

前九龍 英童學校

Former Kowloon
British School

這座古蹟現已成為古物古蹟辦事處的辦公大樓
This monument has housed the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

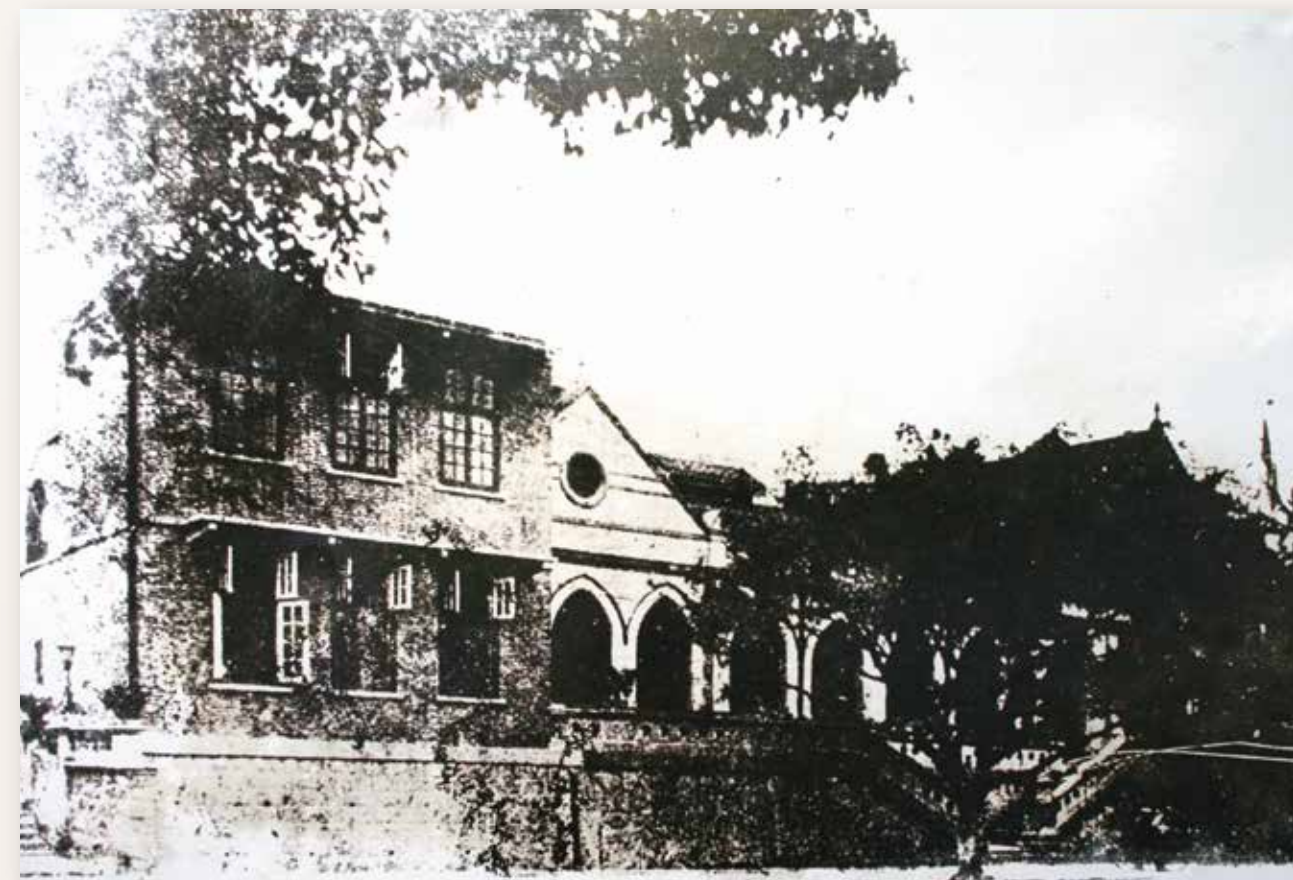
前九龍英童學校位於彌敦道136號，是一所維多利亞式紅磚建築物。它建於1902年，是歷史最悠久的外籍兒童學校建築。1991年7月19日列為法定古蹟。經過百多年的發展，這座古蹟現已成為古物古蹟辦事處的辦公大樓。

Located at 136 Nathan Road, the former Kowloon British School is a fine example of a Victorian style red-brick building. Built in 1902, it is the oldest school building in Hong Kong constructed for the children of foreign nationals that is still standing today. It was declared a monument on 19 July 1991. Over a century since its construction, this monument has housed the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

歷史 History

十九世紀末，旅居香港的外籍人士及其子女日漸增加，對學校的需求越來越大。英國人曾在九龍金巴利道一帶設立一所簡陋的學校，名為聖安德烈學校，但於1896年被颱風吹毀。1900年，何東先生（1915年晉封為何東爵士）捐出15,000元，資助香港政府於九龍興建新學校，校址選定現時彌敦道136號的地段，並於7月20日由港督卜力爵士奠基。1902年4月19日，九龍英童學校正式開幕。

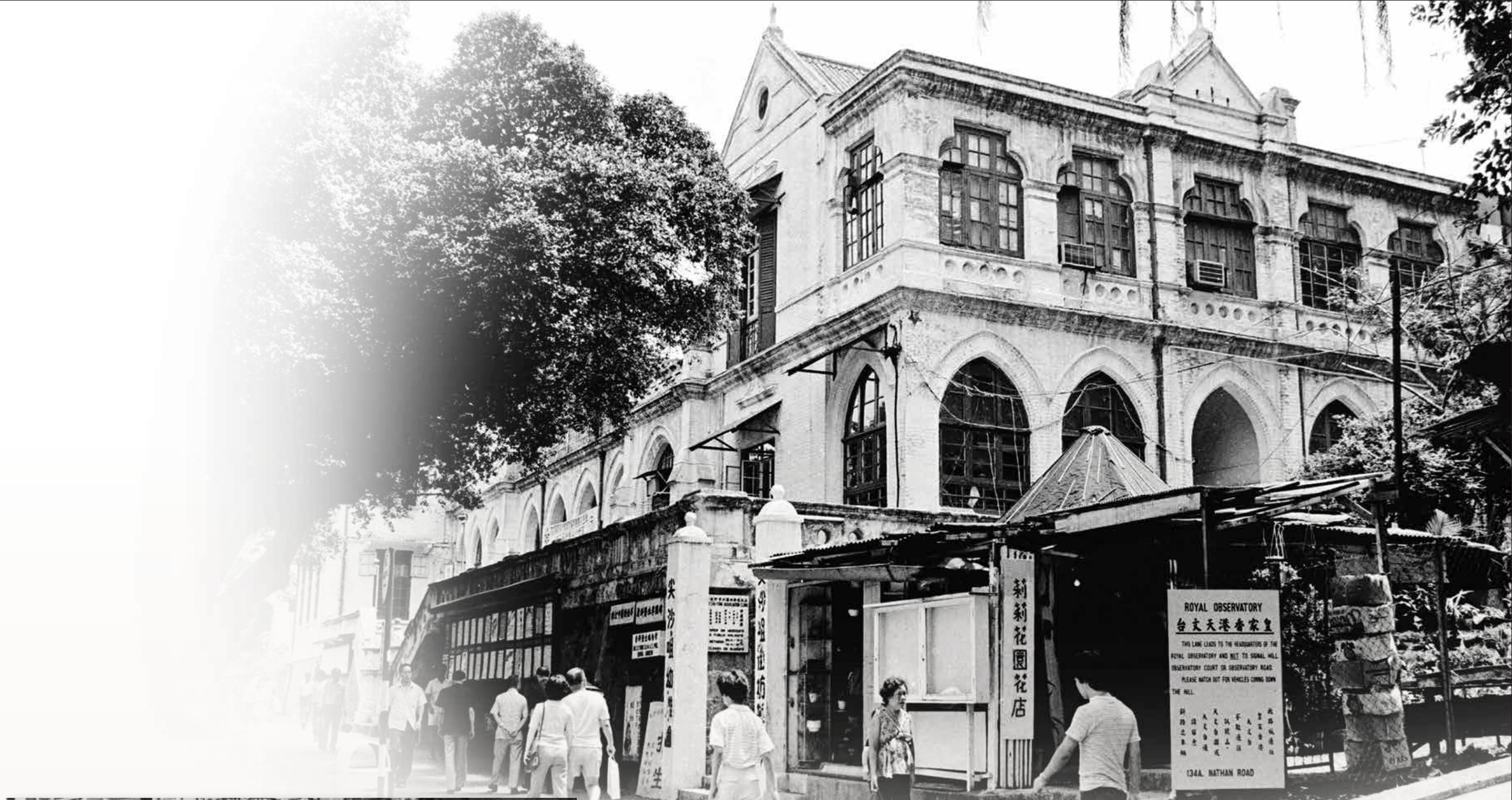
In the late 19th century, there was an increase in the number of foreign nationals settling in Hong Kong. This immigration resulted in the growing need of schools for their children. British residents in Kowloon then started St. Andrew's School on Kimberly Road in a mat shed structure that, sadly, was blown away by a typhoon in 1896. In 1900, Mr Ho Tung (known as Sir Robert Ho Tung in 1915) donated \$15,000 to the government to construct a new school in Kowloon. The site at 136 Nathan Road was granted and the foundation stone was laid on 20 July 1900 by the Governor Sir Henry Blake. The Kowloon British School was officially opened on 19 April 1902.



1920年代的建築物外貌，左方為新加建的課室。
(英皇佐治五世學校提供)
The building in the 1920s, with an additional classroom structure on the left.
(Courtesy of King George V School)

1900年7月20日，由港督卜力爵士主持學校奠基禮。當年的奠基石猶在。
The school foundation ceremony was held on 20 July 1900 by the Governor Sir Henry Blake. The foundation stone is preserved in-situ.

THIS STONE
WAS LAID BY
HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY A. BLAKE CCMG
GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG
20th July 1900



1983年建築物的外貌
Exterior of the building in 1983



1989年從九龍公園方向望向建築物，清楚看見後面正在興建中的尖沙咀街坊福利會新大樓。（政府新聞處提供）
The school building in 1989 as viewed from Kowloon Park. Behind it is the new premises of the Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association under construction.
(Courtesy of Information Services Department)

開校初期，只有約60名5至15歲的學生就讀小學，由曾於皇仁書院任教的班祖文·占士出任第一任校長，加上其妻子及一名教師，負責所有校務。由1920年代起，學校的規模不斷擴展，並增建課室。1923年，學校改名為中央英童學校，開始改收中學生，至1930年代中學生人數增至約300人。由於校舍不敷應用，學校遂於1936年9月14日遷往何文田天光道的新校舍，並於1948年4月30日改名為英皇佐治五世學校；原校舍則被空置。

In the beginning, the school was used as a primary school for some 60 pupils aged 5 to 15. It was run by Mr Benjamin James, the first headmaster who had taught at Queen's College, and his wife, with the help of a teacher for handling the school work. The school expanded considerably, with additional classrooms being built since the 1920s. It was renamed the Central British School in 1923 and began taking in secondary students. The number of students reached about 300 by the mid-1930s. To accommodate the increasing number of students, the school was relocated to the new premises on Tin Kwong Road in Ho Man Tin on 14 September 1936, leaving the original building vacant. The school was renamed King George V School on 30 April 1948.

二次大戰後，建築物曾為香港家庭福利會所用。自1957年起，尖沙咀街坊福利會開始租用校舍，提供免費教育，服務附近居民。其後政府於1971年推行九年免費教育，街坊會亦轉辦小學，同時舉辦興趣班及夜間成人教育課程，又提供診所服務及社區設施等。1991年，尖沙咀街坊福利會遷往建築物後面新建的大樓。1992年修復後，建築物成為古物古蹟辦事處的辦公大樓。

After World War II, the building was occupied by the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society. Since 1957, the site was leased to the Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association to provide free schooling in the neighbourhood. Following the free education policy announced by the government in 1971, the association changed to provide primary school services to the community. Leisure and continuing education classes were also organized for adults and the building housed clinics and other social facilities as well. In 1991, the association moved to the new premises on the land immediately behind the site. After restoration in 1992, the building has housed the Antiquities and Monuments Office.



1989年建築物的正門
Main entrance of the building in 1989



1990年建築物的外貌
Exterior of the building in 1990



南翼二樓的圓窗
The circular window on the second floor of the southern wing



昔日的學校禮堂，樓底很高，有助通風及防潮。
The old school hall with its high ceiling to improve ventilation and damp-proofing.



從高空俯瞰整個建築物，可見金字瓦頂及煙肉。
Overview of the building showing its pitched roofs and chimney stacks.

建築特色 *Architecture Characteristics*

前九龍英童學校由著名的巴馬丹拿建築師行設計，是一所維多利亞式建築，以紅磚建成。為配合香港炎熱和潮濕的亞熱帶氣候，建築物建有富殖民地特色的寬闊遊廊、高樓底及金字瓦頂等。校舍中央是學校禮堂，兩旁分別是教室及教員休息室，校長室設在南翼一樓，後面的操場則建於1914年。自1902年建成以來，為應付日益增加的學生，建築物曾經進行多次改動及加建，以提供更多課室。原來校址後面加建的木造課室及操場最終拆卸，成為現今的尖沙咀街坊福利會大樓。

The former Kowloon British School is a typical Victorian style red-brick building designed by the well-known Hong Kong architectural firm Messrs. Palmer and Turner. To adapt to the local sub-tropical hot and humid climate, features with colonial characteristics such as wide verandahs, high ceilings and pitched roofs were added. The school hall occupied the central portion of the building, while classrooms and teachers' common rooms were on either side. The headmaster's room was on the first floor in the southern wing. At the back of the building was the playground, which was constructed in 1914. Since its establishment in 1902, extensive alterations were made and new blocks were added to provide more classrooms for the increasing number of students. The more recently constructed wooden classroom building and the open playground at the back of the original site were demolished and redeveloped for the Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association's new premises.

寬闊的遊廊，有助通風。
Wide verandahs to improve ventilation





現今學校南翼的面貌，經修復後重現昔日的寬闊遊廊。
Present view of the southern wing of the school, with the original wide verandahs restored.

修復及活化 *Restoration and Adaptive Re-use*

1991年尖沙咀街坊福利會遷出後，建築物開始進行維修。古物古蹟辦事處致力修復及保存原有的建築物料及裝飾，例如紅磚、花崗石、壁爐、木樓梯及木地板等。未能修復的部分則被更換；又根據舊有紀錄，將後來加建的部分拆除，回復昔日的原貌。

When the Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association vacated the site in 1991, restorations were undertaken. Most of the original structure, including its fittings such as the brickwork, granite slabs, fireplaces, wooden staircase, and the wooden floorings, were restored and preserved as best as possible. Elements which were beyond repair were replaced. Meanwhile, later additions were removed according to old records so as to reveal the original building.

古物古蹟辦事處遷入後，除設立辦公室外，又將學校禮堂保留，用作舉辦展覽及其他教育活動。2005年，位於九龍公園內的香港文物探知館成立後，原有禮堂遂改建成辦公室。

Apart from the office, the school hall was reserved for exhibitions and other educational activities organized by the Antiquities and Monuments Office. In 2005, the school hall was then used as an office after the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre was open.

古物古蹟辦事處於2014年採用先進的脫漆技術，將磚面上的現代油漆清除，並為磚牆進行排鹽處理。去除磚面油漆後，修復人員將損毀嚴重的紅磚逐塊更換及修補磚縫，以重現磚牆的原貌。

In 2014, the Antiquities and Monuments Office adopted advanced technology to remove the modern paintwork on the brick surfaces and conduct desalination to the brickwork. After the removal of paint, dentist replacement to seriously deteriorated red bricks and repair to mortar joints were carried out, so as to reveal the original appearance of the brick walls.

有關古物古蹟辦事處及香港文物探知館的設施及服務，歡迎瀏覽辦事處網頁：<https://www.amo.gov.hk>，或致電2208 4488向辦事處職員查詢。

For more information on the facilities and services of the Antiquities and Monuments Office and the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, please access our website: <https://www.amo.gov.hk> or contact our staff at 2208 4488.



1989年修復前的南翼
View of the southern wing in 1989 before the restoration



修復工程進行中
Restoration in progress



位於原來學校禮堂的壁爐，至今仍保存完好。
The original fireplace in the school hall is still in good condition.

通往二樓的木樓梯設計平實，至今仍然保留。
The wooden staircase to the second floor with its simple design is still preserved.

