New lease of life for old gates

The gates of Bukit Brown Cemetery comprise a pair of cast-iron gates, two side gates for pedestrians, and four free-standing square columns. The project to refurbish the gates is expected to be completed in June, and they will rise again at the mouth of a new access road near its original location.

1 MOVING THE GATES
- The rusting metal structure in Lorong Halwa was removed last September by construction firm Swee Hong. It was transported to Fusion Clad Precision's warehouse in Senoko.

2 CLEANING THE GATES
- Rust, soil and other debris were removed gently using bronze brushes. Special attention was paid to the joints and coils of the cast iron. The structure was then rinsed with water before it was air dried. This took the team about a week to complete.
- Within five hours of cleaning the structure, an anti-corrosion base coat was applied to prevent oxidation from taking place. These steps have been completed.

3 REPAIRING DAMAGED PARTS
- The team will be working on inspecting and repairing the gates' lampholders and lock and latch components.
- It will also be manufacturing missing components of the gates, such as their frames. Other ornamental elements will be refurbished.

4 REINFORCING AND REINSTALLING THE STRUCTURE
- The gates will be reinforced to ensure their structural integrity and functionality before they are reinstalled at Bukit Brown Cemetery.

- The four concrete columns (below) at the entrance of Bukit Brown Cemetery have been relocated to the mouth of a new access road near the gates' original position.