



# Physical Attributes Significant in Preserving the Social Sustainability of the Traditional Malay Settlement

Reframing the Vernacular: Politics, Semiotics, and Representation pp 225-238 | Cite as

- Nor Zalina Harun (1) Email author ([nzalina@ukm.edu.my](mailto:nzalina@ukm.edu.my))
- Najiha Jaffar (1)
- Puteri Shireen Jahn Kassim (2)

1. Institute of the Malay World and Civilization, The National University of Malaysia, ,  
Bangi, Malaysia

2. Department of Applied Arts, Kuliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design,  
International Islamic University Malaysia, , Gombak, Malaysia

Conference paper

First Online: 30 October 2019

- 130 Downloads

## Abstract

A traditional settlement is defined by a colony in which physical attributes and its occupants retain their daily traditions and skills, as well as other cultural practices. However, due to urbanization and economic development, certain traditional settlements in Malaysia are currently undergoing tremendous changes. Hence, this paper identifies the physical attributes that are significant for the preservation of social sustainability in the traditional Malay settlement. In this research, a qualitative methodology was used to identify the characteristics of the traditional settlements in Kuala Terengganu. In this study, street pattern, housing boundaries and open spaces were identified to be significant as key characteristics for the preservation of social interaction in the three traditional settlements studied. Therefore, the study concluded that methods and selections of such physical characteristics and space typology are significant in order to maintain the social sustainability in traditional settlement communities.

## Keywords

Traditional Malay settlement Social sustainability Physical attributes

This is a preview of subscription content, [log in](#) to check access.

## Notes

## Acknowledgement

The authors would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (MOHE) in the support of this research. This research is funded by the Dana Cabaran Perdana: Akal Budi Melayu (DCP) for research project code (DCP-2017-008/3).

## References

1. Khoo, S. N.: Streets of George Town. Areca Books, Penang (2007).  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Streets%20of%20George%20Town&author=SN.%20Khoo&publication_year=2007) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?title=Streets%20of%20George%20Town&author=SN.%20Khoo&publication\\_year=2007](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Streets%20of%20George%20Town&author=SN.%20Khoo&publication_year=2007))
2. Shamsuddin, S., Sulaiman, A. B.: Lessons from Traditional Towns and Cities in Malaysia for Sustainable Future Places. In: Urban Design Issues in the Developing World: The Case of Malaysia and Nigeria, 1–21. Ahmad Bashri, S. and Mouktar, M.M (ed.). Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Press, Kuala Lumpur (2008).  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Lessons%20from%20Traditional%20Towns%20and%20Cities%20in%20Malaysia%20for%20Sustainable%20Future%20Places&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&publication_year=2008) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?title=Lessons%20from%20Traditional%20Towns%20and%20Cities%20in%20Malaysia%20for%20Sustainable%20Future%20Places&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&publication\\_year=2008](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Lessons%20from%20Traditional%20Towns%20and%20Cities%20in%20Malaysia%20for%20Sustainable%20Future%20Places&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&publication_year=2008))
3. Shamsuddin, S., Sulaiman, A. B., & Amat, R. C.: Urban landscape factors that influenced the character of George Town, Penang UNESCO World Heritage Site. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 50, 238–253 (2012).  
[CrossRef](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.08.031) (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.08.031>)  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Urban%20landscape%20factors%20that%20influenced%20the%20character%20of%20George%20Town%2C%20Penang%20UNESCO%20World%20Heritage%20Site&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&author=RC.%20Amat&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=50&pages=238-253&publication_year=2012) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?title=Urban%20landscape%20factors%20that%20influenced%20the%20character%20of%20George%20Town%2C%20Penang%20UNESCO%20World%20Heritage%20Site&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&author=RC.%20Amat&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=50&pages=238-253&publication\\_year=2012](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Urban%20landscape%20factors%20that%20influenced%20the%20character%20of%20George%20Town%2C%20Penang%20UNESCO%20World%20Heritage%20Site&author=S.%20Shamsuddin&author=AB.%20Sulaiman&author=RC.%20Amat&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=50&pages=238-253&publication_year=2012))
4. Twarog, S., Kapoor, P.: Protecting and Promoting Traditional Knowledge: Systems, National Experiences and International Dimensions, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2004).  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Protecting%20and%20Promoting%20Traditional%20Knowledge%3A%20Systems%2C%20National%20Experiences%20and%20International%20Dimensions&author=S.%20Twarog&author=P.%20Kapoor&publication_year=2004) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?title=Protecting%20and%20Promoting%20Traditional%20Knowledge%3A%20Systems%2C%20National%20Experiences%20and%20International%20Dimensions&author=S.%20Twarog&author=P.%20Kapoor&publication\\_year=2004](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Protecting%20and%20Promoting%20Traditional%20Knowledge%3A%20Systems%2C%20National%20Experiences%20and%20International%20Dimensions&author=S.%20Twarog&author=P.%20Kapoor&publication_year=2004))
5. Ani, A., Mohamed, N., & Rahman, N. A.: Socio-cultural influences in the composition of traditional Malay house compounds in rural Melaka. *ALAM CIPTA, International Journal of Sustainable Tropical Design Research and Practice*, 5(1). (2012).  
[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Ani%2C%20A.%2C%20Mohamed%2C%20N.%2C%20%26%20Rahman%2C%20N.%20A.%3A%20Socio-cultural%20influences%20in%20the%20composition%20of%20traditional%20) (<https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Ani%2C%20A.%2C%20Mohamed%2C%20N.%2C%20%26%20Rahman%2C%20N.%20A.%3A%20Socio-cultural%20influences%20in%20the%20composition%20of%20traditional%20>)

Malay%20house%20compounds%20in%20rural%20Melaka.%20ALAM%20CI  
PTA%2C%20International%20Journal%20of%20Sustainable%20Tropical%20  
Design%20Research%20and%20Practice%2C%205%281%29.%20%282012%2  
9.)

6. Radzuan, I.S.M.: Cultural heritage incentives for the conservation of traditional settlements: the case of Malaysia, Japan and South Korea/Indera Syahrul Mat Radzuan (Doctoral dissertation, University of Malaya). (2016).  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Cultural%20heritage%20incentives%20for%20the%20conservation%20of%20traditional%20settlements%3A%20the%20case%20of%20Malaysia%2C%20Japan%20and%20South%20Korea%2FInderaSyahrul%20Mat%20Radzuan%20%28Doctoral%20dissertation%2C%20University%20of%20Malaya%29&author=ISM.%20Radzuan&publication_year=2016) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Cultural%20heritage%20incentives%20for%20the%20conservation%20of%20traditional%20settlements%3A%20the%20case%20of%20Malaysia%2C%20Japan%20and%20South%20Korea%2FInderaSyahrul%20Mat%20Radzuan%20%28Doctoral%20dissertation%2C%20University%20of%20Malaya%29&author=ISM.%20Radzuan&publication_year=2016)  
q=title=Cultural%20heritage%20incentives%20for%20the%20conservation%20of%20traditional%20settlements%3A%20the%20case%20of%20Malaysia%2C%20Japan%20and%20South%20Korea%2FInderaSyahrul%20Mat%20Radzuan%20%28Doctoral%20dissertation%2C%20University%20of%20Malaya%29&author=ISM.%20Radzuan&publication\_year=2016)
7. Dasar Perancangan Fizikal Desa Negara 2030. PLAN Malaysia (Jabatan Perancangan Bandar Dan Desa) Kementerian Kesejahteraan Bandar, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan. (2017).  
[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Dasar%20Perancangan%20Fizikal%20Desa%20Negara%202030.%20PLAN%20Malaysia%20%28Jabatan%20Perancangan%20Bandar%20Dan%20Desa%29%20Kementerian%20Kesejahteraan%20Bandar%2C%20Perumahan%20Kerajaan%20Tempatan.%20%282017%29.) ([https://scholar.google.com/scholar?](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Dasar%20Perancangan%20Fizikal%20Desa%20Negara%202030.%20PLAN%20Malaysia%20%28Jabatan%20Perancangan%20Bandar%20Dan%20Desa%29%20Kementerian%20Kesejahteraan%20Bandar%2C%20Perumahan%20Kerajaan%20Tempatan.%20%282017%29.)  
q=Dasar%20Perancangan%20Fizikal%20Desa%20Negara%202030.%20PLAN%20Malaysia%20%28Jabatan%20Perancangan%20Bandar%20Dan%20Desa%29%20Kementerian%20Kesejahteraan%20Bandar%2C%20Perumahan%20Kerajaan%20Tempatan.%20%282017%29.)
8. Setiawan, B.: Kampung Kota dan Kota Kampung. Potret Tujuh Kampung di Kota Jogya, PSLH UGM, Yogyakarta (2010).  
[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Setiawan%2C%20B.%3A%20Kampung%20Kota%20dan%20Kota%20Kampung.%20Potret%20Tujuh%20Kampung%20di%20Kota%20Jogya%2C%20PSLH%20UGM%2C%20Yogyakarta%20%282010%29.) ([https://scholar.google.com/scholar?](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Setiawan%2C%20B.%3A%20Kampung%20Kota%20dan%20Kota%20Kampung.%20Potret%20Tujuh%20Kampung%20di%20Kota%20Jogya%2C%20PSLH%20UGM%2C%20Yogyakarta%20%282010%29.)  
q=Setiawan%2C%20B.%3A%20Kampung%20Kota%20dan%20Kota%20Kampung.%20Potret%20Tujuh%20Kampung%20di%20Kota%20Jogya%2C%20PSLH%20UGM%2C%20Yogyakarta%20%282010%29.)
9. Ossen, D. R., Idid, S. A., & Abidin, S. Z.: The Islamic Malay Traditional Towns, Learning Through the Attributes Special Emphasis on Johor Bahru, Malaysia (2010).  
[Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Ossen%2C%20D.%20R.%2C%20Idid%2C%20S.%20A.%2C%20%26%20Abidin%2C%20S.%20Z.%3A%20The%20Islamic%20Malay%20Traditional%20 Towns%2C%20Learning%20Through%20the%20Attributes%20Special%20Emphasis%20on%20Johor%20Bahru%2C%20Malaysia%20%282010%29.) ([https://scholar.google.com/scholar?](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?q=Ossen%2C%20D.%20R.%2C%20Idid%2C%20S.%20A.%2C%20%26%20Abidin%2C%20S.%20Z.%3A%20The%20Islamic%20Malay%20Traditional%20 Towns%2C%20Learning%20Through%20the%20Attributes%20Special%20Emphasis%20on%20Johor%20Bahru%2C%20Malaysia%20%282010%29.)  
q=Ossen%2C%20D.%20R.%2C%20Idid%2C%20S.%20A.%2C%20%26%20Abidin%2C%20S.%20Z.%3A%20The%20Islamic%20Malay%20Traditional%20 Towns%2C%20Learning%20Through%20the%20Attributes%20Special%20Emphasis%20on%20Johor%20Bahru%2C%20Malaysia%20%282010%29.)
10. Widodo, J.: Urban Environment and Human Behaviour: Learning from History and Local Wisdom. Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences, 42, 6–11 (2012).  
[CrossRef](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.04.161) (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.04.161>)  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Urban%20Environment%20and%20Human%20Behaviour%3A%20Learning%20from%20History%20and%20Local%20Wisdom&author=J.%20Widodo&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=42&pages=6-11&publication_year=2012) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Urban%20Environment%20and%20Human%20Behaviour%3A%20Learning%20from%20History%20and%20Local%20Wisdom&author=J.%20Widodo&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=42&pages=6-11&publication_year=2012)  
title=Urban%20Environment%20and%20Human%20Behaviour%3A%20Learning%20from%20History%20and%20Local%20Wisdom&author=J.%20Widodo&journal=Procedia-Social%20and%20Behavioral%20Sciences&volume=42&pages=6-11&publication\_year=2012)
11. Shuhana, S.: Townscape Revisited: Unravelling the Character of the Historic Townscape in Malaysia. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Press, Kuala Lumpur (2011).  
[Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Townscape%20Revisited%3A%20Unravelling%20the%20Character%20of%20the%20Historic%20Townscape%20in%20Malaysia&author=S.%20Shuhana&publication_year=2011) ([http://scholar.google.com/scholar\\_lookup?](http://scholar.google.com/scholar_lookup?title=Townscape%20Revisited%3A%20Unravelling%20the%20Character%20of%20the%20Historic%20Townscape%20in%20Malaysia&author=S.%20Shuhana&publication_year=2011)  
title=Townscape%20Revisited%3A%20Unravelling%20the%20Character%20of%20the%20Historic%20Townscape%20in%20Malaysia&author=S.%20Shuhana&publication\_year=2011)

## Copyright information

© Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2020

## About this paper

Cite this paper as:

Harun N.Z., Jaffar N., Kassim P.S.J. (2020) Physical Attributes Significant in Preserving the Social Sustainability of the Traditional Malay Settlement. In: Suartika G., Nichols J. (eds) Reframing the Vernacular: Politics, Semiotics, and Representation. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22448-6\\_18](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22448-6_18)

- First Online 30 October 2019
- DOI [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22448-6\\_18](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22448-6_18)
- Publisher Name Springer, Cham
- Print ISBN 978-3-030-22447-9
- Online ISBN 978-3-030-22448-6
- eBook Packages [Earth and Environmental Science](#) [Earth and Environmental Science \(Ro\)](#)
- [Buy this book on publisher's site](#)
- [Reprints and Permissions](#)

## Personalised recommendations

SPRINGER NATURE

© 2020 Springer Nature Switzerland AG. Part of [Springer Nature](#).

Not logged in Not affiliated 27.125.241.9