code below to drop your feedback.



For more info, visit:
<https://orpc.sg/aanda/>



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