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Heritage Preservation in Hong Kong: From Land Development Corporation to Urban Renewal Authority

Land Development Corporation (LDC) and its successor Urban Renewal Authority (URA) are major statutory bodies responsible for urban renewal in Hong Kong. Their major focus is “urban redevelopment” but they also have projects in heritage preservation. However, heritage preservation is not a serious concern for both LDC and URA. This paper articulates the contexts and investigates the true intention behind different LDC and URA heritage preservation projects. The assumption is that preservation heritage merely works on the rhetorical and promotional level but not at the level of serious practice. By bringing into the differences in contexts and true intentions, readers could have a more thorough understanding of the result and the reasons and logics behind the further operations of each preserved heritage. Finally, this paper hopes to sort out some solutions for future heritage preservations that can fulfill certain standards.