

**Brief on the Progress of the Archaeological Watching Brief at the
To Kwa Wan Station Area of the
Shatin to Central Link – Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section**

BACKGROUND

Further to the brief dated 15 July 2014 on the progress of the archaeological watching brief (AWB) at the To Kwa Wan Station area of the Shatin to Central Link (SCL), a visit of the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) to the T1 area and the expanded AWB area was conducted on 21 July 2014 to inspect the completed sheet pile protection works and the latest archaeological findings. A further update on the progress since the visit is provided below for Members' information.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR THE FINDINGS IN THE T1 AREA

2. The sheetpiling works for the protection of the T1 area was completed on 17 July 2014 under the monitoring by the relevant government departments, Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTRCL) and the licensed archaeologist. The data collected from the vibration detection devices reveal that the condition of the archaeological features in the T1 area is intact. MTRCL will continue to monitor the impact of the construction works nearby.

PROGRESS OF THE EXPANDED AWB

a) Water channel system

3. As reported in the last brief, the upper part of well J2 was excavated in half for the study of its date, function and construction method. Preliminary assessment suggested that all parts of well J2 were constructed in the same period, i.e. early 20th century since they shared the same cut. However, further study is required to understand why the well was constructed with three different layers of materials and to understand the function of the water channel leading to the wells. Further fieldwork and assessment of the well structure are underway.

b) Ventilation Area and Adit C

4. More living features of the Song-Yuan period were unearthed in the Ventilation Area and Adit C. Discoveries include open drainage and stone building foundation (Photo 1). Excavation in these two areas will continue.

c) Trenches newly opened

5. New trenches were opened to the north of the footprint of the To Kwa Wan Station. Some broken tiles and ceramic sherds were unearthed in the Song-Yuan layer (Figure 1 and Photo 2). Further excavation is being carried out to fully expose the archaeological remains.

6. A round-shaped brick structure (Photos 3 and 4) dated to the 1940s-60s was unearthed (Figure 1). The structure is composed of red bricks and granite blocks. Further excavation is being conducted to determine whether the structure had functioned as a well or a water tank.

7. Archaeological field work is expected to be completed by the end of September 2014. AMO will continue to closely monitor the AWB and report to the AAB when necessary.

Antiquities and Monuments Office

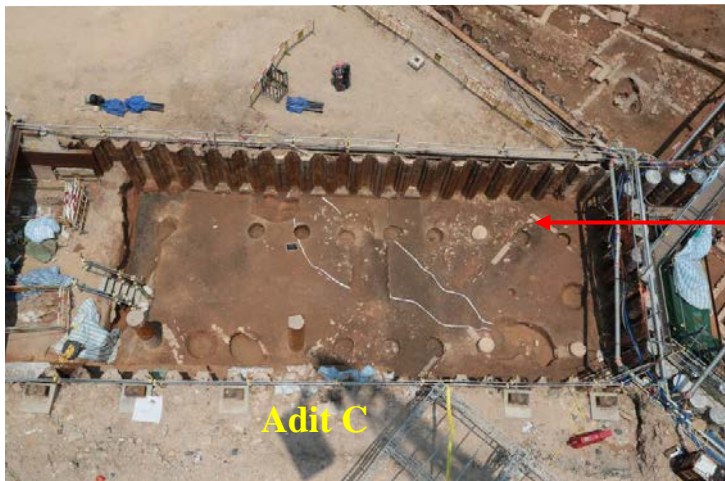
18 August 2014



Open drainage

Stone foundation

Song/Yuan building features



Stone foundation

Photo 1: Song/Yuan housing features in T1 area, Ventilation area and Adit C



Photo 2: Broken tiles dated to Song-Yuan period were unearthed to the north of the To Kwa Wan Station area as shown in Figure 1



Photo 3: A round-shaped brick structure dated to 1950's was unearthed



Photo 4: A close up on the lower portion of the structure

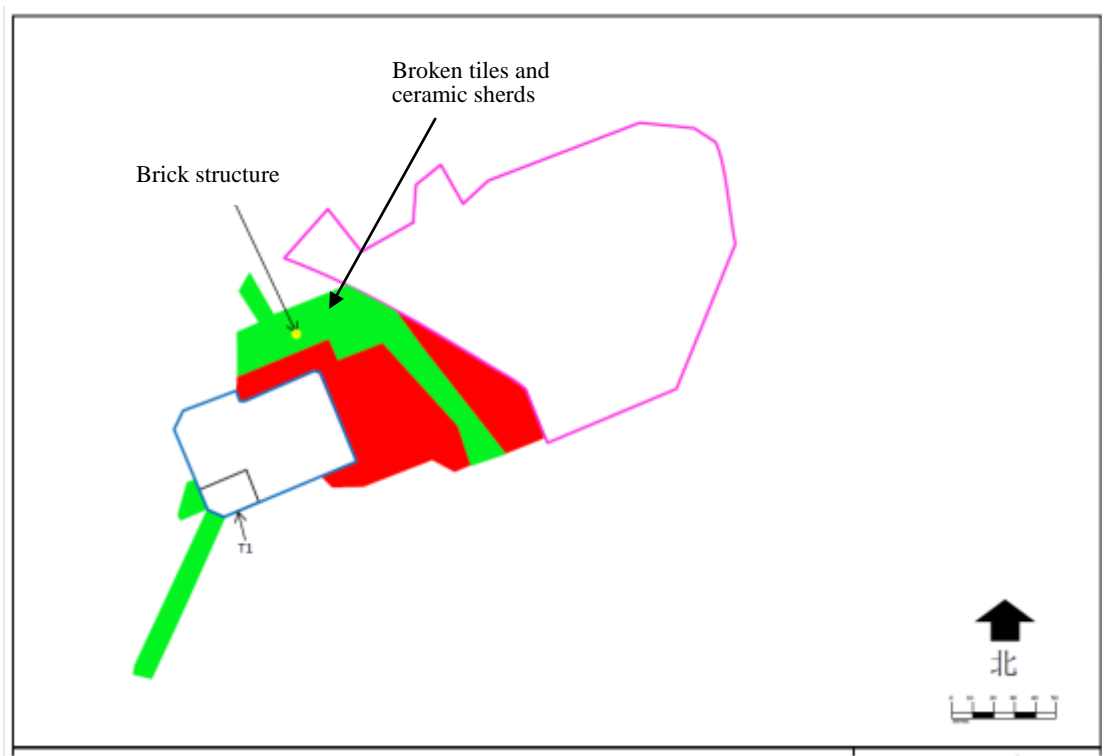


Figure 1: Approximate locations of i) the brick structure and ii) trenches where broken tiles and ceramic sherds were found