



# WANCHAI.

## CULTURAL MAPPING FOR ADAPTIVE RE-USE PROJECT

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO DETERMINE FUTURE USE OF HERITAGE BUILDING

7 Mallory Street is one of the few remaining shophouse clusters in Hong Kong. Built in the 1920s, exemplary for a dynamic and vibrant part of Hong Kong's history, but slowly deteriorated. Almost a century later, the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) took on the property as its first heritage revitalisation project and asked Neighbourhood Innovation Lab and iDiscover to come up with a concept for the repurposing and rebranding of this Grade II historical building.

Community-led cultural mapping formed the basis of the design proposal and development framework. Reaching out to four distinctly different local communities to find common answers: How can this unique property best serve the Wan Chai community? How can we integrate the historical narratives into the present cultural context? How can we capitalize on the architectural features for placemaking?

### 6-STEP PARTICIPATORY MAPPING PROCESS

**“WANCHAI IS A DESTINATION FOR MANY PEOPLE, THERE IS A MIX OF NEW AND OLD, WE SHOULD CHANNEL IT PROPERLY TO NOT LOSE THE IDENTITY.”**

- Mr. Wong, resident

- 1 **REVEAL**  neighbourhood narrative
- 2 **MAP**  sites that matter
- 3 **CREATE**  content worth sharing
- 4 **DESIGN**  artist map
- 5 **SHARE**  in the community
- 6 **CONNECT**  tech-savvy audience



**OUTPUT**



**“WE WANT TO SEEK INSPIRATION FROM THE PAST TO IMAGINE A NEW FUTURE FOR 7 MALLORY STREET.”**

- Sandy Lai, URA

**IMPACT**

100%

**BUILDING BRIDGES**

Optimise site utilisation, balancing the use for the local community and the attractiveness and popularity for the general public.

80%

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Pioneering a district based creative cultural mapping methodology to promote community engagement in future urban renewal and heritage revitalization projects in other parts of Hong Kong.

60%

**CULTURAL AWARENESS**

A rare occasion for ordinary residents to share their ideas and concerns for the neighbourhood in a constructive and comfortable setting.

**145**  
workshop participants

**5,000**  
copies of map printed

**287**  
hours of video footage

**40**  
tangible and intangible cultural assets mapped

**65km**  
route around Hong Kong island

**1350**  
locals interviewed in streetpolling

**1**  
illustrated map through 4 community lenses

**3,654**  
photos taken

**100**  
years-old building

Collaborative Partnership

Funded by

Duration

Budget



Feb - Nov 2021

US\$ 35,000