

香港特別行政區政府
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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Development Bureau
Technical Circular (Works) No. 5/2019

Preservation of Survey Monuments and Marks

Scope

This Circular describes the importance of preserving land survey monuments and survey marks, and the need to consult the Deputy Director (Survey and Mapping) (DD/SM) of the Lands Department or any officer dedicated by DD/SM in advance if a proposed construction project may affect a survey monument or survey mark.

Effective Date

2. This Circular takes immediate effect.

Effect on Existing Circulars

3. This Circular supersedes WBTC No. 25/95 which is hereby cancelled.

Background

4. The Survey and Mapping Office of the Lands Department has spent a lot of resources and efforts on establishing and maintaining an accurate territory-wide mathematically consistent network of both horizontal and vertical survey monuments and marks in form of electronic satellite positioning reference stations, trigonometrical pillars on hilltops, picket boxes, survey markers or benchmarks embedded in solid ground or permanent stable structures. This homogeneous geodetic control network provides survey controls for all types of mapping, cadastral, engineering and hydrographic surveys. Some monuments and marks have been specially determined to

serve as links between the Hong Kong 1980 Geodetic Datum (HK80) and the World Geodetic System (WGS84). These monuments and marks, if destroyed, cannot be replaced without weakening the whole geodetic control network and nullifying much of the resources and efforts already spent on establishing them. It is therefore of paramount importance to preserve all survey monuments and marks in a good and undisturbed condition as their restoration or replacement will be costly and time consuming.

Policy and Practices

5. Departments are therefore reminded that wherever possible, construction projects should be designed so that survey monuments and marks are not disturbed. In order to maintain the strength and consistency of the main horizontal control network, the lines of inter-visibility between trigonometrical stations should not be blocked in any circumstance. Departments should consult DD/SM on any project proposals to see if they will affect any survey monument or mark, or render it useless by blocking its line of sight to other survey monuments. The consultation must be done in good time, preferably at the initial planning stage, so as to minimise possible abortive design effort and to devise remedial actions as appropriate. In any case, the agreement from DD/SM must be obtained where potential destruction of a survey monument or mark is really unavoidable.

6. In connection with road works, survey marks such as stainless steel rods, steel staples, picket boxes and steel discs should also be left undisturbed as far as possible. If however disturbance is inevitable, the Senior Land Surveyor/Geodetic (SLS/G) of the Lands Department should be informed in time to enable replacement of the marks as appropriate.

7. Index plans and station summaries for survey monuments and marks can be obtained from the website of the Geodetic Survey Section, Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department at the following internet link:

https://www.geodetic.gov.hk/en/gi/gsi_index.htm

8. If however a survey monument or mark has to be removed to give way for a works project, the department responsible for the project should bear the cost of reconstructing a replacement survey monument or mark to the satisfaction of DD/SM.

Enquiries

9. Enquiries on matters related to this Circular can be made to Chief Land Surveyor/Headquarters (CLS/HQ), Lands Department (Tel: 2231 3471 or E-mail: clshq@landsd.gov.hk) or Senior Land Surveyor/Geodetic (SLS/G), Lands Department (Tel : 2231 3489 or E-mail : slsg@landsd.gov.hk).

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