IPOH
PERAK
The City That Tin Built

1 Town Hall building, Club Road
The construction of the Town Hall and Post Office began in 1914 but the shortage of materials and high costs of labour caused by WWI delayed its completion until 1916. This stately colonial building with strong classical elements was designed by government architect A.B. Hubback, who also designed the Railway Station. The contractor was Lim Weng Ching. The Post Office occupied the eastern part of the building, with its entrance from Post Office Road. The Posts and Telegraphs Department moved from Taiping to Ipoh in 1928. The Town Hall has been the venue of many significant events. The Indian poet and Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore once addressed a meeting of Perak's English and vernacular school teachers here in the late 1930s. The Malay Nationalist Party, the first political party formed in Malaya, held its inaugural congress in the Ipoh Town Hall from 30 November to 3 December 1945, attended by more than 300 people from all over Malaya. From 1948, the Town Hall served as the district police headquarters for some years.

2 Birch Memorial, Post Office Road
Unveiled in 1909, the Birch Memorial, "a square decorated tower with a potrait bust and four panels illustrative of the growth of civilisation" was erected on the table-land at a cost of about $25,000. A dedication to J.W.W. Birch, the first British Resident of Perak, is found beneath the bronze bust of Birch in the north-facing niche. The clocktower has one mother bell, 6 ft 6 in. in diameter and weighing 10 cwt., and four smaller bells weighing together 10 cwt., which used to strike the chimes of Big Ben. At the corners of the belfry, mounted on pedestals, are terracotta figures, representing the four "Virtues of British Administration" - Loyalty, with sword and shield, Justice, blind and carrying a sword and a pair of scales, Patience, unarmed, and Fortitude, with a calm face and bearing a spear. On the civilisation panel, 44 famous figures in world history were portrayed. The image of the last Prophet of Islam was painted over in the 1990s due to objection from Muslims to the depiction of the Prophet.

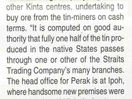
3 The Railway Station, Club Road
[See 'Ipoh Railway Station' overleaf]

4 Chung Thye Pin Building, 14 Station Road
This elegant three-storey corner building from 1907 originally housed the *Medical Hall* established by Dr. R.M. Connolly, then *Oldfields Dispensaries Ltd.* and presently *The George Town Dispensary.* An Irishman trained in Trinity College, Dr. Connolly was recruited to Malaya on government service. He then went into private practice, became an editor of *Times of Malaya* and founded the Perak Anti-Opium Society. The miner Chung Thye Pin (1879-1935), a Tseng Lung Hakka and the son of Kapitan Chung Keng Kooi, the Hai San chief during the Larut tin wars. Chung Thye Pin J.P. was a Federal Councillor, Perak State Councillor, member of the Perak Chinese Advisory Board, and the last Kapitan China of Perak. In 1925, he co-founded the first Chinese limited liability company, the Toh Allang Chinese Tin Company in Perak and printed his own money for use in his mines. He was a keen motorist and owner of prize-winning racehorses. The three-storey bank building next door was formerly the Whiteways department store. At No. 15 Station Road was H. Simoyama's Dental Office & Satow Surgeon Dentist. Across the road (on the left side of the photo above) was the premises of the Japanese photographer I. Itoh, a "High-class Photographer and frame-maker", at No. 101-103 Belfield Street. T. Tasaka's Hairdressing Saloon was at No. 97. [See also 26.]

5 The Court House, Club Road
Two court house buildings, from 1888 and 1909, preceded this classical-style Court House, which was completed in 1928 for the High Court. It has a spiral staircase, and an underground tunnel connecting Courts 1 and 2. The Lower Court moved in after the latter's building was bombed during WWII. During the Japanese Occupation, "the High Court was presided by a Japanese judge, Kuzaka San. He was noted for his impartiality and open-mindedness on the Bench. It was said that those qualities were largely attributed to his western legal training. However, he could not always avoid the influence of the Japanese Public Prosecutor." - *Justice Dato' James Foong, The Malaysian Judiciary*

6 Straits Trading Building, 2 Station Road
In 1889, Herman Muhlinghaus, a tin-smelter from Singapore, set up the Straits Trading Company in Ipoh and other Kinta centres, undertaking to buy ore from the tin-miners on cash terms. "It is computed on good authority that fully one half of the tin produced in the native States passes through one or other of the Straits Trading Company's many branches. The head office for Perak is at Ipoh, where handsome new premises were erected during 1907, in the best quarter of the town. From this centre the whole of the Perak business is directed. The staff comprises twelve Europeans and numerous Chinese and native clerks and assistants." The premises also housed Osborne & Chappel, mining and consulting engineers, the first firm to introduce hydraulic working in the F.M.S. mines in 1891, Cecil Rae's broking firm of Mac Phail & Co. and Harper,Gilfillan & Co., Ltd., travel agents for Malayan Airways Limited, "Malaya's Own Air Line". The landmark three-storey building of Italian Renaissance style with a corner tower was restored for a bank in 1998. The charming footpath on the western side was used as a film set for *Indo-Chine*.

7 S.P.H. De Silva, 43 Station Road
This Renaissance style three-storey corner building dates from the turn of the century, making it one of Ipoh's oldest commercial buildings. In the 1950s, S.P.H. de Silva had their shop here selling trophies, cups, shields and medals while their jewellery shop was up the street. Other fine jewelery shops established by the Sinhalese in Ipoh include P.G. Matheshamy, T. A. Adiris and B. P. de Silva.



8 Leong Yew Koh's legal firm, 37 Station Road
Leong Yew Koh (1888-1963), a Perak-born lawyer, Federal Legislative Councillor, MCA secretary-general, Senator, Minister of Justice and the first Governor of Malacca upon Merdeka, had his law office here in the 1920s. After the war, No. 37-38 was the premises of Stationers & Printers Charles Grenier & Co., established in 1913 and run by the Jansz family.

9 State Medical & Health Office, Club Road
Originally the Yau Tet Shin Mansion, the building retains its beautifully appointed reception hall, with Art Nouveau dado tiles and Edwardian-style timber door frames. In the 1920s it was used by the Anglo-Chinese Girls' School. After the war, it became the State Medical & Health Office, serving also as the address of the St. John's Ambulance Association and the Perak Eurasian Association.

10 Municipal Car Park, Post Office Road
Built against a hill-slope, the car park provides three levels of car-parking, each with its own entrance and exit. It was the first multi-storeyed car park in Malaysia, built at a cost of $100,000 in 1962, just a few years after the country's first parking meters were installed at the adjacent Shaikh Adam Road.

11 Perak Hydro building, Cooper Road
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 as well as for domestic use. In 1930, it undertook to build a hydro-electric station and dam at Chenderoh on the Perak River north of Kuala Kangsar. For many years Perak Hydro was the largest power supplier in Malaya. Its subsidiary, Kinta Electrical Distribution (KED), distributed power to 63 towns across Perak by 1956. The headquarters of this public utility was based out of this 3-storey building from the 1930s.

12 Merchantile Bank Building, 15 Station Road
This four-storey Art Deco building dated 1931, embellished with flagpoles, swags and cartouches, was built for the Mercantile Bank of India Ltd., Guthrie & Co had its office in the bank chambers.

13 The Chartered Bank, 21-27 Station Road
The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China Ltd. opened a branch office in Ipoh in 1902. It provided credit to the Straits Trading Company and later the Eastern Smelting Company. The Perak Administration Report 1924 records, "At Ipoh a three-storied reinforced concrete building of fine architecture for the Chartered Bank" was constructed. Firms such as Botty & Co., A.H. Whittaker & Co., Chartered Accountants, Evatt & Co. and Estate Visiting Agents Milne & Stevens occupied the Bank Chambers.

14 The Central Police Station, Club Road
Ipoh's first government establishment was a police post set up in 1879. In the 1890s, the Inspectors' quarters and policemen's barracks were built, of which a few timber buildings still survive in the Police Square. In 1907 the headquarters of the Perak Police were moved from Taiping to Ipoh. When the new police station and lock-up was completed for $23,700 in 1911, *The Times of Malaya* judged that, "The whole building is a credit to the architect and builder, Mr. C.H. LaBrooy, and is a worthy first public building of any importance for Ipoh." It accommodated the European officers' offices, police enquiry room, the record room, rooms for policemen on night duty and lock-ups "large enough to hold quite big crowds of those who fall into the clutches of the police". Across the road, behind the fence, are the temporary barracks which were constructed for 200 police in 1948, during the Emergency.

15 The Church of St. John's the Divine, St. John's Road
Reverend J.P. Parry saw to the erection of this Anglican church building. It opened in 1912 with a knave measuring 72 ft long. During the Japanese Occupation, the church was regarded as enemy property and was converted into a noodle factory for some7months. Under the direction of John Hayter who had been interned in Changi, the chaplaincy system in Ipoh was abolished and a Parochial Church Council was established in 1947 with representatives from the European, Tamil and Chinese communities.

16 Dramatists' Hostel 75 Leech Street
In 1891, the first Chinese theatre was built at the corner of Leech Street and Panglima Street on land acquired by Yau Tet Shin from the Dato' Panglima Kinta. In 1906, it was replaced by a new theatre which could accommodate 1500 people. In the 1920s, this three-storey building was built next to the theatre as a hostel for Chinese opera troupes. Today, the Kong Heong Coffeeshop downstairs is a popular dim-sum cafe.

17 Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 138 Belfield Street
This outstanding corner building, an example of Victorian neo-Renaissance architecture that was popular with British banks, dates from 1931. The Bank Chambers was the address for the Commercial Union Assurance & Co., the Standard Vacuum Oil Co. and H.A. Johnson's dental clinic. In the 1930s, the head office of the Malay Mining Syndicate Limited was based here, as were their company solicitors Gibb & Co. and auditors Brown, Phillip and Stewart. Malay Mining Syndicate's general manager, Raja Abdullah bin Seyed Salim, was a wealthy tin-miner, the patron of *Warta Kinta* and the father-in-law of *Warta Kinta*'s first editor, Raja Mansoor bin Raja Abdul Kadir.

18 Perak Ku Kong Chow Kung Wui Association, 39 Panglima Street
The Chinese district association building dates from 1928. Next door are two old houses, with rows of timber louvred shutters across the breadth of the upper facade -- these represent the oldest types of shophouses in Old Town, dating from the 1890s. Panglima Street is named after the Dato' Panglima Kinta who built the first shophouses along this street.

19 Kian Aik Chan, 77 Market Street
During the Japanese Occupation, the rice importing shop served as the Allied espionage base for the MPAJA and Force 136. The Japanese military raided it and arrested the manager of Kian Aik Chan and others.

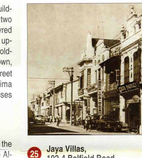
20 Pakistani Mosque, Hill Street
The "Police Mosque" was built in the 1930s for the Punjabi Muslim police personnel who numbered 20 families by 1938. From the 1950s, the Pakistan Association of Malaya was based here. There is also a Sikh gurdwara in the Central Police Station square.

21 Residence & Law Office of the Seenivasagam Brothers, 7 Hale Street
S.P. Seenivasagam was Ipoh Municipal Council's first President in 1962, and his younger brother D.R. Seenivasagam was a Member of Parliament. A brilliant orator and criminal lawyer, D.R.'s name was synonymous with the People's Progressive Party of Malaya, which was based at the Seenivasagam brothers' law office. This row of early 20th century townhouses which face the Ipoh Padang was the address of Ipoh's legal and professional firms. The chartered accountant Yeoh Cheang Kang who became Ipoh Town Councillor and Perak State Councillor, had his practice at No. 13.

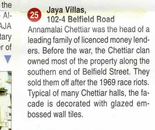
22 Ali Pitchay's townhouse, 22 Hale Street
Mohd. Ali bin Pitchay, (born 1896) was Chief Sanitary Inspector of Kinta. After retirement, he worked as the managing proprietor of Kinta Engineering Co., and was elected Alisiaw Town Council member for Ipoh & Menglembu. In the 1940s, 21 Hale Street was the office of the magazine *Perikatan* and *Tenaga*, published by Perikatan Melayu Perak (PMP) and its youth wing, Perikatan Pemuda Melayu Perak (PPMP) respectively.

23 Kin Kwok Daily News, 21 Panglima Street
The *"Building Nation" Daily News* was a Chinese-language newspaper founded in Ipoh. Due to its anti-Communist and pro-Kuomintang views, it was the target of the first grenade attack by the CTs (communist terrorists) in Ipoh town on 1 October 1949. Two Special Mobile Squad members of the Kepayang Gang, lobbed grenades into the premises, killing a reporter and injuring four others.

24 Jan Sahib's office & others, 128-136 Belfield Street
Originally a block of commercial stores with impressive facades featuring elaborate classical pediments and Gothic elements. Jan S.A. Sahib at No. 128 was chief trustee of the Indian Mosque founded by his father M. Shaik Adam. He came from Madras to join his father's business, the Kinta Ice Aerated Water and Bakery Co. A long-serving Member of the Kinta Sanitary Board since 1924, he was appointed J.P. in 1935. No. 128 was later occupied by M.S. Ally while Caxton Press at No. 130 was started by G.O. LaBrooy and then run by Eurasians.



25 Jaya Villas, 102-4 Belfield Road
Annamalai Chettiar was the head of a leading family of licenced money lenders. Before the war, the Chettiar clan owned most of the property along the southern end of Belfield Street. They sold them off after the 1969 race riots. Typical of many Chettiar halls, the facade is decorated with glazed embossed wall tiles.



26 Mikasa Photo Shop & others, 93-95 Belfield Street
In 1908, No. 93 was Messrs. Hoot and Co., agents for imported motor-cycles and tri-cars, while No. 95 was the premises of a Japanese shop, "Hinode Photographer Enlarger, Bromide & Platinic Type". "Hinode" means sunlight in Japanese and the latter's shopfront featured a logo of the rising sun. The glass-paned upstairs facade of the photographer's studio can still be seen today. By 1911, another Japanese studio, the Mikasa Photo Shop, had occupied both No. 93 and No. 95. After the war, No. 93 was taken over by Taik Ho and Guan Ho, established in Taiping in 1889. The business was owned by Toh Eng Ho C.B.E. (1899-62), a prominent Taiping industrialist, Perak State Councillor and Federal Legislative Councillor (1948-55). Today, it is a quaint shop selling antique typewriters, silverware and sports cups.

27 Royal Ipoh Club & Padang, Club Road
"The Ipoh Club is situated on a rise looking southwards across the recreation ground of seven and a half acres in area. The recreation ground is used for football, cricket, tennis and croquet; and the club premises include bar, billiard, card, reading, bath and dressing rooms. There is also a theatre hall in which concerts and performances of the Kinta Amateur Dramatic Club frequently take place." - *Twentieth Century Impressions of British Malaya, 1908*. The Perak Cricket Association was based here. In commemoration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, the Chinese community subscribed over $43,000 to create the Ipoh Padang in 1898. During the Japanese Occupation, "Every morning at 8 o'clock all the staff of the government offices in Ipoh gathered in the large football field in front of the Ipoh Club and participated in a bowing and allegiance ceremony." When Subhas Chandra Bose visited Ipoh on 1 October 1943, he spoke to a large gathering here and recruited hundreds of volunteers for his Army of Free India. On 31 May 1962, the Sultan of Perak declared the formation of the Municipality of Ipoh at this Padang, and the town of 200,000 spent nearly $1 million to celebrate the occasion with a mammoth parade of 120 floats and other festivities.

28 Panglima Lane, Jee Lai Hong
A picturesque alley which the locals call "Second Concubines' Lane". [See 'Panglima Lane' overleaf]

29 Kinta School of Commerce, 84 Belfield Street
The first commercial education school in Perak was founded in 1936 by K.Ramnath from Malabar, India. He was the author of *Brief Life Sketch of Sir Issac Pittman, Some Common Merchantile Terms and Book-Keeping Simplified.* Kamaruddin Sutan Abidin, a Mandailing, invented the Malay shorthand called "Terengkas" during the Japanese Occupation and taught it here in 1955. He became an assistant to Dato' Onn Jaafar, the first President of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO). The Malay Shorthand Association of Malaya and the Perak Indian Chamber of Commerce were based here.

30 Birch Fountain, Belfield Street
The fountain made of Ipoh marble was presented to the public by the Chinese community of Perak, in honour of J.W.W. Birch, the first British Resident of Perak. The inscription has weathered away. During the Japanese Occupation, the head of a man executed by the Japanese was exhibited on a spike at this spot.

31 Yat Loo Club and Perak Chinese Mining Association, 71-73 Hale Street
In 1935, a group of 54 Chinese formed the association, generously donating $26,070 out of which $15,000 was used to purchase the present two shophouses. No. 73 was used as the association premises while No. 71 was rented to Yat Loo Club, or "Tuesday Club" for miners. The mining association's most dynamic president, Lau Pak Khuan, OBE (1895-1971), a Tseng Lung Hakka, was considered the most prominent Chinese leader in Perak after 1940. He was president of numerous Perak organisations including the Chinese Assembly Hall and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (1949-1957).

32 Kinta Aerated Water, 1-3 Leech Street
Kinta Aerated Water, also known for its 'Best Bread', was founded by M. Shaik Adam and continued by his son Jan Sahib. Later it was taken over by the Singapore Cold Storage. [See also 23 and 51.]

33 Star Printing Works, 75 Belfield Road
This South Indian printing press was founded in 1933. It published several Tamil journals, such as *Forward*(1946) and *Nagarigam* (1951-53). In the 1950s, the Pan Malayan Dravidian Central Association was based here. Today, it has an old-hand-worked press branded "Alexandra Press, Austin Wood & Co."

34 Straits Trading Company warehouses, 1-3 Belfield Street
This warehouse building of the Straits Trading Company was a collection centre for tin ore. [See also 6.]

35 Ambika Estates office, 4 Hugh Low Street
M. Meyyappan, a Tamil Chettiar, was a member of the Ipoh Rotary Club in the 1950s. He was the proprietor of the Ambika Estates which had large interests in the rubber industry, plantations and landed property holdings. The original traditional business interior has been preserved.

36 St. Michael's Institution, Clayton Road
[See 'Education' overleaf]

37 F.M.S. Bar & Restaurant, 2 Brewster Road
Founded in 1906 by a Hainanese immigrant, "The F.M.S." - an acronym for the Federated Malay States -- was the archetypal European miners' and planters' bar. Reputed to be the oldest restaurant in Malaysia, it has occupied the present premises since 1923, with a hotel upstairs. Today, it is operated by fourth generation proprietor Pang Chee Ein, "Nephew" of the late "Uncle" Cheam Yeow Toon, as they are known to regular clientele. A new heritage cafe serving Hainanese food has replaced the hotel above the bar.

38 Eu Tong Sen 1907, 36-38 Leech Street
Eu Yan Sang (the last two words meaning "caring") was founded as a concern for prescribing herbal cures for opium addicts. The miner Eu Kong, a Nan Hai Cantonese, opened a medical shop in Gopeng in 1879 and in Ipoh and Kampar in 1881. At 21, Eu Tong Sen (1877-1941), took over his father's business with the financial support of his courtesan step-mother Tan Kuai and turned it into a Chinese pharmaceuticals empire with branches all over Asia. After a fire razed the first premises in Ipoh, the present building was erected in 1907. A footbridge at the first floor level connects the main building to a store at 2 Birch Street. Eu Tong Sen O.B.E. was a leading tin-miner, Vice-President of Malaya's first Anti-Opium Conference, the first Chinese Federal Councillor and a major benefactor to Raffles College and Hong Kong University. The first person to own a motorcar in Perak, he had seven wives and as many palatial villas in Ipoh, Gopeng, Kampar, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Hong Kong.

39 Town Padang Mosque, Clayton Road
The Hanafi mosque was founded in 1908 by a Tamil Muslim, Shaik Adam, after "a dispute with his Malay co-religionists". The "Town Padang mosque" was constructed by Indian workmen in the Moghul style, at a cost of about $500,000. A pioneer of Ipoh, ShaikhAdam established the Kinta Ice Works in 1906, the first in the Perak, and also the Kinta Aerated Water Factory of Taiping, Kampar and Ipoh at Station Road.

40 Oversea Building, 12 & 14 Hugh Low Street
A quaint pair of Greek classical temple fronts accentuate the facade of this building, which served as the premises of the Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd., probably soon after the bank was founded in 1932.

41 Birch Bridge, Brewster Road
Opened in 1907, the bridge over the Kinta River served to extend Brewster Road eastward. In 1932, the bridge was upgraded with a row of cast iron street lamps to light the crossing at night. After WWII, about a hundred "bridge-dwellers of Ipoh" made their homes from cardboard under the Hugh Low Bridge and Birch Bridge.

42 Guan Yin Temple, Brewster Road
Dedicated to the Goddess of Mercy, this is the second oldest Chinese temple in Ipoh, with a bell dating from 1878.

43 Foong Seong Villa, Laxamana Road
Built in 1931, the imposing three storey-building has shoplots downstairs and living quarters on the first floor, while a grand staircase leads up to the large hall on the top floor. The hall was a Japanese mah jong den during the war; after the war, it served as classrooms for Sam Choy Primary School by day, and a Chinese opera venue by night. Foong Seong (1883-1993), an Enping Hakka, was a tin-miner and trader, MCA politician and President of the Ku Kong Chou Association for Perak & Malaya.

44 Sinhalese Bar, 2 Treacher Street
"The Sinhalese even with their firm prescription for the good life 'drink and be merry' had just one watering hole, a bar in Treacher Street in pre-war Ipoh, Perak. Albert Munasinghe recalled that 'Perera, an old timer who married a Burmese lady, opened a bar for whisky and brandy before the war. It was a meeting place for retired people and served typical Sinhalese food. It was temporarily closed during the war but later went on as "The Sinhalese Bar", the only one in Malaysia, now owned by his sons.'" *Sinhalese Immigration in Malaysia and Singapore, 1860-1990, S.N. Arseculeratne.* The corner pub is located along a street of shops run by North Indian families. Across Market Street from the bar is No. 59, Syarikat Malaya Pulicat, wholesaler of the "Siput" brand pulicat sarong, made in Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu, India exclusively for the Perak market.

45 Malay House, Kampong Jawa
In January 1886, a piece of land of 1 acre 2 rods and 13 poles was alienated to Johara binti Hussin. She was possibly the daughter of Raja Ringgit Dato' Lakamana Che Hussain bin Dato' Besar also known as Tok Hussain, one of the pioneers of Ipoh. The house was built at the turn of the century. In 1908, the land was sold to an Indian Chetty. In the 1930s, the house was rented to a real estate broker Mohamed Ayob and his family. They fled when the Japanese invaded, and never returned.

46 Han Chin Pet Soo, 3 Treacher Street
This Hakka tin-miner's clubhouse was founded by China-born tin-miner Leong Fee alias Liang Pi Joo (1857-1911), a Kai'Yin Hakka. His son, Leong Yin Khean alias Liang En-Chuen, continued to sponsor the lodge, then sold the house cheaply to the club. The elegant three-storey building and its tasteful furnishings date from 1926. Leong Fee's Tambun Mines was one of the first Chinese mines to employ Western management and technology. Leong was Vice-Consul of the Chinese Government in Penang (1901-1907), a Federal Councillor and a member of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

47 Lam Looking Bazaar, Laxamana Road
A stylish Art Deco building from 1933, with sweeping horizontal lines, featuring Early Modernist stair-wells. It has retail shops at street level, with smaller lots fronting an oval courtyard. The *Celestial Cabaret* and hotel upstairs was a favourite haunt of European expatriates. During the war, Japanese military officers patronised the cabaret. Lot No. 8 was journalist Ahmad Noor Abdul Shukor's "Blue Room" [See 'The Press' overleaf]. Fook Seng, at Lot No. 6 retailed gramophones, keronchong songs and Arabic music. Lam Look Ing, a Nam Wai Cantonese, was born in Penang in 1864. Trained as a naval officer in Foochou, Lam was awarded Mandarin of the Blue Button for his services during the Franco-Chinese War in Canton. He established himself as a tin-miner in Kampar and a large property owner in Ipoh.

48 Mausoleum of Wan Muhammad Saleh, Kampong Paloh
In the compound of the mosque is the mausoleum of the Dato' Seri Adika Raja Wan Muhammad Saleh (1861-1917) who was made the Orang Kaya Kaya Adika Raja in 1892. He rose from Malay writer to Superintendent of Penghulus in Kuala Kangsar District, and then Assistant Collector of Land Revenue, Kuala Kangsar. In 1903, he was awarded the Imperial Service Order. He was a member of the Committee for the Resuscitation of Malayan Art Industries. Also buried here is the Panglima Bukit Gantang Dato' Abdul Wahab bin Dato' Abdul Aziz, a lawyer who became the first Chief Minister of Perak.

49 Kampong Paloh Mosque, Jalan Datoh
Completed in 1912, the jawi inscription on the marble foundation stone reads, "Erected during the reign of DYMM Paduka Seri Sultan Idris Murshyd Al-Azam Shah... by Orang Kaya Kaya Dato' Seri Adika Diraja Wan Muhammad Saleh, I.S.O., and his wife Toh Puan Hajjah Sharifah Rodiah and Encik Mahmud bin Mohd. Taib and Haji Muhammad Kassim bin Banjar Jagra." Adjoining the mosque is the Madrasah Sharifah, named after its female patron. The government officer C.M. Yusof was elected the first head of the UMNO Perak Division at a meeting held at the religious school in 1948.

50 Kinta Fire Brigade, Brewster Road
The early fire brigade was maintained by voluntary subscriptions. After the 'great fire of Ipoh' in 1892, fire precautions were improved. A steam engine, in addition to the manual one, was manned by Sikhs under the supervision of the police, "while all the pumping is done by Chinese coolies; each shop sending one or two men directly to the fire alarm sounds." In 1911, when this primitive fire-fighting force failed to save the town of Papan from a big blaze, the Chief of the Singapore Brigade N.W. Pett was called in. He proposed a new fire station, with quarters for the Superintendent and fourteen firemen. Upon his recommendation, the fire brigade was transferred from the Police to the Sanitary Board. H.J. Markes was appointed the new Superintendent and eventually all the fire stations in Perak came under his supervision. The Central Fire Station was finished and occupied in November 1913. A double-storey Fire Station was built for the Kinta Fire Brigade in 1936 and was the headquarters of the Fire and Rescue Department until 1992. The building was renovated in 1998 for the Perak State Development Corporation.

51 Singapore Cold Storage, 1-5 Clare Street
The three-storey building of the Singapore Cold Storage, the precursor of today's food supermarkets, now used as a fast food outlet.

52 King George V Silver Jubilee Rotary Home for Destitute Boys, South Treacher Street
This Malay house on the Kinta River bank was originally acquired by the government for widening the river bed. The house was however spared and presented to the Community Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Ipoh to become a "Home for Destitute Boys", in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary in 1935. The Kinta Silver Jubilee Committee donated $1,700 towards the premises. The home had been founded four years earlier by the Rotary Club to accommodate orphans and loafers and take 'Jaga Kreta' boys off the street. The Perak Youth Club is presently based here.

53 Chua Cheng Bok Building, 94 Brewster Road
This handsome 1930s Art Deco commercial building housed the Ipoh branch offices of William Jacks & Co., United Press Association, American International Assurance Company, Limited and Sime Darby and others. Restoran Semenanjong on the ground floor is today the favourite meeting place of Ipoh UMNO. Chua Cheng Bok was the founder of the motor firm Cycle & Carriage, which opened its first Ipoh branch in 1906.

54 Pa Lo Ku Miao, People's Park
Believed to have been founded in 1872, the Pa Lo Old Temple is Ipoh's oldest Chinese temple. Dedicated to the Tua Pek Kong or the founding spirit of the Chinese settlement, originally stood closer to the river bank. Yau Tet Shin was one of the main sponsors of the present temple building, which has many items dating from 1894, including the decorative roof ridge, the temple bell and gong and the stone lions. The open space in front of the temple was formerly The People's Park, valued at $70,000 when the government donated it to the town in 1909. It was a popular place for recreation, cricket, football, tennis and games. It is now a car park and a Sunday market.

55 Warta Kinta Office, 5 Jalan Datoh
[See 'The Press' overleaf]. *Warta Kinta*, "The Cheapest Malay Daily Newspaper in Malaya", was published from here in the 1930s. After the newspaper moved to No.29 Hale Street in the 1940s, the house became a hostel for press workers. It also served as the premises of the Persatuan Melayu Perak, The All Malaya Muslim Missionary Society (Kinta Branch), the Malay Drivers' Federation of Perak and the Malay Badminton Association of Perak. The Bawean Association is located nearby at No. 15.

56 Information Centre, 75-95 Brewster Road
An Art Deco block from circa 1940, with vertical fins and metal-framed green-paned windows. In 1947, the Information Centre & Reading Room of the Ipoh Branch of the Department of Public Relations occupied the corner premises at No. 75.

57 Times of Malaya Building, 107-111 Brewster Road
The 1930s three-storey Art Deco building bears a crest with the initials TOM for *Times of Malaya*. [See "The Press" overleaf]. After the war, the building was used by the Public Works and the Department of Drainage & Irrigation.

58 Oriental Hotel, Anderson Road
Also known as Tong Ah Hotel, this premier Chinese hotel was a famous romantic rendezvous point. The inedograms on the building parapet advertise the "Tong Ah Hotel Roof Garden", with a romantic couplet "Flowers and birds are appealing. Wind and moon have no boundaries". On 26 March 1944, Tan Chong Tee of *Force 136* was arrested by the Japanese military police while at Tong Ah Hotel.

59 Mo Ching's Home, 6 Clare Street
Mo Ching, the MPAJA (Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army) secret liaison officer in Ipoh town, was later suspected to have been a Japanese double agent. On 1 January 1944, an important secret meeting was held here by the Allied Forces' underground units to welcome their leader Lim Bo Seng, senior officer of *Force 136*. Lim Bo Seng alias *Tan Choon Lim (1909-1944) was arrested by* the Japanese and later died in the Batu Gajah Prison. After the British returned to Malaya, Lim Bo Seng was reburied with military honours at the MacRitchie Reservoir in Singapore. Regarded as a war hero and martyr, a pagoda-like memorial was erected in his honour along the Esplanade in Singapore and unveiled in 1954.

60 Dato' Seri Adika Raja's House, 20 Jalan Datoh
The site was originally agricultural land leased to a certain 'Sarepah binti Duskal'. This beautifully crafted house was built around 1910, and was most likely the residence of the Dato' Seri Adika Raja and his wife Toh Puan Sharifah Rodiah. The land was placed under caveat in 1937 and later appropriated by the bank.

61 Hugh Low Bridge, Hugh Low Street
The first wooden bridge was opened for wheeled traffic to Gopeng in 1890. It was replaced in 1900 with an iron bridge, widened in 1930.

62 Sybil Kathigasu's Home, 144 Brewster Road
Sybil Kathigasu was the recepient of the George Medal for bravery and the author of *No Dram of Mercy*, one of the classic accounts