

Department of Anthropology,
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Summer Internship 2015

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It is my pleasure to be an intern in the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) and I am thankful for this opportunity provided by the Department of Anthropology and AMO. During the 6-week internship programme, I mainly worked in Hong Kong Archaeological Archives which is located in the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building. The colleagues are nice, friendly and willing to teach us. They also gave us opportunities to try many different types of work, we thus gained a more comprehensive experience on working in AMO.

We worked on many different things in AMO, mainly on archives. We typed the information of the artefacts into the computer. After cross-checking the document by us and the colleagues, the information of the artefacts will be uploaded to the database management system. Besides typing archives, we also involved in the process of adding the accession number to newly-arrived artefacts. There are many other interesting and special experiences. For example, we had several chances to help cleaning the artefacts and stick label onto the bags after checking the artefacts inside are matched with the information listed on the document. The colleagues are supportive and always encourage us to take up tasks which are more challenging. For example, sometimes typing archives also includes translating the name of the artefacts from Chinese to English or vice versa. However, the names of the artefacts usually consist of professional terms that we did not know. Therefore, we were quite afraid of making mistakes at the beginning, but the colleagues' attitude was encouraging and told us to be bold and try. Their friendliness surely encourages us to take up more and hence learn more in this internship programme.

Besides working in the office, the colleagues brought us to visit their workplaces outside office to understand more about the jobs done by AMO. We visited an excavation site in Lamma Island together with Assistant Curators. During the visit, the Assistant Curator taught us a lot about archaeology and excavations done in Hong Kong and the role of AMO in Hong Kong Archaeology. Moreover, they taught us excavation skills and how to use the tools. During the internship, we also paid visit to Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, Pottery Kilns at Wun Yiu Village in Tai Po which is one of the declared monuments, a storeroom in Tai Po, and laboratory of the Conservation office in Hong Kong Heritage Museum. This helped us to understand the role and

duty of AMO thoroughly and we learned a lot from professionals.

In this internship, we do not just understand how AMO operates, but also learn a lot from Assistant Curators and professionals as they shared their experience and knowledge on archaeology. It is a very good experience and it allows us to know more about the field we want to work in after we have graduated and understand our weaknesses.

