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# Ancient Rock Carvings



# 古代石刻

#### **Ancient Rock Carvings**

香港沿海及離島共九處石刻已被列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟條例》 保護。它們大部分位處海邊的大石上,面對海灣;亦有一些位處內陸, 但附近有小溪或河流。這些石刻的風格頗為接近,紋飾基本上由幾何圖 案和曲線組成,可能象徵雲、雷電或其他大自然力量;亦有像人或鳥獸 的抽象圖案,可能代表先民崇拜的圖騰或神祇。

由於缺乏文獻記載,已難以考證石刻的刻鑿年代和方法,以及由誰人刻鑿等問題。文獻之中,只有清代王崇熙於一八一九年編纂的《新安縣志》曾簡略記載東龍洲石刻。石刻上的圖案,與香港出土的青銅時代幾何印紋陶器和青銅器上的紋飾相似。由此推論,這些石刻的刻鑿年代,大致與青銅時代同期,即距今約三千年。

Nine rock carvings which are scattered along the coastline and remote islands of Hong Kong have been declared as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance for protection. Most of these carvings are situated on rock outcrops overlooking the sea whilst some are at a distance from the sea but near to rivers or streams. Stylistically, Hong Kong's rock carvings form a fairly homogeneous group. The patterns are basically composed of geometric patterns and curved lines that symbolize the cloud, thunder or other forces of nature. With hints of human or animal images, some rock carvings may represent tribal totems or deities of ancient times.

It is difficult to establish when, how and by whom the carvings were made as there is no literary record which can throw the slightest light on their origin except the one on Tung Lung Chau briefly documented in 1819. As the patterns of the carvings resemble strikingly those on the Bronze Age stamped geometric pottery and bronze vessels unearthed in the territory, it is perhaps reasonable to date the carvings to Hong Kong's Bronze Age, i.e. about 3,000 years ago.



# 香港島大浪灣石刻

Rock Carving at Big Wave Bay, Hong Kong Island



大浪灣石刻於一九七零年由一位警務人員發現,紋飾為幾何圖紋及抽象的鳥獸紋。此石刻是香港沿海零散分佈的數處石刻之一。這些古代石刻的紋飾通常是幾何圖案,或作動物怪獸形狀。雖然石刻的刻鑿年代尚無從稽考,但它們的紋飾與青銅時代陶器和青銅器的紋飾較為相似,可能是約三千年前的先民所刻鑿。本地早期的先民多靠海為生,而這些古代石刻多臨海肅立,可能有鎮海護航之意。

大浪灣石刻於一九七八年十月二十日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟 條例》保護。

The Rock Carving at Big Wave Bay was first reported in 1970 by a police officer. The designs show geometric and animal patterns. The Rock Carving at Big Wave Bay is one of the several carvings scattered along the coastline of Hong Kong. The designs of these ancient rock carvings usually show geometric patterns, some resembling stylized animal or monster forms. It has not so far been possible to establish when these rock carvings were made. The resemblance of the patterns to those on pottery and bronze vessels of Bronze Age however suggests that they might be carved by the early inhabitants about 3,000 years ago. Since these early inhabitants of this area depended on the sea

for their livelihood, most locations of these ancient rock carvings overlooking the sea may have been intended to propitiate the power of the sea.

The Rock Carving at Big Wave Bay was declared a monument on 20 October 1978 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



大浪灣石刻全貌 A general view of Big Wave Bay Rock Carving



### 西真滘西洲石刻

Rock Carving on Kau Sai Chau, Sai Kung



滘西洲石刻於一九七六年被發現,石刻位於滘西洲西北岸,該處幾無陸路通達。石刻上的紋飾飽經風雨侵蝕,但如仔細觀察仍依稀可 見獸形紋樣。

滘西洲石刻於一九七九年一月二十六日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟 條例》保護。

The Rock Carving on Kau Sai Chau was discovered in 1976. The rock carving is located at the north-western coast of Kau Sai Island where accessibility by land is extremely poor. The rock carving is badly weathered but a zoomorphic motif is still visible when examined closely and carefully.

The Rock Carving on Kau Sai Chau was declared a monument on 26 January 1979 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



滘西洲石刻全貌 A general view of Kau Sai Chau Rock Carving



# 東龍洲石刻

Rock Carving on Tung Lung Chau



清嘉慶二十四年版(公元一八一九年)的《新安縣志》已經記載「石壁畫龍,在佛堂門有龍形刻於石側。」因此,東龍洲石刻的刻鑿年代應該遠比縣志輯錄為早。此石刻是香港境內現存最大的石刻,高約一百八十厘米,長約二百四十厘米,紋飾頗為複雜,整個圖案狀似龍形。

東龍洲石刻於一九七九年一月二十六日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及 古蹟條例》保護。

The Rock Carving on Tung Lung Chau was recorded in *Xin'an Gazetteer* (the edition compiled in the twenty-fourth year of the Jiaqing reign of the Qing dynasty, 1819): "dragon impression on a rock's vertical surface is found at Fat Tong Mun". Hence, this historic rock carving existed long before the compilation of the *Xin'an Gazetteer*. It ranks as the largest rock carving known in Hong Kong, measuring about 180 cm x 240 cm. The design consists of complicated and tortuous lines to represent a dragon symbol probably.

The Rock Carving on Tung Lung Chau was declared a monument on 26 January 1979 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



東龍洲石刻全貌 A general view of Tung Lung Chau Rock Carving



### 大嶼山石壁石刻

Rock Carving at Shek Pik on Lantau Island



香港大多數古代石刻都瀕臨海濱,石壁石刻卻離開海岸約三百米。相信此處昔日也是海邊,其後海岸變遷始成今日之地貌。石刻紋飾由正方及 圓形幾何紋構成,與古代青銅器上的圖案極相似。

大嶼山石壁石刻於一九七九年四月二十七日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及 古蹟條例》保護。

Most of the ancient rock carvings in the territory overlook the sea, but the Rock Carving at Shek Pik is about 300m from the coastline. However, it is believed that in the past, the sea inlet might have extended up to this point. The design shows geometric patterns composed of spiral squares and circles which closely resemble those on Bronze Age artefacts.

The Rock Carving at Shek Pik on Lantau Island was declared a monument on 27 April 1979 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



石壁石刻全貌 A general view of Shek Pik Rock Carving



# 蒲台岛石刻

Rock Carvings on Po Toi Island



蒲台島石刻於二十世紀六十年代被發現。石刻共有兩組,右邊的一組石刻的中間部分剝落,圖案分成兩部分,以螺旋紋為主;左邊的一組石刻由曲線和直線組成,圖案比較抽象。

蒲台島石刻於一九七九年四月二十七日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟條例》保護。

The Rock Carvings on Po Toi Island were found in the 1960's. There are two groups of rock carvings. The right group is separated by a rock fracture and the design is mainly composed of spirals. The design of the left group, which consists of straight and curved lines, is more abstract.

The Rock Carvings on Po Toi Island were declared a monument on 27 April 1979 and are protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



蒲台石刻全貌 A general view of Po Toi Rock Carvings



# 長洲石刻

#### Rock Carvings on Cheung Chau



長洲石刻於一九七零年被發現。石刻上的兩組紋飾均由數條曲線環繞 著小凹槽構成。其中一組紋飾在發現時尚未完全暴露,經清理泥土後 方展現全貌。

長洲石刻於一九八二年一月二十二日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟 條例》保護。

Found in 1970, the Rock Carvings on Cheung Chau consist of two groups of patterns with similar design – several curves surrounding small depressions. One of the group patterns could only be fully revealed after removal of soil.

The Rock Carvings on Cheung Chau were declared a monument on 22 January 1982 and are protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



長洲石刻全貌 A general view of Rock Carvings on Cheung Chau



### 西貢龍蝦灣石刻

Rock Carving at Lung Ha Wan, Sai Kung



龍蝦灣石刻是香港沿海零散分佈的數處石刻之一,於一九七八年由一群 旅行人士發現。紋飾刻於一塊向東的岩石面上。因久經風雨侵蝕,已 極之模糊。紋飾呈幾何形,部分狀似鳥獸。

龍蝦灣石刻於一九八三年三月四日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟 條例》保護。

The Rock Carving at Lung Ha Wan is one of the several carvings scattered along the coastline of Hong Kong. Discovered in 1978 by a group of hikers, the Rock Carving at Lung Ha Wan is located on a vertical face of a badly weathered boulder facing east. The design shows geometric patterns, some may resemble stylized animals or bird forms.

The Rock Carving at Lung Ha Wan was declared a monument on 4 March 1983 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



龍蝦灣石刻全貌 A general view of Lung Ha Wan Rock Carving



# 香港岛黄竹坑石刻

Rock Carvings at Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong Island



香港發現的古代石刻,大多分佈在沿岸地區。黃竹坑石刻卻位於內陸, 遠離海岸。石上有三組明顯的幾何紋飾,在風格上與其他古代石刻 相若,與長洲及蒲台島的石刻紋飾尤為近似。

香港島黃竹坑石刻於一九八四年六月十五日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及 古蹟條例》保護。

Unlike most of the rock carvings which are found along the coastline of Hong Kong, the Rock Carvings at Wong Chuk Hang lie some distance from the sea. Three groups of geometric patterns can be recognized. Their patterns are similar to the other rock carvings, especially those on Cheung Chau and Po Toi Island.

The Rock Carvings at Wong Chuk Hang were declared a monument on 15 June 1984 and are protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



黃竹坑石刻全貌 A general view of Wong Chuk Hang Rock Carvings



# 香港島黑角頭石刻

Rock Carving at Cape Collinson, Hong Kong Island



二零一八年十月在香港島東區發現的黑角頭石刻位於懸崖上,海拔約十一米,約一百六十厘米高,二百六十厘米闊,紋飾刻在天然露頭一處頗平坦的風化石面上,呈幾何及曲線圖案,與本港青銅器時代器物,以及其他八處石刻十分相似。當中尤以黑角頭、大浪灣及東龍洲三處石刻的位置和紋飾最相近,風格上或可成一小組。透過研究黑角頭石刻與其他石刻在風格和空間上的相互關係,或可揭示本港早期沿海地區族群興旺的盛況。

黑角頭石刻於二零一九年十月二十五日列為法定古蹟,受《古物及古蹟 條例》保護。

The Rock Carving at Cape Collinson in the Eastern District of Hong Kong Island was discovered in October 2018. It is located on a cliff, about 11 m above sea level. A combination of geometric and sinuous designs were carved on a fairly flat weathered surface of a natural outcrop measuring about 160 cm in height and 260 cm in width. The designs include elements closely resembling those on Bronze Age stamped geometric pottery and the other eight rock carvings in Hong Kong. In particular, the rock carvings at Cape Collinson, Big Wave Bay and Tung Lung Chau may form a stylistic sub-group worthy of further study due to their proximity to one another and the similarity of their designs. The study of the Cape Collinson rock carving's stylistic and spatial relationships with

other rock carvings may help shed light on the maritime people whose society once flourished in the early days of Hong Kong.

The Rock Carving at Cape Collinson was declared a monument on 25 October 2019 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



黑角頭石刻全貌 A general view of Cape Collinson Rock Carving



石刻位於懸崖,基於安全考慮,該處附近已豎立適當警告標示,提醒遊人切勿前往石刻。

The rock carving is located on a cliff. For the sake of safety, notices have been put up near the site to warn visitors against proceeding to the rock carving.

# 古代石刻位置圖

#### **Location Map of Ancient Rock Carvings**



#### 公共交通 Public Transport

請瀏覽 https://www.hkemobility.gov.hk 搜尋交通工具及路線,以便預先計劃行程。 Please browse https://www.hkemobility.gov.hk to search the routes of different transportation modes for pre-trip planning.

以上資料只供參考,如有更改,以有關機構公布作準。

The above information is for reference only, and is subject to change in accordance with the announcement of relevant organisations.

交通路線並不直達各石刻,下車後需步行或轉乘他其他交通工具前往。

Walking or interchange with other modes of transports is required as the transport routes do not reach the rock carvings directly.

黑角頭石刻位置於懸崖,基於安全考慮,遊人切勿前往。

The Rock Carving at Cape Collinson is located on a cliff. For the sake of safety, please do not proceed to the rock carving.

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