

**Brief on the Cultural Remains of Song-Yuan Period Discovered during  
Archaeological Watching Brief at the Launching Shaft area of  
the Sung Wong Toi Station of  
Shatin to Central Link – Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section  
(SCL(TAW-HUH))**

**BACKGROUND**

The project of Shatin to Central Link (SCL), initiated by the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTRCL), is a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) (Cap. 499). An archaeological survey-cum-excavation in the Sacred Hill (North) area was recommended in the approved EIA report. The archaeological survey-cum-excavation was completed and the interim report has been uploaded on the AMO website for public viewing. Amongst the key findings presented in the report, the square-shaped well dated to Song-Yuan period was mentioned. A brief on the discovery of square-shaped well was also circulated to AAB members on 22 November 2013 (Annex A). The well is preserved in-situ and relevant parties are now working closely with AMO to explore the possibility of incorporating the display of the well in the proposed Sung Wong Toi Park.

2. Further to the above mentioned archaeological survey-sum-excavation, MTRCL initiated an archaeological watching brief as a mitigation measure for the construction of the Sung Wong Toi station owing to the discovery of about 500 coins mainly dated to the Song dynasty in early September 2013 at the worksite of Song Wong Toi Station.

3. Dr Liu Wensuo, the archaeologist engaged by the consultant of MTRCL to carry out the archaeological watching brief, was granted a licence in 2014 for the archaeological work by the Antiquities Authority after assessment by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) with the support of the

Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB). Licensed area for the archaeological watching brief is shown in Figure 1.

#### **DISCOVERIES OF CULTURAL REMAINS OF SONG-YUAN PERIOD**

4. Recently, the archaeologist informed AMO that remains of living features dated to Song-Yuan period were discovered in Area T1 (Figure 2 and Photo 1). The remnants of features include compact surface and wall structures (Photo 2). The features, although heavily disturbed, provide information for future information on the history of the Sacred Hill area.

5. The archaeologist also discovered a square-shaped well constructed of granite blocks (Photo 1 & 3). Similar to the abovementioned features in Area T1, the square-shaped well was found disturbed as the well platform could not be found. AMO invited Dr Poon Sun Wah, an expert in masonry and quarrying studies, of the Department of Real Estate and Construction, the University of Hong Kong to examine the unearthed features on 9 April 2014 (Photo 4). Dr Poon indicated that the structural connection of the blocks of the well was not effective in resisting the surrounding soil pressure, which resulted in the displacement of the blocks and distortion of the square shape. He further commented that the granite blocks were not well dressed reflecting that the construction works was not of high quality workmanship. Having considered the disturbed nature of the well structure, Dr Liu Wensuo, the licensed archaeologist, suggested disassembling of the well structure may be considered so as to obtain more information to understand the construction technology to facilitate the preservation and future interpretation of the preserved well as mentioned in para. 1. Detailed recording of the well structure, including photography, video and text recording, surveying and drawing, will be arranged. Subject to the planning and design of the future Sung Wong Toi Park, reconstruction of the well structure in the Park would be one of the options to preserve the well.

6. The archaeological watching brief is still going on and it is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2014. Archaeological excavation will

continue. AMO will closely monitor the archaeological work and report to AAB when necessary.

Antiquities and Monuments Office

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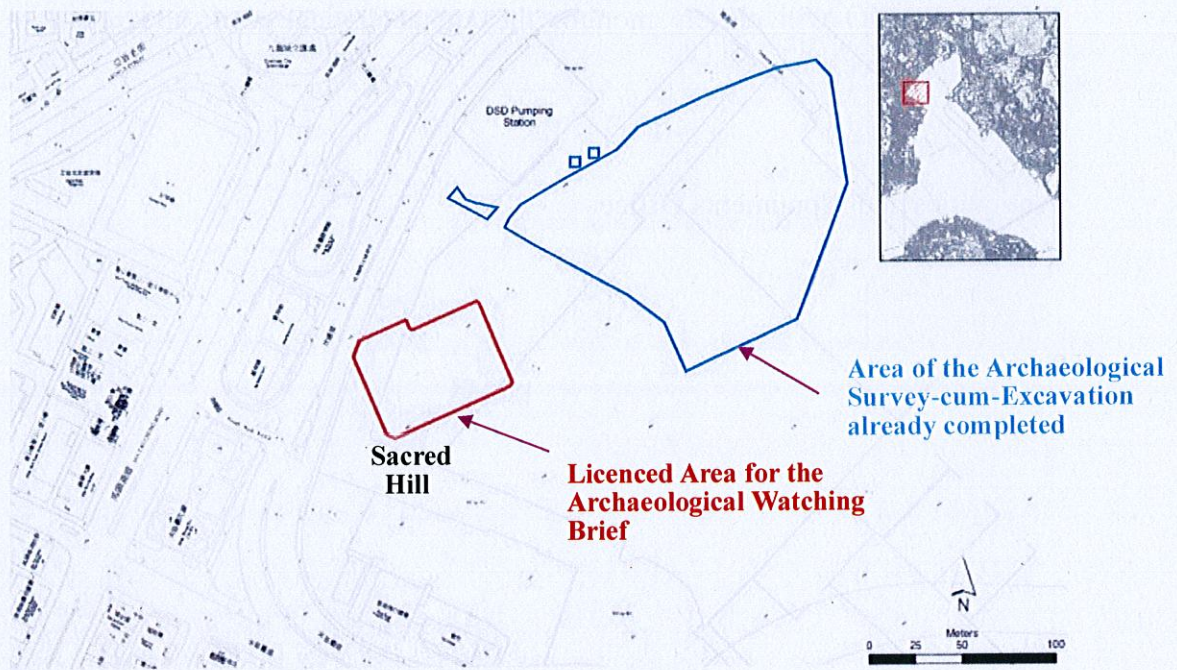


Figure 1: Licenced area for the archaeological watching brief at the area for the launching shaft

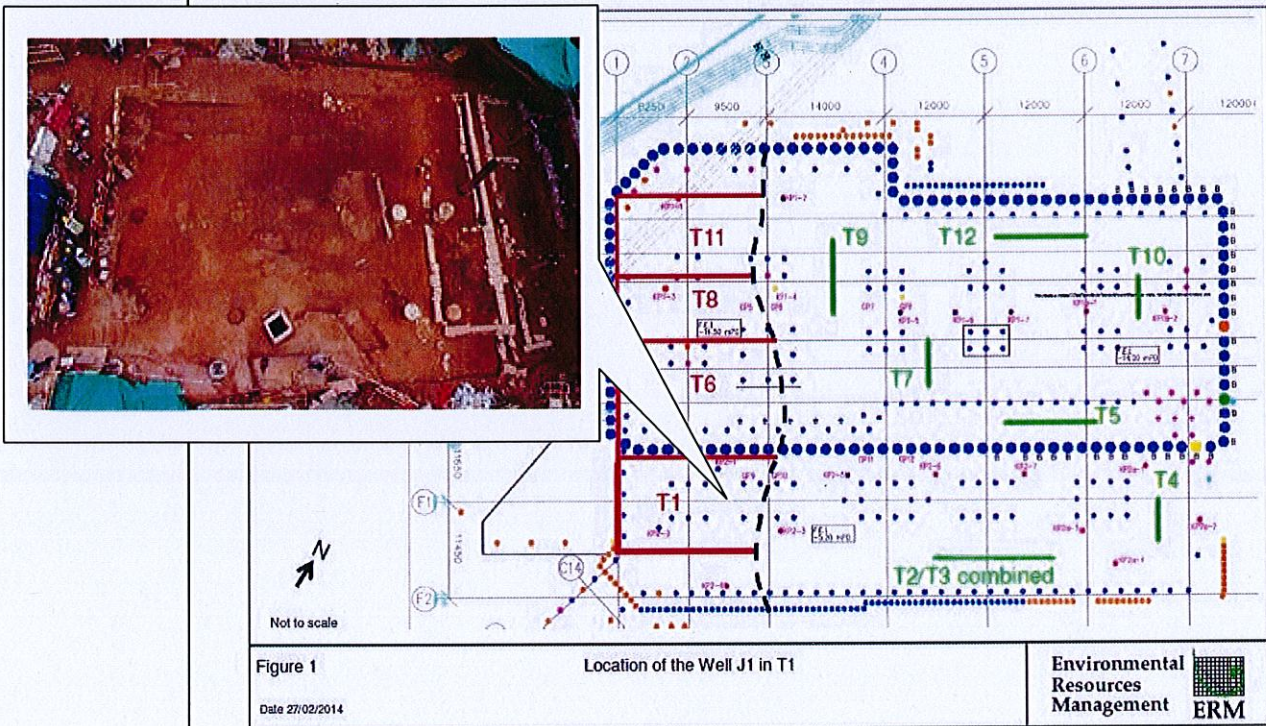


Figure 2: Location of Area T1

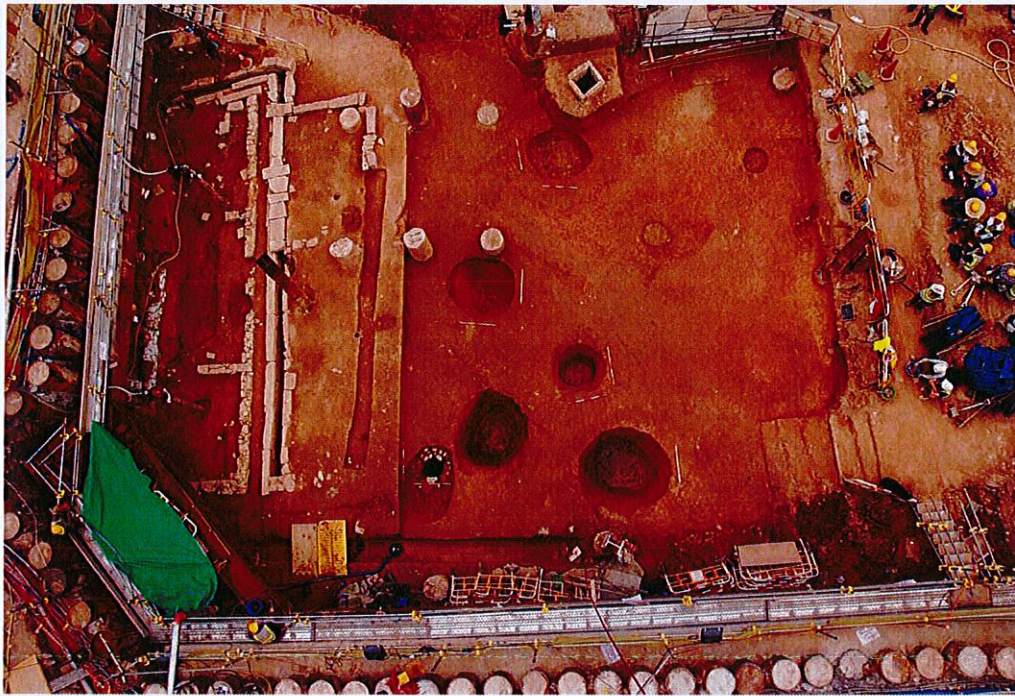


Photo 1: Top view shot of the archaeological features in Area T1



Photo 2: Remnant of wall structures



Photo 3: Disturbed square-shaped well structure dated to Song-Yuan period.

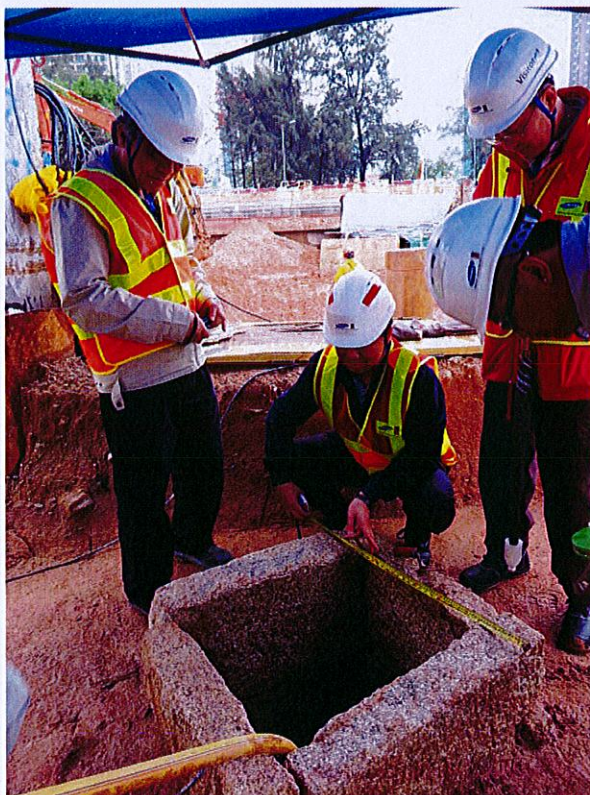


Photo 4: Dr S. W. Poon (left) of the University of Hong Kong examining the well structure