

東龍炮台

Tung Lung Fort

東龍洲位於清水灣半島以南，島上只有小屋十數間，環境清幽恬靜。東龍炮台座落於小島的北端，原稱佛堂門炮台，位據軍事要點，俯瞰佛堂門海峽，扼守商船進入香港海域前往廣州主要的航道。

Tung Lung Chau situates at the southern tip of the Clear Water Bay Peninsula. Its solitary location gives this island a special serenity. A historic fort, originally known as Fat Tong Mun Fort, was located in the strategic point at the northern corner of the island, overlooking the narrow Fat Tong Mun passage through which trading junks sailed into the sheltered waters of Hong Kong on their way to Guangzhou.



東龍洲位置圖
Location map of Tung Lung Chau



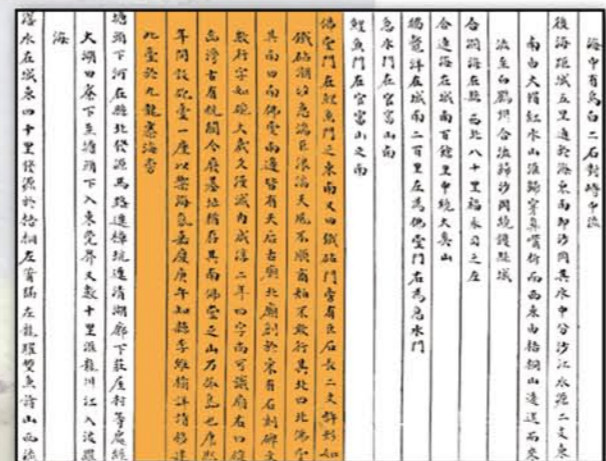
鳥瞰東龍炮台，前方為佛堂門海峽
Aerial view of Tung Lung Fort with the Fat Tong Mun passage in the front

歷史

據《新安縣志》所載，清政府為了防禦海盜，於康熙年間(1662-1722)建造此炮台。另按史籍記載，這個炮台是兩廣總督楊琳在其任內(1719-1724)下令建造，共有15間營房及8座大炮。而據道光年間編寫的《廣東通志》記載，炮台位處的東龍洲無陸路可達，島上沒有村莊及居民，在補給和支援方面均有困難，所以清政府在嘉慶十五年(1810)撤走軍旅，將原有軍隊和軍備移駐九龍，另建新炮台。東龍炮台從此荒廢。

History

According to the *Xin'an Gazetteer*, the Fort was built during the Kangxi period of the Qing dynasty (1662-1722) to defend against the pirates. Another source suggested that the Fort was built by the order of Yang Lin, the Viceroy of Guangdong and Guangxi during the period from 1719 to 1724. The Fort consisted of 15 guardhouses and was armed with 8 cannons. As recorded in the *Guangdong Annuals* (Daoguang version), the Fort was located on a remote island with no villages or residents. Since it was difficult to replenish military supplies and to provide support to it, the Qing Government decided to evacuate the Fort in the 15th year of the Jiaqing period (1810). The garrison and the armaments were relocated to Kowloon, where a new fort would be built. Fat Tong Mun Fort henceforth fell into ruins.



據《新安縣志》所載，東龍炮台建於清康熙年間(1662-1722) As stated in the *Xin'an Gazetteer*, Tung Lung Fort was built during Kangxi period of Qing dynasty (1662-1722)

保護和保存

荒廢經年的炮台，早為野蔓雜草所覆蓋，殘跡僅隱約可辨。1979年，古物古蹟辦事處工作人員初步記錄炮台遺跡，並決定進行修繕工程，使炮台成為一個既堅固又安全的歷史遺跡，並



修葺東牆的平台
Repairing the platform of east wall

公開展示。其後，經古物諮詢委員會建議，炮台於1980年7月25日被列為法定古蹟。

當清除野草後，發現圍牆十多處倒塌，損毀情況極為嚴重。從遺跡可見炮台呈長方形，外長33.5米，闊22.5米，唯一入口設於北牆，東牆和南牆各附建一個平台，用來放置大炮，圍牆平均高度約3米。

由於炮台的原貌已不可考，故修繕原則是作局部復原，以避免無謂的推斷和臆測。修繕工程於1979年展開，並分階段進行，每個階段為期數週至數個月不等。除僱用數位當地村民外，主要工作人員均為義工。由於獲得各界人士、社團及政府多個部門的鼎力支持，工程於1982年4月順利完成。

Restoration and Preservation

Being deserted for years, the overgrown ruins of the Fort were vaguely visible. In 1979, the Antiquities and Monuments Office recorded the ruins and decided to restore it so that it could be displayed as a sturdy and safe historical site. Later, with the recommendation of the Antiquities Advisory Board, the Fort was declared a monument on 25 July 1980.



修復倒塌的城牆
Restoring the collapsed wall

The walls were revealed when the vegetation was cleared. They were badly damaged, with more than 10 collapsed sections. As seen from the ruins, the Fort was rectangular in shape, measuring externally 22.5×33.5m, with one entrance on the north wall. Two platforms for installation of cannons were built against the east and south walls respectively. The average external height of the walls was about 3m.

Since the original appearance of the Fort could not be determined, the principle adopted for the restoration work was to repair, consolidate and partially restore the Fort to avoid conjecture and speculation. The restoration work began in 1979, and was carried out in phases. Each phase lasted from a few weeks to months. The works were mainly conducted by volunteers and a few paid workers from local villages. With the valuable assistance rendered by many individuals, institutions and government departments, the project was successfully concluded in April 1982.

炮台修繕前後的比較

The Fort before and after Restoration



北牆 North wall



東北角 Northeast corner



西南角 Southwest corner



西牆石階 Stairs against west wall

考古發掘

1981年秋季在最後一期的修繕工程進行時，古物古蹟辦事處在義工的協助下，於炮台內部展開考古發掘，至1984年完成炮台內部約四分之三的清埋工作。考古人員在1997年進行最後一期的發掘，並完成整個炮台內部的清埋工作，及對圍牆外的部份地區進行調查。

兩次發掘出土大量文物，如陶瓷器、金屬器物、魚獸骨骼及貝殼等，惟軍事用品的數量極少。根據發掘資料顯示，炮台內部的建築遺跡有房舍、走廊、梯階及內院等。

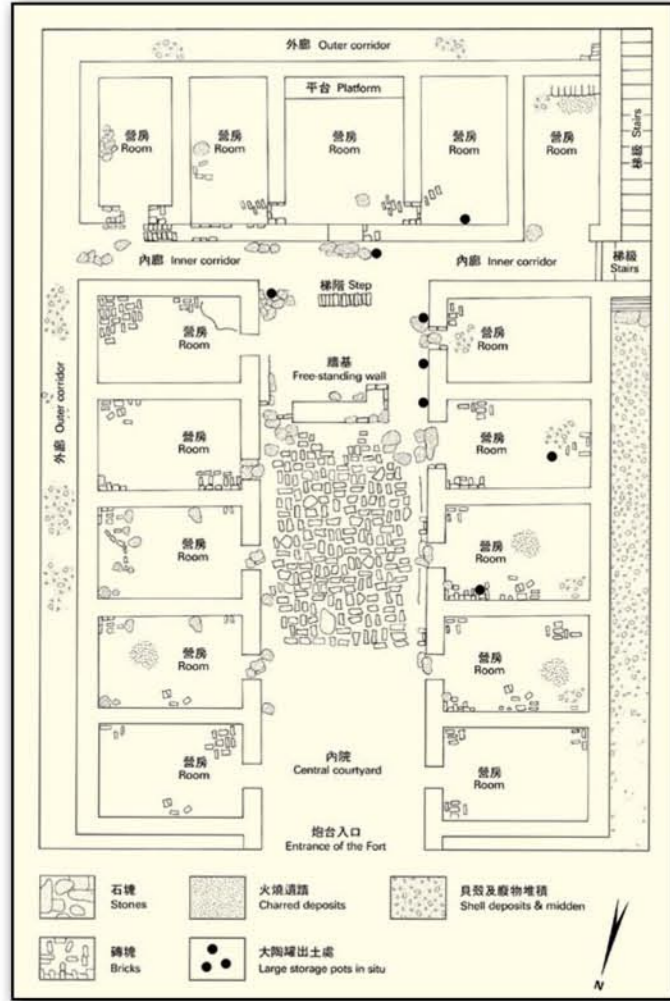


熱心的義工正在發掘，1984年
Enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers at excavation work, 1984



考古人員在進行測量工作，1997年
Surveying work conducted by archaeologists, 1997

Archaeological Excavation



發掘後的炮台內部平面圖
Plan of the interior of the Fort after excavation



出土器物包括陶瓷器、石硯和炮彈
Excavated finds including pottery vessels, ink stones and cannon balls

While the final phase of restoration work was carried out in the autumn of 1981, the Antiquities and Monuments Office with the assistance of volunteers conducted an archaeological excavation in the Fort. Almost three quarters of the Fort's interior was cleared in 1984. The final phase of excavation was completed in 1997 and several areas outside the walls were also investigated.

Abundant artefacts such as ceramic vessels, metal implements, fauna remains and shells were recovered. The quantity of military equipment was however scarce. The result of the excavation illustrated the architectural features within the Fort such as rooms, corridors, stairs and courtyard.

東龍洲石刻 Rock Carving on Tung Lung Chau



東龍洲石刻紋飾狀似龍紋
The design of the Tung Lung rock carving is believed to represent a dragon

在東龍洲北岸，保存了一個古代石刻。清朝（1644-1911）嘉慶版的《新安縣志》曾有以下記載：「石壁畫龍，在佛堂門有龍形刻於石側。」從石刻的風化情況推斷，石刻的刻鑿年代可能相當久遠。

東龍洲石刻高180厘米，長240厘米，是現時香港境內最大的石刻。石刻由兩組曲線圖案組成，較香港其他石刻圖案複雜。

香港境內共有八個石刻被列為法定古蹟，它們的風格頗為接近，紋飾基本上由幾何圖案和曲線組成，亦有擬似人形或動物的抽象圖案。由於境內的原居民並沒有流傳關於刻鑿石刻的神話和傳說，因此亦可推測石刻並非近代刻鑿。此外，石刻的圖案，不論是幾何紋或鳥獸紋，均與香港出土的青銅時代陶器和青銅器上的紋飾相似。由此推斷，這些石刻的刻鑿年代，與青銅時代大致相同，即距今約三千年左右。

An ancient rock carving has been preserved on the northern coast of Tung Lung Island. It was recorded in the Jiaqing edition of *Xin'an Gazetteer* during the Qing dynasty (1644-1911): "A dragon impression on rock was found at Fat Tong Mun; the form of a dragon was carved on the rock's vertical surface". Judging from its state of weathering, it existed there for a long time. It is believed that this ancient rock carving existed long before the compilation of the *Xin'an Gazetteer*.



石刻位於臨海的石崖上
The rock carving is situated on a boulder facing the sea

This carving, measuring 180cm x 240cm, is ranked as the largest rock carving known in Hong Kong. The design, which probably symbolizes a dragon, consists of complicated and tortuous lines. It composes of two sets of curved motifs, which are more complicated when compared with other rock carvings in Hong Kong.

Eight rock carvings are declared as monuments in Hong Kong. They form a fairly homogeneous group, having patterns basically composed of geometric patterns and lines, and abstract patterns with hints of human or animal images. It is difficult to establish when, how and by whom the carvings were made. However, these rock carvings must be very old because they are not figured in the myths and legends of the present-day inhabitants of Hong Kong. Also, the patterns resemble strikingly those on the Bronze Age stamped pottery and bronze vessels unearthed in the territory. As a working hypothesis, it is perhaps reasonable to date the carvings to Hong Kong's Bronze Age, about 3,000 years ago.



前往東龍洲：可於港島西灣河或九龍鯉魚門三家村乘搭街渡。
Transport to Tung Lung Chau: privately-owned ferry from Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong Island, or from Sam Ka Tsuen, Lei Yue Mun, Kowloon.

東龍炮台展覽中心開放時間：
每日上午九時至下午四時
星期日及公眾假期照常開放
逢星期二、聖誕日、聖誕翌日、
元旦日及農曆新年年初一至
年初三休息



Opening hours of Tung Lung Fort Information Centre:
9am - 4pm daily
Closed on Tuesdays, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and the first 3 days of the Lunar New Year.

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石刻



炮台

Fort and Rock Carving on
Tung Lung Chau