

The History of Ipoh

Ipoh is the capital of Perak. It is located in the Kinta District, 205 kilometres north of Kuala Lumpur and 170 kilometres south of George Town, Penang. Ipoh is the fourth largest city in Malaysia with an estimated 2009 population of 702,464 (Source: Wikipedia).

Ipoh developed from the Malay village of Palau along the banks of the Kinta River. The tin rush of the 1880's caused the town to boom. By this time, Ipoh consisted of about 340 houses and about 4,000 people. On 1 June 1892 a fire broke out and destroyed over half the town.

Ipoh was a small village until the late 19th century when it became a major tin mining centre. The town's growth was rapid, and it became one of the most important cities in the Federated Malay States.

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region.

Ipoh was invaded by the Japanese on 15 December 1941. During the Japanese Occupation, Ipoh was made the capital of Perak, in place of Taiping. In March 1942, St. Michael's Institution became headquarters of the Japanese administration. After liberation in 1945, Ipoh remained the capital of Perak.

Ipoh gained Municipal status on 31 May 1962 and was granted City status on 27 May 1988.

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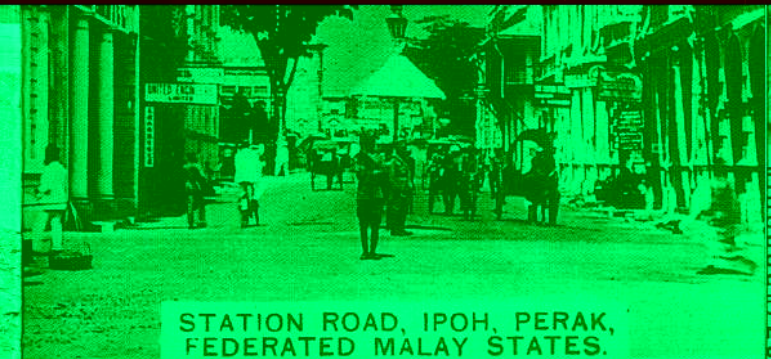
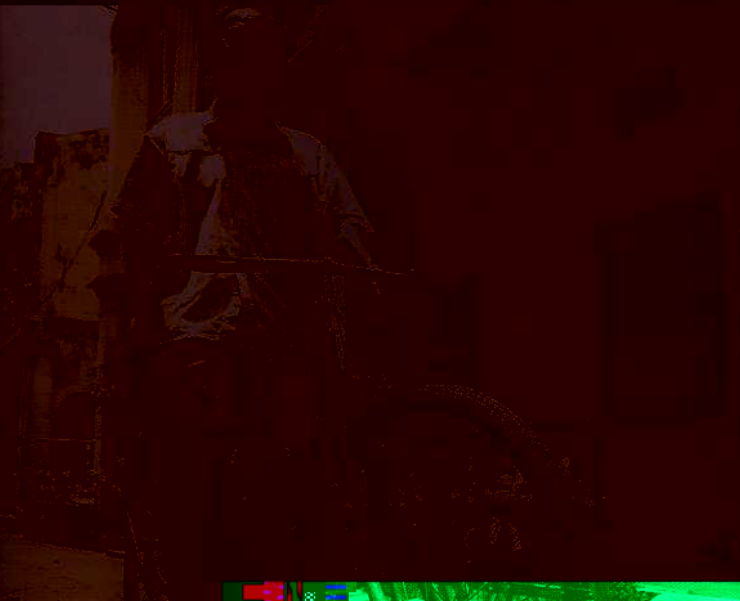

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Designed by

With Special Thanks To
Mark Lee

IPOH HERITAGE TRAIL

MAP 1



STATION ROAD, IPOH, PERAK,
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

PERAK, MALAYSIA

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Ipoh's Living Heritage...



Ipoh Sar Hor Fun (Kong Hoo Lee Street)

"Ipoh Sar Hor Fun" (Cantonese) refers to silky-smooth flat rice noodles served in a clear chicken soup topped with strips of chicken and prawns. The noodles are said to originate from Sar Hor in Guangzhou, China and are made from rice flour, water and palm oil. They are referred to as "Kway Teow" in Hokkien.



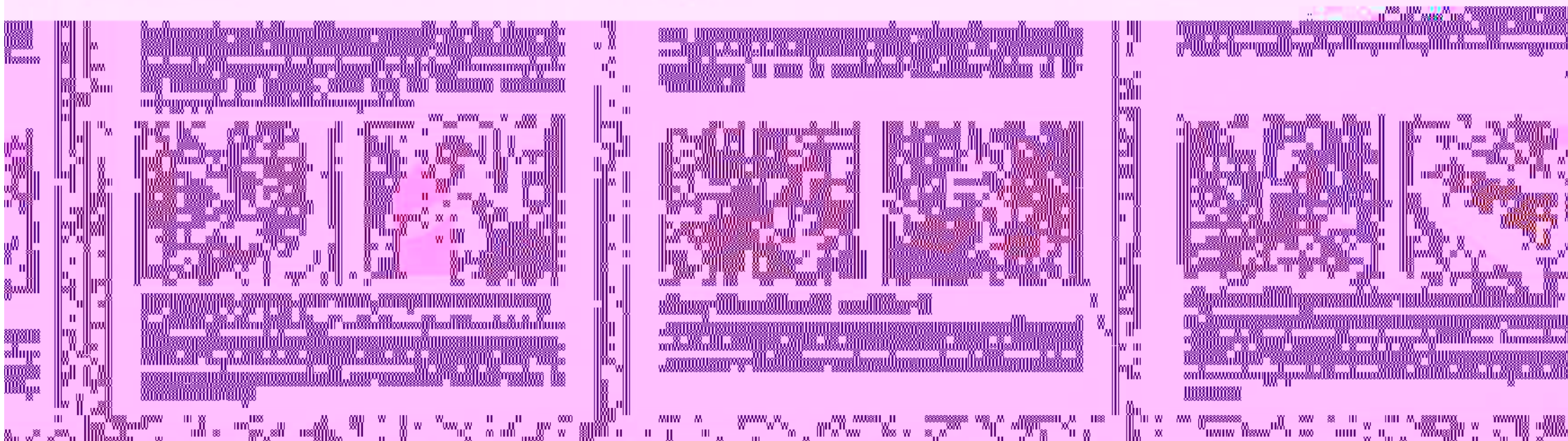
Biscuits and Pastries (145 Hugh Low Street)

Ipoh biscuits and pastries date back to the early 1900's where they were traditionally given during Chinese festivals and as wedding gifts. The dough is still made by hand although today healthier ingredients such as vegetable oil are used instead of lard.



Rattan Weaver (31B Market Street)

While rattan furniture remains fairly popular in Malaysia, rattan craftsmen are hard to come by these days. These craftsmen specialise in binding, weaving, repairing and producing fine pieces of rattan furniture.



IPOH HERITAGE TRAIL MAP 1

Walking Duration: Approx 2 hours



Selamat Datang (Welcome) to Ipoh Old Town.



Ipoh's Railway Station

Ipoh's Railway Station was built from 1914 to 1917 in the Neo-Classical style and designed by government architect.



Royal Ipoh Club

The Royal Ipoh Club was founded by a group of Europeans in 1895 and has the largest lawn in Ipoh.



F.M.S. Bar & Restaurant

Founded in 1906 by a Chinese immigrant, the F.M.S. Bar & Restaurant is a popular meeting place for the community.

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Straits Trading Building (OCBC)

The Straits Trading Company erected this building in 1907, in the Italian Renaissance style, with a corner tower. Straits Trading bought tin ore from the miners and at its peak handled half of all sales of tin produced in the State.



The Chartered Bank

The Chartered Bank originally opened its Ipoh branch in 1902 and provided credit to the Straits Trading Company and later the Eastern Smelting Company. The current building dates from 1924.



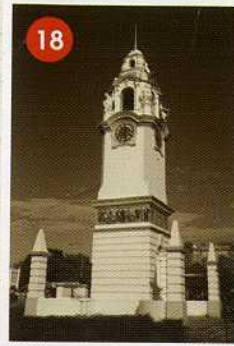
Mercantile Bank

Built in 1931, this Art Deco building was built for the Mercantile Bank of India. Although the ownership has changed the words "Mercantile Bank" and "1931" remain on the front of the building.



Perak Hydro Building

The Perak River Hydro-Electric Power Company was formed in London in 1926 to supply power to the mines and dredges in the Kinta Valley. The company was located at these premises from the 1930's.



Birch Memorial

This clock tower was built in 1909 as a memorial to J.W.W. Birch, the first British Resident of Perak. Birch was assassinated in Pasir Salak in 1875. The panels portray famous figures from world history.



Jan Sahib's Office

Originally a block of commercial buildings built in the early 1930's, No. 128 Belfield Street was the office of Jan Sahib, son of Shaik Adam, founder of the Town Padang Mosque. Jan Sahib came to Ipoh to join his father's business, the Kinta Valley Rubber Estate.



Dramatists' Hostel

Built in the 1920's, this building was constructed as a hostel for the actors who performed next door at the Chinese opera theatre. The original theatre dated back to 1891 and was rebuilt in 1906. The theatre has since been demolished.



Perak Ku Kong Chow Association

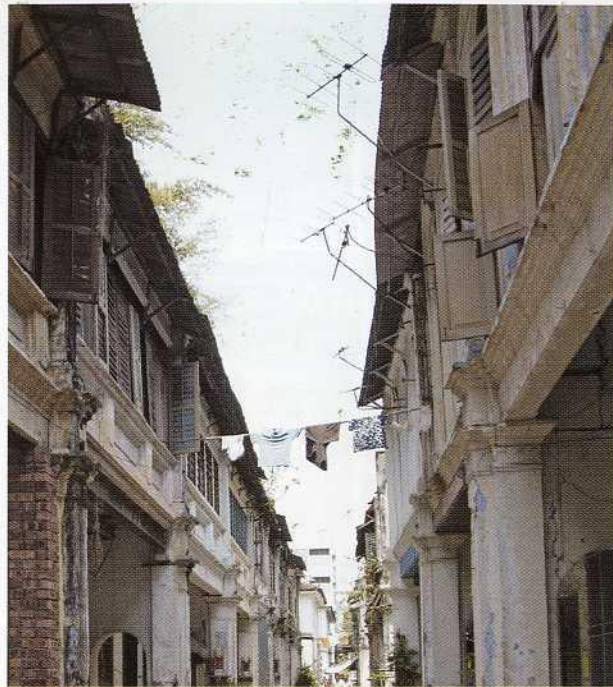
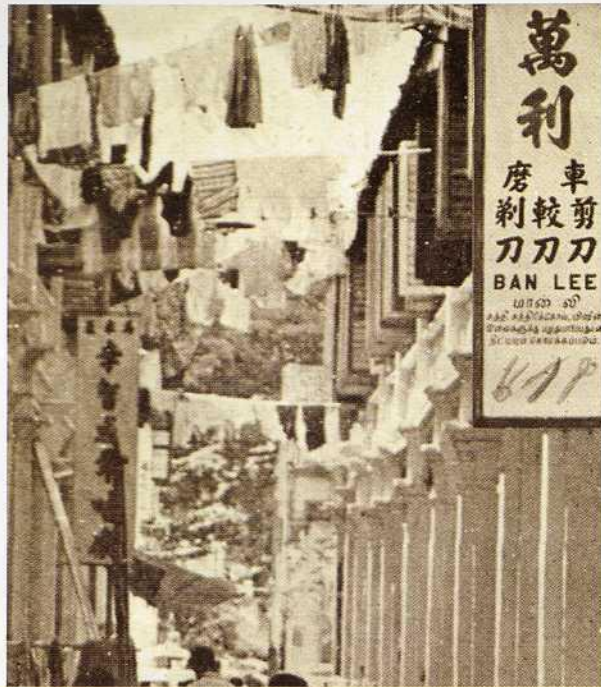
This Chinese association building was built in 1928 for the Cantonese community living in the Kinta Valley. At one time it was home to the largest Cantonese community in Malaya. The facade is in the form of an imperial arch.



Han Chin Pet Soo

Han Chin Pet Soo was founded as a miner's club by Yau Tet Shin and Leong Fee. The current building dates from 1929. It was the only club exempt from registration under the "Exemptions Under The Registration of Societies Act 1955".

24 Panglima Lane (Concubine Lane)



Past



Present



Future...