Melaka City Image

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MELAKA CITY IMAGE
BEST PRACTICES OF TOWN PLANNING
Foreword

Malaysian cities are often formed as the result of administrative and trade activities. The resource rich interior of the nation was the source of numerous goods that were transported to urban centres for processing, distribution and marketing. These urban centres developed into towns and cities as more and more support services mushroomed to meet with the demands of trade and the societies that flourished to facilitate commercial activities. In terms of administrative duties, cities were formed at the river mouths, proclaiming their sovereignty by being able to regulate traffic that travels up river. Melaka is arguably the oldest city in Malaysia that fell into this category and flourished both as an administrative and trade settlement from its inception to the present day.

As the nation progresses towards a developed status, cities continue to take on numerous roles to complement the needs and requirements of the citizenry. Planning to conserve the previous elements of the city that form the basis of its being with newer roles are the hallmarks of sustainable planning. Such planning is needed in order to assure the integration of ethnic values towards developing a civil society. Guidelines and policies form the backbone of sustainable town planning for Melaka and other emerging cities in Malaysia. The Vision 2020, development plans, laws and acts have provided significant importance in the formation of a global city - a city of e-commerce, k-economy, rich cultural and social diversity and progressive development. In the past decades, the city matrix has evolved with the addition of various physical elements that mark the city's physical development. The current physical image of Melaka clearly reflects its great success in its progressive participation towards realising Vision 2020. Melaka is a city that is an amalgam of the old and new, the past and the future.

Documenting the best practices of town planning is part of our effort at The Federal Department of Town and Country Planning in creating awareness about the strengths and weaknesses of our cities and will serve as the benchmark for our future cities. This is part of our contribution towards realising our vision of a developed nation. Commendation is given to the Research and Development Division that have been instrumental in seeing this timely book published.

Director General
Department of Town and Country Planning
Peninsular Malaysia

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The Image of Melaka

Introduction

Melaka is a city that has evolved with the introduction of ideas and ideals of both western and eastern cultures. The aim has been to create an image of a city that retains its past influences while fusing them with current cultural, heritage and requirements of society. The city has been home to numerous peoples of varying backgrounds and continues to be one of Malaysia's most cosmopolitan cities.

The city was laid down in various stages. Starting point of the city would be during its establishment in the early days of the Melaka Empire. This was followed by Portuguese, Dutch and English influences which were continued by Malaysian inspired planning since the 1940s. In terms of layout of the city, houses of worship were the main focus.

This is inline with the current practice of placing the mosque as an important aspect of the city. Open and green areas were incorporated into the city by placement of activities such as parks and playgrounds as the key components of the urban landscape. As with other cities in Malaysia, the basic underlying principle of planning embodies the concept of a fundamental balanced relationship, between a Man and his Creator, Man and Man, and, Man and Environment.

Melaka is integrating these three relationship into the following concepts, in shaping the image of the city.

Peaceful

" The objective of establishing a city is to create a settlement and place for shelter. Therefore should be noted that all things which are dangerous should be kept away from the city so that it will be protected from anything that can harm its inhabitants, and bringing in anything that is beneficial and providing all facilities appropriate for the life of the city".

Ibnu Khaldun (1332-1406)

A peaceful city such as Melaka provides spaces for human activity in an environment that enables positive actions to be conducted unimpeded and foster interaction between its inhabitants. Planning and development prevents elements which bring about threat and danger, creating human settlements that are safer, healthier, more liveable, equitable, sustainable and more productive. The form of security that is provided is one that is safe from elements of crimes, floods and all form of pollutions with the provision of infrastructure and services that is well planned, comfortable and safe for users. In addition to having good drainage and irrigation systems, clean air and conserving trees are some of the essence of a peaceful city that continue to safeguard the glory of our civilisation.

Friendly

Interaction among all communities and societies are aimed for within all friendly cities. A noble civilisation where united society lives in an atmosphere of cooperation, friendliness and harmony is an ultimate goal of planning and development. People, being the inhabitants of cities require planning and development that strengthen the relationships between fellow men and more friendly towards the environment. Current planning and development draws on this inbred trait in structuring conducive interaction amongst the people, together with the urban image and identity that radiates the feeling of being accepted and welcome into the city. This is achieved through planning of land use elements and public facilities that is appropriate, adequate and people-friendly for the whole spectrum of the community. The focal point of society that is easily accessible with contradictory elements of moral society being regulated under firm control. In Melaka, social programmes and activities are planned to create a caring and united society, working towards common goals with special consideration to the handicapped and disabled, the elderly, children and the lower-income community. This positive integration at all levels of society regardless of religion and social status is the key element towards the development of Melaka as a friendly, sensitive and civil society.

Knowledge
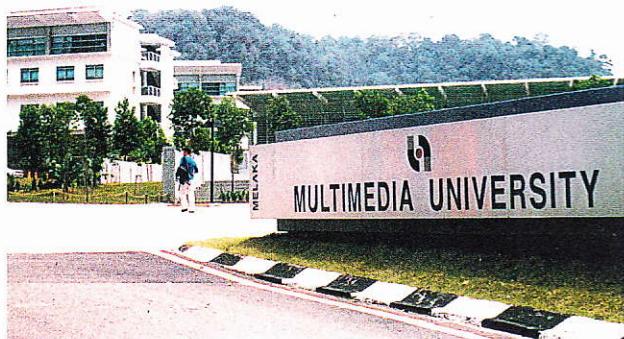
A well-planned and developed city is also a centre of learning and civilisation - where the collection and dissemination of information benefit its societies. Because the Creator has bestowed upon man the capacity to learn we have the duty to maximise knowledge acquisition in order to build the foundation of a civilised society. In addition, the placement of knowledge as the cornerstone of a city would result in enormous benefits to every aspect of human existence. Places of worship, institutions of higher learning, schools, and libraries form some of the physical manifestations of knowledge and recognition of the Creator. Within Melaka, museums and heritage centres provide a wealth of educational tools that are utilized not only by its residents but by all Malaysian to gain an insight into the country's culture, heritage and past. The Fikrah Garden or places that are used to upgrade the knowledge of the society residing in the city are greatly emphasised in this concept. A city with knowledge would be able to overcome any problems through proper planning, consultations and based on correct information thus providing an outcome that would be beneficial, not detrimental to any one.

Cleanliness and Beauty

Cleanliness and beauty are two important measures of a great civilisation. This encompassing not just the physical aspects but includes spiritual aspects that are inherent in man. Melaka city strives to maintain cleanliness in order for the residents of a city to have a good well-being and healthy state of mind. Settlements areas and the city centre are planned in orderly and pleasant manner. In addition, designs and constructions of buildings, open spaces and transportation system also incorporate the element of cleanliness, indicating that pollution, in its myriad forms will not be tolerated. Green lungs and recreational parks help balance the urban concrete landscape by providing space for healthy activities. Other physical manifestations of the value of cleanliness take in the form of public amenities. The adoption of this value endows the city with a multi-fold return in the form of beautiful buildings, landscapes and gardens, enhanced aesthetic value and an overall positive health of the city. The integration of cultural and architectural features and local heritage became the landmarks and being emphasised in the design of street furniture, urban spaces and the like. Adoption of these values in Melaka city has enabled the conservation of environment from destruction and helped promote harmonious relationship with its natural surrounding.
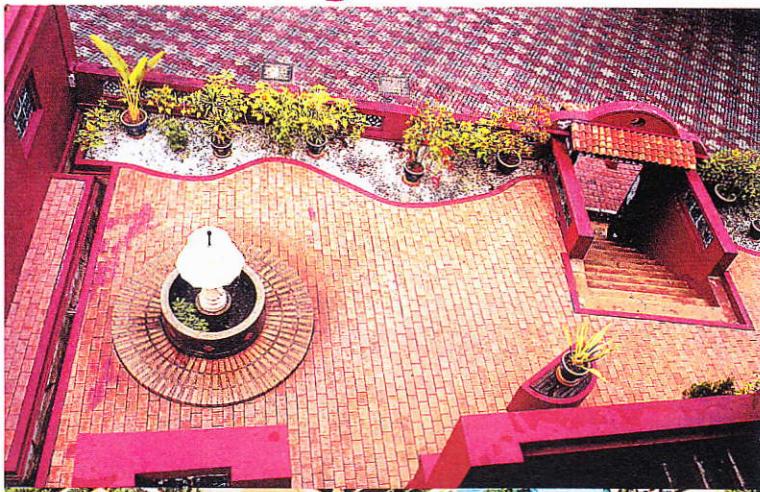
Prosperous

A prosperous city image is reflected in the planning and development of the urban centres. Planning of economic activities and urban centre that is comprehensive, vibrant and effective in the use of its natural resources is paramount in the creation of a sustainable city. Integration of public transport system, pedestrian network and green lungs are some of the components to ensure accessibility, comfort and safety of all users. Melaka is such city where rapid growth of commercial properties, banks, hotels and convention facilities are some of the positive signs of economic prosperity. This is a direct result of a balanced management of natural resource, creative and innovative approach to conservation and comprehensive planning for tourism. The tourism industry and other direct foreign investment are welcomed, as they create a constant demand for improvement and modernisation of the city, with adaptive banking and financial systems to support the growing business sector. Income-generating activities such as carnivals and festivals are encouraged by providing suitable venues within the city centre. The advancement of information technology (IT) related industries that influenced the future businesses are being incorporated into the city's commercial system and education system. With careful planning and implementation, Melaka is once again prospers and resurface as an important business emporium of the east and as an example of a sustainable city.

Active

An Active City is a dynamic organism, contracting and expanding to meet the daily needs of residents and visitors. An active city never stops from providing basic services such as lighting and public safety, so that activities can be carried out throughout the night. As the city places great importance on the physical and social needs of residents and visitors, eateries, accommodation and healthcare facilities are geared towards providing services round the clock. The health and fitness of the residents are also within the context of an Active City. Having a population that is strong and healthy is a cornerstone of not only the city's health policy but also the national policy of having a healthy nation. In Melaka healthcare facilities are abundant and often have enough capacity to entertain patients from outside the city. Amenities aimed at increasing fitness are provided by the creation of parks, playgrounds, jogging tracks and sports facilities. Sporting facilities based on local requirements are included and implemented based on plans that cater to the general populace and down to the school level. Having elements of an Active City is part of the important criteria towards creating a sustainable city. It enables the residents of the city to maintain and increase their mental and physical health levels and it contributes towards general well-being and enjoyment of city living.

Multicultural
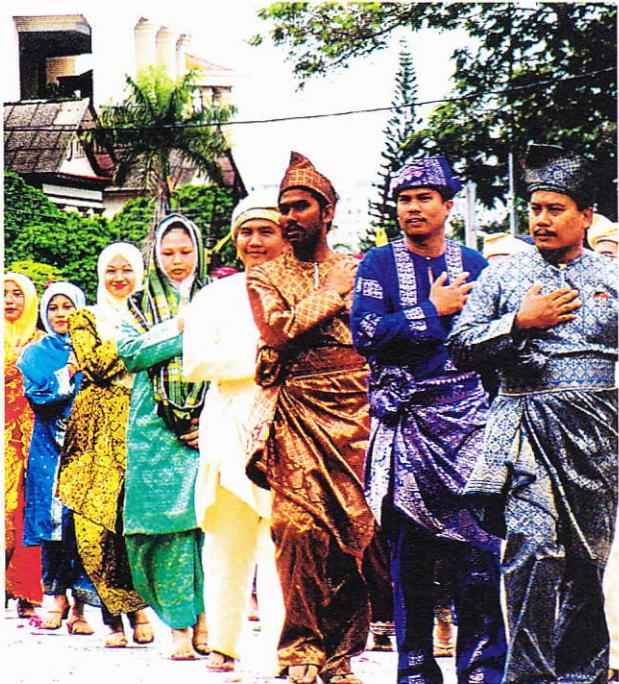
Historic influences and current demographics point towards a Melaka that will always remain an urban environment that is hospitable to different cultures. Social interaction among different cultures allows for a city that is extremely vibrant and colourful. Cooperation, sensitivity and mutual respect has always been practiced to advocate well-being and avoiding elements that can damage physical and moral values. Various festivities are celebrated according to the different cultures and faiths that are abound. Developing a city within a multicultural context would entail the need for respect of cultural ideals and sites. Melaka regards the different cultural influences and diversity as an important asset that contributes to the creation of its unique city image. A Multicultural City preserves and enhances cultures by applying the appropriate facilities within their rightful site. Places of worship, cultural complexes and eateries catering to certain cultural groups are provided for as with community centres. On a macro scale, interaction elements and social relationships are geared towards solidifying multiculturalism. A successful Multicultural City maintains cultural harmony by carefully injecting the traditional cultural heritage into the lifestyle of a modern cosmopolitan city.

Preservation

Man as an integral part of the environment has a symbiotic relationship with its surroundings and should constantly seek to maintain a dynamic equilibrium with its environment. The existing environment in addition to its functional values also posses spiritual presence and represent the history of human achievement. Preservation of the environment, historical and cultural resources is an extremely important aspect of planning and sustainable development to enable future generation to live in peace, comfort, safety, and in harmony with the environment. Melaka has a unique distinction of being the only city in the East that has the largest collection of colonial civic buildings. Residential, religious and commercial structures are also in abundance in the city together with valuable cultural relics from the past. The resource of heritage elements is important enough for the city to seriously undertake the task of listing Melaka as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city has tremendous responsibility in the maintenance and care of its built and natural environments. The relationship between Man and Environment plays out in the city everyday. There is a critical balance that needs to be found in order to create a sustainable city that places great importance on preservation. Education, national identity and cultural continuity are but some of the priceless spin offs of placing importance in this area.

Themes of the City

The Malaysian city is developed according to ideal themes that are based on the previous, current and historical context of the city. These themes are the result of a clear vision for an ideal city supported by various guidelines and requirements that cities have to adhere to. The themes of the city are identifiable with the respective city and are based on natural or man-made features that are present.
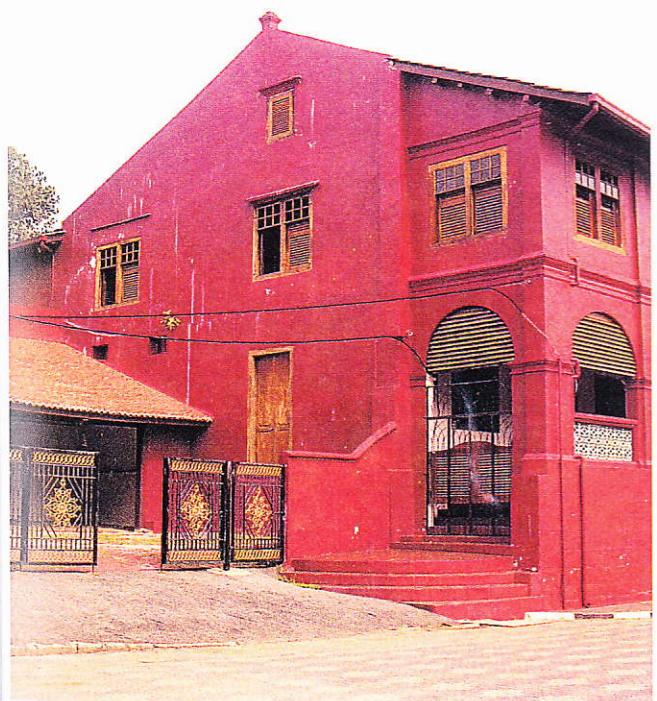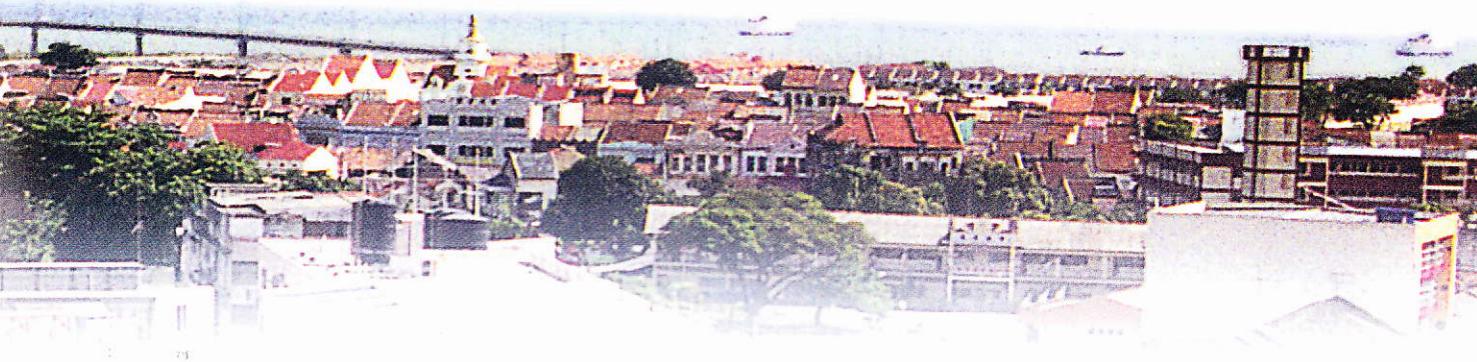
"Man as administrator on earth, entrusted with responsibility to manage and enrich the environment"

Vision City

The strategic direction that the country is heading towards is evident in Malaysian cities. Vision 2020 aims for a developed nation status by the year 2020. This would be achieved by the creation of a caring society and the acquisition of new knowledge that can benefit the nation as a whole. Melaka, which is situated in the state bearing the same name, is part of that vision. The state has placed an earlier date to achieve a developed state status with Melaka leading the way by the year 2010. The city has a wealth of resources to help it achieve this status.

The division of individual and community spaces is well defined. This enables positive interaction amongst the residents of the city. Regulations and guidelines control the placement of commercial, residential, recreation and community facilities in adherence to the balanced concept of development. It is by this means that the mental, spiritual and emotional well being of residents are taken care of. Administration that is well equipped to deal with future requirements and current demands of residents is also seen in the city with new technological innovation included in planning and development. Furthermore, future growth of the city has also been planned carefully by expanding outside the city centre allowing the historic core to be conserved as a heritage site.

The administrative centre for the city is in the neighbourhood of Ayer Keroh. This is the location of the new Melaka Municipal Complex (MPMBB), new Courthouse as well the Seri Negeri, which is the State's administrative building. The shift of administration to Ayer Keroh is part of the vision in creating a congestion free city at the historic core and turning it into a highly accessible centre for culture and preservation of built and natural heritage.

Some facilities have the impact of inspiring its citizens to greater levels of achievement. These structures are landmarks that provide the sovereign and administrative image of a city. In addition to playing local roles, they are also a part of the national consciousness.

1. Governor's Residence

Melaka being historically one of the Straits Settlements does not have a hereditary Sultan as the Head of Government. The Governor assumes the role as allocated under the Constitution of Malaysia. The Residence is situated in an idyllic setting at Bukit Beruang and represents the sovereignty of the State and stressed the value of unity for the nation.

2. Melaka High Court

The courthouse represents a civilized society that upholds the principles of justice and equitable distribution of resources, civility and justice that are based not solely on relationship between human being but also between men and the environment.With its presence in the administrative node of Ayer Keroh, the Melaka High Court Complex houses the High Court, Sessions and Magistrate Courts and also the Syariah High, the judicial representation at the state, national and religious level.

3. Melaka Municipal Council (MPMBB)

The Municipal Council is situated in Graha Makmur, at the administrative node represents the existence of efficient administration and good urban governance. It is from this complex the basic amenities of the city are planned to incorporate health, education, residential, commercial and tourist facilities all within easy reach complete with other amenities such as Post Office, Police Station, Fire Department and mosque that deals with physical and spiritual well being. Previously the Municipal Council was situated in the Old City but move in the early 1990's to its' present location to alleviate traffic and congestion within the city core.

4. State Mosque

Mosque represent the relationship between Man and the Creator and the symbol of a city that possesses the principle of Compassion - constantly conscious of the existence and glory of the Creator. Built in the style of traditional Melaka architecture, the mosque that can accommodate a congregation of over 11, 000 people at any time is the representation of the national religion, which is enshrined in the Constitution of the nation.

5. Seri Negeri

Seri Negeri is the new administrative centre for the State of Melaka. It symbolized a system of government that practice the principles of Trustworthy and Credibility; where decision are made based on knowledge and consultation.

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Picturesque
Historical City

Cleanliness and beauty represents two noble values, which are stressed upon by all religions, races and civilizations. This includes cleanliness and beauty from the physical aspect, building design, external surroundings and also in the spiritual, intellectual, mental sense. The city would be a place which is pleasing to the eye and have unobstructed vistas from prominent landmarks. There would be evident efforts at maintaining a clean image and landscaping efforts would be intensive. Greenery provides beauty and also acts as a balance to the built landscape of the city. Beauty is a reflection of the community's personality. The values of this city are directed more towards strengthening the relationship between man and the environment; the responsibility of man towards the Creator.

Picturesque view of Historical Melaka.

Beautification of the City

The character of Melaka remains as a picturesque city as it was in past ages. The different layers built by the Portuguese, Dutch and British withstood the test of time with St. Paul Hill acting as the backdrop to the city heritage with a lush garden and trees. Each influence of the city has placed importance on an image that reflects the inner beauty of the city. Effort to beautify the city is a continuous process currently being undertaken by the city's municipal council.

Beautification efforts include:

-The introduction of landscape elements in the city structure
-Improvement of pedestrian links and open spaces
-Restoration of building facades and painting works
-Beautification of the Melaka River and water bodies

New development and beautification that takes place adds richness and charm to the overall scenery of the city. Colour plays an important aspect of the city image. This can be seen most in the Old City. Other areas are identifiable not only from their design but also the colours that are incorporated into their planning. The colours of a city reflect the cheerfulness of its inhabitants and contribute in the creation of a beautiful and attractive city. The beautiful colours of Melaka are apparent on the painted surface of the building facades, decorated streets, and the coloured lights set against the green surroundings and open sea.

Beautification effort at 'Dataran Sejarah' in Ayer Keroh

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Heritage City

The city of Melaka was proclaimed as 'A Historical City' on April 15th, 1989. Among the resolutions that were made during this congress includes a proposal to suggest the inclusion of the city in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Melaka city possess one of the biggest and finest collection of built heritage from the colonial period in this region, dated back to 1511 when the Portuguese first landed on the city shoreline. The different influences and cultural heritage during these ere can still be traced until the present day and forms part of the image of Melaka as a Heritage City.

The Foot of St. Paul Hill

This area represents a collection of civic structures dated back to the Portuguese occupation. Centred on the A' Famosa, this area has witnessed many events that took place in the city's history, both militarily and socially. The history of Melaka uses this location as a backdrop for the Light and Sound Spectacular. Incorporating the latest technological advancements in multi media presentations, the city has included this facility for its residents and visitors. This development was undertaken by the Melaka Museums Body (PERZIM) to showcase the cultural heritage of the city in a medium that is both enjoyable and expected by the current information technology generation. History of the city is portrayed utilizing lights, sounds and narration giving the viewer a more potent impact than static buildings or manuscripts.

The Stadthuys

Stadthuys is believed to be the first building constructed by the Dutch in the 1650s. It functioned as the Dutch administrative centre and was the Governor's residence. It is a testimony to the solidity of Dutch masonry and craftsmanship, as well as their understanding in adapting their traditional architecture to the tropics by including large windows and wide verandahs. This is the oldest Dutch building still standing in the Far East. The rich red ochre colour of the building is indicative of many in the area and the style of the construction era. It was used until the early 1970's by Federal and State administrative agencies until it was recognised as a cultural heritage. Preserved in its original structure and form, it is the finest example of Dutch civic architecture and planning principles. Major restoration works took place in recent years and the works were completed in 1992, turning it into a museum.

Culture City

A cultural city is a civilised city that reflects the Doctrine Principals of compassionate, knowledgeable and friendly. In Melaka city the focus is on art and cultural elements that is accessible to the general public and informative. Placement of museums and galleries that also act as educational centre are widely available within the historic core of the city. The provision of supporting elements, open spaces and facilities that is user friendly is also visible as an additional element to the basic cultural elements. Design and architecture that are unique, with artistic value and portray the local culture and expression are seen as an important development tool in order to maximise the city's potential.
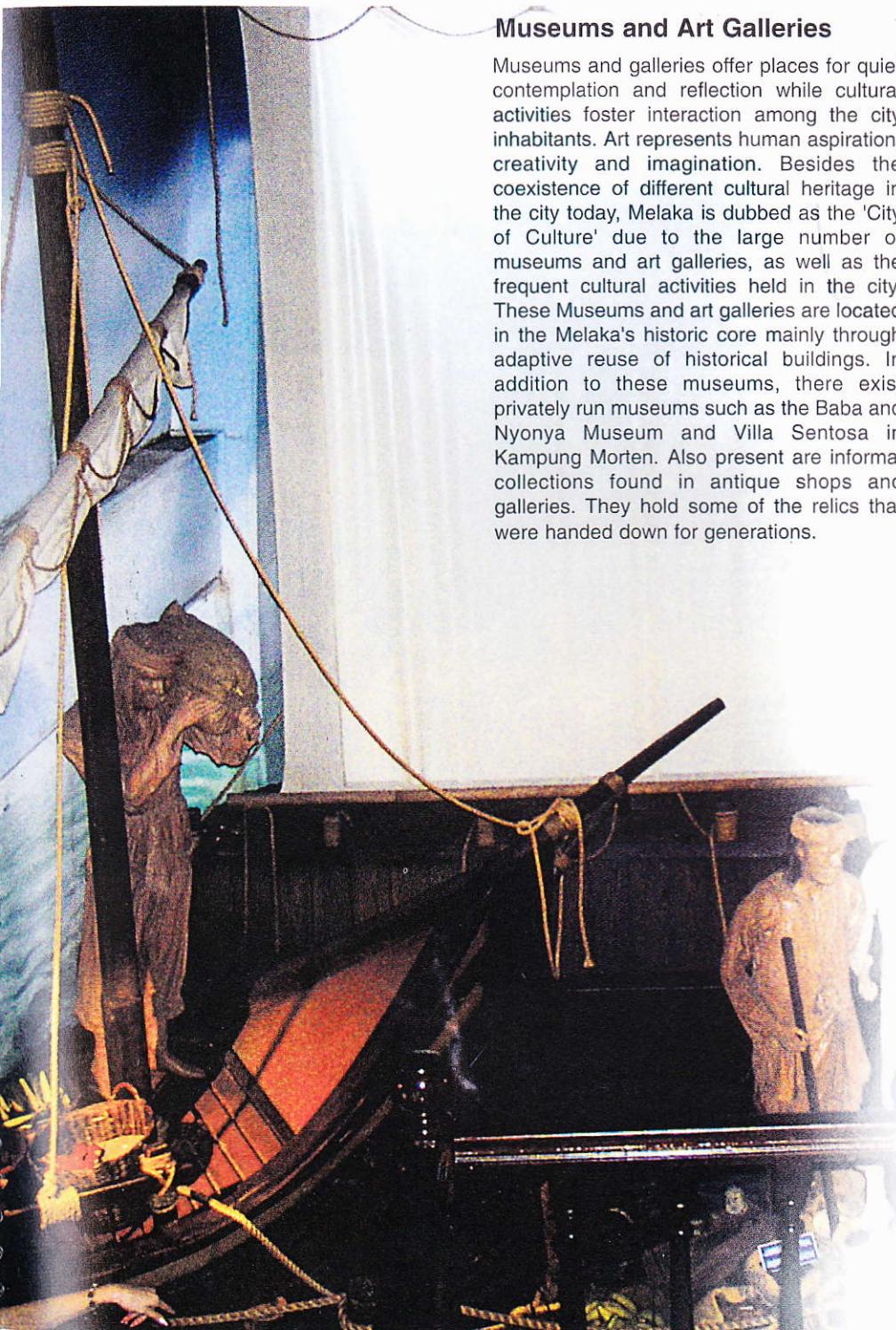
Museums and Art Galleries

Museums and galleries offer places for quiet contemplation and reflection while cultural activities foster interaction among the city inhabitants. Art represents human aspiration, creativity and imagination. Besides the coexistence of different cultural heritage in the city today, Melaka is dubbed as the 'City of Culture' due to the large number of museums and art galleries, as well as the frequent cultural activities held in the city. These Museums and art galleries are located in the Melaka's historic core mainly through adaptive reuse of historical buildings. In addition to these museums, there exist privately run museums such as the Baba and Nyonya Museum and Villa Sentosa in Kampung Morten. Also present are informal collections found in antique shops and galleries. They hold some of the relics that were handed down for generations.
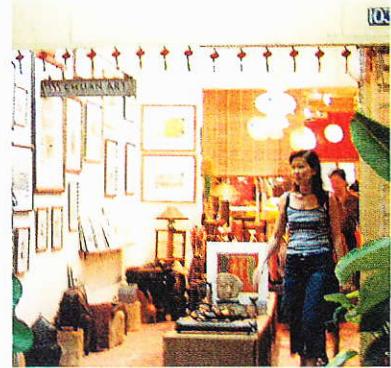
1. Maritime Museum

This museum is situated in a replica of the Flor De La Mar, a Portuguese galleon that sank in the Straits of Malacca after the invasion and sacking of the city. This museum is dedicated towards the maritime history in Melaka, important events that took place and the famous figures that put Melaka on the maritime map.

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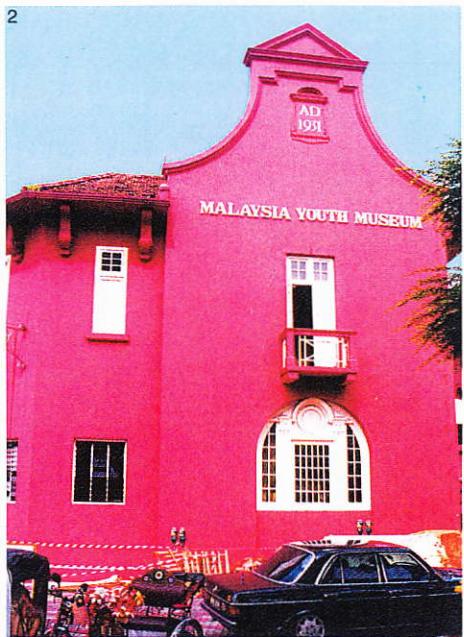
2. Malaysia Youth Museum

This museum occupies the old Post Office building and is dedicated to the contribution made by youths in the development of the state and country that includes social and economic development.

### 3. History Museum and Ethnography Museum

Housed in the famous Stadthuys, this museum details the history of the city in great detail from the inception period to the independence of Malaysia. Also on display are the historical replica and relics such as coins, manuscript and photographs. The Ethnography section focuses on the culture of the various ethnic backgrounds in Melaka, displaying among others bridal costumes and the scene of daily life in old Melaka.

3. Islamic Museum

Occupying a Dutch official's residence, the Islamic Museum educates visitors about the growth of Islam in Melaka. Also on display are the Islamic administrative system practiced during the Sultanate era, relics of Islamic influences and the personalities that made Melaka the centre of Islam in the region.

5. The Cultural Museum of Melaka

This museum displays the glorious period of the Malay Sultanate era. The museum contains various displays of the Sultanate administration system, cultural events, weapons, costumes and scene of historical significance. The museum is situated in a replica of a 15th century Sultanate Palace as there is no existing palace of that era standing today. Detail and design of the palace are extremely fine and the structure is unique to the city.
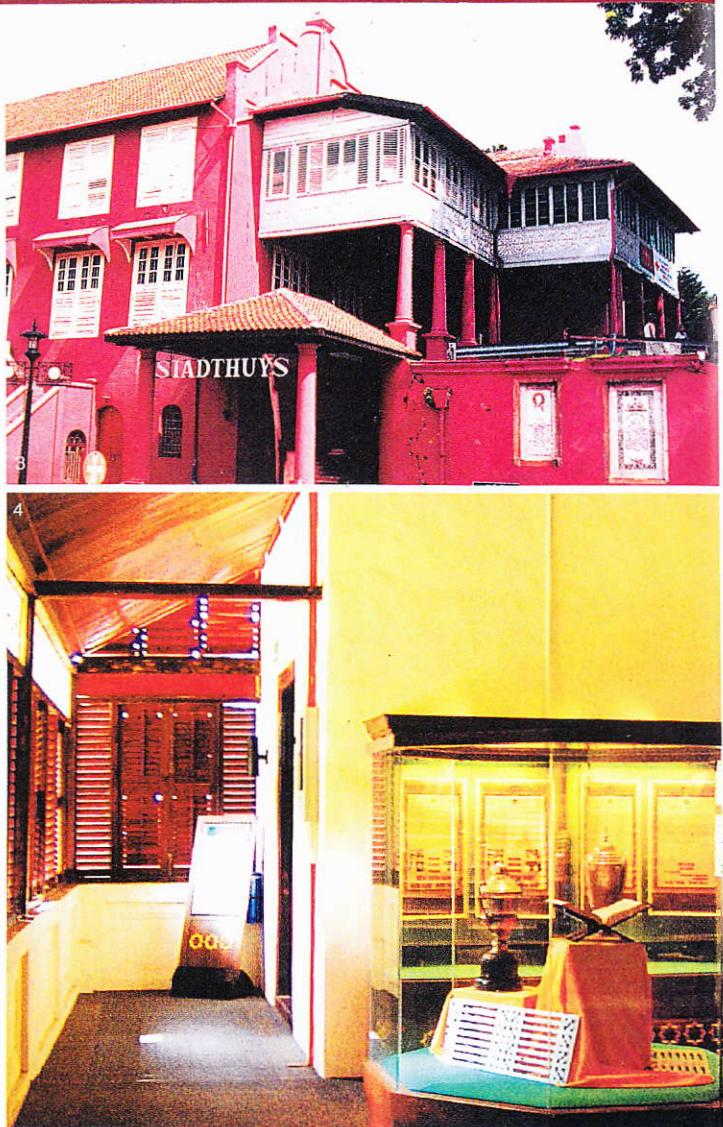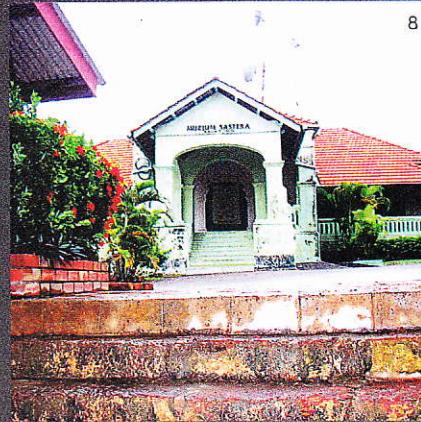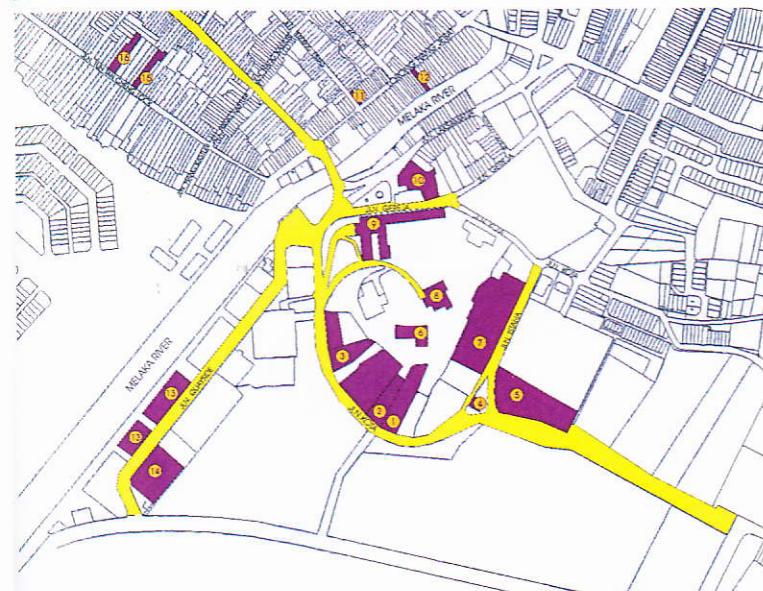
1. PEOPLE'S MUSEUM
2. INFOCRAFT
3. ISLAMIC MUSEUM
4. A'FAMOSA
5. INDEPENDENCE MEMORIAL
6. ST. PAUL CHURCH
7. MALACCA PALACE
8. GOVERNERS RESIDENCE
9. STADTHUYS
10. 'MUZUM BELIA MALAYSIA'
11. ART GALLERY
12. HOUSE BY THE RIVER
13. MARITIME MUSEUM
14. TLDM MUSEUM
15. MALACCA HOUSE
16. BABA AND NYONYA MUSEUM

6. People's Museum
Housed in the former Malacca Club this memorial tells the story and the struggle towards independence of the country and in particular the roles played by the people in Melaka. Exhibits are in form of relics, manuscripts, videos and films.

7. Proclamation of Independence Memorial
Housed in the former Malacca Club this memorial tells the story and the struggle towards independence of the country and in particular, the role played by Melaka. Exhibits are in form of relics, manuscripts, videos and films.

8. Museum of Literature
This museum is dedicated towards the development of literature in Melaka, particularly Malay literature. It displays old and important manuscripts such as the 'Malay Annals' . This museum is a place where one can learn and appreciate the beauty of the written culture of Malaysia.

9. Nyonya and Baba Musuem
This is a privately run museum housed in two converted shophouses and situated at the old quarter. It showcases a typical Baba and Nyonya house displaying carvings, costumes and decorative items unique to the Baba and Nyonya community.

Cultural Celebration

The city of Melaka is one of the cities in Malaysia where the development of culture is most evident and celebrated. Facilities such as theatres, amphitheatres and public squares are well planned for cultural performances and celebrations. Additionally, wide pedestrian roads often double up as stages for parades and carnivals. To augment the normal festivities celebrated by most Malaysian, such as the Independence, Aidil Fitri and Lunar New Year, there are few that are uniquely celebrated in Melaka. Festivities are not the only display of cultural events in the city. Cultural and artistic shows are also frequently staged in around Melaka especially during weekends and public holidays, mainly as an extension to the living heritage of the city.

Merdeka Day parade in Melaka City.

Recreational City

Aerobic activities at Seri Serindit Recreational Park.

A recreational city offers facilities that stimulate the city's social, physical and economic activities, in an active and dynamic way. Towards achieving these characters, the planning principles of Interaction, Peaceful, and Savings and Professionalism were translated into built forms. The city would have interaction by active and positive activities for the community through the provision of social and outdoor activities. In order for the city to progress as a Recreational City, it would need to apply the principle of peace whereby a peaceful city will create conducive environments that will have a positive impact on the physical and mental development of its inhabitants, other than encouraging economic growth for the city. Additionally, a Recreational City is served by savings and professionalism where efficient planning, development and effective management systems that utilises modern technology, and is further informative and innovative.

Melaka city is an example of a lively and vibrant city; thus recreational facilities are given a special consideration in the city planning. Melaka city offers a variety of outdoor and indoor recreational activities; in its parks and open spaces, promenades, beaches and theme parks available all over the city. In the planning of these recreational facilities, emphasis was given on creating a character of the city that is beautiful, functional, healthy, and has mentally stimulating activities that relate to other city functions such as residential, commercial and urban centres.
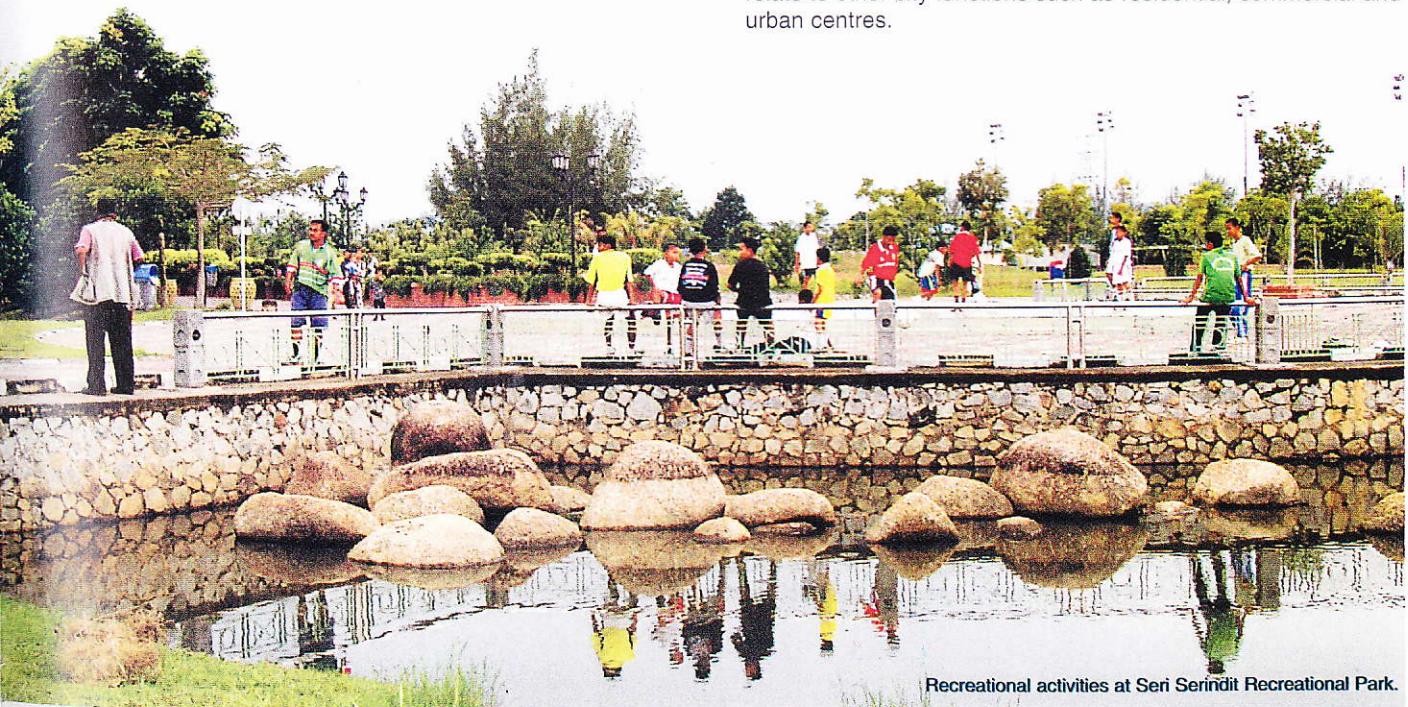
Recreational activities at Seri Serindit Recreational Park.

Parks and Playgrounds

In the city, pocket parks and playgrounds contribute towards the beautification of the city and as a place that offering recreational activities. A new and comprehensive city park is located in the Serindit Recreational Park which has become the centre of recreational activities in the city. Located just outside the historic core, this park is a place for relaxation and sporting activities such as football, cycling and go-karting.
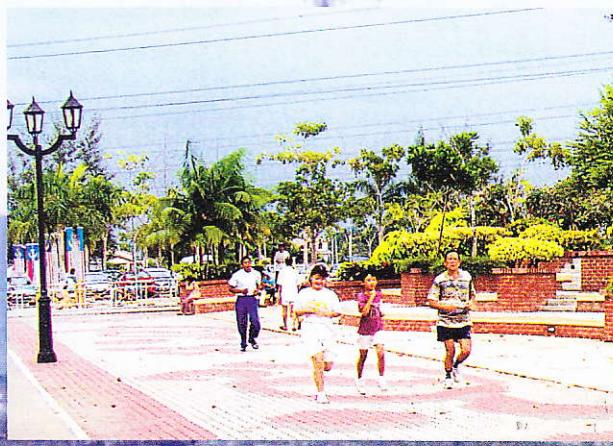
The Sporting Life

Modern sport halls and stadium facilities are provided in and around the city to complement other recreational facilities. Open playing fields and football fields function as the gathering place and as a stage for evening games. The beaches and the sea offer another public zone away from the hustle and bustle of the city, ideal for interaction and recreational activities such as boating and fishing.

Tun Fatimah Stadium

Hockey Stadium-Seri Serindit Recreational Park

MPMBB swimming complex

MPMBB swimming complex

Theme Parks

Melaka city has many theme parks and commercial gardens which serve as recreational centres as well as generating income for the operators. These theme parks are mostly located in the Ayer Keroh Tourism Corridor. The theme parks offer a mixture of cultural attractions and ecological elements. Theme park development is one direction in which the city aims to further develop its' tourism potential

Mini Malaysia
Mini Malaysia is a theme park that displays the rich cultural heritage of its thirteen states. Each state is represented by a replica of a hand crafted traditional house to evoke the rich architectural and cultural heritage. Visitors would gain an insight

Malacca Zoo.
The Melaka zoo is among one of the best zoos in Malaysia where wild and domestic animals live in their natural surroundings. The zoo is also famous as a centre for wildlife research, conservation breeding and as a zoo educational centre.

Ayer Keroh Recreational Forest.
This preserved natural forest is located near the other attractions in Ayer Keroh. This untouched tropical forest offer nature lovers activities like trekking, camping and picnicking as well as huts and cabin facilities for rent.

Butterfly Farm
The farm contains more than 150 exotic species of butterfly that live in tropical climates. Its laboratory and research centre is one of a kind in Asia. In addition to the butterflies, it also houses an insect garden, snakes and miniature horses.

Crocodile Farm.
This interactive farm located in Ayer Keroh, houses more than 100 species of crocodiles aimed at educating the public about crocodiles. Set in a rubber tree plantation, the farm is also known by the live shows by the crocodiles and their trainers which are available during weekends and public holidays.

Garden City

The concept of Garden City focuses on the development of parks and open spaces linked by green networks and pedestrian routes. The city maintains a close relationship with nature, conserving the green and natural heritage, flora and fauna as well as the river and waterways. Melaka city is an example of a garden city in the making. Well-manicured road shoulders planted with various plants offer shade and shelter from the sun. Garden flowerbeds and benches become a focus of visitors after a leisurely stroll in the city. The city was planned to include landscaping as the focus of any new development besides conserving the existing natural environment. The aim of gardens in the city is the variety of plant life and its beauty. The townscape of such a city would have a comprehensive system of greenery and maintain the aspect of beauty, culture and design.

The Dutch Square

This square is probably the most accessible and utilised garden in the city. Designed as the heart of the city, it continues to function as one of the many small gardens in the city. The Dutch Square demonstrates the medieval concept of urban planning whereby buildings were arranged to create a memorable urban space and is less seen as a free standing object.

Historic City Memorial Park

Located opposite the replica of the Sultanate Palace, this historic park is a secluded park accessible to the museum's visitors. It was designed to represent the palace garden; this park also houses the memorial sculpture that marks the proclamation of Melaka as a historic city in 1989.

Garden along Jalan Kota

This small garden is part of the museum complex that displays some outdoor exhibits such as the old locomotive, planes and cars. The mature trees and flower gardens provide shade and a place for contemplation for visitors and the city inhabitants.

Seri Serindit Recreational Park

Serindit Recreational Park is a park within the city that offers a recreational area and green surroundings complete with lakes and filled with trees and various flora and fauna. It is a place for contemplation, a striking contrast from the busy city parks.
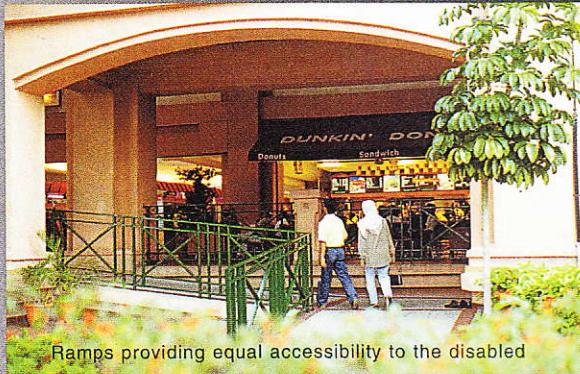
Ramps providing equal accessibility to the disabled

Friendly City

A Friendly City provides facilities, comfort and integrity to all parties; the city inhabitants, visitors, the environment or non-living elements such as buildings, traffic and urban land use. In a Friendly City, all these elements are connected to one another in a symbiotic form that provides benefit and goodness meant for the welfare and convenience of the city's community. Planning and development follows needs and placements that can be enjoyed evenly by everyone. Traffic, transport and travel systems are simple, comfortable and safe for all users' even senior citizens, children or the handicapped. The city encourages interaction of a multi cultural society that will enhance the formation of an ideal society through the placement of relevant services and facilities. Residents and urban landscape are not the only elements that are friendly. The city itself plays out this role on a worldwide stage. In line with the friendly city image and other city and state policies, Melaka city is twin to a few cities spanning the globe. In 1984 with the City of Lisbon, Portugal, the City of Hoorn, Netherlands (1989), City of Valparaiso, Chile (1991) and the City of Nanjing, China in 2001.

Pedestrian friendly city
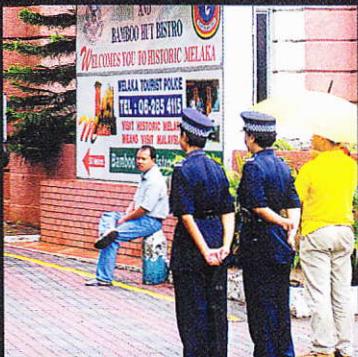
Melaka Tourist Police

Surau facilities within the city

Tourist information - friendly services to visitors

Well placed signages at strategic locations

Hospitality For Visitor

Melaka city places great pride in attracting numerous visitors year in and year out. The growth of hospitality facilities has been in leaps and bound in the last thirty years. Visitors are spoilt for choice when it comes to accommodation in the city. Facilities for visitors have multiplied due to the different demands of diverse visitors. The city is catering to these demands by supplying niche responses to fit in with most visitors' requirement.

The citizenry is being developed to have a more international outlook. The advent of Information and Communication Technology has been a very important resource that has been exploited by the city. Information regarding the city is easily obtainable by a world wide audience and also vice versa, the world is being connected to the city through this medium. This is not to say the city was not cosmopolitan in its outlook. The history of the city can attest to this. Technology has increased the speed in which the warmth of Melaka is spread.

Services for the visitor are also an important aspect in planning and developing hospitality for the visitors. Information kiosks are supplied within the city. The city is also one of the few places where a special police force is devoted entirely to the security of visitors. This friendly security force works hand in hand with the Melaka tourist information centre, ensuring the welfare of visitors. Other facilities such as prayer areas, public washrooms and well designed signboards and notices are well placed within the city.

Hotels and Chalets

Melaka city offers warm hospitality to the increasing number of visitors. The tourism industry is the most important contributor towards the local economy. Hotels and chalets within the vicinity of the city centre are widely available. As a reflection of a friendly city, one can find comfort in many of the converted historic Dutch and Chinese guesthouses in the historic core or the modern hotels in the city centre. Alternatively more intimate holiday accommodations are scattered along Klebang Beach, just outside the city limits.
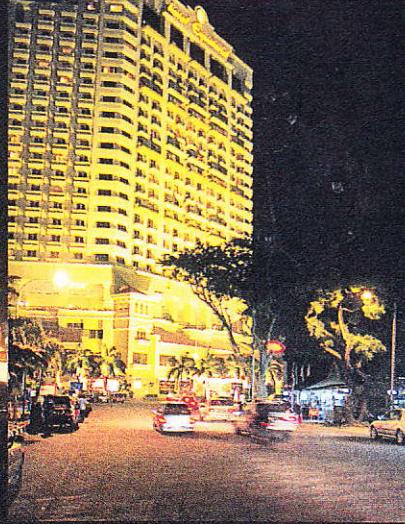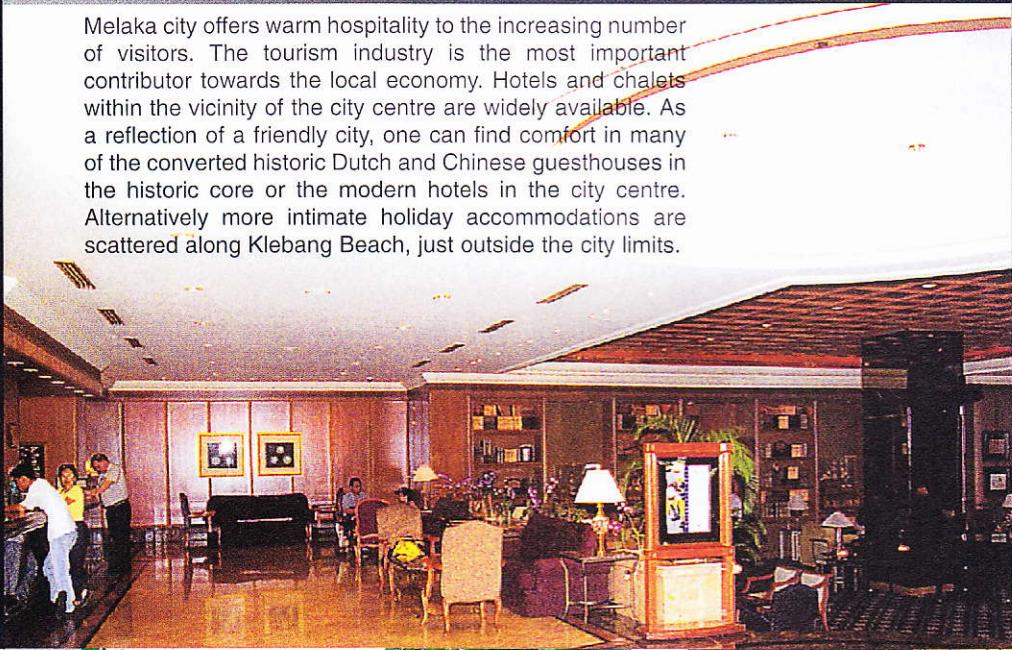
Conference Facilities

The city is also a destination for MICE activities (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions). Many of these facilities are provided within the new international class chain hotels and resorts. The combination of luxurious hotels and the recreational facilities makes Melaka city an ideal destination for business coupled with pleasure.

Eating Out

Melaka city offers a haven for food lovers with its variety of restaurants, street stall and coffee shops. Open air dining is a favourite among the visitors and locals alike. Restaurants and food outlets catering for various taste buds and friendly service delightfully portrays the multiracial origin of the Melaka people.


Umbai sea-food square- a famous destination for grilled sea-food
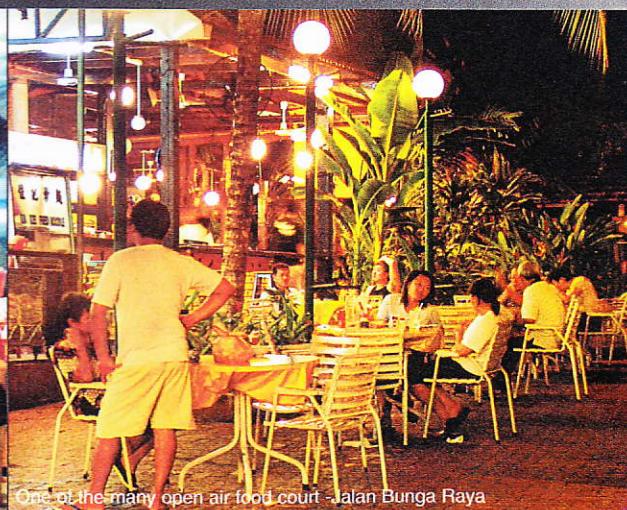
One of the many open air food court -Jalan Bunga Raya

Healthy City

Melaka General Hospital
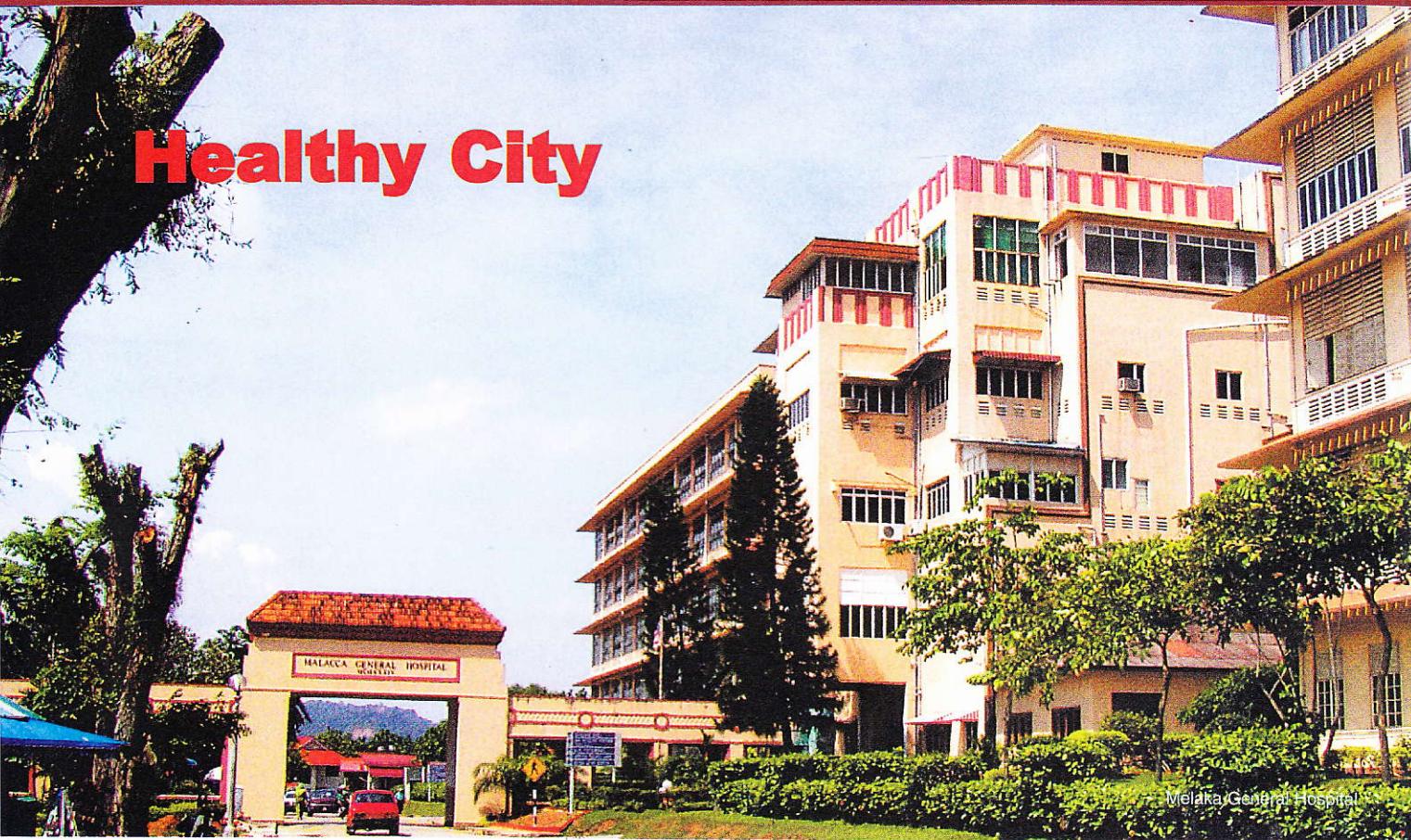
In addition to the healthcare facilities equipped with state of the art technology, a healthy city provides a healthy environment for the physical, social and spiritual development of the city. It is a city that is clean, free from most types of pollution, and encourages healthy activities within the city.

Cleanliness, health and peace are three important principles that guide the creation of a healthy city. Clean water, air and environment ensure the health of plants, animals and therefore the health of humans too. Greeneries act as filters that sieve the environmental pollution, absorb heat and create a more pleasant environment to live in.

Healthcare in Melaka

Healthcare services in Melaka are comparable to other cities in Malaysia. There are government run hospitals and there are several private medical specialist centres; namely the Mahkota Medical Centre, The Southern Hospital and Pantai Cancer Centre. These hospitals offer specialisation and not only provide services for locals but also become a destination for patients from neighbouring countries such as Brunei, Singapore and Indonesia. This market of wellness tourism is being developed to complement other tourism products of the city. In addition to hospitals, private and public clinics are also widely available in every neighbourhood and district.

Southern Hospital

Government run dental clinic

Damai clinic

Mahkota Medical Centre

Melaka General Hospital

Prosperous City

The last twenty years have seen a shift in Melaka's main economic generators. Dubbed as the 'sleepy hollow' during the British colonial era, Melaka was long considered to be a primarily agrarian economy with a virtually non-existent manufacturing sector. Melaka has been transforming itself into a significant economic force by attracting visitors and investors into the city. Economic generators have been increased to include industrial and healthcare. Diversifying the economy of the city is a positive step in order not to be too over dependant on the tourism sector. Melaka city incorporates the Prosperous City theme in order to create a city that is peaceful from the physical and social element point of view. Healthy physical elements encompass cleanliness as well as being economic and efficient. Compassion is used in creating facilities for the community while taking into account the effects of development on the individual, society and environment. Tolerance and sensitivity are taken into consideration for development that is sustainable, balanced when fulfilling the needs of all parties, with planning and implementation that is structured, harmonious and ensures rights and symbiosis.

BSN- Bank along Jalan Munshi Abdullah

Major hotels along Jalan Bunga Raya

Melaka Raya business district

The Business and Trades

The city continues its function as a port-of-call for modern merchants and traders. New shops and offices are developed outside the historic core to allow for a more efficient business premise with all support facilities such as offices, banks and hotels to cater for the growing tourism and commercial industry. Melaka Raya and Mahkota Melaka are developing into the new business hubs for the city besides the existing business nodes along Jalan Hang Tuah and Jalan Munshi Abdullah

Financial Institutions

The existence of major banks and finance companies in the city is a sign of the city's prosperity. Financial institutions and facilities are well represented within the city's commercial centres to support the growing needs for the expanding businesses and trades. Incorporating the latest in information technology (IT) these financial institutions are the backbone of the city's economic development.


Busy scene along Jalan Hang Tuah
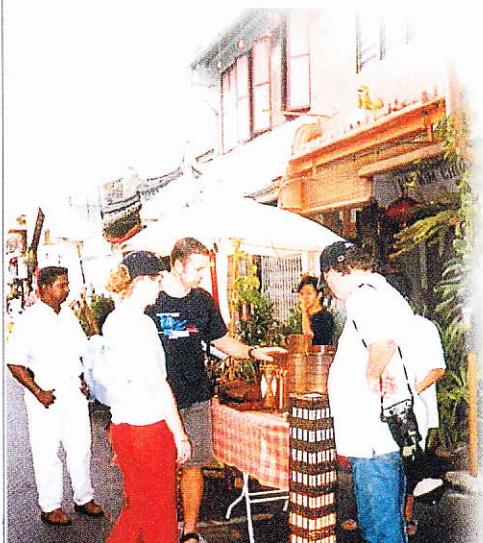
Jonker Walk Night Market

Jonker Walk is a flee market with a Melaka cultural flavour; a showcase that reflects the city's rich ethnic and cultural heritage. The market stretches the whole of Jalan Hang Jebat or as it was previously known as Jonker Street, offers various antiques, local delicacies and souvenir items. Small stalls and peddlers, restaurants and handicraft shops are among the attraction of Jonker Street. The night market starts after 6 pm when the whole street turns into a pedestrian boulevard for the event.
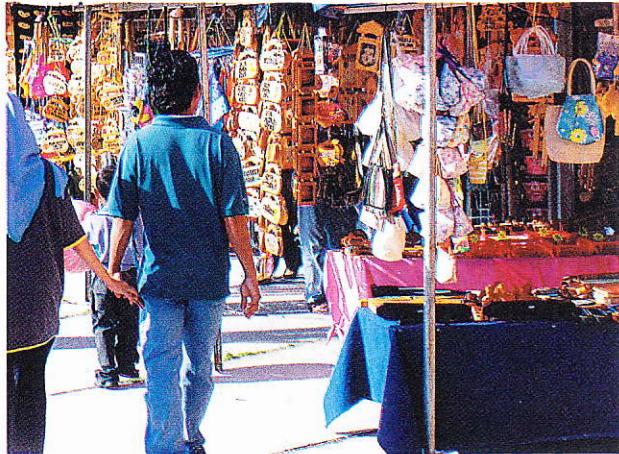
Provision for local art and craft stalls

Shopping

The city was built on the buying and selling of goods. In the modern context, shopping malls have taken over trading houses as the main centres of buying and selling. Modern shopping complexes complement traditional shop houses in the city. The contrast between modern and sophisticated shopping malls and traditional shopping alleys is clearly seen in the city. Within the alleys one can find local crafts as well as antiques shops. The local authority has made efforts in organizing and arranging the small traders and local souvenir shops into proper locations; supporting the tourism industry. The newer complexes have evolved into neighbourhood centres, servicing their respective neighbourhood by offering goods and services within the confines of a pleasant and air conditioned environment minus the charm of traditional shopping areas.

Well designed souvenir stall at major tourist attraction
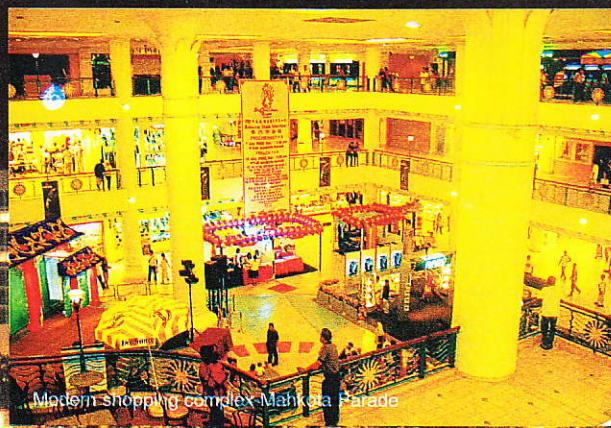
Modern shopping complex-Mahkota Parade

24 hours digital information screen - Jalan Merdeka

Educational City

The Educational City theme represents a smart city that has complete facilities, based on information technology advancements and also on traditional learning methods. This city also stresses on the aspect of education through the increase in quantity and quality of educational institutions and through the provision of urban spaces and facilities that encourages interaction and formation of a civil society. Uninterrupted flow of knowledge and information is through the various provisions of educational facilities and public institution such as mosques, community halls and libraries.

Nucleus for Historical and Cultural Studies

Among the resolutions made after the proclamation of Melaka as a historic city in 1989, was that the city would be a nucleus for historical, cultural, political and socio-economic research as well as informal public education. The museums and historical monuments are directed at students as well as visitors. The Melaka history is the backbone of Malaysian history; a visit to Melaka will deepen visitors understanding about the Malaysian history and related fields.

Melaka heritage complex -St.Paul Hill

Non Formal Learning Institution

A mosque offers a different perspective to education. Besides being a place for worship, a mosque is a centre for knowledge and a community centre where one could learn about human values, civilisation and the relationship between man and his Creator. A mosque offers a continuous learning opportunity from the basic knowledge of Islam at a pre-school level, to lessons in law and history for more senior participants. The provision of a mosque as a centre for development is in line with our Vision 2020, to create a civil society without sacrificing high moral values.

View inside Tengkera Mosque


Al-Azim Mosque

Smart School in Malim

KOLEJ RANGER MELAKA
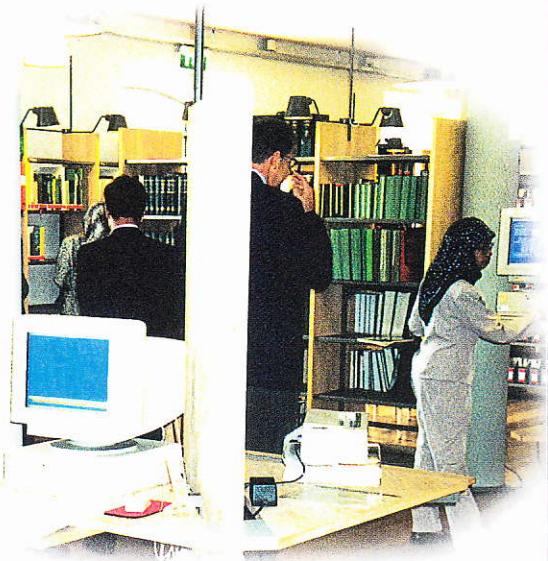
Formal Learning Institution

Melaka city is beginning to develop as a centre for education with new schools and colleges being developed in and around the city. Modern and sophisticated; these new institutions are a manifestation of Melaka's commitment towards meeting challenges of the new millennium. High school and technical colleges continue the tradition that has produced many of the country's great leaders. Just outside the city, Multimedia University and Maritime University paves the way for the development of technology based on the Melaka tradition. They form part of the Melaka Education City which is centralised at the northern part of the city, stretching from the city centre to Selandar. This site is extremely accessible. The Education City initiative is a complete educational centre in terms of fields of study, support infrastructure and services.

Manipal Medical College

Map of Melaka Education City

Multimedia University in Ayer Keroh

The City Landscape
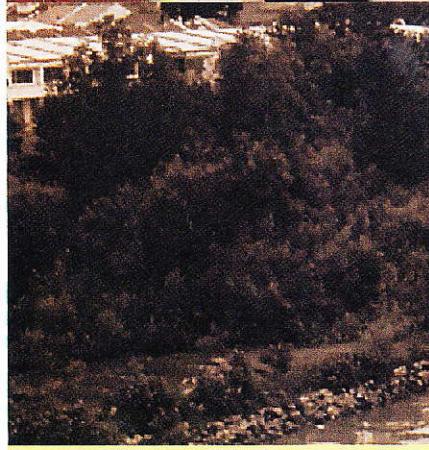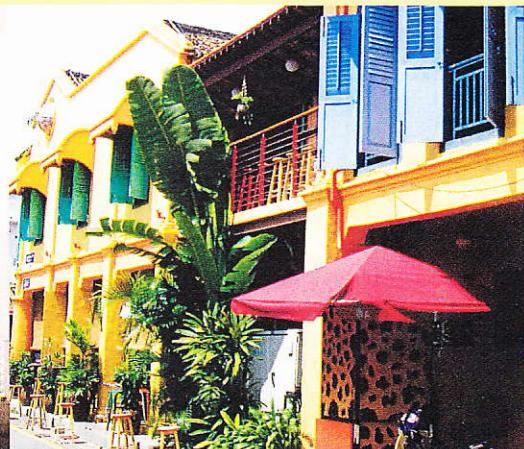
Introduction

The continuing function of Melaka city as the administrative, financial and trade capital of the state is a testimony to the adaptability and sustainability of the city since its formation. Accessing the city from the major highway, the image portrayed is a city that is disciplined, organized and has a well planned layout. The meticulous detail to landscaping along the main artery symbolises the strength of the city. Cleanliness is also evident and for a major Malaysian city, that is a very commendable achievement.

Melaka city is dissected into two parts, the inner core and the outer core. This has been planned in order to maintain and preserve the cultural and heritage importance of sites within the inner core by dispersing activities that are not directly involved. Congestion and pollution is drastically reduced by this application of separation. The outer core provides a modern balance to the antiquated inner core and is connected through well thought landscaping efforts that blend seamlessly into the built elements of the city. The city has been able to progress without disregarding its' past but by embracing it fully.

Melaka was founded around 1398 by a prince called Parasmeswara following the downfall of the Sri Vijaya Empire. It began as a small fishing village but soon developed into the busiest port-of-call in the region, mainly because of its location being at the narrowest point of the Straits together with its natural setting that offered a protected harbour and navigational river. However the most important aspect was its location in relation to the seasonal winds. For centuries sailors relied on prevailing seasonal winds to travel. Ships from China sailed south in the North East monsoon, and merchants from India travel with the South-West monsoon. Melaka sheltered shipping regulated by monsoons, allowed ships to unload their cargos and wait in safety to begin the return voyage home in the next monsoon.
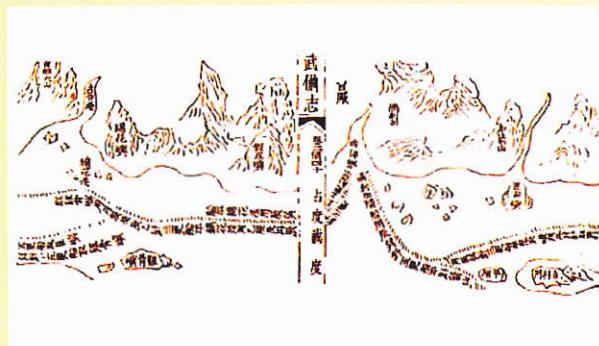
Ancient Chinese maritime map showing the location of Melaka

The Birth of a City
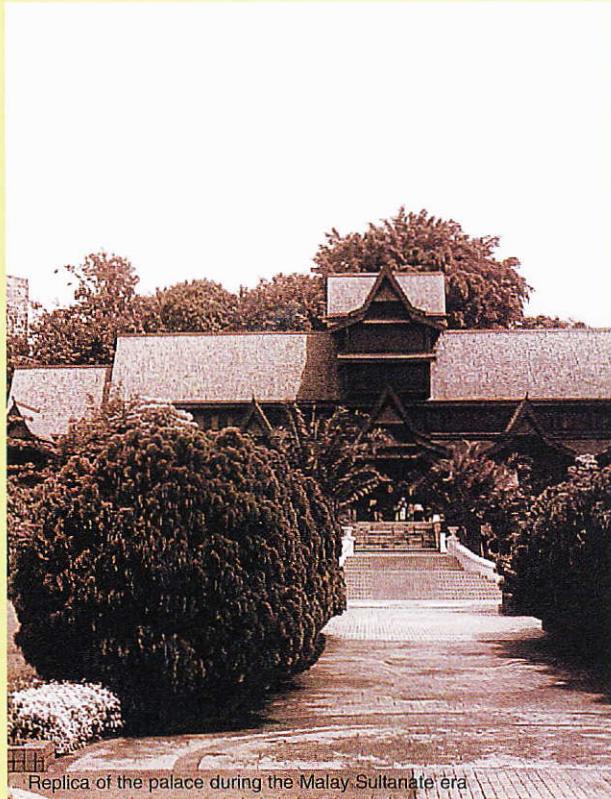
Replica of the palace during the Malay Sultanate era

The Malay Sultanate Era (1398- 1511)

Although there is no physical evidence of this era, the Melaka Sultanate set the foundation of the urban pattern that shaped the morphological development of the historic core that we see today. As Ma Huan accounts in 'General Account of the Shores of the Ocean' written in the 15th Century described Melaka:

"... A city surrounded by palisades with four gates and watchtowers and patrolled at night by watchmen ringing bells. Inside the city walls was a second fortress where godowns (warehouses), money and provisions were kept. The hills on the south side resides the Sultans and the aristocrats as well as the main mosque. A bridge spanned the river connecting the north and the south banks with a market-place of twenty pavilions where commodities of all kinds were sold. North of the river lived the merchants organized into separate ethnic communities (Hindus, Bengalis, Tamils, Gujeratis, Chinese, Japanese, Moors, Arabs, Jews, Philipinos, Burmese, Siamese and Borneans) and trading centres

During this period, having a palace, administrative centre, chief mosque, mansion for nobility, bazaar, commercial complex, surrounded by residential quarters, security and a monetary system reflected that Melaka was a planned medieval port town.

"... No trading port as large as Malacca is known, nor anywhere they deal in such fine and highly priced merchandise. Goods from all over the east are found here; goods from all over the west are sold here ... whoever is lord of Malacca has his hand on throat of Venice".

<u>(Tome Pires, a Portuguese apothecary and a scholar 1511)</u>

The mighty A'Famosa

The Portuguese Century (1511-1641)

The Portuguese interest in Melaka was drawn purely by the economic drive to monopolise the growing spice trade. Melaka was then an important and rich international entrepot, serving two continents, the east and the west.

The Portuguese set foot on Melaka in 1511. After the invasion, the Portuguese consolidated their position in Melaka by building a fort called A' Famosa at the foot of what is now St. Paul hill. Within the fort; offices, civic, residential and religious buildings were built separated from the locals and traders, in the exact pattern laid out during the Sultanate era. Later, a massive wall with many bastions was constructed, hence fortified the whole town and by the year 1548, Melaka became a complete 'walled city' similar to most of the Medieval cities in Europe.

Outside the wall, cellular arrangements of three residential suburbs that existed during the Sultanate were maintained. During this period Melaka was introduced to a European sense of town planning with houses laid out in an orderly fashion along narrow streets with proper drainage systems. The Portuguese era saw the development of suburbs namely Upeh (presently Tengkera), Banda Hilir and Sabak.

River Melaka

Straits of Malacca

PORTUGUESE ERA - 1613

DUTCH ERA- 1753

Dutch engraving of Christ Church

The Dutch Settlement (1641-1824)

The Dutch took over Melaka in 1641 after months of heavy bombardment, which destroyed most of the buildings in the town. Under Dutch administration, public facilities for the city greatly improved. They built more civic buildings and an administrative centre, but the most significant contribution to city planning was the introduction of public spaces and a town square, surrounded by fine and decorated Dutch architecture such as the Stadthuys and Secretariat Building as well as the Christ Church. Although the urban morphology was similar to that left by the Portuguese it was during the Dutch period that the present day street pattern took shape.

Unlike the Portuguese that concentrated on construction of the fort and churches, the Dutch built administrative buildings as well as comfortable brick houses outside the confinements of the fort; houses that are long and narrow with covered verandah-ways with a blend of Chinese influence. The Dutch introduced laws and regulations to control the relationship between buildings and streets.

During the Dutch period, Melaka underwent a transformation from a busy port town to a residential and garrison town. The Dutch occupation of Melaka provided another overlay of city planning that maintained the urban pattern but with their distinctive architectural trademark.

The Dutch square during British era - Addition of clock tower and a fountain that remained until today.
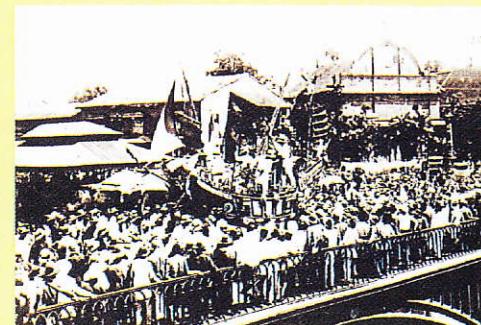
Pedestrian bridge spanning across the river constructed during the British era.

BRITISH ERA- 1916

Straits of Malacca

POST INDEPENDANCE -1987

Reclaimed Area

The British Administration (1824-1957)

Although the British took over Melaka briefly from 1775 to 1818 on a temporary basis, the Anglo-Dutch treaty in 1824 sealed the fate of Melaka after it was exchanged for Bencoolen (present Bengkulu), a British trading post in Sumatra. During their brief stint in 1807 the British ordered the destruction of the Melaka fort to avoid future threats to British interest in Penang and Singapore. The removal of the fort changed Melaka's 'walled city image' to a more subtle transition from the town centre and the suburbs.

During the British colonial period, Melaka played the supporting role to Singapore, the new and upcoming entrepot of the British. The British built over 320 km of road around Melaka's hinterland and encouraged agriculture to support Melaka's economy. Reclamation took place in 1921 and the reclaimed area was turned into a 'padang' (open field) which acted as the new town square. A clubhouse was constructed opposite the new town square as well as other administrative buildings such as the post office, police station, museum, municipal office, courthouse and the Public Works Department. The administrative core during this period shifted around the 'Padang' but the rest of the town was maintained as it was during the Dutch occupation.

Post Independence Melaka (1957 - present)

Malaysia gained independence from British colonial rule on August 31st, 1957. Since then the Federal Government, based in Kuala Lumpur, has made a lot of effort in capturing Melaka's glorious past.

Post independence Melaka saw the growth of commercial areas and new settlements in the city centre and the suburbs beyond. Further reclamation was made in 1971 which changed the city's composition and the Melaka skyline drastically. Melaka's historic core is now sandwiched between the newly developed commercial centres and modern residential houses. Urban developments that occur changed the image of a coastal port town and altered the ethnic composition of Melaka.

The State Government has accelerated the pace of economic development of Melaka by encouraging industry, agriculture and most importantly, promoting Melaka as a major tourist destination. The historic core has now been declared as the centre for art and culture and saw the major shift of government administration to Ayer Keroh, the new gateway to the historic city.

With its colourful history, Melaka is a unique and vibrant city with many relics of the past. Acknowledging the importance of its historical context and heritage, Melaka was proclaimed as 'A Historical City' on April 15th, 1989.

1. Dutch Architecture-Hareen House
Functional with decorative gable end.

2. Early Shophouse (1870-1880)
Modest in scale and design.

3. Strait Eclectic (1900-1940)
Chinese decoration to the Dutch style houses.
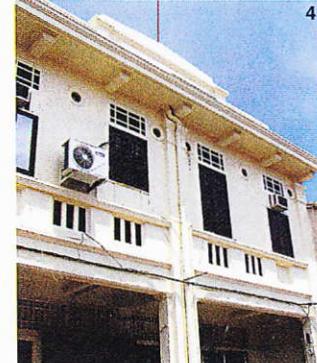
4. Art Deco style (1930-1960)
Modern variation of the shophouses.

Architectural History

Ethnic Influences

Underlying designs of urban development were initially based on ethnic influences. Each cultural element of the city possesses a unique style and interpretation of the built form. Residential and commercial dwellings originate from religious structures adding their own specific requirements and modifying adaptable elements. The city has a built representation of the progression of ethnically inspired layouts and designs. Radiating from houses of worship, shop houses, civic buildings and personal spaces, the influence would continue into the future.

5. Kampung Hulu Mosque
Mosques in Melaka are unique and built in a style not traceable anywhere else in the country. Their unique architectural style is believed to be of Sumatran origin. The Kampung Hulu Mosque that was built in 1728 is believed to be the oldest mosque in this country.

6. Cheng Hoon Teng Temple
Built in 1646, Cheng Hoon Teng temple is the oldest Chinese temple in the country. Ornately decorated, this temple was built by craftsmen and material directly imported from China; it represents the Chinese art and craft heritage. Restoration works that was carried out recently enhanced the visual quality of this temple.

7. Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorti temple
The Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorti temple represents the importance of the Hindu community in the city. Built during the turn of the previous century, on a piece of land given by the Dutch, the temple is now run by the Chitty community.

Western Influences

Form followed needs which led to two types of early western influences, administrative and religious needs of the community within the city. This resulted in these two needs best represented and interconnected with one another. The historic core of the city is greatly influenced by the western style of town planning, although extremely useful during it's' timeframe, it could not cope with modern demands. Pressures of housing and business spaces have led to usage such as planned townships and commercial complexes. Western influences are still required in the formation of the city as beneficial ideals are always incorporated into any urban planning.

Kotamas Shopping Complex


The Stadyhuys

Graha Maju near Jalan Hang Tuah

MELAKA CITY IMAGE 54

Melaka Today
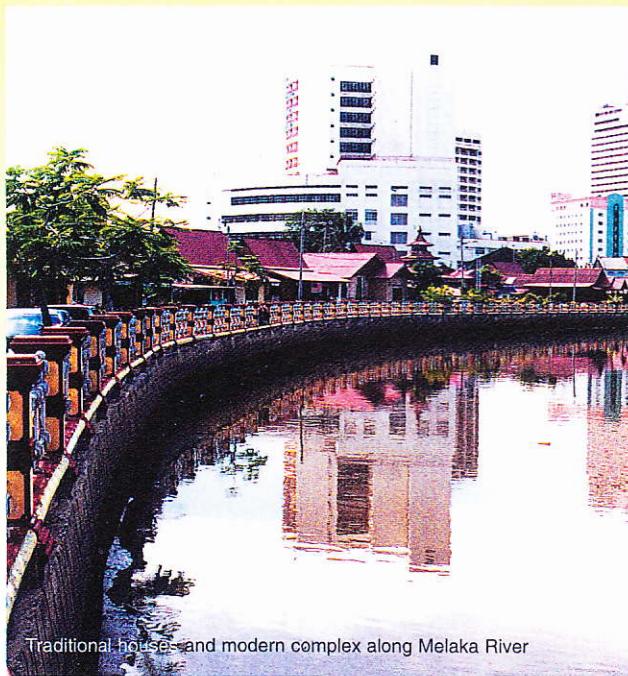
Traditional houses and modern complex along Melaka River

Symbiosis between the old and new is one way to describe the current city. Adaptive reuse of heritage and mature sites are being carried out with great effect. Modernisation has crept into the urban services, structural design, city administration and other urban elements. The city has come to realise that be accepting modernisation, the city would be able to have a sustainable growth because of the efficiency and quality that current methods of human endeavours are able to provide. Good planning in the placement of new development sites and structures complement the placement of previous sites and structures creating an interesting visual panorama. The city is expanding its' health, educational, social and recreational elements to cope with increasing demand from residents and visitors. In terms of land scarcity within the inner city, new planning and development grows outwards following development corridors mapped out by the State Government. Land reclamation off the coast is also an avenue that increases the available land in the city.

Melaka Tomorrow

Part of Melaka Museum Complex

A living museum with excellent infrastructure and a community that is harmonious and ideal is seen an attainable goal. The city has laid down the foundation to achieve that and more. Utilizing its historical global reach, Melaka is attempting to regain prominence by developing different resources other than tourism as an economic and development generator. Emphasis is placed on developing the mindset and education of its residents to be a global citizen. The background for achieving global prominence has been proven and it would be a matter of time before Melaka is once again a major crossroads of the East and West.

Modern development near Melaka Waterfront


Pedestrian mall near Mahkota Parade

Regeneration of the City

Melaka city is constantly adapting and developing to meet the requirement demanded of it in terms of services and needs. Visitors have always been a driving force behind the growth of the city. From traders and scholars to the modern day tourist, the city has strived to meet their requirements. The legacy of commercial and residential neighbourhoods is being upgraded and expanded into new areas. More mature areas of the city are being placed under into zones such as conservation and commercial, having their own set of policies and guidelines that govern their development. Distinct neighbourhood are given a new lease of life and new neighbourhoods have sprung up to meet with excess demand.

Regeneration along Jalan Hang Tuah

MELAKA

KAMPUNG
DURIAN
DAUN

KG. DURIAN
DAUN
DALAM

TAMAN
BUKIT
SERINDIT

RUMAH
PANGSA
'UN GRU
LINANG

PENGKALAN
RAMA TENGAH

KG.
MORTEN

BUKIT
GEDONG

BUNGA RAYA
PINTAM

KG.
SATU

Chinese
Cemetary

Taman
Bok

KG. TIGA

KG. DUA

KG.
JAWA

KAMPUNG
BUKIT CINA

BUKIT
TEMPURONG

Taman
Kasun

Taman
Salat

KAMPUNG
BUKIT CINA

Taman Enn
(I Semabok)

Taman
Semabok

UJONG PASIR

Taman Sena
Heng

Taman Low
Sin Min

Taman
Merdeka

Taman
Pahlawan

Rumah
Pangsa Seri
Budi

Taman
Sina

MAHKOTA
MELAKA

Taman
Melaka Raya

KAMPUNG
HILIR

Taman
Atur
Bakar

KG. ATAP

Taman
Sri Mei

Plaza Melaka
Raya

Taman
Hilir

Portuguese
Settlement

Taman
Sea View

Keramat

Taman
Cempaka

Shaded seating area in Dataran Sejarah

Urban design

Pedestrian walkways, signage and landscaping are the most visual forms of changes in urban design. The objective of urban design is to provide an increased level in comfort, safety and usage. The handicapped and the elderly are slowly increasing their rights with regards to public amenities but there is still room for vast improvement. Aesthetic is an extremely major part of the city image with visual appearance a major contributor. The inclusion of representative elements of Malaysia's heritage is included in the overall urban design. Not only limited to public amenities, neighbourhoods and buildings are also part of the overall city form that is constantly being enhanced.
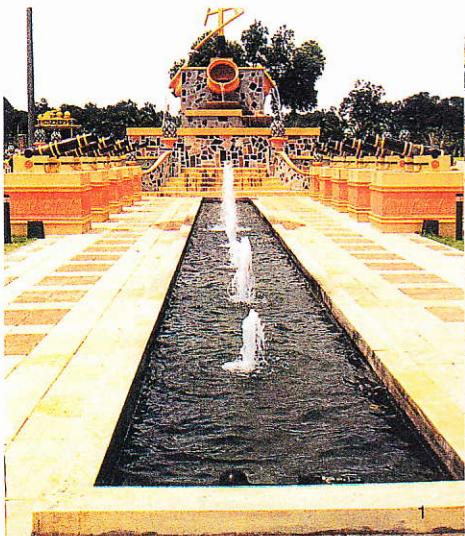
1. Sculpture and water fountain as part of street furniture.
2. Soft and hard landscaping in the design of pedestrian mall.
3. Public telephone as part of street furniture design.
4. Shaded pedestrian network with lush vegetation.
5. Seating area and dustbin in a well demarcated area to maintain clean and friendly environment.
6. Bolards and street lightings to demarcate pedestrian area from vehicular movement.

Hang Tuah Mall - an effort to create a pedestrian friendly city

Pedestrian bridge with traditional design elements act as the gateway to the city.
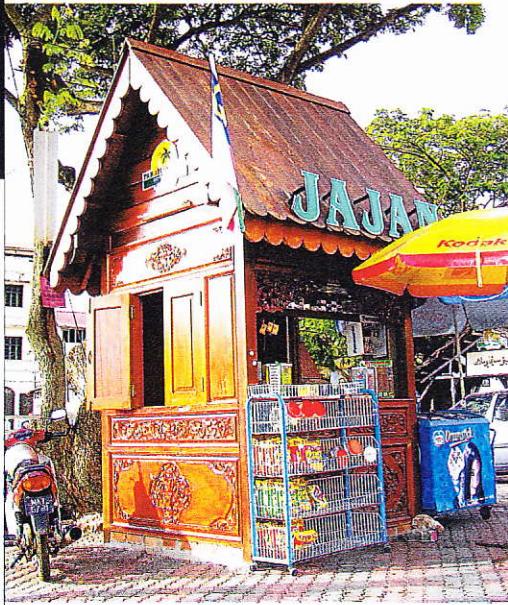
Traditional design elements being incorperated into the design of the city's kiosk.

Bus stop based on traditional architectural design.
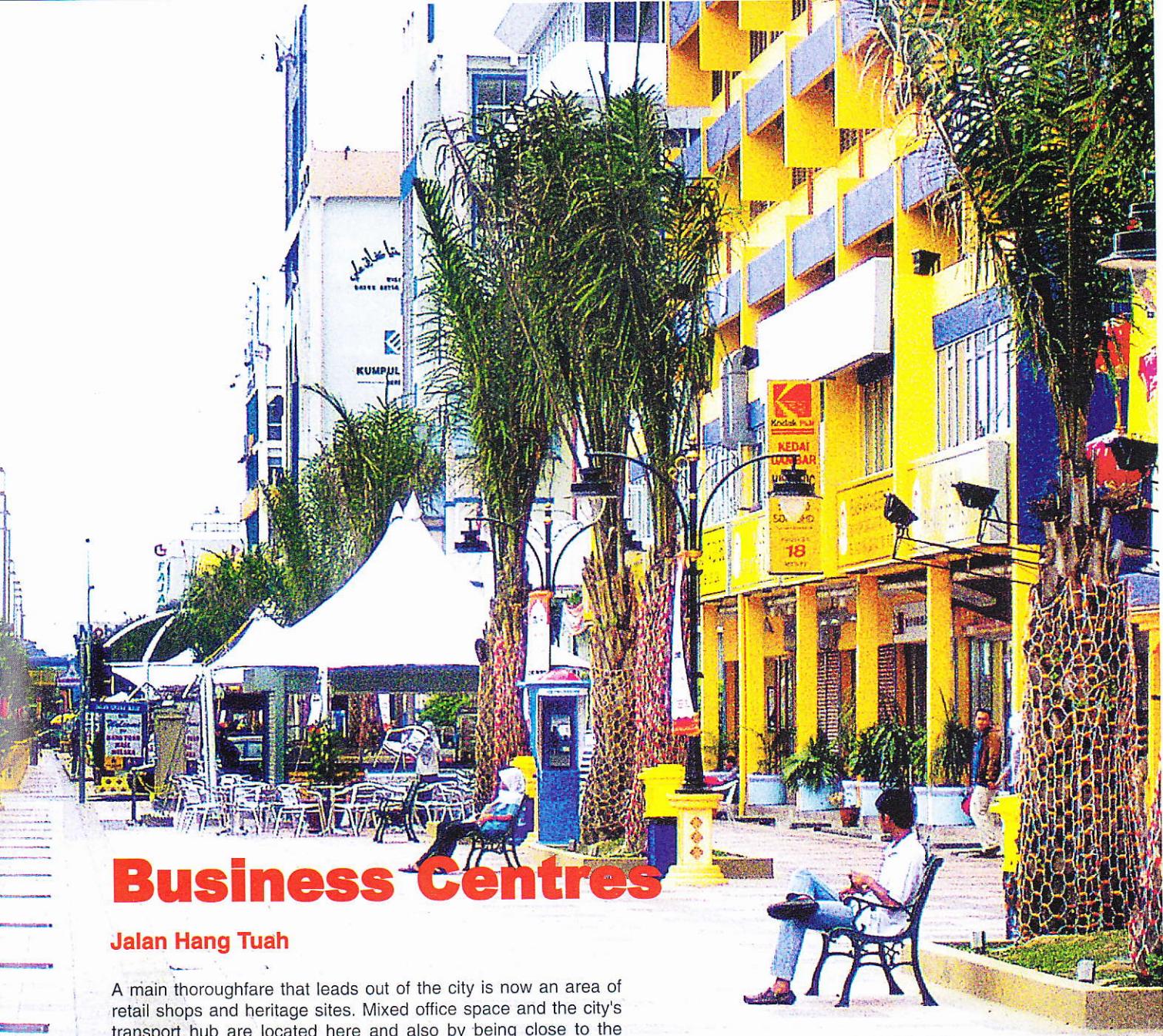
Business Centres

Jalan Hang Tuah

A main thoroughfare that leads out of the city is now an area of retail shops and heritage sites. Mixed office space and the city's transport hub are located here and also by being close to the Kubu Stadium, pedestrian traffic in this centre is high. Urban regeneration has transformed the area into a pedestrian mall.

Hang Tuah Mall at night- A place to enjoy local foods and atmosphere.
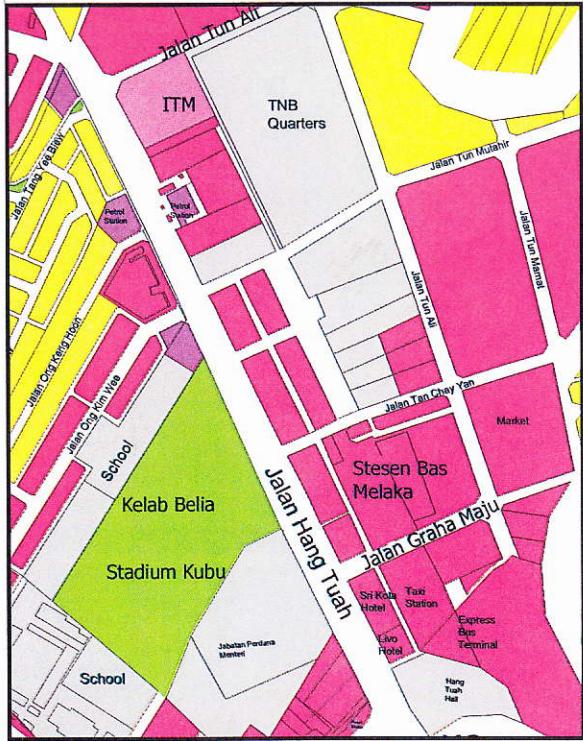
Mahkota Parade- Important shopping destination within Mahkota Melaka waterfront development.

MAHKOTA MELAKA

Business Nodes-Mahkota Melaka & Melaka Raya
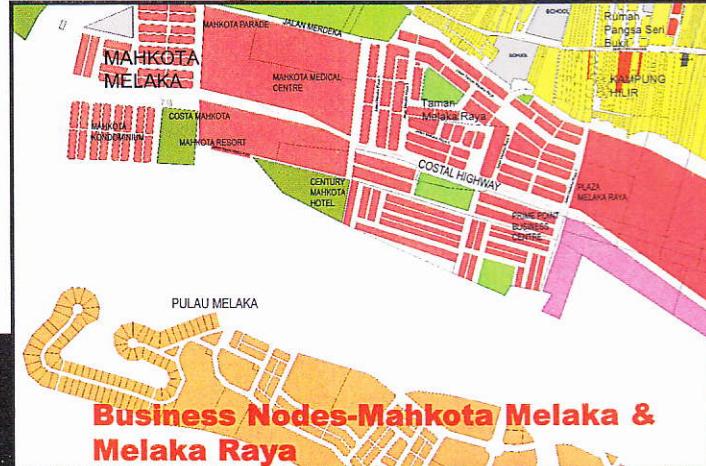
Mahkota Melaka Waterfront

A self contained integrated development located at the south of the city. It is the new recreational and commercial hub. The design and image of this neighbourhood is a symbiosis of the past cultural heritage infused with modern ideals. The usage of land elements combined with waterfront activities make this neighbourhood a showcase of the new direction of the city, more progressive, encompassing new ideas and technology while retaining the cultural and heritage foundations.

Melaka Raya

In order to meet the needs of commercial, retail and accommodation space the neighbourhood of Melaka Raya was developed by a land reclamation project. With residents migrating out of the old town, businesses is following suit. Support services and commercial enterprises make up the neighbourhood's majority. Business traffic has been alleviated and provides a buffer to the inner city from commercial demands.


MELAKA CITY IMAGE

Heritage Centres

A city is a 'living museum', a testimony of human enterprise and achievement. Relics of the past, buildings and people manifest an unwritten journey of a city and reflect the city image. In addition, they help people identify with their city and cultural heritage. Cultural heritage represents the relationship between Man and Environment, and also between Man and Man. While the built heritage is priceless, a city also possesses a living heritage that is embodied in the arts, culture and natural heritage which are an integral part of the city.

Melaka city is an example of such a city where the development of the city is centred on the preservation of rich cultural, natural and built heritage. A comprehensive conservation and preservation master plan was established to identify areas of concern and represent the agenda for the future. Laws and regulations protect the city's heritage for future generations and are essential in creating a cohesive 'historic city' image.

Zone 1- Main Conservation and PreservationPreservation of Facades and Control of Building Use

Zone 2-Buffer Zone (Preservation of TraditionalFacades and Height Control) Vista from St. Paul Hill
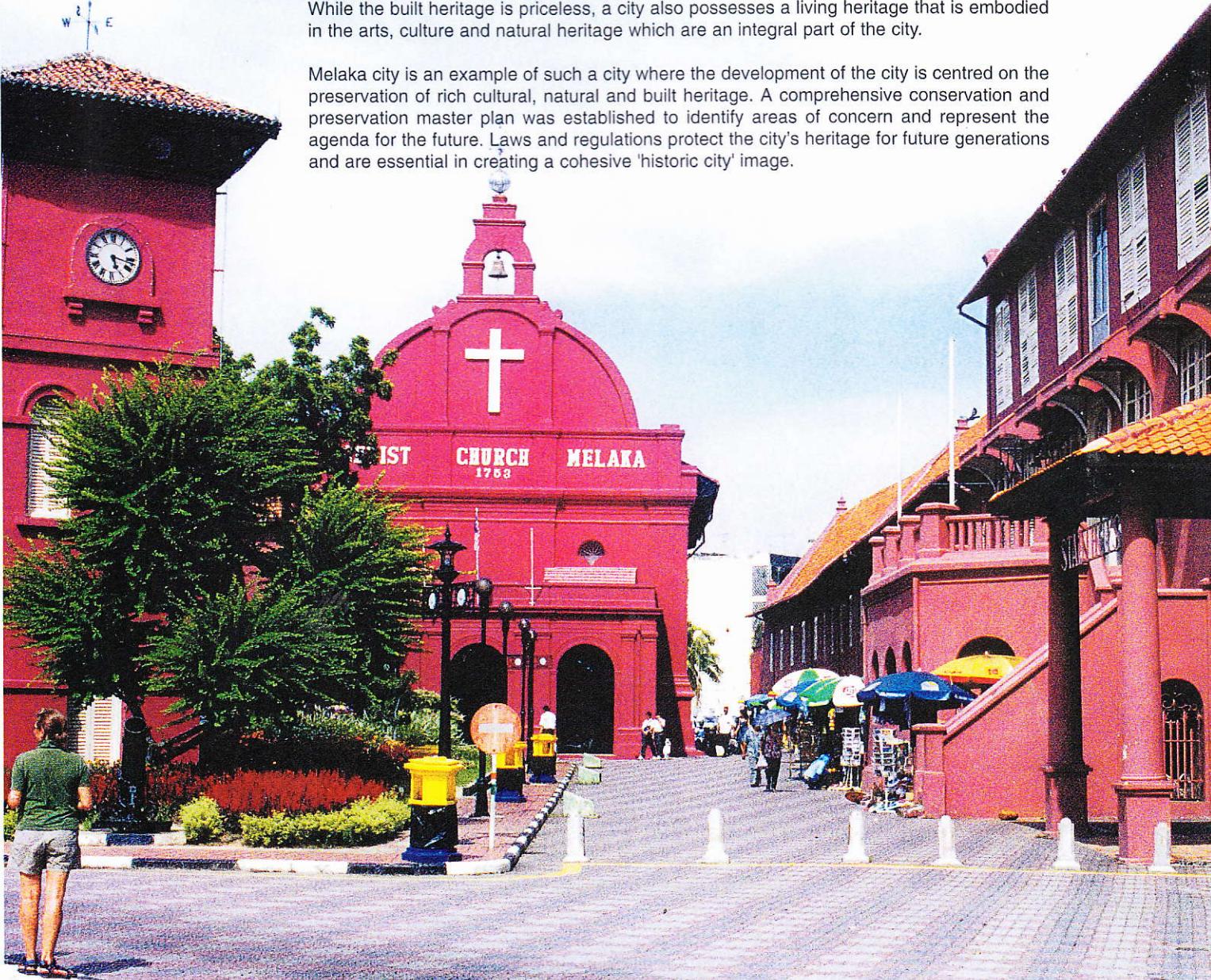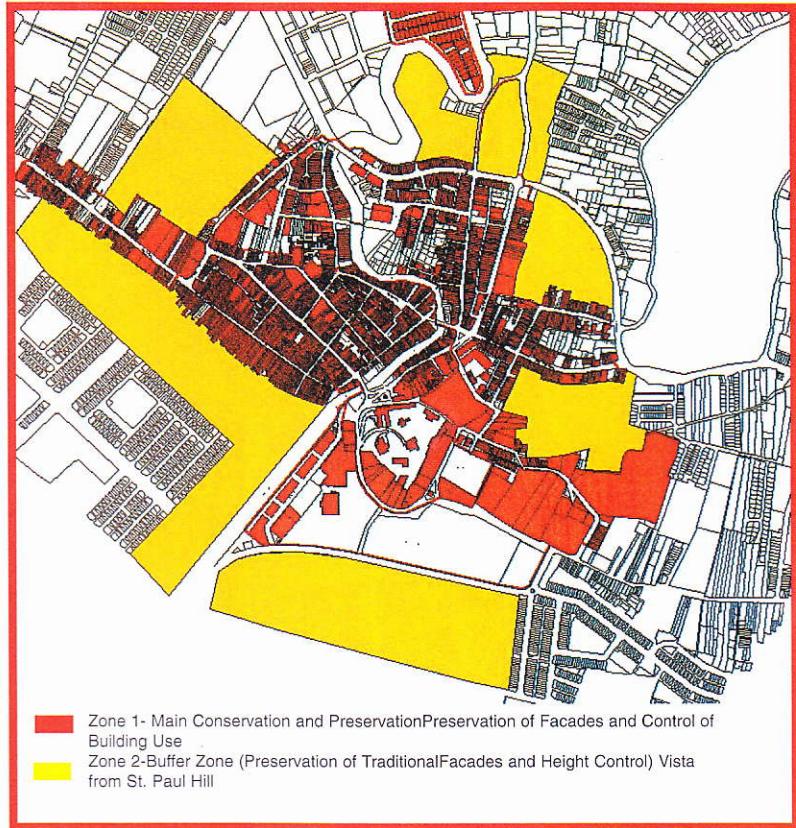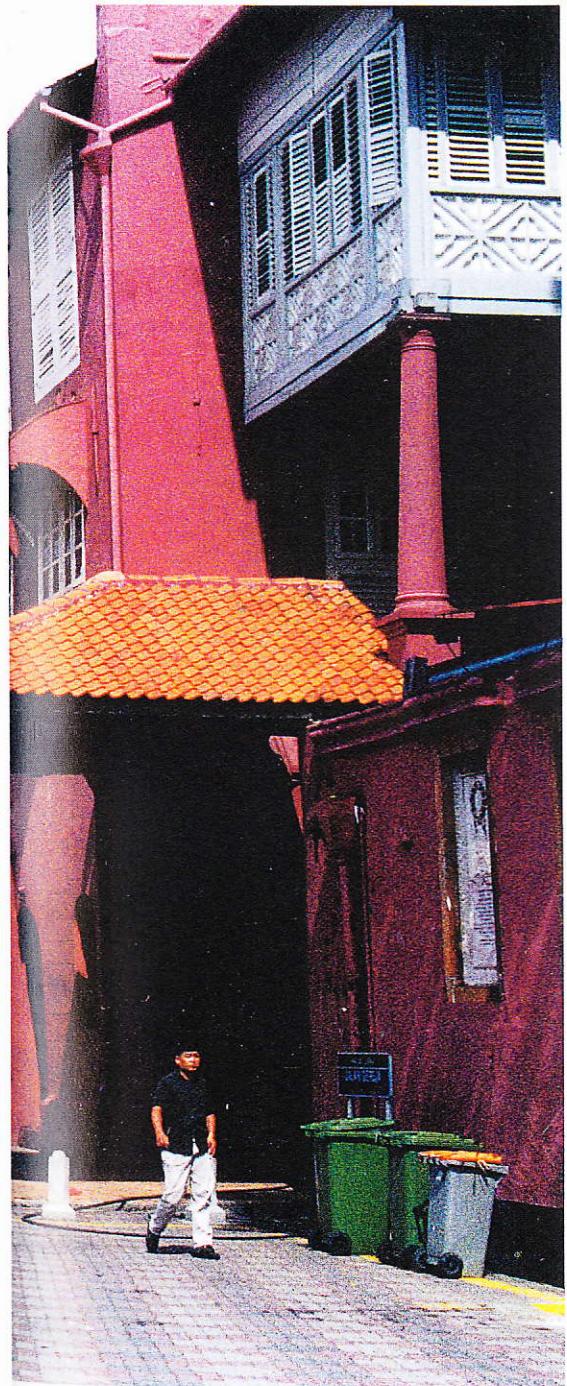
Conservation of Built Heritage

The legacy of the historic buildings in Melaka forms part of the city's principal attraction. Constructed over the past 400 years, these buildings are testimony to the rise and fall of not only a city but of empires. The collection of historic buildings also represents the different cultural and religious influences that form the rich cultural mix in Melaka today. Conservation and preservation are integral components of urban design and for the case of Melaka; the primary component. Conservation is not only concentrated on preserving the original character of individual buildings but covers the overall character of the old Melaka city. This includes protecting the historic areas from the forces of development, introducing laws and guidelines as well as the physical effort of refurbishing the historic buildings to their original state. Inputs from the local residents and council are used to formulate the Melaka Historical Action Plan to periodically target specific neighbourhoods from time to time. This action plan focuses on guidelines for specific sites and differs from neighbourhood to neighbourhood.

Conservation of the Historic Core around St. Paul Hill

This historic core area around St. Paul Hill has always been Melaka's centre of administration. St. Paul Hill is where the first palace of the Melaka Sultanate was built. Later the Portuguese, Dutch and British followed suit, their administrative buildings were all located around this hill. The scene around St. Paul Hill today, represents the oldest collection of colonial civic architecture in Malaysia and in East Asia. To augment the efforts to conserve the picturesque quality of the cityscape, this part of the city has now turned into the city's cultural hub. Historic buildings are restored close to its original state and converted into public museums. This is part of the conservation strategy of 'adaptive reuse' to allow the public and visitors to experience the glorious architecture of the past. From an economic point of view, the conservation and preservation of these built heritages has promoted tourism in Melaka.

1. A' Famosa

This is perhaps the most famous landmark in the city. Built by the Portuguese in 1511, the fort endured the most severe bombardments and attacks by the Dutch armada. The fort was systematically dismantled and destroyed during the brief British period in Melaka. Parts of the entrance to the fort that remained today form one of the most powerful images of Melaka.

2. St. Paul church

It was originally a chapel built in 1521 by the Portuguese. In 1556 a renovation took place and the completed church was called Annunciation Church. It was later renamed St. Paul Church during the Dutch occupation. The ruins of the church were restored and beautified and became a museum object by itself, displaying stone tablets and remembrances of the Portuguese era. Around the church, there stand 5 Dutch and 33 British graveyards, some dating back to the 17th Century.

3. The Malacca Clubhouse

Standing at the foot of St. Paul Hill, the building was built by the British in 1912 as the clubhouse for the Malacca Club facing the historic Padang Pahlawan. The clubhouse building was converted into a 'Proclamation of Independence Memorial' hall to remember the proclamation of Independence in 1957.

4. Sultan Mansur Shah Palace

A replica of Sultan Mansur Shah palace was completed in 1984 and it represents the splendour of Malay civilisation and architecture. The design is based on the descriptions made by Tun Sri Lanang in the 'Malay Annals' (circa 1500s). It gives an insight to the greatness of the Melaka Sultanate.

5. Bastion House

The building was built during British era in 1938. It was used as the headquarter for Dunlop, a privately owned company controlling the rubber industry.
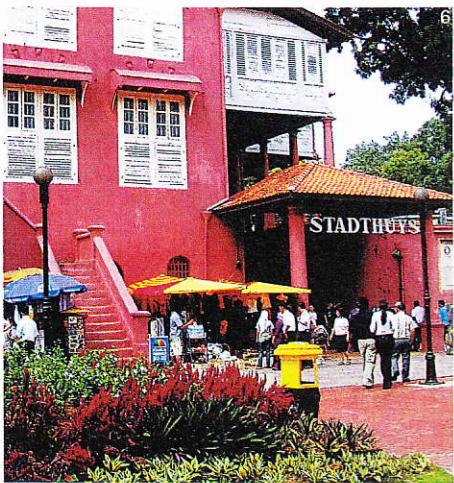
6.The Stadthuys

Stadthuys is believed to be the first building constructed by the Dutch in the 1650s and functioned as the Dutch administrative centre and the Governor's residence. Preserved in its original structure and form, it is the finest example of Dutch civic architecture and planning principles. Major restoration works took place in recent years and the works were completed in 1992. Currently it was placed under the management of Melaka Museum Body (PERZIM).

7.Christ Church

Together with the Stadhuys, they create the Dutch square and demonstrate Dutch town planning principles. Built in 1753, the church is the product of Dutch architectural ingenuity at it's' best. The façade facing the square is bold and well detailed, typical of Dutch architecture. Fine details such as the pews and ceiling beams can be seen in the interior, which were constructed without nails. Other details include detailed brass works, stone works and stained glass windows.

8.Post Office

Constructed by the Dutch, it formed part of the Dutch square in addition to the Stadthuys. The Post office building was originally a single storey building and was later renovated by the English around the 1920s into a double storey building to accommodate the telegraph department.

9.Dutch Official's Residence

These are two prominent houses constructed for Dutch officials during the Dutch administration. It is located on the higher ground and held a commanding view beyond the wall of the fort over the Straits of Melaka. It was renovated during the British colonial era in the Straits eclectic style and later occupied by the Peranakan Chinese.
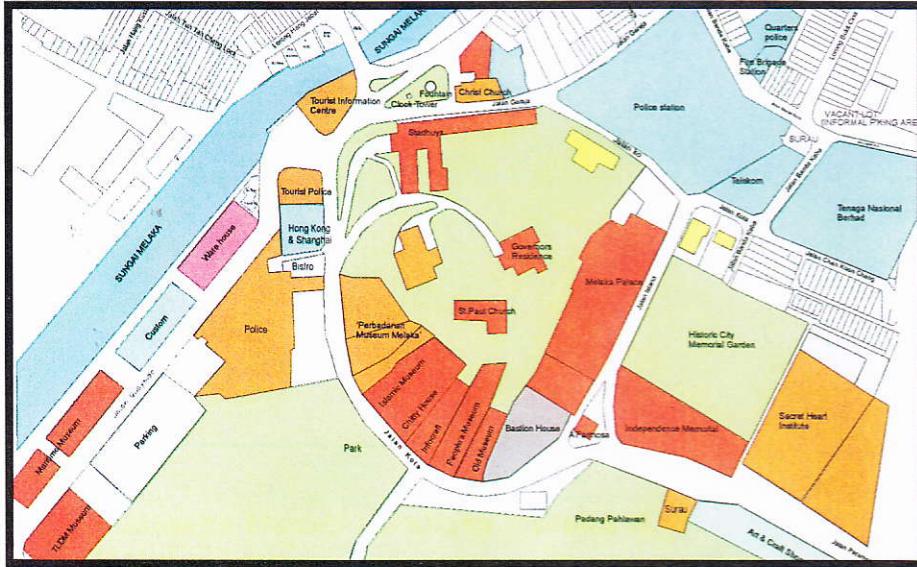
10.Governor's Residence

The building was built and used as the official office and residence for the Governor during the Dutch occupation in the 17th Century. The residence continued to serve its purpose during the British rules and even after independence. Only recently, after the official residence of the Tuan Yang Terutama relocated to the new administrative centre in Ayer Keroh, the building was restored and converted into Museum.

11

View from the top of St. Paul Hill

View from the top of St. Paul Hill

11. Old Melaka Museum

Built during the Dutch era, this building served as the house for the officials until the British era. It was later used as museum in 1956 until 1982.

12. Info-craft Building

This building was originally built during Dutch period but was later renovated by the British in art deco style of architecture. Currently used as the Info-craft centre as part of the museum complex.


12

1935

Another issue of conservation around St. Paul Hill is the preservation of view from the top of the hill towards the Straits of Malacca. In the past, one could have a clear view of the sea from the hilltop and vice versa. Reclamation of the sea front that took place in recent years has shifted the shore line further from the foot of the hill, hence altering the scenic view of the Straits.

Demarcation line of the Old Town and Historic Core
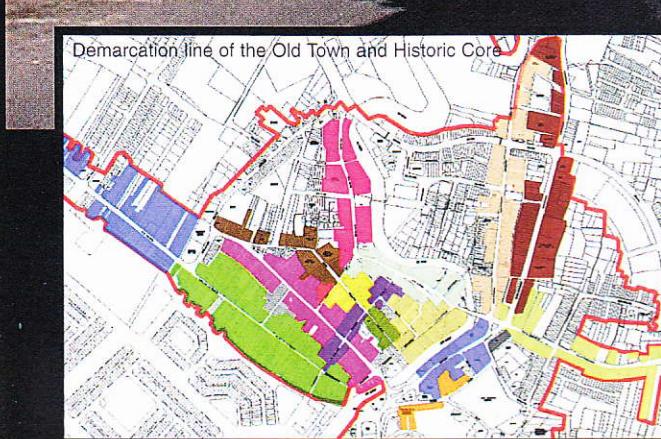
Dutch style mansion with Chinese influences

The Old Town

Another conservation focus area is the old town towards the western bank of the Melaka River, where Old Dutch and Chinese houses still survive to the present day. This quarter is a small but densely built area, following the meandering river. Many of these historical buildings are important built heritage that contributes to the unique image of the city. This part of the city has turned into a centre for antique shops and also stages the famous night market. The growing tourism industry has encouraged the beautification of this sector; houses were converted into guest houses and ethnic restaurants as well as private museums and galleries.

The challenge is to preserve the building facades and maintain the street character from dilapidation and the demands for renovation and upgrading. However, the traditional Chinese clan halls, mosques and temples

Traditional craftmen and trades - Blacksmith at work along 'Jalan Tukang Besi'(Blacksmith Road)

Urban Links

Good transportation systems are one of the major components of any settlement as it links all the activities within the city. Urban links represent accessibility to places of worship, work, recreation, shops and educational centres. It creates opportunity for interaction and promoting unity and relationships among the residents. Without good transportation links there will be less economic activities, therefore the less lively the city becomes. Urban links to a city are like the network of veins in our body allowing blood to flow to the various organs in our system. Melaka city centre is accessible from all directions and even from cross border destination. Integration of water, air and road transport is highly comprehensive to service industrial employees, tourism and traders within the city. The Federal trunk road provides access along the coastline, connecting bordering states and points of interest along the route. Within the city however, the traffic is strictly managed to minimise

Main access road - Jalan Ayer Keroh

Airport in Batu Berendam

Modern bus service in the City

Roads and Highways

Other than water links, the city is highly accessible by road via the North-South Highway and Federal trunk roads. As the city centre expanded, the steady influx of cars intensified traffic congestion which has become a major problem as most cities have to face. In Melaka the situation is worsened by the existence of narrow and winding roads of the old part of the city and the unpredictable influx of transient vehicles. Outside the historic core, new roads are wide and efficient enough to offer a faster alternative route for traffic. The transport node is located near the business district along Jalan Hang Tuah - Jalan Graha Maju just outside the historic core provides bus and taxi services to various part of the city.

City taxi service

New road and bridges - Jalan Syed Abdul Aziz

Boats and Ferries

As in the past Melaka is highly accessible by sea and continues to provide docking facilities for ferries and boats along the Straits of Malacca. Regular ferry services to Dumai in Indonesia as well as boats to Pulau Upeh and Pulau Besar are provided from the Melaka jetty. River cruises along Melaka River is another alternative mode of transport for visitors. The river is also an artery which is used by fishermen.

View of the new Melaka jetty

Boats at River Melaka jetty

MELAKA CITY IMAGE 72

Formation of the

An analysis of success or failure of a city cannot be judged in purely aesthetical values or financial terms. Ultimately it must be assessed through the quality of life of its inhabitants whom the city must serve. The City centre represents the mode of learning, economy and civilisation of a city. It reflects social development of a city, where its inhabitants live and interact through shopping, learning, working and recreating. One of the most important aspects in the planning of Melaka city is the provision of 'social justice'. This includes the provision of various housing and social facilities for all income groups and conserving social and cultural structure of the ethnic groups that forms the fabric of the city. Melaka is one of the best examples of a Malaysian cities that manages to strike a fine balance between conservation of existing culture and the urge towards modernisation and globalisation. The result is a city that is rich in variety where the spirit of tolerance and sensitivity lives on.

Modern housing development - Taman Muzaffar Height

City Centre

MELAKA CITY IMAGE   74
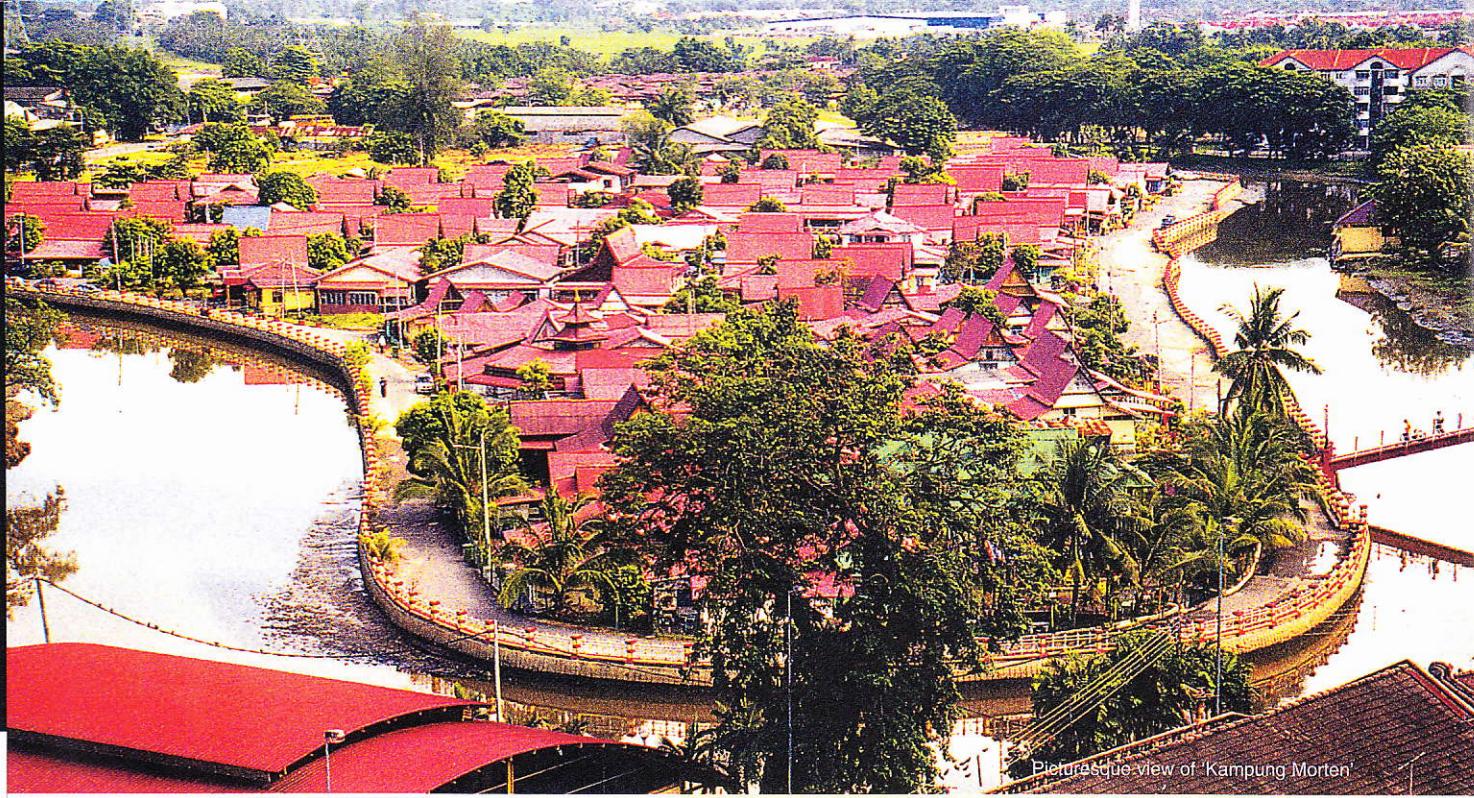
Picturesque view of 'Kampung Morten'

Conservation of the Ethnic Village

Melaka traditional Malay houses are unique compared to others in the peninsular. Built of hardwood timber, these houses are richly decorated with wood carvings and sometimes with brightly painted colours. Their special features however, is the beautifully decorated concrete staircase with glazed ceramic tiles mostly of Chinese influence.

Kampung Morten

Kampung Morten is one of the Malay villages left in the heart of the city. It was named after an English officer F.J. Morten and its history stretches back to the British Land Reform Act in 1920. The houses were arranged in an orderly manner, still possess the beauty and charm of a traditional Malay village in an urban setting. Kampung Morten was planned with a main access road along the perimeter thus creating a scenic route that interacts with the Melaka River. Planned as the vehicular access, this scenic road also function as the main pedestrian promenade. Other villages such as 'Kampung Bukit Palah' and 'Kampung Ku Sayang' are other examples of the Malay village that still maintain the beauty and charm of traditional village character and architecture.

Traditional Malay architecture in Kampung Morten

Picturesque scenery of Kampung Morten
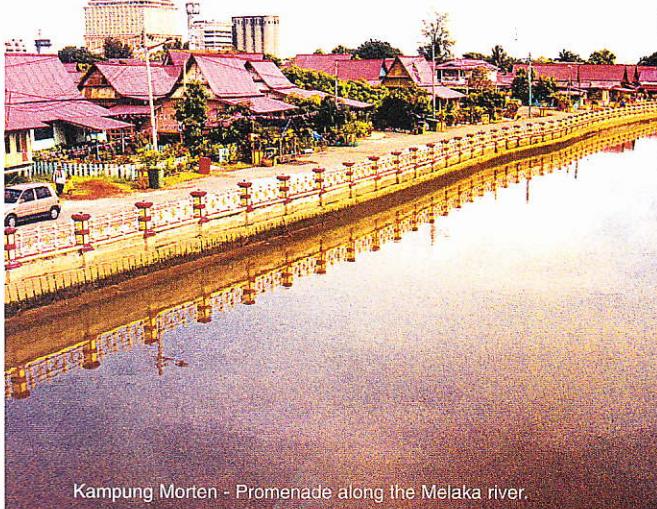
Kampung Morten - Promenade along the Melaka river.


House along Klebang beach

Traditional Malay village in Kampung Bukit Palah

Traditional Malay village in Kampung Ku Sayang
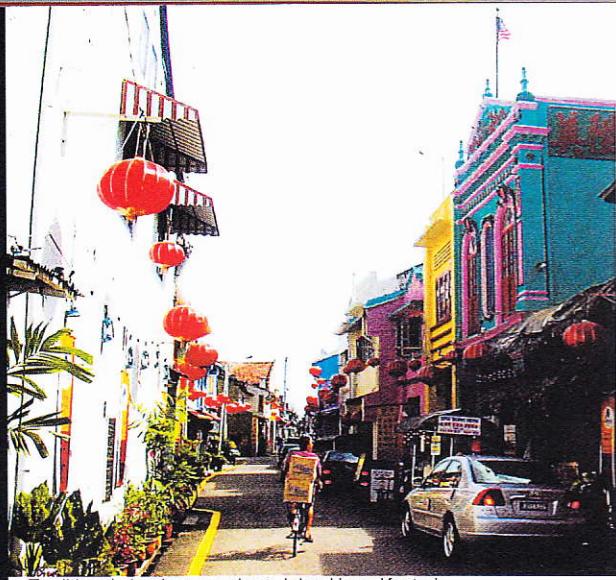
Traditional shophouses along Jalan Hang Kasturi

Mixture of Dutch and Chinese influences -Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock
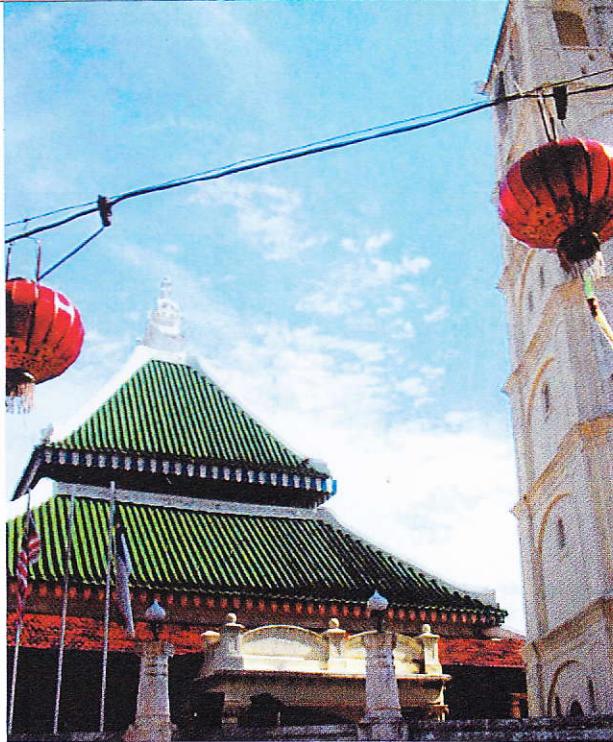
The Old Town

The old town or referred to as the Dutch village and is a testimony of the tradition of city living in Melaka where the lifestyle is closely connected to history. Built along narrow streets these 'doll house' like characteristics still function as city dwellings to the present day.

This quarter reflects the planning principle of trustworthy and credible where beside houses it contains shops of various trades, community hall, places of worship, courtyards and other city functions. These historic city dwellings still maintain its cheerful colours and liveliness as well as providing comfort and safety for its inhabitants.
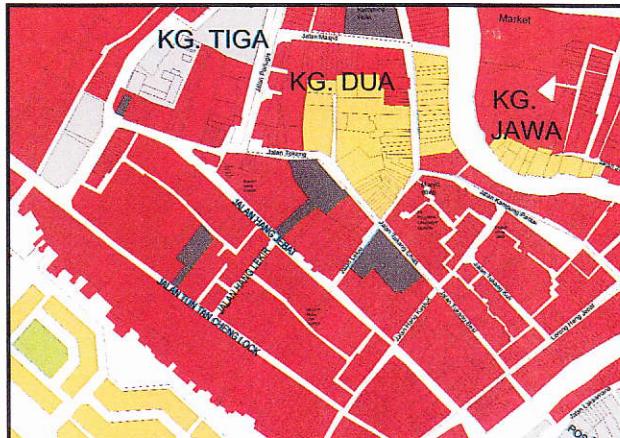
The Portuguese Square

The Portuguese were a major influence in the shaping of Melaka. They were the first to introduce urbanization in the western sense to the city. The remnants of their prowess still can be seen today by the A' Famosa. More important than edifices, the Portuguese introduced a hardworking and exemplary community as part of the nation's society. There has been a strong and continuous representation of this culture at the Portuguese settlement which is situated towards the east of the city. Within that settlement the square acts as a formal courtyard where as with other towns and cities in Portugal act as the focal point for the community.

The Portuguese Square

Portuguese culinary heritage at Portuguese Square

Affordable Housing

Development brings about numerous benefits in terms of the economy, industry and agriculture. These benefits are extremely evident, including housing and facilities for the low- income group. Urbanisation has seen many of the traditional village communities within the city housed into a more modern apartment blocks. This type of affordable housing provides the basic comfort and amenities such as electricity, clean water, sanitation and recreational spaces for the community. Specifically designed for the low-income group, such affordable housing schemes are aided by the State and Federal Government as a mean to provide a more affordable and conducive living environment.

Low cost housing within the city centre

Affordable housing as an important component of a city

High-rise Living

In the last twenty years, the city has witnessed the growth of a modern city living environment. Condominiums and holiday apartments dominate the city skyline and along the city's waterfront. The holiday lifestyle is associated to the growing economic status of the inhabitants and the increasing demand for city dwellings. High-rise living usually includes shared facilities such as security, swimming pool, tennis courts, playground and recreational facilities exclusive for the residents. This type of dwelling varies from the medium class apartments to the more luxurious condominium located at the strategic location with commanding view of the city and the surrounding landscape.

Planned Townships

Increasing demand in better quality housing that offer modern facilities and living condition has led to the development of planned townships. Planned township is seen as a way forward for the city to accommodate the advancement of modern lifestyles whilst maintaining the bulk of the city heritage. Newly planned townships are located away from the city centre and offer a quieter retreat from the busy city life mainly in the Ayer Keroh corridor - Taman Mudzaffar Height, Ozana and Taman Tasik Utama are some of the example of the planned townships that have been developed. Most townships combine terrace houses, bungalows, semi-detached houses and apartments. In addition to residential units, basic amenities such as schools, shops and parks are provided as part of the township together with recreational facilities such as children's playground, club facilities and security for the occupants within the compound. Planned townships offer a better choice of residence for some people as services and infrastructure are well provided for.

Sports and recreational facilities

Schools - an essential component of new township

Mosque as the focus of planned township

Ozana Country Resort

Landscape and playground within the planned housing area

Covered drainage system at Ozana Country Resort

Planned township in the city, Taman Kota Laksamana
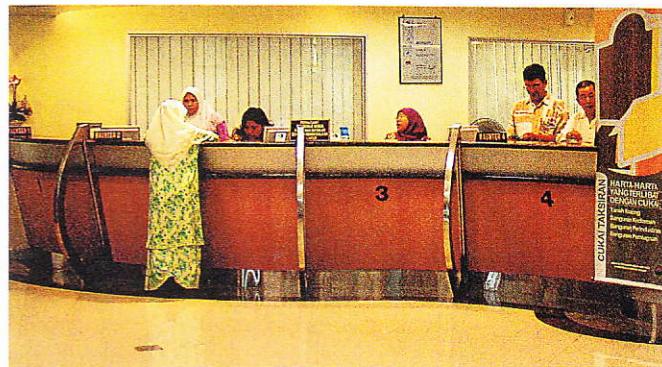
Sustainable

Development

Federal Town and Country Planning Department

Operating under the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, The Federal Department of Town and Country Planning is the overall planning agency responsible for proper planning of the use, development and conservation of land in Peninsular Malaysia. Working with the National Local Government Council (MNKT) and State Planning Council, the department is responsible in translating the socio-economic objectives and development policies into physical planning and formulating various planning guidelines for urban facilities and environmental quality in Malaysian cities. The State authority assumes responsibility for the planning of land use and the development of land within the State. To facilitate this, development is guided by the State Structure Plan. It provides the instrument which proper land use planning is achieved for the physical spatial harmony of the State. Working in tandem with this department, city and state authorities use guidelines and policies that are streamlined throughout the country.

Urban Ecology Management

The ecology of Melaka is influenced by the tides and bodies of water. Flood management is used as a tool in prevention of river overflowing. Dry spells are alleviated with structured drought management approaches. Other than preventive steps, proactive steps of utilizing the ecology are enhanced. Properly managed areas utilize available resources efficiently. The coastline that borders all the states faces different pressures of industry, natural elements and residents. Land reclamation is an integral part of coastal development and is managed accordingly by not only the local authorities but by a federally mandated department. The current coastline has expanded some 300 meters over a period of 50 years; this figure would be increased as the city grows.

Protection of costline along Klebang beach

Protection of riverbank as flood prevention measure and avoiding erosion

Protection of coastline along Klebang beach

Utilisation of modern technology in pollution management

Pollution
Management

One of the characteristics of a clean city is free from air and water pollution. Improper urban development and management will result in degradation of the environmental quality. Proper legislation such as the Environmental Quality Act 1974 and 1987 for example is necessary to regulate and control the environmental quality of cities. The development of technology in the field of pollution management should be put in use to ensure safer and cleaner water and air for the city. In Melaka this technology can be seen in the utilisation of modern sewerage treatment plants that is concealed in a small and enclosed operation. This new breed of treatment plants treat raw sewerage more efficiently and utilise a much smaller plot of land besides being more pleasing visually and environmentally. Air pollution in the city is kept to a safe level by reducing cars and introducing more greenery and trees that act as natural pollution filters for the city.

A compact and enviromentall friendly treatment plant for city centre

Solid Waste Management

A clean city image demands an efficient way to manage and dispose solid waste that is generated by the city dwellers. In order to manage the solid waste more efficiently, a specialist consortium Southern Waste Management Sdn. Bhd. was given the responsibility of keeping the city clean. The concept of 3R's- Recycle, Reuse and Reduction - the backbone of the solid waste management is practiced in Melaka city besides educational approaches that create awareness among the citizens about the importance of keeping the city environment clean. Routine community involvement in cleaning activities 'gotong-royong' is a weekly event in Melaka and demonstrates a high level of community understanding and consciousness about cleanliness.

Southern Waste Management Sdn. Bhd. providing 24 hour service to keep the image of 'Clean City'

Well distributed parking facilities within the city.

Traffic System Management

In order to make the city pedestrian friendly and to reduce pollution levels, a lot of effort is given to discourage cars into the city. Many roads are made inaccessible for cars, and the introduction of one-way traffic systems. Providing car parks at strategic locations linked by pedestrian streets is another strategy adopted by the council in limiting vehicles into the historic core. Traffic lights along major arteries are equipped with timers, to show users the length of stop and go lights,

Intelligent and user friendly traffic management.

Environmentally friendly transport and road system

Pedestrian
Management

Pedestrian and green networks allows for a more friendly and leisurely movement within the city. These networks connect points of interest and traffic nodes which reduce conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles. To absorb the picturesque quality of the architecture and scenery in Melaka, pedestrians are allowed to move freely within the city's historic core by limiting traffic. Pedestrian friendly development such as the Hang Tuah Mall, encompasses construction and installation of kiosks, lamp posts, decorative pots, greenery landscape and traditional advertising panels. It involves the construction and upgrading of the pedestrian walk from Jalan Hang Tuah to Jalan Munshi Abdullah, covering a distance of 760 metres. It is similarly developed along the Bintang Walk concept in Kuala Lumpur. Trees and landscape are featured along the pedestrian street. This adds pleasure to the promenading activities in Melaka.
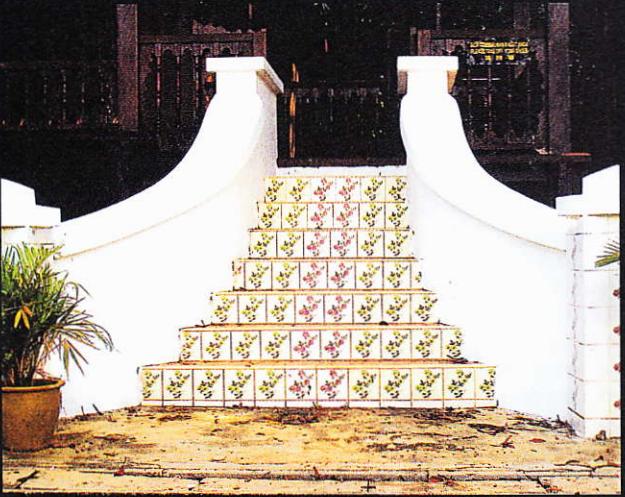
Conservation Management
## Conservation of Cultural Heritage

Melaka city is rich with cultural heritage. The population today is as cosmopolitan as ever. Any development within the city that utilizes the cultural heritage of Melaka would have to take into account these various communities within their planning and development as they represent part of the community foundation of the city. Trades and services that lie within heritage sites are also earmarked for conservation, not just the built heritage. In some instances conservation zones are gazetted to protect the heritage of the particular site.
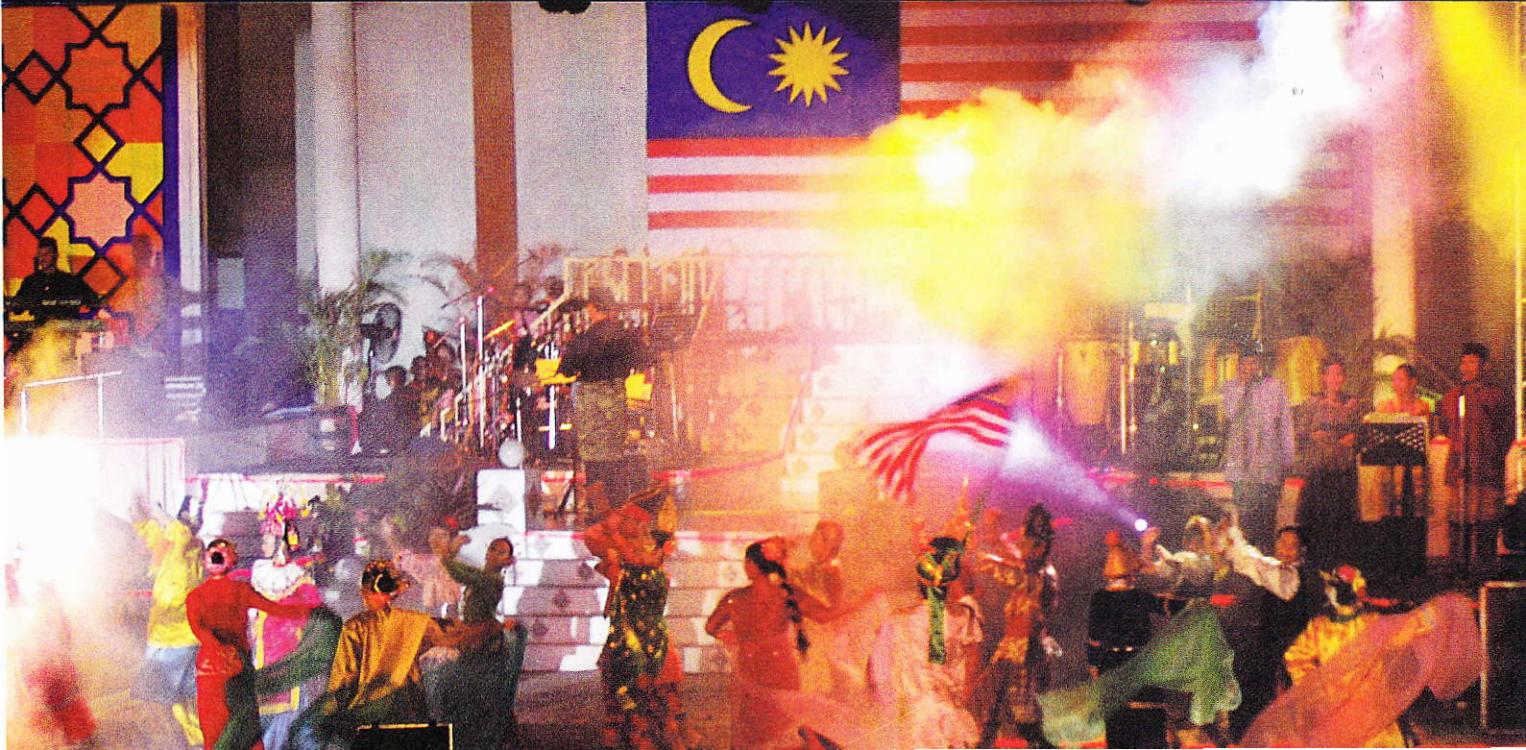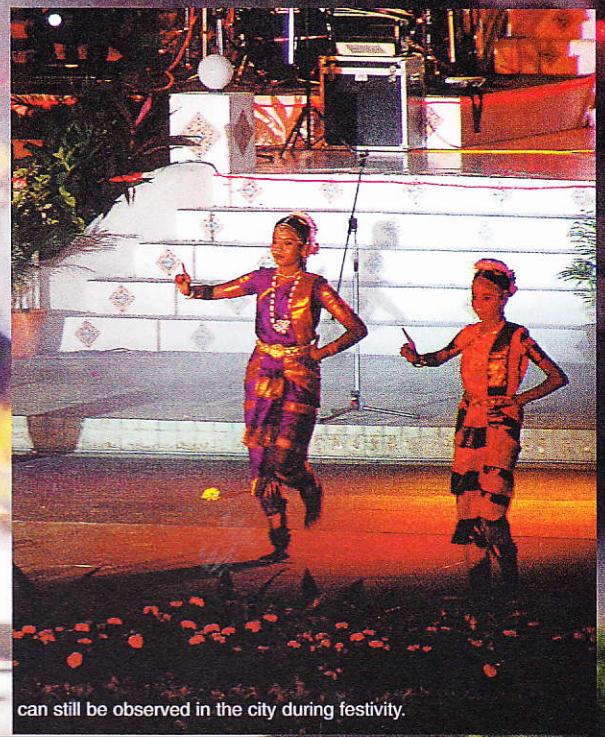
The various cultural dances can still be observed in the city during festivity.

Manifestation of cultural heritage in the built environment.
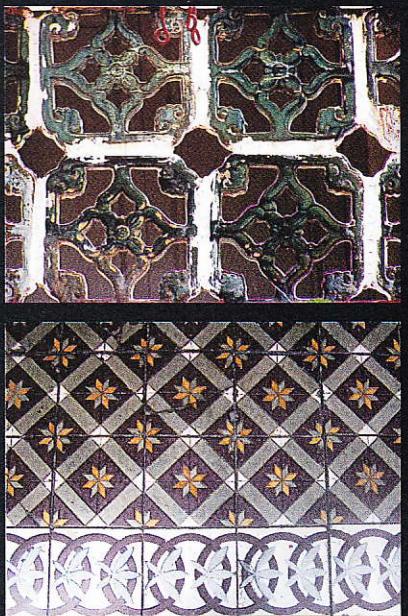
MELAKA CITY IMAGE

Conservation of Natural Heritage

Greenery, Parks and Open Spaces

As with buildings and structures that demarcate the city, parks and open spaces should be recognised as city landmarks and form part of the city image.

Bukit Cina and Bukit Senjuang are two historical sites preserved as the main green lungs for the city. These hills are lush in vegetation, with mature trees and these act as a backdrop for the city's picturesque scenery. Many trees in Melaka has witnessed the changes experienced by the city. They form part of Melaka's natural heritage and maintain the green city image. Current conservation laws protect these trees from being damaged and destroyed by new development.

St. Paul Hill (left) and Bukit Senjuang (above)two historical hills rich with green and built heritage.

Preservation of trees along Jalan Kota

Melaka River

As in the past, the river is still used as the main artery through the city. Fishermen and river cruises are some of the many attractions, moving up and down the waterway that was once pulsating with activities. Growing awareness of the river's importance has led to restaurants and shops being reoriented to face the river. River walks, which are available along certain stretches and pedestrian bridges crossing the river offer rare glimpses of the river's potential and contribution towards city image. Although cleaning will not be an easy task, maintaining the water way and its inherent beauty will be an ultimate test for the new generation of an environmentally conscious society.

Sea and Beaches

Facing the Straits of Malacca, Melaka has the coastal city image. In the past, the city has always maintained a close relationship with the sea. Blessed with long sandy beaches that are accessible at all times, sea and beaches are a centre for social activities and water sports. Coastal roads present a picturesque image of the city set against the Straits of Melaka. Sensitive water front development and beautification of the coastline is being carried out to preserve the city's natural heritage and enhance the Melaka coastal city image.

Promenade and recreational activities along the Klebang beach.

Conservation Law and Guidelines

Preservation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage Enactment 1988

Acknowledging the city's importance, the historical context, and its cultural significance, a conservation law solely for the Melaka state, Melaka State Government Gazette (Warta Karajaan Negeri Melaka), Preservation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage Enactment 1988 was established and its primary function is to protect the built and cultural heritage (including ethnographic, work of arts, manuscripts, coins etc) so as to retain their significance, which includes maintenance, restoration, and adaptive reuse of historical relics.

Although it covers the whole state of Melaka, the Melaka city was given special emphasis and consideration. A conservation master plan and conservation zone was established in protecting the historic quarters and under the enactment, the local council was given full authority in approving and setting conditions for works to be carried out to the listed built heritage or any new or renovation works to be carried out within the conservation zone. An appointed conservation committee was formed under the enactment as advisor to the state government pertaining issues of conservation and preservation. A Conservation and Preservation Fund was set up by the State Authority and backed by the Federal Government to be used towards preserving and maintaining local heritage, acquiring any cultural heritage of exceptional importance and organising campaigns for the general public. The fund was also allocated as a grant to privately owned cultural heritage for conservation purposes and tax exemption.

The Town and Country Planning Act 1976 (Act 172) Tree Preservation Order.

This act empowers the local planning authority to issue tree preservation order which prohibits the cutting of any particular tree or trees unless with the written permission of the local planning authority.

NOTIS 66
MENURUT AKTA PERANCANGAN
BANDAR & DESA (PIN. '95), BHGN. V , SEK. 35,
POKOK INI TIDAK BOLEH DIBINASAKAN
DALAM APA JUA BENTUK SEKALIPUN
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TYDP MPMBB
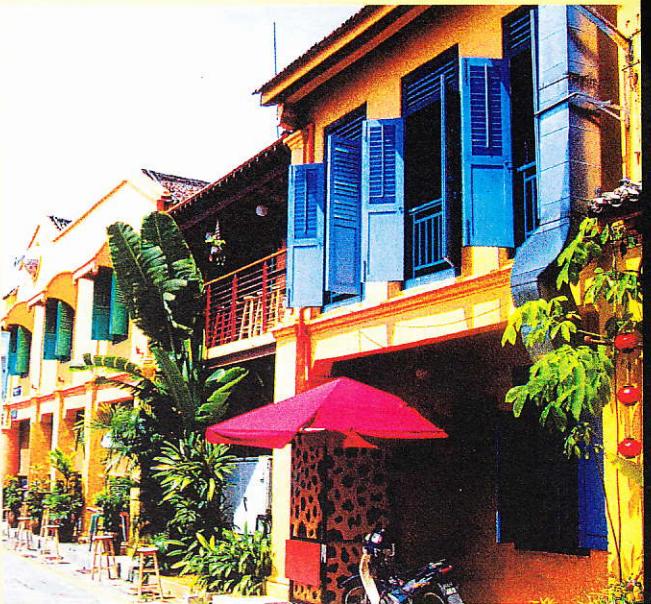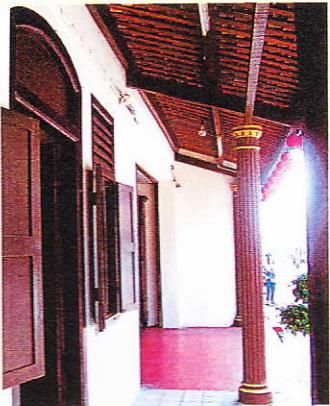
Conservation Guidelines and Regulation

The Melaka Historical City Municipal Council (MPMBB) is in the process of preparing comprehensive guidelines and regulations for the city to maintain the city image and its historic value. The guideline is aimed to provide:
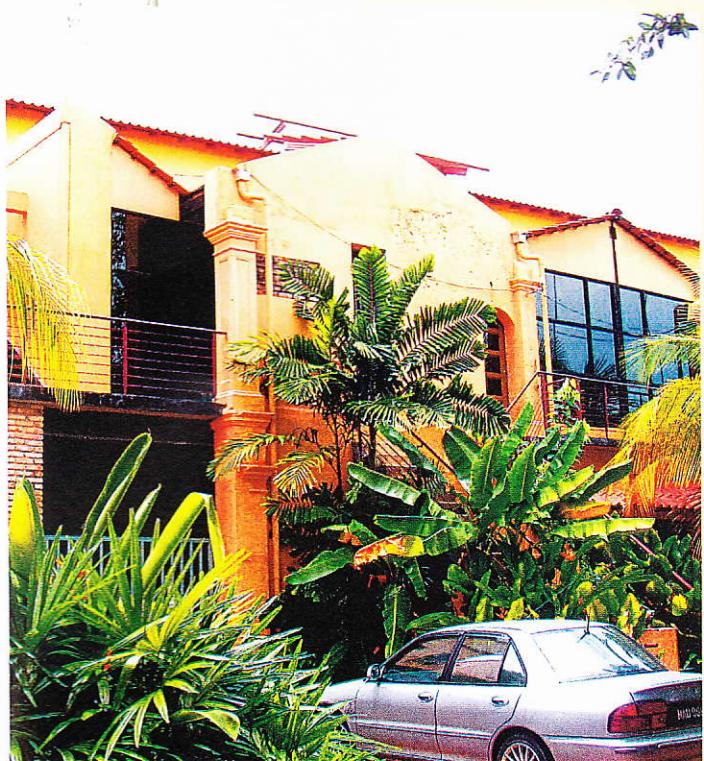
- General guidelines in preserving the streetscape quality and urban context of the historic city with high cultural significance.
- Special guidelines for specific historical buildings. This includes detail design briefs for maintenance, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation of these important historical buildings and relics.
- Controlling guidelines for new infill development in the conservation zones (historic core) with regard to its context and visual quality.
- Guidelines for building use, suitable for locality and the overall context.
- Guidelines for the improvement of visual quality which covers building maintenance, colour, signage and facades treatment,
- Guidelines for improvement of circulation systems and movement within the city.
- Management guidelines for maintaining and conserving buildings within the conservation areas.

Appendices

1.0 The Philosophy behind the Total Planning and Development Doctrine

1.1 Relationship between Man and the Creator

Due consideration and respect to the Creator must be maintained and incorporated into any human undertaking. In addition, the continuous cultivation and strengthening belief of man and his Creator must be upheld within the context of development. Hence, the planning principles embrace this strong relationship to the highest degree and transform it to the physical elements that shape a city.

1.2 Relationship between Man and Man

Man and society forms the driving force behind every development that takes place. Development evolved from the needs of man as an individual and man as a social being to complement his existence. Individuals living in communal spaces form societies that are moulded to form communities. This will eventually form the basis of a city. A city, thus, provides meaningful existence to its citizens through the fostering of interaction among individuals from all levels of society.

1.3 Relationship between Man and the Environment

The environment is not owned but merely borrowed from future generations. As the current caretakers of this priceless resource, man has the responsibility to maintain, preserve and enhance his surroundings. Structures are built according to acceptable guidelines and incorporated into the environment of a particular area. Proper assessment and evaluation are conducted to ensure a holistic approach to any form of development. Hence, a physical structure signifies the beginning of total planning and development.

1.4 Concepts and Philosophies

The Total Planning and Development Doctrine is translated and implemented through five characteristics which in turn benefits the residents and cities.

1.4.1 Comprehensiveness

All values, be it moral, spiritual, physical or material have to be addressed. Non-functional if segregated or individualized, these values are essential to ensure the sustainability and well-being of all planning and development achievements.

1.4.2 Man as the Focus of Development

It is important to strike a balance between people's basic needs and nature's capacity in sustaining them. As such, policies need to be formulated and activities planned and developed accordingly to maintain a healthy environment for citizens. Formulation of policies and planning and development activities will have to embrace the needs, attitudes and aspirations of people within the boundaries of the environment.

1.4.3 Multi-Dimensional Activities

Within the sphere of proper planning and development, every aspect of the way of living and its related activities will have to be taken into serious consideration. Through such holistic planning and development coupled with the provision of equitable solutions, a fair development model will materialise.

1.4.4 Quantitative and Qualitative Changes

Quantitative and qualitative changes are results of development. Well-balanced planning and development will result in changes that represent man's appreciation of to the Creator.

1.4.5 Equitable Utilisation and Distribution of Resources

This doctrine emphasises the optimum and wise usage of resources in preventing wastage. Based on the concepts of justice and equality, man is provided with an equitable distribution of all available natural resources.

1.5 State and National Policies

Melaka has set the strategic goal of becoming a developed city-state by the year 2010. Economic factors are taken into consideration and they are resources are being diversified in order to have a more sustainable local economy. Tourism is being diversified into niche products such as wellness, agricultural and heritage tourism. Education is also a main thrust of the state with policies set to make the city and the state as a whole an education centre. In terms of heritage, the city is aiming for a listing on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The built and social heritage that the city possesses would be more sustainable and able to become an important source of pride and economy for the city.

Melaka State is aiming to create a 'City State' with balanced development; to excel in industry and tourism and ensuring the development of districts and the state are in line with global development. Melaka city is located in the Melaka Central District, which is one of the three administrative districts governed by the State of Melaka. Among the main City State Policies are:

- To distribute facilities, utilities, and job opportunities evenly to all areas within the State
- To avoid overcrowding and to distribute development pressure from over developed areas
- Complementary development among the different economic sectors for optimum growth
- Protection of ecology and environment for sustainable growth

The Melaka State Structure Plan is a comprehensive development plan that covers the three districts in detail and underlines the State policies and strategic proposals for development, land use and social economic growth. Melaka city together with Ayer Keroh is targeted to become the urban centre, administrative centre and the development centre for the State of Melaka.

At the national level, a National Physical Plan is formulated towards the achievement of sustainable development in the country. The plan is long-term and indicates broad Government outlines needed for the physical development of the country. The Plan is reviewed every five years and in tandem with the review of the National Five Year Development Plans. Built on the foundations of the socio-economic needs of the country, the Plan also provides a framework for the revision and implementation of local development plans.

Among other policies that are taken into account within the scope of planning and development are:

1.5.1 Melaka and Vision 2020

The vision 2020 is not only intended purely for economical advancement but also covers other aspects of life; with emphasis on positive social and spiritual values and quality of life. From this perspective, Melaka could contribute towards the vision by enhancing cultural and mental development of its people; ambitious and independent, self confident, ethical, religious and caring society without neglecting the economic aspect of the city.

Melaka city-state however, is aiming for the status of a developed state by 2010. Melaka city could develop towards the Vision 2020 without the global image of high-rise towers and skyscrapers that dilute city images. By recognizing and developing its own strength and character, rejecting destructive influences, the city will develop into a unique and recognizable image that truly reflects Malaysian values and identity.

1.5.2 National Development Policy (NDP)

The objectives of the National Development Policy (NDP), among others, are to create a just and united society apart from maintaining social stability and effective economic management. This is aimed for the provision of a suitable environment for growth equipped with equitable distribution of resources. The NDP also emphasises the eradication of poverty and the restructuring of society to rectify any social and economic imbalances among races. Another essential aspect of the NDP is in the moulding of a society with positive social and spiritual values as well as inculcating national pride in each citizen.

1.5.3 The Five-Year Malaysia Plan

The Five-Year Malaysia Plan is formulated to continuously maintain the balanced development concept as mentioned within the NDP. The Plan (2001-2005) also pays serious attention to strategies in the generation of rapid and continuous economic growth while maintaining a fair distribution of wealth among ethnic groups as well as between the urban and rural population. This equitable distribution of wealth must also balance the conservation of the environment and natural resources. Under this plan, sustainable development is stressed upon as the 8th covenant that emphasises on ideals that are discussed visually within these pages.

1.5.4 Melaka and UNESCO World Heritage List

The city of Melaka was proclaimed as 'A Historical City' on April 15th, 1989. Among the resolutions that were made during this congress includes a proposal to suggest the inclusion of the city in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The UNESCO convention provides for the protection of those cultural and natural properties deemed to be of outstanding universal values, properties of great interest and importance from an international viewpoint. The outstanding universal value is judged using two sets of criteria; cultural property and the natural property of a particular site. The main intention is to provoke awareness in the richness and diversity of world cultural and natural heritage.

The inclusion of Melaka city in the World Heritage List will mean international recognition to the importance of the historical context of the city as well as efforts of the local council and the Malaysian government in conservation and preservation. It will guarantee that the city's heritage is protected and preserved for future generations as well as promoting the city to an international arena.

2.0 Planning the Urban and Commercial Center

The urban centre represents the mode for learning, economy and civilisation of a country, state or district. It is also the place for social development where the public interacts through shopping, learning, working and recreating whilst obtaining government services.
In keeping with its important role, an urban centre should have the following outstanding characteristics:

- History - Preserve and maintain buildings which are historic and symbolise the noble values of a civilisation;
- Knowledge - The urban centre as a centre of academic excellence through the provision of integrated facilities such as schools, mosques and science centres;
- Benefits - The economic activities and facilities of the urban centre is of benefit to all levels of users;
- The Mosque as a focus - In its role as the pulse of a successful network of development;
- An interaction centre - Urban activities that provide opportunities for interaction towards achieving unity;
- Harmony - Design of a city that is in harmony with its environment;
- Beauty and cleanliness - Systematic planning and development of infrastructure, public and social facilities so that they will appear harmonious, beautiful and easily maintained; and
- Access - In planning for the urban centre, focuses on the accessibility criteria which should be adequate, strategic and integrated.

2.1 Planning of Open Space and City Infrastructure

- Provide plazas, green spaces and parks as well as various categories of open spaces in order to make a liveable garden city;
- Provide commercial and parking facilities, drainage, waste disposal systems, and other comprehensive and user-friendly urban facilities; and
- Provide service protocols for electric cables, water pipes, sewerage, telephones, etc.

2.2 Planning a Housing Development

Housing represents the foundation for creating a happy family and a harmonious society. Therefore, housing facilities should provide a quality living environment that can contribute to comfortable living. It should be located in areas that encourage interaction, and enhances family values.

In line with its function and role, the characteristics of a good residential area are:

- Comfort - A comfortable internal space design and environment areas will assist in the formation of a harmonious family system;
- Friendly - Providing facilities that promote a human-friendly neighbourhood;
- Beautiful, with quality and identity - A design that symbolizes beauty, quality, room for growth and with its own image and identity;
- Adequate and affordable - Adequate choice of housing, that is affordable by the people;
- Clean and harmonious - A housing area and environment that is clean, healthy and in harmony with it's surrounding;
- Complete - Has complete social facilities and utilities (self-contained); and
- Safe - Located in an area that is safe from natural disasters.

2.3 Planning for a Green Environment

Open space, recreation and landscape are important aspects that need to be given emphasis in development efforts for the wellbeing of man. Among the functions of landscape and open space are as follows:

- Recreation at areas for public use;
- Preservation of historic places;
- Natural areas and wildlife habitats;
- Areas of integrated use comprising of recreation, sports and flood control functions;
- Zones separating conflicting land use activities;
- Ecological areas with an important function in the evaporation system; and
- Increase visual and physical quality of the city.

Among the good characteristics that deserve attention in outlining related guidelines are:

- Responsible to the user - Open and recreational space which can be put to good use with recreational activities which are healthy, educational, mentally stimulating and promotes positive social interaction;
- Integrated - Recreation, open spaces and suitable landscape are integrated with other components such as residential, industrial and business areas and the urban centre;
- Beautiful and functional landscape; and
- A balanced design - A creative and innovative designs in the hard and soft landscape.

2.4   Planning and Islam

It is a compulsory requirement for Malaysia, having Islam as the official religion, to provide places of worship for Muslims. Being a multi-racial country, places of worship for non-Muslims are not neglected and specific facilities for worship are permitted, such as temples and churches.

Apart from being a place of worship, the mosque also functions as a civic, administrative, education and strategic centre for a civil society and as a base to strengthen solidarity and unity among Muslims.

The mosque also functions as a place for meeting or discussion and as an institution of national development. Provision of this facility is not only meant for worship but embraces a wider scope and in line with government's effort to achieve Vision 2020 towards the formation of a civil society without sacrificing high moral values.

The seven primary roles of the mosque are:

-       As a place of worship;
-       As a centre of education and knowledge;
-       As a place for lectures for the local residents;
-       As a 'house of piety' - creating an atmosphere of tranquillity with beautiful landscape, that is clean and relaxing;
-       As a daily meeting place for the local residents to carry out welfare work;
-       As a centre for the dissemination of knowledge, a computerised Islamic information centre, a place for revision and exhibition which can also be provided with courts for games; and
-       As a centre of education, information, dissemination, welfare, moral rehabilitation, promotion of the arts and other activities for Muslims.

2.5   Planning for Transportation

The transportation system is one of the main components in any settlement because it connects all the activities within the settlement. It aims to fulfil several objectives, including:

-       To facilitate accessibility to places of worship, work, recreation, shopping, education, etc.;
-       Opens up opportunities for interaction and strengthens unity and relationships among the residents; and
-       Increases economic activities and opens up employment opportunities.

A good transportation and traffic system will have the following main features:

-       Informative - Provides accurate information for the convenience of users;
-       Quality - A transportation system which is caring, user friendly, artistic, environmental-friendly, clean and orderly with respect to various users;
-       Comprehensive - Complete with supporting facilities, adequate, suitable and attractive;
-       Efficient; and
-       Easily accessible, competitive and children, disabled and elderly-friendly.

2.6   Planning for a Civil Society

Planning for the provision of social facilities should be of good quality and adequately planned in terms of distribution, number and suitability of size based on existing standards so as to promote interaction among the residents. A consolidated planning of social programmes and activities will create a caring and united society which will indirectly strengthen the family institution, reinforce friendships, enhance the spirit of neighbourliness and act as an agent of development for the local community.

Social facilities which should be provided to inculcate the values of a caring and united society are as follows:

-    Health facilities;
-    Education facilities;
-    Service facilities; and
-    Rehabilitation centre facilities.

2.7   Planning Laws of Malaysia

Law relating to town and country planning is contained in Town and Country Planning Act 1976 (Act 172), the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1995 (Act 933) and the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 2001(Act A1129). These Acts ensure the uniformity of town and country planning laws practice by local authorities throughout the country. Under section 3 of the Act 172 the State Authority assume the overall responsibility for planning the land use and the development of land within the state. It provides the local planning authorities with the responsibility for planning, development control and conservation of building and land in their respective area. Special provision is also given for certain issues to ensure proper planning and preservation of the environment:

a.   Preservation of Natural Topography
In order to protect the natural land conditions from excessive disturbance or damages caused by new development, this act empowers local planning authorities to ensure adequate conditions are made for the preservation of natural topography, before granting planning permission.

b.   Tree Preservation Order
This particular Act empowers the local planning authority to issue tree preservation order which prohibits the cutting of any particular tree or trees unless with the written consent from the local authority.

c.   Public Participation
Section 9 and 13 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1976 (Act 172) provides for public participation in the preparation of Development Plan. It allows the public to influence and shape the Development Plan at the formative stage of the preparation. Public views will be evaluated by the sub-committee appointed by the State Planning Committee.

d.   Development Control
Under this Act 'no person, other than local planning authority shall commence, undertake or carry out any development unless planning permission in respect of the development has been granted to him.

Town Planning Act 1995(Act 538)
This Act is specially formulated for the profession of Town Planning in Malaysia. This Act empowers the Town Planning Board to regulate all town planning practices were carried out by professionals within the laws of town and country planning.

2.8   Conservation Areas

-    Generally, development is not encouraged in hilly areas which have been identified for preservation, that is:

-    Areas which have been declared as hill land under Part 11, Section 3, Land Conservation Act 1990 (Act 385);
-    Hill areas of geological interest;
-    Hill areas of historical value;
-    Areas which have been gazetted as water catchment areas;
-    Areas which have been gazetted as permanent forest reserves; and
-    To preserve the natural topography as far as possible.

-    Cutting of the hills should be kept to a minimum and will only be allowed for the provision of infrastructure;
-    Development in areas more than 150 metres above sea level is not allowed;
-    Areas that have outstanding natural beauty such as waterfalls and lakes should be preserved. Should development be proposed in such areas, a detailed conservation study should be carried out;
-    Forests and logging activities that affect the environment should have an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA); this includes, development of forest land involving an area of 500 hectares of forest land, 100 hectares of virgin forests and 50 hectares of mangrove swamp forest; and logging areas exceeding 500 hectares;
-    Open forest burning is strictly prohibited.

2.9   Riverside Development

-    Guidelines for the Riverfront Development Concept, JPS 1995:-
-    The shifting of river alignment is prohibited;
-    River reserves can only be developed as recreation and green areas;
-    River reserves can be used as buffer zones to control pollution and erosion;
-    Permanent buildings and infrastructure are not permitted within the river reserves such as buildings, electric poles, Light Rail Transit, etc.;
-    Buildings and infrastructure should not obstruct the scenery surrounding the river;
-    The natural condition of the river should be preserved for the continued living of its flora and fauna;
-    The outflow of sewerage from development areas should be channelled into one main outlet before being drained into the river;
-    Sewerage facilities equipped with a central treatment system before being drained into the river;
-    All buildings erected should face the river;
-    The natural flow and direction of the river should be maintained and conserved;
-    River reserve can be made into a buffer zone to control surface pollution.

2.10   Buffer Zone

-    Activities producing in air, noise and smell pollution are not permitted within buffer zones; and
-    Activities that are permitted as buffer zones are those that do not result in pollution and nuisance such as roads, open spaces, crop plantations, waterways and swimming pools.

Further Information

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9. MELAKA STRUCTURE PLAN
   Federal Department of Town and Country Planning
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10. WARTA KERAJAAN NEGERI MELAKA

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SEMENANJUNG MALAYSIA

Melaka City Image