

**September 1973**

**Public Works Departmental Technical Circular No. 14/73**

**Discovery of Antiquities etc.  
by the Public Works Department  
(Updating and reissue of D.I. No. 12/62)**

The following lays down the procedure to be followed on the discovery of antiquities, articles of value, etc., during the execution of public works in the New Territories :-

- (i) When a contractor or P.W.D. officer makes the discovery he will report to the engineer or architect in charge of the contract who will then report the matter to the Head of his office and simultaneously contact the District Officer re-disposal etc. Should it not be possible to contact the D.O. the engineer or architect will use his discretion on the measures to be taken and confirm these with the D.O. as early as possible.
  - (ii) If consulting engineers are in charge of the work, their resident engineer is similarly responsible.
  - (iii) In exceptional case, where the District Officer becomes aware of a "find" before the P.W.D. officials, he may investigate directly, make arrangements for temporary protection or custody, and immediately inform the engineer or architect in charge and the head of the P.W.D. office concerned for confirmation or clarification of any instructions given to the contractor.
2. When the works are in the Urban Areas the Secretary for Home Affairs is to be informed instead of the District Officer.

**( D.W. McDonald )  
Actg. Director of Public Works**