Pictorial History of Railways around Kuala Lumpur

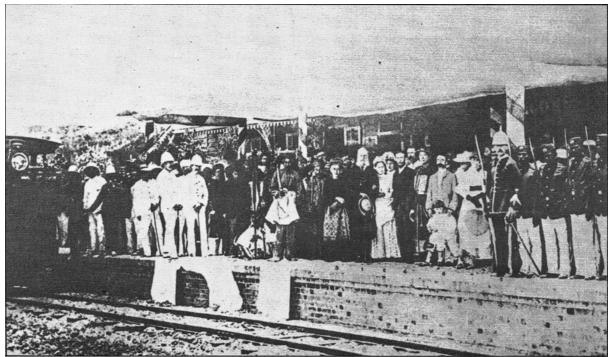
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Pictorial History of Railways in Selangor

Below: Two A class locomotives at the Kuala Lumpur end of the line, probably around the time of its completion in 1886. The one on the left is on the platform road while the other is facing the goods yard. Compare this picture to the fourth one, taken from almost the same spot less than 4 years later.



1.01886



2.1886 Pembukaan Landasan Di antara K.L. – Bukit Kuda oleh Sir Frederick Weld, G.C.M.G., 15hb. September 1886.

Above: The literal translation is "Opening platform between K. L. - Bukit Kuda by Sir Frederick Weld, G. C. M. G., 15th September 1886". It was reported that the first train was hauled by the locomotive "Lady Clarke", an ex-Indian Railways B class but the locomotive in the picture appears to be an A class. Having now had access to the full reports I can suggest that this is not the actual opening ceremony but a naming ceremony for the locomotive "Lady Weld" at Kuala Lumpur station on 18th September 1886. Following is an extract from the full report which can be read here.

On Saturday morning, Lady Weld christened one of the railway engines after herself, the Governor's party were assembled beneath a sort of small canopy of red and yellow cloth, a bottle of Champagne decorated with white flower was presented to Lady Weld, who handed it to one of the engineers belonging to the railway. The engineer then held the bottle on the line, the locomotive was set in motion and passed over the bottle, crushing the neck of it so that the champagne all flowed out, and in this way the Lady Weld was christened. The Governor, Lady Weld, the Misses Weld and some others were formed in a group near the engine and were photographed.

3.c1889

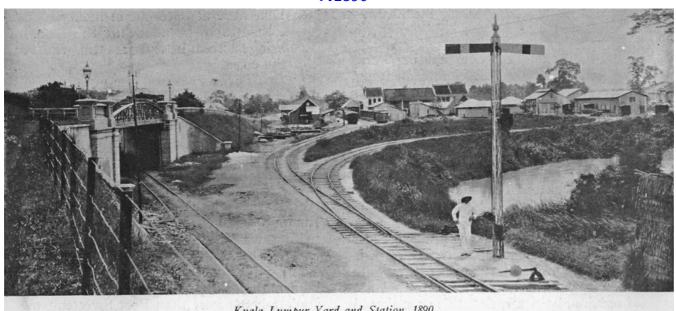


Construction of Ulu Selangor Railway showing Junction at Kuala Lumpur and Damansara Road Bridge.

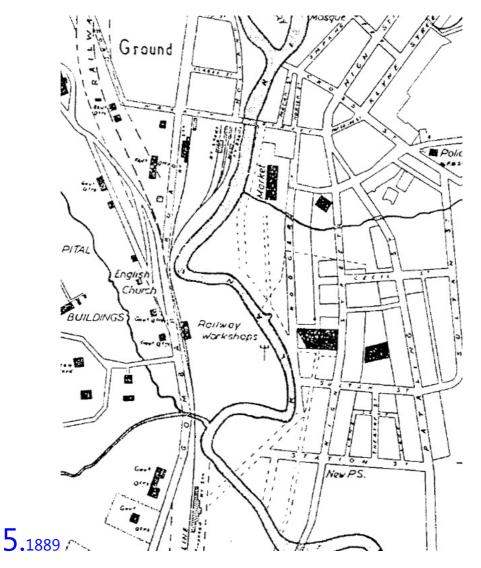
Above: Not sure what the occasion is, the bridge is not yet complete (see picture below) but Lady Clarke appears to be heading a construction train full of passengers on the new line to Batu Junction. The line in the foreground leads into the station and yard (right background) while to the left is the future site of the 1892 station.

Below: The same location seen from the top left corner of the above picture showing the station and yard and with the bridge now appearing to be complete and this picture is dated 1890. Compare it to the first picture above.

4.1890

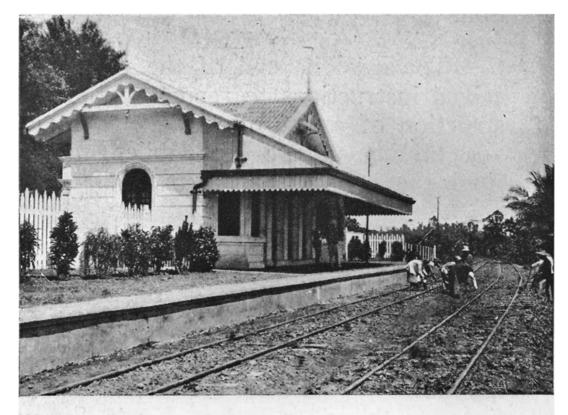


Kuala Lumpur Yard and Station, 1890.



Above: A section of a hand drawn map dated 1889 showing the proposed new station (bottom left) and the proposed alignment for the extension to Batu Junction and Rawang (top left). The blank area of the map where it says "Railway Workshops" is where the first locomotive depot and works was built. It also shows the original layout of the first station and goods yard, and interestingly shows two bows in the river coming up to the railway, the one further north not being shown on later maps. Photographs 1 & 4 were taken from the side of Gombak Road opposite the English Church. The junction for Sultan Street and Pudu branch was near the small river crossing between the Railway Workshops and the proposed new station opposite the government offices. Residency station was near the top left corner of the map off the left hand end of Market Street.

Below: Residency station was built on the line to Batu Junction where it passed through the grounds of the British Residency and was for private use. The curvature of the track suggests this is the view looking southwards with the tunnel behind the photographer. Some maps show the tunnel, some don't, and most show varying alignments for the track. I have found a 1920 map which shows residency station still extant. A 1922 map shows dotted lines, one on the alignment of the old track and one on the alignment of the current track. A 1929 map shows only the new alignment through a tunnel and no stations.



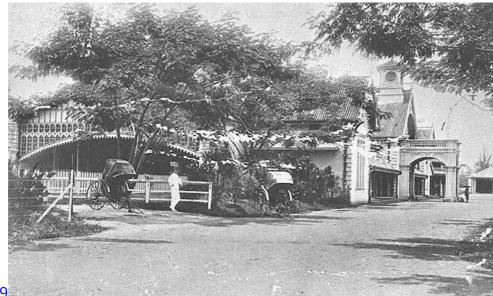
6.1891

Residency Station, Kuala Lumpur, 1891.

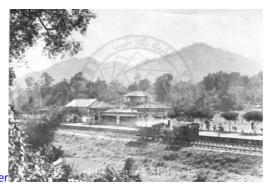
7.1893



Above & below: Two views of the second Selangor Government Railway station in Kuala Lumpur, 1892-1909. The map above suggests that it was planned to be built on the east side of the line, if that is the case, was it incorporated into the east side of the present Kuala Lumpur (KLO) station and if so is there anything left of it now.

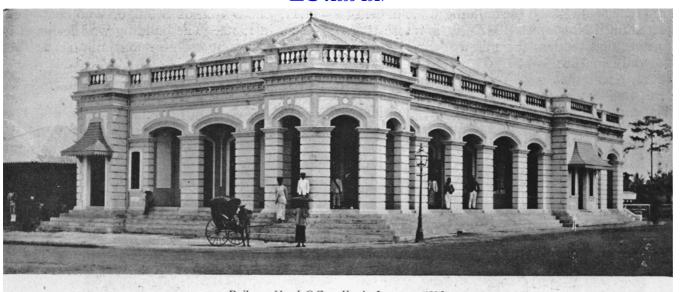


8.1892-1909

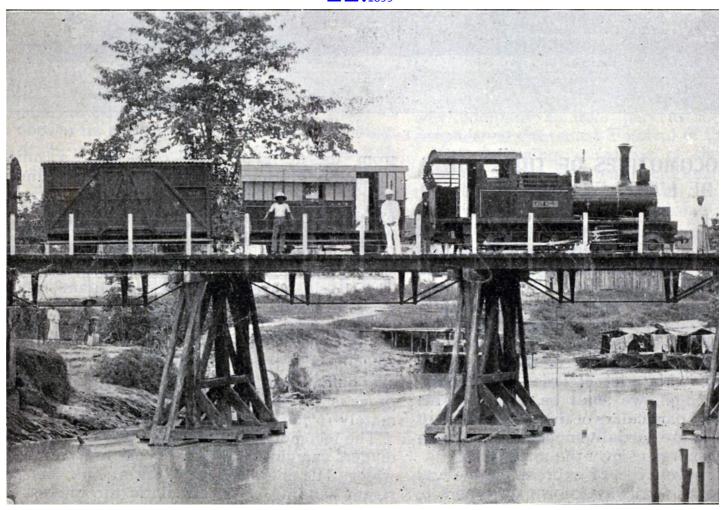


Above: one of the named A class 4-4-0T locomotives with a single 4-wheeled coach at Kuala Kubu station, reached in 1894.

23.1895-1917



Railway Head Office, Kuala Lumpur, 1895 on the site of present P.W.D. Offices, Victory Avenue.



Above: This picture of LADY WELD was taken "up-country" after the 1899 conversion to oil-burning, adopting the principle developed by the Great Eastern Railway at Stratford, UK.



16-1895-1905

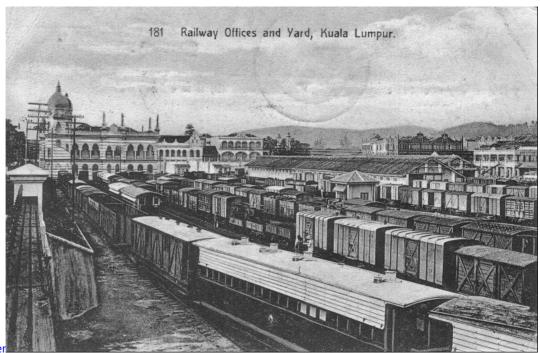
Above: The old river course has been filled in to allow more tracks between the locomotive sheds/workshops and the goods yard and the attap cabin has been replaced by a slightly newer design! An 1895 map suggests the river had been "straightened" by then but the tower in the background looks like the one behind the 1895 FMSR HQ building (picture 24).



24.₁₉₀₁ or later.

Above: View from Damansara Road bridge looking north. Residency station was on the extreme left of the picture but out of sight in the distance. The coaches in front of the FMSR HQ appear to be of the bogie type introduced from 1901 and the road traffic suggests not too much later but the HQ building already has its second storey and towers. Note the tower behind and left appears to be the one in picture 16.

Below: a view of the goods yard at Kuala Lumpur in later years, bogie coaches were only introduced in 1901, steel covered vans in the 1920s. The original 1886-1892 station was on the left side of the picture. Note the original building of 1895 (Railway Head Office until 1917) has had another storey and some towers added.



10.1921 or later



Above: The locomotive appears to be a G class but the 1898 batch had only two square windows at the cab front, the elongated windows and circular windows only appearing later, so this would date the picture after 1901. Tim has seen this picture with a 1908 postmark.



11.1910 or later

Above: The new 1910 station at Kuala Lumpur as first built before the ornamental archways were built over the tracks.



12.1922

Special train with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, crossing the Connaught Bridge, 30th March, 1922.



13.1960 or later

Above: The new (1910) station at Kuala Lumpur from the south end.

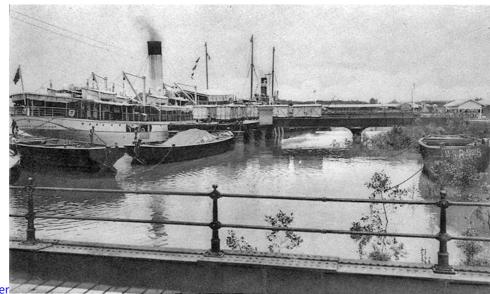




251 - Railway Goods Vard, Kuala Lumpur.

Sometime between 1922 and 1929 a deviation line was built from just north of Kuala Lumpur station (by the old junction for Sultan Street) to a point across the Gombak River from Campbell Road (now Jalan Dang Wangi I think) to the north of Bank Negara. This was a double track line and ran through a tunnel a little way to the west of the old Residency station. The old alignment is now buried beneath Jalan Kuching / Jalan Hishamuddin. The old line is shown well on a 1908 KL map, the proposed deviation is shown on a poor 1922 map and the new line is shown well on a 1929 map.





19.₁₈₉₉ or later



Two similar pictures taken at Sultan Street station in the 1950s, the steam railcar in the upper one having a black roof while 252.03 below has a white roof. It is interesting to note that whereas nowadays all classes are denoted by the first two digits, as they were officially in the 1958 Working Timetable, in early post-war days they were referred to with 3 digits by many photographers. As a footnote the FMSR lettering of classes was introduced after the 1901 formation.

21.4/1955



The Malayan Railway		<u>The 1960s</u>		Singapore Railways	
<u>1970s</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>
Singapore 1975	Singapore 1976	Singapore 1977 part 1	Singapore 1977 part 2	Singapore 1977 part 3	Singapore Trams
Singapore 2003		Singapore 2007		Singapore 2008	
Allan Stanistreet pictures		Johore Wooden Railway		Muar State Railway	
Selangor State Railway		<u>Perak State Railway</u>		<u>Johore State Railway</u>	
Malacca State Railway		Sungei Ujong Railway		Malaysia 2008	

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Construction is ongoing

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