



Heritage Impact Assessment

for

The Former Legislative Council Building (Old Supreme Court Building)

Relocation of The Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of The Judiciary to The Legislative Council Building

11 May 2012

(FINAL REPORT)



Architectural Services Department



LWK Conservation Ltd.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

The Court of Final Appeal (CFA) which established after 1997 has been locating in the Former French Mission Building, a declared monument situated on Battery Bath, Central, since then. However, the limited use of space and no opportunity for on-site expansion affect the smooth transaction of CFA. In 2001, the judicial authority wrote a letter of request to use the existing Legislative Council (LegCo) Building upon the LegCo moved to the Tamar Central Government Complex cum Legislative Council Complex (“Tamar Complex”). In 2009, The Chief Executive (CE) officially announced the relocation of CFA into the LegCo Building upon the relocation of LegCo to Tamar Complex.

To facilitate the use as the court building, internal spaces of the building have to redesign and renovate to accommodate the facilities for new building users. The exterior of the LegCo Building, formerly the Supreme Court Building, was declared a monument in 1984 and is protected by the Antiquities and Monument Ordinance Cap.53.

To respond the rising public concern on heritage conservation, the CE, in his 2007 Policy Address, has announced the essentiality in carrying out Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report in accordance with the Development Bureau (DEVB) Technical Circular (Works) No.6/2009 for any capital works projects involved with or affecting a heritage site including declared monuments, proposed monuments, site and buildings graded by the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB), recorded sites of archaeological interest and Government historic sites identified by Antiquities & Monument Office (AMO) within or in the vicinity of the project boundary. Since the Former LegCo building was accorded with a Grade 1 historic building status in 1980 while its exterior was declared as a monument in 1984, it is essential to carry out HIA before its conversion work commenced. LWK Conservation Ltd. (LWK) is commissioned to conduct the HIA by Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) in accessing the heritage values of the entire building and deduce the way of implementation of the proposed relocation works project. Hence, the conservation works can be given due consideration without affecting but enhancing its heritage values.

1.2 Site Location

The project site is located on No.8 Jackson Road, Central. The site is bounded by Chater Garden on the east, by Des Voeux Road Central on the south, by Statue Square on the west, and by Chater Road on the north. The site comprises with the Former LegCo Building of a floor area of 230 ft by 125.5 ft (about 70 m by 38 m) on the western side with a portion of Jackson Road between Chater Road and Des Voeux Road Central enclosed for Former LegCo (future for CFA) purpose on the eastern side.

1.3 Status of Historic Building

The Former LegCo building was accorded with a Grade 1 historic building status in 1980 while its exterior was declared as a monument in 1984.

1.4 Current Ownership and Management

The Building is now under the management of Judiciary with the handover done on 21 Nov 2011 from the Legislative Council Secretariat.

1.5 Objectives and Scope of Heritage Impact Assessment

This HIA aims to provide a study brief in accessing the heritage values of the Former LegCo Building both externally and internally. The study would try to figure out the cultural significance which embedded in the site.

After the part of heritage and architectural studies, the conclusion would go into the development of the Conservation Policy in advising any equivalent mitigation measures and conservation strategy needed in advance, during the process, and after the completion of the CFA relocation projects.

1.6 Methodology

The methodology of this HIA report is in accordance with the requirements of the DEVB Technical Circular (Works) No.6/2009, following the Guidelines for Built Heritage Impact Assessment (BHIA) 2008, and with reference to the Burra Charter Australia ICOMOS.

The structure of this HIA report is generally described as follows:-

- The Desk top study of the Former LegCo Building in view of historical and architectural elements
- Draw up the cultural significance of the subject site
- Assess the proposed works, develop conservation policy and draw up correspondent recommendations and mitigation measures accordingly

1.7 Acknowledgements

LWK Conservation Ltd. would like to acknowledge the following parties, organizations and departments for their assistance and contribution in preparing this report:-

- Architectural Services Department (ArchSD)
- HKSAR Legislative Council
- Antiquities and Monument Office (AMO), Leisure & Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
- Hong Kong Museum of History, LCSD
- Public Records Office (PRO)
- Government Information Services (GIS)
- The University of Hong Kong, Library Archives of Hong Kong Collections

1.8 Disclaimer

The content of this report is prepared by the LWK Conservation Ltd. to the best of knowledge based on the information and data available at the above stated departments and institutes.

This report supposed to act as a guiding principle for government authority in designing the extent of the future relocation works and also work-out details. The assessment and recommendations made by this report are based on the latest updated design plans given by Architectural Services Department which are attached in the report appendix. If there is any significant change to the Design layout plan in future, the assessment and recommendation of this report on this part of changes shall be subjected to review by the consultant accordingly.

1.9 Definitions

This section is to clarify some commonly used terms in this report. The following definitions shall refer to the meaning within the context of this report as below:

The Site or the Historic Place: means the existing site of the former Legislative Council Building

The Historic Building: means the existing buildings of the former Legislative Council Building

The following definitions are borrowed from the Burra Charter – Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance as below:

Place: means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

Cultural significance: means aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.

Fabric: means all the physical material of the place, including components, fixtures, contents, and objects.

Maintenance: means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

Preservation: means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration: means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction: means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of materials [new or old] into the fabric.

Adaptation: means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use.

Use: means the functions of a place, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the place.

Conservation: means all the processes of looking after a place

so as to retain its cultural significance.

Compatible use: means a use which respects the cultural significance of the place. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

Setting: means the area around a place, which may include the visual catchment.

Related place: means a place that contributes to the cultural significance of another place.

Related object: means an object that contributes to the cultural significance of a place but is not at the place.

Associations: mean the special connections that exist between people and a place.

Meanings: denote what a place signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.

Interpretation: means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL APPRAISAL

“When Victoria has ceased to be a city, when the harbour has silted up, when even the Hong Kong club has crumbled away, this building will remain like a pyramid to commemorate the genius of the Far East...” said the Chief Justice Sir Francis Piggott, 15 January 1912, in the opening of the Court of Justice.

2.1 Judicial Development of Hong Kong in the 19th century

When Britain took over Hong Kong in 1841, the British Government proclaimed that the Chinese inhabitants living on the island to remain their own living, ritual, customs, freedom and they were governed by the Rules of Qing Government.

The creation of the city attracted large amount of Western and Chinese immigrants to come here to set up their business and to seek jobs for making better living. During 1850s, a large influx of Chinese population to the island in result of rebellions and civil war broken out in mainland China. The population of Hong Kong Island was 94,917 in 1860, which grew a lot when compared with the amount 5,650 in 1841.

With rising population and increasing trade activities, the communication and misunderstanding between people, no matter within the Westerners' and Chinese own circles or between Westerner and Chinese, arouse with conflicts that causing instability and social disorder of Hong Kong. In that case, a common law, which was implementable towards all people, found essential.

Because of this, the British Government moved the criminal and admiralty courts, formerly established in Canton in 1833, to Hong Kong in 1843. The Hong Kong Law Courts (Official name Hong Kong Supreme Court) was officially set up on 4 January 1843 with the Chief Justice (in Chinese 首席按察司 and later renamed 首席大法官) appointed as the most senior judge in the law system of Hong Kong. The first Chief Justice was John Walter Hulme who was in service from 1844 to 1860.

In the early days, the Supreme Court was responsible for handling serious offence, while those simple cases would go into the Police Magistrate Court. The former Central Magistrate Court (existing building is the 2nd court building constructed in 1913 to replace the older one built in about 1847), now a declared Monument in the Central Police Station Compound, was responsible in handling most of the cases in Hong Kong in 19th century. When the offenders did not agree with the judgment from the Magistracy, they can appeal to the Supreme Court. If the offenders did not agree to the judgment of Supreme Court, they were eligible in applying appeal and the final adjudication power would go into the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London.

2.2 The Supreme Court in the 19th century

In early colonial period, it is difficult for the Government to construct a premise to house their offices due to lack of resources. It was common to rent private premises to house the government offices. However, these buildings were usually not tailor-made for government offices' special needs

The earliest Supreme Court was housed in a building at the junction between Wyndham Street and Wellington Street in 1844. In 1848, the Court moved into the Exchange Building built by Dent & Co on No.7 Queen's Road, Central. Dent & Co. is a famous leading foreign merchant house found in Hong Kong in the mid 19th century but at last failed in 1867. It was a 2-storey building with a main entrance bounded by 3 giant columns with elaborated column heads. There was giant pilaster flanking on each side of its set-back entrance.



Fig. 1 The Exchange building (pointed) on No. 7 Queen's Road Central occupied by Supreme Court as its second address from 1848 to 1912. (Source: Hong Kong Museum of History)

2.3 The Praya Reclamation Scheme of Central in the 19th century

Hong Kong was a hilly island and did not have enough flat land for city development. Since 1841, reclamation kept on carrying out along the north coast of the island to provide usable flat land and to sell to different enterprises to set up their offices and build their piers. Queen's Road signifies the original coastal line and was built by the 3rd Governor Sir Samuel Bonham (1848-1854). When the road was built, the clay produced was directly poured down into the coast to form the first batch of reclaimed land. Between 1868 and

1873, the rapid development of coastal land lot moved the coastal line north to Des Voeux Road.

The 4th Government Sir John Bowring (1854 – 1859) tried to propose a new Praya Reclamation Scheme to further extend the waterfront in northern coastal line from western Sai Ying Pun and eastward to Causeway Bay during 1850s. However, this proposal was greatly opposed by those western merchants coastal land owners, and was greatly diminished.



Fig. 3 & 4 Governor Sir George William Des Voeux (Governor:1887 – 1891) (left) and Sir Paul Chater (1846 – 1926) being the two key persons in supporting the new Praya Reclamation Scheme of Central in late 19th century

(Source: Fig. 3 Hong Kong The Classic Age, FormAsia, 3rd publishing, 2011; Fig.4 The Chater Legacy- A Selection of the Chater Collection, Hong Kong Museum of Art,2007)

This Scheme was put on table again in 1887 by C. P. Chater and was immediately approved by the Governor Sir William Des Voeux (1887-1891). The land reclamation in Central was done between 1890 and 1904, adding 59 acres of land to the Central Waterfront with the new coastal front ended at Connaught Road. Along those newly reclaimed land, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Co-operation (HSBC) agreed to turn its new waterfront into a public square. The Statue Square was named afterwards when the Queen Victoria Statue was erected on site in 1896 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria's throne. The land in front of the Old City Hall remained on Government's hand which its development was flexible.



Fig. 5 The new praya of Central nearly completed from the Scheme. The first structure being erected in this new land was the Queen's Statue being in place in 1896. The site of Supreme Court Building was planned to occupy the site left of the straw shed (pointed) just in front of the old City Hall (left building). The middle building was the 2nd HSBC Building; Photo taken before 1896. (Source: Once Upon A Time – Hong Kong, FormAsia, 1st publishing, 2011)

2.4 Construction of Supreme Court Building

It is a general practice for most of the British colonies to build houses using a Pattern Guidebook. This pattern book gave a standard guide for the local government to construct standardized building to suit their specialized uses, for example barracks, office, residential, church or police station etc. Prominent examples in Hong Kong are Former Flagstaff House (now Museum of Tea Ware) (built in 1846), Murray House (built in 1846, demolished in 1982, relocated to Stanley in 2000), Barrack Block, Central Police Station Compound (built in 1863) and most of the barrack buildings such as S61 and S62 Blocks of Former Kowloon Barracks (built in 1910, now Heritage Discovery Centre in Kowloon Park). They were built similar in appearance with materials used varied to suit the local availability and climate. In Hong Kong, most of the buildings at that time were with Chinese pitched roof covered with double pan and roll Chinese tiles. The building structures were mostly constructed by granite and bricks while internal flooring and stairs were mainly timber. Beside adapting with local materials, most buildings were surrounded by open verandah flanked by columns. All decorative elements were simple and appeared continuously along the exterior elevations. This practice can increase the efficiency of city building especially for the fast growing colonies in the 19th century like Singapore, George Town and Penang in Malaysia and Bombay in India. Moreover, it reduced time and financial pressure for the local government to construct the buildings.

Until the closure of the 19th century, with a sophisticated city plan and capital accumulation, Hong Kong government started to design prominent buildings to improve the building quality and wanted to enhance the cityscape. The need of local building

design led to the setting up of different architectural firms in Hong Kong such as Palmer & Turner (PT) and Leigh & Orange (Lee On in Chinese). They are still prominent firms in today's Hong Kong.

In the late 19th century, the Old Supreme Court Building acquired in 1848 from a local firm was considered insufficient anymore. With increasing works and cases received, the building could not be extended anymore. It started to consider establishing a new Supreme Court building on a new site by Judicial Department.

Right after Sir William Des Voeux, the successive Governor Sir William Robinson (1891-1898) appointed a committee to study the use of the newly reclaimed land in Central. The Committee suggested building a new "Law Court" and a "Post Office" near the new Central Praya area. The initial suggestion of the Committee was to invite competitive design from architects in Far East Region like Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore. However, this suggestion did not match with "the preference" of the British Colonial Secretariat as they thought that this important public building had to design by experienced architects. Finally, the Hong Kong Government accepted Aston Webb and E. Ingress Bell for the project, which was the consultant architects of British Government. Aston and Bell were two experienced and famous architects in 19th & 20th century. They had jointly designed a number of famous British Buildings including the Victoria & Albert Museum in London and the façade of Buckingham Palace. Moreover, they have helped Birmingham in designing the Victorian Law Court which they were found "suitable" in handling the project.

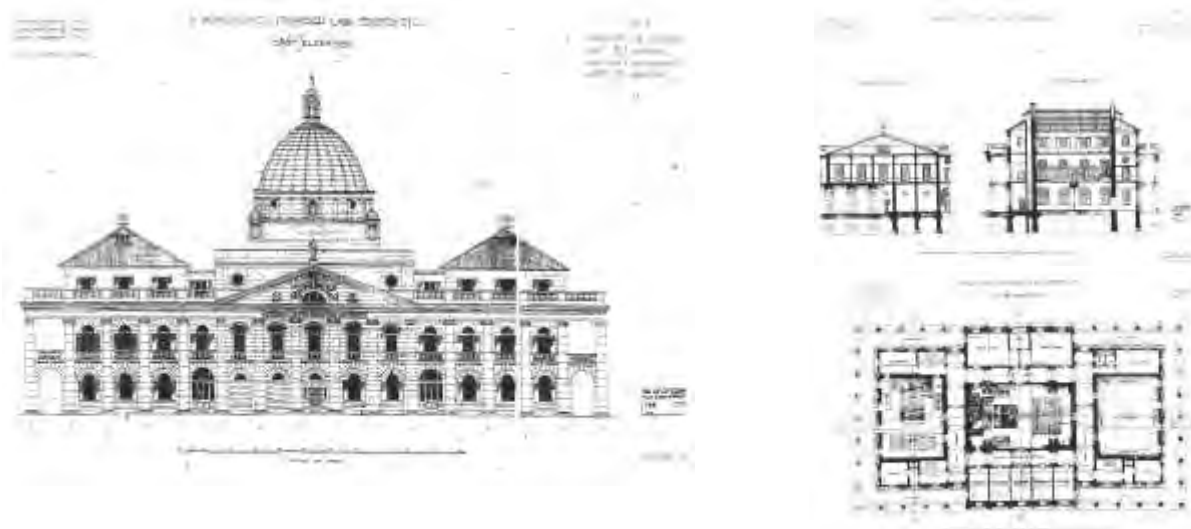


Fig. 6-8 Design Drawings (left) and plans (upper and lower right) of the Proposed Law Court of Hong Kong, the design was commissioned by the Crown consulting architects, Aston Webb & Ingress Bell, 1899 (Source: Architectural Office, Public Works Department. Record Drawings. Architectural Services Department. Architectural Services Department – Hong Kong. Hong Kong: The Government Printer, n.d.

The consulting architects suggested that the building should locate next to the cricket land and in front of the Old City Hall. They helped preparing the design drawings for the Hong Kong Government. With limited knowledge on site, their plans had to be adjusted a couple of times. One of the major changes was to shift the main façade from facing east to west facing the Statue Square. Moreover, the Public Works Department had to redesign the

basement to house the heating chamber. The overall design was finalized in mid 1899 and was approved by Hong Kong Government in 1900.

The construction was divided into two stages:-

A. Foundation work (late 1899 – Apr 1903):

To complete piling works for the whole building and to construct the basement to house the heating chamber

B. Superstructure Constructions and Fitting installation (late 1902 – Jan 1912):

To dress the granite and to construct the entire building



Fig.9 The condolence expression of Hong Kong citizens to the death of Queen Victoria in front of the Queen's Statue, 1901. Behind saw those straw sheds covering the foundation of the building with the pine tree trucks put beside which were ready for piling. (Source: Public Records Office, HKSAR)

The construction of the building had been prolonging for a long time. It spent three and a half years to complete the foundation works while the superstructure needed eight and a half years. The progress was recorded annually in the Public Works Department (PWD) Annual Reports from 1899 to 1912. The reports reviewed that the process of the construction was full of unlucky and had suffered a number of delays and unsatisfactory.

The foundation work was delay because of unexpected site condition. Workers needed to demolish the old praya retaining wall at the underneath of the southeast corner. After site

investigation, it found that piling work for the entire site was essential. But quality done by the first contractor were found unsatisfactory and had to redo again. Overall, 1,447 China fir tree trucks were piled and the basement was completed in April 1903.



Fig. 10 The building of the superstructure, 1903 (Source: Hong Kong Museum of History)

Luckily, the foundation stone was laid by the Governor Sir Henry Blake on 12 November 1903 before he left his service. However, the construction of the superstructure was another nightmare. The main contract was awarded to Chan A Tong in July 1903 but he died in November 1904 suddenly. The whole project was then taken over by his son.

It was also difficult to hire enough masons for the construction as there were a number of works commenced on the new praya at the same period. Lack of qualified raw granite for dressing, presence of iron particles led to discolouration of granite surface and the careful selection of quarry had further delayed the project.

The contract was at last handed back to PWD for completion in 1911. The Supreme Court Building was officially opened on 15 January 1912 by Governor Sir Federick Lugard.



Fig. 11 The formal opening of the Court of Justice (The Supreme Court) was largely reported on all local newspapers, attach is section of clippings from the China Mail published on 15 January 1912 reporting the opening ceremony. (Source: Public Records Office, HKSAR)

Each floor of the Supreme Court Building was designed for different uses when it was opened in 1912.

Location	Rooms
G/F	Land Office (2 rooms), Supreme Court Registry (5 rooms), prisoners' receiving rooms and 2 cells, store rooms
1/F	Great Court, Second and Third Court, Library, Judges' room (3 rooms), Witnesses' Room, Jury Room and Bar Robing Room
2/F	Offices of Attorney General and Crown Solicitor (5 rooms)

Chronology of construction of the Supreme Court Building

Year	Proceedings
1900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design from England was approved by Hong Kong Government Plan of basement level was prepared by PWD Piling work started
1901	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacing the Praya Reclamation Office with a temporary straw shed on site until it was relocated north of Queen's Statue Demolish the remaining old praya wall crossing the southeast angle of site Cement concrete with granite footings foundation constructed
1902	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan of basement was adjusted 1,447 piles were completely driven
1903	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundation work was completed in April Contract for building the superstructure was awarded to Chan A-tong in July Foundation stone was laid by Governor Sir Henry Blake on 12 November The Clerk of Works supervising the work was dispensed at the close of year
1904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walls of G/F were under progressing The square bases of all colonnade columns and pilasters were fixed New Clerk of Works arrived on 12 February Death of Chan A-tong on 8 November 107 masons were employed daily
1905	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult in getting constant supply of granite The Steelwork and concrete forming of 1/F flooring were laid 124 masons were employed daily
1906	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works were delayed to add a new "Third Court"

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steelwork of the main structure arrived from England • Scaffolding, some of the window frame and a few granite blocks were destroyed in typhoon on 18 September • 167 masons were employed daily
1908	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superstructure was completed to cornice level • Craved figures inside pediment on west façade were dressed and fixed • Statue of Justice was ready for fixing • Massive teak brackets on the roof of Third Court were fixed • 142 masons were employed daily • Contract for Joinery and fittings was issued to Chan A-tong's son
1909	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granite balustrades except 4 bays on cornice were completely hoisted • Statue of Justice was in position • Steel Trusses for roofs of Second and Third Court were fixed • The roof ironworks and granolithic slabs and rolls on roof top of the Library (behind pediment) were laid • Erection of steel frame supporting the inner dome of the Great Court was hoisted • Concrete flooring of 1/F and 2/F were completed • 84 masons were employed daily
1910	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steel frame supporting the outer dome was completed with its covering granolithic slabs and top lantern being fixed • Two concrete vaults supporting the inner dome were fixed • Plasterwork of the Great Court was completed • Tiling on floors at corridors and colonnade on 1/F & 2/F, prisoner entrance and lavatories were completed • Teak flooring and ceiling on 1/F and 2/F were in progress • Teak panels on walls of the Second and Third Court and erection of benches inside were completed • Most doors and casements of the building were hung for glazing • Grates and mantelpieces were fixed in all the rooms of 1/F and 2/F • 57 masons were employed daily
1911	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works of Superstructure were completed with minor items • Works were handed back to PWD on 15 June for completion • Timber flooring in G/F rooms had not yet completed and was taken back by PWD • Execution of wiring and casing for electric light and installation of 2 passenger lifts were completed by the Hongkong Electric Co. • Furnishing of library, courts and office were completed • Installation of heating apparatus in basement were completed at

	the close of year
1912	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The building was officially opened by Governor Sir Federick Lugard on 15 January• Renovation to some minor defects were in progress after the opening, e.g. fixing the defective fans, re-tiling the verandah in 1/F in 1913



Fig. 12 The just-completed Supreme Court Building, 1912. The entire project had spent nearly 12 years to complete. The nearby gardening works were not completed and was bounded by bamboo fencing. This is the earliest photograph capturing the completed Supreme Court Building. (Source: Hong Kong Museum of History)



Fig. 13 Map of Central showing the site of the New Court (circled) was not yet reclaimed, 1845
(Source: Hong Kong Annual Report 1953)

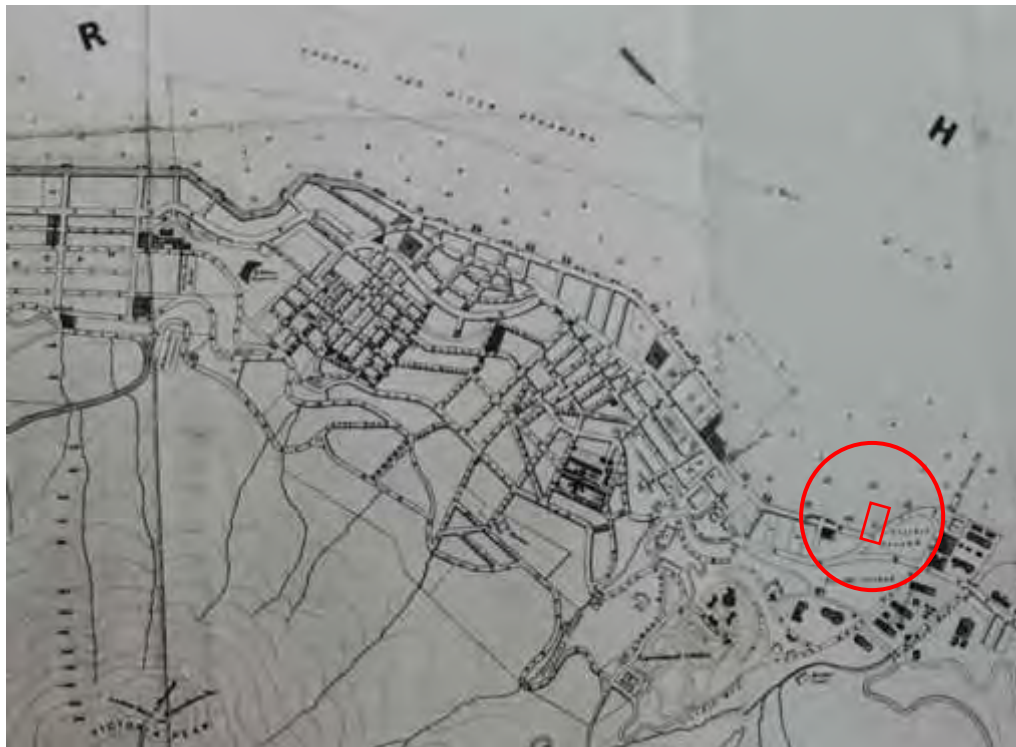


Fig. 14 Map of Central showing early reclamation had extended its waterfront to Des Voeux Road.
The Court site (circled and squared) had not yet reclaimed, 1863
(Source: Hong Kong Annual Report 1953)



Fig. 15 Plan of The City of Victoria showing the proposed area of the Praya Reclamation Scheme of 1899 and the New Court site (red square), 1889 (Source: Mapping Hong Kong: A Historic Atlas)



Fig. 16 Map of Hong Kong, Central, showing the proposed "New Law Court", 1911 (Source: Mapping Hong Kong: A Historic Atlas)

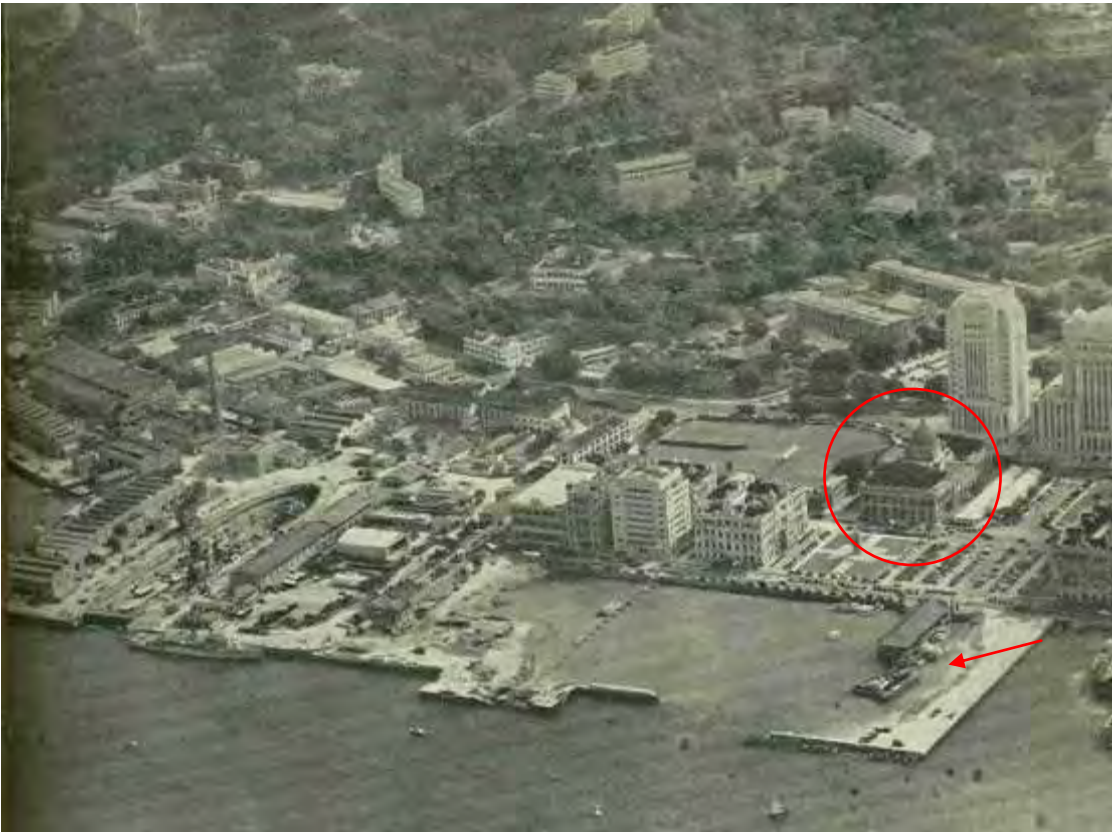


Fig. 17 Aerial Photo of Praya Central capturing the Supreme Court Building(circled). The land of the new City Hall was under preparation in front (pointed), 1953 (Source: Hong Kong Annual Report 1953)



Fig. 18 View of the Supreme Court Building (left) from Cricket Pitch (nowadays Chater Garden), 1972



Fig. 19 Aerial View of the Supreme Court with the Cricket Club just removed for Charter Garden. The 1899 Hong Kong Club Building (left pointed) and the 2nd generation HSBC Quarters (far right with wall light decors) was still existing, 1980



Fig. 20 Aerial View of Old Supreme Court Building, 2011 (Photo Source: Mr. C. M. Lee)

2.5 The Evolutions – from Supreme Court to Legislative Council

Upon completion of the permanent Supreme Court Building in 1912, it had been treating as the centre of maintaining Hong Kong's law and order until its closure in 1978. Located next to the Statue Square, Hong Kong's first public square, the Supreme Court Building gained much of its popularity.

The Statue Square was built in 1896 to house the bronze statue of Queen Victoria for commemorating her Golden Jubilee of the monarch. Later, statues of other Royal members and rulers, past governors and important social figures were erected in the square. There were totally 9 statues once being erected. The Japanese took down all these statues during World War II and only two statues were shipped back Hong Kong after the war. Nowadays, only the statue of Jackson, the first Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Baronet is still erecting in the square. The Queen Victoria Statue was relocated to the newly reclaimed Victoria Park in Causeway Bay in 1957.



Fig. 21 The early scenery of the Statue Square. The west front of the Supreme Court Building formed part of the cultural landscape of this famous royal square, 1919 (Source: Hong Kong Museum of History)

The elegant West elevation of the Supreme Court Building, with the Royal Emblem stone craves décors facing the square made it a perfect background for hoisting social and royal celebrations which had been captured from old day photos to nowadays.

Those activities held here were mostly unrelated to the judicial services but the building has been greatly embedded into people's memory as an icon of Hong Kong. Events such as the erection of Queen Victoria Statue ceremony (1896), the commemorative ceremony to the death of Queen Victoria (1901), the official opening of the Supreme Court Building (1912), greeting place for the visit of Duke of Connaught (1907), the peace celebration after World War I (1919), erection of Cenotaph (1923) and the later Remembrance

Sunday observance and ceremony for ending the Japanese occupation to Hong Kong during WWII from 1946 to 1996, the reconvention of Judiciary and the set up of Military Government right after restoration of Hong Kong (1945), the Art Festival held in the Statue Square and the G/F colonnade area of the building (1973), Hong Kong Festival (1960s) and Hong Kong WinterFest since 2003, etc. were taking place here.



Fig. 22 The reconvention of Judiciary of Hong Kong by Admiral Harcourt in the Great Court of the building right after Japanese surrender on 15 Aug 1945.. This valuable piece has captured the interior design of the Great Chamber including the judges' bench, the wall panels and one of the door entrances. (Source: Hong Kong The Classic Age, FormAsia, 3rd publishing, 2011)

During Japanese occupation, the court building was used as the Japanese Military Headquarter and the East façade facing Chater Garden was under fire damage during the takeover battle of Alliance Force with Japanese troops in Aug 1945.

Although the building was specially designed for the court use, the rapid advancement of judiciary services to Hong Kong made it inadequate for expansion of its service.

In late 1970s, dewatering process in underground during construction of the Charter Station (now named Central Station) of Mass Transit Railway led to uneven ground settlement. Severe structural cracks found throughout the building and construction noise

had greatly affected the operation of the Supreme Court. In 1978, the Supreme Court was relocated to vacant the building for emergency repair.

In 1981, Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners was commissioned to investigate the feasibility in restoring the building. The report concluded that the building was able to restore and the whole building was structurally safe and could be in service again after renovation. In 1984, the exterior of the Old Supreme Court Building was declared monument and the interior was converted into the Legislative Council and was formally opened in 1985.

After changing the function of the building, it became the centre of law making for Hong Kong and also the landmark witnessing a number of social movements and demonstrations that were greatly influential to the development of Hong Kong.



Fig. 23 Cracks developed on various locations on the building which led to the temporary closure of the entire building in 1978 for restoration. The photo shows one of the cracks located on the granite surface in 2/F under the central dome being repaired in 1980s. (Pointed)

The building had been serving as the place of the LegCo since 1985. In 2011, a new LegCo building complex was completed in the new Tamar Site in Admiralty to provide more usable spaces for LegCo. In November 2011, the LegCo was moved to its new site and vacant the historic building for converting into the new place for the Court of the Final Appeal.

2.6 Chronological Events of Old Supreme Court Building

Year/Period	Events
Before 1898	The Praya Reclamation Scheme was proposed in 1855 and the first reclamation was carried out from 1868 to 1873. The reclamation added considerable amount of land in Praya Central (Des Voeux Road).
1898	On February 28, the Legislative Council agreed to construct the Supreme Court Building on the reclaimed land.
1899	Aston Webb and E. Ingress Bell, the leading architects of that period, prepared drawings for the Building.
1900-1912	The construction work officially began in 1900. Governor Sir Frederick Lugard opened the building on 15 th January, 1912. Other than the period of Japanese occupation, the building housed the Supreme Court from its opening until 1978.
1941 – 1945	In the period of Japanese occupation, the building was functioned as the Japanese Military Headquarters.
1970s	By this time, a total of seven courtrooms were located on the first and second floor whereas the large courtroom was converted into a library.
1978	The construction of the Mass Transit Railway led to cracks in the structure. Closure of the building to allow reinstatement works. The Supreme Court was relocated.
1983	The conversion plan of transforming the Old Supreme Court into the home of the Legislative Council was approved by the Executive Council.
1984	The building exterior officially declared monument and was under the protection of the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance. The Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) carried out major part of the conversion work to the Legislative Council, for instance, reconfiguring the library (originally the large courtroom) into the Council Chamber.

	<p>The ArchSD also closed a portion of Jackson Road in order to connect the Building with the Chater Garden and the building's boundary was outlined by cast-iron bollards and lamp-posts.</p>
1985	<p>In October, the new LegCo Building was formally opened.</p>
1997	<p>The President's seat with a St. Edwards crowns or Queen's carving on it was relocated to the Hong Kong Museum of History after June 30.</p>
2006	<p>The Tamar Development Project proposal, including a new LegCo Complex, was approved.</p>
2011	<p>On 18th July, a farewell function was held for the moving out of the Legislative Council from the historic building to the new LegCo Complex in Tamar site.</p> <p>The building will then be converted to the home of the Court of Final Appeal.</p>

2.7 Architectural Appraisal

2.7.1 Study Area

The Old Supreme Court Building occupies a site of 230 ft by 125.5 ft (about 70 m by 38m). The exterior of the whole building was under the statutory protection bounded by Antiquities and Monument Ordinance since 1984. The site is bounded by part of Jackson Road reserved for the use of Legislative Council (now under the use of Judiciary) and Chater Garden to the east, Des Voeux Road Central to the south, the Statue Square to the west and Chater Road to the north.

2.7.2 General Description of the Building Exterior

The building's exterior is a declared monument under the protection of the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.

Superstructure – the Neo-classical Layout

The building is of revival of ancient Greek and Roman architectural features. Dominated by massive columns in both Ionic and Doric orders, all columns supporting the superstructure are 2-storey high flanking around the building to form a continuous colonnade. On top of the columns are heavily finished with flat entablature. Besides, the central portion of the western elevation cornice is topped with a pediment containing traditional Greek gods carved by stonework.

The Roman features include the use of supporting arch highlighted with a keystone. It was broadly used as structural support of the 1st Floor verandah and the granite head on most of the external openings.

Overall, the building design emphasizes order and symmetry. All window and door openings are evenly distributed in bay between columns. All timber windows and doors are made identical.

Other than traditional elements, modern building technique was also used in this early 20th century building. Metalwork such as cast iron and steelwork that were used in architecture since the 18th century Industrial Revolution were used in the building. The prominent examples are the 3 vent openings in G/F colonnade to basement, the steel frame and truss supporting the central dome and also the pitched roofs. All these were imported from the United Kingdom. Similar example which applying metalwork construction in architecture in Hong Kong is the Western Market of Sheung Wan (1906). Its central pitched roof and internal supporting columns are of metalwork and glass construction.

To adapt the need of local climate, the building is specially designed with verandah. The 1/F verandah is designed wide enough to block the direct penetration of sunlight into inner room in order to make inside cooler. The whole verandah is beautifully design flanking with massive columns and ornamental granite vase balustrades. The

floorings are of cement concrete supported with steel beams and covered by ceramic tiles. However, the tiles are not original but the pattern should be. The salvaged tiles from recent budging area reveal that they were imported from Italy and should be retilled in 1985 conversion works. According to historic records, the verandah tiles had found defective shortly after the opening and had to be re-tiled in 1913.

The flooring of the underside colonnade is differently covered with granite slabs and decorated in geometric pattern. The slabs are finely dressed, it seems most of them are original except some modern manholes were found in-between but covered back with slabs or with similar materials.

Most of the tropical buildings designed for Western users consisted of large windows and louvers for ventilation and blocking sunlight. The 1899 design of the building by Aston Webb & Ingress Bell has incorporated them in the window and door design. However, the wide verandah might be good enough in achieving their needs so no louvers were installed throughout the colonnades. According to site visit, there is no sign or traces of metal joists and fix found on the granite wall designed for louvers.



		
Exposed granite surface	The colonnade area	The massive Ionic columns
		
1/F verandah with ceramic tiles	The timber window entrance	A typical timber openings

Fig. 24-29 (left to right, then up to down) The typical features of the exterior of Old Supreme Court Building

The Ceiling Level Structure

The Top West Pediment

A compact design pediment is located on the central top cornice of west elevation. The entire pediment is of granite structure. On its centre, a British Royal Coat of Arms representing the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland were located on top of a semi-circular window to reflect the Royal sovereign. Flanking the Coat of Arms are figures of Mercy and Truth originated from Ancient Greek myth.

On top of pediment tip stands the Greek Ancient God Themis, representing the Goddess of Justice. The statue is of blind-folded holding a sword on the right and a balanced scale on the left.

Below pediment, the inscription “ERECTED AD MDCCCX” meaning “erected in 1910”.

The two Royal Letters “E” & “R” (Full Name: Edward Rex) put at edge of pediment on each side which mean that the building was completed during the throne of King Edward VII period (1901-1910).



Fig. 30 The craft inspection ERECTED • A • D • MDCCCX meaning “erected in 1910” under the compact design pediment




	<p>This British Coat of Arms on Old Supreme Court Building had been standardized since 1837. The Central shield is divided quarterly which the 1st and 3rd quarter with three lions represent England (& Wales), the 2nd quarter with a single lion represents Scotland and the 4th quarter with a harp represents Northern Ireland. Under the shield engrave a French sentence “Dieu et mon droit” which featuring the motto of British monarch “God and my right”.</p> <p>Supporting the shield are lion (represent England, left) and unicorn (represent Scotland, right)</p>
	<p>Left: God of Truth (Aletheia) Latin Name: Veritas Translation: Truth, truthfulness, sincerity</p> <p>A traditional God from Ancient Greek represents truth and sincerity</p>
	<p>Right: God of Mercy (Eleos) Latin Name: Misericordia, Clementia Translation: Mercy, pity and compassion</p> <p>A traditional God from Ancient Greek holding Mirror of Truth to show pity and compassion</p>
	<p>Top of pediment (Themis) Latin Name: Themis Translation: Divine Law, custom, oracle and divine decree</p> <p>A traditional God from Ancient Greek represent Justice. She is blind-folded holding sword and balanced scale</p>

Fig. 31-34 (up to down): The carve details of the West-end Pediment

The Roof Construction

The roof construction has demonstrated the influence from Western and Chinese culture.

The central dome dominates the skyline above the building. The dome is a double layer structure supported with steel frames and truss internally. The dome is built on a granite square base with 4 pinnacles decorating the corner. The dome sits on a drum surrounded with open colonnade. The coat of the dome is of granolithic slab imported from London factory Stuart's Granolithic Co. On top of the dome sits a granite lantern with a bronze Tudor Crown rest on tip. The crown style is of Edwardian period. The top lantern structure is internally supported by steel frame.

On each side of the giant dome stands two pitched roofs covered with Chinese double pan and roll tiles with two granite chimneys. The use of double layer tiles is to further protect the roof from water leakage especially during heavy rain season. The whole roof is rest on timber brackets with iron T-bars inside and there are steel truss supporting the roof internally.

Behind the pediment sits a triangular pitched roof covering with granolithic roll slabs imported from London. Internally, it is supported by steel truss.



Fig. 35 Bird view of the roof level of the Old Supreme Court Building

2.7.3 General Description of the Building Interior

The entire building is in 2-storey high and was originally fit with rooms designated for the court use. Besides, a small basement was built to house the heating chamber to provide hot water to warm the entire building.

Internal corridors were found on each floor to facilitate internal movement. Besides, two lifts and three staircases were also designed to facilitate vertical circulation.

Its internal layouts have undergone changes throughout the past century to facilitate different users' need in different period. The most significant change is the 1985 conversion work turning the building into the Former Legislative Council Building. This section aims to provide an overview to the internal room condition by comparing the existing with the original design and the Old Supreme Court setting which were recorded in its 1899 design plans and the 1953 record plans respectively. Significant rooms with special purposes are outlined in this chapter to examine its condition.

The Basement

The basement is located at the southwest corner of the building. It was rectangular in plan. The area is currently accessible by a concrete staircase. The basement is concrete in structure. 3 skylights were built leading to the G/F colonnade. They were covered with cast iron openings inserted with glass rod prisms allowing sunlight from going into the shaded basement floors. Two of them are currently visible from the basement floor while a newly built wall blocks the other skylight locating at the staircase.

There are no proper records found regarding the basement floor in historic plans. According to historic record, this area is designed locally by Public Works Department to house the heating apparatus.

Currently, the whole floor is used as E&M rooms. Large machineries are housing inside. Walls and top ceiling are packed with cushions. The northwest corner is partitioned and leveled up as the office and control room.

At the centre stands a square load bearing column supporting the upper ceiling. According to historic report, the wall should be in brickwork. The supporting arches leading to the skylights and also the entrance are in granite. The ceiling is in extraordinary design with segmental small arches pattern that are hardly seen in other parts of the building. This segmental arch design is useful by increasing its strength to cope with the upper loading pressure bought by the above structure.



Fig. 36 (Left) The general layout of the basement area

Fig. 37 (Right) The general view of the existing basement used as the plant room. A load bearing column constructed at the centre supporting the entire floor



Fig. 38-42 (Top to bottom, left to right)
The building features within the area including the segmental arches ceiling (Fig. 38), the arched doorway (Fig. 39), skylight openings with granite supporting arches (pointed) (Fig. 40), its cast iron openings leading to G/F (Fig. 41) and a close-up to their inserted glass prism rods (Fig. 42)

The G/F

Prisoners' Receiving Area

This area was specially designed to receive and hold prisoners before going upstairs to the court room in 1/F. It was located right behind the main entrance on the central axis on the west elevation. Historic records reviewed that this area consisted of a main entrance area, 2 holding cells and a prisoners' receiving room with two staircases leading to the central large court room and the aside second court.

The location of the entrance below the Statue of Justice has its significant meaning. It signifies that all people are equally treated under the law and order.



Fig. 43 The main elevation of the Old Supreme Court in 1915. The main entrance (pointed red) locating under the Statue of Justice (circled) signifies that all people are equally treated no matter what classes of these people are. The external windows of the cells (enclosed with rectangle) were originally designed with filled granite walls for security reasons which was matching with the details with 1899 design drawing. (Fig.44)

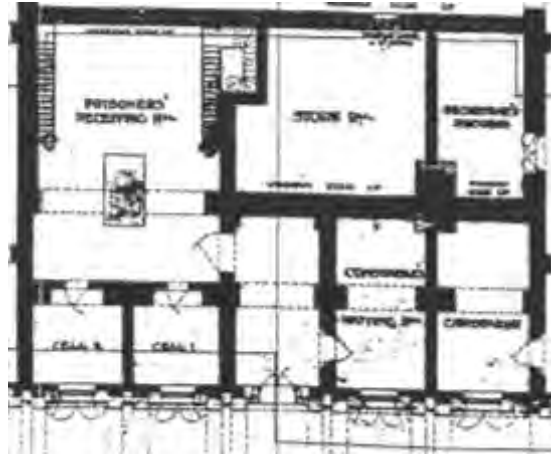


Fig. 44 (left) The 1899 design drawing showing two window-filled cells design in the prisoners' receiving area and Fig. 45 (right) the detailed layout inside including the two "Bridge of Sights" .

It was recorded that the entrance area was covered with ceramic tiles. Two cells were built locating left of the entrance and their arched openings are still existing. They were separated rooms however they are now interconnected with a new opening. There were two stairs which were built to connect this area with the main court and second court called "Bridge of Sights". The bridges were used for transferring prisoners' into the court through a secured path.



The original segmental arched opening of one of the cells (pointed)

The prisoners' receiving entrance area with terrazzo floor finish

Fig. 46 (left) & 47 (right) The Former Prisoners' Receiving Area

The design drawing records in 1899 showed that the staircases were built in two different configurations. The bridge linking with the second court on northern side was shown flanking with full height iron railings. It was built in L-shape with a square turning on mezzanine level. The other links with the great court in centre was built in a spiral shape. Two upper windows in semi-circular shape fit with glazing teak were shown in early drawings between the two bridges. In 1965, the cells were removed to form the press room.

Existing condition reviewed that this area was later altered which are different from the historic description. The existing main entrance door and the security window and iron bars aside the door are believed to be intact and have matching pattern compared with the design drawing. The existing floor finishes of the entrance area is red terrazzo finish with white girdle surrounding its edge. This is a common decorative finish found in building constructed between 1950s and 1970s.

The door openings of the two cells have preserved its original segmental arched openings. However, existing openings are diminished with new brickworks and the two cells are interconnected with new rectangular opening.

The two bridges were constructed with granite. Existing condition reviewed that most of these structures were disappeared except the part of bridge on mezzanine level to the second court. The landing of the bridge is only visible after dismantling the false ceiling of Room 010 of LegCo. It is found that this bridge is running on top of the existing middle timber doorway partition locating on the north corridor. Many building services is now occupying the bridge area and there is no metal railing observed flanking the staircase. Careful examination of the bridge is essential after removal of the occupying services



Fig. 48 (upper left) Section drawing showing the two Bridge of Sighs leading to the upper courts

Fig. 49 (upper right) shows the existing staircase landing found after removal of false ceiling

Fig. 50 (lower left) Existing bridge area is occupied by later added services (Photo by ArchSD)

Fig. 51 (lower right) the exit of the bridge to the original second court is blocked by concrete block (Photo by ArchSD)

The 1/F

The Large Court Room

The large court room was originally located in 1/F under the central dome. The court is in double volume high. The central dome is supported by 2 giant barrel vaults crafted with coffered patterns resting on 4 granite double-column bases. The court was oriented in north-south setting. Judges' bench was put on north side of the room facing south. Side entrance is built on each side of judges' bench. The back wall of judges' seat was decorated with a big arched moulding. Other than that, the prisoners' dock was located on the central part of the court linking with the prisoners' receiving area in G/F by the "Bridge of Sighs". The public seats were located at south part of the room. Three main entrances were built on the central portion of the wall on east, west and north side. The internal walls were fit with teak panels for a height of 12' 0". Each main door entrance were flanked with elaborated timber surround with triangular pediment placed on top of them. The floor of the court was covered with teakwood strips nailed to fillets embedded in the concrete.

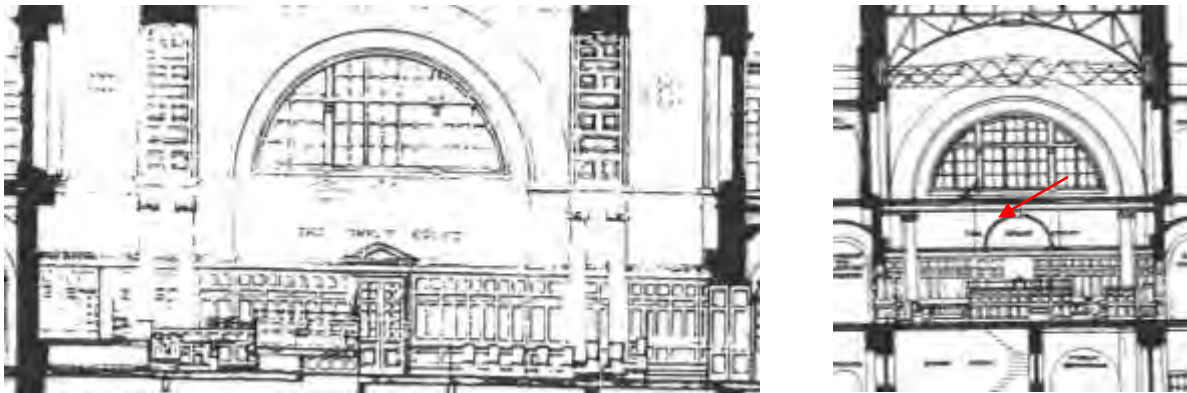


Fig. 52 (left) A cross section plan showing the internal layout of the court, the decorative patterns of the wall panels and the elaborated door surrounds from 1899.

Fig. 53 (right) Another cross section showing the design of the judges' bench including the arched moulding at the back (pointed)

The court is illuminated by natural sunlight through the big semi-circular window on top floor. The window frames are finely decorated with timber columns linked with entablature.

In 1985 conversion work, this area was converted into the Legislative Council Chamber. All the internal furniture and fitting were removed and fit with new ones. The existing chamber seats are built on a raised platform. The LegCo chamber was designed in a west-east orientation. The seat of the Chairman was oriented in east side facing west. The public gallery on the mezzanine level of the chamber was added in 1985. A glass enclosure was added under the gallery. The northern glass enclosure structure make use of the two original side entrances for the judges to form additional rooms for TV/Camera Room use. The existing wall panels are only seen on two sides (east and west inner wall). It was seen later altered which are quite different from the original design shown in design drawings and historic photographs.

Removal of carpets inside shows that original timber strips are still preserved however it was damaged by modern service trunks.

Beside internal fitting, the existing room structure including the double height domed ceiling, the semi-circular window openings and timber surrounds, 2 supporting barrel vaults and the four double-column bases and the ceiling moulding and dentils are greatly intact.



Overview of chamber showing the current chamber seat and existing timber wall panel.



The north public gallery later added. The original arched moulding is still visible



The barrel vault and granite double column bases are still intact

Fig. 54 – 56 (left to right) Details of the Great Chamber

The Second and Third Court

The Second Court was originally located on the north part of the building. It was designed in east-west orientation. The judges' seat was put on east side facing west and the central dock was inter-connected by the "Bridge of Sighs" with the prisoners' receiving cell in G/F. The public seat was designed to put on the west side of the room. The layout may have been altered in later stage which some of the areas shown in 1953 drawing was partitioned for judges' office use.

In 1985 conversion work, this area was extensively renovated to form the Conference Room B & C for LegCo. Nearly all internal fittings inside were removed. All ceilings and walls were extensively renovated with modern materials which can hardly trace any original building features. The original opening of the Bridge of Sighs has been covered. However, it can trace as the original path on mezzanine level is still preserved. Careful examination to the exact location of this opening should be done after removal of the existing building fitting.

The third Court was not shown in the preliminary design of 1899 because it was a late addition court room during the construction period. Historic record reviewed that this court room was not appeared until 1906 when report from Public Works Department reviewed that "*some of the building were unfortunately delayed until the question of providing a Third Court, which had been raised, was settled.*". The court, in the design plan from 1953, occupied part of the south portion of the building. It was designed in north-south orientation with judges' seat putting on south facing north. The dock did not interconnect with linking bridge. Transportation of prisoners to the court room may depend on the escort.

The 1985 conversion work had changed this area into the LegCo Press Conference Room. All the original fitting was removed to accommodate new fitting. Recent removal of carpets discovered that half of the original timber floor strips are still preserved however they are heavily damaged by lateral service trunks.

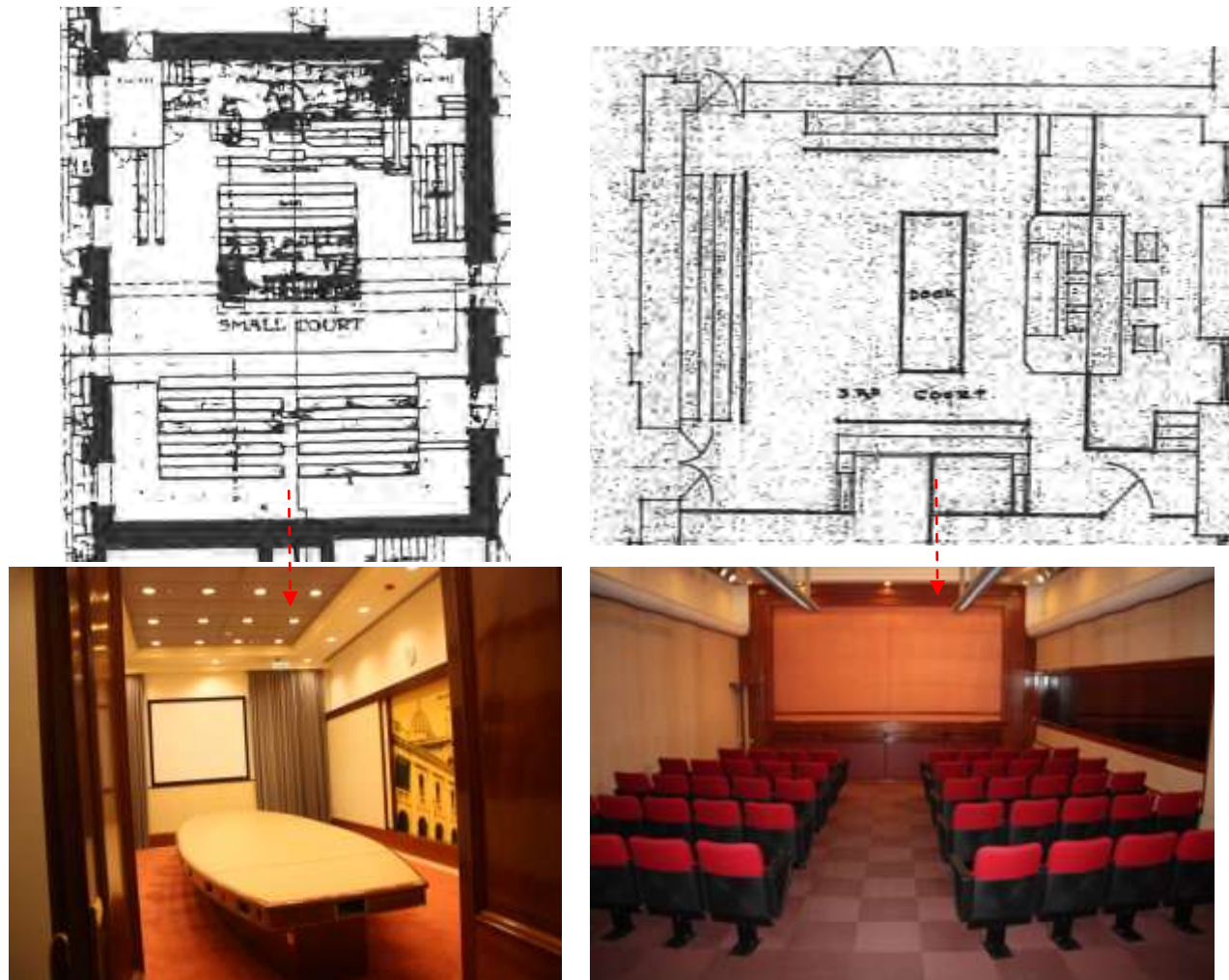


Fig. 57 – 60 (Left to right, top to bottom) The original design drawing of the small court (1899) and the existing layout (2012, Former LegCo Conference Room B). The 3rd Court (1953) and the existing layout (2012, Former Press Conference Room)

The Library

The library was formerly designed to house at the south part of the building in the 1/F. However, it was relocated during the construction period to the west part of the building in the 1/F right below the pediment to accommodate the additional 3rd Court. Although it was relocated on the midway of the construction, the general design layout was followed with a slight change of its configuration to fit different room size. The Library was designed in two-storey high. An upper gallery with a central well was constructed with supporting trusses designed in curved style. The design drawing shows that this upper gallery was connected with a spiral staircase put at corner.

In 1953 drawing, it showed that the library occupied only part of this space, the other part was shared with the District Court. A man operated lift was seen instead of a spiral staircase connecting to the upper deck.

In 1985 conversion work, this area was renovated to form the Ante Chamber of the LegCo. The upper gallery with a central void setting was restored. Existing condition shows that the upper gallery is located on the mezzanine level with a central void. The gallery is decorated with fine designed iron balustrades. The timber flooring are believed to be re-laid again in 1985 with embedded plug openings. However there is no staircase accessible to the upper gallery. The guidebook of LegCo issued in 1985 formal opening reported that "*the original spiral staircase was restored*" but the captioned pictures in this booklet showing the restored central void of the gallery did not show any staircase inside.

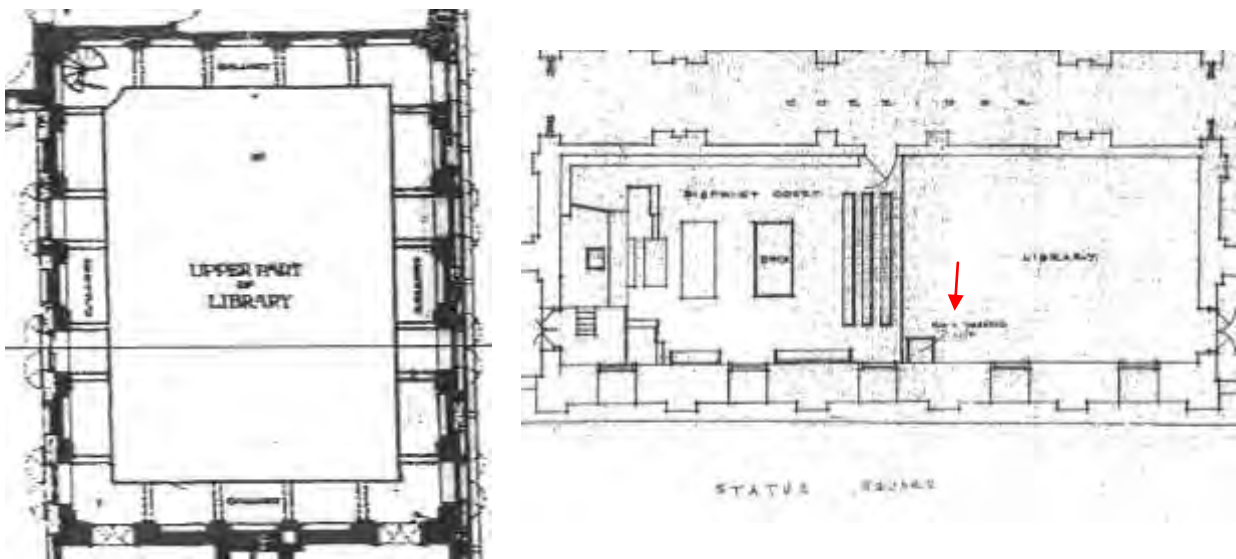


Fig. 61 (Left) The original design layout of the Library preliminary located at south side of the building
Fig. 62 (Right) The Library locating at west side in 1953 with a man operated lift going to the upper gallery was recorded (pointed)



Fig. 63 The existing Ante Chamber nowadays

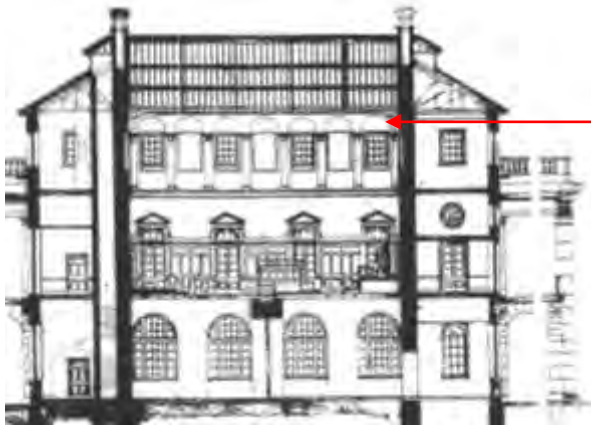
The 2/F

The two rooms locating on north and south side of the building were later added floors. The floor on south side facing Des Voeux Road was inserted in 1953 while the floor on north side facing Chater Road was inserted in 1964.

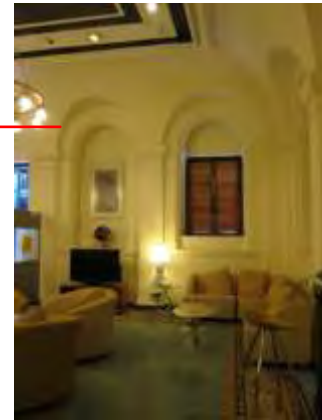
Design drawings from 1899 showed that the window was fit with arch moulding surrounds flanking with pilasters.

Existing condition showed that arch and pilaster moulding are found throughout the walls of these 2 rooms. Those arches are supported with Doric pilasters slightly decorated with some vegetal design. These features are largely preserved in the Dining Room but those in the conference room were covered by modern panel works in 1985.

In 1985 conversion work, the south room was converted into Conference Room A and the north room was converted into Dining Hall. The Existing condition of the Conference Room A is covered with modern wall panels and is stood on a raised platform, it is necessary to dismantle the current fitting in order to examine the condition of the above captioned building features. The removal of carpets in the Dining Hall showed that the flooring is covered with square-patterned timber strips. Part of the original floor is destroyed by modern trunk works.



The 1899 design drawing showing the decorative wall moulding on the window level in 2/F



The Dining Room with original arch and pilaster moulding features still existing in 2/F



The square-patterned timber strip flooring finish reviewed after the removal of carpets. Trunk damages are discovered. (pointed)



The renovated Conference Room A is extensively renovated which all walls are currently hidden by modern fittings

Fig. 64 – 67 (left to right, then up to down) Comparatives of features in other parts of building

Vertical Circulation

The original design plan showed that there were 3 three sets of staircases and 2 lifts designed for the vertical circulation within the building. Among all of them, only the staircase and lift locating at the northeast corner between Chater Road and Jackson Road was designed to access up to 2/F. The others are up to 1/F only. The staircases were granite construction. And the two lifts were built in the central void of the staircase at the northeast and southwest corner respectively.

The 1985 conversion work only preserved the original staircase located at the northeast corner while the others were rebuilt by concrete. All the two lifts were reconstructed with an additional lift added to the southeast corner. A dump waiter was added in the pantry locating at the northeast corner to serve the dining hall in 2/F.

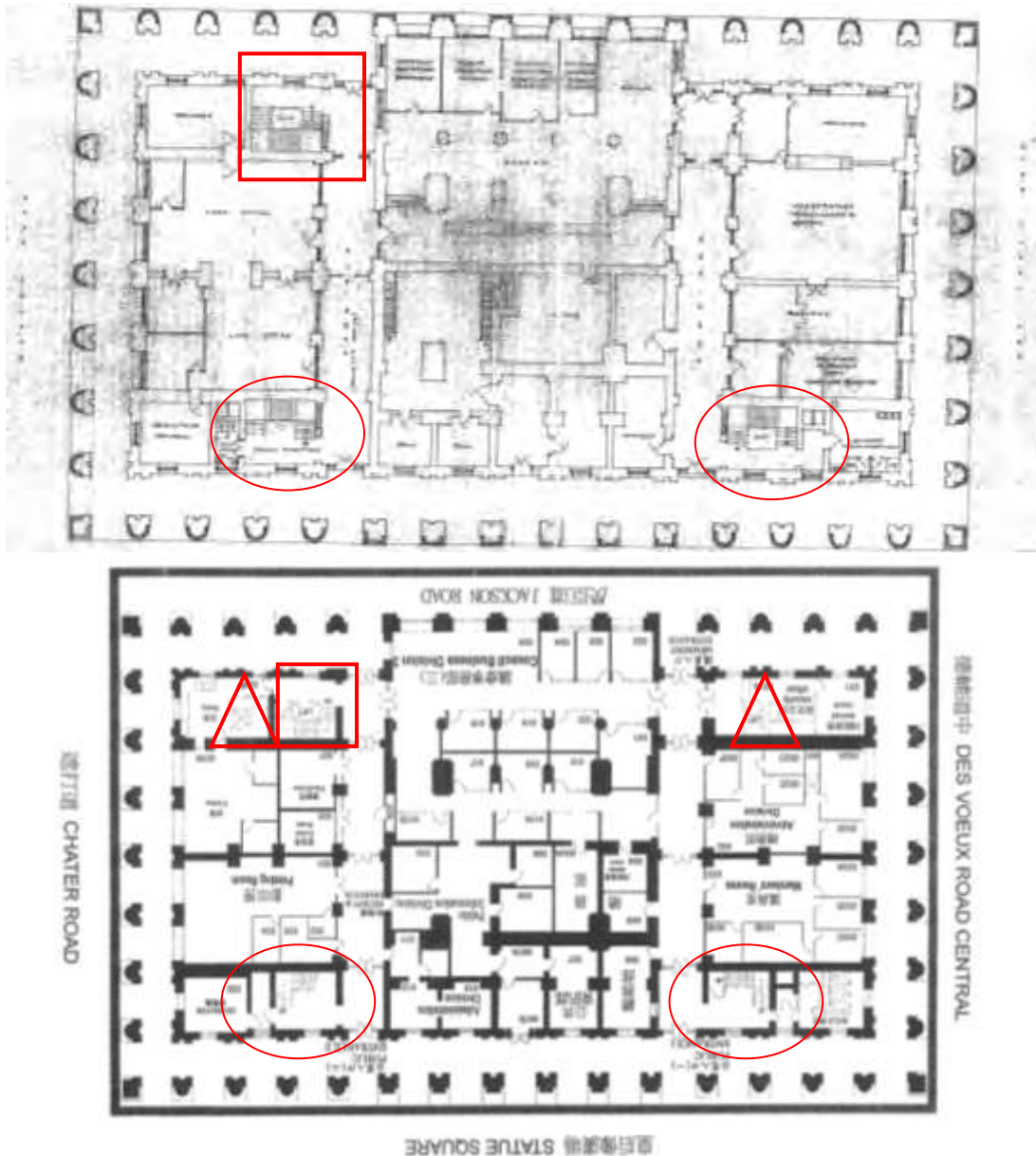


Fig. 68 (above) and Fig. 69 (below) shows the G/F plan of the Supreme Court (1953) & LegCo (2011) showing the location of all vertical circulations including the preserved original granite staircase (squared) with a new lift inserted in its central void, the reconstructed staircases (circled) and the newly built lift and dump waiter (triangled).

The entire original staircase is constructed with dressed granite steps. The footing and also the upper ceiling part of the whole staircase is of exposed granite surface. The historic record reviewed that the wall surface of the staircase, corridor and lavatories are covered for a height of from 9' 6" to 4' 0" with ivory white glazed tiles with green skirting, band and capping mould. However, current inspection doesn't discover any wall tiles existing within the staircase area. Removal of covering plaster is then necessary to see whether any tile works are still existing inside.

The original handrail has been replaced with modern handrail design and traces of original handrail footing can still be visible on the edges of the granite steps. Other

than those differences, the original structure of the entire staircase is still preserved entirely.



Fig.69 (left) and Fig. 70 (right) The preserved original granite staircase including the exposed granite steps and the footings with traces of original footing of the handrails (pointed).

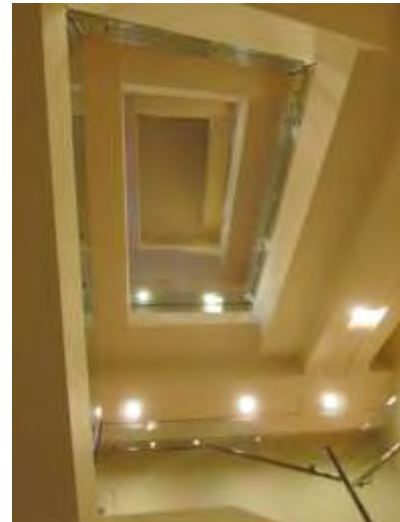
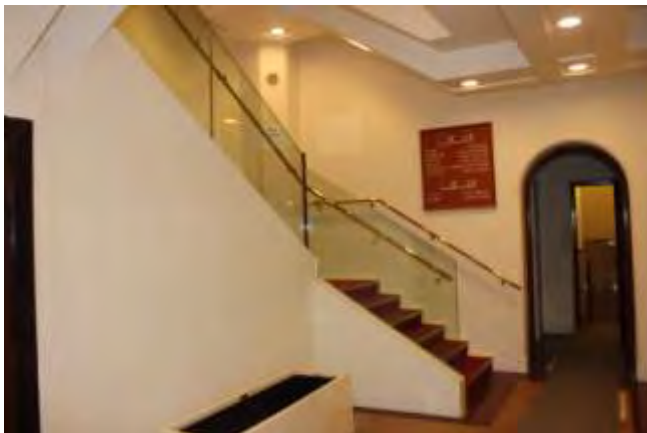


Fig. 71 (left) and Fig. 72 (right) One of the typical layout of the two reconstructed staircases done in 1985 conversion work. The staircase is constructed with concrete with glass panels balustrades spiraling around the central well to 2/F.

Original Internal Building Finishes

The Public Works Department Report in 1912 involved the following description to the internal finishes of the building. It was recorded that *“the whole of the floors throughout the building are of cement concrete, covered, in the case of the corridors, verandahs, lavatories, etc., with tiles.”*, *“In the case of the courts and offices, the floors are finished in teak nailed to fillets embedded in the concrete.”*and *“The building is heated throughout with hot water on the low-pressure system and, in addition to being provided with radiators, all offices and rooms are fitted with fireplaces.”*

In 1985 conversion works, most of the internal floors were covered. When the carpets was removed in Mar 2012, the condition of the original finishes were clear.

Timber strip flooring

Most of the timber strip flooring is found within the office area and court spaces. The timber strips according to historic record are made of teak and they are in average of about 9cm width. The timber strips are fixed on the cement floor using iron nails. A thin layer of protective wax is still visible on some of the timber strip surfaces.

The general condition of the timber strip floors is poor in general. Those discovered are found rotted and destroyed by modern service trunks. There are no any rooms preserve undamaged original timber strip flooring. The best floor condition being discovered is inside the Ante Chamber. It is believed to be re-laid in 1985 and was covered with a thick layer of crystal wax.



Fig. 73 (left) Pictures showing a room with original timber strip flooring. The floor was damaged by trunk work (pointed)



Fig. 74 (right) Some of the salvaged timber strip with moderate condition and the original fixing iron nails (pointed)

Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council Building

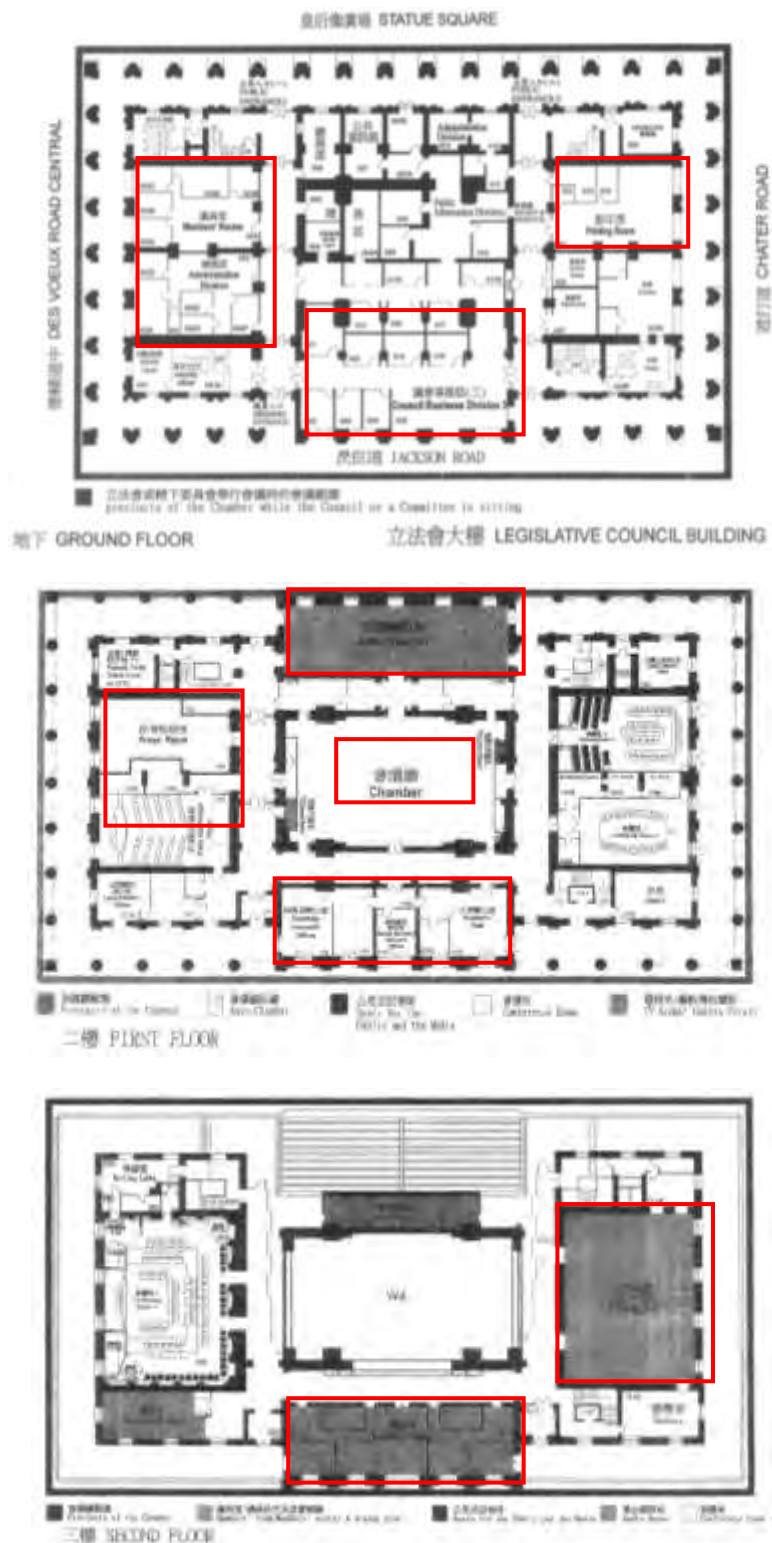


Fig. 75 – 77 (Top to bottom) Floor plans showing the locations of existing timber strip flooring discovered in each floor after the carpet removal in Mar 2012.

Ceramic tiles flooring

Most of the ceramic tiles are discovered in public area such as corridors, verandahs and inside some E&M rooms in 1/F. The existing condition of ceramic tile flooring is in poor condition. Most of them are heavily damaged by service trunks and covered with cement. In some areas such as the two vertical running corridor between Statue Square and Jackson Road, the entire floor has been replaced with modern stone works which no traces of original tile finish are found. One finding is the discovery of the original horizontal connecting corridor in between the two vertical running corridors in G/F which was shown in 1953 drawings but enclosed in 1985.

The best tiling finishes are among the 1/F verandah area. However, those tiles are new replacement imported from Italy done in 1985. It was re-tiled in similar colour and pattern.

The ceramic tiles are mostly square-shape and in red colour. Blue rectangular tiles are used in the skirting and in front of the door openings.

There are currently no fireplaces discovered inside the building. However, their ceramic floor tiles surround are discovered in some office areas (2 in office areas in 1/F) which are treated as the only remains of the fireplaces.



Fig. 78 (left) and Fig. 79 (right) Pictures showing the discovered original floor tiles (Fig. 78) with its detailed patterns (Fig. 79) found in the corridor areas located in 1/F and G/F respectively.



Fig. 80 (left) The exposed 2/F corridor. The existing tile surface is heavily damaged by later alteration works.

Fig. 81 (right) The ceramic tile surround at the original location of the fireplace are discovered in Room 109 & 112 in 1/F of the building

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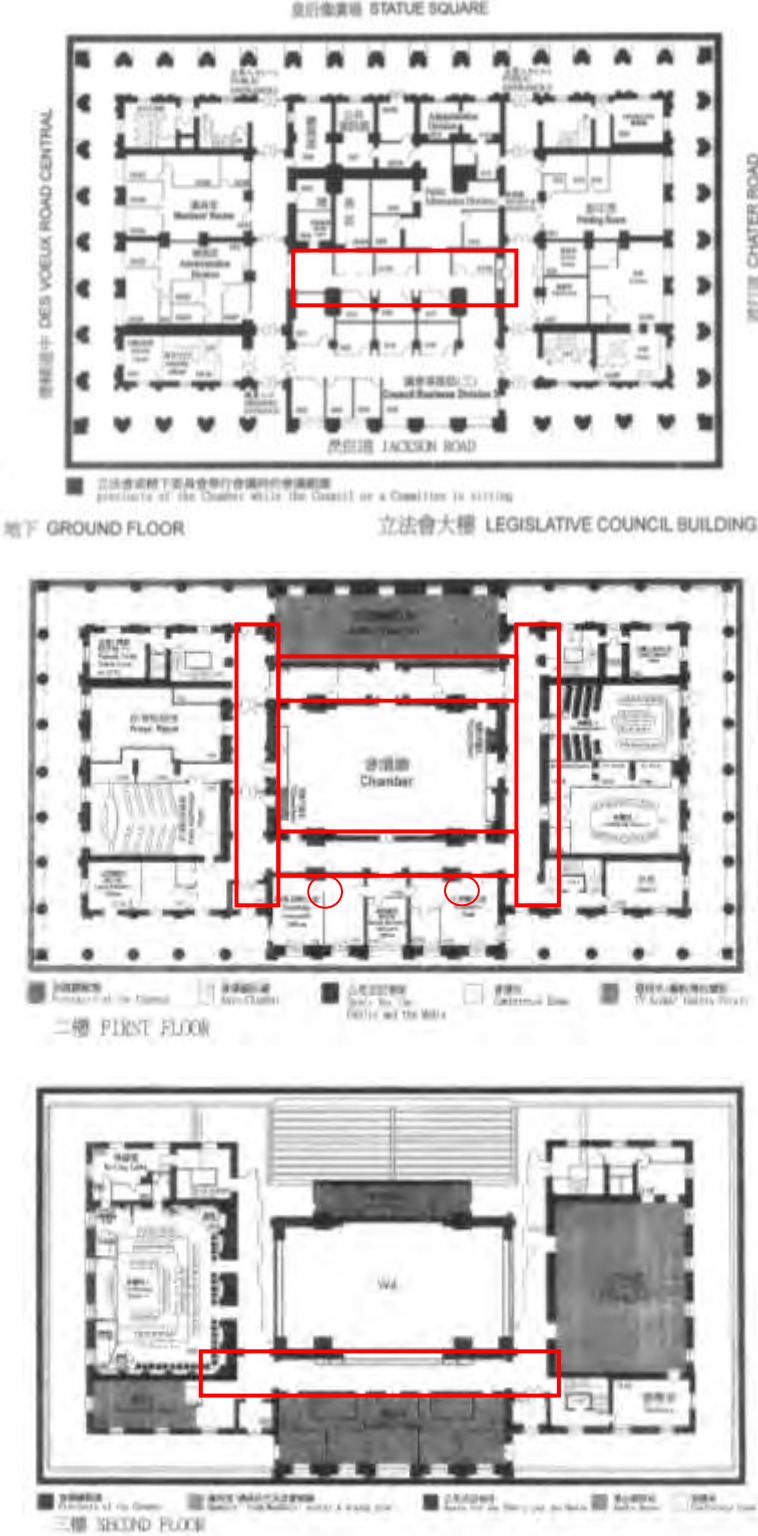


Fig. 82-84 (top to bottom) Floor plans showing the distribution of original ceramic tile finishes (squared in red) and ceramic tiles surround (circled) indicating the location of the old fireplaces discovered in each floor after the carpet removal in Mar 2012.

Wall Moulding and Cornice Decors

Most of the original ceilings are covered with later added false ceiling and its condition is largely unknown. Partly removal of some of the false ceiling in Mar 2012 has reviewed some of the original finishes include the following:-

- Dentil moulding on ceiling cornice (G/F and 2/F)
- Arched Doorway or window openings (G/F)
- Geometric pattern moulding (1/F corridor ceiling)

It is recommended that further open up of modern false ceiling and modern wall fittings are essential to examine the existing condition of the wall finishes and moulding.

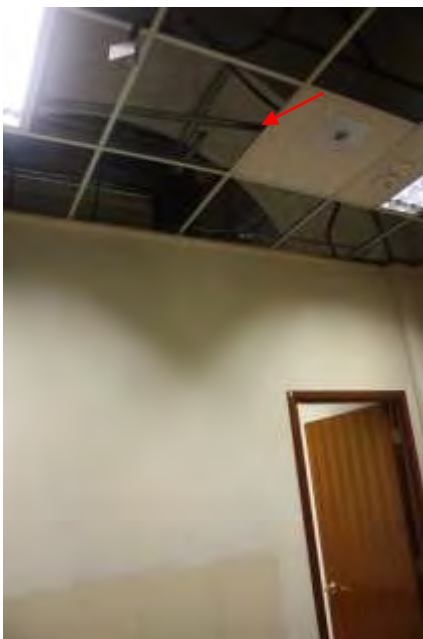


Fig. 85-87 (left to right, top to bottom)

Some of the original building features discovered after partial removal of modern fitting including the wall moulding (2/F Conference Room A, Fig. 85), dentil moulding on ceiling (discovered in G/F & 2/F ceiling, Fig. 86) and original arched doorway (mostly in G/F, Fig. 87)

2.7.4 Concluding Remarks

Overall, the building has preserved significant amount of the original fabric from the Old Supreme Court period. The major damage and alternations were only limited to 4 occasions. (Firstly, the 1945 takeover battle; secondly, the additional flooring work in 1950s and 1960s on the 2nd floor level under the two pitched roof; thirdly, the damage by ground settlement in 1981; and the alternation works in 1984)

The 1985 conversion work changed the use of the building with the general plan of interior being kept for the interpretation. During the conversion work, a portion of timber wall panels and doors were replaced or reallocated, the original floorings were either re-laid or covered with carpets. Rooms were re-partitioned and covered with false ceiling to hide the original high ceiling features. New building facilities were installed but mainly located at corner areas of the building. Incorporated new design such as new doors and windows were in design matching with existing which gives a harmonious view to the internal environment.

Generally speaking, the conversion did not greatly affect the heritage and architectural value of the Old Supreme Court Building. And the future conversation works, if handled all elements carefully under full research and support, can restore the building more gently and preserve all existing original building features to reflect its cultural significance and for public appreciation for its effort of heritage preservation when adaptive re-use this heritage building.

3.0 ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES

3.1 Cultural Significance

Cultural significance is a concept which helps in determining the value of a historic place for society at large and specific groups within the society. Places that are likely to be of significance are those which provide an understanding of the past, or enrich the present and which would be of value to future generations. Cultural heritage value encompasses all the values or meanings that a place may have to people beyond its functional values. These values refer to historical, architectural or aesthetic, social or other relevant values for past or present generations, and also include its likely values to future generations. The definitions and explanation of cultural heritage value applied in this report refer to the Burra Charter (1999). The overall heritage values of the Old Supreme Court Building has been summarized in the *Statement of Cultural Heritage Value* or Cultural Significance below:

3.2 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Building was built in 1912 as the 1st permanent place of the Hong Kong Supreme Court until 1978. From 1985 to 2011, it served as the Legislative Council. A number of policies, social and political discussion and decisions were made here. The site is culturally significant for the following reasons:-

Historic Value

The place is of high historic value because it served as the places for the legal and justice centre of colonial Hong Kong. Afterwards, it served as the highest law-making organization for Hong Kong for almost a quarter century.

Architectural Value

The place is the prominent example of a neo-classical building built at the most prominent place in the centre Hong Kong. Being constructed using high quality materials and craftsmanship, the building was designed by famous British Architects Aston Webb and Ingress Well who had designed a number of famous architectures in late 19th century, such as the Victoria and Albert Museum and main façade of the Buckingham Palace in London.

Social Value

It served as the central place of keeping Hong Kong law and order that is the main foundation of the prosperity. When serving as the Legislative Council, a number of social and political discussion and decisions were made here which were influential to the development of Hong Kong. A number of social incidents happened here and the building is greatly embedded in the minds of Hong Kong people and of foreign eyes.

Authenticity and Rarity

The building is the very few remaining neo-classical building that remains in Hong Kong. Though it changed its original use, large extent of its original fabric especially its exterior is kept. Most of the alterations were done inside which do not distort its overall value.

3.3 Character Defining Elements

Character-Defining Elements (CDEs) are those architectural elements and features that contributing to the unique character of a historic building. The CDEs of the Old Supreme Court Building have been identified as below. It is recommended that such CDEs should be conserved, properly repaired and restored in coming conservation works to be planned for the coming conversion works.

3.3.1 External Elements

The overall built form and elevations are significant. The following external elements that form the integral parts of the whole building should be conserved as they serve as character defining elements of the historic place:

- The whole masonry-built façade and external walls on every elevation
- The open colonnades and verandah surrounding the elevations of the building by giant stone columns and interim arches throughout the G/F & 1/F
- The timber windows, doors and their openings
- The granite crafts and letter inscriptions located inside and undern the pediment on the western elevation
- The Statue of Justice with its square base on top of the pediment
- The central dome topped by a lantern with a bronze Tudor Crown on the top, its steel supporting frameworks and beams inside, the surrounding open colonnade on the surface of the drum with the 4 granite pinnacles located on 4 corners of the square base
- The floor tiles pattern on the flooring of the 1/F verandah
- The granite slabs and pattern on the flooring of the G/F colonnade
- The granolithic slabs roof on the surface of the dome and the pitched roof behind the pediment
- The 2 pitched roofs on north and south side of the building with its timber teakwood brackets, the internal supporting steel frame, the Chinese pan and roll tiles and the granite chimneys and vent openings
- The cast iron rain water pipes
- The foundation stone laid in 1903 by Governor Sir Henry Blake
- The bronze plaque for the opening of the LegCo by Governor Sir Edward Youde in 1985
- The three metal vent openings into the basement in the G/F colonnade
- The damages on the granite surface facing Jackson Road done by bullets during Hong Kong's takeover battle in Aug 1945

3.3.2 Internal Elements

The internal form and configuration are significant as they form an integral part of the cultural heritage of the Old Supreme Court Building. The following individual elements should be conserved as they are considered significant to the integrity of the heritage building:

- Internal space layout with 2 internal corridors on G/F and surrounding the Big Chamber in 1/F
- Special internal rooms layout including the double height central main chamber with 4 double granite column piers supporting under both sides of the two barrel vaults of the great dome, Ante-Chamber with upper gallery, group of rooms formerly used as prisoners' receiving room, cells and constable waiting room in G/F
- The internal granite staircase and the hidden former granite "Bridge of Sighs"
- Internal arched doorways
- Teakwood wall panels and timber panels surrounding the internal door entrances
- Moulding and dentils on cornice level of internal rooms
- Original timber flooring strips in working areas (G/F to 2/F)
- Surviving old floor tiles found in corridors from G/F to 2/F, plant room in 1/F and the edge surrounding the former fireplaces in 1/F
- The domed ceiling, plasterworks, cornice and timber wall panels inside the Big Chamber

4.0 CONSERVATION POLICIES

4.1 Conservation Objectives

Based on the Statement of Cultural Significance established in the previous Section 3.0 and the assessment of the existing conditions of the historic building, the following are the basic Conservation Objectives adopted for the future conversion work for preserving the Old Supreme Court Building:

External Conservation Objectives

- The building exterior should be preserved and restored entirely and handle those original building materials and places which are recorded as the CDEs and with culturally significant in a conservative manner
- Any new alternations and additions should not impair the heritage value and cause visual distortion to its classic manner

Internal Conservation Objectives

- The proposed conversion work should preserve those recorded CDEs, building materials and places which are culturally significant
- Places and building materials suspected to be of historic interest unearthed by modern fittings should be investigated thoroughly and conserved and retained by incorporating into new design
- Enhance and ensure the structural integrity and safety of the existing buildings by means of appropriate restoration and upgrading. Install new services and facilities, in order to meet current building safety standards as well as improving modern using comfort and standards which at the same time do not impair the culture significant of the internal fabrics

4.2 Conservation Principles

This section sets the broad standard of conservation process of making possible a compatible use for the historic buildings through repair, alterations, and additions, for retention of the heritage values of the Old Supreme Court Building.

It is recommended that a detailed Conservation Management Plan (CMP) should be prepared and documented to guide any future conservation works and management issues of maintaining the Old Supreme Court Building. The preparation of the CMP shall take general reference to the conservation principles and standards set in the following international charters:

Burra Charter (1999) – The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significances
Venice Charter (1964) – ICOMOS International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites UNESCO

The main Conservation Objective of this project is to restore the historic building back to
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the original use as Hong Kong's highest judicial place, the Court of Final Appeal. When conserving the existing building fabrics, consideration for appropriate treatments to building fabrics and additions of new services for meeting updated functional and services requirements should be balanced off. Any new additions and/or alterations to the existing structures, if required to meet current safety standards or user's functional needs should be well considered and such alterations will not impair the heritage value, essential form and integrity of the historic buildings and can be reversible.

The following are the key guiding principles of determining appropriate treatments and level of intervention for future conservation works that would be generally followed when planning and designing for the conservation and conversion works of the Former Supreme Court Building, with general reference to international charters and other relevant conservation standards as considered appropriate.

It is recommended that a set of more detailed and specific guidelines should be established for future conservation works after detailed investigation on the existing buildings and finalizing the scope of conservation works with AMO in due course if required.

4.3 Conservation Policies & Guidelines

The proposed conversion works aims in conserving the whole historic building both externally and internally in a greater extent. Here providing the chief guidelines in achieving so:-

Conserve Heritage Value

Conserve the heritage value of a historic place, and respect its changes over time which represents a particular period of time. Do not remove, replace, or substantially alter its intact or repairable character-defining elements which contributing to its heritage value.

Retain Authenticity & Integrity

Respect the original character or architectural style of the building fabric and retain its traditional building materials or construction system as much as possible.

Recognize each historic place as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other historic places or by combining features of the same property that never co-existed.

Minimum Intervention

Keep any treatment or intervention to building fabric to the minimum and respect the heritage value when undertaking an intervention. Use the gentlest means possible for any intervention.

Make any intervention physically and visually compatible and identifiable, and document any intervention for future reference.

Repair rather than replace character-defining elements. Only when such elements are too severely deteriorated to repair, and with sufficient physical evidence, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of the same elements. Where there is no sufficient evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with and distinguishable from the character of the historic buildings.

Reversible Additions

Make any intervention, including alteration and new addition, to the building fabric reversible without causing any damage to the existing structure when such intervention is to be removed in future.

Create any new additions or related new construction so that the essential form and integrity of a historic place or its building fabrics will not be impaired if the new work is removed in future.

Integrating Old and New

Conserve the heritage value and character of the building fabric when creating any new additions to a historic place or any new construction of compatible design.

Make the new work physically and visually compatible with and distinguishable from the original fabric of the historic place.

5.0 The New Proposal

5.1 Project Goal

The proposed conversion work will adapt the Former Legislative Council Building into the new permanent site of the Court of Final Appeal (CFA). The building will be reinstated to its original function as law court. Beside the CFA, the building will also house the Development Office of the Judiciary.

The building was previously used by the Supreme Court. The return into court use is definitely the best adaptation scheme to reuse this important building. In addition to providing a larger venue of adequate space for CFA's use and possible extension in the future, the conversion works also reinstate the building's original significance as a symbol of reflecting the law and order of Hong Kong.

5.2 Project Objectives

The proposed project aims to achieve the following:-

- Revitalizing the heritage building and reinstating its original function as law court
- Preserving and restoring valuable heritage elements identified as much as possible, and at the same time incorporating new and distinguishable design and building services to meet building code and user requirements
- Engaging public appreciation to this heritage building by opening up part of the building under management control.

5.3 Proposed Works

The project includes the conversion of the building into CFA use, it also includes the improvement of the landscape of adjoining land to be in harmony with the building so that both visitors to the building and public can enjoy the result of this conversion and restoration project.

Part 1 Conservation and conversion works of the existing building into CFA

The scope of the project includes the following items:-

5.3.1 Exterior

- No alteration will be carried out on the exterior structure
- General cleansing will be carried out to granite surface if necessary.
- General repair will be carried out to the exterior surface if cracks or defective parts are identified.
- Improvement to the external lighting and building services if necessary.

5.3.2 Interior

Ground Floor Level

- The new layout will provide four segregated entrances and paths for different users of the building by making use of the four existing entrances on east and west side of the building to suit CFA's needs. The southwest entrance is for public, the southeast entrance is for defendant, and the entrances on the northwest and northeast are for staff and judges. New lifts and staircases will be added to suit the different users' needs.
- A new defendant area (prisoners' holding area) will be located at the southeast part of the building. A new set of staircase and lift for defendants will be added at the southeast corner.
- A new public entrance area will be located at the southwest part of the building. The entrance area will include a public lobby and some security control areas. A new public lift and a new disabled platform leading to basement will be provided at the southwest corner.
- Two new lifts will be provided for judges and staff at northeast and northwest corners respectively.
- The two corridors running from east to west will be preserved as their original use.
- The former prisoners' receiving area will be occupied by the library. CDEs identified such as the original defendant entrance, the two cells, arched doorways and the uncovered "Bridge of Sighs" will be preserved. A new cockloft with a new staircase will be added to facilitate access to the "Bridge of Sigh" on mezzanine level.
- The East portion of the building will be occupied by the new CFA Registry. A small mezzanine floor will be added in the new CFA registry in G/F to meet users' need of additional storage space. This will be constructed as an independent structure and will not exert additional loading to the building.
- The north part of the building will be occupied by offices and E&M plant rooms.
- Other facilities on this floor include baby care room, storerooms and toilets for the disabled.

Mezzanine Level between G/F and 1/F

- Toilets and some E&M facilities will be located at the four corners of the building on this mezzanine level.
- Other E&M facilities will be located on the cockloft level above the false ceiling in some less prominent areas.

- Existing building services and ducting occupying the “Bridge of Sighs” will be cleared.

First Floor Level

- The double-height main chamber will be used as the large court room.
- The furniture layout of the chamber will be redesigned to fit the functional requirement of CFA, including the accommodation of 5 judges.
- The existing corridors around the main chamber will remain its circulation purpose.
- The existing later added mezzanine floors, including the two public galleries in the main chamber and the control room for the main chamber at the upper level of the corridor on the west will be removed to reinstate the historical spaces and to fit for the purpose of the CFA.
- The double height Ante Chamber will be preserved as gallery. The upper catwalk will be re-connected with the gallery by a newly reconstructed spiral staircase.
- The new small court room will occupy part of the old location of a former small court room on north side of the building. The remaining part will be occupied by offices and conference room.
- The east part of the building next to the main chamber will be offices and judges’ retiring room.
- The south part of the building will be occupied by court lobby, press room, two robing rooms and two conference rooms.
- Toilets will be located at northeast and southwest corners, while the remaining two corners will be for E&M uses.

Mezzanine Level between 1/F and 2/F

- Toilets will be located on the northeast and southwest corners, while some cockloft floor will be added to house E&M facilities in less prominent locations.

Second Floor Level

- The two later added internal corridors will be maintained with the glass enclosing structures slightly modified and upgraded.
- The entire floors will be used as offices of CFA. Some conference rooms and meeting rooms will also be located on this floor.

Roof Level

- No alteration work will be carried out. General repairs will be carried out to identified cracks and defects if necessary.
- The water-proofing coating will be checked. Repairing will be carried out to defective parts if necessary.

5.3.3 Restored features for public enjoyment

- A portion of the verandah on 1/F is proposed to be opened to public.
- Part of the “Bridge of Sighs” at the mezzanine floor above G/F will be restored. The staircase connecting the future library on G/F and the “Bridge of Sighs” will be reconstructed. Access to this historical element is possible under management control. The new additions will be of compatible design and distinguishable with the original building structures.
- The existing chiller plant room in the basement will be relocated to the external area. The vacated basement will be converted into a heritage interpretation gallery, which will be opened to public for enjoyment under management control.
- The gallery on 1/F will be opened to public for enjoyment under management control. The spiral staircase connecting the gallery and the mezzanine floor, which was demolished in previous refurbishment, will be reconstructed. However, the mezzanine floor will be used as book store and for public visual enjoyment only.
- Public access to other designated internal areas for enjoyment of the heritage building will be possible by appointment basis.

5.3.4 Internal Fitting and Finishes

- Preserve and reuse in-situ all identified original timber joinery and fitting as much as possible. They include doors, windows, panels, frames and door surrounds with their associated glazing parts, ironmongeries and security bars. Affected parts which are unavoidable will be salvaged and re-used on site.
- All internal finishes including the uncovered ceiling dentil moulding, timber floor strips, ceramic tiles and remains of fireplaces will be examined. Those which are in good condition will be salvaged and reused on site. Restored parts will be exposed for public appreciation as far as possible. Those which are found unsuitable to do so will be covered without being damaged.
- New built-in fittings will be carefully attached to the existing building structures if required. Demountable materials will be used as far as practicable. Fixing onto the existing building structure will be minimized. The construction method will be

reversible as practicable so that the building can return to its original settings in future when need arises.

5.3.5 External Area

Public Pavement between Statue Square

- The pavement will be improved and some display panels will likely be erected to introduce the history of the building.
- The existing plaque for the former Legislative Council in the Statue Square is proposed to be relocated to the future heritage interpretation gallery in the basement.

Jackson Road

- The Jackson Road will remain as a vehicular right of way and parking area for CFA.

Guard House

- A new underground chiller plant room will be provided at Jackson Road, housing the chiller plant relocated from the basement of the existing building, subject to approval by relevant departments.
- The existing guard house did not match with the neo-classical style of the building and will be reconstructed to incorporate access to the new underground chiller plant. It will be constructed with light weight structure.

Part 2 Enhancement works for facilitating the court operation and public use to the building

5.3.6 Meeting functional and operational needs

- It is essential for the court to provide four segregated entrances and paths for different users including defendants, public, staff and judges. The small entrance on the central axis will be reserved for ceremonial occasions only.
- Three additional lifts and a disabled platform will be provided to enhance barrier free facilities inside the building.
- Second layer windows will be added to the internal side of the existing windows at strategic locations to improve the acoustic condition for court usage. The design of the second layer windows will be compatible with the original timber windows.

5.3.7 Complying with statutory requirements

- The existing ramp next to the northeast side entrance (later entrance for judge and staff) on Jackson Road will be modified using demountable materials.

- Movable ramp will be provided at the later defendant's entrance on Jackson Road when need arises.
- No ramp will be added under the west elevation. Public with disability will enter the building with assistance by CFA staff.
- Two demountable new ramps will be erected at the proposed two doors leading to 1/F verandah for public access. Fire services installations in the building will be upgraded to satisfy current statutory requirements. A fire engineering study is under review to explore alternative means of enhancing fire safety where appropriate in order to minimize visual impact and interventions to existing building fabrics as a result of the upgrading works.

5.3.8 Satisfying security requirements

- In order to meet safety requirement at the 1/F verandah for public access, transparent barriers will be provided by being clamped onto the inner side of the vase-shaped balusters to block the gaps for safety purpose. The addition could be demountable and no damage to the granite surface will be resulted.
- Two metal gates will be erected on the 1/F verandah to separate the public areas from the security controlled areas. The design of the proposed metal gates will make reference to the design of old metal fencing at the Statue Square as shown in historic photographs. The gate will be designed as independent structures from the building exterior, and with details where damage to the granite surface will be minimized.
- Transparent security films will be added on the inner glazing surfaces of the external window and doors to enhance the security.
- Some existing security facilities of former LegCo such as roller shutter and security locks will be maintained. Modification of some doors for installation of electronic security devices will be implemented for safety reason.
- Intrusion sensors will be provided to majority of external windows and doors. The sensors will be installed at the inner side of the windows and doors, so that no visual impact to the exterior of the building will be resulted.
- The upgrading works will try to minimize the intervention and replacement done to the existing original timbers doors, windows and panels.

Part 3 Mitigation measures for the conversion works

1. A structural survey will be done to examine the stability and condition of the existing building. The result will be submitted to AMO for record. Excessive loading will not be exerted onto the building.
2. Regular site monitoring and precautionary measures will be done to protect the CDEs against damage.
3. The salvaged building materials will be used for on-site repairs so as to preserve the authenticity of the building fabric. Those fabrics and features in good condition or being restored will be displayed as practicable as possible for public appreciation.
4. New built-in fittings will not damage the existing building structures or they will be fabricated by demountable materials.
5. Finishes which are not suitable to be exposed will be covered up without being damaged.
6. The construction method will be reversible without causing irreversible damage to the building, so that the building can return to its original settings in future when need arises.
7. New building services and constructions will be carefully designed in order not to affect the CDEs and will be placed at less prominent locations. Existing openings for building services will be used as much as possible. If new openings are unavoidable, the original building materials will be salvaged for on-site restoration or relocation as practicable as possible.
8. The internal service ductworks and machinery will be placed at inconspicuous locations and hidden above false ceiling.
9. The proposed new lifts, disabled platform and staircase will be of compatible and distinguishable design with the original building structure.
10. Any newly added windows will be placed at the inner side of the existing windows in order not to cause negative visual impact to the building exterior.
11. During removal and demolition works, if new heritage items were found, prior agreement from AMO to alter or remove the features should be sought.



Image of the Large Court Room of the Court of Final Appeal converted from existing Chamber of the former Legislative Council

Fig. 88 A rough sketch of the future layout of the large court to be housed inside the Main Chamber of the Former Legislative Council (provided by ArchSD)

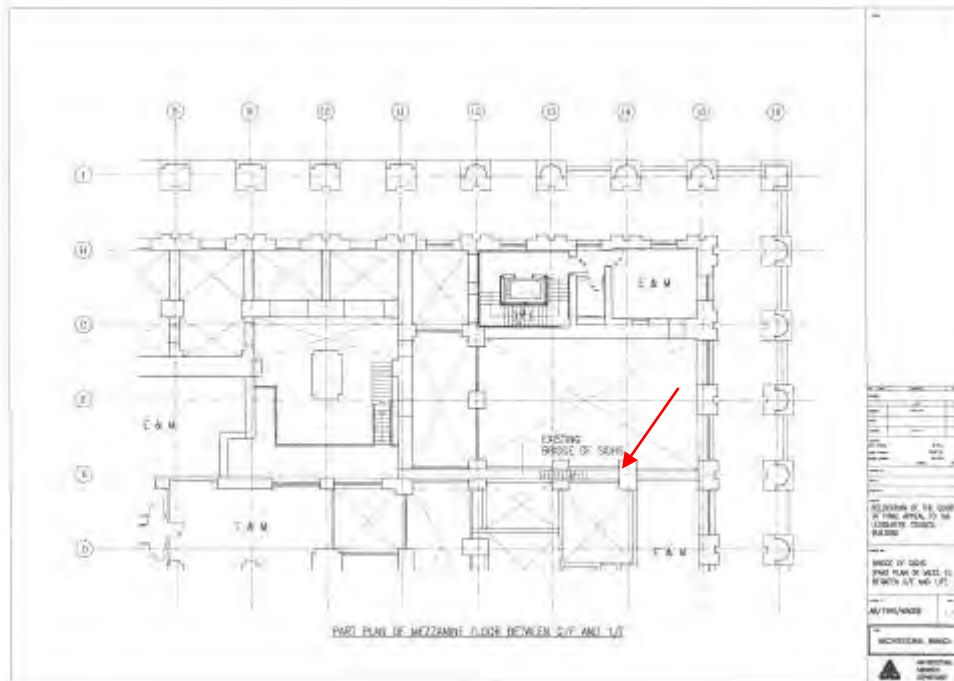
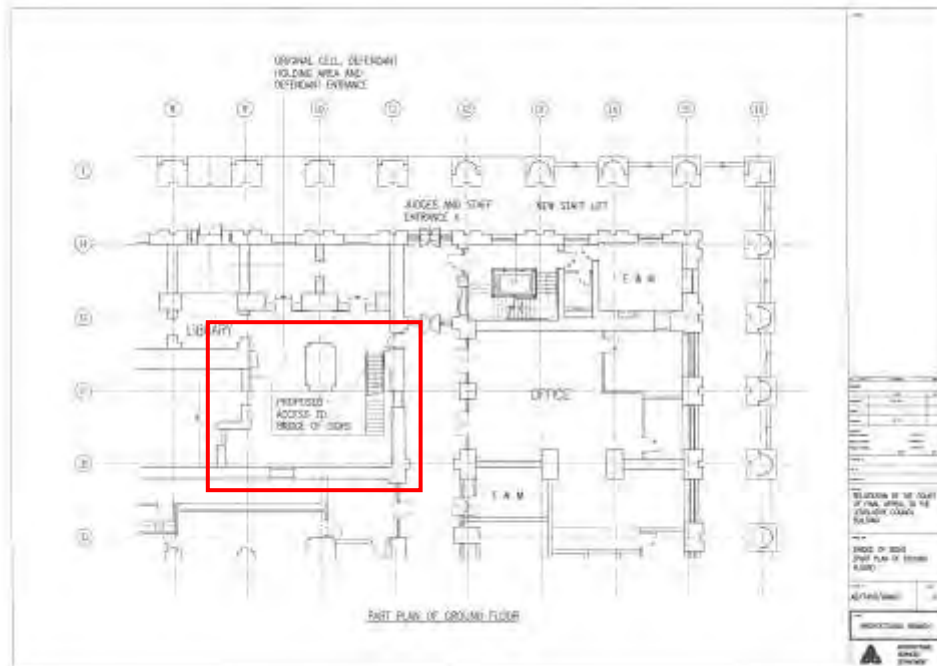


Fig. 89 (Up) & Fig. 90 (Down) showing the proposed additional mezzanine level (red squared) and a staircase added to connect the existing section of “Bridge of Sighs” (pointed red) on mezzanine level

5.4 The Conservation Policy

This section will cover the specific standards and guidelines for implementation of the recommended conservation processes in terms of intervention of the building fabric, structure, materials, building services etc., and specify the implementation requirement and procedures throughout the conservation work stages.

Conservation Policies and Guidelines

The following Conservation Policies and Guidelines are formulated to provide a set of guiding principles for planning and designing future conservation works for the adaptive reuse of the Former LegCo Building into CFA use.

Management of Change of Use

The following Policies and Guidelines are recommended to guide the future use of the existing building:

Policy 5.4.1

The original use of the Former Legislative Council Building is formerly built to house the Supreme Court. It is recommended that the relocation of CFA into the building is the best approach of adaptive-reuse the building because it can reinstate the original function of this heritage landmark and also respect the history of the building. The proposed new ancillary facilities and associated services are therefore considered appropriate for the new court use.

Policy 5.4.2

The building exterior has preserved its original outlook since it was built eligibly in reflecting the law court use. The internal layout has undergone a number of significant changes throughout the history. The new design should place effort in preserving those surviving old building fabric. However, flexibility should be given for interpreting new design into the building to fit users' requirement and to meet current building standard and conditions of usage.

Policy 5.4.3

It is recommended that at least one designated area should be provided within the building for heritage display and interpreting the cultural significance of the Former LegCo Building to public visitors.

Guidelines:

a.) It is recommended that the basement area is a suitable place for conversion into a heritage gallery. The construction of the basement was tailor-designed for housing the heating apparatus for the whole building which is hardly found in other heritage buildings.

Besides, that area has preserved a number of original building features and fitting which make it an unique place very different from the other area. It is a suitable approach if this area with its special historic background can be reserved for public appreciation uses. Therefore, the proposed heritage interpretation gallery is recommended. It is recommended to expose the original building features for public awareness to its special features such as segmental ceiling, granite arches, cast iron skylights and other special features revealed after successful removal of the chiller plants.

Policy 5.4.4

It is recommended that internal places where identified with historic interest or with architectural remains related to the Old Supreme Court should be preserved and integrated into the new design.

Guidelines:

- a.) The proposed conversion of the former prisoners' receiving areas into the new library area is considered suitable. The proposed library aims to use the least built-in facilities to link up all identified historic fabric inside. Public can access into this area by appointment. This area has preserved a number of historic significant features which can reflect the history of the old Supreme Court including the prisoners' gate (former defendant entrance), old reception lobby, two holding cells and the "Bridge of Sighs" leading to the old courts. The proposed new use can allow public access in this section to appreciate the heritage value of this building. The proposed new staircase and cockloft connecting to the "Bridge of Sighs" are considered beneficial by enhancing public access to this significant place. This part of new addition is recommended with compatible new design. The use of light weight steel structures is recommended.
- b.) The proposed large court room to be housed in the main chamber in 1/F is the most suitable arrangement. Considering the special arrangement to meet the court uses, the existing furniture and fitting inside can be rearranged to suit the future uses. When making the new design, it is recommended to preserve the identified original building features and integrated them into the new design.
- c.) The small court room to be located on its old site is a good suggestion. It is recommended to reopen the covered old exit of the "Bridge of Sighs" leading to the old court to reinstate this historic feature and incorporate into the future design of this area.
- d.) The gallery to be proposed at the existing Ante Chamber is a good suggestion to preserve the original setting and remain its previous meeting and gathering purposes. The steel spiral staircase will be reinstated but will be used as maintenance access to the mezzanine floor and to reinstate the original setting of the Ante Chamber for public interest.

e.) Minimum intervention should be done to the original granite staircase located on the northeast corner of the building. Modification of building services and the lift locating inside the void should prevent impairing the structure and the outlook of the staircase.

f.) Removal of the later added mezzanine levels in the 1/F Main Chamber and on the 1/F west corridor can reinstate the original room setting and cause positive visual enhancement to these areas therefore is recommended.

g.) Other minor operational designs for the future use of CFA would respect the identified features found on site by differentiate them from the original design.

h.) It is recommended that regular group tours and open days should be provided to public in order to enhance public awareness to this valuable built heritage and gain knowledge on background and information of CFA. The space allowed for group visit should include the basement heritage interpretation gallery, the new library area and “Bridge of Sighs”, the large court room and corridor preserved with original finishes, the small court room, the verandah area and also the gallery on 1/F.

Building Fabrics

The following Policies and Guidelines are for guiding future conservation treatments for existing building fabrics and retention of the identified Character Defining Elements:

Policy 5.4.5

The exterior of the Former LegCo Building is under statutory protection and is the major key feature of the historic building. The whole exterior should keep intact by preserving its original outlook and building setting.

Policy 5.4.6

Minimum intervention to the key architectural features that contributing to its character and heritage value of the Former LegCo Building is recommended. They should be retained as far as possible to maintain the architectural merits of the historic building.

Policy 5.4.7

It is recommended that more flexibility should be allowed to facilitate future changes on internal layouts and partitions (only limit to the part of later additions) in order to meet the court functional uses and users’ requirement.

Guidelines:

a.) The key Character Defining Elements (CDEs) and features identified in Chapter 3.0 in this report should be retained and repaired.

b.) The identified features or elements should be retained in-situ for repair and restoration as practical as possible, except those of low/neutral/intrusive level of significance which can be either altered, salvaged for re-use or removal from the site, as to retrieve the heritage value of the historic building.

c.) The identified original timberworks such as the main entrance door, side entrance timber doors and security bars, windows of all types, internal glazing doors and panels, French doors, louvers, wall panels, door surrounds, column framing decors on the upper deck of the large court should be preserved and repaired as existing or if deteriorated beyond repair, replacement can be made by matching new materials of the existing. Any replacement of any timber elements should keep to minimum. If any replacement is necessary due to statutory compliance and service requirement, salvage them for future use, relocate, or replace damaged one with proper record. The new design of the replacement should not cause visual impact to the existing building and with compatible design.

d.) Stonework, being the major building materials for the construction of the exterior surface of the building are recommended to be properly cleaned, repaired and protected from damages.

e.) The internal wall structures are mainly erected by brickworks. It is recommended that any interior new constructions and fittings inside should be reversible construction as practicable, and to minimize damage to the existing building structure

f.) Internal finishes include wall moulding, ceiling dentils, doorway arches, old timber floor strips, original ceramic floor tiles, fireplace remains should be properly identified and examined before works start. It is recommended to preserve those in good condition in-situ and repair them properly. However, if they are beyond repair, salvage those in good-condition for transplanting relocation on site to maintain the authenticity of the building. Any restored features should be exposed in future for public appreciation as practicable as possible.

g.) Check the existing condition of the roof area including the central dome, the Chinese pitched roofs, the pitched roof behind the pediment and the other remaining flat roof area. Check the structural conditions and the waterproofing layer and repair if found necessary.

h.) Regular site monitoring and precautionary measures should be done to protect the CDEs against damage during construction period.

i.) During removal and demolition works, if new heritage items were found, prior agreement from AMO to alter or remove the features should be sought.

New Additions and Alterations

The following Policies and Guidelines are for guiding future design of new additions and alternation works to the existing structure:

Policy 5.4.8

New structures for meeting current building safety codes, universal access for disabled or for accommodating new services are allowed to be at less obstructive locations, and locations not affecting the exterior and also the internal areas identified with cultural values.

Policy 5.4.9

The new additional works/ structures should be of compatible design with and distinguishable from the existing building fabrics, and such additions should be reversible without causing any unnecessary damage to the existing building fabric when being removed in future.

Guidelines:

a.) New additional staircase, lifts and modification works to the existing building for compliance with current building codes can be allowed to be done in less obstructive location of the building, subjected to the court's requirement. The works should make sure not causing structural damage and impair the physical outlook of the building.

b.) The proposal of adding a mezzanine level at the northern corner of the new registry section in G/F for CFA storage is considered acceptable and does not impair negative impact to the internal layout of the building. It is recommended that the proposed new cockloft should be of individual structure independent from the existing building fabric. The construction should not cause negative physical and visual impact done to the identified building fabrics including the timber windows, brickwork walls and also the cornice dentils.

c.) It will be an improvement if the verandah in 1/F can be accessed by public after the conversion. It is understand that additional works have to implement in order to provide a public place complying with current building safety code and security requirement. The proposed transparent barrier to be clamped and fixed on the inner side of the vase-shaped balusters to block the internal gaps is a good suggestion that offer no damage to the granite surface of the balusters. The proposed two metal gates to be erected are recommended to locate behind the columns to minimize the visual impact from outside. It is recommended that the gate should be fixed on the floors instead of the side granite wall. The existing ceramic tiles on the verandah floor are 1980s replacement. It is acceptable that some of the tiles to be temporarily taken away for the erection. However, affected areas should be minimized and put back the tiles back after the work.

d.) Division of internal areas through partitioning should be allowed inside the building. It is recommended to use the rooms with less significant historic background for the office purpose. The new additions should not cause excessive loading to the floors. It is recommended to use dry wall for office partitioning and the existing fixing point with the original brickwork walls should be minimized.

e.) The enhancement of security level should minimize the intervention to the exterior outlook of the building and also those identified building features. The proposed security films to be attached on the inner glazing surface for all external doors and windows are considered acceptable. The installation of extra windows for security and acoustic reason should be put at the inner part of the required openings and not to cause physical damage and visual impact to the external timber windows and the original outlook.

Policy 5.4.10

Adequate provision for universal access for the disabled to the building should be provided and such provision should have minimum impact to the existing building.

Policy 5.4.11

Addition of a new lift shaft to the building interior or attached to the building exterior being too extensive or destructive is not recommended. Locations of placing the lifts should maintain minimum disturbance to the historic fabric and away from areas with special historic interest.

a.) The suggestion of placing the new lifts at corner regions of the building and making modification to the existing modern staircases by increasing the central void for putting a eligible lifts inside is the best possible way in placing the modern facilities with less intervention to the building. However, due attention should be placed in designing the height of the overrun of the lift as low as possible so that those lifts which are going to reach the 2nd floor will not affect the two pitched roof ceilings and the identified original building fabrics and structures inside the internal void of the roofs.

b.) Modification of the original building structures to provide universal access should be avoided as much as possible. It is recommended to use a movable ramp by placing at the required entrance upon request. Whether a permanent ramp is considered necessary, the work should make use of demountable materials so that the original building structure will not undergo irreversible change. The design should not cause visual impact to the heritage building.

Provision of Services

The following Policies and Guidelines are for guiding future additions, upgrading and improvement of building services and utilities to suit the adaptive re-use requirements:

Policy 5.4.12

Provisions for new plant rooms and water tanks should be accommodated either in the less prominent locations inside the building or in a new structure outside the building.

Policy 5.4.13

Conceal new services as much as possible and, where exposure of such services is unavoidable, make them distinguishable from the original building elements in neat and careful arrangement. Main services or pipelines exposed at the ceiling without concealing work, in particular the central hall/ public corridor/ places with historic interest, should be avoided as far as possible.

Policy 5.4.14

New services such as electrical, fire and ventilation services and installation which are unavoidable can be housed in the historical building but should be carefully arranged and installed to minimize unnecessary damage to the existing building fabric and impair the integrity to the building layout and areas with historic significance.

Guidelines:

- a.) Construction of any new service room outside the building should be of subdued and low profile design compatible with, however distinguishable from the surrounding in order to minimize any potential visual impact to the building.
- b.) New unavoidable in-house services should be located in less prominent locations and do not cause visual impact to the internal environment with proper designs.
- c.) Any new enclosure for housing new services such as meter cabinets or telephone pipe ducts etc., should be carefully designed in such an architectural style compatible with and distinguishable from the existing building fabric.
- d.) Make use of existing opening for the new building services and avoid new openings to the existing brickwork walls. If new openings are found necessary, salvage the whole pieces of the affected brickwork for on site uses.
- e.) Ductworks which have to pass through rooms should be placed on ceiling and arranged in a carefully designed false ceiling. It is recommended that the false ceiling shall not cover the whole ceiling area, but with a distance from the cornice level of the existing wall to expose the original moulding and ceiling dentils as the building features for public appreciation where it is possible to do so.

Integrating between Old and New

The following Policies and Guidelines are for guiding future design of new additions and their integration with the existing old building fabric:

Policy 5.4.15

Conserve the heritage value of the preserved historic buildings while making new additions or related new construction of compatible design. The new construction is to be designed to integrate with yet distinguishable from the old buildings in order to enhance rather than diminish their architectural value.

Policy 5.4.16

The new construction should be set away or detached from the existing structure as practical as possible and at where new materials interface with the old fabric, they should be distinguishable from each other.

Guideline:

Whether partial reconstruction of some disappeared features can enhance the heritage value of the historic building, it is recommended to do so by incorporating into the new design. If they are in lack of physical evidence such as historic photos and drawings, it is not necessary to make up the new design to look “vintage” to match with surrounding. The new construction is recommended to use compatible design that can be distinguished from the existing.

External Area

The following Policies and Guidelines are for guiding further intervention to the existing external environment:

Policy 5.4.17

The existing open setting in front of the Statue Square and Jackson Road section on both of its side should be preserved as far as possible. Any future modification or improvement works to these areas should pay respect to the existing natural landscape around the site and historic background of the place such as the history of the Statue Square and evolutionary change of Central District.

Guidelines:

- a.) The proposed reconstruction of the existing guardhouse to provide access to the new underground chiller plant room on Jackson Road is considered acceptable with a solid functional requirement. The new guardhouse should be compatible with the heritage building and in a low profile design.
- b.) While the external pavements are going to be improved as part of this project. It is recommended to plug in some historic elements in the new design (e.g. display panels showing the history of the building and its surrounding) as appropriate to increase the historic coherence of the building with the surrounding area to increase its attractiveness and make use of the research information in this conversion works.

6.0 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

6.1 Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures

With reference to the assessment of physical conditions and degree of significance of the existing building fabric, this section is to evaluate the proposed treatments and any potential impact for the character defining elements (CDEs) and any new works being affected as well as to suggest any mitigation measures to reduce any adverse impact if necessary.

The definitions and explanations of terms within the context of this evaluation section are listed as follow:

Affected Elements	Affected elements are identified for each impact
Level of Significance	Six levels of significance are being adopted in defining or assessing the relative degree of architectural or historical value of each individual component of the conserved historic building with a table summarized below.
Mitigation Measures	Practical advice on remedial actions is given to mitigate any adverse impact effects
Impact Level	Overall level of impact on elements being assessed is classified into five levels as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beneficial Impact• Acceptable Impact• Acceptable Impact with Mitigation Measures• Unacceptable Impact• Undetermined Impact

Levels of evaluations on elements with cultural significance	
Levels of Significance	Meaning
Exceptional	Where an individual space or element is assessed as displaying a strong contribution to the overall significance of the place. Spaces, elements or fabric exhibit a high degree of intactness and quality, though minor alternations or degradation may be evident.
High	Where an individual space or element is assessed as making a substantial contribution to the overall significance of the place. Spaces, elements or fabric originally of substantial quality, yet may have undergone considerable alteration or adaptation resulting in presentation which is either incomplete or ambiguous. The category also includes spaces, elements or fabric of average quality in terms of design and materials, but which exhibit a high degree of intactness.
Moderate	Where an individual space or element is assessed as making a moderate contribution to the overall significance of the place. Spaces, elements or fabric originally of some intrinsic quality, and may have undergone alteration or degradation. In addition, elements of relatively new construction, where the assessment of significance is difficult, may be included. This category also includes original spaces, elements or fabric of any quality which have undergone extensive alteration or adaptation.
Low	Where an individual space or element is assessed as making a minor contribution to the overall significance of the place, especially when compared to other features. Spaces, elements or fabric originally of little intrinsic quality, any may have undergone alteration or degradation. This category also includes original spaces, elements or fabric of any quality which have undergone extensive alteration or adaptation to the extent that only isolated remnants survive (resulting in a low degree of intactness and quality of presentation).
Neutral	Where an individual space or element is assessed as having an unimportant relationship with the overall significance of the place. Spaces elements or fabric are assessed as having little or no significance.
Intrusive	Where an individual space or elements detracts from the appreciation of cultural significance, by adversely affecting or obscuring other significant areas, elements or items.

6.2 Table of Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

For detailed recording and analysis of potential impacts and recommendation of mitigation measures to all CDEs, please refer to a separate sheet summarizing the Heritage Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures regarding the proposed conversion work of the Former Supreme Court to the Court of Final Appeal attached in the Appendix D of this report.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Overall Assessment

Based on the overall assessment of the heritage impacts on the work converting the Old Supreme Court Building into Court of Final Appeal. It is recommended that the overall potential impacts on the building both externally and internally are considered acceptable and manageable with appropriate mitigation measures subject to the recommendations made in this report. It can be concluded that the proposed conversion work is considered technically feasible and acceptable from heritage conservation point of view.

The overall layout design of the internal usage of the building shall generally follow the recommendations made in this HIA report. In case if there is any significant change to the design plans in future affecting the culturally significant elements which are currently stated in this report, the assessment and recommendation made in this report should be reviewed by the author of this report accordingly.

7.2 Recommendation for Forthcoming Conversion Works

The proposed conversion work have to pay due consideration to both the exterior and interior fabric. As the exterior of the Old Supreme Court Building is under statutory protection, a permit 6 approval should be obtained from AMO before any restoration and repair works to be commenced on it.

Comparatively, the interior of the building has undergone series of alterations in different stages of use. By comparing with existing old plans and sources of information, it is noted that the uses are different from the original design. However, consider with the strong integrity of the identified elements and CDEs with the history of the Old Supreme Court Building itself, due consideration to conserve these culturally significant elements are important to preserve this important historic landmark for Hong Kong, and set a good model for the adaptive re-use of heritage building for other heritage building owners and other government authorities to follow.

Before starting site work, it is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) should be established. The CMP is to be prepared by a qualified Heritage Conservation Consultant to provide a guideline for all the conservation works, the correspondent preservation issue, time line, methodology, long term protection as well as for management and maintenance of the historic building. The CMP can also take the reference and recommendation listed in this HIA especially those policies specified in Chapter 5.4 in this report.

Right before and during the conservation works, parties should also take actions and precaution measures to ensure those historic significant fabric and elements are under suitable care and protection during site work:-

7.2.1 Recording and Documentation

Photographic and cartographic surveys for the existing Building interior and exterior structures should be conducted and documented for AMO's record. Full documentation of the conservation works before and after the carrying out of the works should also be prepared for AMO's record.

All conservation reports, conservation plans, site inspection record during the construction stage, record drawings of this project, and record of any future alteration works, should be documented and filed at the site office and made available to future users or professional personnel who are responsible for up-keeping the existing building and reviewing the development history of this historical place.

Details of any major repair, alteration or additions should be documented before and after the carrying out of such works for record and inspection by building management personnel.

Documentation of the conservation process during the implementation stage will be required.

Measured drawing and photographic survey record will be carried before, during and after the alteration by the contractor or site staff at regular intervals.

7.2.2 Protective Measures Before and During Conversion Works

Adequate protective and monitoring measures including hoardings, fencing and catch fans, scaffolding and prohibited access,...etc., should be provided to protect the existing historic buildings against the construction works and such protective measures should be well maintained throughout the whole construction period.

Sufficient provisions of temporary shoring and lateral support, propping and coverings should be provided as necessary to safeguard the existing building structure from possible damages during the construction works. Construction vibration shall be kept to a minimum. Structural Engineer (SE) shall be consulted before any ground vibration inducing construction works be conducted. All loose artifacts and decorative elements should be taken down and kept in safe temporary storage, or if not possible, temporarily secured and properly covered.

7.2.3 Site Supervision and Monitoring

It is recommended that site supervision and monitoring by qualified site supervisors experienced in historic building projects will be required for the conversion work during and throughout the process to monitor any adverse effect to the building. Regular site recording and monitoring of cracks, tilting and settlement check points should also be implemented subject to structural engineer's recommendation. If suspected new elements which are of cultural significance is found, contact AMO and responsible heritage work consultant to investigate the impact done to the newly discovered elements and make suitable decision and design mitigation measures in safeguarding those valuable fabrics.

7.3 Recommendation For Post Maintenance Works

The cultural significance and authenticity of the historic building can only be maintained by careful and detail-planned management of changes and regular maintenance in future. Maintenance aims to keep the identified historic fabric and building structure in good condition and can alert any potential defects that will affect or potentially cause danger to the historic building in advance. Sometimes, conversion and renovation works are unavoidable in meeting user need in different stage of usage in future. However, approach of minimum intervention and reversibility should be kept as the guiding principle for the works. Careful study should be implemented to explore the cultural significance and examine the potential impact and deliver mitigation measures and appropriate alternatives to minimize the disturbance which will impair the cultural significance of the historic building.

In the future building management, the responsible staff that are responsible in overseeing the routine maintenance and repair works, shall either receive training or have experience in building, building operation and service management relating to historic building. The suggestion and recommendation and the identified CDEs mentioned in this report can be extracted to form a set of guidelines for future staff to understanding values of the site and also the guiding principle for management purpose.

As the building exterior is under statutory protection, any works/alterations/renovation for the daily operation and management of the exterior should follow the guidelines and scope of works listed out in the Block Permit under Section 6 of Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) in getting official approval from AMO before commencement of works.

The building interior was accorded a Grade 1 status which means the building contains outstanding merit, which every effort should be made to preserve if possible. Any proposed works, including demolition, alteration and addition works, restoration and repair works to the identified CDEs shall be reported to AMO. Corresponding mitigation measures and method statement shall be submitted for AMO's prior approval before commencement of works. Works related to CDEs shall be carried out by specialist contractor from the "List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works", under category of "Repair and Restoration of Historic Buildings", as approved by DevB. They would provide experienced and skilled workers and craftsmen in

the restoration of the heritage building. However, it is not necessary for works not related to CDEs to be carried out by the above stated specialist contractors.

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<http://www.theoi.com/Daimon/Aletheia.html> (viewed on 2 Feb 2012)

<http://www.theoi.com/Daimon/Eleos.html> (viewed on 2 Feb 2012)

<http://www.theoi.com/Titan/TitanisThemis.html> (viewed on 2 Feb 2012)

APPENDIX

- APPENDIX A The Design Drawings of Proposed New Law Court, Hong Kong
Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, 1899 (Figure 1 -11)
- APPENDIX B The Floor Plans of Supreme Court (1953, G/F, 1/F & 2/F)
The Floor Plans of Legislative Council (2011, G/F, 1/F, Mezzanine
Floor & 2/F)
- APPENDIX C The Location Plan & Design Layout Plan of Proposed Final Court of
Appeal and the Supporting Office into the Legislative Council
Building
(Location Plan)
(Design Plan: G/F, G/F mezzanine floor, 1/F, 1/F mezzanine floor &
2/F)
- APPENDIX D Table of Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the
Legislative Council Building

Appendix A

The Design Drawings of Proposed New Law Court, Hong Kong

Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, 1899 (Figure 1 -11)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix A (Figure 1)

Drawing reduced from
 Architects' design drawing
 dated September 1895 -
 No. references added

HONG KONG - PROPOSED LAW COURTS ETC.

PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR

ARCHITECTS' DESIGN
 GROUND FLOOR PLAN

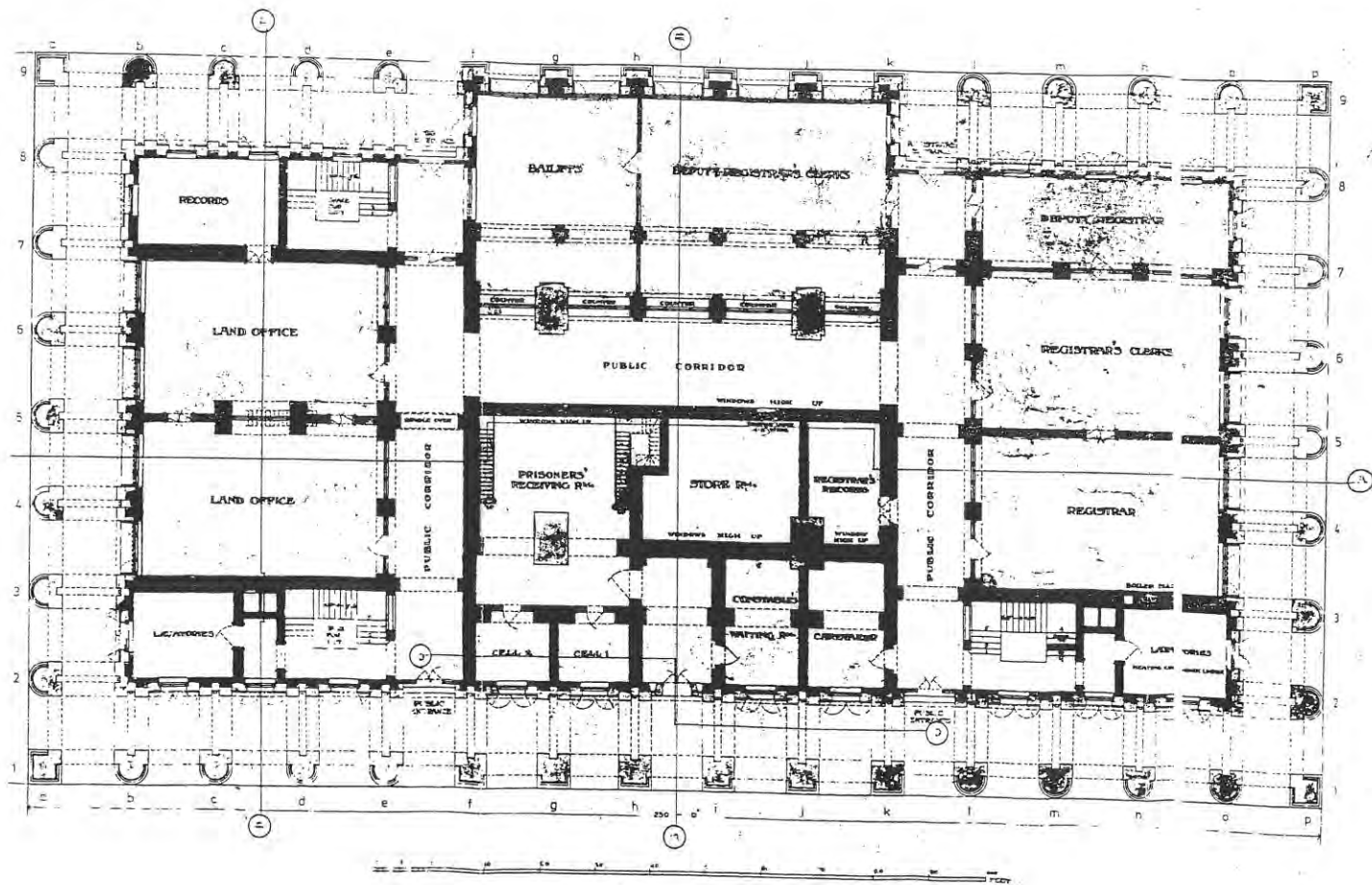
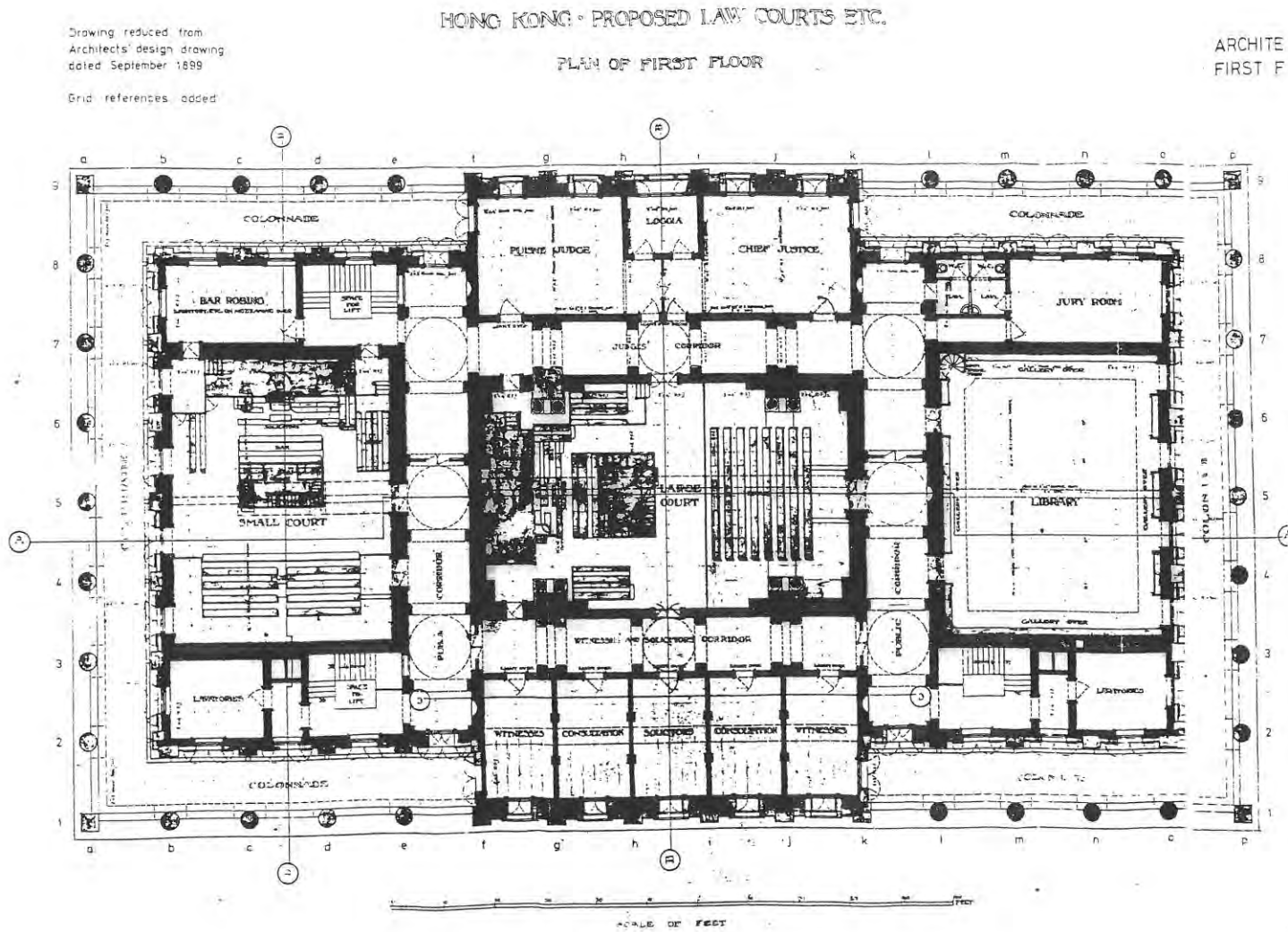


FIGURE 1

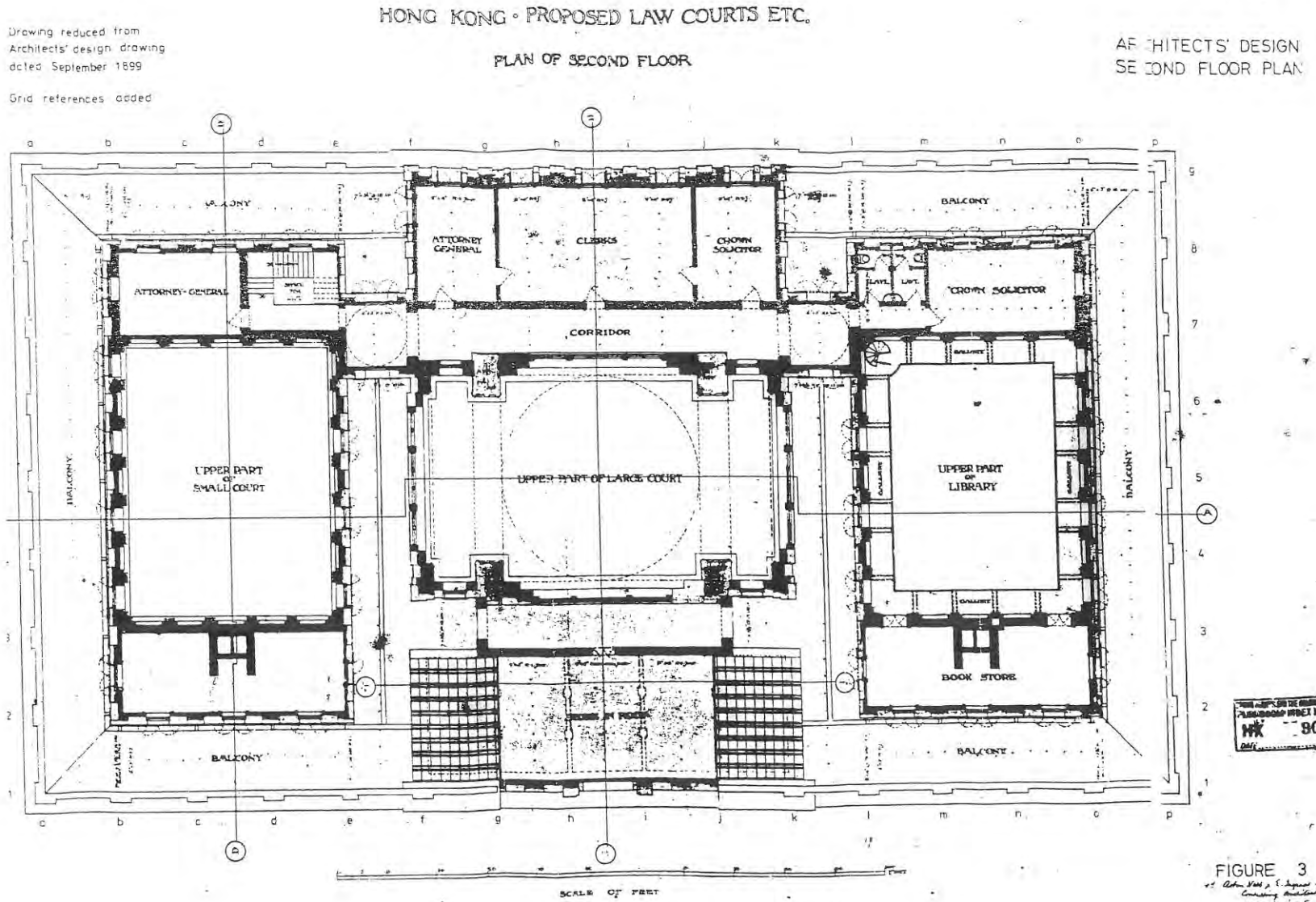


Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building

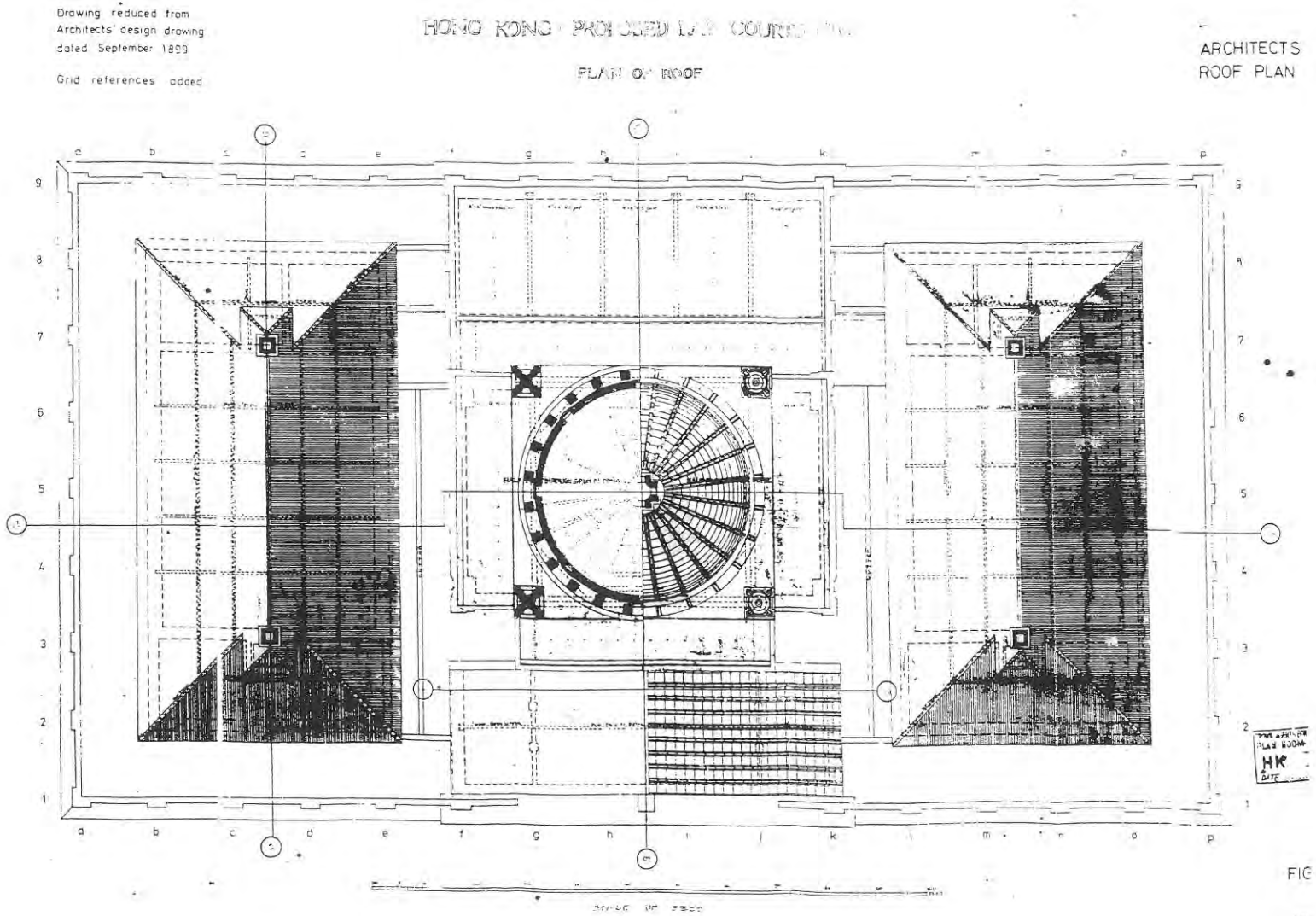
Appendix A (Figure 2)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix A (Figure 3)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
Appendix A (Figure 4)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
Appendix A (Figure 5)

Drawing reduced from
Architects' design drawing
dated September 1899

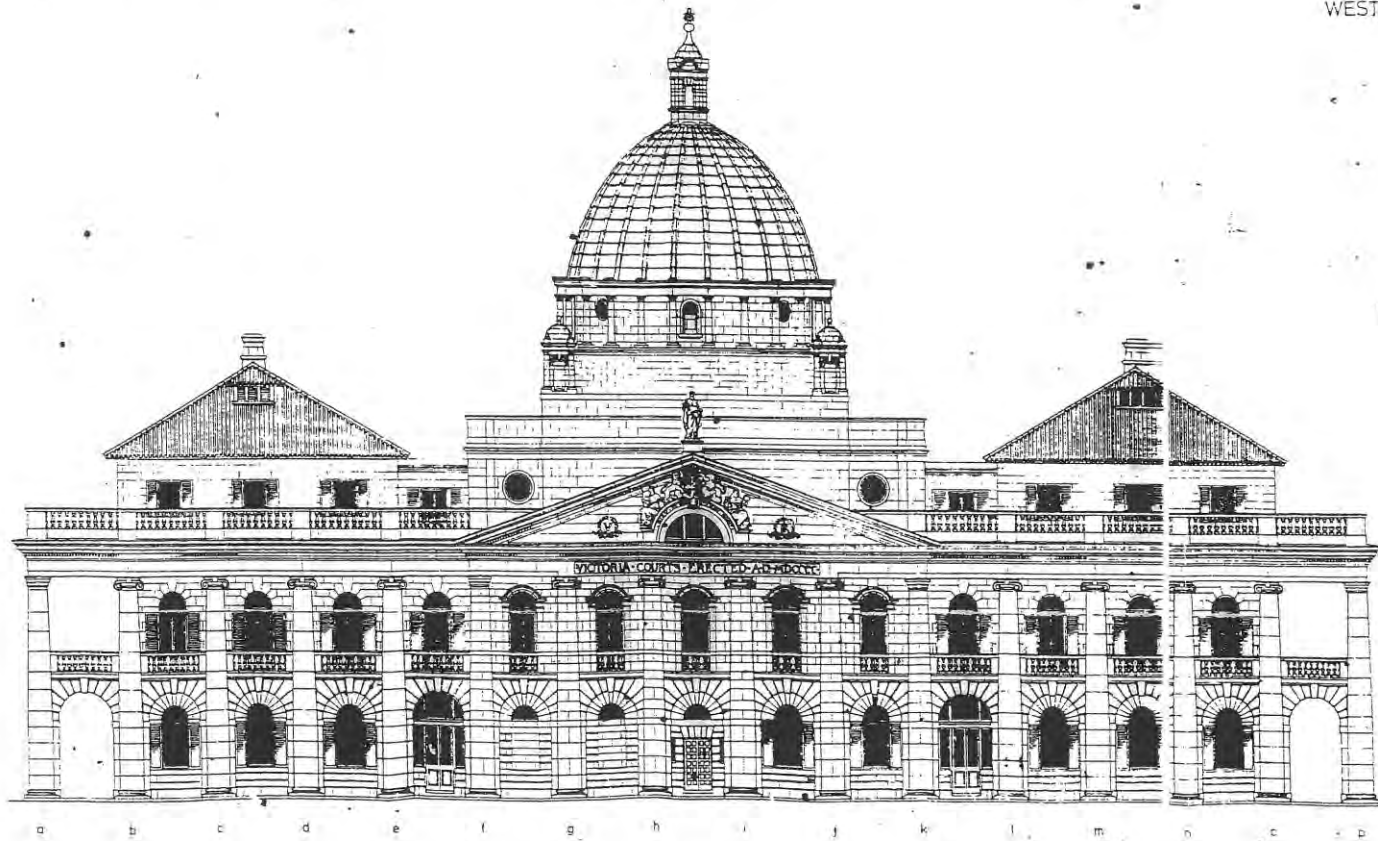
Grid references added

HONG KONG - PROPOSED LAW COURTS ETC.

EAST ELEVATION

1899

ARCHITECTS' DESIGN
EAST ELEVATION
BUILT (WITH MINOR CHANGES) AS
WEST ELEVATION



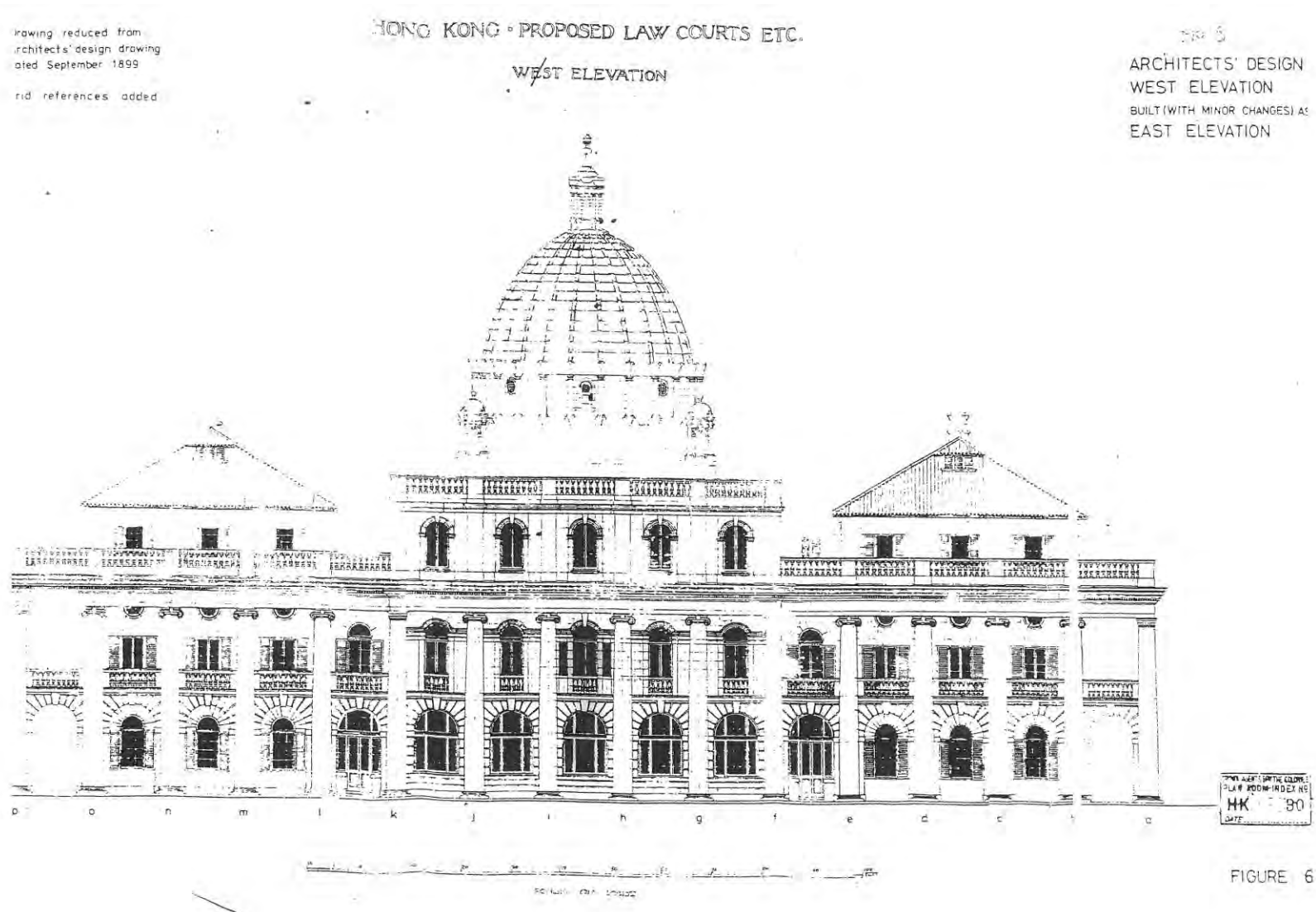
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FOR ARCHT. OR ENGINEER
PLAN & ROOM INDEX IS
HK 30
DATE

FIGURE 5



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
Appendix A (Figure 6)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
Appendix A (Figure 7)

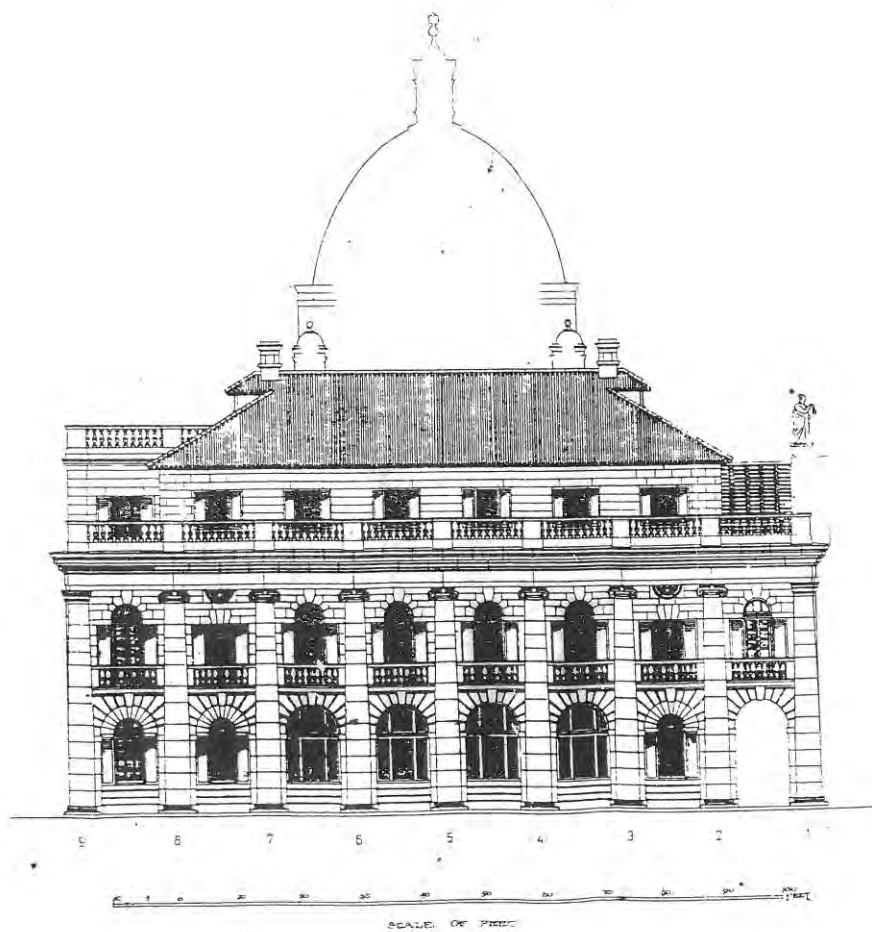
is reduced from
original design drawing
of September 1895
References added

HONG KONG PROPOSED LAW COURTS ETC.

SOUTH ELEVATION

NO 7

ARCHITECTS' DESIGN
SOUTH ELEVATION
BUILT (WITH MINOR CHANGES) AS
NORTH ELEVATION



PLANNING DEPARTMENT
PLANNING ROOM INDEX NO.
HK 30
DATE

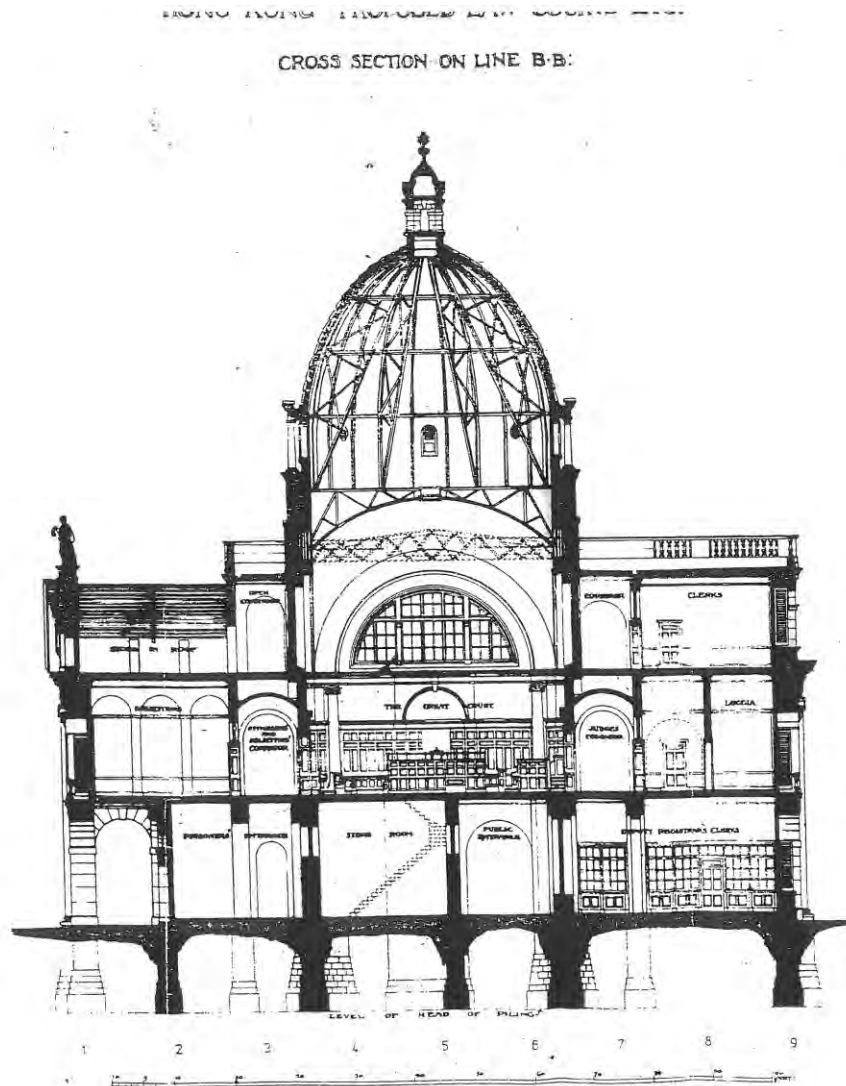
FIGURE 7

Architect: Sir George Gilbert Scott
Date: 1895



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix A (Figure 9)

Being reduced from
 Architects' design drawing
 dated September 1899
 references added



No 9
 ARCHITECTS' DESIGN
 CROSS SECTION B - B

PLAN INDEX NO
 HK 80

FIGURE 9

Architects' design drawing
 dated September 1899



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
Appendix A (Figure 10)

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HONG KONG - PROPOSED LAW COURTS ETC.

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ARCHITECTS' DESIGN
SECTIONS C-C & D-D

SECTION ON LINE C-C

SECTION ON LINE D-D

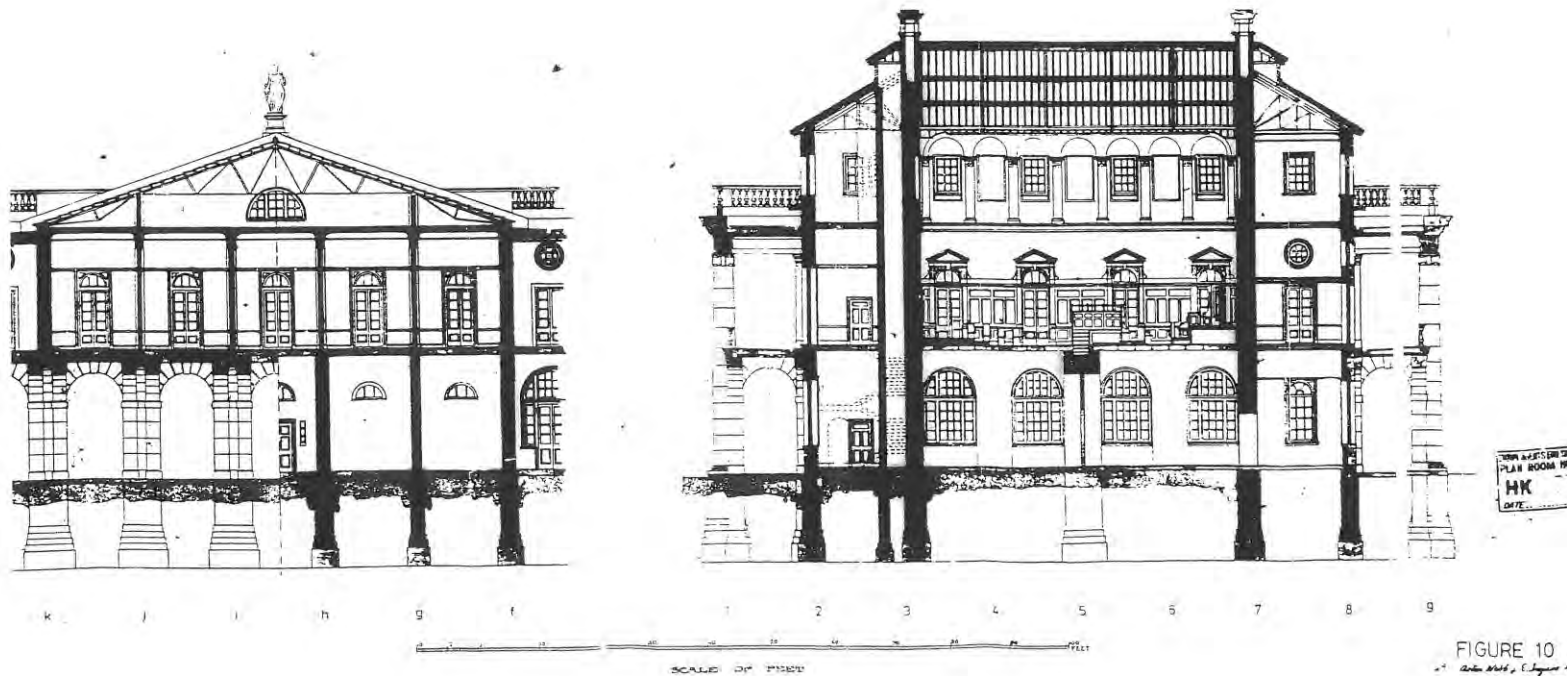
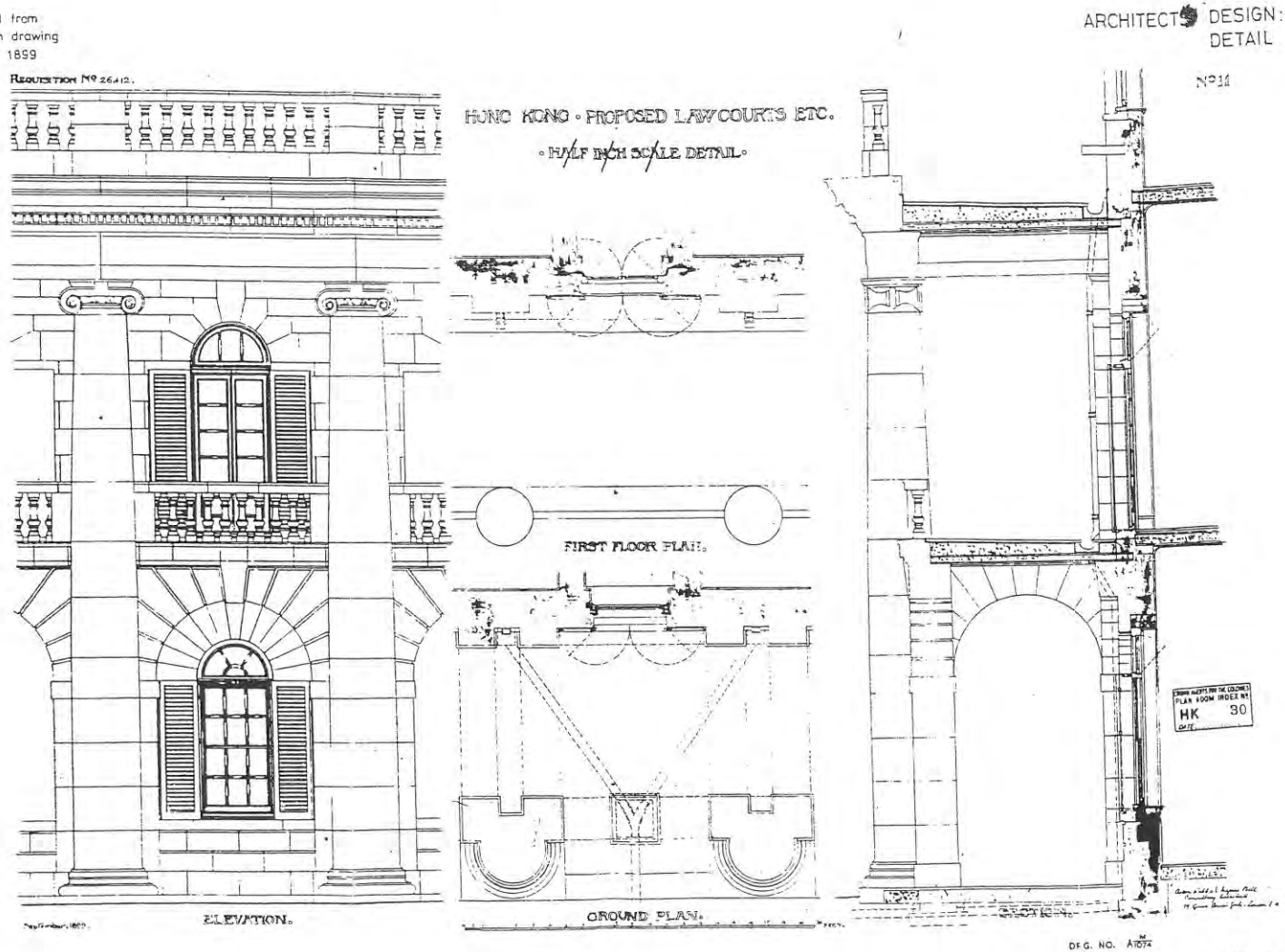


FIGURE 10
Architects' Design
Sections C-C & D-D



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix A (Figure 11)

Drawing reduced from
 Architect's design drawing
 dated September 1899



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative
Council Building

Appendix B

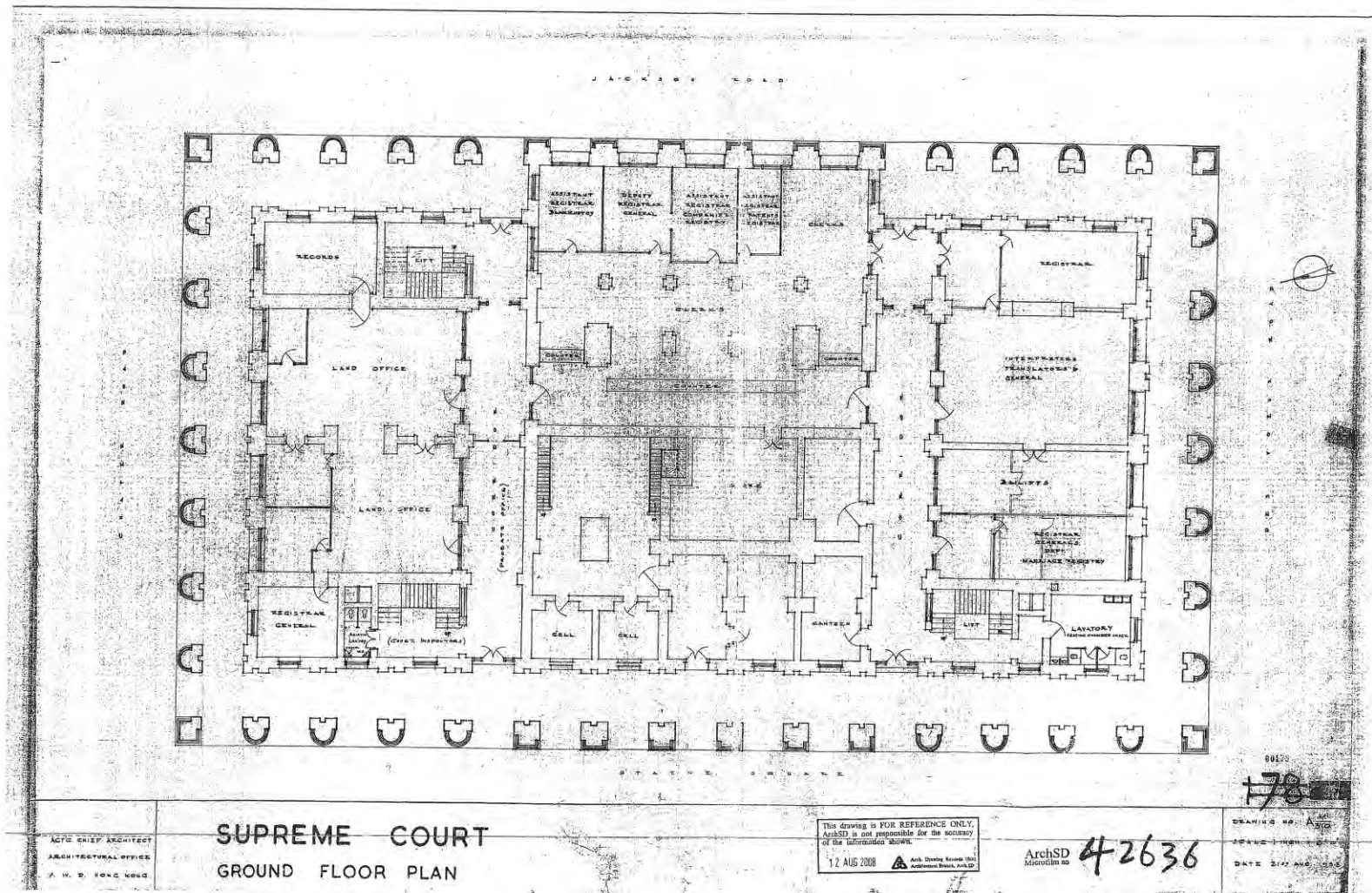
The Floor Plans of Supreme Court (1953, G/F, 1/F & 2/F)

The Floor Plans of Legislative Council (2011, G/F, 1/F, Mezzanine

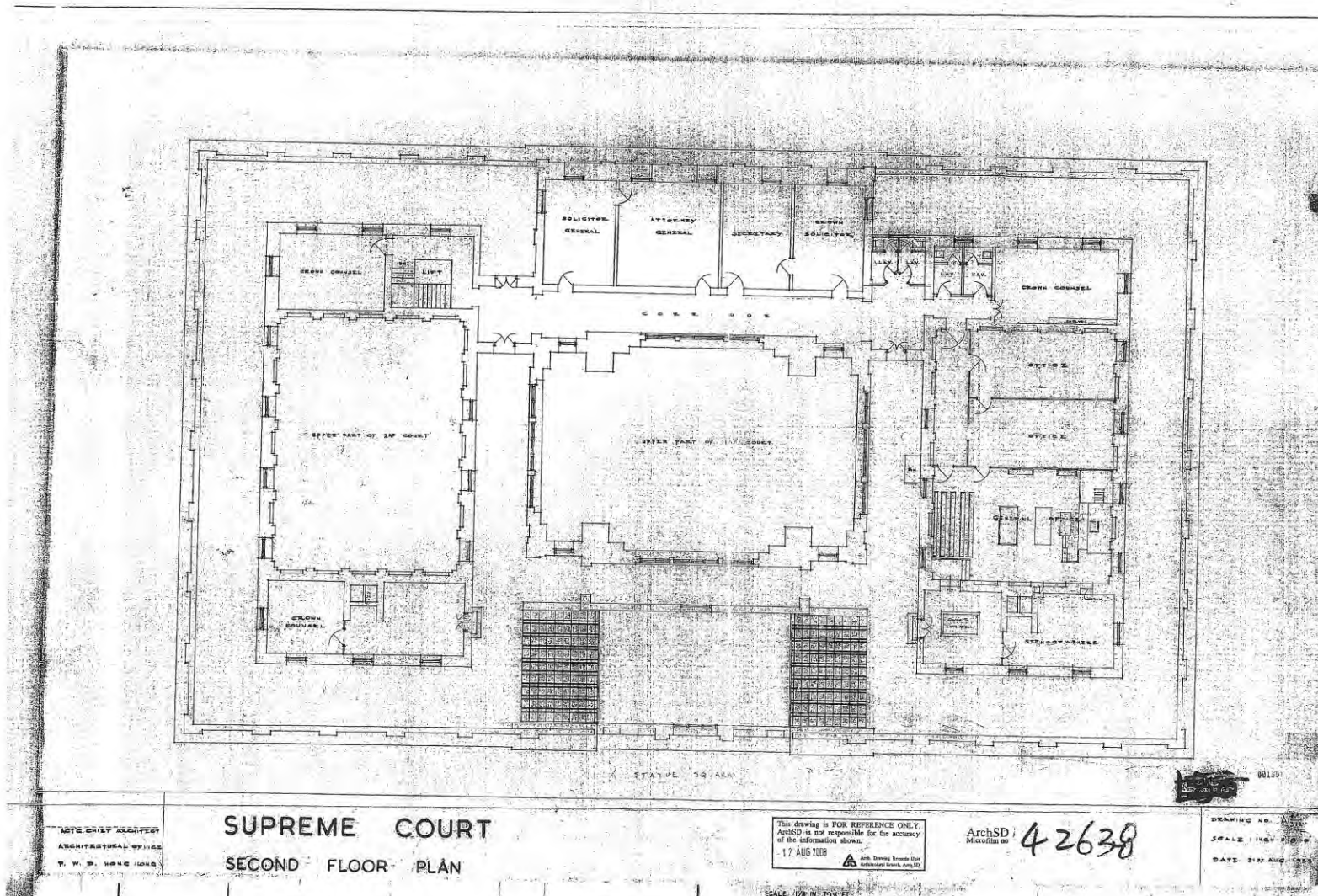
Floor & 2/F)



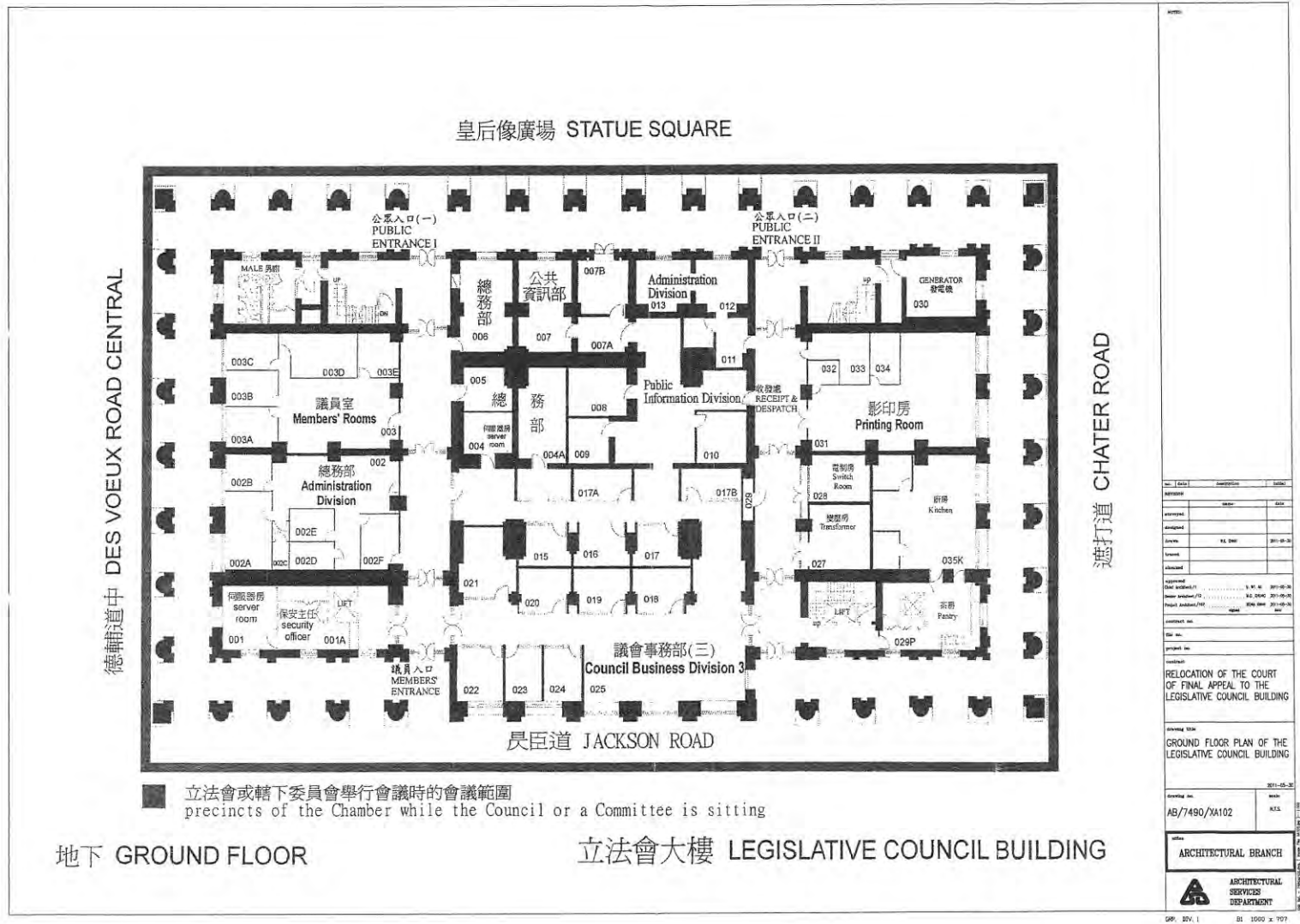
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Supreme Court 1953 (Figure 1)



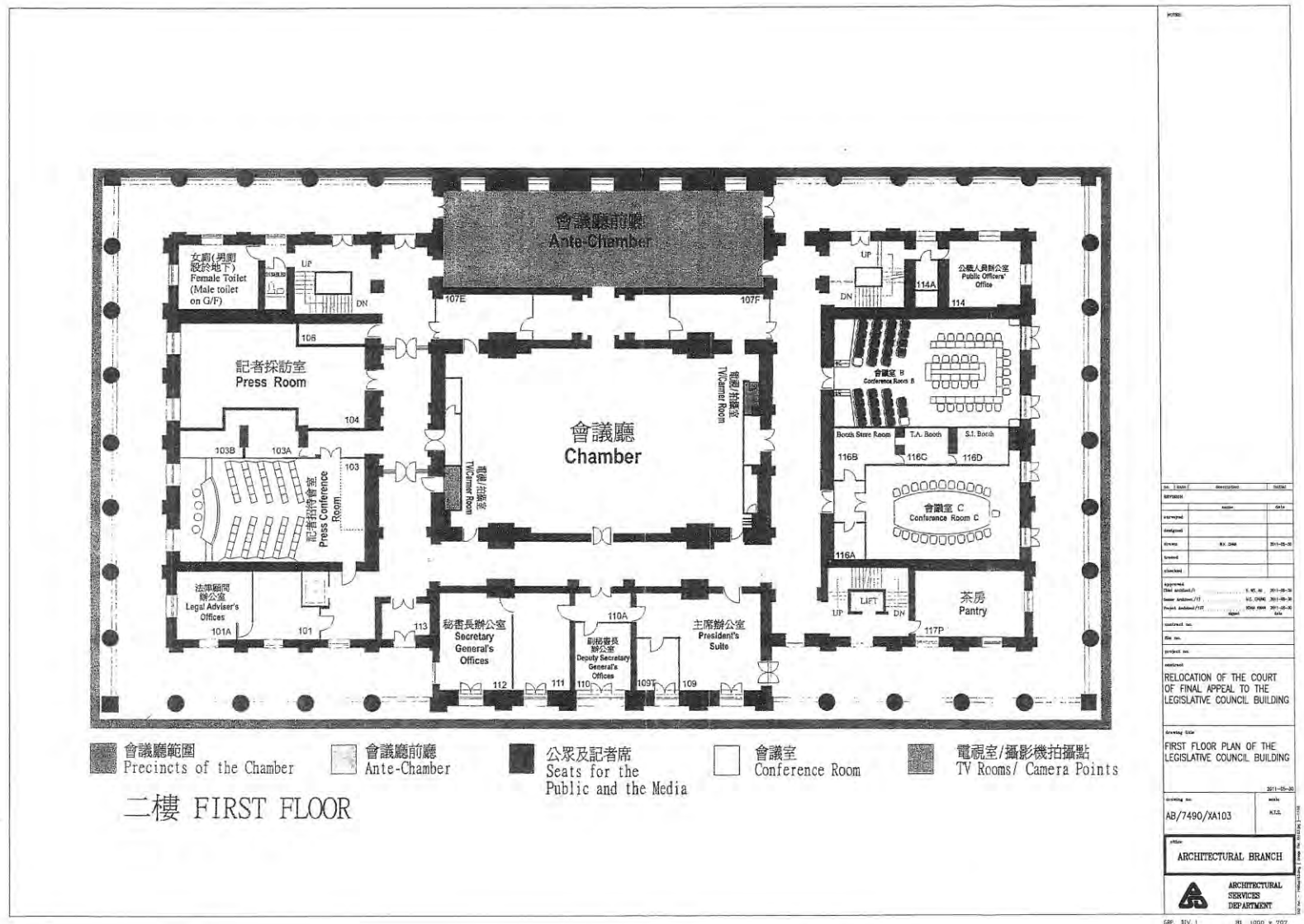
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Supreme Court 1953 (Figure 3)



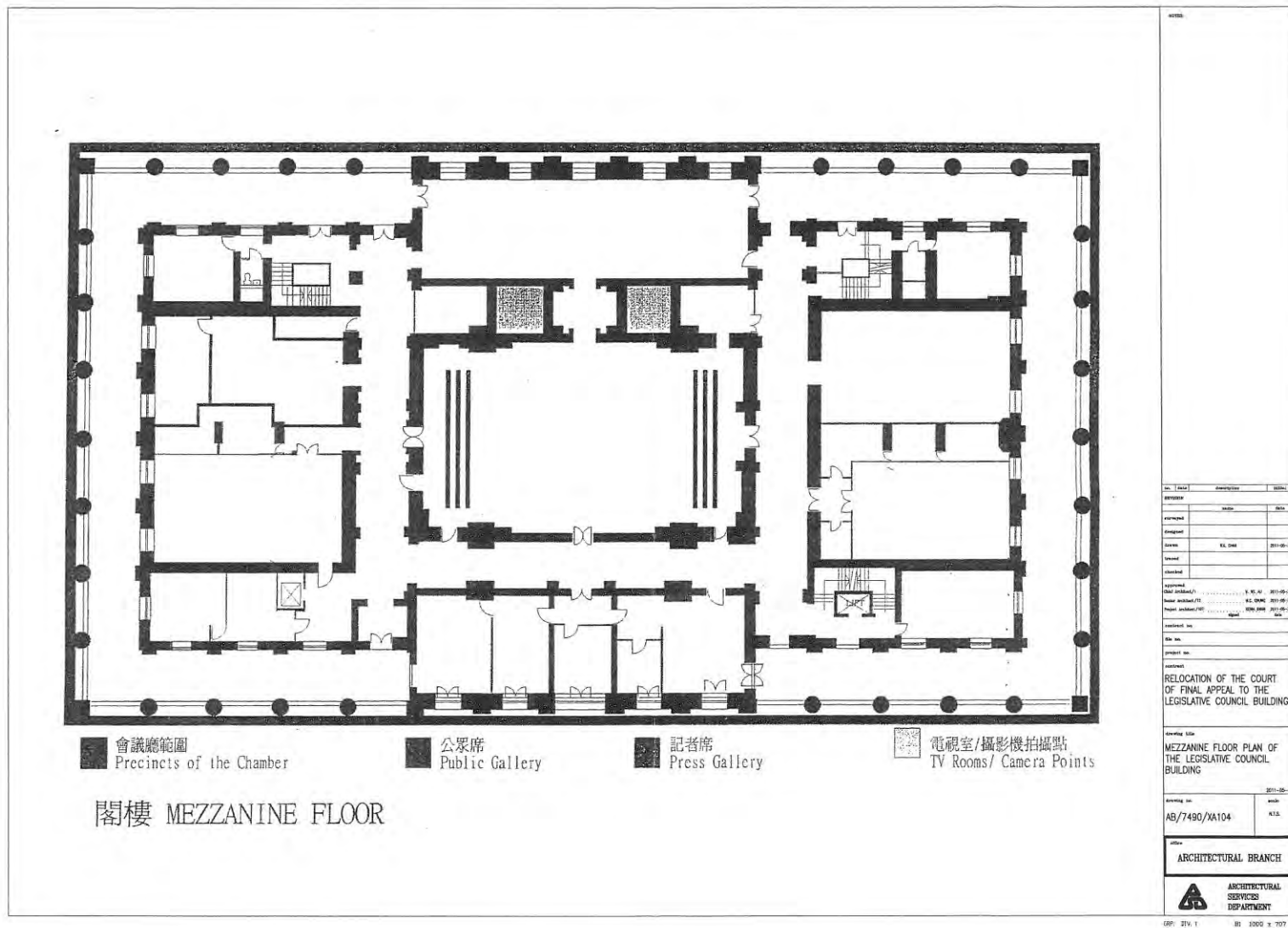
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Legislative Council 2011 (Figure 1)



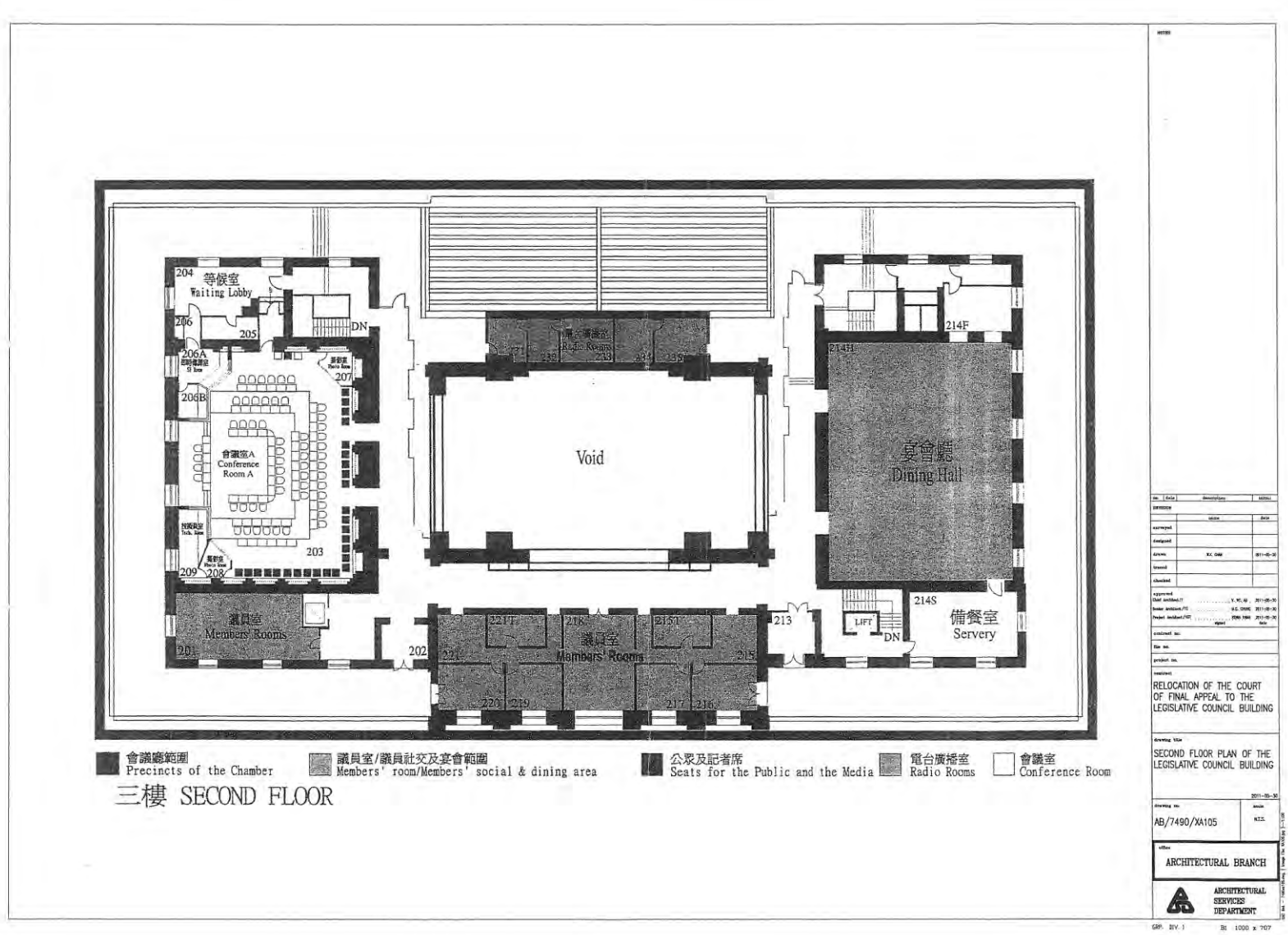
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Legislative Council 2011 (Figure 2)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Legislative Council 2011 (Figure 3)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix B Legislative Council 2011 (Figure 4)



Appendix C

The Design Layout Plan of Proposed Final Court of Appeal and the
Supporting Office into the Legislative Council Building

Location Plan

CFA Design Plan G/F

CFA Design Plan Mezzanine Level between G/F & 1/F

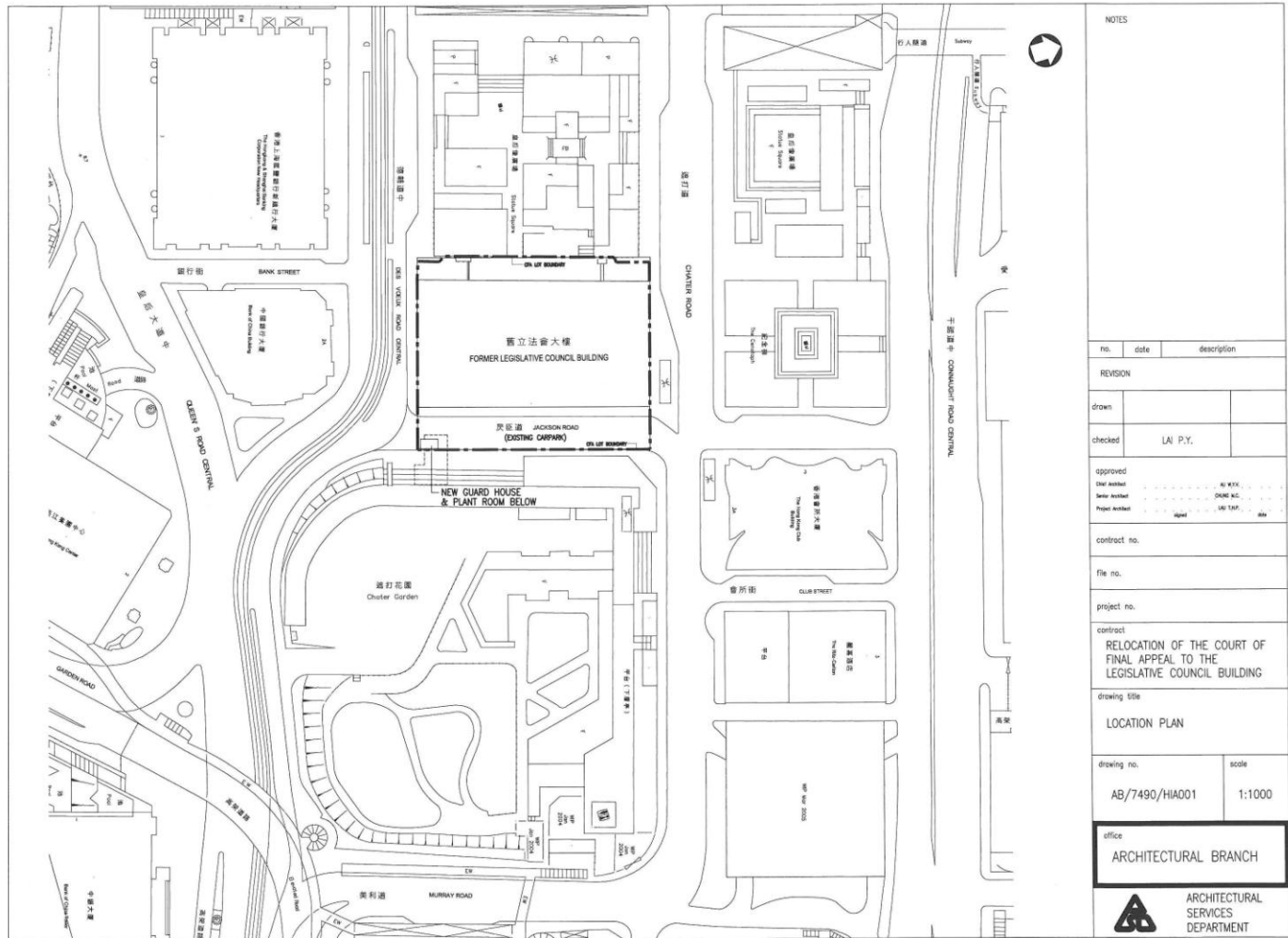
CFA Design Plan 1/F

CFA Design Plan Mezzanine Level between 1/F & 2/F

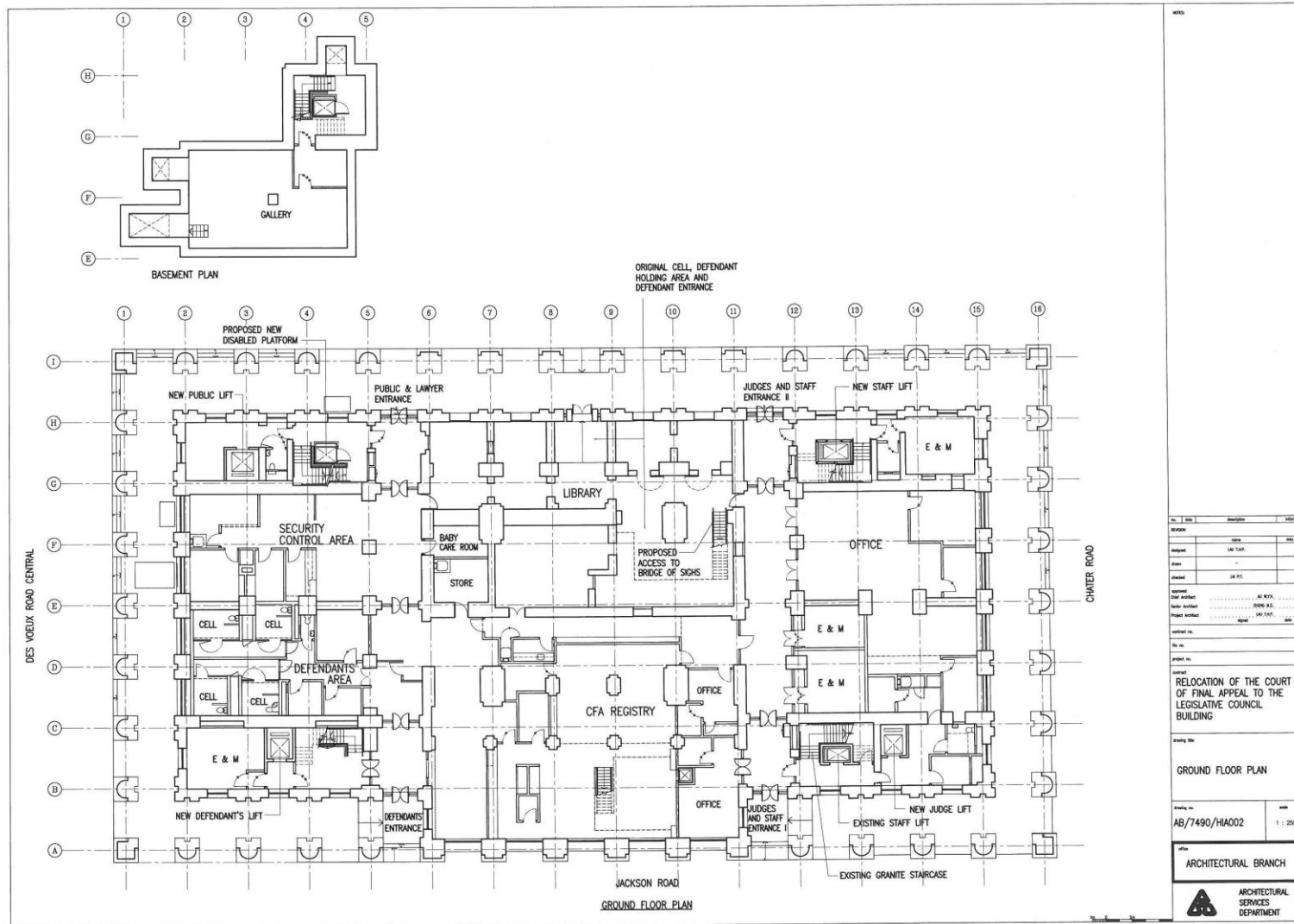
CFA Design Plan 2/F



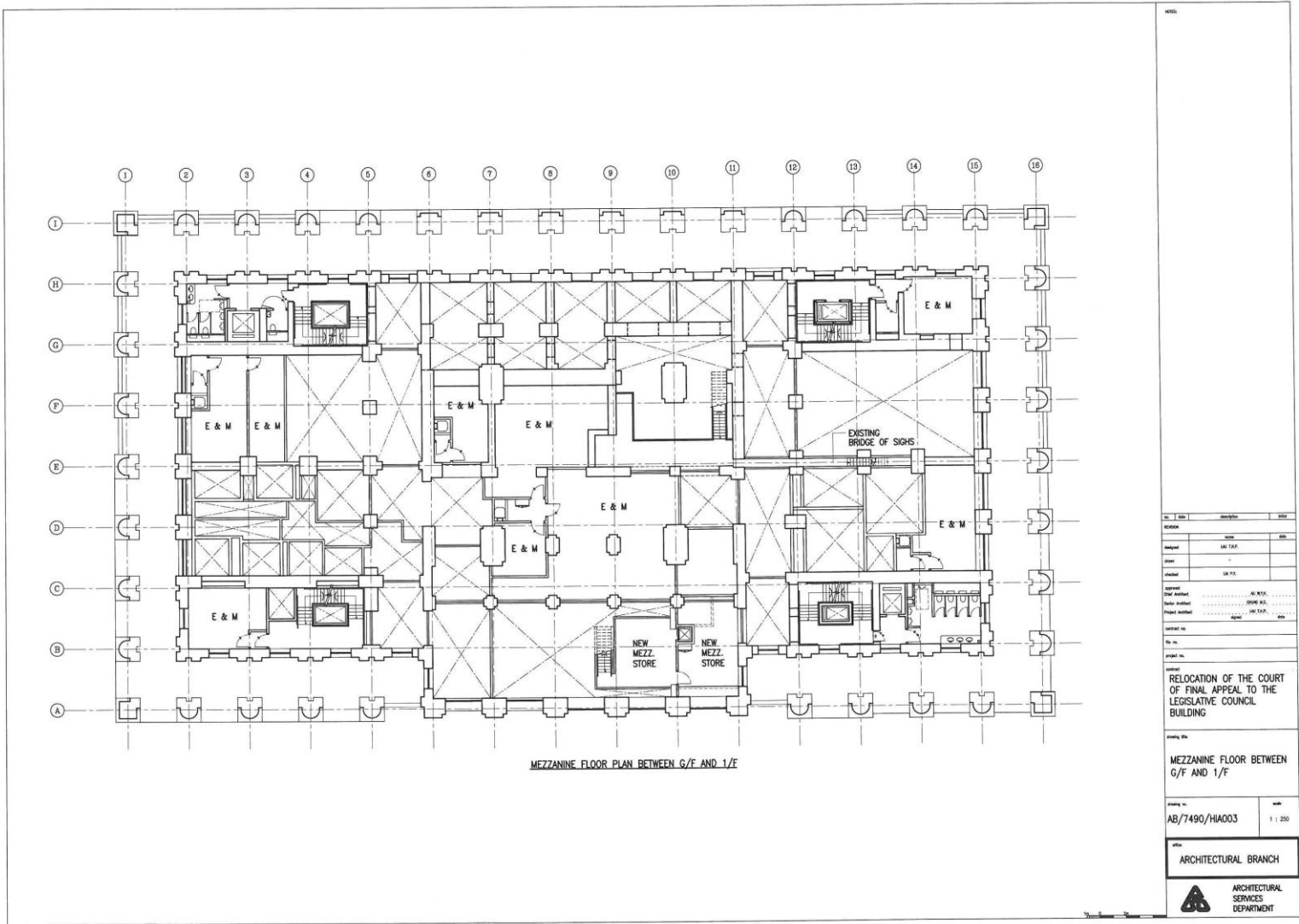
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix C Location Plan (Figure 1)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix C CFA Design Plan G/F (Figure 1)

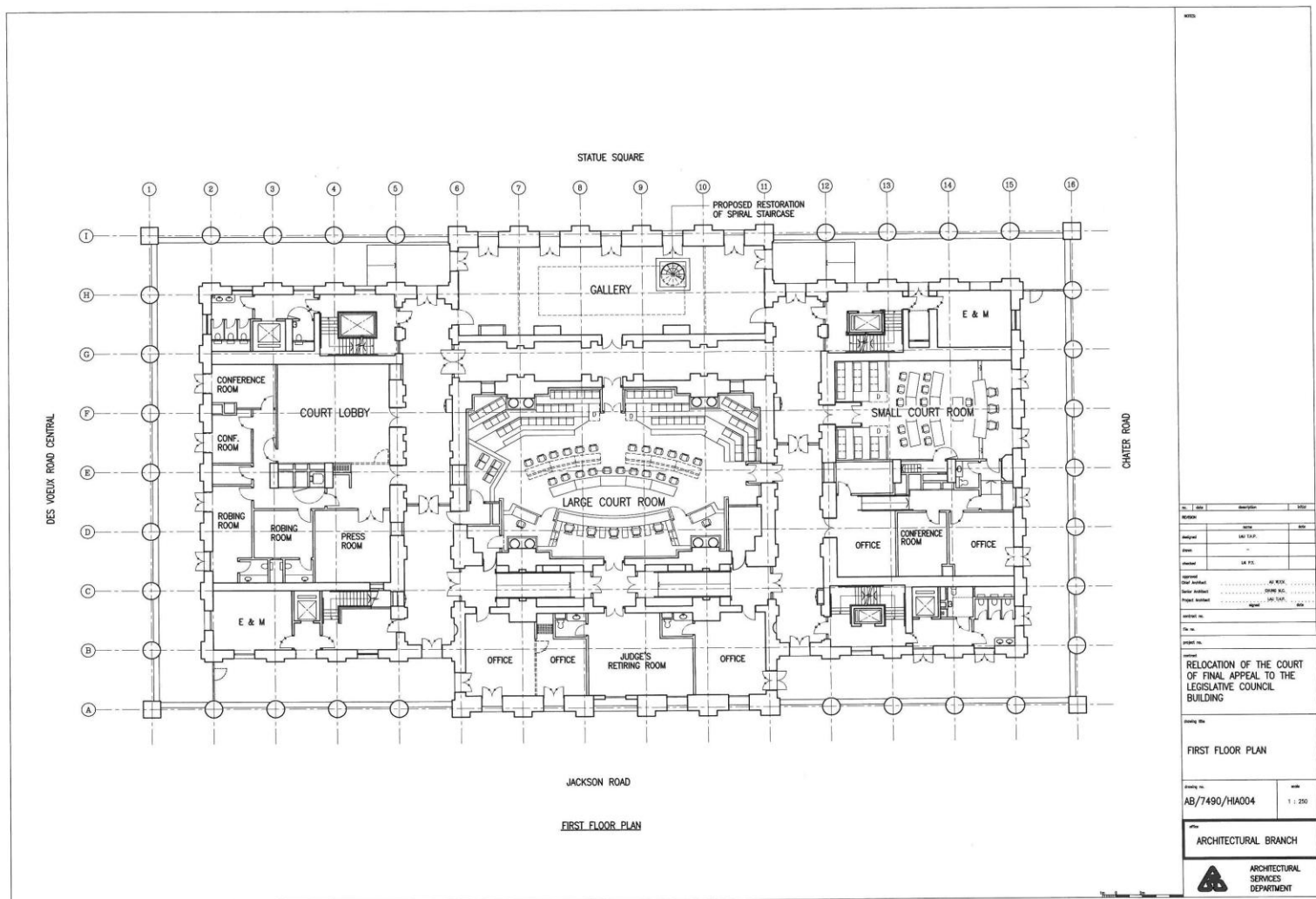


Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix C CFA Design Plan Mezzanine Level between G/F & 1/F (Figure 2)

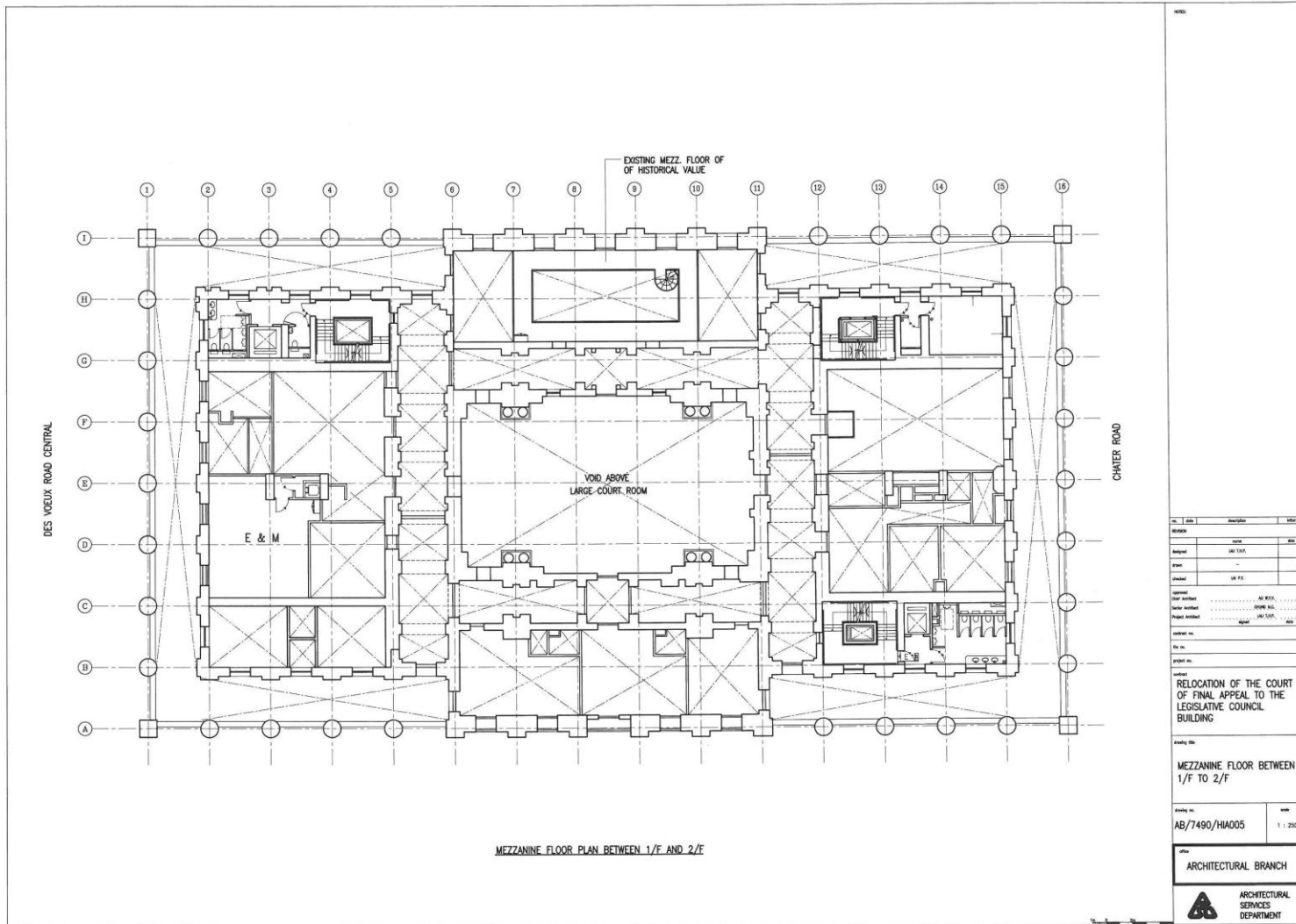


Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building

Appendix C CFA Design Plan 1/F (Figure 3)



Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council
 Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to the Legislative Council Building
 Appendix C CFA Design Plan Mezzanine Level between 1/F & 2/F (Figure 4)




Appendix D

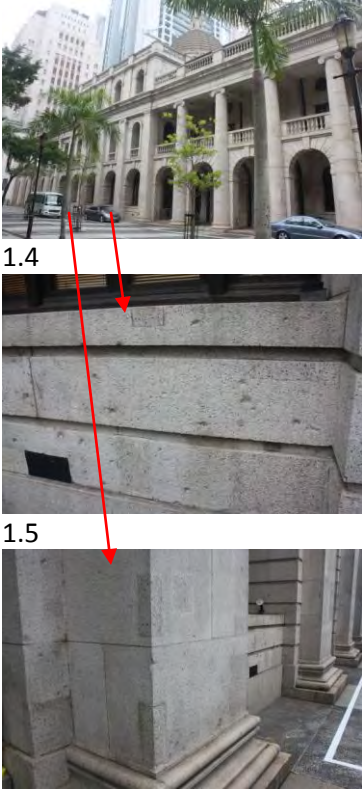
Table of Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures



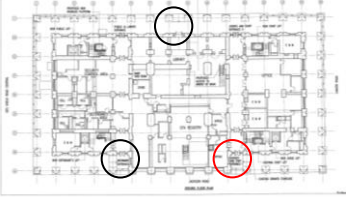
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Former Legislative Council Building



With reference to Section 6.2, the following tables have identified the overall assessment of the potential impacts and mitigation measures for the components of the existing building fabric including the key CDEs in respect of their level of significance towards the cultural value of the Former Supreme Court Building.


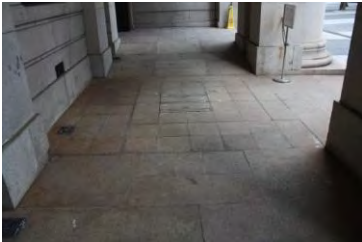
1. EXTERIOR



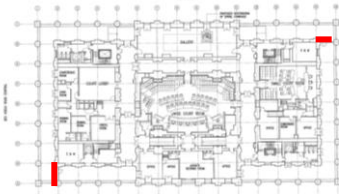
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.1	<p>Main Elevation (West elevation facing Statue Square)</p> <hr/> <p>Proposed Use / Alteration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose to repair/remove the deteriorating concrete fins after careful study 	 <p>1.1</p> <p>1.2</p> <p>1.3</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve in-situ the entire external wall and retain the openness of the 1/F verandah and G/F colonnade. No painting will be applied on the granite surface. General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. Later-added precast concrete fins in dilapidated condition are identified at the base of the pediment. Study will be carried out to confirm whether those fins are post-war construction before taking any action to the fins. Further proposal will be submitted to the AMO for approval. (1.3) 	Beneficial

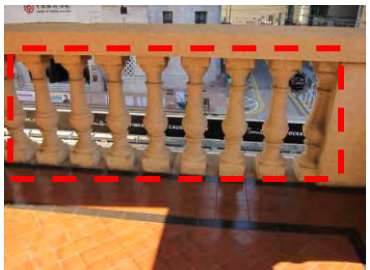
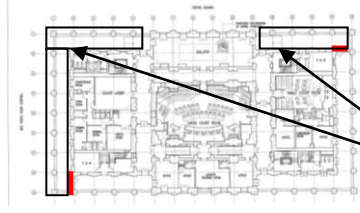
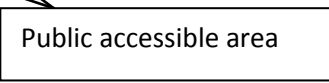
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.2	Back Elevation (East elevation facing Chater Garden)	 <p>1.4</p> <p>1.5</p> <p>1.6</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ the entire external wall and retain the openness of the 1/F verandah and G/F colonnade • No painting will be applied on the granite surface • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Traces of damages on the granite surface, which are believed to have been caused by bullets during the World War II, are identified. Some of them were repaired in previous maintenance works. The damages and the previous repairing are considered part of the history of the building. No work will therefore be proposed to those damaged areas. (1.5 & 1.6) 	N.A.


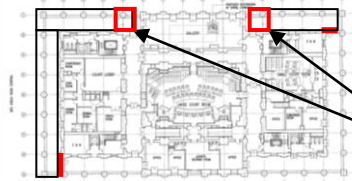
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.2 (cont'd)	Back Elevation (East elevation facing Chater Garden) (cont'd)	 <p>1.7</p>	Exceptional	(cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing ramps were constructed in the 1980s by modifying the level of the original granite floor. The gradient of the ramps could not meet current statutory requirement on barrier free access. Exemption for not complying current standard will be applied to relevant authorities, as persons with disability could be assisted by management staff. (1.7) If exemption could not be granted, the gradient of the ramp at the right entrance on this façade will be modified by adding a ramp of demountable materials on top of the existing one, so that no irreversible damage will be caused to the granite elements. (1.8) 	Acceptable with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration	 <p>1.8</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose to modify existing ramp next to the rear right entrance from Jackson Road to fulfill the current barrier free access standard, if exemption could not be granted. 				
	Site Location				
<p>Statue Square</p>  <p>Jackson Road G/F plan showing existing ramps done in 1985 (black circles) and the proposed existing ramp for modification</p>					


Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.3	Side Elevation (North side facing Chater Road & South side facing Des Voeux Road)	 <p>1.7 (North Side)</p>  <p>1.8 (South Side)</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ the entire external wall and retain the openness of the 1/F verandah and G/F colonnade • No painting will be applied on the granite surface • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. 	N.A.


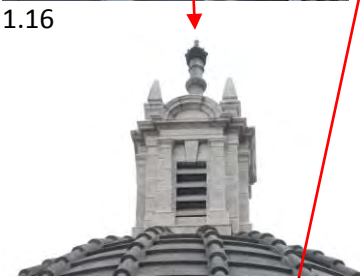

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.4	G/F Colonnade	 <p>1.9</p>  <p>1.10</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ the entire external wall and retain the openness of the G/F colonnade • Preserve all the exposed features including columns, walls, arches, steps, openings and floor tiles with their patterns • No painting will be applied on the granite surface • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • When underground utility connection works under the colonnade is needed, extreme care will be exercised to ensure the foundation of the building will not be affected. Granite tiles will be marked, recorded prior to opening up, and re-laid according to the original pattern upon completion of works. 	N.A.




Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level	
1.5	1/F Verandah		Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ the entire external wall and retain the openness of the G/F colonnade. • Preserve all the exposed features including columns, walls, arches, steps, openings and floor tiles with their patterns. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • The existing floor tiles, which were re-laid in the 1980s using Italian tiles matching the original ones, will be preserved. The defective locations will be made good. • As the project proposes to open two portions of the verandah for public enjoyment, two metal gates will be added to separate the public and private areas. • The new metal gates will be in harmony and distinguishable with the building, and be located behind existing columns to minimize visual impact to the building. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures	
	Proposed Use / Alteration	1.11				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose to add two metal gates in 1/F verandah for security purpose (red lines on plan) to separate public accessible portions from security controlled areas. 					1.12
	Site Location	<p data-bbox="384 967 558 992">Statue Square</p>  <p data-bbox="384 1211 552 1235">Jackson Road</p> <p data-bbox="296 1243 604 1308">1/F plan showing the two metal gate locations</p>				


Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.5 (cont'd)	1/F Verandah (cont'd)	 <p>1.13</p>	Exceptional	(cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new metal gates will be supported by free standing posts without being fixed onto the granite surface. During installation, minor portion of the existing floor tiles will be temporarily opened up and reinstated upon completion. Details will be further confirmed with AMO. The existing gaps between the vase-shaped balusters are only slightly wider than the allowable width under current statutory requirement. Exemption for not complying current standard will be applied to relevant authorities, so as to retain the original appearance of the balusters. If exemption could not be granted, transparent barrier could be installed to the balustrade at the public accessible verandah, by being clamped onto the balusters (1.13) without damaging the granite surface. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose to install transparent barrier on the balusters to fulfill building safety requirement, if exemption could not be granted. 				
	Site Location				
<p>Statue Square</p>  <p>Jackson Road</p> <p>1/F plan showing the two metal gates and public accessible areas</p>	 <p>Public accessible area</p>				




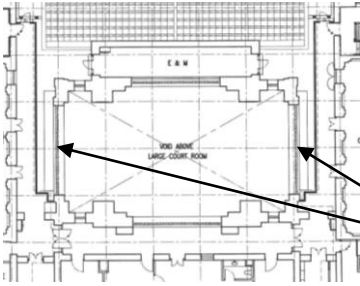
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.5 (cont'd)	1/F Verandah (cont'd)		Exceptional	(cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two ramps made of demountable materials will be installed outside the two doors leading from the interior to the verandah to facilitate disabled access. No damage to the existing finishes will be resulted. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration	1.14			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose to erect two demountable ramps to facilitate disabled access. 				
	Site Location				
<p data-bbox="384 824 558 849">Statue Square</p>  <p data-bbox="384 1068 558 1092">Jackson Road</p> <p data-bbox="296 1105 642 1239">1/F plan showing the two metal gates, public accessible areas and the two ramps</p>	<div data-bbox="680 1027 1010 1101" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Proposed new ramps</div>				




Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.6	Roof Level	 <p data-bbox="674 483 730 506">1.15</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the central dome, two Chinese pitched roofs and the triangular pitched roof behind the pediment. • Conduct structural assessment on the internal original steel supporting structures for different roofs. Preserve all the structures. Restore and strengthen the structures where necessary. • Preserve all the exposed features including columns, walls, arches, steps, openings and balustrades. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Modern facilities, such as mechanical plants and external lighting system, will be located properly so as to minimize their visual impact to the building. • Inspect the roof drainage, waterproofing and lightning protection systems. Improve the systems where necessary. 	N.A.




Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.7	Central Dome Area	 <p>1.16</p>  <p>1.17</p>  <p>1.18</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the dome structure including the granite drum, top lantern with bronze Tudor Crown, square base with four corner pinnacles, all surrounding balustrade and granolithic slabs covering of the roof. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Modern facilities will be located properly so as to minimize their visual impact to the building. • Inspect the roof drainage, waterproofing and lightning protection systems. Improve the systems where necessary. 	N.A.

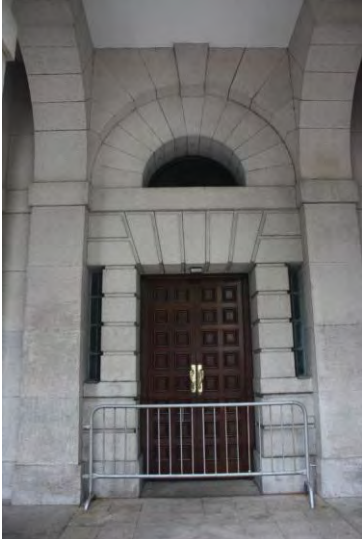


Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.8	Timber Pitched Roof Area	 <p>1.19</p>  <p>1.20</p>  <p>1.21</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the existing pitched roof. • Preserve all the exposed granite features including the four chimneys and the cast iron lightning rods. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Preserve the existing timber joist, brackets and Chinese double surface pan and roll tiles. • Test the waterproofing system, and carry out upgrading works where necessary. • Replace only defective, rotten or broken timber joist and roof tiles by similar materials matching existing. • Any new timber materials replacing the existing ones, should have undergone anti-termite treatment. • Rearrange the location of external lighting to minimize its visual impact to the building. 	N.A.

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.9	Triangular Pitched Roof behind pediment	 <p data-bbox="674 451 730 479">1.22</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the existing pitched roof. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Test the waterproofing system, and carry out upgrading works where necessary. 	N.A.



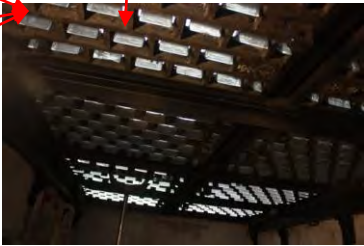
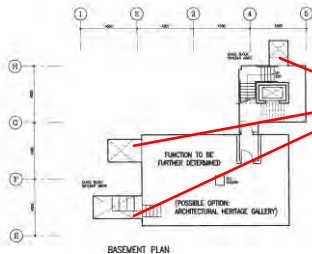
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.10	Exterior window and door openings		High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve, clean, restore and make good all external windows, doors and their ironmongeries. • Replace only those timber elements which are rotten or beyond repair. Traditional style and similar materials will be used for repairing. • Apply termite treatment to all timber elements. • The external louvers at the semi-circular windows at high level of the large courtroom are later additions. The louvers will be taken down in order to allow natural light into the internal space. • Replace some of the glass panels by louvers for fresh air intake for the mechanical ventilation system. • The taken down timber elements and ironmongeries will be salvaged, numbered and recorded carefully for future reuse where appropriate. • The exact locations and method statement for replacement or modification of windows and doors will be submitted to AMO for approval once confirmed. • Any security measures, such as intrusion sensors, will be installed at the inner side of the windows and doors causing no visual impact to the building. • Security films will be transparent and applied to the inner side of the windows and doors causing no visual impact to the building. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use/ Alteration	<p>1.23</p> 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the external louvers at the semi-circular windows at high level of the large courtroom in order to allow natural light into the internal space. • Replace some of the glass panels by louvers for fresh air intake for the mechanical ventilation system. • Apply transparent security films to the inner side of external windows and doors to enhance security. 	<p>1.24</p>  <p>1.25</p>			
	<p>Site Location</p>  <p>2/F Plan</p>				

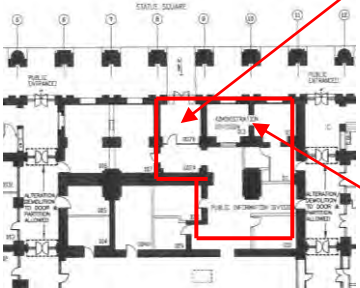



Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.11	Cast Iron rainwater downpipe and vent covers	 <p>1.26</p>  <p>1.27</p>  <p>1.28</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ • Retain, repair and restore all the existing cast iron components throughout the exterior of the building. • Remove rust, mould, plant on the cast iron components. Repaint and apply anti-rust treatment where necessary. 	N.A.

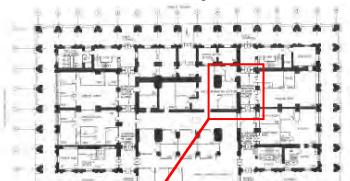
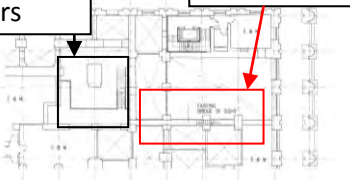



Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.12	Vent Openings Leading to Basement	 <p>1.29</p>  <p>1.30</p>  <p>1.31</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the three vent openings to the basement. • Retain, repair and restore all the existing cast iron openings with glass prisms. • Remove rust, mould, plant on the cast iron openings. Repaint and apply anti-rust treatment where necessary. • Conduct structural checking to the cast iron openings. Strengthening works causing no damage to the openings will be carried out where necessary. 	N.A.


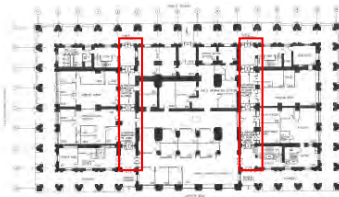

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
1.13	Main Entrance Area	 <p>1.32</p>  <p>1.33</p>  <p>1.34</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ • Preserve and repair the main entrance timber door, metal window frames on each side and the surrounding wall openings. • Preserve both the foundation stone of the Old Supreme Court Building, and the commemorative plaque for the opening of the Legislative Council on the columns on each side of the main entrance. • General cleaning to the granite surface and bronze plaque will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the surfaces 	N.A.

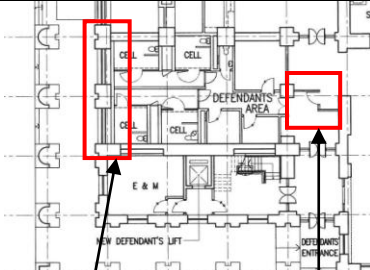
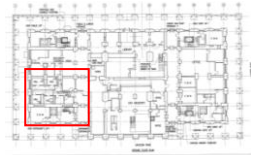
2.0 INTERIOR

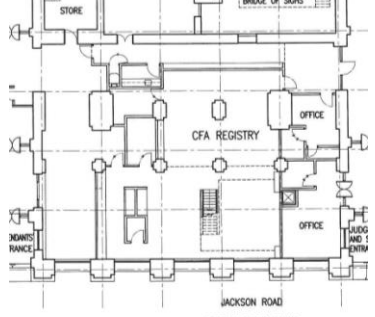
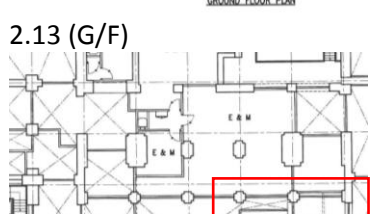
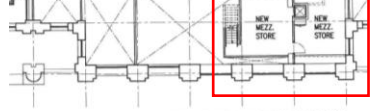
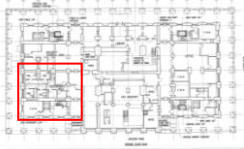
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.1	Basement Area		Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and repair the central load-bearing column. • Preserve and retain the three vent openings to ground level. • Preserve the general layout of the basement. • Exposed the segmental arched ceiling soffit and the granite arches. • General cleaning, disinfecting and waterproofing works will be conducted. • Raised metal grating system will be added to the basement to avoid damage to the original finishes and exhibits. 	Beneficial
	Proposed Use / Alteration	<p>2.01</p> 			
	Site Location	<p>2.02</p> 			
	 <p>BASEMENT PLAN</p>				



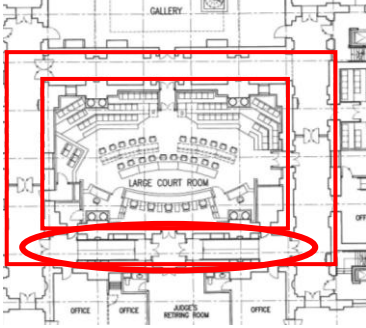

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.2	<p data-bbox="296 250 644 418"><u>G/F</u> Old prisoners' receiving room (main entrance), holding cells and constable's waiting room</p> <p data-bbox="296 516 611 542">Proposed Use / Alteration</p> <ul data-bbox="296 574 632 704" style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed to convert the area into a reading corner inside future library <p data-bbox="296 721 453 743">Site Location</p>  <p data-bbox="296 1117 604 1175">Magnified old prisoners' receiving area in G/F plan</p>	 <p data-bbox="674 792 730 818">2.04</p>  <p data-bbox="674 1068 730 1094">2.05</p>  <p data-bbox="674 1360 730 1386">2.06</p>	High	<ul data-bbox="1241 250 1696 818" style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve and repair the prisoners' entrance timber door, the side security windows and the metal bars. The door will be used as a secondary ceremonial entrance to the future library. Preserve and conduct general cleaning to the original terrazzo floor finish. Repair using similar materials by skilled tradesmen where necessary. (2.05) Retain the two original prisoners' cells and restore their original arch openings. (2.06) Metal gates with reference to cell gates of that period will be restored to the openings. 	Beneficial

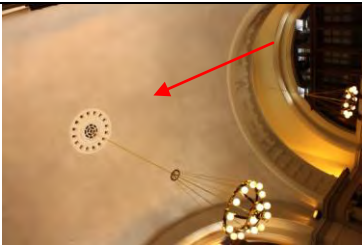

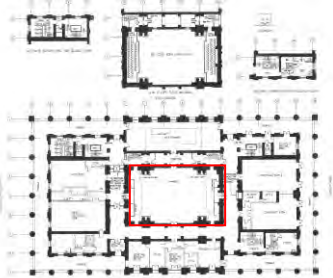

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.3	<p data-bbox="294 308 651 438"><u>G/E</u> "Bridge of Sighs" in the original Prisoners' Receiving Room</p> <p data-bbox="294 568 651 609">Proposed Use / Alteration</p> <ul data-bbox="294 625 651 690" style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed to convert to be part of Library <p data-bbox="294 698 651 738">Site Location</p> <p data-bbox="388 771 556 803">Statue Square</p>  <p data-bbox="199 998 388 1071">New cockloft and stairs</p> <p data-bbox="493 998 724 1039">Bridge of Sighs</p>  <p data-bbox="294 1226 651 1404">Magnified plan showing the Bridge of Sighs and the proposed new cockloft and staircase connecting that area with G/F</p>	 <p data-bbox="672 544 724 576">2.07</p>  <p data-bbox="766 1006 829 1039">2.08</p>  <p data-bbox="672 1429 724 1461">2.09</p>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section of the Bridge of Sighs on mezzanine level (2.07) and stairs leading to original second court on 1/F (2.08) are discovered after taking away the suspended false ceiling and the glass panels of a doorway. Further examination on the condition of the Bridge will be conducted upon removal of all existing building services ductworks. The Bridge will be exposed as one of the important features of the building for public appreciation. Restore the Bridge after careful study on its condition, and reinstate its original features with reference to old photos and plans if found. A new staircase and cockloft connecting the Bridge with the future library is proposed. The new staircase facilitates public access to the Bridge for appreciation of this historic element. All new construction will be in compatible design and distinguishable with the original building structures. 	Beneficial

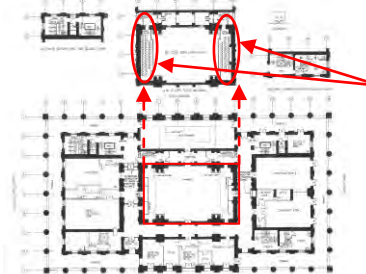
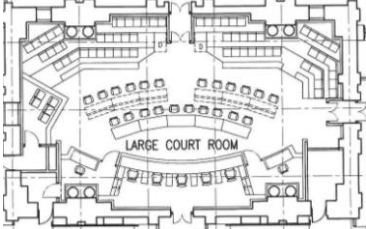



Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.4	<p><u>G/E</u> 2 corridors passing through East and West Elevations</p>	 <p>2.10</p>	<p>Layout (High) Timber doorways (moderate)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the general open layout of the corridor. • It is believed that all internal arch doorways and door panels were altered in the conversion works in the 1980s or relocated to present location from somewhere else. • Preserve the doorways in situ if they do not affect future uses. • If removal is necessary, the dismantled timber members and ironmongeries will be salvaged and recorded carefully, and kept for relocation or future restoration. • Any new doors and partitions to be added should be in harmony with the existing building. The existing transparent setting should be maintained as far as possible. • New security and safety measures, such as exit signs and sensors, should be designed and located appropriately to minimize visual impact to the heritage elements. • The locations of the timber elements that will be affected by the works, will be submitted to AMO for approval before alterations once confirmed. • A building survey is being carried out to identify the pre-1985 timber elements. The result will be submitted to AMO for record. 	<p>Acceptable with mitigation measures</p>
	<p>Proposed Use / Alteration</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain its corridor function 				
	<p>Site Location</p>				
	 <p>2.11</p>				


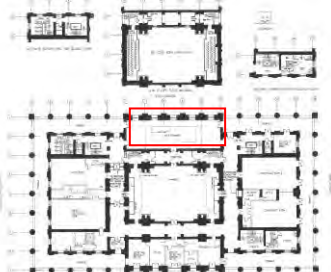

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.5	<p>G/E New Defendant Area</p>		Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new brickwork wall will not be attached to the external wall, so that the external wall and windows will not be affected. The finishes of the brickwork wall facing the street will be carefully designed in order not to cause visual impact to the exterior of the building. • Bricks salvaged on site will be used for construction of the brickwork wall where practical, so as to maintain the authenticity of the heritage building. • The new security wall is necessary to separate the defendant walkway from the public corridor. • The new wall will be constructed in reversible method, and could be taken down without damaging the existing building structure if necessary in future. 	Low
	Proposed Use / Alteration	2.12			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To construct a new brickwork wall between the cells and the inner side of the external window. • To erect a new security wall to separate the defendant walkway from the public corridor. 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">New brickwork wall</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">New security gate</div> </div>			
	Site Location				
 <p style="text-align: center;">G/F</p>					



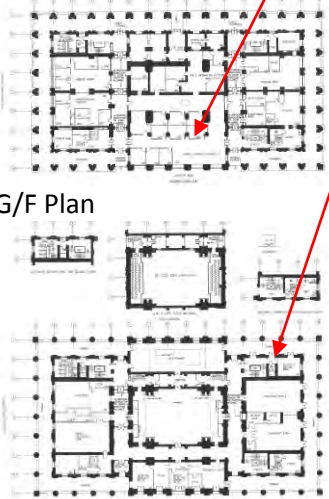
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.6	<p><u>G/E</u> New mezzanine floor in new CFA registry area</p>		Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of the proposed mezzanine floor is less prominent and possesses less historic significance. • The structure of the mezzanine floor will be light in weight, independent and distinguishable from the existing structure. No additional loading will be exerted on the existing structure. • The mezzanine floor will be constructed in reversible method, and could be taken down without damaging the existing building structure if necessary in future. • The mezzanine floor also enables appreciation of the preserved moulding on the ceiling in a closer distance. 	Low
	Proposed Use / Alteration	<p>2.13 (G/F)</p> 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To construct a new mezzanine floor to provide necessary storage spaces. • To install a dump wailer for transferring of files. 	<p>2.14 (G/F Mezzanine Level)</p> 			
	Site Location	 <p>G/F</p>			



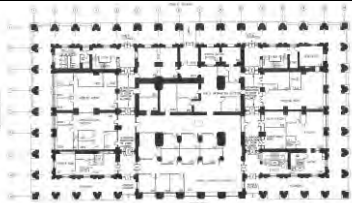
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.7	<p><u>1/F</u> Corridors surrounding the Big Chamber</p>		<p>Layout (High) Timber doorways and door surrounds (moderate)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the general open layout of the corridor. • It is believed that all internal arch doorways and door panels were altered in the conversion works in the 1980s or relocated to present location from somewhere else. • Preserve the doorways in situ if they do not affect future uses. • If removal is necessary, the dismantled timber members and ironmongeries will be salvaged and recorded carefully, and kept for relocation or future restoration. • Any new doors and partitions to be added should be in harmony with the existing building. The existing transparent setting should be maintained as far as possible. • Preserve and repair the four timber portals surrounding the four main entrances to the Big Chamber. (2.17) • A proposed two-sided ramp (circled on plan) will be constructed at the corridor outside the judges' retiring room to match the future level of the judges' platform inside the Large Courtroom. The ramp will be constructed in reversible method and demountable materials. • The later-added mezzanine floor at the corridor near Statue Square will be removed to reinstate the original high headroom setting. (2.16) • New security and safety measures, such as exit signs and sensors, should be designed and located appropriately to minimize visual impact to the heritage elements. • The locations of the timber elements that will be affected by the works, will be submitted to AMO for approval before alterations once confirmed. • A building survey is being carried out to identify the pre-1985 timber elements. The result will be submitted to AMO for record. • It is intended to reinstate the tile floor finishes at the corridor in front of the public entrance of future large courtroom with the salvaged tiles from other parts of the building, to restore the authentic building style of the space. 	<p>Acceptable Impact with mitigation measures</p>
	<p>Proposed Use / Alteration</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain its corridor function • Taken down the later added mezzanine floor(2.16) • Build a two-sided ramp to facilitate access to the raised entrance (circled on plan) 	<p>2.15</p> 			
	<p>Site Location</p> <p>Statue Square</p>  <p>Chater Road Magnified 1/F Plan showing the circulating corridor</p>	<p>2.16</p>  <p>2.17</p>			



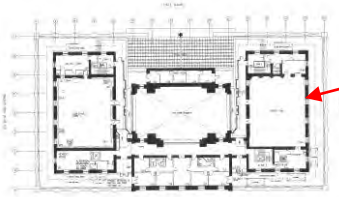

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.8	<p>1/F Big Chamber</p> <p>(Structural Features)</p>	 <p>2.18</p>	Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the double height dome-shaped ceiling • Repair the plastering works with similar materials and colour matching existing. • Preserve the four granite double ionic columns supporting the two big arches on both sides of the Chamber. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Retain and repair the decorative moulding on the supporting arches and cornice. (2.16) Mortars with colour matching existing will be used for repairing. 	N.A.
	Site Location	 <p>2.19</p>			
	 <p>1/F Plan</p>	 <p>2.20</p>			


Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.9	<p data-bbox="296 305 520 407"><u>1/F</u> Big Chamber (Internal Features)</p> <p data-bbox="296 418 611 451">Proposed Use / Alteration</p> <ul data-bbox="296 477 632 683" style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstatement to court room function • Redesign the internal fitting to accommodate the 5 judges setting of CFA requirement <p data-bbox="296 695 453 727">Site Location</p>  <p data-bbox="373 1089 569 1122">Existing 1/F Plan</p>  <p data-bbox="296 1349 642 1414">Proposed new setting of the large court room</p>	 <p data-bbox="674 545 726 570">2.21</p>  <p data-bbox="674 821 726 846">2.22</p>  <p data-bbox="674 1097 1020 1300">2.23 (the piece showing the later added structure to be taken down, the upper galleries (pointed above) and the glazed control room (pointed below))</p>	Moderate	<ul data-bbox="1262 305 1692 1382" style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the remaining timber wall panels and door openings on the sides towards Statue Square and Jackson Road. • All furniture and fittings (tables, seats, benches for all councilors, officials and chairman, and the timber backdrop behind the chairman) are later added, and can be modified or removed subject to new functional needs. • There will be alteration to the internal fittings to meet the functional need of accommodating five judges at the judges' bench, and a number of counsels at the counsels' benches. (see new floor plan) • The two mezzanine public galleries and the control rooms below will be removed to reinstate the original setting of the chamber. The original arch wall decorations behind one of the galleries will be exposed and preserved. • Restore the missing timber wall panels after removing the mezzanine structures with panels of similar pattern and colour. • Remove the existing elevated platform to review the condition of the flooring. Preserve original materials such as tiles or timber flooring if discovered. • The timber windows and inner column-like decorations will be preserved and repaired according to the methods mentioned in the section for timber and window fittings. 	Beneficial

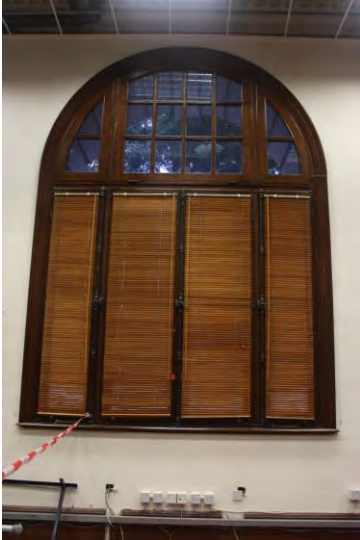

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.10	1/F Ante Chamber		High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the central-open layout of the Ante Chamber. • Preserve the mezzanine level as book storage area. • Preserve and repair the metal railings, supporting brackets and line mouldings. If cracks are found on the brackets and mouldings, the cracks will be repaired by mortar and subsequently covered by plaster matching existing. • Restore the spiral staircase connecting the Ante Chamber with the mezzanine level. The spiral staircase will be designed with reference to available records and will be compatible with the surroundings. • The loading capacity of the mezzanine floor will be checked and verified. 	Beneficial
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed to convert into gallery 				
	Site Location				
	2.24		2.25		

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.11	Internal Flooring finishes (G/F to 2/F)		Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpets were removed, and some existing cement floor surface was chipped off at strategic locations, to review the conditions of the original floor finishes. • Timber flooring was found in existing offices and conference rooms, while tiles were found in existing corridors. • The timber flooring that are in good condition will be preserved, those that are rotten and beyond repair will be removed. • The tiles that are in good condition will be preserved and cleaned with non-destructive and neutral cleanser. • If in-situ preservation is not possible, the flooring will be salvaged for replacement in other areas and exposed for public appreciation where possible. Those that are not exposed will be covered without damaging. • The extent of preservation and method statement will be submitted to AMO for agreement in due course. • The traditional nailing technique will be adopted as far as practical during replacement of timber flooring. • Anti-termite treatment will be applied to the preserved timber flooring. 	Acceptable Impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration	2.26 (G/F, Room 025)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and restore original fittings 				
	<p data-bbox="296 662 453 686">Site Location</p>  <p data-bbox="296 927 401 951">G/F Plan</p> <p data-bbox="296 1252 401 1276">1/F Plan</p>	2.27 (1/F, Room 114A)			

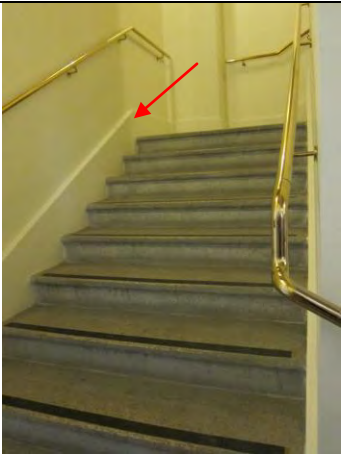

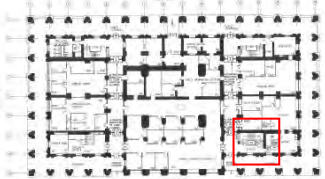
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.12	Internal Ceiling Level (G/F to 2/F)	 <p>2.28 (G/F)</p>	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain and reinstate the high headroom spatial setting at locations where appropriate. • Repair mouldings with similar pattern and colour matching existing. • Expose some currently hidden ceiling features such as cornice mouldings, dentils and arch openings for public appreciation where appropriate. • Use existing openings on the structure for pipes and ducts as far as possible to minimize the need for new openings. • Repair existing openings for pipes and ducts if they will no longer be used. 	Beneficial
	Proposed Use / Alteration	 <p>2.29 (G/F)</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose to reopen part of the ceiling to expose those original features 				
	Site Location				
					



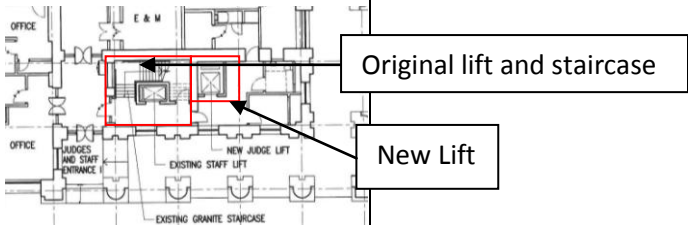
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.13	Retain wall surface plaster and moulding (G/F to 2/F)		Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain all existing wall moulding along the corridors. (2.30) • Retain and repair the arch and pilaster decorative moulding around the internal wall of 2/F Dining Room and Conference Room. (2.31) Future partitions in the rooms will be aligned with the decorations, and details between new partitions and existing walls will be further confirmed with AMO, to ensure no damage will be caused to the wall decorations. • The decorative moulding will be exposed for appreciation as far as practical. 	Beneficial
	Proposed Use / Alteration	2.30 (along corridor)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and repair wall moulding to reinstate the damaged decorative features in exposed locations 				
	Site Location	2.31 (2/F Dining Room)			
					


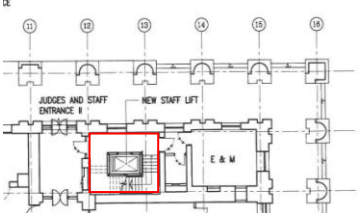
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.14	General Internal Room Spacing (G/F to 2/F)	 <p data-bbox="674 602 1047 667">2.33 (G/F Existing Office Partitioning)</p>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve all original load bearing brickwork walls. • New partitions should be made of materials that could prevent sound transmission and meet fire separation and safety requirement. • Fixing points of new partitions to existing walls should be minimized where possible to minimize impact to the existing walls. • The joints between new partitions and existing walls should be carefully designed in order not to damage the identified CDEs and features with heritage value, such as wall moulding and cornice. • New partitions should be constructed in reversible method, and constructed by light weight structures as far as practical. 	Acceptable Impact with Mitigation Measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose to partition those internal areas not particularly specified in this HIA for offices and other functional uses. 				


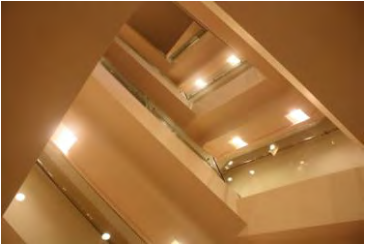
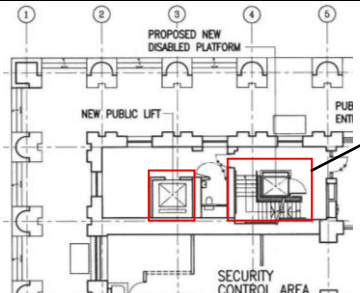
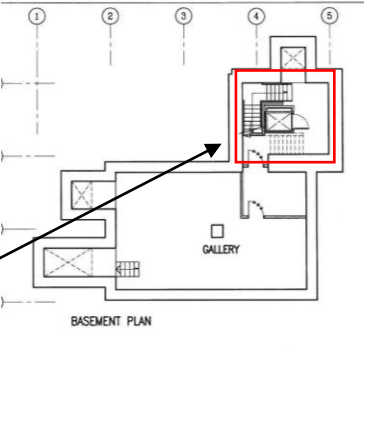
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.15	<p>Timber doorways, door and windows</p> <p>(G/F to 2/F)</p>	 <p>2.34</p>  <p>2.35</p>	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the doors and windows opened to the exterior are original. • Preserve the doors and windows, and all elements on them such as timber frame, panels, ironmongeries, jambs and threshold, and timber security bars. (2.35) • Retain, clean, restore and make good all the timber doors, windows and their ironmongeries. • Replace only those timber elements which is rotten or beyond repair. Traditional style and similar materials will be used for repairing. • Apply termite treatment to all timber elements. • Any security measures, such as intrusion sensors, will be installed at the inner side of the windows and doors causing no visual impact to the building. • Adopt minimum intervention approach to minimize impact to the doors and windows. 	Acceptable Impact with Mitigation Measures


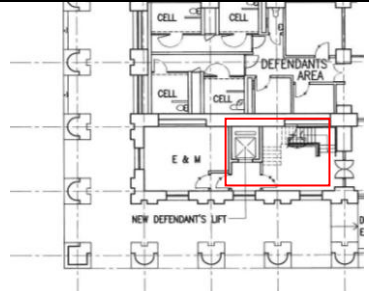
Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.15	Timber doorways, door and windows (G/F to 2/F) (cont'd)	(cont'd)	Moderate	(cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A building survey is being carried out to identify the pre-1985 timber elements. The result will be submitted to AMO for record. • A fire engineering study is being carried out to study the upgrading of fire safety provisions to the building. If any windows and doors are to be replaced with fire rated ones, details will be submitted to AMO for consent prior to replacement. The affected windows and doors will be salvaged and kept for restoration or relocation. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain those identified with significant values 				

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.16a	Original granite staircase (at the north-east corner facing Chater Road and Jackson Road) (G/F to 2/F)		High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the entire flight of steps from G/F to 2/F. • No painting will be applied on the granite surface. • General cleaning to the granite surface will be carried out by accredited methods causing no damage to the granite. • Repairing works will only be carried out if crack is discovered. Mortar mix with granite chips matching adjacent granite surface will be used for repairing. • Preserve the base line moulding on the sidewall of the staircase. (2.36) 	N.A.
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve in-situ 				
	Site Location	2.37			



Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.16b	Vertical circulation installation (at the northeast corner between Chater Road and Jackson Road)		Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new lift provided in this area will be designated for judges. The original granite staircase is a CDE and will not be altered and damaged. There will be no structural alteration to the existing lift. The structural condition of the staircase will not be affected. The existing dump waster was built in the 1980s for the kitchen of the LegCo, and possesses little historic significance. The dump waster will be removed to allow space for installation of new lift for judges. New additions should be constructed in reversible method, and compatible and distinguishable with the existing building structure. Capacity of floor loading will be ascertain to ensure that the building structure will not be affected by the new facilities. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration	<p>2.38</p> 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No alteration to the existing granite staircase and the lift in its central void will be done. The size and capacity of the existing lift is limited and does not meet future operational requirement and current standard of barrier free access. A new lift for judges will be provided near the existing location of the dumbwaiter in order to satisfy operational and statutory requirement. 	<p>2.39</p> 			
	Site Location				


Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.16c	Vertical circulation installation (at the northwest corner between Chater Road and Statue Square)	 <p data-bbox="674 565 1033 597">2.40</p>	Moderate	<ul data-bbox="1255 329 1696 938" style="list-style-type: none"> • The new lift provided in this area will be designated for staff. • The existing staircase was constructed in the 1980s and possesses no historic significance. • The new lift will occupy the existing void in the staircase, so that no new openings is needed. • New additions should be constructed in reversible method, and compatible and distinguishable with the existing building structure. • Capacity of floor loading will be ascertain to ensure that the building structure will not be affected by the new facilities. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul data-bbox="254 708 625 846" style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the existing concrete staircase to accommodate a new lift in its central void (New staff lift) 				
	Site Location				
					

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.16d	Vertical circulation installation (at the southwest corner between Des Voeux Road and Statue Square)		Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new lift provided in this area will be designated for public • The existing staircase was constructed in the 1980s and possesses no historic significance. • New additions should be constructed in reversible method, and compatible and distinguishable with the existing building structure. • Capacity of floor loading will be ascertain to ensure that the building structure will not be affected by the new facilities. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	<p data-bbox="254 521 569 548">Proposed Use / Alteration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a new disabled platform and modify existing staircase to facilitate public access to the basement, and comply with current statutory requirement. • A new lift for public will be provided near the existing location of the toilet in order to satisfy operational and statutory requirement. 	<p data-bbox="646 570 699 597">2.41</p>  <p data-bbox="646 846 699 873">2.42</p>			
	<p data-bbox="254 1008 411 1036">Site Location</p> 				

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
2.16e	Vertical circulation installation (at the southeast corner between Jackson Road and Des Voeux Road)	 <p data-bbox="674 565 1033 597">2.43</p>	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new lift provided in this area will be designated for defendants. • The existing lift installed in the 1980s does not meet operational requirement and will be replaced. • New additions should be constructed in reversible method, and compatible and distinguishable with the existing building structure. • Capacity of floor loading will be ascertain to ensure that the building structure will not be affected by the new facilities. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new lift for defendants will be provided near the location of the existing lift in order to satisfy operational and statutory requirement. 				
	Site Location				
					

3.0 EXTERNAL AREA

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
3.1	Jackson Road and the existing guard house	 <p>3.01</p>	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New facilities should cause minimum visual impact to the existing building. • The location of the new facilities should not be too close to the existing building. • The later added guard house can be redesigned and replaced. • The new guardhouse should be in harmony and distinguishable with the historic building. • The proposed new chiller plant room will be built underground and will not affect the structural stability of the heritage building. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration	 <p>3.02</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation of new plant room to underground level of Jackson Road • Reconstruct the existing guard house to provide access to the new chiller plant room 				

Item No	Identified Elements / Materials	Photo and Ref.	Level of Significance	Recommended Treatment/ Justification/ Mitigation Measures	Impact Level
3.2	Walkway between Statue Square and the Superstructure	 <p data-bbox="674 570 730 594">3.03</p>	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New external features should cause minimum visual impact to the existing building, and should not substantially block the façade of the building. • Reference could be made to the original design of the Statues Square in the new design of the pavement. • Extreme care should be exercised during the works on the pavement in order not to damage the CDE on the exterior of the building. 	Acceptable impact with mitigation measures
	Proposed Use / Alteration				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erect signage • Improve the pavement design 				