

Mei Ho House Revitalisation Project



Protecting Destinations
Culture & biodiversity

HI Association
Hong Kong YHA
Hostels involved
Mei Ho House Youth Hostel

SDG Contribution

Summary

The Heritage of Mei Ho House (HMHH) museum is the first privately-run museum of Hong Kong Housing established and operated by the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association.

Mei Ho House originated from a devastating fire that broke out in 1953 (later known as “Shek Kip Mei Fire”) and made nearly 58,000 people homeless. In order to provide long term housing to the large number of fire victims, the government built the first batch of resettlement blocks on the site of the fire. The eight six-storey resettlement blocks, which included Mei Ho House, were completed in 1954.

Mei Ho House marked the beginning of Hong Kong’s public housing programme, making it an ideal site for setting up a museum focusing on the history of the local community and the evolution of public housing and folk life.

Economic	Social	Environmental
Value for guests	Culture and history	Awareness
	Education	Preservation



Objectives

HMHH is established to promote community-led conservation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, traditions and ethos of Mei Ho House and Hong Kong through the collection and preservation of artefacts, research, education and exhibition of Hong Kong's community development, living environments and aspects of social life since the 1950s. From guided tours to cultural events, the Mei Ho House provided an authentic social and cultural experience to its visitors.

Check out the latest and upcoming events happening at the Mei Ho House

30.09.2017: Mid-Autumn Festival event "Mei Ho House with the Moonlight Glow of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)".

Through a dynamic series of nostalgic workshops and performances, the scene of festival celebration of the past in Hong Kong can be recreated. The event is also aimed at facilitating the conservation and transmission of ICH items.

[Read more about the workshops](#)

15.10.2017: Mei Ho House Alumni Network Activity: Sham Shui P Kaifong Guided food and drink tour

In this tour, we will visit different shops about Food and Beverage in Sham Shui Po, including Kwan Kee Store and Kung Wo Dou Bun Chong. For details, please refer to the [Chinese](#) version.

[Read more](#)



Reach: Local/National/International

Target audience:

- HI Members
- Guests
- General Public
- Staff
- Children



Awards

- **2014 Dual Gold Award for National Classic Habitation on Planning and Architectural Design** from the Architectural Society of China
- **2015 “Honorable Mention” for UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation**

Would you like to know more about this initiative?

Contact: Terence Lee, Chief Executive

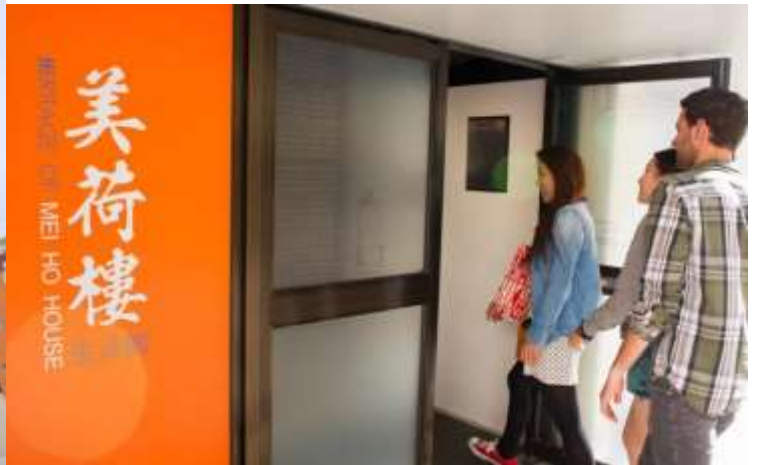
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Read more about the Hong Kong Mei Ho House Revitalisation Project [here](#).







Extract from “Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme - Mei Ho House Resource Kit”

**Mei Ho House
Required Treatment to Architectural Features**

1. EXTERNAL AREA

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
a) External walls	Repaint with reversible matt emulsion paint. No restriction on the colour scheme but no permanent paint/ coating system should be used. Due to the poor structural condition of the central connecting block, there is no objection to rebuilding the central block following the same design, layout and architectural details of the existing block, in order to make it structural capable for some other new uses which demand higher loading capacities.
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
b) Concrete verandahs	The concrete verandahs and the metal hand railing should be repaired as necessary and preserved. The access corridor should be kept opened.
	


Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
c) Security spikes “fans”	No objection to removing them if necessary. Alternatively, repair and repaint as necessary
	


Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
d) Old style lettering “Mei Ho House 美荷樓” on the elevations	Repaint in same style and colour when necessary. Do not cover up the existing name and numbering of the building by advertising or other signage.
	


Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
e) Downpipes	Downpipes should be checked and no objection to their removal if necessary.
	


2. INTERNAL

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
<p>a) Example of typical dwelling unit with its standard provisions including wooden doors, sliding metal gates, windows, kitchen benches, security grills, clothes hinging hooks, etc.</p>	<p>At least one example of typical dwelling unit of each size (e.g. family size and single person, etc.), to be retained for heritage interest purposes. Floors to be cleaned with clean water and corrosive chemicals must not be used; doors and windows to be repainted as necessary; metal sliding doors to be eased oiled, adjusted and overhauled if required.</p>
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
<p>b) Staircase</p>	<p>Should be checked and upgraded in accordance with the current safety standards; railings are not historic and no conservation requirement for them. No objection to making openings at staircase walls if required under the Building Ordinance.</p>
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
c) Metal gates to concert rubbish chutes	Can be removed if necessary.
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
d) Safety mesh screens in staircase voids	They are not historic and may be removed if required, but alternative safety measures should be introduced if they are removed.
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
e) Floors and internal walls	Demolition/ openings made to the non-loading bearing internal walls and floor slabs may be allowed subject to the advice of a Registered Structural Engineer.
	



3. COURTYARD

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
a) Open courtyard between the two residential blocks	Paving at the two courtyards should be repaved.
	

Architectural Feature	Required Treatment
b) Mature tree at the rear of the Courtyard	The tree at the rear courtyard should be retained and maintained
