



STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF YAUMATEI THEATRE

- Yaumatei theatre is the **only surviving pre-war cinema building** in the urban areas of Hong Kong witnessing the development of film industry in Hong Kong.
- Its audience had always been from the working-class in the Yau Ma Tei neighbourhood, such as coolies and rickshaw riders and low-income families. It was an important entertainment venue and regarded as a **key social gathering place** in the district.
- The front facade is predominantly Neo-Classical with a hint of Art Deco. The architecture of Yaumatei theatre presents a **unique example of purpose-built cinema** in Hong Kong constructed in late 1920s.

Conversion of Yaumatei Theatre &
Red Brick House into Xiqu Activity Centre



CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS OF YAUMATEI THEATRE



- Scale and overall architecture of the building
- Main façade with predominantly Neo-Classical design with a hint of Art Deco features.
- Dutch gable with mouldings
- Roof
- Steel trusses and timber purlins
- Air vents
- Two pillars at both sides of main entrance
- Plaster cornices and decorative mouldings along the interior peripheral walls
- Proscenium arch and flanking walls

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STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF RED BRICK HOUSE

- The Red Brick House is the **only surviving building of a 19th-century waterworks complex**, the Yau Ma Tei Pumping Station. It was the oldest surviving waterworks building in Hong Kong—even older than the 1917 Grade I Historical Building, the Tai Tam Tuk Pumping Station.
- The architecture is of utilitarian design, and typical of the British industrial building typology. Of red engineering brick wall and timber roof and floor construction. It is a **fine example of Hong Kong's industrial heritage** in the late Victorian era.
- The Red Brick Building underwent multiple adaptive reuses as post office, hazardous goods store, street sleepers' shelter and hawkers control office. It demonstrates a close association to the rapid development of the Yau Ma Tei district with a **different role to serve the local community**.

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CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS OF RED BRICK BUILDING

Exterior

- Red brick façade
- Cast-iron rainwater pipes, hopper heads and gutter
- Arched verandah openings, 2-ring segmental brick arches, drip mouldings, granite skewbacks, granite cills, ornamental ironwork balustrades with granite copings
- Granite string course at 1/F
- Oversailing brick courses and brick corbels
- Pitched roof of double layer Chinese clay tiles
- Brick chimney stack and flue openings



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CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS OF RED BRICK BUILDING

VERANDAH & INTERIOR

- Arched openings
- Old timber windows
- Boarded ceilings with cornices
- Fireplace and chimney breast
- Staircase and metal balustrade
- Plastered and painted wall
- Timber battened doors and frames
- Glazed and paneled doors and frames
- Boarded floors and skirtings



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Major mitigation measures

- On-site structural monitoring system should be installed to ensure integrity of the historic buildings.
- Architectural design should be carried out in such a way to keep the original expression of the architectural features and minimize intervention to existing fabrics. New elements should be compatible to original fabric and understated in design.
- New building services installation should be neatly placed and concealed by screens.
- Preservation of the Arch and flanking walls of the original stage.

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