

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1537, June 11, 1978]

AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1277 DATED JANUARY 4, 1978 ENTITLED "PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WALLS OF INTRAMUROS AND THE RESTORATION OF ITS ORIGINAL MOAT AND ESPLANADE" BY INCLUDING THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE WALLED CITY.

WHEREAS, the Walled City and its Walls represent as integral parts of our national history; and if properly preserved and conserved will contribute to the tourist potentials of the City of Manila;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1277 dated January 4, 1978 was issued to save the deteriorating condition of the Walled City and its Walls;

WHEREAS, some provisions of the said decree are not clear on the preservation of the Walled City;

WHEREAS, some items are not covered in the said decree to insure the success of the preservation and restoration of the Walled City and its Walls;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby amend Presidential Decree No. 1277 dated January 4, 1978 to read as follows:

SECTION 1. The Walls of Intramuros which are precious historical relics of the artistry, craftsmanship and industry of Filipino craftsmen and laborers should be restored, preserved and maintained in accordance with this Decree and the rules and regulations that may be promulgated pursuant thereto.

SEC. 2. Those parts of the Walls of Intramuros with minor damages shall be maintained and cleaned as they are, those parts which have been almost totally destroyed shall not be reconstructed but also left as they are; but those parts which have suffered only partial destruction shall be restored.

SEC. 3. An access road of at least six meters from and along the inner face of the walls and a clear space of 55 meters from and along the outer face of the walls, bastions and ravelins shall be provided for and so maintained, this area being the site of the moat which shall be restored together with the esplanade.

SEC. 4. This road and space shall be opened to the public and shall not at anytime be obstructed or used for parking.

SEC. 5. The owners, administrators, representatives, and/or persons-in-charge of the buildings, structures, and/or constructions encroaching on the above-mentioned easements shall have three months from the date of publication of this Decree to clear the area, otherwise the Military Corps of Engineers shall demolish their structures and the cost of demolition charged against them.

SEC. 6. Any person found adding to, taking away from, and/or defacing the walls, or else altering them without written authority from the National Historical Institute, shall suffer a fine of not less than one hundred pesos, nor more than one thousand pesos for the first offense; and a fine of not less than one thousand five hundred