

Heritage Assessment of Queen's Pier, Central

1. Historic Value

The existing Queen's Pier had been used as a ceremonial pier for over 40 years, from 1954 to 1997, commemorating the colonial history of Hong Kong. Besides, the pier, the construction of which as part of the 1950s reclamation scheme, has witnessed not only the change of the shoreline on Hong Kong Island, but also the rapid economic growth and urbanization of Hong Kong in the post-war years.

2. Architectural Value

The architectural style of Queen's Pier is modern utilitarian. It appears to retain much of its 1950s design, with only some minor changes of materials over the years. Even though some of the materials were changed, the functional architecture style with characteristics of minimum decoration was still retained. Together with the City Hall complex, they reflect the typical modernist architecture of the 1950s and 1960s.

3. Authenticity

No significant alteration has been found. Only minor repairs and routine maintenance were carried out over the past years.

4. Rarity

Queen's Pier was one of some 50 public piers throughout the territory. Of them, however, only Queen's Pier had served the dual function as a royal/ceremonial and public pier. The number and variety of ceremonies and activities organized there, together with the prominent location along Victoria Harbour it occupies adds value to its significance.

5. Integrity

The integrity of Queen's Pier is supplemented by Edinburgh Place and City Hall. The pier is also located in a cluster of built heritage in Central District. The nearby heritage items include the Cenotaph (和平紀念碑, erected in 1923), Old Supreme Court (舊最高法院, completed in 1910) and Old Bank of China building (舊中國銀行大樓, completed in 1951).

6. Social Value

Many ceremonial events were held at Queen's Pier between 1954 and 1997. They are still fondly remembered by the older generation and people of middle age. On the other hand, a variety of activities that the general public undertook at the pier serve to enrich their nostalgic feeling and sentimental attachment to it.