

kenko

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這坎店僅有「兩落一過水」的規模，為土塊壁及磚牆的承重牆混合構造。聽長輩說當初興建牌樓時的屋主從事建築業，所以立面可說是師傅的傑作。前屋主姓呂，原本住在上街（今中央路），租店在和平路開設木器行，後來才買下此坎店繼續經營木器生意。現任蔡姓屋主因為鍾愛老街店屋牌樓面的精美，於2000年承購作為住家。

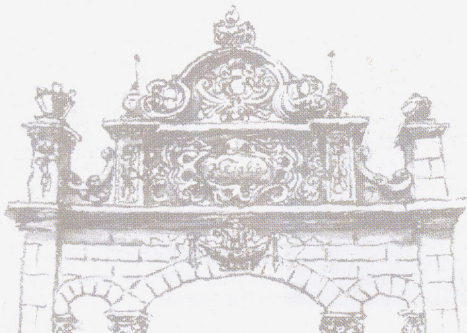
哇！好漂亮！

這是佇立在此處遊客們最常說也最常聽到的一句話。如果要票選出大溪之寶中的「底片殺手」，它絕對是入圍者之一。山牆中央的「洋文」常讓人們皺起了眉頭？左思右想不得其解之際，所幸屋主提供了解答：「聽長輩說洋文是用羅馬拼音所組成，為『堅固』（台語發音）的意思」，怪不得用英語拼……。



洗石子牆面內部的紅磚構造。(1998年整修時攝)
The brick structure beneath the wall coated with mini pebbles

這棟充滿異國風情洋味十足的牌樓面，總讓人們認為是用石頭疊砌且精雕細琢而成，如果看官們也認為如此，那就錯了！它可是不折不扣的磚造建築（局部用鋼筋混凝土補強）。如果仔細看圓拱下方的仿羅馬式柱頭，可發現是用洗石子工法去模仿石雕；其作法是將小石子加入水泥攪拌，再用泥塑的方式砌成所要的形式圖案，最後將水泥表面輕輕洗淨一層，待露出小石子便能完成仿石材的效果。對了，日本時代的本土師傅最喜歡稱呼這種形式的柱頭叫作「白菜頭」，看官們認為呢？



大溪鎮和平路20號 / 私人住家 / 蔡宅
20 Heping Road, Dasi Township / private domicile of the Cai Family



With a scope of "two *luo* one *guoshuei*" this store has a mixed structure composed of earthen bricks and red bricks to strengthen the load-bearing capacity. According to the seniors, the owner constructing this building with the façade of the arcade ran a construction business and therefore the façade was a masterpiece of the builders. Former owner Mr. Lu lived on Upper Street (now Zhongyang Road), rented a store on Heping Road to sell wooden furniture, and bought this store to carry on the business of wooden furniture later on. Present owner Mr. Cai bought this building to reside thereat in 2000 as he adored the exquisitely decorated façades of the arcades on the Old Streets.

Wow! It's gorgeous!

The most commonly said and heard expression uttered by visitors standing still in front of this building is "wow! It's gorgeous!" If we were to select by ballot Dasi's number one negative-killer, this building is definitely one of the nominees. Visitors often frown at the foreign language inscribed in the center of the gable. They think and think but still cannot figure out the correct meaning but, to their delight, the owner provides the answer: "according to the seniors, Kenko is a Roman spelling of sturdy in Taiwanese language." No wonder visitors cannot figure out the meaning.

This building full of exotic interests and foreign tastes always misleads people to think that it is built of layers of stones with exquisite decoration. If you think so, you have made a mistake. It is a brick structure in every respect with some parts strengthened by reinforced concrete. If you look closely at the capital of the column modeled after the Roman style under the circular arch, you will find that it has a coating of mini pebbles in imitation of stone carving. The coating is made by mixing mini pebbles with cement, using the technique of clay sculpture to get the shape and pattern that you want, and finally washing away a thin layer of the cement coating. When mini pebbles are exposed, you have a surface that looks like stone. By the way, local builders during the Colonial Rule enjoyed referring to such type of capital as Chinese cabbage. What do you think?



Kenko的「白菜頭」為仿科林斯式(Corinthian)的西式柱頭。

Chinese cabbage, a term used by builders to refer to the western column capital modeled after the Corinthian style