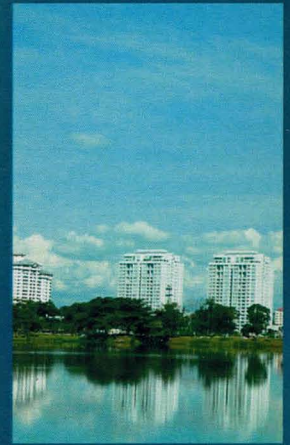
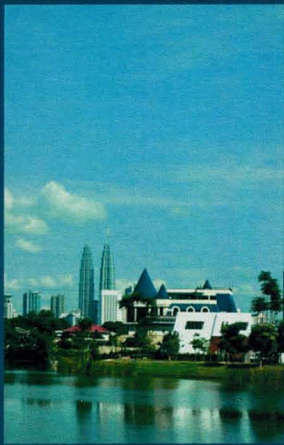


Visioning Malaysian Landscape



**Mazlina Mansor
Ismawi Hj. Zen
Jamilah Othman
Nor Zalina Harun**



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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES OF HISTORIC SETTLEMENTS IN MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

Ultimately, historic sites, buildings, natural environment and traditional activities are of paramount important for each nation and country. However, today conscious or unconsciously most of these attributes which establish in all over the world are basically facing similar problems which gradually lead to their deterioration. Their loss is a serious diminution and perhaps irreplaceable. The purpose of this chapter is to provide general information of historic settlements in Malaysia and their long established qualities or special attributes that give them a special character. It may be useful in this chapter to understand such attributes for the need of conservation. It is only a good planning to conserve and enhance these attributes which gives a place a special character which in turn differentiates it from other places whilst provide a greater sense of place and may retain the continuity in the face of every rapid changes in life style and technology.

Keywords: historic settlement, Malaysia, special attributes,

INTRODUCTION

Malaysia landscape comprises of many towns and cities which are of historic and cultural significance. Although such settlements have undergone many changes and been expanded in size, in many cases the original layout have survived to some extent and still occupy a significant location in what might be modern, growing settlements. Though, there is evidence to suggest that there were numbers of cities existed in Malaysia from pre-historic times (Idid, 1996) and there is a recorded history of settlements from the time of Malay Sultanate Kingdom which began from 1400-to date. However, until quite recently, much of the research has focused specifically on history and not concentrates on the development of urban areas and its components in detail. Generally, towns during the Malay Sultanate period had undergone numerous changes and been expanded in size especially during the British Colonial period from 1786 to 1957. Therefore beside known as historical town, these long established towns are also known as colonial town. As the time passes by, expansions by expansion made and as well as the population grows many of these towns gradually been turned into a city such as Kuala Lumpur and Georgetown.