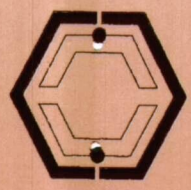


A "GOLDEN CANOPY"
FOR THE NATION



SEC
CONSULTANTS
STATE ENGINEERING CORPORATION

Arch. Vasantha De Silva

When looking at well established architectural practices in Sri Lanka, one cannot miss out the oldest that is the SEC' Consultants. From its explosive birth in 1962, into a hitherto conventional architectural backdrop, it has grown to be a legend by itself providing consultancy services for over 1100 building projects.

These comprise mainly of large scale buildings for government and non government sectors.

The formula adopted by SEC Consultants in its attainment of excellence is not different from any other successful architectural practices; hard work dedication and experiment through trial & error.

Today the architectural unit of SEC Consultants employs 11 chartered architects, one registered architect and 10 graduate architects along with other supporting staff such as draftspersons, office clerks, etc; lead by Archt. Lal de Silva, a fellow member of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architect counting over 25 years of experience.

Their modern but modest office on the 4th level of the 10 storied SEC head office building excudes freedom and harmony.

It creates a pleasant environment where a client can sit and pour his heart out freely.

Most architectural practices begin with personalised housing: the first tiny roots drawing out of seedlings looking for firmer ground.

But not so with SEC consultants. It was an explosive birth: a forced birth demanded by the needs of a growing nation turning from its placid agricultural economy towards industrialization.

The change in economic policies, increasing population and industrialization placed a heavy demand for rapid development of infrastructure. Facilities had to be provided for mass housing, educational institutions, hospitals, office buildings, factories, etc. And birth of SEC with a new outlook on architecture was the answer.

Major projects undertaken by SEC in its fledgling days now stand as landmarks in Colombo and other major cities spread all over the country.

Labour secretariat at Narahenpita the CWE (now Rakshana Mandiraya) National Housing Development Authority, Torrington Secretariatwould be good examples to name a few.

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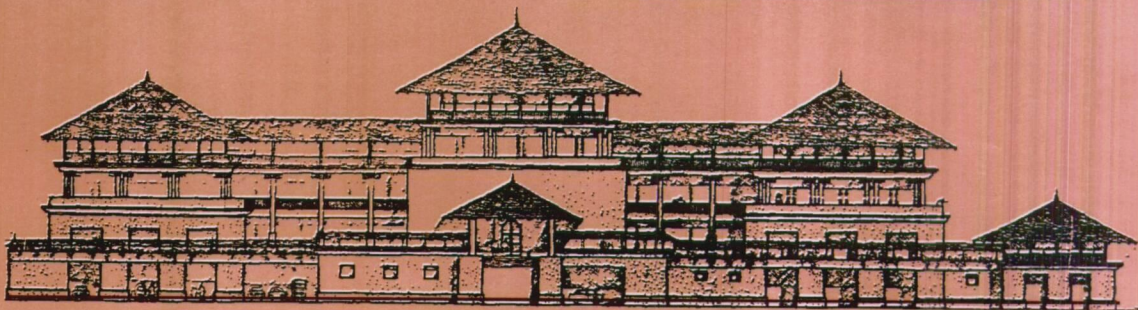




Examination Centre
Pelawatte, Battaramulla



Advanced Technical Institute
Labuduwa



Court Complex, Gatambe

SEC Consultants is the only practice in Sri Lanka that provides a high degree of client guidance to obtain specialist services and also hold in-house expertise for all related services such as structural designs , quantity surveying , mechanical, Air conditioning, Telecommunication , Sewerage and waste disposal Services, Water treatment etc. Availability of all these special services under one roof facilitates better co-ordination among the specialists which helps to find the optimum use of resources to meet with the clients needs at the lowest cost. So finally it augers well for the client.

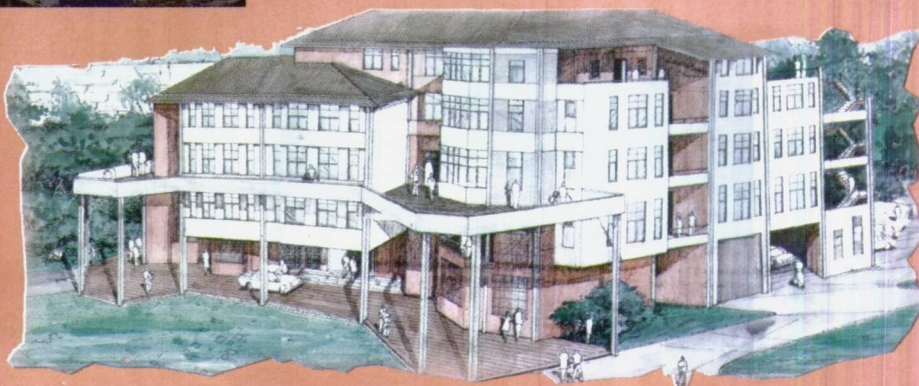
Unlike most architectural practices, SEC Consultants projects a Corporate image as opposed to an individual or personalized image. Thus the designs of SEC consultants are not restrained within any stereo typed architectural style.

Rather it fosters fusion of each architect's individuality with the needs of the client and the vast experience of SEC consultants to bring out a unique creation with individual characteristics of its own exuding interest and charm.

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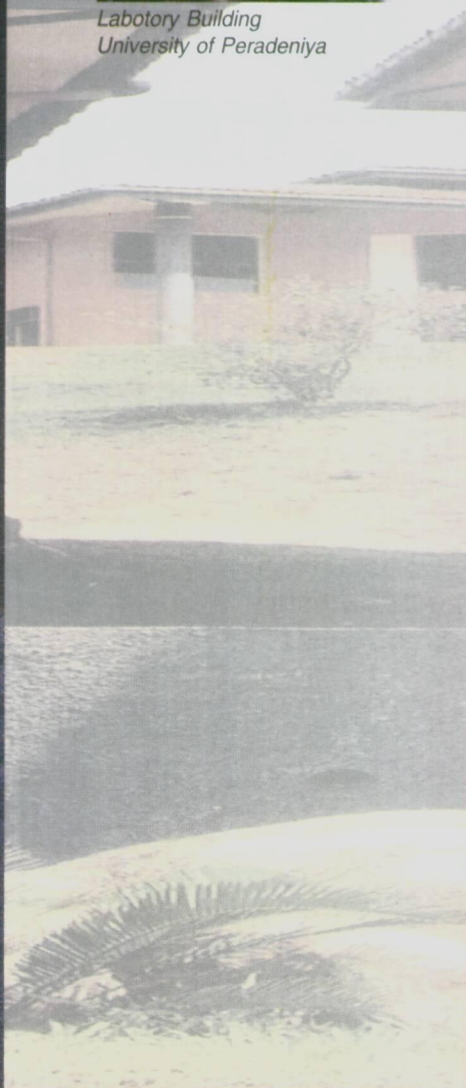
*Atomic Energy Authority
Orugodawatte*



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATION UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA



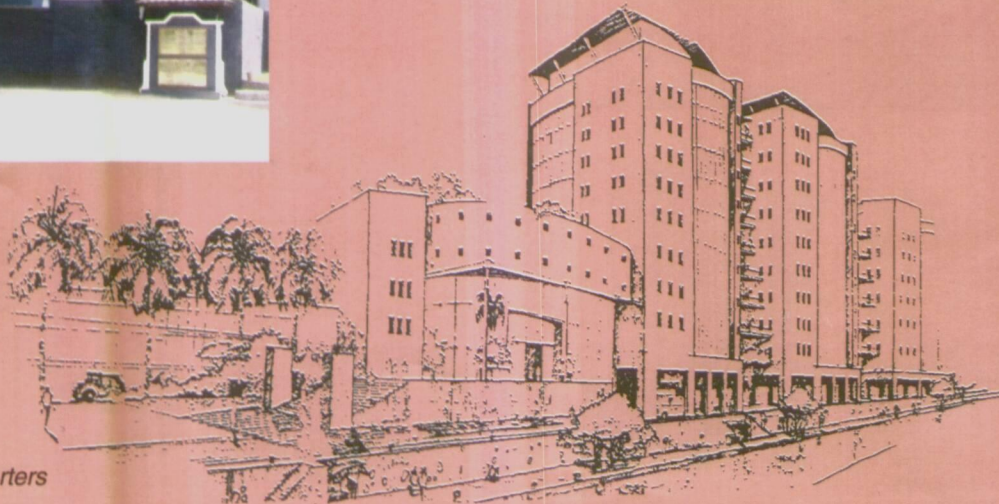
*Laboratory Building
University of Peradeniya*



*Summit Flats
Keppetipola*



*Sri Lanka Custom Head Quarters
Colombo 01*



SEC consultants realized that the success in a corporate climate demands continued improvement in all aspects of its operations, from personnel directly involved with designs to peripheral support services. Young architects were offered full pay study leave to pursue post graduate studies required to uplift their professional skills. Frequent overseas training courses are offered with full sponsorship.

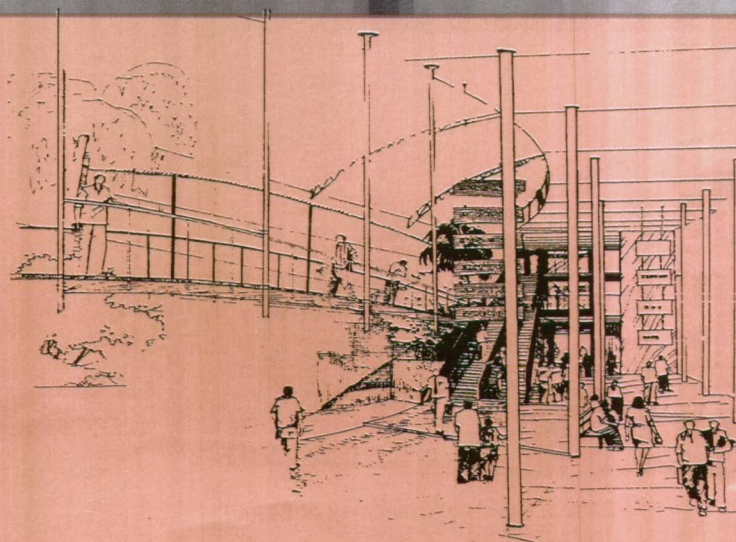
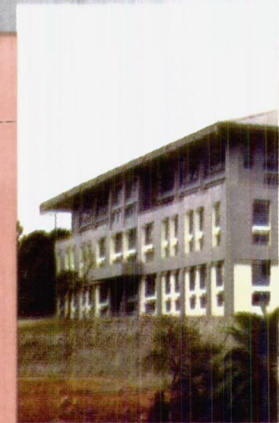
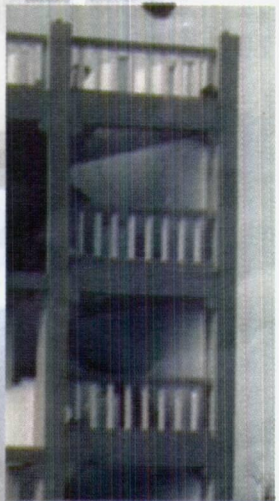
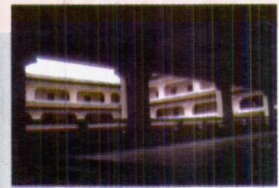
At SEC consultants, young architects are encouraged to give unhindered expression to their ideas and design skills and thereby infuse. New blood into the whole process of developing designs both in technical and management spheres under the guidance of seniors. Regular sessions of constructive criticism within the design team through progress monitoring and review meetings aim at ensuring a perfect professional to the clientele throughout the duration of each project. This sets the stage for budding architects to turn into professionals.

Each year SEC recruits up to 10 graduate architects from the University of Moratuwa for one year practical training. When these young graduates join, they are launched on fast track learning process starting with the design detailing under supervision of a senior architect. They are also trained to take on responsibility for site work and meetings aimed at blending office experience with actual field exposure. They also get an opportunity to expose themselves to practical use of computers and related IT application. Further more, these graduates find it a suitable place to learn teamwork and interaction with other allied disciplines, so essential to the successful outcome of a building project.

SEC architectural unit is well equipped to face the challenges of the new millennium. Its personnel are computer literate and it has computer laboratory with latest plotting and plotting and software. For a practice with a predominantly corporate clientele, these facilities help the architects to be fine tuned to the needs of their clientele and provide speedy, flexible response.

A selection of buildings designed by SEC:-

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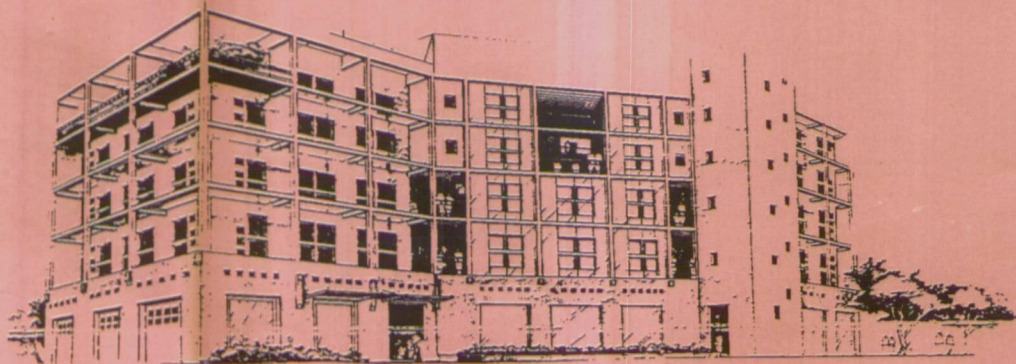
Sri Lanka Custom Head Quarters, Colombo 01



*Carving from
Buddhagaya Replica
Mahiyanganaya*



*Extension for National Museum
Colombo 07*



Pre-Clinical Building, University of Colombo

Universities and other educational Institutions country-wide have environments moulded by the SEC, the outstanding ones being the Engineering faculty for Ruhuna University at Hapugala, Galle, Peradeniya medical faculty, Labuduwa Institute of Advanced Technical Education and may more.

Creation of community dwellings at Manning Town.



These apartments are designed around a central courtyard facing it and completely surrounding it like a square ring. When one looks out of the living room window it is as if each unit of dwelling has its own private garden.

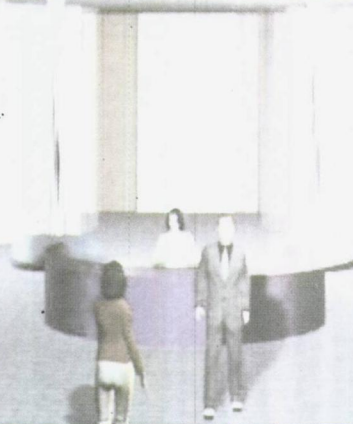
It creates a little peaceful community feeling while still being surrounded by busy roadways because the housing units face the courtyard and have their backs to the roads.

The Successful Design Proposal For Department of Personal identification at Battaramulla For Ministry of Defence.

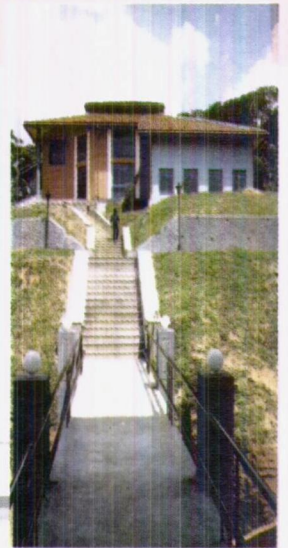
Head Quarters for Sri Lanka Customs : the height income generater for the country.

Another "Middle Rise" to be come up very soon within the Fort area of Colombo to house all the scattered functions with in one premises and to express the importance and the identity of Sri Lanka Customs.

In Narahenpita, SEC is now establishing a land mark -new Vocational Training Complex at Elvitigala Mawatha.



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Presentation and Computer Images

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