Appeal No. 14 of 1981.

## 

## ON APPEAL <br> from the court of appeal of hong kong

## BETWEEN

AIM SAN REALTY LIMITED
TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED - - Appellants
YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Plaintiffs)
AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL . . . . . . . . . . . Respondent
(Defendant)

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

COWARD CHANCE \& CO.,
Royex House,
Aldemanbury Square,
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Solicitors for the Appellants
M. K. LAM \& CO.

Solicitors for the Appellants (Plaintiffs)

CROWN SOLICITOR
Solicitors for the Respondent (Defendant)

## Inn the 猚ifing $\mathfrak{C u m u t i l}$

ON APPEAL<br>from the court of appeal of hong kong

BETWEEN
AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED
TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED - - Appellants
YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Plaintiffs)
AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL - - - - - - - - - - Respondent (Defendant)

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M. K. LAM \& CO.

Solicitors for the Appellants (Plaintiffs)

## CROWN SOLICITOR

Solicitors for the Respondent (Defendant)

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ON APPEAL<br>FROM THE COURT OF APPEAL OF HONG KONG

## BETWEEN

## AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED

TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED - - Appellants
YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Plaintiffs)

AND

ATTORNEY GENERAL - - - - - - - . - Respondent
(Defendant)

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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# In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong. 

Miscellaneous Proceedings

## (High Court Miscellaneous Proceedings Action No. 651/1980).

# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG HIGH COURT MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS 

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and
IN THE MATTER of the proposed redevelopment of Inland Lot 457, Section F , and Remaining Portions of Sections C, D, E and G (16-26 Yun Ping Road, Hong Kong)
and
IN THE MATTER of the Building Authority's rejection of building plans on 25th January, 1980.

BETWEEN
AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED
Plaintiffs
TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Defendant

To: The Attorney General, Legal Department, Central Government Offices, Victoria in the Colony of Hong Kong.

Let the Defendant within 8 days after service of this Summons on him, inclusive of the day of service, cause an appearance to be entered to this Summons which is issued on the application of the Plaintiffs whose registered office is situate at Room 97, New Henry House, 10 Ice House Street, Hong Kong.

By this Summons the Plaintiffs claim against the Defendant for the following relief:-
(a) A declaration that upon the true construction of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, the Plaintiffs' proposed building

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 1
Originating Summons (continued)
on the aforesaid site (other than Section F thereof) will not abut, front or project over Jardine's Crescent.
(b) A declaration that the Building Authority's decision dated 25th January, 1980 rejecting the Plaintiffs' building plans on the ground that the street shadow area had been exceeded under Building (Planning) Regulation 16 was accordingly invalid.
(c) A declaration that the Plaintiffs' said building plans are deemed under Section 15 (1) of the Buildings Ordinance to have been approved by the Building Authority.
(d) Such further or other relief as may be just.

Dated the 16th day of July, 1980.

(Sd.) N. J. Barnett<br>Acting Registrar

Note:-This summons may not be served later than 12 calendar months beginning with the above date unless renewed by Order of the Court.

This summons was taken out by Messrs. M. K. Lam \& Co., of Yip Fung Building, 7th floor, D'Aguilar Street, Victoria in the Colony of Hong Kong, Solicitors for the Plaintiffs whose registered office is situate at 97, New Henry House, 10 Ice House Street, Hong Kong.
(Sd.) M. K. Lam \& Co.
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs

## DIRECTORS FOR ENTERING APPEARANCE

The Defendant may enter an appearance in person or by a solicitor either (1) by handing in the appropriate forms, duly completed, at the Registry of the Supreme Court in Victoria, Hong Kong, or (2) by sending them to the Registry by post.

# Interlocutory Order dated 26th September, 1980 

## BEFORE MR. REGISTRAR RYAN OF SUPREME COURT IN CHAMBERS

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings<br>No. 2<br>Interlocutory Order<br>Dated 26th September, 1980

## ORDER

Upon the application by the Plaintiffs and by consent IT IS ORDERED that:-
(a) the Defendant do within 28 days serve an affidavit in reply to that filed by the Plaintiffs on the 16th day of July, 1980;
(b) the Plaintiffs be at liberty to serve a further affidavit in reply to the Defendant's within 14 days of the Defendant's filing in their aforesaid affidavit;
(c) the hearing of the Originating Summons issued herein on the 16 th July, 1980 be heard before a Judge in Chambers on a date to be fixed according to Counsel's diary, such hearing being estimated to require 2 days, and that the first appointment fixed on the 10th day of October, 1980 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon before the Registrar in Chambers be vacated;
(d) the parties herein be at liberty to apply; and
(e) the costs of this hearing be costs in the cause.

Dated the 26th day of September, 1980.
(Sd.) J. G. Roy (L.S.)
Acting Registrar

In the
Supreme Court
of Hong Kong
Miscellaneous
Proceedings
No. 3
Judgment of High Court

# JUDGMENT OF HIGH COURT 

Coram: Liu, J. in Chambers.

Date : 23rd December, 1980.

Between May 1978 to November, 1979, the plaintiffs purchased six houses Nos. 16-26 Yun Ping Road with similar site areas. These six houses are sandwiched between Yun Ping Road and Jardine's Crescent. From July to November, 1979, a narrow strip of land facing Jardine's Crescent was assigned by the plaintiffs to Mentor Estate Limited for $\$ 570,000$. This strip of land lies immediately next to the pavement of Jardine's Crescent and extends all the way along five of the six houses i.e. from No. 18 to No. 26 but leaving No. 16 unencroached. It measures 140 feet in length but only 13 inches in depth. The more precise site area of this narrow strip is given as 12.801 square metres ( 137.738 square feet) on the plan exhibited to the affirmation of the architect, Simon K wan dated 15th July, 1980 and therein marked "SK-6". Of the total site area of $10,585.438$ square feet for these six houses assigned to the plaintiffs, this filamentous portion represents only 1.301 per cent.

Mentor Estate Limited proposes to erect an advertising signboard on this narrow strip for some $\$ 90,000$. The wall-like signboard will run parallel to Jardine's Crescent along the entire elongated site of Mentor Estate Limited reaching a height of 18 feet. On the remainder of the original total site area of these six houses, the plaintiffs intend to erect an almost 255 -foot tall 27 -storeyed building which is over fourteen times the height of the advertising signboard of Mentor Estate Limited.

The plaintiffs and Mentor Estate Limited retain the same professional advisers. The proposed plans for the 255 -foot tall 27 -storeyed building and the 18 -foot advertising signboard were submitted for approval at about the same time on the 28 th and 27 th November, 1979 respectively. There is ample sign of co-ordination between the plaintiffs and Mentor Estate Limited, but it cannot be denied that they are in fact separate groups of legal entities.

On the 11th April, 1980, the proposed plan for the advertising signboard of Mentor Estate Limited was provisionally approved by a Form 12, subject to modification of certain structural details to overcome inadequate resistence to wind stress. The load carried by the four steel foundation columns in the original design has been evenly distributed to a modified reinforced foundation of eleven steel columns. Final approval for this redesigned advertising signboard of Mentor Estate Limited is not expected
to be further delayed by departmental objections. The signboard stretching from end to end of five of the six houses facing Jardine's Crescent i.e. Nos. 18-26 inclusive, will deprive the plaintiffs' 27 -storeyed building actual land contiguity with that street save for that representing the present boundary of No. 16.

The plaintiffs' 27 -storeyed commercial and domestic complex is so designed that its main entrances will face Yun Ping Road. The two main entrances on the upper ground level, one on each side of the building, will open onto Yun Ping Road. Next to one of the main entrances will be a staircase also discharging into Yun Ping Road. The rear side of the complex facing Jardine's Crescent is designed as a blank wall with no windows or openings except for $1 / 6$ th of its lower ground floor level which will physically join up with Jardine's Crescent. That rear portion in actual contact with the street will provide a rear entrance on the lower ground floor level from Jardine's Crescent, and through this rear entrance access may be gained to all the upper floors of the building. A second staircase discharges into Jardine's Crescent via two ramps and a pair of street openings. A further exit on this level will lead from the transformer room which is designed as a self-contained unit.

20 It would not be impertinent to refer here to Regulation 41 (2) of the Building (Planning) Regulations which requires the provision of a second staircase as a means of escape in case of emergency for a building exceeding 6 storeys in height. Therefore, the second staircase in the rear discharging into Jardine's Crescent is a necessity required by law.

The plaintiffs' submission for their proposed commercial and domestic complex was rejected by the Building Authority on the 25th January, 1980 principally on account of their alleged non-compliance with the provisions in Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations.

The marginal note of Regulation 16 refers to "Height of buildings adjacent to street" which, if it is permitted to have regard to, may assist in gaining an insight into the purport of Regulation 16, but even published together with the Ordinance, marginal notes in Hong Kong have also been jealously excluded. See In The Matter of The Canton Trust and Commercial Bank Limited (No. 1)(1) and A.G. v. Asia Electronics Company Limited(2).

The relevant parts of Regulation 16 are set out below:-
(1) 1965 HKLR 450
(2) per Huggins, J., as he then was, unreported but judgment of which was delivered on the 28th June 1974

> " 16 . (1) Where a building abuts, fronts or projects
> over a street, the height of such building shall be determined by reference to the street shadow area thereof.

In the
Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3
Judgment of High Court
(continued)

## In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3
Judgment of High Court (continued)
(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the street shadow area of a building shall not exceed the area obtained by applying the formula -

in which -
$F$ is the length of the frontage of the building; and $W$ is the width of the street upon or over which the building abuts, fronts or projects. (4) For the purposes of this regulation -
"frontage" in relation to a building, means that boundary of a site upon which the building is erected which abuts or fronts a street and includes any service lane or other opening within such boundary;
"Street shadow area" in relation to a building, means an area on the surface of a street contained by -
(a) a line formed by the projection from every part of the side of the building abutting, fronting or projecting over such street of planes at an angle of $76^{\circ}$ from the horizontal from the highest point on such building or on any projection therefrom of a permanent nature, from which such planes could be drawn uninterrupted by any other part of that building;
(b) a line formed by the frontage of the building; and
(c) lines drawn from each extremity of the frontage of the building at right angles to the centre line of the street."

Thus, under Regulation 16, when and only when a building abuts or fronts (there is no question here of any projection over) a street, its height is to be determined by reference to the street shadow area. In the prescribed formula for calculating the street shadow area of a building, the length of its frontage is one of the governing factors. Frontage has been defined as meaning the site boundary which abuts or fronts a street. It follows that if a building does not abut or front a street as envisaged by Regulation 16, limitation on its street shadow area or height limitation does not even begin to apply.

On sheet 4 of the submitted drawings for the plaintiffs' proposed 27 -storeyed building, the authorized architect has calculated its street shadow
area over Jardine's Crescent. By necessary implication, it must have been conceded, at least architecturally, that the plaintiffs' building will abut and/ or front Jardine's Crescent. As between the plaintiffs' authorized architect and the Building Authority, the difference seems to lie merely in the proper length of the frontage of the proposed building on its side facing Jardine's Crescent for calculating its street shadow area. The plaintiffs' authorized architect maintained that such frontage length should be confined to the boundary of No. 16 in actual contact with Jardine's Crescent, as the boundary of Nos. 18-26 facing Jardine's Crescent would be, so argued the plaintiffs' authorized architect, separated from Jardine's Crescent by the thirteen inches intervening advertising signboard of Mentor Estate Limited. The Building Authority took the stand that the length of the frontage of the plaintiffs' proposed building on the side facing Jardine's Crescent i.e. its site boundary along that street, must include the whole length stretching from Nos. 16 to 26 notwithstanding the 18 -foot tall intervening signboard. On the 25 th January, 1980, despite the lack of actual physical contiguity of land for $5 / 6$ ths of the site boundary facing Jardine's Crescent, the Building Authority rejected the plaintiffs' submission for, inter alia, the reasons in the following terms:-
"The street shadow area over Jardine's Crescent has been exceeded, Building (Planning) Regulation 16. Your calculations should be based upon the overall frontage of the building. The alienated portion is not considered to affect the application of this Regulation."

In these proceedings, leading counsel for the plaintiffs adopted a more sweeping approach. It was contended that as the plaintiffs' proposed 27 -storeyed building would not itself abut upon or front Jardine's Crescent, calculation of the limit of its street shadow area over Jardine's Crescent was uncalled for. Mr. Swaine's able analysis was that the plaintiffs' proposed building could never front Jardine's Crescent by reason of two facts, firstly that with only its bare back towering over Jardine's Crescent, it was not designed to stare that street in the face, and secondly that it would have no real contiguity with that street. Further, leading counsel elaborated that the actual contact with Jardine's Crescent of the portion of the plaintiffs' proposed building along the side of the site of No. 16 presently bordering that street would not be significant enough, both in length and utility, to bring about "fronting" or "abutting" within the meaning of Regulation 16. It was pressed upon me that it was necessarily a matter of degree and that relatively the proposed 27 -storeyed building ought to be taken as having no real physical contiguity with and not abutting upon Jardine's Crescent. Also for this reason, so ran counsel's arguments, it cannot front the street even should the building be facing it.

By their Originating Summons, the plaintiffs seek a declaration on the effect of Regulation 16 in terms of their submitted interpretation. No. 16 Yun Ping Road is section F of Inland Lot No. 457, and by their prayer for the declaration sought on the construction of Regulation 16, the plaintiffs themselves seem to have acknowledged that a portion of the site boundary

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3 Judgment of High Court (continued)

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3 Judgment of High Court (continued).
of their proposed building representing the site of No. 16 presently bordering Jardine's Crescent will abut upon or front that street. Prayer ( $a$ ) for that declaration of the plaintiffs is set out verbatim below:-
"(a) A declaration that upon the true construction of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, the plaintiff's proposed building on the aforesaid site (other than Section F thereof) will not abut, front or project over Jardine's Crescent."

The plaintiffs further crave a declaration that the Building Authority's rejection of their submitted plans for their proposed 27 -storeyed building on the 25th January, 1980 was in excess of jurisdiction conferred by Regulation 16 and accordingly invalid.

There is yet another declaration prayed for by the plaintiffs, but no submissions were advanced in support thereof, and it must be taken as having been abandoned.

A number of authorities were cited to me but they must be read with caution. These cases were decided on different provisions in somewhat unrelated legislation. For our purpose, no more than a guarded reception should be given to principles of general application evolved from these decisions. Of the authorities cited to me, it is evident that in construing "fronting" and "abutting", the subject matter and the legislative purpose and object need constantly be remembered. In Wakefield Local Board of Health $v$. Lee \& Another(3), at p. 343, Grove, J. said of the words "fronting, adjoining, or abutting upon" in the following terms:
" Except in mathematics, it is difficult to frame exhaustive definitions of words; they must be construed with reference to the subject-matter to which they are applied."

In Lightbound v. Higher Bebington Local Board(4), at p. 584, Bowen, L.J. observed :
" It is that in construing the words (front, abut, and adjoin) you must look at the subject matter of the section and see what is its scope and object."

The authorities commended for my consideration are concerned with expenses of paving or improving a street to which the principal entrance of a house had access. Our Regulation 16 was introduced with a view to conserving the desired quantity of accessible sunlight on street level by limiting building height. It is inherently tied to shadow casting. It matters not

[^0]whether there is absolute land contiguity. A building not having physical contiguity with the street may cast on it an equally unwanted shadow, and even a building one row behind, given sufficient height, may cast a shadow just as objectionable. It is only too true that not just the front of a building, but all its sides may cast an unwelcome shadow on the street. When one turns to the definition of "street shadow area" in Regulation 16 (4), paragraph (a) of which refers to "every part of the side of a building", it can readily be appreciated that the object of Regulation 16 is to control a shadow cast by any side, and not just the front of a building. Therefore, the face of a building and its actual contiguity with the street are two elements which should not be given a place of prominence in the interpretation of Regulation 16.

In all the authorities cited, the liability for the expenses of paving or improving any part of the street was not contemplated to attach to anyone other than the owner whose building enjoyed that corresponding length of frontage. See counsel's argument at p. 850 in Lightbound v. Higher Bebington Local Board(5). Whilst in those cases, the prime consideration was the benefit enjoyed, Regulation 16 seeks to impose a restriction on building height by reference to controlled deprivation of natural light. Legal interpretation of Regulation 16 aside, the question in the forefront must be whether the structure
20 in front immediately next to the street is substantial enough to remove or dilute any harmful effect of obstruction to natural light caused by the building a row behind or conversely, whether the building behind is by comparison of such magnitude as to reduce the structure in front to an erection of no real consequence. It must not be forgotten that Regulation 16 is not concerned with a singular liability for improvement expenses but with multiple effects arising from artificial interference with incident sun rays.

At p. 853, Smith, J. in the case of Lightbound, made what appears at first sight to be an inspiring remark: "How can there be two owners whose land fronts, adjoins or abuts on the street?" Apart from the different object sought to be achieved by the unrelated legislation in the case of Lightbound, what must not be lost sight of is that a site is two dimensional and a building is in three dimensions. The third dimension of a building is height which presents an aspect to what stands ahead and may be fronting it. Focussing on shadows cast by a side of a building, physical contiguity must lose much of its importance. It need also be remembered that although street shadow area is sought to be limited by Regulation 16, not all the buildings capable of casting an infringing shadow are captured by that regulation. It is only when a building abuts or physically or constructively fronts a street that the regulation could be invoked.

40
It is common ground that real contact is an essential ingredient in "abutting". Common sense dictates that unless a significant part of a building actually and physically touches a street, the building does not abut upon it.
(5) (1885) 14 Q.B.D. 849 at 850

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3
Judgment of High Court (continued)

In the
Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3 Judgment of High Court (continued)

In the instant case, a section of consequence will abut upon Jardine's Crescent. The portion actually touching Jardine's Crescent will provide a rear entrance and a pair of exits for the second staircase. In my view, the plaintiffs' proposed building will abut upon that street.

As for "fronting", on the facts of this case, the portion of the plaintiffs' proposed building which will have absolute contiguity with Jardine's Crescent is, in my view, of consequence. It will provide a substantial and requisite means of access to it. I have explained why physical contiguity is not vital for "fronting", but nevertheless physical contiguity of any part of the significant side to Jardine's Crescent, which will in its close proximity to the street cast an alarmingly seizable shadow thereon. It is truly a matter of degree. For the purposes of Regulation 16 (2), a large and liberal construction should likewise be put on the term "the frontage". In my judgment, the whole length of the rear side of the plaintiffs' proposed building ( $1 / 6$ th
building with the street remains a factor not to be lightly ignored. Even without any actual contiguity, in determining whether a building actually or constructively fronts a street, regard must be had to considerations such as the importance of an exit road discharging into that street, the dimensions of a side overbearing upon it, the proximity of the building to the street and the nature and size of any intervening structure. It is quite impossible to attempt at an exhaustive list. Each case must be judged on its own merits. Broadly speaking, a building may front or give an aspect to a street if it presents a significant side to it by having either an important entrance leading from it or an overbearing portion virtually next to it or both. In this case, the rear wall of the plaintiffs' proposed building will have both these qualities: a side in part merely 13 inches away, reaching almost 255 feet with all its 27 storeys in addition to the requisite and other entrances from Jardine's Crescent.

It is largely a matter of degree, but in this case there can be no doubt that the signboard of such inconsequential dimensions as compared with the plaintiffs' proposed 27 -storeyed building will not achieve the effect of withholding the presentation by this building of an aspect to Jardine's Crescent.

In conclusion, a building in this condition with a portion in actual contact with Jardine's Crescent, in point of the justice and equity of the case, can well be said, as a building, to be both abutting and fronting that street

How then is its street shadow area to be calculated under Regulation 16 (2)? It is a fact that $5 / 6$ ths of the frontage of that proposed building facing Jardine's Crescent will be physically separated from that street by the width of thirteen inches of an intervening 18 -foot tall structure owned by Mentor Estate Limited. The minimal separation in the manner earlier described will neither render the back of the plaintiffs' proposed building shadow free nor serve to sever all realistic association of that building with Jardine's Crescent. Shadow casting is not by itself a primary consideration, but I take the view that the plaintiffs' proposed building will present a within the context of Regulation 16.
actually contiguous and $5 / 6$ ths behind a thirteen inches strip) will front Jardine's Crescent for determining the permitted street shadow area under Regulation 16 (2). Even completely without contiguity, upon the facts stated the plaintiffs' proposed building merely standing some thirteen inches behind an 18-foot signboard would, in my opinion, still present a significant side in close proximity to Jardine's Crescent rendering the building itself one which would front the street and its entire side "frontage" eligible for the formula prescribed by Regulation 16 (2).

I turn finally to the plaintiffs' arguments and will endeavour to examine them more closely. It was urged upon me that the proposed building would not front Jardine's Crescent by reason that it would neither be looking over Jardine's Crescent nor, to a material degree, actually touching it. Even for cases decided on liability for expenses incurred in paving or improving a street, absolute or actual contiguity with the street has at times been held to be unnecessary. In Lightbound $v$. Higher Bebington Local Board(5), Mathew, J. had this to say:
" It was argued for the appellant that these words mean the same thing, and imply every case absolute contiguity with the street of the land sought to be charged. I am not satisfied that that contention is well founded. The cases shew, and particularly the case of Wakefield Local Board $v$. Lee (1 Ex.D. 336) shews, that absolute contiguity with the street is not necessary in order to impose liability upon owners in respect of these expenses. If the cottages had any direct access to the street, I am not prepared to say that the case would not come within the provisions of s. $150 . "$

It would not be out of place here to revert to Wakefield Local Board of Health $v$. Lee(3), where the Local Board of Health required occupiers of properties separated from a street by a small stream to pay expenses incurred in street improvement. The principal outlet from these properties discharged into another street. There were two bridges built across the small stream, and the Local Board of Health's claim against the owners of these properties was as "owners or occupiers of premises fronting, adjoining, or abutting upon" that street. It was argued by the owners that as the principal entrances to their properties were all from another street, they could not be owners of premises fronting, adjoining, or abutting upon the street across the stream. Cleasby, B. took the view that the properties did not front the street across the stream but held that the properties in question were adjoining the street. At p. 342, Cleasby, B. delivered his reasons :
" The most important word is 'adjoining'. Now it seems to me that, as the stream is very small, the premises are not really separated from the lane, and may be said to adjoin."
(3) (1876) 1 Ex.D. 335
(5) (1885) 14 Q.B.D. 849 at 851
" The most important word is 'adjoining'. Now it seems to me
that, as the stream is very small, the premises are not really
separated from the lane, and may be said to adjoin."

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3
Judgment of High Court (continued)

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

No. 3 Judgment of High Court (continued)

Grove, J. preferred a more practical approach and made the observation that with main entrances facing a different direction, the premises in question might still be said to front the street across the stream. At p. 343, the learned judge concluded:
" Now it is to be observed that the narrow stream is crossed by two bridges, and that these bridges are under the control of the respondents. There is for practical purposes no division by intervening land, and I think that the respondents' premises may be said in popular language to abut upon the lane, for the bridges, so far as appears, are useful only to them; and I also think that they may be said to front the lane; and further, I do not say that they may not adjoin."

The liberal view of Grove, J. was not favourably received by Bowen, L.J. in Lightbound v. Higher Bebington Local Board(4) :
" With regard to 'front' and 'abut', it does not appear to me that these cottages in either plot can be said, in any fair use of language, to front or abut upon the part of the street which has been paved, and it seems to me, though it is not necessary to decide it, that the judgment of Cleasby, B., in Wakefield Local Board v. Lee (1 Ex.D. 336) is preferable to that of Grove, J."

In Lightbound's case, it was held that cottages erected on plots of land separated from a street by a 5 -foot wall belonging to a different owner did not front, adjoin, or abut on the street so as to make their owners liable for contribution towards the expenses of sewering and paving the street.

In The School Board for London 1 . The Vestry of St. Mary, Islington(6), a school-house did not touch a street but stood back from it some 70 or 80 feet separated by a row of eleven small garden houses. The school-house and its property had its only access from the street. It was held that the schoolhouse constructively formed part of the street within the meaning of "the houses forming the street."

In Stewart v. Greenock Corporation(7), the owner of the upper flat in a villa was held not to be a proprietor of premises fronting a street which was immediately outside the ground floor flat of the villa. The only access to the upper flat was from another street. Whilst the Sheriff, Mr. McLean, Q.C. acknowledged the reality that a building might front a street with any of its four sides in the ordinary sense of the word, he construed the word "fronting" in the provision containing the words "the owners of the lands or
(4) (1885) 16 Q.B.D. 577 at 584
(6) (1875) 1 Q.B.D. 65
(7) (1957) Scots Law Times 21
premises fronting or abutting on" a street as having "very much the same meaning" as that of the word "abutting". Thus, he was virtually driven to conclude that as in the case of "abutting", "fronting" must be supported by absolute contiguity with the land of the street. At p. 25, the Sheriff had this to say:
" I have already said that in my opinion to 'front' as here used means 'to present a face or aspect to the street', but that definition is obviously insufficient. A building may present a face or aspect to the street and yet be a long way back

I pass then to consider the case of The Newport Urban Sanitary Authority v. Graham (8) which is another decision on the words "adjoining" and "abutting" in legislation for street paving expenses. It was there held that premises, separated from the street by the owner's own wall of 12 feet viewed from the outside, adjoined and abutted on the street. But as can be seen in the case of Lightbound(4) where the wall completely severing the property's physical contiguity with the land of the street belonged to a stranger, an opposite conclusion was reached that the premises did not front, adjoin, or abut upon the street. There will be no total severance in this case. Moreover, the authorities to which counsel alluded were decided in their particular circumstances on unrelated legislation for different objects and purposes. Buckinghamshire County Council $v$. Trigg(9), may serve as a reminder against any indiscriminate assimilation of the propounded principles in cases for paving expenses with those governing other legislation, particularly on dissimilar facts. In Trigg's case, the word "fronting" was to include the word "adjoining" and the word "adjoining" to include the word "abutting". Consequently, the word "fronting" had to be minced with this added spice, and the decision can offer no real assistance. At p. 408, Salmon, J. attributed the decision in Trigg to its own particular facts.
(8) (1882) 9 Q.B.D. 183
(9) (1963) 3 All ER 403
" The thickness of a wall belonging to someone else has been held sufficient to prevent a property from abutting upon a held sufficient to prevent a property from abutting upon a
street. What sort or size of intervening property can be held to prevent it from fronting upon a street? It seems to me that very much the same considerations apply and that although in the popular sense Mr. Stewart's corner flat might
be said to front on both Brisbane Street and Fox Street in although in the popular sense Mr. Stewart's corner flat might
be said to front on both Brisbane Street and Fox Street in respect that it overlooks those two streets, it cannot be said to front them in the technical sense in which I think the word
must be held to be used in the sections of the Acts under to front them in the technical sense in which I think the word
must be held to be used in the sections of the Acts under consideration." belonging to someone else. Where then is the line to be drawn?"

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

[^1]The decision in these cases for exacting contribution towards street improvement, may lend support to the general proposition that a building facing but standing back some distance from a street fronts the street when its only or principal entrance leads to that street. In the instant case, a secondary staircase is one statutorily required by Regulation 41 (2). The theme of the regulation under consideration is shadow casting. I am impressed by the definition first debated but ultimately abandoned as being insufficient by Mr. McLean, Q.C., the Sheriff in Stewart $v$. Greenock Corporation(7) :
" To 'front', as here used means 'to present a face or aspect to the street'."

I find it quite appropriate to our Regulation 16 presently under discussion. A definition of "aspect" in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary which also seems relevant is given as:
" A looking, facing, or fronting in a given direction; the side or surface which fronts in any direction."

In conjunction with Regulation 16 (4) (a) which refers to "every part of the side of the building", it is tolerably clear that Regulation 16 seeks to draw no distinction from any one side of a building. At least, the plaintiffs' proposed building will have a necessary second staircase which is, in a sense, a subsidiary principal entrance from Jardine's Crescent. Even strictly on the general principle enunciated in the cases cited, the plaintiffs' proposed building may well be said to be fronting it. But construction of Regulation 16 should best be attempted independently of these authorities on street improvement contributions. I have no wish to whittle away these decisions in their proper context by fine distinctions, but there is obvious danger in seeking to apply principles of even the most general application in these cases to Regulation 16.

These entrances and exits on the lower ground level will, together with realistic land contiguity, certainly give the back of the building added importance. In all the circumstances, on a true construction of Regulation 16 independently of any of the decisions hereinbefore so eloquently relied upon, I find the intervening erection of Mentor Estate Limited in front of most of the plaintiffs' proposed building inconsequential and I hold that the plaintiffs' proposed building will abut and/or front Jardine's Crescent and that its entire site boundary along that strest must be included for calculating the street shadow area.

For all these reasons, I dismiss the plaintiffs' Originating Summons with costs for the defendant.

John Swaine, Q.C. \& Anthony Neoh (M. K. Lam \& Co.) for Plaintiffs. N. Strawbridge for Defendant.

# In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong 

Appellate Jurisdiction

## Civil Appeal No. 14 of 1981

(on Appeal from High Court Miscellaneous Proceedings Action No. 651/1980)

| IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG | In the <br> Supreme Court <br> of Hong Kong <br> Appellate |
| :---: | :---: |
| Civil Appeal No. 14 of 1981 | Jurisdiction |
| IN THE COURT OF APPEAL | No. 4 <br> Notice of |
| (On Appealfrom High Court Miscellaneous Proceedings Appeal |  |

## BETWEEN

# AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED <br> Plaintiffs <br> TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED <br> (Appellants) <br> YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED 

and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL Defendant
(Respondent)

## NOTICE OF APPEAL

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Court of Appeal will be moved as soon as Counsel can be heard on behalf of the above-named Plaintiffs on appeal from the Order of the Honourable Mr. Justice B. Liu given on the 23rd day of December 1980 dismissing the Originating Summons issued on behalf of the said Plaintiffs for an Order that the said Order be set aside, and the declarations sought by the said Plaintiffs be granted, with costs of this Appeal and the costs below to the Plaintiffs.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT the grounds of this Appeal are that the learned judge had erred in law in finding that the proposed building on the Plaintiffs' site known as Nos. 16-26 Yun Ping Road did for the purpose of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations abut and/or front Jardine's Crescent and that its entire site boundary along the said Jardine's Crescent must be included for calculating the street shadow area.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT the Plaintiffs intend to set down this Appeal.

Dated this 30th day of January, 1981.

> (Sd.) M. K. Lam \& Co. Solicitors for the Plaintiffs
> (Appellants)

No. 5
Supplemental Notice of Additional Grounds of Appeal

## SUPPLEMENTARY NOTICE OF <br> ADDITIONAL GROUNDS OF APPEAL

TAKE NOTICE THAT at the hearing of this Appeal the Plaintiffs will rely upon the following further grounds:-
(1) That the learned judge misconstrued the term "fronts" in Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations.
(2) That the learned judge wrongly held that physical contiguity is not essential for "fronting".
(3) That the learned judge wrongly held that the Plaintiffs' proposed building will "front" onto Jardine's Crescent.
(4) That the learned judge wrongly held that in calculating street shadow area for the purposes of Regulation 16 the whole length of the rear side of the Plaintiffs' proposed building will "front" Jardine's Crescent. The Plaintiffs say that if (which is denied) the proposed building "fronts" Jardine's Crescent at all, it only does so to the extent of the boundary of the site of No. 16 Jardine's Crescent, and that any street shadow area should be calculated accordingly.

Dated this 18th day of May, 1981.
(Sd.) M. K. Lam \& Co.
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs (Appellants)

## JUDGMENT OF COURT OF APPEAL

Coram: Sir Alan Huggins, V.-P., Leonard and Li, JJ.A.
Date: 30th June, 1981

Sir Alan Huggins, V.-P.:
We are called upon to interpret regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, which relates to the permitted height of buildings.

The Appellants planned to develop a piece of land by the erection thereon of a building. They desired to build to the maximum height permitted by law and were advised that if they could avoid making one side could go higher than would otherwise be allowed. Accordingly they hit upon the plan of selling to a third party a strip of land $140^{\prime}$ long and $1^{\prime} 3^{\prime \prime}$ wide along the boundary with that street. Upon it the purchaser plans to erect an advertising sign board. The result of the sale was that any building erected upon the remainder of the site could be contiguous to Jardine's Crescent for no more than $1 / 6$ of its length. The question we have to decide is whether this device succeeds. We are not concerned with the merits of it, for either the Appellants have been correctly advised, in which event the Building Authority has no right to object, or they are not within the regulation and the Building Authority is entitled to disapprove the plans, as it has in fact done.

There are only two regulations which govern the heights of buildings, regulations 16 and 19 . It is common ground that regulation 19 has no application to the proposed building, but it is relevant to see what it says:
" Where a site abuts on a street less than 4.5 m wide or does not abut on a street, the height of a building on that site or of that building, the site coverage for the building and any part thereof and the plot ratio for the building shall be determined by the Building Authority."

30 Like others of these regulations that could have been better expressed: it is by no means clear to what structure the words "that building" can possibly refer. It is accepted that the site upon which the Appellants proposed to build does "abut on a street", albeit not at all points.

The material parts of regulation 16 are:
"(1) Where a building abuts, fronts or projects over a street, the height of such building shall be determined by reference to the street shadow area thereof.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the street shadow area of a building shall not exceed the area obtained by applying the formula
$\frac{\mathrm{F} \times \mathrm{W}}{2}$
in which -
F is the length of the frontage of the building; and W is the width of the street upon or over which the building abuts, fronts or projects.
(4) For the purposes of this regulation -
"frontage" in relation to a building, means that boundary of a site upon which the building is erected which abuts or fronts a street and includes any service lane or other opening within such boundary;
"street" means a street or service lane at least 4.5 m wide;
"street shadow area" in relation to a building, means an area on the surface of a street contained by -
(a) a line formed by the projection from every part of the side of the building abutting, fronting or projecting over such street of planes at an angle of $76^{\circ}$ from the horizontal from the highest point on such building or on any projection therefrom of a permanent nature, from which such planes could be drawn uninterrupted by any other part of that building;
(b) a line formed by the frontage of the building; and
(c) lines drawn from each extremity of the frontage of the building at right angles to the centre line of the street."

Both parties agree that the proposed building falls within paragraph (1). Although they are not entirely ad idem as to the reason or reasons for that, it is unnecessary to say more on the subject.

I turn, therefore, to a consideration of the definition of "street shadow area". The Appellants' contention as to sub-paragraph (a) is, in effect, that (i) the first line of the area is to be formed by projection from every part (sc. every part of the side of the building) abutting or fronting the street and (ii) "fronting" must have a similar meaning to its grammatical variation "frontage" which is defined in paragraph (4), with the result that such part
of the side of the building as abuts the alienated strip of land neither abuts nor fronts the street. The Respondent's submission is (i) that this line is to be formed by projection from every part of the side (sc. the side of the building) abutting or fronting the street, and (ii) that in any event, whilst only part of the relevant side of this building abuts the street, the whole of that side is a side fronting the street. As to sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) the main issue between the parties again relates to the meaning of "frontage of the building" in the light of the definition of frontage in paragraph (4). The same issue arises under paragraph (2).

10 In sub-paragraph (a) I read the present participles as limiting the word "side" and not the word "part". That is not only the more natural reading but it appears to me to produce a result more in keeping with the obvious intention of the Governor in Council. In the present case the setting back of the building from the street so that it does not trepass upon the alienated land would make a very small difference to the size of the actual shadow which would be cast by the building when it is completed. I can conceive of no reason why it should have been thought appropriate to ignore the shadow from that part of the building which abuts the alienated land when the street shadow area is calculated. It was not suggested that this proposed building had more than four "sides" and that one should regard that portion which abutted Jardine's Crescent as one side and that portion which abutted the alienated strip as another side.

The second argument for the Appellants has more substance. Section 5 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance provides:
" Where any word or expression is defined in any Ordinance, such definition shall extend to the grammatical variations and cognate expressions of such word or expression."

We therefore have to consider the definition of "frontage".
Why the definition speaks of a frontage "in relation to" a building rather than a frontage "of" a building I am not sure: no one has been able to suggest that there is any significance in the distinction. I take them to mean the same. Where the parties do not agree about the definition is principally as to the meaning of the words "that boundary . . . which abuts or fronts a street". Again, no point has been taken that there is some significance in the fact that the reference is to " $a$ site" rather than "the site".

The contention for the Appellants is that by defining the frontage of a building in terms of a boundary of the site the Governor in Council has reduced "frontage" to a single dimension: whereas the frontage of a building, as normally understood, would have height and breadth, a boundary of a site can have only length. Therefore, it is said, the existence of the alienated strip of land, upon which it is planned to erect the advertising sign board, prevents $5 / 6$ of the "building" from fronting the street. Mr. Widdicombe submits that, were it otherwise, there might be a case where both regulation

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Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate Jurisdiction

No. 6
Judgment of Court of Appeal (continued)

In the 16 and regulation 19 applied - a situation which could not have been intended. Thus, if one had a site which on one side abutted a street less than 4.5 m wide, on two sides was nowhere near a street and on the fourth side was separated from a street of 4.5 m by a narrow strip of land for its whole length, it would be within regulation 19 but would, on the Respondent's contention, nevertheless "front" the widest street and be also within regulation 16 because the building had an aspect towards the street and was capable of casting a shadow on the street. How would the permitted height of the building be determined? It is a very real difficulty and although I would like to adopt the pragmatic interpretation of the trial judge I do not find myself able to do so. In fairness to him it must be said that this particular difficulty was not pointed out to him. He thought that the existence of intervening land was immaterial, provided that the building would cast a shadow on the street if the intervening land were vacant. But for regulation 19 that is an attractive view. I would agree with the learned Judge that the cases based upon unrelated legislation are of little assistance. He rightly emphasized that in construing words one must look to the subject matter of the legislation to see what is its scope and object, and I would have thought that his interpretation of regulation 16 , taken on its own, best achieved the intention of the Governor in Council. The difficulty in construing these simple words is demonstrated by the difference of opinion in Wakefield Local Board of Health v. Lee (1876) 1 Ex. 336, where the respondent's premises were divided from a street by a small stream but were connected to it by two bridges. The majority of the Court thought that the premises "fronted and abutted" the street for the purposes of section 69 of the Public Health Act 1848, whilst Cleasby, B. thought that they did not but, with some hesitation, decided that they "adjoined" the street.

Under sub-paragraph (b) the second line is formed by "the frontage of the building". Again we are taken to the definition of "frontage" and have to ask what is "the boundary ... which abuts or fronts"? The definition does not refer to "such part of the boundary" but to "the boundary". Accordingly, it is immaterial that only part of the boundary abuts or fronts the street. The definition appears to contemplate that some sites will have more than one boundary, just as most buildings have more than one "side". In the present case the relevant boundary of the site almost, but not quite, coincides with the side of the building: we are told that along two sides of the alienated land the building is set back about 50 mm . It is the boundary of the site which is to form the line. As with the "sides" of the building, I do not think one can treat the part of the boundary which abuts the street and the part which abuts the inner side of the alienated land as different boundaries: together they form the north-eastern boundary: see the block plan at p. 87 of the record.

Having regard to what I have already said, I do not think the line referred to in sub-paragraph (c) presents any difficulty. There does not appear to be any dispute that sub-paragraph (c) should be read so that the words "the centre line of the street" indicate the base for the drawing of the right
angles and not the limits of the two lines to be drawn. If it were otherwise there might be cases where the four lines described in the definition did not "contain" an area.

It will be seen that the whole of the area contained by these three lines will not be "on the surface of a street", but the definition does not No. 6 require that it shall be. It was for this very reason that the words "on the surface of a street" were included: any part of the area which is not on the surface of the street, in this case the alienated land, is not to be measured.

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Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate Jurisdiction Judgment of
Court of Appeal (continued)

Although for different reasons I have come to the same conclusion 10 as the learned Judge and would dismiss the appeal.

No. 6
Judgment of Court of Appeal (continued)

JUDGMENT

Leonard, J.A.:
The facts on which this appeal turns have been set out in detail in the judgment in the court below and I do not propose to set them out again. They establish that the site in question is a Class A site abutting on 2 parallel streets. When planning the development of such a site to its greatest commercial advantage a developer will be primarily concerned with three aspects of the proposed building namely its permitted height, the permitted site coverage and the permitted plot ratio but permitted site coverage and permitted plot ratio are fixed with reference to the height so that height is of paramount importance.

The essential question for decision here is whether a developer in planning the development of a site can increase the permitted potential height of the building to be erected on it by alienating a narrow strip of land along part of one side of the site so as to separate part of the new site thus created from the road over which the building is to tower. Mr. Widdicombe, Q.C., submits that Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations permits the use of such a device and it is therefore necessary to examine the terms of that Regulation with some care with reference to the plans which have been rejected by the Building Authority. It is not necessary for me to describe all the plans but I must describe three of them.

Firstly the Block Plan at p. 87 of the agreed bundle. This shows a squat T shaped building with the top of the T bordering on Jardine's Crescent the street with which we are concerned and the bottom bordering on Yun Ping Road. Secondly the Rear Elevation facing Jardine's Crescent at p. 93 of the agreed bundle; this shows the back of a 27 storey building unbroken by windows throughout its height. It is shaped like an extremely thick capital letter I but without "serifs" at the top. Thick "serifs" at the bottom represent 3 storeys and into that to the left are set doorways opening on to Jardine's Crescent as described by Liu, J. The "serif" to the right and the entire width of the upright representing 27 storeys would, if the plans were approved, ultimately face, intimately, to the back of the 18 foot high advertising sign to be erected on the 13 inch strip alienated from the original site. I will be pardoned, I trust, for an expression of gratitude that this rear elevation plan does not indicate what, if any, advertising signs it would ultimately bear and for a sigh of relief that I am not asked to adjudicate on any question of aesthetics.

The third plan to which I must refer is that at p. 90 of the agreed bundle which shows that the "shadow area diagram" and "shadow area calculations" are based on the left "serif" (three storeys in height) to which I have referred when describing the rear elevation plan. It was because the shadow area calculations were based on this portion only that the plans were rejected. This left "serif" provides the sole outlet to Jardine's Crescent and
is the only portion of the building which touches that street. It is this fact that gives rise to the appellants' claim that it alone should be considered when calculating the street shadow area of the building.

The Building (Planning) Regulations are enacted under Section 38 of the Ordinance which empowers the governor in council to make regulations providing for (c)
" planning and design of buildings including . . . (iii) heights,
and it was pursuant to this section that these regulations were enacted. These regulations deal not with existing buildings but with contemplated buildings for which plans have been submitted, since no building works may be commenced until plans have been approved (Section 14).

Therefore when Regulation 16 provides that the height of a building which abuts, fronts or projects over a street shall be determined by reference to its street shadow area, it must be taken to refer to the contemplated height of a contemplated building which if completed would so abut etc and to the calculated street shadow area of that contemplated building. This is self-evident but it must be borne in mind in construing this regulation for the wording of Regulation 16 and in particular of the definitions of "frontage" and "street shadow area" is so complicated that one must constantly remember that one is dealing with abstractions.

Under Regulation 16 (1) the planned height of a proposed building is to be determined by reference to the street shadow area of that proposed building if that proposed building abuts fronts or projects over a street. [It is to be noted that the Regulation does not use the qualification "insofar as a street shadow would be thrown by the abutting fronting or projecting portion of the building."] There is no question of any part of this proposed building projecting over Jardine's Crescent, but, as I understood him, Mr. Widdicombe concedes that the "serif" at the North Eastern and of the site both abuts and fronts Jardine's Crescent. He argues that the remaining $5 / 6$ of the boundary of the site neither abuts nor fronts any street. Clearly that remainder does not "abut" but whether it "fronts" is arguable. I will consider the effect of the remainder not fronting or abutting later.

Regulation 16 (2) requires the application of the formula $\frac{F \times W}{2}$
for the determination of the maximum permitted street shadow area of a building where $\mathrm{F}=$ the "length of the frontage" of the proposed building (not be it noted "the length of the frontage of that portion of the proposed building which abuts or fronts on the street") and $\mathrm{W}=$ the width of the street upon or over the building abuts fronts or projects. There is nothing in the affidavits to indicate that Jardine's Crescent is not of uniform width throughout its length. So that in our case W is a constant and it is not necessary to consider what considerations would arise if Jardine's Crescent varied in width.

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate<br>Jurisdiction varied in width.



The matters giving rise to difficulty in the application of these two paragraphs are therefore the interpretation of the phrases "frontage of the building" and "street shadow area" and of the word "fronts".

The phrase "frontage of a building" is not defined. The word "frontage" is defined "in relation to a building" as meaning "that boundary of a site upon which the building is erected which abuts or fronts a street . . . " which must, of course, mean for planning purposes "that boundary of a site upon which the building is to be erected". Street shadow area" is defined again "in relation to a building" as meaning an area on the surface of a street contained by certain lines one of which is " $(b)$ a line formed by the frontage of the building" (i.e. a line formed by that boundary of the site which abuts or fronts the street upon which the building is to be erected others of which are " $(c)$ lines drawn from each extremity of the frontage of the building at right angles to the centre line of the street". I think that (c) clearly recognizes that the "frontage" shall have two and only two extremities, one at each end of the boundary which abuts or fronts the street. The fourth line is described in (a) which is set out in Liu, J.'s judgment. It is not a line with which I need concern myself save to note that it is formed by the projection of planes "from every part of the side of the building abutting fronting or projecting over such street" and to say that I regard the words "abutting fronting or projecting over such street" as qualifying the word "building" rather than the word "side".

Mr. Widdicombe makes out a very strong case for his contention that that portion of the proposed building which is to lie behind the severed strip will not abut or front Jardine's Crescent and I am prepared to accept for the purposes of this judgment that it will not (however absurd such acceptance may be when one contemplates the vastness of the blank wall intended to tower over that street). I am equally prepared to accept that that portion of the boundary (of the site upon which the building is to be erected) which borders the severed strip does not abut or front Jardine's Crescent. But that does not end the matter for the proposed building is an entity. If completed that entity will abut Jardine's Crescent, it will also abut the severed strip and it will abut Yun Ping Road. The site will have four boundaries forming a rectangle as shown on the block plan at p. 87 of the agreed bundle. One of these four boundaries will abut and front Jardine's Crescent. It will also abut and front the severed strip. Where it does it may not abut and front Jardine's Crescent. But that does not make it two boundaries in relation to the site it contains. It is a single boundary - the boundary to the North East of the site. It abuts and fronts on Jardine's Crescent. Reference to the shadow area diagram at p. 90 shows that the planner has not computed the street shadow area with reference to the boundary's extremities but has computed that area with reference to one extremity and a point which is not at the other extremity.

Therefore even if one accepts that there has been misconstruction of the word "fronts" as is maintained in grounds 1,2 and 3 of the Grounds of Appeal there was no error in the refusal of the declarations sought.

I would dismiss this appeal.
$\overline{\text { JUDGMENT }}$

Li, J.A.:
For the purpose of this appeal the facts may be stated shortly as follows. Between 1978 and 1979 the appellants purchased a row of six houses of equal size facing Jardine's Crescent known as Nos. 16-26 Yun Ping Road. In November 1979 they sold a strip of land immediately adjoining the pavement of Jardine's Crescent, extending to the length of five of the six houses. This was sold to a third party known as Mentor Estate Limited. Then Mentor Estate Limited applied to the Building Authority for permission was iven in principle to the was given in principle to that application. The appellants then submitted, through their architects, plans for a proposed building of 27 floors totalling 255 feet in height which stretched from one end of the site to the other less that strip of land. The Building Authority rejected the plans for noncompliance with the provisions of the Building (Planning) Regulations. The appellants applied by Originating Summons for a declaration that:
(a) upon the true construction of Regulation 16 of the Building
(Planning) Regulations, the plaintiff's proposed building on the aforesaid site (other than Section F thereof) will not abut, front
(b) that the Building Authority's decision rejecting the plaintiffs' building plans on the ground that the street shadow area had been exceeded under Building (Planning) Regulation 16 was accordingly invalid.

The application was refused by Mr. Justice Liu for reasons given in the court below. Hence this appeal. The grounds of appeal are that:
(1) That the learned judge misconstrued the word "fronts" in Regulation 16.
(2) The judge wrongly held that physical contiguity is not essential for "fronting".

30 (3) The judge wrongly held that the plaintiffs' proposed building will "front" onto Jardine's Crescent.
(4) The judge wrongly held that in calculating street shadow area for the purpose of Regulation 16 the whole length of the rear side of the plaintiffs' proposed building will "front" Jardine's Crescent. or project over Jardine's Crescent;
(2) "fronting".

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Jurisdiction
No. 6
Judgment of Court of Appeal
(continued)

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate Jurisdiction

No. 6 Judgment of Court of Appeal (continued)

Mr. Widdicombe for the appeilants, with candid propriety, admits that there is no merit in his case. He relies entirely on questions of law. If I understand him correctly the whole appeal depends on the interpretation of the provisions of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations. The relevant points of Regulation 16 provides as follows:
16. (1) Where a building abuts, fronts or projects over a street, the height of such building shall be determined by reference to the street shadow area thereof.
(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the street shadow area of a building shall not exceed the area obtained by applying the formula $\mathrm{F} \times \mathrm{W}$ 2 and W is the width of the street upon or over which the building abuts, fronts or projects.
(4) For the purposes of this regulation -
"frontage" in relation to a building, means that boundary of a site upon which the building is erected which abuts or fronts a street and includes any service lane or other opening within such boundary;
"street" means a street or service lane at least 4.5 m wide;
"street shadow area" in relation to a building, means an area on the surface of a street contained by -
(a) a line formed by the project from every part of the side of the building abutting, fronting or projecting over such street of planes at an angle of $76^{\circ}$ from the horizontal from the highest point on such building or on any projection therefrom of a permanent nature, from which such planes could be drawn uninterrupted by any other part of that building;
(b) a line formed by the frontage of the building; and
(c) lines drawn from each extremity of the frontage of the building at right angles to the centre line of the street.

Mr. Widdicombe centents that, vis-a-vis the portion of that buildings which abuts or fronts the Jardine's Crescent it does not infringe the requirements of Regulation 16. As to the other portion of the building, its frontage adjoins that strip of land which is private ownership of the Mentor Estate Limited. To be exact, the larger portion of the building is approximately 5 cm from the back of the signboard to be erected by Mentor Estate Ltd.
at the height of 18 feet on the strip of land. As such there is no frontage of that larger portion of the building which is contiguous to Jardine's Crescent. I hope I am not unfair to Mr. Widdicombe by saying that it is implicit in his argument that the provisions of Regulation 16 (1) have no application to that portion of the building the frontage of which does not abut or front Jardine's Crescent.

A fair number of authorities have been cited in explanation of the words "abut" or "front" in relation to assignments for pavement and road repairing expenses. I do not find them of great assistance. The result of his appeal depends entirely on the interpretation of the
provisions of the Regulation 16. If the appellants' proposed building does
not come within the spirit and the letter of such statutory requirements of
Reg. 16 (1) lack of merit in this case is irrelevant. They are entitled to succeed. The result of his appeal depends entirely on the interpretation of the
provisions of the Regulation 16. If the appellants' proposed building does
not come within the spirit and the letter of such statutory requirements of
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not come within the spirit and the letter of such statutory requirements of
Reg. 16 (1) lack of merit in this case is irrelevant. They are entitled to succeed.

The meaning of the words "abut" and "front" are clearcut enough. It is also abundantly clear that at least $1 / 6$ th of the proposed building abuts and fronts Jardine's Crescent. That is so because $1 / 6$ th of the building constitutes an integral part of the building. If it abuts, then the whole building (in one unit) can be said to be a building which abuts the street. For example, if a person puts one of his feet on to the street it is futile to
20 argue that he has not entered the street simply because his whole body has not gone on the street. For this reason I am of the opinion that the building is one which abuts on Jardine's Crescent. As such it is a building to which paragraph 1 of Regulation 16 applies. The height of the whole building is to be determined by reference to the street shadow area.

Paragraph 2 of Regulation 16 merely provides a formula to work out the permitted maximum street shadow area. It is true that the frontage as defined in paragraph 4 of Regulation 16 might have the effect of rendering factor $F$ in paragraph 2, merely the length of about $1 / 6$ th of the full length of the boundary line on the side of Jard ine's Crescent. But that is not a point in issue here. I do not imagine that the Building Authority can be so unreasonable as to assign to factor $F$ in paragraph 2 only $1 / 6$ th of the full length of the boundary thereby grossly reducing. the permissible height of the building out of proportion.

Having regard to the definition of the word "frontage", I am of the opinion that a line can be drawn from the abutting part of the site or the two extremities of that abutting boundary at right angle to the centre line of the Jardine's Crescent for the purposes of sub. paragraph $(b)$ and $(c)$ in the definition of "street shadow area" in paragraph 4 of Regulation 16. After all a line is only a imaginary concept. It has neither width or height.

40 Which then is the highest point of the building abutting Jardine's Crescent for the purpose of sub. paragraph (a) in paragraph 4 of Regulation 16? I have no doubt that it is not only the highest point of that part of

In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate Jurisdiction

No. 6 Judgment of Court of Appeal


#### Abstract

In the the building which abuts on Jardine's Crescent. The provisions in the

Supreme Court of Hong Kong Appellate Jurisdiction

No. 6 Judgment of Court of Appeal (continued) definition in sub. (4) (a) of "street shadow area" requires "a line formed by the projection from every part of the building abutting from the horizontal from the highest point on such buildings". For this reason the highest point is from the roof top of the whole building - not just from one part of the building. I am of the opinion that the learned trial judge is correct in finding the proposed building front the Jardine's Crescent and that he is not wrong in holding that the whole length of the rear side of the appellants' proposed building will front Jardine's Crescent. If he erred he is erred on the side of generosity - having regard to what I said about factor $F$ in paragraph $2 \mathbf{1 0}$ of Regulation 16. Accordingly the appeal must be dismissed.


David Widdicombe, Q.C. \& Anthony Neoh (M. K. Lam \& Co.) for Appellants.
N. Strawbridge (Legal Dept.) for Respondent.

## NOTICE OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL

TAKE NOTICE that the Court of Appeal will be moved on Friday, the 17th day of July, 1981 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, or so soon thereafter Notice of as Counsel can be heard, by Counsel for the Plaintiffs for leave to appeal Motion for to the Privy Council against the Judgment delivered by the Court of Appeal on the 30th day of June, 1981 and that the costs of this Application be costs in the appeal.

Dated the 13th day of July, 1981.
(Sd.) M. K. Lam \& Co.
Solicitors for the Plaintiffs
(Appellants)

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN HUGGINS, VICE-PRESIDENT, THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ZIMMERN AND THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE POWER

## ORDER

UPON READING the Notice of Motion herein dated the 13th day of July, 1981 on behalf of the abovenamed Plaintiffs for leave to appeal from the judgment of the Court of Appeal given on the 30th day of June, 1981 to Her Majesty in Council

AND UPON HEARING Counsel for the Plaintiffs and Counsel for the Defendant

IT IS ORDERED that the Plaintiffs do have leave to appeal from the said judgment of the Court of Appeal to Her Majesty in Council on condition that:-

1. The Plaintiffs do within one month from the date hereof furnish security in the sum of $\$ 100,000.00$ for the due prosecution of the Appeal, and the payment of all such costs as may become payable to the Defendant;
2. The Record of the Appeal be prepared and despatched within 4 months from the date hereof.

Dated the 17th day of July, 1981.
(Sd.) J. G. Roy Acting Registrar

# EVIDENCES 

## and

## EXHIBITS

## Affirmation of Simon Kwan <br> Dated 15th July, 1980. <br> IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> HIGH COURT <br> MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

Item.
No. A 1

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and

AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED
Plaintiffs
TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED
YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Defendant

## AFFIRMATION OF SIMON KWAN

I, Simon Kwan, Chartered Architect, of 433-4 Man Yee Building, 67-71 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-

1. I am the Senior Partner of Simon Kwan \& Associates, Architects,

30 Designers and Planners, and am the Authorised Person appointed by the Plaintiffs to redevelop I.L. 457 Section $F$ and the remaining portion of Sections
Item. $\quad$ C, D, E \& G (hereinafter called "the Plaintiff's' Site"). I am duly authorised
No. A $1 \quad$ by the Plaintiffs to make this affirmation.

No. 11
(continued) by the Plaintiffs to make this affirmation.
2. I have perused the Title Deeds and Land Office Records concerning the Plaintiffs' Site and found that it originally formed part of a much larger site which was sold by William Jardines to Hysan Estates Limited in 1924. The original site, I.L. 457 was in fact sold together with I.L. 29. Part of I.L. 29 was surrendered to the Crown in the thirties for the construction of Yun Ping Road. I.L. 457 remained intact until the fifties when it was partitioned and developed. The Plaintiffs' Site formed part of a residential development (which has remained to this day). Of the other portions of I.L. 457, development includes Sec. A which together with Sec. G of I.L. 29 is known as Caroline Mansions (Nos. 8 to 10 Yun Ping Road); R.P. of I.L. 457 known as Tower Court (Nos. 20 to 24 Yun Ping Road); and Sec. L of I.L. 457 known as the Lee Gardens Hotel Complex.
3. The Draft Causeway Bay Outline Zoning Plan No. LH 6/24 had zoned the entire I.L. 457 for residential and commercial development. The Plaintiffs' Site therefore lies in an area of high density development and given no restrictions in the Crown Lease, I am advised that the Plaintiffs are entitled to build to the full site coverage and plot ratio stipulated in Schedule 1 of the Building (Planning) Regulations.
4. Sections F, C, D, E \& G of I.L. 457 (Nos. 16 to 26 Yun Ping Road) was acquired by the Plaintiffs between May 1978 to November 1979. By a series of Deed Polls executed between July to November 1979, Sec. C, D, E \& $G$ were partitioned and parts of the partitioned sections sold to Mentor Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Mentor Site"), with the following resultant holdings:-

Plaintiffs' Site
I.L. 457 Section $F$
R.P. of Sec. G,

E, D \& C

Mentor Limited's Site
Section G subsec. 1
Section E subsec. 1 and 2;
Section D subsec. 1;
Section C subsec. 1.
5. There are no restrictions imposed by the Crown Lease on the Plaintiffs or the said Mentor Limited both as to the user and as to the height of any proposed building.
6. Produced and shown to me are true copies of :-
a. the Crown Lease applicable to the Plaintiffs' Site as well as to the site occupied by the said Mentor Limited and particularized in paragraph (4) hereof marked "SK-1".
b. the said Deed Polls executed between July to November 1979 by Item. the Plaintiffs and the Assignments by the Plaintiffs to the said No. A1 Mentor Limited of the Sections particularized in paragraph (4) (continued) hereof, marked "SK-2" in a bundle.
7. On the instructions of the Plaintiffs, I submitted plans for the redevelopment of part of the Plaintiffs' site on 18th July 1979, but the plans were not approved by the Building Authority. Such disapproval was signified by the Building Authority on 17th September 1979. The Plaintiffs then acquired further portions of I.L. 457 and I was instructed to submit further plans for 10 the present site. These plans hereinafter referred to as "the said Plans"), true copies of which are produced and shown to me marked "SK-3", were submitted to the Building Authority on 28th November 1979.
8. The said Plans contained proposals for a building of 27 storeys including a lower ground floor. The lower ground floor and the 1st four floors were intended for a shopping plaza, whilst the remaining upper floors were to be used for office accommodation. On 25th January 1980, the Building Authority disapproved the said Plans, giving, inter alia, the following reasons:-
"The street shadow area over Jardine's Crescent has been exceeded, Building (Planning) Regulation 16. Your calculations should be based upon the overall frontage of the building. The alienated portion is not considered to affect the application of this regulation ".
9. By the "alienated portion", the Building Authority was referring to the Mentor site.
10. On 7th February 1980, an Appeal was lodged by the Plaintiffs to the Buildings Appeals Tribunal under Section 44 of the Buildings Ordinance. The Appeal was heard on 30th May 1980, but it was determined by the said Buildings Appeals Tribunal that the Building Authority's rejection of the
30 Plaintiffs Plans on 25th January 1980 was not an exercise of discretion, but a performance of a Statutory Duty to reject those Plans. The Plaintiffs' only recourse now lies with the ordinary courts. In the course of those proceedings, Crown Counsel appearing for the Building Authority accepted that the two other items specified in the Letter of rejection were only minor matters. I therefore believe that the only issue is the question whether the Plaintiffs' proposed building will abut or front the portions of Jardine's Crescent in question.
11. Produced and shown to me are true copies of:-
a. the rejection letter dated 25th January 1980 from the Building Authority, marked as "SK-4".
$b$. the determination of the Buildings Appeals Tribunal made on 30th May 1980 marked as "SK-5".

Item. 12. I am advised by the Plaintiffs' legal advisers and verily believe that No. 11 (continued) the Building Authority was wrong in law in rejecting the said Plans for the reasons given in paragraph (8) hereof, for upon a true and proper construction of Regulation 16 of the Buildings (Planning) Regulations, street shadow calculations were only applicable by reference to the following two frontages of the Plaintiffs' Site: -
a. the frontage along Yun Ping Road formed by I.L. 457 Sec. F and R.P. of Sec. C, D, E \& G.
b. the frontage along Jardine's Crescent formed by I.L. 457 Sec. F alone.
13. I am also the Architect and Authorised Person retained by the said Mentor Limited to construct a large illuminated advertisement sign on the said Mentor Site, alienated from the Plaintiffs' original site. I am advised that this advertisement sign is, by Section 2 of the Buildings Ordinance, a building. It is proposed that a steel and concrete structure of approximately $1^{\prime} 1^{\prime \prime}$ wide, $18^{\prime}$ high and $140^{\prime}$ long, designed to house a number of illuminated advertising boards or show cases will be constructed on this site. The plans for these advertisement sign were submitted to the Building Authority on 11th March 1980 and approved on 11th April 1980 with the rider that consent to commence works should await resolution of structural matters. Produced and shown to me marked "SK-6" are true copies of the plans submitted to the Building Authority in respect of the said advertisement sign, and marked "SK-7", a true copy of the approval for the said advertisement sign by the Building Authority.
14. I am informed by the directors of Mentor Limited and do verily believe that there is absolutely no connection between Mentor Limited and the Plaintiffs and it is Mentor Limited's intention to commence building works on the aforesaid site as soon as vacant possession is given to it by the Plaintiffs. Produced and shown to me marked "SK-8" is a true copy of the Statutory Declaration made by Mr. Keith Lam Hon Keung, Managing Director of Mentor Limited, declaring his company's firm intention to carry out the aforesaid building works; the original of the said Statutory Declaration was submitted to the aforesaid Buildings Appeals Tribunal.
15. In November 1979, before I submitted plans on behalf of Mentor Limited to the Building Authority in respect of the said advertisement sign board, I conducted a study of the economic feasibility of such a project. Produced and shown to me marked "SK-9" is a true copy of the summary of the said feasibility study which I submitted to my client. From the said "SK-9", it will be seen that the total capital costs will be $\$ 660,000$. I have based my estimate of revenue on monthly charges made by the Cross Harbour Tunnel for its signboards near the toll area and the signboards measuring by $4^{\prime} \times 18^{\prime}$ within the Star Ferry Concourse at $\$ 3,000$ and $\$ 1,000$ per month respectively. Since Mentor Limited's sign-board is much larger, it should be attractive to potential advertisers and it is my view that for a panel of
$10^{\prime} \times 14^{\prime}$, revenue at $\$ 2,000$ a month should be obtainable. There will be Item. 10 such panels on the advertisement board, so gross revenue of $\$ 240,000$ No. A 1 per annum should be obtainable. With administration costs at $20 \%$, I would (continued) expect a percentage yield of $33.60 \%$ of capital investment per annum.
16. The said advertisement board will be facing Jardine's Crescent which is at present a street market. Upon construction of the said advertisement sign and the redevelopment of the Plaintiffs' Site, hawkers at present positioned in front of the said sign will according to the best of my knowledge of present policy of the Urban Council, be resited. However, I have every
10 reason to believe that Jardine's Crescent will continue to be a busy thoroughfare and the advertisement sign is most likely to attract potential advertisers.
17. As the said advertisement sign will be built on a site which abuts or fronts Jardine's Crescent, shadow area calculations have been made and provided for with regard to the entire frontage of the Mentor Limited's site measuring some $140^{\prime}$. The building plans annexed hereto as "SK-6" will show such shadow area calculations.
18. Since the Plaintiffs' site and their proposed building is physically separated from Jardine's Crescent by the Mentor site, and the aforesaid advertisement sign-board to be erected thereon, shadow area calculations
20 have in the said building plans exhibited hereto as "SK-3" only been made for the Plaintiffs' proposed building in respect of its Yun Ping Road frontage and the side of Section F of I.L. 457 fronting Jardine's Crescent where there is no intervening site or structure between the said Crescent and the Plaintiffs' site.
19. Although the physical separation provided by the Mentor site and the said advertisement sign erected thereon is only $1^{\prime} 1^{\prime \prime}$ wide, it is, in my experience, no more different in principle to many situations which may be observed in Hong Kong whereby very tall buildings are separated from narrow streets by very low-rise and quite shallow buildings. I quote the example of
30 Gloucester Road and Jaffe Road. Gloucester Road itself is very wide and Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations will permit very tall buildings to be built with minimal set back, if at all, on the side facing it. On the other hand, Jaffe Road is very narrow. If the other side of the building were to front onto Jaffe Road, there would have been a drastic set back needed under the said Regulation 16. However, some tall buildings along Gloucester Road are separated from Jaffe Road by very low rise and quite shallow buildings with the result that there is no set back needed at all on the side of a Gloucester Road building which faces Jaffe Road. In actuality, some tall building on Gloucester Road will cast a long shadow extending even beyond Jaffe Road, but where they are separated by low rise and shallow buildings from Jaffe Road, no set back is required by the said Regulation 16.
20. There are similar situations that may be found in the Bonham Strand and Queen's Road West area. Perhaps the most striking example is the Hopewell Centre which is over $600^{\circ}$ high and which is bound to cause a

Item. shadow extending into several blocks. However, it is separated by low rise

No. A 1 (continued) buildings from the narrow street in front of it and therefore, is not subject to the rigors of the said Regulation 16.
21. Produced and shown to me marked "SK-10" are photographs which I have taken of some of the examples which I have quoted in the preceding paragraph.
22. In the premises, I am advised that there is no need for street shadow area calculations to be made in respect of the part of the Plaintiffs' Site which is separated from Jardine's by the Mentor site, and humbly ask that this Honourable Court grant the declarations sought in these proceedings.
23. Lastly, I do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm that the matters contained herein are, save as otherwise stated, true within my own knowledge

AFFIRMED at Room 2301, Lane )
Crawford House, Hong Kong, this 15th day of July, 1980.

Before me,

(Sd.) Andrew Kam Yee-wai<br>Solicitor,

Hong Kong.





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Executors, Administrators or Assigns shall and will, before the expiration of six calendar months next after the said Surveyur of Her said Majeaty, Her Heirs, Successora or Assigns, or such other person as the Governor shall in that behalf appoint, shall have required him so to do, at his and their own proper costs and charges, in a good, substantial and workman-like manner erect build and completely finish fit for use, one or more good, substantial and safe brick or stone messuage or tenement, messuages or tenementa, upon some part of the ground hereby demised, with proper fences, walls, sewers, drains and all other usual or necessary appurtenances, and shall and will, before the expiration of such six calcndar months as aforessid, lay out and expend

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 rercircule in the nature of reat is urear; AND FUll THER that it shall and may be iawful to and for Hir waid M: jest, Her





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Executors, Administrators and Assigns doth hereby covenant, promise and agree with Her said Majesty', Her Heirs, Successurs aud Assigns, to repair aud amend all such decays, defects and wade of reparation and mendinent accordingly; AND FURTHER that tiv in Robert fardine, fio

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Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 2$
(continued)
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hath hercunto sat heis hand und seal, the day amil year first above written



Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$

## Item.

No. $\mathbf{A} 3$ (continued)

THIS
DEED
made the Tenth day of July hundred and seventy-nine BETWEEN AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED whose registered office is situate at Rooms Nos.240l-6 Melbourne Plaza, 24th floor, No. 33 Queen's Road, Central, Victoria, Hong Kong and TUNG IIING SHING REALTY LIMITED whose registered office is situate at Room No. 97 New Henry House, No. 10 Ice House Street, Victoria aforesaid (who and each of whom and whose and each of whose successors and assigns are where not inapplicable hereinafter included under the designation "the Owners") of the one part and BANQUE BELGE POUR L'ETRANGER SOCIETE ANONYME a company incorporated under the laws of Kingdon of Belgium and having its Branch office at Edinburgh House, Queen's Road, Cent al, Victoria, Hong Kong (which said Company and its successors and assigns are where not inaplicable hereinafter included under the designation "the Mortgagee") of the other part WHEREAS :-

1. All Those pieces or parceis of ground situate lying and being at Victoria, Hong Kong and registered in the Land Office as SECTION E OF INLAND LOT NO. 457 and SECTION G OF INLAND LOT NO. 457 (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the said Land") are now vested in the Owners as Tenants in Common in equal shares for the residue of the term of 999 years from the 24 th day of December 1865 created therein by a Crown Lease dated the 29th day of March 1866 and made between !ler late Majesty Queen Victoria of the one part and Robert Jarcine of the other part subject to the rent and covenants therein reserved and contained and Subject also to a Mortgage dated the 22 nd day of July 1978 and made between the Owners of the one part and the Mortgagee of the other part and registered in the Land Office by Memorial No. 1587329 (hereinafter referred to as "the said Mortgage") to ecure general banking facilities to the extent of $\$ 9,800,000 ; 00$ and interest thereon subject to the proviso for redemption therein
contained.
2. The Owners now intend to have the said land divided into portions which shall at all times hereafter and for all purposes be

## Item.

No. A 3
(continued) known and designated as hereinafter mentioned.

NOW THIS DEED POLL WITNESSETH that the Owners with the consent of the Mortgagee DO and each of them DOTII hereby deciare and the Mortgagee at the request of the said Owners DOTl hereby confirm that from and after the date hereof NLL TIOSE PORTIONS more particularly described in the First Column of the First and Second Schedules hereto of the said SECTION L OF INLAND LOT NO. 457 and SECTION G OF INLAND LOT NO. 457 respectively shall for all purposes be known designated and respectively registered in the Land Office as described in the Scond Column of the said First and Second Schedules subject to the said Mortgage.
THE FIRST SCIEDULE ABOVI: REFERRED TO

FIRST COLUMN SECOND COLUNN

| Portions of Section E of Inland Lot No. 457 more particularly delineated on the plan annexed hereto and thereon coloured as follows :- | Portions (opposite to the colour described in the first column rereof) of the said land to be designated known and registered in the Land office as follows :- |
| :---: | :---: |
| (1) Yellow hatched Black | Subsection One of Section $E$ of lnland Lot No. 457 |
| (2) Yellow | The Remaining Portion of Section $E$ of Inland Lot No. 457 |

THE SECOND SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED 70

Portions of Section G of Inland lot No. 457 more particularly delincated on the plan annexed hereto and thereon coloured as follows :-

Portions (opposite to the colour described in the first column hereof) of the said land to be designated known and regjstered. in the Land Office as follows :-

Item.
No. A 3
(continued)
(1) Blue hatched Black
(2) Blue

Subsection one of Section G of Inland Lot No. 457

The Remaining Portion of Section $G$ of Inland Lot No. 457

IN WITNESS whereof the Owners have caused their respective Common Seals to be hereunto affixed and Officers of the Mortgagee duly appointed to execute this Deed in the name of the Mortgagee hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

SEALED with the Common Seal of AIK $)$ SAN REALTY LIMITED and SIGNED ;
and DELIVERED by CHUNG MING FAI)

 whose signatures are verified by:- )


STU LONG WONG
solder HONG ECHO

SEALED with the Common Seal of JUNG HING SUING REALTY LIMITED
and SIGNED and DELIVERED by CHEUNG KUNG HAI and CHIN LAM
 whose signatures are verified by :- )

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STU LOONG WONG
SOLDCTIUR,
HONG KONG


## Item.

No. A 3
(continued)


Item.
No. A 3
(continued)

The H. C. lying and being at Victoria, Hong Kong and registered
 SECTION C OP INLAND LOT NO.457 (hereinafter refer ted to as "tho said Land") is now vested in tho owner for the residue of the terip of 999 years from tho $24 t h$ day of December. 1865 crated therein by a Grown Lease dated the 29th day of March 1866 and made between Her late Majesty Que b Victoria of the ono part and Robert Jaraine of the other part subject to tho cont and covenants therein reserved and contained
2. The Owner now intends to have tho sad land divided into portions which mall a ti times hereafter and for all purposes bo known and designated as hereinafter mentioned,

NOW THIS DEED POLL WITNESSETH that tho Owner DOTH hereby declare that from and after the date hereof ALL THAT PORTION more particularly
 described into first Column of tho Schedule hereto
 INLAND LOT NO. 457 shall for all purposes be known designated and registered in the land office described in the Second Column of the sid Schedule.

Item.
No. A 3
(continued)

TIIE SCIMDDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

| HIRST COLIMN | SECOND COLIMN |
| :---: | :---: |
| Portions of Section $C$ of Inlund lot No. 457 more particularly delincated on the plax amexpid hereto and thereon coloured as follows :- | Portions fopposite to the colour described in the first Column hereof) of the said land to be designated known and registered in the land office as follows:- |
| (1) Green hatched Black | Subsection One of Section C of Inland lot No.4.57 |
| (2) Green | The Remaining Portion of Section C of Inland Lot No. 457 |
| IN WITNESS whereof the Owner hath caused its Common |  |
| Seal to be hercunto affixed the day and year first above written. |  |
| the Common Seal of ) OLment Company limited) |  |
|  |  |
|  whose slguatures aro ? | $\dot{x}_{2} v \ggg$ |

SEAIFI with the Common Seal of
Yal SiN DEVELODMENT COMPANY LIMITED)
 its Director whose slguatures aro ? verifled by :-

 of No. Df Kennedy Road victoria in the Colony of flong Kong Married Woman (who and whose executora and administrators are whore not inapplicable hercinafter liciuded under the dealgnation the Vendor") of the first part TUNG HIN: SHIN REALTY LIMITED whose regigtered orfice ia bituate at Room 97 New Henry House 10 Ice house street Victoria aforegald and aik SAN REALTY LIMITED vhose rrifistered office 18 gituate at Meibourne Plaza 24 th fioor 33 queen's Road central victorla aforcsald (herelnafter cialed "the confirinors") of the secand part and yau sun development COMPANY Limite vhose registered offico 1 il dituate at 97 New ifonry house 10 fce fouse street Victoria a foresald (which sald company and lts succe ;oors and assijns are where not inapplicable hereinafter inclucled under tho debignation "the purchaser"? of the third part whereas by a Crovn Leaso dated the 29 th day of March 3 brs made hetween Her late Majesty queen Victoria of the one part and nobert Jardine of the other part ller badd majesty demsed unto the sald nobrt Jargine his executors adminigtrators and assionne Ail That plece or parcel of ground siluate lying and belm, at Victorla in the saic Culony of fons kong therejn more particularly degeribes and resistered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 457 Except and reserved as was therein excepted and reserved from the 24 ih day of December 1805 for the term of gog yeaxs shlviect to the rent and the legeees covenonts and comitions tirerein reaerved and contained
 iu now vested for the resliciue of the caid tera of gar yearb in the vendor who has aureed with the Conflraors for the sale thereof to the confirmore for the arice of $74,500.000 .00$ but no
 lurchare: for tho made to the purchaser of the sald prembes for the price of $\$ 3,500,000,00$






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 mid piece or parcel of ground vith ito abuttais and dimensions is more particuiarly delineated and described on the plan amexed to an As;itgnment Momorial No. 203505 and thereon coloured

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Item. No. A 3 (continued)

Item.
of the said premises hereby assigned their tenanta servants workmen and others authorised by them in connection with tho uaer of tho ald promises horeby assigned to pass and repass with or without vehicles over a road constructed or to be constructed upon all those plecen of ground kiom and regithered in the Land offico reapectively as Gection m of Inland Lot No. 29 and Soction $\mathcal{B}$ of Inland Lot No. 457 as ghown on tho plan annexed to Reabalonment: dated the 77 th day of July 1350 made between The llong kong b shanghai lianking corporation of the one part and ono Lee llyban Entate compony Limited of the other part and regivtered in the I.and office by ferorial No. 192.253 until such rodd is takon over by or burcendered to the Covernmont of llong fong And all other rights privilegea eaecments and appurtenanceg thereto beloncing and all thre estate right titlo interost proporty clain and demarid of the venclor

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Item.

## Item.

No. A 3
(continued)
 Kennouy Road Vlctoria in the Colony of llong Kong civil Englnece (who and whoog executors and administrators are were not inappilcable herelnafter included under the designation the Vendor") of the firbt part TUNG IING SIING REALTY LIMITED whose regletered office lis aituate

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 belng a party to and exneuting these presenta) (the recelpt of which naid sum of $\$ 0,500,000.00$ the vontor doth hereby acknowledge) the vendor at the reguest and hy the direction of the confirmors (testifler as aforesald) nopu hereby asilign and the Confirmors po hercby assign and conferm unto the purchaseq NUT TIAT plece or parcel of ground aituate at victoria aforesald which sald piece or marcol of ground with 1 ts abuttala and dimenaions is more particularly dellnnatod and dencribed on the plan annexed to an Ansignment Memorial No. 190452 and thereon
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Item. No. A 3 (continued)
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Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$
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No．A 3
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 registorod office is eituate at Room 97 Now nonry louso, No. 10 Ico llouge Stroet Victoria aforoanid (who and oach of whom and whose and asch of whose accossors and assigns are whero rot inajplicalila horeinafter included under the doeignation 'tho iurchasorg") of tho other part flerens by a Crown toase Jated the 23 ti day of March 1366 and made botweon lior late :lajesty Quecn Victoria of the one part and novert Jariino of the othor bart ller said lato liajesty domisod unto tho a.ald Roinert Jardine his executora aiminiatrators ans asaigne nil That flece or parc: of ground situate lying and being at Victoria aforeqsid more particularly doacribed in tho now reciting Leitse arne registered in tho Land offico of Victoria aforeaald aa Kiliand Lot No.457 Except and resarved as was theroin excopted ainf reserved from the 24 th day of Decembor 100 for the term St 999 years subject to tim rent and covenanta thorain reserved ani contained nro benald all that portion mercinafter more particularly desertis.: of tho said iromison is now vested for the residue of the sall torm of 399 yoars in tho Vendor sho hath agreed wieh the furchasers for tho enzo tioceo: to the: : FOR tilu paice oz $\$ 5,300,000.00$ NOW THIS IHOENTURJ iIITNEESETH

Item.
No. A 3 (continued)
that in purauance of such agrement and in consideration 0 : DOLIMRS FIVE MILLIO! AND TIRLE IMIDR!D T:IOUSA:in to the Vencer nod pald by the purchasers (the recelpt wherrof the Vonior dot'y hareby acknowledge tho Vendor bomil herchy maden unto tho Furchanors NuL tunt plece or parcel of eround regintared in the Land office an sECTION D OF INLA: D LOT :O. 457 as the gnan with its abuttals and dimensions $1 s$ more particularly dolinnated and described on the Plan annexed to an Indenture of nsadgnment dated the 16 th day of Nugust 1950 and recistered in the Land Offico by Memorinl No. 199642 and thereon coloured Greon mocri!er. with the mesouage erections and building thereon known at the date horeor as No. 20 Yun Ping Road (fomerly known as lio. 20 Pelping Road) AND ToGETuER niso with all righty of way and particularly with a full froc and undnterrupted right of wey for the Purchasers or the owners for the timn being of the sald horoby assigned premiscs his or thele tenants servants workmen' and others authorised by him or them In connection with the uner of the sald premisen hereby assinned to pass and ranaras with or without vehicles over a rond conntructed or to l,o constructed upon all those pieces of ground known and rerintorot In tho Land ofilce respectively as section $M$ of inland Iot No. 29 and Section $B$ of Inland Iot No. 457 as shown on the In annexed to a Reanbignment dated the 27 th dny of July 1250 made between tho llongkong and Shanghal panking Corporation of tho ono part and the maid Lee Hysan ratato Company Limited of the other part and reqistered in the Land-offica by nerordal No. 229253 until such rond 1 s thicen over by or surranderon to the Covernment of llong liong and all other rightes pivilegna casements nnd appurtenances thereto belonging or anvertaining N:ID all tho estato right title intereat property cinin an?
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Item. No. $\mathbf{A} 3$ (continued) Vondor that the Purchasora will durlng tho rosiduo of tho ald torm of 999 yearo pay tho annual yura of $\$ 22.00$ boing a proportion of the ront and porform the covenanta and coniltions by and in tho sald Crown Lease renorvod and containod ao far as they relata to the horcby asaignod promisob and indemnlfy the Vendor agalnat all actions aita ox!onsos claime and domands on account of or in respect of the non-paymont of the ada proportion of the rent or the non-performanco of tho said covonants and conditions or any of them AND the purchanors as to the premises horeby assigned and with intent to bind all porson in whom tho prembag horoby assicnod shall for tho thee bolng bo used but not so ag to bo personally diablo under thls covenant after thoy have parted with tho madd premses horeby further covenanta with the Vendor that tho purchasore will not use the said premisos during the ald tarm of 999, years for any other furposa than that of a private dwolling house and that thore shald not bo done or auffarod on the nald pramines anything which shall bu nuisaria to tho occupiars of ine land adjacent thoreto or in tho nelghbourhood ard that tho sald premiaos shall not be used for a brick-yara, stone-quarry, factory, cinoma, oflenalve and nolvomo and noxious trades, cabarote, studlos or any other almilar purposes ard that tho Purchasorg will permit the owner or ownors of the anjacent promiace to mako connoction to the draina on the ald promian sid that the rurchagoru will prepare at their own coctor and axpennea footpath or pavemont adjolning and fronting tha house on the said premises and that they will moot the conts for the formation and surfachng of half width of tho projectorl xan in continuation of the exipting road now known as yun ping roxd (formorly known as reiping Roac!) Along tho wholo lonijti nf
tho said promises fronting on the maid road (which and hale width is shown on tho said plan annexed to tho bald Asalgnoment

Momorial ilo. 199642 and thereon coloured flue hatched blue) and also maintain the same to the matiefaction of the pubila Works Department until tho aid road is taken over by or surrendered to the Government of long Kong.

I!I WITIESS whereof the Vendor hath hereunto not his hand:; and sad and the purchasers have hereunto caused thole respective Common Seals to be affixed: the day and pear first above written.
 vendor in tho presence of :, 纤 $\mathcal{L i}_{i}$ chi Kin

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Lr y A. Domed Yap
Solicitor, Hong Kong.

Item. IUTERPRETED to tho Vendor by :-
No. A 3 (continued)

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be paid by the purchasers to tho vendor. WI T NE S S 1 -

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ITu vendor has bean previously)
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> (hi) Ching Han then clerk to Hoars. Lo to, solicitors wc., Hong Kong.


Item. No. $\mathbf{A} 3$ (continued)
the rent and covenants therein roberved and contained XND iniereas at the dato of denth of chiu lut gau horoinafter flrst rocited all that portion hereinafter more particuiarly described of the sald premison woro vented for the rebiduo of the said torm of 999 yoars in the sadd Chiu Lut Sau and Whimens the said Chiu Lut Sau died on the 8 th day of June 1974 after having duly made and exacuted his latit will datod the 31st day of December 1973 whereby ho appointed the Vondors to be the oxecutors thereof AND WHERLAS rrobata of the sadd will was on the 20th day of March 1978 granted to the Vendors'as executors as aforesald out of the Supreme Court of llong Rong in 1 tes Probate Jurisdiction No. 563 of 1978 AND WHEREAS the Vendors as such executors as aforesaid for the purposo and in the course of administration of tho astato of tho gald deceased have agroed with the Confirmor for the ala thereof to the Conflrmor for the price of $\$ 5,000,000.00$ AND WHEREAS the Conflrmor hath since agreed with the Purchasars for the ealo of tha same premises to the purchaser for the prico of $\$ 6,000,000.00$ NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETII that in pursuanoo of such agroement and in considaration of the sum of DOLLARS SIX MILLION ( $\$ 6,000,000.00$ ), paid on or before these presents by tho Purchasers as to $\$ 5,000,000.00$ part thereor to the Vendors at the request and by the direction (hereby testificd) of thu Confirmor and as to $\$ 1,000,000.00$ tha residuo thereof to the Confirmor (the receipt whereof the Vendors and the Confirmor do hereby respwively acknowledge) the Vendors as such executors as aforonald in the course of admaistration of the cstate of the said decassed and at tho request (hareby testified) of the Confirmor DO hereby assign tand the Conflimor Dorill lendy assign and conflem unto tho purchnsers ALL tiat piece or parcol of ground situate at victoria aforesald which aaid
piece or parcel of ground with lta abuttals and dimonaiong is more partioularly dulineatod and doseribod on the pian annoxed to an Indenture of Aasignment dated the 5th day of August 1950 and registored in tho Land Office by Nomorlal No. 299454 and thoreon colourod Yollow and is intendod to be regibterad in the Land ofeico an SECTION E OF INLAND IO'F NUNOER FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTX GEVLN Together with all mesguages eractions and builalngs thoreon known at the date hereof as No. 22 Yun ping Road Together also with all rights of way and particularly with a full froe and unintorrupted right of way for the purchasers or the owners for tive tino being of the ald promiben hareby asulgned his or their tenants sarvants workmen and othara authorised by him or them in connection with tha user of tho gald promises heraby assigned to pass and repass with or without velifcles over a road congtructad or to be construated upon all thoso pleces of ground known and ragistered in the Land office respectively as Section $M$ of Inland Lot No. 29 and Section $F$ of Inland Lot No. 457 as shown on tho plan annexed to a Roassignment dated tho 27 th day of July 1950 made botween Ihe llongkong \& Shanghai Danking Comporation of the ona part and tia Vendor of the other part and registorad in the Land Office by Memorial No. 199253 until guch road is takon over by or surrendered to the Governmant of Hong Kong And all other rights priviloges easoments and appurtonances thereto bolonging And all tho ebtato right titio intorest property claim and domand of tho Vendors and tha Confirmor therein and thareto oxcopt and reserved as in tho said Leaso is excepted nar reacrvad ro HoLD the said premines unto the Purchasors as Tenants in Common in equal shares for the residun now to como of the said term of 999 yoars SUBJECT to the paymont of tho proportion fereinaftor montioned of the rent and tho performance

Item. No. $\mathbf{A} 3$ (continued)
of tho covenants in the said Lease regerved ancl contained so far as thoy rolate to the hereby asolgned premsoa AND the Vendors as auch oxecutors as aforesald $D O$ and the Confirmor DOTII hereby covenant with the purchasors that tho Vondors have and tho Confinmor hath not done omitted or knowingly sufforod or been party or privy to any act dood mattor or thing wheraby or by means whereof the said premisos hereinbefora assignod or any part thoreof now are or 1 s or can or shall or may bo impoached charged affocted or encumbered in titie estate or otherwise lowsoover AND the Purchasers with the objact and intantion of affording to the Vondors a full and aufilciont indennity but not further or otherwise hereby covenant with the Vendors that the purchasers will during the rasidue of the sald term of 999 yoars pay the annual sum of $\$ 12.00$ bolng a proportion of the ront and porform the Lessea's ouvonanta and condicions in the said Lease roservod and contalnod so far as they relato to the hereby asoigned premises and indemnify the Vendor against the non-payment of the said ront or the nonperformance of the add covenants and conditions AND the Purchasers as to the premises hereby ansigned and with intent to bind all persons in whom the premises horeby abalgnad shall for tho tima boing be vested but not so as to be personally 1iablo under this civenant aftor they have parted with the sald promises heraby covenant. With the Vendors and its assigns that the Purchasers will not uso tha sald promises during tho said term of 999 years for any other purpose than that of private dwelling houso and that there shall not ho dione or ouffered on the sajd premisos anything which shall bo a nuisance to the occupiers of the land adjacent thereto or in the neighbourhood and that the said promisos shall not be
usod for a brick-yard, atono-ciuarxy factory, oinoma, offonsivo Item. and nodsosomo and noxious trados, cajurets, studjon or any othor almilar purposes AND that the puxchasors will pormit the owner or owners of the adjacint premises to make connections to tha drains on the aald prembos AND that the purchasers will prepare at tholr own oosts and expense a footpath or pavement adjolning and Eronting the houso on the sald premises and that thoy will moot the costa for the formation and surfacing of hale width of the projected road in continuation of be exlating road now known as Yun Ping foad (formariy known as pelping Road) along the whole length of the aaid premises fronting on the said road (which said haif width id shown on the sald plan and thereon coloured Blue hatchod Blue) and also malntain tho gamo to the satisfaction of tho public Forks Department until tha said road is takan over by or surrendered to tha Govenamant of Hong Kong.

IN WI'INESS whereof the Vendors hava horeunto mot tholr hands and seals and the Confirmor and the purchasers have hereurtc caused their respereive Comen Seals to be affixed

Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$ (continued)
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#### Abstract

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Solicitor, Hong Kong.


Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$
(continued)


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Solicitor, llong Kong.
INTERPRETED to the Vendors by :-

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Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$
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Item．
No．A 3
（continued）
 PNK Ho（个）Modical Practitionor and NG CIIAN MUI FONG
 Building，Dos Voeux Road Central，Victoria in tho Colony of Hong Kong，the executore named in the will of cilnil iny so cilun （i）隹们）doceaged（who and the survivors ox survivor of whom and the oxecutors and administrators of such survivors or gurvivor are where not inapplicable hereinafter included undar the destgnation＂the Vendors＂）of the one part and AIK SNN REALIX LIMITED whose ragistered office is situate at 2401－G Nalbourne Flaza， 24 th Floor， 33 Queen＇s Road Central Victoria aforesaid and tUNG IIING SIIING REALTY LIMITED whone reglatered office ia gituate at Room 97 New llenry Ilouse No． 10 Ico Houso Stroot in the sald Colony of Hong Kong（who and each of whom and whose and each of whose suocessors and asgigna aro where not inapplicable herelnafter included undar tho designation＂the Purchasers＂） of the othor part WIERENS by a Crown Teaso dated the 29 th day of March 1866 made botwoen Hox late Majosty Quoen Victoria of tho ono part and Robort Jardino of tho othor part for lato hajesty demiaed unto tho waid Robert Jardine his executors administrators and assigns All That pioce or parcol of ground situato lying and being at Victoria in the Colony of llong Kong thoroin more particularly doscribed and reglatored in tho Land Office as Inland Lot No． 457 Except and resurvod an was tharain excepted and roserved from the 24 th day of Decembor 2865 for the torm of 979 years subfoct to the ront and covenants thoroin reserved and contained AND mIEREAS at the dato of doath of Cran Lai So Chun horeinafter first recitod all that portion

Item.
No. $\mathbf{A}$
(continued)
herolnafter more particularly doacribod of tho said promises were vested for the residue of the said torm of 999 years in the said Chan Lad So Chun AND WHENDAS tho said Chan Lai So Chun dled on the 2nd day of January 1973 after having duly made and executed hre lagt will dated the 7 th day of July 1971 whereby she appointed the Vandors to be the executors thereof AND WIIEREAS probate of tha $\operatorname{said}$ wlll was on the 5 th day of December 2974 granted to the Vendors as executors as aforasald out of the supreme Court of Hong Kong in its probato Jurdsdiction No. 1755 of 1974 AND WHERENS the Vendora as auch exacutors as aforesaid for the purpose and in the course of adninistration of the estate of the said decoased have agreed with the purchasers for the sale thereof to the purchasers for the price of $\$ 12,000,000.00$ NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSLTH that in pursuance of such agrooment and in conslderation of the sum of DOLLARS TWILVE MILALION $(\$ 12,000,000.00)$ pald on or before these prosentes by the Purchasers to the Vandors (the recelpt whoreof the Vendore do hereby acknowledge) the Vendora as such exeoutorg as aforesald In the course of administration of the estate of the sada deceased DO hereby assign unto tho Purchasers ALJ THAT ploce or parcol of ground situate at victoria aforosald and ragintered In the Land Office as SECTION G OR INLAND LOT NUMMER FOUR IUNDRED AND FIFTY SEVEN Togethor with all messuagos eroctiong and bulldings thereon known at tho date hereof as No. 24 and 26 Yun ping Road Togother also with all rights of way and particularly with a fill free and unintexrupted right of way for the purchasers or the ownera for the tima boing of tho gaid promises horeby assigned hor or their tenants servants workton and others authorisod by her or them in connection with tho user of the sald premises heroby aseignod to pase and repass
with or without vahician ovar a road construatad or 40 be constructed upon all those piaces of ground known and reglatored In the Land Office respectivoly as Section $M$ of Iniand Lot No. 29 and Suction $B$ of Inland Lot No. 457 as shown on the pian annexed to a Reassignment dated tho 27 th day of July 2950 and between The Ifong Kong and Shanghal lianking Corporation of the one part and the vundor of tha other part and ragistorod in the Land office by Memorial No. 199253 untll guch road ia taken ovar by or burranderad to the Govornment of llong Kong And all othor rights privileges easemente and appurtonanoen tharato belonging And all the ostate right ilita intoroot property claim and demand of tho Vondors tharaln and thorato oxcopt and resorvod as in the sald Leaso io excoptod and resurvad To HoLd the said premises unto the purchasura an jomanta-inCommon in oqual shares for the rapluae now to come of the sald torm of 999 years SUBJECT to tho paymant of the proportion herafnafter montionod of the rent and the porformance of the covenants in the sald Lease roservad and containod bo far as thoy relato to the heraby assignod promieos $\pi N D$ the Vendors as auch executors as aforesaid Do hereby covenant with the Purchasers that the Vendors have not done omited or knowingly suffered or been party or privy to any act dead mattor or thing whereby or by means wheraof the sald premisea hereinbefore assigned or any part thereof now are or is or can or ahall or may be impoached chargod affected or oncumbered in titie estate or otherwiso howsoover AND tho purchaserss with tho object and intention of affording to tho Vondors a full and uufficiont indemnity but not furthor or othorwise hereby covenants with the Vondors that the Purchasors will during the residuo of the said term of 999 yoars pay the annual sum of $\$ 24.00$ being a

Item. No. A 3 (continued)
propertion of the rent and periorm the Leasea's covenante and conditions in the sald Loado rosorved and contalnad so far as they relate to the haroly no fonod pomdsos and dndemnify the Vendors against the non-parmant of tho gato rent or the non-perfomance of the satd covonants and conditions AND the Puxchabere as to the prember hereby assionos and with intont to bind all parsona.in whon tho promisios hoisby asalgnad mall for the time being be veuted but not bo as to bo personaliy liable undor this covenant aftor thoy hava partod witin the maid premisea horoby covonanta with tha Vandors and thoir asalyns that the purchasera will not uso tho nald promisea during the roadduo of tho sadd term of 999 yaara for any other purposa than that of privata dwolling housos and that there shall not be done or suffered on the bald prempes anything which shall be a nulsance to the occuplers of the 1.nnd adjacent thereto or in the neighbourhood and that tho sald promises shall not be uaed for a brick-yard atonerjuarry factory dinema offenalva and nolsesome and noxious trades cabarets dancing studios or any other almilar purposes AND that the Purchasers will permit the ownor or owners of the adacont pramiges to make connactions to tha drains on the said premises Aird that the purchasers will propare at tholr own costs and oxpensos a footpath or pavement adjoining and fronting the houses on the gald premisen and that they will. meet the costs for the formation and aurfacing of half of the width of the projectod road along the wholo longth of the sald premisas fronting on tho road in continuation of tha axiating road now known as Xun Ping Road (formerly known as poiping road) (which said half width its nhown on the plan annexed to an Indenture of Roassignment dated the 21 Bt day of September 1951 and rogistered in the Land office by Momoríal No. 206705 and
thereon uncoloured hatchad Blue) and also maintaln the saune to the satisfaction of the Public Works Departinent until the sald road is taken over by or surrenderad to the Government of Hong Kong.
 above writtan.


Item.
No. $\mathbf{A} 3$
(continued)

XN WITNESS whersof the Vondora hava hareunto eat their hends and seals and the Purchasers have herounto caused thelr rapective Common Seals to be affixed the day and yaar firut abovi writan.
SYGNED GEALED and DELIVTERED by the Vondors (thoy having been provioudy 1dontizied by al A. Dunali l', in the presanco of i-
$\therefore \therefore$, 11 m,
Solicitor, Hong Kong. SEALED with the Common seal of tho Purchasars and GTGNTD by (\%iy, $\%$ in, ian,
 $\therefore$ 并 In tha presonco of :-


Soilcitor, long Kong.

Item. No. A 3
(continued)

SHEDULE OF SANTTARY FITMENT

| LCation | use |  |  |  | No |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Location | USE | $\mathrm{CiF}_{\left(\mu^{2}\right)}$ | $\mathrm{M}^{2}$ Pegs |  | female a maie | wc masin lmani | wc masin krnal |
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| $4 \mathrm{ta}-\mathrm{isF}$ | afa | ${ }^{43}$ |  | c | ${ }^{\text {mate }}$ |  |  |
| sif |  | 224 |  |  |  |  |  |

## REQUIREMENT OF EXIT MEAN





SHEDULE OF F.R.P.






BLOCK PLAN 1 Seak :






SHADOW AREA DIAGRAM
SHADON AREA calculation



## SOYFRAGE AND PIOT RATIO CAICUATION

## 








Item.
No. 4
(continued)





Dated 25th January, 1980

Mr. Simon Kwan
433-4 Man Yee Building, 67-71 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong.

Dear Sir,

$$
\text { 16-26 Yun Ping Road - I.L. } 457 \text { s.F, s.O, s.D, s.E \& s.G }
$$

I refer to your application dated 29th November 1979 for approval or proposals.

It is the usual practice in the Buildings Ordinance Office for all submissions to be checked carefully to ensure that contraventions of the Buildings Ordinance and Regulations are not present and that from other aspects where the public interest is involved, the proposals are viable. However, the pressure of work in the Buildings Ordinance Office is such that this usual practice cannot be followed without most serious delay continuing to affect all submissions to the B.O.O. Therefore, your application has been checked on the basis of certain elementary checks only but this elementary checking has disclosed that
(Please see overleaf)
and your proposal therefore is disapproved.
This curtailment of the usual range of checks emphasizes your duties and responsibilities as Authorised Person and I must stress the importance the Building Authority attaches to the proper assumption of responsibility by Authorised Persons. It is self-evident that any alteration to a building during erection or on completion, costs money and causes delays. Where the Building Authority is of the opinion that an Authorised Person has failed in his duty appropriate action will be taken.

Please ensure, therefore, that a re-submission complies fully with the Buildings Ordinance and Regulations, and that all relevant information is attached.

Yours faithfully,
KL/vo
(Sd.) Kenneth Lai
pro Building Authority

Item. No. A 5 (continued)
2. i) The relevant certificate from the Director of Fire Services has not been produced. Section $16(1)(b)$ of the Buildings Ordinance refers.
ii) The canopy is unacceptable. Section 31 (1) of the Buildings Ordinance refers.
iii) The street shadow area over Jardine's Crescent has been exceeded, Building (Planning) Regulation 16. Your calculations should be based upon the overall frontage of the building.

The alienated portion is not considered to affect the application of this regulation.
5. Comments from Director of Fire Services attached. One set of your plans is retained for reference purposes while the other sets are returned herewith.
Item．Buildings Appeals Tribunal＇s Decision


## GOYERNMENT SECRETARIAT

Lower albert road HONG KONG
＊需极期 OUR REF：ENV 63／80／04


> | Appeal Tribunal - Buifldings Ordinance |
| :--- |
| Nos. 16 26, Yun Pine R oad, Hong Kous |
| Inland Lot No. 457 日.F, B.C, B.D, |

I enclose for your attention a copy of a minutes of the open hoaring in the case of Nos．16－26，Yun Ping Road，Hong Kong－Inland Lot No． 457 日．F．A．C，E．D．s．F \＆B．G，which was hold on 30 th May， 1980.

Yours faithfully，

for Becretary for the Environment

[^2]The decision of the Tribunal was delivered orally:

Item.
No. A 6
(continued)

An Appeal has been brought to this Tribunal against the decision of the Building Authority to reject plans for the re-development of premises known as 16-26 Yun Ping Road.

On 25th January 1980 the subject plans were rejected and in a letter to the appellant's architect the grounds for rejection included as item II(3) "the street shadow area over Jardine's Crescent has been exceeded, Buildings (Planning) Regulation 16. Your calculations should be based upon the overall frontage of the building. The alienated portion is not considered to 10 affect the application of this regulation."

We need not concern ourselves with the other grounds upon which the plans were rejected as we have been told that these are minor matters and of no consequence. This Appeal has been brought before us under the provisions of Section 44 of the Buildings Ordinance but it is necessary to go back to Section 43 to find out the purpose for which this Tribunal has been established and the limits of our jurisdiction.

Section 43(1) states that the Governor may appoint from time to time an Appeal Tribunal, as he has of course done, for the purpose of determining appeals by persons prejudiced by a decision of the Building Authority, and 20 I must underline the words that follow, in the exercise of his discretion in respect of any act, matter or thing which is by this ordinance made subject to the exercise of such discretion.

Our powers are limited, and indeed it is a groat pity that advocates appearing and arguing so eloquently before us have not dissected the decision in Singway Co. Ltd. $v$ The Attorney General, we are an administrative Tribunal, and the fact that Counsel for the B.O.O., and for the appellant would like us to adjudicate does not give us power to extend our jurisdiction. By implication, the rejection of the subject plans has been under the first limb of Section $16(1)(d)$ of the Buildings Ordinance, namely that the 30 carrying out of building works shown thereon would contravene the provisions of this Ordinance.

The Singway decision, although directly related to the second limb, must equally well apply to the first limb, and no case can be made out for distinguishing between the two parts of the same sub-section. Where the Building Authority reaches a conclusion that building works contravene the

Item. provisions of the Ordinance, (and that includes the Regulations made under

No. $\mathbf{A} 6$
(continued) the Ordinance) that is not an exercise of discretion, but a performance of his statutory duty to reject those plans. He has no choice. A choice only arises if the particular developer has sought to invoke the exercise of discretion by lodging in due form an application for exemption under Section 42 of the Buildings Ordinance. The wording of that section is quite clear. "Where in the opinion of the Building Authority special circumstances render it desirable, he may on receipt of an application therefore, and upon payment of prescribed fee, permit by notice of writing in prescribed form modification of the provisions of this Ordinance." No form has been lodged, no fee has been paid, no discretion has been exercised.

I am sorry gentlemen but you have wasted your time in coming to us. We are the wrong place to bring your grievance. You have knocked on the wrong door. Your remedies may lie elsewhere, but not here. We hold that we have no jurisdiction in this matter, and accordingly can make no ruling on the matters in issue.

Members of the Tribunal had nothing else to add.


## Item.

## No. A 8

Building Authority's approval for the advertisement sign Dated 11th April, 1980

## GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG.

## Form 12.

BUILDINGS ORDINANCE
(Chapter 123).
Section 14.
BUILDING (ADMINISTRATION) REGULATIONS.
Regulation 30(1)(a).
Approval of Plans.
Office of the Building Authority.

$$
\text { ...........LLTH APKIL........ } 19 \text { do. }
$$

The
Burlinvg.
(ADVERTISING...SIGXN)
plans attached hereto, on which 1 have signified my approval, are hereby approved.
(No. and Name of Street) . UAADINL'S... CRESCENT.

2. Your attention is drawn to subsection (2) of section 14 of the Buildings Ordinance, which provides that the giving by the Building Authority of his approval to any plans shall not exempt any person from the necessity of obtaining the consent of the Building Authority to the commencement and carrying out of the
Butowa
on such plans. This approval does NOT authorize the commencement or carrying out of any Butpeng $\qquad$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 1. Wht } \\
& \text { Paul TAP. } \\
& \text { pro. Building Authority. }
\end{aligned}
$$

> B.0.0. Ref. No. 2. $3009 / 80$
> To: MK...SIMON..KWAN., 43.3., MAM Y. Y. BurlsING. howis hovis

Statutory Declaration of Mr. Keith Hon Keung Lam, Director of Mentor Estate Limited

Item.
No. A 9

Dated 30th May, 1980

I, Keith Hon Keung Lam of 22, Tai Hang Road, 7th floor, Hong Kong, solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:-

1. I am a Director of Mentor Estate Limited (hereinafter referred to as "my Company") and an fully authorised by my Company to make this statutory declaration.
2. My Company is a private company incorporated on 28 th November 101978 with a nominal share capital of $\$ 10,000$ made up of $\$ 10,000$ shares of $\$ 1$ each. The two shareholders of my Company are myself and Mrs. May Lam, each owning one share.
3. Between July 1979 and November 1979, my Company acquired from Aik San Realty Limited, Tung Hing Shing Realty Limited and Yau Sun Development Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "said Companies"), a site fronting Jardine's Crescent comprising IL457 Section C Subsection 1, Section D Subsection 1, Section E Subsection 1 \& 2, and Section G Subsection 1 (hereinafter referred to as the "said site")
4. The consideration for the acquisition of the aforesaid site was $\$ 570,000$

20 which was paid to the said companies upon execution of the three assignments which effected the transfer of the aforesaid site to my Company. This sum of $\$ 570,000$ was derived from a loan made by me to my company.
5. It has always been my Company's intention to develop the said site into a tall advertisement sign. Jardine's Crescent is a busy market area for dry goods (for example, clothing) and an advertising area made good commercial sense to me.
6. In about November 1979, I commissioned Mr. Simon Kwan, to be my company's authorised person to draw up and submit plans to the Building Authority for the development of the said site into an advertisement sign.
30 It was and continues to be my company's intention to commence building works as soon as the Building Authority approves the plans and vacant prossession of the said site was obtained.
7. In April 1980, I was informed by the said Mr. Simon Kwan that plans for an advertisement sign measuring 18 feet by 140 feet have been approved by the Building Authority subject to structural matters being resolved. I

Item. understand from Mr. Simon Kwan that there are no insuperable difficulties

No. A 9 (continued) in this respect.
8. Before plans were submitted for the said advertisement sign, Mr. Simon Kwan produced a feasibility study based on a land cost of $\$ 570,000$ (the consideration given by company here); the project should produce sufficient revenue to pay back the capital outlay as well as turning a profit. Based upon this study and my own knowledge of the potential of Jardine's Crescent for advertising, I instructed Mr. Simon Kwan to proceed with the plans.
9. It is my firm intention to continue with financing my company to complete the advertisement sign and works will be commenced as soon as vacant possession is given. I have every expectation of recouping my capital as well as turning it into a profitable venture.

AND I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the saure to be true and by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Ordinance.
(Sd.) Keith Hon Keung Lam

Declared at the Offices of M. K. Lam \& Company 7th floor, Yip Fung Building, Hong Kong on the 30th day of May 1980.

Before me,
(Sd.) Lee Chi Mun Paulina
Solicitor, Hong Kong.

## Report of feasibility study of signboard

Feasibility study of Signboard
I．L． 457 s．G s．s．l；s．E s．s．1；
S．S．2；S．D s．s．1 \＆s．C s．s．l

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { I.L. } 457 \text { s.G s.s.l; s.E s.s.1; } \\
& \text { S.s.2; S.D s.s.l \& s.C s.s.l } \\
& \hline
\end{aligned}
$$

（1）Land cost ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 5 570，000
（2）Estimated construction cost：

| 1．building work | \＄ | 50,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2．electrical work |  | 10，000 |
| 3．misc．expenses |  | 30，000 |
|  | ：\＄ | 90，000 |

（3）Total capital cost ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 660,000
（4）Estimated income ：
1．rental income for each space（10＇x 14＇）．．．．．．．．．．．．$\$$ 24，000 p．a．
2．total income for 10 spaces ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．$\$ 240,000$ p．a．
（5）Administration cost（say 208）．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 48 ，000 p．a．
（6）Net income per annum ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 192,000 p．a．
（7）Percentage yield per annum ．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．33．60\％

Simon Kwan B．Arch．（Hons）．，R．I．B．A．，M．S．I．A．D．，H．K．I．A．，A．P．A．I．A．，Chartored Archtrect，Dealgn Consultant．
Associste：Edwin C．L．Tsang B．Arch．，M．Phll．，R．I．B．A．M．R．T．P．I．，A．P．I．C．S．，H．X．I．A．，Chartered Architect，Town Planner \＆Surveyor， Profect Architects：John W．T．Mul，B．A．A．S．，B．Arch．，H．K．1．A．，A．I．B．A．Androw T．C．Slu：B．Arch，（MaGill）A． Kehing Shiu：A．A．Dip．（Lond．）

Photographs and Plans showing two examples of the extensions of shadows of buildings

Item.
No. A 11


Item.
No. A 11 (continued)


Item.
No. A 11
(continued)


## Item.

No. A 11 (continued)


## Affirmation of Cheung Wei-dart <br> Dated 14th November, 1980 <br> <br> IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> <br> IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> <br> HIGH COURT <br> <br> HIGH COURT <br> <br> MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

 <br> <br> MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS}
## Item.

No. 11

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and
IN THE MATTER of the proposed redevelopment of Inland Lot 457, Section F , and Remaining Portions of Sections C, D, E and G (16-26 Yun Ping Road, Hong Kong)
and
IN THE MATTER of the Building Authority's rejection of building plans on 25th January, 1980.

## BETWEEN

AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED
Plaintiffs
TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED
YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Defendant

## AFFIRMATION

I, Cheng Wei-dart of Hong Kong Chief Building Surveyor in the office of the Building Authority do solemnly sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-

1. That I have perused the affirmation of Simon Kwan filed herein and do not contest the matters referred to and set forth in paragraphs 1-11 inclusive therein.

Item. 2. In regard to paragraph 12, I am advised and do believe that the refusal No. $B 1$
(continued) by the Building Authority of the plans for building works was properly made pursuant to Section 16 of the Buildings Ordinance Chapter 123.
3. In regard to paragraph 13, I believe that such plans for the advertising sign were first submitted on the 27th day of December 1979 and were refused by the Building Authority on the 21st day of February 1980, and resubmitted on the 15 th day of March 1980 (by application dated the 11th day of March 1980). I believe the Building Authority refused to approve structural plans submitted on behalf of Mentor Estates Limited (such refusal being dated the 2nd day of May 1980) and to my knowledge no resubmission of structural plans has been made as at the date hereof. That I am of the belief that there is doubt as to the structural feasibility of such proposal.
4. In regard to paragraph 14 , I believe there is a substantial connection existing between Mentor Estates Limited and the Plaintiffs herein as evidenced by the timely applications by that Company to the Building Authority, the employment of the same Solicitors, the employment of the same Authorised Person, the employment of the same Planning Consultant, the in depth knowledge of the Company's intentions as shown in the affirmation of Simon Kwan, and the attendance of Keith Lau Hon Keung at the hearing of the appeal before the Buildings Appeals Tribunal. Produced and shown to me is a true copy of a letter bearing date the 22nd day of December 1979 from LEUNG CHUN FAT to the Chief Building Surveyor wherein the proposals affecting the Plaintiffs' site and Mentor Estates Limited site are put forward on a composite basis, such letter marked "CW 1".
5. In regard to paragraph 15, I believe the question of whether or not the proposal of Mentor Estates Limited is economically viable is of no bearing in this matter, in that I am advised and do believe that it is not possible to compel the Company to proceed with its proposal (even if approvals could be obtained) and that there is nothing to preclude the Plaintiffs at a later time purchasing the Company's land and hence amalgamating the same with the Plaintiffs' site.
6. In regard to paragraph 16 , I believe that construction of a substantial commercial building is presently continuing in Jardine's Crescent and that hawkers have not been removed from the site boundary, and that in this case, hawkers would possibly be removed during dangerous demolition works only, and thereafter be permitted to return. This I believe to be the usual policy of Urban Services. I believe Jardine's Crescent is a street heavily congested with hawkers, and is a well known bazaar, and that the public traversing the street would be precluded from seeing any such signs because of hawkers stalls and roof covers thereof. That to my knowledge based on my experience the usual policy of Urban Council as described by me is correct, and that the opinion of Simon Kwan in his affirmation is not correct.
7. In regard to paragraphs 17 and 18 , I believe such calculations have been made but I believe the stated basis or reasons on which the same have been made in regard to the Plaintiffs' site to be erroneous.
8. In regard to paragraphs 19, 20 and 21, I believe such described Item. circumstances are not relevant to this application in view inter alia that such No. B 1 buildings quoted are all occupied (or can be) by people and further that the (continued) circumstances of each case enumerated are so different from this present case that they could not properly be said to be comparative situations.
9. In regard to paragraph 22, I believe the spirit purpose and intention of Regulation 16 is to preserve natural sunlight onto streets in Hong Kong, and that the angle of $76^{\circ}$ was adopted by the legislature for the purpose of fixing a reference point, and produced and shown to me are true copies of 10 two solar diagrams marked "CW 2 and 3 " respectively which I believe were the solar diagrams utilised by the Building Regulations Committee which committee formulated the Regulations known as regulations 17 and 17 A of the 1955 version of the Buildings Planning Regulations (now in essence transformed into Regulation 16 as it now is).
10. That I believe the spirit purpose and intention of Regulation 16 would be circumvented by a device (namely the subdivision from the main site of a piece of land 13 inches wide) should the declarations sought be made.

AFFIRMED at C.D.O. (CENTRAL \& WESTERN)
this 14th day of November, 1980. J

## (Sd.) Cheng Wei-dart

Before me,
(Sd.) S. TANG
Commissioner for Oaths.
C. D. O. (CENTRAL \& WESTERN)

# Item. Letter from Mr, Leung Chun-fat, Planning Consultant No. B 2 to the Chief Building Surveyor 

Dated 22nd December, 1979

The Chief Building Surveyor (HK/E) The Buildings Ordinance Office, Murray Building, 10/F., Garden Road, Hong Kong.

K. B. O'Sullivan<br>Room 2409, Wing On Centre, 24th floor,<br>211, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong Kong.

Dear Sir,

> NOS. 16-26, YUN PING ROAD, HONG KONG

I have been appointed by the A.P.: architect, Mr. Simon Kwan, as the Planning Consultant for the above building project, which was re-submitted to your office on 28 -November-1979 as a major revision ( 60 days) as the building proposal had been enlarged by the inclusion of Nos. 16 and 18, Yun Ping Road to Nos. 20-26 Yun Ping Road, plans for which (i.e. Nos. 20-26) were disapproved by your office on 17-September-1979.

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter of appointment and 2 sheets of plans; one shows a fairly large Advertisement Board and the other gives full calculations on a Notional Scheme regarding plot Ratio and Shadow Area with floor plans. I shall describe them fully on my OPINION which is also attached as a separate paper.

I have studied the building proposal; in particular, the strip of private land which forms an alienation between the rear side of the proposed building and Jardine's Crescent. In your letter of 17-September-1979, shadow area calculations on Jardine's Crescent from the proposed building was required, and constituted an item of disapproval; despite the fact that the rear part of the proposed building was alienated from Jardine's Crescent by a strip of private land of some 0.3 M . in width. I do not consider it correct to require shadow area calculations in this case, and in the attached OPINION, I will give full reasons for supporting this view.

I may add here that there are relatively very few sites which have frontages to a street at front and a street at rear. Such sites usually present some planning difficulties, as in most cases one of the streets is too narrow to facilitate good planning and architectural treatment. I still remember when I was in Government Service, I had to deal with an application for a re-development at Connaught Road West which was determined at 75 ft . wide and the site abutted a rear street of some 15 ft . wide, the New Market Street. I forget the number of the variations of design that the poor architect
had produced to achieve a decent office building; only to be turned down Item. each time by me. The fatal factor was, of course, the 15 ft . wide New Market No. B 2 Street. At one time, a lawyer's letter was produced to suggest that the width of Connaught Road West should be determined at $1 / 200$ th of the direct distance between the shore in front of the building site to the shore on Kowloon side; or any scale the Building Authority would like to adopt; this was rejected as unnecessary as both streets, Connaught Road West and New Market Street, were wide enough that it was not necessary to invoke either Bldg. (Planning) Reg. 6 or Reg. 19. Then the architect argued that the vast epes of the harbour in front of Connaught Road West should merit a wider width to be allowed for Connaught Road West; this was refuted by the impending reclamation of that part of Connaught Road West. Then it was argued that if it were so, then Connaught Road West could only be wider than its 75 ft . width. This was unaccepted simply by the question that how did the architect know if buildings might not have been built on the reclaimed land. Then the architect produced a traffic plan from the Highways Office showing a future Connaught Road West of some 200 ft . wide; the disapproval at that time was this was only a traffic "proposal", which could not be recognized or accepted until actual work was put in hand. The plans never got approved when I left administering that area. I honestly thought I was doing my duty then, and only in the very recent years that I come to realize how cruel I had been; how difficult it would have been to produce good architecture which is in the best interest of Hong Kong as a city, and I had inflicted unintentional suffering on a fellow architect. I hope by now the plans will have been approved. However all this is by the by, and it is history now.

Coming back to the present building proposal, the circumstances are entirely different and there are very sound reasons and strong ground to do away with shadow area calculations on the Jardine's Crescent side. I refer your attention to the opinion enclosed and request this be given fair consideration as an informal appeal to your letter of 17-September-1979 please.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) Leung Chun-Fat<br>for Leung \& O'Sullivan

## Item. OPINION <br> No. $B 2$ <br> (continued) <br> ON THE NON-APPLICABILITY OF REQUIRING SHADOW AREA COMPLICANCE FROM THE SIDE OF THE PROPOSED BUILDING AT NOS. 16-26, YUN PING ROAD, ONTO JARDINE'S CRESCENT.

## Problem:-

If Shadow Area consideration is required on the rear side of the Class A site building proposal at Nos. 16-26, Yun Ping Road which fronts Yun Ping Road with Jardine's Crescent at rear. The site of the proposed building at the rear is alienated from Jardine's Crescent by a strip of land of some O. 3 M . in width for almost the entire rear frontage. It is noted that in the revised scheme comprising Nos. 16-26, Yun Ping Road, (the previous scheme which was disapproved on 17-September-1979 was for Nos. 20-26, Yun Ping Road only) that:-
(a) the alienation is, unlike the other cases, made out for a specific purpose, i.e. to provide space for a fairly large Advertisement Sign Board of some 5.4 M in height and 42.67 M in width, and the Advertisement Sign Board in itself provides a physical separation between the proposed building and Jardine's Crescent, (Please see Plan No. GlA)
(b) a Notional Scheme with the main office tower block above podium level placed horizontally at centre and parallel with Yun Ping Road is submitted to substantiate the point that the obtainable plot-ratio of a non-domestic building of 15 can be achieved, and the shadow area calculations as shown prove that even if such calculations were called for on both streets, the resultant building could still be within the permissible limit but the building will have unsightly and non-architectural set-backs as only to be expected.

## Supporting Reasons:-

General Consideration:-
(i) it is a fundamental fact that the height of a building cannot be restricted by the use of Bldg. (Planning) Reg. 16 for the simple reason that set-backs have always been allowed by the Building Authority,
(ii) to further substantiate point (i), the Building Authority has indeed adopted the well-known and standard policy to allow an excessive shadow area of $25 \%$ of the permissible shadow area; on the condition that a notional scheme be provided to prove that the obtainable plot-ratio will not be materially affected, and that such an $25 \%$ excess will result in a more pleasant architectural treatment of the building; e.g. avoiding unsightly set-backs, etc.
(iii) in the present case, it is not a matter of additional shadow area, but Item. the building is on a site which is alienated at the rear from Jardine's No. B 2 Crescent by a strip of private land of some 0.3 M . in width, on (continued) which a physical separation by an Advertisement Sign Board will be erected. In such circumstances, no problem of shadow area will even arise.

## Particular Consideration:-

(i) In view of a physical separation in the form of an Advertisement Sign Board, in addition to a space separation, no consideration of shadow area can arise on the side of Jardine's Crescent, (Please see Plan No. G1A)
(ii) to reinforce point (i) under PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION, a Notional Scheme is also submitted to prove that even if shadow area calculations were required, a non-domestic building with the maximum plot-ratio, i.e. 15 , is still obtainable by placing the office block horizontally across the centre as a slab block, and through the 76 degree set-backs, a non-domestic building of maximum plot-ratio can be built with shadow areas within the permissible. This Notional Scheme is therefore conclusive. (Please refer to Plan No. G2A)

Points (i) and (ii) under PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION prove the case beyond any reasonable doubt. It is therefore quite unnecessary to provide shadow area calculations on Jardine's Crescent. The Notional Scheme is conclusive; the physical separation in the form of an Advertisement Board puts the whole issue beyond dispute.

The result is a piece of good architecture, very well thought out and is neat and possesses the charm of simplicity, which will be utterly spoiled if adjustments have to be made for shadow area on Jardine's Crescent.
(Sd.) Leung Chun-Fat

## LCF/wl

c.c. Mr. Simon Kwan, a.p.

SOLAX DIAGXAN. HONGKONG - $2212^{\circ} \mathrm{N}$


Item.
No. $\mathbf{B}$


## Item. Affirmation of Cheung Kun Hai No. $\mathbf{C} 1$ Dated 27th November, 1980

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> HIGH COURT MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and
IN THE MATTER of the proposed redevelopment of Inland Lot 457, Section F, and Remaining Portions of Sections C, D, E and G (16-26 Yun Ping Road, Hong Kong)
and
IN THE MATTER of the Building Authority's rejection of building plans on 25th January, 1980.

## BETWEEN

AIK SAN REALTY LIMITEDPlaintiffs20TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITEDYAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL Defendant

## AFFIRMATION

I, CHEUNG KUNG HAI of 97, New Henry House, 10, Ice House Street, Victoria, Hong Kong Merchant do solemnly sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-

1. I am a Director of Tung Hing Shing Realty Limited and Yau Sun Development Company Limited and am duly authorised by the Plaintiffs to30 make this Affirmation.
2. I crave leave to refer to paras 4 and 5 of Mr. Cheng Wei-dart's Item. Affirmation filed on 14th November, 1980.
3. There is no connection between the Mentor Estates Limited and the Plaintiffs, as will be apparent from a company search.
4. It is not the Plaintiffs' intention to purchase the site owned by Mentor Estate Limited mentioned in the Affirmation of Messrs. Simon Kwan and the said Cheng Wei-dart respectively. Neither is it the Plaintiffs' intention to amalgamate the Plaintiffs' site in question with the said Mentor Estate Limited's site. In fact, any amalgamation as suggested by the said Cheng
10 Wei-dart will mean the creation of a different site and the re-submission of building plans, which course the Plaintiffs are definitely not intending or will ever intend to pursue.
5. Lastly, I do solemnly sincerely and truly affirm that the matters deposed herein are true in my own knowledge.

AFFIRMED at Rooms 2008-12
Melbourne Plaza, Hong Kong this (Sd.) Cheung Kung Hai 27th day of November, $1980 . \quad$.

Before me,
(Sd.) Yip Wan Tak
Solicitor,
Hong Kong.

## Item. Affirmation of Chung Ming Fai <br> No. 11 <br> Dated 27th November, 1980

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> HIGH COURT MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and
IN THE MATTER of the proposed redevelopment of Inland Lot 457, Section F , and Remaining Portions of Sections C, D, E and G (16-26 Yun Ping Road, Hong Kong)
and
IN THE MATTER of the Building Authority's rejection of building plans on 25th January, 1980.

## BETWEEN

| AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED | Plaintiffs | $\mathbf{2 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED |  |  |
| YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED |  |  |

and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Defendant

## AFFIRMATION

I, CHUNG MING FAI of 2401-6 Melbourne Plaza, 33, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, Hong Kong Merchant do solemnly sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-

1. I am a Director of Aik San Realty Limited and Yau Sun Development Company Limited and am duly authorised by the Plaintiffs to make this Affirmation.
2. I crave leave to refer to paras 4 and 5 of Mr. Cheng Wei-dart's Item. Affirmation filed on 14th November, 1980.

No. D 1
(continued)
3. There is no connection between the Mentor Estates Limited and the Plaintiffs, as will be apparent from a company search.
4. It is not the Plaintiffs' intention to purchase the site owned by Mentor Estate Limited mentioned in the Affirmation of Messrs. Simon Kwan and the said Cheng Wei-dart respectively. Neither is it the Plaintiffs' intention to amalgamate the Plaintiffs' site in question with the said Mentor Estate Limited's site. In fact, any amalgamation as suggested by the said Cheng
10 Wei-dart will mean the creation of a different site and the re-submission of building plans, which course the Plaintiffs are definitely not intending or will ever intend to pursue.
5. Lastly, I do solemnly sincerely and truly affirm that the matters deposed herein are true in my own knowledge.

AFFIRMED at Rooms 2008-12
Melbourne Plaza, Hong Kong this
(Sd.) Chung Ming Fai
27th day of November, 1980.

Before me,

> (Sd.) Yip Wan TaK
> Solicitor,
> Hong Kong.

## Item. <br> No. E1 <br> Affirmation of Simon Kwan <br> Dated 27th November, 1980

## AFFIRMATION OF SIMON KWAN

I, Simon Kwan, an Authorised Person and Chartered Architect, of 433-4 Man Yee Building, 67-71 Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong, do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-

1. I make this Supplemental Affirmation with the due authorisation of the Plaintiff. The contents herein, save as otherwise indicated, are true within my own knowledge.
2. I crave leave to refer to para. 3 of the Affirmation of Mr. CHENG Wei-dart, Chief Building Surveyor, filed on the 14th day of November 1980.
3. It is admitted that building plans of the advertising sign were first submitted on the 27th December 1979 and were refused by the Building Authority on the 21 st day of February 1980. Produced and shown to me marked SK-11 is a true copy of a letter from the Building Authority conveying the said refusal. I respectfully draw this Honourable Court's attention to the fact that plans for the advertising sign were refused because the Building Authority required further information concerning the structural aspects of the said advertising sign. Accordingly, both building and structural plans were re-submitted to the Building Authority on the 15th day of March 1980 (by application dated the 11th day of March 1980). The Building Authority on the 11th day of April 1980, by Form 12, already produced and shown to me as SK-7 exhibited to my Affidavit of the 15th day of July 1980, approved the said building plans with the reservation that structural details would be dealt with separately.
4. It is admitted that structural plans for the said advertising sign were refused on the 2 nd day of May 1980. I am advised by MA Tung-po, my Structural Engineering Consultant, that the said refusal was primarily based on inadequate provision for wind stress and in his view adequate provision can indeed be made for such purpose. Produced and shown to me marked SK-12 is a true copy of a re-submission of the structural plans for the said advertising sign, in which my said Structural Consultant had made the necessary provision for wind stress as well as taking into account other minor problems raised by the Building Authority in their refusal of 2nd May 1980. My said Structural Consultant has advised me, and I verily believe the same to be true, that the said re-submitted structural plans conform to the requirements of the Building Authority and will result in a safe and stable structure.
5. The new structural plans re-submitted to the Building Authority differ from the plans originally submitted in that in the old structural design, the signboard was supported mainly by 4 steel columns whereas in the now
proposed structural design, the signboard will be supported by 11 steel Item. columns, each driven down to a depth of 5.3 meters.
6. I am further advised by Mr. Au Sik-ling, Authorised Person and Registered Structural Engineer, and former Government Structural Engincer, and I believe the same to be true, that the erection of the said advertising sign based on the revised calculations and design submitted in the structural plans exhibited hereto as $\mathrm{Sk}-12$ is structurally feasible, and that the supporting columns made with steel pile driven down to 5.3 meters would provide more than adequate lateral resistance to the wind force on the said structure.

10 7. In view of the fact that changes to the said advertising sign are restricted to foundation works, and there is absolutely no change in the length, width and height of the said sign, I believe that there is no need for amended building plans to be submitted.
8. And lastly, I do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm that the contents of this Supplemental Affirmation are true as to matters within my own knowledge, and as to other matters, I believe the same to be true.

AFFIRMED at Room 2301, Lane
Crawford House, Hong Kong, this $\}$ (Sd.) Simon Kwan 27th day of November, 1980

Before me,

## (Sd.) Andrew KAM Yee-wai

Solicitors,
Hong Kong.

## Item. <br> No. E 2 <br> Building Authority's Letter <br> Dated 21st February, 1980

Mr. Simon KWAN,
21st February 1980 433-4 Man Yee Building, 67-71 Queen's Road C., Hong Kong.

Dear Sir,
Jardine's Crescent - I.L. 457 s.G s.G ss.1 s.E' ss. 1 ss. 2 s.D ss. 1 \& s.C ss. 1

I refer to your application dated 24th December 1979 for approval of proposals.

It is the usual practice in the Buildings Ordinance Office for all submissions to be checked carefully to ensure that contraventions of the Buildings Ordinance and Regulations are not present and that from other aspects where the public interest is involved, the proposals are viable. However, the pressure of work in the Buildings Ordinance Office is such that this usual practice cannot be followed without most serious delay continuing to affect all submissions to the B.O.O. Therefore, your application has been checked on the basis of certain elementary checks only but this elementary checking has disclosed that

## (Please see overleaf)

and your proposal therefore is disapproved.
This curtailment of the usual range of checks emphasizes your duties and responsibilities as Authorised Person and I must stress the importance the Building Authority attaches to the proper assumption of responsibility by Authorised Persons. It is self-evident that any alteration to a building during erection or on completion, costs money and causes delays. Where the Building Authority is of the opinion that an Authorised Person has failed in his duty appropriate action will be taken.

Please ensure, therefore, that a re-submission complies fully with the Buildings Ordinance and Regulations, and that all relevant information is attached.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) K. K. W. Lai
pro Building Authority
2. Further information in respect of foundation details to indicate that Item. the foundations will be independent of the building to the rear are No. E 2 to be submitted. Buildings Ordinance Section 16(1) (i) refers. (continued)
5. One set of your plans is being retained for reference purposes, while the rest are returned herewith.
6. You are advised that separate structural calculations and details are required to be submitted for approval in due course.

Plan of advertising sign


## Affirmation of Au Sik-ling

## Item.

Dated 27th November, 1980

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG <br> HIGH COURT <br> MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER of Regulation 16 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, Cap. 123
and
IN THE MATTER of the proposed redevelopment of Inland Lot 457, Section F, and Remaining Portions of Sections C, D, E and G (16-26 Yun Ping Road, Hong Kong)
and
IN THE MATTER of the Building Authority's rejection of building plans on 25th January, 1980.

## BETWEEN

# AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED <br> Plaintiffs <br> TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED <br> YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED 

and
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Defendant

## AFFIRMATION

I, AU SIK-LING, Registered Structural Engineer and Authorised Person, of Bernard Leung and Partners, Consulting Structural Engineers, 21 st floor, Causeway Bay Commercial Building, 1-13, Sugar Street, Hong Kong, do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm as follows:-
30 1. I am an Authorized Person, Registered Structural Engineer, Fellow of the Institute of Structural Engineer, Fellow of Hong Kong Institute of

Item. Engineers, members of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong

No. $\mathbf{F} 1$ (continued)

Kong, member of the Disciplinary Board of Authorized Persons and Registered Structural Engineers, member of the Construction Industry Training Authority and partner of Bernard Leung \& Partners, now practising at 21st floor, Causeway Bay Commercial Building, 1-13 Sugar Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.
2. I have been practising as a Structural Engineer for 40 years, 26 years of which were spent as a Structural Engineer in the Buildings Ordinance Office and the Architectural Office, of the Public Works Department. I retired from Government Service on 1973, with the rank of Government Structural Engineer. I am now in private practice as indicated in Paragraph 1 hereof.
3. I am duly authorised by the Plaintiffs to make this Affirmation.
4. I have studied the structural plans submitted by Mr. MA Tung-po, Structural Engineer, regarding the advertising sign on I.L. 457, SEC. G. SS.1, SEC. E. SS.1, SEC. E. SS.2, SEC. D. SS1, SEC. C. SS.1, on 26th of November, 1980. In my considered opinion, I am of the view that:-
a. The erection of such Sign Board Structure is structurally feasible based on the revised structural calculation and detail provided by your Structural Engineer Mr. Ma Tung-po.
$b$. The supporting columns made with steel bearing pile driven 5.3 meter into ground would provide more than adequate lateral resistance to the wind force on the structure above.
As a matter of fact, the wind force to such sign board is purely theoretical, as there is no shielding effect being taken into account from the adjoining structures.

AND Lastly I do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm that the contents of this Affirmation are true as to matters within my own knowledge, and as to other matters, I believe the same to be true.

AFFIRMED at Room 2301, Lane
Crawford House, Hong Kong, this $\}$ (Sd.) Au Sik-Ling 27th day of November, 1980.

Before me,
(Sd.) Andrew KAM Yee-wai
Solicitors,
Hong Kong.

# ON APPEAL <br> from the court of appeal of hong kong 

## BETWEEN

AIK SAN REALTY LIMITED<br>TUNG HING SHING REALTY LIMITED - - Appellants<br>YAU SUN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Plainiffs)

AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL - - - . - - - - . . Respondent
(Defendant)

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

M. K. LAM \& CO.

Solicitors for the Appellants (Plaintiffs)

CROWN SOLICITOR
Solicitors for the Respondent (Defendant)


[^0]:    (3) (1876) 1 Ex.D. 336
    (4) (1885) 16 Q.B.D. 579

[^1]:    In the Supreme Court of Hong Kong Miscellaneous Proceedings

    No. 3 Judgment of High Court (continued)

[^2]:    Meeste．MuK．Lam \＆Co．，
    Solicitore \＆Notarion，
    Iip Fung Building，7th Hoor， D Aguilar Street， Hong Kong．

