



The Rail Corridor Guide Sheet

CREATED BY THE RAIL EXPLORERS
@ 2018

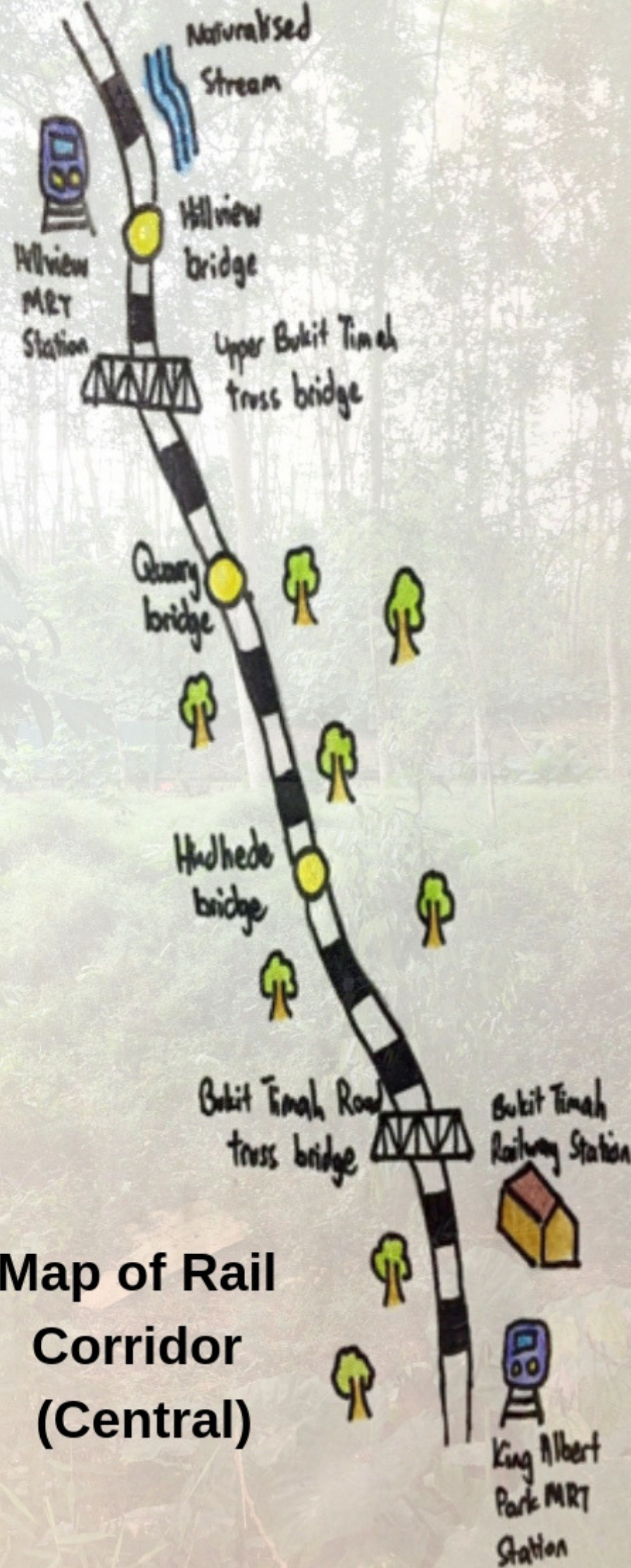
This is a Friends of the Rail Corridor
community initiative, supported by NParks

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Map of Rail Corridor (Central)



Iconic Sites

Bukit Timah (Central)
Railway Station



Truss Bridges



Naturalised Stream



History

In January 1903, the first railway in Singapore, the Singapore-Kranji Railway, was opened. When the Railway was first opened, the stops were Tank Road, Newton, Cluny and Bukit Timah. Later, stops at Woodlands, Tanjong Pagar and Pasir Panjang were added. Following the completion of the Causeway land bridge which linked Singapore to Peninsular Malaysia, the railway line was further extended to serve more commuters. In 1965, the Jurong Spur Line was added to the railway to serve the Jurong Industrial Estate. Serving the commuters for more than a century, the railway was a significant means of goods transport, passenger travel and communications.

Today, most of the railway tracks have been dismantled. However, some structures are still remaining. The Bukit Timah Railway Station building, platform, adjacent tracks and the stationmaster's house are preserved. Truss bridges can still be seen, one at Bukit Timah Road, another at Upper Bukit Timah Road. Due to the station's proximity to the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, there were calls for the flora and fauna around it to be preserved. In response to concerns over the natural environment surrounding the station and the railway tracks, NParks made plans to conserve the station as part of the Rail Corridor which consists of a portion of the KTM Railway Line. The Rail Corridor was planned to feature recreational and leisure facilities.

The Rail Corridor has a rich history in Singapore. It is an evidence of part of Singapore's transport system development and transport linkage to Malaysia. It remains a collective memory of people who have traveled between Singapore and Malaysia.

Today, visitors can enjoy the rich flora and fauna of the area while appreciating its historical heritage!

Common Flora

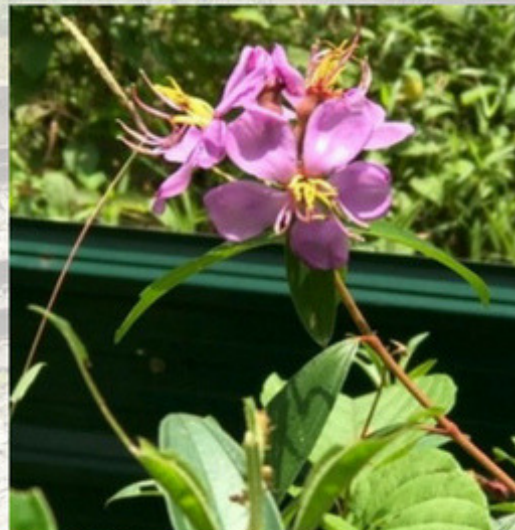
Mimosa



Scientific name: *Mimosa pudica* L.

Mimosas close their leaves at night and when touched, so as to scare away herbivores with the sudden movement of their leaves.

Singapore Rhododendron



Scientific name: *Melastoma malabathricum* L.

The leaves of the Singapore Rhododendron are used for treating diarrhoea, indigestion and stomach-ache! Leaves can be applied to cuts and wounds. The roots are used as a mouth wash for toothache!

Yellow Creeping Daisy



Scientific name: *Sphagneticola trilobata* (L.) Pruski

The name "Daisy" came from an Old English phrase, "daes eage". This is because daisies close their petals in the evening and open them at dawn, marking the start of a new day. Different colours of a daisy have different meanings; for example yellow is a symbol of friendship!

African Tulip



Scientific name: *Spathodea campanulata* P. Beauv.

This tree is believed to possess magical properties in some parts of Africa. The twigs of the tree are used by witch doctors as wands and putting them on other peoples' doors is a symbol of evil.

Common Fauna

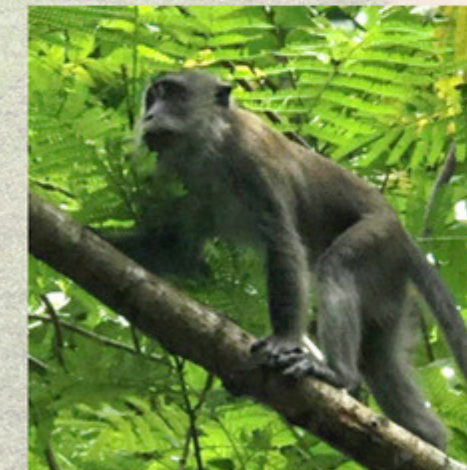
Common Parasol



Scientific name: *Neurothemis fluctuans*

This is the most common dragonfly in Singapore and can be found at several nature reserves, parks and gardens. The dragonfly sometimes stays quite still even as you approach it from a short distance.

Long Tailed Macaque



Scientific name: *Macaca fascicularis*

They are also called the Crab-eating Monkey. They are the most common monkey in Singapore, are very intelligent, and are able to use stone tools when foraging. In North Sumatra, they have even been seen catching fish with their hands!

Common Blue Skimmer



Scientific name: *Orthetrum glaucum*

Females and young males are light brown in colour. Thus it can be difficult to tell the difference between young males and females. As the males develop, they become powdery blue.

Peacock Pansy



Scientific name: *Junonia almana*

Under sunny conditions, this butterfly will open its wings wide and sunbathe while on a perch! The peacock pansy got its name after the colourful eyespots that resemble the feathers of a peacock!