MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

This paper informs Members of the progress of major heritage issues and activities of the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) since March 2012.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

Ho Tung Gardens

2. The Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) supported the declaration of Ho Tung Gardens as a monument at its meeting on 24 October 2011. A notice of the intended declaration was served on the owner of Ho Tung Gardens on 25 October 2011 under section 4(2) of the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (the Ordinance). The owner submitted a petition to the Chief Executive under section 4(3) of the Ordinance to object to the intended declaration of Ho Tung Gardens as a monument and request the Chief Executive to direct that the intended monument declaration shall not be made. The Chief Executive has subsequently directed under section 4(4) of the Ordinance that the objection be referred to the Chief Executive in Council for consideration. The decision of the Chief Executive in Council is pending.

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

3. The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures which AAB has discussed before is set out at **Annex A**.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Surveys / Excavations

5. The progress of archaeological projects from March to May 2012 is summarised at $\underline{\mathbf{Annex C}}$.

Archaeological Licences

- 6. On Members' recommendations, the following licences were granted during the period:
 - (a) To Mr Ng Wai Hung for conducting an archaeological impact assessment at various lots in Tuen Mun Area 54 for a private residential development project in the vicinity of the Siu Hang Tsuen Site of Archaeological Interest; and
 - (b) To Ms Sarah Heaver for conducting a marine archaeological investigation for additional dredging work for the Central Kowloon Route.
- 7. Progress of the projects with archaeological licences is summarised at **Annex D**.

Improvement Works for Rock Carvings and Inscription

8. Subsequent to the report on the proposals for the design of protection and visitor facilities for the rock carvings and inscription in Hong Kong to AAB at its meeting on 22 March 2012, AMO discussed with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) the implementation of the design proposals. ArchSD has scheduled to carry out the improvement works for Kau Sai Chau

rock carving and Joss House Bay rock inscription in 2012. They will also arrange a consultancy to study in detail the technical issues of the proposed works at Wong Chuk Hang rock carving, Big Wave Bay rock carving and Po Toi rock carving.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

9. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organised by AMO from March to May 2012 are at **Annex E**.

Educational Programmes

Heritage Tours

10. AMO arranged 354 guided tours at various heritage trails, heritage sites, the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC), Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery and Government House with a total attendance of 10 601 from March to May 2012. Details of the guided tours are at **Annex F**.

Lectures and Workshops

11. Lectures on various heritage topics were arranged during the period. In addition, 42 workshops were organised for schools and members of the public with a total of 2 447 participants. Details of the lectures and workshops are at $\mathbf{Annex} \mathbf{G}$.

Exhibitions

12. The "2011-12 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-city Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture" Exhibition, organised jointly by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Planners and Hong Kong Designers Association, was mounted at the HDC and the Kowloon Park from 15 February to 23 April 2012. There were a total of 23 721 visitors to the exhibition.

13. The "Our Tsim Sha Tsui Past, Present and Future" exhibition organised by The Hong Kong Heritage Project with the support from AMO, is being staged at HDC until 2 September 2012.

Antiquities and Monuments Office Leisure and Cultural Services Department June 2012

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