

Hello, Rumah Baru! Pindah Masuk ke Bangunan Tersergam Kukuh di Jalan Kuching, 1971

Hello, New Home! Moving into the Solid Imposing Structure on Jalan Kuching, 1971



Lakaran arkitek bagi bangunan baharu, Julai 1965
Architect's drawing of the planned new building, July 1965



Pusat Bandar Kuala Lumpur, 1965. Tapak ibu pejabat Bank sekarang boleh dilihat di bahagian atas kanan gambar
Central Kuala Lumpur, 1965. The site of the Bank's present headquarters is visible at the top right of the photograph



Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah bertitah pada majlis perasmian bangunan Bank yang baharu, 15 Mei 1971

Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah speaking at the opening of the new building, 15 May 1971



Perbincangan mengenai pelan cadangan pembinaan ibu pejabat Bank Negara Malaysia pada tahun 1966. Mengikut arah pusingan jam dari kiri: V. T. Sambanthan (menteri kerja raya, pos dan telekomunikasi), Choi Siew Hong (timbangan gabenor), Ismail Ali (gabenor), Tunku Abdul Rahman (perdana menteri) dan Nik Mohamed Mahmood, arkitek
Discussing the plans for the proposed Bank Negara Malaysia head office in 1966. Clockwise from left: V.T. Sambanthan (minister of works, post and telecommunications), Choi Siew Hong (deputy governor), Tunku Abdul Rahman (prime minister), Ismail Ali (governor) and architect Nik Mohamed Mahmood



Ibu pejabat Bank di persimpangan Jalan Kuching dan Jalan Swettenham (kini Jalan Dato' Onn), 1980
The Bank's headquarters at the junction of Jalan Kuching and Jalan Swettenham (now Jalan Dato' Onn), c.1980

Pada awal tahun 1960-an, premis Bank berhadapan Dataran Merdeka telah pun penuh sesak lantas premis tambahan perlu disewa di bangunan lain yang berhampiran. Gabenor Ismail Ali telah membangkitkan isu keperluan bagi pembinaan bangunan Bank Negara Malaysia dan terus bertemu dengan Perdana Menteri, Tunku Abdul Rahman. Beliau menyuarakan hasratnya untuk membina bangunan Bank di tengah-tengah ibu kota dan ditawarkan tapak lain yang asalnya dikahaskan untuk Jabatan Perdana Menteri.

Tun Ismail Ali menerima tawaran tersebut dan memulangkan kos selebihnya. Pada tahun 1964, Bank memperoleh tanah seluas 2.5 ekar. Kerja penyediaan pelan bangunan bermula pada tahun 1965 dan kerja pembinaan dimulakan pada tahun 1968.

Ismail menghendaki sebuah bangunan yang menggambarkan kekuatan serta keutuhan Bank dan mata wang negara. Dato' Nik Mohamed berjaya menghasilkan imej konkrit berkelok untuk bahagian dinding luar.

By the early 1960s, the Bank's space opposite of Dataran Merdeka was already overcrowded and additional premises had to be rented in other buildings nearby. Governor Ismail Ali, along with the requirements for the Bank's building, went to see Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman. The Bank wanted to be right in the heart of town and was given the land originally slated for the Prime Minister's Department not far away.

Tun Ismail Ali took what he needed and returned the rest. Thus, in 1964, Bank Negara Malaysia acquired 2.5 acres of choice land. Preparatory work on the plans started in 1965 and construction commenced in 1968.

Ismail wanted a building which reflected the strength and solidity of the Central Bank and the currency. Dato' Nik Mohamed, the architect, achieved the desired authoritative look and went for bold forms. He used ribbed concrete for the exterior of the banking chamber.



Ucapan tahniah menerusi telegram daripada Bank of America yang diterima Gabenor Ismail pada 14 Mei 1971
Congratulatory telegram from Bank of America to Governor Ismail received on 14 May 1971

