



Kinta Tin Mining Museum

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Mining method: Lampan (Ground Sluicing)

Lampan is an ancient mining method. Its was widely employed by the Malays and was also adopted by the Chinese in Malaya. In its typical form, lampan was operate as follow:

Ditches or races were cut into the ground, and a stream of water was then diverted to run through them. The sides of these ditches were shovelled into the water, which carried away the lighter soil, leaving the heavier tin ore at the bottom of the races. The loosened soil was driven down the ditches into another channel, the tail race, with the aid of a paddle-shape wooden spade. From time to time, the ore in the races was scooped out by mean if a wooden tray. Lampan method required little labour and capital, and was suited, therefore, to the needs of small groups of Malay peasants who took to mining in order to supplement their income from agriculture.

But lampan method had its limitations:

This method depended on obtaining water of sufficient force to disengage the ore from its gangue, and to carry away the unwanted soil. Therefore, lampan mine could be opened only where streams and hilly land were found together providing the necessary water power. Moreover, lampan mines were restricted to virgin ground where large grains of ore were available, because the lighter particles of ore were swept away by the running water. Lastly, lampan workings could not be made to go deep enough to tap the richer ores that lay above the bed rock.

Source:

-The Malaya Tin Industry to 1914, Wong Lin Ken, 1959.

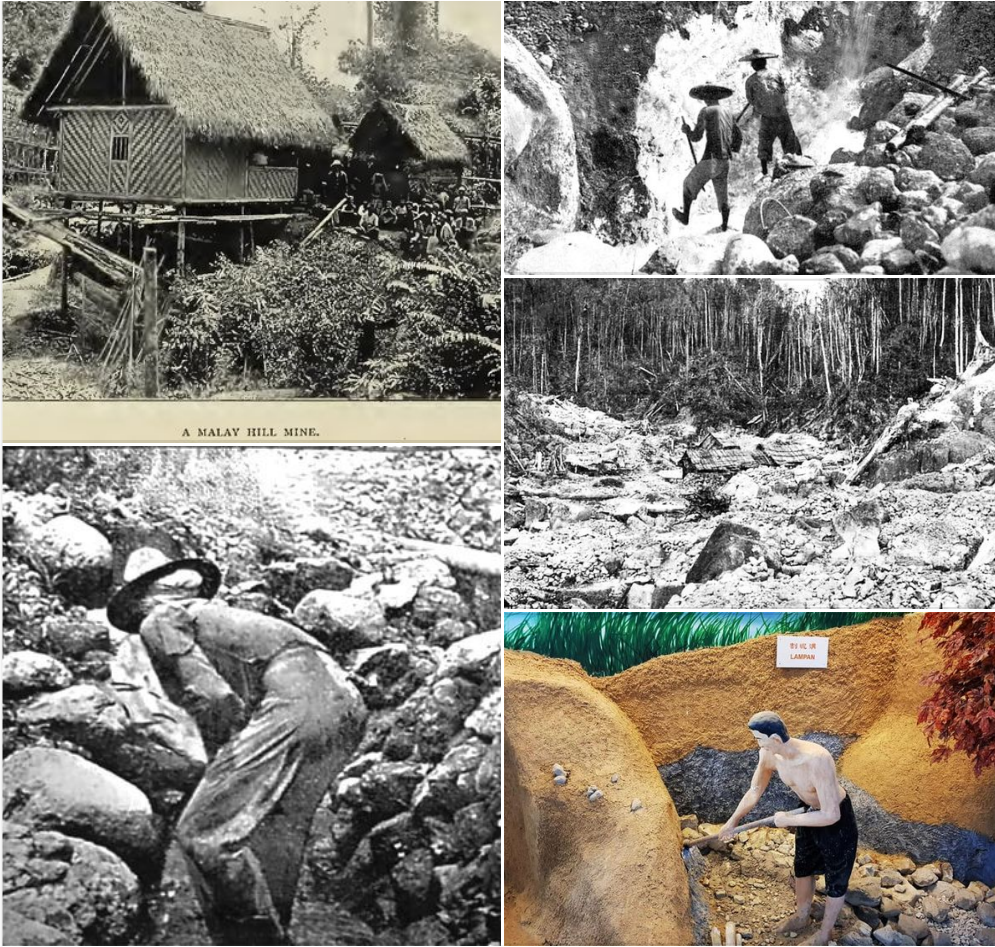
-Tin-Field of the Federated Malay States, Methods of Working (illustrated), J.B. Scrivenor

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采矿方式之割泥沟

割泥沟是一种古老的采矿法。割泥沟采矿法被马来人广泛使用，也被南来的华人采用。典型的割泥沟工作原理如下：在地面上挖掘一条泥沟或水道，然后将水源导入沟内，再把堆放在泥沟两旁的矿土铲入泥沟里，水力会冲走较轻的泥土，较重的锡矿则留在泥沟底部。冲走的泥土会从泥沟用木浆导入到另一个尾部的水道排出。矿工们时不时地用木盘将泥沟里的矿土挖出。割泥沟需要很少的劳动力和资金，因此适合少数马来农民在务农之余从事采矿业以增加收入。但是，割泥沟有其局限性。首先，通过这种方法成功进行采矿取决于获得足够的水力以使矿土从脉石中脱离出来并带走多余的泥土。因此，只有发现溪流和丘陵地带，结合两者才能提供必要的水力，割泥沟采矿法方可进行。此外，割泥沟采矿法只适合淘洗源自原始地的较大颗粒矿土，因为沟内的流水会将较轻的矿土也一并冲掉。还有，割泥沟没法做得深，挖掘不到深处的基岩上方较丰富的矿土。





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Suka

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Tulis komen...

