

**For information
on 9 March 2023**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/1/2023-24**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on the progress of major heritage conservation issues and activities since 1 November 2022.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

2. The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures monitored by the Board is set out at **Annex A**.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

3. The progress of restoration and maintenance projects undertaken by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (“AMO”) is set out at **Annex B**.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Surveys / Excavations

4. The progress of archaeological projects undertaken by AMO is summarised at **Annex C**.

Archeological Licences

5. The progress of archaeological projects with licences issued is summarised at **Annex D**.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

6. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“HKSAR”), the Commissioner for Heritage’s Office (“CHO”) and AMO jointly organised the Greater Bay Area Built Heritage Summit (the “Summit”) at the Hong Kong City Hall, a newly declared monument, from 9 to 10 November 2022, with live broadcast online. Around 30 experts and scholars on built heritage conservation from the Greater Bay Area and overseas were invited to share their professional knowledge and valuable experiences. Their papers were published in the bilingual Summit publication, together with a set of souvenirs, for distribution to participants. The Summit was very well-received, with in-person attendance of a total of 846 participants. In addition, the Summit attracted more than 10 million online views through YouTube and Ifeng.

7. During the Summit, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed amongst Development Bureau of HKSAR Government, Department of Culture and Tourism of Guangdong Province and Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macao SAR Government on 9 November 2022 to foster exchange and collaboration on archaeological and built heritage conservation amongst the Greater Bay Area. A framework agreement was also signed by Development Bureau of HKSAR Government and National Cultural Heritage Administration (國家文物局) on 16 November 2022 to enhance exchange and collaboration on the same subject between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

8. “Heritage Vogue • Hollywood Road” 2022 with an array of activities including guided tours, workshops, exhibitions, art, outdoor movie screenings, traditional culture and music performances was held on 20 November 2022. The event covered Tai Kwun, PMQ, Man Mo Temple and the nine historic buildings and declared monuments in the Central and Western District. 12 operating organisations of the projects under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme hosted various activities at their marquees at Prison

Yard, Tai Kwun and introduced to the public the current usages and services of the revitalised historic buildings. The event attracted 70 230 visitors.

Statistics

9. Statistics on educational and publicity activities organised by CHO and AMO between 1 November and 15 February 2023 are at **Annex E**.

Programmes and Activities Organised by CHO

10. The number of followers of the Instagram platform HK Heritage LIVE 活歷。香港 (IG name: @hkheritagelive), which was launched on 3 January 2022, has grown to 10 409 as at 15 February 2023.

Educational Programmes Organised by AMO

11. Major educational activities organised by AMO include:
- (a) the “Restoration of Duddell Street Steps and Gas Lamps” exhibition staged at the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre (“HDC”) since 14 September 2020 recorded an attendance of 52 169 as at 15 February 2023;
 - (b) the “Inseparable Ties: Cohesion as Told by Hong Kong Historic Buildings” exhibition staged at HDC from 21 October to 20 November 2022 recorded a total attendance of 4 280;
 - (c) the “Light of Jinsha - The Ancient Shu Civilisation” exhibition staged at HDC from 30 December 2022 to 29 March 2023 recorded an attendance of 21 860 as at 15 February 2023;
 - (d) the “Treasures from Sacred Hill: Song-Yuan Archaeological Discoveries at Sung Wong Toi” display has been enjoying great popularity since its opening at Sung Wong Toi MTR Station on 27 June 2021. An attendance of 759 443 was recorded as at 15 February 2023;
 - (e) the “In Virtual of Heritage – Exploring Monuments with Heritage Technology” exhibition staged at the Hong Kong City Hall from 11 to

22 November 2022 recorded a total attendance of 4 423. Part of the exhibition has been converted into a roving exhibition staged at the Central Market from 20 December 2022 to 16 January 2023, and at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre from 28 December 2022 to 15 January 2023 respectively. The former attracted a total attendance of 312 316, and an attendance of 19 146 was recorded for the latter;

- (f) the display of all the shortlisted and winning entries of the “Art Unbound, Inclusion Absolute – Heritage for All Drawing Competition” staged at HDC between 16 September and 16 November 2022 recorded an attendance of 4 959. The exhibition was further staged at H6 CONET from 26 November to 28 December 2022, recording an attendance of 85 646;
- (g) CHO, AMO and The University of Hong Kong (“HKU”) jointly presented the “HKU Heritage Sights & Sites” audio guided tour, a heritage promotion and education initiative in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of HKSAR and the 111th anniversary of HKU. By scanning the QR codes, listening to the audio guide and reading the e-booklet available on the AMO’s website, visitors will discover and appreciate the richness of Hong Kong’s built heritage – starting with the exquisite design and craftsmanship of 13 declared monuments and graded historic buildings on and around the HKU campus. The Secretary for Development and the Vice-Chancellor of HKU officiated at the Launch Ceremony on 11 November 2022 at Loke Yew Hall, Main Building, HKU and Mr Christopher LAW, AAB member then, conducted a talk on the historic buildings of HKU after the Launch Ceremony;
- (h) following the launch of the "City Heritage Run" in Kowloon City in collaboration with Kai Tak Sports Initiative Foundation Limited in September 2022, the event was extended to selected declared monuments and historic buildings in the Central and Western District and was launched on 11 February 2023;
- (i) 76 guided tours were organised at various heritage trails, heritage sites, HDC, Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total of 1 373 participants. Details are set out at **Annex F**; and

- (j) 25 workshops and 11 lectures were held between 1 November and 15 February 2023, recording a total attendance of 4 804 participants. Details of the workshops and lectures are at **Annex G**.
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Antiquities and Monuments Office

March 2023

Ref: AMO 22-3/0