



A Proposal For

Hong Kong Underwater Cultural Heritage Programme

Prepared by the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and Bill Jeffery, PhD

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HONG KONG UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAMME

A DISCUSSION PAPER

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ABSTRACT

There is an increasing awareness of the value of underwater cultural heritage in China and Hong Kong and growing appeals to take a more active role to research, document and preserve this important part of Hong Kong's history. This proposal has been initiated by the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and Bill Jeffery, PhD and is aimed at stimulating discussions between the Museum, the Home Affairs Bureau, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and other interested parties. The information that follows provides an overview and discussion of the current situation, why and how an Underwater Cultural Heritage Programme in Hong Kong could be implemented, the operational processes of doing so, and needed funding for the proposed programme.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr. Bill Jeffery has been a heritage professional for more than 35 years focusing primarily on maritime history and cultural heritage sites in Australia and the Asia / Pacific / Indian Oceans and African regions. For twenty years beginning in 1981, Dr. Jeffery formulated and coordinated a maritime heritage program for a state government agency, Heritage South Australia. Thereafter he worked with the Federated States of Micronesia National Historic Preservation Office. Currently Dr. Jeffery is a consulting maritime archaeologist to Environmental Resources Management in Hong Kong and a Research Associate with the Hong Kong Maritime Museum. In addition to conducting Nautical Archaeology Society training programmes in ten different countries, Dr. Jeffery has lectured on cultural heritage preservation, maritime archaeology and conducted maritime archaeology field schools with Flinders University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Guam and James Cook University. Dr. Jeffery graduated with distinction from Curtin University, Western Australia with a degree in Maritime Archaeology and completed a PhD in maritime archaeology at James Cook University.

The Hong Kong Maritime Museum is a not-for-profit registered charity located on the picturesque Victoria Harbour at Central Pier No. 8. Founded in 2003, 15 galleries house more than 5,000 artefacts, providing visitors an exceptional museum experience and the opportunity to learn more about Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta's maritime connections to the world in a local, regional and international context. The Museum offers the community of Hong Kong, international visitors and those with interests in maritime, shipping and history, a variety of adult education programmes and supports local schools, international schools, university students and academics by connecting displays and objects to curricula and scholarly studies. For more information visit www.hkmaritimemuseum.org.

Overview

The points below frame the need for Hong Kong to initiate and formalize an Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) programme.

Aligning and Extending China's UCH Programme

- Hong Kong has legislation protecting UCH but no programme of research, survey, or excavation exists.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process would appear to be ineffective in locating and identifying UCH.
- The People's Republic of China (PRC) has an active UCH programme comprised of legislation, surveys, excavation and major museum development; the Guangdong provincial government has a similar active programme.
- Ratification of the *UNESCO Convention on the Protection of UCH 2001* by the PRC is under consideration as are policy statements for a consistent approach in UCH management throughout the whole of China.

Situational Assessment: Hong Kong

- Knowledge about Hong Kong's UCH is poor and there is a distinct possibility of losing information about, and damage to, UCH because of an inactive programme. Community engagement and community awareness is limited.
- There is a large population of scuba divers in Hong Kong – approximately 70,000 – and many are looking for activities.
- Specialized training for Hong Kong scuba divers has been initiated and a group called the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group (HKUHG) has been formed.
- Discoveries of UCH by local scuba divers have been very effective, including the discovery of a Song Dynasty anchor stock.
- Two trained maritime archaeologists (expats) reside in Hong Kong but there are no Chinese maritime archaeologists.
- The Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM) has collaborated with and assisted HKUHG in their activities.
- The HKMM has a collection of, and maintains current exhibitions on, UCH. It also has staff that could assist in a UCH programme.
- The HKMM wishes to implement and activate a formal UCH programme in a similar manner to the Hong Kong Heritage Museum's Intangible Cultural Heritage programme.
- Territory-wide surveys have been implemented for built heritage, archaeological sites and intangible cultural heritage, but not for UCH.



Timeline and Funding

- A two phase approach is recommended to implement a UCH:
 - Phase 1: April 2015 to March 2017, a HKSAR UCH territory-wide survey and awareness-raising programme. Estimated budget: HK\$3.0 million; and
 - Phase 2: Implementation of a three-year Strategic Plan developed in Phase 1.
- The HKMM would match dollar for dollar the Hong Kong Government's contribution.

CURRENT SITUATION

Legislation

The Hong Kong government provides for the legal protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) sites through the *Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance* 1976 (AM Ordinance) and the *Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance* (EIA Ordinance) 1998. The HKSAR includes territorial waters of three nautical miles (5.6 km).

The AM Ordinance was proclaimed to assist the Antiquities and Monuments Authority (Secretary for Development, or Authority) in protecting and managing the tangible cultural heritage of Hong Kong. It established the Antiquity and Monuments Board whose role is to advise the Authority, primarily on the declaration of an antiquity to be a monument, historical building or archaeological or palaeontological site or structure.

The AM Ordinance has a number of provisions that help to protect UCH sites and objects. It defines an antiquity to be a relic (movable object), and a place, building, site and structure, made before 1800. If discovered after 1976, the ownership of the antiquity is vested in the Hong Kong government. The discovery of an antiquity must be reported to the Antiquities and Monuments Authority. A licence is required for a person to search for or excavate antiquities, and a number of conditions must be met before a licence is granted, including: appropriate qualifications and experience of the person applying for the licence; adequate finances, staff and other resources to implement activities; and be able to implement or arrange for appropriate study of the discovered antiquities.

As at November 2012, 208 land-based archaeological sites of interest have been identified¹ with 17 declared as monuments under the AM Ordinance, out of a total of 105 declared monuments (as at 27 December 2013).² No UCH antiquities have been listed.

Other important legislation that protects UCH antiquities is the *Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance* (EIA Ordinance) 1998. This Ordinance makes it mandatory for all designated projects, including offshore projects such as cable laying, pipelines, wind farms and resort development, to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that includes a Marine Archaeology Investigation (MAI). These investigations combine historical research and geophysical surveys of the development area to search for UCH sites that could be impacted by the development. The MAI process is directed entirely by the project development requirements and is restricted to the small areas of seabed being developed. Of the approximately 140 MAIs conducted to date, no UCH antiquities have been located.

¹ http://www.amo.gov.hk/form/list_archaeolog_site_eng.pdf

² http://www.amo.gov.hk/form/DM_Mon_List_e.pdf

Available Resources

Many resources currently exist in Hong Kong to support this project, one that will have historical and cultural significant to the history of Asia's World City. That said, Hong Kong does not have a *maritime* archaeologist employed within government or at any museum or university. However, two maritime archaeologists reside in Hong Kong who are regularly commissioned and implement the MAI process for EIAs. In addition to this professional expertise, Hong Kong has:

- Approximately 70,000 scuba divers and about 50 dive shops which train ~3,000 new divers per year. A smaller number of trained commercial divers can also be found in Hong Kong in addition to two recompression chambers that can be used for diving related sicknesses;³
- A number of terrestrial archaeologists work within and for government, museums, businesses and universities who have conducted considerable terrestrial archaeology investigations (primarily by the Hong Kong Archaeological Society), which has stopped at the water's edge;
- Numerous repositories of archival documents hold a considerable quantity of documentary material that would be an important source of information in UCH studies. Hong Kong also has numerous museums which hold archaeological collections and exhibit the material, such as the History Museum, the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and the Museum of Coastal Defence;
- Oral histories are another area of source material that could be useful in this programme. Many people, including fishers, boat operators, local residents (on the outlying islands) and scuba divers have the potential to provide considerable information, as has been found from preliminary UCH studies; and
- Finally, many resources such as boats and the appropriate specialized survey equipment are readily available to undertake UCH surveys.



Training Programmes and Partnerships

Access to trained divers with UCH survey skills, relationships with sister museums in the region, and academic links provide a strong foundation for a UCH Programme in Hong Kong to succeed.

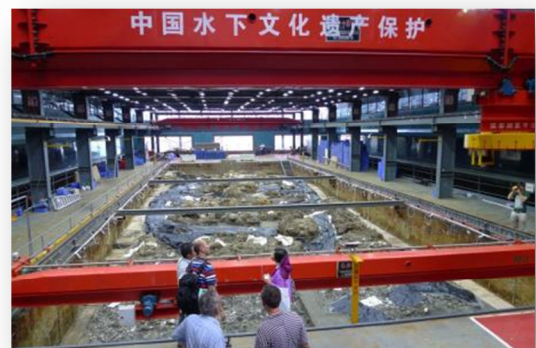
- Hong Kong training programmes in managing UCH have been conducted since 2008 with eight residents participating in the United Kingdom Nautical Archaeology Society's (NAS) training programme. Along with Dr. Bill Jeffery, these participants combined their skills, enthusiasm and experience to form the Hong Kong

³ <http://www.scuba.net.hk/DChamber.htm>

Underwater Heritage Group (HKUHG) and successfully applied for Lord Wilson Heritage Trust (LWHT) funding to implement Phase 1 of a project in surveying and documenting Hong Kong's underwater cultural heritage from 2009 to 2011.⁴ Importantly, this funding enabled divers to develop skills to implement UCH surveys. In September 2012, an additional LWHT application to conduct a survey and excavation project in Town Island was received.



- The NAS training course is world-recognised as providing ethical and best practice training in UCH. It is used in approximately 30 countries to train and certify those interested in achieving a paraprofessional level of proficiency. The NAS course has five levels from the general, largely theoretical, Part 1 courses, to Part 4, which requires participants to work on three UCH sites for 12 weeks and to produce a peer-reviewed article for publication. The Hong Kong training course participants come from a wide variety of backgrounds, including: terrestrial archaeologists, curators, engineers, dive instructors, IT specialists, lawyers, journalists, teachers, surveyors and business managers with the majority reaching Part 2 with skills required to assist in UCH surveying and excavation projects.
- The HKUHG has an excellent relationship with HKMM which has included a 2010 visit to the Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum (Nanhai No. 1 shipwreck) and assisting the Museum in developing an exhibition on diving: 'Fathoming the Sea.' Group members have supported the Museum with current display exhibits, including underwater archaeology and geophysical displays. Collaboration also took place when developing and submitting the Town Island Underwater Archaeology Lord Wilson Heritage Trust application and subsequently on the execution of the project. Furthermore, NAS training courses were undertaken in 2013 and 2014 within the Museum and a related talk on underwater archaeology was given to the community in August 2013 in association with Dr. Wei, the Director of the Guangdong Museum in Guangzhou. In July 2014, the HKUHG led a second visit to the Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum involving 30 NAS training course graduates and the Director of the HKMM, Richard Wesley.



⁴ <http://www.hkuhgroup.com/>

Discovery Centre in Kowloon Park and anecdotal information suggests an investigation of the adjacent seabed was directed (but not verified) by a mainland Chinese team of maritime archaeologists.

An exciting discovery was made in 1974 when a shipwreck, called the 'Ming Dynasty shipwreck' was discovered in connection with the High Island Reservoir being constructed. Initially underwater but exposed with the draining of the bay, the site consisted of burnt timber frames and planking, Song and Ming Dynasty ceramics, and South East Asian ceramics from the 15th century, which were excavated in the 1970s and are now located in the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) repository.

The only recent UCH surveys have been those carried out by the HKUHG. From 2009 to 2011, training projects led by HKUHG recorded a modern shipwreck and a site on the seabed off Town Island that contained a high concentration of ceramics. A follow-up survey of the site was carried out in July 2014, in which approximately 350 ceramics were recovered. Preliminary research suggests these artefacts are from the Qing Dynasty. The Town Island project included international participation including a masters in maritime archaeology student from Flinders University who used the project as a thesis topic, and two Australian colleagues assisting in the survey. It's important to note that the Town Island site was subject to an EIA study which included a geophysical survey of the seabed and that no artefacts were located during this study

The participation of 25 Hong Kong divers in the Town Island project led to word spreading amongst the diver community about the value of UCH material, and as a consequence, two additional sites near Town Island were reported and investigated. One site consisted of two iron mid-19th century cannon and the second is considered to be stone stock for an anchor dating from the Song to Yuan Dynasty, very similar to those on display at the Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum. The three sites (Town Island ceramics, cannon and anchor stock) are within a few kilometres of each other and begs the question as to what is located elsewhere in Hong Kong waters.



Opportunities and Obstacles

Opportunities

There would appear to be many opportunities in the field of UCH in Hong Kong but they have not been realised.

These opportunities consist of acquiring knowledge about the history and culture of Hong Kong and the region, cultural tourism and community engagement.

A number of 7,000 year old sites have been found around the coastline and archaeological material from some of the sites has been found underwater.

Located at the mouth of the Pearl River, the mainland coastline together with Hong Kong's 236 islands, have the potential to contain evidence of the trade in and out of the Pearl River from at least the Tang Dynasty. This is in

addition to sites, objects and histories associated with major marine industries, such as salt and lime production, pearl farming, fishing and ocean transportation, as well as the remains associated with pirates.

As one of the 'four pillar economic sectors,' tourism in Hong Kong accounts for 4.5% of its GDP (or US\$274 billion in 2013) and includes many sea-related activities such as fishing, swimming, boating, sailing, diving and cultural practices. Scuba diving as a sport continues gain momentum, particularly given the rising economic status of Asians and those seeking new adventures.



The engagement of scuba divers and other members of the Hong Kong community in UCH would greatly help in revealing information about Hong Kong's maritime past. In association with the approximately 2,000 tourist operators and the 50 museums in Hong Kong, they could make a significant contribution to the development of opportunities / resources that would benefit the close to 50 million tourists that visit Hong Kong.

Obstacles

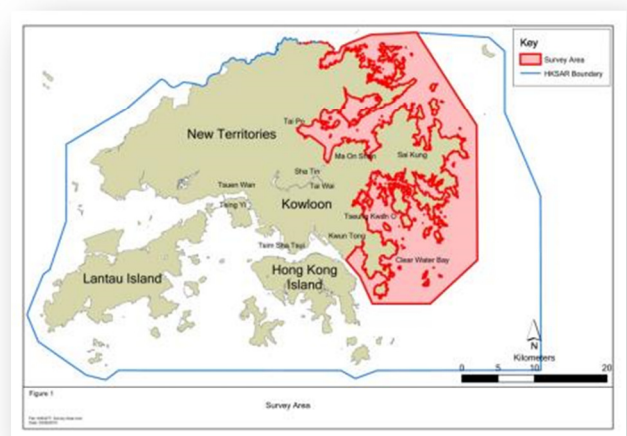
There are two major obstacles in realising the underwater cultural heritage of Hong Kong. First, is that Hong Kong does not know what it has in regard to UCH. A comprehensive survey of the HKSAR is required similar to what has been done for built heritage, archaeological sites, and intangible heritage. Second, Hong Kong does not have an active programme with resources to implement a comprehensive survey in order to acquire knowledge about its UCH. Hong Kong does have a world-class maritime museum that is interested in implementing such a programme, and a reasonable number of maritime archaeology trained scuba divers from the Hong Kong community that could assist. In addition, community awareness about the value of UCH is virtually non-existent and needs to be significantly developed.

IMPLEMENTING A UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAMME IN HONG KONG: THE WHY AND HOW

Survey of Hong Kong Waters

It is fundamental when formulating strategies for heritage site protection, research, preservation, interpretation and tourism ventures, that sites are known, which has been a major aim of the territory surveys:

- Archaeological site surveys were implemented from 1982 to 1985 and 1997 to 1998.⁵
- Commencing in 2009, a three-year survey of



⁵ <http://www.aab.gov.hk/form/AAB135-70-eng.pdf>

Hong Kong's Intangible Cultural Heritage was implemented.⁶

- A built heritage survey was implemented by the Antiquities and Monuments Office from 1996 to 2000.⁷

A suitable programme could be designed for UCH surveys using appropriate technology, local knowledge, archival information, and community divers supervised by a small team of professionals. Such UCH surveys have been implemented throughout various countries and formed the basis for developing many initiatives.

As noted above, the EIA process in locating UCH has not been effective. In comparison, recent community diver discoveries have been very effective. As more and more divers are trained and dive in Hong Kong waters, they will find more UCH sites. However, currently, there is no encouragement from Government to report these sites. The legislation, which does not appear to be widely disseminated, simply states a licence is required to search and excavate sites. Apart from the 50 divers who have participated in the NAS training, the remaining 69,950+ divers would be unaware of their obligations under the AM Ordinance. The result will most likely be that sites will be interfered with and if artefacts are recovered, they will not be conserved appropriately and could be destroyed. The result is that Hong Kong will lose an important part of its heritage forever.

Legislation on its own is ineffective in *managing* heritage sites. There needs to be an active programme to implement and promote the aims of the legislation and protect and care of Hong Kong's heritage.

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Synchronization with PRC Initiatives

China has been active in UCH management since 1986 with the development of the Underwater Archaeology Research Institute under the Chinese History Museum (now the Chinese National Museum). In 1989, the State Council passed legislation entitled the *Regulations of the P. R. China on Protection and Administration of Underwater Cultural Relics*.

Currently the PRC's State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH) is responsible for managing and protecting many types of national cultural relics, including UCH. The National Conservation Center for UCH (NCCUCH) received full confirmation from the SACH to fulfill its function of developing the national UCH excavations, conservation, research and cooperation with local governments and local underwater archeology institutes. There are four regional UCH protective administration offices: the Ningbo Office in the Zhejiang province, the Fujian Office in the Fujian province, the Wuhan office in the Hubei province, and the Qingdao office in the Shandong province.⁸

"The development of an active programme in Hong Kong would help to establish a consistent approach with PRC's UCH management approach and provide a uniform framework for all of UCH management throughout China."

⁶ <http://www.heritagemuseum.gov.hk/eng/cultural/survey.aspx>

⁷ <http://www.amo.gov.hk/en/built.php>

⁸ Liu, Lina, 2014, A Chinese perspective of the International legal system for the Protection of UCH. <http://www.themua.org/collections/items/show/1658>

Provincial governments are also active players in UCH research and management with the Fujian and Guangdong governments prominent given the length of their coastlines. They have enacted local legislation and implemented excavation projects, such as the Nanhai 1 and Nan'ao 1 shipwreck excavations in Guangdong Province. The establishment of the *Guangdong Maritime Silk Road Museum* at Yangjiang where they have recovered and exhibit an entire Song Dynasty ship and its contents of 60,000 ceramics is the most ambitious UCH project in the world today. Through the implementation of 10 training courses in UCH research, and management and conservation since the 1980s, China now has a team of more than 100 trained professionals to implement UCH projects.

The development of an active programme in Hong Kong would help to establish a consistent approach with PRC's UCH management approach and provide a uniform framework for all of UCH management throughout China. This is important as China is reviewing the application and ratification of the *UNESCO Convention on the Protection of UCH 2001*, (UCH Convention 2001) and a major impediment in its ratification would be where there are weaknesses and inconsistencies in how UCH is protected and managed. The need for a consistent approach has been expressed in Policy Statements from Beijing.⁹

OPERATIONAL PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish Underwater Cultural Heritage Operational Base at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum

The model for the HKMM to implement a UCH programme can be seen in the way Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) is managed in Hong Kong: through the Hong Kong Heritage Museum. This followed China's December 2004 ratification of the *Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003*.

With the enforcement of the Convention in April 2006, an Intangible Heritage Unit was set up in the same year under the establishment of the Hong Kong Heritage Museum to undertake necessary work in compliance with the Convention. To comply with Article 12 of the Convention, a territory-wide survey of the ICH of Hong Kong was conducted with a view to establishing a database and compiling an inventory. The Government commissioned in 2006 the Division of Humanities of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology to carry out a pilot study on the ICH in Hong Kong, in order to identify the issues needed to be addressed for the conduct of a territory-wide survey. The pilot survey made reference to the 78 items of ICH inscribed on the first provincial list of ICH of Guangdong in 2006. The study report was submitted in 2007. An Intangible Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee was set up in July 2008 to advise the HKSAR on the conduct of the survey.¹⁰

While China has not yet ratified the UCH Convention 2001, it is seriously looking at doing so.¹¹ In November 2003, Hong Kong hosted one of the first workshops on the UCH Convention 2001 in which a number of representatives of the PRC, the Hong Kong Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Hong Kong Universities attended.¹²

The HKMM has some of the infrastructure to implement a UCH programme. It is partly funded by the Home Affairs Bureau and contains a collection of shipwreck artefacts, the only museum in Hong Kong that provides an exhibition of UCH and its methods. It has also established effective collaboration with numerous Chinese maritime museums and key Chinese maritime archaeologists. Recently the HKMM supported the Lord Wilson Heritage Trust grant and

⁹ See Fu, 2003 in <http://www.themua.org/collections/items/show/1656>

¹⁰ <http://www.heritagemuseum.gov.hk/engtxt/cultural/cultural.aspx>

¹¹ Liu, Lina, 2014, A Chinese perspective of the International legal system for the Protection of UCH. <http://www.themua.org/collections/items/show/1658>

¹² <http://www.unescobkk.org/culture/uch/capacity-building/bkgd/past/hk2003/hklist/>

AMO licence holder Dr. Bill Jeffery in the implementation of a survey and excavation project in Hong Kong. More than 350 ceramic artefacts are now stored and being conserved at the museum. HKMM's conservator, Paul Harrison is proficient in the special needs of conserving artefacts from the marine environment. The museum also supports the work of the HKUHG.

Through the establishment of a small team of professionals located within the Hong Kong Maritime Museum that would implement surveys, as well as encourage, support and supervise some of the 70,000 Hong Kong divers, an effective outreach programme could be implemented. Local school programmes could be further enhanced to help inform children about the value of UCH when visiting the museum. A small UCH Advisory Committee could be established to advise the HKMM on its UCH activities, to harvest information, and to facilitate work on behalf of government agencies, such as HAB, and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Operational Activities

The operational activities for a UCH programme implemented out of the HKMM should be strategic and sustainable in its aims, implementation and outcomes. Activities should pursue building knowledge about UCH sites located in Hong Kong through surveys and, where appropriate, excavate sites to obtain material for exhibition, research and raising public awareness.

A phased approach in this programme is recommended:

- Phase 1
 - Would consist of a two-year territory-wide research exercise and surveys
 - Require the involvement of two full-time qualified employees (a trained maritime archaeologist and a suitably qualified assistant) to implement a programme with assistance from local residents and scuba divers.
 - The outcomes of this first two years would be:
 - A comprehensive understanding of the UCH in Hong Kong;
 - An inventory of all of Hong Kong's UCH;
 - A publicity and community awareness raising campaign, including further diver and community training
 - The identification of any significant UCH as 'archaeological sites of interest' and if appropriate their nomination as monuments under the AM Ordinance;
 - Reports and publications;
 - Exhibitions focusing on the territory-wide survey
 - A three-year Strategic Plan would be developed for approval and implementation as Phase 2.



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- Phase 2
 - To be based on the Strategic Plan, which will most likely include:
 - Ongoing community engagement initiatives
 - Input into Academic courses (not just archaeology/anthropology)
 - Development of tourism initiatives
 - Development of a HKMM school programme
 - Site excavations.
 - Comprehensive archaeological exhibitions
 - Collaboration with other Hong Kong and PRD museums
 - Collaboration with PRC and foreign agencies in UCH management

Funding

The operational activities would be funded through a combination of government and commercial sponsorship and commence on 1 April 2015. Proposed funding for Phase 1 includes salaries for two employee, research and survey expenses, the production of reports, museum exhibitions, school outreach and publicity material and public awareness campaign.

It is estimated the budget for Phase I would be HK\$3 million. The HKMM would match dollar for dollar the Hong Kong government's contribution.

Conclusion

Hong Kong has a rich and diverse history related to the sea which is reflected in the stories, legends, past trades, wars and piracy, contemporary cultural practices (including the love of seafood and marine recreational activities), the vastness of its current shipping operations, as well as its UCH sites and objects. However, little, if anything is known about its UCH. It is the only part of Hong Kong's heritage that is unknown, with territory-wide surveys and several years of government funding having been committed to its other heritage aspects—built heritage, archaeological sites, and intangible heritage—but not to UCH. This paper is an attempt to change this. It comes at a time when China has developed a world-renown UCH programme and a number of impressive maritime museums. It comes at a time when China has called for a uniform approach in managing its UCH throughout the whole country. It also comes at a time when the international community and its best practice approach, through the *UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001*, is growing in prominence. If, or when China ratifies this convention, the management of Hong Kong's UCH will need to fall in line with its best practice approach. This paper provides a pathway in this approach.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

Terms

Built Heritage or Tangible Cultural Heritage – Refers to historic buildings and structures that are recognised as significant sites and should be preserved.

Intangible Cultural Heritage – The practices, expressions, knowledge and skills, inclusive of instruments and objects, that individuals, communities and groups recognise as an important part of their cultural heritage.

Terrestrial Archaeology – The systematic study of humans through material remains and carried out on land (as compared to underwater).

Marine or Maritime Archaeology – The systematic study of material remains of maritime industries and activities, inclusive of those remains located in the marine and riverine environments.

Acronyms

AMO	Antiquities and Monuments Office
AM Ordinance	Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance 1976
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIA Ordinance	Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance
HKMM	The Hong Kong Maritime Museum
HKUHG	Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group
ICH	Intangible Cultural Heritage
LWHT	Lord Wilson Heritage Trust
PRC	People's Republic of China
MAI	Marine Archaeology Investigation
NCCUCH	The National Conservation Center for UCH
NAS	United Kingdom Nautical Archaeology Society
SACH	PRC's State Administration of Cultural Heritage
UKHO	United Kingdom's Hydrographic Office
UCH Convention 2001	UNESCO Convention on the Protection of UCH 2001
UCH	Underwater Cultural Heritage