

For information
on 20 February 2013

BOARD PAPER
AAB/1/2013-14

**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 December 2012.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

The Béthanie and Cenotaph

2. The Béthanie and Cenotaph, both are Grade 1 structures, have been recommended by the AAB at its meeting on 17 December 2012 for declaration as monuments. AMO is proceeding with the declaration procedures as required under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53).

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

3. The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures which AAB has discussed 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

Archaeological Licences

5. Progress of the archaeological projects with licences issued is summarised at **Annex C**.

Improvement Works for Rock Carvings and Inscription

6. Based on the design for protection and visitors' facilities at rock carvings and inscription as reported to AAB at its meeting on 22 March 2012, the Architectural Services Department ("ArchSD") will commence the improvement works for Joss House Bay rock inscription and Kau Sai Chau rock carving soon other than those already done. The ArchSD will also commission a consultancy to study in detail the technical issues of the proposed works for the rock carvings at Wong Chuk Hang, Big Wave Bay and Po Toi. The study will be conducted in 2013.

7. The 3D laser scanning arranged by AMO for the rock carving at Lung Ha Wan has been completed while that for the Big Wave Bay and Wong Chuk Hang rock carvings are underway.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

8. Statistics on publicity and educational activities organised by AMO and the Commissioner for Heritage's Office ("CHO") of the Development Bureau from December 2012 to January 2013 are at **Annex D**.

Programmes and Activities Organised and to be Organised by the CHO

9. The CHO ran a series of programmes to reach out to the community from December 2012 to January 2013 including:

- (a) Extension of "Heritage Discovery" Roving Exhibition at the airport featuring Hollywood Road, Tai Po Wun Yiu Kiln site and six heritage routes of "Hong Kong Heritage Tourism Expo –

Access Heritage” that was originally kicked off from June 2012 and the roving exhibition had attracted a total of 148 864 visitors;

- (b) “Conference on Materials, Techniques and Construction Management of Heritage Architecture in Mainland China and Hong Kong” co-organised with the Construction Industry Council, AMO and the Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong on 2 December 2012 which had attracted about 200 attendees from the industry;
- (c) “Heritage Fiesta 2012” featuring three selected routes in December 2012 which had attracted 122 808 visitors;
- (d) Since its launch in January 2008; the dedicated government website on heritage conservation (www.heritage.gov.hk) has received over 1 729 207 visits as at 31 January 2013; and
- (e) Since June 2008, the CHO also published a bimonthly newsletter “活化 @Heritage” featuring topics of public concern and explaining the work of the CHO. Over 362 500 printed copies had been distributed by February 2013.

10. In 2013, the CHO will organise a series of programmes including:

- (a) A workshop entitled “活化歷史建築與文化承傳” to be co-organised with the AMO on 22 February 2013;
- (b) Bi-monthly open days to King Yin Lei from April to December 2013;
- (c) “New Life @ Heritage” Exhibition featuring the six revitalised historic buildings under the Batch I of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme at the airport from mid-June to December 2013; and
- (d) “Heritage Fiesta 2013” featuring historic school buildings across the territory in late 2013.

Educational Programmes Organised and to be Organised by the AMO

11. The AMO ran a series of programmes to reach out to the community from December 2012 to January 2013 including:

- (a) From December 2012 to January 2013, AMO arranged 239 guided tours at various heritage trails, heritage sites, the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (“HDC”) and Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total attendance of 10 039. Details of the guided tours are at **Annex E**;
- (b) Lectures, workshops and a conference were arranged during the period with a total of 1 206 participants. Details of the lectures, workshops and conference are at **Annex F**; and
- (c) The “20th Anniversary of the Lord Wilson Heritage Trust” roving exhibition is staged at the HDC from 4 January to 24 February 2013.

12. In 2013, the AMO will organise a series of programmes including:

- (a) AMO will continue to collaborate and advise professional or community organizations such as the Hong Kong Institute of Architectural Conservationists and universities in heritage conservation, education and publicity projects/programmes. AMO will also support the International Museum Day Hong Kong in May 2013, the International Arts Carnival from July to August 2013, and the School Culture Day Scheme for the year 2013/14 with diversified programmes to promoting Hong Kong’s heritage;
- (b) AMO will continue to provide heritage information and resources to the public through AMO and AAB websites, Reference Library in HDC and related literatures. Apart from existing systems, tThe Generic Platform for Virtual Reality Touring Programme for Monuments (VRS, <http://vrs.lcsd.gov.hk/vrs/>) will be fully launched in April 2013 with mobile versions for smart phones

and pads;

- (c) AMO launched the Friends of Heritage (FOH) and Young Friends of Heritage (YFOH) since 1997 and 2004 respectively, aiming at involving the public and students in providing volunteer service in heritage conservation and promotional work. Currently, there are some 750 FOH members and 272 YFOH participants upon completion of the latest recruitment. It is planned to recruit another batch of FOH in March 2013 tentatively.
- (d) The HDC and Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitor Centre will stage several thematic exhibitions introducing heritage conservation to the public.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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