

Historic Building Appraisal
Tang King Po School
No. 16 Tin Kwong Road, Kowloon

Tang King Po School (鄧鏡波學校) was officially opened in July 1953. *Historical Interest* It was named after Mr Tang King-po (鄧鏡波, 1879-1956), a renowned Hong Kong industrialist and philanthropist who donated HKD\$1,000,000 for its establishment. The school was officially opened by Governor Sir Alexander William George Herder Grantham (葛量洪爵士) on 23 July 1953. Further additions were built in 1956, 1964 and 1965. At first it was a technical and vocational training school, but it is now a secondary school for boys. The prominent figures who graduated from the school include Mr Frankie C.M. Yick (易志明先生), the Vice President of Customer Operations New T & T Hong Kong Ltd, and Rev. Fr. Andrew Fung Ting-wa, S.D.B. (馮定華神父), the ex-Principal of Tang King Po School. It is now a Catholic school subsidised by the Government and run by the Rev. Fathers of the Salesian Society (慈幼會).

The school is a large building with several wings constructed in different years as indicated above. *Architectural Merit* The building is three-storey high with inter-connected rectangular blocks all having flat roofs. The design combines modern and Art Deco features. The elevations display strong horizontality in the long open verandahs which serve the various classrooms. The facades are painted and ornamentation is minimal. The entrance gateway, the main entrance to the school, and the main entrance lobby are all designed in Art Deco style featuring wavy pattern ironwork, stylised columns, ziggurat shapes and set-backs. Even the chapel features Art Deco decorations internally.

The school, with its slightly differently designed wings represents a record of the development of modern architecture in the post-war years. *Rarity, Built Heritage Value & Authenticity* The use of the Art Deco features is quite unusual for this period and for a Catholic school. The building definitely has built heritage value and as far as can be seen retains much of its authentic appearance.

The social value of the school obviously lies in the role it has played in the fields of education and religion. *Social Value & Local Interest* It is well known in the area and is close to other well known schools, such as King George V School (英皇佐治五世學校, Grade 2) and the Main Building and Chapel of St. Clare of Assisi of Heep Yunn

School (協恩中學主樓及小禮拜堂, both Grade 3).

The school is within walking distance of King George V School, Heep ***Group Value***
Yunn School and the Kowloon Hospital (Grade 2 or 3).