

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**The Tuberculosis, Chest & Heart Diseases Association Headquarters**  
**No. 266 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong**

The Tuberculosis, Chest & Heart Diseases Association Headquarters (香港防癆心臟及胸病協會) was constructed in 1950-51 with grants from the Hong Kong War Memorial Fund. It was officially opened by the Governor **Sir Alexander Grantham** on 25 May 1951. The building also housed the B.C.G. Clinic (卡介苗注射診所) as well as the administrative headquarters of the British Red Cross Society (英國紅十字會). The ground floor of the building has been used as the Centre of Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (香港吸煙與健康委員會) between 1993 and 2003. Since June 2003, the ground floor has been used as “Hong Kong Centre for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention” (香港健康教育疾病預防中心). Nowadays, the organization is a voluntary organization funded by Hospital Authority (醫院管理局). Parts of its activities are financed by donations from the public, such as fund raising on Flag Days.

*Historical  
Interest*

Shortly after the Second World War, the incidence of tuberculosis (TB) was increasing at an alarming rate. It was against this background that Mr. Jehangir Ruttonjee (律敦治) whose eldest daughter Tehmi died from tuberculosis in 1943, started his campaign against tuberculosis. In 1948, together with a number of other distinguished citizens including Sir Sik Nin Chau (周錫年爵士) and Messrs. Ngan Shing-kwan (顏成坤), Sham Wai-yau (岑維休), D. Benson and Lee Iu-cheung (李耀祥), he established the **Hong Kong Anti-Tuberculosis Association** which was officially inaugurated on 22 October 1948. A sanatorium was first established in the former Royal Naval Hospital in 1950, and the headquarters building of the Association was erected in 1950-51. Over the years, the Association was managed by the committee board which was formed by a group of gentry, such as the Hon. S.N. Chau (周錫年醫生) and Sir Robert Ho Tung (何東爵士). The Governors of Hong Kong were the Patron of the Association during their tenures of office.

This three-storey building can be classified as **International Modern Style** with **Art Deco** influence. The elevations display typical Modernist features including horizontal and vertical bands of windows, curved corners, setbacks, streamlined grooves, an Art Deco style flagpole and tubular steel “ship’s railings” to the parapet wall of the flat roof. The elevations are painted pale cream and pink. The main entrance lobby features glazed and panelled hardwood doors and frames, marble floor tiles, and a marble staircase with an Art Deco style balustrade. Original panelled doors still remain to some of the rooms. There are panelled ceilings and moulded dado rails to the corridors but

*Architectural  
Merit*

there is not much else in the way of ornamentation. The building is kept in very good condition and everywhere is very clean.

This building is a very good example of the International Modern style and should be regarded as having considerable built heritage value. It does not appear to have suffered too many alterations and retains its authenticity.

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

The social value of the building lies in the role it has played in the treatment of tuberculosis, health promotion and disease prevention activities. All patients are treated free of charge. The organization is a voluntary organization funded by the Hospital Authority, and partly funded by donations from the public and proceeds from fund raising on flag days. Its special style of architecture and its prominent corner site make the building a well known local landmark.

***Social Value  
& Local  
Interest***

The building is in proximity to the Old Wan Chai Post Office (舊灣仔郵政局), a declared monument. It is also very close to Ruttonjee Hospital, Morrison Hill. Other historic buildings nearby graded by the Antiquities and Advisory Board include, but are not limited to, Nos. 72, 72A, 74 & 74A Stone Nullah Lane (石水渠街), Wan Chai Market (灣仔街市), Hung Shing Temple (洪聖廟), Nam Koo Terrace (南固臺), and the shophouses at Nos. 6, 8, 10 & 12 Burrows Street (巴路士街), Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11 Mallory Street (茂蘿街).

***Group Value***

As far as is known there are no plans to close down, so that the question of adaptive re-use does not really arise.

***Adaptive  
Re-use***