Project a first step to revive Ubin’s charm

Rebuilding of drinks stall a testbed for future kampong homes on the island

Melody Zarchem
Heritage and Community Correspondent

Every weekend, 80-year-old Po
Suan, 80-year-old Lim Chuan Poh was
rebuilding the drinks stall, a 25-year-old
short ride from her home to her kampong
from stall.

There she sells coconut juice and cold beverages to thirsty cy
clists and other day trippers.

Madam Lim is one of the few women
who still operate a stall on Ubin.

She bought the stall in 1963 and
has been running it ever since. The st
all was abandoned almost a decade
ago when her daughter, an architec
turer at the National University of Singap
ore (NUS), decided to build a modern
home for her on the island.

According to some Ubin resi
dents, there were more than 10 kam
pong stalls on the island in the 1970s
and 1980s.

The neighborhood is still a
challenging terrain for visitors, with
villagers often walking for miles to the
nearest store.

The project is a collaboration between the National Park Board and
the Ubin Community Association, which will be carried out by NUS
architecture students.