

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Queen Mary Hospital Main Block**  
**No. 102 Pok Fu Lam Road, Hong Kong**

Queen Mary Hospital Main Block (瑪麗醫院主樓) was built by the Public Works Department in 1937 and was named after Queen Mary. This was also meant to replace the half-century old Government Civil Hospital in Sai Ying Pun. Pok Fu Lam (薄扶林) was finally chosen as the most appropriate site on account of its geographical location, which was relatively immune from such climatic nuisances as heavy fogs, scorching summer heat and cold wintry winds. *Historical Interest*

Once the largest hospital in Hong Kong, it has been (and is still) providing clinical training and research for students from the Faculty of Medicine of The University of Hong Kong. During the Japanese Occupation (1941 – 1945), the hospital was taken over by the Japanese army and used as a Japanese military hospital. In the past decades, the hospital had undergone several expansions and the exterior of the main block has been altered.

The original structure of the Main Block consisted of seven stories and five Wings (A to E) in an H-shaped form. The architectural style is **Neo-Classical** with **Italianate Renaissance** influence. The facade of the ground floor storey is rusticated with voussoirs to the rectangular windows. There is a moulded string course at first floor level, a moulded cornice at sixth floor level, and a wide projecting eaves at parapet level. The main walls are plain with no ornamentation. Windows are abundantly and regularly spaced. The eighth floor was built on the original flat roof in 1970. The building has a steel framed structure with external walls finished in Shanghai plaster. Major renovation has been carried out which included the installation of a central air-conditioning system and enclosure of open verandahs. The Main Block is well maintained both externally and internally. *Architectural Merit*

Queen Mary was the first modern and sizeable government hospital in Hong Kong. It was also the teaching hospital of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong. It therefore has considerable built heritage value and remains largely authentic in appearance. *Rarity, Built Heritage Value & Authenticity*

The social value of the hospital lies in the role it has played in public *Social Value*

health care. It is one of the few remaining pre-war hospitals on Hong Kong Island and is well known by the local community. ***& Local Interest***

Situated on the hill above Pok Fu Lam Road, the Main Block enjoys the quiet and peaceful environment. The steep slope commanded a breathtaking and superb view of the southern side of Hong Kong Island, the western limit of Victoria Harbour, the dumb-bell shaped Cheung Chau island, and other neighbouring islands to the south and west.

The Main Block is one of the oldest buildings on the hospital site. The other old building on site is the Nurses Quarters Block A (also built in 1937). They are physically close to a number of historic buildings, including “**Jessville**” (Grade 3) at No. 128 Pok Fu Lam Road, **Douglas Castle** (德格拉斯堡) (the present University Hall, Declared Monument) at No. 144 Pok Fu Lam Road, **Bethanie** (伯大尼修院) (Declared Monument) and Cowshed of the Old Dairy Farm at No.139 Pok Fu Lam Road and “**Alberose**” (玫瑰邨) (Grade 2) at Nos. 132A & 132B Pok Fu Lam Road. ***Group Value***