10 CULTURAL HERITAGE

10.1 INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 This Section presents the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) associated with the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with Clause 3.4.11.2 and Appendix I of the EIA Study Brief No. ESB-339/2021.

10.2 PURPOSE, OBJECTIVE AND BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

10.2.1 The relevant legislation and associated guidance notes related to cultural heritage impact assessment are identified, including but not limited to the following:

(a) Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) (Cap. 499), Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIAO-TM), Annexes 10, 18 and 19;

(b) Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap.53);

(c) Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG);

(d) Requirements for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) from Appendix I of the EIA Study Brief No. ESB-339/2021; and

(e) Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.

10.2.2 Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)

- Annex 10 of the EIAO-TM outlines the criteria for assessment of impact on sites of cultural heritage. The general presumption is in favour of the protection and conservation of all sites of cultural heritage. In addition, adverse impacts on sites of cultural heritage shall be kept to the absolute minimum.
- Annex 18 of the EIAO-TM outlines the general approach and methodology for assessment of landscape and visual impacts which are applicable to visual impacts on built heritage.
- Annex 19 of the EIAO-TM outlines the approaches required in investigating and assessing the impacts on sites of cultural heritage. There is no quantitative standard in deciding the relative importance of these sites, but in general, sites of unique archaeological, historical or architectural value will be considered as highly significant. Preservation in totality is preferred. If, due to site constraints and other factors, only preservation in part is possible, this must be fully justified with alternative proposals or layout designs, which confirm the impracticability of total preservation.

10.2.3 Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53)

- The Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) (A&M Ordinance) provides statutory protection against the threat of development on Declared Monuments, historical buildings and sites of archaeological interest to enable their preservation for posterity. The A&M Ordinance also establishes the statutory procedures to be followed in making such a declaration.
- Any person who discovers an antiquity, or supposed antiquity, is required to report the discovery to the Antiquities Authority.

10.2.4 Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG)

- The Chapter 10, Conservation, of the HKPSG provides general guidelines and measures for the conservation of historical buildings, sites of archaeological interest and other antiquities.

10.2.5 Requirements for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

- Appendix I of the EIA Study Brief No. ESB-339/2021 provides requirements on conducting cultural heritage impact assessment.

10.2.6 Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

- The Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment provide guidelines to assist the understanding of requirements in assessing impact(s) on Site of Cultural Heritage.

10.3 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

10.3.1 According to Clause 3.4.11.2 of the EIA Study Brief No. ESB-339/2021, the CHIA shall include a Built Heritage Impact Assessment (BHIA) and an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the construction and operation of the Project.

10.3.2 The proposed works of the Project include construction of elevated carriageway and at-grade slip road, widening of existing roads and associated civil engineering works. Considering the nature of the construction works of the Project which primarily involve superstructure works with only minor and limited excavation works, the Cultural Heritage Assessment Area (CHAA) is proposed to be defined by a distance of 150 metres from the works boundary of the Project (see **Figure 10.1** for the cultural heritage assessment area (CHAA)). The CHIA comprises the following tasks:

a) Desktop Review

10.3.3 A desktop review was conducted based on best available information, such as review of Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) under previous studies by WSD, relevant studies held by Government departments, public libraries and the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre Reference Library to identify the heritage sites including declared monuments, proposed monuments, sites and buildings graded by the Antiquities and Advisory Board, sites of archaeological interest or Government historic sites identified by AMO within the CHAA. Please refer to **Section 10.10** for Bibliography.

b) Built Heritage Field Survey

10.3.4 A built heritage field survey was conducted to identify known and unknown built heritage items in the CHAA that may be affected by the Project and its associated works. The findings are summarized in **Section 10.5** and detailed in **Appendices 10.1** and **10.2**.

10.3.5 The coding method for the recording of built heritage resources used is as follows:

- Graded Historic Building by the Antiquities Advisory Board and new item for grading assessment (GB); and
- Additional surveyed Built Heritage Items including buildings, structures, features and sites. (HB).

c) Archaeological Survey

10.3.6 Based on the findings from the Scope of CHIA Working Paper, archaeological survey is not required. Details are discussed in **Section 10.4.12** to **10.4.14**.

d) Impact Assessment

10.3.7 Based on the findings and analysis from (a), (b) and (c), a CHIA including Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and Build Heritage Impact Assessment (BHIA) for the construction and operation of the Project was conducted to assess the direct and indirect impacts on the identified cultural heritage resources including buildings / structures both at grade level and underground which were built on or before 1969 with cultural heritage significance. Cultural heritage impacts were identified, appropriate practicable mitigation measures and monitoring to avoid or keep the adverse impact to the minimum have been recommended. A checklist including all the affected archaeological resources, sites of cultural heritage, impacts identified, recommended measures as well as the implementation agent and period are included in the implementation schedule of the EM&A. The CHIA was conducted according to Annexes 10, 18 and 19 of the TM and the Requirements for CHIA in Appendix I of the EIA Study Brief No. ESB-339/2021. As no archaeological survey is required, AIA was conducted based on desktop review, and its result was presented as part of the EIA report for the Project.

10.4 BASELINE CONDITION

Topographical Background

10.4.1 The CHAA is situated in urban area in Tuen Mun, in the north-western part of New Territories and Hong Kong. It is situated in the south of Tuen Mun Valley near the mouth of Tuen Mun River and Castle Peak Bay, with Castle Peak from the west and Kau Keng Shan from the east. The flat valley condition continues northward to Lam Tei and then turns northeast and enters into the alluvial plain of Yuen Long.

10.4.2 The Project comprises different parts on the two sides of the Tuen Mun River. Firstly, on the west side of Tuen Mun River, the junctions between Tsing Wun Road, Lung Fu Road and Wong Chu Road are surrounded by land with industrial use such as Nan Fung Industrial City in the northeast, land with residential use such as Lung Yat Estate and Lung Mun Oasis in the southeast, and Tsing Shan Village in the west. Secondly, on the east side of Tuen Mun River, the proposed road scheme linking Tuen Mun Road and Hoi Wing Road is surrounded by land with residential use such as Siu Lun Court in the northwest, Hong King Garden/ Rainbow Garden in the northeast, and Hanford Garden/ Sam Shing Estate in the southwest. In the south, there is a hill, namely Ki Lun Kong (40m) and the Shing Miu.

Historical Background

10.4.3 Tuen Mun is located in the north-western part of Hong Kong. Archaeological findings revealed that human activities were present in Tuen Mun from at least the Late Neolithic period. Prehistoric sites such as Yung Long, Lung Kwu Tan, Lung Kwu Sheung Tan, Lung Kwu Chau are mainly located along the coast of Tuen Mun (AMO, 2007).

10.4.4 The first historical mention of Tuen Mun dates to 732CE in Tang dynasty, in Tang Hui Yao (唐會要), it described the setting up of a military base in Tuen Mun with the station of 2000 soldiers to safeguard the entrance of the estuary. Again, in another historical document XinTang Shu (新唐書), it describes how Tuen Mun held a strategic location in the maritime trade route between Guangzhou and South East Asia or as far as the Persian Gulf (Black & Veatch, 2020). Tuen Mun maintained such a prominent position in the maritime trade until Song and Ming dynasties (AMO, 2007).

10.4.5 Archaeological evidence indicates that Tuen Mun was widely settled in Song. According to clan genealogical records, however, it was not until Ming dynasty that villages were formally established in Tuen Mun. To clan was the first recorded clan to settle in Tuen Mun. They established Tuen Mun Tsuen during Ming dynasty (AMO, 2007).

10.4.6 Tuen Mun remained an important naval base during the Ming dynasty. It was associated with the Portuguese occupation at Tuen Mun Bay and the subsequent battle with the Portuguese (Black & Veatch, 2020).

Built Heritage

10.4.7 Desktop review supplemented by built heritage field survey conducted in May 2022, from which no declared or proposed monuments, sites, buildings / structures in the new list of proposed grading items; and Government historic sites identified by the Antiquities and Monuments Office was found in the CHAA.

10.4.8 One Grade 2 (Shing Miu) and one Grade 3 (No. 3 San Shek Wan North Road) historic buildings are identified. They are listed in **Table 10.1** and their locations are shown in **Figure 10.1**.

Table 10.1 Identified Graded Historic Buildings within the CHAA

Site Code	Name	Approximate Closest Distance to Works Area (m)
Grade 2 Historic Building		
GB-01	Shing Miu	43
Grade 3 Historic Building		
GB-02	No. 3 San Shek Wan North Road	144

10.4.9 In addition to the graded historic buildings, six built heritage items are identified in the CHAA. They are listed in **Table 10.2**. Their detail descriptions, locations and photographic records are provided in **Appendix 10.2**.

Table 10.2 Identified Built Heritage Items

Site Code	Name	Approximate Closest Distance to Works Area (m)	Figure Reference in Appendix 10.1
HB-01	St. Simon's Primary School	51	Figure 10.1
HB-02	Sheng Kung Hui St. Peter's Church, Castle Peak	54	Figure 10.1
HB-03	Village House No. 97, Tsing Shan Tsuen	73	Figure 10.1
HB-04	Village House No. 98A, Tsing Shan Tsuen	50	Figure 10.1
HB-05	Village House No. 102, Tsing Shan Tsuen	67	Figure 10.1
HB-06	Castle Peak Buddhist School	144	Figure 10.1

Geological Background

10.4.10 The solid geology of the CHAA consists of Lantau Granite and Tuen Mun Formation with Equigranular coarse-grained granite and weathered andesites. The superficial deposit includes quaternary alluvium (clay, silt and sand), debris flow deposit (dune sand), marine sand and man-made deposits like fill and rubble. Details are shown in **Figure 10.2** (CEDD, 2020).

Archaeological Background

10.4.11 No archaeological investigations were conducted within the CHAA in the past decades. No Site of Archaeological Interest (SAI) is found in the CHAA. Castle Peak Pottery Kiln SAI and Shek Kok Tsui SAI are located around 530m northeast and 560m south of the works boundary outside the CHAA respectively (locations refer to **Figure 10.1**).

Archaeological Potential Evaluation

10.4.12 The key elements of the proposed works that may involve ground excavation work for the Project include the following:

- Construction of an elevated carriageway, with pre-stressed concrete construction with piled foundation, of approximately 600 meters in length connecting Lung Fu Road to Tsing Wun Road northbound (LFRSR NB) involving piling works and substructure works and superstructure works;
- Construction of an elevated carriageway, with pre-stressed concrete construction with piled foundation, of approximately 800 meters in length connecting Tsing Wun Road to Lung Fu Road southbound (LFRSR SB) involving piling works and substructure works;
- Construction of an approximately 550 meters long depressed at-grade slip road to link Tuen Mun Road northbound and Hoi Wing Road westbound (TMR/HWR) involving modifications works to existing man-made slopes, piling works and substructure works; and
- Associated civil engineering works, slope and geotechnical works, public lighting and traffic facilities, drainage and water works, environmental mitigation measures and landscaping works.

10.4.13 Based on the baseline review result and the key elements that may involve ground excavation work for the Project, **Table 10.3** evaluated the archaeological potential of each of the key elements.

Table 10.3 Archaeological Potential Evaluation of Key Elements of the Project

Existing Condition and Geology (see Figure 10.2)	**Archaeological Potential Evaluation**
Proposed Lung Fu Road/ Tsing Wun Road elevated slip roads (Northbound and Southbound)	
• **Along or by existing Road** • **Geology Condition: JTU, Qd, Qa and ms**	The proposed work is mainly located along or by existing roads, including Lung Fu Road and Tsing Wun Road. These areas underwent construction work with high level of ground disturbance, including ground improvement works and construction of artificial slope. Therefore, there is no archaeological potential in this proposed work area and archaeological survey is not recommended.
Proposed Tuen Mun Road/ Hoi Wing Road slip road	
• **Along or by existing Road** • **Geology Condition: QHH, ap and ms**	The proposed work is mainly located along or by existing roads, including Tuen Mun Road and Hoi Wing Road. These are existing roads that contain no archaeological potential and their geology condition are not favourable to archaeological sediment accumulation. Therefore, no archaeological survey is recommended.

Existing Condition and Geology (see Figure 10.2)	Archaeological Potential Evaluation
Notes: (a) Qa – Alluvium; Qd – Debris flow deposits; ap – Lantau Granite; QHH – Man Made Deposits; JTU – Tuen Mun Formation; ms – Marine sand	

10.4.14 As presented in **Table 10.3**, the proposed Lung Fu Road/ Tsing Wun Road elevated slip roads (Northbound and Southbound), and proposed Tuen Mun Road/ Hoi Wing Road slip road are located in area with no archaeological potential, no archaeological survey is required.

10.5 CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Construction Phase

10.5.1 No SAI is found in the CHAA. Castle Peak Pottery Kiln SAI and Shek Kok Tsui SAI are located around 530m northeast and 560m south of the works boundary outside the CHAA respectively. No impact is anticipated.

10.5.2 As evaluated in **Section 10.4.12** to **10.4.14** above, the proposed works areas are of no archaeological potential and no archaeological survey is required. Therefore, potential impact on archaeological resources is not anticipated.

10.5.3 However, in case of change of the Works Area of the Project, the project proponent should inform the AMO and evaluate the archaeological potential of additional area that was not covered in this assessment and recommend the need for further archaeological action.

Operation Phase

10.5.4 No excavation works of the Project will be involved in operation phase, no adverse archaeological impact is anticipated.

Built Heritage Impact Assessment

Construction Phase

10.5.5 Two Graded historic buildings, Shing Miu (GB-01) and No. 3 San Shek Wan North Road (GB-02) listed in **Table 10.1** are located over 40m from the Works Area of the Project. However, potential adverse physical impact, vibration impact, settlement and tilting of Shing Miu (GB-01) may be a concern as it is located close to (within 50m) the Works Area. The Shing Miu Compound (details refer to **Appendix 10.1**) includes Shing Miu (GB-01) and seven other associated building structures including the Castle Peak Sam Shing Hui Village Office, Hau Shi Tong (孝思堂), Tai Sui Din (太歲殿), Office of Shing Miu, Fook Tak Tsz (福德祠), an Earth God Shrine and an Arch. According to the proposed Excavation and Lateral Support (ELS) works near to the Shing Miu Compound, the works would directly affect the Earth God Shrine and the nearby staircase as they fall within the tentative 3m zone for retaining wall system. Although the arch falls within the works area, no works is proposed at the area near the arch, direct impact is not anticipated.

10.5.6 For GB-02, direct impact arising from the construction work of the Project is not anticipated due to the large separation distance (over 140m) of the buildings from the Works Area.

10.5.7 Potential direct impact to all of the built heritage items identified and listed in **Table 10.2** is not anticipated due to the far separation distance (over 50m) of them away from the Works Area.

Operation Phase

10.5.8 No direct or indirect built heritage impacts are anticipated during operation phase.

10.6 MITIGATION MEASURES

Archaeological Mitigation Measures

Construction Phase

10.6.1 Castle Peak Pottery Kiln SAI and Shek Kok Tsui SAI are located around 530m northeast and 560m south of the works boundary outside the CHAA respectively. No excavation works of the project will exist in or adjacent to the two SAIs mentioned above, therefore no adverse archaeological impact due to the proposed development is anticipated.

10.6.2 No archaeological potential area has been identified in the proposed work areas of the Project, no archaeological impact arising from the proposed work is anticipated. Therefore, no mitigation measure is required.

10.6.3 As a precautionary measure, the project proponent and his/her contractor are required to inform AMO immediately when any antiquities or supposed antiquities under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) are discovered during the course of works.

Operation Phase

10.6.4 No excavation works of the Project will be involved in operation phase, no adverse archaeological impact is anticipated. Thus, no mitigation measure is required.

Built Heritage Mitigation Measures

Construction Phase

10.6.5 Two Graded historic building Shing Miu (GB-01) and No. 3 San Shek Wan North Road (GB-02) were identified in the CHAA. GB-02 will not be impacted by the Project due to the large separation distance from the works are of the Project. No mitigation measure is required.

10.6.6 Special attention should be paid to avoid potential adverse physical impact arising from the proposed works to Shing Miu (GB-01) and seven other associated building structures including the Castle Peak Sam Shing Hui Village Office, Hau Shi Tong (孝思堂), Tai Sui Din (太歲殿), Office of Shing Miu, Fook Tak Tsz (福德祠), an Earth God Shrine and an Arch. Design proposal, method of works and choice of machinery should be targeted to minimize potential vibration impact to Shing Miu (GB-01) and the associated building structures. As a precautionary measure, it is recommended that during pre-construction phase of the Project and implemented by the works contractor, a baseline condition survey and baseline vibration impact assessment be conducted for Shing Miu and the associated building structures by a qualified building surveyor or qualified structural engineer to evaluate on the necessary construction monitoring and structural strengthening measures for AMO's consideration.

10.6.7 With regard to potential impacts to the Earth God Shrine, the Arch within the Shing Miu compound and the associated access staircase, as shown in the photos in **Appendix 10.1**, the earth god shrine appears to be abandoned and a simple structure. The temple owner/manager shall be consulted to agree on appropriate mitigation measure to be adopted. This may include relocate the Shrine to another location in the compound permanently or temporarily. If temporary blockage or diversion of the access path from the Arch to Shing Miu is required, the temple owner/manager shall be consulted to agree on appropriate access to Shing Miu during construction phase. For the Arch, although direct impact is not anticipated, it is recommended that the works area near the Arch be refined to exclude the Arch from the works area so that potential impact is avoided. In view of its proximity, it is also recommended that the Arch is physically fenced off from the works area during construction phase to minimise potential physical disturbance of construction works towards the Arch.

10.6.8 If there are any buildings / structures both at grade level and underground which were built in or before 1969, the project proponent is required to alert AMO in an early stage or once identified.

Operation Phase

10.6.9 No direct and indirect impacts are anticipated from the proposed new roads in the operation phase. No mitigation measure is required.

10.7 RESIDUAL AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

10.7.1 With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, no adverse residual cultural heritage impact is anticipated.

10.7.2 No cumulative cultural heritage impact is anticipated.

10.8 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING & AUDIT

Archaeology

Construction Phase

10.8.1 As a precautionary measure, the project proponent and his/her contractor are required to inform AMO immediately when any antiquities or supposed antiquities under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) are discovered during the course of works.

Operation Phase

10.8.2 No excavation works of the Project will be involved in operation phase, no adverse archaeological impact is anticipated. Thus, no EM&A is required.

Built Heritage

Construction Phase

10.8.3 Design proposal, method of works and choice of machinery should be targeted to minimize potential vibration impact to Shing Miu (GB-01) and seven other associated building structures including the Castle Peak Sam Shing Hui Village Office, Hau Shi Tong (孝思堂), Tai Sui Din (太歲殿), Office of Shing Miu, Fook Tak Tsz (福德祠), an Earth God Shrine and an Arch. During pre-construction phase of the Project and implemented by the works contractor, a baseline condition survey and baseline vibration impact assessment be conducted for Shing Miu (GB-01) and the associated building structures by a qualified building surveyor or qualified structural engineer to define the vibration limit and to evaluate on the necessary construction monitoring and structural strengthening measures for AMO's consideration.

10.8.4 Temple owner/manager of the Shing Miu compound shall be consulted to agree on appropriate mitigation measure to be adopted to the abandoned Earth God Shrine and access to the Shing Miu during construction phase of the Project. This may include relocation of the Shrine to another location in the compound permanently or temporarily and temporary blockage or diversion of the access staircase from the Arch to Shing Miu.

10.8.5 Works area shall be reviewed and refined to exclude the Arch of the Shing Miu compound to avoid the potential impact. During construction phase of the Project adjacent to the Arch, it shall be physically fenced off from the works area to minimise potential physical disturbance of construction works towards the Arch.

Operation Phase

10.8.6 No direct and indirect impacts are anticipated from the proposed new roads in the operation phase. No EM&A is required.

10.9 CONCLUSIONS

10.9.1 Castle Peak Pottery Kiln SAI and Shek Kok Tsui SAI are located around 530m northeast and 560m south of the works boundary outside the CHAA respectively. No excavation works of the project will exist in or adjacent to the two SAIs mentioned above, therefore no adverse archaeological impact due to the proposed development is anticipated and thus, no mitigation measure is required.

10.9.2 No archaeological potential area has been identified at the proposed work areas of the Project. No archaeological impact is anticipated and thus no mitigation measures is required. However, in case of change of the work areas of the Project, the project proponent should inform the AMO, evaluate the archaeological potential of additional area that was not covered in this assessment and recommend the need for further archaeological action.

10.9.3 As a precautionary measure, the project proponent and his/her contractor are required to inform AMO immediately when any antiquities or supposed antiquities under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) are discovered during the course of works.

10.9.4 Desktop review supplemented by built heritage field survey identified no declared or proposed monuments and government historic sites identified by AMO in the CHAA. No impact to these items is anticipated and thus no mitigation measures is required.

10.9.5 Two Graded historic building Shing Miu (GB-01) and No. 3 San Shek Wan North Road (GB-02) were identified in the CHAA. GB-02 will not be impacted by the Project due to the large separation distance from the works are of the Project. No mitigation measure is required.

10.9.6 Potential construction vibration impact to Shing Miu (GB-01) and seven other associated building structures including the Castle Peak Sam Shing Hui Village Office, Hau Shi Tong (孝思堂), Tai Sui Din (太歲殿), Office of Shing Miu, Fook Tak Tsz (福德祠), an Earth God Shrine and an Arch would be a concern. It is recommended that during pre-construction phase of the Project and implemented by the works contractor, a baseline condition survey and baseline vibration impact assessment be conducted for Shing Miu (GB-01) and the associated building structures by a qualified building surveyor or qualified structural engineer to evaluate on the necessary construction monitoring and structural strengthening measures for AMO's consideration.

10.9.7 Direct impact to an abandoned Earth God Shrine in Shing Miu is anticipated. Temple owner/manager of the Shing Miu compound shall be consulted to agree on appropriate mitigation measure to be adopted to the abandoned Earth God Shrine and the access staircase from the Arch to Shing Miu. This may include relocation of the Shrine to another location in the compound permanently or temporarily.

10.9.8 Works area near Shing Miu shall be reviewed and refined to exclude the Arch of the Shing Miu compound to avoid the potential impact. During construction phase of the Project adjacent to the Arch, it shall be physically fenced off from the works area to minimise potential physical disturbance of construction works towards the Arch.

10.9.9 All of the built heritage items identified in the CHAA will not be impacted by the construction work of the Project as they are far away from the Works Area of the Project (over 50m). Therefore, no mitigation measure is required.

10.9.10 As the operation of the Project involves no excavation works, no cultural heritage impact from the Project is anticipated during operation phase. Thus, no mitigation measure is required during operation phase.

10.9.11 With the implementation of the mitigation measures recommended, no adverse residual impacts and cumulative impacts are anticipated.

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