			ITEM DE	TAILS				
Name of Item	Chinatown (	Ceremonial (	Gates					
Other Name/s Former Name/s								
ltem type (if known)	Built							
Item group (if known)								
Item category (if known)								
Area, Group, or Collection Name								
Street number								
Street name	Dixon Street	t						
Suburb/town	Haymarket					Post	code	2000
Local Government Area/s	Sydney							
Property				and Lot B [	DP 958137 to	the north and	Lot 6	DP 261942 and
description Location - Lat/long	Lot 3 DP591 Latitude		south 8, (South Gate)		Longitude	151.204120		th Cata)
Location - Lathong	Latitude		8, (North Gate)		Longitude	151.20400		
Location - AMG (if no street address)	Zone		Easting			Northing		
Owner	City of Sydn	ey Council						
Current use								
Former Use								
Statement of	The Chinato	wn Gates, le	ocated at Dixon	Street, Hay	market, and c	constructed in	1979-	80, have historic
significance	significance	for being a	traditional Chine	se ceremo	nial paifang / g	gateway that	marks	the entrance to
			ne pair of gates,					
	•	were designed using traditional Chinese design and ornamentation. The Chinatown Gates have local						
	significance for historic, associative, aesthetic, social, rarity and representative attributes.							
	Haymarket has historic significance for being the only surviving Chinatown in Sydney, after the earliest							
	Chinese settlements in The Rocks and Surry Hills having been developed and their residents							
	dispersed. In the early 20th century, Haymarket developed as the district in Sydney where the Chinese							
	communities lived and operated businesses.							
	Chinatown Gates, designed by Tsang & Lee Architects (including architect Henry Tsang) and							
	constructed by the City of Sydney Council with contributions from the Dixon Street Chinese							
	Committee, symbolise the development of Sydney's first 'Chinatown', mark the entrance to Sydney's							
	first official Chinatown, formalised in the late-1970s.							
	The Chinato	wn Gates a	re aesthetically	distinctive a	is entrances ir	nto 'Chinatow	'n'. Sig	nificant views to
	include the view of the south elevation of the south gate from across Paddy's Market and the view of							
	the north elevation of the north gate from the intersection at Goulburn Street and Dixon Street. They							
	are structures with landmark qualities and are well recognised by the local community.							
	The Chinato	wn Gates h	ave social signif	icance asso	ociation with th	ne local Chine	ese bu	sinesses and
	communities	s who suppo	orted the project	financially	and professior	nally. They co	ollective	ely used their

	design skills and organised resources including Taiwanese traditional construction skills and material The construction materials and labour were sourced from Taiwan and the Chinese Consul in Taiwan sponsored the development of the gates.			
	The Chinatown Gates are representative for belonging to a small group of Chinese ceremonial gates in Sydney. The gates have features common in traditional Chinese paifang including traditional pagoda style roof with exposed timber rafters, glazed ceramic tiles, symbolic features, engraved gold leaf signs in the Chinese script and lion statues at the gates. The gates represent Chinatowns that were established worldwide in the 1980s and are rare in NSW for being the only landmarks associated with a formalised Chinatown.			
Level of Significance	State 🗌	Local 🖂		

	DESCRIPTION
Designer	Henry Tsang
Builder/ maker	Yen Sung Lin of Sung Lee Pty Ltd of Harris Street, Ultimo, and Taipei, Taiwan
Physical Description	The Chinatown Gates were designed in a traditional Chinese style with detailed ornamentation. The structure of the gates traditionally called paifang (or pailou in Cantonese) provide a ceremonial entrance into the Dixon Street precinct. Each entrance is symmetrical with three bays: a larger central (primary) gate with an upper roof (traditionally called damen) between two smaller (secondary) gates or traditional arches with a lower roof. The gates were constructed using a post-and-lintel system of steel, timber and reinforced concrete. They are topped with traditional pagoda-style hipped roofs.
	The main structure of the gates include a marble plinth and concrete frame. Concrete columns clad in marble form the base. The gates stand on four square concrete columns/piers with decorative panels including signage spanning between them.
	Each gate has five decorative panels visible on its elevation. The upper panel of the primary gate (Panel A) is in an open timber lattice framed with a central coloured-glass sign with gold gilded timber lettering in English. The second upper panel (Panel B) is in a plywood-clad box with structural steel support and includes surface-fixed decorative timber mouldings and fibreglass. Panel B has gold gilded timber lettering in Chinese. Panel C is a decorative painted timber lattice brace attached to the inner face of each column.
	Two decorative panels (Panel D and Panel E) are located on the lower portion of the gates and comprise plywood-clad box with structural steel support. Each has a decorative paint finish and surface-fixed decorative timber/cast mouldings and painted fiberglass.
	The upper and lower roofs are traditional cantilevered pagoda-style curved hipped roofs with double eaves and no guttering. Elements include timber beams supported by stepped brackets, curved timber rafters with a plywood soffit and fascia, and green glazed traditional Chinese roof tiles with decorative and ornamental motifs. Symbolic figures including dragons, lions and chickens featured in ceramic tiled elements on the ridge cappings to the roof.

	HISTORY
Historical notes	The Chinatown Gates in Dixon Street are within the traditional land of the Gadigal (or Cadigal) people,
	fronting the southern area of Darling Harbour, which was known by the Gadigal as Tumbalong. Prior
	to colonisation the site was open water adjacent to a low lying swampy area.
	In 1813, John Dickson was granted 15 acres at the head of Cockle Bay, which included all the land on the current Dixon Street. He established a new flour mill and installed Australia's first steam engine on
	his grant by 1815. From about 1850 to 1984 the site was filled-in and used as industrial land.

By 1870, Dixon Street appears to have been a thriving residential area. By the 1890s, a fledgling Chinese community began to establish itself at the southern end of the city around Haymarket including Chinese market gardeners and furniture businesses.

By 1910 Chinese began to buy into the area, instead of renting. Dixon Street became a Chinese cultural centre with restaurants and grocery stores as well as the Tong headquarters. Haymarket was the traditional heartland of the Chinese community in Sydney but from the 1970s Chinese free migrants arrived from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, and Indo-Chinese countries such as Cambodia.

As early as 1961 the Council discussed forming Dixon Street into Sydney's Chinatown. The question of closing and developing Dixon Street as a 'Chinese Centre' was submitted to the Works Committee and the City Planning and Improvements Committee. The plan was to install public street lighting and re-pave the footpaths in Dixon Street to promote it as a tourist destination similar to San Francisco's Chinatown.

As the last vestiges of the White Australia Policy were being removed in the 1970s, a resurgence in Chinatown began. The establishment of the Dixon Street Chinese Committee by the Council, with sponsorship from the Chinese Consul (Taiwan) and chaired by Henry Ming Lai, pushed the regeneration of Dixon Street as a centrepiece to the broader Chinatown area.

As early as 1971, the Council had considered the redevelopment of Darling Harbour in its strategic planning, including consideration of Chinatown and a new Chinese Garden. In 1973, the City of Sydney approved 'the development of a Chinatown in the city markets area' by Chinatown Development Company Pty Ltd, a consortium of Sydney businessmen.

In May 1972, the Dixon Street Chinese Committee agreed to lobby the building owners in Dixon Street to bear the cost of improving the building façades, providing banners and shop signs, and decorative materials imported directly from the Republic of China. The Committee hoped that the Council would provide the litter bins, outdoor lighting, re-paving/surfacing of Dixon Street and erect the portico over the footpath, which would be decorated and embellished by the Committee.

The Council approved the recommendations of the Works Committee to provide the necessary funds in the revenue estimates for the current year (1972) and to proceed to implement the works including the portico. The lanterns and brackets and wiring for lighting was completed by August 1973, litter bins were purchased and additional funding was set aside to cover the higher cost of the work to date. However, there was no progress on the portico until a later date.

In 1978 the Council instituted a trial closure of Dixon Street (between Goulburn and Hay streets) to traffic for the Chinese Moon Festival commencing in September that year. The six-month trial closure scheme was backed by the Chinese community.

The proposed temporary ceremonial gateway to complement the trial closure and pedestrianisation of Dixon Street included a 5-metre-high gate at the northern end of the pedestrian area, glazed in imported Chinese tiles. The Dixon Street Chinese Committee also had plans to erect another gate at the southern end of the street if the six-month trial closure, beginning in September, proved successful. The Council approved the trial closure in April 1978, to commence on 16 September, with provision made for delivery and service vehicles to access the street.

The trial road closure proved successful, despite some unhappy shop keepers, and the Council proceeded to a permanent closure of this section of Dixon Street in 1979 to coincide with the Festival of the Moon and allow for landscaping by the City of Sydney. The Dixon Street Chinese Committee

passed a resolution in March 1979 to 'continue the Dixon Street closure and beautification scheme in conjunction with the Council on a permanent basis' with a fixed budget to beautify the two ceremonial archways. The Council established a Dixon Street Working Party and engaged Henry Tsang and Lee as honorary architects. Simultaneously, the Dixon Street Chinese Committee retained architect Henry Tsang, of Tsang & Lee Associate Architects, to design the ceremonial arches at both ends of Dixon Street.
Two representatives of the Dixon Street Chinese Committee travelled to Hong Kong and Taiwan in 1979 to source ornamental materials for the archways—glazed roof tiles, sculptured roof framing, sculptured hand-painted decorative timber beams and column reliefs and hand sculptures, marble column cladding and column bases. They also investigated possible local contractors and craftsmen to travel to Australia to complete the archways in situ. The Committee set aside funds to provide the materials and authorised the Council to proceed with construction of the base.
The contract for the beautification and cladding of the archways and pavilions was awarded to Yen Sung Lin of Sung Lee Pty Ltd of Harris Street, Ultimo, and Taipei, Taiwan. The Dixon Street Chinese Committee was responsible for arranging the return entry visa to Australia for the owner of Sung Lee Pty Ltd and temporary visas for four specialist craftsmen employed by the firm to enter Australia to complete the cladding and decoration of the archways.
In October 1979 Council accepted a tender from Lockyer Constructions Pty Ltd for street landscaping and streetscape works to pedestrianise Dixon Street. The Council supervised the erection of the structural skeleton of the two gates, carried out street paving and other work in Dixon Street as part of the Chinatown pedestrian precinct scheme. Tsang was also responsible for designing the entire Dixon Street Beautification Project. On 15 October 1980, the Lord Mayor, Nelson Meers, officially opened the Dixon Street pedestrian mall, complete with the Chinatown gates.
The Dixon Street Chinese Committee approached the Council to donate the archways to the city on 12 September 1981, Chinese Moon Festival, as a suitable date for a dedication ceremony which was held on 17 April 1982. At this ceremony, Stanley Wong, Chairman of the Dixon Street Chinese Committee, on behalf of the Chinese community, handed over the archways and seating pavilions to the City of Sydney, represented by Lord Mayor Doug Sutherland.

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Historical significance SHR criteria (a)	The Chinatown in Dixon Street, Haymarket was the third Chinatown to develop in Sydney. The state listed temples in Glebe and Alexandria that developed in the late nineteenth century triggered the growth of Chinatown. Early Chinese settlements were also located in The Rocks and Surry Hills.
	By the early twentieth century, Chinese people began to buy into the area and Dixon Street became a Chinese cultural centre dotted with restaurants and grocery stores.
	In the 1970s, Dixon Street became an arrival destination for migrants from China and Chinese communities from other Asian countries. In the late twentieth century, Dixon Street, Haymarket, became a popular area for tourists and businesses to visit. The Haymarket Chinatown precinct continues to be a booming commercial and business hub.
	Haymarket's Chinatown is the only surviving original Chinatown in the Sydney CBD. The earliest Chinese settlements in the CBD were in The Rocks and Surry Hills. However, these locations were displaced and their residents dispersed when the areas were developed. The Chinatown Gates form a landmark to the Dixon Street, Haymarket precinct and are recognisable as landmarks to Sydneysiders, and visitors from regional NSW and other states.

	The Chinatown Gates, located at the northern and southern ends of Dixon Street, Haymarket, have cultural significance at a local level and significance to the Sydney community and further afield.
	The Chinatown Gates do not have cultural significance at a state level under this criterion.
Historical association significance SHR criteria (b)	Chinatown in Haymarket has associations with early Chinese migrants. It was established in the early twentieth century as a cultural centre with restaurants and grocery stores. It is associated with several prominent Chinese organisations and societies including the Tong headquarters, Kwong War Chong, Wing Sang fruiterer, Tung Wah Chinese newspaper, Goon Lee Shing & Company and various other stores and companies. It is associated with some of the early Chinese investors and migrants in Sydney who developed Chinatown to the commercial and business hub that it is today.
	Chinatown has historic associations with arrivals of Chinese and Asian migrants in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century.
	The Chinatown Gates form the ceremonial entrance to the Dixon Street precinct of Haymarket Chinatown.
	The Chinatown Gates have associations with the Dixon Street Chinese Committee established by the City of Sydney Council with sponsorship from the Chinese Consul (Taiwan).
	The Chinatown Gates have associations with the architectural practice of Tsang & Lee Architects, the designers of the gates. Henry Tsang of Tsang & Lee Architects is well-known in the local Chinese community for his role as counsellor on the City of Sydney Council and his role within state politics as a member of the Labor Party. He is well known and respected in the Chinese community for having designed the state heritage listed Chinese Garden of Friendship. Henry Tsang is recognised for having co-ordinated and consulted with stakeholders within the Chinese community and government bodies.
	The Chinatown Gates have cultural significance at a local level under this criterion.
Aesthetic significance SHR criteria (c)	The Chinatown Gates were designed in a traditional Chinese <i>paifang</i> form with elaborate symbolic ornamentation. They demonstrate the typology of a modest traditional Chinese ceremonial gateway, and display several architectural features typical of their style. These features include the traditional pagoda-style roof with exposed timber rafters, traditional half-rounded, glazed ceramic tiles, symbolic ceramic figurines, engraved gold leaf signage panels in the Chinese script and a pair of concrete lion statues seated on plinths, guarding the outside of each gate.
	Tsang & Lee Architects designed the Chinatown Gates. Although Henry Tsang of Tsang & Lee Architects is a prominent architect within the Chinese community, the designer of the state listed Chinese Garden of Friendship, the gates are not exemplary examples of his body of architectural work. The Chinatown Gates to Dixon Street follow traditional gateway forms, using standard materials and adopt a formulaic design.
	The Chinatown Gates have landmark qualities within the context of Haymarket and the southern end of the Sydney CBD. Significant views to the Chinatown gates include views to the south elevation of the south gate from Hay Street and its setting; and the view to the north elevation of the north gate from its setting and the intersection at Goulburn Street and Dixon Street. The Chinatown Gates are markers within the urban streetscape and structures that are well recognised by the local community.
	The Chinatown Gates are in good condition and have a high degree of integrity and intactness.
	The Chinatown Gates has cultural significance at a local level under this criterion. They do not reach the threshold for state significance.
<b>Social significance</b> SHR criteria (d)	The Chinatown Gates are traditional ceremonial structures. The structures serve as a gateway to the Dixon Street precinct and Chinatown and link the pedestrian mall between the gates.
	The gates have particular importance to the local Chinese and Taiwanese communities, who were involved in their design and construction.

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	The gates form a symbol of friendship and unity across all Chinese, Australian-Chinese and local communities. The gates are important to the sense of place of Chinatown and are landmarks or place makers for traditional events.
	The Chinese community worked in collaboration with Council to design the gates and were responsible for raising the finances to construct the gate structures and install the lions. The names of members of the Chinese community who were the benefactors responsible for the idea to construct the Chinatown Gates and played a role in that idea coming to fruition have been recognised on the panels mounted on the north gate. The Chinese communities have a strong association with these gates, Dixon Street and Haymarket's Chinatown.
	Whilst no survey was undertaken to understand the degree of association the general public has with the Chinatown Gates, it is generally understood that they are landmarks and symbols of Chinatown. These gates have become meeting points and are recognised as symbols of Chinatown.
	The Chinatown Gates meet the criterion for social significance at a local level.
<b>Technical/Research</b> <b>significance</b> SHR criteria (e)	The Chinatown Gates are located within a former roadway and no former development was located on this site. The Chinatown Gates are unlikely to yield any otherwise unknown information that could contribute to the understanding of the local area. An assessment of the subject site's archaeological potential is beyond the scope of this assessment.
	The Chinatown Gates do not use any new technology in their construction and are unlikely to provide new information about these traditional Chinese structures.
	The Chinatown Gates do not meet the criterion for research potential at a local or state level.
<b>Rarity</b> SHR criteria (f)	The Chinatown Gates at Dixon Street were designed as <i>paifang</i> and built using traditional design methodologies, materials and craftsmanship.
	The gates demonstrate features that are seen in most traditional Chinese ceremonial archways/gates, which are designed to be ceremonial entrances to a complex or a public place that is important to the community for religious or cultural purposes. Their construction is usually directly associated with a particular Chinese society or group. The Chinatown Gates at Dixon Street mark the entrance to the Dixon Street precinct and form a gateway into Chinatown. There are numerous gates designed using the traditional Chinese style within Sydney. However, these gates do not specifically represent an entry into a Chinatown. The Haymarket Chinatown Gates are rare examples of Chinese gateways within Sydney marking an entrance into Chinatown.
	However, with the emergence of other smaller ethnoburbs within wider NSW, future gates are likely to be installed. Currently there are makeshift and more contemporary gates at places like Cabramatta and Burwood. The symbolism of the gates to define a Chinatown is therefore not rare at a state level.
	The Chinatown Gates meets the criterion for rarity at a local level.
	The Chinatown Gates do not meet the criterion for rarity at a state level.
<b>Representativeness</b> SHR criteria (g)	The Chinatown Gates are an intact example of a Chinese gateway. They mark the northern and southern entrances to Chinatown's Dixon Street, and, other than maintenance and minor additions, have not been altered since their original construction in 1979-80. The gates were designed using traditional Chinese methodologies and symbolic ornamentation. They were constructed with the support of local Chinese communities and involved Taiwanese labour, craftsmanship and materials.
	Situated at the northern and southern intersections of Dixon Street, the gates form a landmark to the Chinatown precinct in Haymarket. They are a gateway to the only surviving Sydney Chinatown; the earliest Chinese settlements in The Rocks and Surry Hills were displaced and their residents dispersed.

	The Chinatown Gates represent a mark of friendship between the Chinese and Australian communities. Together, the gates form a landmark to the Dixon Street precinct, and Chinatown more broadly, and are a place maker for traditional Chinese events.
	However, Haymarket's Chinatown is not the only place that marks the migration of the Chinese population in Sydney. The Dixon Street Haymarket gates form a small group of Chinese gateways found throughout Sydney at Chinese ceremonial and cultural centres. These include the Sze Yup Temple & Joss House, Glebe, Yiu Ming Temple, Alexandria, and the Chinese Garden of Friendship, Darling Harbour, all of which are heritage items. Whilst these gateway structures are associated with temples and cultural places, they are not identifiable as Chinatowns.
	There are numerous 'ethnoburbs' around Sydney and NSW. Over the years, Sydney suburb of Chinese migration have developed in Burwood, Campsie, Ashfield, Auburn, Cabramatta, Marrickville, Chatswood, Eastwood, Parramatta, Hurstville, Kingsford, Wolli Creek, Zetland and around Mascot railway station. However, these locations do not have symbolic gateways. The 'ethnoburbs' represent a change in demographics when ethnic communities have moved into the suburbs, rather than remaining within the city centre.
	Numerous Chinatowns with symbolic gateways are in other Australian cities, including Melbourne and Perth. These gateways were comparable in design to those at Haymarket, and were constructed during the 1970s and 1980s, at a time when Chinatowns were being constructed in various cities around the world. The Chinatown Gates meet the criterion for representativeness at a local level.
	The Chinatown Gates have moderate to high integrity.
Integrity	The setting of the gates, and their locations in Dixon Street marking the gateway to the Chinatown precinct, has made them landmarks when viewed from the public domain. The principal elevations of both north and south gates, though showing deterioration due to weathering, are structurally intact.
	Previous restoration works included minor alterations and maintenance upgrades including painting and replacement using like-for-like elements including roof tiles and plywood sheeting. A detailed scope of restoration works in 2011 undertaken by Bellmont Engineers included a structural assessment, replacement of roof tiles, application of protective coating to both concrete and timber elements and the replacement of signage and character boards. However, the integrity of the gates remains high: the structure is intact with its original footings and fabric.

HERITAGE LISTINGS			
Heritage listing/s	nil		

INFORMATION SOURCES							
	Include conservation and/or management plans and other heritage studies.						
Туре	Author/Client	Title	Year	Repository			
Listing Report	GML Heritage	Chinatown Gates, Haymarket – Heritage Assessment	2023	City of Sydney Council			

RECOMMENDATIONS						
<b>Recommendations</b> Chinatown Ceremonial Gates, Haymarket should be listed as a heritage item within Schedule						
	Sydney Local Environmental Plan.					
	A comprehensive conservation management plan for the site should be prepared to guide future uses and development of the site to ensure the retention and conservation of its heritage values.					

	SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION			
Name of study or	Chinatown Gates, Haymarket – Heritage Assessment Report prepared for	Year of	study	2023
report	City of Sydney	or repor	t	
Item number in	N/A			
study or report				
Author of study or	GML Heritage Pty Ltd			
report				
Inspected by	GML Heritage Pty Ltd			
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NSW Heritage Manual	guidelines used?	Yes 🖂	1	No 🗌
	r			
This form	GML Heritage Pty Ltd	Date	May 2	023
completed by				

IMAGES - 1 per page							
Image caption	South Gate South El	South Gate South Elevation – view from Dixon Street					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage		



#### Heritage Data Form MAGES - 1 per page

Image caption	South Gate North Elevation					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



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Image caption	North Gate North Ele	North Gate North Elevation					
lmage year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage		



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Image caption	North Gate South E	North Gate South Elevation					
lmage year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage		



IMAGES - 1 per page						
Image caption	Signage on the North Gate north elevation					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



IMAGES - 1 per page							
Image caption	e caption Signage on the South Gate south elevation (facing Dixon Street)						
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright	GML Heritage		
				holder			
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Image caption	Lion on the North Ga	ion on the North Gate (west) holding a sphere					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright	GML Heritage		
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Image caption	Marble plaque on North gate with inscription of donors						
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INIAOLO - I pel page						
Image caption Decorative panels and gateway marble plaques on North gate						
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



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Image caption	Deocrative moulded panels featuring motifs in fibreglass – North Gate					
Image year	2022 Image by GML Heritage Image copyright holder GML Heritage					



IMAGES - 1 per page						
Image caption	Upper and lower roofs of the eastern gateway of the north elevation					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



IMAGES - 1 per page						
Image caption	View of curved rafters and exposed roof structure of lower roof on South Gate					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



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Image caption	Symbolic ceramic features on the roof at the eastern bay of the South Gate					
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright holder	GML Heritage	



Image caption	Lion at South Gate standing guard on the western bay, holding a cub						
Image year	2022	Image by	GML Heritage	Image copyright	GML Heritage		
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Image caption	n North Gate after the completion of the official ceremony on 15 August 1980					
Image year	1980	Image by	King Fong	Image copyright holder	King Fong	

