

Table 3.30 Summary of the Assessment for Prison Yard

<i>Building No., Name & Designation</i>	<i>Date of Construction and Original Use</i>	<i>Reference Drawings</i>
Prison Yard Within Victoria Prison Declared Monument	Mid 19th century Prison exercise yard	Drawings provided by RDA/HdeM
<i>Brief Overview</i>	<i>Proposed Adaptive Uses</i>	<i>Significance (refer to Section 3.11 of the Conservation Management Plan dated June 2008)</i>
Large rectangular space south of D Hall in the prison part of the Site. The yard has been finished in concrete paving slabs, and has three large trees with concrete planters, benches and tables to the southeast. It is bounded to the south by the large revetment wall on Chancery Lane. Parts of the space would have always been used as exercise and workshops by the prisoners, but this space as it is today was only formed with the systematic demolition of various parts of the radial plan prison.	Open space.	HIGH Like the Parade Ground, this space is significant as an open space both within the Site and in the greater context of central Hong Kong. It provides a contrast to the Parade Ground both in use and in surrounding context and provides a general understanding of the previous layout of the Site, if only as a negative space where buildings previously stood.
<i>Conservation Approach</i>	<i>Major Proposed Changes (for Mitigations see Annex A1)</i>	<i>Other Heritage Impact Rating Assessments</i>
The proposed use of the Site is to remain as an open space, and it is important that it retains as much of its character as possible. There will be a large services duct for the distribution of centralized chilled water and electrical service routed to the south of D Hall west wing. This will involve excavation and the consequential renewal of the ground finish. Elsewhere the ground surface finish will be relaid.	There is little impact on the Prison Yard as there will be little change taking place. The replacement of the late 20th century surface will be beneficial to the overall appearance of the space, and the historic trees will be retained. It is proposed that the current condition of the Prison Yard be recorded prior to any works, in order to have a clear understanding of the last use and ground covering of the space. Moreover, an archaeological investigation will be conducted by a qualified archaeologist to obtain field data for detailed impact assessment to be carried out during the detailed design stage, appropriate mitigation measures will be recommended subject to the findings of the archaeological investigation. Historic photographs, archives and any documentation produced prior to demolition and during the watching brief can be used in any site-wide interpretation of the Victoria Prison history.	Impact Rating 2 – Acceptable Impact