

Final Report of the Archaeological Works for Shatin to Central Link (Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section) Accepted

The final report of the archaeological works for the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) To Kwa Wan Station works site was accepted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) in late June 2017.

Following the submission of the interim report in 2014, the final report consolidates information on the archaeological finds unearthed in the SCL To Kwa Wan Station works site, including their characteristics and periods of origins. The report on the features and finds was prepared by archaeological specialists commissioned by the contractor of the SCL project. The information was compiled in accordance with the guidelines under the Licences to Excavate and Search for Antiquities issued by the Antiquities Authority.

During the three-phased archaeological works which lasted more than two years from late 2012, a large quantity of ceramic shards was unearthed. They included a small amount of high quality ceramic shards and a large amount of shards of ceramic utensils with the majority being commonly used back then. Features from the Song-Yuan period to mid-20th century were unearthed, providing physical evidence to support that the areas of archaeological works were inhabited as early as the Song-Yuan period. The finds deepen the understanding of the history of the former Sacred Hill area and have provided the basis for future academic researches on Hong Kong during the Song and Yuan dynasties.

To preserve the archaeological features unearthed, modifications of the design and construction of the SCL To Kwa Wan Station have been made in accordance with the conservation options approved by the Antiquities Authority in 2014. These include:

1. Modification and relocation of the station ventilation facilities and plant rooms to allow in-situ preservation of Well J1 and nearby building foundation remains;
2. Redesigning of the station roof to introduce a purpose-built trough to enable future reinstatement of Well J2 and the associated water channel at its original position and level by the relevant government department;
3. Provision of display cabinets in the concourse of To Kwa Wan Station for AMO to display selected finds excavated at the archaeological works areas;
4. Incorporation of archaeological elements in the interior and artistic design in the form of graphical presentation in To Kwa Wan Station to accentuate the local heritage; and
5. Installation of additional protection wall to protect the stone building features outside the northern side of the station from any construction disturbance.

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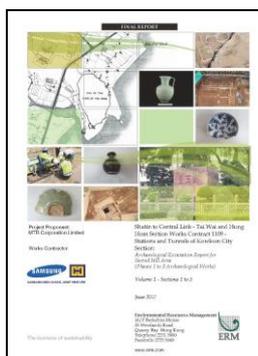
“The construction of the SCL has unearthed a part of our city’s heritage that was buried for hundreds of years. The Corporation respects the archaeological works and our projects team had explored various modifications under the advice of Antiquities Advisory Board and AMO to ensure that the archaeological works and the relics are properly protected from our works as much as practicable. We will continue to work with the government and the Board in bringing the project forward,” said Mr TM Lee, General Manager – SCL and Head of E&M Construction of MTR Corporation.

With the joint efforts made by the projects team and contractors, the estimated 11-month delay to the SCL East West Corridor to accommodate the extended archaeological works has been partly mitigated. The target commissioning date of the “Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section” of the SCL has been advanced to mid-2019. As previously reported, it is estimated that the archaeological works would result in an additional cost of at least HK\$4.1 billion for the SCL.

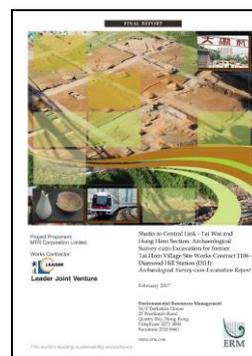
“We will continue to take forward the SCL project with our best efforts. This mega project, which links up north-south and east-west parts of Hong Kong, will provide more direct and convenient train services for the public,” Mr Lee added.

The archaeological report of the other archaeological works conducted at the former Tai Hom Village of Diamond Hill as recommended by the approved Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report of the SCL was also submitted and was accepted by AMO in February 2017.

[Annex](#) (Please click on report cover below to read):



Final Archaeological Excavation Report for Sacred Hill Area (Phases 1 to 3 Archaeological Works) for Shatin to Central Link (Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section)



Final Report on the Archaeological Survey-cum-Excavation for former Tai Hom Village Site for Shatin to Central Link (Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section)

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Photo Captions:

1. The redesigned station roof has recently been completed. It includes a purpose-built trough to enable future reinstatement of Well J2 and the associated water channel at its original position and level atop To Kwa Wan Station.



2. Display cabinets will be provided at the concourse of To Kwa Wan Station for the Antiquities and Monuments Office to display selected finds unearthed.

