

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**No. 60 Mount Kellett Road,**  
**The Peak, Hong Kong**

No. 60 Mount Kellett Road (加列山道) was built in the late 1930s. It was obviously designed as a private luxury house used for residential purposes. It was first owned by Mr. Leslie Benjamin Holmes, the Schoolmaster of the Education Department of Hong Kong, who applied for a total amount of \$3,500 with interest at the rate of 4 percent per annum from the Colonial Treasurer Incorporated to build a house on the said piece of land in 1936. *Historical Interest*

The house has changed hands a number of times since it was built. It was purchased by Mr. B.W. Bradbury in 1946. One year later, he sold it to The Mercantile Bank of India. In the 1980s, it was used as the staff quarters of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. In 1992, it was purchased by On Winner Limited owned by members of a well-known family, the Family of Liu Chong Hing (廖創興家族). Later on, in 2004, its ownership was transferred to Luckdoor Worldwide Limited.

Mount Kellett Road was named after Commander H. Kellett who commanded the British schooner *Starling*, a warship which patrolled Hong Kong waters in the 1840s. Later in the 1860s, Commander Kellett became a Vice-Admiral and a knight, as well as the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Navy. Kellett Island, now serving as the headquarters for the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (香港遊艇會), was also named after him.

The mansion house displays the once fashionable Modernist design with Streamline Moderne features. The house is three stories high displaying typical Modernist features in its white walls, curved corners, and bands of windows. The main part of the house is symmetrical on a central axis passing through a projecting canted bay on the front facade. There is a protruding wing or annex on the north end of the building which although it is in the same architectural style spoils the symmetry of the house. The house has a pitched and hipped roof of Chinese pan-and-roll tiles painted with orange bitumen paint. The roofs over the curved corners are flat. Several chimney stacks project above the roof. The house is served by a driveway and access road from Mount Kellett Road. The gatehouse has a curved front, flat roof and white walls in the same architectural style as the house. The house is built on a terraced platform cut into the hillside. The terraces have parapet walls of classical style balustrading painted white. There is a detached two-storey structure near the gatehouse with covered parking spaces for vehicles on the upper level. *Architectural Merit*

Evidence has come to light that the present garage on ground floor was added in the 1960s and the present Streamline Moderne features of the mansion house probably only dates from 1997 when substantial alterations and additions were carried out. The major alterations were associated with the construction of a new wing to accommodate a dining room on G/F and a master room on the upper floor, as well as the partial extension and enclosure of the front elevation to create a new entrance lobby on G/F and more rooms on the upper floor. The roof remains pitched in design with some chimney stacks remaining. The alterations and additions have been sympathetically carried out and enhance the architectural character of the building, which therefore is considered an item of architectural merit.

***Rarity,  
Built Heritage  
Value &  
Authenticity***

The social value of the mansion house to the community is not that great as it is hidden behind trees and a tall metal gate in a private road and it appears to have been always a private residence for rich families. As an interesting piece of architecture it has local interest.

***Social Value  
& Local  
Interest***

Sited among pleasant greenery, No. 60 Mount Kellett Road enjoys a quiet environment and connects with other residential villas in the area. Other historic items on the Peak include the Former Gate Lodge (舊總督山頂別墅守衛室) (Declared Monument), Peak Depot (山頂倉庫) (Grade 2), Old Peak Café (舊山頂餐廳) (Grade 2), Former Peak School (前山頂學校) (Grade 2), Peak Police Station (山頂警署) (Grade 3) and the historic buildings at Matilda and War Memorial Hospital (明德醫院) (Grade 2 and Grade 3).

***Group Value***

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