To commemorate the 50th anniversary of Singapore's Independence, the Institute of Policy Studies and Straits Times Press are jointly launching the Singapore Chronicles series in 2015. This 50-volume series seeks to record, explain and offer insights into what makes Singapore, Singapore. Covering a wide range of subjects, from the philosophical to the mundane, the fundamental to the practical, these Singapore Chronicles titles include Constitution, Presidency, Housing, Transport, Demography, CPF, Sports and Food. Each volume in this series will serve as a primer on the subject. Written by leading experts, they will focus on key aspects of the subject, providing analysis as well as an historical account. Readers will gain an insight into what makes Singapore tick and also why it has chosen certain “paths un-trodden”.

Heritage means different things to different people. This book provides a guide to Singapore heritage and its preservation and promotion since 1959, when Singapore first attained full self-government and thereafter for the first 50 years of Independence. It conveys the thoughts of policy-makers, conservationists, architects, city planners, museum curators, historians, academics and community advocates – a diversity that attests to the wide range of ways in which heritage has an impact on the lives of Singaporeans. As heritage has no end point, the book concludes with a reflection on the future of heritage – whence it came, where it goes.

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