



Hong Kong Island and Islands Development Office
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Wan Chai Development Phase II

10 March 2017

Briefing to Task Force on Metal Object found at Seabed in WDII Area

Brief History

Date	Event
mid Nov 2014	Metal object found
23 Mar 2015	Marine archaeological consultants commissioned
18 Jun 2015	Metal object relocated
5 Jul 2015	Reclamation and associated works resumed
Jul 2015 - Dec 2016	Water area in vicinity of metal object occupied by marine plants for <ul style="list-style-type: none">• reclamation; and• construction of Central-Wan Chai Bypass tunnel
Q1 2017	Procurement of consultancy services for marine archaeological investigation

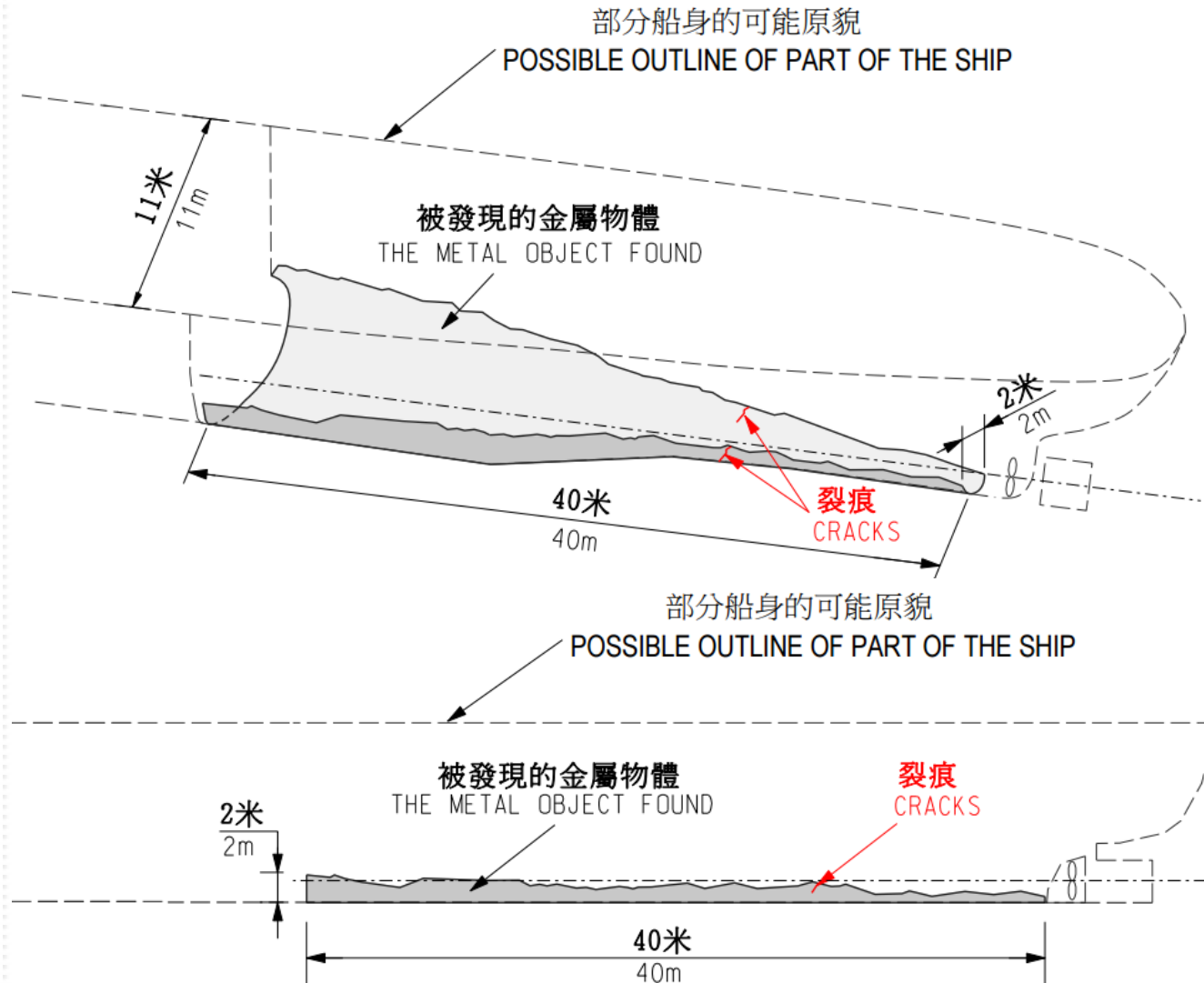
Location of Metal Object



Current Location of the Metal Object

Original Location of the Metal Object

Shape of Metal Object

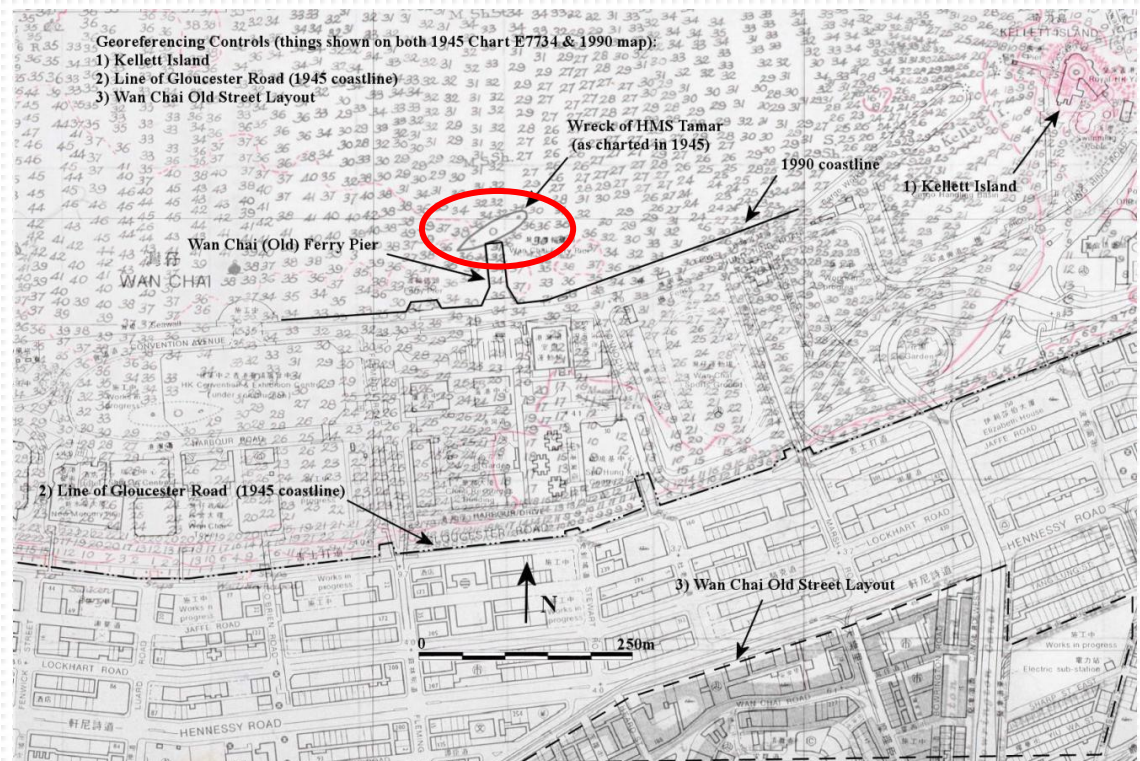


Preliminary Archaeological Impact Assessment (PAIA)

- Conducted by SDA Marine Limited
- Conducted from Mar to Sep 2015
- 777 items retrieved (as at 30 Apr 2015)

1945 Survey Chart Superimposed with Pre-WDII Shoreline

- The location of metal object is coincident with that of HMS *Tamar* on the 1945 survey chart
- Unnamed wreck was shown on the 1960 survey chart. The survey chart did not contain further information to confirm unequivocally the unnamed wreck the remains of HMS *Tamar*



Objects Retrieved

- 238: scrap iron ballast; 539: special finds (manufactured items)



Copper Alloy Objects
(337 nos., 63% of special finds)



Iron Objects
(124 nos., 23% of special finds)



Ceramics
(28 nos., 5% of special finds)



Pottery
(26 nos., 5% of special finds)



Glass, wood, lead and others
(24 nos., 4% of special finds)

Timeline of Retrieved Objects

- Items found span a wide date range
- 20 main datable items arranged in following timeline format

Item No	Artefact Description	Dating Basis	Pre-Iron Ships	1840s	1850s	1860s	1870s	1880s	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s					
1	L Goodman Name Plate	Service Record								1914-1915																
37	7-UP Bottle ("77 Y 19")	Date on artefact															1977?									
78	Pot (The Fulham Pottery)	Company Lifespan	1672	-----										1928												
95	Lock (Henry Harrison Ltd)	Company Lifespan								1919	-----										1994					
105	Kantark' Brand Electrical Insulator (M. E.M Co.)	Company Lifespan								1908	-----															
132	Buckle (M.E. Co) ("1916")	Date on Artefact									1916?															
134	Fork (Mappin & Webb)	Company Lifespan	1775	-----																						
155	Fork (Gladwin Ltd.)	Company Lifespan										1921-1936														
156	Yu Kwen Yick Sauce Bottle	Company Lifespan									1922	-----														
159	Macau 10 Avos Coin ("1975")	Date on artefact															1975									
164	Fork (Cooper Bros)	Company Lifespan				1867	-----										1964									
170	RMLI Button (Firmin & Sons)	Company & RMLI L'span			1875	-----										1923										
171	Royal Navy Button (B'ham Buttons)	Company Lifespan								1907	-----										1970s					
277	RM Button (Firmin London)	Company Lifespan			1875	-----																				
324	Wallet with HKID	Date on artefacts																	1990s							
393	Fan ID Plate (Keith & Blackman Co. Ltd.)	Company Lifespan								1900	-----										1937					
394	Electric Motor ID (Verity's Ltd.)	Company Lifespan	1819	-----													1959									
414	QE2 Plate (H. Aynsley & Co. Ltd) ("1957")	Date on Artefact													1957											
510	RM Button (Smith & Wright, Birmingham)	Company Lifespan			1855	-----										1910										
524	RM Button (Smith & Wright, Birmingham)	Company Lifespan			1855	-----										1910										

1941 TAMAR SANK

Copper Alloy Objects Retrieved

- Examples of objects related to British military



Item No. 277:
Button of uniforms of
Royal Marines



Item No. 171:
Button of uniforms of
Royal Navy



Item No. 170:
Button of uniforms of
Royal Marines Light
Infantry



Item No. 14:
Cooper Alloy Pad Eye



Item No. 172: Royal Navy Commodore's Pennant



Item No. 1: Name Plate of Royal Marine
Light Infantry man Edgar Charles Goodman

Copper Alloy Objects of High Significance



Item No. 172: Royal Navy Commodore's Pennant



Item No. 1: Name Plate of Royal Marine Light Infantry man Edgar Charles Goodman

- *"No historical record confirming Goodman's presence on board Tamar"*

Evidence of Modern Intrusions

- Some retrieved items of much more recent date
- Considered as modern “intrusions”



Item No. 159:
Macau 10 Avos Coin
(with date 1975)



Item No. 37:
7-UP bottle
(carries a moulded “77” which probably indicates 1977)

Conclusion and Recommendation of PAIA

- PAIA report Section 8 :-
 - *“Although the various strands of evidence do point toward HMS Tamar, without the ship’s bell, nameplate or other unique identifier, definitive identification may have to wait until the distinctive keel construction shown in the Tamar’s design ‘blueprints’, which are being forwarded to Hong Kong by the UK’s National Maritime Museum, can be compared with the remains on the seabed*
- PAIA report Section 10:-
 - *Conduct Marine Archaeological Investigation (MAI) for complete investigation of shipwreck*

Way forward

- Procurement of consultancy services for marine archaeological investigation (MAI) in Q1 2017
- Formulation of appropriate conservation options subject to findings of MAI
- MAI: from Q2 2017 to Q1 2018

Thank you