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**Section 10**



## 10 ARCHAEOLOGY AND SITES OF HISTORIC INTEREST

### 10.1 INTRODUCTION

Since 1976, there has been a progressive programme in Hong Kong to protect some of the most significant buildings, structures and places as well as historic monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance. The archaeological and historic sites within the Study Area have been identified in WP No. 12A, *Environmental Baseline* and the Preferred Concept Plan Report. This Section assesses the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts on these sites from the proposed LAPH developments.

### 10.2 METHODOLOGY

Sites of archaeological and historic interest were identified through examination of data, and communication with:

- the Antiquities and Monuments Office; and
- the Hong Kong Archaeological Society (HKAS).

The Antiquities and Monuments Office is part of the Government Secretariat and comprises the executive arm of the Antiquities Authority. Apart from servicing the Antiquities Advisory Board (who advise the Government on sites which merit protection), the office has responsibility for the protection of buildings and items of historic interest, and areas of archaeological significance.

The HKAS is an independent organisation drawing together experts and members of the public who have an interest in archaeological matters. It organises meetings, site visits and excavations of local sites, and publishes archaeological journals.

Impacts were assessed on the basis of their proximity to a proposed development(s), the nature of the development and the importance of the archaeological site. The importance of the site was determined using information and recommendations supplied by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

### 10.3 IDENTIFICATION OF IMPACTS

#### 10.3.1 Archaeological Sites

The Antiquities and Monuments Office recently

completed a survey of North Lantau which identified fifteen archaeological sites, historic buildings and historic items, within the Primary Study Area (Table 10.1). In addition HKAS provided further information on the Ming dynasty site at Penny's Bay. Of these fifteen sites, only five have been identified as being in close proximity to the proposed major development areas, and only three of these are considered to be at risk from the LAPH developments (Figure 10.1).

#### 10.3.2 Potential Impacts

The three sites of archaeological interest which could potentially be affected by the LAPH developments comprise Pa Tau Kwu, Chok Ko Wan (Penny's Bay) and Luk Keng. The nature and extent of impacts are discussed below.

##### *Pa Tau Kwu*

Pa Tau Kwu is a neolithic site located on the south eastern tip of the Tsing Chau Tsai Peninsula (Figure 10.2). From March to June 1992, a rescue excavation was conducted at the site by the Chinese University. The project director's Preliminary Report (October 1992), considers the site to be of utmost archaeological importance on the following grounds:

- this is the first time that the remains of a pre-historic village settlement has been discovered and the site is so far the only known village settlement;
- the site remains undisturbed since its abandonment; and
- the house remains at the site not only represent a new style of domestic dwellings in the coastal areas of South East China but also form a major constituent to prehistoric settlements in the coastal areas of the south eastern part of East Asia.

The project director has advocated full preservation of the site, which is fully supported by the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

With regard to the LAPH developments the site is located immediately south of the MSSA access road (Figure 10.2) in an area which will predominantly be used for the development of the Container Back-up Area (CBA). The main impact on the site

would arise during Phases II, III and IV with the development of the port back-up areas and Green Island Link. However, due to its significance, provision has been made in the Recommended Outline Development Plan (RODP) to preserve the site. It is therefore proposed that the CBA is located around the site leaving the area undisturbed.

**Chok Ko Wan**

The Chok Ko Wan site is located on the east side of Penny's Bay in a river valley adjacent to the shoreline (Figure 10.3). Three separate excavations were completed in 1986, 1990 and 1992, which identified a number of blue and white ceramic items from the Jing de Zhen kilns, dated to the Ming Dynasty. The Antiquities and Monuments Office have since indicated that the site has been fully excavated and no further excavations need take place. The development of Penny's Bay will therefore not have an impact in terms of archaeology.

**Luk Keng**

Luk Keng, is located immediately north of the log pounds at Yam O Wan. The Hong Kong Archaeological Survey conducted in 1985 established that the site is thought to contain remains of prehistoric Tang and Song dynasties occupation as well as lime kiln remains. Communication with the Antiquities and Monuments Office, has confirmed that Luk Keng is considered to be an important site and should be preserved as far as possible due to its significant archaeological potential.

Potential impacts on the site may arise during the final phase of the LAPH development with the construction of Route P1 (Figure 10.4). Route P1 is an alternative to the NLE and would be completed as part of the Phase IV developments. Its current alignment however is such that the northern end of Luk Keng would be lost to the road and the remainder of the site would potentially be affected by associated construction works.

**10.4 MITIGATION MEASURES**

Due to the significance of the archaeological sites, Pa Tau Kwu and Luk Keng, mitigation measures have been considered which would eliminate or at the very least minimize impacts to the sites.

As the LAPH studies are still at the outline design

TABLE 10.1

**LIST OF SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC IMPORTANCE IN THE PRIMARY STUDY AREA**

SITE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	LAPH Ref
Pa Tau Kwu	Neolithic Site	Lantau	Ar1 **
Chok Ko Wan (Penny's Bay)	Ming Dynasty	Lantau	Ar2 **
Luk Keng	Ming Dynasty	Lantau	Ar3 **
Sz Pak Wan	Prehistoric Site	Lantau	Ar4 *
Nim Shue Wan	Late Neolithic and Song dynasty	Lantau	Ar5
Cheung Sha Lau	Prehistoric Occupation Site	Lantau	Ar6
Kau Sat Wan	Historic Kiln Site	Lantau	Ar7
Man Kok Tsui	Late Neolithic to Bronze age Site	Lantau	Ar8
Tin Hau Temple	Tin Hau Temple	Peng Chau	Ar9 *
Tung Wan Tsai	Lime kiln (Tang Dynasty)	Ma Wan	Ar10
Sha Lau Tong Wan	Prehistoric, neolithic Site	Ma Wan	Ar11
Tin Hau Temple	Date Unknown	Ma Wan (north)	Ar12
Fong Yeun Shu Street	Date Unknown	Ma Wan	Ar13
Ma Wan Old Custom Station	Dated to 1897 AD	Ma Wan	Ar14
Tin Hau Temple	Date Unknown	Ma Wan (South)	Ar15

key: \* denotes close proximity to proposed major development areas  
\*\* areas at risk from LAPH developments

stage, there is a positive opportunity in the planning process to design the port related infrastructure and facilities to minimize potential impacts on these two sites. The LAPH concept studies have taken into account the possible need to 'fine tune' layout planning at the detailed design stage, and consideration should be given in the detailed alignment of both the MSSA access road and Route P1 to avoid Pa Tau Kwu and Luk Keng respectively. In addition, the boundaries of the port back-up areas could be altered allowing Pa Tau Kwu to remain unaffected.

## 10.5 CONCLUSIONS

Of the fifteen sites of archaeological and historic interest within the Study Area, only Pa Tau Kwu and Luk Keng are likely to be affected by the LAPH development. However, the potential impacts on these sites can be eliminated by consideration of road alignment and layout of back-up facilities during the detailed design of the Container Port, transport network and North Shore Developments.

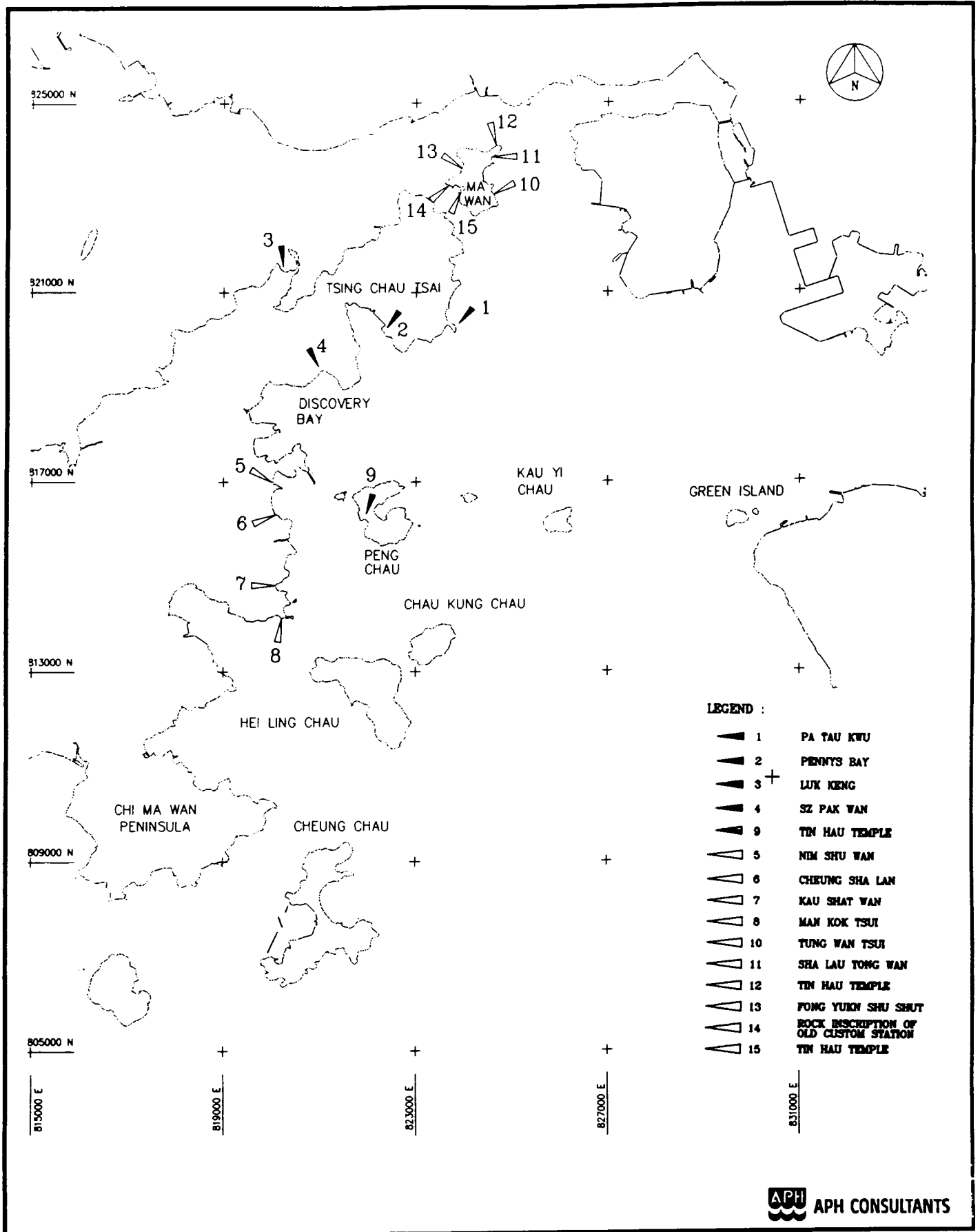


FIGURE 10.1

SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INTEREST

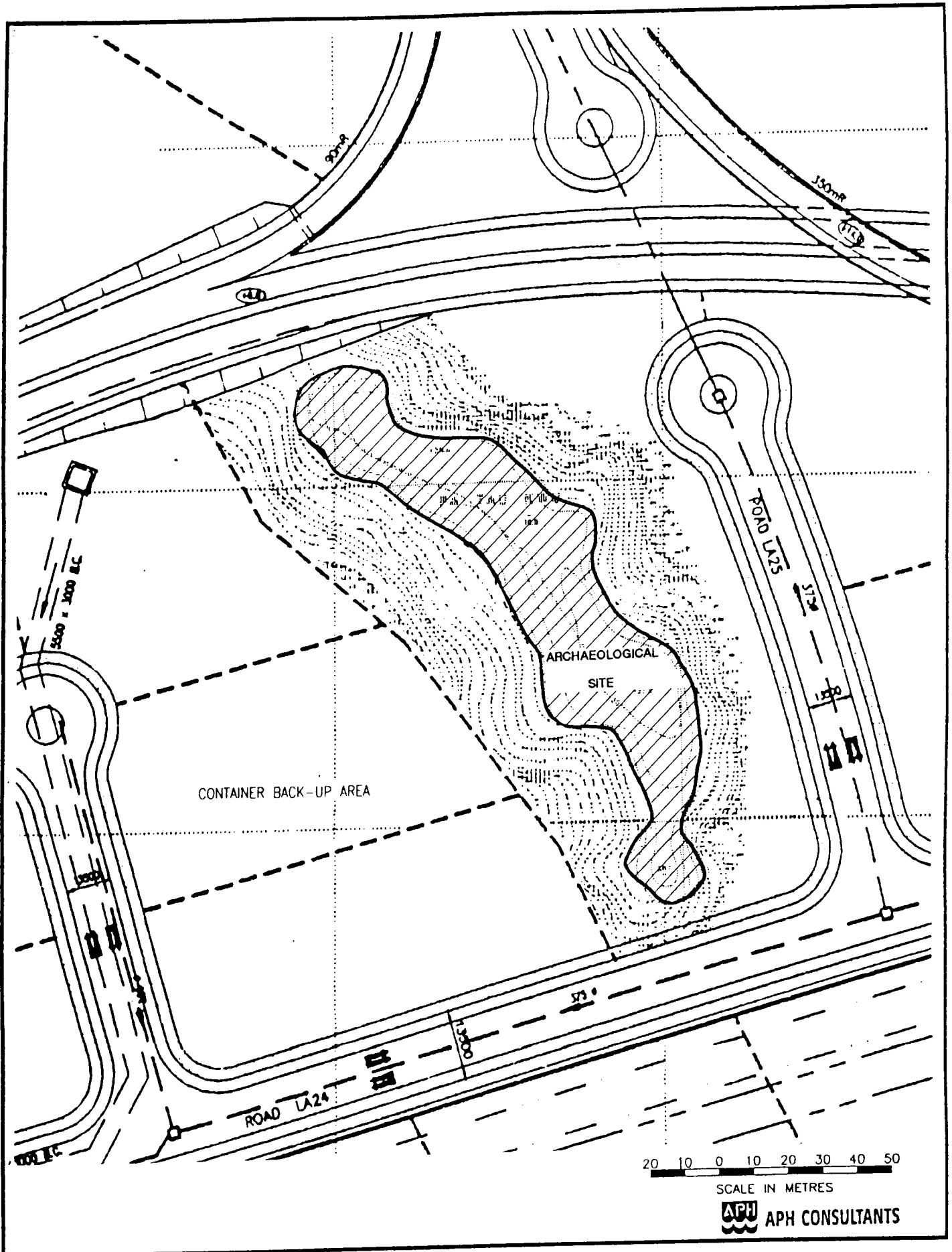


FIGURE 10.2

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE—PA TAU KWU

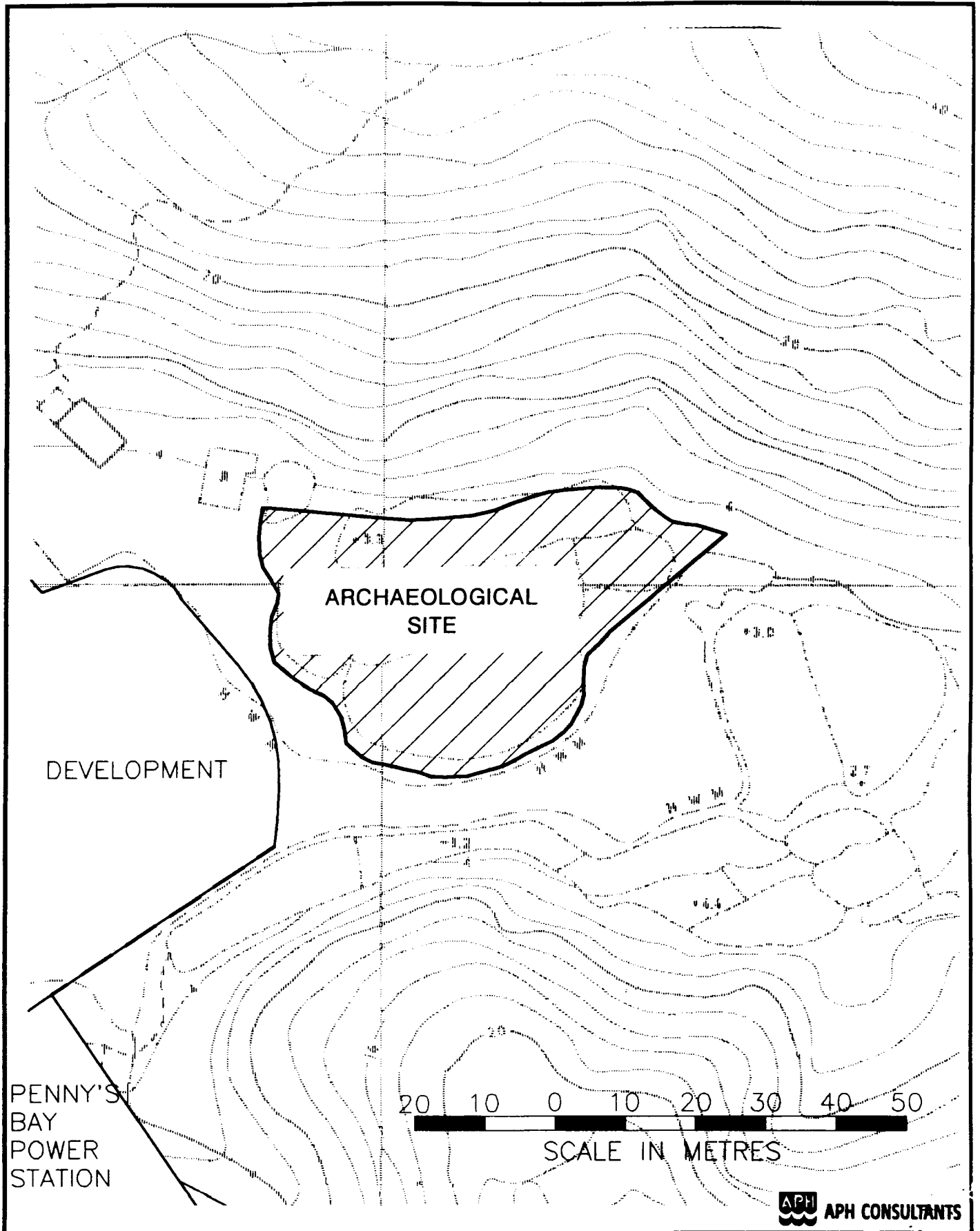


FIGURE 10.3

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE—CHOK KO WAN

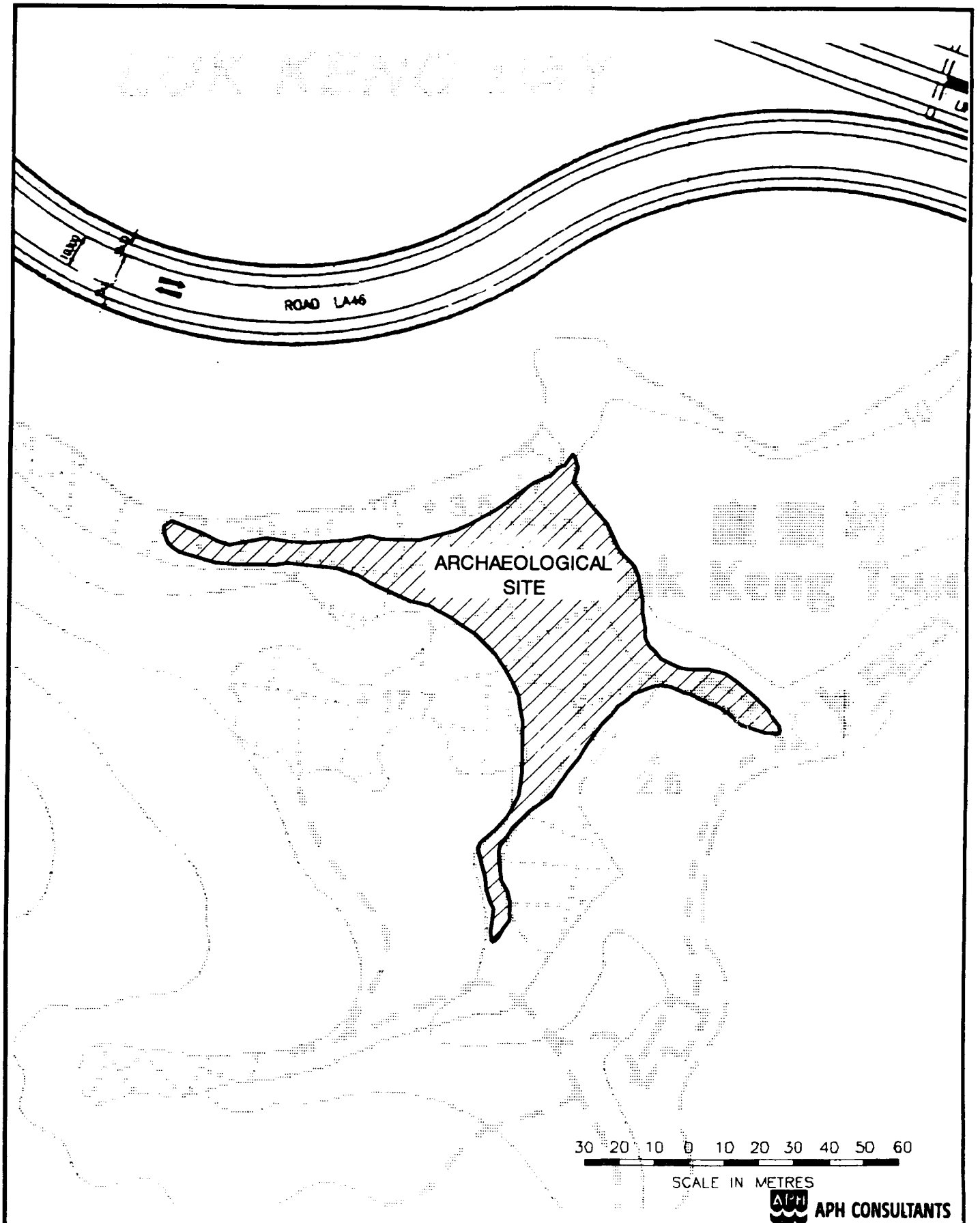


FIGURE 10.4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE—LUK KENG