

MORE THAN NOSTALGIA

A new chapter of Swire Archives

When the official opening of the Swire Archive Centre took place in mid-December 2021, it not only marked Swire Archives' 10th anniversary in Hong Kong, but also the second milestone in our development.

The new centre, located in Taikoo Place's Cambridge House in Quarry Bay, sits next to the entrance of the former Taikoo Sugar Refinery. This was where the story of Swire's industrial operations in Hong Kong began around 140 years ago. Occupying the whole seventh floor, the Centre not only consists of what we had in our environmentally controlled archives repository and processing room, it also incorporates a new mission: to provide support in stakeholder engagement and brand building to and for our group companies.

We developed this mission through our experience of opening the first archive at the Cheung Wah Industrial Building in Shipyard Lane. In the six years of running that archive, we were almost overwhelmed by requests for visits and tours, which was unexpected but very welcome indeed. Despite the fact that our visitor-experience facilities were lacking, our personnel resources were limited and our experience in running the activities was practically minimal, we were overjoyed at people's enthusiasm in understanding more history at our Archive Centre as well as in listening to Swire's stories in person. From this, we gained our first taste of running engagement activities and the archives enquiry service. This experience enabled us to witness the value and potential of our group companies'

archives in supporting not just the companies' research needs, but broader stakeholder engagement and brand building – which has a huge impact.

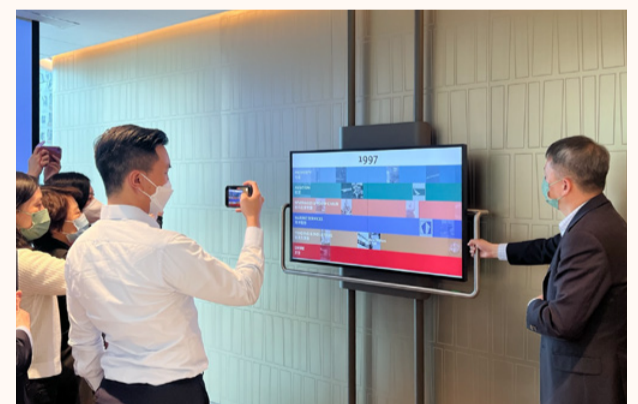
Our new mission has been fully formulated and incorporated into the new Archive Centre's engagement space. In the interests of cost effectiveness, the space was built with flexibility and multi-purpose use in mind. Featuring rich exhibitions and archives, as well as innovative technology, the space allows for scheduled and private storytelling tours for our group companies and their stakeholders, and acts as a facility for companies to run their own events; one which communicates a sense of uniqueness and exclusivity to their stakeholders and builds cohesion among their

example, the evolution of Cathay Pacific's cockpits and cabins; the **"Digital Portrait Gallery"** allows visitors to immerse themselves in hundreds of people-related photographs displayed at random on the screens, transporting them back to the past. There is also **"Quarry Bay Transformation"**, an AR (augmented reality) device which shows different Swire landmarks in Quarry Bay as they appeared over time when visitors move around holding the device. Finally, along our specially designed repository wall there is the **"Navigator"** which captures the milestones in the Group's development over the past 200 years. These appear one after another as visitors move the monitor from side to side.

> Continued on page 2



Image courtesy of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation



Editor's Note Beginning afresh

Time flies. Four years have passed since the outbreak of COVID-19, but several waves of the pandemic could not stop us from moving forward. Since the final quarter of 2019, we had been focusing on establishing our new Archive Centre and, on 17th December 2021, we held the official opening of it.

In this TAI KOO TSUNG issue, you can read about how our new Engagement team has spread their fledgling wings by facilitating our group companies in holding a variety of events and activities at our new multi-purpose engagement space (we have received over 3,100 visitors since last May when the fifth

wave of the pandemic restriction started to release). Meanwhile, our four archivists from our Archives Service team have been absorbed in enriching the collecting and management of our group companies' archives while also handling frequent, in-depth archive research enquiries (we handled 133 cases in 2022).

We are a team blessed with being able to work with rich materials from the past. Sharing the archives with the archives' owners, our colleagues, and the wider community is a true privilege. Nevertheless, as we embark on this new chapter for Swire Archives, I hope we will continue to remain passionate yet humble custodians of our

group companies' archives, always doing our best to support them in archives management and stakeholder engagement.

I also hope we can uphold our vision and patience, leveraging what we have learnt and developed over the past 12 years while remaining mentally focused on new experiences just as if we were beginning afresh again. With this mindset, I believe we can take Swire Archives into a new era that can continue to serve the best interests of our group companies for today and long into the future.

> Continued from page 1

Our moving cabinets are installed with robot technology, and can be arranged as “all-open”, “semi-open”, “all closed” and even “open one-by-one” depending on the event setup. So far, with this flexibility we have supported team-building activities, themed seminars, town hall meetings, lunch and learn talks, cocktail events, networking lunches and dinners, and even contract signing ceremony arranged by our group companies.



Above photos series Examples of setups to facilitate group companies' different kinds of events.

Swire Archive Centre: connecting and engaging people in different ways

For many of the events held at the Centre, our operating companies have requested specific set-up arrangements. We are grateful that these requests have helped us maximise the different ways this multi-purpose engagement space can be used. Here are a few examples for your inspiration:



1 Signing ceremony between Hainan officials and Swire Coca-Cola

In December 2022, John Swire & Sons China and Swire Coca-Cola jointly organised an event at the Centre for an official delegation from the Hainan Province. We supported the venue setup and conducted a short tour for 20 plus senior Hainan officials before a formal meeting and signing ceremony were held.

2 Cathay's exclusive cocktail event for Diamond members

Cathay Pacific's Membership Team launched "An evening with Cathay Pacific Group's CEO Ronald Lam" event for Diamond members at the Centre in February 2023. Hosted by Ronald Lam, the event featured a live jazz band and a Château Lynch-Bages wine tasting session, during which our Senior Archivist, Matthew Edmondson, shared interesting Cathay stories that took place during each wine's particular vintage.

3 Year-round orientation programme of Cathay Pacific

In collaboration with Cathay Pacific's "The Learning Academy" for their Brushwinger Orientation Programme, we have committed to run approximately 30 familiarisation tours for some 1,000 Cathay new joiners throughout 2023. These will support them in building a sense of bonding between Cathay and Swire, and help them develop a better understanding of the Group's culture and values.

4 Professional Managers Programme of Swire Properties

Swire Properties' Learning & Talent Management Team hosted their Professional Managers Programme here for their managers. A "Build & Code" game (shown in the photo) was played. Furthermore, our team took participants on a historical journey through Swire's history, regaling them with stories of how our predecessors overcame challenging periods in the past.



Supporting anniversaries and new projects

The opening of the new Archive Centre has also seen us actively fulfilling another meaningful function. Internally, we call this “Enquiries”, a service which we have been providing since our previous archive was built. Its aim is to support group companies with any archive or history-related research, brainstorming or new project development.

“ORIGINAL. ALWAYS”

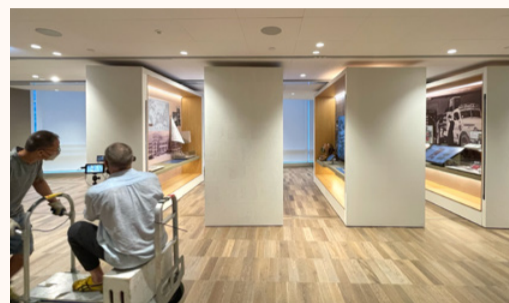
One of the major campaigns we supported last year was Swire Properties’ celebration of its 50th Anniversary. With the theme of “ORIGINAL. ALWAYS” firmly in mind, Swire Properties’ Corporate Marketing team and Public Affairs team, as well as their media partners and vendors, attended the Archive Centre to look for inspiration

and ideas for their promotional videos and publications.

To support this exercise and to help them identify the elements of “ORIGINAL. ALWAYS”, we provided guided tours for their production house and media partners. On these tours, rather than telling the full history chronologically as we normally do, we emphasised Swire’s continuous efforts to transform the community of Quarry Bay into a better place to work and live. We highlighted the development of the old Taikoo Company Town, and charted how the Taikoo Dockyard was transformed into Taikoo Shing. We also explained the metamorphosis of the Taikoo Sugar Refinery into Taikoo Trading Estate, and then again into today’s Taikoo Place.

We turned to our rich collections of historical photographs to showcase each iconic era and its subsequent transformation. From our precious few photographs depicting Quarry Bay when it was just a remote village, to our many black and white pictures which illustrate Swire’s building and running of the two heavy industrial operations and infrastructure, as well as staff’s welfare facilities, to more modern colour photographs from the 1980s and 1990s. We also have brochures which capture the short-term but equally representative light industrial era. These materials help to link the past to today’s setting of a vibrant, global business hub renowned in Hong Kong. The photographic collections tell Swire’s placemaking efforts at Quarry Bay for close to 140 years. They also vividly illustrate the sheer depth and breadth of changes throughout the different eras. The extent of Swire’s placemaking has had a hugely positive impact on Quarry Bay – not just in regard to the facilities or the built environment, but on the quality

of people’s lives. In addition to the research activities, we have also extended the use of our engagement space to support the marketing team with their video shoots of “Placemaking: The First 50 Years”. Through participating in the process of identifying shooting angles in the Archive Centre, we learned techniques from the crew which can help us improve the production quality of our own videos in future.



Above Tim Blackburn, Swire Properties’ Chief Executive, being filmed at the Archive Centre for the company’s 50th anniversary video. To view the video of “Placemaking: The First 50 Years”, click or scan this QR code.



To view another video produced by Swire Properties’ media partner, Mill Milk, click or scan this QR code.



Our rich material in relation to Taikoo Primary School provided the school and its production house with more background and ideas for their anniversary campaign and PR exercise.



Centenary of Taikoo Primary School

We started by providing the School Principal and Vice-Principals, and later their production house, with guided tours that gave an overview of the types of material we have preserved relating to the school. They include photographs from the 1920s to the modern day, newsletters dating back to the post-war period and publications such as anniversary books and leaflets, to name but a few. These materials support what we know about Swire’s devotion to providing free education for its workers’ children and also the innovative use of the school for teaching technical skills to apprentices in the evenings. Similar tours, conducted in three rounds (for familiarisation purposes), were also given to the school’s 70+ teachers on 8th March as the major activity for the school’s annual Teacher Development Day.

Through research and fact-finding, our Archives Service team also compiled a comprehensive

PowerPoint file to support the production of the school’s anniversary book. All the key historical information (supported by photographic images) which we could find in relation to the school was consolidated, including the timelines on its locations, development, uniforms and more. The work has given us the ready-made material which we can use later on in our own online exhibition, and in future enquiries about the same subject.

The whole process has enriched our knowledge about Taikoo Primary School and Swire’s contribution to its history. We hope it has also helped strengthen the bonds between the school and Swire, as well as building up the brand of Swire and the awareness about the value of archives management to the community.

Providing support to NGO partners

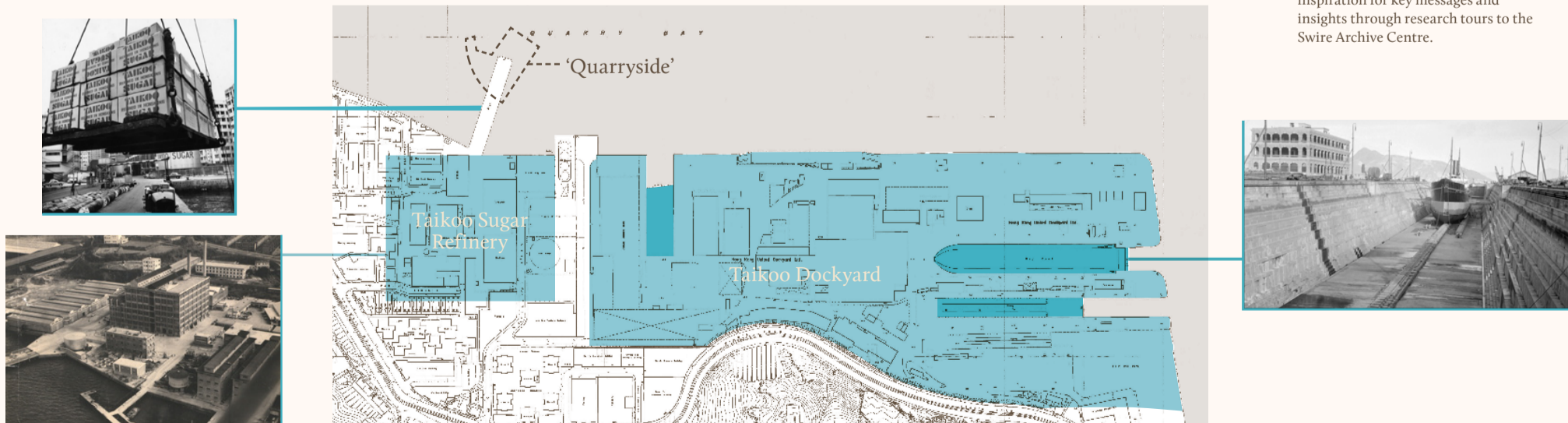
During the year, we also provided similar support to the Group’s NGO partners on their new projects, helping them brainstorm about both the content and format of their presentations. For instance, we hosted a tour for The Swire Institute of Marine Science (SWIMS) in August 2022, to explain how we curate our exhibitions, as well as how we make use of the flexible

setup at the Centre to cater to different stakeholders.

In January 2023, we hosted a research visit for the St. James’ Settlement for their harbour-front community project in Quarry Bay, called “Quarryside”. We conducted a guided tour, and later presented them with old photos and maps depicting the development of the site for their study and use. In addition to this, the St. James’ Settlement and our team are looking for potential opportunities to collaborate in the future.



The Group’s NGO partners look for inspiration for key messages and insights through research tours to the Swire Archive Centre.



Archives Service



New deposits at Swire Archives

Our Archives Service team continues their role of collecting and preserving archives that document Swire's history, both from our operating companies and from the wider Swire family of former employees' past and present.

We are pleased to share with our readers just a handful of the interesting acquisitions recently received by the Archives.

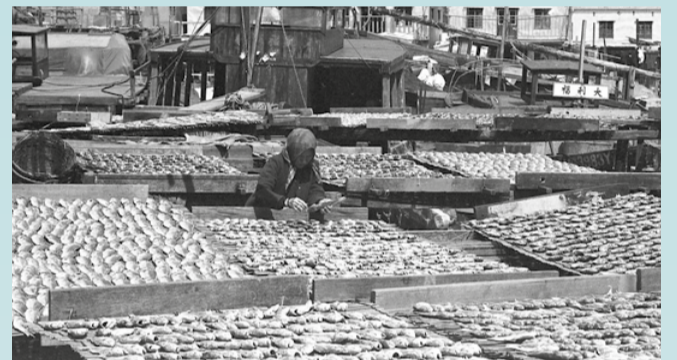


Negatives taken by Geoffrey Arthur Havilland MC

Former Swire archivist (now Swire News Deputy Editor), Charlotte Bleasdale, donated approximately 2,000 negatives of photos taken by her late father, Geoffrey Arthur Havilland MC. Geoffrey Havilland joined Swire in 1967 as Floating Staff Manager for The China Navigation Company in Hong

Kong, retiring almost 30 years later in London in 1994.

Havilland was an accomplished photographer and his collection principally includes images of Hong Kong taken between 1967 and 1975. While these document aspects of his working and family life as a Swire employee, they also portray Hong Kong as it once was, from its local markets and Chinese sailing junks, to villages in the New Territories.



Archives of Frederick John Jeacock

A rich collection of photographs and documentary material relating to the Taikoo Dockyard was donated to Swire Archives by the daughter of former Deputy Manager of Taikoo Dockyard, Frederick John Jeacock. Jeacock enjoyed a long career with Taikoo Dockyard, joining in 1938 as foreman before retiring in 1966 as Senior Assistant Manager. As well as many photographs of Quarry Bay, Taikoo Dockyard and its staff, the collection includes photographs of staff dances at a pre-war Taikoo Club, prizegiving events at the Taikoo School, and previously unseen photographs of the Taikoo Cable Car.



Pacific Place construction and early events

Clearance of a storeroom at the Pacific Place Management Office uncovered several boxes of records, film reels and photographs. The materials document its construction, early advertising for the shopping mall and early events and activities held at Pacific Place.

Help us to preserve Swire heritage

We would like to acknowledge the generosity and support of the many individuals and organisations that have donated or deposited collections with the Swire Archives.

If you hold any records that you think may be of value to Swire Archives or have a personal collection relating to a Swire company, please get in touch with us at swirearchives@jsshk.com so our Archives Service team can help you to preserve them.



Cathay Pacific's flight information pack

The Cathay Pacific archive contains a rich collection of print ephemera, from tickets, boarding passes and luggage tags, to inflight safety cards and posters. We recently acquired what might be one of the earliest examples of inflight ephemera: a flight information pack, that would have been found in a passenger's seat pocket, providing an illustrated guide to services aboard a Cathay Pacific flight in the early 1950s.

Dragonair and Cathay Dragon uniforms

A full set of original Dragonair / Cathay Dragon uniforms issued between 1986 to 2020 are now preserved in the archives.



Preserving Swire's archives

Preservation and conservation of the archive collections is one of the core roles of our team. It ensures that the archives in our care are appropriately housed and conserved, and that any risks to their long-term preservation are mitigated.

Journey of a centennial tapestry One new deposit to the Swire Archives that posed a unique preservation challenge (but which was also a great learning opportunity for us) was a nearly 120-year-old silk tapestry measuring 4.5 metres in length and 2.8 metres across.

The story of this historical art piece can be traced back to 1906 when Swire completed the construction of new wharves and godowns at what was then called

Pak Hin Hok in Guangzhou. This richly ornamented tapestry formed the backdrop for a bai san ceremony for the new premises and was presented to Swire by Yue Kee Hong, a prominent local merchant firm that shipped its goods with Swire.

Following the ceremony, the tapestry was sent to the United Kingdom where it was stored in its original case for almost 90 years, perfectly preserving the silk's rich colours and fine embroidery.

In 1999, it returned to this part of the world to take up its second mission as a unique historical art piece display in the lobby of Cityplaza One in Taikoo Shing. This mission lasted for 20 years until the building was sold in late 2020. Incidentally, as the construction of the new Swire Archive Centre was underway, it was then decided that the tapestry should be deposited into the care of the Swire Archives.

So began its third mission at the age of 115.



An amalgamation of photos of The China Navigation Company's wharves and godowns at Pak Hin Hok

Restoration and rejuvenation Having such a beautiful but huge and fragile piece was no doubt exciting to the whole team of us, but the restricted space in the new Archive Centre posed a debate. Should the tapestry be put on display ("but how?", we asked ourselves) or should we let it comfortably "rest in peace" in our environmentally controlled repository ("but again, how?").

"The ultimate purpose of keeping archives is use", we said. So, what was needed was to work out the most appropriate display environment that would both ensure its long-term good condition and allow people to appreciate its unique beauty in person. To achieve this, we pooled the expertise of professional conservators,

our Archive Centre's interior and exhibition designer, Swire Properties' Artwork Advisory team and our Archives team.

After being publicly displayed at Cityplaza One for two decades, the tapestry required conservation work so the Artwork Advisory team arranged for a fine art consultant to undertake a detailed condition check and thorough cleaning of the silk and gold embroidery. The tapestry was restored to its previously good condition before it was placed in temporary storage at our former repository while its new home was to be completed. The tapestry is now the largest single piece artefact in the Swire Archive Centre.



Deinstallation took place at the lobby of Cityplaza One on 31st October 2020



Left The 4.5 x 2.8 metres silk embroidery with gold thread tapestry.



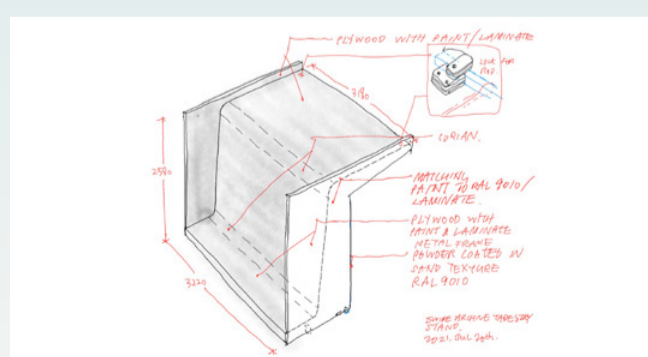
An initial condition inspection was carried out by a fine-art expert on 13th November 2020 to decide how to clean and restore it to a good condition



Left two Careful installation undergoing by a few cultural collections conservation experts, together with our interior and exhibition designer and our Archives team on 29th November 2021.
Right The finishing look after installation.

Building a new permanent home Due to its length, as well as the height limitations of the Swire Archive Centre, a curving mount was specially created in wood, which would enable the majority of the tapestry to be displayed while ensuring its weight was appropriately supported. This was to be housed within our repository, behind three pieces of two-hour fire-proof glass walls (the glass was the maximum size available in the market), ensuring the tapestry could be kept in an appropriate environment whilst still being on display.

To reduce damage to the tapestry through light exposure, LED lighting with minimal illuminance was installed, in addition to a vertical blackout blind in front of the glass viewing wall that could be raised remotely for viewing the tapestry.



On completion of the tapestry's new housing and mount, the careful installation of the tapestry at its new home finally took place in November 2021.

Upon its mount, a layer of padded fabric was affixed to create appropriate friction between the

mount and tapestry so that the hanging weight of the tapestry will not exert force on its upper area (which is laid flat) as it is displayed in an almost vertical position. The tapestry was unrolled slowly by our team and the conservator and installed on the plinth. This was followed by gentle surface cleaning using brushes.

Over the following months, further measurements of the display lighting, as well as ambient natural light from the wider engagement area, were carried out to ensure that this would cause no harm to the tapestry. Any potential colour-fading is monitored continuously using fading cards.

Visitors to our new Archive Centre can now enjoy the tapestry and learn more about its history and characteristic via an ongoing looping set of presentation slides within the display case.

A Look into Our Team



Enhancing skills and knowledge via workshops

The new chapter for Swire Archives also saw us taking time to conduct in-house workshops and training. Following our relocation to the new Swire Archive Centre – and the addition of an Engagement section, as well as welcoming new team members – we recognised the need to review and align our archival procedures and practices to maintain our standards and consistency. Apart from updating our archives service manuals, Matthew Edmondson, our Senior Archivist, conducted a workshop to share practical skills for handling archives.

Alongside providing an appropriate storage environment for the archives, a culture of good handling is a cornerstone of our preservation policy. Careful handling of the archives by our staff and users prolongs their life, ensures they can continue to be accessed, and can prevent accidental damage that can be costly to repair by professional conservators.

In the workshop, Matthew shared some general principles for the handling of different kinds of archives, from large bound volumes, to oversize maps and drawings, to fragile papers and photographs, as well as how to assess and mitigate common handling risks.

Appropriate archival packaging materials for different types of archives and media were explored, as well as how to deal with often encountered problems such as the removal of old sticky notes, such as post-it notes, which are commonly used in the office



but can leave behind a residue that will damage the archives over time.

Likewise, fasteners such as steel paperclips and staples which can rust, which will stain and eventually eat through paper. In case paperclips are necessary to maintain the original order of the records, Matthew recommended using brass paperclips, and coupling them with a protective piece of folded acid-free card to reduce the risk of distorting the paper.

A frequent question we are asked by visitors to the Archives is whether we should always wear gloves when handling the archives. Contrary to common belief, Matthew explained, gloves are not always recommended for handling papers records and books, due to lower touch sensitivity that could lead to unintentional damage when handling them – clean, bare hands, are preferred. Gloves, however, should always be worn



when handling film, photographic media, or metals – though today we prefer nitrile gloves rather than the traditional white cotton gloves that are synonymous with archives.



Top Matthew shows colleagues the correct ways to handle large paper material and how to remove staples.

Bottom We review and align our archival procedures and practices from time to time to maintain our standard and consistency.

Discovering more from the community

Last year, our opportunities to learn even went beyond the walls of classrooms and workshops.

Following a visit to our Archive Centre by some 20 local heritage enthusiasts in the morning of one autumn day, Anita Lim, our Engagement team's Manager, and Isabella Yeung, our Senior Officer, joined the group in the afternoon for a guided hike to Quarry Gap at Mount Parker. Our goal was to physically learn more about the old Taikoo cable car system and the Taikoo Sanitarium, which are now historical relics found on Mount Parker.

At the start of the hiking trail, near the hillside of Mount Parker Lodge, we were led to one of the remaining water control wheels related to the old Taikoo reservoir. This was the Taikoo No.3 Dam,



Above and left Then-and-now images of the Taikoo No.3 Dam water control wheel.

which was turned into Quarry Bay Reservoir Garden and the Mount Parker Lodge in the late 1980s. We were amazed to see that the design of today's Mount Parker Lodge entrance was made to look like a dam wall – a fitting memorial to the Taikoo reservoir.

The most remarkable feature of the trail is the 24 sets of stone foundations which supported steel pylons for the old Taikoo cable car system. Interestingly, we were told that, in comparison with an old map dated 1932, it was believed that there should be at least 25 sets of foundations along the cable car route, meaning at least one set is still hidden somewhere in the trees.



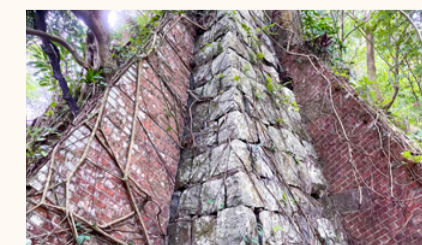
Above Contemporary image of cable car system in use with the stone foundations clearly visible.

Left The stone foundations as seen today.



We were also led to 12 sets of red brick stairs built into the hillside. These are the remnants of walkways that ran under the ropeway. Climbing them gave us a sense of what it would have been like at the time with the cable car going above our heads as it made its way up the mountain.

The Taikoo cable car was built in 1892 and was 2.3km long, connecting Taikoo Sugar Refinery (in what is today's Yau Man Street) and Taikoo Sanitarium on Mount Parker. Its story and its remains, together with the other discoveries around the Mount Parker area, provide the present and future generations with fascinating insights into the evolution of Quarry Bay over the years.



Above and left Sanitarium in 1893 and its remains as seen today.

Community Engagement



The inherent value in maintaining archives is only unlocked when archives are being used. The Group's archives tell the history of Swire and of Hong Kong. To introduce our work to the wider community, we provided guided tours to universities, NGOs and cultural institutions throughout the year.



Above May Lam-Kobayashi invites students to create ideas for the White Christmas Street Fair project using stories, archives, and inspiration from previous projects.

Right A group photo of students of the "E-League" programme after their half-day workshop. They heard stories of Swire's development in Hong Kong and learnt about how its archives and heritage support its operations today.

Supporting Swire Properties in youth engagement

In December 2022, we joined hands with Swire Properties to support "The E-League" programme, an ongoing campaign of the Eastern District Office of HKSAR in facilitating youth development. We devised a half-day event at the Swire Archive Centre for 20 secondary school students (who had been selected by a panel for the programme from among district school nominees). The objectives were to give the students an example of a unique corporate development story in Hong Kong, and to show them how this story and its heritage are maintained and presented.

It started with a 1.5-hour guided tour of our moveable exhibition cabinets and interactive experience booths, as well as our repository. We explained to the students how Swire took root in Hong Kong and, in particular, its efforts, through placemaking, in transforming Quarry Bay over the past 140 years.

To reinforce their learning about Swire's efforts in placemaking, May Lam-Kobayashi, Deputy Director Public Affairs at Swire Properties, and her Events &

Project Senior Manager, Evan Li, conducted a 1.5-hour sharing session and workshop for the students. May and Evan chose Swire Properties' past White Christmas Street Fair projects as examples so as to align with the students' interests.

May introduced Swire Properties and its placemaking concept, and how university students worked in a team, under a six-month apprenticeship sponsored by the company, to develop the White Christmas Street Fair: a greener, smarter and more engaging event for the greater Hong Kong community. Evan, accompanied by two graduates who were involved in these past projects, gave more details about what was involved.

To help reinforce what they had just learnt, participants were asked to come up with ideas for topics for potential similar projects in the future. The hosts gave instant feedback and, although the workshop was only an exercise, we hope that the students' interest was aroused by the half-day session. We hope we opened their eyes to new areas which they might not have come across before, and which they may want to explore further in future.



Tours and knowledge-sharing with specific student groups

We have also facilitated similar visits for university students, which focused on other elements. Undergraduates at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University's School of Design came in March this year to learn about the design of the Swire Archive Centre, including its design concept and the way we curate and present the stories and our exhibits, as well as how we worked with our designer and production house to complete the project. Students of Lingnan University's

Master of Arts (MA) in Curating and Art History course visited in October last year, with the objective of using Swire Archives as a case study to learn about how business archives are run and managed and how our archives are preserved and used.

Hong Kong Maritime Museum and The Hong Kong Heritage Project had also arranged visits to our Centre for their volunteers so we could exchange storytelling skills, including ways of engaging audiences and empowering messages. We took the opportunity to learn from the organisers about how they ran their volunteer guide programmes, as well as the pros and cons and the challenges, and how they overcome them.



Matthew Edmondson, Senior Archivist, shares tips on archives management with Lingnan University's MA students.

Giving and taking

Sharing is a process of give and take. Visits by peers, such as the University Archives of The University of Hong Kong, the Library of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Campus Development of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and the Gallery and Exhibitions team of the Asia Society, were among the most remarkable ones. Through their experience sharing, we have learned about the latest market needs and interests, and the relevant exhibition trends. The Asia Society, in particular, explained the way they engage the community through different activities, including exhibitions, seminars and guided tours.



Joyce Ng (second from left), Head of Gallery and Exhibitions of the Asia Society, and her teammates take a tour of the Swire Archive Centre and share their experience of community engagement with us.



Image courtesy of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Through the Guided Cultural Tour of HK Urban Canvas, a community inclusion project of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, cultural lovers from the community are experiencing their first-hand encounter of original archives while at the same time we are learning from them the interests of community in archives appreciation.



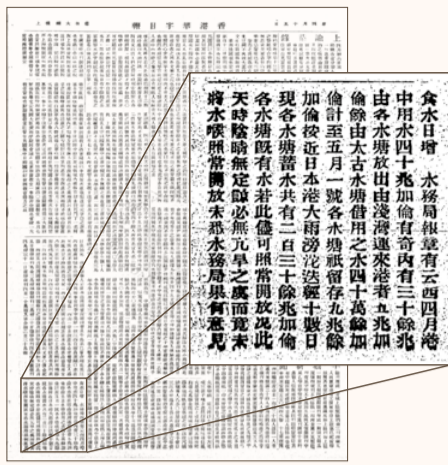
About the HK Urban Canvas 2022 guided cultural tours.



Supporting the government in promoting country park historic relics

In collaboration with the Tourism Commission, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) recently carried out an enhancement project to improve the existing hiking trail and supporting facilities in the Tai Tam Country Park (the Quarry Bay Extension) in an effort to promote green tourism. One enhancement was to revamp their interpretation panels and other visitor facilities to raise awareness of historic relics along the trail. This included producing two new videos that introduce historic remains related to the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, both inside and near the country park. The videos were to be screened at the Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre, and would feature the history of this Grade II historic building and other remnants of Taikoo Sanitarium, the Taikoo cable car system, reservoirs and water channels around Mount Parker. It was expected that the project would enhance not only visitor experience but also public awareness about heritage conservation.

The AFCD invited Swire Archives to support them with historical research and to take part in the video interviews. In an effort to contribute to the community and support the government in enhancing public awareness about heritage conservation, our former Heritage Manager, Angel Wong, worked together with



A local news story reports that Swire provided water to residents during a period of drought. Source: Chinese Mail, 1902

our Group Public Affairs department and acted as our spokesperson in the first video, titled “Mount Parker Traces of a Company Town”. In this video, she shared stories and introduced the relics related to the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, Taikoo reservoirs and Woodside.

Citing an example of how Swire has been fulfilling its corporate social responsibility since the earliest times, in the video, Angel said, “Water supply from the reservoirs was used not just for business purposes, but also for staff at the company’s dormitories and some other residents in Quarry Bay.” She continued, “During the period of drought back then, the ships originally used for delivering sugar were converted for transporting water to local residents in various areas of Hong Kong.”

Furthermore, Jennifer Lang, Director and Adjunct Associate Professor of MSc (Conservation), also shared her views about the value of the remains to the history and development of industry in Hong Kong.

The second video, “The Past and Present of Woodside”, gives an in-depth introduction to Woodside’s architectural features and the revitalisation work carried out by the AFCD. Woodside, now a Grade II historic building and a Biodiversity Education Centre for the public, was built by Taikoo Sugar



Angel Wong being filmed for the AFCD video at Woodside.

Refinery in 1923 as a residence for its senior staff until the closure of the refinery in 1970s.

To view the two new videos, click or scan the QR code here:



Video 1	Video 2
Video 1 Mount Parker Traces of a Company Town	Video 2 The Past and Present of Woodside

Unveiling the centennial story of Mount Parker countryside

To celebrate the centennial of Woodside, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) held a webinar titled “Unveiling the Centennial Story of Mount Parker Countryside”. The webinar took place in March at the Swire Archive Centre and was made available online to the public through live broadcast via Facebook and YouTube.

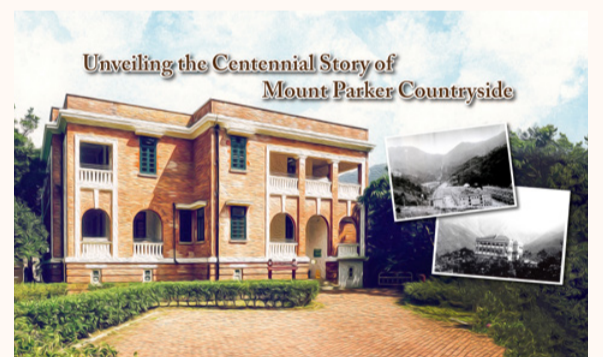
As one of the two speakers at the webinar, Anita Lim, our Manager of Archive Engagement & Communications, made use of our rich photo collection and shared more about the early development of Quarry Bay and the evolution of the site under the development of Swire over the past 140 years. Anita said, “With the development of the Taikoo Sugar Refinery and the Taikoo Dockyard in Quarry Bay, Swire has

grown together with the place. Out of necessity and care, our development and management not only brought job opportunities, free education and training programmes to the community, but our facilities and welfare also nurtured bonds between families and even instilled the concept of team building among colleagues in those early days. The scale of this corporate town and its phases of transformation to today’s vibrant placemaking site have led to it being one of the city’s major commercial hubs.”

The second half of the webinar focused on the architectural features of Woodside. Wendy Ng, an Architectural Conservationist, shared her expert knowledge on the details of the restoration work of this beautiful historic building.

After the webinar took place, the AFCD and Swire Archives have developed further exchanges about each other’s experience in storytelling and running public exhibitions. On 2nd May, 20 officials from the AFCD’s various country parks visited the Swire Archive Centre to go on a journey through

Swire’s history and our exhibition setup. As a courtesy, our team will also visit Woodside (now called the Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre) in June to learn more about the historical and cultural significance of the building.



Woodside was built in the 1920s as a residence for senior staff of the Taikoo Sugar Refinery.

Anita Lim (left) and Wendy Ng (right) are interviewed by the webinar host, Samson So, of the Eco Institute. The webinar was our first co-event with the government in support of its enhancement project for the Tai Tam Country Park (Quarry Bay Extension) hiking trail.

To view the webinar, click or scan the QR code here.



Swire Archives works with the Swire group companies in Hong Kong and Asia, supporting them in building and professionally managing their historical archives, as well as in facilitating their stakeholder engagement activities. Colleagues are welcome to email us at swirearchives@jsshk.com for any enquiry relating to these services. Copyright@2023



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