



Bite-sized lessons
with big impact
from SLA's Brown
Bag sessions

Stories of grit, growth and
resilience—featuring the dreamers,
disruptors, believers, risk-takers,
visionaries, movers, fighters and
challengers from Singapore.

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THE
IDEA

As Singapore marks its 60th year of independence, we honour the generations who have built this nation through unity, ingenuity, and resilience. SG60 is not just a celebration of how far we've come—it's also a call to action: to continue building a more inclusive, innovative, and sustainable Singapore together.

It is in this spirit that we at the Singapore Land Authority (SLA) embrace the challenge of turning constraints into possibilities. While Singapore may be bounded by limited land, our capacity for innovation and transformation knows no bounds.

As our world becomes increasingly unpredictable and challenges grow ever more complex, it is crucial—now more than ever—that we pause to reconsider how we think, work, act, and engage with our stakeholders.

The Brown Bag sessions were a series of lunchtime conversations initiated to exemplify how curiosity and collaboration can spark meaningful dialogue and inspire new ideas.

In 2021, as the effects of the pandemic continued to reverberate through the lives of individuals and across organisations and governments, we found ourselves asking, “How can we gain a real sense of what is happening on the ground? How do we stay attuned to emerging trends? How can we be inspired to generate new ideas in optimising spaces, beyond purely economic uses?”

One way, we believed, was by bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds, industries, and areas of expertise to share their stories, thought processes, experiences, and lessons. And this was how SLA's Brown Bag sessions began.

In July 2021, we held our inaugural session with Mr Wee Teng Wen from the Lo & Behold Group. Since then, we have had the privilege of hosting over 20 speakers, primarily from the private sector, who shared their stories of resilience, entrepreneurship, and sustainability.

From sports to finance to logistics to fashion to hospitality and entertainment, these conversations have been a wellspring of learning for all of us at SLA. And this book, *Think Unlimited*, extends that spirit outward—to our fellow Singaporeans today, and for generations to come.

At SLA, we are committed to shaping and stewarding Singapore's land and geospatial resources not just with technical excellence, but with imagination and purpose. We aim to engage, co-create, and evolve alongside the people we serve by tapping into the collective talents of our community and embracing a mindset of possibility—realising a vision of space that is not just physical, but filled with potential.

As we reflect on our shared journey and look toward the future, we hope this compilation of stories will serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for us all to always *Think Unlimited*.

This publication is a collaborative effort between SLA and our distinguished speakers, all of whom generously contributed their time and effort on a pro bono basis.

All speakers featured in this publication were from the private sector when their respective sessions took place between 2021 and 2024.

The content reflects their Brown Bag session, and each

story features them photographed against a State property that best resonates with their professional domain or personal narrative. The ■ **State properties** managed by SLA in this publication are highlighted in colour and with a square.

We extend our warmest gratitude to all the speakers who have participated in these conversations, embraced this project, and shared their wisdom.





ABOUT SLA

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) is a statutory board under the Ministry of Law. Formed on 1 June 2001, our mission is to ensure effective use of land resources and data for the economic and social development of Singapore.

Our vision Limited Land • Unlimited Space is a creative paradox that aptly highlights our nation's constraints and SLA's commitment in addressing them. The word 'Space' is multi-dimensional, encompassing realms from the physical to the digital. 'Unlimited' represents the extent of our commitment in our quest for solutions and innovations that will contribute to the economic and social development of Singapore.

State Land and Properties

SLA manages about 11,000 hectares of State land and about 2,600 State properties, which are used for residential, commercial, social and community purposes. Through the careful planning and execution of interim uses for State properties under our management, SLA is able to maximise the use of vacant State land and properties in creative and innovative ways to support our nation's evolving economic and social needs.

Geospatial

SLA drives the use and development of geospatial information and technology by fostering a national collaborative environment that encourages innovation, knowledge sharing and value creation among public agencies, private enterprises and the community.

Regulatory

SLA is the national land registration and land survey authority and is responsible for maintaining accurate and reliable land ownership and land boundary systems.



Fandi's portrait was digitally superimposed against the ■ **State Land @ Margaret Drive**, Queenstown. As he is currently coaching the Sri Pahang team in Malaysia, he was unable to be photographed in person and graciously agreed to this photoshopped version.

Developed in 1952, Queenstown is Singapore's first satellite town. The area has seen much transformation, with the site of the former Hua Yi Government High School at Dawson now home to a restored running track for community use.

The Boy Who Dared to Dream:

Fandi Ahmad on a life in football and uniting Singaporeans through the beautiful game

For those who have experienced the electrifying matches at the old National Stadium and witnessed the golden era of Singapore football in the '70s, '80s and '90s, you would know that football was more than a game to Singaporeans—it was a force that united a nation. You would also know that at the centre of it all was a kampong boy dreaming of greatness. That boy was Fandi Ahmad, arguably Singapore's most famous football star.

"Since I was young, I knew I wanted to be a footballer. One day I told my late father that. He said, 'Are you sure? You've got to study.' 'Yes. I think I'm good at football because I like challenges.'"

This conviction and single-mindedness were what carried Fandi through his growing-up years and career—and he never once wavered.

"I'm very lucky. But lucky is not the word. I worked very hard for it. I aimed to be the best. I didn't care about others because I knew what I wanted. That was my path."

The young boy grew up to play for clubs in Singapore, Indonesia, Holland and Malaysia before going on to coach teams in Singapore and Indonesia. He was awarded the Public Service Medal in 1995 for captaining Singapore to the Malaysia League and Cup trophies. He earned a total of 101 caps and scored 55 goals with the Singapore National team, a record unsurpassed till today. In the 1983, 1985 and 1989 SEA Games, he also helped Singapore win silver medals. In Holland, Fandi was voted into FC Groningen's Hall of Fame as one of the club's 25 best players in 1999. In 2003, he was named the club's best XI for the 20th century.

More than four decades later, Fandi, who turned 60 in 2022, still radiates the same passion, energy and enthusiasm as the young teenager who captured the hearts of a nation. His dazzling skills on the pitch aside, it is his charisma, humility and approachability that have made him a household name.

RIGHT

Singapore fans in the tens of thousands supporting the Lions at the height of the Malaysia Cup fever in 1994.



"I still feel very young. In sports, you always look younger because you're active every day. I like to be on the field. It keeps me going."

In January of 2023, after his seven-year contract with the Football Association of Singapore (FAS) ended, he took on the role of Head Coach of Sri Pahang, a Malaysia Super League team based in Kuantan, Pahang.

"I was lost for two months after leaving the Football Association of Singapore. But when the Crown Prince said, 'Fandi, we need your help.' I knew I had to rise to the challenge."

**SMALL IN STATURE,
BIG IN DREAMS**

His obsession with football began at the age of seven, when Fandi would kick a ball around in street soccer games.

"When I was young, I played against big boys, got *hantam*, got whacked. But that's how you grow from strength to strength. I'm not big, but I have a big heart to fight. I knew I was going to be a better player someday and get stronger, too."

Growing up in a working-class family, Fandi's father, Ahmad Wartam, who was the goalkeeper for the national team in the 1960s, was his biggest influence and played a pivotal role in shaping his mindset.

"My father taught me the three Ds: determination, discipline, and dedication. Most importantly, the small 's'—sacrifice. I say it's small, but it's very big. There are many good players, but they don't have this (sacrifice)."

That lesson came with tough love. Fandi would often sneak out to play after lunch, ignoring his parents' instructions to rest. He laughs now as he remembers the consequences: being caught on the field and getting "whacked" for his defiance.

His big break came unexpectedly, though it was bittersweet. When his parents separated, Fandi, then around 12 years old, moved to Kaki Bukit, a kampong area where many Malay retirees had settled. Life was tough—he had to take two buses to school while juggling his PSLE preparations. But it was here that an opportunity presented itself. A friend told him about a local club, Kaki Bukit, that was looking for players. Despite his young age, Fandi joined the team, and they went on to win a tournament, marking the start of his rise. Soon after, Fandi's talent earned him a spot in the Lion City Cup, one of the first international under-16 tournaments in the world. Despite being just

under 15, he stood out. Two years later, at 16, he was selected for the national team to travel to Russia.

"One of my dreams was to get on a plane. We didn't have money, so I didn't know how. I used to live behind Upper Jalan Eunos, where planes flew by every day. It was a dream for me, really, because at 16, I got the chance to travel the world—Russia!"

In Russia, Fandi made his mark. In the second game, against the Russian under-23 youth team, he played the full match. And despite standing at just 1.73 metres, Fandi made up for what he lacked in height with his agility.

"In the first game, I played in the last 20 minutes and in the second game, I played the whole match and scored two goals and a last-minute equaliser. I'm not the tallest, but I scored. I shocked myself. I out-jumped and hit the goal."

The game ended 4-4, and Fandi's performance left the crowd in awe. After the final whistle, he ran off the field, unaware that the chasing crowd simply wanted his autograph. That trip to Russia was more than just a football tour—it marked the start of his lifelong career in the sport.

FROM GOALKEEPER TO MIDFIELDER TO STRIKER

Whether starting as a goalkeeper in his youth, anchoring midfield, or leading the attack, Fandi is the embodiment of versatility. Starting first as a goalkeeper when he was seven to nine years old, he

later switched to the midfield position under the advice of his primary school teacher.

"I played midfield most of the time, but I still scored goals because when I play for Singapore, I play on the left side midfield, attacking on the wing side. So you gotta run up and down. And I scored four goals for the first season."

At 17, during the 1979 SEA Games, his breakthrough came. With star players injured, coach Jita Singh offered Fandi his opportunity to change up his position. "He asked me if I can play striker, and I said, 'Coach, you put me anywhere. I just want to play.' Because once I get into the national team, I don't want to be a reserve."

This gamble paid off—his two assists secured Singapore's historic 2-1 win over then-Asian champions, Burma, which he says was an incredibly big achievement for the team. His secret?



LEFT

Fandi holding up the trophy after Singapore beat Pahang in the Malaysia Cup final at Shah Alam on 17 December 1994.



Fandi pens autographs for his young fans in Groningen, the Netherlands.

"It's all about imagination. Before a game, I always visualise the moves the night before the match. You must be two or three steps ahead of your opponent. You must be creative because playing as a top striker, you are bound to get whacked."

Reflecting on the state of the game now, Fandi feels that it is too structured.

"In our days, we were very creative because the coaches allowed us to be free, to be ourselves. But nowadays, it's very structured. And until today, I choose players who can play at least two positions."

MOST MEMORABLE GOAL AND FIRST SOUTHEAST ASIAN TO PLAY IN THE EUROPEAN CUP

Among the many stunning goals Fandi scored throughout his career, he says one stands out as his most memorable: his strike against Inter Milan while playing for Dutch Club FC Groningen in 1983.

"I've scored many beautiful goals, but this is the most memorable because, in those days, not many Asian players got the chance to play at that level. I represented Singapore even though I was playing for Groningen, and I was up against one of the best goalkeepers in the world, Walter Zenga."

That goal was more than just a moment of individual brilliance—it was a proud moment for Singapore. Fandi felt immense pride knowing that the Singapore flag flew high even as he stood alone on the European stage. He became the first Singaporean and Southeast Asian to play in the European Cup, a milestone that cemented his status as a trailblazer for Asian football.

Life in Europe, however, was far from easy. Adapting to the harsh winters in the Northern Netherlands was a challenge. Fandi recalls how tough it was to train in the snow. His initial success on the pitch, including scoring goals during pre-season, was soon interrupted by a quadricep injury that sidelined him for two months. The recovery period was long and lonely, but luckily, Fandi lived with an Indonesian family, who helped him acclimatise to the new environment. His uncle, who acted as his guardian, also encouraged him to immerse himself in Dutch culture.

"He always advised me to read the newspaper and watch Dutch news. When you mingle with friends, you learn faster. I even got a tutor twice a week. That's how I got to know the language."

This language barrier was a significant hurdle for Fandi. During his time in the Netherlands, English was not as widely spoken as it is today. Among his teammates, only about four or five could communicate in English, while the rest spoke Dutch, making it challenging for him to integrate and connect initially.

RIGHT
Fandi scoring a goal in the 89th minute of the match between FC Groningen and Inter Milan in the 1983 Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Cup. It was the goal that put Singapore on the European football map.



“I’M

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Despite these challenges, Fandi left an indelible mark on European football. The FC Groningen fans voted Fandi the most popular player and the most skilful player of that season, with a total of 10 goals in 29 games, helping the Dutch club rise from ninth to fifth place in the Eredivisie.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PASSION

For Fandi, football has always been about the passion. He shares that in the past, players did everything from polishing their own boots to waking up at the crack of dawn for training. He also remembers training sessions at Jalan Besar, where they had to arrive by 7am to sing the national anthem. Fearful of being late and losing their spot, he and his teammates would sometimes sneak into the facility the night before.

"We climbed the windows and slept there. We were scared to be late because the coach said, 'Five minutes late, you go home; no need to play.' We were very passionate about the game, and we were scared to lose our positions."

In contrast, Fandi observes that the new generation of players, while talented, often lacks the same level of grit and drive. Unlike his era, where players had to make do with limited resources, today's athletes are provided with sponsorships, equipment, and support systems. While these are beneficial, Fandi believes they may sometimes lead to complacency.

"The passion we had for playing for the country was real. We'll do it with or without money. While we still love the game and strive for success with the team, people now seem more interested in a lifestyle. And that's how some players lose their way. I wanted a life in football, not a lifestyle."

However, Fandi also acknowledges the importance of professionalism, knowing one's worth and not short-changing yourself.

"If you're a professional, you should know your value and how to negotiate."

He points out that many talented athletes retire early due to a lack of support, highlighting the need for both passion and a strong support system to nurture talent. He cites the example of Joseph Schooling, whose parents supported him from the age of 13, as a model of how passion and backing can lead to success.

A HISTORIC DOUBLE WIN: 1994 M-LEAGUE AND MALAYSIAN CUP

In 1993, Fandi returned to Singapore and signed a two-year contract with the FAS after his overseas stints in Holland, Greece and Malaysia. His goals led Singapore to the Malaysia Cup final that year, where they lost to Kedah. But in 1994, they made history by finishing the season as the Malaysia Cup and Malaysian League champions—14 years after Singapore last clinched the cup in 1980. With over 50,000 fans from Singapore who had travelled by the busloads to the Shah Alam Stadium in Selangor, the atmosphere was nothing short of electrifying.

As he wrote in his second biography *Fandi: Honour & Sacrifice*, "It has been 14 years since we won the Cup; this is history in the making. Let's not disappoint the people out there. This is for Singapore! Let tonight's Kallang Roar shake the stadium! Majulah Singapura!"

And he did not disappoint that night and for several games after. Fandi was the top scorer with 26 goals in that double-winning season and was voted Player of the Season. For captaining Singapore, he was also



LEFT

The historic double win in 1994—where Singapore reclaimed the Malaysia Cup after 14 years and were also the Malaysian League champions. Pictured with the team are FAS officials and other well-wishers.

awarded the Public Service Medal in August 1995. It was Singapore's as well as Fandi's final year of participation in the Malaysia League and Cup, as Singapore subsequently pulled out of the tournaments—but one that they exited gloriously from.

A GO-GETTER: ON THE PITCH, AS IN LOVE

Fandi's life revolved around football, but love found its way into his story unexpectedly.

"I always wanted to focus on football until I stabilised my life. Marriage happened late, when I was 34."

It was May 1994, during the Malaysia Cup season, at the wedding of photographer Wee Khim and singer Jessica (Soo). Arriving late, Fandi noticed a woman in a white dress. When he asked about her, Wee Khim told him not to waste time, as she wasn't Singaporean and was heading back to her home country soon. Fandi let it go—or so he thought.

Weeks later, Fandi and his friend Abbas (Saad) were picking up food from Jalan Kayu to enjoy at home. As they laid the packets out on some newspaper, Fandi noticed a familiar face on the page—the same woman from the wedding. Stunned, and taking it as a sign, he resolved to find her.

He soon learnt her name was Wendy Jacobs. Determined to see her again, he got her home number from a make-up artist who had attended the wedding with her. He called Wendy to invite her to a meal for his birthday. And although she had no idea who he was, she agreed to a lunch date—and immediately took a liking to him. That lunch marked the beginning of their whirlwind romance.

His grasp of Afrikaans—thanks to its similarities with Dutch—worked remarkably in his favour, helping him quickly win over her family. One memory, he fondly recalls, was at the Jacobs' home, where they gathered to watch the historical 1995 Rugby World Cup where South Africa won. During the game, they spoke in Afrikaans, and Fandi would jump into the conversation, shocking the family.

Looking back, Fandi says it was all fated. As Wendy and her family prepared to return home to South Africa, he made the bold move of asking her parents for their blessing to marry her.

"I had already made arrangements with her parents, but she didn't know. Two days before she left, I picked her up from her junior college and, in the car, I asked if she would marry me. And she said, 'If I come back from South Africa, it means yes.'"

Evidently, Fandi approaches love and courtship the same way he



Fandi with his wife Wendy Jacobs and their children—Irfan, Iman, Ilhan, Iryan, and Ikhsan.

Their 4 sons are actively involved in football, while their daughter, Iman, is known for her work in music, as well as her career as a model, actress, and social media personality.



Written over the course of 2 years, Fandi's second biography by WriteHaus Asia was launched on his 60th birthday on 29 May 2022. It sold over 5,000 copies and was ranked No. 1 on *The Straits Times* Bestsellers list for 8 weeks.



Fandi as the Head Coach of Singapore during the AFF Suzuki Cup in 2018.

approaches his sport—with determination, discipline, dedication and sacrifice. And his efforts paid off.

At her 21st birthday celebration at a restaurant in South Africa, Fandi made arrangements to surprise Wendy with an enormous bouquet of roses—along with a phone call. The first thing he said? “What is your answer?” Without hesitation, Wendy replied, “Yes.” He then told her to look inside the bouquet. Tucked within was a ticket for her to fly to Singapore the very next day.

And the rest, as they say, is history. The couple tied the knot in December 1996 and welcomed their firstborn the following year. Today, all five of Fandi's children carry his bold spirit and fierce determination, each pursuing their own passions with heart. His sons are actively involved in football, while his daughter, Iman, has pursued a career as a singer and model.

INSPIRATION AND INSPIRING OTHERS

Fandi's journey in football was shaped by the guidance and inspiration of key figures who believed in his potential.

One of his earliest influences was Trevor Hartley, a former West Ham United player who arrived in Singapore and joined the national team as advisor and director of coaching in 1976. At 17, after finishing school and waiting for National Service, Fandi began working at Guthrie, where he crossed paths with national players like Samad Allapitchay and David Lee. One day, they relayed a message from Hartley, inviting him to train with the national team. Thinking it was a joke, Fandi didn't show up—until his teammates insisted. When Fandi finally attended training, he was struck by Hartley's inclusive approach. Fandi recalls how he treated everybody the same. On one occasion, when Fandi was asked by senior player Dollah Kassim to make coffee, Hartley intervened. “He's a national player, not your servant,” Hartley told Dollah, leaving a lasting impression on Fandi.

Another significant influence was Jita Singh, known to Singapore's football community as the coach who led the national team to Malaysia Cup victory in 1980. While his methods were sometimes overly strict, Fandi admired his ability to instil focus and determination in his players. Fandi says, “He is full of inspiration.” In 2007, Jita also joined the FAS as the Head of Grassroots Development, helping to enhance youth football development in Singapore.

From being inspired to inspiring others, Fandi himself has made an impact on the younger generation. Even now, he continues to mentor students, including those from ITE, encouraging them to pursue their dreams. He believes that while his generation had to forge their own path, today's youth have more support and resources.

“I used to give about 60 talks a year at different schools, like ITE, where I was a proud graduate. Whether there was money or not, it didn't matter—I enjoyed them very much. What's important is I want to send the message that anything and everything is possible.”

When asked about his happiest and proudest career moment, Fandi takes a macro view, and instead of focusing on his achievements, he acknowledges the power sports has in bringing people together.

“My team and I hope that we have moved the people of Singapore and that we managed to bring people together to support the country through sports.”

In 2022, at 60, Fandi unveiled his second biography *Fandi: Honour & Sacrifice*. Written by Durga Poonambalam, the book is a testament to a lifetime of grit. For a player who thrived in every position, retirement was never about leaving the game—just finding new ways to play.

“My father
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I N D E X



↑ Once a British military barracks in the 1800s, **■ Dempsey** has evolved into a vibrant lifestyle and dining destination near the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Nestled in lush greenery, it blends colonial heritage with modern charm, featuring a mix of restaurants, cafés, boutiques and sports and wellness establishments. Remnants like tiled-roof structures and old playing fields hint at its military past. Today, Dempsey is celebrated both locally and internationally as one of Singapore's premier spots for dining and leisure.

LEFT: Dempsey was originally the site of a nutmeg plantation that later became Tanglin Barracks for British troops in the 1800s. The site was also once the headquarters of the Far East Land Forces, and later the headquarters of the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) and the Central Manpower Base (CMPB).

➤ Built in the mid-1960s as married quarters for British military personnel, **■ Chip Bee Gardens** has transformed into a trendy lifestyle enclave. Once home to expatriate teachers after the British withdrawal, it now features a mix of residential and commercial spaces, blending heritage with contemporary charm. Known for its distinctive 1960s-style design, the estate is now popular for its eclectic blend of local lifestyle and F&B brands, including quaint cafés and homegrown brand names.



➔ ■ **Dignity Kitchen at 69 Boon Keng Road** is a social enterprise-run food court staffed by individuals with disabilities and from disadvantaged backgrounds. Operated by Project Dignity and founded by Koh Seng Choon, engineer turned entrepreneur and recipient of the Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2024 award for his efforts, the outlet offers meaningful employment through skills training and food service roles. Housed in a striking red State property since 2021, it serves affordable local hawker fare and baked goods in an inclusive environment. Beyond being a vibrant dining spot, Dignity Kitchen stands as a powerful symbol of empowerment, mental health advocacy, and social change, aligning with broader efforts to promote dignity and opportunity for all.



↩ The charming row of restored 1930s heritage buildings at ■ **52–56 Kampong Java Road** will soon become a vibrant multi-disciplinary arts sandbox for experimentation, creation, and collaboration. Originally residences for municipal officers, the buildings sit along a road named after Javanese gardeners who once sold produce along Arab Street. Awarded to 19SixtyFive Pte Ltd via a joint tender by SLA and the National Arts Council, the space will feature acoustically treated studios, galleries, and performance venues. It will also host live performances, arts markets, and arts festivals - enriching Singapore's artistic landscape and fostering creative growth.



➔ Built in 1956, the ■ **Former Bukit Timah Fire Station** served as part of the post-war Fire Service expansion and features distinctive elements like a hose drying tower and the Colony of Singapore's coat of arms. Decommissioned in 2005, the 0.86ha site—comprising the main station, firefighters' quarters, and Station Master's residence—has been gazetted for conservation. Strategically located near the Rail Corridor and nature reserves, it is now set to be revitalised by LHN Facilities Management into a mixed-use community node, offering co-living, heritage, and nature experiences with sustainable, zero-energy features while preserving its historic character.





↑ Originally known as Flagstaff House, the **Former Command House** was built between 1937 and 1938 as the residence of Malaya's senior military commander. Designed in a distinctive Arts and Crafts-inspired style with pitched roofs and brick archways, the house later provided lodging for royalty, a president in office, and senior military figures. In 2007, UBS, the Swiss investment bank, made it its business university's Asia-Pacific campus. Now a national monument, the State property continues its legacy as an elegant event venue, blending heritage, architecture, and history with quiet distinction.



↑ The former St Andrew's Mission Hospital at **5 Kadayannallur Street** provided respite and care to impoverished women and children in its early years, with a unique triangular air well in the middle of the building to let in natural light and ventilation. Originally built in the 1920s, it has served various purposes over the years, including as a government medical store, an outpatient dispensary and an office space. It has most recently been transformed into **KADA**, a creative lifestyle and wellness hub with co-working and co-living spaces popular with the youth. The building, one of Singapore's earliest Modernist structures, houses one of the nation's oldest electric lifts, still in operation today.

1. Crowd of onlookers during the opening of the outpatient clinic at Kadayannallur Street (1964).
2. Maxwell Road outpatient dispensary (1989).



↓ Launched in November 2024, **The Foundry** is a collaborative hub for social purpose organisations housed in the former Elections Department building at **11 Prinsep Link**. The Foundry is a result of a partnership with The Majority Trust, SLA, Tote Board, and the Singapore Government Partnerships Office, with its 17,000 sq ft space housing over 20 non-profits and social enterprises. With an aim to foster a vibrant ecosystem, The Foundry supports idea incubation, community-building, and collaborative innovation to address Singapore's evolving social challenges.



➔ ■ **1925 Quarters at 79-95 Hindoo Road** is situated in a beautifully restored row of red-brick, two-storey building in the heritage Little India precinct. Originally built in 1927 to house junior Asian staff of the Municipality of Singapore, this State property has been transformed into a modern co-living space by Eco-Energy Pte Ltd and Cove Living Pte Ltd. The building retains its distinctive colonial architecture, featuring pitched roofs and fair-faced brick columns, and reflects the shared history of other municipal quarters in the area.



↓ Opened in 1937, ■ **Old Kallang Airport** was Singapore's first purpose-built civilian aerodrome and was hailed as the world's most modern at the time. Described as the "finest airport in the British Empire", it gained international recognition, with aviator Amelia Earhart praising it as "an aviation miracle of the East". The Art Deco terminal later housed the People's Association from 1960 to 2009 and is now part of a conserved site with a hangar, service blocks, and an entrance gateway. Since 2011, it has hosted a variety of events, from arts and culture to corporate launches.

4. Immigration check point (1948).

5. Aerial view in 1957. The foreground shows Nicoll Highway, while the circular control tower can be seen beside the highway on the right.

↑ ■ **New Bahru at 46 & 58 Kim Yam Road** occupies the former site of Nan Chiau High School, a historically significant educational institution that was first the Nan Chiau Teachers' Training School established in 1941. Today, the site has been reimagined into a dynamic lifestyle destination that blends residential, retail, and commercial uses. Developed by the Lo and Behold Group, it houses an exciting collection of homegrown brands and offers community-centric spaces and activities, and is well visited by locals and international tourists.



3. Nan Chiau High School in 1993.

➔ Built between 1952 and 1953, **■ Pasir Panjang Power Station** began with Station A, which was named when Station B was added in 1965. Its iconic red-brick design reflects Singapore's early urban transformation. Together, the two stations powered Singapore's industrial boom in the 1960s. In recent years, its arresting architecture was the stunning backdrop for the staging of shows and events, including the Louis Vuitton Spring Summer 2023 trunk show and the immersive exhibition on Singapore's founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's life and legacy.

BOTTOM: Aerial view of Pasir Panjang Power Station (1957).



↑ The **■ Ridout Tea Gardens** in Queenstown was once home to Singapore's first Japanese-themed community garden, later redeveloped in 1980 into a traditional Japanese Garden (RIGHT) with ponds, pavilions and bridges. In the late 1990s, the site was transformed into the McDonald's Ridout Garden outlet, blending modern dining with the location's tranquil past. Today, it stands as one of the few recognisable flagship McDonald's outlets worldwide, drawing families for its food as much as its unique and scenic setting.





↑ The **State Land @ Margaret Drive**, once the site of Hua Yi Secondary School or previously known as Hua Yi Government Chinese Middle School, is now home to a restored public running track. Established in 1956 as Singapore's first government-aided Chinese secondary school, Hua Yi was renowned for its academic excellence and sports achievements. After relocating in the 1980s, the school left behind its legacy at Margaret Drive. The newly restored running track honours its historical connection to education and sports, providing a community space for residents to enjoy.



↑ The Team Singapore Wall of Fame at **8C Jalan Kledek** features a vibrant mural celebrating Singapore's Olympians and Paralympians. Created by graffiti artist Ceno2, it showcases Team Singapore athletes Nur Syahidah Alim, Shanti Pereira, Maximilian Maeder, Loh Kean Yew, and Yip Pin Xiu for their sporting achievements on the world stage. The location also houses the Vintage Camera Museum, home to over 1,000 cameras that offer a fascinating glimpse into photographic history. It's a unique landmark in Kampong Glam where sport, art, and photography come together.

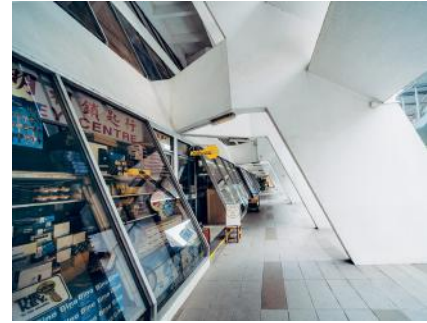
↓ **Smith Street**—named after Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, Governor of the Straits Settlements—is a heritage-rich enclave in Chinatown where conserved shophouses and pedestrian-friendly spaces bring the area's storied past to life. Once known as Hei Yuen Kai or "Theatre Street" and home to the iconic Lai Chun Yuen Theatre, Smith Street has been rejuvenated with exciting lifestyle concepts including local favourites and international brands while preserving local Chinese culture. With its unique blend of history, culture and architecture, Smith Street is a living showcase of Chinatown's enduring identity and evolving vibrancy.



↓ EtonHouse International Education Group's headquarters at **6A and 8 Stevens Road** occupies a pair of conserved colonial-era heritage bungalows managed by SLA. Once a residential property—including the former home of philanthropist and businessman Lee Kong Chian—the heritage site has been thoughtfully repurposed into a serene, greenery-filled office space. Retaining elements like timber floors and arched doorways, the design features biophilic elements and clever adaptive reuse.



➔ The ■ **Tanjong Katong Complex**, a familiar and iconic landmark in the heart of the Geylang Serai area, is set for rejuvenation. These include plans to dedicate a portion of the redeveloped space to tenants representing traditional Malay trades, preserving and celebrating the heritage and culture of the Malay community. With its deep historical roots and strong cultural ties, the revitalised Tanjong Katong Complex will continue to serve as a vibrant hub, honouring its past while evolving to meet the future needs of the community.



↶ ■ **Temasek Shophouse at 28 Orchard Road** was known for its distinctive architecture. Built in 1928, it was one of the first buildings in Singapore to feature spiral staircases. The social impact hub will expand to include restored units at **14, 22, and 38 Orchard Road** with reinstated historic features such as its Shanghai plaster façade, further highlighting Orchard Road's transformation from nutmeg plantations and motor showrooms to a place of renewed purpose for people, planet, and community.



↑ ■ **Vidacity** is a sustainability innovation hub located at the former Loyang Primary School (RIGHT), now creatively repurposed as a space for green entrepreneurship by City Sprouts. The site features co-working areas, workshops, and living labs focused on urban farming and sustainable technologies. Home to startups in fields such as agriculture, water treatment, reusable materials, and waste innovation, Vidacity brings together a community dedicated to building solutions for a more sustainable future.



↩ The former community centre at **10 Kampong Eunus** is now home to ■ **Vivistop Kampong Eunus**, Singapore's only non-profit makerspace dedicated to children and youth. Operated by Vivita, the space offers hands-on workshops, camps, and competitions that introduce young learners to robotics, AI, and emerging technologies. Supported by public sector and community partners, this SLA-led initiative has transformed the State property into a vibrant hub for creative learning and empowering the next generation of tech-savvy changemakers.



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DESIGN

Do Not Design

WRITER

Charlene Kuah

PHOTOGRAPHER

Sayher Heffernan

PRINTER

AC Dominie

PUBLISHER

Singapore Land Authority
55 Newton Road, Revenue House
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