



A PHOTO WALK!

RELIVING THE MEMORIES OF THE PAST

ANDONAQUE | BALUBAL | DELA CRUZ | DE PERIO | FLORENTINO

BAYVIEW PARK HOTEL MANILA

PROLOGUE

WORLD WAR II in MANILA

Walking around Manila today, it's difficult to imagine the same bustling, traffic-plagued city as the site of "one of the greatest tragedies of World War II," as described by William Manchester, an American historian.

Now a busy metropolis of almost 2 million, there was a time when Manila faced torment so great that even the city recovering from tragedy seemed like a miracle. Today, modernization has covered but a few unaltered remnants of the past scattered across this all-important battleground.

Unknown to most is the blood spilt or the ruins strewn on the old streets of Manila, even more so the atrocities quietly witnessed by the structures that survived the decimation of the city.

Before February of 1945, Manila was the Pearl of the Orient, a sunny coastal city full of potential. The odds were looking up for Manila. But alas, wartime came, and the city was razed, its streets forever changed by the wrath of the Japanese who left fire, rubble, and death in their wake.

Unspeakable things were done to men, women, and children, things that seem to challenge the limits of what human beings could do to each other in the absence of inhibition.

No words written in this zine could ever accurately reflect the monstrosities committed during the time of war. But in juxtaposing photographs of these buildings to what they are now, we hope for simple retrospection, a reflection about the stories these places held about the war they survived. We hope for a collective remembrance of the historical significance carried by the places we so often pass, but also so often ignore. These photographs for us prove that there is hope in the direst situations, that growth and renewal can always be found in the aftermath.

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Bayview Park Hotel Manila is one of the most iconic hotels in the Philippines. It is a short walk away from Intramuros, the U.S. Embassy, and Roxas Boulevard.

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MANILA**

Previously a private women's college, St. Paul University Manila is now a co-ed university beginning school year 2005-2006 in Manila.

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Scottish Rite in the country is officially recognized by the Grand Lodge as an extension of the degrees of Freemasonry.

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Nuestra Señora de Guia (Our Lady of Guidance) or Ermita Church is the oldest Marian image in the Philippines.

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Malate church is a Baroque style church originally built by the Augustinians around the 16th century.

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De La Salle University was established in 1911 by the Catholic teaching congregation Brothers of the Christian Schools.

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BAYVIEW HOTEL

1945 Manila's rape center

Bayview Hotel became known as Manila's rape center for it was one of the places which were turned into brothels or Joro Houses by members of the Japanese military. On February 9, 1945, Ermita residents were ordered to leave their houses and go to Plaza Ferguson- the plaza situated in front of the Ermita church.

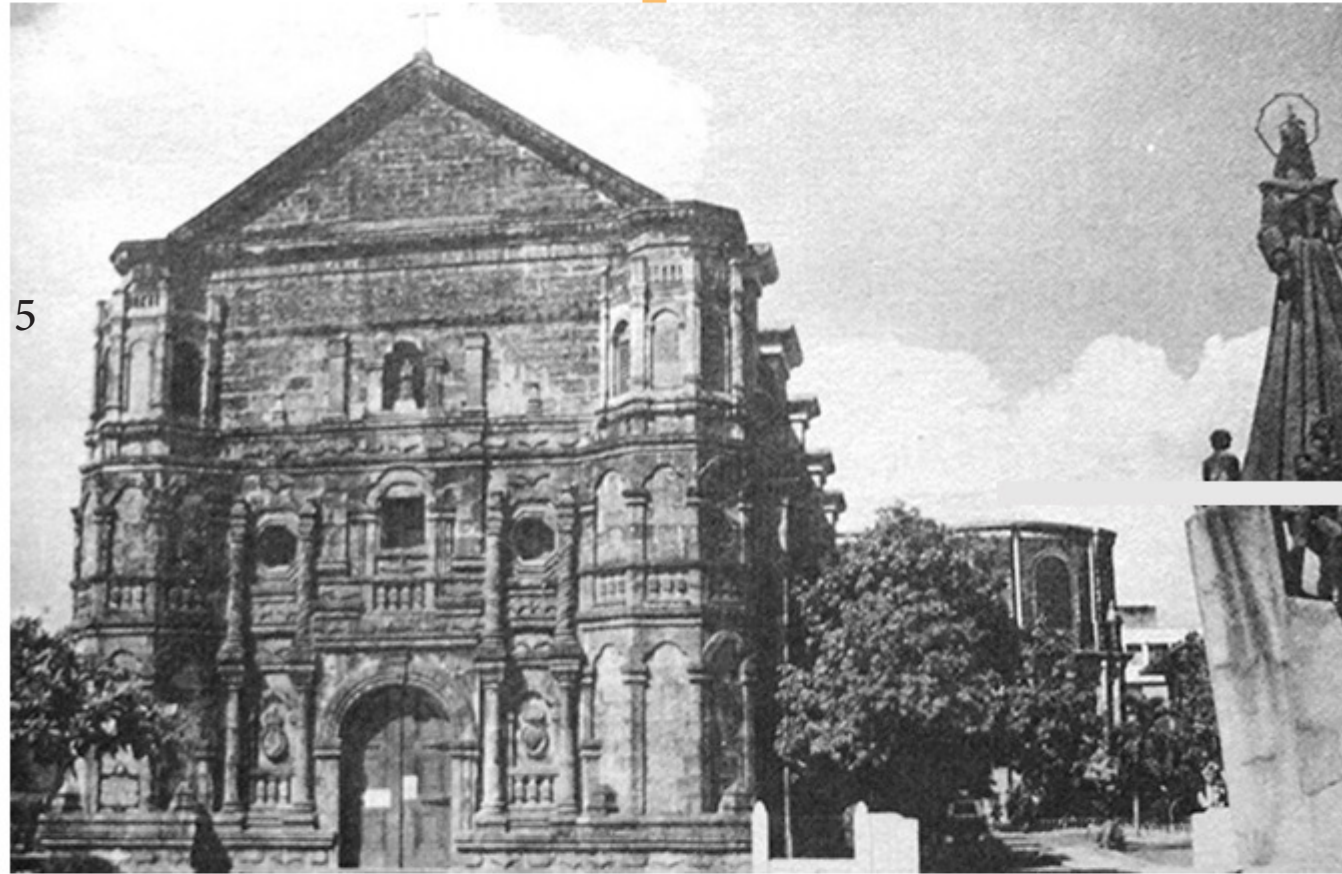
Wives, young women, and children were then separated and ordered to proceed to Bayview Hotel. They were wantonly raped by the Japanese soldiers and once they were done, the women's nipples were sliced off and they were bayoneted open from the neck down.

On the night of February 12, Bayview hotel caught fire and some of the hostages managed to escape fleeing and stepping over the bloodied bodies of those who were dead or dying.

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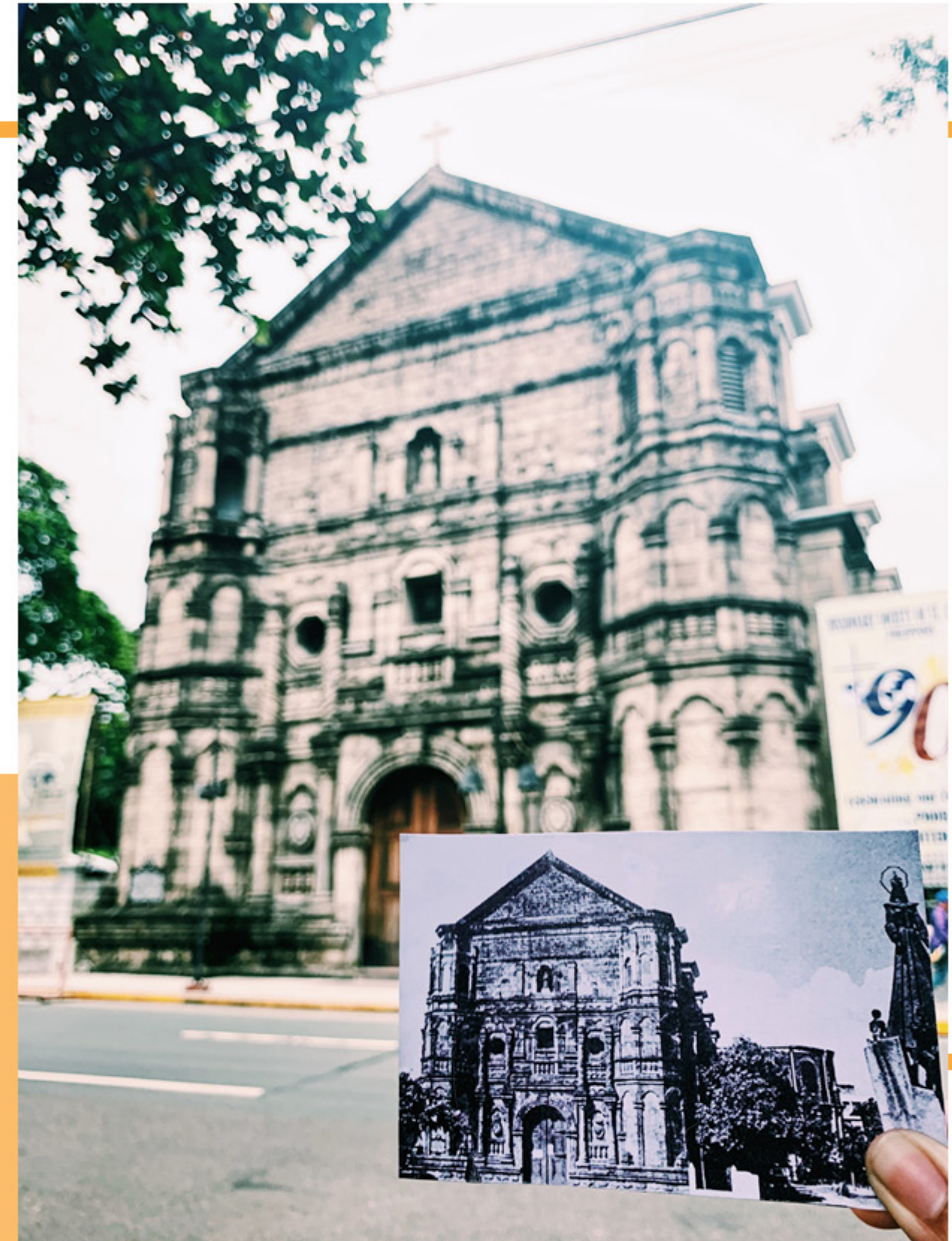
Ermita Church

2401 Taft Ave, Malate, MaM.H. del Pilar St. cor. A. Flores St., Ermita , Manila , Metro Manila, 1004 Metro Manila



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In the City of Manila, one of the older Roman Catholic churches include Ermita Church which is formally named as the Archdiocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Guidance. It was founded in 1571 which was initially a wooden shrine to the image of Our Lady of Guidance before, and then became a stone chapel, La Ermita or "The Chapel", in 1606. It was rebuilt and had a new design by an architect, Carlos A. Santos-Viola, in 1947 after its original structure was destroyed during nearly the end of World War II.



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Nuestra Señora de Guia (Our Lady of Guidance) or Ermita Church is the oldest Marian image in the Philippines.

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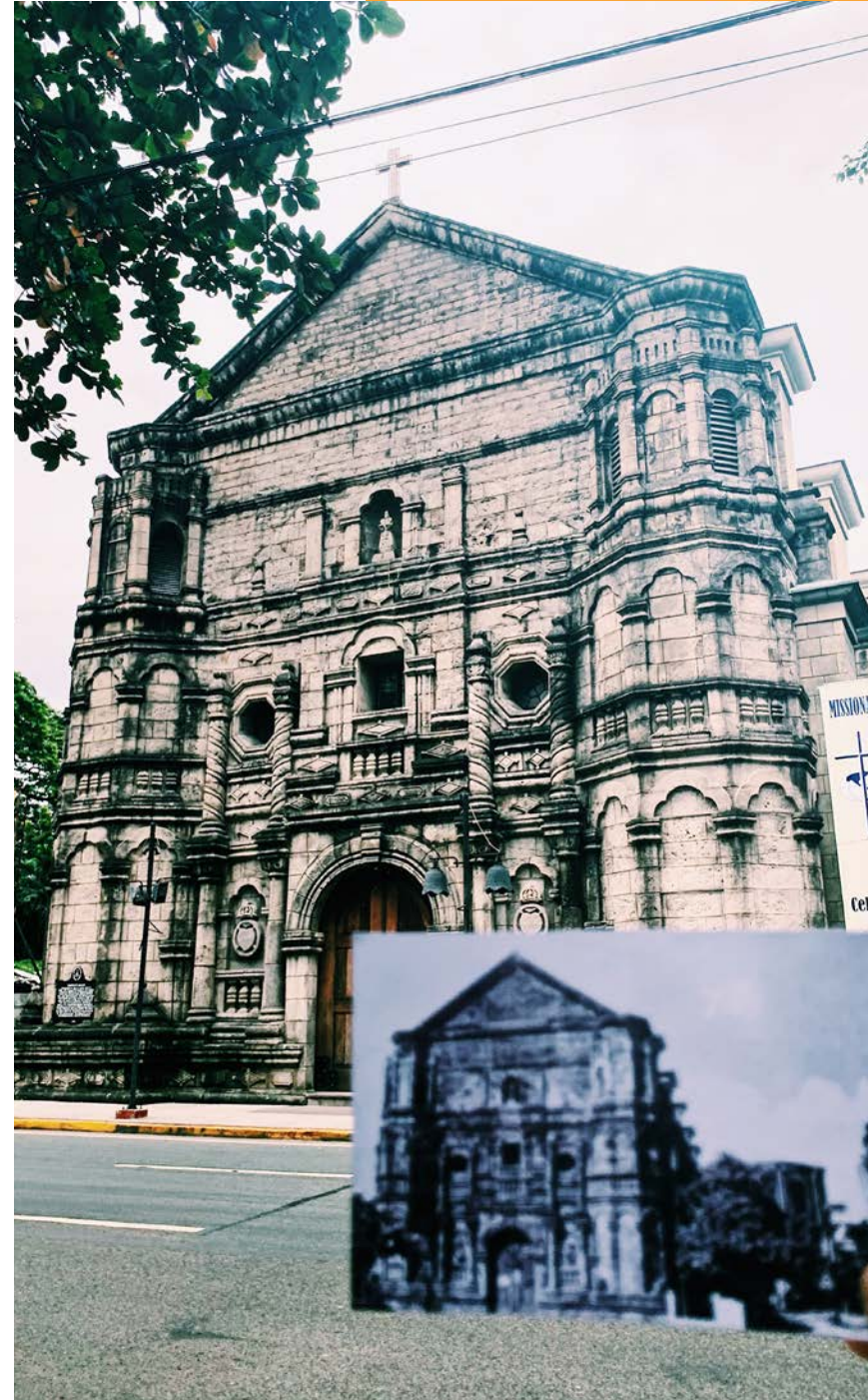


St. Paul University

680 Pedro Gil St, Malate, Manila, 1004 Metro Manila



On February 9, the Japanese rounded up people in the neighborhood and assembled them in St. Paul's College, specifically in the school chapel, the Chapel of the Crucified Christ originally built in 1927 and designed by Juan Luna's architect son, Andres Luna de San Pedro. Estimated numbers vary widely between 250 and 1,000. The massacre consisted of dropping grenades disguised as chandeliers on a roomful of people. Alfonso Aluit wrote: "At around 5 o'clock, family groups composed of at least 1,000 people were brought to a large hall in St. Paul's college. Meanwhile, the Japanese were passing around rice and wine and candies to the refugees. Rosario Fernandez, one of the refugees, was in the back of the crowd when she heard a loud explosion followed by terrified screams. Witnesses noted that the chandelier over the middle of the hall was wrapped in black cloth and was tied with a rope. When the crowd had gathered in the middle to partake the cases of rice wine and candies, someone tugged on the rope and the chandelier fell to the floor. Several were crushed and wounded in the explosions. Others stampeded to the exit as the hall burst into flames."



MALATE CHURCH

Aside from serving as a refuge for the British soldiers, the church was also known due to the massacre done on several clergymen who were also referred to as the “Manila martyrs” along with numerous other parishioners and civilians.

These clergymen were four missionary priests who were a part of the Maynooth Mission to Manila, namely Rev. Peter Fallon, Rev. John Heneghan, Rev. Patrick Kelly, and Rev. Joseph Monaghan. They were kidnapped by members of the Japanese Navy forces inside the Malate church and brought to the nearby Syquia apartment on February 10, 1945.

According to witness claims, after being brought to the aforementioned apartment by the Japanese, the missionary priests were never seen again.

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry simply known as the Scottish Rite is one of several Rites of Freemasonry which is the worldwide fraternity. In the Philippines, the Scottish Rite is officially recognized by the Grand Lodge as an extension of the degrees of Freemasonry, and it was founded upon the ethical teachings and philosophy given in the Blue Lodge



Scottish Rites Temple

The Scottish Rite Temple was where the members of the McMicking family were taken to be together with the others who were confined. There were witnesses living across the street who manifested the herding of captives while a Japanese carry a short-wave radio on top of his head, flaunting the evidence of horrendous acts. Up until the end of January, food stock was still available. But, death arose during the early days of February. It was only after the liberation when the bodies of the captives were found.



Taft Ave., near Vermont St., Malate

De La Salle University

2401 Taft Ave, Malate, Manila, 1004 Metro Manila

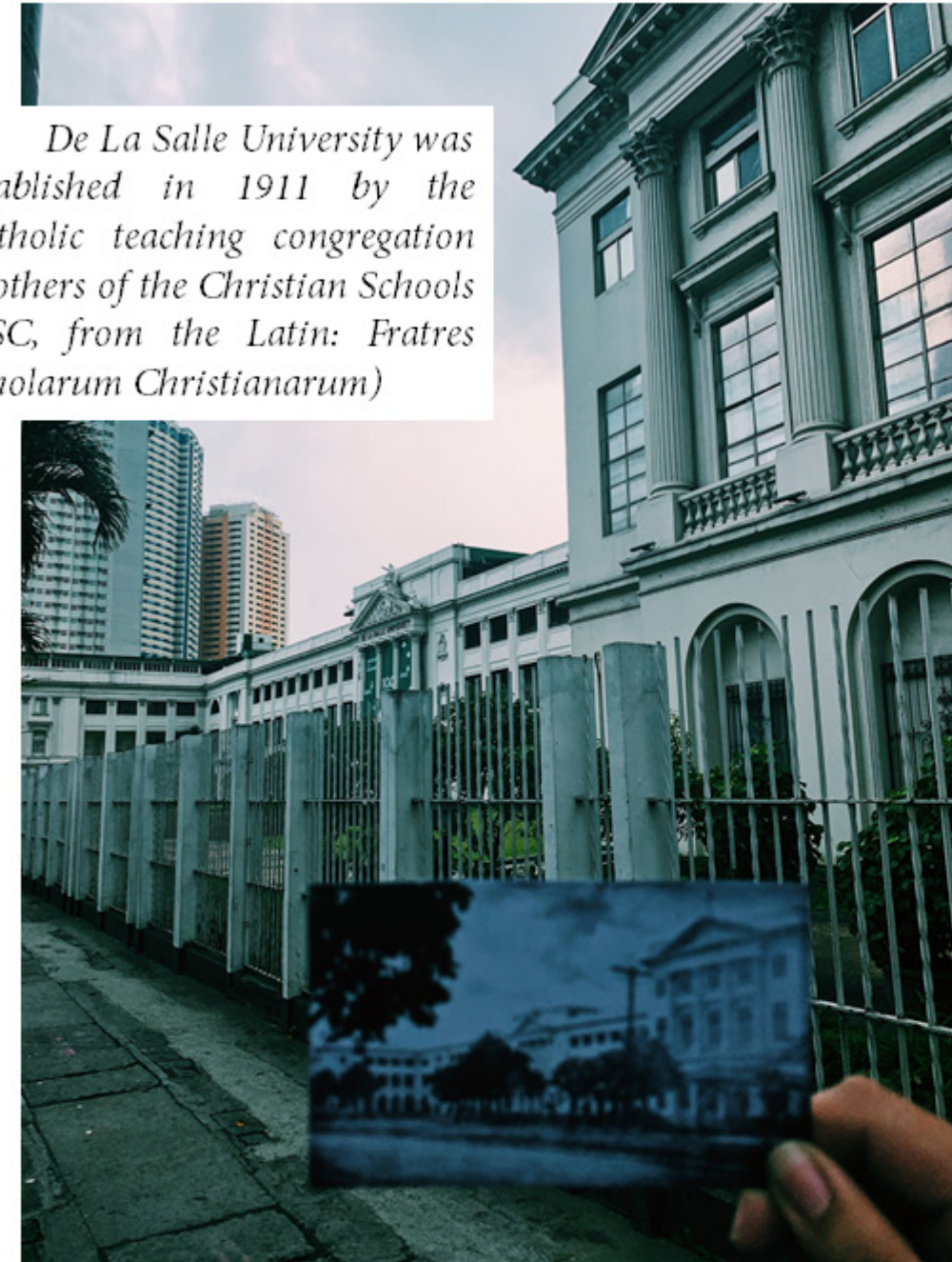
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On February 12, 1945, a group of 21 Japanese soldiers made their way into the campus forcibly. At that time, De La Salle was home to about 70 people, including 30 females, 16 Christian Brothers from Europe, as well as the school chaplain Fr. Francis Cosgrave. The suspicious Japanese swiftly proceeded to kill everyone in the campus, including those who were in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Bodies were piled on top of each other, and the floor and walls of the chapel covered in blood. Luckily, Fr. Cosgrave and nine others were able to survive by hiding behind the main altar. About 41 civilians and 16 Christian brothers died in this so-called "De La Salle Massacre."



De La Salle University was established in 1911 by the Catholic teaching congregation Brothers of the Christian Schools (FSC, from the Latin: *Fratres Scholarum Christianarum*)



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HISTORICAL LANDMARKS AROUND MALATE AND ERMITA

about the experience

Often unnoticed and overlooked, these structures seen along the way are witnesses of the horrendous events of World War II. These standing foundations can either haunt us or inspire us of the past, which can only be realized if we read, listen, and understand. After this project, we do not see these places as we had seen them before. Now, we witness not just the facade, but also the stories behind the sturdy walls tainted by the bloodshed of our heroes, walls bombed by the war that caused the destruction of what was once best. These places serve as living proof of the past which should not be forgotten. A part of history we were not prepared to experience, and will never be prepared for if it happened again in the future. This serves as a reminder of what was once there, what was burnt into ashes, and what was lost. A reminder that what was destroyed can be created again, and it can stand as if it was never broken before.



NEW REMEDIOS CIRCLE

Remedios Circle, also called the Plaza de la Virgen de los Remedios, Remedios Rotonda, and Rotary Circle was originally built as the Malate cemetery, and was later on developed as one of the two traffic circles built around Manila during the Spanish colonial period in the country. Surrounding residential houses around the Remedios Circle used to be home to numerous elite families in Manila and the country. However, the originally built Remedios circle and its surrounding area was destroyed by aerial bombs dropped during the Battle of Manila. The circle, and its surrounding area, were rebuilt after the war, and a marker was placed in order to remember the one of Manila's center of commerce and entertainment.



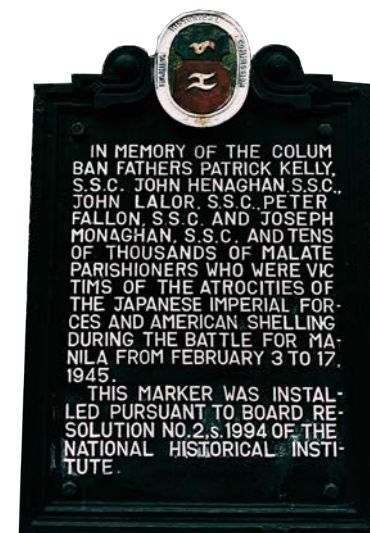
MEMORIAL FOR COMFORT WOMEN

Similar to the infamous Rape of Nanking, the "Rape of Manila" saw the sexual abuse done by Japanese soldiers to around 1000 Filipino women and children were raped and mutilated. The 7-foot bronze statue was erected on Roxas Boulevard in order to remind the Filipinos of the said incidence during the second world war. It was a depiction of a blindfolded sex slave who seems struggling to stand up and reclaim her dignity. Furthermore, it was also built that way as a reminder to the Filipinos of the "Inang Bayan" ("Motherland") continuing to rise up despite the various colonizers and continued foreign intervention that pulls her down. However, the said "Comfort woman" statue was removed from its location due to a reported drainage improvement project along the area wherein it lies, however, various women's groups have suspected that the removal of the statue was due to the local government being pressured by the Japanese government to take it down.



MALATE CHURCH

The marker was erected in order to pay tribute and respect to honor five Columbian priests and thousands of parishioners and residents who became victims of the attacks of the Japanese Imperial Forces and/or the 15-day Manila bombing cause by the US forces on February 1945.



ERMITA MALATE

HISTORY MAP



PLACES TO VISIT:

1. BAYVIEW HOTEL
2. ERMITA CHURCH
3. ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY-MANILA
4. SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE
5. MALATE CATHOLIC CHURCH
6. DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

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