

**For information
on 17 May 2010**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/41/2009-10**

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

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

To inform Members of the progress of major heritage issues and activities of the Commissioner for Heritage's Office (CHO) and Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) since December 2009.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

Declaration of Tang Kwong U Ancestral Hall (廣瑜鄧公祠)

2. Tang Kwong U Ancestral Hall at Kam Tim, Yuen Long is proposed to be a Grade 1 building in the 1444 historic buildings assessment exercise and the grading will be submitted for endorsement of the Board at this meeting. Declaration of the Ancestral Hall as a monument was recommended by the Board as early as 1994. After years of discussion, the owners have recently given consent to the proposed declaration. Circulation of the intended declaration among various departments is being arranged and the proposed monument boundary is being drawn up with the help of the owners. The details will be submitted to Members at the next meeting for reaffirmation of their declaration recommendation.

Declaration of Kom Tong Hall (甘棠第)

3. The Kom Tong Hall, currently used as the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, was accorded a Grade 2 status by the Board in 1994. The grading was reviewed in the recent 1,444 historic buildings assessment exercise and a Grade 1 status was accorded to the building on 18 December 2009. Declaration of Kom Tong Hall was recommended by the Board on 10 March 2004. Logistics for the declaration including the demarcation of a monument boundary is being arranged. The details will be submitted to Members at the next meeting for reaffirmation of their declaration recommendation.

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

4. The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures that the Board has discussed before is set out at **Annex A**.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

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

Assessment of 1,444 Historic Buildings

6. Up to 16 April 2010, 547 historic buildings have been confirmed with Grade 1, Grade 2 or Grade 3 status including :

- (a) 99 buildings with Grade 1 status;
- (b) 212 buildings with Grade 2 status; and
- (c) 236 buildings with Grade 3 status.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Surveys / Excavations

7. The progress of archaeological projects conducted by the AMO from December 2009 to April 2010 is summarized at **Annex C**.

Excavation Licences

8. On Members' recommendations, the following licences were granted from December 2009 to April 2010 :

- (a) Ms. Sarah Heaver to conduct marine archaeological investigation for Engineering Investigation and Environmental Studies for Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase I – Feasibility Study;
- (b) Ms. Liu Mao to conduct archaeological investigation at Guidi Gang, Wun Yiu, Tai Po;
- (c) Dr. Min Sun to search for fossils in the areas of sedimentary rocks within Hong Kong;
- (d) Dr. Liu Wensuo to conduct archaeological survey for Regulation of Shenzhen River Stage IV Project.

9. Progress of the projects with archaeological licences is summarized at **Annex D**.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

10. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organized by AMO from December 2009 to April 2010 are at **Annex E**.

Educational Programmes

Exhibitions

11. The Conserving Central Exhibition held from 31 December 2009 to 31 March 2010 at International Finance Centre and Times Square was recorded with a total of 120,000 visitors. In view of the enthusiastic response, CHO and AMO have planned to stage the exhibition in Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC) from 12 to 31 May 2010.

12. An exhibition features the development and transmission of construction technology in Hong Kong will be staged in HDC from June 2010 to October 2010. The exhibition is organized by the Hong Kong Construction Association and the Chinese University of Hong Kong in association with CHO and AMO.

Heritage Tours

13. The AMO arranged a total of 379 guided tours at various heritage trails, heritage sites, HDC and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total attendance of 17,461 from December 2009 to April 2010. Details are at **Annex F**.

14. AMO also assisted the Chief Executive's Office in the docent training for the guided tours of Government House Open Day on 7 March 2010. Five experienced docents of AMO as well as students from CUHK and HKU conducted guided tours to introduce the history and architectural features of the Government House and the feedback was encouraging.

15. A series of guided cultural walking tours in West Kowloon were organised by CHO from mid December 2009 to early March 2010 to promote among young people and the general public better understanding of the local architecture, culture and life style in West Kowloon. These guided tours were conducted on every Saturday afternoon, comprising Architecture Tours and Old Shop Tours, with the former guiding participants to roam around West Kowloon to appreciate historic buildings, and the latter to visit shops in Shanghai Street that are still operating the traditional Chinese businesses. 30 tours were organised with around 500 participants.

Lectures and Workshops

16. 15 lectures were held from December 2009 to April 2010. In addition, 43 workshops were specially organised for schools and public with a total of about 1,730

participants. Details of the lectures and workshops are at **Annex G.**

17. AMO also co-organised with Vocational Training Council to hold a one-day training programme on built heritage conservation for the students of the Department of Construction. Furthermore, a workshop for their lecturers will be conducted in early June 2010.

Young Friends of Heritage (YFOH)

18. Recruitment of new YFOH commenced in mid April 2010. A briefing session for interested parties and a three-day training programme will be held in May and July 2010 respectively.

Initiatives for 2010

19. CHO focuses on community outreach in its public education programmes. A series of guided heritage tour to Central and Tsim Sha Tsui targeting low-income families commenced on April 2010 and will run up to August 2010. About 1,440 (360 families) will be benefitted.

20. CHO will organise part 2 of the guided tour to the Tai Tam Heritage Trail in the third quarter of 2010 and heritage tours for the disabled in the fourth quarter of 2010. The expected number of participants is 1,200 and 940 respectively.

21. A symposium on heritage conservation will be organised in November 2010 with around 120 participants.

22. An expo on heritage tourism will be organised in end of 2010. The expected number of visitors is around 15,800.

23. CHO and AMO are also jointly developing a teaching kit for liberal studies of the new senior secondary curriculum on heritage conservation. The kit is expected to be launched by the end of August 2010.

Commissioner for Heritage's Office
Development Bureau
Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
May 2010

Ref: LCS AM 22/3