Development Proposals/Cases Related to Preservation of Historic Buildings

Hong Kong Island

	Development Project/Case	Built Heritage to be affected	Background & Current Progress
1.	Revitalization of the Former Central Police Station Compound (CPS Compound)	 The CPS Compound comprising the Central Police Station, the Central Magistracy and the Victoria Prison has been declared as a monument since 1995. There are a number of Victoria-style buildings within the site. The CPS Compound is now under the management of the Lands Department. The Government will enter into a partnership with the HKJC in the form of an agreement to take forward the conservation and revitalization of the CPS Compound. In response to public views that more effort should be devoted to the research on historic, architectural and heritage significance of the CPS Compound and its preservation, the HKJC commissioned Purcell Miller Tritton (PMT), a renowned firm of conservation architects in UK to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP). The CMP was presented to the Board at its meeting on 26 November 2008. 	 Compound, which will provide a catalogue for considering what objects could be kept and reused in the project. HKJC submitted a project profile to EPD to apply for an EIA study brief (EIA-SB) for the revitalization of CPS compound. AMO has requested both built heritage and archeological impact assessment to be included in the EIA study. EIA study is being carried out by HKJC's consultants, including PMT to work on the parts on heritage and archeological impact assessment. HKJC is also working with its architects to come up with a revised conceptual design which will address the various concerns raised during the public engagement exercise. The Metro Planning Committee of the Town Planning Board in its meeting on 20 November 2009 recently rejected a planning application under s.12A of the Town
2.	Re-provisioning of David Trench Rehabilitation Centre to the Old Upper Levels Police Station under	• The Old Upper Levels Police Station, commonly known as "No. 8 Police Station", was built between 1934 and 1935 and was accorded a	with a new annex building to accommodate the

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	the West Island Line railway project (WIL)	0	 David Trench Rehabilitation Centre on Bonham Road which will have to be demolished to make way for the Sai Ying Pun Station of the WIL. Pursuant to DEVB Technical Circular (Works) No. 11/2007, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) including a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been conducted for the re-provisioning scheme. A presentation was given to AAB on 25 February 2009 and members were supportive of the proposal. The project was approved by the Finance Committee of LegCo on 3 July 2009. Site works have commenced and are being monitored by AMO. A list of salvaged building items, such as doors and timber floors, was received in November 2009.
3.	Proposed Conservation Project at Mallory Street/ Burrows Street	 Shophouses at 1-11 Mallory Street and 6-12 Burrows Street, probably built in the 1920s, were accorded a Grade 2 status in 2000. 	 The Urban Renewal Authority (URA) submitted a planning application for additional & alteration works at 1-11 Mallory Street and 6-12 Burrows Street in December 2008 for the consideration of the Town Planning Board. Under the scheme, 1-11 Mallory Street will be preserved for adaptive reuse and the façade of 6-12 Burrows Street will be retained and incorporated into an open space. The AMO has been working closely with the URA in finalizing the conservation proposal for the shophouses. The alteration and addition plans and foundation strengthening plans have been approved by Buildings Department in May 2009. The foundation strengthening works will commence in early 2010.

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4.	Proposed Urban Renewal Project at Lee Tung Street/ McGregor Street, Wan Chai (H15)	 Shophouses at nos.186-190 Queen's Road East, probably built in the 1930s, were graded as Grade 2 historic buildings in 2000 	 URA submitted a s.16 planning application in May 2007 to Town Planning Board. Under the proposal, the three historic buildings would be preserved for adaptive re-use and connected to an annex block. The front façade and side elevations will be retained, whilst part of the rear walls will be modified so as to accommodate a staircase and to provide connection to the annex block. A Conservation Plan for the preservation of the three historic buildings has been submitted. AMO has requested further structural investigation to determine the necessary strengthening works. A Hopewell Holdings-Sino Land joint venture was awarded the tender for this development.
5.	Redevelopment of the Former Explosives Magazine Site by the Asia Society, Hong Kong Centre	 Former Explosives Magazine, Victoria Barracks The site comprises an upper and lower platform. Three explosives stores were built on the upper platform in 1840s and 1860s. The compound including the historic buildings therein were collectively accorded a Grade 1 status in 1997. In the list of 1,444 historic buildings recently released by the AAB, all buildings at the Site are proposed to be Grade 1 as before, while the GG Block on the lower platform, previously with no grade, is proposed as a Grade 2 structure. 	 The Asia Society's planning application for the use of the site was approved by the TPB in October 2002 with a number of conditions including the submission and implementation of a conservation plan in respect of the existing historical buildings. A Conservation Plan was presented to the AAB on 13 December 2004. The Private Treaty Grant of the site for a term of 21 years was executed in September 2005. In late 2008, Lands Department approved Asia Society's application for an extension of an additional 18 calendar months (i.e. until 22 Mar 2010) to complete the outstanding works of the site. Regarding the historic buildings, the repair works at Block GG and re-roofing at Laboratory Building and Magazine A have been substantially completed, while

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		 the finishes works and E&M installation are still under way. Repair and restoration works at Magazine B are in progress. The AMO will work closely with the Asia Society in carrying out the conservation works.

<u>Kowloon</u>

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6.	Heritage Tourism Project at the Former Marine Police Headquarters (FMPHQ) Compound	•	The former Marine Police Headquarters, completed in 1884, comprises a main building, a stable block and signal tower (commonly known as Round House). The compound was occupied by the Marine Police until 1997, except during the Japanese Occupation (1941-1945) when it was used as a base by the Japanese navy. The compound together with the buildings was declared a monument in 1994. The site is being developed into a heritage hotel with food and beverage outlets, and retail facilities under the existing platform of the site. The major repair and structural strengthening works to the historic buildings as well as the construction of the new podium structure were completed by end of September 2008.	•	 There are currently two guided tours daily at 2:30pm and 4:00pm for the public. Shops in the sub-letting area in the new podium, Main Block and Accommodation Block of the Old Kowloon Fire Station have been open since April and the opening of the hotel is scheduled for November 2009.
7.	Conversion of Yaumatei Theatre and Red Brick Building into a Xiqu Activity Centre	1	Built around 1930, the Yaumatei Theatre is the only surviving pre-war cinema premise in Kowloon. It was accorded a Grade 2 status in	•	Pursuant to DEVB Technical Circular (Works) No. 11/2007, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been conducted for the conversion work. A presentation was

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		 1998. Also known as The Red Brick Building, the Former Pumping Station was built in 1895. It was converted into a post office and was abandoned in 1967. It was accorded a Grade 1 status in 2000. 	 given to AAB on 26 November 2008 and members were supportive of the proposal. The project was approved by the Finance Committee of the LegCo on 13 February 2009. Both sites were handed over to ArchSD on 15 July 2009. The construction works are being closely monitored by AMO. Structural appraisal report on existing coping and method statement for demolishing the external wall and slabs next to Shek Lung Street was received.
8.	Development at Diamond Hill CDA and construction of Diamond Hill Stabling Sidings of Shatin Central Link (SCL)	 The construction of SCL will include a Diamond Hill Station of which a stabling siding facility will be built at the former Tai Hom Village (now the Diamond Hill Comprehensive Development Area (CDA) site). Three historic structures, namely the Old Pillbox (Grade 2), Former Royal Air Force Hangar (Grade 3) and Stone House (Grade 3), are dispersed over the CDA site. In the list of 1,444 historic buildings recently released by the AAB, the grading of the Old Pillbox and the Stone House is proposed to be Grade 3 and nil grade respectively, whilst the Hangar remains to be Grade 3. 	 The proposed stabling siding facility, being part of the SCL, may clash with the three named historic structures. The project proponent, MTR Corp. Ltd., has carried out a study on the potential impact on the historic structures in relation to the construction of SCL and the corresponding mitigation measures under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Draft EIA report has been submitted by MTR Corp. Ltd. AMO is working with EPD and the relevant Bureaus / Departments to finalize the EIA report.
9.	Revitalisation of the North Kowloon Magistracy	 NKM was constructed in 1960 and had been continuously used as a magistracy building for the Kowloon district until its closure on 3 January 2005. It is currently proposed as a Grade 2 historic 	• The revitalization proposal submitted by the SCAD Foundation (Hong Kong) Ltd. (SCAD-HK) was selected and approval-in-principal has been granted by DEVB to SCAD-HK to turn a branch campus of the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) to provide 1,500 full

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		 building. It was selected as one of the buildings under the "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" Batch I launched by DEVB in 2008. 	 time student places for local and overseas students for the study of various courses related to digital media, etc. Part time courses may also be arranged. Heritage Impact Assessment in form of a Conservation Management Plan was prepared by SCAD-HK and presented to AAB on 27 October 2009. Members expressed support on the revitalization proposal. SCAD-HK has committed to deliver this revitalisation project by its own fund and no government funding for capital works will be sought. BD has given approval for building plan submissions and works targeted to commence at end December 2009.
10.	Revitalisation of the Lai Chi Kok Hospital	 The site is divided into 3 zones: upper, middle and lower zones. The building blocks at lower zone were constructed in around 1910. The site has been used as quarantine station, prison, hospital and rehabilitation centre. LCKH was accorded as Grade 3 historic site in 1992. It was selected as one of the buildings under the "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" Batch I launched by DEVB in 2008. 	 The revitalization proposal submitted by the Hong Kong Institute for Promotion of Chinese Culture (HKIPCC) was selected and approval-in-principal has been granted by DEVB to HKIPCC to turn the site into the "Hong Kong Cultural Heritage", a venue for promotion of arts and culture with hostel, performance space, classrooms, café and gallery. HKIPCC will organize educational courses and cultural exchange programmes in conjunction with both local and oversea institutions. Heritage Impact Assessment in form of a Conservation Management Plan was prepared by HCF and presented to AAB on 27 October 2009. Members expressed support on the revitalization proposal. HKIPCC is working on the detail design. An application for funding will be submitted to the LegCo in the first half of 2010. Commencement of work is anticipated in late 2010.

<u>New Territories and Islands</u>

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11.	Revitalisation of the Old Tai O Police Station	 The Main Building and Outhouse was constructed in 1902 with extension added in 1961-62. It was accorded as a Grade 3 historic building status in 1988. The building served as a police station and then a patrol post before its closure in December 1996. It was selected as one of the buildings under the "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" Batch I launched by DEVB in 2008. 	 The revitalization proposal submitted by the Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation Ltd. (HCF) was selected and approval-in-principal has been granted by DEVB to HCF to turn the building into a boutique hotel with a museum, 9 suites and a café/restaurant. Heritage Impact Assessment in form of a Conservation Management Plan was prepared by HCF and presented to AAB on 15 April 2009. Members expressed support on the revitalization proposal. HCF is working on the detail design. Funding for works has been approved by the Finance Committee of LegCo. Commencement of work is anticipated in early 2010.
12.	Revitalisation of Fong Yuen Study Hall	 Fong Yuen Study Hall was constructed in the 1920 to 30s. It was listed as one of the Government historic site identified by AMO. It is believed that the Study Hall was built as a small private school to educate the children in Ma Wan. It functioned as a subsidized school till its closure in 2003. It was selected as one of the buildings under the "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" Batch I launched by DEVB in 2008. 	 The revitalization proposal submitted by Yuen Yuen Institute (YYI) was selected and approval-in-principal has been granted by DEVB to YYI to turn the building into a cultural centre with exhibition rooms, a tourist centre and a learning centre. Heritage Impact Assessment in form of a Conservation Management Plan was prepared by YYI and presented to AAB on 21 May 2009. Members expressed support on the revitalization proposal. YYI is working on the detail design. FSTB approved \$8.64 million for the conversion works in October 2009 and commencement of work is anticipated in the second quarter of 2010.

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13. Restoration of Tat Tak Communal Hall, Yuen Long	 Tat Tak Communal Hall was built between 1851-1861 as an assembling place for village guards and meeting venue for merchants. It is composed of the main hall, the Hall of Lonesome Consolation at the left chamber and the Hall of the Bravery on the right. It was a guerrilla's headquarters in the resistance against British takeover of the New Territories in 1899. From the early 1950s to the late 1970s, the communal hall was occupied as a school and an orphanage. Since then, the place has been left vacant. 	 The building is around one metre below the surrounding ground level. Feasibility study was carried out in 2004 to explore various preservation options, in which the reconstruction option was recommended. To follow-up with the study's findings, conservation guidelines for the reconstruction were conducted in 2006. The first phase of reconstruction, i.e. dismantling and removal of artefacts, was completed in 2008. A detailed study is in progress to review the in-situ preservation of the building and to address the slope condition. The study will be completed by late 2009. The scope of restoration works will be refined based upon the findings of the study. As part of the detailed study, ground investigation and urgent propping works were completed in September 2009. A letter was issued to the Manager of the building in September 2009 informing him of the progress.