

Agreement No. SLO 10/2020

# **Cultural and Historical Studies of Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas on Lantau**



## **CONSERVATION / REVITALISATION STRATEGY PLAN**

**(August 2022)**

The Sustainable Lantau Office (SLO) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department commissioned consultants to conduct preliminary baseline studies on the culture and history of different villages on Lantau Island, to propose conservation recommendations. These reports are for reference only. For any enquiries, please contact SLO (email: [enquiry@lantau.gov.hk](mailto:enquiry@lantau.gov.hk)).

## **Executive Summary**

The Sustainable Lantau Office (SLO) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in October 2020 to carry out the consultancy project “Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”. The project includes a baseline study of the areas combined with a variety of research methods such as literature review, fieldwork, in-depth interviews, and community engagement activities. The collected data, together with the opinions of stakeholders, are analysed to formulate a “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.

Following the research results of the above-mentioned project, the research team of CUHK has formulated short-term, mid-term, and long-term conservation strategies and guiding principles for the four main villages (namely Pui O, Shui Hau, Cheung Sha and Tong Fuk), as well as the Shek Pik area of South Lantau in this conservation and revitalisation strategy plan. It also puts forward suitable conservation and revitalisation proposals in the four aspects of folk beliefs and customs, traditional industries, education and Shek Pik waterworks of the entire South Lantau region.

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# 1

## **Summary of Conservation and Revitalisation Principles**

### **1.1 Intra-regional Connectors**

It is essential to sort out the development context of the entire South Lantau area when formulating conservation strategies for individual villages in the region. Through taking into account the characteristics and needs of different villages, and linking cultural heritage resources of South Lantau through different types of software and hardware facilities, the proposed conservation strategies for individual villages will be developed into regional conservation strategies of the entire South Lantau area.

### **1.2 Connection among Stakeholders**

Conservation of South Lantau involves different stakeholders, such as local residents, conservationists, environmental groups, and tourists. Apart from taking into account the concerns and needs of various stakeholders while formulating conservation strategies, it can also be regarded as opportunities to connect various stakeholders to share resources (for example, resources of different villages in South Lantau area can be shared to connect villagers from all over the region through community collaboration; or non-governmental organisations (NGOs) interested in carrying out conservation work (such as The Conservancy Association/ WWF Hong Kong/ Hong Kong Bird Watching Society) can be paired with villagers to formulate guidelines for the collection of marine resources by sustainable traditional methods), and increase the cohesion of all stakeholders.

### **1.3 Connection among Human and Nature**

The context of villages in South Lantau area is closely connected with natural resources (farming cattle, clams, limestone, shells, corals, ramie, indigo etc.) and habitats (wetlands, sandflats, mudflats etc.) of the region. In-depth investigation of these natural resources from a historical and cultural perspective should be conducted, and current lives of various stakeholders should be connected when formulating sustainable conservation strategies of the area.

### **1.4 Connection among Human and Culture**

In-depth historical and cultural researches should be conducted before establishing any revitalisation and conservation plan, and the conservation strategy should be compatible with the cultural heritage resources of the villages to minimize their impact and destruction to these resources. After these cultural heritage resources are conserved and revitalised, they need to be interpreted in conjunction with different public participatory activities so that their cultural and historical value can be demonstrated and passed on. Stakeholders can have a deeper understanding of the cultural traditions of the community, and they may participate in the conservation process to strengthen their sense of belonging to the region.

# 2

## **Summary of Conservation and Revitalisation Objectives and Strategies**

	<b>Conservation and Revitalisation Objective</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	
O1	Pui O and Shui Hau -- Seeking Balance between Cultural, Ecological Conservation and Recreational Development	S1	Conserving Pui O Wetland into a Cultural-Agricultural Landmark
		S2	Conducting Further Research and Strengthening the Promotion of Pui O's Intangible Cultural Heritage (Hereafter "ICH") -- with Hakka Unicorn Dance as a Pilot Scheme
		S3	Establishing Experiential Campsite in terms of Tourism, Education, and Recreation in Pui O
		S4	Demonstrating the Characteristics of Coastal Communities through Man-made and Natural habitats of Shui Hau
		S5	Conducting Further Research and Strengthening the Promotion of Shui Hau's ICH -- with Food Culture as a Pilot Scheme
O2	Shek Pik, Tong Fuk and Cheung Sha -- Establishing Cultural Recreation Areas with Different Themes	S6	Setting Up Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail
		S7	Surveying and Reproducing Shek Pik's ICH Items
		S8	Operating Agricultural-Themed Tong Fuk Recreational Camping Grounds
		S9	Surveying and Conducting Further Research on Tong Fuk's ICH Items
		S10	Promoting Cheung Sha into a Venue for Multi-Cultural Activities with the Theme of Inshore Marine Resources
O3	Connecting Places with Ecological and Cultural Value on South Lantau Through "Point-Line-Plane" Approach to Form a Network of Natural and Cultural Resources of Lantau	S11	Enhancing Supporting Facilities of Villages and Cultural Points on South Lantau, and Setting Up Heritage Trails and Tourist Routes with Different Themes to Connect Places with Ecological and Cultural Values of South Lantau



Plate 2.1: Significance of Villages of South Lantau Areas, illustrated by the research team in 2020

# 3

## **Conservation and Revitalisation Objective (O1)** **Pui O and Shui Hau --** **Seeking Balance between Cultural, Ecological** **Conservation and Recreational Development**

### **3.1 Background**

Both Pui O and Shui Hau are rich in cultural and natural resources which have important cultural values to be conserved, and are suitable for formulating conservation strategies to strike a balance between cultural, ecological conservation and recreational development. The two places are slightly different in terms of existing infrastructures and natural habitats, with the former area has developed completed and matured recreational facilities, while the latter area has diversified artificial and natural habitats which have a close relationship with the development of local villages.

### **3.2 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S1): Conserving Pui O Wetland into a Cultural-Agricultural Landmark**

The wetlands at Pui O are mainly abandoned farmland, which not only has important conservation and ecological value, but also witnessed the development of local agriculture from the past to present. For example, fields in Ham Tin were reclaimed by villagers who built embankments and reclaimed land facing the sea, which can be considered as a cultural destination in line with the definition of “cultural landscape” by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) that,

Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land-use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature<sup>1</sup>.

Therefore, conservation strategies of wetlands at Pui O mainly start from the historical and cultural perspective to study the feasibility of re-cultivation in a small scale in abandoned farming areas. At the same time the rehabilitated farms together with the wetlands can be used as an important educational resource to showcase the rural history of Hong Kong and the valuable wetland flora and fauna according to the recommendations of the *Sustainable Lantau Blueprint* (hereinafter referred to as the “*Blueprint*”).

According to the *APPROVED SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/SLC/21*, the land use of wetland at Pui O is mainly zoned as “coastal protection area”. Agricultural use (other than plant nursery) is classified as “column 1 - uses always permitted”, and on-farm domestic structure can be set up on it. Meanwhile, holiday camps are listed in “column 2 - uses that may be permitted with or without conditions on application to the Town Planning Board<sup>2</sup>”. As the development of Pui O’s recreational facilities is relatively mature, the proposed ecological-agricultural landmark is considered feasible in planning as long as it is arranged with appropriate administrative management approaches.

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<sup>1</sup> UNESCO, *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*,

Date of Visit: 15 October 2021. <https://whc.unesco.org/document/178167>

<sup>2</sup> Town Planning Board, *Approved South Lantau Coast Outline Zoning Plan No. S/SLC/21*,

Date of Visit: 15 October 2021. [https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp\\_plan\\_notes/en/s\\_slc\\_21\\_e.pdf](https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp_plan_notes/en/s_slc_21_e.pdf)



### 3.2.1 Short-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can fully utilise the Lantau Conservation Fund (LCF)<sup>3</sup> to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by NGOs. Applicants of the LCF should form research team with cross-disciplinary backgrounds in professional fields, such as history, anthropology, environmental science, biology, etc., to further investigate the relationship between the formation of wetlands at Pui O and the local farming history (such as the characteristics and ecological value of the salt water field at Ham Tin, or the direct or indirect relationship between the activities of local villagers and the biodiversity of the wetland) through desktop research and fieldwork. It is also recommended to survey all the relics related to agricultural activities in the wetland, such as irrigation waterways, field paths and foundations of field, etc.



Plate 3.1: Irrigation waterways (left) and foundation of field (right), photos taken by the research team in 2021

In addition, being one of the most distinctive living rural heritage at Pui O (or even the entire South Lantau area), it is recommended to study the importance of cattle, especially buffaloes to the wetland habitat at Pui O. The aforementioned research team may consider to review the role of cattle in the re-cultivation in the abandoned areas of Pui O, on the prerequisite that the impact on the daily lives of villagers should be minimised.



Plate 3.2: Buffaloes in Pui O, photo taken by the research team in 2021

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<sup>3</sup> The government announced in the 2018 *policy address* to set up the Lantau Conservation Fund (LCF) to promote conservation of Lantau by providing financial support to collaborate with local communities and landowners and carry out conservation and related projects in Lantau. For details please refer to the official website of LCF, Date of Visit: 15 October 2021. <https://www.lcf.gov.hk/en/home/index.html>



In view of the illegal activities (especially the increasingly severe situation of illegal depositing of construction waste) on damaging the wetlands of Pui O, it is recommended that relevant government departments should further investigate the feasibility of mandating the use of Global Positioning System (GPS) on construction waste collection vehicles to combat illegal depositing of construction waste as mentioned in the *Blueprint*. Moreover, in order to conserve the cultural landscape of wetland from further damaging, relevant government departments should comprehensively review relevant laws on the disposal of construction waste, such as the *Town Planning Ordinance* (Cap. 131) or the *Waste Disposal (Amendment) Ordinance 2013* (Cap. 354) (Sections 16B and 16C, on the placement of construction waste on private lots)<sup>4</sup>.



Plate 3.3: Illegal depositing of construction waste at Pui O<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Trailwatch, 《大嶼南 – 不受保護的海岸保護區》, Date of Visit: 15 October 2021.  
<https://www.trailwatch.hk/en/blog/564>

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

After completing the above-mentioned investigation, relevant government departments can make use of the results to invite local groups and conservation institutes to organise different types of public engagement activities to promote the rural history of wetlands at Pui O by further utilising the resources of the LCF. Activities such as short-term guided tour (such as face-to-face or online docent tour), exhibition and display (such as mobile exhibition or booklet production) or exploratory activities (such as a cultural drawing or mapping workshop) in nature can be firstly organised with reference to precedents. After completing the feasibility study (further elaborated in mid-term recommendation) for small-scale re-cultivation, the aforementioned local groups and conservation institutes can try to use the restored farmland under the pilot scheme to hold public events in experiential nature (such as farming programmes).



Plate 3.4: Materials of docent tour at Pui O organised by cultural institutes in 2020<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Ecology & Biodiversity Society, SS, HKUSU, *Summer in Pui O Field Guide*, Date of Visit: 16 November 2021.

[https://m.facebook.com/ebshkusu/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=3310663592299091](https://m.facebook.com/ebshkusu/photos/?tab=album&album_id=3310663592299091)



### 3.2.2 Mid-term Recommendation

It is recommended that relevant government departments can consider to incorporate the outcomes of the researches on agriculture and wetland mentioned in “short-term recommendation” into other government’s ecological research, and invite relevant stakeholders (such as environmental groups, conservationists and local residents) proactively to explore the feasibility of small-scale re-cultivation at damaged wetlands (such as those has been turned into brownfield due to mud pushing or filling) at Pui O. Meanwhile, relevant government departments should study the impact of re-cultivation activities to both the habitat of wetlands and lives of villagers, and take the concerns and status of stakeholders who are still farming at Pui O into account.

In parallel, relevant government departments can install different types of supporting facilities, such as information kiosks, signage, benches and shelters, where appropriate, based on the results in “short-term recommendation”, in support of public appreciation of the habitats while promoting public awareness on nature conservation.

### 3.2.3 Long-term Recommendation

In order to implement the results of the feasibility study of “mid-term recommendation”, relevant government departments can launch a pilot scheme in the format of conservation management agreements (funded by the LCF) with various stakeholders of the village to partially reshape the past rural life of Pui O through small-scale re-cultivation activities. At the same time, relevant government departments may consider to cooperate with conservation institutes and local groups mentioned in the “mid-term recommendation”, local chambers of commerce (if any) or other certification bodies (such as the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre), and make reference to other local place-making case studies (for example, a group of stakeholder at Yi O has established Yi O Groceries to promote the crops produced in Yi O on online platforms, Tai O and other retail stores) to investigate the feasibility of branding Pui O agricultural products (such as Salt-Tolerant Rice).



Plate 3.5: Branded agricultural products of Yi O Groceries<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> 二澳農作社：〈二澳產品系列〉, Date of Visit: 16 October 2021. <https://yio.com.hk/home/>

After the re-cultivation pilot project has developed into a considerable scale, grantees of the conservation management agreement may consider to organise different types of public engagement activities in experiential nature (such as farming programmes). In parallel, a temporary local product market with easy installation and disassembly mobile stalls can be launched by imitating the business model of the former “Nan'an Market (see plate 3.6)” of Pui O<sup>8</sup> to connect different proposed agricultural rehabilitation areas in South Lantau. The market can serve as a distribution centre for South Lantau’s agricultural products and other specialties.

Holiday ecological farmers’ market can be held with a fixed market period for local villagers and tourists to promote green life, at the same time the market can be used as a public space and activity venue connecting villagers and other stakeholders.

## 澳貝南嶼 場市設開

（特訊）大嶼山嶺一帶村落，自年前鄉區公路第一期二期工程竣工後，先後次第實施現況，成後及在地方人士及當局協助下，發展為迅速，居民日衆。最近該區鄉事會及地方紳耆，為便利村民農產品集散，及運載起見，特在該區之中心點——貝澳村之老圍及新村之間，興建一座市場，名為「南安市場」。

據悉：該市場租其規模，建有臨時舖位數間，分別售賣豬、牛肉及魚類，並有蔬菜及生果攤位，附近並有茶室及雜貨店多間，而村民之農產品亦可在附近曠地擺賣，附近村民咸感便利。

查貝澳為該區所屬之村落中最大之一，人口約二千，且地處適中，交通方便，鄰近村民如老圍、咸田、十圍、大浪、石灣、唐屋、水口、長沙、石灣、新村等村居民，均可就近前往該處，選購所需物品，且每有巴士可乘，在該處設立墟場，實為最理想之所在。

嶼南區鄉事會主席溫安福：該區包括

## 膠

（特訊）蘇聯科學家最近曾指出向日葵花的果膠可以保護孩子爆炸時射性落成的使害。

此間權威界人士昨指出：蘇聯「勞工衛生及職業病」一為蘇聯內，其研究人員曾證明由向日葵花中抽出的果膠加力。

膠一可減少骨體內吸收或存有這種同位素原力。

因為其理論適用於原子能及輻射性的同位素，但說其真實的價值還需待醫學界人士

## 長芳名

### 行紛紛捐助

有效幫助學運動如火如茶，各界熱烈贊助，外，共同籌善，四籍商人亦紛紛捐助，具食有限公司捐銀一百元，美商蘇沙真（不後人，殊令人感動。（夜）

市，市之興，呼應全港，因當局預早向市民宣佈，故市面一切如常，試放約十分鐘，即放出與餘報，經過情形良好。

第三頁 第四頁 第五頁 第六頁 第七頁 第八頁 第九頁 第十頁 第十一頁 第十二頁 第十三頁 第十四頁 第十五頁 第十六頁 第十七頁 第十八頁 第十九頁 第二十頁 第二十一頁 第二十二頁 第二十三頁 第二十四頁 第二十五頁 第二十六頁 第二十七頁 第二十八頁 第二十九頁 第三十頁 第三十一頁 第三十二頁 第三十三頁 第三十四頁 第三十五頁 第三十六頁 第三十七頁 第三十八頁 第三十九頁 第四十頁 第四十一頁 第四十二頁 第四十三頁 第四十四頁 第四十五頁 第四十六頁 第四十七頁 第四十八頁 第四十九頁 第五十頁 第五十一頁 第五十二頁 第五十三頁 第五十四頁 第五十五頁 第五十六頁 第五十七頁 第五十八頁 第五十九頁 第六十頁 第六十一頁 第六十二頁 第六十三頁 第六十四頁 第六十五頁 第六十六頁 第六十七頁 第六十八頁 第六十九頁 第七十頁 第七十一頁 第七十二頁 第七十三頁 第七十四頁 第七十五頁 第七十六頁 第七十七頁 第七十八頁 第七十九頁 第八十頁 第八十一頁 第八十二頁 第八十三頁 第八十四頁 第八十五頁 第八十六頁 第八十七頁 第八十八頁 第八十九頁 第九十頁 第九十一頁 第九十二頁 第九十三頁 第九十四頁 第九十五頁 第九十六頁 第九十七頁 第九十八頁 第九十九頁 第一百頁

Plate 3.6: News on the launch of Nan'an Market, Wah Kiu Yat Po, 27 November 1961

<sup>8</sup> 〈嶼南貝澳開設市場〉，《華僑日報》，1961年11月27日。

While carrying out the above-mentioned re-cultivation activities, relevant government departments may consider to conduct a comprehensive environmental and planning review in a timely manner to examine the impact of re-cultivation or other derived activities. If it is confirmed that re-cultivation will have a positive impact on the ecology and cultural sustainability of Pui O after the review, relevant government departments may consider to arrange more resources to the conservation management agreement (such as providing support to infrastructure and waterworks), as well as to connect more landowners and non-villagers who are interested in the plan to expand the work of re-cultivation. Reference can be made to a local agricultural rehabilitation project “Sustainable Lai Chi Wo: Living Water & Community Revitalisation - An Agricultural-led Action, Engagement and Incubation Programme at Lai Chi Wo (hereafter “Sustainable Lai Chi Wo”)”. For example, relevant government departments can consider to link villagers and urban residents by collecting oral history of Pui O villagers with the help of outsiders, or encouraging urban residents to rent villagers’ old homes and farmland to develop agricultural experiential activities with rural characteristics<sup>9</sup>.



Plate 3.7: Programmes of “Sustainable Lai Chi Wo” connecting old and new villagers<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Policy for Sustainability Lab, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, HKU, *Vivifying Lai Chi Wo – Sustainable Lai Chi Wo Programme Four Year Review and Outlook*, Date of Visit: 16 October 2021. [https://ccsg.hku.hk/ruralsd/cms/uploads/file/photo-story-book/lai-chi-wo\\_eng-fullbook\\_18mb.pdf](https://ccsg.hku.hk/ruralsd/cms/uploads/file/photo-story-book/lai-chi-wo_eng-fullbook_18mb.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.



### **3.3 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S2): Conducting Further Research and Strengthening the Promotion of Pui O's Intangible Cultural Heritage (Hereafter "ICH") -- with Hakka Unicorn Dance as a Pilot Scheme**

In addition to its unique tangible cultural heritage, villages of Pui O also inherit a variety of ICH items. According to the *First Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong* (hereafter "*the ICH Inventory*")<sup>11</sup> published by the government in 2014, ICH items that may be related to Pui O include Hakka Dialects (code 1.1), Hakka Unicorn Dance (code 2.4.2), Tin Hau Festival (code 3.18), etc.

As at today, the two unicorn teams of Pui O Lo Wai Tsuen and Pui O San Wai Tsuen still have performances on different celebrations or festivities to spread blessings and drive away evil spirits. In order to promote and inherit ICH items of Pui O, it is recommended to conduct pilot research and promotion from existing representable ICH items, and invite relevant stakeholders and inheritors proactively to participate in the proposed activities.

#### **3.3.1 Short-term Recommendation**

In order to fully utilise the limited resources, it is not recommended to investigate and promote all ICH items of Pui O thoroughly in a short period of time. Since the two unicorn teams of Pui O Lo Wai Tsuen and Pui O San Wai Tsuen still have performances on different occasions, their team members need to practice regularly and retain regular external visits (since the team of Pui O Lo Wai Tsuen inherited the skills and techniques from *Choi Yuen Hong* of Cheung Chau, every year it sends a delegation to participate in the *Da Chiu* ritual at Cheung Chau), the inheritance of such ICH item is relatively comprehensive. It is suggested that relevant government departments may arrange resources on the Hakka Unicorn Dance firstly as a pilot study and promotion on Pui O's ICH item. For example, priority themes may be formulated under the LCF for future research projects applied by NGOs to investigate the history, inheritance and skills of Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance in detail through desktop research and fieldwork in order to understand and confirm its unique cultural value.



Plate 3.8: Members of the Unicorn Team of Pui O in front of the Tin Hau Temple. Photo taken by the research team in 2021

<sup>11</sup> Leisure and Cultural Services Department, *First Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong*, Date of Visit: 17 October 2021.

[https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/documents/3862785/3863408/first\\_hkich\\_inventory\\_e.pdf](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/documents/3862785/3863408/first_hkich_inventory_e.pdf)

The above-mentioned NGOs can try to hold short-term guided tours (such as public guided tours or live webcasts) during festivities or other special occasions (such as New Year's Day, Tin Hau Festival, weddings of villagers, etc.) in parallel with conducting field research to raise public's awareness on ICH items of Pui O. These NGOs may consider to make use of the research results to compile publications on Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance, and organise mobile exhibitions after completing the investigation for future promotion of ICH items of Pui O.



Plate 3.9: Villagers of Pui O were performing Hakka Unicorn Dance during Tin Hau Festival. Photos taken by the research team in 2021



### 3.3.2 Mid-term Recommendation

It is recommended the existing unicorn teams at Pui O may consider to inherit the traditional skills and techniques in a more systematically manner by making full use of the teaching materials compiled in “short-term recommendation”. At the same time, organisational structure of the existing unicorn teams can be reviewed, and unicorn dance related organisations in each village can be unified to establish the “Traditional Hakka Unicorn Dance Association of Pui O District”. The association may consider to organise formal trainings to train up new generations of performers, or establish an assessment system for performers to assess and standardize the skills of unicorn dance.

In addition, trained performers under the new system can act as guides or tutors for public engagement activities, such as having demonstration performances in village schools to arouse local students’ interest in inheriting the related ICH item, or use the above-mentioned teaching materials to organise experiential public engagement activities to further promote the cultural value of Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance.



Plate 3.10: Oral history record on Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance by the research team in 2021, for details please see: <https://www.facebook.com/encounter.south.lantau/videos/413331293806605>



Relevant government departments may consider to review the effectiveness of the Hakka Unicorn Dance Pilot Scheme in a timely manner, and encourage local stakeholders to make use of other available funding resources<sup>12</sup> to survey and record other ICH items (such as Hakka Dialect, Tin Hau Festival (an item on the *national list of ICH*), etc.) related to Pui O by applying the model of the Hakka Unicorn Dance Pilot Scheme to further understand and confirm the diversity of ICH items of Pui O.

The above-mentioned government departments may consider to make reference to case studies of other local online databases (such as Pokfulam Village Community Archives) to review if it is feasible to establish an ICH database of Pui O (and ICH database of broader South Lantau area by linking the proposed ICH database of different villages) for scholars, conservationists or the public based on the above survey results. The proposed database can further enrich the connotation of Pui O's cultural tourism through promoting online and physical cultural and historical information.



Plate 3.11: Promotional Materials and website of the Pokfulam Village Community Archives<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> For example, the government approved a funding of \$300 million in late 2018 for launching The Intangible Cultural Heritage Funding Scheme to engage the community and strengthen various aspects of safeguarding work for the ICH of Hong Kong. Please refer to the official website of Intangible Cultural Heritage Office, Date of Visit: 18 October 2021.

[https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/en\\_us/web/icho/ich\\_funding\\_scheme\\_introduction.html](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/en_us/web/icho/ich_funding_scheme_introduction.html)

<sup>13</sup> 'Pokfulam Village Community Archives', Date of Visit: 18 October 2021. <http://www.pokfulam.org.hk/en/>

### 3.3.3 Long-term Recommendation

In order to confirm the unique cultural value of Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance, and to allocate more resources to promote other ICH items of Pui O, relevant government departments may consider to sort out the highlights of the research findings mentioned in “short-term recommendation” and “mid-term recommendation” to encourage and assist inheritors of Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance to investigate the feasibility on nominating Pui O Hakka Unicorn Dance to the *Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong*, as well as the *national list of ICH*. Reference can be made to the experience of Hakka Unicorn Dance in Hang Hau, Sai Kung (ICH item listed in the fourth batch of *national list of ICH* in 2014; listed in the *Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong* in 2017<sup>14</sup>).



Plate 3.12: Promotional materials of the *Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong*<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Database, ‘Hakka Unicorn Dance in Hang Hau in Sai Kung’, Date of Visit: 19 October 2021.

<https://www.hkichdb.gov.hk/en/item.html?7c04c8dc-c7e0-4af1-b133-22d0b242177d>

<sup>15</sup> Leisure and Cultural Services Department, *The Intangible Cultural Heritage* (Leaflet),

Date of Visit: 19 October 2021

[https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/24152212/Leaflet\\_Hong%2bKong%2bICH.pdf](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/24152212/Leaflet_Hong%2bKong%2bICH.pdf)



In conjunction with the ICH database of Pui O in the “mid-term recommendation”, relevant government departments may consider either to organise, or to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders to apply for the LCF to contact interested artists and NGOs to organise an experimental public art programme during festivities or other special occasions, in order to further enhance Pui O’s attractiveness in cultural tourism. The Intangible Cultural Heritage Office has held the “Hang Hau Intangible Cultural Heritage Day” in Hang Hau on the Tin Hau Festival in 2017 and 2018 by linking different stakeholders to promote a series of ICH items (such as Cantonese opera, Sai Kung Hang Hau Hakka Unicorn Dance, Tin Hau Festival and Bamboo Theatre Building Technique) centred on the Hang Hau Hakka Unicorn Dance<sup>16</sup>. The proposed public art programme may refer to Hang Hau’s event and expand its scale (such as holding monthly events, or setting up exhibitions with outdoor art installation) to sustainably promote Pui O’s ICH items.



Plate 3.13: The Intangible Cultural Heritage Office has held the “Hang Hau Intangible Cultural Heritage Day” in Hang Hau on the Tin Hau Festival in 2017 and 2018<sup>17</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Leisure and Cultural Services Department, “The 2nd “ICH Day @ Hang Hau”, Date of Visit: 19 October 2021. [https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/zh\\_tw/web/icho/past\\_event25.html](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/ce/museum/icho/zh_tw/web/icho/past_event25.html)

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

### **3.4 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S3): Establishing Experiential Campsite in terms of Tourism, Education, and Recreation in Pui O**

There are numerous public and private leisure facilities (including two parks and public playgrounds, a beach, a public barbecue area and camping site, and a sports ground, while the number of private leisure venues is yet to be further counted) at Pui O. The Pui O Campsite is one of the few campsites in Hong Kong managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department among these facilities. The camp is fully equipped and is one of the most popular vacation spots for local and foreign tourists. It is recommended that facilities of the campsite can be upgraded in order to tally with the recommendation of setting up themed camps in the *Blueprint* to promote the historical and cultural characteristics of Pui O.

On the other hand, the continuous increase in the number of tourists has not only aroused the discussions and concerns among villagers, but also increased the demand for private recreational facilities. The research team suggested that it is also necessary to take the management and regulation of private facilities into account while upgrading the public leisure facilities. The outcomes of strategies S1 and S2 can be incorporated into S3 to promote Pui O as a base for experiential tourism-education-recreation activities from the perspective of eco-tourism and cultural tourism to strike a balance between cultural conservation and recreational development.

#### **3.4.1 Short-term Recommendation**

Tourism development has always been an issue of both opportunities and challenges for the villages of Pui O since the completion of South Lantau Road in 1957. Relevant government departments may consider to sort out the historical context of the interaction between villagers and tourists, and take the discussions and concerns of various stakeholders in the design thinking activities on tourism development (such as the problem of traffic system load, environmental pollution, etc.) into account to produce tips and guidelines for tourists of Pui O.

In view of the lack of tourist information facilities (and their design style is also inconsistent) in Pui O at present, it is suggested that the above tips and guidelines for tourists can be made into notice boards after adding artistic elements. The existing tourist information facilities can be redesigned in a unified style, and their display location can be reviewed for the convenience of tourists.



Plate 3.14: Existing tourist information facilities of Pui O. Photos taken by the research team in 2021



In addition to educating and regulating the behaviours of tourists (recreational equipment users), relevant government departments may also consider to take the regulation of private leisure facilities operators into account. The research team found that there were at least five private recreational areas at Pui O during site inspection. However, according to the database of the Home Affairs Department, there are only two licensed holiday camps, hotels and guesthouses at Pui O<sup>18</sup>, and there are no licensed public places of entertainment<sup>19</sup> and recreational farms listed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

In order to unify the development of recreational facilities of Pui O, relevant government departments may consider to conduct site inspection on existing private and public campsites at Pui O, and study the feasibility of upgrading and utilising some public facilities (such as the Pui O Campsite under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department). Meanwhile, relevant government departments can consider to prosecute illegal private recreational facilities, and make good use of the existing South Lantau Community Centre as a recreation base, so as to strike a balance between cultural conservation and recreational development.



Plate 3.15: Wetlands suspected of being filled with mud and developed into private recreational facilities<sup>20</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Office of the Licensing Authority, Home Affairs Department, ‘Licensed Hotels and Guesthouse’, Date of Visit: 20 October 2021. [https://www.hadla.gov.hk/En/Licensing\\_Matters/Hotels/Search\\_Result.Php?Licence\\_No=&Premises\\_Name=&Client%5b%5d=Hotel&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28general%29&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28holiday+Flat%29&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28holiday+Camp%29&Address=Pui+O&No\\_of\\_Room\\_From=&No\\_of\\_Room\\_To=&District=0](https://www.hadla.gov.hk/En/Licensing_Matters/Hotels/Search_Result.Php?Licence_No=&Premises_Name=&Client%5b%5d=Hotel&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28general%29&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28holiday+Flat%29&Client%5b%5d=Guesthouse+%28holiday+Camp%29&Address=Pui+O&No_of_Room_From=&No_of_Room_To=&District=0)

<sup>19</sup> Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, ‘List of Licensed Non-Food Premises’, Date of Visit: 20 October 2021. [https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/licensing/ecsview\\_read\\_nonfood.html?page=1&licensetype=places%20of%20public%20entertainment%20licences%20\(for%20places%20other%20than%20cinemas%20and%20theatres\)&address=pui%20o&lang=en-us](https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/licensing/ecsview_read_nonfood.html?page=1&licensetype=places%20of%20public%20entertainment%20licences%20(for%20places%20other%20than%20cinemas%20and%20theatres)&address=pui%20o&lang=en-us)

<sup>20</sup> The Conservancy Association, ‘Sustainable’ Environmental Vandalism Under ‘Sustainable Lantau Blueprint’, Date of Visit: 20 October 2021. <https://www.cahk.org.hk/en/media/285/>

### 3.4.2 Mid-term Recommendation

The public campsites that have been upgraded in the “short-term recommendation” can be further developed into themed camps to be in line with the conservation recommendations of the *Blueprint*. Relevant government departments (such as the Leisure and Cultural Services Department) may consider to prioritize the recommendation of strategy S1 and S2 (i.e. wetland conservation/ agriculture/ Pui O Hakka ICH items, etc.) when formulating the theme and specific design of the themed camps. Public participation can also be promoted in the form of public consultation and collective works. For example, “Pui O Themed Campsite Design Competition” or “Pui O Themed Campsite Online Discussion Forum” can be organised to encourage the general public to make collective discussion on the public facilities of the camp (such as public furniture, notice boards, recreational facilities, etc.), or professional groups can be invited to submit the overall design drawings of themed campsite.

Examples of similar activities include the “Wong Chuk Hang Green Link” design competition in 2021, which was jointly organised by the Development Bureau’s Invigorating Island South Office, the Architectural Services Department and the Institute of Architects<sup>21</sup>, and the “Harbourfront Public Furniture Competition” held by the Harbourfront Commission in 2020<sup>22</sup>. Both cases demonstrate the feasibility of inviting the public to participate in the design of local projects.

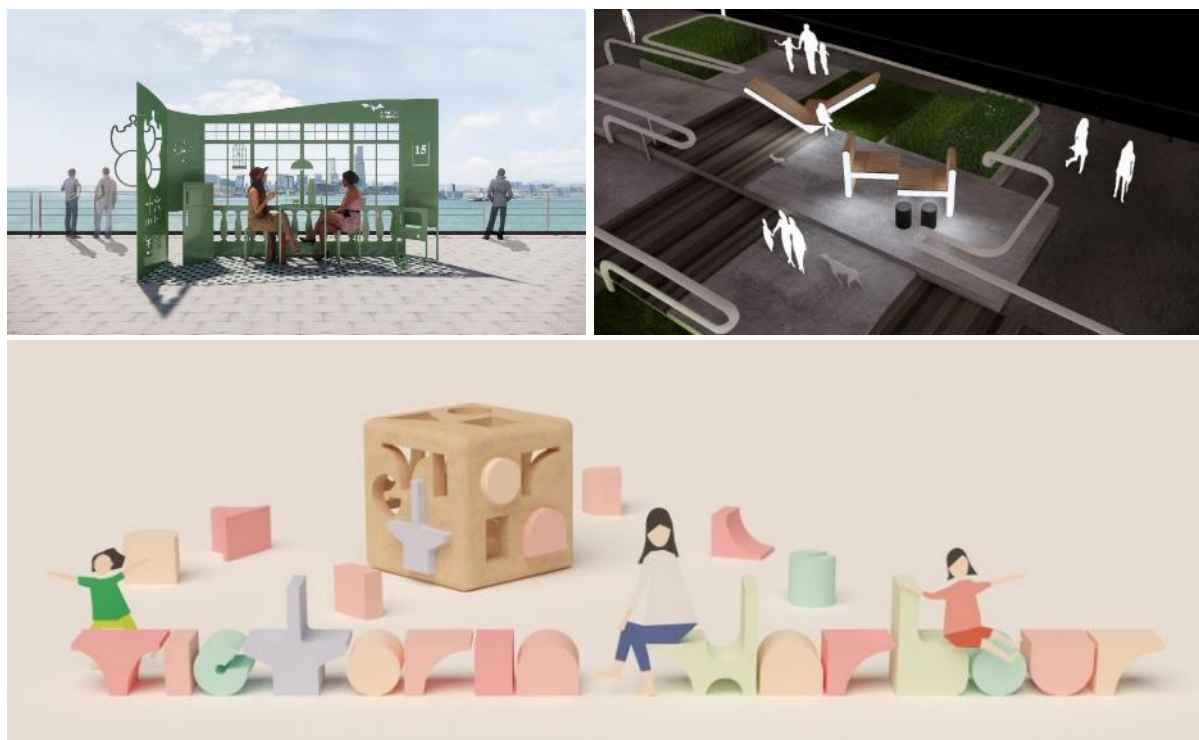


Plate 3.16: Awarded entries of the “Harbourfront Public Furniture Competition”<sup>23</sup>

<sup>21</sup> News.gov.hk, *Green Link Design Contest Opens*, Date of Visit: 16 November 2021.

[https://www.news.gov.hk/eng/2021/09/20210910/20210910\\_155159\\_645.html](https://www.news.gov.hk/eng/2021/09/20210910/20210910_155159_645.html)

<sup>22</sup> Development Bureau, ‘Harbourfront Public Furniture Competition’, Date of Visit: 20 October 2021.

[https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/issues\\_in\\_focus/harbourfront\\_public\\_furniture\\_competition/index/index.html](https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/issues_in_focus/harbourfront_public_furniture_competition/index/index.html)

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.



While upgrading the above public themed campsite, relevant government departments may consider to pay attention to the impact (such as the impact of mud filling or land levelling on natural habitats within the wetland area) of other planned and licensed private rural revitalisation activities after completing the “short-term recommendation” to prosecute those illegal private recreational sites. License approval conditions (such as conducting heritage impact assessment or environmental impact assessment) can be added to these private activities in a timely manner.

In addition, relevant government departments may consider to provide financial incentives (such as including the above-mentioned consultancy fees for environmental and heritage impact assessments into the scope of funding from the LCF) to operators of private facilities, or to launch a set of certification systems to group the private operators of the recreational facilities (e.g. “Pui O Cultural Ecological Farm Certification System”). Reference can be made to “Leisure Farm Service Quality Certification System” established by the Taiwan government for leisure farms<sup>24</sup>. By establishing a series of guidelines and criteria that are in line with existing ordinances, local stakeholders can further be encouraged to promote Pui O as a base for tourism-education-recreation activities to pursue conservation and development in parallel, so as to strike a balance between cultural conservation and recreational development.

### 3.4.3 Long-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments may consider either to organise, or to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders to organise day camps or overnight cultural experiential activities (which should be in line with the recommendations of strategies S1 and S2) at Pui O by applying for the LCF. These groups or stakeholders can regularly publish newsletters (such as regional newspapers) and launch online platforms to integrate information on upcoming events held by different stakeholder groups at Pui O (such as the agricultural experience and holiday farm market activities proposed in strategy S1, and the intangible cultural heritage public art programme proposed in strategy S2). This helps to keep both local villagers and visitors posted on the latest news of Pui O.



Plate 3.17: Regional newspapers of Lantau Island<sup>25</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Taiwan Leisure Farms Development Association, ‘About Certification’, Date of Visit: 21 October 2021.

[https://www.taiwanfarm.org.tw/zh-en/front/node/detail?funcode=featuredcertification\\_aboutcert](https://www.taiwanfarm.org.tw/zh-en/front/node/detail?funcode=featuredcertification_aboutcert)

<sup>25</sup> 〈如何講好一碟島上的番茄炒蛋：大嶼山的四份報刊，兩種語言，二十年〉，《端媒體》，2021年4月17日，Date of Visit: 21 October 2021. <https://theinitium.com/article/20210417-culture-lantau-three-magazines/>

### **3.5 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S4): Demonstrating the Characteristics of Coastal Communities through Man-made and Natural Habitats of Shui Hau**

There is a variety of man-made and natural habitats, including wetlands, sandflats and mudflats at Shui Hau. Natural resources in these habitat are closely related to the characteristics of Shui Hau village as a coastal community, and it is suitable to demonstrate the importance of these natural resources from the historical and cultural perspective. The research team proposes short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations for the above-mentioned landscapes by taking the recommendations of the *Blueprint* into account to suggest ways to work together with local groups by means of management measures as the main conservation method to reduce the nuisance to the above-mentioned ecology.

According to the *APPROVED SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/SLC/21*, the land use of wetland, sandflats and mudflat of Shui Hau is mainly zoned as “coastal protection area”. This area is not suitable for development except for those “that are needed to support the conservation of the existing natural landscape or scenic quality of the area or the development is an essential infrastructure project with overriding public interest may be permitted<sup>26</sup>”. Therefore, recommendation on new development or construction projects would be avoided, except for those public facilities (such as conservation resource centres) which help to promote the conservation of Shui Hau within the scope of the coastal protection area. Meanwhile, it is recommended to restore abandoned historic buildings in other locations as spaces to display the diverse ecology and rich cultural resources of Shui Hau.

#### **3.5.1 Short-term Recommendation**

The research team found that past lives of local villagers were highly interdependent with natural resources of Shui Hau during conducting interviews with local villagers. Relevant government departments may consider to utilise the resources of the LCF in the short term to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by various NGOs. By means of desktop study and fieldwork, these researches can be conducted to investigate the impact of past villagers’ living customs on the ecology of sandflats and mudflats of Shui Hau, or the interdependence between villagers’ activities and marine resources of the region.



Plate 3.18: Traditional clam digging tools, photos taken by the research team in 2021

<sup>26</sup> Town Planning Board: *Approved South Lantau Coast Outline Zoning Plan No. S/SLC/21*, Date of Visit: 21 October 2021. [https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp\\_plan\\_notes/en/s\\_slc\\_21\\_e.pdf](https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp_plan_notes/en/s_slc_21_e.pdf)



In addition, the research team was told by villagers that farmland at Shui Hau began to be abandoned in the 1970s. Wetland may be formed after rivers flowed through the barren fields, which gradually evolved into the current landscape. Relevant government departments may consider to make use of the LCF in the short term to formulate priority themes on the formation process of wetlandscape for research projects to be applied by various NGOs. At the same time, shrubs are now commonly found at the edge of wetlands of Shui Hau, which demonstrate a possibility of the degrading of the existing wetlands. Relevant government departments may consider to entrust expert consultants in environmental science, biology and ecology to propose and execute rescue plans for wetland protection.



Plate 3.19: Shrubs found at the edge of the wetland, photos taken by the research team in 2021

Relevant government departments may consider to make use of the above research results to invite local groups and conservation institutes to organise different types of public engagement activities to promote the rural history of wetland, sandflats and mudflats at Shui Hau by further utilising the resources of the LCF. Activities such as short-term guided tour (such as face-to-face or online docent tour), exhibition and display (such as mobile exhibition or booklet production) or exploratory (such as a cultural drawing or mapping workshop) in nature can be firstly organised with reference to precedents. In view that some villagers intend to re-cultivate in recent years, local stakeholders can try to use the restored farmland under the pilot scheme to hold public events in experiential nature (such as farming programmes) after completing the feasibility study (further elaborated in mid-term recommendation) for small-scale re-cultivation.

Furthermore, in order to properly manage the diverse artificial and natural habitats of Shui Hau, relevant government departments may consider to entrust expert consultants to study the feasibility of establishing a Shui Hau Conservation Centre as a base to promote conservation activities of the area. The first thematic marine park visitor centre opened in June 2021 under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department can be referred to when carrying out the above feasibility study of the Shui Hau Conservation Centre. The public can understand the functions and importance of marine parks through visiting the exhibition halls and participating in the public events, hence enhancing their awareness of marine conservation<sup>27</sup>.

<sup>27</sup> The Government Press Releases, 'First thematic marine park visitor centre officially opens (with photos)', 8 Jun 2021, Date of Visit: 22 October 2021.

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202106/08/p2021060800704.htm?fontsize=1>



Plate 3.20: Online docent video of Shui Hau, produced by the research team in 2021,  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1037700636794836>



Plate 3.21: Photos of Hoi Ha Visitor Centre<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, 'Marine Park Visitor Centre',  
 Date of Visit: 22 October 2021.  
[https://www.afcd.gov.hk/tc\\_chi/country/cou\\_vis/cou\\_vis\\_mar/cou\\_vis\\_mar\\_vc/cou\\_vis\\_mar\\_vc.html](https://www.afcd.gov.hk/tc_chi/country/cou_vis/cou_vis_mar/cou_vis_mar_vc/cou_vis_mar_vc.html)



### 3.5.2 Mid-term Recommendation

The research team found that the increasing number of tourists engaged in uncontrolled clam digging activities not only damages the habitat of Shui Hau, but also affects the living customs of the local villagers. For example, some villagers felt that the expanding tourism industry is alienating the local villagers from the natural resources of Shui Hau, and said that they would try to avoid activities in the sandflats and mudflats when there are too many tourists.

Relevant government departments may consider to make use of the research results of the “short-term recommendation” to invite conservation groups (such as the Conservancy Association/ WWF-Hong Kong/ Hong Kong Bird Watching Society) that are currently working on conservation of marine resources at Shui Hau to formulate guidelines for collecting marine resources by sustainable traditional methods (for example, regulating the number or size of clams to be collected, or restricting the tools used when digging clams, etc.). Villagers and tourists can be encouraged to follow the guidelines to reduce the impact of the clam digging activities on local habitats. Relevant groups can conduct research on the environmental carrying capacity of various marine resources at Shui Hau when formulating the above-mentioned guidelines to provide corresponding scientific data to support the guidelines.



Plate 3.22: Sustainable Shui Hau project by WWF-Hong Kong in 2018<sup>29</sup>

<sup>29</sup> WWF-Hong Kong, 'Shui Hau Conservation in Focus', Date of Visit: 29 October 2021.  
<https://www.wwf.org.hk/en/news/?21840/press-release-shui-hau-conservation-in-focus#>

As mentioned in the “short-term recommendation” that some villagers intend to re-cultivate in recent years, similar recommendation with strategy S1 may be adopted at Shui Hau. Relevant government departments may consider to act as the main coordinator to invite relevant stakeholders (such as environmental groups, conservationists and local residents) proactively to explore the feasibility of small-scale re-cultivation. Pilot scheme (for example, conservation groups can be encouraged to apply for the conservation management agreement project of the LCF to study and investigate the past waterworks of the site. Reference can be made to the “Sustainable Lai Chi Wo” project) can be arranged to reshape parts of the rural life of Shui Hau. These activities of re-cultivation should not be in conflict with the biodiversity of Shui Hau in order to create an environment that balances both ecology and cultural sustainability.



Plate 3.23: Study of waterworks in the “Sustainable Lai Chi Wo” project<sup>30</sup>

Relevant government departments may consider to implement the recommendation of the feasibility study on constructing the Shui Hau Conservation Centre mentioned in the “short-term recommendation” apart from taking management measures at Shui Hau. In addition to serving as a space for demonstrating the context of historical and cultural development on farming, aquaculture, marine resources collection of Shui Hau, as mentioned in the *Blueprint* different types of supporting facilities, such as information kiosks, signage, benches and shelters, where appropriate, would be provided in the centre to support public appreciation of the habitats while promoting public awareness on nature conservation.



Plate 3.24: Artist imagination of the Shui Hau Conservation Centre, illustrated by the research team in 2021

<sup>30</sup> Policy for Sustainability Lab, Centre for Civil Society and Governance, HKU, *Vivifying Lai Chi Wo: Sustainable Lai Chi Wo Programme Four Year Review and Outlook*, Date of Visit: 22 October 2021. [https://ccsg.hku.hk/ruralsd/cms/uploads/file/photo-story-book/lai-chi-wo\\_eng-fullbook\\_18mb.pdf](https://ccsg.hku.hk/ruralsd/cms/uploads/file/photo-story-book/lai-chi-wo_eng-fullbook_18mb.pdf)



### 3.5.3 Long-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can consider to liaise with groups mentioned in “mid-term recommendation”, or other certification bodies (such as Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre, Marine Stewardship Council, etc.) to encourage and assist villagers and other stakeholders to form cooperatives to re-generate Shui Hau. These cooperatives can study the feasibility on branding the marine resources collected through traditional methods and applying for product certification by making full use of funds from the government<sup>31</sup>, with reference to other local or non-local fishery and agricultural products (and their processed products) branding cases. Meanwhile, it is suggested that these cooperatives can make one of the branded products into a mascot (one of the overseas examples is the “Mr. Fish Head” based on milkfish, an authentic food of Tainan, by the Tainan City Government Tourism Bureau<sup>32</sup>) to promote attractions and specialities of Shui Hau through interactive and innovative measures. In parallel with the promotional activities, relevant government departments can timely review the impact of the re-cultivation and branding activities to the man-made and natural habitats of Shui Hau, and continue to implement the results of the feasibility study of the “mid-term recommendation” through conservation management agreement projects.

In addition to the proposed Shui Hau Conservation Centre, relevant government departments may consider to encourage local groups and conservation institutions to make good use of funds from the government<sup>33</sup>, or cooperate with academic institutes, local groups and conservation organisations to study the feasibility of restoring the abandoned historic buildings of Shui Hau. The restored building can be opened to the public as a venue for traditional handicrafts and cultural exhibitions, at the same time for promoting the architectural features of historic building. In addition, the restored building can disperse the flow of tourists that the Shui Hau Conservation Centre may face, and serve as a point of assembly for future events.



Plate 3.25: Location map of abandoned historic buildings at Shui Hau

<sup>31</sup> For example, the government has set up the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund in 2014 to help the local fishing community move towards sustainable or high value-added operations so that the trade can enhance its overall competitiveness and cope with new challenges. Date of Visit: 21 October 2021.

<https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/fisheries/sfdf/sfdf.html>

<sup>32</sup> 台南旅遊網：〈臺南市政府觀光旅遊局吉祥物魚頭君介紹專區〉, Date of Visit: 21 October 2021.

<https://www.twtainan.net/zh-tw/event/newsdetail/4155>

<sup>33</sup> For example, the government has established the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme On Built Heritage in 2008 to help preserve historic buildings from deterioration due to lack of maintenance by providing financial assistance in the form of grants to the owners of privately-owned graded historic buildings and tenants to carry out minor maintenance works by themselves. Date of Visit: 21 October 2021.

<https://www.heritage.gov.hk/en/maintenance/about.htm>

### **3.6 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S5): Conducting Further Research and Strengthening the Promotion of Shui Hau's ICH -- with Food Culture as a Pilot Scheme**

Though no ICH items in *the ICH Inventory* is named with Shui Hau<sup>34</sup>, numerous ICH items of Shui Hau, such as the food culture, rituals and customs, performing arts, language, etc., have the potential and deserve further study according to preliminary findings of the research team (Lion Dance (code 2.1), Hakka Folk Song<sup>35</sup> (code 2.17), Hakka Cuisine (code 5.27)). There are precedents for the study of ICH items (such as “Wai Tau (Punti)” rhymes) at Shui Hau as stated in the research report. It is worth mentioning that Shui Hau still retains a variety of traditional food dishes. For example, sweet potatoes, flour, spices and herbs are mixed into dumplings and then boiled into a local traditional food “Zaap Chi” (one of the offerings of the traditional ritual “Pai Tin Gei”. The ritual is lost today but the recipe still remains) and will be served on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of the first lunar month every year. Another traditional dishes in Shui Hau is “Lai Wok Pin”, which is cooked with soup made of freshly caught seafood, and served with rice noodles (rice batter poured and cooked on edge of the wok). The ingredients of “Lai Wok Pin” fully demonstrate the characteristics of farming and fisheries in coastal communities of the South Lantau area. In order to promote and inherit ICH items of Shui Hau, it is recommended to conduct pilot research and promotion from existing representable ICH items, and invite relevant stakeholders and inheritors proactively to participate in the proposed activities.

#### **3.6.1 Short-term Recommendation**

In order to fully utilise the limited resources, it is not recommended to investigate and promote all ICH items of Shui Hau thoroughly in a short period of time. In view that food is one the most representable ICH items which is closely related to the traditional industries, historical development of the village and the identity of villagers, relevant government departments may consider to arrange resources on the pilot research and promotion of the food culture of Shui Hau priory. For example, priority themes may be formulated under the LCF for future research projects to be applied by NGOs to investigate in detail the history, current situation and technical characteristics of food culture in Shui Hau, and to understand how local villagers make use of local natural resources with traditional wisdom from the ingredients, cooking methods and eating habits through desktop research and fieldwork.

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<sup>34</sup> Leisure and Cultural Services Department: *First Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong*, Date of Visit: 23 October 2021.

[https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/23828638/First\\_hkich\\_inventory\\_E.pdf](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/23828638/First_hkich_inventory_E.pdf)

<sup>35</sup> In Shui Hau, traditional folk songs are sung in the Weitou dialect instead of the Hakka dialect by older villagers. These songs document old stories of the village and their feelings towards the village. In light of this, the research team believes that Weitou dialect folk songs stand a good chance of becoming an ICH item after Hakka folk songs.



Plate 3.26: Traditional food of Shui Hau (Left and center: “Cha Guo”; right: “Zaap Chi”), photos provided by local villagers of Shui Hau

The above-mentioned NGOs may try to organise short-term guided tours (such as face-to-face docent tour) and experiential public engagement activities (such as workshops on Hakka food making techniques) during festivities or other special occasions (such as the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> lunar month, or the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> lunar month) to raise the public awareness on ICH items of Shui Hau. These NGOs can also make use of the aforementioned research results to compile publications (cookbooks) on the food culture, and hold mobile exhibitions to promote ICH items of Shui Hau in the future.





Plate 3.27: Festivity of Shui Hau on the second day of the first lunar month. Photos taken by the research team in 2021

Relevant government departments may consider to encourage local groups to assist villagers to set up village platforms (such as upgrading the current social media platform of the village) since some villagers are interested to pay attention to the history and culture of Shui Hau. Other villagers can be invited to join the platform, and training can be provided to train up these villagers to become local ecological and cultural docents. These villagers can be the core members of conserving Shui Hau after their capabilities are developed.



### 3.6.2 Mid-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments may consider to utilise the research results of the “short-term recommendation” to encourage local groups to conduct experimental cooking research by applying the LCF. Traditional cooking utensils, ingredients (marine resources and agricultural products) and cooking techniques can be examined under the experimental cooking research. Take the traditional dishes “Lai Wok Pin” as an example. The proposed cooking research can first refer to whether there are other local cases (for example, the research team tried to reproduce the dishes with local villagers in Ng To, Kuk Po, Sha Tau Kok), and try to recast the cooking utensils (cast iron wok) according to the memories of the old villagers. Firewood can be picked up on the mountain as fuel, and fishery and agricultural products in strategy S4 can be collected as ingredients. With all materials mentioned above, the groups can try to reproduce the traditional dishes under the guidance of local villagers.

Given that the existing large-scale activities in South Lantau are mainly based on clans (such as ancestor worship) or villages, there is a lack of activities for the public to participate in (except for the Pui O Tin Hau Festival), hence old and new villagers can hardly be connected. In view of the potential that food dishes cover a wide range of subjects and can accommodate different types of participants, the research team believes that the above-mentioned cooking research results can be used in conjunction with the public sharing session to promote the traditional food culture of Shui Hau.



Plate 3.28: Experimental cooking research on the dishes “Lai Wok Pin” with villagers of Ng To, Kuk Po. Photo taken by the research team in 2022

Relevant government departments can consider to review the effectiveness of the Shui Hau food culture pilot program in a timely manner. The same model in the “short-term recommendation” may be applied to other ICH items (such as lion dance, “Wai Tau” rhymes) of Shui Hau by encouraging stakeholders to make full use of funds available for application in order to study the diversity of ICH items of Shui Hau. Research results from these project, together with other previous project conducted by other groups (for example, an NGO “Urban Diary” has produced a booklet and a documentary film “Tales of Shui Hau” in 2017, which recorded the “Wai Tau” rhymes from elders of Shui Hau), can be consolidated to establish a database of ICH items (and ICH database of broader South Lantau area by linking the proposed ICH database of different villages) of Shui Hau for scholars, conservationists or the public. The proposed database can further enrich the connotation of Shui Hau’s cultural tourism through promoting online and physical cultural and historical information.



Plate 3.29: Publicity materials of “Tales of Shui Hau”<sup>36</sup>

### 3.6.3 Long-term Recommendation

In conjunction with the research findings in the “mid-term recommendation”, relevant government departments may consider either to organise, or to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders to apply for the LCF to contact interested artists and NGOs to organise an experimental public art programme during festivities or other special occasions to further enhance Shui Hau’s attractiveness in cultural tourism.

<sup>36</sup> 〈【最後的山歌·上】水口村山歌製紀錄片 留存南大嶼鄉謠故事〉，《HK01》，2017年12月4日，Date of Visit: 23 October 2021.

<https://www.hk01.com/社區專題/138056/最後的山歌-上-水口村山歌製紀錄片-留存南大嶼鄉謠故事>

# 4

## **Conservation and Revitalisation Objective (O2) Shek Pik, Tong Fuk and Cheung Sha -- Establishing Cultural Recreation Areas with Different Themes**

## **4.1 Background**

The research team found that in addition to demonstrating the overall cultural value of South Lantau, Shek Pik, Tong Fuk and Cheung Sha can be developed into three cultural and recreational areas with different themes according to their respective advantages and potentials from the perspective of historical context, planning and development, and natural resources, which allow the public to learn the local historical development of the three places while enjoying various recreational activities. The conservation and revitalisation objectives of each site are briefly described below:

Old villages of Shek Pik were submerged by the newly built Shek Pik Reservoir in 1963. However, there are still many cultural heritage resources in the area (for example, the Rock Carving at Shek Pik is the only declared monument within the scope of this study. The Shek Pik Reservoir and its related structures can also help the public understand the historical development of Shek Pik and the entire South Lantau area). The district officers of the Hong Kong government in the British governing era have left many detailed reports which help to reshape the historical and cultural development of Shek Pik in the old days. Moreover, the former Ngong Ping - Shek Pik trackway is now developed into the well-equipped Shek Pik Country Trail, which is suitable for holding different types of public engagement activities. In view of the above, the research team proposes that Shek Pik can be developed into a natural, cultural and historical recreational area with the cultural landscape of Shek Pik Reservoir as the main axis, supplemented by various ICH items and public participation activities for cultural promotion.

The setting of Tong Fuk is relatively well preserved among the coastal communities being studied by the research team on South Lantau. There are also great potential ICH items at Tong Fuk. In addition, Tong Fuk is relatively developed in terms of private recreational facilities, and has the potential to become one of the key recreational venues on South Lantau if appropriate measures are taken to regulate the operators of the private facilities. In view of the above, the research team believes that Tong Fuk can be developed into a recreational area with the theme of rural history, supplemented by various ICH items for cultural promotion.

Due to the lack of arable land, Cheung Sha has more interaction with marine resources among the five study areas of this study, and some of its cultural heritage resources related to inshore marine environment are still retained. In addition, Cheung Sha is located at the centre of the South Lantau Road, with Upper and Lower Cheung Sha Beaches extending for more than three kilometres at the shore of the village. The beautiful scenery and convenient location have made Cheung Sha a popular destination for setting up staff quarters for European engineers of Shek Pik Reservoir since the 1960s. Even to this date, there are more non-Chinese residents in Cheung Sha than any other South Lantau villages. The research team believes that the east-meet-west historical context of Cheung Sha can be promoted, and by means of its convenient location Cheung Sha can be converted into a multicultural event venue with the theme of inshore marine resources.



## **4.2 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S6): Setting Up Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail**

The research team found that Shek Pik area is rich in natural and cultural heritage resources. However, these resources are not managed and planned uniformly, leading to the fragmented connection between various cultural relics and attractions. In view that Shek Pik has the only ancient trail (the Ngong Ping - Shek Pik trackway) within the scope of this study that has been listed by the AMO as a Sites of Archaeological Interest in Hong Kong, the research team recommends that relevant government departments can consider to upgrade the trackway and connect the trail with the nearby recreational, cultural and ecological resources for public enjoyment, where appropriate, in order to be in line with the recommendations in the *Blueprint*.

### **4.2.1 Short-term Recommendation**

Relevant government departments can consider to make use of the LCF to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by various NGOs to conduct further literature studies and fieldworks on (1) the historical development of Shek Pik from the Bronze Age to modern era (such as archaeological discoveries, local villages documents of Shek Pik, local knowledge of traditional herbal medicine, etc.), and to conduct oral history interviews with villagers who have experienced the relocation scheme of the Shek Pik Reservoir. On-site inspection on the traces of old village buildings and farmland near the reservoir, and a comprehensive survey of the existing Shek Pik tangible cultural heritage are also appreciated; and (2) the historical and cultural heritage related to the local settlements along the Shek Pik Country Trail, and study whether existing points of cultural interest at various sites (such as Rock Carving, the abandoned Hung Shing Temple, Shek Pik Reservoir and related structures, Tai Long Wan Tsuen, etc.) can be linked together by the trail. These provide research supports for upgrading the Shek Pik Country Trail into the Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail with history and culture of Shek Pik as its main axis.



Plate 4.1: Suspected ruins of old buildings and farmland of Shek Pik on the Internet<sup>37</sup>

<sup>37</sup> 山野樂逍遙：〈石壁水塘尋田蹤〉, Date of Visit: 23 October 2021.

<http://www.hkhikers.com/shek%20pik%20reservoir.html>

In addition, given that the Rock Carving at Shek Pik is the only declared monument with significant cultural value within the scope of this study, relevant government departments can consider to use the geometric patterns composed of spiral squares and circles that closely resemble those on Bronze Age artefacts of the Rock Carving as the main design element to re-design the existing supporting facilities (such as interpretation boards and signage) of Shek Pik to strengthen the historical vibe of the Rock Carving.



Plate 4.2: Various types of supporting facilities and signage of the Rock Carving at present. The designs of these facilities are not aligned, and affect the historical vibe of the Rock Carving as a declared monument. Photos taken by the research team in 2021

#### 4.2.2 Mid-term Recommendation

With the supports from research findings in the “short-term recommendation”, relevant government departments can consider to upgrade the Shek Pik Country Trail into the Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail with history and culture of Shek Pik as its main axis. During the proposed trail enhancement works, the trail can be appropriately extended to connect the various heritage sites mentioned in the “short-term recommendation”. Auxiliary facilities, including signs, information desks, maps, toilets and emergency telephones can be added along the trail. When designing the above-mentioned auxiliary facilities, relevant government departments can adopt the form of public consultation and collective works (format can be referred to the local example mentioned in strategy S3), so as to enhance the public’s participation and sense of involvement in the construction of the trail.

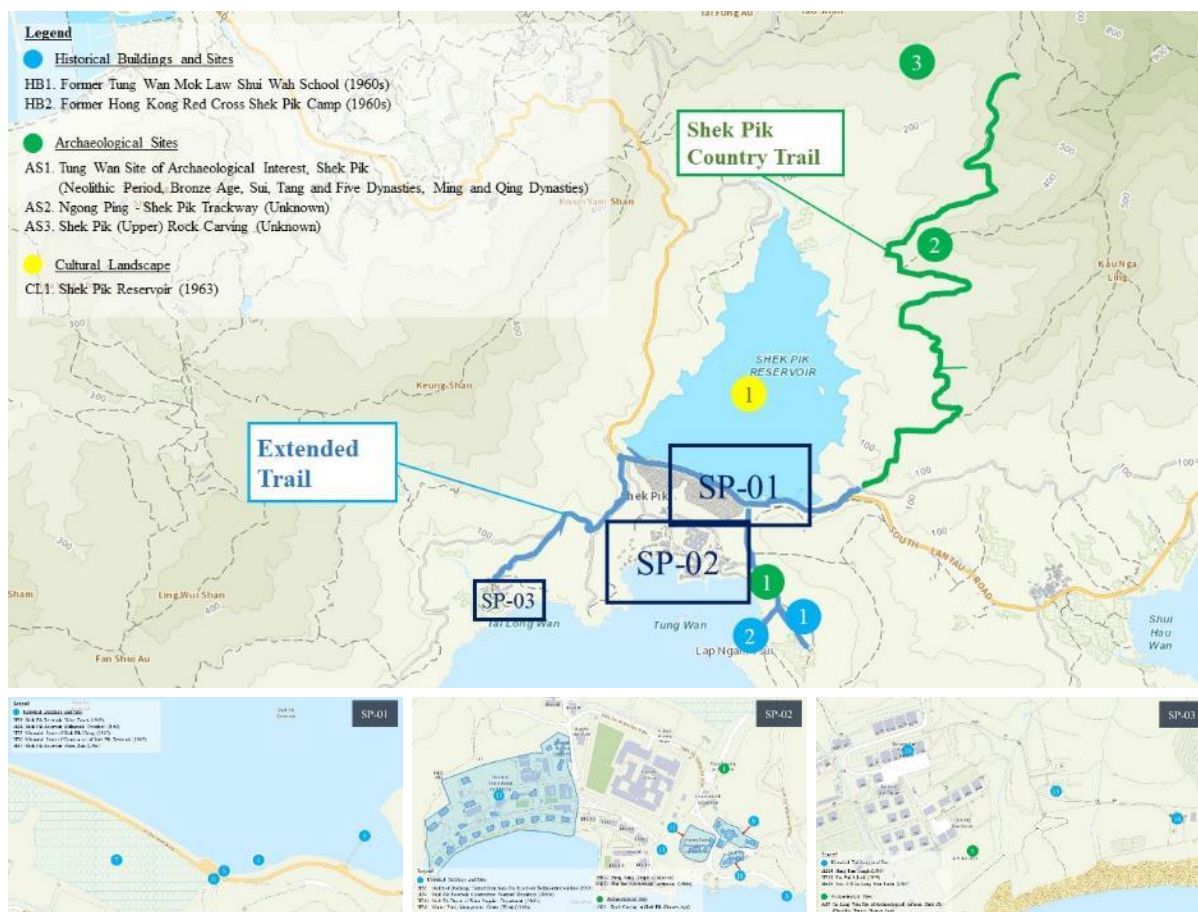


Plate 4.3: Map of the existing Shek Pik Country Trail and the proposed extension to connect various heritage attractions, labelled by the research team in 2022

#### 4.2.3 Long-term Recommendation

Though most of the old villagers of Shek Pik have been re-located to other destinations, in order to strengthen the connection between the proposed Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail with previous local residents, relevant government departments may consider to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders with experience in guided tour training to apply for the LCF to provide docent training courses to villagers of Tai Long Wan Tsuen, Shek Pik San Tsuen and other displaced villagers to become local guides.

In addition, guided tour activities with different themes can be developed in the proposed Shek Pik Natural and Cultural Heritage Trail with reference to the experience of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in organising the “Excursion with Experts at MacLehose Trail” in 2019<sup>38</sup>. Local groups and organisations that are currently organising recreational activities in Shek Pik or South Lantau can be invited to organise various types of public engagement activities, such as “South Lantau Natural, Cultural and Historical Walking Race”, which allows the public to learn the historical development of South Lantau while participating in the aforementioned recreational activities.

<sup>38</sup> Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, ‘Programme Highlights - MacLehose Trail 40th Anniversary’, Date of Visit: 24 October 2021. <https://www.natureintouch.gov.hk/news/search/0/935>



### **4.3 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S7): Surveying and Reproducing Shek Pik's ICH Items**

The relocation of old villages of Shek Pik to different places due to the construction of the Shek Pik Reservoir in the 1960s caused a fault in the inheritance of local culture. Though no ICH items in *the ICH Inventory* is named with Shek Pik<sup>39</sup>, the relocated villagers still perform some traditional belief and rituals as they were at in the old days. For example, special events are still held at the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> lunar month at the Hung Hau Temple (Hung Shing Festival and Hau Wong Festival are listed item in *the ICH Inventory*, see item no. 3.11 and 3.27). In addition, according to the preliminary findings of the study, Shek Pik area may still retain material cultural heritage (such as the lime kiln site for making lime) corresponding to ICH items in the past. There are relatively complete archaeological excavation records for some material cultural heritage, which is helpful to study and reproduce the ICH craftsmanship and technique at that time.

Based on the above-mentioned characteristics of potential ICH items of Shek Pik, its conservation strategy may be considered to be practised in two parallel approaches, namely (1) in-depth investigation of documents and oral history interviews with relocated villagers, and establishment of an ICH database of Shek Pik, and (2) reproduction of relevant ICH items in an experimental nature with reference to remaining material cultural heritage (such as the lime kiln ruins or the abandoned Hung Shing Temple) , and organise public participation activities to promote the ICH items of Shek Pik.

#### **4.3.1 Short-term Recommendation**

Relevant government departments can consider to formulate priority themes under the LCF for future research projects to be applied by NGOs to investigate in detail the potential ICH items (such as farming skills, medical knowledge, traditional ceremonies, festival customs, etc.) of Shek Pik with villagers of Tai Long Wan Tsuen, Shek Pik San Tsuen and other relocated villagers through desktop research and fieldwork. After the relevant groups have finished sorting out the data collected by the oral history, they can conduct on-site inspections to investigate whether the current site still retains related material cultural heritage (such as mountain herbs or temple ruins), and try to reconnect the relevant ICH items with the current Shek Pik area.



Plate 4.4: The research team was conducting oral history interviews and recording daily necessities for the villagers of Tai Long Wan Tsuen. Photos taken by the research team in 2021

<sup>39</sup> Leisure and Cultural Services Department: *First Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong*, Date of Visit: 25 October 2021.  
[https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/23828638/First\\_hkich\\_inventory\\_E.pdf](https://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/ICHO/documents/10969700/23828638/First_hkich_inventory_E.pdf)



In addition to recording oral history materials, the above-mentioned NGOs can consider to conduct literature research and field investigation in order to reuse the remaining material cultural heritage to experimentally reproduce the lost ICH items. Taking the lime-making process mentioned in the background information as an example, relevant NGOs can further conduct literature research on previous archaeological reports, and investigate the remains of the Tang Dynasty lime kilns found on Shek Pik. A feasibility study on the reproduction of relevant ICH techniques can be carried out according to the structure of the kiln remains, the raw material of lime, the firing technique, the use of the finished product, etc.

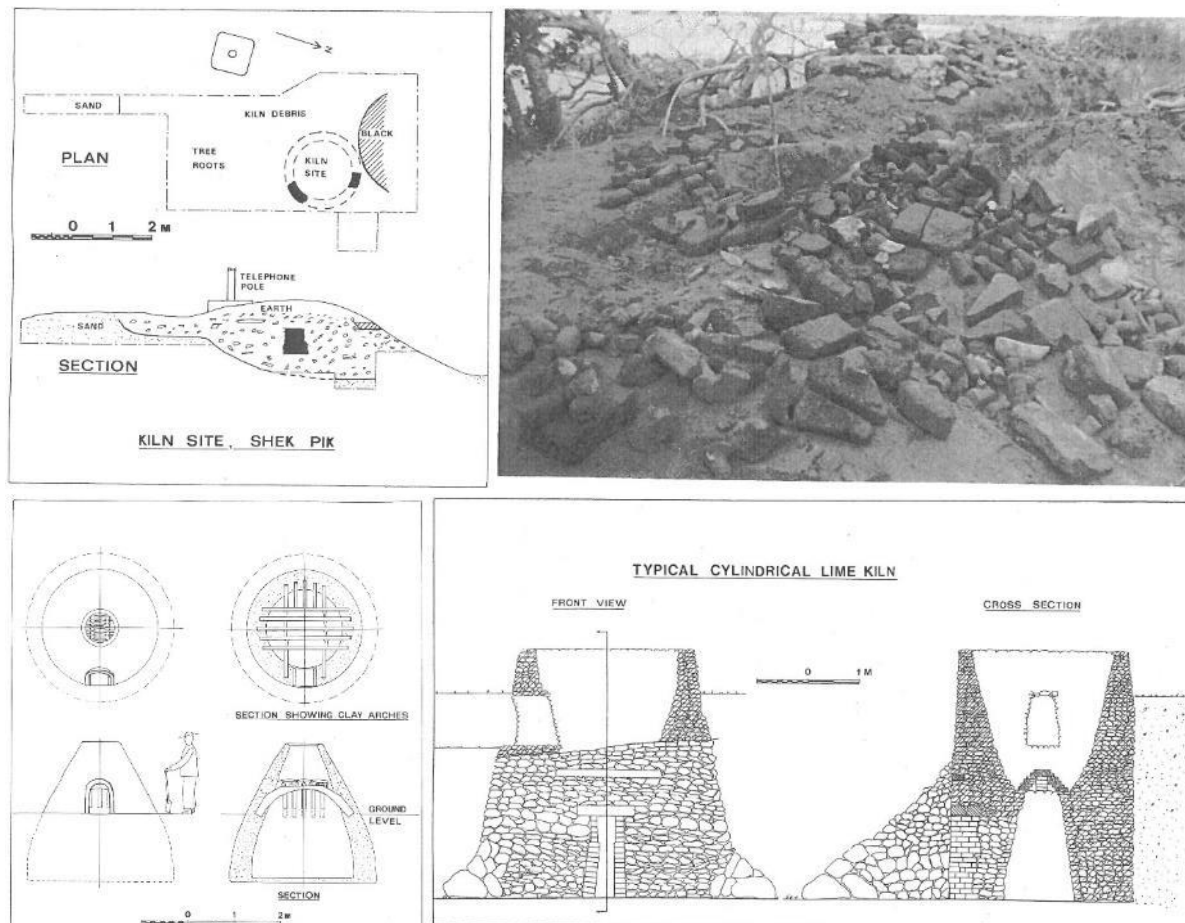


Plate 4.5: Photo record and illustrations of the Shek Pik lime kiln in an archaeological report in the 1970s<sup>40</sup>

<sup>40</sup> Meacham, William, 1978. 'The "Missing Link" in Hong Kong Archaeology', *Journal of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society*, Vol. 7, pp. 110-145.

#### 4.3.2 Mid-term Recommendation

NGOs that have already applied for the LCF in the “short-term recommendation” can continue to elaborate the research works on oral history and field investigation. As for the experimental research on the reproduction of lost ICH items, take the aforementioned research on lime making as an example, the NGOs may consider to refer to local or foreign cases (Hong Kong has no precedent on reproducing the lime making technique with historical lime kiln. However, an early modern lime kiln in Penghu County, Taiwan, was repaired and lime making technique was reproduced by using modern tools. The whole process of the experimental research was recorded for future reference<sup>41</sup>), in conjunction with the results of the feasibility study in the “short-term recommendation” to conduct experimental lime making experiments, such as reconstructing lime kilns with reference to the relics, using traditional materials (limestone, shells and coral) and firewood (collected on nearby hillsides), to reproduce lime with traditional method and hold public workshops to share the results.

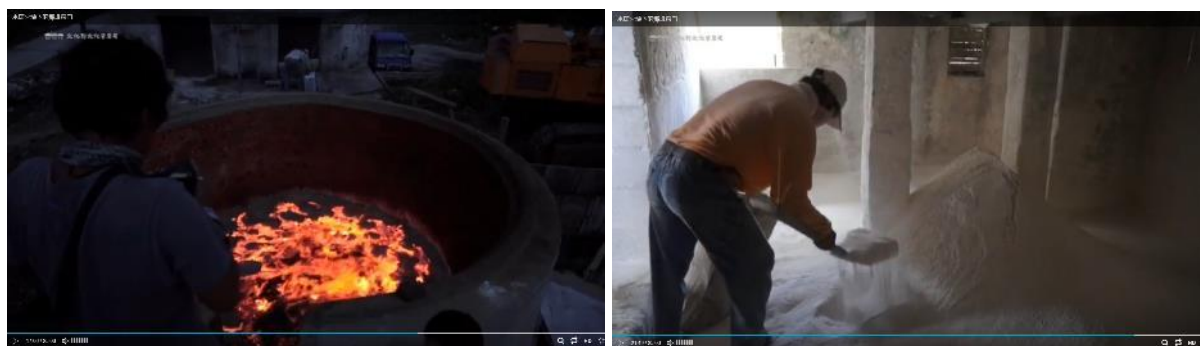


Plate 4.6: Video record on the lime making experimental research of Taiwan<sup>42</sup>

#### 4.3.3 Long-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can consider to consolidate the research results of oral histories and field investigations of different organisations in the above-mentioned “short-term recommendation” and “mid-term recommendation” to establish a Shek Pik ICH database (and ICH database of broader South Lantau area by linking the proposed ICH database of different villages) for scholars, conservationists or the public based on the above survey results. The proposed database can further enrich the connotation of Shek Pik’s cultural tourism through promoting online and physical cultural and historical information. As for the experimental research on the reproduction of ICH items, relevant government departments can further study the feasibility of applying the experimental results to other area of South Lantau. Taking the lime making technique as an example, quality inspection of the lime produced can be carried out to study if the lime can be use as the raw material (such as using as binder or lime wash) for the restoration of historical buildings at Shek Pik (such as the abandoned Hung Shing Temple of Shek Pik) and the wider South Lantau area. In addition, given that some ICH items are not limited to Shek Pik (for example, there were lime kilns found along the coast of Lantau, including Tong Fuk, Pui O, Shek Pik, etc. in the early archaeological reports). The results of the research may be considered to be extended to other South Lantau areas or the whole of Lantau Island.

<sup>41</sup> 澎湖縣政府文化局：〈白坑石灰可望重現江湖〉，Date of Visit: 26 October 2021.

<https://www.phhcc.gov.tw/home.jsp?id=95&act=view&dataserno=201408130026>

<sup>42</sup> 文化部文化資產局：〈水煎火煉下的那堆粉白〉，Date of Visit: 26 October 2021.

[https://imedia.culture.tw/channel/boch/zh\\_tw/media/75705](https://imedia.culture.tw/channel/boch/zh_tw/media/75705)

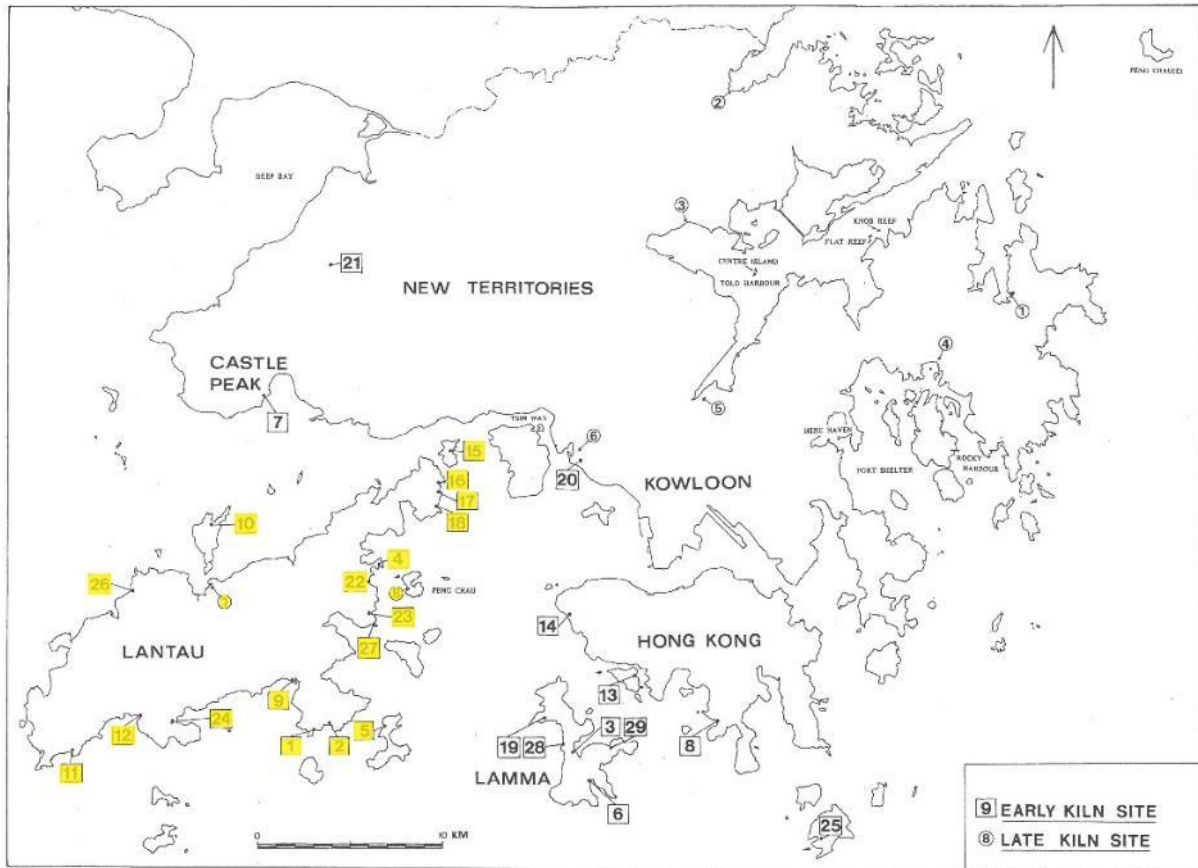


Plate 4.7: Lime kilns found along the coast of Lantau in the early archaeological reports (highlighted in yellow)<sup>43</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Meacham, William, 1978. 'The "Missing Link" in Hong Kong Archaeology', *Journal of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society*, Vol. 7, pp. 116.



Relevant government departments can consider to use the pilot project of lime making as a prototype to start more experimental studies on different types of projects to reproduce lost ICH items. Another potential ICH item at Shek Pik is the weaving and indigo dyeing technique. Although the research team has yet to find out whether weaving and dyeing were practiced at Shek Pik in the old days (research findings show that weaving and dyeing were seen in Pui O and Tung Chung, and weavers would regularly provide services in various villages in South Lantau), at present a local group in Tai Long Wan Tsuen has set up dyeing workshops using natural materials<sup>44</sup>. Although the dyeing methods used by the local group may be different from the traditional technique, it is suggested to link up the local group to conduct experimental researches jointly on traditional weaving and dyeing technique. Relevant government departments can consider to utilise the LCF to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by various NGOs to study the craftsmanship on weaving and dyeing by means of literature research, oral history interviews and field investigations. These NGOs may consider to make use of the research results to compile publications (teaching materials) on traditional weaving and dyeing techniques, and organise mobile exhibitions after completing the survey for future promotion of such ICH items.

Experiential workshops can be organised with the above research results to weave and dye cloth with traditional weaving and dyeing tools (collected from villagers of Shek Pik and the wider South Lantau area), materials (ramie and indigo) and techniques. Public workshops can be held then to share the results of the experiential workshops.



Plate 4.8: A local group in Tai Long Wan Tsuen set up dyeing workshops using natural materials<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup> 片藍造藍染工房, Date of Visit: 27 October 2021. <https://www.lantaublu.com/>

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

#### **4.4 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S8): Operating Agricultural-Themed Tong Fuk Recreational Camping Grounds**

Tong Fuk has developed into a popular tourist destination with numerous private recreational facilities since the 1980s. It is suggested that themed camping grounds or accommodation (with the theme of Tong Fuk rural life) can be set up as recommended in the *Blueprint* if appropriate measures are taken to regulated the operators of the private facilities.

According to the *APPROVED SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/SLC/21*, area south of the South Lantau Road is mainly “coastal protection area”, while “green belt” can be commonly found north of the South Lantau Road. According to the notes of both land use pattern, agricultural use (other than plant nursery) is classified as “column 1 - uses always permitted”, and on-farm domestic structure can be set up on it. Meanwhile, holiday camps are listed in “column 2 - uses that may be permitted with or without conditions on application to the Town Planning Board<sup>46</sup>”. It is believed that the proposed agriculture-themed camping grounds is feasible as long as it can comply with the above-mentioned specifications, and follow the licensing guidelines of different government departments.

##### **4.4.1 Short-term Recommendation**

Relevant government departments can fully utilise the LCF to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by NGOs. Applicants of the LCF should form research team with cross-disciplinary background in professional fields, such as history, anthropology, environmental science, biology, etc. to further investigate the cultural and ecological values of abandoned farmland at Tong Fuk (for example, the original farmland has been in the “wild” stage, and may gradually become wetlands or swamps, attracting migratory birds to live in) through desktop research and fieldwork. These NGOs can make use of the research results to involve various stakeholders by means of design thinking activities (for example, hold seminars to facilitate stakeholders to understand each other's positions, and design proposals that can balance the concerns of all parties) to discuss the feasibility of setting up the agricultural-themed camping grounds.

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<sup>46</sup> Town Planning Board: *Approved South Lantau Coast Outline Zoning Plan No. S/SLC/21*, Date of Visit: 26 October 2021. [https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp\\_plan\\_notes/en/s\\_slc\\_21\\_e.pdf](https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp_plan_notes/en/s_slc_21_e.pdf)

Before the implementation of the agricultural-themed camping grounds, as there are now many private camps and holiday facilities in Tong Fuk (There are at least ten licensed holiday camps, hotels and guesthouses<sup>47</sup> according to the database of the Home Affairs Department, and there are no licensed public places of entertainment<sup>48</sup> and recreational farms listed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department), relevant government departments can consider to survey the above-mentioned facilities and regulate the existing operators through on-site inspections. Also, holiday home operators in Tong Kuk were caught up in a bind as the current regulations do not cover caravans.<sup>49</sup> It is suggested that relevant government departments can clarify the existing legal provisions that are difficult for the public to understand, and to prosecute violations (such as direct discharge of sewage into outdoor drains or septic tank leaks, etc.) or illegal private recreational sites.

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<sup>47</sup> Office of The Licensing Authority, Home Affairs Department, 'Licensed Hotels and Guesthouse', Date of Visit: 26 October 2021.

[https://www.hadla.gov.hk/en/licensing\\_matters/hotels/search\\_result.php?licence\\_no=&premises\\_name=&address=Tong+Fuk&no\\_of\\_room\\_from=&no\\_of\\_room\\_to=&district=0](https://www.hadla.gov.hk/en/licensing_matters/hotels/search_result.php?licence_no=&premises_name=&address=Tong+Fuk&no_of_room_from=&no_of_room_to=&district=0)

<sup>48</sup> Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 'List of Licensed Non-Food Premises',

Date of Visit: 26 October 2021.

[https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/licensing/ecsvread\\_nonfood.html?page=1&licenseType=Places%20of%20Public%20Entertainment%20Licences%20\(for%20Places%20Other%20Than%20Cinemas%20and%20Theatres\)&address=Tong%20Fuk&lang=en-us](https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/licensing/ecsvread_nonfood.html?page=1&licenseType=Places%20of%20Public%20Entertainment%20Licences%20(for%20Places%20Other%20Than%20Cinemas%20and%20Theatres)&address=Tong%20Fuk&lang=en-us)

<sup>49</sup> 〈出租露營車被控無牌經營旅館 兩職員脫罪 官：不符法例所指「處所」〉，《立場新聞》，

2016 年 12 月 5 日，瀏覽日期：2021 年 10 月 26 日。

<https://www.thestandnews.com/society/出租露營車被控無牌經營旅館-兩職員脫罪-官-不符法例所指-處所>



#### 4.4.2 Mid-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments may consider to invite stakeholders, such as environmental groups, conservationists and local residents proactively to elaborate the discussion on re-cultivation and tourism development in the “South Lantau Co-Creation Workshops” conducted by the research team. A feasibility study on partial re-cultivation as an educational resource can be conducted, and part of Tong Fuk’s former rural life can be reshaped in the form of a pilot project. In conjunction with the recreational resources that have been regulated in the “short-term recommendation”, a set of economic incentives and certification systems similar to strategy S3 “mid-term recommendation” can be introduced to camp operators.



Plate 4.9: The “South Lantau Co-Creation Workshops” conducted by the research team in 2021

#### 4.4.3 Long-term Recommendation

While implementing the measures on re-cultivation and setting up themed camps in the “mid-term recommendation”, relevant government departments may conduct a comprehensive environmental review in a timely manner to examine the impact of the re-cultivation or other resulting activities. If it is confirmed after the review that the above-mentioned measures would have a positive impact on the ecology, culture and overall planning of Tong Fuk, private camps under the certification system in the “mid-term recommendation” can be further cooperated with, and supporting facilities such as information desks and signboards can be set up in public spaces.

In line with the above-mentioned upgraded facilities, relevant government departments may consider either to organise, or to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders to organise day camps, overnight cultural experiential activities, or different types of public participation activities (such as guided tours and workshops) to educate the public and promote the rural history of Tong Fuk by applying for the LCF. At the same time, suggestions in strategy S1 “long-term recommendation” may be referred to by linking landowners and outsiders to enhance the sustainability of rural culture of Tong Fuk.

In order to examine the effectiveness of the above activities, relevant government departments can further study the expectations of tourists, as well as the views of businesses operators and local organisations, and invite consultant to conduct a study on tourist carrying capacity of Tong Fuk. The business model of the tourism industry can be reviewed according to the result of the study. The research team found from different public engagement activities that local stakeholders generally have sceptical attitudes about whether the transportation capacity of Tong Fuk (and the whole of South Lantau) can support the development of tourism. Taking this as an example, consultants hired by the government can refer to the guidelines and codes of the Highways Department<sup>50</sup> to conduct a detailed traffic impact assessment report and make recommendations for improving the traffic facilities in the local area.

In addition, since some of the proposed measures of “mid-term recommendation” are not limited to Tong Fuk (such as the “Cultural Ecological Farm Certification System”), relevant government departments may consider to extend the coverage of the relevant measures to other South Lantau areas (or the entire Lantau Island), in order to achieve the effect of connecting the villages of Lantau.

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<sup>50</sup> Highways Department, *Guidelines On Traffic Impact Assessment & Day-Time Ban Requirements for Road Works On Traffic Sensitive Routes*, Date of Visit: 26 October 2022.  
[https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/technical\\_references/technical\\_document/guidance\\_notes/pdf/gn021a.pdf](https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/technical_references/technical_document/guidance_notes/pdf/gn021a.pdf)

#### **4.5 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S9): Surveying and Conducting Further Research on Tong Fuk's ICH Items**

Tong Fuk used to have numerous ICH items, including ancestor worship, *Da Chiu* ritual, *Tun Fu*, festivals of various goddess, craftsmanship (such as blacksmithing and weaving), etc., but most of them have been lost today. However, there are still a lot of material cultural heritage, such as the Earth God Shrines, Kwan Tai Temple, Hung Shing Temple, Tin Hau Temple, etc., which correspond to folk beliefs and customs at Tong Fuk. The research team could not find out whether there are still rituals and festivals at the above-mentioned cultural sites during the field investigation, and further investigation is needed.

In response to the numerous potential ICH items in Tong Fuk, the research team suggests that survey and research can be the main focus of the conservation strategy of Tong Fuk's ICH items at this stage. In-depth investigation on documents and oral history interviews with local villagers can be conducted to confirm the uniqueness and importance of different ICH items, and an attempt can be made to establish a database related to ICH items of Tong Fuk.

##### **4.5.1 Short-term and Mid-term Recommendation**

Relevant government departments can consider to formulate priority themes under the LCF for future research projects to be applied by NGOs to investigate in detail the potential ICH items corresponding to the existing material cultural heritage (such as the Earth God Shrines, Kwan Tai Temple, Hung Shing Temple, Tin Hau Temple) of Tong Fuk through desktop research and fieldwork.

Taking the research team's investigation in Miu Wan as an example, the team found that Tong Fuk villagers built a single-storey white hut with the name "Dragon Boat House" on the Miu Wan Pier. It is estimated that the hut was built in the 1960s after studying the old maps. However, no explanatory text was found on the building apart from two notices related to environmental protection. The above-mentioned NGOs can consider to conduct oral history interviews with the users of the building and members of the "Dragon Boat House" when they are investigating potential ICH items related to the Hung Shing belief at the Miu Wan Pier to verify whether the association has inherited any potential ICH items.



Plate 4.10: The "Dragon Boat House" (left) and the two notices related to environmental protection (middle and right). Photos taken by the research team in 2021



#### 4.5.2 Long-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can consider to consolidate the research results of oral histories and field investigations of different organisations to establish a Tong Fuk ICH database (and ICH database of broader South Lantau area by linking the proposed ICH database of different villages) for scholars, conservationists or the public based on the above survey results. The proposed database can further enrich the connotation of Tong Fuk's cultural tourism through promoting online and physical cultural and historical information. In conjunction with the research findings in the ICH database, relevant government departments may consider either to organise, or to encourage local groups or relevant stakeholders to contact interested artists and NGOs to organise an experimental public art programme or ICH festivals.

#### **4.6 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S10): Promoting Cheung Sha into a Venue for Multi-Cultural Activities with the Theme of Inshore Marine Resources**

Due to the lack of arable land, there were more interaction between Cheung Sha and the marine resources among the five study areas in this research, and fishing was even once one of the most important livelihoods in Cheung Sha. At present, some of the cultural resources related to inshore marine environment are still retained at Cheung Sha, such as the breakwater protecting houses and farmland near the coastline, old site of stake net fishing, etc. For Cheung Sha villagers nowadays, everyday life is still closely related to the sea. They would go to the beach for swimming, fishing, surfing, playing football or clam digging since childhood, with the Upper and Lower Cheung Sha Beaches continues to be important social spaces.

On the other hand, Cheung Sha has become the staff quarters for many European engineers who were responsible for the construction of the Shek Pik Reservoir since the 1960s according to the preliminary findings of the research team. To this day, many holiday villas of foreign companies can still be found along the seaside, and the number of non-Chinese people living in Cheung Sha is still the largest among villages in South Lantau. They brought completely different living cultures and customs to local residents, creating an interesting east-meet-west situation of Cheung Sha. The research team believes that it is feasible to utilise the significance of multicultural integration of Cheung Sha. On the premise of respecting the interaction between local residents and local marine resources, Cheung Sha can be built into a venue for multi-cultural activities with the theme of inshore marine resources

According to the *APPROVED SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN NO. S/SLC/21*, the land use of Cheung Sha along the seaside is mainly zoned as “coastal protection area”. This area is not suitable for development except for those “that are needed to support the conservation of the existing natural landscape or scenic quality of the area or the development is an essential infrastructure project with overriding public interest may be permitted<sup>51</sup>”. A small portion of land are zoned as “village type development”. It is recommended that relevant government departments can consider encouraging local groups and conservation institutions to conduct research and hold public participation activities at Cheung Sha, and make full use of the existing cultural and recreational resources to showcase the history and current situation of multicultural integration in Cheung Sha.

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<sup>51</sup> Town Planning Board: *Approved South Lantau Coast Outline Zoning Plan No. S/SLC/21*, Date of Visit: 28 October 2021. [https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp\\_plan\\_notes/en/s\\_slc\\_21\\_e.pdf](https://www2.ozp.tpb.gov.hk/plan/ozp_plan_notes/en/s_slc_21_e.pdf)

#### 4.6.1 Short-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can fully utilise the LCF to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by NGOs. Applicants of the LCF can consider to further investigate the inheritance and changes of foreigners' settlement in Cheung Sha, including the reasons for their settlement, personnel and organisational background, cultures and customs (such as food culture, festival customs, leisure activities), etc., and try to conduct oral history interviews with relevant personnel or stakeholders. On the other hand, these NGOs can further investigate the relationship between traditional living customs of Cheung Sha villagers and the inshore marine resources (such as activities related to the breakwaters, old site of stake net fishing and beaches mentioned above), and study the interaction and influence of the above-mentioned foreign groups on the living customs of Cheung Sha villagers. Taking the initial findings of the research team as an example, these foreign groups will hire local people as domestic helpers in their apartments (for example, the father of Tsang Loi Shou, a local villager in Cheung Sha, used to be the gardener in the house of the chief engineer of Shek Pik Reservoir). The research team believes that such employment relationship may have influenced the traditional lifestyle of Cheung Sha, and can be one of the research directions for in-depth research.

In addition to the general cultural exchange between the East and the West, it is found that the two Cheung Sha Beaches may have special value for both groups (it is a place for collecting marine resources or social activities for local residents, while foreigners regard it as a place of public entertainment). It is suggested that the above-mentioned NGOs can further focus their research scope to the two Cheung Sha Beaches when conducting research, and explore the preliminary work of regenerating the activities related to the different living customs of the two groups in the past at Cheung Sha Beach and other feasible locations with the theme of multiculturalism.



Plate 4.11: Beaches of Cheung Sha. The photo above was taken in 1957<sup>52</sup>, while the one below was taken in 1963<sup>53</sup>. The picture shows that villagers in Cheung Sha would dry farm products on the beach (the right side of the photo above), while foreigners would carry out various types of water sports and activities on the beach (the right side of the photo below shows that there were already Western-style yacht at the time). Infer from the above, Cheung Sha Beach should be a public space shared by the two groups

<sup>52</sup> Digital Repository, the University of Hong Kong, 'Cheung Sha Beach, Lantau Island', Date of Visit: 28 October 2022.  
<https://digitalrepository.lib.hku.hk/catalog/sx61hh292?c=&m=&s=&cv=&xywh=-979%2C-143%2C5772%2C2841>

<sup>53</sup> Digital Repository, the University of Hong Kong, 'Cheung Sha Beach, Lantau Island', Date of Visit: 28 October 2022.  
<https://digitalrepository.lib.hku.hk/catalog/4q77m382g#?c=&m=&s=&cv=&xywh=-3209%2C-2091%2C11274%2C6594>



#### 4.6.2 Mid-term Recommendation

It is suggested that relevant NGOs that have applied for the LCF mentioned in the “short-term recommendation” can compile the research results into booklets that are easy to read and place them in a conspicuous place in different public spaces for free acquisition, so that villagers and tourists can better understand the cultural value and uniqueness of Cheung Sha.

The proposed public engagement activities at Cheung Sha Beach and other locations mentioned in the “short-term recommendation” may be implemented at this stage. Since there are now numerous stakeholders at Cheung Sha Beach, such as shop owners, local groups, villagers, tourists etc., the NGOs responsible for organising the event can use the design thinking approach (such as organising workshop guiding participant to understand the historical and cultural significances of Cheung Sha) to communicate with different stakeholders during the preparation of the public engagement activities. The design concept of public engagement activities can be jointly conceived, and the expectations and concerns of different stakeholders can be understood through the approach.

After thorough consultation with local stakeholders, it is recommended local groups planning the event can consider to invite conservation institutions experienced in docent training to train villagers to become tour guides or volunteer staff for the proposed activities, which provides visitors a more comprehensive understanding of the sites. Meanwhile, through talking to local residents visitors may learn to respect the local culture in addition to visiting attractions only, and the sustainability of the public engagement activities can be maintained.



Plate 4.12: Different shops and stakeholders of the Cheung Sha Beach, photos taken by the research team in 2021

### 4.6.3 Long-term Recommendation

In addition to inviting NGOs to organise public engagement activities, relevant government departments can consider to review the performance of the activities in a timely manner, such as studying the expectations of tourists, as well as feedbacks of shop owners and local groups. The result of the review practice, together with previous studies and investigations conducted by relevant government departments on development of Cheung Sha (for example, the Civil Engineering and Development Department has commissioned a consultant to conduct a preliminary feasibility study of Spa and Resort Development at Cheung Sha<sup>54</sup>), can be consolidated and professional consultant can be further invited to study the tourist carrying capacity of Cheung Sha. The business model of the tourism industry can be reviewed according to the result of the study. For example, a venue for multi-cultural activities can be constructed in a suitable location as a unified point of assembly for the above-mentioned public activities, so as to enhance the sustainability of tourism industry and cultural activities.



Plate 4.13: Preliminary feasibility study of Spa and Resort Development at Cheung Sha, commissioned by the Civil Engineering and Development Department in 2015<sup>55</sup>

<sup>54</sup> Civil Engineering and Development Department, 'CE 10/2015 (CE) - Preliminary Feasibility Study of Cable Car System from Ngong Ping to Tai O, and Spa and Resort Development at Cheung Sha and Soko Islands - Feasibility Study', Date of Visit: 29 October 2021.

<https://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/our-projects/project-reports/index-id-17.html>

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

# 5

## **Conservation and Revitalisation Objective (O3)** **Connecting Places with Ecological and Cultural Value** **on South Lantau Through “Point-Line-Plane” Approach to Form** **a Network of Natural and Cultural Resources of Lantau**

## **5.1 Background**

In addition to the above-mentioned conservation and revitalisation strategies proposed for the characteristics of individual villages in South Lantau, the research team found that significances of the entire South Lantau area can be summarised into four common topics – folk beliefs and customs, traditional industries, education, and the Shek Pik waterworks. These four topics mainly focus on the historical context, planned development and natural resources of South Lantau, and they can be consolidated to constitute a conservation scheme that connects the entire South Lantau region. Such a way to connect the cultural heritage resources is in line with the *Blueprint* that “a ‘point-line-plane’ approach is proposed to connect places of ecological and cultural value in Lantau by walking trails, forming a network of natural and cultural resources of Lantau. These resources can be further manifested and public enjoyment can be enhanced”.



## **5.2 Conservation and Revitalisation Strategy (S11): Enhancing Supporting Facilities of Villages and Cultural Points on South Lantau, and Setting Up Heritage Trails and Tourist Routes with Different Themes to Connect Places with Ecological and Cultural Values of South Lantau**

In order to implement the above-mentioned area-based conservation strategy for South Lantau, the research team proposes to start from software design and hardware facilities, and put forward short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations with the “point-line-plane” approach. At the “point” level, in addition to the conservation strategy for individual villages mentioned in S1 to S10, the research team believes that further survey, research, restoration and promotion on various cultural heritage resources related to the above-mentioned four common themes can serve as the basis for the heritage trails and tourist “line” linking various villages. The heritage trails with four themes can effectively connect places with ecological and cultural value in South Lantau, demonstrating the context and planned development of the entire South Lantau region.

	<b>“Point-line-plane” conservation strategy of South Lantau</b>	
Point	Conservation strategy for individual villages (S1 to S10)	Conservation strategy for each cultural and historical resource under the four themes
Line	Characteristics of individual villages will be integrated into the four themed heritage trails	Conservation strategy of the four themed heritage trails
Plane	Conservation strategy for the entire South Lantau region and their positioning in the overall Lantau Conservation Master Plan	

The following short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations are an overview of the entire conservation strategy S11. Individual recommendations for the above four themes will be elaborated in each proposed heritage trail (short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations may not be available for each individual trails).

## 5.2.1 “Point” Level Recommendation in the “Point-Line-Plane” Approach

### *5.2.1.1 Short-term Recommendation*

Relevant government departments may consider to investigate in detail the historical, cultural and ecological value of each cultural and historical resource (as well as their current status) on the four common themes reflecting the overall history of South Lantau, and review the feasibility to establish a database to integrate the research findings as the basic information for the promotion and introduction of various cultural heritage resources. Meanwhile, the promotion of some cultural heritage resources that have been opened to the public may be strengthened, so as to increase the public’s interest in visiting South Lantau.

In terms of hardware support, relevant government departments can make use of the findings of the investigation above to set up different types of supporting facilities, such as information kiosks, signage, benches and shelters, where appropriate.

### *5.2.1.2 Mid-term Recommendation*

In line with the cultural and historical resource database that has been established under the “short-term recommendation”, relevant government departments may liaise with owners and operators of cultural heritage resources that are not open to the public to study the feasibility of opening relevant buildings for public visits on a regular basis. In addition, existing funding schemes of different government departments and charitable organisations (such as the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, and the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme on Built Heritage under the Development Bureau) can be fully utilised to hire heritage consultants to draft the conservation management plan of those cultural heritage resources that are not suitable for public viewing at present, such as places that are abandoned or cannot meet the legal requirements for public activities. Before the repair work is completed, online tours by means of virtual reality (VR) or augmented reality (AR) can be established, so that the public can still have an immersive experience without entering the cultural heritage resources.

In view that the promotion of cultural tourism mentioned in the “short-term recommendation” may bring more tourists to South Lantau, it is suggested to strengthen the discussion and concerns of various stakeholders on the tourism industry in the “South Lantau Co-Creation Workshops” conducted by the research team. Relevant government departments may consider to upgrade the supporting facilities of various villages in South Lantau according to the recommendation on traffic management and transport facilities improvement of the *Blueprint*.

### *5.2.1.3 Long-term Recommendation*

Restoration works recommended in the heritage conservation plan of those cultural heritage resources that are not suitable for public viewing (mentioned in the “mid-term recommendation”) can be carried out either by relevant government departments, or through partnership schemes (government-owned buildings)<sup>56</sup> and other economic incentives provided to operators and stakeholders (privately-owned buildings). The research team suggested that some cultural and historical sites with outstanding cultural heritage value could be revitalised

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<sup>56</sup> The government launched the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme in 2008 to (1) preserve and put historic buildings into good and innovative use; (2) transform historic buildings into unique cultural landmarks; (3) promote active public participation in the conservation of historic buildings; and (4) create job opportunities in particular at the district level, Date of Visit: 30 October 2021.

<https://www.heritage.gov.hk/en/revitalisation-scheme/index.html>

as resource centres on heritage trails with different themes. In addition to displaying exhibits or reference materials on related themes, these resource centres could also be used as venues for public events in the future.

The Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre is one example for such revitalisation project. The Gallery was formerly the old Ping Shan Police Station built in 1900, and it was turned into a visitor centre of the heritage trail in 2007. The Tang Clan in Ping Shan tell their own stories through exhibitions in the Gallery. They also showcase numerous cultural relics and photos relating to their history, lifestyle, economy, marital customs, festivals, ceremonies and education<sup>57</sup>.



Plate 5.1: Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre<sup>58</sup>

<sup>57</sup> Antiquities and Monuments Office, *Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre*, Date of Visit: 30 October 2021. [https://www.amo.gov.hk/filemanager/amo/common/download-area/pamphlet/PSTCG\\_Pamphlet.pdf](https://www.amo.gov.hk/filemanager/amo/common/download-area/pamphlet/PSTCG_Pamphlet.pdf)

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

## 5.2.2 “Line” Level Recommendation in the “Point-Line-Plane” Approach

### *5.2.2.1 Short-term Recommendation*

Relevant government departments may consider to carry out the relevant advance work of the heritage trails and tour routes related to the four common topics of folk beliefs and customs, traditional industries, education, and the Shek Pik waterworks. In order to fully utilise the limited resources, it is not advisable to thoroughly investigate and promote all the four themed heritage trails in a short period of time. It is recommended that relevant government departments can start with one of the most accessible and feasible themes (for example, most of the cultural heritage resources on the theme route are open to the public, suitable for public activities and do not require major restoration works, and have comprehensive transportation or walking supporting equipment) as a pilot project, and promote the heritage trail as a pilot programme.

In terms of hardware facilities, since South Lantau Road is the major road connecting different villages of the four themed heritage trails, relevant government departments may consider to upgrade the supporting facilities along South Lantau Road when planning the proposed heritage trails and tourist routes. For example, signage (such as signboards or QR codes) and other facilities (such as water filling stations, bicycle parking spaces or rest areas) can be set at suitable locations along South Lantau Road to connect the heritage trails to hiking trails, cycling trails and mountain bike trails to be built in the future.

### *5.2.2.2 Mid-term Recommendation*

Relevant government departments may consider to review the effectiveness of the heritage trail pilot scheme mentioned in “short-term recommendation” in due course, and further study and evaluate the impact of the establishment of heritage trails and tourist routes on the connectivity of South Lantau. At this stage, the research team has initially found from different types of design thinking activities that different stakeholders generally have sceptical attitudes about whether the transportation carrying capacity of South Lantau can support the development of cultural tourism. A detailed traffic impact assessment report can be made with reference to the Highways Department’s guidelines and codes<sup>59</sup>, and suggestions for improving the traffic facilities in the South Lantau area can be made.

As the accessibility of some cultural heritage resources through South Lantau Road may be relatively low among the heritage trails of all four themes, it is suggested that relevant government departments can upgrade the transportation network of South Lantau to enhance the accessibility of various cultural and historical resources. For example, additional themed transportation routes and stops of various heritage trails can be added to the proposed “hop-on hop-off” services and green transport services when formulating heritage trails and tour routes according to the recommendation on water transport, traffic management and transport facilities improvement of the *Blueprint*.

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<sup>59</sup> Highways Department, “Guidelines on Traffic Impact Assessment & Day-Time Ban Requirements for Road Works on Traffic Sensitive Routes”, Date of Visit: 30 October 2021.  
[https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/technical\\_references/technical\\_document/guidance\\_notes/pdf/gn021a.pdf](https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/technical_references/technical_document/guidance_notes/pdf/gn021a.pdf)



### 5.2.2.3 Long-term Recommendation

Relevant government departments can further review the effectiveness of the pilot scheme in the “mid-term recommendation” and launch other themed heritage trails for cultural tourism in phases. The four themed heritage trails and tour routes will interweave the development process of South Lantau’s settlements from the historical, religious, and educational perspective, and interpret the heritage value of the cultural landscape of South Lantau regionally. In addition, it is suggested that relevant government departments can utilise the resources of the LCF to formulate priority themes for future research projects to be applied by various NGOs. Applicants of the LCF should form research team with cross-disciplinary background in professional fields, such as history, anthropology, architecture, environmental science, biology, etc. to sustainably develop other themed heritage trails and tourist routes in South Lantau.

Given that the themes of some heritage trails are not limited to those unique to South Lantau (such as customs related to sea gods and earth gods worship), relevant government departments may consider extending the routes with related themes to other areas of Lantau Island.

### 5.2.2.4 Recommendations for Individual Themes

The short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations above are an overview of the “line” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach, while the following recommendations are proposed separately according to the current situation and characteristics of each of the four themes (short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations may not be available for each individual trails).

<b>Themed Trail</b>	<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Villages</b>
Folk beliefs and customs	Connecting most of the temples, shrines, and other cultural heritage resources of South Lantau with two sub-themes: sea god belief and land-based belief	Pui O, Cheung Sha, Tong Fuk, Shui Hau and Shek Pik
Traditional industries	Linking the historical sites of lime making, farming, inshore fishing, etc. to demonstrate the various products and craftsmanship of South Lantau	
Education	Showcasing the historical development of education of South Lantau through the historical sites of study halls, village schools, foreign school-running groups and even current international schools	
Shek Pik waterworks	Demonstrating the impact of the construction of Shek Pik Reservoir on the entire South Lantau area through different waterworks related buildings and facilities	Pui O, Cheung Sha and Shek Pik

All four themes have considerable potential to be implemented as heritage trails linking villages in South Lantau. Among them, the theme of “folk beliefs and customs” can fully demonstrate the spiritual appearance of coastal communities in South Lantau with both sea god belief and land-based belief. There are also special activities (such as Tin Hau Festival) during festivities to attract the public to visit. Its cultural heritage resources are more numerous than other themes, and most of them have been opened to the public. In view of the preconditions of 5.2.2.1 short-term recommendation, there is the greatest opportunity to implement the “folk beliefs and customs” themed heritage trail in the short term.

#### 5.2.2.4.1 “Folk Beliefs and Customs” Themed Heritage Trail

##### *Short-term Recommendation*

Relevant government departments can consider to strengthen the promotion of public engagement activities along the trail during special days, such as the unicorn dance tour to be held on Tin Hau Festival mentioned in “short-term recommendation” of S2, and the ICH festivals proposed in the “long-term recommendation” in S9. In view that some sea gods, such as the King of *Yu Tau* (fish head) and King of *Shui Ching Gong* (crystal palace) (also known as “Dragon King”), are exclusive to South Lantau, and it is rare to dedicate two main gods (Hung Shing and Hau Wang) in the same temple in Tai Long Wan Tsuen, the research team believes that the theme of “folk beliefs and customs” has the potential to be further studied and promoted.

##### *Long-term Recommendation*

The two abandoned Hung Shing Temples at Pui O and Shek Pik can be restored into the tourist information centres of the “folk beliefs and customs” themed heritage trail according to the 5.2.1 “point” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach.

The heritage trail is divided into two sub-themes: sea god belief and land-based belief. Cultural heritage resources of sea god belief sub-themed trail are as below<sup>60</sup>:

Item No.	Name of Cultural Heritage	Year
Sea God Belief (Pre-historic Period)		
SP-02-AS4	Rock Carving at Shek Pik	Bronze age
Sea God Belief (Tin Hau)		
PO-10-HB21	Tin Hau Temple	Before 1799
CS-02-PA8	Tin Hau Shrine	Unidentified
TF-03-PA8	Tin Hau Temple	Refurbished in 1992
SH-00-PA1	Tin Hau Temple	1960s
Sea God Belief (Hung Shing)		
PO-11-HB22	Hung Shing Temple	Rebuilt in 1800
TF-02-HB6	Hung Shing Temple	1802
SP-02-HB12	Hung Shing Temple	Unidentified
SP-03-HB14	Hung Shing Temple	1959
Other Sea God Belief		
PO-10-PA18	Tai Wong Yeh Temple	18 <sup>th</sup> century

<sup>60</sup> Please refer to item no. listed in the “List of Cultural Heritage Resources” in the “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.

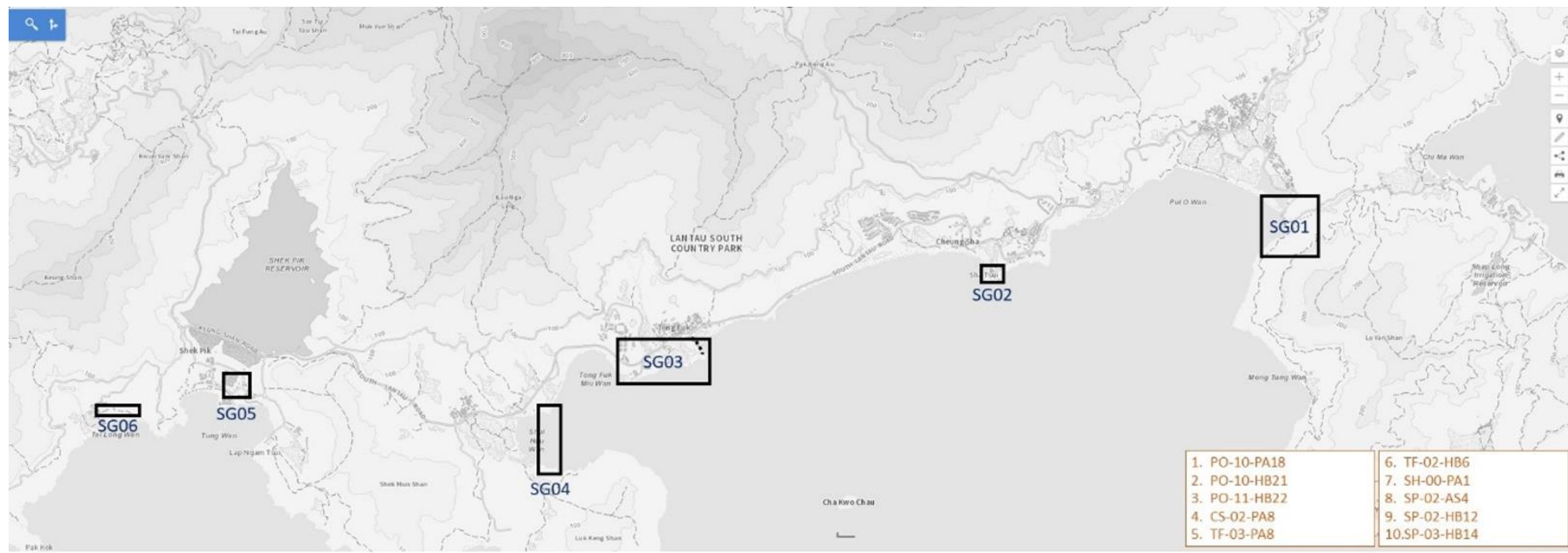


Plate 5.2: Route of the “Folk Beliefs and Customs” Themed Heritage Trail (Sub-theme of sea god belief)

Cultural heritage resources of land-based sub-belief themed trail are as below<sup>61</sup>:

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction
Land-based Belief (Hau Wong, Kwan Tai and Che Kung)		
PO-02-PA5	Kwan Tai Shrine	Unidentified
TF-01-PA1	Kwan Tai Shrine	Refurbished in 1983
SP-03-HB14	Hung Hau Temple	1959
Land-based Belief (Earth God)		
PO-02-PA4	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-04-PA6	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-04-PA7	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-04-PA8	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-05-PA9	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-06-PA10	Shrine for the God of Wing On Bridge	Unidentified
PO-07-PA13	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-08-PA14	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
PO-08-PA15	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-01-PA2	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-01-PA3	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-01-PA4	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-01-PA5	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-02-PA6	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
CS-02-PA7	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
TF-01-PA2	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
TF-01-PA3	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
TF-01-PA4	Earth God Shrine, Old Trees and the Relics of Rubble Walls	Unidentified
TF-01-PA5	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified
SH-01-PA2	A Pair of Boundary Stones	Unidentified
SH-01-PA3	Tai Wong Yeh Shrine	Unidentified
SH-01-PA5	Earth God Shrine	Unidentified

<sup>61</sup> Please refer to item no. listed in the “List of Cultural Heritage Resources” in the “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.



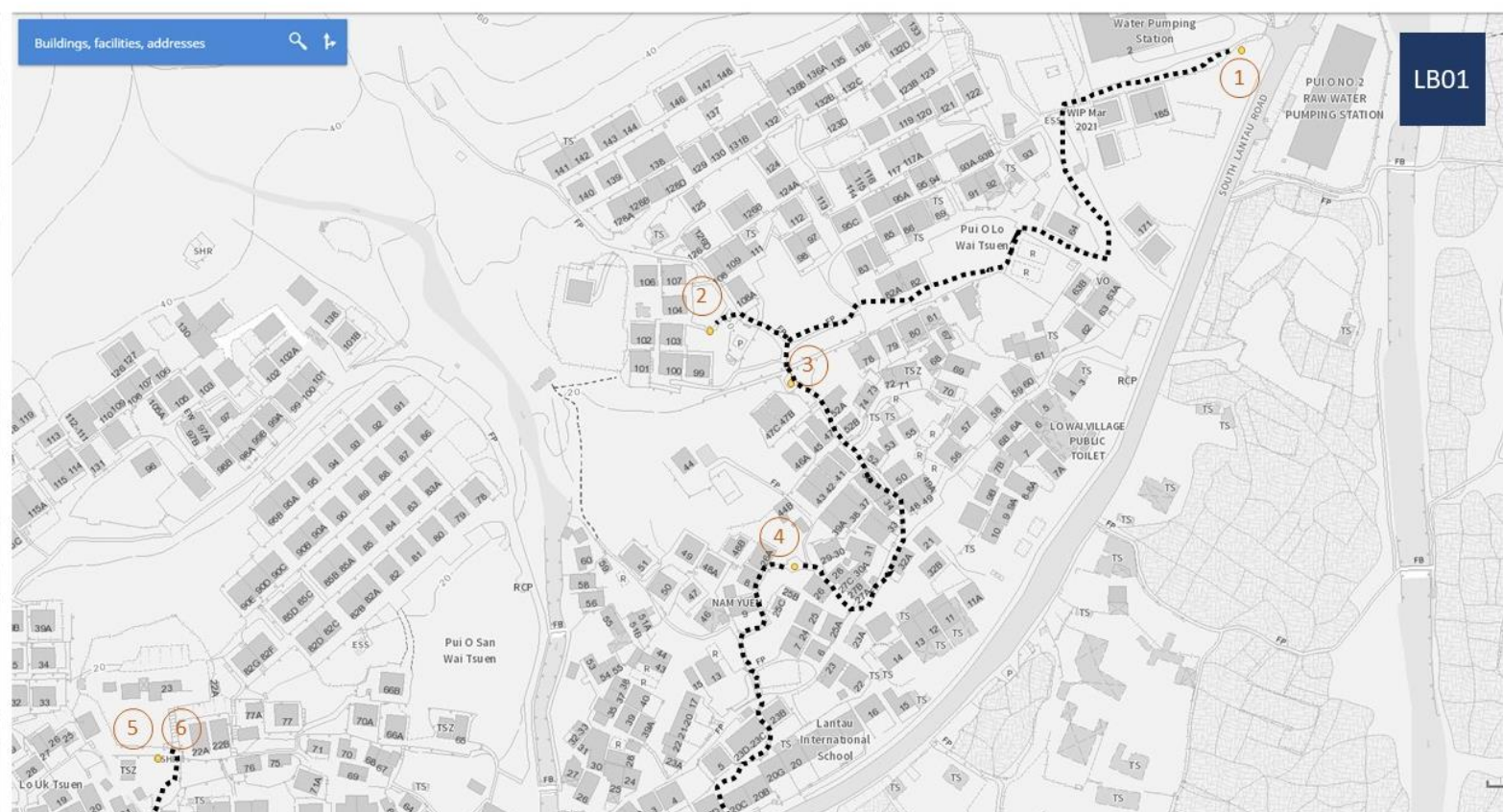
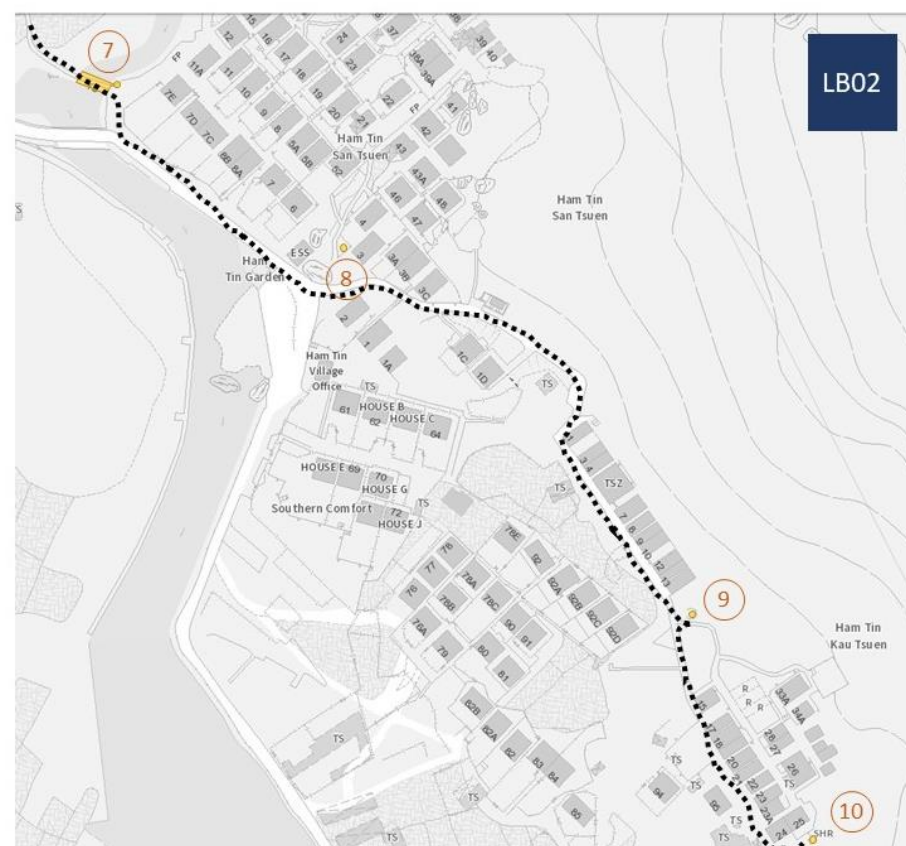


Plate 5.3: Route of the “Folk Beliefs and Customs” Themed Heritage Trail (Sub-theme of land-based belief) (To be continued in the next page)



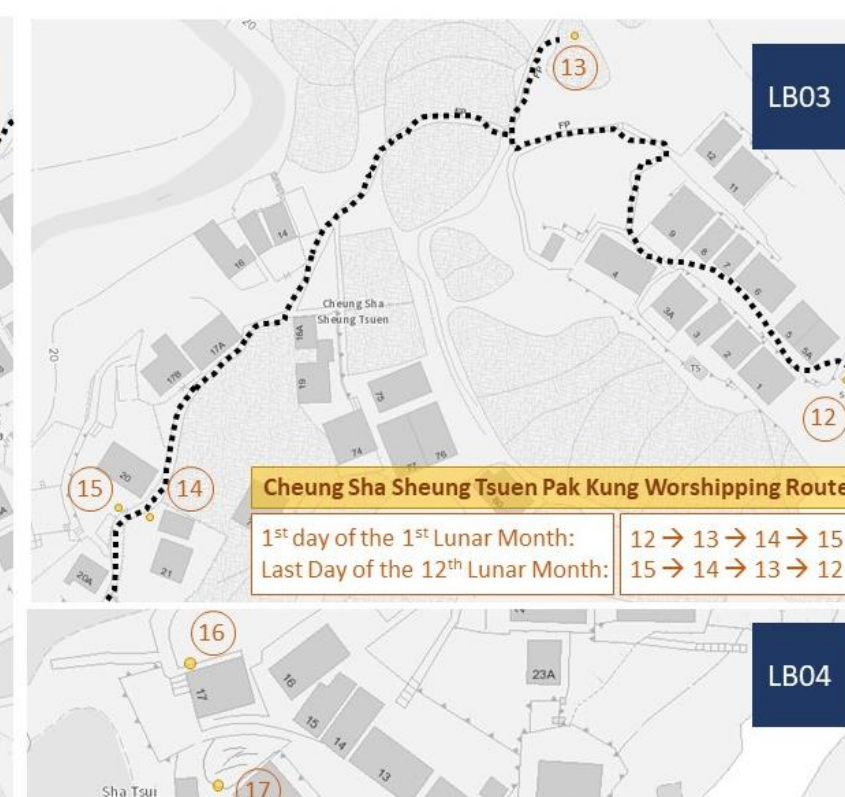
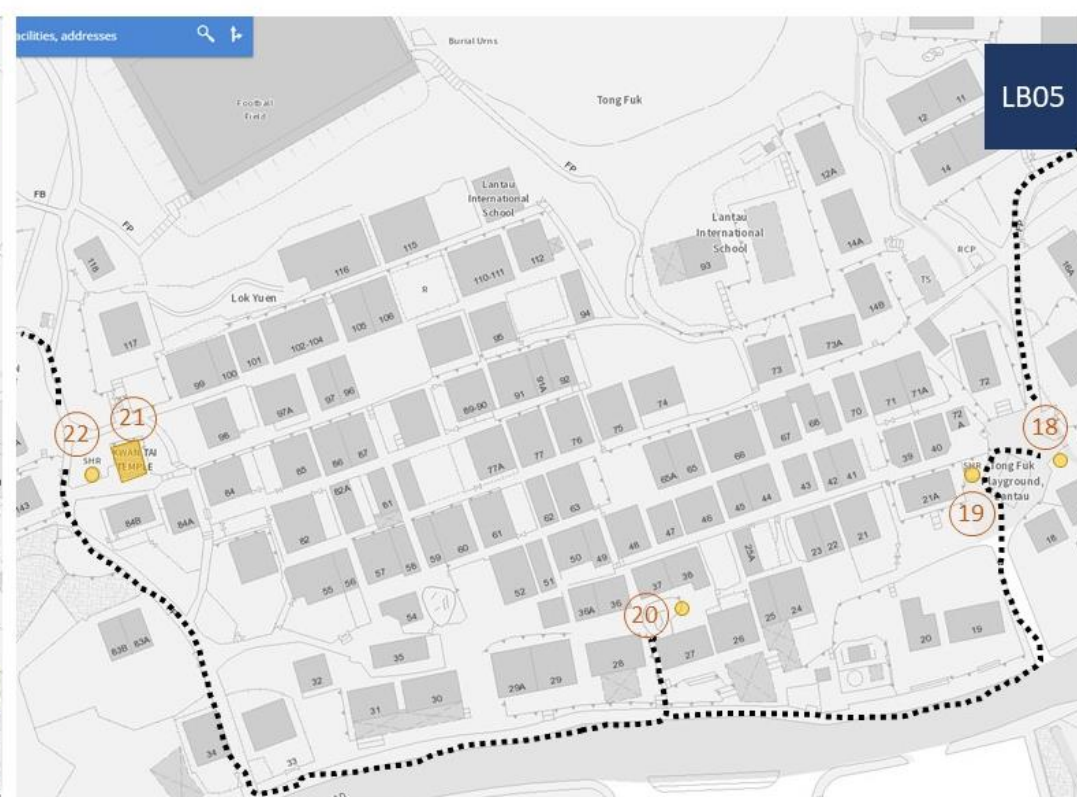
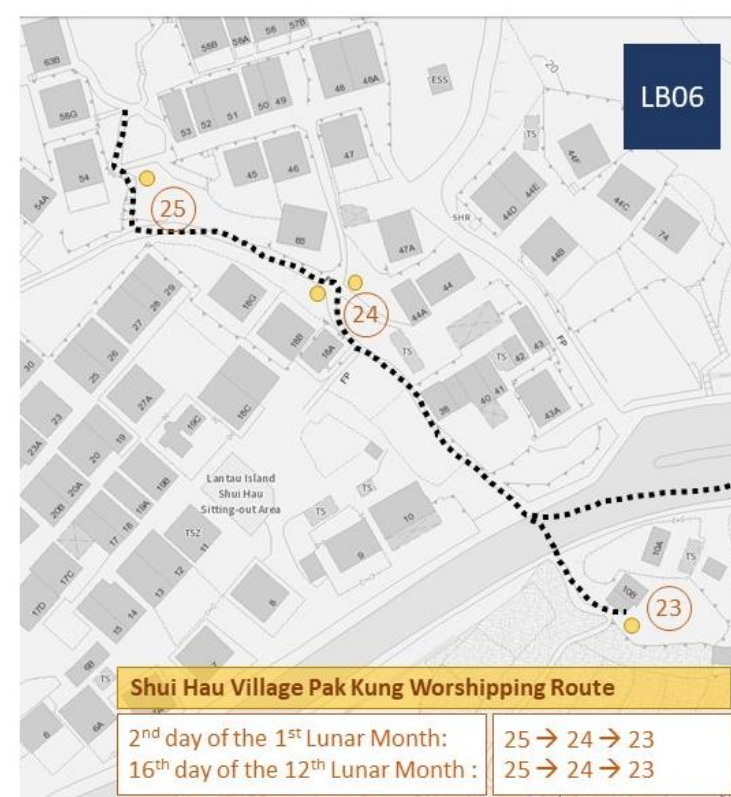


Plate 5.4: Route of the “Folk Beliefs and Customs” Themed Heritage Trail (Sub-theme of land-based belief)

#### 5.2.2.4.2 “Traditional Industries” Themed Heritage Trail

##### *Mid-term Recommendation*

Due to industrial transformation and outflow of manpower, it is not recommended to resume the scale of traditional industries in the past. However, different types of cultural heritage resources of different traditional industries can be fully utilised for display and educational purposes. The aforementioned conservation strategy of individual village (such as the proposed re-cultivation and educational activities of Pui O, Tong Fuk and Shui Hau in the “mid-term recommendation” and “long-term recommendation”; Holiday ecological farmers’ market of Pui O proposed in the “long-term recommendation”; Different types of cultural experiential programme of Shui Hau and Shek Pik proposed in the “short-term recommendation” and “mid-term recommendation”) may be incorporated into the proposed “traditional industries” themed heritage trail to strengthen the promotion of public engagement activities of the trail.

##### *Long-term Recommendation*

The abandoned old grain-store of Shui Hau can be restored into the tourist information centre of the “traditional industries” themed heritage trail according to the 5.2.1 “point” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach.

Cultural heritage resources of the “traditional industries” themed heritage trail are as below<sup>62</sup>:

Item no.	Name	Historical Background/ Significance
Agriculture		
PO-00-CL1	Pui O Wetland	Although the current agricultural activities in Pui O, Tong Fuk and Shui Hau have almost completely stopped, the research team found that there are still many relics related to agricultural activities in the wetland area. Even the extent of the current wetland is basically not much different from that of the former farmland. These wetlands are not a completely natural landscape, but instead a result of the interactions between the environment and local communities. The landscape has witnessed the local historical and cultural development.
TF-03-CL1	Tong Fuk Wetland	
SH-00-CL1	Shui Hau Wetland and Sandflat	
CS-02-HB6	Breakwater Donated by the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association (KAAA)	Every year during the summer months, typhoons brought severe floods to Cheung Sha, damaging buildings and paddy fields. KAAA helped villagers build a breakwater near the coastline in Cheung Sha Ha Tsuen in 1957. The stone embankment is 60 meters long and 2 meters high. It has a build-in drainage system and is still protecting Cheung Sha to this day.
SH-01-HB3	Old Grain-store	Some more resourceful farmers would build a hut to store their harvest which might sum up to several hundred catties.

<sup>62</sup> Please refer to item no. listed in the “List of Cultural Heritage Resources” in the “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.

Item no.	Name	Historical Background/ Significance
Fisheries		
CS-00-PA1	Old Site of Stake Net Fishing	These parallel square holes drilled on rocks along the coast of Cheung Sha are relic of previous stake net fishing practices. Stake net is a net attached to wooden poles and is worked by a winch stationed in a hut on shore. When the fishermen manning the hut detected any catch, they would raise the net by turning the winch. This practice is known as ‘ <i>au yue</i> ’ locally.
SH-00-PA1	Tin Hau Temple	According to villagers of Shui Hau, the Tin Hau Temple was where they process seafood purchased from the boat people.
SH-00-CL1	Shui Hau Wetland and Sandflat	The sandflat was a natural resource for the villagers who fished and gathered marine resources. Villagers managed the natural habitat carefully, and they would have traditional tools ( <i>ci hau pa</i> and <i>lim</i> ) to collect marine resources in a more sustainable way.
Other Cultural Heritage Resources related to Traditional Industries		
PO-04-HB10	Open Stove	According to the old photos provided by interviewees, meals would be prepared and cooked in an open stove of the village when villagers held banquets. At present there is still an open stove made of bricks in Pui O Lo Wai Tsuen, but its style is slightly different from those in the old photos.
PO-00-AS1	Pui O Site of Archaeological Interest	Archaeologists have discovered a number of ancient kilns along the coast of Lantau Island (include Pui O), with their production period tracing back to the Six Dynasties (222-589) to the Tang Dynasty (618-907), until the Song Dynasty (960-1279) before ceasing operation. Lime is mainly fired from limestone, shells or coral. It has a strong bonding ability and therefore can be used in buildings. Fishermen also used lime to repair cracks and chips in their boats and applied it on the salt-making tools.



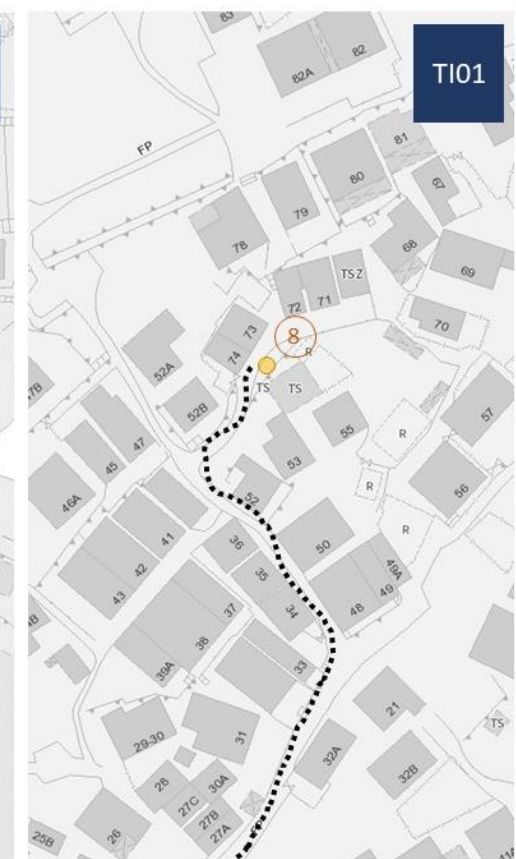
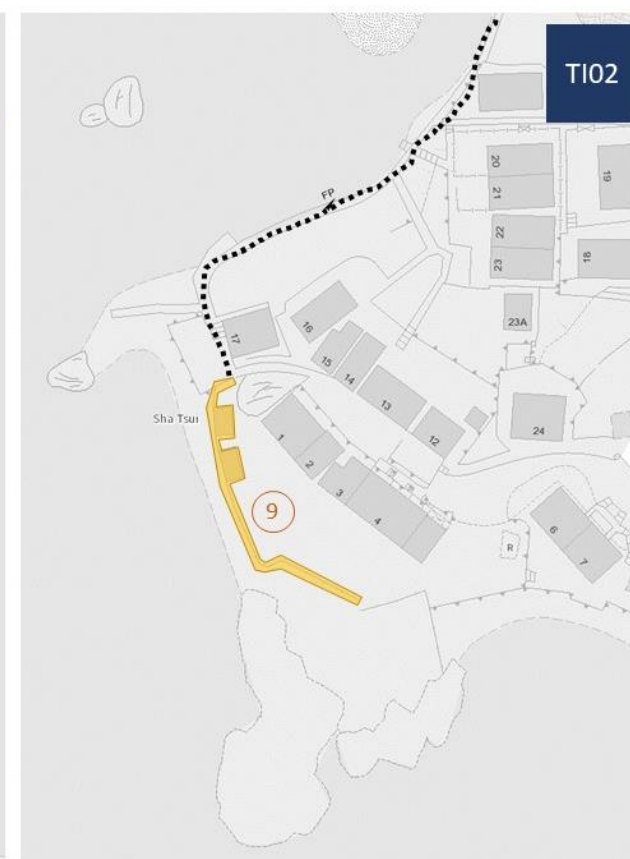
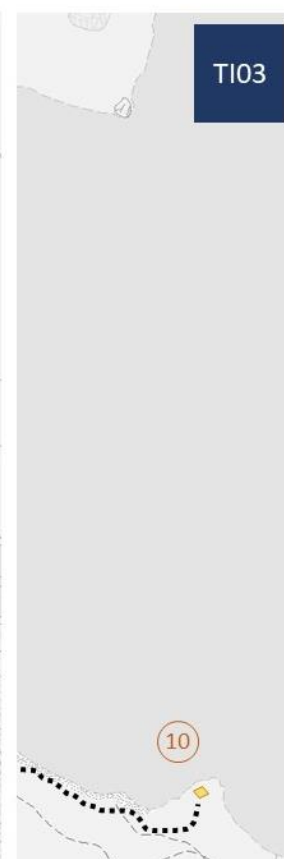
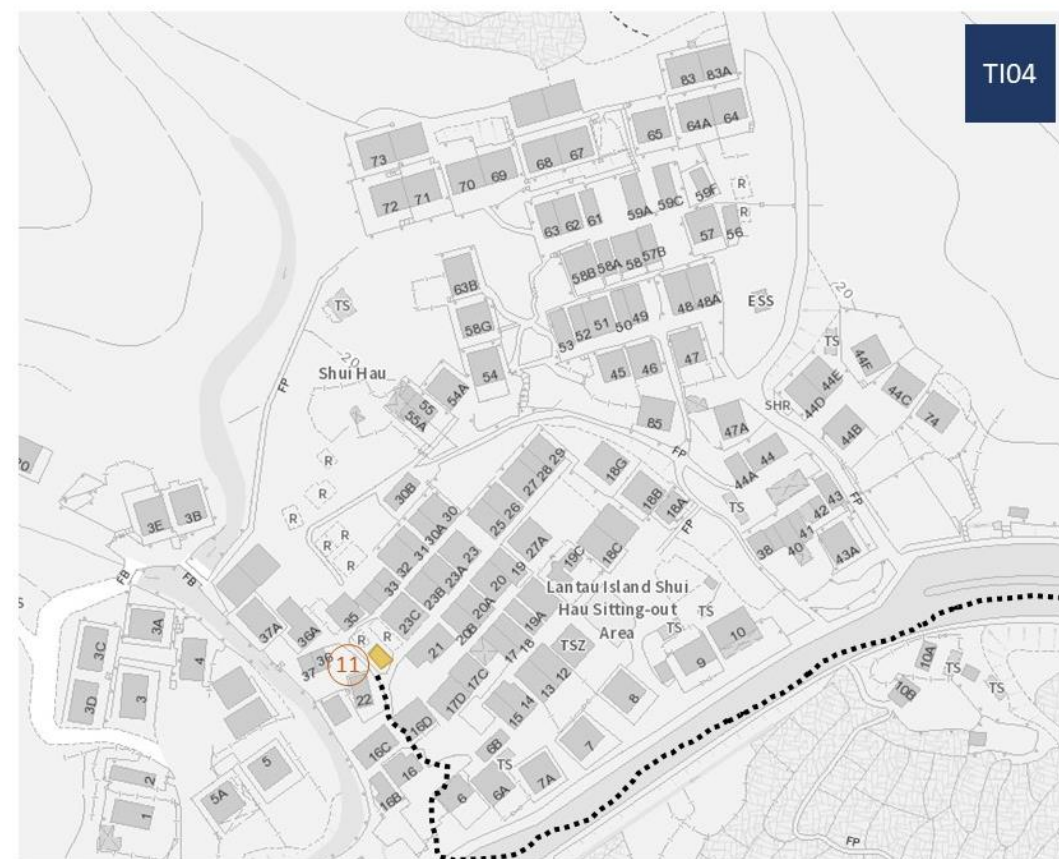
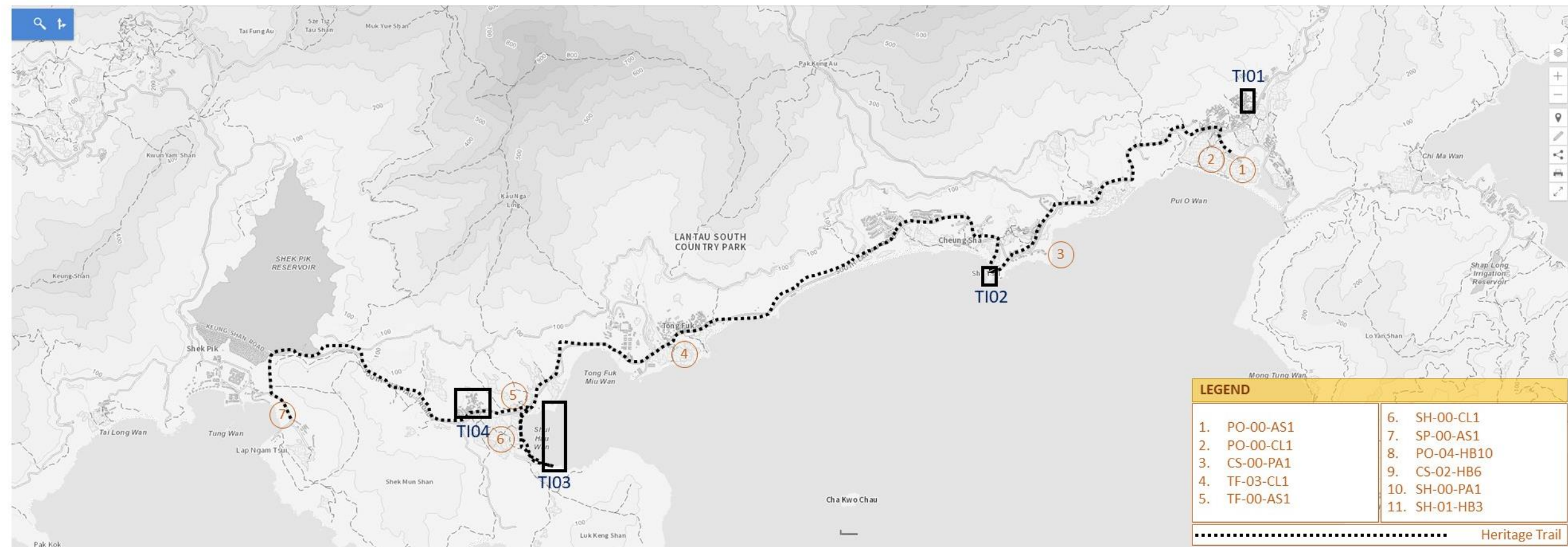


Plate 5.5: Route of the “Traditional Industries” Themed Heritage Trail

#### 5.2.2.4.3 “Education” Themed Heritage Trail

##### *Short-term Recommendation*

Relevant government departments may consider to investigate in detail the context and development process of rural education from study halls to village schools, and then into “Central Schools”. In addition, since the school premises of the Former Tung Wan Mok Law Shui Wah School and the nearby vacant land have been included in “the list of vacant government sites (including vacant school premises) currently available for community, institutional or non-profit making purposes” (Item Nos. DLOs 124 and DLOs 253), relevant government departments can encourage local groups and conservation organisations to lease the relevant school premises from the Lands Department, and apply for the “Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations”<sup>63</sup> established by the Development Bureau for the use of vacant land and school premises. The abandoned school premises can be revitalised into a resource centre for the “education” themed heritage trail.

##### *Mid-term Recommendation*

Current operators of cultural heritage resources on the theme heritage trail, such as Bui O Public School, Lantau International School, and village offices or rural committees of various villages can be invited to study the feasibility of opening the relevant buildings for public viewing on a regular basis, as recommended in 5.2.1 “point” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach.

Cultural heritage resources of the “education” themed heritage trail are as below<sup>64</sup>:

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
PO-02-HB3	Old Bui O Public School	1952	Old Bui O Public School is a row of one storey flat-roofed buildings. “Bui O Public School” in Chinese characters was inscribed on the wall above the main entrance of the school building according to old photos, but it is now covered by later construction materials and cannot be identified. The school has been expanded for several times, but the old school building is still intact.
PO-07-HB18	School of Cheung and Hall of Four Virtues	After 1945	Ancestral Hall of the Cheung clan. Roof had been renovated. It used to be a study hall of the village.

<sup>63</sup> Development Bureau, ‘Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations’, Date of Visit: 1 November 2021.

[https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/issues\\_in\\_focus/Funding\\_Scheme\\_to\\_Support\\_the\\_Use\\_of\\_Vacant\\_Government\\_Sites\\_by\\_Non\\_government\\_Organisations/index.html](https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/issues_in_focus/Funding_Scheme_to_Support_the_Use_of_Vacant_Government_Sites_by_Non_government_Organisations/index.html)

<sup>64</sup> Please refer to item no. listed in the “List of Cultural Heritage Resources” in the “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
CS-01-HB3	Old Cheung Sha School	1962	Cheung Sha School opened in 1962 and ceased operation in around the 1990s. The school's name "Cheung Sha School" is still retained on its parapet.
TF-01-HB5	Former Tong Fuk School	1959	The village school was built in 1959. Some teachers were villagers. The school welcomed children from different clans and villages. The building is now the Tong Fuk Campus of Lantau International School. However, the school's name "Tong Fuk School" is still retained on its parapet.
SH-01-HB10	Chan Ancestral Hall	1954	The site used to be ancestral hall and was donated in 1953 to be rebuilt as the Shui Hau Public School. The school was opened in 1954, refurbished in 1974 and closed in 1989. Villagers raised fund to rebuild it into ancestral hall again.
SP-00-HB1	Former Tung Wan Mok Law Shui Wah School	1960s	In 1965, the Rennie's Mill Student Aid Project applied to the government to operate a boys' hostel and was approved. The Project applied for the establishment of an attached school in the hostel in 1971. In 1972, the first classroom was officially opened. The school has undergone several expansions since then, and finally handed over to government in 2021.
SP-03-HB15	Fan Pui School	1959	The school was equipped with teachers' quarters, meeting rooms, etc. It was the one with the best equipment and environment among the single-classroom primary schools on Lantau in the 1960s. Now the school is in a state of abandonment.



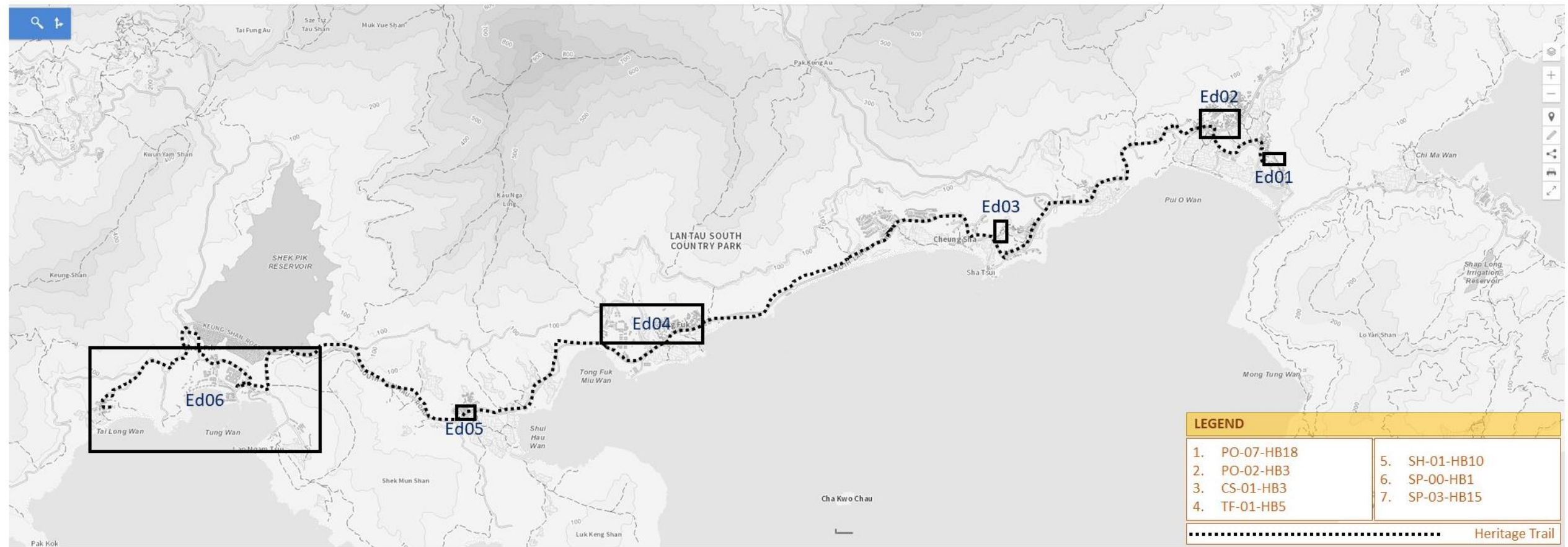


Plate 5.6: Route of the “Education” Themed Heritage Trail



#### 5.2.2.4.4 “Shek Pik Waterworks” Themed Heritage Trail

##### *Short-term Recommendation*

In view that the land where some of the cultural heritage resources are located has been successively granted for public auction in recent years at Cheung Sha, numerous buildings related to waterworks have been demolished one after another. The research team believes that the remaining buildings may have the opportunity to face the same demolition crisis in the future, and further research is needed on their recording and conservation management plans. In addition, although the research team has not initially found any cultural heritage resources related to waterworks at Tong Fuk and Shui Hau, it is suggested that relevant government departments may further investigate whether individual structures related to are still retained at the above-mentioned two villages (and other villages).

##### *Mid-term Recommendation*

Current operators of cultural heritage resources on the themed heritage trail, such as the Fire Services Department (Cheung Sha Fire Station, the former bar room for engineers), Hong Kong Police Force (Lantau South Divisional Police Headquarters, the former chief engineer’s office), Civil Servant Bureau (Government Holiday Bungalow, the original Shek Pik Reservoir Chief Engineer's Quarter); Water Supplies Department, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and Hong Kong Correctional Services (Other bungalows at Shek Pik) can be invited to study the feasibility of opening the relevant buildings for public viewing on a regular basis, as recommended in 5.2.1 “point” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach.

##### *Long-term Recommendation*

The abandoned five groups of buildings of the Shek Pik Reservoir Construction Workers’ Dormitory can be restored into the tourist information centre of the “Shek Pik waterworks” themed heritage trail according to the 5.2.1 “point” level recommendation in the “point-line-plane” approach.

Cultural heritage resources of the “Shek Pik waterworks” themed heritage trail are as below<sup>65</sup>:

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
PO-05-HB14	Pui O Raw Water Pumping Station	Estimated 1963	The Pui O Raw Water Pumping Station is part of the Shek Pik Reservoir Project responsible for transporting raw water from the reservoir to the Silver Mine Bay Water Treatment Works, which is located on the higher coast of the Lantau Island.

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<sup>65</sup> Please refer to item no. listed in the “List of Cultural Heritage Resources” in the “Report on Cultural and Historical Studies for Pui O, Shui Hau and Neighbouring Areas at Lantau”.

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
CS-00-HB1	Cheung Sha Fire Station	1950s to 1960s	Originally it was used as a bar room for engineers when the Shek Pik Reservoir was built. Due to the growing development of the South Lantau area in the 1960s, the building was converted into a fire station.
CS-00-HB2	Former Quarters for Personnel Engaged in the Construction of the Shek Pik Reservoir	1959	A total of 8 buildings, which were former project quarters for personnel engaged in the construction of the Shek Pik Reservoir. No. 47 South Lantau Road was the original Shek Pik Reservoir Chief Engineer's Quarter.
CS-03-HB9	Lantau South Divisional Police Headquarters	1950s to 1960s	A total of 3 buildings. Most likely these buildings were the chief engineer's office as it is close to the helipad.
CS-03-HB10	No. 40 South Lantau Road	1950s to 1960s	The building was parts of the back office of the Shek Pik Reservoir project. However, there is no clear record of the relevant use, nor any record of land sales for reference. The building is still being used, probably for residential purpose.
CS-03-HB11	No. 39 South Lantau Road (Ching Yuen)	1959	The building was parts of the back office of the Shek Pik Reservoir project. Currently, the trademark of Hongkong Land is printed outside the gate of the building. The ruins of a jetty can be found at the inshore area of the land.
SP-00-HB1	Former Tung Wan Mok Law Shui Wah School	1960s	Including three single-storey flat-roofed buildings lined up in the shore of Tung Wan. It is believed that they were dormitory buildings for Chinese engineers in the construction of the Shek Pik Reservoir.
SP-00-HB2	Former Hong Kong Red Cross Shek Pik Camp	1960s	The site consists of two bungalow buildings and one annex. It is presumed to be a dormitory building for Chinese engineering personnel in the original reservoir.

Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
SP-01-HB3	Shek Pik Reservoir Valve Tower	1963	The supply draw-off of the Shek Pik Reservoir is controlled by a 162 ft. high valve tower with intakes at five different levels, access to the tower by a three-span prestressed concrete footbridge approximately 216 ft. in overall length, connecting it with the top of the dam.
SP-01-HB4	Shek Pik Reservoir Bellmouth Overflow	1963	Overflow of the Shek Pik Reservoir is dealt with a bellmouth spillway on the left side of the dam to the discharge tunnel.
SP-01-HB5	Memorial Stone of Shek Pik Heung	1963	The memorial stone is cast in bronze and set on a granite base. The content of the inscription (in Chinese) mainly includes the history of Shek Pik Heung, composition of different villages in Shek Pik Heung, and their whereabouts after the completion of the reservoir.
SP-01-HB6	Memorial Stone of Constructor of Shek Pik Reservoir Main Dam	1963	The memorial stone is cast in bronze and set on a granite base, inscribed with the name “Société Française D’Entreprises de Dragages et de Travaux Publics”, the main contractor of the reservoir main dam.
SP-01-HB7	Shek Pik Reservoir Main Dam	1963	The dam is of earth construction of 178 ft. maximum height, with a maximum width at the base of 1,160 ft., and about 2,355 ft. long at the crest, and consists of four different kinds of rolled fill.
SP-01-HB8	Outlet of Discharge Tunnel from Shek Pik Reservoir Bellmouth Overflow	1963	The discharge tunnel is of 1,660 ft. length, with 17 ft. diameter concrete lined, carried off flood water during the construction of the dam and also house the 36-inch diameter scour pipe.
SP-02-HB9	Shek Pik Reservoir Construction Workers’ Dormitory	1960s	There are five groups of buildings in total, which are inferred to be dormitories for the working staff during the construction of the reservoir.



Item no.	Name	Year of Construction	Historical Background/ Significance
SP-02-HB10	Shek Pik Depot of Water Supplies Department	1960s	A total of two single-storey flat-roofed buildings are assumed to be dormitory building for personnel in constructing the original reservoir.
SP-02-HB11	Marine Parks Management Centre (West)	1960s	There are a total of three single-storey buildings with pitch roofs, which are presumed to be dormitories for the staff of the reservoir.
SP-02-HB13	Sha Tsui Correctional Institution	1960s	The original site was handed over to the Prison Department in 1964, and most of the old buildings were converted into staff quarters for Shek Pik Training Centre. The staff dormitory building was severely damaged when Typhoon Mangkhut hit Hong Kong in 2018. Their current situation is yet to be investigated.
SP-00-CL1	Shek Pik Reservoir	1963	The Shek Pik Reservoir is located in the Lantau Country Park. To its east is Kau Nga Ling, to its west is Keung Shan, to its north are Muk Yue Shan and Sze Tsz Tau Shan. Construction work commenced in 1957 and was completed in 1963. The reservoir intercepts and gathers the gully water flowing from the neighbouring mountain ridges on its three sides. With a storage capacity of 24 million cubic metres, it was once the largest reservoir in Hong Kong during the 1960s.

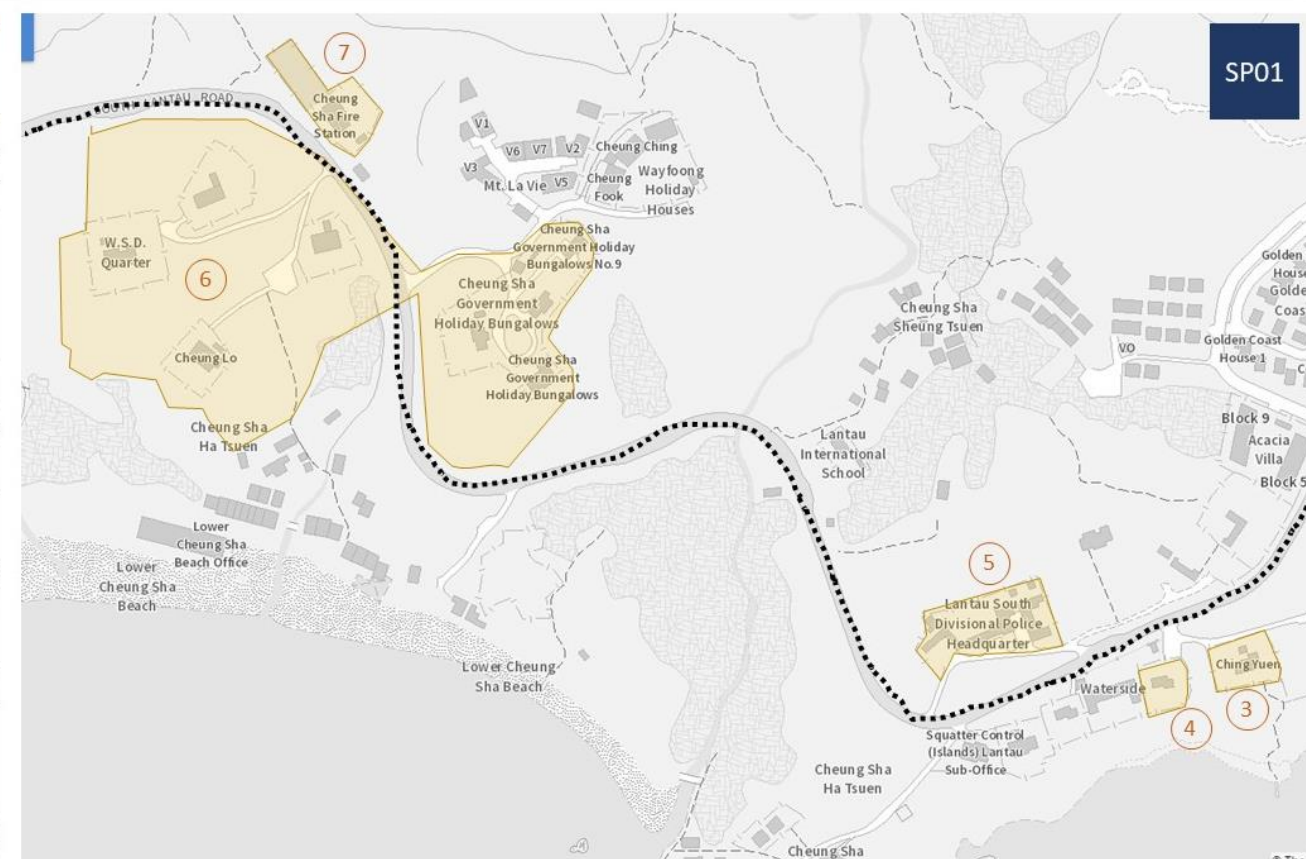
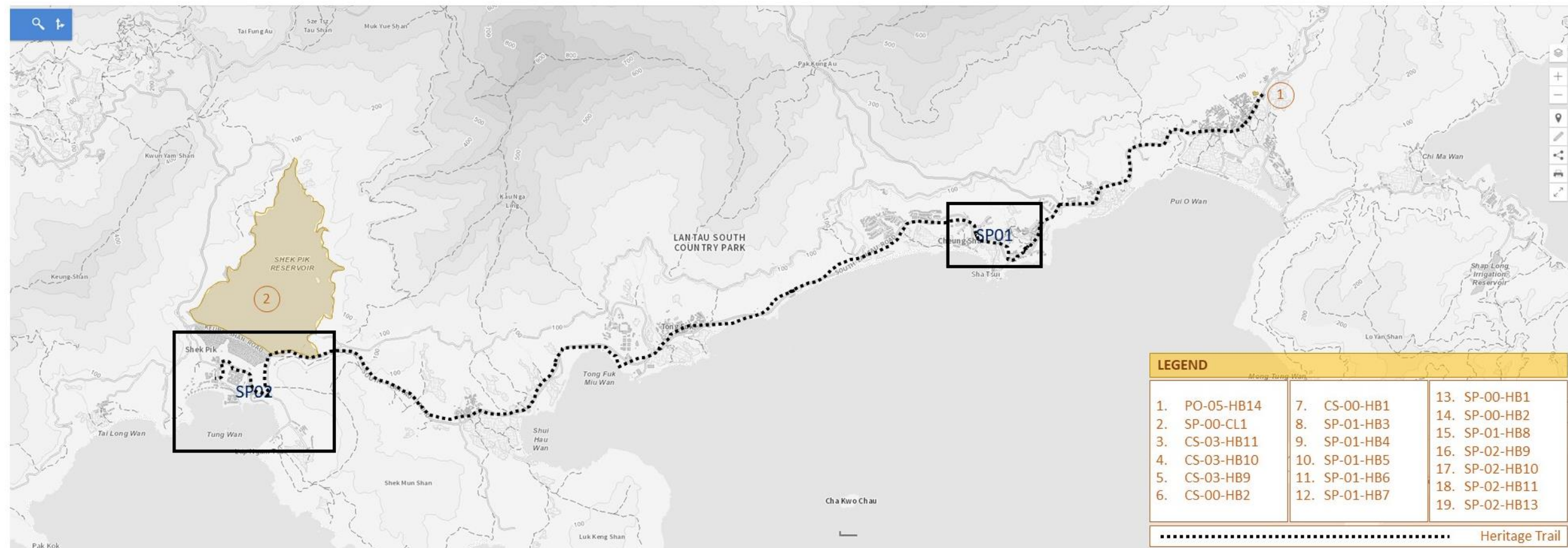


Plate 5.7: Route of the “Shek Pik waterworks” Themed Heritage Trail

### 5.2.3 “Plane” Level Recommendation in the “Point-Line-Plane” Approach

Compared with the more tangible “points (cultural heritage resources and various villages)” and “lines (thematic heritage trails)”, the definition of “plane” is in general vaguer in the “point-line-plane” approach, and it can be regarded as the entire South Lantau area in this research report. However, the proposed conservation strategies and recommendation may be overlapped with the “point” and “line” level if the entire South Lantau area was used as a starting point for the “plane” level. Moreover, this starting point is more difficult to summarise the characteristics of the entire “plane” of the study area than the lack of focus. Therefore, at the level of “plane”, the research team tried to first review (1) the conservation strategies of each village from S1 to S10 and (2) the recommendations of “points” and “lines” in S11, and summarise their common points to formulate the conservation strategy for the entire South Lantau region. The summarised results can be divided into the following short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations:

#### *5.2.3.1 Short-term Recommendation*

Common points of the results of different follow-up studies in “points” and “lines” level (such as the relationship between cultural and nature; ICH researches in each village, oral histories and field surveys of cultural heritage resources, etc.) can be summarised to sort out the overall characteristics and potential of the South Lantau area in terms of ecology, culture and recreation.

#### *5.2.3.2 Mid-term Recommendation*

Current situation, potential and constraints of planning, resources, and supporting facilities of South Lantau can be reviewed, and feasibility research on partially reshaping the rural life of South Lantau (such as establishing the “points” and “lines” recommendation for small-scale re-cultivation) can be conducted. Meanwhile, different types of regional certification systems (such as the “South Lantau Cultural Eco-Farm Certification System”) can be introduced in each village to encourage local stakeholders to adopt a mode of “conservation-cum-development” to promote the rural life of South Lantau.

Survey and research on potential ICH items in various villages can be conducted, and ICH databases of individual villages can be established according to the “points” and “lines” recommendation. Common themes (such as Hakka food culture, lime-making technique, weaving and dyeing skills, etc.) of individual villages can be extended to other villages and formed a wider South Lantau ICH database.

#### *5.2.3.3 Long-term Recommendation*

In line with the branding of local specialties in “points” and “lines” recommendation, different villages can be branded according to their significance to form an industrial chain that circulates within the South Lantau area. For example, Pui O, Shui Hau and Tong Fuk can be branded as production bases for land and water products, while Cheung Sha can become a distribution centre for these products by means of its convenient location.

The advance work on ICH items (such as investigation, experiment, public workshop and database) of each village can be fully utilised to hold an ICH festival covering the entire South Lantau area.

# 6

## Conclusion and Prospect



	Conservation Strategy	Recommendation
Short-term Conservation Strategy		
1	Carrying out further research work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully utilising the resources of LCF and other funding opportunities to conduct different follow-up studies (such as the relationship between cultural and nature; ICH researches in each village, oral histories and field surveys of cultural heritage resources, etc.) by interdisciplinary teams.</li> </ul>
2	Promoting cultural conservation and setting up regulation and guideline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulating activities that are affecting cultural conservation.</li> <li>Setting tourist travel tips and guidelines, and producing different types of supporting facilities such as information kiosks, signage and booklets that are easy to read and place them in a conspicuous place in different public spaces for free acquisition.</li> </ul>
3	Organising short-term public engagement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organising public engagement activities with short-term guided tour (such as face-to-face or online docent tour), exhibition and display (such as mobile exhibition) or exploratory (such as a cultural drawing or mapping workshop) in nature by making good use of the existing characteristics and advantages of each village.</li> </ul>
4	Launching heritage trail pilot scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the higher accessibility and feasibility, it is recommended that with further research, relevant government departments can coordinate and promote the “Folk Beliefs and Customs” Theme Heritage trail as a pilot program.</li> </ul>
Mid-term Conservation Strategy		
1	Resuming rural life of villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducting feasibility study on small-scale re-cultivation and educational activities at Pui O, Tong Fuk and Shui Hau, in order to partially resume the past rural life to promote the rural history of the South Lantau area</li> <li>Making use of the research findings on potential ICH items in various villages to establish ICH databases of individual villages according to “short-term conservation strategy”. Common themes (such as Hakka food culture, lime-making technique, weaving and dyeing skills, etc.) of individual villages can be extended to other villages and forming a wider South Lantau ICH database.</li> </ul>
2	Upgrading facilities and system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further upgrading different kinds of government-owned facilities and cultural heritage resources, such as the current signages for the Rock Carving at Shek Pik, Shek Pik Country Trail, the Pui O Campsite etc., and setting up different types of supporting facilities, such as information kiosks, signage, benches, shelters, at different villages where appropriate.</li> <li>Introducing different types of regional certification systems (such as to access the feasibility of having the Government to certify the qualified “Cultural Eco-Farm”) in each village to encourage local stakeholders to adopt a mode of “conservation-cum-development” to promote the rural life of South Lantau</li> </ul>

	Conservation Strategy	Recommendation
Mid-term Conservation Strategy (cont.)		
3	Organising in-depth public engagement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organising in-depth public engagement activities such as food making and tasting workshop at Shui Hau, lime-making workshop at Shek Pik, weaving and dyeing workshop at various villages according to the research findings in the “short-term conservation strategy”. Local villagers can be trained as docents or helpers for the activities.</li> <li>Organising different kinds of competition and campaign, such as “Pui O Themed Campsite Design Competition” to promote public participation when upgrading the government-owned supporting facilities of the area.</li> </ul>
4	Enriching the content and facilities of the four themed heritage trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaising with owners and operators of cultural heritage resources that are not open to the public to study the feasibility of opening relevant buildings for public visits on a regular basis, and organising online tours by means of virtual reality (VR) or augmented reality (AR) can be established, so that the public can still have an immersive experience without entering the cultural heritage resources.</li> <li>Arranging additional traffic management facilities such as signage, parking space and EV Charging Stations, and adding themed routes and stops of various heritage trails to the public transport system</li> </ul>
Long-term Conservation Strategy		
1	Rebuilding the industrial chain of each village and improving the sustainability of rural conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing the small-scale re-cultivation and educational activities at Pui O, Tong Fuk and Shui Hau, and encouraging villagers and other stakeholders to form cooperatives to brand the local products (such as farm products of each village or marine products of Shui Hau). Farmer’s market can also be organised as the distribution place of the branded products.</li> <li>Strengthening the works of re-cultivation mentioned above, and further linking landowners and outsiders to enhance the sustainability of rural culture.</li> </ul>
2	Revitalising historic buildings and constructing new buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revitalising the abandoned historic buildings and other potential old buildings released by the Government and private owners (such as the Hung Shing Temple at Pui O and Shek Pik, the old grain-store at Shui Hau, Shek Pik Reservoir Construction Workers’ Dormitory and Former Tung Wan Mok Law Shui Wah School) into resource centre on heritage trails with different themes.</li> <li>Constructing new buildings (such as Shui Hau Conservation Centre and Cheung Sha Multi-Cultural Activities Venue) as a unified point of assemble for public activities at suitable locations on the premise of fully considering the carrying capacity of the local habitat and avoiding any impact on the lives of villagers.</li> </ul>
3	Organising long-term public engagement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organising long-term public engagement activities with the upgraded of current cultural heritage resources and supporting facilities, such as the Pui O Campsite, Shek Pik Country Trail, other revitalised historic buildings or new buildings.</li> <li>Fully utilising the advance work on ICH items (such as investigation, experiment, public workshop and database) of each village to hold an ICH festival covering the entire South Lantau area.</li> </ul>

	<b>Conservation Strategy</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Long-term Conservation Strategy (cont.)		
4	Further connecting various villages of South Lantau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launching other themed heritage trails for cultural tourism in phases, and extending the routes to other areas of Lantau Island.</li> </ul>
5	Reviewing and evaluating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing and evaluating the carrying capacity of development for different villages in a timely manner to ensure that villages retains characteristics while improving their infrastructures. Such information will also help setting the direction of regional development of Lantau South and the overall development of Lantau.</li> </ul>

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