MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

PROGRESS REPORT ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

PURPOSE

To inform Members of the progress of education and publicity activities of the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) since the last Board meeting of 25 September 2006.

Statistics

2. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organized between August and October 2006 are at **Annex**.

Exhibition

- 3. A special exhibition entitled "Preserving Hong Kong's Archaeological and Built Heritage" is being staged at Permanent Exhibition Gallery of the of Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC) until January 2007.
- 4. Besides, the AMO jointly organize an exhibition: "Post 97 Architecture in Hong Kong" with Architectural Services Department at the Thematic Exhibition Gallery of the HDC from 28 October to 22 November 2006. Another exhibition entitled "Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition Hong Kong Response Exhibition" will be jointly organized by the AMO and Hong Kong Institute of Architects at the Permanent Exhibition Gallery of the HDC from 8 December 2006 to 21 February 2007. The AMO will continue to arrange a number of special exhibitions on local heritage at the HDC in collaboration with non-government organizations.

Educational Programmes

Heritage Tours

5. A summary of the heritage tours conducted between August and October 2006 is provided below:

Applicants	No. of Tours	No. of Participants
Schools	40	2458
Non-profit making organizations	33	1127

Government Department	2	55
Members of the public	64	5,784
Total:	139	8,424

Lectures and Seminars

6. Five public lectures on historic buildings and heritage were organized at the HDC from August to October 2006 respectively. Upon invitation by outside organizations, three lectures on local heritage, docent techniques and museums were organized for the Hong Kong Youth Ambassadors, participants of the "Dragon 100 – 2006 Programme", members of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects and students of Sha Tin Methodist College from August to October 2006. A Seminar on the "Vanishing Cityscape" jointly organized with the Department of Architecture of Chu Hai College of Higher Education was also held in late August 2006.

Workshops

7. One archaeological workshop, three monument learning workshops and two guided tours at HDC were organized in conjunction with the School Culture Day Scheme 2006/07 for six primary schools in mid-October 2006.

Special Programmes/ Other Activities

Friends of Heritage (FOH) (文物之友)

8. Two sessions of finds processing workshops were organized for FOH during weekends in August and September 2006. Some of these FOH volunteers continue to assist the Archaeology Unit during weekdays. Besides, some FOH joined the Monument Prefect Teams to help check and report the conditions of some selected declared monuments and historic buildings for the Office. A meeting with members of the Editorial Team was also held in late October 2006, who will assist in editorial work and writing articles for the next issue of the Heritage Hong Kong. Apart from voluntary services, guided visits to Ping Shan Heritage Trail, Sheung Wan Route of the Central and Western Heritage Trail and the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences were also organized for FOH from August to October 2006.

Young Friends of Heritage (YFOH) (青少年文物之友)

9. Recruitment for the 3rd batch of YFOH was held in July 2006 and 49 students from 19 secondary schools were selected. A three-day training programme was organized for these YFOH in mid-August 2006, which included guided visits to heritage trails, museums, archaeological workshops and lectures on local heritage. After the training, they were required to submit a school-based project on local heritage by the end of 2006 so as to obtain formal membership. In addition, a Certificate Presentation Ceremony cum Tea Gathering was held for the 2nd batch of YFOH in August 2006. Awards were presented to 16 YFOH for their active participation in voluntary services during the past year. Apart from presenting certificates and awards, this Ceremony also provided an opportunity for YFOH to share with each other their heritage promotion

work at schools.

10. YFOH have also helped promote heritage at school and community level actively. For instances, YFOH from CCC Kei Yuen College has been preparing for the exhibition on Yuen Long Heritage for the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre; while some others have joined the docent training programme organized by AMO and are assigned to learn from FOH docents at Tai Fu Tai Mansion and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum afterwards. In the forthcoming months, some YFOH will act as reporters and conduct oral history interviews with residents, shopkeepers, building owners or other parties in selected villages, old districts and historic buildings, and their reports will be uploaded onto AMO's website upon completion.

Docent Services

11. A total of 139 tours were conducted by 34 docents from August to October 2006. The details are as follows:

Destinations	No. of Tours	No. of Participants
Lung Yeuk Tau Heritage Trail	4	140
Ping Shan Heritage Trail	29	1,118
Central and Western Heritage Trail	25	787
Sheung Yiu Folk Museum and Kiln Site	32	2,722
Tai Fu Tai Mansion	32	3,062
Cartographic Survey of Historic Buildings	13	461
Exhibition		
Others	4	134
Total:	139	8,424

12. On-site docent services at Tai Fu Tai Mansion (TFT) and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum were provided to the public from August to October 2006. It is expected that FOH docents will continue to provide this service at the above sites on Sundays and public holidays in the coming months. To complement the Cartographic Survey of Historic Buildings Exhibition held at HDC, 13 guided tours for the exhibition were conducted for schools and non-profit making organizations in August and September. 2006. In addition, a docent training programme on HDC was conducted for FOH and YFOH in mid-August 2006 so as to prepare for the grand opening of HDC in 2007.

Family Programme

13. To better enhance HDC as an activity learning centre for the public, two sessions of Sunday family workshops on archaeology were held in August and September 2006. Friends of Heritage served as tutor to conduct workshops with teaching aids such as games, pictures and real finds. Feedback from the participants was very encouraging. Another new family programme on "Treasure Hunt at HDC", aiming at introducing the history and architectural features of HDC to the public, was launched in October 2006 and was well received by the families.

Video Programme

14. Free video programmes on local heritage and monuments were held at the Activity Room of the HDC for visitors during weekends and public holidays in June and July 2006.

Hong Kong Traditional Chinese Architectural Information System

15. An information system on Hong Kong's traditional Chinese buildings and representative villages will be uploaded to the AMO website by the first quarter of 2007. The service provider is now finalizing data conversion of the programme. A User Acceptance Test will be conducted from mid November 2006 to early January 2007.

Heritage Virtual Tour System

16. The AMO launched the project of Heritage Virtual Tour System in early 2006. The virtual tours will be available on the AMO website and 5 kiosks at different locations. Free copies of DVD of the heritage virtual tours will also be distributed to schools. The production of the system is in good progress and the project is expected to be completed in early 2007.

Antiquities and Monuments Office Leisure and Cultural Services Department November 2006

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