

Press Release
For Immediate Release
20 July 2021

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
“Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings” Forum
Current Practices and Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation

The “Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings” Forum organised by the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) was held earlier via webinar with the theme of “Current Practices and Challenges in Built Heritage Conservation”. The Forum discussed the current situation of the conservation of historical buildings in Hong Kong, and explored solution to tackle the problems encountered by the owners of historical buildings while their buildings are undergoing maintenance.

Mr Ivanhoe CHANG, Commissioner for Heritage, Development Bureau, HKSAR Government was invited as the Guest of Honor. Other experienced experts in architecture, surveying and heritage conservation attended the Forum as speakers, including Ir Eric P W CHAN, Director of EPC Engineering Consultant Ltd.; Ir Dr CHAN Wai-tai, Director of W Consultants Limited; Sr Idi CHAN, Fellow Member of the HKIS; Mr FUNG Wai-keung, Director of Kam Wui Decoration Limited, Vice-Chairman of Historic Building Conservation Association, Part Time Instructor of Construction Industry Council; Mr Ivan HO Chi-ching, Conservation specialist; Mr Ben LO Yu-bun, Chief Assistant Secretary (Works) 2, Development Bureau, HKSAR Government; Mr Daniel MA, Chairman of Historic Building Conservation Association; and Ms WONG Lai-yin Idy, Head of Sustainable Living and Agriculture at the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Corporation.

Mr Ivanhoe CHANG said, “The successful implementation of conservation policies depends on the tripartite collaboration of the community, business sector and the Government, as well as the active participation of stakeholders and the general public. A balance should also be struck between development needs in the public interest, respect for private property rights and budgetary

總辦事處 Head Office

香港上環干諾道中111號永安中心12樓1205室
Room 1205, 12/F Wing On Centre,
111 Connaught Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Telephone: 2526 3679 Facsimile: 2868 4612
E-mail: info@hkis.org.hk Web Site: www.hkis.org.hk

北京辦事處 Beijing Office

中國北京市海澱區高樑橋斜街59號院1號樓
中坤大廈6層616室 (郵編: 100044)
Room 616, 6/F, Zhongkun Plaza, No.59 Gaoliangqiao Xiejie,
No.1 yard, Haidian District, Beijing, China, 100044
Telephone: 86 (10) 8219 1069 Facsimile: 86 (10) 8219 1050
E-mail: info-bjo@hkis.org.hk Web Site: www.hkis.org.hk



considerations.

We are pleased to see that public's awareness on heritage conservation has been greatly increased in recent years. We hope to strengthen public participation and to promote the preservation of Hong Kong's historical buildings.”

Sr Edwin TANG Hoi-kwan, President of the HKIS said, “Historic buildings are not solely architecture. They embody precious memories and culture of the previous generations and showcase the unique architectural features at the time. With the rapid development of modern society, we should explore the potential of modern technology in historical buildings preservation instead of abandoning these cultural treasures while pursuing continuous progress and innovation.”

The videos of the forum are now available, you may watch the playback at the official YouTube channel “**HKIS Heritage 賞.惜.舊築跡**” (<https://bit.ly/3xTmdo7>)



Photo 1: Mr Ivanhoe CHANG, Commissioner for Heritage, Development Bureau, HKSAR Government gave the opening speech.



Photo 2: Discussion and Q&A Section of the Forum with the following speakers: Mr Ben LO Yu-bun, Chief Assistant Secretary (Works) 2, Development Bureau, HKSAR Government (first from left); Ms WONG Lai-yin Idy, Head of Sustainable Living and Agriculture at the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Corporation (second from left); Sr Idi CHAN, Fellow Member of the HKIS (second from right); Mr Ivan HO Chi-ching, Conservation specialist (first from right) and moderator Sr Vincent HO Kui-yip, JP, Convenor of the HKIS Heritage

	<p>Working Group (middle).</p> <p>Photo 3: Discussion and Q&A Section of the Forum with the following speakers: Ir Dr CHAN Wai-tai, Director of W Consultants Limited (first from left); Ir Eric P W CHAN, Director of EPC Engineering Consultant Ltd. (second from left); Mr FUNG Wai-keung, Director of Kam Wui Decoration Limited, Vice-Chairman of Historic Building Conservation Association, Part Time Instructor of Construction Industry Council (second from right); Mr Daniel MA, Chairman of Historic Building Conservation Association (first from right) and moderator Sr Arthur CHEUNG, Organising Committee Chairman of the HKIS “Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings”(middle).</p>
	<p>Photo 4: President of the HKIS, Sr Edwin TANG Hoi-kwan gave the closing speech.</p>
	<p>Photo 5: Group photo of all the guests and speakers of the HKIS “Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings” Forum.</p>

To download the photos: <https://bit.ly/3hcnpx3>

Event website: <https://www.hkis-heritage.com/>

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About The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) is the only surveying professional body incorporated by ordinance in Hong Kong. As of 23 April 2021, the number of members reached 10,679, of which 7,280 were corporate members, 70 were associate members and 3,329 were probationers and students. HKIS work includes setting standards for professional services and performance, establishing codes of ethics, determining requirements for admission as professional surveyors, and encouraging members to upgrade skills through continuing professional development.

HKIS has an important consultative role in government policy making and on issues affecting the profession. We have advised the government on issues such as building safety and unauthorised building works, problems of property management, town planning and development strategies, construction quality and housing problems. We have also issued guidance notes on floor area measurement, real estates valuation and land boundary survey, etc.

Please visit our official website: <http://www.hkis.org.hk>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/hkisofficial>

About “Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings”

Many historical buildings in Hong Kong are worth conserving. However, their beauty and cultural values are being overlooked without proper and timely maintenance. Owners also lack the knowledge and channel to seek for assistance for building conservation. The problem of lacking proper and timely maintenance of historical buildings poses threats to the health and safety of the occupiers and the general public.

Sponsored by the Built Heritage Conservation Fund (BHCF) of the Development Bureau, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) has launched a series of Public Engagement Events in 2019-21 which include guided tours, workshops, a competition, a forum and video production to promote Built Heritage Conservation of Hong Kong.

Project Objectives:

- Promote the knowledge of built heritage conservation among the general public
- Broaden the knowledge and develop appreciation of heritage conservation of the private owners and stakeholders of historical buildings to encourage them to preserve their own historical buildings
- Encourage the general public to engage in various heritage conservation projects

Website: <https://www.hkis-heritage.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hkis.heritage.project>

Youtube: HKIS Heritage 賞.惜.舊築跡 <https://bit.ly/3xJGooH>



For media enquiries, please contact:

The Hong Kong Institute of Red Asia Communications Limited

Surveyors-Corporate

Communications Department

Ms Karen Tam

Phone : +852 2526 3679

Fax : +852 2868 4612

Email: media@hkis.org.hk

Ms Carol Lee

Phone : 2696 2969 / 9277 5272

Email : carol@redasia.com.hk

Ms Ceci LI

Phone : 3421 1462 / 5744 1349

Email : ceci@redasia.com.hk