

For information
on 25 January 2008

BOARD PAPER
AAB/39/2007-08

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

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

To inform Members of the progress of activities of the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) since the last Board meeting on 20 November 2007.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

Declaration of Tang Ancestral Hall and its ancillary buildings, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long (元朗廈村鄧氏宗祠及其附屬建築)

2. Gazettal procedures have been completed. The declaration was made by notice in the Gazettee on 7 December 2007.

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

3. The latest position of the historical sites that the Board has discussed previously is set out at Annex A.

Restoration and Maintenance Programme

4. The progress of the restoration and maintenance projects being handled by the AMO is detailed at Annex B.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Surveys / Excavations

5. The progress of archaeological projects conducted by the AMO in December 2007 is summarized at Annex C.

Excavation Licences

6. On Members' recommendation, six licences were granted in November and December 2007. Details are at **Annex D**.

Archaeological Discovery at Luk Keng(鹿頸), Lantau

7. The Hong Kong Archaeological Society (HKAS) applied to the AMO for subvention on archaeological survey at Luk Keng, Lantau in July 2007. Field survey was conducted from mid November to mid December 2007. According to the HKAS's progress report in early December 2007, features of lime kilns were identified and fragment of stone mould for casting bronze implement were recovered from one test pit. Measures to protect cultural remains were discussed with the HKAS's representative during the AMO's site visits in early December 2007. The significance of the archaeological findings will be further assessed once the HKAS's survey report is available.

International Conference on Heritage Conservation and Prehistoric Archaeology of South China

8. The Department of Anthropology of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and AMO jointly organized a conference entitled "Heritage Conservation and Prehistoric Archaeology of South China" from 13 to 15 December 2007. 25 experts from Mainland China, United States, Australia and Hong Kong and a total of 270 participants attended the conference. It provided an opportunity for scholars to share experience of archaeological heritage conservation and research findings on the prehistory of South China.

Special Volumes on Hong Kong Archaeology in Academic Journals

9. To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, AMO was invited by two leading mainland China academic journals to provide field archaeological reports. Four AMO archaeological reports were published in two journals namely Archaeology (考古) and Huaxia Archeology. (华夏考古) in 2007.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

10. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organized and visitor's figures for monuments managed by AMO between October and December 2007 are at **Annex E**.

Educational Programmes

Heritage Tours

11. AMO arranged a total of 134 guided tours at various heritage trails, heritage sites, the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC) and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total attendance of 6,759 from November to December 2007. Details are at **Annex F**.

Educational Activities

12. Four public lectures were held at HDC in November and December, 2007. In addition, 9 workshops were organized for schools with a total of 345 participants. Details of the educational activities organized between November and December 2007 are at **Annex G**.

Exhibition

13. With the support of the US Consulate General of Hong Kong and Macau, AMO organized an exhibition on American West Landscape with the US Meridian International Center from 16 November to 31 December 2007.

Virtual Heritage Explorer

14. The "Virtual Heritage Explorer" project provides 360-degree cubical panorama for about 60 historic buildings and sites. Members of the public can explore the real-like monuments through AMO's website or kiosks at the HDC.

Special Programmes/Other Activities

Friends of Heritage (FOH) (文物之友)

15. A heritage walk to Stanley and Repulse Bay was arranged specially for the FOHs in November and December 2007. The FOHs had assisted in organizing educational activities, and performed as tutors for workshops, helped with the editing of "Heritage Hong Kong" and conducted inspection to the 'City of Victoria' boundary stones.

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

16. A "To Dig & To Learn" Archaeology workshop was organized for the 15 YFOHs in December, 2007. YFOHs from St. Joseph's College will stage a new thematic exhibition at the Community Heritage Gallery of Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery on "Looking Back and Forth – Searching for the Similarities and Differences between Chinese and Western Education in Hong Kong in the Old Days" in mid-January 2008.

Public Awareness Campaign

17. To arouse public awareness on local heritage conservation, the “Public Awareness Campaign on Heritage Conservation” was launched on 15 January 2008 and will run from January to March 2008 with a series of events such as traveling exhibitions, open house for historic building, guided tours, etc.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
January 2008

Ref: LCS AM 22/3