Annex B Revised Archaeological Baseline Review Report



Archaeological Baseline Review Report

March 2024

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 The Project Proponent is preparing to the Town Planning Board a Planning Application under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung.
- 1.1.2 The Application Site is located to the west of the New Hiram's Highway and is situated in a predominantly low-dense residential neighbourhood (**Figure 1** refers). Currently, majority part of the Application Site is vacant, except the approved access road (approved with conditions by the TPB under planning application No. A/SK-HC/223) connecting to the adjoining house development (with approved General Building Plan for 51 houses) which are both under construction.
- 1.1.3 AECOM is employed to carry out this Archaeological Review Consultancy to review potential impacts on archaeological resources within the Application Site and recommend mitigation measures if adverse impact arises in supporting the abovementioned Section 12A Application.

1.2 Structure of the Report

- 1.2.1 Following this introductory section, the structure of this Archaeological Review Report is set out as follows:
 - Section 2 states the aims and objective, set the methodology, and mentions relevant legislations, standards and guidelines of this archaeological review;
 - Section 3 establishes the baseline of the Application Site;
 - Section 4 presents the field scanning results;
 - Section 5 discusses the archaeological potential of the Application Site:
 - Section 6 recommends mitigation measures of any adverse impacts to the archaeology at the Application Site;
 - · Section 7 concludes the findings of this report; and
 - Section 8 lists the bibliography and glossary of this report.

2 APPLICATION SITE, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES, METHODOLOGY AND RELEVANT CULTURAL HERITAGE LEGISLATIONS

2.1 Application Site

2.1.1 The Application Site is located Lot D. D. 244 and adjoining Government Land on the western side of New Hiram's Highway near to the roundabout at Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung (Application Site on Figure 1 refers). It is bounded by the New Hiram's Highway to the east, Wo Mei Hung Min Road to the south, existing built-up area to the northwest (Villa Royale) and south (villages in Wo Mei).

2.2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.2.1 The aim of this archaeological review is:
 - To establish the up-to-date baseline conditions, especially to summarise the past archaeological findings of this area for a holistic understanding of the Application Site; and
 - ii. To assess the impact of the proposed works to the archaeology within the Application Site.
- 2.2.2 In order to achieve the aims of this archaeological review, the objectives are:
 - a. to conduct a baseline review through desktop research and field scanning of the Application Site;
 - b. to discuss the archaeological potentials within the Application Site;
 - c. to recommend mitigation measures should the development cause disturbance to the archaeology of the Application Site; and
 - d. to report findings in this Archaeological Review Report.

2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 Baseline review comprises of desktop research and field scanning.
- 2.3.2 Desktop research is done through understanding the geography, history, and archaeology of the Application Site at Nam Pin Wai. Information from available literature, maps and photographs are used to establish the fundamental archaeological condition of Nam Pin Wai through non-destructive means.
- 2.3.3 Field scanning identifies archaeological phenomena on site, noting particularly the topography and existing surface conditions without conducting destructive excavations. The field scanning could ascertain the desktop findings regarding the archaeology of the Application Site.
- 2.3.4 Impact assessment is conducted taking into accounts the results of the baseline review and the deduced archaeological potential at the Application Site. Mitigation measure is recommended if the proposed works would cause disturbance to the archaeology of the Application Site. The recommendation to be made is based on the significance of the archaeology.

2.4 Cultural Heritage Legislation, Standards and Guidelines

- 2.4.1 Legislation, standards and guidelines relevant to the consideration of archaeology under this baseline study includes the following:
 - Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53);
 - Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and Technical Memorandum;
 - Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines;
 - Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.

Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53)

- 2.4.2 The Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance provides the statutory framework for the preservation of objects of historical, archaeological and palaeontological interest.
- 2.4.3 The Ordinance contains the statutory procedures for the Declaration of Monuments. Under the Ordinance, monument means a place, building, site or structure which is declared to be a monument, historical building, archaeological or palaeontological site or structure because of its historical, archaeological or palaeontological significance under Section 3 of the Ordinance.
- 2.4.4 Under Section 6 and subject to Subsection (4) of the Ordinance, the following acts are prohibited in relation to certain monuments, except under permit granted by the Secretary for Development:
 - To excavate, carry on building works, plant or fell trees or deposit earth or refuse on or in a proposed monument or monument; or
 - To demolish, remove, obstruct, deface or interfere with a proposed monument or monument.
- 2.4.5 The discovery of an antiquity, as defined in the Ordinance, must be reported to the Antiquities Authority, or a designated person. The Ordinance also provides that, the ownership of every relic discovered in Hong Kong after the commencement of this Ordinance shall vest in the Government from the moment of discovery. The Authority on behalf of the Government may disclaim ownership of the relic.
- 2.4.6 No archaeological excavation can be carried out by any person, other than the Authority and the designated person, without a licence issued by the Authority. A licence will only be issued if the Authority is satisfied that the applicant has sufficient scientific training or experience to enable him to carry out the excavation and search satisfactorily, is able to conduct, or arrange for, a proper scientific study of any antiquities discovered as a result of the excavation and search, with sufficient staff and financial support.

Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and Technical Memorandum

- 2.4.7 The Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance and Technical Memorandum stipulates that consideration must be given to issues associated with built heritage and archaeology as part of the EIA process. Schedule 1 Interpretation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) defines "Sites of Cultural Heritage" as "an antiquity or monument, whether being a place, building, site or structure or a relic, as defined in the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance and any place, building, site, or structure or a relic identified by AMO to be of archaeological, historical or paleontological significance".
- 2.4.8 The Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIAO-TM) identifies a general presumption in the favour of the protection and conservation of all sites of cultural heritage and requires impacts upon sites of cultural heritage to be 'kept to the absolute minimum'. Annex 10 and 19 of the EIAO-TM outline criteria for evaluating the impacts on sites of cultural heritage and guidelines for impact assessment, respectively.

Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (March 2017 Edition)

- 2.4.9 The *Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines* aim to protect Declared Monuments, historic buildings, Sites of Archaeological Interest and other heritage items including old street furniture, commemorative tablets, foundation stones, boundary stone, milestone, etc.
- 2.4.10 In addition, the preservation of Site of Archaeological Interest should be a priority in consideration. Where residual impacts are acceptable, ameliorative measures are carried out

in order to incorporate the monument or recorded item and to conserve its heritage values and significance.

Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

2.4.11 The Guidelines outline the technical requirements in assessing impact on archaeological and built heritage. The guidelines put preservation in totality as the first priority. Mitigation measure should be proposed in cases with identified impacts, and if this is not feasible due to site constraints or other factors, full justification must be provided.

3 BASELINE REVIEW OF THE APPLICATION SITE

3.1 Geographical and Geological Background

- 3.1.1 The Application Site is located at D. D. 244 and adjoining Government Land. It is situated at the south of Ho Chung River flood plain and the estuarine area of Ho Chung valley. Village settlements in proximity are Nam Wai at the east, Wo Mei at the south, Nam Pin Wai at the west, and Ho Chung at the north. Hills in proximity are the Hebe Knoll at the west and Mo Tse Che in the south. Nam Wai Site of Archaeological Interest and Ho Chung Site of Archaeological Interest are located at the east and the west of the Application Site respectively (Figure 2)¹.
- 3.1.2 The Application Site sits on a small hill slope at elevation between approximately +8mPD and +19mPD. It is adjacent to the alluvial flood plain at elevation between +4mPD and +12mPD. The superficial geological deposits of the Application Site and the adjacent Ho Chung River flood plain are mainly colluvial debris flow deposit (Qd) and alluvium (Qfa) (Figure 3)².
- 3.1.3 The Application Site and its surroundings were mainly farmland with a mixture of cultivation and paddy field in the early days. In the historical map of 1913, the Application Site and the surroundings, i.e. Ho Chung, Wo Mei Tsuen and Nam Wai were rice fields, with settlement recorded in Ho Chung (Figure 4)³.
- 3.1.4 Records of the Application Site in 1950s to 1960s show that the land use of the area remained agricultural with limited industrial use. The farmland is observed in form of fields and terraced field on low lying flat lands and on hill sides in the aerial photo taken in 1956 (**Figure 5**)⁴. The Application Site was identified as cultivation and paddy fields, with part of it located at the Luen Tai Farm.
- 3.1.5 Factories were identified in the topographic map of 1959, including 2 preserved fruit factories to the east of the Application Site, a soy factory to the north, and a rubber cloth factory to the far northeast. Nam Pin Wai and Wo Mei Tsuen village settlements also were recorded (**Figure** 6)⁵.
- 3.1.6 In the aerial photo of 1963, the Application Site was covered with vegetations surrounded by terraced fields (**Figure 7**)⁶. The surroundings had both agricultural, industrial, and residential activities.
- 3.1.7 In the topographic map of 1980, change of land use has been observed. While agricultural and industrial activities were still active with another factory and bakery recorded near Luen Tai Farm, residential development had started taking over the land use of the area. Village expansion was recorded in Nam Pin Wai at the west of the Application Site, while Berkeley Bay Villa was built at the north of the Application Site. Added to that, reclamation was recorded along the south of the Application Site at the other side of New Hiram's Highway, and at Pak Sha Wan (Hebe Haven), indicating the demand for land for development in the area. On the other hand, Immaculate Conception Chapel at Wo Mei Tsuen and Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong

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¹ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2019). *Topographic Map in 2019 [map]. 1:4000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department

² Geotechnical Engineering Office, Civil Engineering and Development Department (2012). *Hong Kong Geological Survey: Hong Kong and Kowloon Sheet 11, 1:20,000 [map]. HGM (S&S) Sheet 11.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

³ Great Britain War Office (1913). *Hong Kong and part of Leased Territory [Map]. 2.5 inches:1 mile. MAP G7940 1913.* National Library of Australia. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-233534102.

⁴ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1956). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]*. 1:10020.167900 (ft). F21_554-0036. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

⁵ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1959). *Topographic Map in 1959 [map]. 1:1,200. 164-NW-D.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

⁶ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1963). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. 1:7800. 3900 (ft). 1963-8937.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

Kong Wo Mei Church were recorded, which are related to the missionary history of the area (please refer to the Historical Background section). The Application Site was still mainly agricultural (**Figure 8**)⁷.

- 3.1.8 In the aerial photo of 1993, while the surroundings remain largely greenery, the higher ground of the current Application Site has seen obvious site disturbance (**Figure 9**)⁸. Site formation is visible on the aerial photo, which turned the location into an open storage space. On the other hand, the surrounding areas largely remains the same, with the exception that the previous cultivation fields seems to be largely abandoned.
- 3.1.9 In the topographic map of 2003, the area had turned from agricultural to residential, with limited industrial activities. Residential development at Nam Pin Wai, Wo Mei Village, Ho Chung New Village, Heung Chung, Pak Sha Wan (Hebe Haven) was recorded. For industrial activities, Pat Chun Foods & Soy Factory and Tsuen Tung Film & TV Limited were recorded at the east and south of the Application Site respectively. Pat Chun Foods & Soy Factory is probably the soy factory recorded the north of the Application Site in the topographic map in 1959, which has moved from the north of the nowadays Hiram's Highway's roundabout to the south of the Application Site. The factory at southeast has been turned into a car park. In terms of infrastructure, the construction of New Hiram's Highway and its roundabout was recorded. Nam Pin Wai Road was built. The Application Site was no longer a farmland. Part of it had become Glowell Garden (Figure 10)⁹. It is noteworthy that a grave is recorded at the Application Site until September 2013¹⁰.
- 3.1.10 In the aerial photo of 2005, residential development continued, and Villa Royale was built at the north of the Application Site. The Application Site was primarily covered with vegetations, with a dumping area and some building structures at the south in which the slope and vegetations were likely altered (Figure 11)¹¹.
- 3.1.11 In the aerial photo of 2016, it is visible that the slope had been altered and the vegetations had been moved due to the archaeological excavation in September and October 2015 (Figure 12)¹².
- 3.1.12 In the topographic map of 2019, more new residential development was found in Wo Mei and Heung Chung at the east, and New Ho Chung Village at the north, including Royal Garden and The Yosemite at Wo Mei, Roseville Villas and Royal Bay at Heung Chung and Dynasty Lodge at Ho Chung. Villa Royale at the north of the Application Site was also built (Figure 2)¹³.
- 3.1.13 There is possible hill slope change over the years due to development and land use changes, though no substantial elevation change is recorded at the Application Site and its surroundings (**Tables 3.1** and **3.2**). The topsoil and subsoil of the Application Site have potentially been altered/removed in previous agricultural activities, archaeological excavation as well the change in land use over time.

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⁷ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1980). *Topographic Map in 1980 [map]. 1:1000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

⁸ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1993). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. CN04611*. Survey and Mapping Office, ands Department.

⁹ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2003). *Topographic Map in 2003 [map]. 1:1000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

¹⁰ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2013). *Topographic Map in 2013 [map]. 1:1000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

¹¹ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2005). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. 1:5000.* 2500 (ft). CW64568. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

¹² Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2016). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. 1:6000. 6000 (ft). CS62839.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

¹³ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2019). *Topographic Map in 2019 [map]. 1:4000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

3.1.14 The geographical and geological background of the Application Site is summarized as **Table 3.1**, and the land use changes of the Application Site and its surroundings is summarized as **Table 3.2**.

Table 3.1 Summary of Geographical and Geological background

| | | Alluvial flood plain | Colluvial hillslope |
|--------------|------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Elevation | 1959 | +4mPD to +12mPD | +8mPD to +19mPD |
| | 2003 | +4mPD to +10mPD | +8mPD to +19mPD |
| | 2019 | +3mPD to +10mPD | +8mPD to +19mPD |
| Average | | 2.1° | 11.3° to 34° |
| gradient | | | |
| Superficial | | Colluvial debris flow deposit (Qd); | Colluvial debris flow deposit (Qd); |
| Deposits | | Alluvium (Qa) | Alluvium (Qa) |
| Solid Geol | | Coarse ash crystal tuff (Krd_cat) | Coarse ash crystal tuff (Krd_cat) |
| (Figure 3)14 | | Krc_e) | Krc_e) |
| | | Tuff breccia (Krd_tb) | |
| | | Eutaxitic fine ash vitric tuff | |
| | | (Krc_fvt) | |
| | | Tuffaceous sandstone and | |
| | | siltstone (Krc_st) | |

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¹⁴ Geotechnical Engineering Office, Civil Engineering and Development Department (2012). *Hong Kong Geological Survey: Hong Kong and Kowloon Sheet 11, 1:20,000 [map]. HGM (S&S) Sheet 11.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

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Table 3.2 Summary of Land Use Observations from Maps and Aerial Photos between 1866 and 2019

| Location | APPLICATION SITE | EAST OF THE APPLICATION SITE | SOUTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE | WEST OF THE APPLICATION SITE | NORTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Year | | (NAM WAI) | (WO MEI) | (NAM PIN WAI) | (HO CHUNG) |
| 1866 Figure 13 ¹⁵ | ➤ Not specified | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Not specified | ➤ Village settlement |
| 1898 Figure 14 ¹⁶ | ➤ Not specified | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Not specified | ➤ Village settlement |
| 1913 Figure 4 ¹⁷ | ➤ Rice fields | ➤ Rice fields ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Rice fields ➤ Chinese settlement | ➤ Rice fields ➤ Chinese settlement | ➤ Rice fields ➤ Chinese settlement |
| 1922 Figure 14 ¹⁸ | ➤ Not specified | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement |
| 1956 Figure 5 ¹⁹ | ➤ Vegetations➤ Fields and terraced fields | ➤ Vegetations➤ Fields and terraced fields➤ Village settlement | ➤ Vegetations➤ Fields and terraced fields➤ Village settlement | ➤ Vegetations ➤ Fields and terraced fields | ➤ Fields and terraced fields |
| 1959 | Cultivation and paddy field, with part | Cultivation and paddy fieldsVillage settlement | ➤ Cultivation and paddy fields➤ Village settlement | Cultivation and paddy fieldsVillage settlement | Cultivation and paddy fields |

¹⁵ Brockhaus, F. A. & Volonteri, S. (1866). Map of the San-On District, (Kwangtung Province) drawn from actual observations made by an Italian Missionary of the Propaganda in the course of his professional labors during a period of four years: being the first and only map hitherto published. National Library of Australia. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231220841.

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¹⁶ Land Registry Office. (1899). Map of Hong Kong and of the Territory leased to Great Britain under the Convention between Great Britain and China signed at Peking, 1898 [map]. 1: 84480. ref HKRS207-12-51. Retrieved from Hong Kong Public Records Office https://search.grs.gov.hk/en/search.xhtml?q=+HKRS207-12-51.

¹⁷ Great Britain. War Office. (1913). Hong Kong and part of Leased Territory [Map]. 2.5inches:1mile. MAP G7940 1913. National Library of Australia. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.obi-233534102.

¹⁸ Great Britain. War Office. (1922). The Colony of Hong Kong and New Territories [map]. 1:31,680. GSGS 2994. The National Archives, Kew. Retrieved from http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C3823350.

¹⁹ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1956). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]*. 1:10020.167900 (ft). F21_554-0036. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

| Location | APPLICATION SITE | EAST OF THE APPLICATION SITE | SOUTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE | WEST OF THE APPLICATION SITE | NORTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Year | | (NAM WAI) | (WO MEI) | (NAM PIN WAI) | (HO CHUNG) |
| Figure 6 ²⁰ | of it located at the Luen Tai Farm | > 2 preserved fruit factories > A fishpond | | | ➤ Soy factory, rubber cloth factory |
| 1963 Figure 7 ²¹ | ➤ Vegetations ➤ Terraced fields | ➤ Cultivation and paddy fields➤ Village settlement➤ Factory | ➤ Cultivation and paddy fields ➤ village settlement | ➤ Cultivation and paddy fields➤ Village settlement | ➤ Cultivation and paddy fields ➤ Factory |
| 1980 Figure 8 ²² | ➤ Cultivation | Cultivation Heung Chung village settlement 2 Factories Football field Reclamation Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Wo Mei Church | Cultivation Village settlement Factory and bakery recorded near Luen Tai Farm Immaculate Conception Chapel at Wo Mei Tsuen | ➤ Cultivation ➤ Village settlement | > Cultivation > Berkeley Bay Villa > Factories > Reclamation |
| <mark>1993</mark> | Site Formation on | Residential | ➤ Abandoned fields | ➤ Abandoned fields | ➤ Abandoned fields |
| Figure 9 ²³ | the upper hills | <u>Developments</u> | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Ho Chung New Village |
| 2003 | ➤ Grave (till 2013 September) ➤ Glowell Garden | Heung Chung village settlementBerkeley Bay Villa | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Village settlement | ➤ Ho Chung New Village➤ Pak Sha Wan (Hebe Haven) settlement |

Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1959). Topographic Map in 1959 [map]. 1:1200. 164-NW-D. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.
 Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1963). Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. 1:7800. 3900 (ft). 1963-8937. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

²² Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1980). *Topographic Map in 1980 [map], 1:1000, 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

²³ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (1993). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. CN04611*. Survey and Mapping Office, ands Department.

| Location Year | APPLICATION SITE | EAST OF THE APPLICATION SITE (NAM WAI) | SOUTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE (WO MEI) | WEST OF THE APPLICATION SITE (NAM PIN WAI) | NORTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE (HO CHUNG) |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| Figure 10 ²⁴ | ➤ Temporary structure | New Hiram's Highway and its roundabout Sai Kung Central Primary School Winfield Paint Limited Red Wine Zone Ho Chung Football Field Reclamation Car Parks | ➤ Pat Chun Foods & Soy Factory and Tsuen Tung Film & TV Limited | | Villa Royale/King's Park Dynasty Lodge Lee Kum Kee (Hong Kong) Limited Lee Seng Heng Fish's Gravy & Canning Factory Limited. Reclamation |
| 2005 Figure 11 ²⁵ | ➤ Vegetations➤ Dumping area➤ Temporary structure | ➤ Residential development ➤ New Hiram's Highway and its roundabout | ➤ Residential development | > Residential development | > Residential development > Factories |
| 2016 Figure 12 ²⁶ | ➤ Vegetations ➤ Slope and vegetation alternation due to archaeological excavation | ➤ Residential development | > Residential development | > Residential development | > Residential development |
| 2019 Figure 2 ²⁷ | ➤ Vegetations ➤ Temporary structure | ➤ Residential development ➤ New Hiram's Highway and its roundabout | ➤ Residential development | ➤ Residential development | ➤ Ho Chung New Village ➤ Pak Sha Wan (Hebe Haven) settlement ➤ Villa Royale /King's Park |

²⁴ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2003). *Topographic Map in 2003 [map]. 1:1000. 11-NE-5A.* Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2005). Digital Aerial Photo [photo]. 1:5000. 2500 (ft). CW64568. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

²⁶ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2016). *Digital Aerial Photo [photo]*. 1:6000. 6000 (ft). CS62839. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

²⁷ Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department (2019). Topographic Map in 2019 [map]. 1:4000. 11-NE-5A. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department.

| Location Year | APPLICATION SITE | EAST OF THE APPLICATION SITE (NAM WAI) | SOUTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE (WO MEI) | WEST OF THE APPLICATION SITE (NAM PIN WAI) | NORTH OF THE APPLICATION SITE (HO CHUNG) |
|---------------|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | ➤ Sai Kung Central Primary School ➤ Red Wine Zone ➤ Ho Chung Football Field ➤ Reclamation ➤ Car Parks | | | ➤ Dynasty Lodge ➤ Reclamation |

3.2 Historical Background

Early Historical Period/Qin to Yuan Dynasties (221 BC-AD1368)

- 3.2.1 Hong Kong is located at South China, where evidence of human activities is recorded in *Shiji* and *Hanshu*. According to *Shiji* and *Hanshu*, the *Yue* ethnic groups (also called the Hundreds of *Yue*), scattered around southern China and comprised tribes of various surnames. They were distinct from the *Han* ethnic group, who lived in central China, in terms of physical characteristics, language, and folklore. The *Yue* ethnic groups were later assimilated by the Han culture in the Qin dynasty (221-206 BC), when southern China became an administrative territory of China's central government²⁸.
- 3.2.2 Hong Kong has been part of China's administrative territory since the Qin dynasty (221-206 BC). In 208 BC, the *Nan Yue* (Southern Yue) State was established in Guangdong and Guangxi by military officials sent by the Qin (221-206 BC) court to conquer the *Yue* in the south. Following the collapse of Qin's political power in the north, the *Nan Yue* State later became a vassal state of the Han dynasty (206BC-AD220)²⁹.
- 3.2.3 During the Qin dynasty (221-206 BC), Guangdong was administered by the *Panyu* county. During Han to Eastern Jin dynasties (AD317-420), Hong Kong was administered by the *Bolou* county. From AD331 to AD756, Hong Kong was administered by the *Baoan* county. From AD757, through the Song dynasty (AD960-1279), to Yuan dynasty (AD1271-1368), Hong Kong was administered by the *Dongguan* county³⁰.

Ming to Qing Dynasties (AD1368-1912)

- 3.2.4 According to *Xin'an Gazetteer*, the present-day Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, and the New Territories (NT), were zoned under *Xin'an* county. During the 15th century, Hong Kong was administered by the *Dongguan* county. As marauding bandit and pirate attacks were prevalent at the coastal areas of the county, *Xin'an* county was set up in AD 1573 to reinforce coastal defence in southern coastal areas. Since then, Hong Kong was administered by the *Xin'an* county until the British occupation period, when Hong Kong was administered by the *Baoan* county³¹.
- 3.2.5 In AD 1661, the Coastal Evacuation Order was enacted by the Qing Court to forbid support from the coastal villagers to the *Anti-Manchu* Taiwanese troops. Due to the enforcement of the Coastal Evacuation Order, coastal villagers, including the New Territories inhabitants, were forced to move 50 li (31. 05km) inland. Further inland retreatment was enacted in AD 1663 and AD 1664. The Coastal Evacuation Order was devastating to the coastal inhabitants. In AD 1669 villagers were allowed to return to inland New Territories following a request by *Zhou Youde* (the Governor-General of Guangdong and Guangxi) and *Wang Lairen* (Governor of Guangdong). However, it was until AD 1684 that the Coastal Evacuation Order was lifted officially³². As the Evacuation Order was implemented for more than 20 years, some villagers had settled in other areas, while some died during the evacuation. As such, not many of the original villagers had returned. Population dropped severely from 13,302 in 1594 to 3,912 in 1677 in the New Territories³³. From AD 1662 to AD 1722, only 127 villages were rebuilt in Hong Kong³⁴. As a result, Hakka people were encouraged to move to the New Territories during late 17th to early 18th centuries.

²⁸ 周佳榮 (2018)。《香港通史-遠古至清代》。香港:三聯書店。

²⁹ 司馬遷 (約公元前 91 年) 。 《史記 卷 113 南越列傳》,載於維基文庫網頁 https://zh.wikisource.org/zh-hant/史記/卷 113。

³⁰ 舒懋官 (1819) 。《嘉慶新安縣誌》,載於 張一兵 2006 編 《深圳舊誌三種》。深圳,海天出版社。

³¹ 蕭國健 (2006) 。《香港古代史》。香港: 中華書局。

³² 蕭國健 (2006) 。《香港古代史》。香港: 中華書局。

³³ 蕭國健 (1986) 。 《清初遷界前後香港之社會變遷》。 台北: 台灣商務印書館。

³⁴ 蕭國健 (2006)。《香港古代史》。香港:中華書局。

Modern Period (post-1912)

- Sai Kung was one of the main fishing ports in Hong Kong in the 19th century. Over time, 3.2.6 Tanka people who lived on boat settled in the gulf areas of Sai Kung. The religious belief of the Tanka was reflected in the construction Tin Hau Temple in Po Tong Road in the 1910-1920s to worship Tin Hau, the sea goddess³⁵.
- 3.2.7 During the Japanese Occupation (1941-45), the Japanese Imperial troop had built Hiram's Highway, which was expanded by the British Colonial Government afterwards. At that time. Nam Pin Wai villagers were forced to build Hiram's Highway³⁶. It is believed that the road was originally a local path. New Hiram's Highway was built in 2002, which involved the construction of viaducts and associated slope works³⁷.
- 3.2.8 Nam Pin Wai and the surrounding areas were mainly a mixture of cultivation and paddy fields in early to mid-20th century. Since the 1980s, the agricultural land use was gradually replaced by residential development. In particular, the Ho Chung Village has developed into two settlements over time, namely old Ho Chung Village and Ho Chung New Village, separated by the Ho Chung River. Since the introduction of the Small House Policy in 1972, male villagers and developers have built up most of the land with small houses³⁸.

Village Development

Nam Pin Wai

3.2.9 Nam Pin Wai is a small village built by the *Tse* clan who moved from Ho Chung in the 1900s due to the increase of the *Tse* population. They were farmers engaging in rice growing, poultry and pig rearing. The Tse clan first moved from Dongguan in the Guangdong province, to Sha Kok Mei village in Sai Kung in late Ming dynasty³⁹. Nam Pin Wai was *Tse* clan's first branch. After 1900s the second and third branches moved to Kap Pin Long and the fourth branch to a place between Nam Pin Wai and Kap Pin Long⁴⁰.

Ho Chung

3.2.10 Ho Chung were inhabited by the *Wans, Lais and Laus*. The *Wan* clan, whose distant ancestors originated in *Taiyuan* of *Shanxi* province. They moved to *Lingnan* in the 12th century. The Lai clan, who originated from Ganzhou and Jiangxi and migrated from Bolou and Dongguan in the late Ming dynasty⁴¹. Later in early Qing dynasty, the Lau clan also migrated to Ho Chung⁴².

³⁵ Antiquities Advisory Board (2009). Historic Building Appraisal, Tin Hau Temple & Hip Tin Temple Po Tung Road, Sai Kung, N.T. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/1419_Appraisal_En.pdf.

Antiquities Advisory Board (2010). Historic Building Appraisal, Nos. 3, 4 & 5 Nam Pin Wai Tsuen, Sai Kung. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/1286_Appraisal_En.pdf.

Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2016). Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development - Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report. Hong Kong: AECOM.

⁸ Legislative Council of the Hong Kong SAR (2016). Small House Policy. https://www.legco.gov.hk/researchpublications/english/essentials-1516ise10-small-house-policy.htm.

Antiquities Advisory Board (2010). Historic Building Appraisal, Nos. 3, 4 & 5 Nam Pin Wai Tsuen, Sai Kung. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/1286_Appraisal_En.pdf.

Antiquities Advisory Board (2010). Historic Building Appraisal, Tse Ancestral Hall Nos. 26-28 Kap Bin Long, Sai Kung. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/1348_Appraisal_En.pdf.

⁴¹ Antiquities Advisory Board (2010). Historic Building Appraisal, Wan Ancestral Hall No. 147 Tai Po Tsai, Sai Kung. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/1419 Appraisal En.pdf. ⁴² 蕭國健 (2006) 。《香港古代史》。香港: 中華書局。

Nam Wai

3.2.11 Nam Wai was believed to be built between 1829 and 1849 with Hakka ancestry migrated from eastern *Guangdong* during the coastal evacuation⁴³.

Wo Mei

- 3.2.12 Wo Mei was built by the Tse family a hundred years ago with ancestry originated from the *Dongguan* county⁴⁴.
- 3.2.13 Sai Kung was one of the earliest and most prominent Catholic preaching areas in Hong Kong since Qing dynasty. In 1864, the first missionary priest came to Sai Kung. Before the New Territories was leased to the British in 1898, Catholic missionaries had already been preaching extensively in Sai Kung⁴⁵. The construction of Catholic churches has shown Catholic influence in Wo Mei. Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Wo Mei Church was built 1905 in the adjacent Nam Wai. Immaculate Conception Chapel was built in Wo Mei in 1930 to hold Sunday masses, marriages, and baptisms. It is believed that the *Tse* family in Wo Mei Tsuen has become Catholic since the 19th century⁴⁶. During the Japanese Occupation from 1941 to 1945, missionary work was terminated⁴⁷.

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⁴³ 劉智鵬、劉蜀永 (2007)。《方志中的古代香港 新安縣志 香港史料選》。香港: 三聯書店。

⁴⁴ 司馬龍 (2003)。《新界滄桑話鄉情》。香港:三聯書店。

⁴⁵ Chan, T. K. (2020). History: Sai Kung. *Hong Kong Jockey Club H. A. D Walk Project*. Retrieved from https://had18.huluhk.org/article-history.php?region=9&cate=1&lang=en.

⁴⁶ 司馬龍 (2003)。《新界滄桑話鄉情》。香港:三聯書店。

⁴⁷ Antiquities Advisory Board. (2010). *Historic Building Appraisal, St. Joseph's Chapel Yim Tim Tsai, Sai Kung, New Territories*. https://www.aab.gov.hk/historicbuilding/en/368_Appraisal_En.pdf.

3.3 Archaeological Background

3.3.1 The Application Site falls within the Ho Chung Site of Archaeological Interest (SAI). Some archaeological investigations and excavations were conducted near the Application Site. Their locations are shown on **Figure 16** and the major findings are summarized in **Table 3.3**.

Excavation Report on C Sector of Ho Chung Site, Sai Kung, Hong Kong⁴⁸ (HC1999)

- 3.3.2 A rescue excavation was carried out by the *Hunan Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology*, the *Guangxi Provincial Archaeological Team*, and the *Anthropology Department of Sun Yatsen University* at C Sector of Ho Chung Site from May to July 1999, 20m to the northeast of the Application Site. The excavation area is on the alluvium, at the foot of the hill and behind the lagoon. Remnants of past human activities with an area approximately 200m² were discovered, centred at grids T16H and T17H, and spreading across grids T16F, T16G, T16I, T17F, T17G, T17I and T18F, with an elevation approximately between +4.1 and +4.3mPD (See Figure 16 for significant finding area).
- 3.3.3 Thirty-three pieces of Neolithic polished stone tools were unearthed, including axes, adzes, bifacial axes and arrowheads. Other unearthed stone tools, including 68 pieces of percussion tools (stone picks and pounders), 7 pieces of ornaments, 39 pieces of grinders, 7 pieces of flake tools (pointers, scrapers and retouched flakes), 26 pieces of stone cores, 37 pieces of debitages, and hundreds of blanks and other lithic materials were found in situ. Moreover, 177 pieces of sand-gritted pottery sherds of cauldrons, stands and gratings dated to Middle and Late Neolithic period were also unearthed.
- 3.3.4 On the other hand, Tang-Song ceramic sherds and Ming-Qing porcelain sherds were also unearthed from the excavation.
- 3.3.5 The excavation concluded that the archaeological assemblage represented a stone processing site dated to the Middle and Late Neolithic period. Palynological and phytolith analysis on the soil samples indicated the humid climate in Neolithic period was favourable for clam harvesting industry. Products of the stone processing site could be the tools for clam harvesting industry.

Archaeological Investigation Report in Ho Chung Valley of Sai Kung, Hong Kong⁴⁹ (HCV1999)

- 3.3.6 To further investigate the archaeological potential of Ho Chung Site, an archaeological investigation was carried out by the *Anthropology Department of Sun Yat-sen University* at the Ho Chung Valley in August 1999. Field scanning, excavation of 11 test pits and drilling of 25 auger holes were conducted in five villages, including Nam Pin Wai, Pei Tau, Shui Hau, Tai Wo and Ho Chung, at the alluvial flood plains on the two sides of Ho Chung River. However, since the investigation areas of Pei Tau, Shui Hau, Tai Wo and Ho Chung were located far away from the Application Site, while only the investigation area of Nam Pin Wai was in close proximity to the Application Site, only the archaeological information of the investigation area of Nam Pin Wai is discussed.
- 3.3.7 The investigation area of Nam Pin Wai was located in between 90m and 260m to the west of the current Application Site. Two test pits (T1 and T2) were excavated at the flood plain in front of the village, while another test pit (T3) was at the slope to the south of the village. Five auger holes (A1, A2, A5, A6, A7) were drilled near T1 to T3. Auger holes A3 and A4 were drilled next to Ho Chung River near the flood plain. Auger holes A8, A9 and A10 were drilled at the foot and top of a small hill near the current Application Site. All test pits and auger holes were excavated or drilled until reaching the sterile layers and no archaeological materials were

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⁴⁸ Archaeological Team of Sun Yat-sen University (2000). *Excavation Report on C Sector of Ho Chung Site, Sai Kung, Hong Kong.* AMO archive.

⁴⁹ Archaeological Team of Sun Yat-sen University (2000). *Archaeological Investigation Report in Ho Chung Valley of Sai Kung, Hong Kong.* AMO archive.

identified. The investigation concluded that the hilly area and low-lying flood plain in Nam Pin Wai were not suitable for ancient human settlement as there lacks any archaeological findings.

Excavation Report on West Sector of Ho Chung Site, Sai Kung, Hong Kong⁵⁰ (HC2000)

- 3.3.8 A rescue excavation was conducted at West Sector of Ho Chung Site prior to the commencement of a residential development. The excavation area was 30m to the northwest from the Application Site, situating at the alluvial flood plain. The excavation was conducted by the *Archaeological Team of Sun Yat-sen University* from November 2000 to February 2001, excavating 42 test pits.
- 3.3.9 A cultural layer of the Middle and Late Neolithic period was identified between rows number 9 and 12, in which the majority of artefacts were unearthed from grids T10I, T11H, T11J, T11K, T12H, T12J and T12K. Ten pieces of Neolithic polished stone tools were unearthed, including adzes, axes, and their blanks. Forty-four pieces of percussion tools were also unearthed, including stone picks, blanks of stone picks, stone drills, scrappers and chopper and chopping tools. Other unearthed stone tools included 39 pieces of grinding tools, 21 pieces of pounders and 41 pieces of raw stone tool materials including stone cores, debitages and lithics materials.
- 3.3.10 A layer unearthed with artefacts ranged between Tang-Song and Modern period was also identified to the north of the rescue excavation area in T10I, T11I, T12I and T13I. The artefacts unearthed in this layer included sherds of celadon porcelain plates, vases and bowls with some covered in ice-crackled glaze. Sherds of coarse porcelain basins, mortars, jars and urns were unearthed. A broken plough was also unearthed. Neolithic stone tools unearthed in this layer possibly moved upwards from the below layer due to agricultural activities at a later time. An isolated grey clay pottery sherd incised with lozenge pattern dated to Bronze Age was unearthed but no cultural layer of Bronze Age was identified. Furthermore, two colonial copper plated steel coins were yielded in this layer, including one incised with "Queen Victoria" dated to 1880 and the other with "George V and Emperor of India" dated to 1924. The colonial coins indicated this layer and any layer above were disturbed.
- 3.3.11 A disturbed layer unearthed with Ming-Qing artefacts was identified. Blue-and-white porcelain sherds of bowls, cups and vases and coarse porcelain basins, mortars, jars and urns were unearthed. Five stone ridges of paddy field dated to Ming-Qing period were also unearthed.
- 3.3.12 The excavation concluded that the artefacts unearthed in HC2000 were similar to those of HC1999 in terms of types and manufacturing techniques of artefacts, which indicated HC2000 was part of the stone processing site identified in HC1999.

<u>Proposed Residential Development at Various Lots, D. D. 244, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung: Archaeological Investigation Works⁵¹ (SKNPW2006)</u>

- 3.3.13 An archaeological investigation was conducted in Nam Pin Wai commissioned by the Project Proponent in October 2006 to evaluate the archaeological potential and impacts due to the residential development. Field scanning, excavation of seven test pits (TP1 to TP7) and hand-drilling of 30 auger holes (AH1 to AH30) were conducted at a small hill to the east of the current Application Site. Auger hole AH 30 is located within the current Application Site.
- 3.3.14 A stable ⁵² cultural layer of Late Neolithic period was found in TP7, with an elevation approximately +10mPD. Late Neolithic pottery sherds were unearthed. Two sherds of incised pattern coarseware, four sherds of corded coarseware and 30 sherds of undecorated

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⁵⁰ Archaeological Team of Sun Yat-sen University (2001). *Excavation Report on West Sector of Ho Chung Site, Sai Kung, Hong Kong.* AMO archive.

⁵¹ Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2007). *Proposed Residential Development at Various Lots, D. D. 244, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung: Archaeological Investigations Works.* Environmental Resources Management.

⁵² Later excavation in 2016 suggested that this layer is secondary deposit and thus not a stable layer.

coarseware were discovered. Late Neolithic stone tools were also unearthed, including six pebble tools (thought to be used as hammer, net weight and grinder), four stone flakes, one stone pick, one polished arrowhead, one whetstone and five unidentified stone tools. Furthermore, a stone core was found in TP6.

- 3.3.15 A cultural layer dated to Song dynasty was identified in TP6. Two pieces of ice-crackled glazed bowl sherds were unearthed which were from Southern China coastal kilns dated to Song dynasty. A dark grey pot sherd dated to Tang-Song period was found and two dark brown glazed pot sherds were also unearthed in TP6.
- 3.3.16 Ten pieces of blue-and-white bowl sherds, white bowl sherd, pot sherds and roof tile fragments were unearthed in TP4 and TP5. Three of the blue-and-white sherds were decorated with stamped floral pattern, which was a typical pattern of eastern Guangdong porcelain dated to the 18th to 19th centuries.
- 3.3.17 During field scanning, two celadon bowl sherds and a bowl sherd with incised pattern dated to Song dynasty were collected from the ground surface to the east of TP1. A Late Neolithic whetstone and a pebble stone were collected on the slope near TP7. No other artefacts were revealed in TP1 to TP3 and auger holes.
- 3.3.18 The investigation concluded that the extent of the Late Neolithic cultural layer might cover the area around TP7 at the valley of the slope terrace.
- 3.3.19 It is also noted that TP3, AH20, AH 24, AH25 and AH30 were conducted on the hilltop. However, their stratigraphy revealed that a modern filled soil layer on top of sterile, regolith soil. This suggest that the open storage works conducted in 1993 on the hilltop (**Figure 9** refers) has basically removed any original soil that might contain any archaeological material.
 - <u>Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report⁵³ (SKNPW2015)</u>
- 3.3.20 Archaeological investigation works were conducted in Nam Pin Wai commissioned by the Project proponent from September to October 2015, to conduct a Survey-cum-Excavation at Zone A (slope) to preserve the archaeological materials by record as a mitigation measure proposed in SKNPW2006⁵⁴, and to conduct an archaeological investigation in Zones A (lowland), B and C. A total of eight test pits, 11 test squares and 16 auger holes were excavated. Test pits TP7 and 8, as well as auger holes AH13 to 16 are inside the current Application Site.
- 3.3.21 Stone tools and coarse pottery sherds were identified from secondary colluvial deposits (L3 and L4) at Zone A (slope). Most of the artefacts were unearthed in test squares TA2 and TB2 located at the flat platform of the valley, while some were unearthed in TB1 and TC2. The Late Neolithic stone tools unearthed in L3 and L4 included 104 modified stone tools (anvils, picks, points, roughouts, stone materials and debitages) and 72 polished stone tools (adzes, pounders and whetstones). Four scrappers, 25 grinders, a net weight, a broken polished tool and 11 unidentified tools were only found in L4 of TA2 and TB2. A roughout was also unearthed from L2 of test pit TP2.
- 3.3.22 Furthermore, a total of 62 coarse pottery sherds dated to Late Neolithic period were unearthed from L3 of TB1 and TC2 and L4 of TA2 and TB2 at Zone A (slope), including a sherd of the neck of a cauldron-like coarse pottery.

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⁵³ Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2016). Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development – Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report. AECOM.

⁵⁴ Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2007). *Proposed Residential Development at Various Lots, D. D. 244, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung: Archaeological Investigations Works.* Environmental Resources Management.

- 3.3.23 Two blue-and-white porcelain sherds dated to Qing dynasty and four brown-glazed ware sherds were unearthed in the disturbed modern layer (L1b) of TP2 and TP4 in Zone A (lowland) and Zone A (slope). Two celadon sherds with ice crackle dated to Song and Ming dynasty were unearthed in the modern terrace field soil (L2) of TP3. Moreover, a blue-and-white porcelain sherd and two brown glazed ceramic ware sherds were unearthed in L1b of TP2 in Zone A (lowland).
- 3.3.24 During field scanning, a sherd of celadon was identified in Zone A (lowland) and a blue-and-white bowl sherd decorated with chrysanthemum patterns dated to Qing dynasty was collected in Zone A (slope).
- 3.3.25 Two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four auger holes (AH13 to AH16) were located within the current Application Site, all of which have reached the depths of at least 1 meter. TP8 contained two strata, a disturbed modern layer (L1b) and a sterile layer of colluvial deposit (L5), while TP7 had one more layer of modern ground surface (L2) between L1b and L5. AH13 had only one stratum of modern rubbish landfill soil (L1a). AH14 and AH16 had two strata with a modern terrace field soil layer (L2) underneath L1a. AH15 had four strata, L1a, L1b, L2 on the top of a colluvial deposit layer (L3). No artefacts or cultural layers were found in the test pits and auger holes.
- 3.3.26 The excavation concluded that there was not a stable cultural layer in Zone A (slope). As the stone tools and coarse pottery were mostly found at the valley and were heavily worn out due to soil movement, L3 and L4 were regarded as secondary deposits probably washed down from the hilltop. Zones A (lowland), B and C were concluded to have no archaeological potential as no cultural layer or *in situ* finding was identified.

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Table 3.3 Summary of the Findings of the Previous Archaeological Investigations

| Excavations | | Alluvial Flood Plain | | Colluvial | Hillslope |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| Chronology | HC1999 | HCV1999 | HC2000 | SKNPW2006 | SKNPW2015 |
| Modern (Disturbed Layer) | N/A | N/A | Near Nam Pin Wai: Ming-Qing blue-and-white porcelain sherds of bowls, cups and vases; Ming-Qing coarse porcelain dishes, mortars, jars and urns; Ming-Qing 5 sets of stone ridging of paddy field Tang-Song sherds of celadon porcelain bowls with some covered in ice-crackled glaze, and sherds of coarse porcelain dishes, mortars, jars and urns; 1 broken plough; Neolithic stone tools 1 isolated pottery sherd with lozenge pattern dated to Bronze Age 2 colonial bronze coins | Nam Pin Wai: 2 celadon bowl sherds and 1 bowl sherd with incised pattern dated Song dynasty; 1 Late Neolithic whetstone and 1 pebble stone | Nam Pin Wai: 1 sherd of celadon and 1 blue-and-white bowl sherd decorated with chrysanthemum dated to Qing dynasty found on ground surface 2 blue-and-white porcelain sherd dated Qing dynasty and 4 brown-glazed ware sherds unearthed in landfill soil 1 Late Neolithic roughouts and 2 celadon sherds with ice crackle dated to Song to Ming dynasty unearthed in terrace field soil |
| Ming- Qing | Near Nam Pin Wai: Ming-Qing porcelain sherds | Pei Tau: • Ming Dynasty sherds of blue-and-white and celadon bowls, cups and jars; cloth-impressed tiles; pottery sherds of brown-glazed bowls, jars and urns • Remnants of masonry wall foundations of a house Ho Chung: • Ming Dynasty sherds of blue-and-white and qingbai porcelain bowls and dishes, glazed pottery sherds of | N/A | Nam Pin Wai: 10 pieces of blue-and-white bowl sherds, white bowl sherds and roof tile fragments (3 blue-and-white sherds with a typical pattern of Eastern Guangdong kilns dated 18th to 19th centuries) | N/A |

| | Alluvial Flood Plain | | | Colluvial Hillslope | |
|---------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| | HC1999 | HCV1999 | HC2000 | SKNPW2006 | SKNPW2015 |
| | | pots and urn, as well as shells | | | |
| Tang- Song | Near Nam Pin Wai: Tang-Song ceramic sherds | Ho Chung: • Song dynasty sherds of white porcelain bowls and glazed pottery pots | N/A | Nam Pin Wai: 2 pieces of ice-crackle glazed bowl sherds from Southern China coastal kilns dated Song dynasty; 1 dark grey pot sherd dated Tang-Song period; 2 dark brown glazed pot sherds | N/A |
| Neolithic | Near Nam Pin Wai: 33 pieces of Middle to Late Neolithic polished stone tools (axes, adzes, bifacial axes and arrowheads); 68 pieces of percussion tools (stone picks and pounders); 7 pieces of ornaments; 39 pieces of grinders; 7 pieces of flake tools (pointers, scrapers and retouched flakes); 26 pieces of stone cores; 37 pieces of debitages; and hundreds of blanks and other lithic materials; 177 pieces of sand- gritted pottery sherds of cauldrons, stands and gratings Archaeological assemblage indicating a stone processing site | N/A | Near Nam Pin Wai: 10 pieces of Middle to Late Neolithic polished stone tools (adzes, axes, and their blanks); 44 pieces of percussion tools (stone picks, blanks of stone picks, stone drills, scrappers and chopper and chopping tools); 39 pieces of grinding tools; 21 pieces of pounders; 41 pieces of raw stone tool materials (stone cores, debitages and lithics materials); Archaeological assemblage indicating HC2000 was part of the stone processing site identified in HC1999 | Nam Pin Wai: Late Neolithic pottery sherds: 2 pieces of incised pattern coarse ware sherds, 4 pieces of corded coarse ware sherds and 30 pieces of un-decorated coarse ware sherds; Late Neolithic stone tools: 6 pebble tools (hammer, net weight and grinder), 4 stone flakes, 1 stone pick, 1 polished arrowhead, 1 whetstone, 1 stone core and 5 unidentified stone tools | Nam Pin Wai: 104 Late Neolithic stone tools modified stone tools (anvils, picks, points, roughouts, stone materials and debitages); 72 Late Neolithic stone tools (adzes, pounders and whetstones); 4 Late Neolithic scrappers, 25 grinders, a net weight, a broken polished tool and 11 unidentified tools; 62 coarse pottery sherds, including a sherd of the neck of a cauldron-like coarse pottery dated Late Neolithic |

4 FIELD SCANNING RESULTS

4.1 Scope of Field Scanning

4.1.1 Field evaluation in the form of surface scanning was undertaken by AECOM's in-house archaeological team in November 2020 in the Application Site. The aim of field evaluation was to ascertain if the Application Site has any archaeological potential. Scanning of the ground surface for archaeological material has been conducted with the aid of aerial photos and maps. Topography, surface conditions and existing site conditions are also noted during the field scanning. For the ease of discussion, the Application Site is subdivided into Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Remaining Phase and Ancillary Road as shown on Figure 17.

4.2 Field Scanning Results

4.2.1 The Application Site is on a hillslope to the west of New Hiram's Highway and north of Wo Mei Hung Min Road. The findings of surface scanning at each zone are discussed below.

Zone 1

4.2.2 Zone 1 is a flat land with the ground surface covered in black filled soil or concrete (**Appendix B: Photos 1.1** to **1.3**). The filled soil mainly contains vegetations. According to topographic maps of 1959 and 1980 (**Figure 6** and **Figure 8**), Zone 1 had once been the paddy fields. Afterwards, Zone 1 was modified with temporary structures as shown in topographic map of 2003 and aerial photo of 2005 (**Figure 10** and **Figure 11**) were erected. Remains of the demolished structures and construction waste, such as collapsed brick walls, concrete screeds and metal frames, are identified at the western side of Zone 1 (**Appendix B: Photo 1.4**). No archaeological material has been identified during the surface scanning at Zone 1.

Zone 2

- 4.2.3 Zone 2 is a hill slope with a T-shaped concrete pavement at the western part of Zone 2 (Appendix B: Photo 2.1) and a steep slope (34°) at the eastern part (Appendix B: Photo 2.
 2). It is to the south of the planned ancillary road. Trees covers the steep slope and the area to the west of the concrete pavement. Currently the land is vacant. The concrete surface found in Zone 2 suggested it might have been part of the open storage the area, which also indicated that the Zone 2 has been flattened and soil removed.
- 4.2.4 The concrete pavement connects the hill slope in Zone 2 to track at the hilltop (**Appendix B: Photo 2.3**). According to the aerial photos in 1993 (**Figure 9**), the area has been site formed into open storage space. According to the topographic map in 2003 and aerial photo of 2005 (**Figure 10** and **Figure 11**), temporary structures were erected along the concrete pavement and dumping area was identified at Zone 2, but these structures were not observed during the field scanning.
- 4.2.5 Furthermore, profile of the hill slope could be observed from the steep slope at the eastern part of Zone 2. The concrete surface beneath a layer of wilted creeping plant is covering the yellowish-brown sandy soil of the hill slope (**Appendix B: Photo 2.4**).
- 4.2.6 The backfilled test pit TP7 of the SKNPW2015 excavations is identified at the concrete pavement (**Appendix B: Photo 2.5**). The surface scanning has not identified any archaeological remain at Zone 2. As Zone 2 overall has a similar landscape (flattened open storage space), it contains no archaeological potential due to disturbance by open storage construction.

Zone 3

4.2.7 Zone 3 is a hill slope with similar settings to Zone 2. It is separated from Zone 2 by a planned ancillary road between the zones. The concrete pavement from Zone 2 can still be seen on

the east of Zone 3 (**Appendix B: Photo 3.1**). The concrete pavement at Zone 3 is identified to be flatten open storage space. To the north of the concrete pavement, appeared to be vacant and covered with trees and vegetations. No archaeological remain was identified at Zone 3.

- 4.2.8 Zone 3 is inaccessible due to the dense vegetation. Observing from the southern edge of Zone 3, the hilltop is gently sloping from the west downwards to the east based on the contour of the same species of tall grasses covering the area (**Appendix B: Photos 4.1** to **4.3**).
- 4.2.9 However, based on aerial photos in 1993 (**Figure 9**), the area has been site formed into open storage space. It is therefore concluded that the site has no archaeological potential due to disturbance by open storage construction.

Zone 4

- 4.2.10 Zone 4 is a relatively flat hilltop covered in dense tall grasses of one metre tall. The concrete pavement surface at Zone 3 does not extend to Zone 4. According to the aerial map of 1993 (Figure 9), the eastern half of Zone 4 has been disturbed by the site formation. According to the topographic map of 2003 (Figure 10), a temporary structure was erected at the northwestern part of Zone 4.
- 4.2.11 In the light of the above, it is believed that the western side of Zone 4 would remain largely undisturbed by the site formation. However, surface materials can hardly be observed due to the dense tall grasses. The presence of archaeology in the western part of Zone 4 is therefore uncertain.

Zone 5

4.2.12 Zone 5 is a gentle hill slope (19°) covered in dense trees and tall grasses (**Appendix B: Photos 5.1** to **5.4**). Similar to Zone 4, Zone 5 is inaccessible due to the dense vegetation of the similar tall grasses. The contour of the grasses suggested that the topography is not levelled, with undulating surface. According to **Figure 5** to **Figure 8**, the hill slope was once the cultivation and paddy fields from 1956 to 1980. No noticeable urban structure or disturbance has been identified in Zone 5 from the historic topographic maps and aerial phots till the present. As such, Zone 5 may not be disturbed by urban developments. However, archaeological materials cannot be identified due to the on the dense vegetation. The presence of archaeology in Zone 5 is therefore uncertain.

Remaining Phase

4.2.13 The remaining phase areas are flat lands on both sides of Zone 2 bounded by the planned ancillary road and the Wo Mei Heung Min Road. According to Figure 12, The remaining phase area were used as open storages and temporary structures can be seen. The surface of these areas is covered with concrete. No archaeological material was identified.

Ancillary Road

4.2.14 The ancillary road is located to the north and east of Zone 1 and Zone 2. The covered area was previously used as open storage area (Figure 8 to Figure 12-12). The ancillary road is covered with concrete. No archaeological material was identified.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

5.1 Determining Archaeological Potential of a Site

- 5.1.1 The issue on assessing archaeological potential lies with the fact that, unlike built heritage, the assessment is based on prediction instead of known elements. Therefore, some prediction criteria are required to conduct a scientific assessment.
- 5.1.2 This Section takes main reference from Hardesty & Little (2009)⁵⁵, as well considering the local legislations, standards and guidelines on cultural heritage impact assessments, in order to draft some useful criteria for a comprehensive assessment on the archaeological potential of the Application Site.
- 5.1.3 It should also be noted that the assessment of potential is also related to the significance of the archaeology of a site in the past.

<u>Age</u>

- 5.1.4 According to the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53):
 - a. **Antiquities** "means a relic; and a place, building, site or structure erected, formed or built by human agency before the year 1800 and the ruins or remains of any such place, building, site or structure, whether or not the same has been modified, added to or restored after the year 1799."
 - b. **Relic** "means a movable object made, shaped, painted, carved, inscribed or otherwise created, manufactured, produced or modified by human agency before the year 1800, whether or not it has been modified, added to or restored after the year 1799; and fossil remains or impressions."
 - c. **Supposed antiquity** "means an object or site which may reasonably be supposed to be or to contain an antiquity."
- 5.1.5 The essence of this legislation to protect of archaeological remains is subjected to a date earlier than the year 1800. The definition is based on a quantitative age instead of qualitative significance of the relics.

Context and Survivability

- 5.1.6 There is no universal definition for archaeological significance, but perhaps Bickford & Sullivan (1984)⁵⁶ has coined the term quite clearly. "A site or resource is said to be scientifically significant when its further study may be expected to help answer questions. That is **scientific significance** is **defined as research potential**" (pp. 23-24, emphasis added). The backbone of any archaeological research potential, the information extracted from archaeological materials, would also has a dictating factor in research potentials.
- 5.1.7 The quality of information depends on if the archaeological materials discovered are in context, while the quantity depends on if they could survive in the environment after they were deposited. Both of which could greatly affect the information that could be extracted.

5.2 Criteria of Assessing of Archaeological Potential

5.2.1 The following criteria considered age, survivability and contexts in a quantifiable and qualifiable framework.

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⁵⁵ Hardest, Donald L. & Little, Barbara J. (2009). Assessing Site Significance (2nd Edition). US: AltaMira Press.

⁵⁶ Bickford, A. and Sullivan, S. (1984). 'Assessing the research potential of historic sites', in Sullivan, S. & Bowdler, S. (eds.) *Site surveys and significance assessment in Australian archaeology*, Department of Prehistory, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, Canberra: 19-26.

Age of past archaeological findings

5.2.2 Survivability of archaeological materials tends to decrease with the increasing age of a site. However, it does not mean that ancientness deteriorates the quality of archaeological findings for a site. The discovery of old materials would contain more significance than younger ones in general. Note also that the age in concerns is relative and should be placed in the context of Hong Kong. Middle Neolithic Period is old in Hong Kong, but it is not in the greater context of the Chinese cultural region.

Quantities of written accounts

5.2.3 The older the site, the lesser written accounts and other documents are known about. However, past historical and archaeological research would also arise should important research interest (such as important discoveries or significant historic events) have been drawn to the site. The less is known about a site, the more significance it is if archaeological findings are yielded.

Abundance of physical remains

- 5.2.4 The more frequent human activities in producing the deposit of archaeological remains (e.g. rubbish dumps, settlement features, any consistent land use of the past on a site), the more artefact could have survived in the archaeological records. Isolated findings, on the other hand, could still imply human presence in a particular period, but it also implied such presence could be an isolated event instead of a consistent one.
- 5.2.5 Moreover, the spatial distribution of the archaeological remains would also provide insight to the archaeological phenomena of the area and provide useful information for the assessment of archaeological potential.

Taphonomy of the site

5.2.6 In any archaeological study, understanding the processes of how the materials transformed into archaeological record is important as the taphonomic sequence could affect the explanation of the materials at hand. Moreover, the soil type and the elevation of the soil in which archaeological findings were discovered in previous findings would also provide information for the assessment of archaeological potential.

Uniqueness of the archaeological findings

5.2.7 The rarer the archaeological findings are, the more insightful they would be to the understanding of past human society. If the context of such findings is limited to a few sites only, then the site is more significant to the archaeology of the region. However, repetitive findings similar to other sites could also contribute to a larger picture of archaeology in a region.

5.3 Assessment of Archaeological Potential of the Application Site

- 5.3.1 The Application Site is situated on the small hill, which is comprise of colluvium. On the other hand, the rescue excavation in 1999 and 2000 is situated on alluvial flood plain.
- 5.3.2 Based on past archaeological survey results, two distinct landscape types with different archaeological findings have been identified in and around the Ho Chung SAI (refers to **Table 5.1**), namely:
 - a. Alluvial flood plain; and
 - b. Colluvial hillslopes (the Application Site)

Table 5.1 Comparison of archaeological findings in different landscape near the Application Site at Nam Pin Wai

| | Alluvial Flood Plain | Colluvial Hillslope |
|---------------|---|--|
| Age of past | Middle to Late Neolithic | Late Neolithic |
| findings | - stone tools, sand-gritted pottery | - cluster of stone tools |
| J. | Song dynasty | Song dynasty |
| | - Ceramics sherds | - Ceramics sherds |
| | Qing dynasty | Qing dynasty |
| | - Ceramics sherds | - Ceramics sherds |
| Quantities of | - Two rescue excavation and one | - One survey and one survey-cum- |
| written | survey cover the alluvial flood | excavation cover the colluvial |
| accounts | plain | hillslope |
| Abundance of | Late Neolithic | Late Neolithic |
| physical | - Polished stone tools (adzes, | - Broken Polished stone tools |
| remains | axes) | (adzes, pounders and whetstone, |
| | - Percussion stone tools (picks, | net weight) |
| | pounders, choppers, drills) | - Broken Percussion stone tools |
| | - Flake tools (pointers, scrapers | (anvils, picks) |
| | and retouched flakes) | - Flake tools (points) |
| | - Other Core tools (grinding tools, | - Debitage |
| | roughouts) | - Sand-gritted pottery sherds (neck |
| | - Ornaments (rings and slotted | of a cauldron-like vessel) |
| | rings) | |
| | - Debitage | |
| | - Sand gritted pottery sherds of | |
| | cauldrons, stands and gratings | |
| | Bronze Age | |
| | - Gray hard clay pottery sherd with | |
| | lozenge pattern | Tong Cong |
| | Tang-Song | Tang-Song |
| | - Ice-crackled glaze porcelain sherds (bowls) | - Ice-crackle glazed porcelain sherds (bowl) |
| | - Coarseware sherds (dishes, | - Dark grey pot sherd |
| | mortars, jars and urns) | - Dark brown glazed pot sherds |
| | Ming-Qing | Ming-Qing |
| | - Blue and white porcelain sherds | - Blue-and-white porcelain sherds |
| | (bowls, cups and vases) | (bowl) |
| | - Coarseware sherds (dishes, | - White porcelain sherds |
| | mortars jars and urns) | Writte perceiant offeras |
| | - Stone ridgings of paddy fields) | |
| Taphonomy of | Late Neolithic | Late Neolithic |
| the site | - Elevation: +4.1 to +5.0mPD | - Elevation: +10.0 to +15.0mPD |
| | - Deposit types: alluvial, primary | - Depth below ground surface: 1m |
| | deposit | - Deposit types: colluvial, |
| | | secondary deposit |
| | Tang-Song | Tang-Song |
| | - Elevation: +5.0 to +5.3mPD | - Elevation: +8.6 to +8.8mPD |
| | - Deposit types: alluvial, agricultural | - Depth below ground surface: |
| | soil (disturbed) | 0.2m |
| | | - Deposit types: colluvial, |
| | | agricultural soil (disturbed) |
| | Ming-Qing | Ming-Qing |
| | - Elevation: +5.4 to +5.8mPD | - Elevation: +8.7 to +8.8mPD |
| | - Deposit types: alluvial, agricultural | - Depth below ground surface: |
| | soil (disturbed) | 0.1m |

| | Alluvial Flood Plain | Colluvial Hillslope |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| | | - Deposit types: colluvial, agricultural soil (disturbed) |
| | Modern Period - Elevation: +6.0mPD - Topsoil of agricultural fields since the 1950s - Known historical settlements in Nam Pin Wai and Nam Wai since Qing period in further west and east of the excavated areas with archaeological findings - Excavation conducted before the construction of the roundabout and the residential complexes | Modern Period Topsoil of agricultural fields since the 1950s Known historical settlements in Nam Pin Wai and Nam Wai since Qing period in further west and east of the excavated areas with archaeological findings Excavation conducted after the construction of open storage at the hilltop |
| Uniqueness of | Late Neolithic | Late Neolithic |
| archaeological findings | Complete stone implements with a wide range of tool kits that can be interpreted to be stone tools manufacturing industry | - Broken tools and sand-gritted pottery sherds in secondary deposit |
| | Tang-Song Isolated ceramic sherds with undiagnostic feature in disturbed deposit | Tang-Song Isolated ceramic sherds with undiagnostic feature in disturbed deposit |
| | Ming-Qing Isolated ceramic sherds with undiagnostic feature in disturbed deposit | Ming-Qing Isolated ceramic sherds with undiagnostic feature in disturbed deposit |

- 5.3.3 Deposits on alluvial flood plain are *in situ*, where archaeological information can be extracted from undisturbed cultural layer with less biases by modern disturbance. Furthermore, the deposits contain artefacts that are more complete in form, more diverse in type with high quantity to provide insight to the archaeological phenomena (i.e., details of lithic industries and activity area). The context of such information can be interpreted through academic means to provide a holistic view about the past human society during the Late Neolithic period (as a site of lithics manufacturing).
- 5.3.4 On the other hand, deposits on colluvial hillslope were secondary deposits that were formed either by soil movement (in the stratum of the Late Neolithic period) or disturbance by modern agricultural activities (in the strata of Song/Qing dynasties). The disturbed nature limited the depth of the archaeological information that can be interpreted and/or extracted from them. Furthermore, findings from these deposits were mostly broken artefacts, in which the information is not sufficient to reconstruct the past human society.
- 5.3.5 In the light of the above, the archaeological potential at the colluvial hillslope of the Application Site is not as high as those areas from the alluvial flood plain (which is outside the Application Site).

5.4 Archaeological Potentials

Zone 1

5.4.1 The plot of Application Site to the south adjacent to the Wo Mei Hung Min Road (Zone 1) was part of the small hills that occupies most of the Application Site. Apparently, after the construction of the New Hiram's Highway, the original landscape has been cut flat due to construction needs, and some temporary structures have since then occupied this plot of land.

Therefore, it would have major disturbance to the original soil, rendering the archaeology nil. Hence, the area contains no archaeological potential.

Zone 2

5.4.2 Excavation has been conducted to the north of Zone 2 during the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation with two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four auger holes (AH13 to AH16) in Zone C⁵⁷ (Figure 18 refers). While it was believed that artefacts found in that investigation were transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop, the survey results from the test pits did not yield any archaeological materials. As there are only modern and sterile layers, and no artefacts or cultural layers were found in the test pits and auger holes, the survey report concluded that there is no archaeological potential as the area has been flattened by previous open storage construction. The remaining part of Zone 2 contains similar landscape and has no archaeological potential due to disturbance by open storage construction (Figure 9 refers).

Zone 3

- 5.4.3 Zone 3 is located immediately north to the archaeological investigation in Zone C of SKNPW2015⁵⁸ (**Figure 18**refers). SKNPW2015 excavations of two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four augur holes (AH13 to AH16) were conducted at the Ancillary Road nearby that yielded no archaeological remains. The stratigraphy of the concerned test pits and auger holes revealed that sterile regolith soil lies immediately beneath topsoil, with no layers that contained archaeological deposits in between. The field scanning study of that survey also yield no archaeological remains. Furthermore, the earlier SKNPW2006 survey conducted also four auger holes (AH20, AH24, AH25 and AH30) and one test pit (TP3) also revealed similar stratigraphy as SKNPW2015 (sections 3.3.19 and 3.3.25 refer).
- 5.4.4 Both survey suggest that the hilltop areas has been disturbed. Archaeological materials would be unlikely to remain *in situ*. It is therefore believed that the open storage construction happened on the hilltop in 1993 as seen on the aerial photo (**Figure 9** refers) have already removed any soil layers that might have contained archaeological deposit. Furthermore, the eastern side of Zone 3 is a steep slope (over 30° gradient) and is unlikely to retain any archaeological deposit due to soil movement. Hence, Zone 3 is expected to have low archaeological potential.
- 5.4.5 However, it has been suggested in the SKNPW2015 survey that the artefacts discovered on the hill slope was transported from the hilltop due to natural soil movement. Moreover, most of Zone 3 are currently located within the Ho Chung site of archaeological interest. The possibility in identifying archaeological finds should not be neglected.

Zone 4

5.4.6 It is noted from field scanning that the archaeological potential of areas to the north of Zone C of the SKNPW2015 (Zones 4 and 5 within the Application Site) might only not be partly disturbed by the open storage development. In the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation⁵⁹, artefacts were discovered at the foot of the hill. It was believed that those artefacts found in the investigation were transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop. Hence, the *in situ* remains were secondary deposit from the hilltop. The archaeological potential in Zone 4 might be diminished due to possible soil movement probably landslide. Furthermore, the site formation seen on the aerial photo in 1993 (Figure 9) suggested that the eastern side of Zone 4 has been disturbed.

⁵⁷ Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2016). Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development – Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report. Hong Kong: AECOM.
⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2016). Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development – Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report. AECOM.

5.4.7 While it would be prudent to suggested that the archaeological potential, if any, would remain in the western side of the Zone 4 (**Figure 17** demarcated the *Disturbed Area within the Application Site* observed on the aerial photo in 1993), the eastern side falls also within the Ho Chung SAI and is on lower slopes, which might still have some archaeological materials (even though secondary) in nature. Thus, the whole of Zone 4 would have some archaeological potential.

Zone 5

5.4.8 Zone 5 might not be disturbed by the open storage development. However, based on the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation⁶⁰, artefacts were discovered at the foot of the hill as secondary deposit. It was believed that those artefacts found in the investigation were transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop. HC1999 archaeological excavation suggests that relatively significant findings were located at alluvium plains with lower elevation. Hence, the archaeological potential in Zone 5 might have archaeological potential.

Remaining Phase

5.4.9 The remaining phase areas have been disturbed when the areas were flattened during the construction of the open storage area. These areas are expected to have no archaeological potential.

Ancillary Road

5.4.10 The ancillary road area is within Zone C of SKNPW2015⁶¹ (**Figure 18**refers). Excavations of two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four augur holes (AH13 to AH16) were conducted and yielded no archaeological remains. It is believed that the ancillary road area has been disturbed when the area was flattened during the construction of the open storage area and the laying of concrete pavement. Hence, the ancillary road area has no archaeological potential.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Ibid.

6 RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Archaeological Works

- 6.1.1 According to **Section 5.4**, Zones 1 and 2, the Remaining Phase and Ancillary Road Works were concluded to have no archaeological potential. Zone 3 contains low archaeological potential due to modern disturbance on the hilltop as concluded in the SKNPW2015, as well as the ground disturbance due to the construction of the open storage space seen in the aerial photo of 1993 (**Figure 9** refers) at Zone 3. However, it has been suggested in the SKNPW2015 survey that the artefacts discovered on the hill slope was transported from the hilltop due to natural soil movement. Moreover, most of Zone 3 are currently located within the Ho Chung SAI. The possibility in identifying archaeological finds should not be neglected. Furthermore, Zone 4 was majorly concluded to have diminished archaeological potential due to possible soil movement, while the archaeological potential in Zone 5 may remain undisturbed.
- 6.1.2 In order to protect the archaeology within the Application Site, with consideration to the Application Site lies within the Ho Chung SAI, recommendation as as follows:
 - 1. An archaeological survey should be conducted before the commencement of any construction works within Zone 3 of the Application Site to confirm the low archaeological potential.
 - 2. An archaeological survey-cum-excavation should be conducted before the commencement of any construction works within Zones 4 and 5 of the Application Site to preserve the archaeological resources by, including but not limited to, in situ preservation or by record (such as rescue excavation).

6.1.3 Archaeological survey at Zone 3 should aim to achieve the followings:

- 1. To compare the stratigraphic information obtained from the survey compared with previous archaeological surveys and relate how such information could enhance the understanding of the archaeology of the Application Site and Ho Chung SAI. In particular, to verify both the extend of the modern destruction within Zone 3, thus confirming low/no archaeological potential at Zone 3.
- 2. To recommend mitigation measures should adverse impacts arises.
- 3. To conduct the mitigation measures recommended by the archaeological survey, wit agreement with AMO.
- 6.1.4 The archaeological survey-cum-excavation at Zones 4 and 5 should aim to achieve the followings:
 - 1. To compare the stratigraphic information obtained from the survey compared with previous archaeological surveys and relate how such information could enhance the understanding of the archaeology of the Application Site and the Ho Chung SAI. In particular, to confirm no (or lack of) archaeological potential at Zones 4 and 5;
 - 2. Particular focus of the archaeological survey-cum-excavation should be given to the *Area Archaeologically Unsurveyed within the Application Site* as (**Figure 17** refers).
 - 3. To verify if the archaeological materials discovered from such survey (if any) contain contextual information for the interpretation of past human societies;
 - 4. To assess the impacts of the Proposed Residential Development to the archaeology within the Application Site; and
 - 5. To recommend mitigation measures should adverse impacts arises.
 - To conduct the mitigation measures recommended by the archaeological survey, with agreement with AMO
- 6.1.5 Project proponent should engage a qualified archaeologist to obtain the *Licence to Excavate* and Search for Antiquities from the Antiquities Authority to carry out this archaeological survey-

cum-excavation, during which process an Archaeological Action Plan should be prepared to outline the scope and methodology of the archaeological survey-cum-excavation.

6.1.6 This archaeological survey-cum excavation involves two parts: (a) archaeological survey), and (b) archaeological excavation. The archaeological survey should feed adequate information for items (1) to (3) mentioned in **Section 6.1.2** and presented in an interim report in due course. The archaeological excavation will be part of the mitigation measure (item (4) in **Section 6.1.2**). It should be proposed by the qualified archaeologist if the Proposed Residential Development has impact on the archaeology of the site.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1.1 The Project Proponent is preparing to the Town Planning Board a Planning Application under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung (Figure 1). AECOM is employed to carry out this Archaeological Review Consultancy to review potential impacts on archaeological resources within the Application Site and recommend mitigation measures if adverse impact arises.
- 7.1.2 Field evaluation in the form of surface scanning was undertaken by AECOM's in-house archaeological team in the Application Site. The aim of field evaluation was to ascertain if the Application Site has any archaeological potential. Scanning of the ground surface for archaeological material has been conducted with the aid of aerial photos and maps. Topography, surface conditions and existing site conditions are also noted during the field scanning. For the ease of discussion, the Application Site is subdivided into Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Remaining Phase and Ancillary Road as shown on Figure 17.
- 7.1.3 The plot of Application Site to the south adjacent to the Wo Mei Hung Min Road (Zone 1) was part of the small hills that occupies most of the Application Site. Apparently, after the construction of the New Hiram's Highway, the original landscape has been cut flat due to construction needs, and some temporary structures have since then occupied this plot of land. Therefore, it would have major disturbance to the original soil, rendering the archaeology nil. Hence, the area contains no archaeological potential.
- 7.1.4 Part of Zone 2 has been excavated during the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation with two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four auger holes (AH13 to AH16) in Zone C⁶². While it was believed that artefacts found in that investigation were transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop, the survey results from test pits in Zone 2 has not yield any archaeological materials. As no artefacts or cultural layers were found in the test pits and auger holes, the report concluded that there is no archaeological potential as the area has been flattened by previous open storage construction. The remaining part of Zone 2 contains similar landscape and has no archaeological potential due to disturbance by open storage construction.
- 7.1.5 Zone 3 is located immediately north to the archaeological investigation in Zone C of SKNPW2015. It has been site formed in 1993. Excavations of two test pits (TP7 and TP8) and four augur holes (AH13 to AH16) were conducted. The excavations yielded no archaeological remains. The field scanning study of the survey also yield no archaeological remains. However, it has been suggested in the SKNPW2015 survey that the artefacts discovered on the hill slope was transported from the hilltop due to natural soil movement. Moreover, most of Zone 3 are currently located within the Ho Chung SAI. The possibility in identifying archaeological finds should not be neglected.
- 7.1.6 It is noted from field scanning that the areas to the north of Zone C (Zones 4 and 5 within the Application Site) might not be disturbed by the open storage development. In the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation, artefacts were discovered at the foot of the hill as secondary deposit. It was believed that those artefacts found in the investigation were transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop. Hence, the archaeological potential in Zone 4 might be diminished due to possible soil movement.
- 7.1.7 Zone 5 might not be disturbed by the open storage development. However, based on the SKNPW2015 archaeological investigation, artefacts were discovered at the foot of the hill as secondary deposit. It was believed that those artefacts found in the investigation were

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⁶² Billion Vantage Investment Limited. (2016). Sai Kung Nam Pin Wai Development – Archaeological Consultancy: Archaeological Investigations and Survey-cum-Excavation Report. AECOM.

transported by natural soil movement from the hilltop. Hence, the archaeological potential in Zone 5 might exist.

- 7.1.8 The remaining phase and ancillary road areas were likely to have been flattened and laid with concrete during the construction of open storage. No archaeological findings were yielded during the field scanning. Furthermore, archaeological investigation in SKNPW2015 yielded no archaeological remains within the ancillary road area. Hence, both remaining phase and ancillary road areas are expected to have no archaeological potential due to the disturbance by open storage construction.
- 7.1.9 In order to ascertain the archaeological significance of the Application Site, it is recommended that an archaeological survey at Zone 3 and an archaeological survey-cum-excavation at Zones 4 and 5 should be conducted before the commencement of any construction works within the Application Site that lies within Ho Chung Site of Archaeological Interest for this Proposed Residential Development at Nam Pin Wai Sai Kung (Green Belt Area).

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8.2 Glossary

Guangxi

Anthropology Department of Sun Yat-sen University 中山大學人類學系

Anti-Manchu 反清
Arrowhead 鏃
Axe 斧
Bao'an 實安
Basin 盆

Bifacial axe 雙扁斧 Blank 毛胚

Blue-and-white porcelain 青花瓷 Bolou 博羅 Brown glaze 醬釉

Cauldron釜Celadon porcelain青瓷Chopper and chopping tool砍砸器

Cloth-impressed tile 布紋瓦
Coarse porcelain 粗瓷
Coastal Evacuation Order 遷界令

Debitage 石廢片
Dongguan 東莞
Eastern Jin 東晉
Ganzhou 甘州

Governor-General of Guangdong and Guangxi 兩廣總督
Governor of Guangdong 廣東巡撫
Grating 爐箄
Grinder 粗磨石
Grinding tool 磨貝
Guangdong 廣東

廣西

Hakka客家Han dynasty漢朝Hanshu漢書

Hiram's Highway 西貢公路

Ho Chung 蠔涌

Hunan Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology 湖南省文物考古所

Ice-crackled冰裂紋Japanese Occupation日佔時期

Jar 罐 Jiangxi 江西

Kap Pin Long甲邊朗Lai黎Lau劉

Liee 李

Lingnan嶺南Lozenge pattern菱格紋Marina Cove匡湖居Flake Tools石片石器

Ming dynasty明朝Mortar擂鉢Nam Pin Wai南邊圍Nam Wai南圍

New Hiram's Highway 新西貢公路

Percussion stone tool 打製石器

Pick啄Plate盤Plow犁頭Pointer尖狀器Polished stone tool磨製石器

Pot 壺
Pounder 錘
Qin dynasty 秦朝
Qing dynasty 清朝
Qingbai porcelain 青白瓷
Retouched flake 看加工石片

Sai Kung西貢Scraper刮削器Sha Kok Mei沙角尾

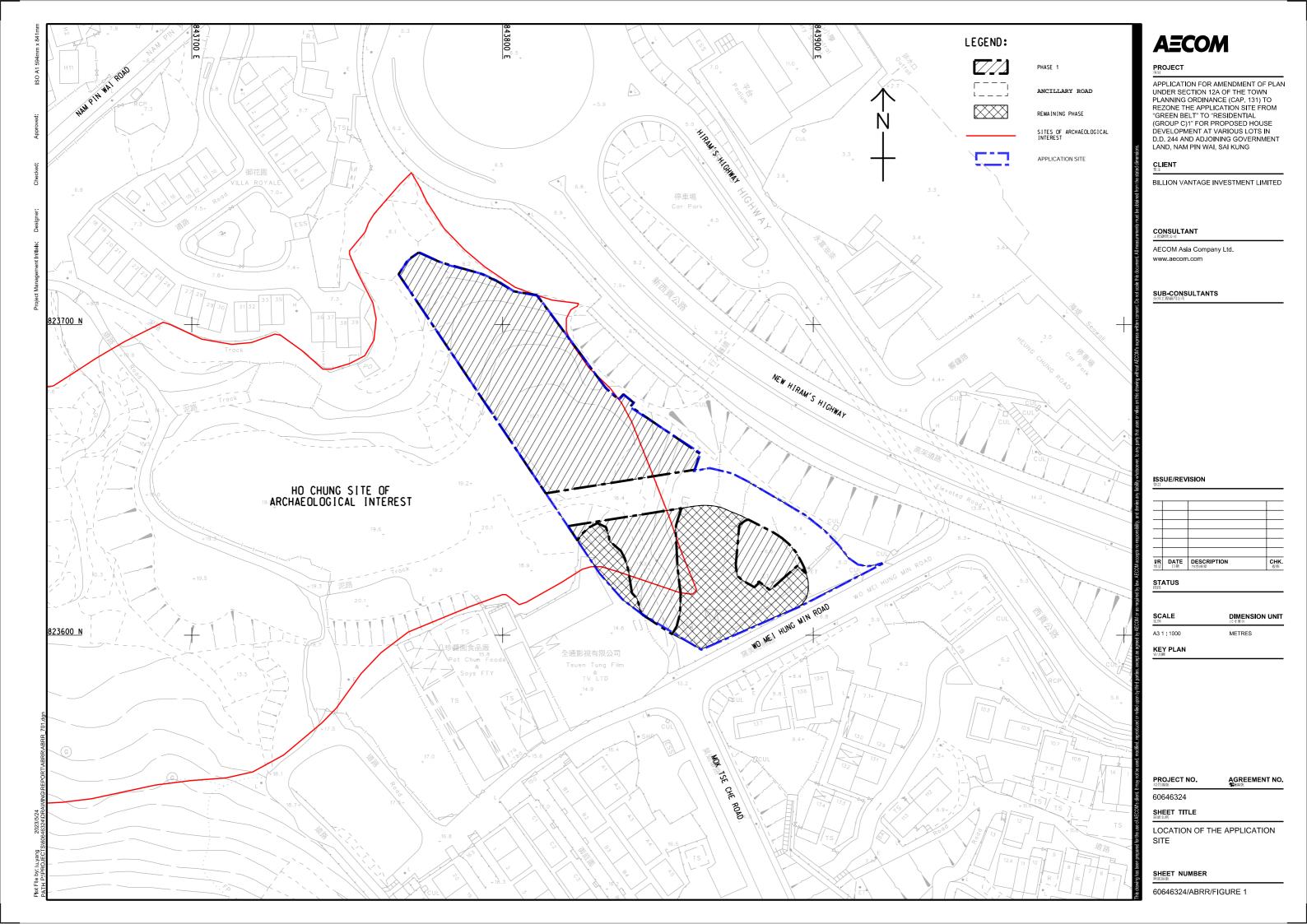
Shanxi 山西 Shiji 史記 Song dynasty 宋朝 Stone core 石核 Stone drill 石鑽 Stone ridge 石圍埂 Taiyuan 太原 Tanka 疍家 Tin Hau 天后 Tse 謝 Urn 缸 Vase 瓶 Wan 溫 Wang Lairen 王來任 Wo Mei 窩尾 Wong 黃 Xinan Gazetteer 新安縣誌 Yuan dynasty 元朝 Zhou Youde 周有德

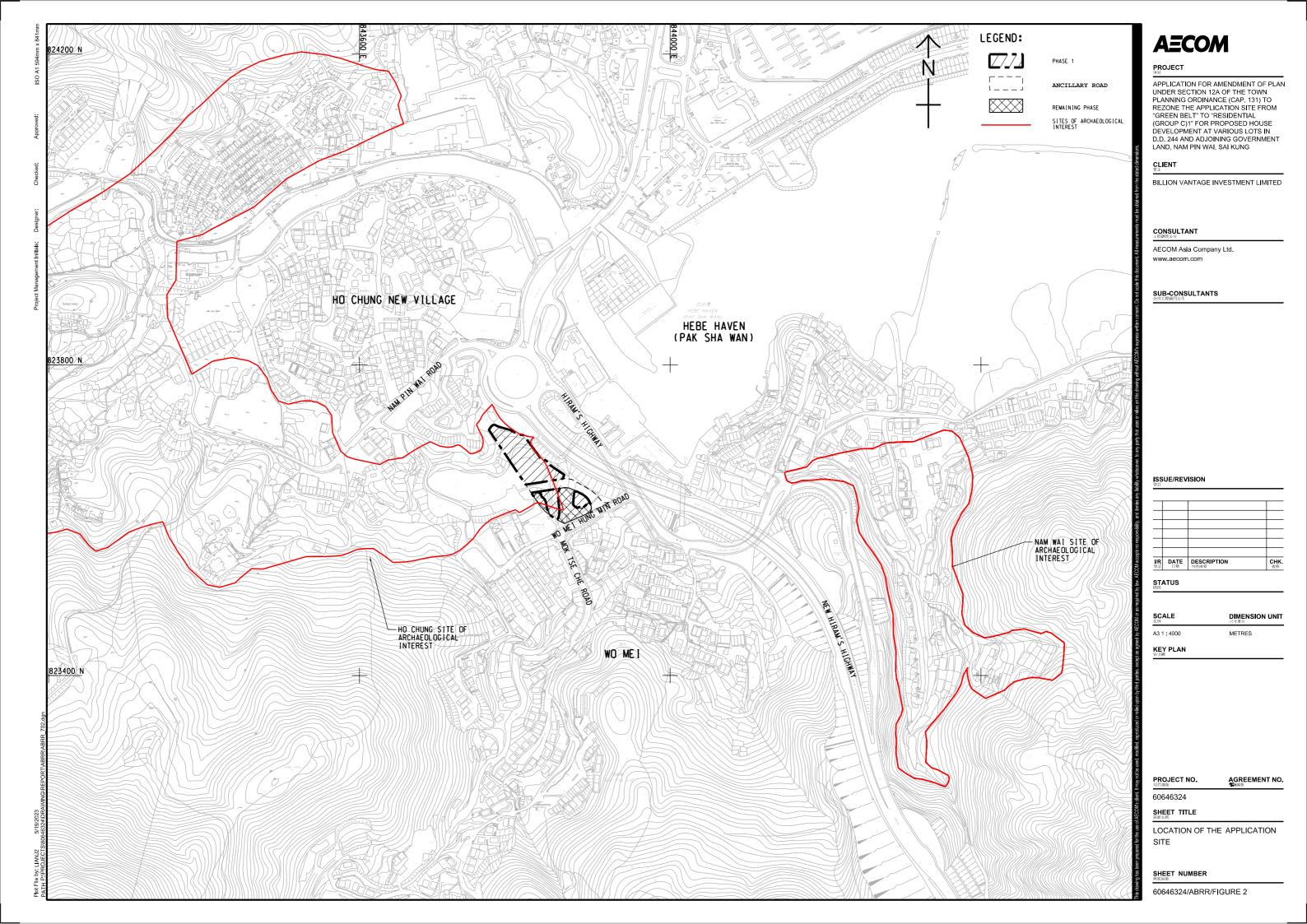
APPENDIX A

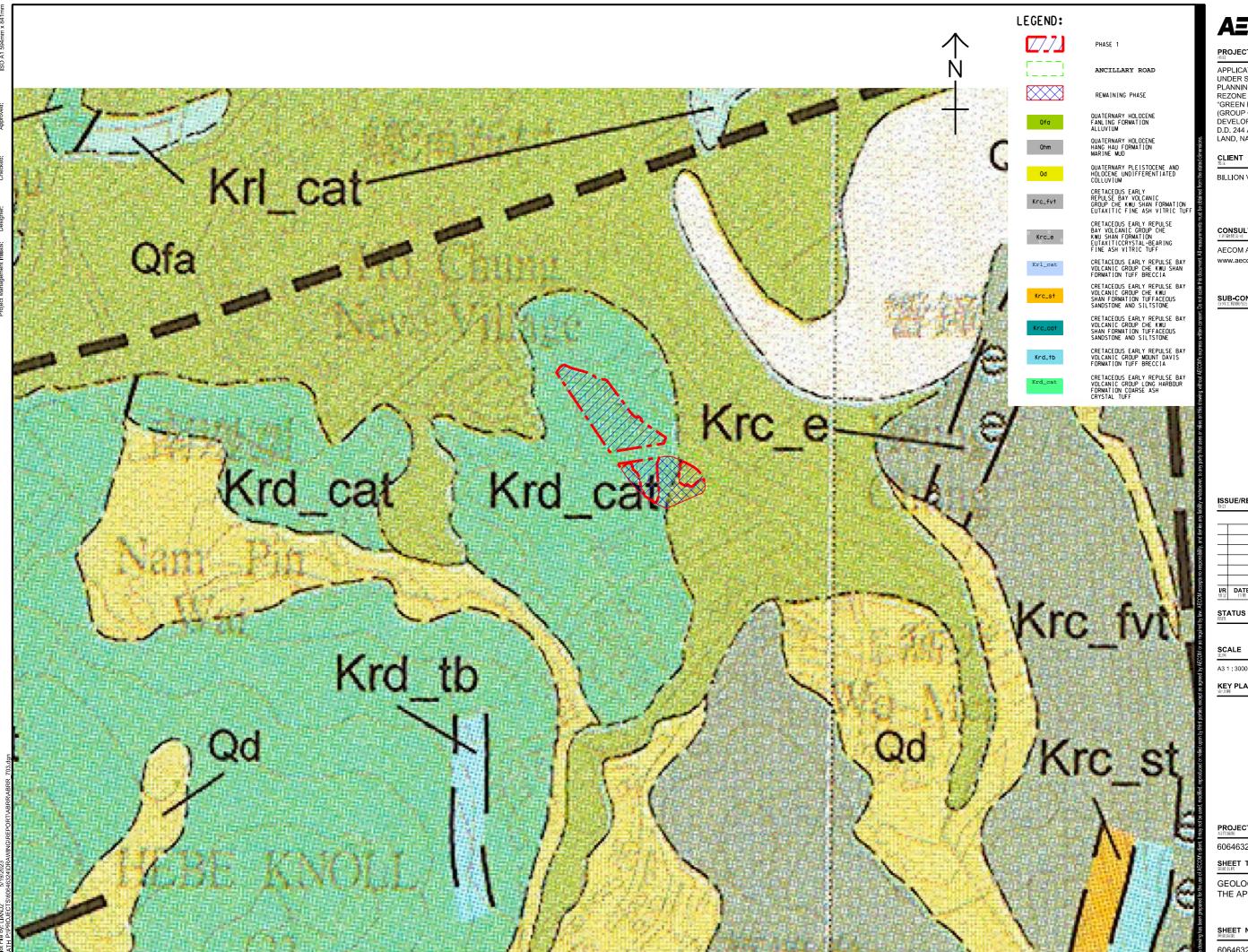
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PROJECT

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF PLAN UNDER SECTION 12A OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 131) TO REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, NAM PIN WAI, SAI KUNG

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CONSULTANT

AECOM Asia Company Ltd.

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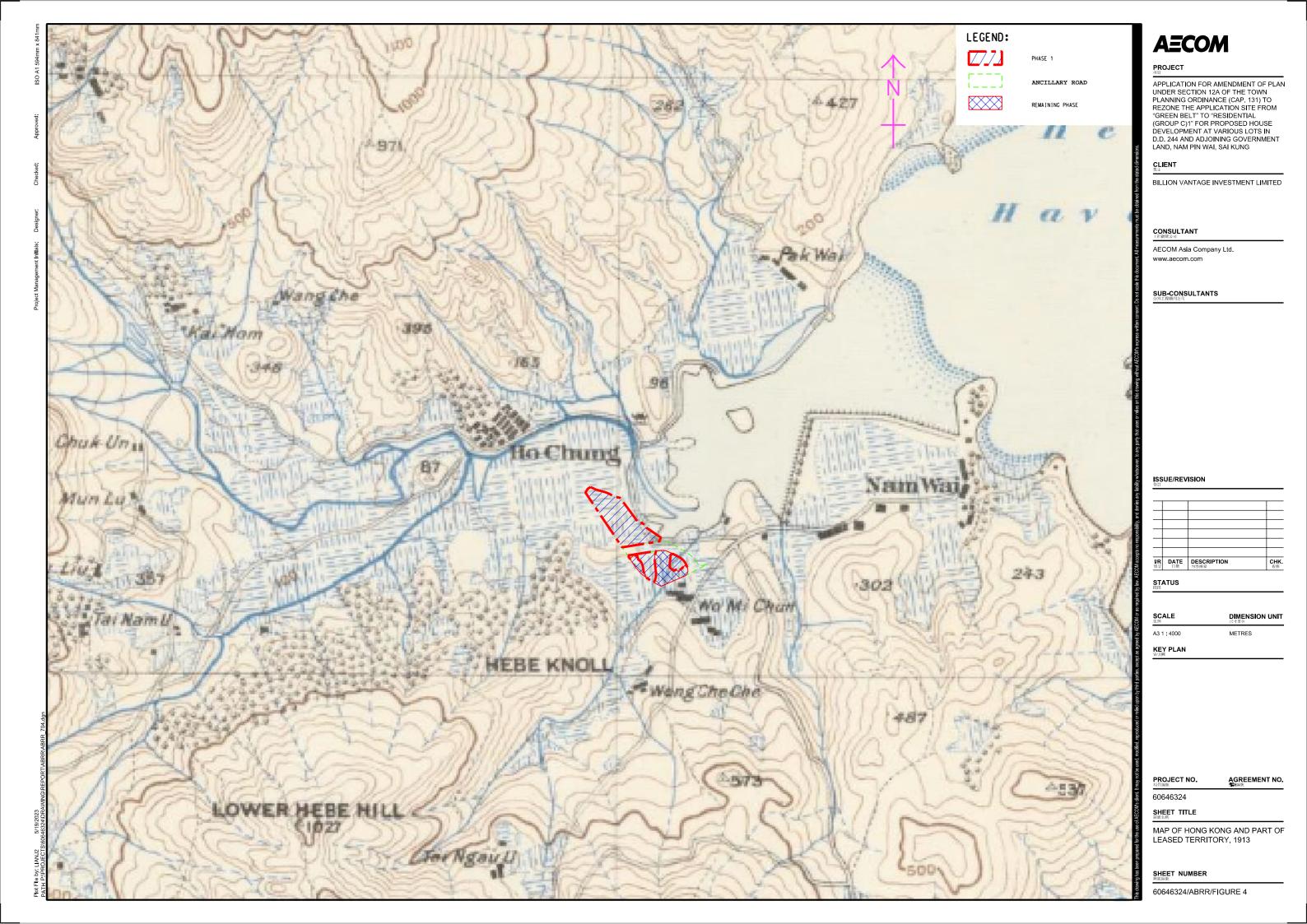
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SHEET TITLE

GEOLOGICAL DEPOSIT OF THE APPLICATION SITE

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PHASE 1

ANCILLARY ROAD

REMAINING PHASE

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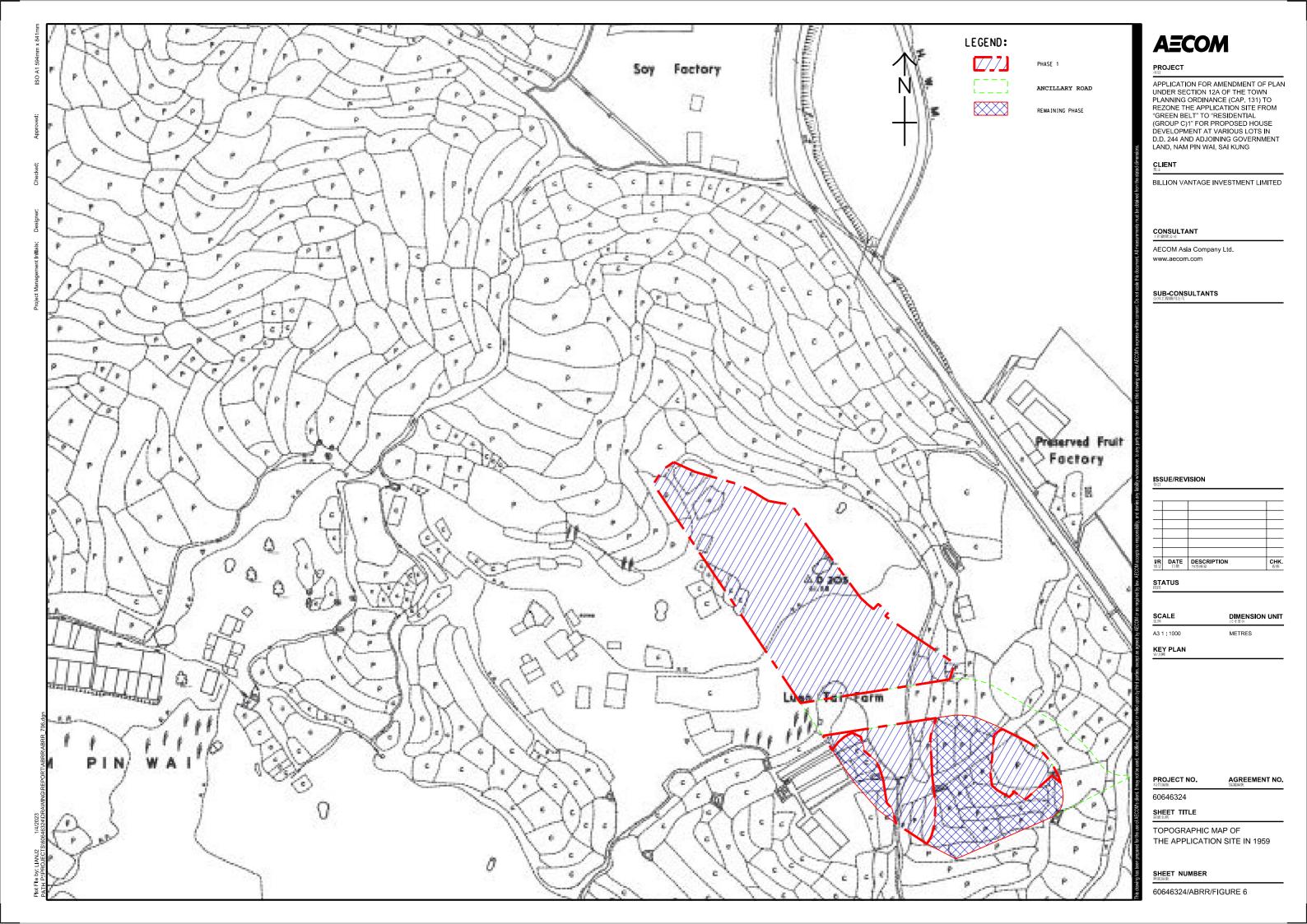
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AERIAL PHOTO OF THE APPLICATION SITE IN 1956

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PROJECT

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF PLAN UNDER SECTION 12A OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 131) TO REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, NAM PIN WAI, SAI KUNG

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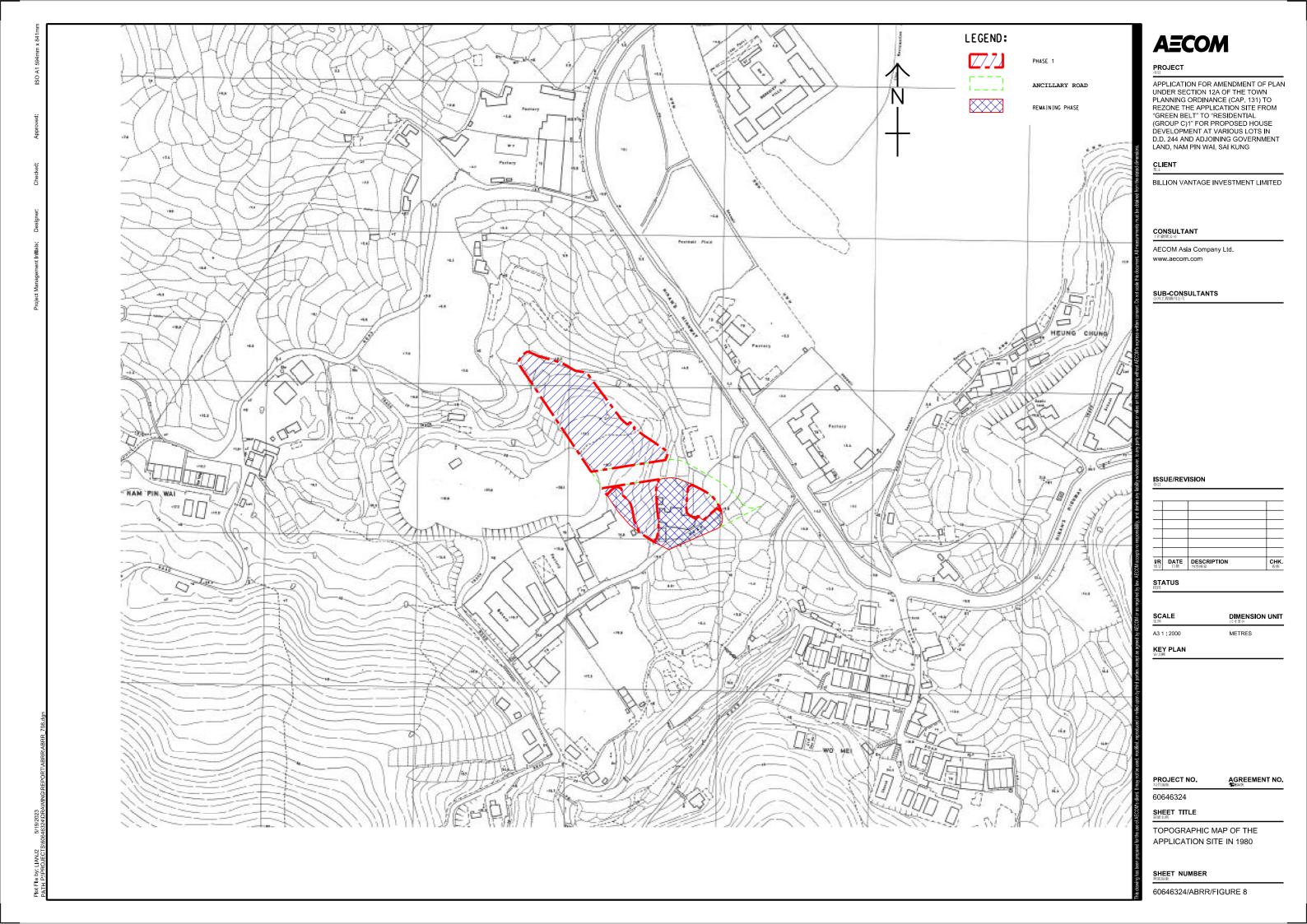
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SHEET TITLE

AERIAL PHOTO OF THE APPLICATION SITE IN 1963

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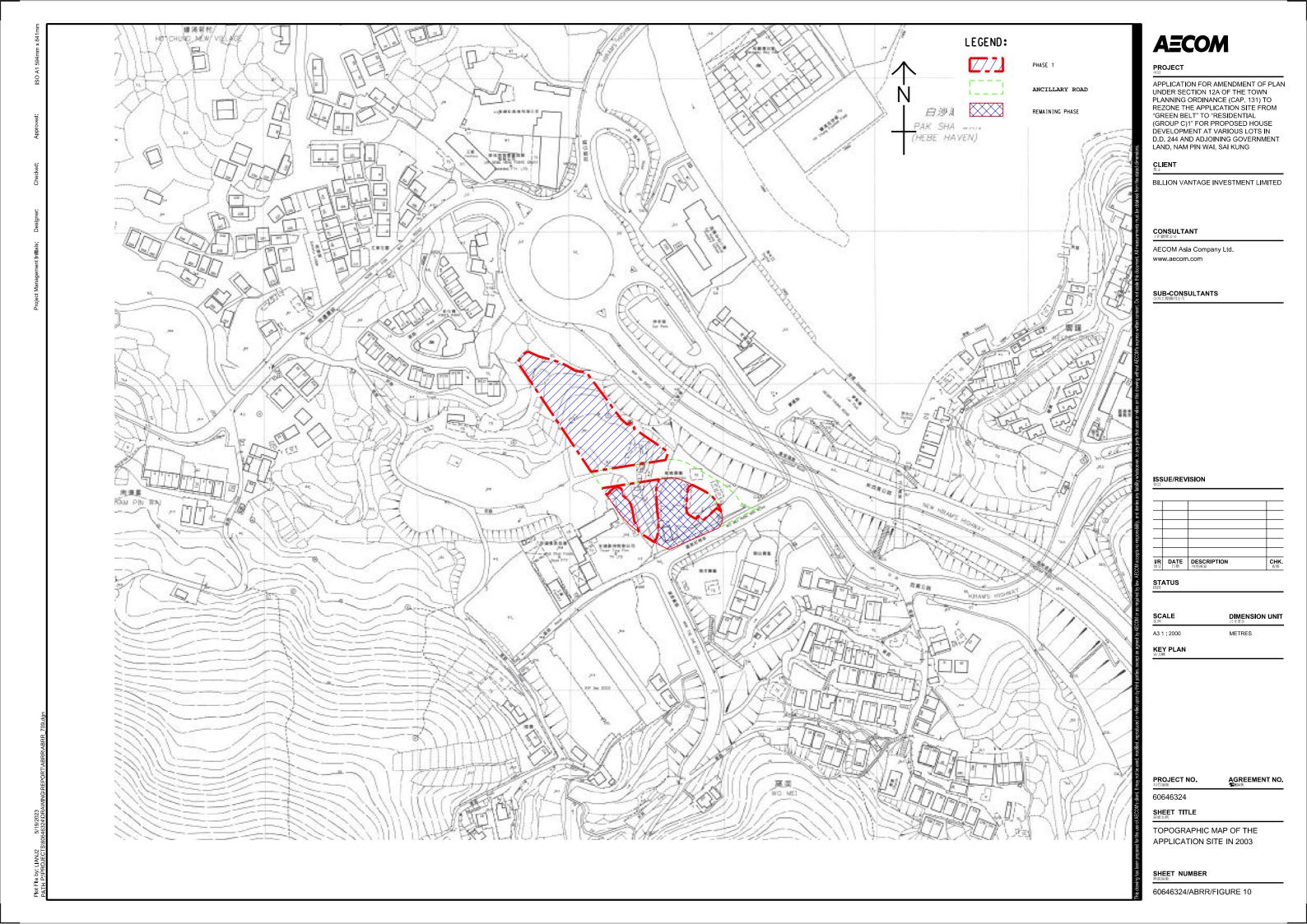
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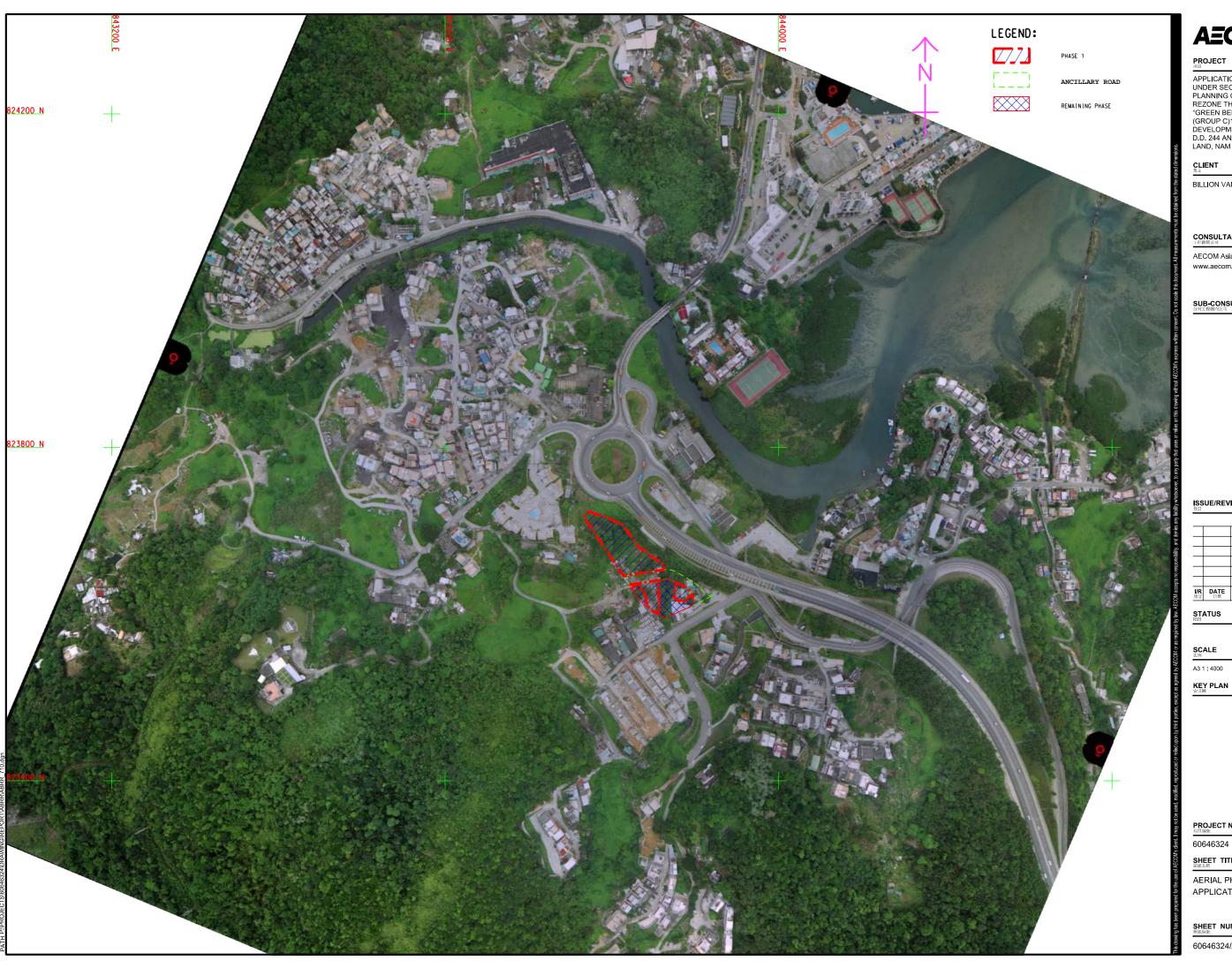
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APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF PLAN UNDER SECTION 12A OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 131) TO REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, NAM PIN WAI, SAI KUNG

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AERIAL PHOTO OF THE APPLICATION SITE IN 2005

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APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF PLAN UNDER SECTION 12A OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 131) TO REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, NAM PIN WAI, SAI KUNG

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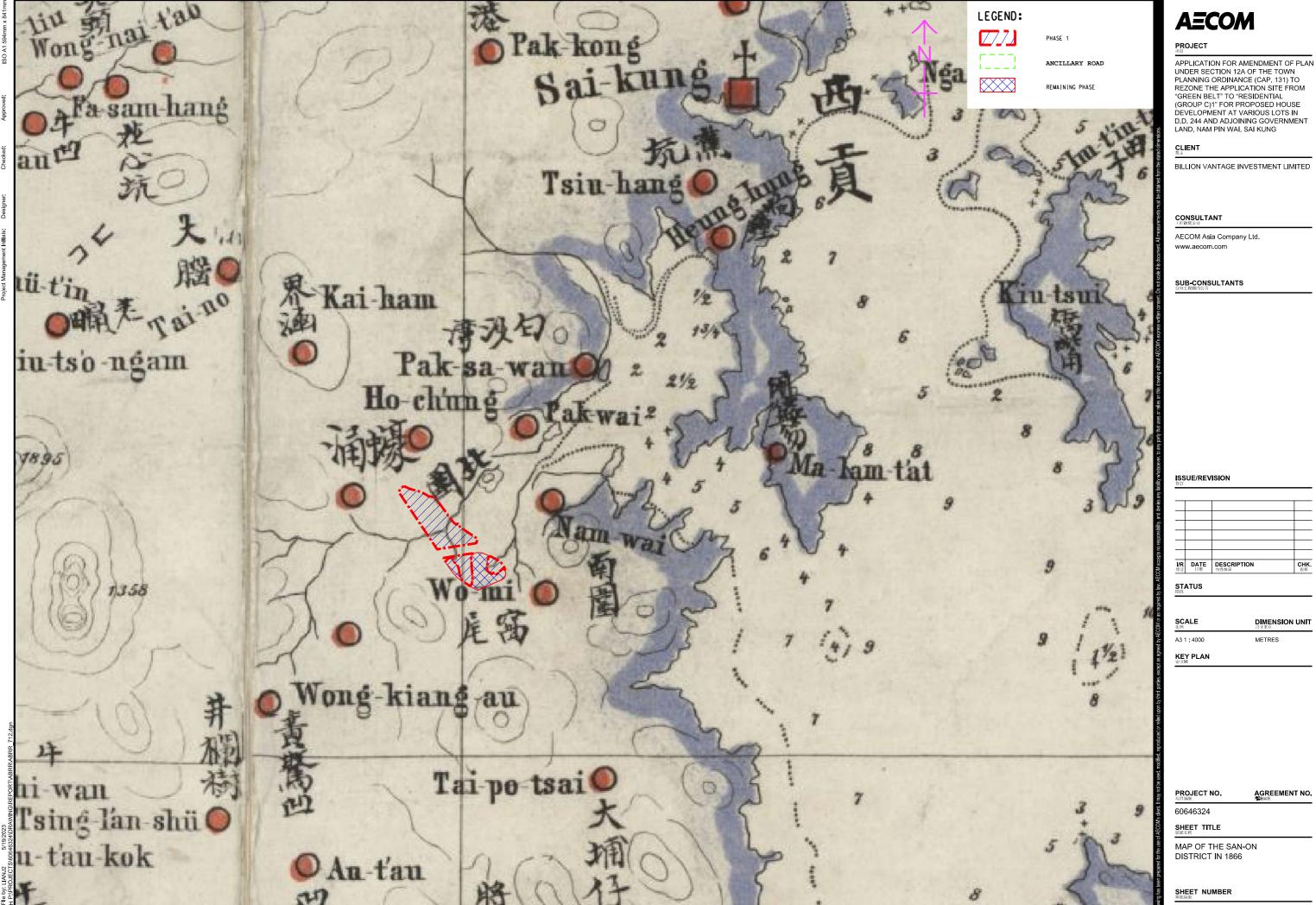
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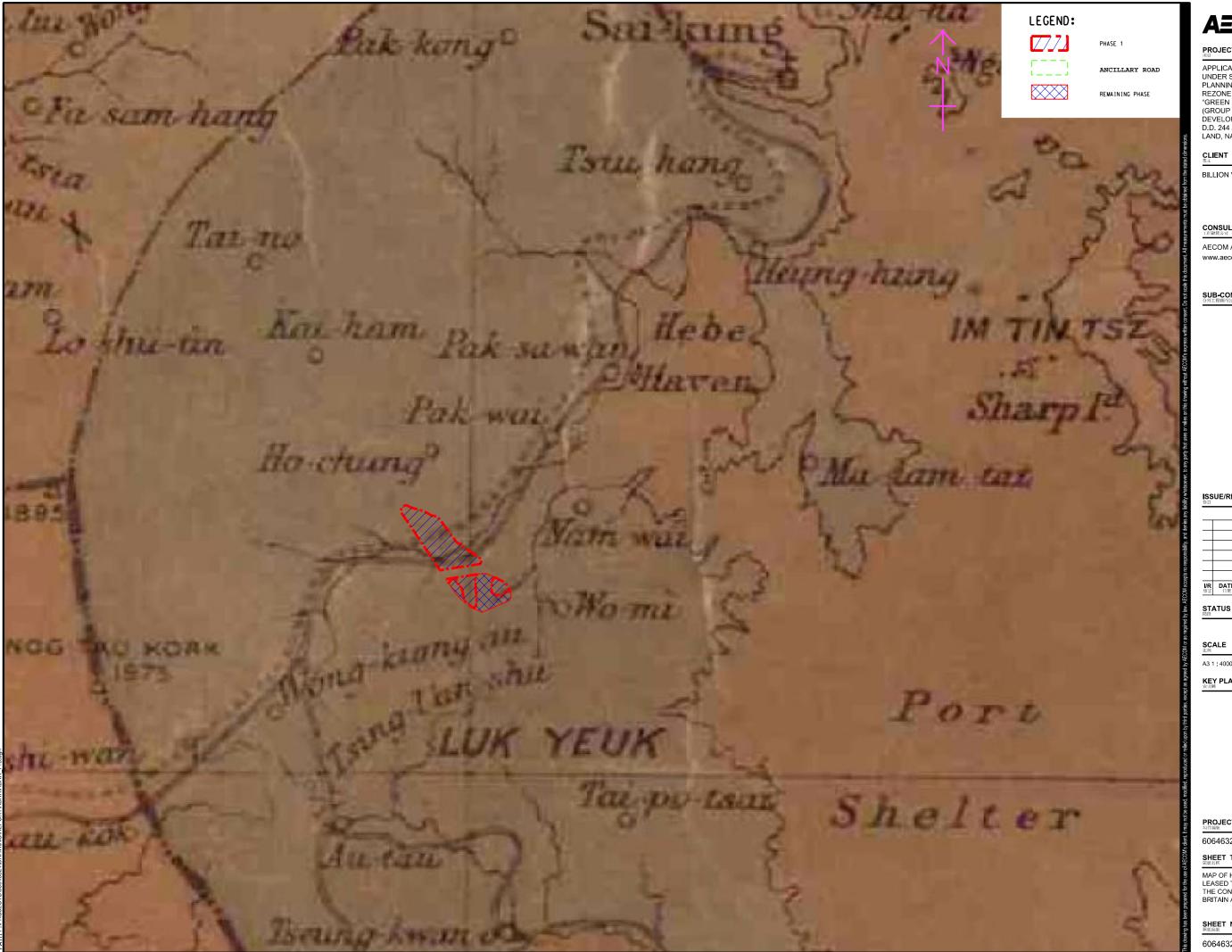
AERIAL PHOTO OF THE APPLICATION SITE IN 2016

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REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT

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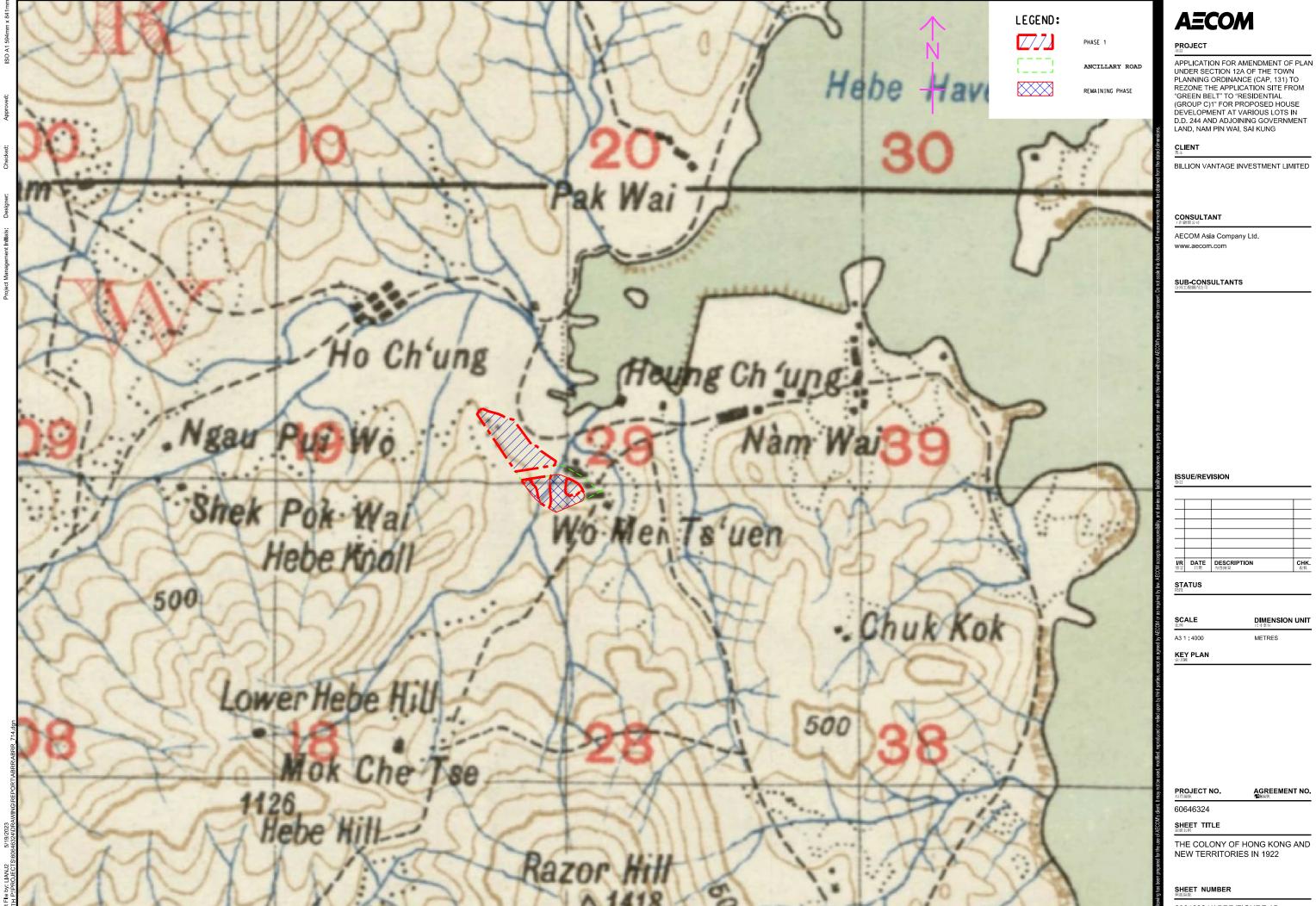
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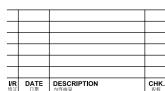
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MAP OF HONG KONG AND THE TERRITORY LEASED TO GREAT BRITAIN UNDER THE CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA SIGNED AT BEIJING, 1898

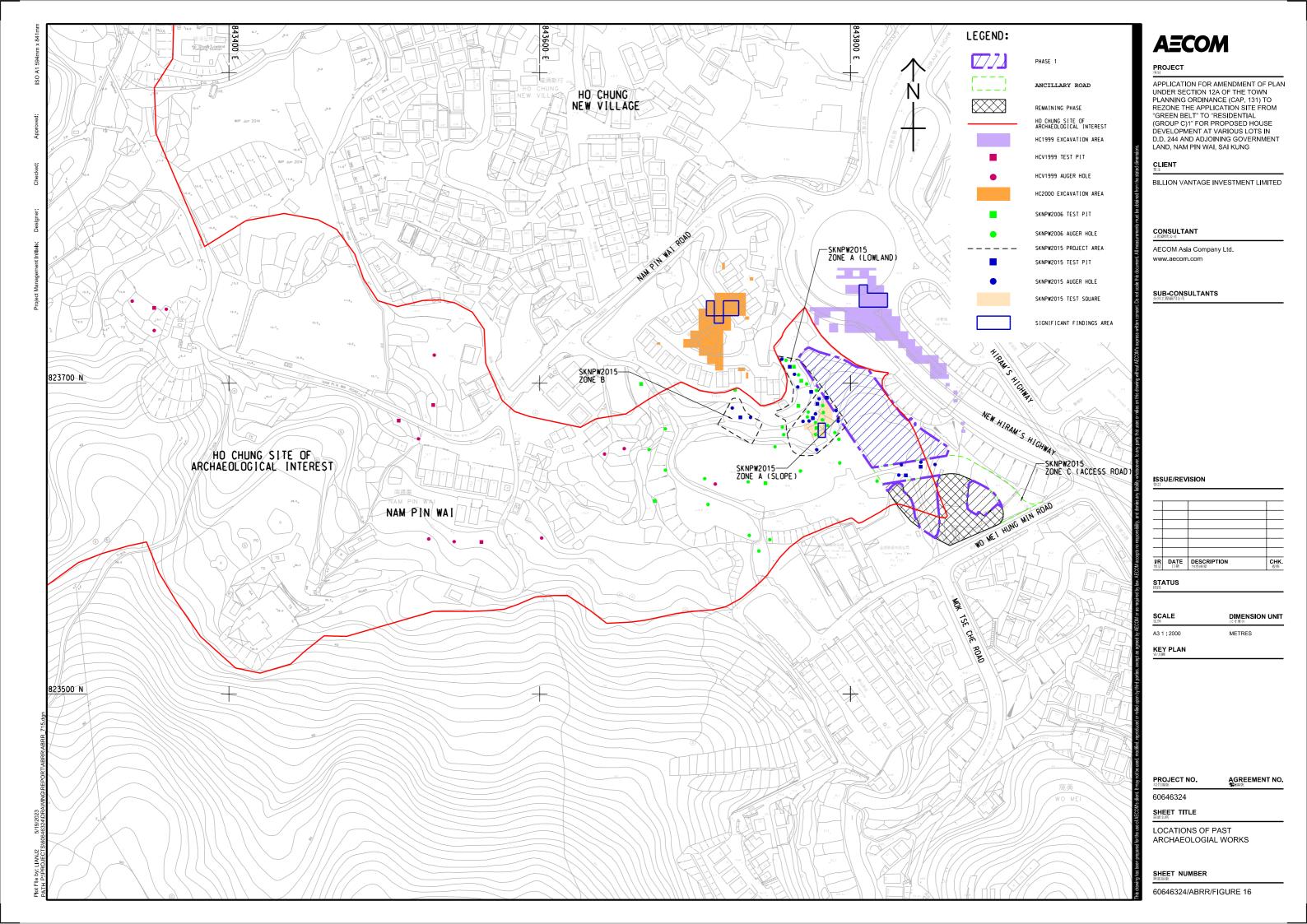
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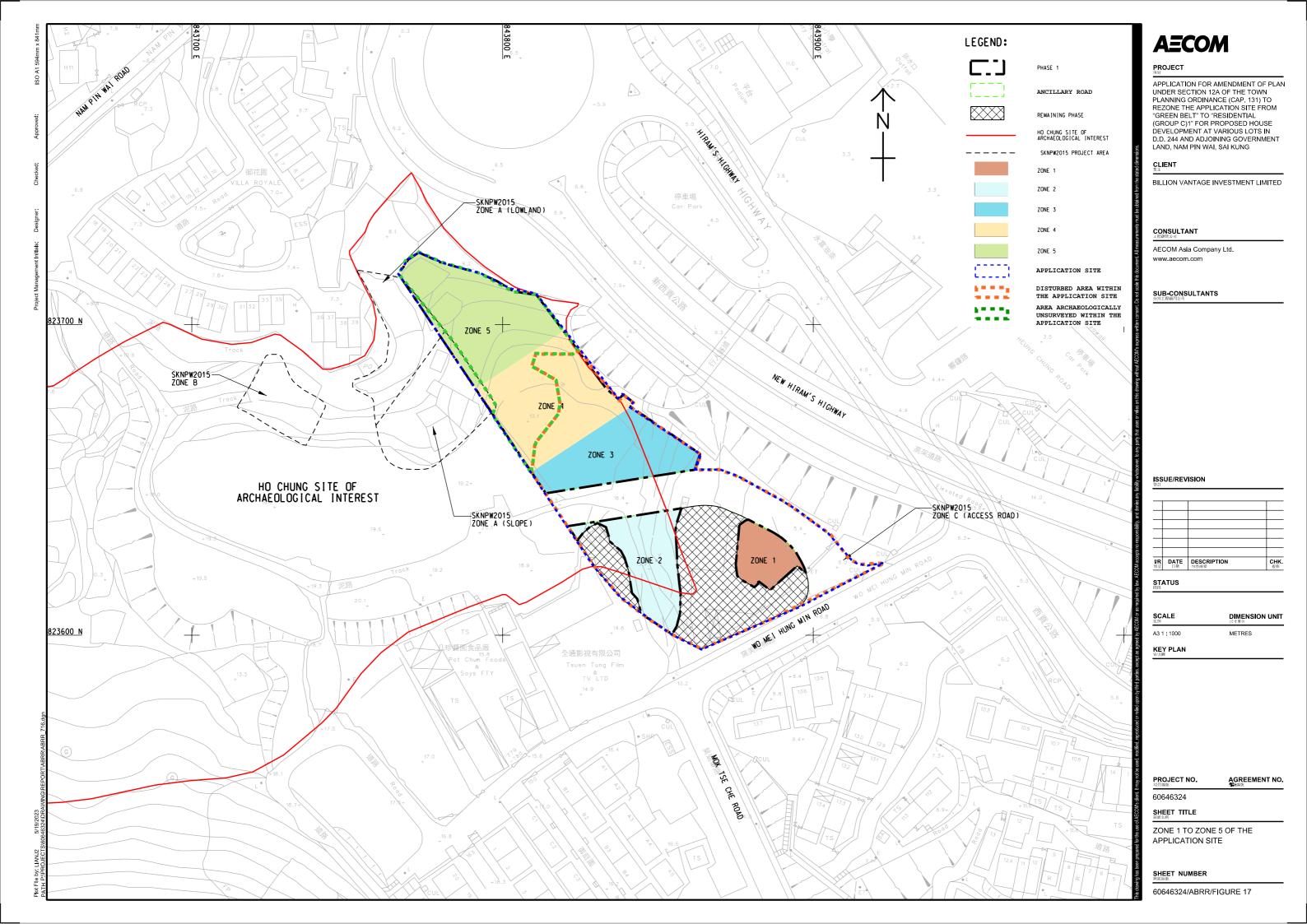


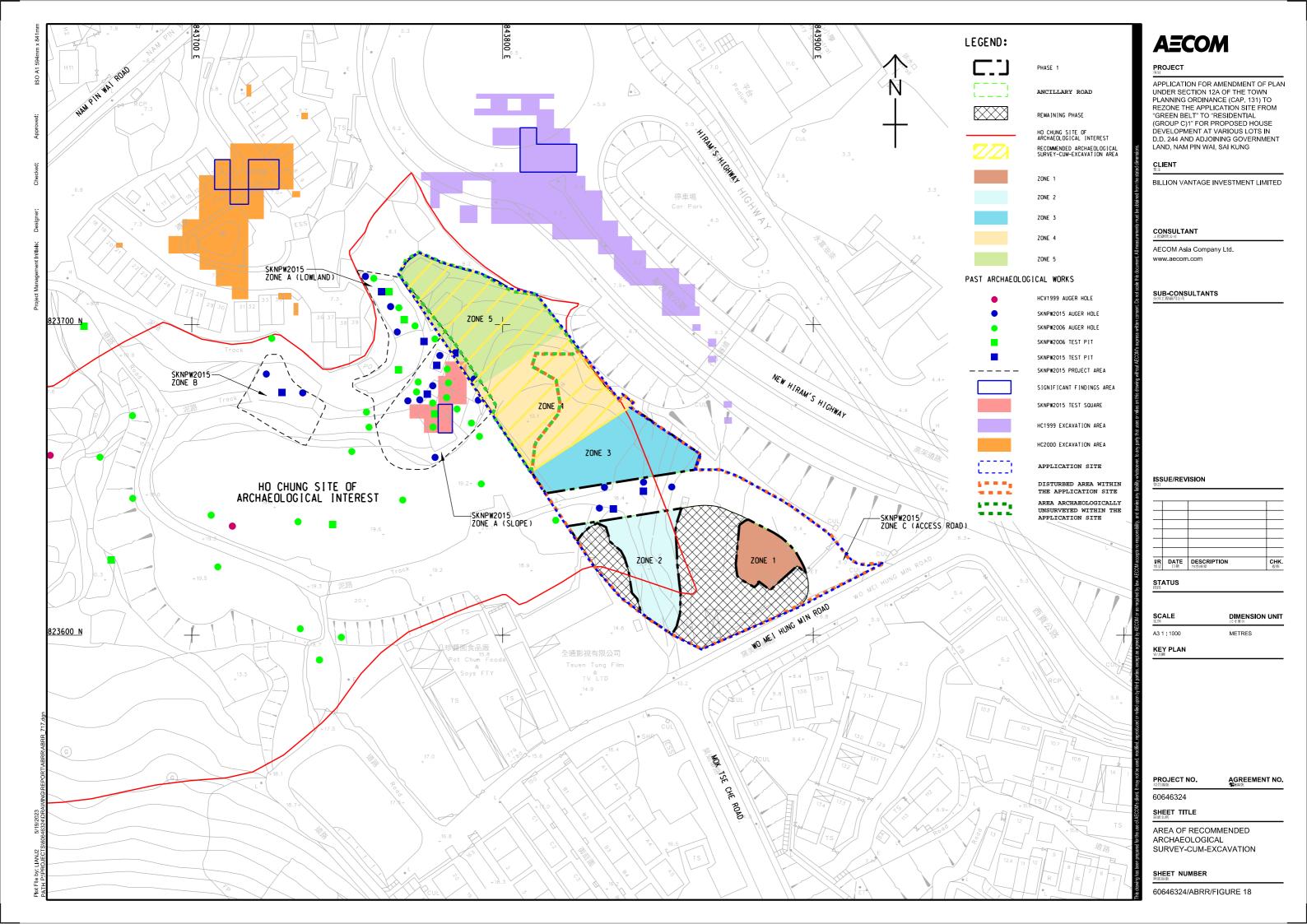
REZONE THE APPLICATION SITE FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "RESIDENTIAL GROUP C)1" FOR PROPOSED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT AT VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 244 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT



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APPENDIX B

Photographic Records of Field Scanning

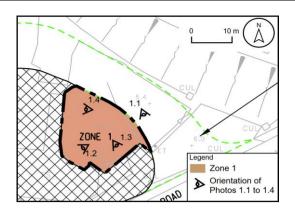




Photo 1.1 Filled Soil Ground at Eastern Zone 1 (Facing East)



Photo 1.2 Concrete Ground Surface in Zone 1

| Photographic Records of Field Scan | JOB NO. | 60646324 | A | Appendix B | |
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| "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung | RECORD BY | JNIP | | | |
| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 | |

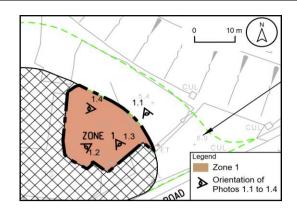




Photo 1.3 Southern Zone 1 (Facing Southeast)



Photo 1.4 Demolished Structures and Construction Waste in Zone 1 (Facing West)

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| Photographic Records of Field Scan | BY JOB NO. | 60646324 | | Appendix B |
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| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung | | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |

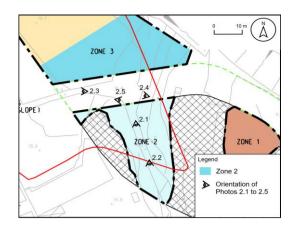




Photo 2.1 Concrete Pavement in Zone 2 (Facing South)



Photo 2.2 Steep Slope in Zone 2 (Facing South)

| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 | |
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| "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung | RECORD BY | | JNIP | | |
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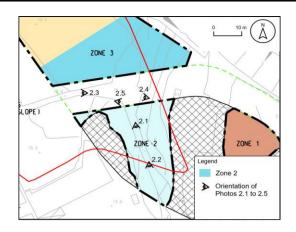




Photo 2.3 Concrete Pavement Connected to the Track at Hilltop (Facing West)



Photo 2.4 Profile of the Hill Slope in Zone 2

| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |
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| "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung | RECORD BY | | JNIP | |
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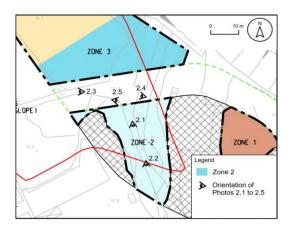




Photo 2.5 Backfilled Test Pit TP7 of the 2015 Archarological Survey (Facing East)

| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 | |
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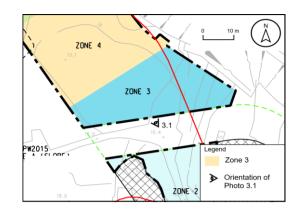




Photo 3.1 Concrete pavement and vegetation facing north

| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |
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| "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung | RECORD BY | | JNIP | |
| Photographic Records of Field Scan | JOB NO. | 60646324 | A | Appendix B |

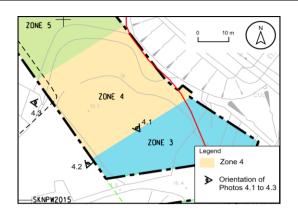




Photo 4.1 Hilltop Covered in Dense Tall Grass in Zone 4 (Facing Northwest)



Photo 4.2 Hilltop Covered in Dense Tall Grass in Zone 4 (Facing Northeast)

AECOM

| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |
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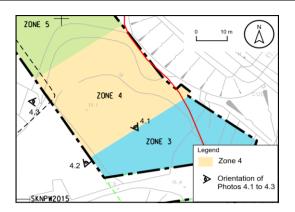




Photo 4.3 Northwestern Edge of Zone 4 (Facing East)

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| | Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung BY | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |
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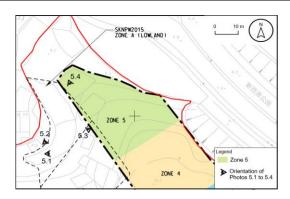




Photo 5.1 Western Edge of Zone 5 (Facing East)



Photo 5.2 Western Edge of Zone 5 (Facing Northeast)



| Application for Amendment of Plan under Section 12A of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) to Rezone the Application Site from "Green Belt" to "Residential (Group C)1" for Proposed House Development at Various Lots | SCALE | N.T.S. | DATE | Jan 2023 |
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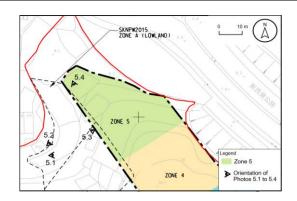




Photo 5.3 Western Edge of Zone 5 (Facing North)



Photo 5.4 Northern Edge of Zone 5 (Facing Southeast)

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| in D.D. 244 and Adjoining Government Land, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Kung Photographic Records of Field Scan | BY JOB NO. | 60646324 | JNIP Appendix B | |
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