

SECTION 9

9 CULTURAL HERITAGE

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 The objective of the cultural heritage impact assessment is to identify and determine the elements of the cultural heritage likely to be affected by the Project and / or likely to cause impact upon the Project and to prepare mitigation measures that will minimise the likely impacts.

9.1.2 The following Cultural Heritage Assessment has been undertaken by Hassell, the findings of which have been incorporated into this EIA.

9.2 Legislation and Standards

9.2.1 The criteria for evaluating Cultural Heritage impacts are laid out in the *Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIAO-TM)*. The relevant criteria for Landscape and Visual Impacts are defined in *Annex 10: Criteria for Evaluating Visual and Landscape Impact, and Impacts on Sites of Cultural Heritage* of the EIAO-TM.

9.3 Existing Conditions

Tin Hau Temples

9.3.1 There are two Tin Hau Temples within the Study Area: one at Lei Yue Mun and the other at Cha Kwo Ling.

9.3.2 The Lei Yue Mun Tin Hau Temple is located on the sea coast at the eastern end of the Lei Yue Mun and Ma San Tsuen fishing village settlements. It was erected over 200 years ago in the Ching Dynasty in honour of the Goddess of Heaven who is believed to be the patron of fishermen at sea.

9.3.3 The Goddess of Heaven was believed to be a young lady in the Sung Dynasty who ascended into heaven on dying after the rescue of her brother who had gone out to sea without taking heed of her advice about an imminent storm.

9.3.4 An extension was added in 1954 to the original temple after the Goddess of Heaven was believed to have appeared at this locality.

9.3.5 The temple has become the venue for worship of the Goddess of Heaven during the Tin Hau Festival held in her honour. The historic setting of the temple is also of significance.

9.3.6 The Cha Kwo Ling Tin Hau Temple is located at the south of the Cha Kwo Ling village settlement. Due to construction works, Cha Kwo Ling Temple was moved to the present site in 1941 and then renovated in 1947. Cha Kwo Ling Temple is

a listed building.

Devil's Peak Fort and Associated Military Installations

- 9.3.7 Pottinger Battery, together with a number of tunnel garrisons on the hill slopes facing towards the sea, is an important relic of Hong Kong's coastal defence system dating from 1895. The headland also comprises undeveloped, undulating hillside and rocky coastline with outstanding panoramic views.

Ming Chiu Tong

- 9.3.8 This is a fine traditional house closely associated with the early history in Hong Kong of Mr. Li Ka-Shing and is the last good representative dwelling left in the old village.

Lei Yue Mun Village Burial Ground

- 9.3.9 This is situated on the east facing slope of Devils Peak, just below Pottinger Battery.

Historic Quarry Landscape

- 9.3.10 The cliff faces behind Lei Yue Mun Village represents an important historical landscape and an example of early Hong Kong industry archaeology. It is the best stretch of artisan quarry faces still surviving in Hong Kong.

9.4 Impact Assessment

- 9.4.1 The WCR will, apart from the quarry landscape, avoid interference with the existing historical / cultural sites and buildings described above. The road alignment, where it impacts with the cliff faces, will be reviewed at the design stage in order to make every effort to retain a significant section of the quarry. The proposed WCR is considered to be acceptable, with implementation of the mitigation measures as described below, from the cultural heritage point of view.

Mitigation Measures

- 9.4.2 The WCR road alignment options will, apart from the historic quarry landscape, avoid interference with the existing historical / cultural sites and buildings described above.
- 9.4.3 The WCR will avoid interference with the Lei Yue Mun Tin Hau Temple. However, mitigation measures should be taken for the Cha Kwo Ling Tin Hau Temple during the construction and operation stage in respect of noise and visual impact, as suggested in *Sections 3 and 8* of this EIA Report.

- 9.4.4 The cliff faces of the Historic Quarry will be retained where possible. The road alignment, where it impacts with the cliff faces, will be reviewed at the design stage in order to make every effort to retain a significant section of the quarry.

9.5 Conclusions

- 9.5.1 The WCR will avoid physical encroachment/interference with the Tin Hau Temples, Devil's Peak Fort and Military Installations, Ming Chiu Tong and the Lei Yue Mun Village Burial Ground. Impacts will however result from conflict of the proposed road alignment with some of the cliff faces of the historic quarry landscape. The road alignment, where it impacts with the cliff faces, will be reviewed at the design stage in order to make every effort to retain a significant section of the quarry. The proposed WCR is considered to be acceptable with mitigation measures from the cultural heritage point of view.

9.6 Environmental Monitoring and Audit

- 9.6.1 During construction, the Contractor will be responsible for implementation of the mitigation measures which will be checked during the site environmental audit sections. The requirements for EM&A have been presented separate in the EM&A manual and are summarised in *Section 10.9*.