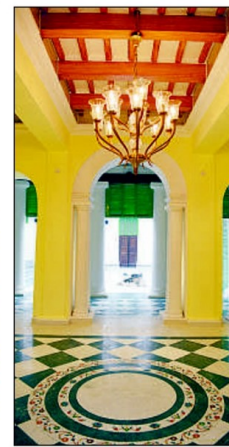


News monitored for: Emami Group



**HERITAGE REFRESH:**

A house more than 180 years old in a narrow north Calcutta lane off Central Avenue, which had been in a shambles (below left) till a few years ago, has been restored. Mullickbari on 48 Mukhtaram Babu Street is adjacent to Marble Palace.

The architects, while restoring the building, tried to retain its original features such as a spiral wooden staircase, pillars and wooden rafters. One point of reference for the architects was the Marble Palace.

“We referred to old photographs and also to Marble Palace next door,” said Arindam Ghosh, one of the architects with the project. The restored G+ 2 building has 22 rooms.

It will house a temple on the ground floor, and a clinic offering affordable health care and a vocational training unit. The building, which stands on a plot measuring 13 cottah 10 chhatak, has been restored by an FMCG group, that had originally started business from a 200sq ft rented space in the building in 1968.

RS Agarwal and RS Goenka, two friends from school, had started a cosmetics manufacturing unit in that building in 1968. Emami was born in 1974.

The business expanded and the group started buying other portions of the house. Till 2005, a unit was still operational in the building. In 2015, the building was bought from Nilkanta Mullick and his family, after which restoration began. “Mullick is a descendent of Swarup Chandra Mullick, who had acquired 36 cottahs to build the property,” said Sushil Goenka, the managing director of Emami Limited.

Pictures of the restored building by Gautam Bose