

**MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

To inform Members of the progress of the activities of the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) since the last Board meeting of 12 December 2006.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

Declaration of Leung Ancestral Hall, Pat Heung, Yuen Long (元朗八鄉梁氏宗祠)

2. The progress of the declaration of Leung Ancestral Hall was reported at the last Board meeting. With the approval of the Chief Executive, the declaration of Leung Ancestral Hall as historical building under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (A&M Ordinance) was gazetted on 17 November 2006. At present, there are a total of 81 declared monuments, including archaeological sites and built heritage.

Declaration of Chik Kwai Study Hall, Sheung Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long (元朗八鄉上村植桂書室)

3. The progress of the declaration of Chik Kwai Study Hall was reported at the last Board meeting. Sets of notice and plan under section 4 of the A & M Ordinance were served on the managers of the study hall and fixed to the building on 13 October 2006. No objection against the intended declaration was received one month after the above date. With the approval of the Chief Executive for the intended declaration, declaration by the notice of Government Gazette is being arranged.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

4. The progress of the restoration and maintenance projects in hand is detailed at Annex A for Members' information.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Development Project

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Receiving Terminal and Associated Facilities

5. The China Light and Power Group (CLP) proposed to erect a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Receiving Terminal in Hong Kong. We informed Members at the meetings of 5 July and 12 December 2006 vide the Progress Reports (Board Paper AAB/62/2005-06 and AAB/78/2005-06) that 5 areas of archaeological potential in the Tai A Chau option identified by the Culture Heritage Impact Assessment in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study and the EIA report submitted by the CLP recommended the Soko Island option and concluded no adverse impact on marine archaeology. The recommended mitigation measures to protect archaeological heritage at Soko Island are formulated in accordance with the criteria and guidelines set out in the EIA Technical Memorandum. Once the LNG project is approved by the relevant authorities, the CLP will provide sufficient time and resources to implement all the mitigation measures as stipulated in the Environmental Permit.

Surveys / Excavations

6. The progress of archaeological projects conducted by the AMO between December 2006 and February 2007 is summarized at Annex B.

EDUCATION & PUBLICITY

Statistics

7. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organized between November 2006 and January 2007 are at Annex C.

Exhibition

8. A special exhibition entitled “Preserving Hong Kong’s Archaeological and Built Heritage” was staged at the Permanent Exhibition Gallery I of the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC) until February 2007.

9. Besides, the AMO jointly organized an exhibition entitled “Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition Hong Kong Response Exhibition” with the Hong Kong Institute of Architects at the Permanent Exhibition Gallery II of the HDC from 8 December 2006 to 21 February 2007. The AMO will continue to arrange special exhibitions on local heritage at the HDC in collaboration with non-government organizations.

Educational Programmes

Heritage Tours

10. A summary of the heritage tours conducted between November 2006 and January 2007 is provided below:

| Applicants | No. of Tours | No. of Participants |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Schools | 82 | 3007 |
| Non-profit making organizations | 6 | 160 |
| Government Department | 3 | 81 |
| Members of the public | 52 | 5586 |
| Total: | 143 | 8834 |

Lectures and Seminars

11. Seven public lectures on built heritage were held at HDC from November 2006 to January 2007. In addition, a lecture on heritage conservation and education jointly organized with Department of Architecture of CUHK for teachers was held in mid November 2006. A public lecture on “Dongguan-Hong Kong Relations in Historical Documents” jointly organized with Hong Kong University of Science and Technology was held in early December 2006.

Workshops

12. Five archaeological workshops, seven “Searching for Monuments” workshops and six guided tours at HDC were organized for schools in conjunction with the School Culture Day Scheme 2006/07 for 7 primary schools, 4 secondary schools, 1 kindergarten and 2 Special Schools from November 2006 to January 2007.

Family Programme

13. To better enhance HDC as an activity learning centre for the public, Friends of Heritage (FOH) performed as tutor to conduct workshops with teaching aids such as games, pictures and real finds. A session of Sunday family workshops on archaeology, “Treasure Hunt Game at HDC” and “Sketch of Monument” workshop were held from November 2006 to January 2007. Another FOH, a Tai Chi tutor assisted AMO in organising a “Visiting Monument, Practising Tai Chi” activity at HDC for public in December 2006.

Special Programmes/ Other Activities

Friends of Heritage (FOH) (文物之友)

14. A guided visit to the Yim Tin Tsai, Sai Kung was conducted by HKIA Vice-Chairman for the FOH. Regarding the voluntary services, some Monument Prefect Team members helped to check and report the conditions of some selected declared monuments and boundary stones for the AMO. Some Editorial Team members have

been working on the coming editorial work and writing articles for the next issue of AMO's Newsletter "the Heritage Hong Kong".

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

15. YFOH reporters have been conducting oral history interviews with residents, shopkeepers, building owners in old districts and their reports will be uploaded onto AMO's website upon completion. Regarding the history of Yau Ma Tei, 5 YFOH reporters (文物小記者) conducted interview with Dr. Patrick Ho, Secretary for Home Affairs, to collect the memories and oral history of Yau Ma Tei District in December 2006. A cleansing activity at Tai Fu Tai was organized for YFOH in November 2006. Others continued to promote heritage at school and community levels actively. For instances, YFOH at St. Stephen's College is now assisting their school to launch the School Heritage Trail and will perform as docent later on. AMO has been giving advice to St. Stephen's College on the way to launch the entire Scheme. YFOH from CCC Kei Yuen College and Pak Kau College have been preparing for the exhibition on Yuen Long Heritage for the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre.

Docent Services

16. A total of 143 tours with 8,834 participants were conducted by AMO docents from November 2006 to January 2007. The details are as follows:

| Destinations | No. of Tours | No. of Participants |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Lung Yeuk Tau Heritage Trail | 14 | 480 |
| Ping Shan Heritage Trail | 39 | 1402 |
| Central and Western Heritage Trail | 30 | 1108 |
| Sheung Yiu Folk Museum and Kiln Site | 26 | 2567 |
| Tai Fu Tai Mansion | 26 | 3019 |
| Others | 8 | 258 |
| Total: | 143 | 8834 |

17. On-site docent services at Tai Fu Tai Mansion (TFT) and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum were provided to the public.

Video Programme

18. Free video programmes on local heritage and monuments were held at the Activity Room of the HDC for visitors during weekends and public holidays.

Hong Kong Traditional Chinese Architectural Information System

19. The information system on Hong Kong's traditional Chinese buildings and representative villages will be uploaded onto AMO website by mid 2007. The service provider is now finalizing data conversion of the programme.

Heritage Virtual Tour System

20. The project of Heritage Virtual Tour System commenced 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 April 2007.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
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