Exportation of Hong Kong Granite to the Pacific Rim in the 19th and 20th Century

19 至 20 世紀香港出口花崗岩石紀實

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1. Introduction

Quarries have been in existence long before the British's arrival, mainly because quality granite was so abundant in Hong Kong. In 1844, the quarrying industry was taxed not just as a source of revenue, though minimal in sum, but more importantly as an assertion of sovereignty by the colonial government.

Quarries were then leased through tendering or public auction on an annual basis first on the Hong Kong Island, followed by all quarries in Kowloon Peninsula after 1860. In 1902 the quarry leases were split further into small groups rather than geographic area, and were extended to two years or more.

Granite blocks were initially used as a principal material in local building and infrastructure construction. It is found that quality granite was also exported to not just nearby places such as mainland China and other Asian cities, but across the Pacific Ocean to San Francisco, United States of America.

This report is written based on the intensive research work done during the last few years on the history of exportation of granite from Hong Kong. In order to help readers understand the exportation of granite at different times with respect to development of Hong Kong quarrying industry, Chapter three presents chronologically the development of the quarrying industry together with the brief description of case studies of granite exportation. Details of the ten case studies are attached in the Appendix.

2. Pre-1841

James Horsburgh, a British hydrographer (1806 -1819) investigated and measured the topography of Peal River's Estuary. Among the others, he discovered

- The largest number of ships were passing through Hong Kong region and its waters.
- There is a need to turn the island into an entrepot.
- The hard granite is the precious resource to building a trading city.

After he passed away in 1836, the maritime community proposed to erect a lighthouse would be a tribute to him. Donations from individual and shipping companies were collected. The Horsburgh Lighthouse was erected at a place of 24 nautical miles, quite far away from Singapore. Between 1850 and 1851, the lighthouse was built using granite quarried from Pulau Ubin, a small island near the Singapore island. The report written by the John Thomson showed the sketches how granite blocks were quarried and transported to the rock on which the lighthouse was built. These could be one of the earliest records about the operations in a quarry.

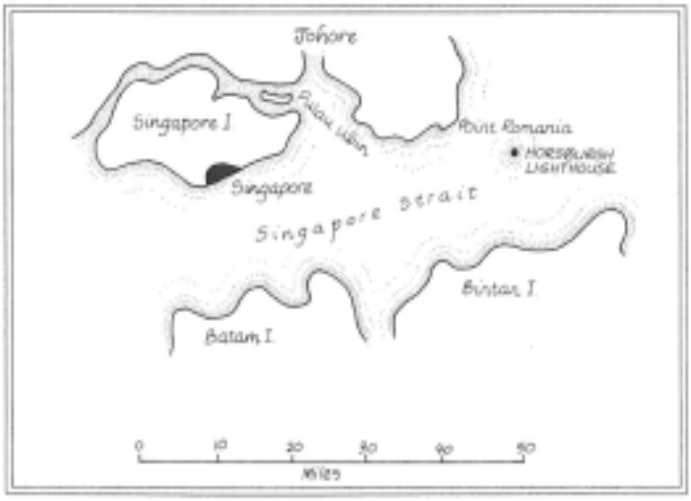


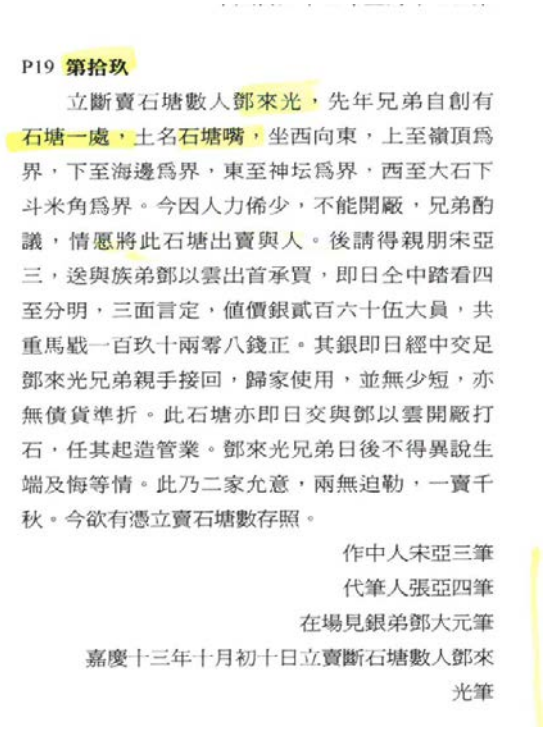
Figure 2.1 Location of Horsburgh Lighthouse, which is quite away from Singapore. However, it was ruled by the International Court that the Lighthouse be managed by Singapore, despite it is much closer to Malaysia.

Figure 2.2: The painting (left, by J. Thomson) and the photo (right, by author) of The Lighthouse

Early evidence of quarrying in Hong Kong was discovered when a square well built in Sung Dynasty was unearthed on the construction site of Hong Kong MTR Shatin-Central Line in 2014. It could interpret that stone was available in nearby places and stone work was undertaken almost nine hundred years ago in Hong Kong.

Figure 2.3 The square well is made up of granite blocks which are connected by half joints. Granite quarries should not be far away ad masons are available for cutting and dressing.

In 1809, there was a record mentioning the agreement to sell a quarry owned by a Mr. Tang, at Shek Tong Tsui (Sai Ying Poon), to a relative of the Tang's clan.



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立斷賣石塘數人鄧來光，先年兄弟自創有石塘一處，土名石塘嘴，坐西向東，上至嶺頂爲界，下至海邊爲界，東至神坛爲界，西至大石下斗米角爲界。今因人力俙少，不能開厰，兄弟酌議，情愿將此石塘出賣與人。後請得親朋宋亞三，送與族弟鄧以雲出首承買，即日仝中踏看四至分明，三面言定，值價銀貳百六十伍大員，共重馬戥一百玖十兩零八錢正。其銀即日經中交足鄧來光兄弟親手接回，歸家使用，並無少短，亦無債貨準折。此石塘亦即日交與鄧以雲開厰打石，任其起造管業。鄧來光兄弟日後不得異說生端及悔等情。此乃二家允意，兩無迫勒，一賣千秋。今欲有憑立賣石塘數存照。

作中人宋亞三筆
代筆人張亞四筆
在場見銀弟鄧大元筆
嘉慶十三年十月初十日立賣斷石塘數人鄧來光筆

Figure 2.4: The selling of a quarry site at 265 dollars from Tang Loi-kwong to Tang Yee-man from the same clan. The quarry was sold due to few workers available and not able to continue the operations. Middle man: Sung Ah, Written by: Cheng ah-si, Buyer: Tang Yee-man, Witness: Tang Tai-yuen

In 1810, the stonemasons of east Kowloon were persuaded by a member of the Tang Family of Kam Tin, in the New Territories, to cut stones for a low wage for the construction for a fort in Kowloon, in order to guard against pirates who were making a lot of trouble in local waters.

Clarke Abel's investigation in 1816 indicated that granite was abundant on Hong Kong island.

Such observation of the abundant granite on Hong Kong island can be cross checked with today's geological map of Hong Kong. Granite is present on the two sides of the Victoria Harbour, and at Shek O and Stanley on the south side of the

island. Also, granite is found on Lamma Island, the South East of Lantau, the central part of Kowloon, such as Shatin, and the west side of the New Territories.

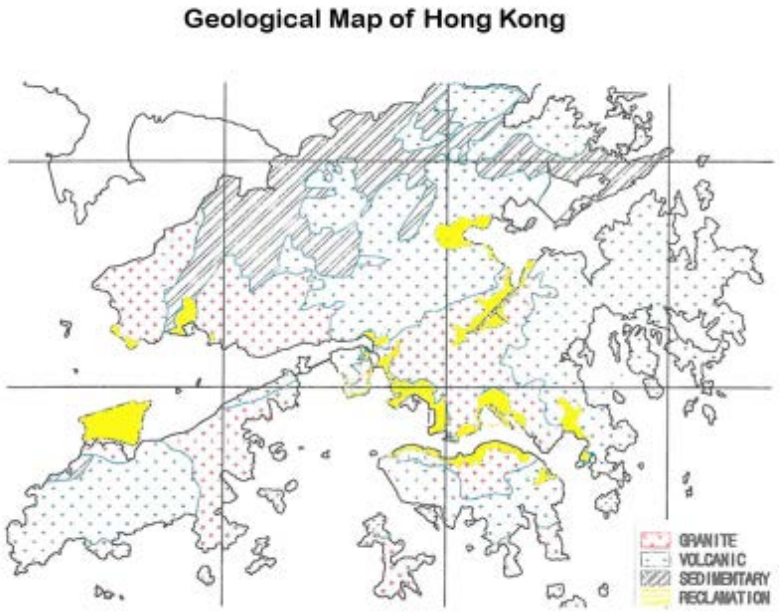


Figure 2.5: Geological map of Hong Kong. Granite is abundant on the opposite sides of Victoria harbour. Other places rich in granite include the opposite sides of Victoria Harbour, Lamma, Stanley, Shek O, central Kowloon, Shatin, East Kowloon, east of Lantau, west of New territories, Tuen Mun and Castle Peak.

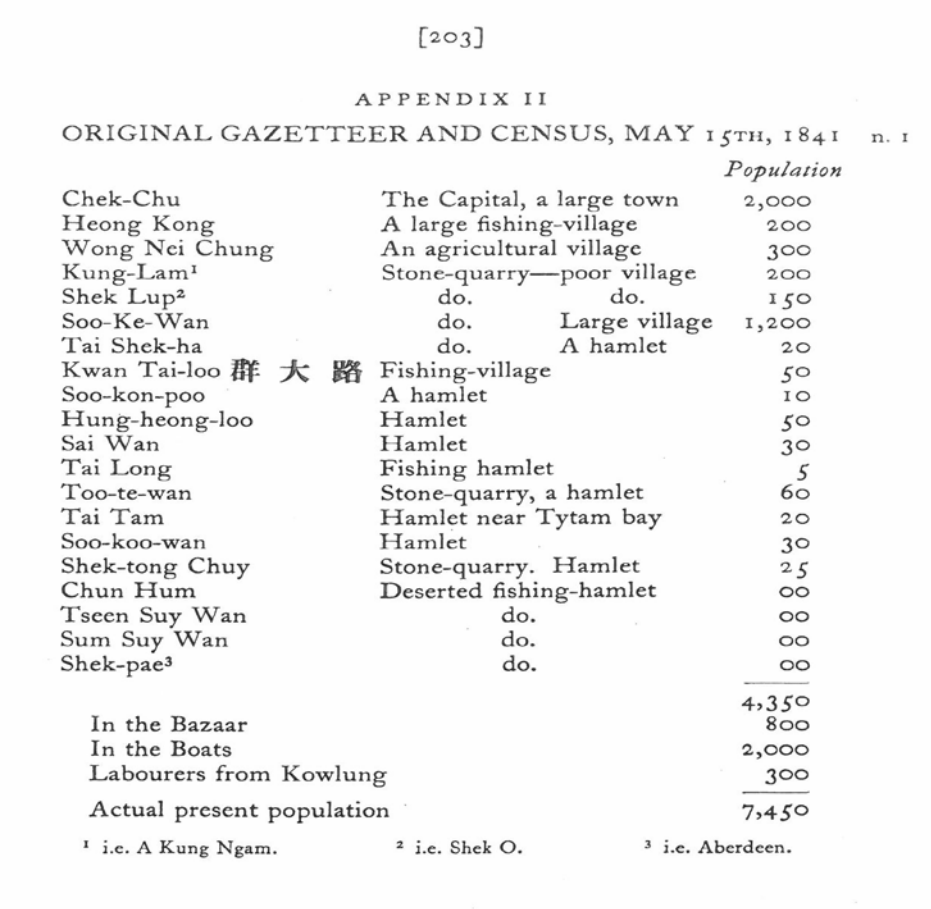
James Hayes wrote that "30 quarries donated to the restoration of the Hau Wong temple in Kowloon City in 1822 of which four also donated in 1845 for the Shaukeiwan Hoi Sam Temple. Some of the quarrymen came from Kowloon."

Lord Palmerston, the British Foreign Secretary, quoted in 1841 "Hong Kong is an island located in the South China Sea – Barren and rocky." Such description only partially correct has remained a popular saying during the 19th, 20th and the early part of 21st century. After the intensive research, the authors would suggest to amend it, as shown by the following chapters.

On 14 Feb 1841, Rev. John Lewis Shuck, the Editor of the Friends of China, together with some missionaries sailed to Hong Kong for an inspection. They found Wong Nei Chung has some 400 people. A mile further east was Hung Heung Soo

with 100-200 people. Then for three or four miles there was no inhabitation, just occasional groups of two to three families, including at the quarry which was the last place they saw on the north side.

Later in June of the same year, W.D. Bernard observed that at the eastern end of Hong Kong there were capital stone quarries, which were worked with skill and facility by Chinese labourers. This is believed to be the place near Quarry Bay and Shau Kei Wan. The former is named by the presence of the quarries.



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APPENDIX II

ORIGINAL GAZETTEER AND CENSUS, MAY 15TH, 1841 n. 1

		Population
Chek-Chu	The Capital, a large town	2,000
Heong Kong	A large fishing-village	200
Wong Nei Chung	An agricultural village	300
Kung-Lam[1]	Stone-quarry—poor village	200
Shek Lup[2]	do. do.	150
Soo-Ke-Wan	do. Large village	1,200
Tai Shek-ha	do. A hamlet	20
Kwan Tai-loo 群大路	Fishing-village	50
Soo-kon-poo	A hamlet	10
Hung-heong-loo	Hamlet	50
Sai Wan	Hamlet	30
Tai Long	Fishing hamlet	5
Too-te-wan	Stone-quarry, a hamlet	60
Tai Tam	Hamlet near Tytam bay	20
Soo-koo-wan	Hamlet	30
Shek-tong Chuy	Stone-quarry. Hamlet	25
Chun Hum	Deserted fishing-hamlet	00
Tseen Suy Wan	do.	00
Sum Suy Wan	do.	00
Shek-pae[3]	do.	00
		4,350
In the Bazaar		800
In the Boats		2,000
Labourers from Kowlung		300
Actual present population		7,450

[1] i.e. A Kung Ngam. [2] i.e. Shek O. [3] i.e. Aberdeen.

Figure 2.6 The census conducted in 1841 on the Hong Kong island. Chek chu, Stanley and Soo-ke-wan (Shaukeiwn) are big towns with over a thousand residents. Over 2,000 people lived in the boats.

According to the census published in May 1841, there were 1,655 masons in Hong Kong accounting for about 225 of the population of 7,450 people. The same statistics revealed that out of twenty villages, six were involved in quarrying.

- Kung-Lam 200
- Shek-Lup 150
- Soo-Ke-Wan 1,200
- Tai Shek-Ha 20
- Too-te-wan 60
- Shek-tong Chuy 25

30% of 20 villages were stone quarry hamlets.

1,655/4,350 = 38% were involved in quarrying

A.R. Johnston, Acting Administrator of HK 1841-42, wrote the Note on HK Island () in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London Vol. 14 (1844) pp112-117 as follows:

- There are many hamlets on the east coast of the island, where the magnificent granite of Hong Kong is principally quarried …
- The rock of Hong Kong … is granite,….suited for the best sorts of building purposes.

G.B. Endacott stated that in 1844 the stone cutters have been working here for many years before their arrival. The majority of the men were unprincipled. The could not be considered as domesticated and had the habit of coming and going according to the state of the trade.

The Friends of China of 24 March 1842 quoted that there were one mason shop and 380 mason workers.

The survey ships in drawing the map of Hong Kong also found quarries on the coast. Captain Belcher's map showed the quarry at North Point and the Collinson's Survey of 1843-1845 also showed that the coast of the island was marked with quarries, all the way from Quarry Bay through Quarry Point to Ah Kung Ngam, with a few houses for the quarry workers. There was no doubt that that quarrying was the dominant economic activity on the whole north-east coast of Hong Kong.

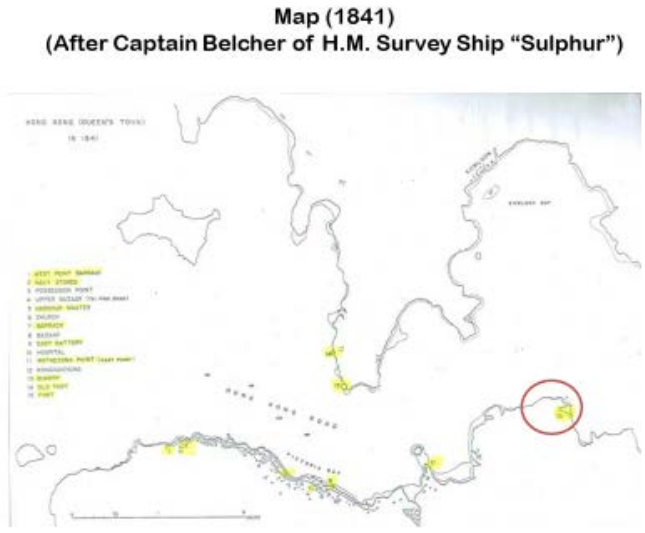

Figure 2.7 Tsat Tze Mui (North Point) was marked by Captain Belcher as a quarry.

George Smith wrote in 1844 "We first landed at a stone quarry, where the Chinese workmen were induced to leave their labour,….. the dialect they spoke is Hok-ka, which differs considerably with the Cantonese generally spoken in those parts."

In 1843, Thomas Allom wrote in China Illustrated - Harbour of Hong Kong: "There is a valuable export of granite, and a large portion of the natives having long sustained themselves by the profits of hewing this primitive stone. In the structure of the district, the trap-rocks hold the higher position, while the granite is found in huge debris scattered over the level and the lower regions. As there is no necessity for blasting or quarrying, the masses being detached and accessible on every side, it only remains for the labourer to hew or split each boulder into blocks easy of transport to the shore."

All these were evidences that quarrying existed before the British occupation in 1841. In sum, the island has plenty of good water, plenty of good rock for any purposes, small areas suitable for cultivation and numerous fine bays and deep harbours. It can also be concluded from above records that quarrying continued after the occupation of the British, supporting the booming construction activities in the city.

3. License System, Granite Export and Case Studies

3.1 Birth of the Quarry Licensing System

Governor J. Davies had the following remark in his report to England on 24 July 1844.

Photo 3.1 John Davis, Hong Kong Governor from May 1844 to March 1848.

"In making the tour of this island by water with Rear Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, I observed a considerable number of stone quarries at work by the Chinese.

These quarries have been accustomed to pay a duty to the Chinese Government and I have accordingly lost no time in giving due notice to the parties who work them that a duty will for the future be payable to the British Government.

This is not likely to be anything considerable looking to the extreme poverty of the stone quarries, but as a mere assertion of sovereignty it became highly necessary to prevent the payment of a tax to the Chinese Government."

The British had taken the opportunity to raise revenue from the resident Chinese. On 20 October 1844, Davis accepted the tender for quarrying stone on Hong Kong Island at a rental of $800 per annum for a period of one year, three months before approval was granted from England. This started the Quarry Licensing system in Hong Kong. His salary was $2,400 per month. It can be seen that the revenue from quarries was rather small, and was on average only about 2 to 3% of the total revenue of the Colonial Government.

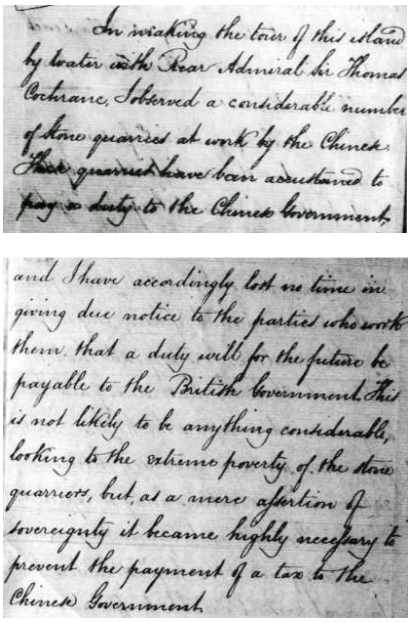

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Figure 3.1 Letter from Governor Davis to England regarding the levy on quarries.

F.O.233/185號檔案

A F.O.233/185頁1-29：1844年

A01 第壹號

大英欽奉全權公使大臣、總理香港地方軍務、兼領五港英商貿易事宜德，[2] 爲嚴禁事。照得香港各地方全歸本國權轄。所有石塘嘴各匠，不准納稅與華官，如違是自取咎戾，決不寬貸。各宜凜遵禁例毋違。特示。

甲辰年六月十三日、一千八百四十四年七月二十七日

Figure 3.2 As Hong Kong island is ruled by the British, taxes must be paid to the Hong Kong Government. All masons of Shek Tong-sui are forbidden to pay tax to the Chinese Government. Violate this will not be treated leniently.

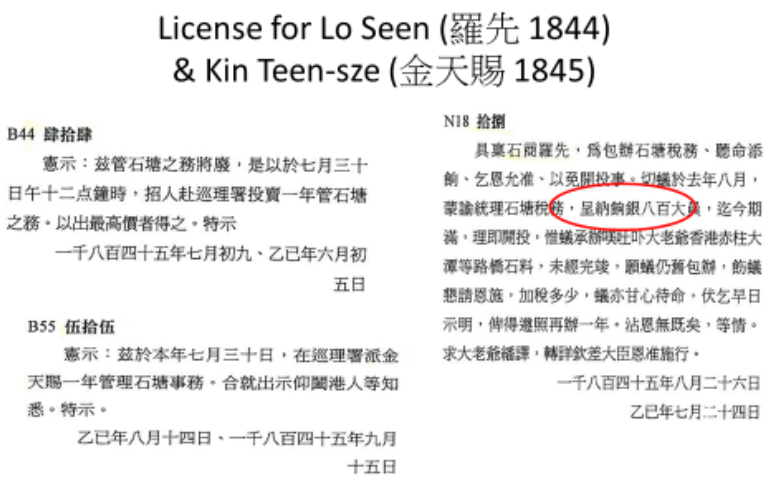


Figure 3.3 The announcement of the tender awardees for quarrying in 1844 (Lo Seen $800) and 1845 (Kin Teen-sze, $3,750)

As mentioned previously, quarries were commonly found along the northern side of Hong Kong island. The old paintings as shown below always include quarrying stone a common activity in those days.

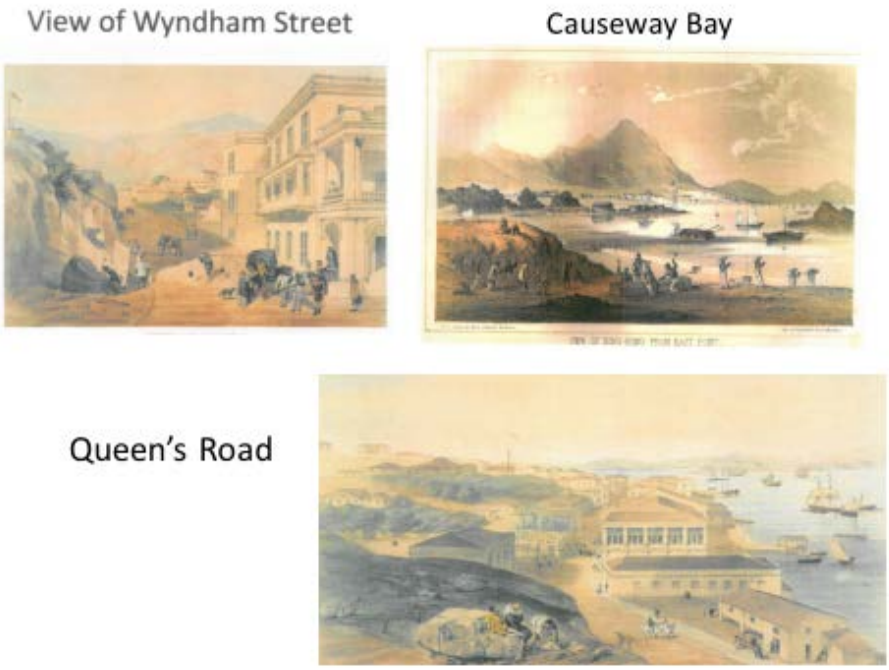
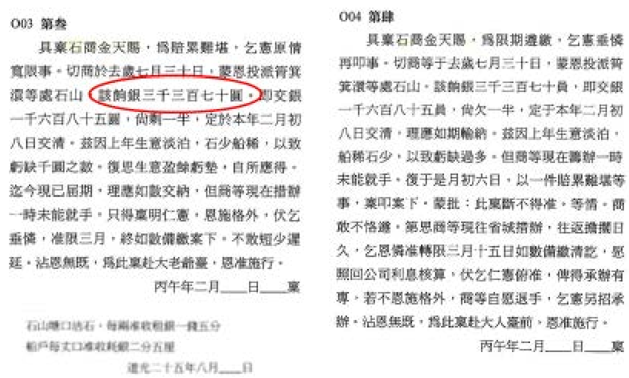


Figure 3.4 Old paintings showing quarrying operations which must be very common in those days

Kin Teen-sze (金天賜) License (1845)



O03 第叁

具稟石商金天賜，爲賠累難堪，乞憲原情寬限事。切商於去歲七月三十日，蒙恩投派筲箕灣等處石山，該餉銀三千三百七十圓，即交銀一千六百八十五圓，尚剩一半，定於本年二月初八日交清。茲因上年生意淡泊，石少船稀，以致虧缺千圓之數。復思生意盈餘虧墊，自所應得。迄今現已屆期，理應如數交納，但商等現在措辦一時未能就手。只得稟明仁憲，恩施格外，伏乞垂憐，准限三月，終如數備繳案下。不敢短少遲延。沾恩無既，爲此稟赴大老爺臺，恩准施行。

丙午年二月___日___稟

石山鑿口打石，每兩准收租銀一錢五分

船戶每丈口准收租銀二分五厘

道光二十五年八月___日

O04 第肆

具稟石商金天賜，爲限期遵繳，乞憲垂憐再叩事。切商等于去歲七月三十日，蒙恩投派筲箕灣等處石山，該餉銀三千三百七十員，即交銀一千六百八十五員，尚欠一半，定于本年二月初八日交清，理應如期輸納。茲因上年生意淡泊，船稀石少，以致虧缺過多。但商等現在籌辦一時未能就手，復于是月初六日，以一件賠累難堪等事，稟叩案下。蒙批：此稟斷不得准，等情。商敢不恪遵。第思商等現往省城措辦，往返擔擱日久，乞恩憐准轉限三月十五日如數備繳清訖，恩照回公司利息核算，伏乞仁憲俯准，俾得承辦有專。若不恩施格外，商等自愿退手，乞憲另招承辦。沾恩無既，爲此稟赴大人臺前，恩准施行。

丙午年二月___日___稟

Figure 3.5 While Lo tendered for $800 in 1844, Kin made it for $3,375 a year later. Kin experienced a heavy loss in quarrying business and asked for delay in paying the second part of tendered sum.

The bond for quarrying in 1846 and the license for 1848 and 1850 are shown below. The 1850 license was won by Mr. G. Duddell who was an auctioneer. His work experience might be helpful for him to get the contract.

Quarry Bond (1846) and License (1848 & 1850)

1846 Bond for Hong Kong Island License

1848 Hong Kong Island License

1850 Quarry License to G. Duddell

Figure 3.6 Bond is the guarantee by someone promised to pay the tender sum and the penalty had the license holder failed to fulfill the conditions. Both the

license in 1848 and the bond in 1846 were in Chinese. G. Duddell was the only non-Chinese to secure the license in 1850 from the known records. The license won by Duddell was in English.

Murray Building - The stone building project in 1846

This is one of the earliest building principally made of granite, still existed and in use today. It was designed and supervised by the Royal Engineers. The original location was at the Admiralty and eventually it has been re-erected at Stanley. Granite was obtained from nearby quarry, as quoted, at one mile away. The stone pillar was transported and carried to the required level by 36 workers. It is interesting to note that the support by workers to the pillar is not symmetrical. The authors estimated that each worker carries a load roughly equal to their individual weight. Such a beautiful building is still functioning today confirms the strength and durability of granite. The painting again shows the mason workers are dressing and polishing the granite elements on the construction site.

Murray House (美利樓) 1846, 1970s, 2014

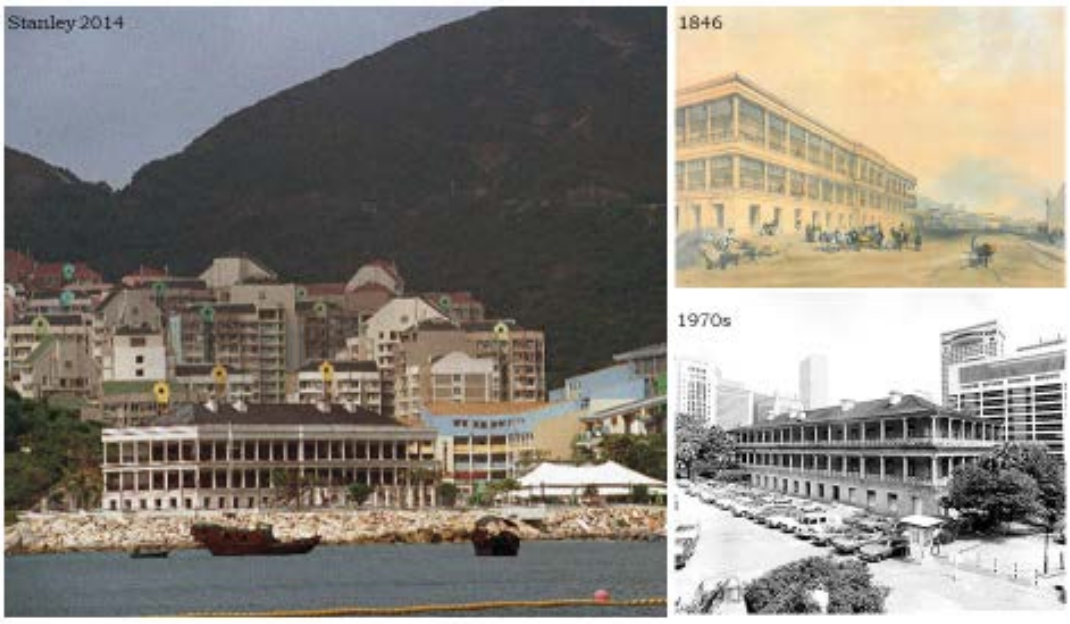


Photo 3.4 Murray Building was originally located at Admiralty at the site now occupied by the Building of Bank of China. It was built as quarters for the British soldiers and later a centre for the Japanese soldiers during the Japanese occupation. After WW2 it was used as Office of Department of Rating and Valuation. Stories of seeing the ghosts were told and the Hong Kong Government arranged a ritual to comfort the staff. Later the building was dismantled and finally re-erected at the present site at Stanley.

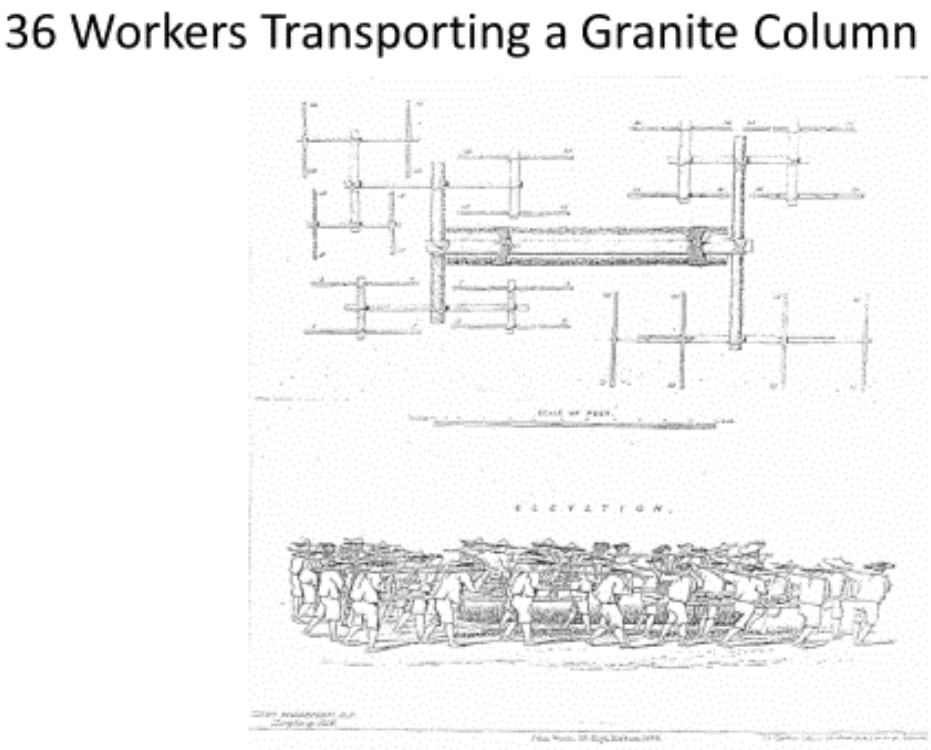


Figure 3.7 A total of 36 workers transporting a granite column. The layout of their positioning is unsymmetrical. On average each worker carries about the load equaled to one worker's weight. The quarry was about one mile from the building site.

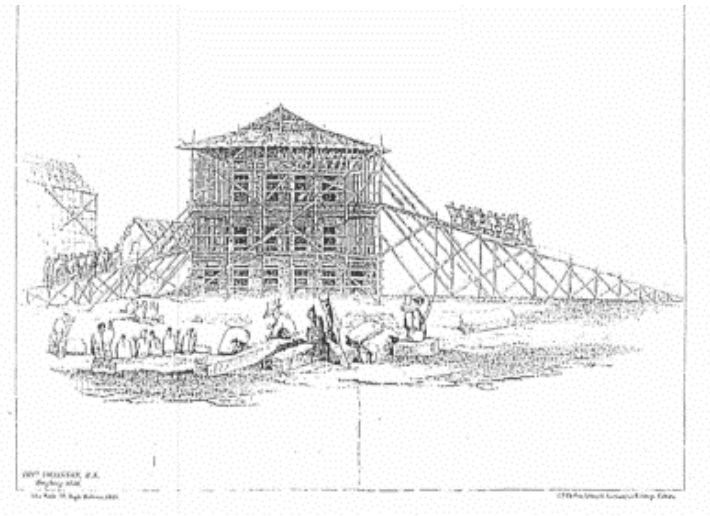


Figure 3.8 Carrying the granite column up the ramp. Dressing of granite blocks near, if not within, the building site.

The license for year 1852 and 1853 was for the combined trades of Opium, Salt and Quarry. One can image opium should be the largest deal while the remaining two is fairly minimal. Alternatively, this shows an efficient way to deal with the three different trades in one combined license.

Opium, Salt and Quarry License (1852 & 1853)
Three in One

Figure 3.9 The three-in-one license for Opium, Salt and Quarry in 1852 and 1853.

1855 Gazette


Hongkong Government
GAZETTE.
VICTORIA, SATURDAY, 18TH AUGUST, 1855. Vol. I. No. 7.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

1855 Bond

Figure 3.10 The gazetted announcement for quarry tendering and the bond for the successful tenderer in 1855. Rules during quarrying are listed on the bond.

In 1856 the first announcement for tendering the license was aimed at two separate ones, the east and west of Hong Kong island. However, it changed back to the previous exercise that the tender was for the whole Hong Kong island. Perhaps this was the result of receiving little or no response from the interested parties in tendering only half of the quarries on the island. So, back to the old method.

1856 Government Notification and License


GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
By Order,
W. T. MERCER,
Colonial Secretary.
示 意

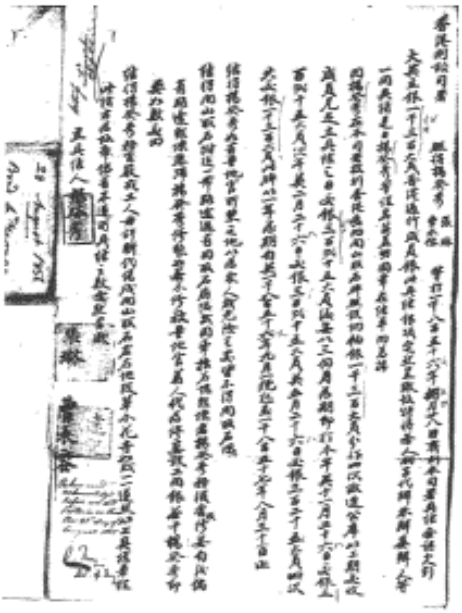


Figure 3.11 The announcement for tendering the quarries on Hong Kong island in two separate licenses in 1856. Eventually one license for all quarries on the island.

From 1844 until 1856, there were 13 licenses issued and their distribution is as follows:

Between 1844 and 1856

Licenses were held by:

- Lo (6)
- Tsang (2)
- Kim (1)
- Li (1)
- Yeung (1)
- Unknown (1)

Except in 1850 to

- George Duddell, an auctioneer

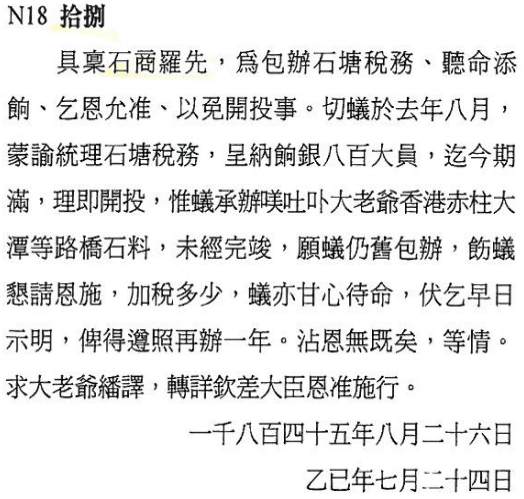
Photo 3.5 The Chinese dominated the quarrying business from 1844 until 1856. Lo Sin got almost half of the licenses. Only in 1850 the license was awarded to G. Duddell.

As mentioned before, all licensees were Chinese except the one awarded to George Duddell in 1850. As quarrying is work done by the Chinese and the business was mainly in the Chinese hands. Difficulty in communication and subletting could be reasons why only one non-Chinese got the license.

From 1844 to 1860, there was only one Hong Kong Island Quarry license granted each year. Though the official split the island into two parts in 1856, the east and the west, for tendering. It did not work and all quarries on the whole island were included in one tender. Before 1860, quarrying in Kowloon peninsula was under the control of the Chinese Qing Dynasty Authority. After the Convention of Peking in 1860, the quarry license in Kowloon peninsula was let by the Hong Kong Government, first together with quarries on the island. However, it was eventually found that licenses were issued separately for the island and the peninsula. The physical separation of the island and the peninsula could be the main concern in controlling the quarries under one lease.

On the contrary, after the Convention for the Extension of Hong Kong Territory in 1898, split license was granted for quarries in different areas in the New Territories.

Between 1844 and 1941, there was no records or trends to show the then Hong Kong Government let out the quarry license by tender or by auction. In 1844, the lease at $3,370 to Kin Teen Sze who claimed that he suffered from a great loss compared with the lease of $800 awarded to Lo Sin a year ago. It can easily imagine that a lease of over four times of the past tender would find life not easy, if not difficult.



N18 **拾捌**

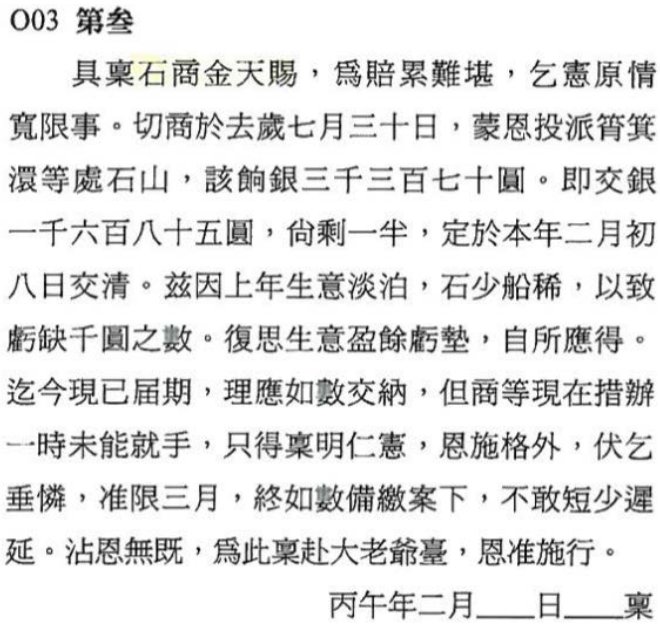
具稟石商羅先，爲包辦石塘稅務、聽命添餉、乞恩允准、以免開投事。切蟻於去年八月，蒙諭統理石塘稅務，呈納餉銀八百大員，迄今期滿，理即開投，惟蟻承辦嘅吐叻大老爺香港赤柱大潭等路橋石料，未經完竣，願蟻仍舊包辦，飭蟻懇請恩施，加稅多少，蟻亦甘心待命，伏乞早日示明，俾得遵照再辦一年。沾恩無既矣，等情。求大老爺繙譯，轉詳欽差大臣恩准施行。

一千八百四十五年八月二十六日

乙巳年七月二十四日

Figure 3.12 Lo Sin won the first license for $800 in 1844. He was involved in roads and bridges construction in Stanley and Tai Tam, but the works was far from completion which must have affected his cash flow. He appealed for an extension

of the quarrying contract for one year. Though he was willing to pay more, yet from other records his appeal was not successful.



O03 第叁

具稟石商金天賜，爲賠累難堪，乞憲原情寬限事。切商於去歲七月三十日，蒙恩投派筲箕灣等處石山，該餉銀三千三百七十圓。即交銀一千六百八十五圓，尙剩一半，定於本年二月初八日交清。茲因上年生意淡泊，石少船稀，以致虧缺千圓之數。復思生意盈餘虧墊，自所應得。迄今現已屆期，理應如數交納，但商等現在措辦一時未能就手，只得稟明仁憲，恩施格外，伏乞垂憐，准限三月，終如數備繳案下，不敢短少遲延。沾恩無既，爲此稟赴大老爺臺，恩准施行。

丙午年二月____日____稟

Figure 3.13 Kin got the similar bad experience in quarrying business. He won the license for a tender sum of $3,370 in 1845. Due to poor business, fewer stone boats and less demand in stone was resulted. He appealed for a late payment of three months for the second half of the tendered sum.

Regarding the competition in auctions, one of the Directors of Public Works expressed his opinion in 1929, quoted as follows "….. rental competitions proving a nuisance owing to some idiot losing his head in the heat of the moment and offering more than the enterprise can afford…".

Irrespective of whether auction or tendering was used, the stone quarrying market in Hong Kong was rather a closed one. Auction participants and tenderers were very often from the same family, or the same group of people, and a monopoly situation was observed after 1883.

3.2 The Quarry License

The quarry license issued by the Hong Kong Government in the early days was indeed very simple. The earliest record kept in the Public records Office of Hong Kong about quarry License is the License Bond signed on 15 August 1846 and strangely it was written in Chinese. The earliest record found for a formal quarry license was the one granted on 22 August 1848 to the Licensee Chung Ping who had to pay half of the annual rental sum in advance.

Figure 3.14 The oldest bond in year 1846. Half of the sum $2,100 was the first payment with the remaining half within the next six months.

There were two conditions laid down in the license:

1. The Surveyor General shall have power to prohibit quarrying in particular places which for public convenience, safety, or otherwise, he may deem necessary.
2. The said Licensee shall and will keep in good order and repair that kind of road in the immediate vicinity of the stone quarries over which stone may be carried, dragged, or otherwise transported, when it shall be manifest that the injury sustain and shall have been through the negligence of the Quarrymen. Failing which it is hereby agreed that the Surveyor General shall hire men and make the necessary repairs, the cost of which shall be borne by the said Licensee.

The Licensee had to provide security to the Government by signing jointly with two guarantors and depositing in cash a Quarry License Bond at double the cost of the annual rental.

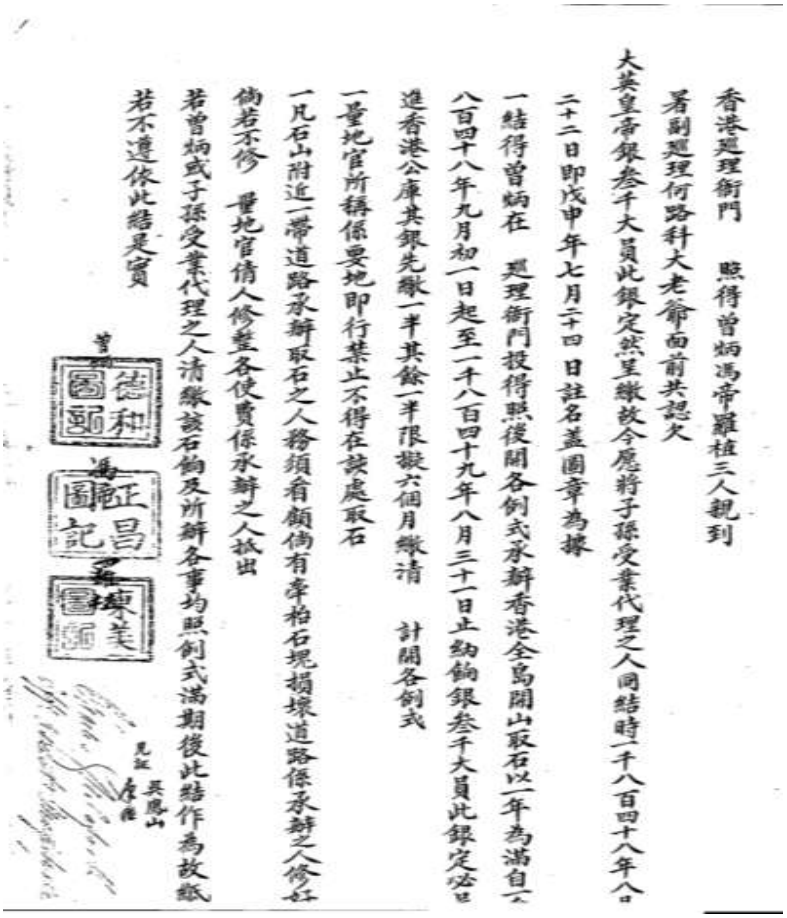


Figure 3.15 Chung Ping, Fung Di and Lo Chik scored the Hong Kong quarry license for $3,000 in 1848. The two conditions are listed in the license.

In 1850, an Auctioneer George Duddell obtained the Hong Kong Quarry License. It is believed that the quarrying work was sublet to the Chinese Quarrymen and Duddell made a profit from only holding the License. He was the first European who had a quarry license. After 1850, no European could bid successfully the License except in 1882 and until the License system was modified in 1901.

From 1900 onwards, the Public Works Department was responsible for granting the License for quarries on Hong Kong Island and in Kowloon Peninsula whilst the

New Territories Office was responsible for granting License for quarries in new Kowloon and the New Territories.

Tsim Sha Tsui (1841 & 1860)

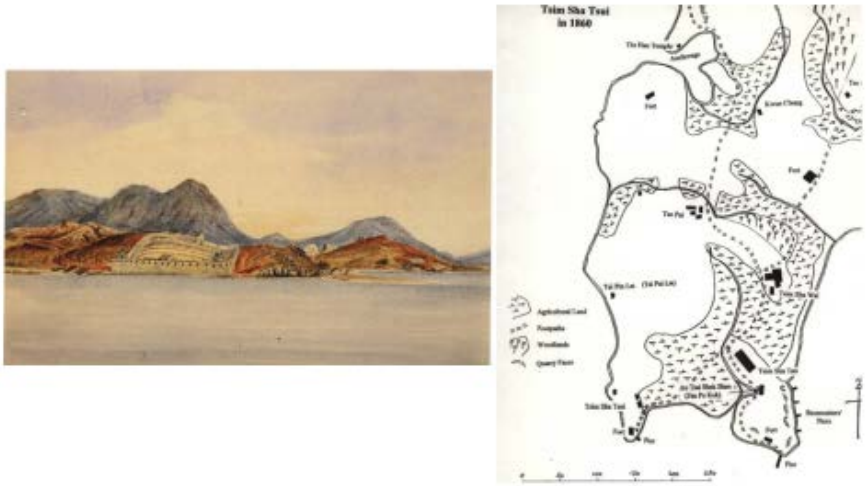


Figure 3.16 The painting (on the left) shows the battery at Tsim Sha Tsui in 1841. The map on the right shows the locations of the quarry and piers at the sea shore in 1860.

Source: Patrick Hase

Hung Hom Area (1860)

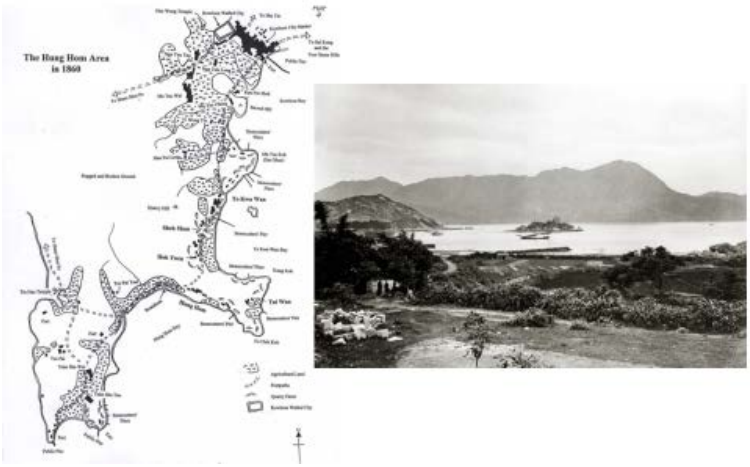


Figure 3.17 The map on the left shows the topography and locations of quarry in Hunghom area. The photo shows a stone quarry and the pier for stone transportation.

Tender for Hong Kong and Kowloon Quarries (1866)

No. 146.

GOVERNMENT NTIFICATION.

Tenders will be received between the hours of 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. at the Surveyor General's Office, until the 30th November, 1865, for the privilege of farming all granite quarries in Hongkong and Kowloon during the year, 1866.

Persons desirous of tendering are directed to call at the Surveyor General's Office to obtain a proper form of tender and to register their names and address.

By Order,

W. H. ALEXANDER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 23rd September, 1865.

Figure 3.18 Tender invitation in 1866 for the license of quarrying in all quarries on Hong Kong island in Kowloon Peninsula.

Kowloon Quarries License (1866)

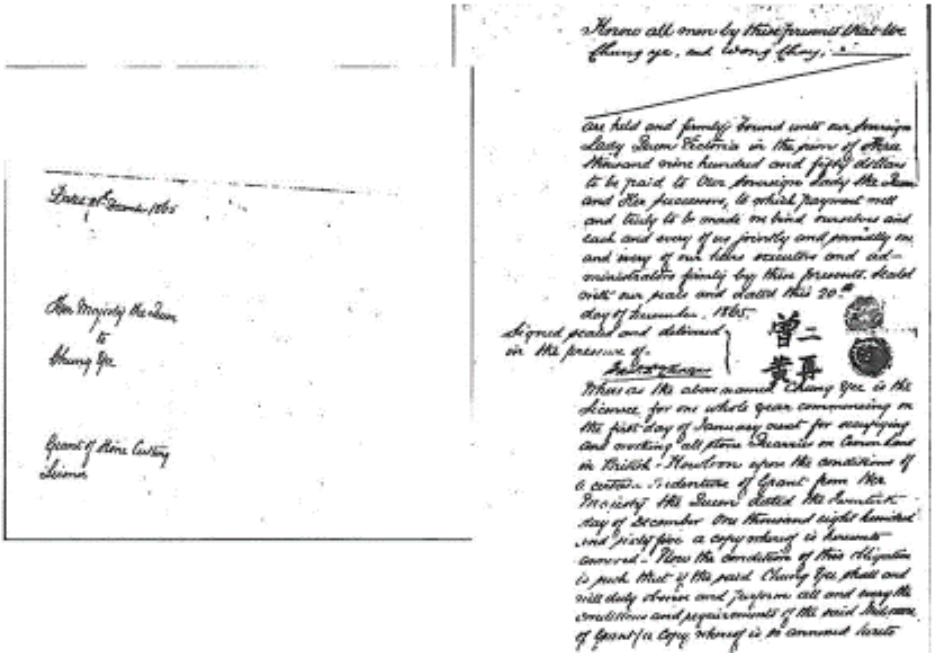


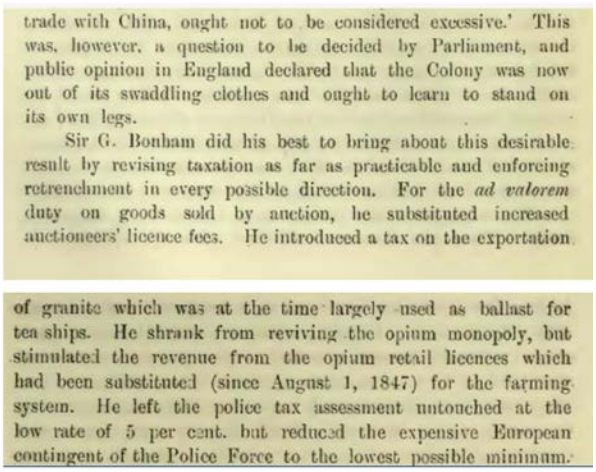
Figure 3.19 License for Tsang Yee and Wong Joy for quarries in Kowloon for year 1866.

Granite Exportation

3.3 Stone Boat

In 1895, Governor Sir G. Bonham introduced a tax on the exportation of granite which was at the time largely used as ballast for tea ships. One of the uses of granite in the old days was frequently used as ballast for ships with a light load from the cargo and the passengers.

Europe in China – The history of HK, E J Eitel 1895
p. 264-265 – Sir G. Bonham introduced export of granite tax in 1840s



trade with China, ought not to be considered excessive.' This was, however, a question to be decided by Parliament, and public opinion in England declared that the Colony was now out of its swaddling clothes and ought to learn to stand on its own legs.

Sir G. Bonham did his best to bring about this desirable result by revising taxation as far as practicable and enforcing retrenchment in every possible direction. For the *ad valorem* duty on goods sold by auction, he substituted increased auctioneers' licence fees. He introduced a tax on the exportation of granite which was at the time largely used as ballast for tea ships. He shrank from reviving the opium monopoly, but stimulated the revenue from the opium retail licences which had been substituted (since August 1, 1847) for the farming system. He left the police tax assessment untouched at the low rate of 5 per cent. but reduced the expensive European contingent of the Police Force to the lowest possible minimum.

Figure 3.20 Granite stones were used quite often as ballast for tea ships. Governor G. Bonham introduced the tax on exportation of granite. There must be a lot of such ships in 1840s.

C. Gutzlaff's remarks upon the present state of native trade with Hong Kong, attached to Blue Book of 1845. He was the Second Chinese Secretary of the British Administration in Hong Kong.

- The stone trade is deserving our attention.
- It is granite the only produce of HK for exportation.
- It employs many hands, a great number of boats each about 70 – 100 tons.
- It is seldom less than 100 tons with a full cargo.
- Many ships were leaving for the interior of China.
- It should be a profitable trade.

Gutzlaff Notes on Stone Boats and Native Trade at Hong Kong Ref: 1848 CO128-25

"The only vessels which belong to this island are a great number of large fishing craft which is aggregate at Stanley and Aberdeen. They are tenanted by whole families of very rough people, who have often been guilty of piracy. Only in bad weather and when wanting supplies they come into the harbour and assemble regularly at the Chinese New Year to make up their accounts with their agents. I believe they are still sailing under a Chinese pass. As they have never been numbered, nor received permits from our Government, it is very difficult to say how many own Hong Kong as their home, but at the appointed season these barks will fill the whole anchorage in the above places.

The vessels that regularly clear out from this port are the stone boats, all owned by Pwanyu men. There are from 6 to 10 sailors on board of each and from 30 – 90 boats with full cargoes leave this monthly with granite out in the quarries of this colony.

The most numerous days of boats that enter our harbour are the large fast boats, which bring supplies and passengers here. There are some that stat and regularly every day, one to Nan Tow, another to Tae-peng, near the Bogue, and a third to Whampoa and Canton. To other places there is perhaps once or twice a week under opportunity. They carry on a great a great deal of trade and always have small dealers on board, who come here for an exchange of their goods. More than two hundred enter every month. They have most last year taken out a permit, and are numbered."

Photo 3.6 Gutzladd noted many stone boats in the harbour. They were owned by people from nearby places.

The stone boat was rarely found from archives. It is shown on a painting available from Guangzhou. Other photos show the use of stone as ballast in the Macao Museum and a similar boat for such delivery.

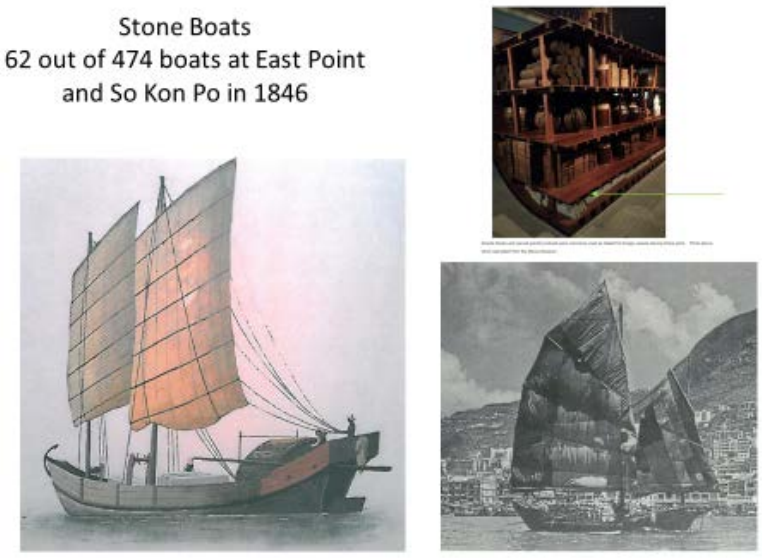
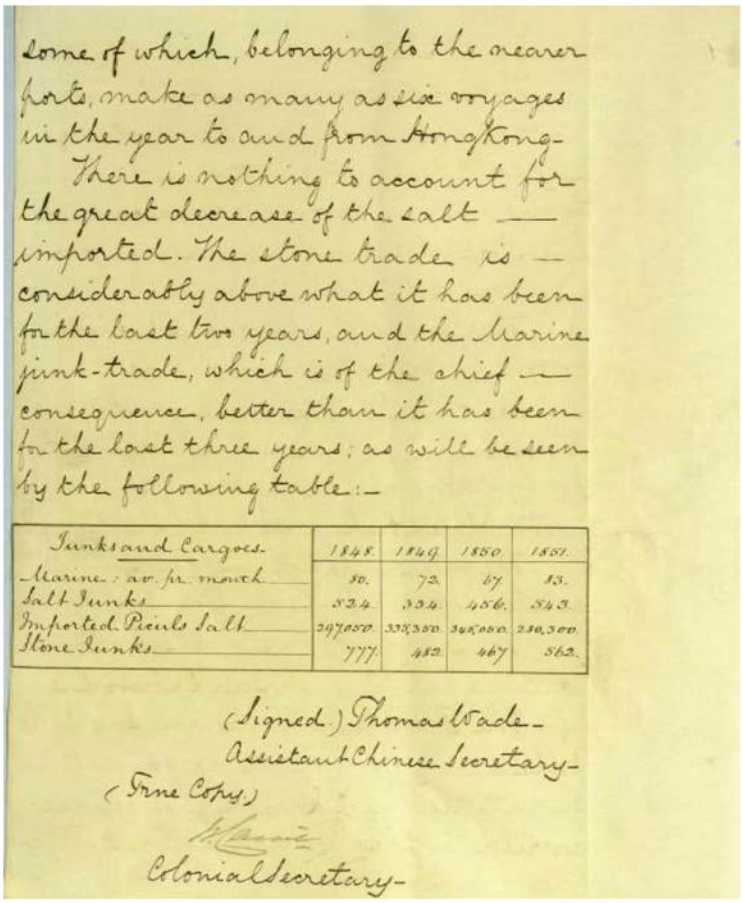


Figure 3.21 Painting of stone boats from Guangzhou. Use of stone as ballast in vessels, shown in the Macao Museum. The blacn and white photo shows a junk boat similar to the stone boat.

The success in tendering for a license did not guarantee profit in the stone trade. While the first license was awarded in 1844 for $800, the second tender was awarded to Kin Teen-sze at a sum of $3,370. Mr. Kin did encounter tremendous difficulties in the business and he requested for a delay in paying the second part of the tender sum. “The business was scarce and the stone demand was little with few boats.”

The number of stone boats recorded by the Chinese Secretary’s Office from 1848 to 1851 are shown in the following figure.

7. 1851 – Memorandum of the junk trade during the year of 1851 – Chinese secretary's office



some of which, belonging to the nearer ports, make as many as six voyages in the year to and from Hongkong.

There is nothing to account for the great decrease of the salt — imported. The stone trade is — considerably above what it has been for the last two years, and the Marine junk-trade, which is of the chief — consequence, better than it has been for the last three years; as will be seen by the following table:—

Junks and Cargoes.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.
Marine: av. pr. month	50.	72.	67	53.
Salt Junks	534.	334.	456.	543.
Imported Peuls Salt	297000	338350	365050	230,300.
Stone Junks	777.	482.	467	562.

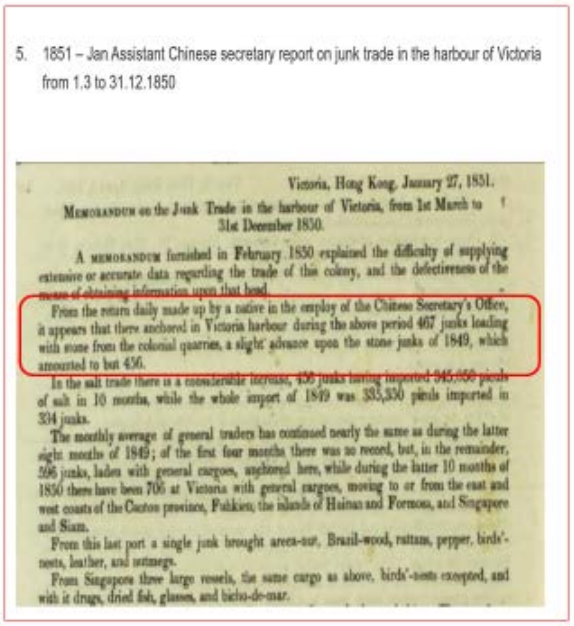
(Signed) Thomas Wade.
Assistant Chinese Secretary.

(True Copy)

Colonial Secretary.

Figure 3.22 The stone junks statistics between 1848 and 1851 from Chinese Secretary's Office.

The stone junks anchored in the Victoria Harbour for loading stone from the colonial quarries numbered 777 in 1848. One year later the number was 482. The reason of such reduction is unknown. It increased to 467 and 562 in 1850 and 1851 respectively. This was based on the return daily by a native employed in the Chinese Secretary's Office.



5. 1851 – Jan Assistant Chinese secretary report on junk trade in the harbour of Victoria from 1.3 to 31.12.1850

Victoria, Hong Kong, January 27, 1851.

MEMORANDUM on the Junk Trade in the harbour of Victoria, from 1st March to 31st December 1850.

A MEMORANDUM furnished in February 1850 explained the difficulty of supplying extensive or accurate data regarding the trade of this colony, and the defectiveness of the means of obtaining information upon that head.

From the return daily made up by a native in the employ of the Chinese Secretary's Office, it appears that there anchored in Victoria harbour during the above period 467 junks loading with stone from the colonial quarries, a slight advance upon the stone junks of 1849, which amounted to but 456.

In the salt trade there is a considerable increase, 436 junks having imported 945,000 piculs of salt in 10 months, while the whole import of 1849 was 335,350 piculs imported in 334 junks.

The monthly average of general traders has continued nearly the same as during the latter eight months of 1849; of the first four months there was no record, but, in the remainder, 596 junks, laden with general cargoes, anchored here, while during the latter 10 months of 1850 there have been 706 at Victoria with general cargoes, moving to or from the east and west coasts of the Canton province, Fokkien, the islands of Hainan and Formosa, and Singapore and Siam.

From this last port a single junk brought areca-nut, Brazil-wood, rattans, pepper, birds'-nests, leather, and nutmegs.

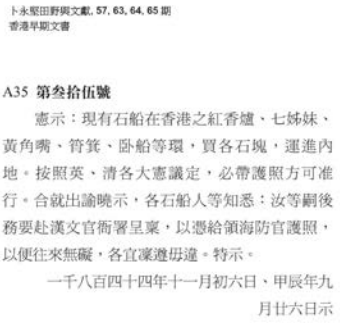
From Singapore three large vessels, the same cargo as above, birds'-nests excepted, and with it drugs, dried fish, glasses, and bicho-de-mar.

Figure 3.23 The number of stone junks anchored in Victoria Harbour from March to December 1850 - reported by Assistant Chinese Secretary.

1849 456 junks 1850 467 junks

The numbers from Figures 3.22 and 3.23 are matching but in different periods of time. Anyway, the statistics indicate roughly the number of junks involved in stone transportation.

As agreed by the British and Imperial Qing Government, passports were required for granite delivery to mainland China.



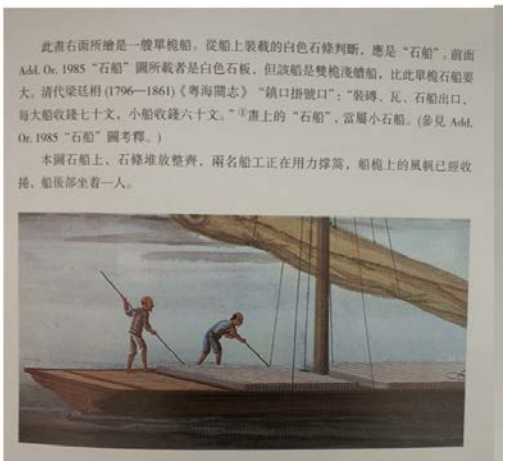
卜永堅田野與文獻. 57, 63, 64, 65 期
香港早期文書

A35 第叁拾伍號

憲示：現有石船在香港之紅香爐、七姊妹、黃角嘴、笄箕、卧船等環，買各石塊，運進內地。按照英、清各大憲議定，必帶護照方可准行。合就出諭曉示，各石船人等知悉：汝等嗣後務要赴漢文官衙署呈稟，以憑給領海防官護照，以便往來無礙，各宜遵遵毋違。特示。

一千八百四十四年十一月初六日、甲辰年九月廿六日示

Figure 3.24 Passports were required for stone boats travelling to mainland in 1844. The places of quarries are Hung Heung Lo, Tsat Tsz Mui, Wong kok Tsui, Shau Kei and Or Suen.


此畫右面所繪是一艘單桅船。從船上裝載的白色石條判斷，應是“石船”。前面 Add. Or. 1985“石船”圖所載者是白色石板，但該船是雙桅淺艙船，比此單桅石船要大。清代梁廷枏 (1796—1861)《粵海關志》“鎮口掛號口”：“裝磚、瓦、石船出口，每大船收錢七十文，小船收錢六十文。”[1]畫上的“石船”，當屬小石船。(參見 Add. Or. 1985“石船”圖考釋。)

本圖石船上，石條堆放整齊，兩名船工正在用力撐篙，船桅上的風帆已經收捲，船後部坐着一人。

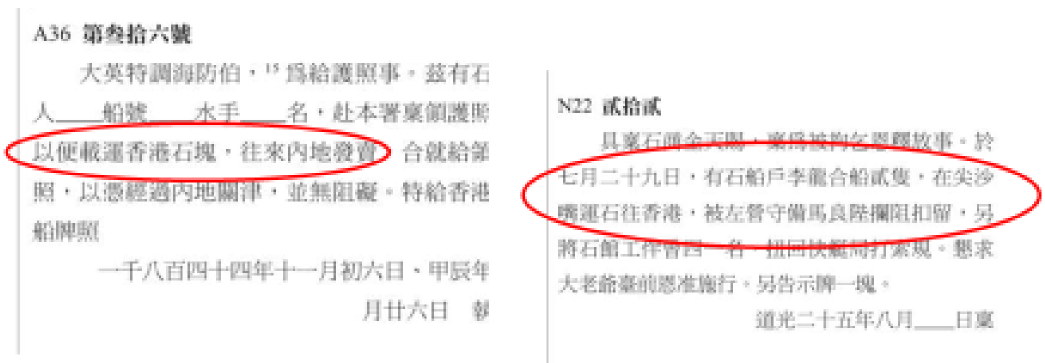
Figure 3.25 Painting from Guangzhou showing the stone slabs were loaded on to the stone junk.

Photo 3.8 A stone boat in delivering the stone components.

Source: The Guangdong Customs

Granite from the island was either used locally or could be exported. In 1846 it was reported that granite was imported from Tsim Sha Tsui to Hong Kong. It could be quite common to deliver stones from Kowloon quarries to Hong Kong Island or overseas. One reason was probably the freedom to quarry without paying tax to Hong Kong Colonial Government before 1860. Whether tax was paid to Qing Imperial Government was unknown.

Granite Imported ???
from Tsim Sha Tsui to Hong Kong 1846



A36 第叁拾六號

大英特調海防伯，[15] 爲給護照事。茲有石
人____船號____水手____名，赴本署稟領護照
以便載運香港石塊，往來內地發賣，合就給發
照，以憑經過內地關津，並無阻礙。特給香港
船牌照

一千八百四十四年十一月初六日，甲辰年
月廿六日 發

N22 貳拾貳

具稟石匠金玉階，稟爲被拘乞恩釋放事。於
七月二十九日，有石船戶李龍合船貳隻，在尖沙
嘴運石往香港，被左營守備馬良陸攔阻扣留，另
將石館工伴曾四一名，扭回扶縛問打索規。懇求
大老爺臺前恩准施行。另告示牌一塊。

道光二十五年八月____日稟

Figure 3.26 The delivery of stone to mainland China in 1844. Disturbance was often encountered even ships were provided with passports. The boats and the workers could be held or kidnapped for money.

The following photographs show the situations of Tsim Sha Tsui in 1860. A lot of British soldiers set up their camps in Kowloon, even before the Convention.

Tsim Sha Tsui 1860

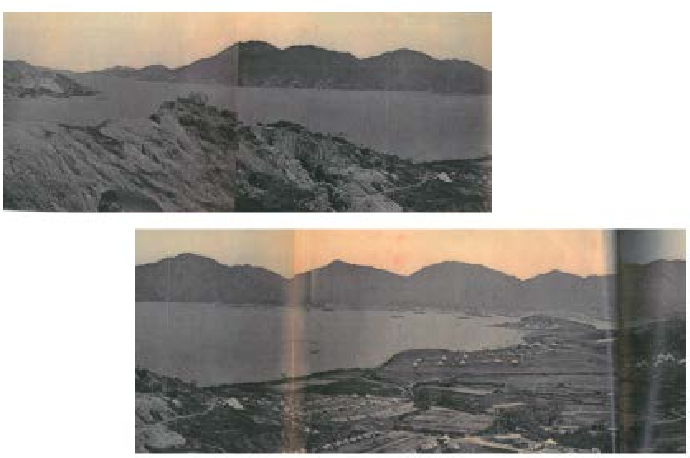


Photo 3.9 British soldiers camping in Tsim Sha Tsui in Kowloon Peninsula

The following were reports translated by Pok Wing Kin.

Granite Stone Boats Reports

Kin reports for the license of the stone boat was stolen.

In another report he further explained the high cost in getting the license and unauthorised selling of granite at a low rate in quarrying.

S35 第叁拾伍

具稟石商金天賜，爲被賊據搶，乞飭查追究
辦事。切商蒙憲准辦香港石山事務，租賃張二屋
住，向來無異，緣於本月二十六日夜三更時候，
被賊天井入屋，劫去天秤等物，登時醒覺，追捕
不及，查所失內，有仁憲石船牌照板一塊，恐惡
等將來私印，別生異端，只得稟明乞飭差拘追
究，以息盜風，以除後患，沾恩靡既，切赴大老
爺台前恩准施行。

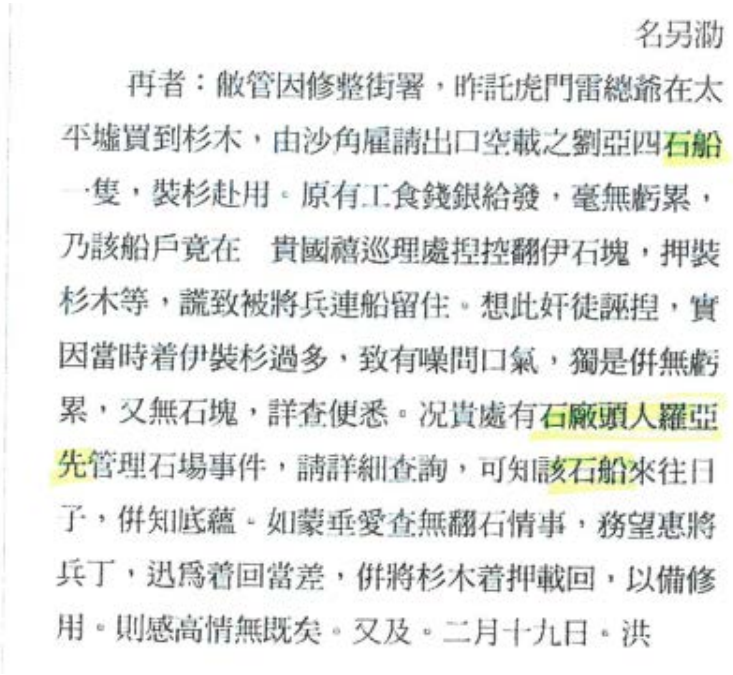
道光二十五年八月____日

S49 第肆拾玖

具稟石商金天賜，爲稟明示尊事。切商投辦
筲箕環等處石山，每年餉銀三千，專以石船塘口
採運，抽隻船每丈口石收銀二分，塘口每兩石價
收銀九分，均照向例，並無加增分厘。查上年羅
先承辦，每年輸納餉銀八百員，現年比較加增數
倍，一經走漏，餉項無歸，但盤艇載運，理一概
找算，其中大小船隻苦樂不均，是以經眾議明，
每盤艇載石往香港售賣者，每艇收號銀一錢八
分，山租按數找算，各皆恪遵。詎因石販土棍曾
皮三等，在於燈籠洲等處橫行聚眾，佈散流言，
包攬盤艇，抗不納稅，聲稱任充無奈，等語。誠
恐鄉愚無知，被其煽惑，則章本廢馳，下歲更誰
承辦。伏乞示禁嚴拿究辦，以儆刁頑，沾恩切赴
大老爺台前恩准施行。

道光二十五年九月____日

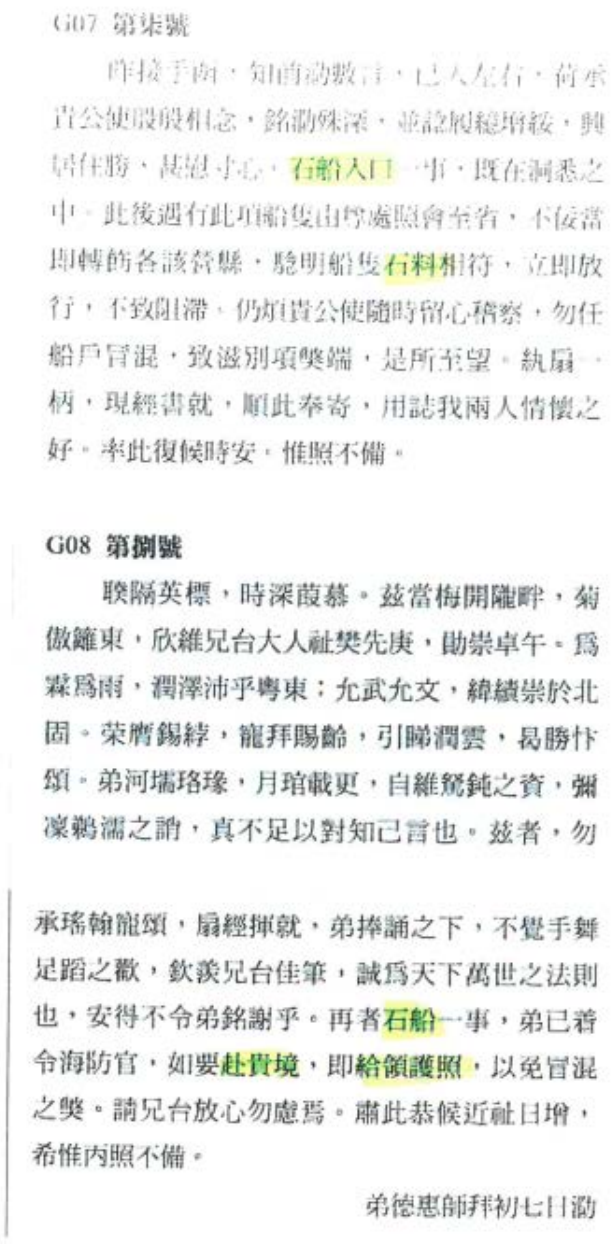
Figure 3.27 Troubles encountered by stone license holder. Loss of the quarrying license and boats did not pay the levy to the quarry owner.



名另渺

再者：敝管因修整街署，昨託虎門雷總爺在太平墟買到杉木，由沙角雇請出口空載之劉亞四石船一隻，裝杉赴用。原有工食錢銀給發，毫無虧累，乃該船戶竟在　貴國禧巡理處捏控翻伊石塊，押裝杉木等，譎致被將兵連船留住。想此奸徒誣捏，實因當時着伊裝杉過多，致有嗓問口氣，獨是併無虧累，又無石塊，詳查便悉。況貴處有石廠頭人羅亞先管理石場事件，請詳細查詢，可知該石船來往日子，併知底蘊。如蒙垂愛查無翻石情事，務望惠將兵丁，迅爲着回當差，併將杉木着押載回，以備修用。則感高情無既矣。又及。二月十九日。洪

Figure 3.28　Report on the holding of the stone boat by the mainland authority. The stone boat belonging to Lau Ah-si leaving from Sha Kok was claimed to deliver stone, however, fir was actually transported for a repairing project. Request from the quarry license holder to return the boat together with the timber goods.



G07 第柒號

昨接手函，知自動救言，已入左右，荷垂貴公使殷殷相念，銘勒殊深，並諗履穩增綏，興居佳勝，甚慰寸心。石船入口一事，既在洞悉之中，此後遇有此項船隻由貴處照會至者，不妨當即轉飭各該營縣，驗明船隻石料相符，立即放行，不致阻滯，仍須貴公使隨時留心稽察，勿任船戶冒混，致滋別項弊端，是所至望。紈扇一柄，現經書就，順此奉寄，用誌我兩人情懷之好。率此復候時安，惟照不備。

G08 第捌號

睽隔英標，時深葭慕。茲當梅開隴畔，菊傲籬東，欣維兄台大人祉樊先庚，勛崇卓午。爲霖爲雨，潤澤沛乎粵東；允武允文，緯績崇於北固。榮膺錫綍，寵拜賜齡，引睎潤雲，曷勝忭頌。弟河壖珞琭，月琯載更，自維駑鈍之資，彌凜鶡濡之誚，真不足以對知己言也。茲者，勿

承瑤翰龍頌，扇經揮就，弟捧誦之下，不覺手舞足蹈之歡，欽羨兄台佳筆，誠爲天下萬世之法則也，安得不令弟銘謝乎。再者石船一事，弟已着令海防官，如要赴貴境，即給領護照，以免冒混之弊。請兄台放心勿慮焉。肅此恭候近祉日增，希惟內照不備。

弟德惠師拜初七日泐

Figure 3.29 Letters from Governor Davis that authorised stone boat should have license and passport issued in transporting granite to mainland China.

N16 拾陸

具稟石商羅先，爲無故留難，希圖索詐，乞恩移咨釋放事。切蟻于本月初八日，有黃善合、李成合船，載石往省，因市價太低，十四日後駛至佛山鎮，不料該分府官兵，竟將該船連人拘留索詐，該船將貨官執照呈閱，他竟扭碎，曰稱香港載石，寔屬通番等。切思該船領有牌照，並無走私，如此留難，不獨有碍蟻等商民，亦且藐視貴國官憲，成何事體，是何例規，故迫得瀝情上訴台堦，乞恩轉詳欽差大臣，移咨佛山分府釋放。庶蟻船有賴，兩國體常尊，奕世沾恩矣，切赴大老爺台前作主施行。

計開：黃善合水手七名

李成合水手七名

一千八百四十五年八月____日

乙巳年七月____日____稟

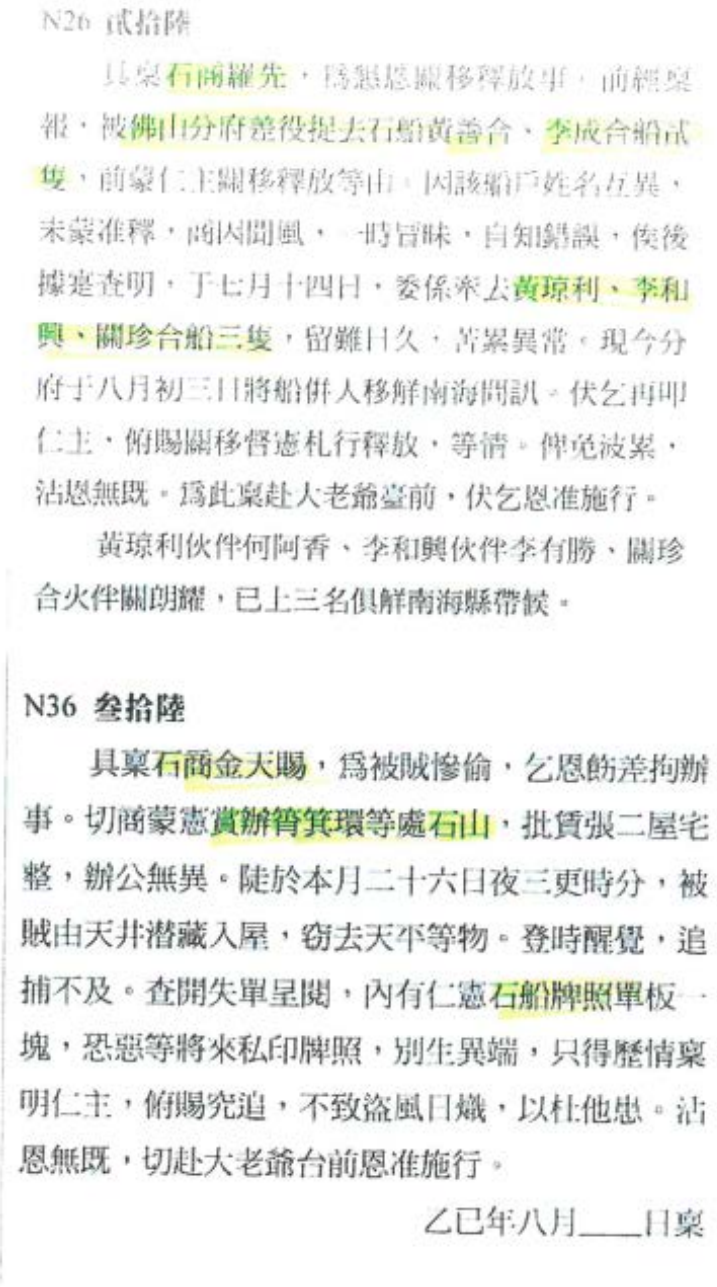
N22 貳拾貳

具稟石商金天賜，稟爲被拘乞恩釋放事。於七月二十九日，有石船戶李能合船貳隻，在尖沙嘴運石往香港，被左營守備馬良陞攔阻扣留，另將石館工伴曾四一名，扭回快艇局打索規。懇求大老爺台前恩准施行。另告示牌一塊。

道光二十五年八月____日稟

Figure 3.30 Appeal by Lo that his stone boats, Wong Sin-hop and Lee Shing-hop, originally travelling to Canton and were being held by the Chinese authority. There was a disagreement in selling the stone, the boats went to Fat Shan instead of Canton. The authority kept the boats and the workers to which were issued the passport and license. Lo declared that the boats were not involved in smuggling.

The other one was originally shipping granite from Tsim Sha Tsui to Hong Kong. The boat and the worker Tsang Si were being held. Kin asked for release of them



N26 貳拾陸

具稟石商羅先，爲懇恩關移釋放事，前經稟報，被佛山分府差役提去石船黃善合、李成合船貳隻，前蒙仁主關移釋放等由，因該船戶姓名互異，未蒙准釋，商困閒風，一時昏昧，自知錯誤，俟後據實查明，于七月十四日，委係來去黃琼利、李和興、關珍合船三隻，留難日久，苦累異常，現今分府于八月初三日將船併人移解南海問訊，伏乞再叩仁主，俯賜關移督憲札行釋放，等情，俾免波累，沾恩無既，爲此稟赴大老爺臺前，伏乞恩准施行。

黃琼利伙伴何阿香、李和興伙伴李有勝、關珍合火伴關朗耀，已上三名俱解南海縣帶候。

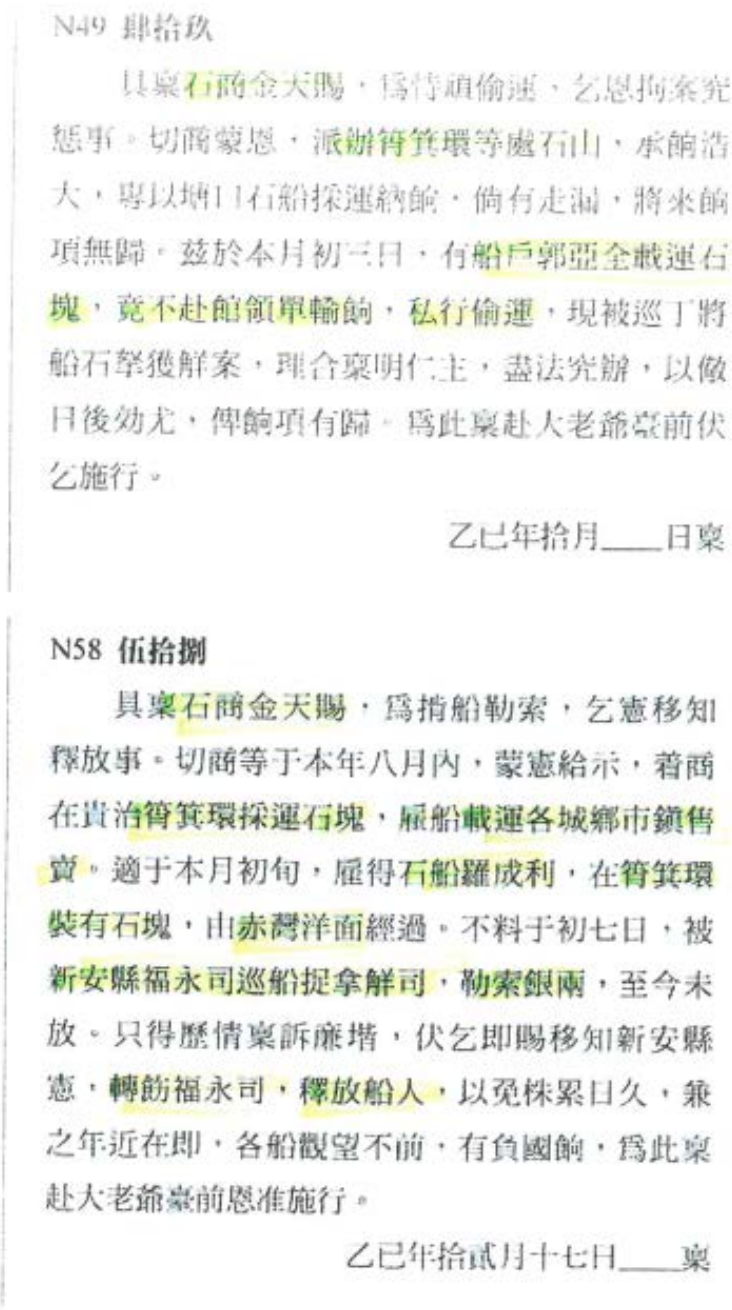
N36 叁拾陸

具稟石商金天賜，爲被賊慘偷，乞恩飭差拘辦事。切商蒙憲賞辦筲箕環等處石山，批貨張二屋宅整，辦公無異。陡於本月二十六日夜三更時分，被賊由天井潛藏入屋，窃去天平等物。登時醒覺，追捕不及。查開失單呈閱，內有仁憲石船牌照單板一塊，恐惡等將來私印牌照，別生異端，只得歷情稟明仁主，俯賜究追，不致盜風日熾，以杜他患。沾恩無既，切赴大老爺台前恩准施行。

乙巳年八月____日稟

Figure 3.31 Lo Sin's three stone boats were held by the Chinese authority, Wong King-lee, Lee Wo-hing and Kwan Chun-hop, initially reported as two boats with different names.

Kin reported his license was stolen from his house and feared for illegal uses. His boats were permitted for quarrying in places including Shaukeiwan.



N49 肆拾玖

具稟石商金天賜，爲情頑偷運，乞恩拘案究
懲事。切商蒙恩，派辦筲箕環等處石山，承餉浩
大，專以塘口石船採運納餉，倘有走漏，將來餉
項無歸，茲於本月初三日，有船戶郭亞全載運石
塊，竟不赴館領單輸餉，私行偷運，現被巡丁將
船石拏獲解案，理合稟明仁主，盡法究辦，以儆
日後効尤，俾餉項有歸。爲此稟赴大老爺臺前伏
乞施行。

乙巳年拾月____日稟

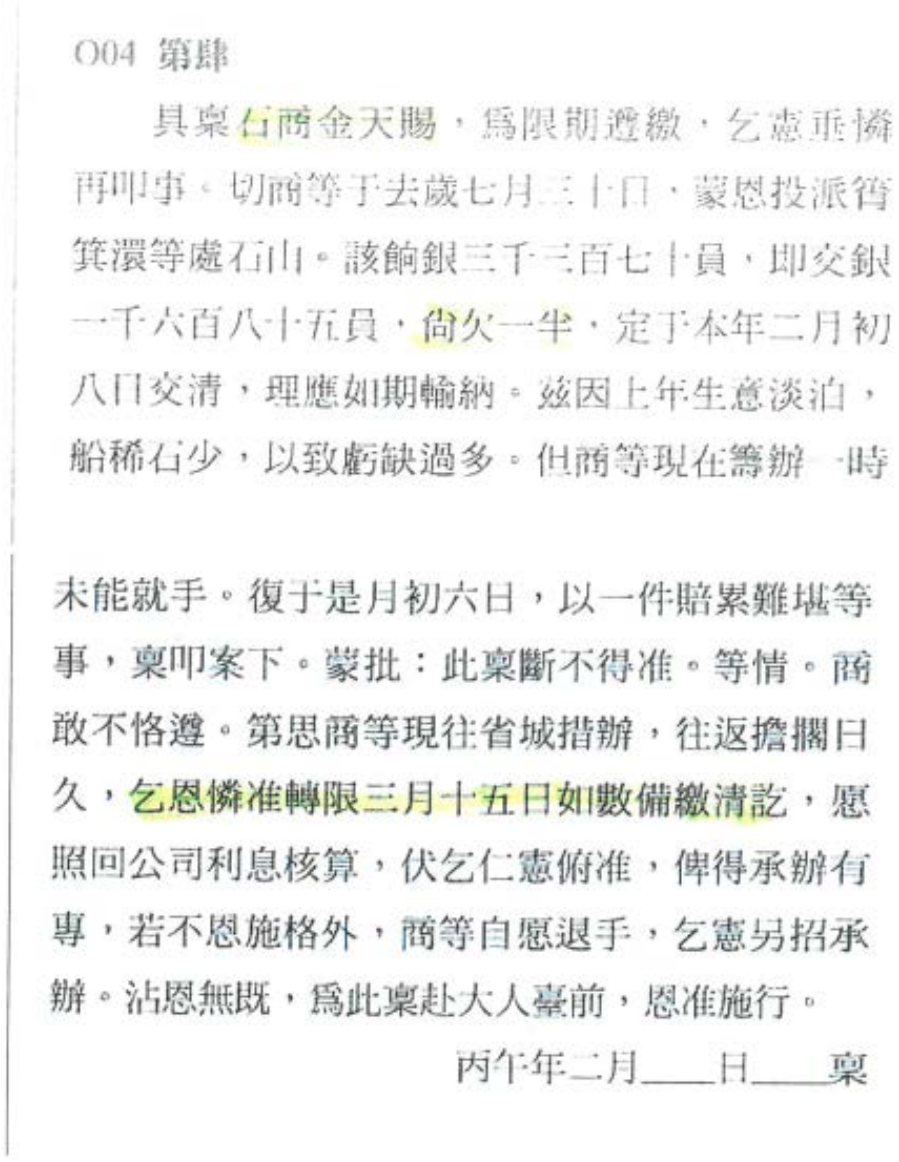
N58 伍拾捌

具稟石商金天賜，爲捎船勒索，乞憲移知
釋放事。切商等于本年八月內，蒙憲給示，着商
在貴治筲箕環採運石塊，雇船載運各城鄉市鎮售
賣。適于本月初旬，雇得石船羅成利，在筲箕環
裝有石塊，由赤灣洋面經過。不料于初七日，被
新安縣福永司巡船捉拿解司，勒索銀兩，至今未
放。只得歷情稟訴廉堵，伏乞即賜移知新安縣
憲，轉飭福永司，釋放船人，以免株累日久，兼
之年近在即，各船觀望不前，有負國餉，爲此稟
赴大老爺臺前恩准施行。

乙巳年拾貳月十七日____稟

Figure 3.32 Kin reported that Kwok Ah-chuen was shipping stone without paying the necessary charges.

His boat under the name of Lo Shing-lee, loading with stone from Shaukeiwan was kept by the Chinese authority while travelling in Check Bay. He was asked to pay to release the boat and the men. He made an appeal to Sun–On officials for their release by the Fook-wing county.

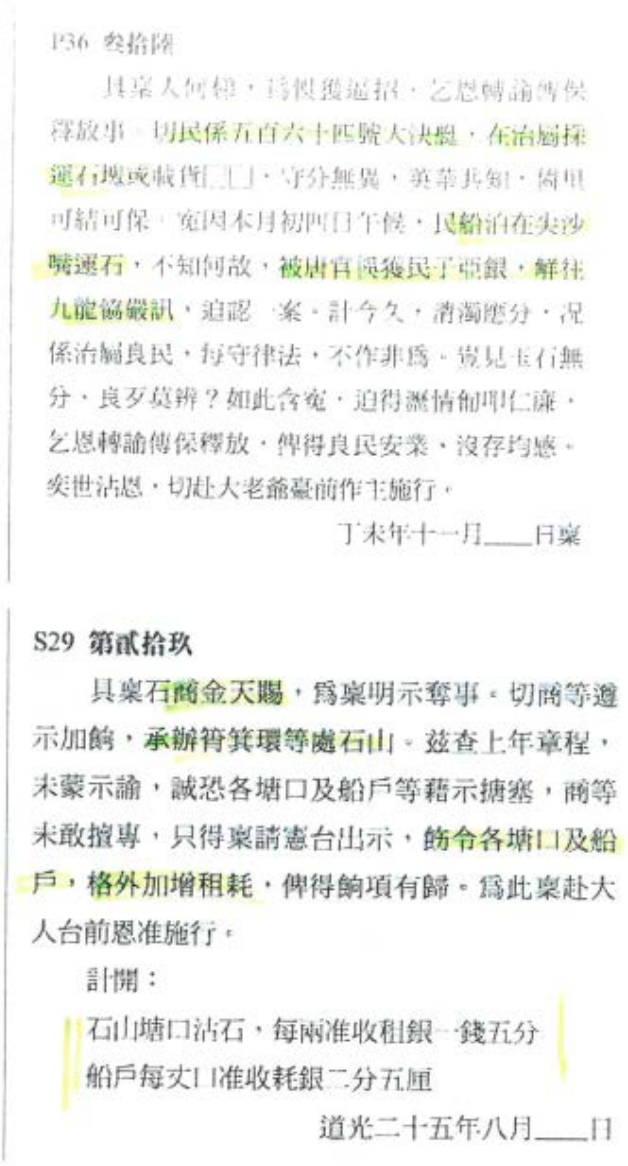


004 第肆

具稟石商金天賜，爲限期遵繳，乞憲垂憐再叩事。切商等于去歲七月三十日，蒙恩投派筲箕灣等處石山。該餉銀三千三百七十員，即交銀一千六百八十五員，尚欠一半，定于本年二月初八日交清，理應如期輸納。兹因上年生意淡泊，船稀石少，以致虧缺過多。但商等現在籌辦一時未能就手。復于是月初六日，以一件賠累難堪等事，稟叩案下。蒙批：此稟斷不得准。等情。商敢不恪遵。第思商等現往省城措辦，往返擔擱日久，乞恩憐准轉限三月十五日如數備繳清訖，愿照回公司利息核算，伏乞仁憲俯准，俾得承辦有專，若不恩施格外，商等自愿退手，乞憲另招承辦。沾恩無既，爲此稟赴大人臺前，恩准施行。

丙午年二月____日____稟

Figure 3.30 Kin reported heavy loss due to scarce business in stone trade and requested for a delay in paying the second half of the tendered sum. The request was turned down. Kin is now on the way to Canton to find the money and request for a delay by one month.



P36 叁拾陸

具稟人何穩，爲恩獲逼招，乞恩轉諭傳保
釋放事。切民係五百六十四號大決艇，在油麻埋
運石塊或載貨上下，守分無異，鄉鄰共知，舖里
可結可保。竟因本月初四日午候，民船泊在尖沙
嘴運石，不知何故，被唐官兵獲民子亞銀，解往
九龍協鎮訊，追認一案。計今久，清濁應分，況
係治輔良民，每守律法，不作非爲，豈見玉石無
分，良歹莫辨？如此含冤，迫得懇情舖叩仁廉，
乞恩轉諭傳保釋放，俾得良民安業，沒存均感。
奕世沾恩，切赴大老爺臺前作主施行。

丁未年十一月____日稟

S29 第貳拾玖

具稟石商金天賜，爲稟明示奪事。切商等遵
示加餉，承辦筲箕環等處石山。茲查上年章程，
未蒙示諭，誠恐各塘口及船戶等藉示搪塞，商等
未敢擅專，只得稟請憲台出示，飭令各塘口及船
戶，格外加增租耗，俾得餉項有歸。爲此稟赴大
人台前恩准施行。

計開：

石山塘口沽石，每兩准收租銀一錢五分
船戶每丈口准收耗銀二分五厘

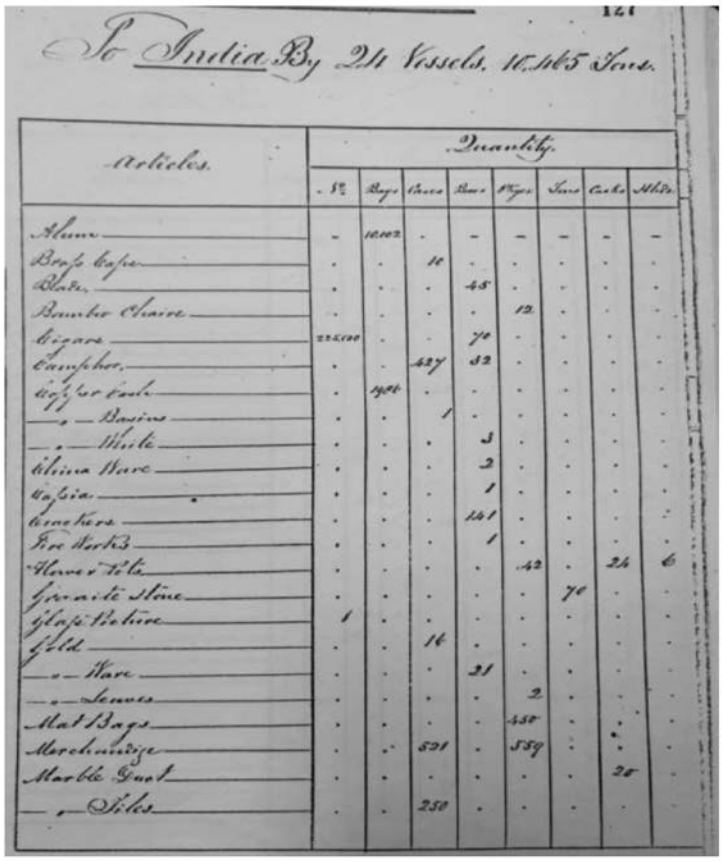
道光二十五年八月____日

Figure 3.31 Mr. Ho's speedy boat in transporting stone, parked at Tsim Sha Tsui, was being held by the Chinese authority. He confirmed there are innocent and appealed for their release.

Kin requested the increase in charging the rock quarried by the quarry and the stone boat in order to make it fair and consistent for the stakeholders.

3.4 Records of granite exportation from Hong Kong Blue Books

The first record of taxing the exportation of granite was from the 1847 Blue Book. Out of a total of over ten thousand tons of goods by 24 vessels, 70 tons of granite stone was delivered to India.

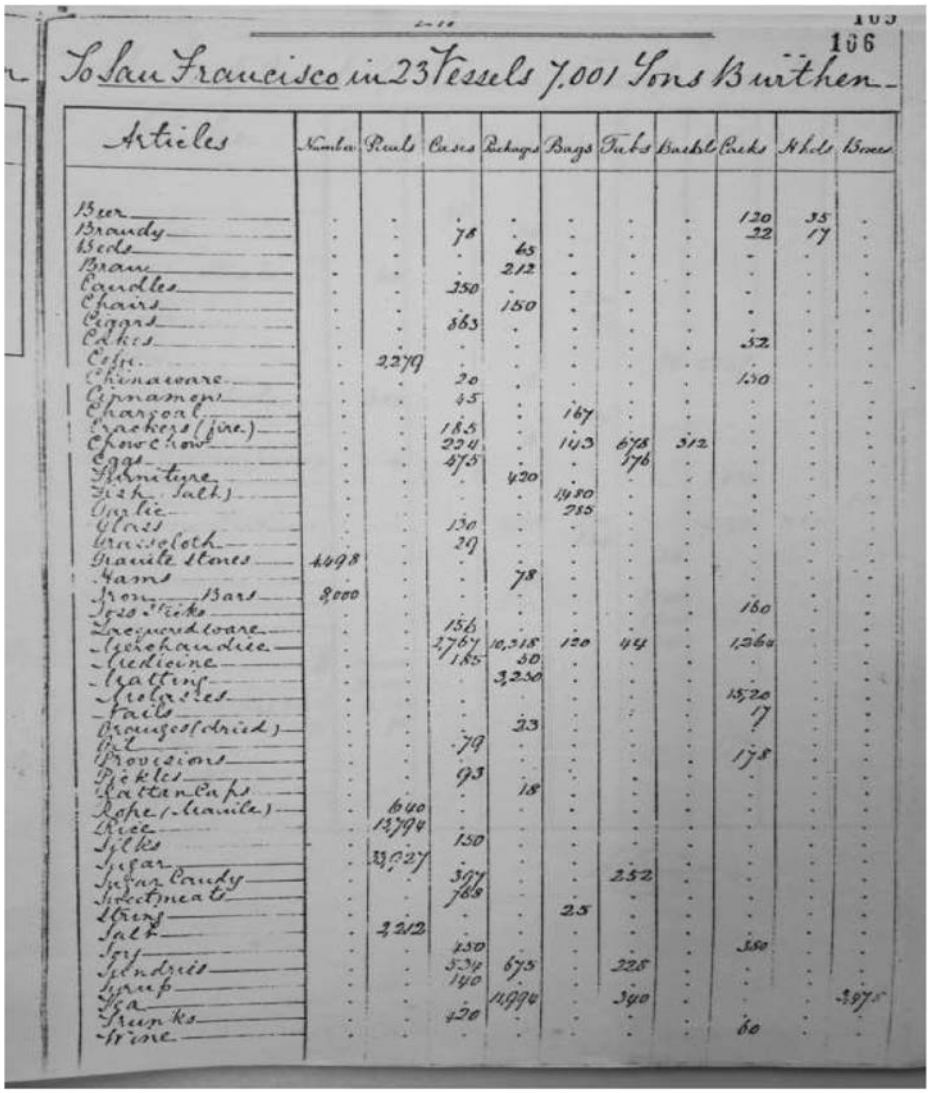


To India By 24 Vessels. 10,865 Tons.

Articles.	Quantity.							
	No.	Bags	Cases	Boxes	Chests	Tons	Casks	Mats
Alum	-	1000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass Cash	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.
Blades	.	.	.	45	.	.	.	.
Bamboo Chairs	.	.	.	.	12	.	.	.
Cigars	225000	.	.	70	.	.	.	.
Camphor	.	.	427	32	.	.	.	.
Cayenne	.	190	.	.	.	.	.	.
" Basins	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
" Mats	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
China Ware	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
Cassia	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Crackers	.	.	.	141	.	.	.	.
Fire Works	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Flower Pots	.	.	.	.	42	.	24	6
Granite Stone	.	.	.	.	.	70	.	.
Glass Picture	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gold	.	.	16	.	.	.	.	.
" Ware	.	.	.	21	.	.	.	.
" Leaves	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.
Mat Bags	.	.	.	.	450	.	.	.
Merchandize	.	.	531	.	559	.	.	.
Marble Dust	.	.	.	.	.	.	25	.
" Tiles	.	.	250	.	.	.	.	.

India - 1847

Figure 3.32 70 tons of granite was exported to India in 1847. This was not a great amount of stone shipped but at least it indicated there was such a need from India.



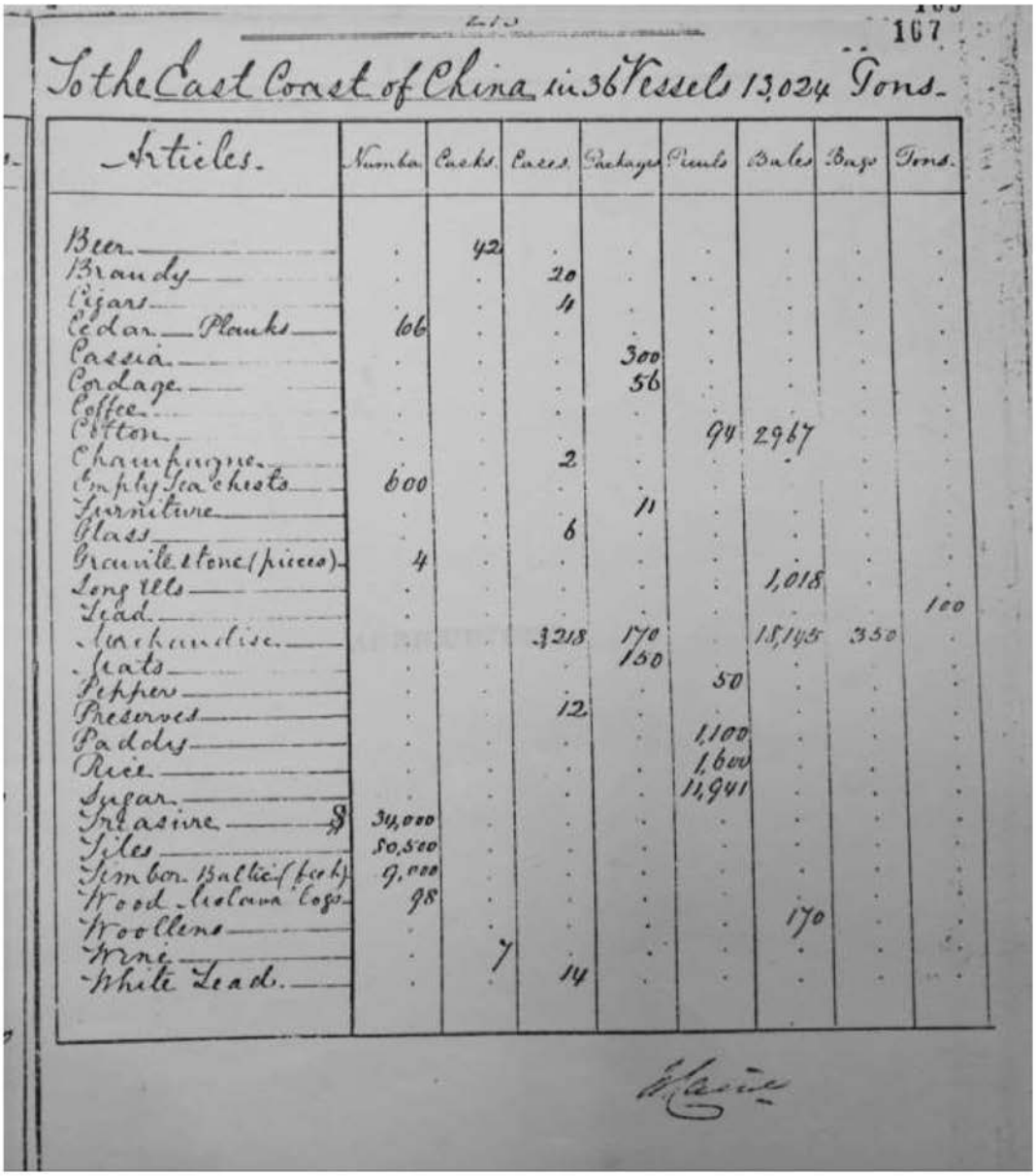
To San Francisco in 23 Vessels 7,001 Tons Burthen

106

Articles	Number	Reels	Cases	Packages	Bags	Tubs	Barrels	Packs	Hhds	Boxes
Beer	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	120	35	.
Brandy	.	.	78	.	.	.	.	22	17	.
Beds	.	.	.	45	.	.	.	-	.	.
Bran	.	.	.	212	.	.	.	.	.	.
Candles	.	.	350	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chairs	.	.	.	150	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cigars	.	.	863	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cakes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	52	.	.
Coffee	.	2279	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chinaware	.	.	20	.	.	.	.	130	.	.
Cinnamon	.	.	45	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Charcoal	.	.	.	.	167	.	.	.	.	.
Crackers (fire.)	.	.	185	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chowchow	.	.	234	.	103	678	312	.	.	.
Eggs	.	.	675	.	.	176	.	.	.	.
Furniture	.	.	.	420	.	.	.	.	.	.
Fish (salt)	.	.	.	.	1450	.	.	.	.	.
Garlic	.	.	.	.	235	.	.	.	.	.
Glass	.	.	130	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Grass cloth	.	.	29	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Granite Stones	4498	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hams	.	.	.	78	.	.	.	.	.	.
Iron Bars	8000	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Iron Picks	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	160	.	.
Lacquered ware	.	.	156	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Merchandize	.	.	2767	10,318	120	44	.	1260	.	.
Medicine	.	.	185	30	.	.	.	.	.	.
Matting	.	.	.	3230	.	.	.	.	.	.
Molasses	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1520	.	.
Nails	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	.	.
Oranges (dried)	.	.	.	23	.	.	.	.	.	.
Oil	.	.	79	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Provisions	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	178	.	.
Pickles	.	.	93	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rattan Caps	.	.	.	18	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rope (Manila)	.	640	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rice	.	13794	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Silks	.	.	150	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sugar	.	33927	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sugar Candy	.	.	397	.	.	252	.	.	.	.
Sweetmeats	.	.	788	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shoes	.	.	.	.	23	.	.	.	.	.
Salt	.	2212	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Soy	.	.	150	.	.	.	.	350	.	.
Sundries	.	.	534	675	.	228	.	.	.	.
Syrup	.	.	140	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tea	.	.	.	1990	.	340	.	.	.	397
Trunks	.	.	420	.	.	.	.	60	.	.
Wine	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

San Francisco -1851

Figure 3.33 In 1851, 4,498 number of granite stones from the delivery of 7,000 tons of goods by 23 vessels were exported to San Francisco. Though the weight is unknown, the number is certainly impressive.



To the East Coast of China in 36 Vessels 13,024 Tons.

Articles.	Numbr.	Casks.	Cases.	Packages	Pipes	Bales	Bags	Tons.
Beer	.	42	.	.	.	.	.	.
Brandy	.	.	20	.	.	.	.	.
Cigars	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.
Cedar Planks	66	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cassia	.	.	.	300	.	.	.	.
Cordage	.	.	.	56	.	.	.	.
Coffee	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cotton	.	.	.	.	94	2987	.	.
Champagne	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
Empty Sea chests	600	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Furniture	.	.	.	11	.	.	.	.
Glass	.	.	6	.	.	.	.	.
Granite stone (pieces)	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Long ells	.	.	.	.	.	1,018	.	.
Lead	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	100
Merchandise	.	.	3218	170	.	15,145	350	.
Seats	.	.	.	150	.	.	.	.
Peppers	.	.	.	.	50	.	.	.
Preserves	.	.	12	.	.	.	.	.
Paddys	.	.	.	.	1,100	.	.	.
Rice	.	.	.	.	1,600	.	.	.
Sugar	.	.	.	.	11,941	.	.	.
Treasure $	34,000	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tiles	50,500	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Timber Baltic (feet)	9,000	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Wood Sulawa Logs	98	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Woollens	.	.	.	.	.	170	.	.
Wine	.	7	.	.	.	.	.	.
White Lead	.	.	14	.	.	.	.	.

East Coast of China -1851

Figure 3.34 In 1851, a very small amount of granite was exported to the East Coast of China, presumably in Shanghai and nearby area. Out of a total of 13,024 tons by 36 vessels, only four number of pieces of granite stone was recorded.

To San Francisco (continued).

Articles.	Number	Bags	Bales	Boxes	[illegible]	Baskets	Cases	Casks	Jars	[illegible]	Tubs
Dates				1							
Duck, salted											4
Dyes				1							
Eggs				602					2326		2
Felt Hats				1							
Figs						20					
Tiles	2,400										
Fire-wood										210	
Fish, Salt		1		30			64				
Flour		3									
Fowls	700										
Fruit, Dried											7
Fungus		2									
Furnace Bars	190										
Furniture							18				
Ginger				346		27					
Do., Red											4
Glass				1							
Gongs	4									1	
Granite Stones	2106										
Greens		13									32
Gunny			415								
Do. Bags			93		630						
Hams					2						
Iron, Pigs	1,269										
Do. Pans	4					29					
Hentledge, Rices	168										
Lacquered ware				16							
Lard				140			20	3			
Looking Glasses										1	
Locks &c.				3							

Sn Francisco – 1852

Figure 3.35 In 1852, 2,106 pieces of stone were transported to San Francisco. This quantity is half of the amount one year ago. This could be due to the demand from construction boom in the Gold Rush.

Case study 1: Parrott Building, S.F., USA 1852

San Francisco was one of the places requiring a lot of granite stones during the 19th century. As a result of the Gold Rush, a lot of buildings were required to be built. Another reason was due to the booming in trade, more vessels were transporting the passengers as well as goods, hence stones were needed to provide the ballast.

John Parrott was among the few businessmen in those days to erect his own office building using granite blocks from Hong Kong. Not only the materials but the masons were also required to complete the erection of the building. Twenty workers and one architect were shipped. They worked for three months with conditions marked in an agreement. It is interesting to see the written agreement signed with the finger prints of the workers.

The progress of the works was satisfactory and in the end John was so happy, he gave the architect a horse and a buggy. Stephen Williams, received his architecture education in Britain, declined to accept them indicating his interest was placed on the work rather than the extra gift from the client. This should be a good lesson to be learnt by today's construction professionals.

Initially the workers were objected to work due to some sort of fung shui issue. It was resolved by following the Chinese's traditional way and the work was completed on time. Both the granite blocks and the fixing skills were of high quality. The stone cladded building was able to survive despite many fires and earthquakes were recorded. Where the stone came from was not known, the quality of the works was even finally confirmed from the demolition contractor as he found it very hard to loosen and remove the blocks.

Besides using the blocks for his building, John Parrott also ordered delivery of granite blocks and tiles for other construction projects.

Cases of shipping records from Hong Kong to San Francisco were studied from the archives and manuscripts kept by Professor Elizabeth Sinn. The research team is grateful to her assistance and advice.

Details of this case is attached in the Appendix.

Parrott Building 1852

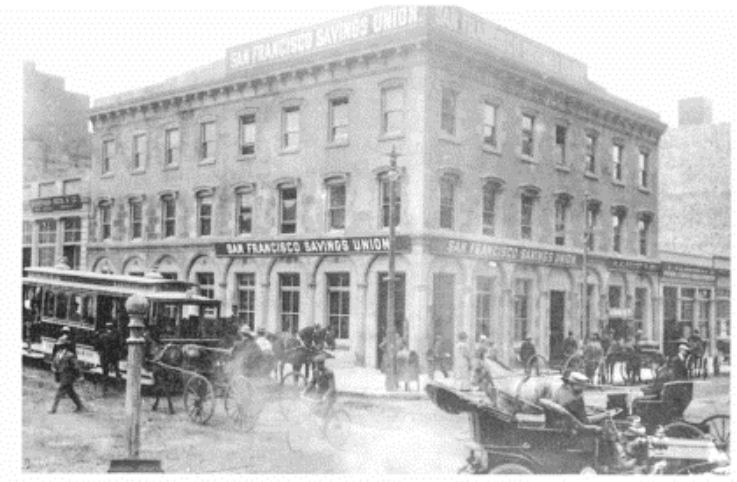


Photo 3.10 Parrott Building in San Francisco 1852. The external wall is cladded with granite stone shipped from Hong Kong. The workers in fixing the facing stone are also come from Hong Kong.

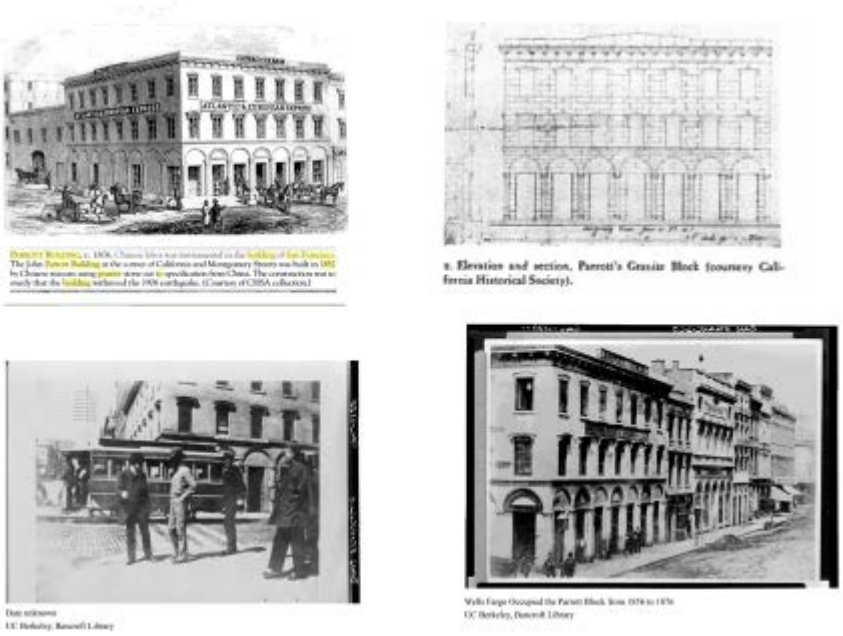


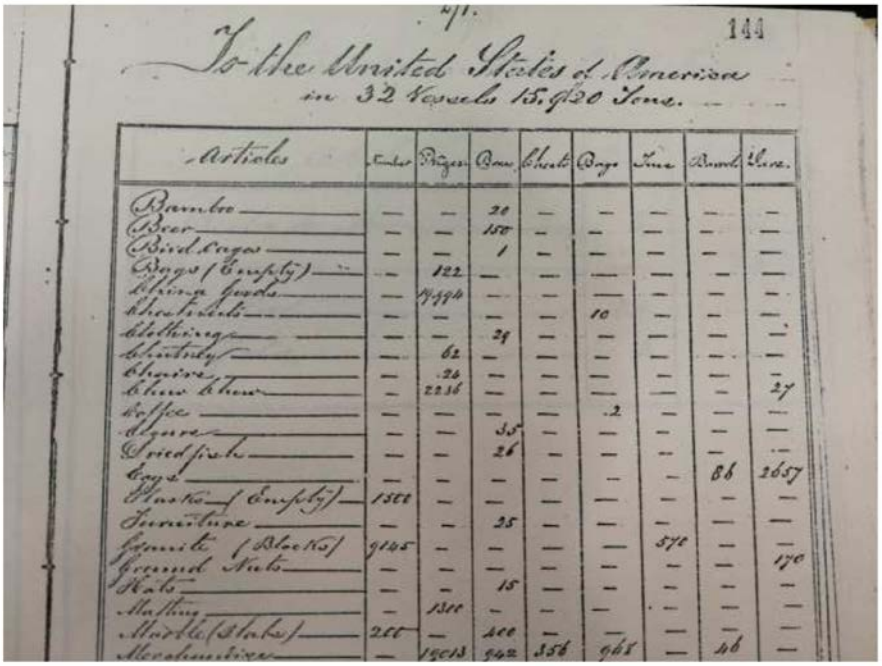
Figure 3.36 Painting, drawing and photograph of Parrott Building

In 1854, an aggregate of 9,145 granite blocks were sent to the United States. The total weight is over 15,000 tons and 32 vessels were involved. The exact locations of the quarries in Hong Kong for the stone delivery were not given.

In the same year, other overseas deliveries include:

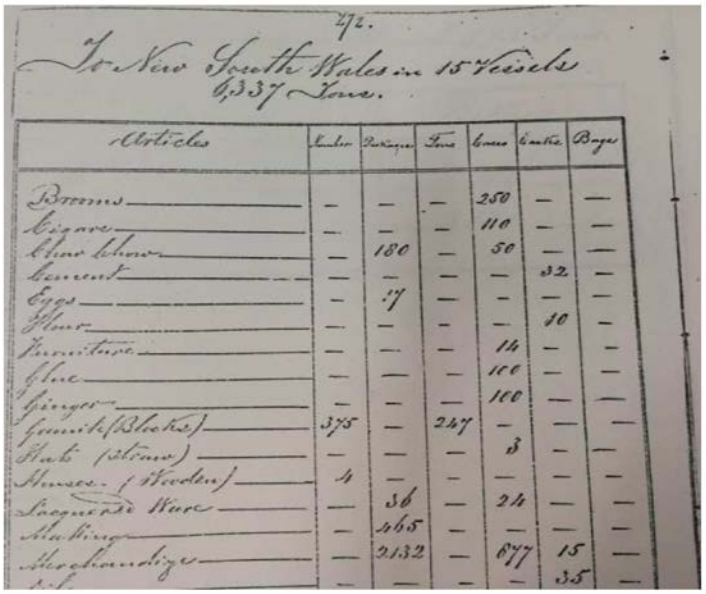
- 375 number of 247 tons were exported to New South Wales.
- 283 number to East Coast of China and
- 150 number to Manila.

11. 1854 – Notes on Import and Export - "No custom House, found impossible to give the information required in greater details or very accurately." Granite blocks exported to USA; New South Wales; East Coast of China and Manila recorded as 9,145 nos., 570 tons; 375 nos., 247tons; 283 nos. and 150 nos. respectively.



United states of America - 1854

Figure 3.37 9,145 granite blocks were sent to USA in 1854.

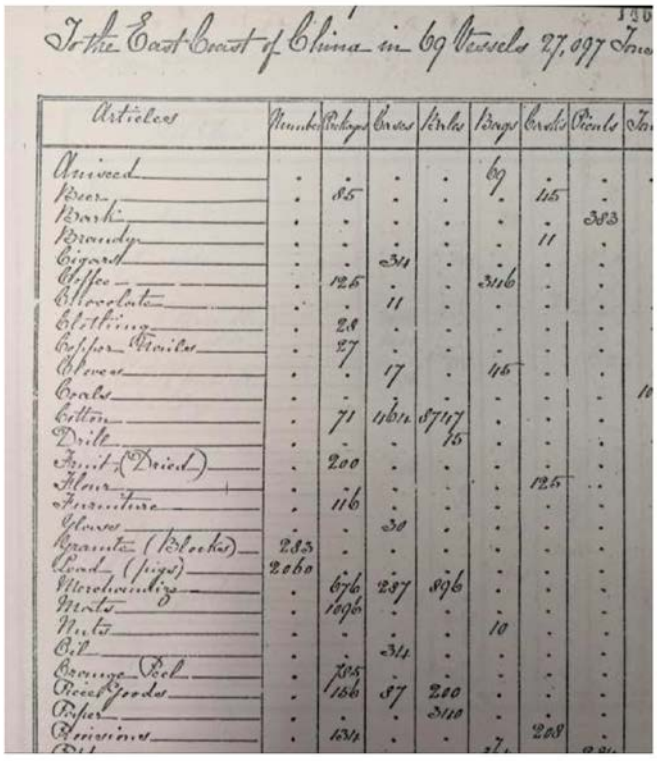


To New South Wales in 15 Vessels 6,337 Tons.

Articles	Number	Packages	Tons	Tons	Casks	Bags
Brooms	—	—	—	250	—	—
Cigars	—	—	—	110	—	—
China Clay	—	180	—	50	—	—
Cement	—	—	—	—	32	—
Eggs	—	17	—	—	—	—
Flour	—	—	—	—	10	—
Furniture	—	—	—	14	—	—
Glue	—	—	—	100	—	—
Ginger	—	—	—	100	—	—
Granite (Blocks)	375	—	247	—	—	—
Hats (straw)	—	—	—	3	—	—
Hinges (Wooden)	4	—	—	—	—	—
Lacquered Ware	—	36	—	24	—	—
Matting	—	465	—	—	—	—
Merchandize	—	2132	—	677	15	—
	—	—	—	—	35	—

New South Wales - 1854

Figure 3.38 375 granite blocks weighing 247 tons are shipped to New South Wales in Australia.

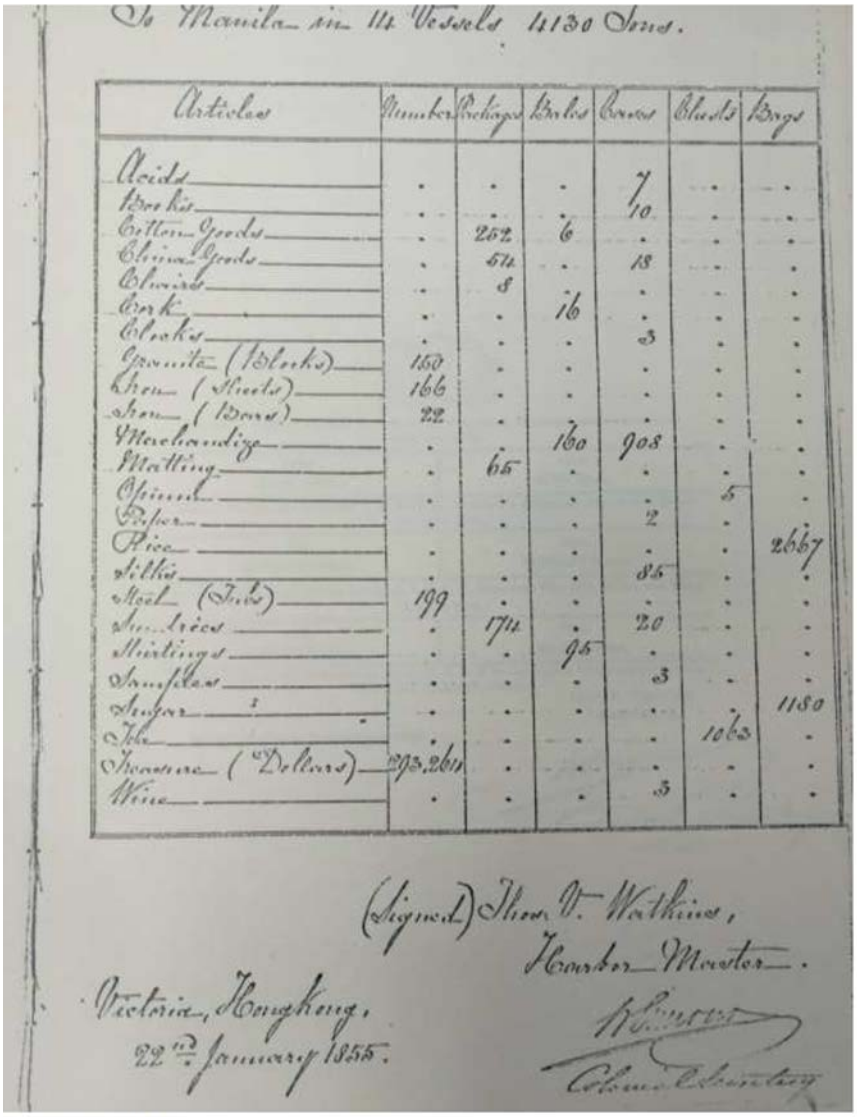


To the East Coast of China in 69 Vessels 27,097 Tons

Articles	Number	Packages	Cases	Pieces	Bags	Casks	Pieces	Tons
Arrived	.	.	.	.	69	.	.	
Beer	.	85	.	.	.	115	.	
Bark	.	.	.	.	.	.	383	
Brandy	.	.	.	.	.	11	.	
Cigars	.	.	341	.	.	.	.	
Coffee	.	126	.	.	316	.	.	
Chocolate	.	.	11	.	.	.	.	
Clothing	.	28	.	.	.	.	.	
Copper Plates	.	27	.	.	.	.	.	
Flowers	.	.	17	.	46	.	.	
Coals	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10
Cotton	.	71	1612	8717	.	.	.	
Drill	.	.	.	15	.	.	.	
Fruit (Dried)	.	200	.	.	.	.	.	
Flour	.	.	.	.	.	125	.	
Furniture	.	116	.	.	.	.	.	
Gloves	.	.	30	.	.	.	.	
Granite (Blocks)	283	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Lead (pigs)	2060	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Merchandize	.	676	237	896	.	.	.	
Mats	.	1096	.	.	.	.	.	
Nuts	.	.	.	.	10	.	.	
Oil	.	.	341	.	.	.	.	
Orange Peel	.	785	.	.	.	.	.	
Rice Goods	.	186	87	200	.	.	.	
Paper	.	.	.	2110	.	.	.	
Provisions	.	131	.	.	.	208	.	

East Coast of China -1854

Figure 3.39 283 granite blocks are delivered to East Coast of China in 1854.



To Manila in 14 Vessels 4130 Tons.

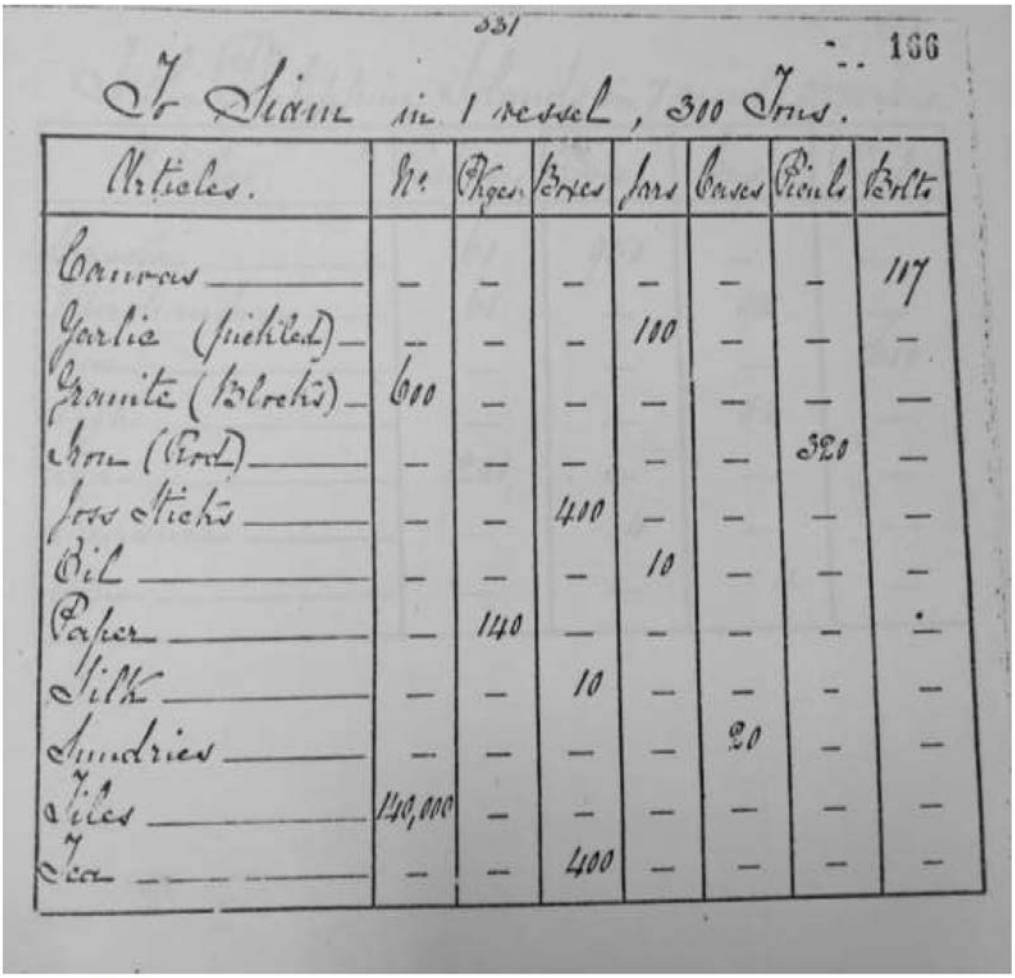
Articles	Number	Packages	Bales	Cases	Chests	Bags
Acids	.	.	.	7	.	.
Books	.	.	.	10	.	.
Cotton Goods	.	262	6	.	.	.
China Goods	.	54	.	18	.	.
Chairs	.	8	.	.	.	.
Cork	.	.	16	.	.	.
Clocks	.	.	.	3	.	.
Granite (Blocks)	150	.	.	.	.	.
Iron (Sheets)	166	.	.	.	.	.
Iron (Bars)	22	.	.	.	.	.
Merchandize	.	.	160	908	.	.
Matting	.	65	.	.	.	.
Opium	.	.	.	.	5	.
Paper	.	.	.	2	.	.
Rice	.	.	.	.	.	2667
Silks	.	.	.	85	.	.
Steel (Tubs)	199	.	.	.	.	.
Sundries	.	174	.	20	.	.
Shirtings	.	.	95	.	.	.
Samples	.	.	.	3	.	.
Sugar	.	.	.	.	.	1180
Tea	.	.	.	.	1062	.
Treasure (Dollars)	293.261	.	.	.	.	.
Wine	.	.	.	3	.	.

(Signed) Thos. V. Watkins,
Harbor Master.

Victoria, Hongkong,
22nd January 1855.

Manila - 1854

Figure 3.40 In 1854, 150 pieces of granite blocks are sent to Manila of Philippines.



331 166

To Siam in 1 vessel, 300 Tons.

Articles.	No	Pkgs	Boxes	Jars	Cases	Pails	Bdls
Canvas	–	–	–	–	–	–	117
Garlic (pickled)	–	–	–	100	–	–	–
Granite (Blocks)	600	–	–	–	–	–	–
Iron (Rod)	–	–	–	–	–	320	–
Joss sticks	–	–	400	–	–	–	–
Oil	–	–	–	10	–	–	–
Paper	–	140	–	–	–	–	–
Silk	–	–	10	–	–	–	–
Sundries	–	–	–	–	20	–	–
Tiles	140,000	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tea	–	–	400	–	–	–	–

Siam – 1855

Figure 3.41 In 1855, 600 granite blocks out of a total load of 300 tons were sent to Siam (Thailand today) in one vessel.

Table 3.1 Summary of shipping of granite from Hong Kong to San Francisco 1852 to 1855.

Source: Records kept by Professor Elizabeth Sinn.

No	Year	Ship	Consignor	Consignee/ importer	Remark
1	1851	Antelope		Lubeck & Co. (owner's oath on import entry)	Food such as ginger, pepper, rice, sugar, … 54 pieces granite stone
2	1851	Jackin	Lubeck	G. Norman	138 pieces stone
3	1852	Troubador	Rawie, Drinker & Co.	By order of King & Co.	Granite stone, stonework from a house for Messrs. Ritchie, Osgood & Co neatly dresses as pr. Plans, each piece protected by boards or strapped with rattans, including shipments as agreed per Charles St giving, Cleverly, Superintendent.
4	1853	Aurora	Lubeck & Co.	Wennenberg, Capram	324 pieces of stone
5	1853	Clara	Lubeck	Martin Schultz & Co	150 pieces of hewn stone
6	1853	Jamestown	Rawle, Drinker & Co	F. Argente & Co	Many granite stone: 1,616 pieces. 9,081.5 ft, 860 pieces 3,611 ft.
7	1853	Jamestown	Augustine Howell	To order , for sale, account and risk of the concerned	Many pieces of granite: 43 window sills, 34 cornices, 18 granite columns, 18 capitals for columns
8	1853	John Farnsworth		McKinley, Garrick & Co. imported by their own account, invoice	759 pieces granite, 3,890 ft.
9	1853	Lady Raffles	Herman Schaeffer of Meyer & Schaeffer	Joseph Frontin, order of	480 square dressed granite stone, charcoal, bamboo chairs, chests of drawers

10	1853	London		Gould, Martin consigned to their account and risk	561 pieces of granite stone
11	1853	London	Herman Schaeffer of Meyer & Schaeffer, own account	J.W. Schultz esq.	330 square cut granite
12	1853	Lord Warriston	Y.J. Murrow of Murrow, Stephenson & Co., USCHK own account	Bolton, Brown & Co for sale by Mr. Jas Stephenson and returned to Messrs. Turner & Co	485 pieces of granite, 5 cases of porcelain palisade forming the materials of the front of a granite house
13	1853	Lord Warriston	James M. Lewis, shipped a Hong Kong on account of	George N. Shaw	Granite building stones
14	1853	Lorenz	Wm M Robinet, USCC	Smith Bros & Co	Rice, granite, granite door sills, top bed and front edge smooth, water tables, smooth face & edges, steps, smooth face and edges, window sills, window caps, 16 pilasters well worked, 1 freize, well worked, say 299 granite stones
15	1853	North Carolina	H. F. Edwards. USCHK	Edwards & Balley	50 pieces cut granite
16	1853	North Caroline	Meyer, Schaeffer, HK	J.W. Schultz, owner's invoice, to order of	Ready dressed granite stone
17	1853	Rose of Sharon	Wm M Robinet, USCC	Smith Bros & Co, cert invoice	Granite – door sill, water tables, window sills, pilaster (34) pieces frieze, 6 steps, in all 799 pieces

18	1853	Raleigh	Rawle, Drinker & Co, by order of H. Butler	H. Butler, uncert invoice, by order of Horace Butler, esq., consigned to Grogan & Lent, S.F.	Stone – pilasters, cellar steps, corner blocks, door sills, curb stones.
19	1852	Ann Welsh	Tam Achoy, Chinese merchant, account of the concerned, before USConsulate HK (Guang Yuan)	Anhee	4,268 bags of rice, 65 cases lard, 1 case each of caps, blank books, stockings, shoes and fire crackers, 89 pieces of hewn granite
20	1853	Amity	Nye Parker & Co	Machondray & Co, for account and risk of whom it may concern	Red tiles, camphor wood painted trunks, matting
21	1852	Aurora	Wong Cut, Chinese merchant, USCHK, for my own account	--	500 bags rice, sago, chimar, flour, bamboo pot lip (sic) tobacco, salted pork, soy oil, grinds stone
22	1852	Robert Small	John Charles Bowring, authorized to sign for Jardine, Matheson & Co, appearing in US Consulate for risk of John Parrott, Esq.	John Parrott, esq.	5,000 tiles, 3,500 tiles

23	1853	Ellen Frances	H.E. Pierce before US Consulate HK, account of concerned	H.E. Pierce, consigned to, or his order	

Table 3.2 Summary of granite stone exported to California from Hong Kong

Source: Records kept by Professor Elizabeth Sinn.

Year	Number	Tons
1849	Nil	
1850	2,566	
1851	4,498	
1852	2,106	
1853	6,481	
1854	9,154	570
1855	6,065	
1856	Nil	

Summary of stones exported between 1850 and 1855

During the years from 1850 until 1855 a lot of granite stones were exported to California as cladding in building and as paving stones in infrastructure construction. The high performance of granite in strength, durability and resistance against fire was obvious, and thus being purchased a great deal from Hong Kong. The reasons why such exportation had lasted for several years could be explored in a separate study though one common reason was the need arising from the gold rush. Secondly there should have been some kind of promotion or making it known to the clients of such quality granite quarried in Hong Kong.

Shipping of granite to different places also announced in the local newspapers. The following shows the shipping received in the USA in 1853, 1855, 1876, and 1885.

Figure 3.42 Shipping of granite to USA in local newspaper in 1853 and 1855

Figure 3.43 Shipping of Chinese granite to USA in local newspaper in 1876

Lease Conditions and Related Laws

While the single lease was used for almost two decades for all quarries on the island, separate leases were issued for the two geographical areas, i.e. Hong Kong and Kowloon, after 1862.

The contract conditions were increased from two to seven in 1865. The changes were: that the quarry farms should not open any new quarry; stone already quarried and left on site should not be removed by the new leaser; the charges for stones of different sizes were listed, if sale at a higher rate, the quarry should be resumed and all stacked stone became the property of the Crown; any breach of conditions would lead to termination of the contract.

In 1874, a month was granted to the leasee to remove all stones after expiration of the contract, and the term liquidated damages was introduced to replace termination of contract.

In 1897, the contract conditions were increased to fourteen. The important changes were control usage of dynamite; sub-letting was not allowed; freedom of erecting quarters for the workmen; right of the government to terminate the contract, and opening of new quarry for public works. This set of conditions continued to be used until the Second World War.

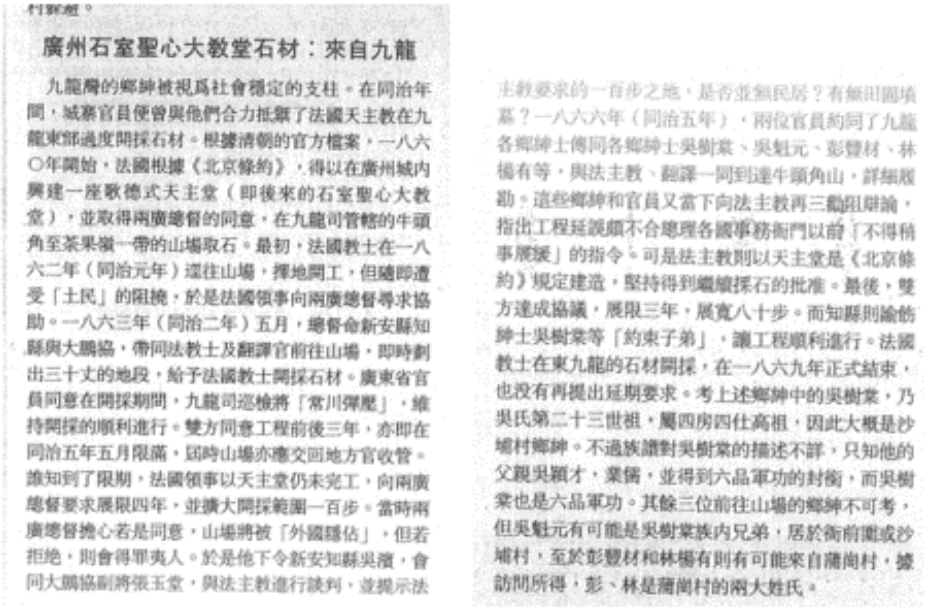
Case Study 2: Sacred Heart Cathedral in Guangzhou 1863 -1888

Also called the Stone House, the Cathedral was built by the French Bishops in the 19th Century after the Convention of Beijing. It was designed by French architects and was constructed using granite from Hong Kong.

The stones were originally taken from the quarries at Ngau Tau Kok and Cha Kwo Ling. The operation of quarrying stones probably had created nuisance to the nearby residents and might have attributed to delay in providing the required stones. Extension of time was proposed by the Bishops and agreed finally by the local officials. It took 25 years to finish the work, quite similar to many well-known cathedrals in the world.

The Cathedral is functioning well today and is probably the only kind of such architecture in Asia. It is another beautiful example showing the quality of the granite and the skills in their erection.

Figure 3.44 The French Sacred Heart Cathedral in Guangzhou 1863-1888. Granite stone was quarried in Kowloon, Hong Kong and shipped to Guangzhou.



廣州石室聖心大教堂石材：來自九龍

九龍耆的鄉紳被視爲社會穩定的支柱。在同治年間，城寨官員便曾與他們合力抵禦了法國天主教在九龍東部過度開採石材。根據清朝的官方檔案，一八六〇年開始，法國根據《北京條約》，得以在廣州城內興建一座歌德式天主堂（即後來的石室聖心大教堂），並取得兩廣總督的同意，在九龍司管轄的牛頭角至茶果嶺一帶的山場取石。最初，法國教士在一八六二年（同治元年）還往山場，揮地開工，但隨即遭受「土民」的阻撓，於是法國領事向兩廣總督尋求協助。一八六三年（同治二年）五月，總督命新安縣知縣與大鵬協，帶同法教士及翻譯官前往山場，即時劃出三十丈的地段，給予法國教士開採石材。廣東省官員同意在開採期間，九龍司巡檢將「常川彈壓」，維持開採的順利進行。雙方同意工程前後三年，亦即在同治五年五月限滿，屆時山場亦應交回地方官收管。誰知到了限期，法國領事以天主堂仍未完工，向兩廣總督要求展限四年，並擴大開採範圍一百步。當時兩廣總督擔心若是同意，山場將被「外國縣佔」，但若拒絕，則會得罪夷人。於是他下令新安知縣吳澄，會同大鵬協副將張玉堂，與法主教進行談判，並提示法

主教要求的一百步之地，是否並無民居？有無田園墳墓？一八六六年（同治五年），兩位官員約同了九龍各鄉紳士傅同各鄉紳士吳樹業、吳魁元、彭豐材、林楊有等，與法主教、翻譯一同到達牛頭角山，詳細履勘。這些鄉紳和官員又當下向法主教再三勸阻辯論，指出工程延誤頗不合總理各國事務衙門以前「不得稍事展緩」的指令。可是法主教則以天主堂是《北京條約》規定建造，堅持得到繼續採石的批准。最後，雙方達成協議，展限三年，展寬八十步。而知縣則諭飭紳士吳樹業等「約束子弟」，讓工程順利進行。法國教士在東九龍的石材開採，在一八六九年正式結束，也沒有再提出延期要求。考上述鄉紳中的吳樹業，乃吳氏第二十三世祖，屬四房四仕高祖，因此大概是沙埔村鄉紳。不過族譜對吳樹業的描述不詳，只知他的父親吳穎才，業儒，並得到六品軍功的封銜，而吳樹業也是六品軍功。其餘三位前往山場的鄉紳不可考，但吳魁元有可能是吳樹業族內兄弟，居於衙前圍或沙埔村，至於彭豐材和林楊有則有可能來自蒲崗村，據訪問所得，彭、林是蒲崗村的兩大姓氏。

Figure 3.45 Story of stone quarried in Kowloon

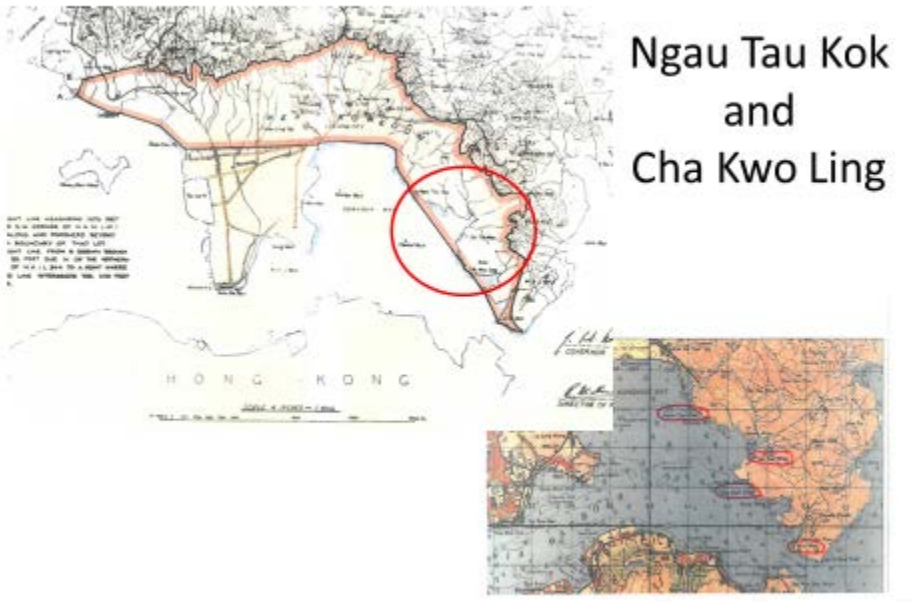


Figure 3.46 Location of Ngau Tau Kok and Cha Kwo Ling where granite stone were quarried for the Stone Church in Guangzhou

Photo 3.11 The Cathedral with an appearance equated to many famous churches in Europe. It was listed as a Cultural Protective Unit in 2002.

Granite was not just used in building construction, but quite frequently used for street paving in USA.

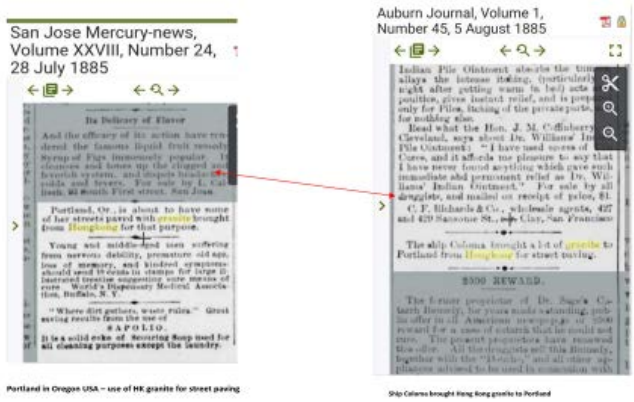


Figure 3.47 Journals reporting on the arrival of granite from Hong Kong for street paving in USA in 1885

In 1879, 16,000 blocks were shipped to Sydney. The announcement was made in the Australian Town and Country Journal, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, page 27 on 1 November 1879.

ARRIVAL OF THE S.S. THALES.

The s.s. Thales, from Hongkong, arrived at Cooktown, via Port Darwin, yesterday. She got ashore near Port Darwin, and again near Thursday Island. Pilot Wilkie brought her on to Cooktown from Thursday Island. An official inquiry is to be held here into her grounding, through which, however, she sustained but little damage.

Her passengers are :—For Sydney: Messrs. W. Aken, Manges, Wook, J. Johnston, D. Smith, J. Mason, and 37 Chinese. For Melbourne: Mrs. Page, Miss Page, Messrs. Page, M'Leod, and 11 Chinese, and 21 Chinese for other ports.

The Thales's cargo is—For Sydney: 16,000 blocks of granite, order; 1000 packages rice, 118 packages, sundry Chinese consignees. For Melbourne: 5000 packages sundries, and about 200 tons for other ports.

Figure 3.48 16,000 granite blocks shipped by the S.S. Thales from Hong Kong to Sydney, Australia

A tender analysis on the Christmas Eve of 1872 reviewed that there were six companies bidding for the lease of quarries on the island and the peninsula. Two out of the six companies or persons had never got a license, they both bore the surnames of Tsang and Li. The persons or companies that obtained the lease has the same address at 4-6 Shui Tsing Wan, Hong Kong. Most tenders used their own names, and sometimes company names such as Mr. Lee Wing-shing of Fuk Lung Stone Mason Shop, Mr. Tsang I of Tsang On Kee, or Tai-un Shop was used.

Photo 3.12 Former Marine Police Headquarters at Tsim Sha Tsui completed in 1884 now renamed as “1881 Heritage”

When sub-letting was not allowed in the 1890s, it is of great suspicion that collusion amongst tenders had happened in those days. The monopoly was intensified when Mr. Tsang Keng got all the licenses for stone quarrying in Hong Kong and in Kowloon from 1886 to 1900 except in 1897 when Mr. Chan A Tong obtained the license.

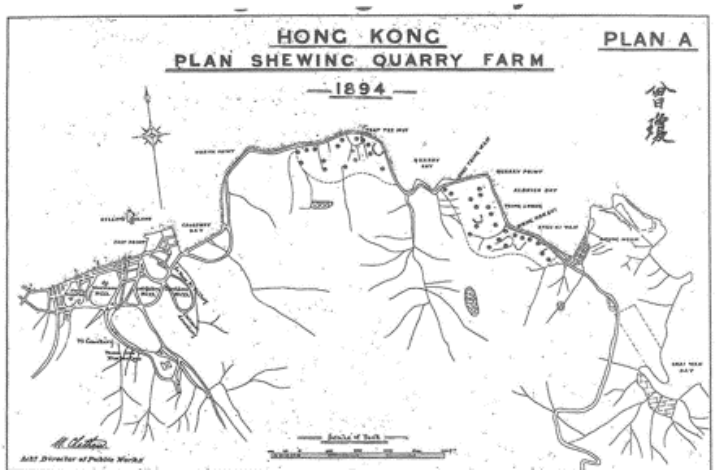


Figure 3.49 The quarries on Hong Kong island in 1894. Tsang Keng was the license holder.

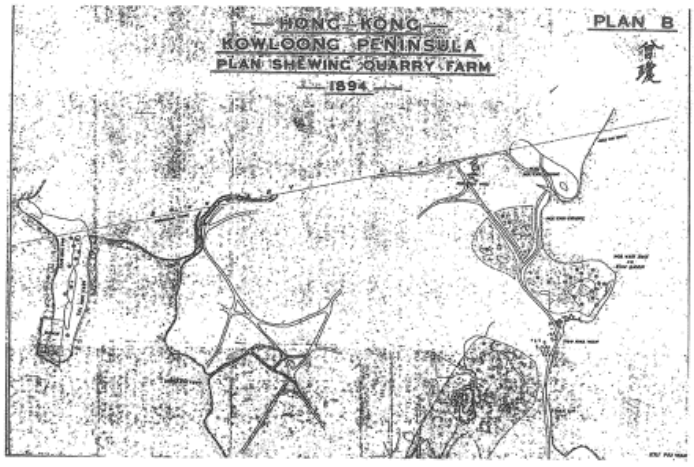


Figure 3.50 The quarries in Kowloon in 1894. Tsang Keng was the license holder.

The following table shows some of the license holders between 1844 and 1900.

Table 3.3 License holders for quarries 1844 - 1900

Year	Lease Sum $	License Holder
1844	800	Lo Seen
1845	3,370	Kin Teen Sze
1848	3,000	Chung Ping
1849	3,160	Chung Ping
1850	2,100	
The Stone Quarry was combined with the Salt Broker and Weighter		
3 years		Lo Seen
The Stone Quarry lease was separated from the Salt Broker and Weighter		
1855	780	Lee Ahsut
1856	1,300	Yeung Kwei-sow
1871 - 1885		Chung Yee, Chun Sun Sing, Chang Ying Kee, Tsang Fung, Lee Wo Hop, Tsang I, Li Fuk Lung, Li Wing Shing, Lee A Tu
1886 - 1900		Tsang Keng, Chan A Tong

Granite for Pavement at Manila 1892

On 22 November 1892, there was a letter to the Editor of Newcastle Morning Herald and Mines' Advocate in New South Wales, Australia. (the letter was originally from an advertisement published in Hong Kong China Mail in 1892.)

Sir, will you kindly give space to the following paragraph, taken from the China Mail, published in Hong Kong: -

"Tenders are invited at Manila for the supply of Hong Kong granite stone for pavement for the works in connection with the construction of the new port. Hong Kong stone, we understand, is much appreciated in the Philippines, where there is a constant demand for it, and vessels leaving this island in ballast for Manila always carry a large quantity of stone across and find a ready market.

The stone referred to is some of the finest in the world. It can be cut to any size, perfectly free from blemishes of any kind. It takes a beautiful polish, and the Chinese masons in Hong Kong work it easily. A house constructed of it would be handsomer than any building I have seen in Australia. When the gold fever broke out in California, great quantities of dressed granite were shipped to San Francisco, even complete houses, so far as walls, &co, each block being numbered, all ready for erecting. The Sydney councilors have been much exercised in their minds lately on the subject of paving stone, and this paragraph may interest them. Ships bringing granite might be available for loading coal –

I am & co. F.S.H."

Such promotion announcement really provides a clear account why granite form Hong Kong was being sought for building construction in other places.

HONGKONG GRANITE.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Will you kindly give space to the following paragraph, taken from the *China Mail*, published in Hongkong:—"Tenders are invited at Manila for the supply of Hongkong granite stone for pavements for the works in connection with the construction of the new port. Hongkong stone, we understand, is much appreciated in the Philippines, where there is a constant demand for it, and vessels leaving this island in ballast for Manila always carry a large quantity of stone across and find a ready market." The stone referred to is some of the finest in the world. It can be cut to any size, perfectly free from blemishes of any kind. It takes a beautiful polish, and the Chinese masons in Hongkong work it easily. A house constructed of it would be handsomer than any building I have seen in Australia. When the gold fever broke out in California great quantities of dressed granite were shipped to San Francisco, even complete houses, so far as walls, &c., each block being numbered, all ready for erecting. The Sydney councillors have been much exercised in their minds lately on the subject of paving stone, and this paragraph may interest them. Ships bringing granite might be available for loading coal.—I am, &c.

F.S.H.

Figure 3.51 Hong Kong granite for new port at Manila 1892

Case Study 3: Gap Rock Lighthouse 1892

Gap Rock was originally one of the suitable locations for building a lighthouse by the colonial government in 1860s. Such idea was not welcome by the Qing Imperial Government, so other lighthouse within the Hong Kong territory were built. However, Gap Rock is a place to serve ships approaching Hong Kong harbor from the south, particularly those from Singapore. After many rounds of negotiation, the Qing Government, through the Commissioner of Chinese Customs, Kowloon, in June 1888 announced the arrangement of building the lighthouse.

The construction included the Tower, the European and Chinese Quarters, and a house for condensing apparatus. The whole of the buildings is of brickwork faced with granite. It contains a basement with a store and a water tank, surmounted by two floors for the accommodation of the Keepers.

Arrangement for shipping the construction materials to the island was one of the key issues particularly when the weather would permit of landing on the Rock. All elements were preformed and delivered to the island for assembly. Granite was chosen for forming the cladding in view of the severe weather impact from the typhoons and the sea waves to the rock. In view of the difficulties in shipping and transporting to the top of the rock, the granite blocks had to be designed to appropriate dimensions and weights, followed by the proper and adequate fixing to the building structure.

The lighthouse had been subjected to exceptional strong severe typhoon which caused the breaking of the glass of the light lantern and flooding of the tower. Doors and windows were broken but the granite cladding remained intact. Such happenings repeated many time since the lit of the light in 1892. The only unrecoverable damages to the buildings came from the severe bombing during the Second World War.

The use of granite to form a strong and durable envelope for the is lighthouse serves as a convincing application. Details of the lighthouse and use of granite exported to the rock is attached in the Appendix.

Figure 3.52 The map showing the location of Gap Rock and photo of the lighthouse built in 1892

Phot 3.13 The lighthouse compound and the gGap

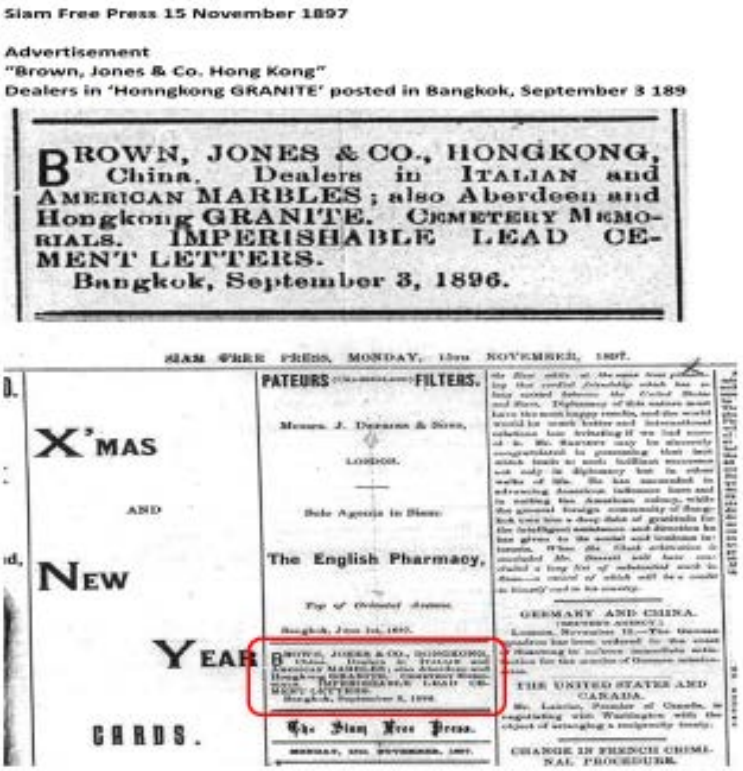
Photo 3.14 The granite cladding to the lighthouse compound

Photo 3.15 The granite facing and damages from the War

Advertisement by “Brown, Jones & Co., Hong Kong, China, dated 3 September 1896.”

Dealers in Italian and American marbles, also Aberdeen and Hong Kong Granite. The advertisement was posted in Siam Free Press, Bangkok, on 15 November 1896.

Siam
1896


Siam Free Press 15 November 1897

Advertisement
"Brown, Jones & Co. Hong Kong"
Dealers in 'Honngkong GRANITE' posted in Bangkok, September 3 189

BROWN, JONES & CO., HONGKONG, China. Dealers in ITALIAN and AMERICAN MARBLES; also Aberdeen and Hongkong GRANITE. CEMETERY MEMORIALS. IMPERISHABLE LEAD CEMENT LETTERS.
Bangkok, September 3, 1896.

SIAM FREE PRESS, MONDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

PATEURS FILTERS.

Messrs. J. Defriess & Sons,

LONDON.

Sole Agents in Siam:

The English Pharmacy,

Bangkok, June 1st, 1895.

BROWN, JONES & CO., HONGKONG, China. Dealers in ITALIAN and AMERICAN MARBLES; also Aberdeen and Hongkong GRANITE. CEMETERY MEMORIALS. IMPERISHABLE LEAD CEMENT LETTERS.
Bangkok, September 3, 1896.

The Siam Free Press.

MONDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

X'MAS AND NEW YEAR CARDS.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

CHANGE IN FRENCH CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Figure 3.52 Brown, Jones & Co., of Hong Kong as dealers for Hong Kong granite in 1896

Summary of Export of Hong Kong Granite Products to China and Overseas

Table 3.4 Export of Hong Kong granite

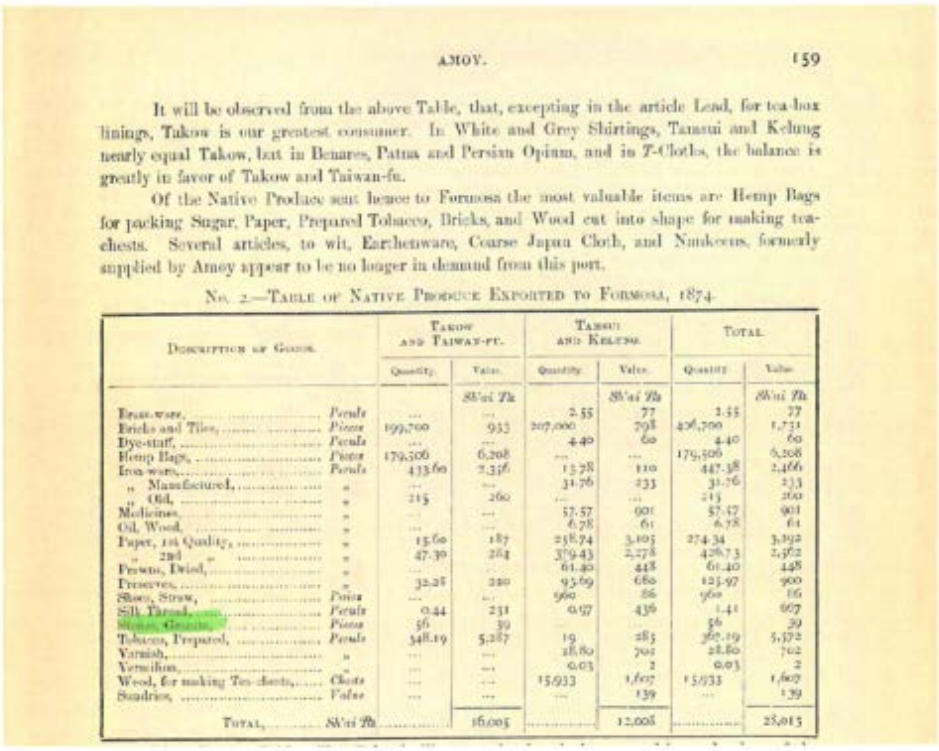
Year	Description of products	Location of city and country	Remarks / Reference
1840s to early 1900s	Granite	Overseas ports trading with Hong Kong	Ballast in chambers of foreign vessels exporting Chinese tea / products overseas
1847	Granite stone 70 tons	India	HK Blue Book
1851	Granite stone	San Francisco USA - 4,498 nos. and East Coast of China – 4 pieces	HK Blue Book
1852	Granite stones	San Francisco USA – 2,106 nos.	HK Blue Book
1853	Granite stone 31 tons	New South Wales, Australia	HK Blue Book
1853	Granite stone 324 tons	USA	HK Blue Book
1854	Granite (Blocks)	USA; New South Wales; East Coast of China and Manila recorded as 9,145 nos., 570 tons; 375 nos., 247 tons; 283 nos. and 150 nos. respectively	HK Blue Book
1855	Granite (Blocks)	New South Wales Australia 620 nos.	HK Blue Book
1855	Granite (Blocks)	Siam 600 nos.	HK Blue Book
1875	Granite from Hong Kong. Importation of 294 pieces granite,	California USA	Daily Alta California advertisement
1876	Chinese Granite curb stone and paving stone from Hong Kong.	California USA	Daily Alta California, Lai Hing Lung & Co advertisement
1879	S.S. Thales brought 16,000 blocks of granite from Hong Kong	Sydney Australia	Australian Town and Country Journal advertisement
1885	Granite from Hong Kong for street paving	Portland, Oregon USA	San Jose Mercury News advertisement
1889	580,662 pieces of stone slabs and 584,464 pieces of stone granite	Import into Kowloon Customs - Passing Capsuimoon station Kowloon	Chinese Maritime Customs trade reports
1891	628,966 pieces of stone slabs and 432,441 pieces of stone granite	Import into Kowloon Customs - Passing Capsuimoon station Kowloon	Chinese Maritime Customs trade reports
1892	Invitation to supply Hong Kong granite stone for pavement for construction of new port in Manila	Manila Philippines	China Mail Hong Kong advertisement – appeared Newcastle

			Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW)
1897	Dealer in "Hong Kong Granite" posted in Bangkok newspaper	Brown, Jones & Co Hong Kong	Siam Free Press Advertisement in Bangkok 1897
1898	484,929 pieces of stone slabs and 379,564 pieces of stone granite	Import into Kowloon Customs - Passing Capsuimoon station Kowloon	Chinese maritime customs trade reports for Kowloon
1899-1912	Stones quarried from Chu Lu Kok at Lantao and near Lung Ku Tan at Castle Ppeak and Deep Bay sell stones for paving.	Canton and the West River	District Officer Orme Report on New Territories
1904	373,502 pieces of stone slabs and 361,845 pieces of stone granite	Import into Kowloon Customs - Passing Capsuimoon station Kowloon	Chinese maritime customs trade reports for Kowloon
1900s	Hong Kong Granite had been sent to …	Shanghai, Philippines and Singapore	Dr. S G Davis Talk – SCMP 1953 Mar 7

3.5 Chinese Maritime Customs Services Publications

Reports on Trade at the Treaty Ports in China

The following are trade reports showing the granite stone exported.



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It will be observed from the above Table, that, excepting in the article Lead, for tea-box linings, Takow is our greatest consumer. In White and Grey Shirtings, Tamsui and Kelung nearly equal Takow, but in Benares, Patna and Persian Opium, and in T-Cloths, the balance is greatly in favor of Takow and Taiwan-fu.

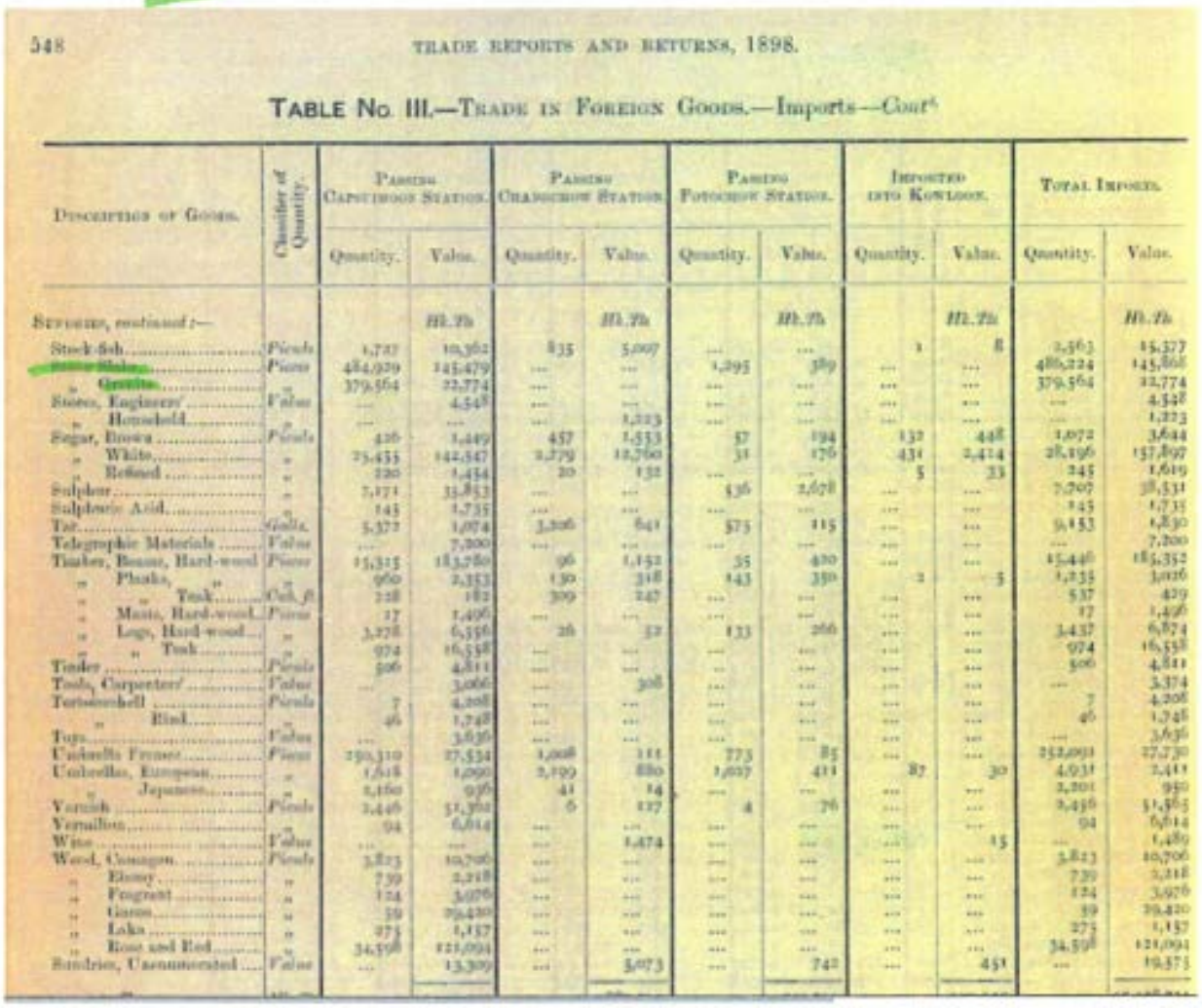
Of the Native Produce sent hence to Formosa the most valuable items are Hemp Bags for packing Sugar, Paper, Prepared Tobacco, Bricks, and Wood cut into shape for making tea-chests. Several articles, to wit, Earthenware, Coarse Japan Cloth, and Nankeens, formerly supplied by Amoy appear to be no longer in demand from this port.

No. 2.—Table of Native Produce Exported to Formosa, 1874.

Description of Goods.		Takow and Taiwan-fu.		Tamsui and Kelung.		Total.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Sh'ai Tls.		Sh'ai Tls.		Sh'ai Tls.
Earthenware,	Pculs	...	...	2.55	77	2.55	77
Bricks and Tiles,	Pieces	199,700	933	207,000	798	406,700	1,731
Dye-stuff,	Pculs	...	...	4.40	60	4.40	60
Hemp Bags,	Pieces	179,506	6,208	...	...	179,506	6,208
Iron-ware,	Pculs	433.60	2,356	15.78	110	447.38	2,466
„ Manufactured,	„	...	...	31.76	233	31.76	233
„ Old,	„	215	260	...	...	215	260
Medicines,	„	...	...	57.57	901	57.57	901
Oil, Wood,	„	...	...	6.78	61	6.78	61
Paper, 1st Quality,	„	15.60	187	258.74	3,105	274.34	3,292
„ 2nd „	„	47.30	284	379.43	2,278	426.73	2,562
Prawns, Dried,	„	...	...	61.40	448	61.40	448
Preserves,	„	32.28	220	93.69	680	125.97	900
Shoes, Straw,	Pairs	...	...	960	86	960	86
Silk, Tarred,	Pculs	0.44	231	0.97	436	1.41	667
Stone, Granite,	Pieces	56	39	...	...	56	39
Tobacco, Prepared,	Pculs	348.19	5,287	19	285	367.19	5,572
Varnish,	„	...	...	28.80	702	28.80	702
Vermilion,	„	...	...	0.03	2	0.03	2
Wood, for making Tea-chests,	Chests	...	...	15,933	1,607	15,933	1,607
Sundries,	Value	...	...	...	139	...	139
Total,	Sh'ai Tls.		16,005		12,008		28,013

Figure 3.53 1874 Amoy Port - Table of native produce exported to Formosa. 56 pieces of granite stone.

- 1898 Kowloon Port – trade in foreign goods



548 TRADE REPORTS AND RETURNS, 1898.

TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Cont^d

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Number of Quantity.	PASSING CAPSUIMOON STATION.		PASSING CHANGCHOW STATION.		PASSING FOTOCHOW STATION.		IMPORTED INTO KOWLOON.		TOTAL IMPORTS.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
SUNDRIES, continued:—			H.Tls		H.Tls		H.Tls		H.Tls		H.Tls
Stock-fish	Piculs	1,727	10,362	835	5,007	...	...	1	8	2,563	15,377
Stone Slabs	Pieces	484,929	145,479	...	...	1,295	389	...	...	486,224	145,868
" Granite	"	379,564	22,774	...	...	...	...	...	...	379,564	22,774
Stores, Engineers'	Value	...	4,548	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,548
" Household	"	...	...	...	1,223	...	...	...	...	...	1,223
Sugar, Brown	Piculs	426	1,449	457	1,553	57	194	132	448	1,072	3,644
" White	"	25,435	142,547	2,779	12,760	31	176	431	2,414	28,196	157,897
" Refined	"	220	1,434	20	132	...	...	5	33	245	1,619
Sulphur	"	1,171	3,853	...	...	436	2,678	...	...	1,607	6,531
Sulphuric Acid	"	143	1,735	...	...	...	...	...	...	143	1,735
Tar	Gallons	5,377	1,074	3,206	641	575	115	...	...	9,158	1,830
Telegraphic Materials	Value	...	7,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,200
Timber, Beams, Hard-wood	Pieces	15,315	183,780	96	1,152	35	420	...	...	15,446	185,352
" Planks, "	"	960	2,353	130	318	143	350	2	5	1,235	3,026
" " Teak	Cub. ft	228	182	309	247	...	...	...	...	537	429
" Masts, Hard-wood	Pieces	17	1,496	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1,496
" Logs, Hard-wood	"	3,778	6,356	28	52	133	266	...	...	3,437	6,674
" " Teak	"	974	16,558	...	...	...	...	...	...	974	16,558
Tinder	Piculs	506	4,811	...	...	...	...	...	...	506	4,811
Tools, Carpenters'	Value	...	3,066	...	308	...	...	...	...	...	3,374
Tortoiseshell	Piculs	7	4,208	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	4,208
" Rind	"	46	1,748	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	1,748
Toys	Value	...	3,636	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,636
Umbrella Frames	Pieces	250,310	17,534	1,008	111	773	85	...	...	252,091	17,730
Umbrellas, European	"	1,618	1,090	2,199	880	1,027	411	87	30	4,931	2,411
" Japanese	"	2,160	936	41	14	...	...	...	...	2,201	950
Varnish	Piculs	2,446	51,366	6	137	4	76	...	...	2,456	51,579
Vermilion	"	94	6,614	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	6,614
Wine	Value	...	...	...	1,474	...	...	...	15	...	1,489
Wood, Camagon	Piculs	3,823	10,706	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,823	10,706
" Ebony	"	739	2,218	...	...	...	...	...	...	739	2,218
" Fragrant	"	124	3,976	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	3,976
" Garoe	"	59	29,420	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	29,420
" Laka	"	275	1,157	...	...	...	...	...	...	275	1,157
" Rose and Red	"	34,598	121,094	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,598	121,094
Sundries, Unenumerated	Value	...	13,309	...	5,073	...	742	...	451	...	19,575

Figure 3.54 Goods passing Capsuimoon Station and Fotochow Station in 1898

Stone slabs 484,929 pieces 1,295 pieces

Granite 379,564 pieces

Commercial Reports by Her Majesty's Consults in China

1885 Amoy Report – Trade in native produce – exports and re-exports

Description of Goods.	Character of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong (Destination uncertain).		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—			£		£		£		£		£
Lungngans, dried	Lbs.	298,155	3,350	1,600	16	312,294	5,796	38,299	609	670,159	7,762
Mats, straw	Pieces	3,366	83	..	..	..	..	63,459	1,462	66,856	1,545
Medicines	Lbs.	86,225	926	8,901	417	109,210	1,120	4,095	43	208,341	2,542
Nankeens	..	83	6	..	..	17,282	1,590	29,297	2,069	46,672	3,665
Oysters, dried	..	247,257	4,432	2,661	44	8,697	141	..	..	258,625	4,224
Paper, 1st quality	..	1,545,864	30,133	194,797	4,815	224,915	3,561	864	22	1,966,470	48,533
" 2nd "	..	3,063,961	37,670	13,500	164	62,517	779	..	..	3,139,868	38,812
Preserves	..	93,643	1,525	41,416	692	418,697	6,904	1,315	22	554,401	9,137
Samshu, medicated	..	516,932	7,043	38,277	532	1,834	49	..	..	559,143	7,625
Seed, vegetable	..	14,433	135	19,095	315	57,769	932	..	..	91,296	1,382
Sesamum-seed cake	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63,636	1,909	63,636	1,909
Shoes, cotton and silk	Pairs	22,975	3,160	..	..	269	37	5	1	23,249	3,198
Stones, granite	Pieces	22,627	1,278	..	..	109	10	..	..	22,736	1,288
Sugar, brown	Lbs.	..	..	1,633,171	6,419	19,675,672	81,591	21,440	88	21,330,283	88,098
" candy	"	696,100	8,109	4,911,332	56,815	9,830,684	112,524	..	..	15,437,916	177,508
" white	"	..	..	..	..	2,718,475	25,940	..	..	2,718,475	25,940
Teawood planks	Boxes	..	..	..	..	349,432	5,764	..	..	349,432	5,764
Tiles, flooring	Pieces	2,868,895	4,964	..	..	74,320	107	..	..	2,943,215	5,071
Tobacco, prepared	Lbs.	547,777	16,353	10,453	301	94,215	2,900	..	..	652,444	19,547
Turnips, salt	"	774,896	3,114	..	..	..	..	..	..	774,896	3,114
Vermicelli	"	1,916,165	12,202	15,855	78	3,251	23	18,261	159	1,953,553	12,454
Wood-ware	"	36,745	1,515	..	..	..	..	..	..	36,745	1,515
Miscellaneous	Value	..	14,371	..	1,180	..	8,459	..	5,729	..	30,039
Total	Value	..	344,475	..	90,982	..	287,595	..	479,904	..	1,372,52[illegible]

(Signed) R. J. FORREST, *Consul.*

Figure 3.55 Exports of stone granite pieces in Amoy in 1885

Export to Foreign Countries	Export to Chinese Ports
2,627 (1,278 British pounds)	109 (10 British pounds)

Return of Trade and Trade Reports Part II

1891 – Kowloon Port Table No. III - Trade in foreign goods – import

KOWLOON. 479

TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Contd.

Description of Goods.	Quantities of Quantity.	Passing Capsuimoon Station. Quantity.	Value.	Passing Changchow Station. Quantity.	Value.	Passing Fotochow Station. Quantity.	Value.	Imported into Kowloon. Quantity.	Value.	Total Imports. Quantity.	Value.
Sundries, continued:—			Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.
Oars, Unfinished	Pieces	1,323	1,098	1,558	1,278	16	13	...	...	2,897	2,389
Oil, Kerosene, American	Galls.	3,528,252	492,096	644,195	90,187	358,280	50,159	5,652	791	4,536,379	635,093
" " Russian	"	97,094	11,051	6,700	804	230	28	960	115	[illegible]	[illegible]
" Camphor	Piculs	16 13	323	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 13	323
" Castor	"	275 17	2,477	...	...	...	...	...	...	275 17	2,477
" Ginger	"	6 45	710	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 45	710
" Peppermint	"	21 32	4,008	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 32	4,008
" Sandalwood	"	1 38	621	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 38	621
Onions	"	466 23	1,399	11 56	35	...	...	...	...	477 79	1,434
Ore, Refuse	"	986 50	5,019	...	...	...	...	...	...	986 50	5,019
Paddy	"	1,296,978 16	1,556,374	68,144 40	81,773	8 25	10	...	...	1,365,131 21	1,638,157
Paints, Assorted	"	107 59	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	107 59	700
Paper, 1st Quality	"	297 48	4,462	...	...	...	...	...	...	297 48	4,462
Pepper, Black	"	1,238 18	16,096	1 50	20	37 05	482	0 20	3	1,276 93	16,601
" White	"	734 72	17,736	1	24	14 68	345	0 80	19	751 20	18,124
Potatoes	"	1,332 88	2,666	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,332 88	2,666
Prawns and Shrimps, Dried	"	2,102 33	28,198	2,992 80	40,124	49 98	670	6 15	85	5,151 26	69,057
Putchuck	"	54 23	884	...	...	8 30	135	...	...	62 53	1,019
Raisins	"	2,414 93	35,319	536 40	4,289	167 21	1,338	8 10	65	3,126 64	41,011
Rattans, Whole	"	38,934 65	140,237	2,021 77	7,278	710 89	2,559	6 29	23	41,673 60	150,097
" Split	"	1,123 11	12,808	3,352 27	30,171	184 48	1,660	7 72	69	4,667 58	44,708
Rice	"	7,638,744 39	3,958,117	331,040 36	497,416	80,178 22	120,257	44,076 60	66,115	[illegible]	4,641,905
Rope, European and Manila	"	165 39	2,041	...	...	...	...	...	...	165 39	2,041
Rose Maloes	"	21 35	615	1 38	40	...	...	...	...	22 73	655
Sofas, Iron	Pieces	31	456	29	383	...	...	...	...	60	839
Sago	Piculs	144 51	306	842 91	2,050	97 13	300	...	...	1,084 55	2,796
Salt	"	137,170 82	96,306	15,629 55	10,941	5,960 15	4,172	342	239	[illegible]	111,658
Saltpetre	"	36,132 22	317,964	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,132 22	317,964
Sandalwood	"	17,071 50	141,093	414 26	3,437	545 61	4,530	1 40	12	18,032 77	149,072
Sapanwood	"	29,374 02	58,748	206 56	413	47 95	96	...	...	29,628 53	59,257
Scales	Pieces	73	1,454	11	154	...	...	...	...	84	1,608
Seaweed, Red	Piculs	1,850 77	4,173	163 36	360	1,310 94	2,906	...	...	3,325 07	7,439
Sharks' Fins, Black	"	394 87	7,382	...	...	0 23	5	...	...	395 10	7,387
" " White	"	2,641 21	129,419	3 66	179	0 70	34	...	...	2,645 57	129,632
Silk, Yellow	"	53 90	12,606	...	...	...	...	...	...	53 90	12,606
" Piece Goods	"	6 47	1,554	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 47	1,554
Skins (Furs), Land-otter	Pieces	2,773	1,802	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,773	1,802
" " Dog	"	3,799	1,520	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,799	1,520
" " Sheep	"	42	21	...	...	...	...	972	486	1,014	507
Soap	Piculs	150 95	730	205 14	1,193	8 52	38	4 39	20	[illegible]	1,981
Socks and Stockings (Pairs)	Dozens	2,483	1,450	117	70	70	42	114	68	2,784	1,630
Soy	Piculs	730 36	2,550	...	...	...	...	...	...	730 36	2,550
Stock-fish	"	5,730 79	30,946	2,514 82	13,580	...	...	0 62	3	8,246 23	44,529
Stone Slabs	Pieces	628,966	157,242	...	...	...	...	...	...	628,966	157,242
" Granite	"	432,441	21,622	...	...	...	...	...	...	432,441	21,622
Sugar, White	Piculs	12,923 17	67,306	546 83	2,844	109 78	571	169 09	879	13,748 87	71,600
Sulphur	"	7,410 21	55,577	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,410 21	55,577
Sulphuric Acid	"	303 23	2,426	...	...	...	...	...	...	303 23	2,426
Tar	Galls.	4,374	1,094	2,012	503	155	39	...	...	6,541	1,636
Timber, Beams, Hard-wood	Pieces	14,906	119,248	1,397	11,176	116	928	...	...	16,419	131,352
" " Soft-wood	"	103	1,545	...	...	...	...	...	...	103	1,545
" Planks, Hard-wood	"	3,601	9,003	687	1,718	56	140	153	383	4,497	11,244
" " Teak	Cub. ft.	52,159	41,727	...	...	...	...	...	...	52,159	41,727
" Logs, Hard-wood	Pieces	951	1,214	...	...	...	...	...	...	951	1,214
" " Teak	"	1,279	25,580	164	3,280	...	...	...	...	1,443	28,860
Tinder	Piculs	1,397 39	8,384	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,397 39	8,384
Tortoiseshell	"	8 99	5,124	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 99	5,124
" Rind	"	31 30	939	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 30	939
Toys	Value	...	1,268	...	80	...	1	...	...	...	1,349

Figure 3.56 Export of granite at Kowloon Port passing Capsuimoon Station in 1891

	Pieces	Value (HKTls)
Stone Slab	628,966	157,242
Stone granite	432,441	21,662

Returns of Trade reports and returns 1891 reports Part II – reports and statistics for each port

1889 Kowloon Trade report – Table No III – Trade in foreign goods – imports – passing Capsuimoon Station

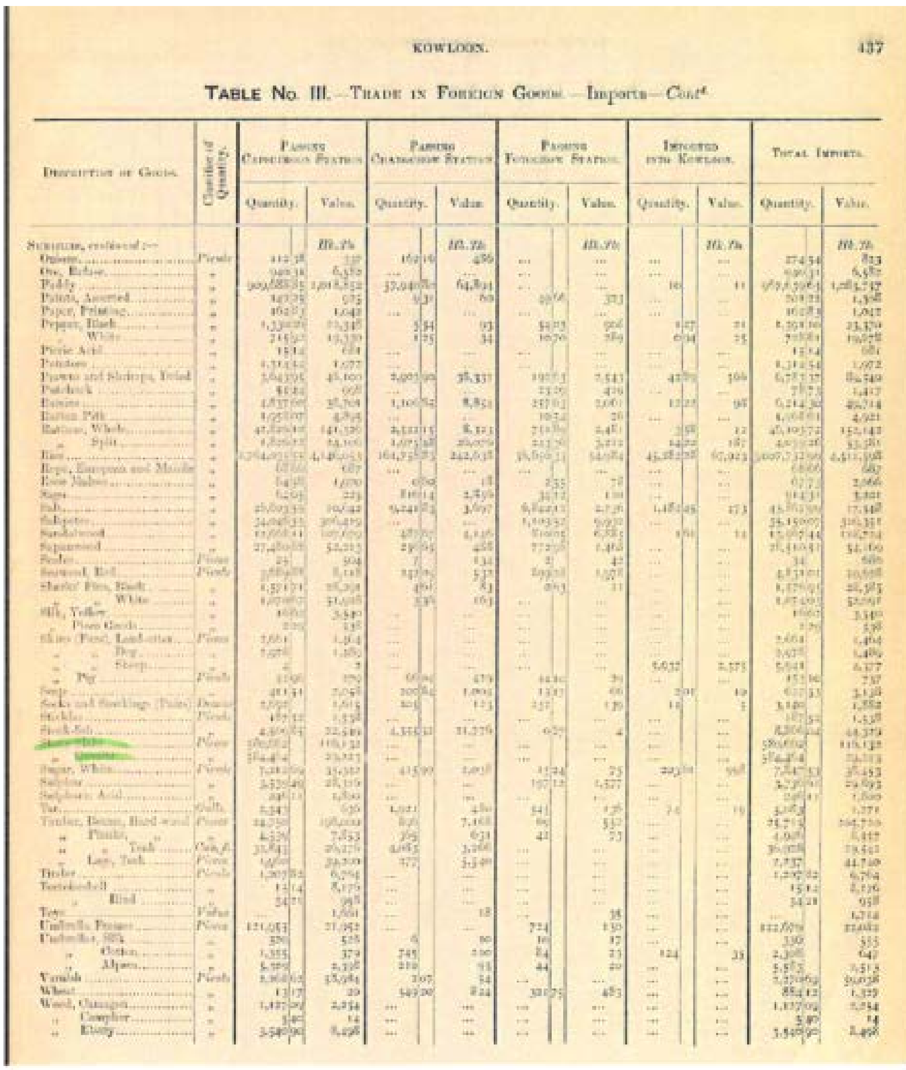

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TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Cont'd.

Description of Goods.	Quantities of Quantity.	Passing Capsuimoon Station: Quantity.	Passing Capsuimoon Station: Value.	Passing Changchow Station: Quantity.	Passing Changchow Station: Value.	Passing Fotowchow Station: Quantity.	Passing Fotowchow Station: Value.	Imported into Kowloon: Quantity.	Imported into Kowloon: Value.	Total Imports: Quantity.	Total Imports: Value.

Passing Capuimoon station: Stone slabs 580,662 pieces; Stone Granite 584,464 pieces

Note: HK.Tls = Haikwan Tael, was used as the official Customs currency

Figure 3.57 Goods passing Capsuimoon Station in 1889

Stone slab 580,662 pieces

Stone granite 584,464 pieces

1891 Kowloon Trade returns – Table No III – Trade in foreign goods – Imports

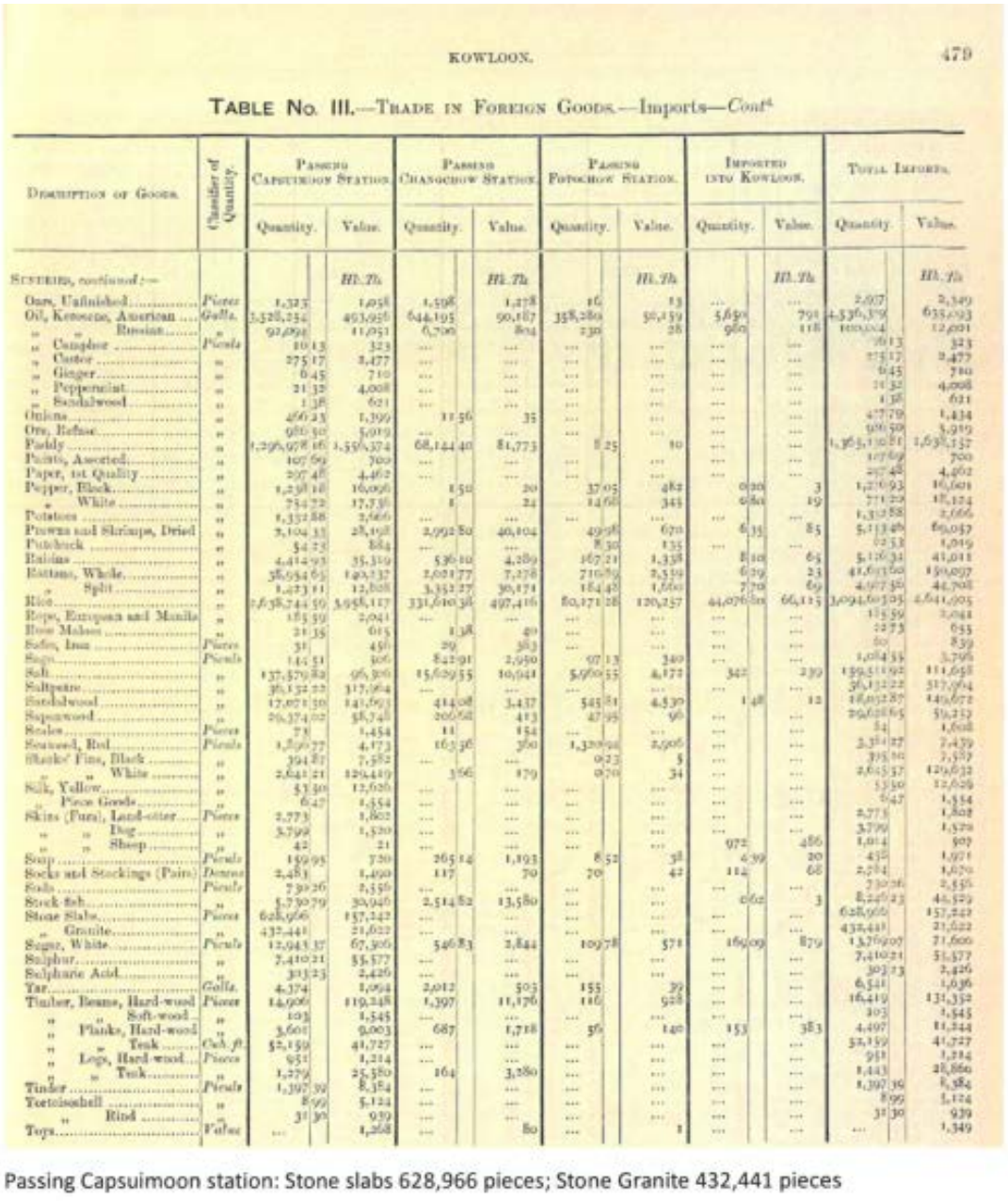

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TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Cont^d.

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Number of Quantity.	PASSING CAPSUIMOON STATION.		PASSING CHANGCHOW STATION.		PASSING FOTSCHOW STATION.		IMPORTED INTO KOWLOON.		TOTAL IMPORTS.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
SUNDRIES, continued:—			Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.
Oars, Unfinished	Pieces	1,325	1,058	1,598	1,278	16	13	...	...	2,937	2,349
Oil, Kerosene, American	Gallons.	3,328,254	493,956	644,195	90,187	358,280	50,159	5,691	791	4,336,379	635,093
" " Russian	"	92,092	11,051	6,700	804	230	28	960	118	100,004	12,001
" Camphor	Piculs	10 13	323	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 13	323
" Castor	"	275 17	2,477	...	...	...	...	...	...	275 17	2,477
" Ginger	"	0 45	720	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 45	720
" Peppermint	"	21 32	4,008	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 32	4,008
" Sandalwood	"	1 38	621	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 38	621
Onions	"	456 23	1,399	11 56	35	...	...	...	...	467 79	1,434
Ore, Refuse	"	980 50	5,019	...	...	...	...	...	...	980 50	5,019
Paddy	"	1,296,978 16	1,556,374	68,124 40	81,773	1 25	10	...	...	1,365,110 81	1,638,157
Paints, Assorted	"	107 69	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	107 69	700
Paper, 1st Quality	"	207 48	4,462	...	...	...	...	...	...	207 48	4,462
Pepper, Black	"	1,238 10	16,096	1 50	20	37 05	482	0 20	3	1,276 85	16,601
" White	"	784 72	17,338	1	24	14 66	343	0 82	19	771 20	17,124
Potatoes	"	1,332 88	2,666	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,332 88	2,666
Prawns and Shrimps, Dried	"	3,104 33	28,198	2,992 80	40,804	49 98	670	6 35	85	5,153 46	69,057
Putchuck	"	54 73	884	...	...	8 30	135	...	...	63 03	1,019
Raisins	"	4,414 93	35,319	536 10	4,289	167 21	1,338	8 10	65	5,126 34	41,011
Rattans, Whole	"	38,594 65	140,132	2,001 77	7,278	710 89	2,559	6 29	23	41,613 60	150,037
" Split	"	1,273 11	12,808	3,353 27	30,171	184 43	1,660	7 70	69	4,977 56	44,708
Rice	"	1,638,744 59	3,956,117	331,610 36	497,416	80,171 28	120,257	44,076 00	66,115	3,094,602 03	4,641,905
Rope, European and Manila	"	185 59	2,041	...	...	...	...	...	...	185 59	2,041
Rose Maloes	"	21 35	615	1 38	40	...	...	...	...	22 73	655
Safes, Iron	Pieces	31	450	29	383	...	...	...	...	60	839
Sago	Piculs	144 51	306	842 91	2,990	97 13	340	...	...	1,084 55	3,796
Salt	"	137,579 82	96,306	15,629 55	10,941	5,960 55	4,172	342	239	159,511 92	111,658
Saltpetre	"	36,132 22	317,964	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,132 22	317,964
Sandalwood	"	17,071 30	141,693	414 08	3,437	545 81	4,530	1 48	12	18,032 87	149,672
Sapanwood	"	20,374 02	58,746	200 62	413	47 99	96	...	...	20,622 63	59,255
Scales	Pieces	73	1,454	11	154	...	...	...	...	84	1,608
Seaweed, Red	Piculs	1,530 77	4,173	163 36	360	1,320 00	2,906	...	...	3,014 13	7,439
Skins' Fins, Black	"	394 81	7,582	...	...	92 3	5	...	...	395 10	7,587
" White	"	2,641 21	120,449	3 56	179	9 70	34	...	...	2,654 47	120,662
Silk, Yellow	"	53 30	12,020	...	...	...	...	...	...	53 30	12,020
" Piece Goods	"	0 47	1,554	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 47	1,554
Skins (Furs), Land-otter	Pieces	2,773	1,802	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,773	1,802
" " Dog	"	3,799	1,520	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,799	1,520
" " Sheep	"	42	21	...	...	...	...	972	486	1,014	507
Soap	Piculs	159 95	730	265 14	1,193	8 52	38	4 39	20	438	1,971
Socks and Stockings (Pairs)	Dozens	2,483	1,490	117	70	70	42	114	68	2,784	1,670
Soda	Piculs	7 30 26	2,556	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 30 26	2,556
Stock-fish	"	5,730 79	30,946	2,514 82	13,580	...	...	0 62	3	8,246 23	44,529
Stone Slabs	Pieces	628,966	157,242	...	...	...	...	...	...	628,966	157,242
" Granite	"	432,441	21,622	...	...	...	...	...	...	432,441	21,622
Sugar, White	Piculs	12,943 37	67,306	546 83	2,844	109 78	571	169 09	879	13,769 07	71,600
Sulphur	"	7,410 21	55,577	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,410 21	55,577
Sulphuric Acid	"	303 23	2,426	...	...	...	...	...	...	303 23	2,426
Tar	Gallons.	4,374	1,094	2,012	503	155	39	...	...	6,541	1,636
Timber, Beams, Hard-wood	Pieces	14,906	119,248	1,397	11,176	116	928	...	...	16,419	131,352
" " Soft-wood	"	193	1,545	...	...	...	...	...	...	193	1,545
" Planks, Hard-wood	"	3,601	9,003	687	1,718	56	140	153	383	4,497	11,244
" " Teak	Cub. ft.	32,159	41,727	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,159	41,727
" Logs, Hard-wood	Pieces	951	1,214	...	...	...	...	...	...	951	1,214
" " Teak	"	1,279	25,580	164	3,280	...	...	...	...	1,443	28,860
Tinder	Piculs	1,397 39	8,384	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,397 39	8,384
Tortoiseshell	"	8 99	5,124	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 99	5,124
" Rind	"	31 30	939	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 30	939
Toys	Values	...	1,268	...	80	...	1	...	...	...	1,349

Passing Capsuimoon station: Stone slabs 628,966 pieces; Stone Granite 432,441 pieces

Figure 3.58 Goods passing Capsuimoon Station in 1891

Stone slab 628,966 pieces

Stone granite 432,441 pieces

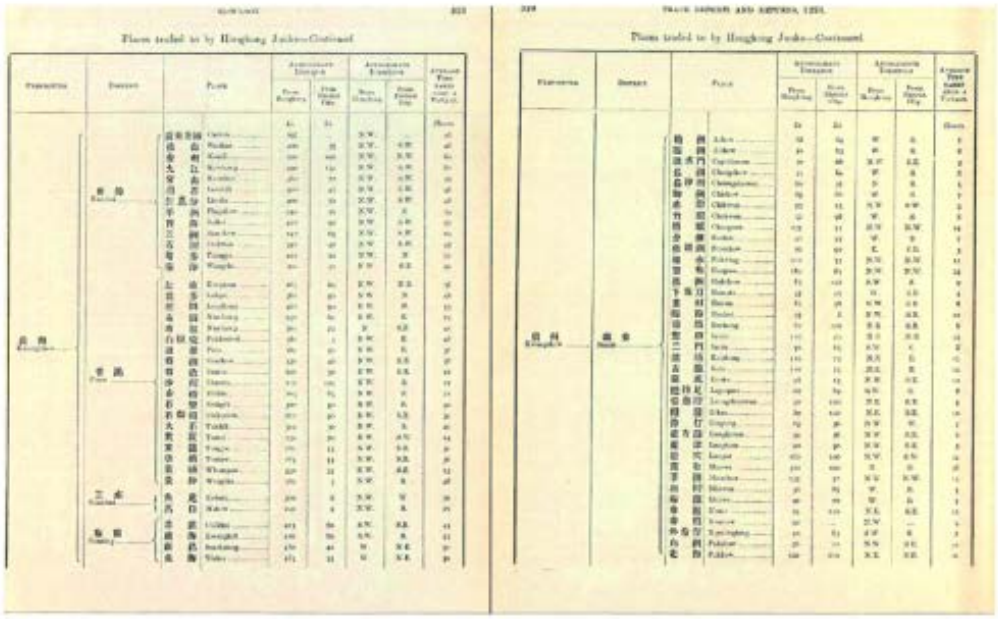
1891 Special tables – Table No. 12 – Itinerary of Hong Kong Junks to China Ports, note the various places within Kwangchow which are well known to Hong Kong

TABLE No. 12.—ITINERARY OF HONGKONG JUNK TRADE.

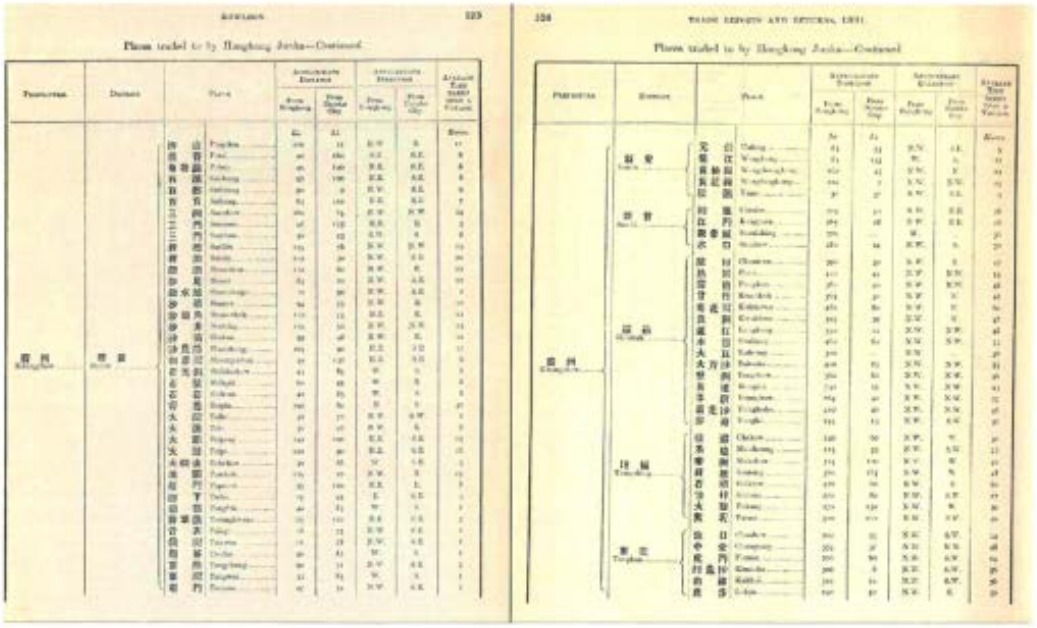
Places traded to by Hongkong Junks, with Approximate Distances and Directions.

Prefecture.	District.	Place.		Approximate Distance		Approximate Direction		Average Time taken upon a Voyage.
				From Hongkong.	From District City.	From Hongkong.	From District City.	
				Li.	Li.			Hours.
潮州 Chiuchow	饒平 Jauping	拓林	Chelam	500	60	N.E.	E.	108
		神泉	Shantsun	550	70	N.E.	E.	108
		寶岡	Wongkong	530	80	N.E.	E.	108
	澄海 Chenghai	汕頭	Swatow	480	40	N.E.	S.E.	96
	惠來 Waichi	神泉	Shantsun	380	15	N.E.	S.W.	75
		東港	Tunghong	310	36	N.E.	S.E.	70
惠州 Waichow	陸豐 Lukfung	金廂	Kamsoung	250	25	N.E.	S.E.	48
		甲子	Kapts	275	51	N.E.	E.	72
		碣石	Kitshik	345	45	N.E.	S.E.	72
		烏埠	Uhom	315	20	N.E.	S.E.	48
		湖東	Utung	345	30	N.E.	S.E.	72
	海豐 Haifung	遮浪	Chelong	330	60	N.E.	S.	48
		長沙	Cheungsha	310	30	N.E.	S.W.	45
		鮜門	Hoimun	230	45	N.E.	S.W.	36
		梅隴	Muilung	230	35	N.E.	S.W.	30
		白沙湖	Pakshau	330	60	N.E.	S.E.	48
		汕尾	Shanmi	330	60	N.E.	S.E.	55
		青草	Tsingtso	310	33	N.E.	S.E.	48
		杜鬍	Tsinking	310	55	N.E.	S.E.	45
	歸善 Kwaishin	四澳	Anaow	190	90	N.E.	S.	40
		下涌	Hachung	150	60	N.E.	S.	35
		稔山	Namshan	205	54	N.E.	S.E.	48
		平海	Pinghoi	180	90	N.E.	S.E.	44
		小澳	Siuaok	180	115	N.E.	S.E.	48
		大澳	Taichow	171	110	N.E.	S.E.	36
		淡水	Tamshui	220	70	N.E.	S.	48
廣州 Kwangchow	香山 Heungshan	下灣	Hachak	120	22	N.W.	S.E.	12
		萬山	Manshan	70	120	S.W.	S.E.	10
		磨刀	Moto	165	39	N.W.	S.W.	17
		南朗	Namlong	145	30	N.W.	E.	15
		南面	[illegible]	180	20	W.	S.E.	24
		沙尾	Shami	200	60	N.W.	S.W.	30
		石岐	Shikki	220	3	N.W.	S.	22
		小欖	Siulam	250	30	N.W.	N.W.	48
		潭洲	Tamchow	260	50	N.W.	N.	36
		橫門	Wangmun	150	20	N.W.	N.E.	15

Figure 3.59 Itinerary of Hong Kong Junks to China Ports



Note: Capsuimoon, Changchow, Muiwo (existing Kap Shui Mun, Cheung Chau and Mui Wo)



Note: Taio, Tsingi, Tungchung, Tuanmun, (existing Tai O, Tung Chung, Tuen Mun)

Figure 3.60 Places traded to by Hong Kong junks : Capsuimoon, Changchow, Muiwo, Taio, Tungchung, Tuanmun

1898 Kowloon Trade report – Table No III – Trade in foreign goods – Imports

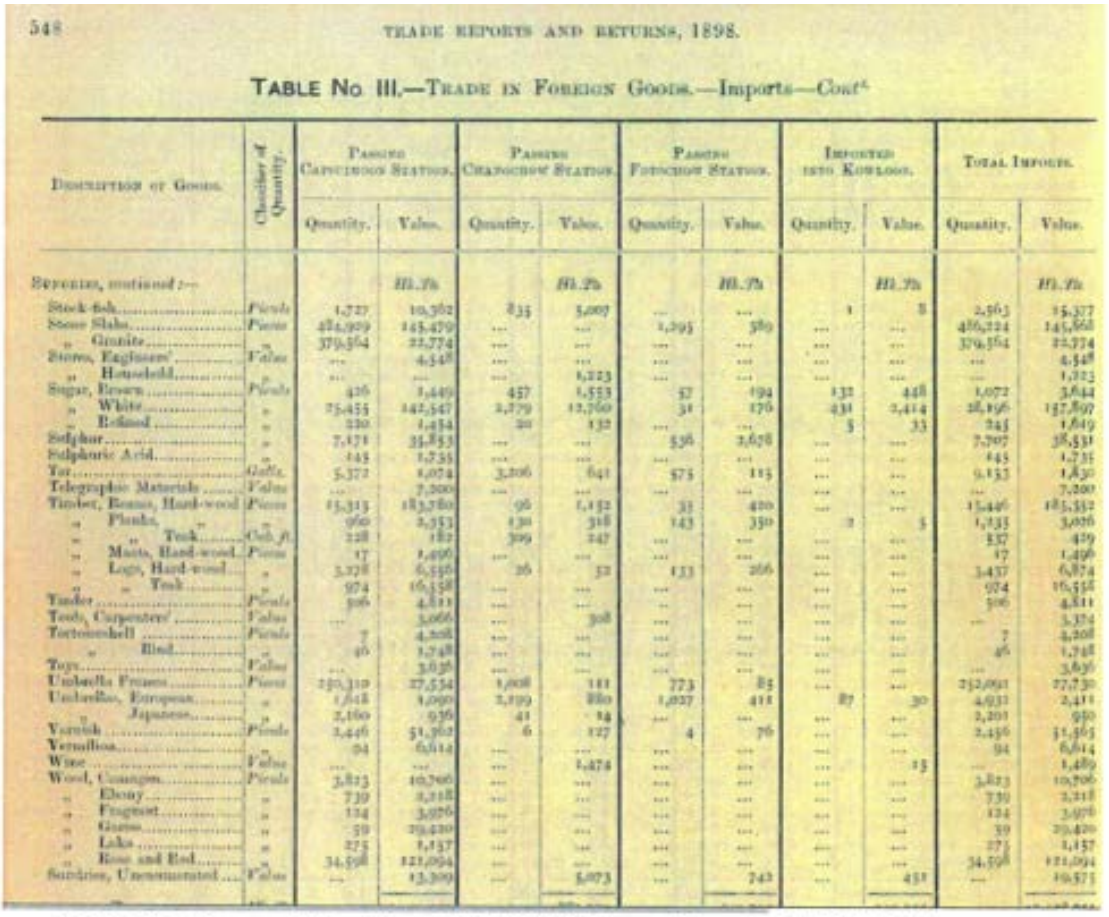


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TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Cont^d.

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Number or Quantity.	PASSING CAPSUIMOON STATION.		PASSING CHANOCHOW STATION.		PASSING FOTOCHOW STATION.		IMPORTED INTO KOWLOON.		TOTAL IMPORTS.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
SUNDRIES, enumerated :—			$.		$.		$.		$.		$.
Stock-fish	Piculs	1,727	10,362	835	5,007	...	...	1	5	2,563	15,377
Stone Slabs	Pieces	484,929	145,479	...	...	1,295	389	...	...	486,224	145,868
,, Granite	,,	379,564	22,774	...	...	...	...	...	...	379,564	22,774
Stores, Engineers'	Value	...	4,548	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,548
,, Household	,,	...	...	...	1,223	...	...	...	...	...	1,223
Sugar, Brown	Piculs	426	3,449	457	1,553	57	194	132	448	1,072	3,644
,, White	,,	25,455	142,547	2,779	12,760	31	176	231	2,414	28,496	157,897
,, Refined	,,	220	1,434	20	132	...	...	5	33	245	1,619
Sulphur	,,	7,171	35,853	...	...	536	2,678	...	...	7,707	38,531
Sulphuric Acid	,,	145	1,735	...	...	...	...	...	...	145	1,735
Tar	Gallons	5,372	1,074	3,206	641	575	115	...	...	9,153	1,830
Telegraphic Materials	Value	...	7,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,200
Timber, Beams, Hard-wood	Pieces	15,313	183,780	96	1,152	33	420	...	...	15,446	185,352
,, Planks, ,,	,,	960	2,353	130	318	143	350	2	5	1,235	3,026
,, ,, Teak	Cub. ft.	228	182	309	247	...	...	...	...	537	429
,, Masts, Hard-wood	Pieces	17	1,496	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1,496
,, Logs, Hard-wood	,,	3,328	6,656	26	52	133	266	...	...	3,487	6,974
,, ,, Teak	,,	974	16,558	...	...	...	...	...	...	974	16,558
Timber	Piculs	306	4,811	...	...	...	...	...	...	306	4,811
Tools, Carpenters'	Value	...	3,066	...	308	...	...	...	...	...	3,374
Tortoiseshell	Piculs	7	4,208	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	4,208
,, Bled	,,	46	1,748	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	1,748
Toys	Value	...	3,036	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,036
Umbrella Frames	Pieces	230,310	27,534	1,008	121	773	85	...	...	232,091	27,740
Umbrellas, European	,,	1,618	1,090	2,319	880	1,037	411	87	30	4,931	2,411
,, Japanese	,,	2,160	936	41	14	...	...	...	...	2,201	950
Varnish	Piculs	2,446	51,366	6	127	4	76	...	...	2,456	51,569
Vermilion	,,	94	6,014	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	6,014
Wine	Value	...	...	...	1,474	...	...	...	15	...	1,489
Wood, Camphor	Piculs	3,823	10,706	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,823	10,706
,, Ebony	,,	739	2,218	...	...	...	...	...	...	739	2,218
,, Fragrant	,,	124	3,976	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	3,976
,, Gamu	,,	59	29,420	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	29,420
,, Laka	,,	275	1,157	...	...	...	...	...	...	275	1,157
,, Rose and Red	,,	34,598	121,094	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,598	121,094
Sundries, Unenumerated	Value	...	13,309	...	5,073	...	743	...	451	...	19,571

Passing Capsuimoon station: Stone slabs 484,929 pieces; Stone Granite 379,564 pieces

Figure 3.61 Kowloon Trade Report – Quantity of stone passing Capsuimoon Station and Fotochow Station in 1898

	Capsuimoon	Fotochow
Stone Slabs	484,929 pieces	1,295 pieces
Stone granite	379,564 pieces	--

1898 Kowloon Trade report – A. General Tables – Table no. IVA – Trade in native produce imports, China to China

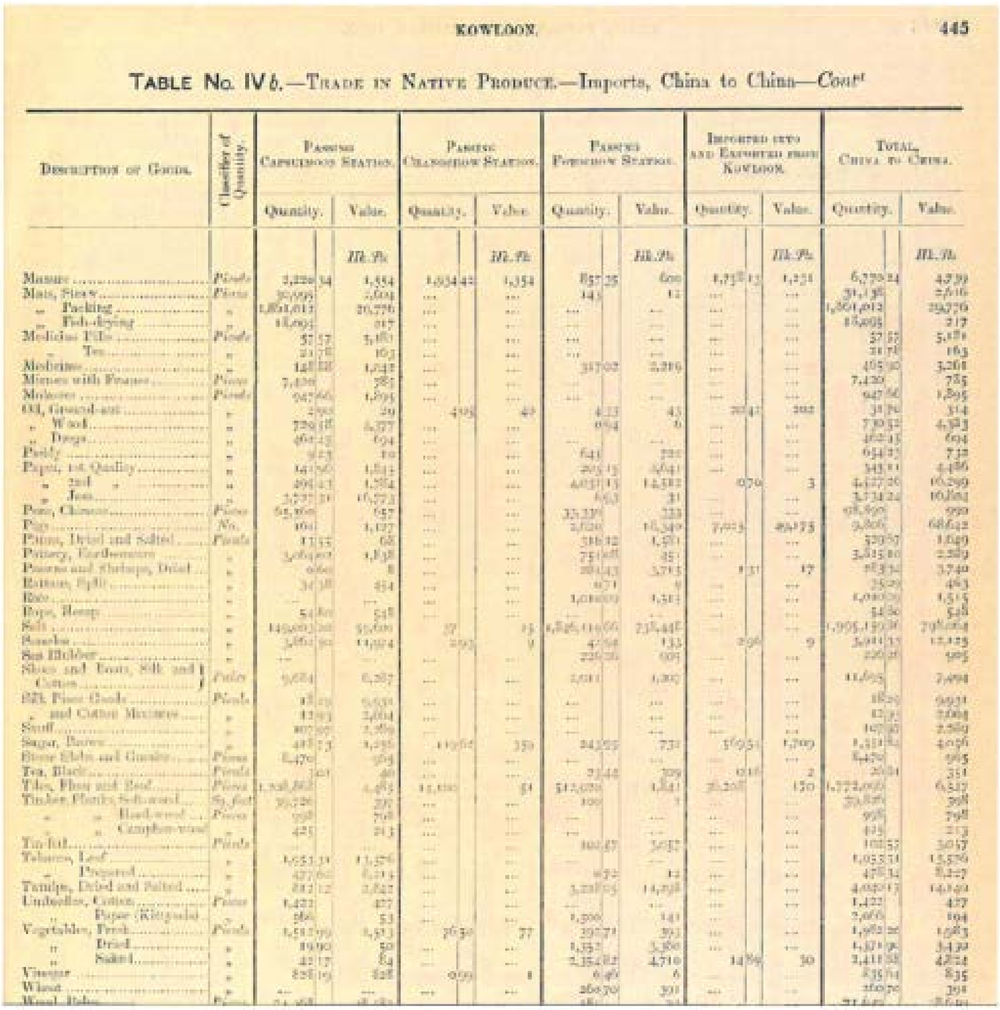
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TABLE No. IV*b*.—Trade in Native Produce.—Imports, China to China—Cont^d

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Passing Capsuimoon Station. Quantity.	Passing Capsuimoon Station. Value.	Passing Changchow Station. Quantity.	Passing Changchow Station. Value.	Passing Fowchow Station. Quantity.	Passing Fowchow Station. Value.	Imported into and Exported from Kowloon. Quantity.	Imported into and Exported from Kowloon. Value.	Total, China to China. Quantity.	Total, China to China. Value.
			Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.		Hk. Tls.

Passing Capsuimoon station: stone slabs and granite 8,470 pieces

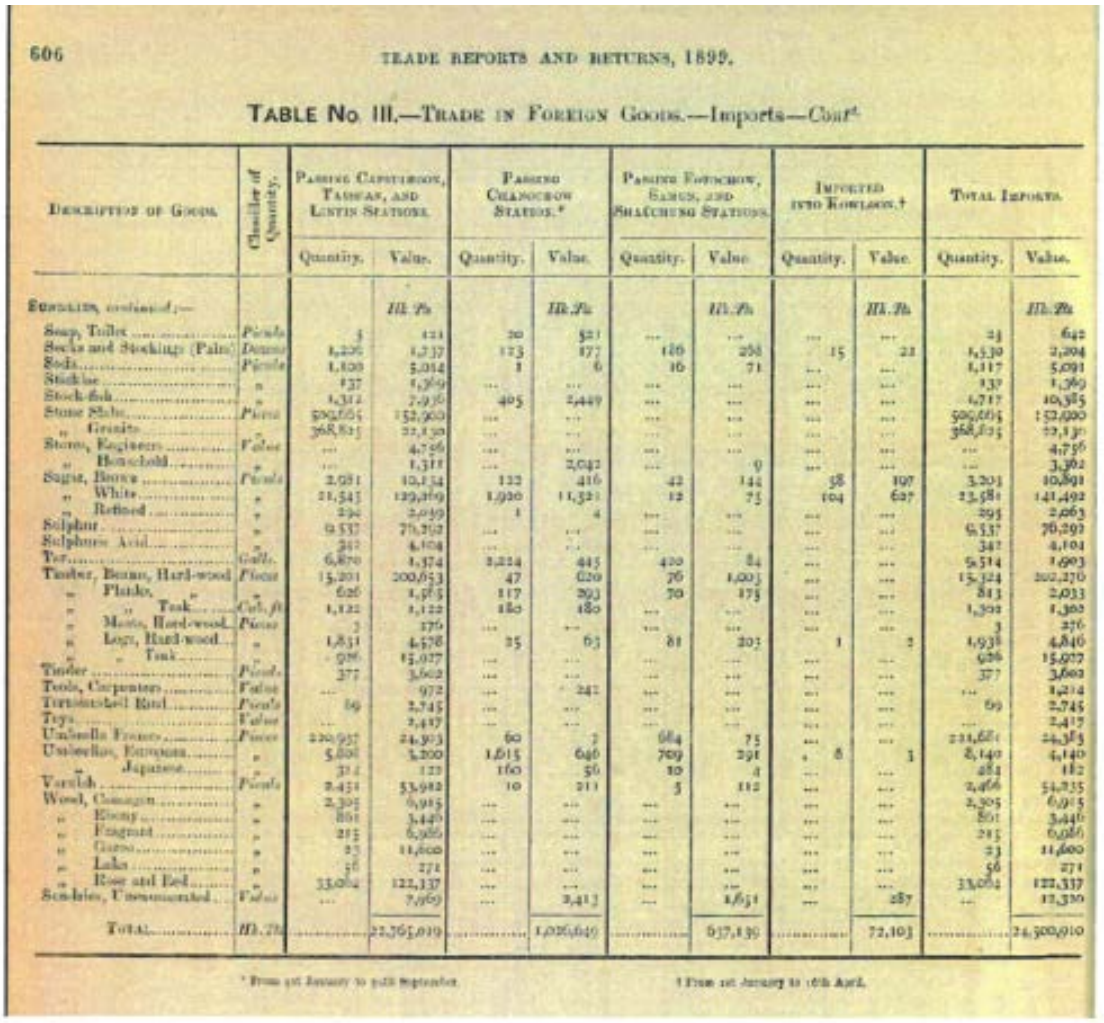
Figure 3.62 Kowloon Trade Report – Quantity of stone passing Capsuimoon Station in 1898

Stone slabs and granite 8,470 pieces (HKTls 965)

Haikwan Tael Equivalent (HKtls)

1902	2s 71/2d	1.51 Mexican $
1911	2s 81/4d	1.48 Mexican $

1899 Kowloon Trade report – A. General Tables – Table no. IVA – Trade in native produce imports, China to China



606 TRADE REPORTS AND RETURNS, 1899.

TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—Cont^d.

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Classifier of Quantity.	PASSING CAPSUIMOON, TAMSAW, AND LINTIN STATIONS.		PASSING CHANCHOW STATION.*		PASSING FOOTCHOW, SAMUI, AND SHAUCHOW STATIONS.		IMPORTED INTO KOWLOON.†		TOTAL IMPORTS.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
SUNDRIES, continued:—			HK.$		HK.$		HK.$		HK.$		HK.$
Soap, Toilet	Piculs	3	121	20	521	...	...	...	...	23	642
Socks and Stockings (Pair)	Dozen	1,220	1,737	123	177	186	268	15	22	1,530	2,204
Soda	Piculs	1,100	5,014	1	6	16	71	...	...	1,117	5,091
Stick-lac	"	137	1,369	...	...	...	...	...	...	137	1,369
Stock-fish	"	1,312	7,936	405	2,449	...	...	...	...	1,717	10,385
Stone Slabs	Pieces	509,665	152,900	...	...	...	...	...	...	509,665	152,900
" Granite	"	368,825	22,130	...	...	...	...	...	...	368,825	22,130
Stone, Engineers	Value	...	4,756	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,756
" Household	"	...	1,311	...	2,042	...	9	...	...	...	3,362
Sugar, Brown	Piculs	2,981	10,134	122	416	42	144	58	197	3,203	10,891
" White	"	21,543	129,269	1,900	11,521	12	75	104	627	23,581	141,492
" Refined	"	294	2,059	1	4	...	...	...	...	295	2,063
Sulphur	"	9,537	76,296	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,537	76,296
Sulphuric Acid	"	342	4,104	...	...	...	...	...	...	342	4,104
Tar	Gallons	6,870	1,374	2,224	445	420	84	...	...	9,514	1,903
Timber, Beams, Hard-wood	Pieces	15,201	200,653	47	620	76	1,003	...	...	15,324	202,276
" Planks, "	"	626	1,565	117	293	70	175	...	...	813	2,033
" " Teak	Cub. ft.	1,122	1,122	180	180	...	...	...	...	1,302	1,302
" Masts, Hard-wood	Pieces	3	276	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	276
" Logs, Hard-wood	"	1,831	4,578	35	63	81	203	1	2	1,938	4,846
" " Teak	"	586	15,077	...	...	...	...	...	...	586	15,077
Tinder	Piculs	377	3,602	...	...	...	...	...	...	377	3,602
Tools, Carpenters'	Value	...	972	...	242	...	...	...	...	...	1,214
Turmeric-Red Root	Piculs	69	2,745	...	...	...	...	...	...	69	2,745
Toys	Value	...	2,417	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,417
Umbrella Frames	Pieces	220,957	24,303	60	2	584	75	...	...	221,601	24,385
Umbrellas, European	"	5,001	3,200	1,615	646	709	291	8	3	8,140	4,140
" Japanese	"	314	122	160	56	10	4	...	...	484	182
Varnish	Piculs	2,451	53,982	10	211	5	112	...	...	2,466	54,735
Wool, Camlets	"	2,305	6,915	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,305	6,915
" Bunting	"	801	3,446	...	...	...	...	...	...	801	3,446
" Fragment	"	215	6,986	...	...	...	...	...	...	215	6,986
" Gunny	"	23	11,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	11,600
" Laks	"	56	271	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	271
" Rose and Red	"	33,002	122,337	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,002	122,337
Sundries, Unenumerated	Value	...	7,969	...	3,413	...	1,851	...	287	...	13,320
TOTAL	HK.$		22,765,019		1,026,649		537,139		72,103		24,300,910

* From 1st January to 30th September. † From 1st January to 16th April.

Passing Capsuimoon station: Stone slabs 509,665 pieces; Stone Granite 368,825 pieces

Figure 3.63 Kowloon Trade Report – Quantity of stone passing Capsuimoon Station in 1899

	Capsuimoon	Value (HKTls)
Stone Slabs	509, 665 pieces	152,900
Stone granite	368,825 pieces	22,130

1904 Kowloon Trade report – A. General Tables – Table no. IVA – Trade in native produce imports, China to China

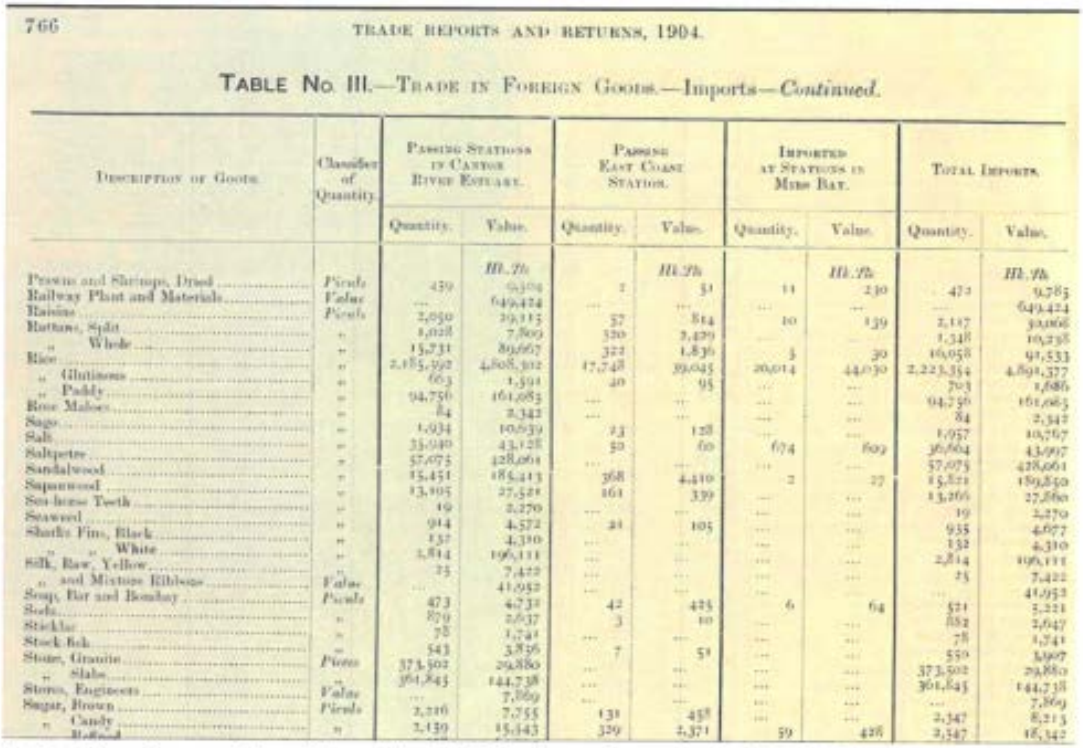


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TABLE No. III.—TRADE IN FOREIGN GOODS.—Imports—*Continued.*

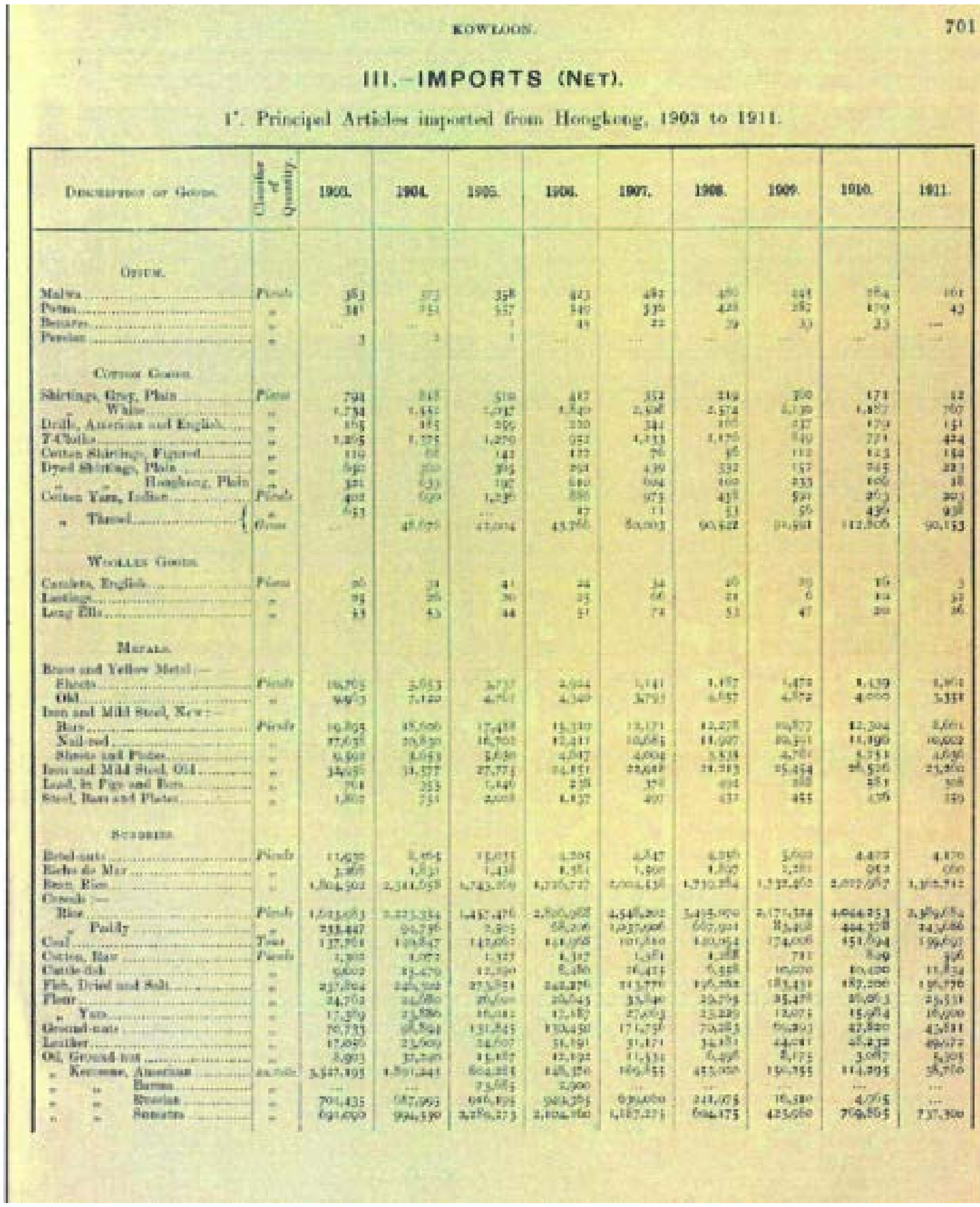
Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Passing Stations in Canton River Estuary.		Passing East Coast Station.		Imported at Stations in Mirs Bay.		Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Hk.Tls		*Hk.Tls*		*Hk.Tls*		*Hk.Tls*
Prawns and Shrimps, Dried	*Piculs*	439	9,304	1	31	11	230	451	9,565
Railway Plant and Materials	*Value*	...	649,424	...	...	...	...	...	649,424
Raisins	*Piculs*	2,050	29,115	57	814	10	139	2,117	30,068
Rattans, Split	"	1,028	7,809	320	2,429	...	...	1,348	10,238
" Whole	"	15,731	89,667	322	1,836	5	30	16,058	91,533
Rice	"	2,185,392	4,808,302	17,748	39,045	20,014	44,030	2,223,154	4,891,377
" Glutinous	"	663	1,591	40	95	...	...	703	1,686
" Paddy	"	94,750	161,083	...	...	...	...	94,750	161,083
Rice Maloes	"	84	2,342	...	...	...	...	84	2,342
Sago	"	1,934	10,639	23	128	...	...	1,957	10,767
Salt	"	35,040	43,128	50	60	674	809	36,664	43,997
Saltpetre	"	57,075	428,061	...	...	...	...	57,075	428,061
Sandalwood	"	15,451	185,413	368	4,410	2	27	15,821	189,850
Sapanwood	"	13,905	27,520	161	339	...	...	14,066	27,860
Sea-horse Teeth	"	19	2,270	...	...	...	...	19	2,270
Seaweed	"	914	4,572	21	105	...	...	935	4,677
Sharks' Fins, Black	"	132	4,310	...	...	...	...	132	4,310
" White	"	2,814	106,111	...	...	...	...	2,814	106,111
Silk, Raw, Yellow	"	75	7,422	...	...	...	...	75	7,422
" and Mixture Ribbons	*Value*	...	41,953	...	...	...	...	...	41,953
Soap, Bar and Bombay	*Piculs*	473	4,731	42	425	6	64	521	5,221
Soda	"	879	2,637	3	10	...	...	882	2,647
Sticklac	"	78	1,741	...	...	...	...	78	1,741
Stock fish	"	543	3,836	7	51	...	...	550	3,907
Stone, Granite	*Pieces*	373,502	29,880	...	...	...	...	373,502	29,880
" Slabs	"	361,845	144,738	...	...	...	...	361,845	144,738
Stores, Engineers	*Value*	...	7,869	...	...	...	...	...	7,869
Sugar, Brown	*Piculs*	2,216	7,755	131	458	...	...	2,347	8,213
" Candy	"	2,139	15,143	329	2,371	59	428	2,527	18,342
" Refined									

Passing Capsuimoon station: Stone slabs 373,502 pieces; Stone Granite 361,845 pieces

Figure 3.64 Kowloon Trade Report – Quantity of stone passing stations in Canton River Estuary in 1904

	Canton River Estuary	Value (HKTls)
Stone Slabs	373, 502 pieces	29,880
Stone granite	361,845 pieces	144,738

1911 Kowloon Trade Report – Kowloon Trade Returns – summary of principal articles imported from Hong Kong 1903 – 1911, Stones – granite not included in the summary probably due to its relatively small proportion against other goods



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III.—IMPORTS (NET).

1°. Principal Articles imported from Hongkong, 1903 to 1911.

Description of Goods.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
OPIUM.									
Malwa	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Patna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Benares	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Persian	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
COTTON GOODS.									
Shirtings, Grey, Plain	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
White	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Drills, American and English	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
T-Cloths	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cotton Shirtings, Figured	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dyed Shirtings, Plain	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hongkong, Plain	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cotton Yarn, Indian	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
WOOLLEN GOODS.									
Camlets, English	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lastings	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Long Ells	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
METALS.									
Brass and Yellow Metal:—									
Sheets	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Old	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Iron and Mild Steel, New:—									
Bars	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nail-rod	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheets and Plates	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Iron and Mild Steel, Old	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lead, in Pigs and Bars	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Steel, Bars and Plates	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SUNDRIES.									
Betel-nuts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bêche-de-Mer	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bran, Rice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cereals:—									
Rice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paddy	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Coal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cotton, Raw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cuttle-fish	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fish, Dried and Salt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Flour	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ground-nuts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Leather	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oil, Ground-nut	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kerosene, American	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borneo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Russian	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sumatra	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Figure 3.65 Summary of principal articles imported from Hong Kong 1903 – 1911

Auction of HK, Kln & NT Quarries (1900)

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 641.

The lease of the Government Quarry Farm for the year 1901 will be put up for Public Auction in three sections as described below at the Office of the Director of Public Works, on Monday, the 26th November, at 12 Noon.

The lessee or lessees will have the exclusive right to quarry granite on certain areas of Crown Land in Hongkong and British Kowloon, of which plans can be seen on any day during the week preceding the sale in the Office of the Director of Public Works.

Terms of the Agreement and Bond which the lessee will be called on to enter into, and further particulars, can be obtained at the Office of the Director of Public Works.

Description of Quarries.

Section 1.—Hongkong Quarries at Shaukiwan, Tsat-Tsz-Mui and To-ti-wan.

Section 2.—British Kowloon Quarries at Hok Un, Taikoktsui, Matauwei, Mount Cochrane and Yaumati.

Section 3.—Quarry at Mataukok called Sun-shan.

Upset price for Section 1, $9,000; for Section 2, $8,000; for Section 3, $7,000.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 17th November, 1900.

Figure 3.66 Auction for 1901 quarry license for:

Hong Kong – Shaukiwan, Tsat Tsz Mui and To-ti-wan

Kowloon – Hok Un, Taikoktsui, Matauwei, Mount Cochrane and Yaumati

New Territories – Sun-shan at Mataukok

In 1901, a tender analysis showed that Mr. Tsang Keng could only win two out of five sites on Hong Kong Island, and four out of seven in Kowloon Peninsula. The situation improved in 1902 when the Government split the Hong Kong and Kowloon Quarries leasing as individual quarry rather than a group from an area. The length of some leases was extended to five years instead of one year. In 1907, the number of quarries let on Hong Kong island, Kowloon peninsula and New Territories reached five, eight and one hundred and one respectively. The splitting technique appeared to be tailored made but in essence the monopolizing of stone quarries vanished after this change.

Quarry Leases (1902)

STONE QUARRIES:—

Leased to the highest bidder by Tender for five years from 1st January, 1902, to 31st December, 1906,—

Hongkong, ...$10,375.00 per annum.
Kowloon, ...$11,550.00 per annum.
also—Ma Tau Kok leased to Messrs. Pinehard & Lowther for four years from 1st January, 1902, renewable for one or two years, ...$ 3,600.00 per annum.

Leased for three years from 1st April, 1904,—

Ngau Tau Kok, ...$3,600.00 per annum.
Cha Kwo Leung, ... 5,400.00 „ „
Sai Tso Wan, ... 1,800.00 „ „
Lyeemun, ... 3,600.00 „ „

Leased for three years from 1st January, 1904,—

Ngau Shi Wan, ...$ 600.00 „ „

Leased for three years from 15th September, 1904,—

Sai Wan..... ..... 300.00 „ „

Figure 3.67 Quarry leases form 1902 or 1904

The leasing of quarries in the New Territories was not as straight forward as that of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. In the initial few years after the leasing the NT, the registration of land and demarcation of areas were going on, which made collection of Crown Rents very difficult. The Government had to adopt the system in entirety left behind by the San-on Magistrate.

The Four Hills area was a typical example. The Four Hills comprised of Ngau Tau Kok, Lei Yue Mun, Cha Kwo Ling and Sai Cho Wan, was the largest quarry on the NT and had existed before the British occupation. Lockhart's report in relation to the extension of the colony disclosed that the San-on Magistrate was collecting a rent of over $200 per hill from the Four Hills.

Lockhart's report also showed that there were 36,070 Hakkas living in the NT, who relied on agriculture and quarrying for livelihood. The first year after leasing the NT (1899), quarry rent collected by the Government was $1,800, which was increased to $3,730 and $3,765 in the second and third year respectively. The rent, when compared with that of $25,525 collected from Hong Kong and Kowloon was far less. It was then decided that the rent of NT quarries should be increased to $15,000 in 1903.

On 24 June 1904, a set of rules for granite quarries from Lyeemun to Ngau Tau Kok in Kowloon Bay was gazetted. The headmen of the Four Hills were assigned to collect all revenue owed to Government direct from those persons loading stones onto boats. Six-tenths of this money went to the district government and the remaining four-tenths went to the Stone Meeting House. The first portion was the tax paid to the local government while the remaining part was to meet yearly expenses of joss meetings and free schools. The Hong Kong Government fixed the Crown Rents for each of the Four Hills, and nominated headmen for each area, and permits were issued to the quarry masters as required. The Crown Rents recorded on 24 June 1904, together with the headmen responsible for payment to the Treasury, were as follows.

Table 3.5 Monthly Rent and Headman of Four Hills (1904 – 1907)

Four Hills	Monthly Crown Rents $	Headmen
Ngau Tau Kok	300	Tam U
Lei Yue Mun	300	Lau Fat
Cha Kwo Ling	450	Lu Fung
Sai Cho Wan	150	Lo Fu
Total	$1,200 per month $14,400 per year	

The important role of the headman of the quarries was explained by Mr. P.K. Yip, the descendant related to one of the headmen above. He also mentioned the stone quarried by his family for exportation to Guangzhou for the Sacred Heart Cathedral project.

The Four Hills (四山) (Map in 1937)

Figure 3.68 Locations of the Four Hills

Figure 3.69 The Regulations Governing the Operation of the Four Hills

Auction of Four Hills Quarries (1910)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. S. 271.—The right to quarry stone on the following Lots of Crown Land in the New Territories of Hongkong will be let by Public Auction to be held at the Offices of Public Works Department on Monday, the 5th day of December, 1910, at 3 p.m.

Full Particulars and Conditions may be obtained at this Office.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Contents in Acres.	Upset Annual Crown Rent.
				$
1	Ngau Shi Wan Quarry Lots Nos. 1, 2 and 3.	Ngau Shi Wan.	6·23	2,000
2	Ngau Shi Wan Quarry Lot No. 4.	Do.	6·50	500
3	Ngau Tau Kok Quarry Lots A. 1-5 and 7-24.	Ngau Tau Kok.	19·65	3,100
4	Sai Tau Wan Quarry Lots B. 1-16.	Sai Tau Wan.	10·53	1,000
5	Cha Kwo Ling Quarry Lots C. 1-16.	Cha Kwo Ling.	24·56	3,300
6	Lyemun Quarry Lots D. 1-25.	Lyemun.	26·44	3,800
7	Ma Tau Kok Quarry Lot No. 7.	Ma Tau Kok.	6·70	2,600
8	Ma Tau Kok Quarry Lot No. 8.	Do.	4·60	2,000

W. CHATHAM,
Director of Public Works.

Figure 3.70 Auction of individual quarries of Four Hills

PWD (HK & Kln) Auction Notice (1910)

No. S. 403.—The right to quarry stone on the following Lots of Crown Land in the New Territories and elsewhere in the Colony of Hongkong will be let by Public Auction to be held at the Offices of Public Works Department on Monday, the 9th day of December, 1912, at 3 p.m.

Full Particulars and Conditions may be obtained at this Office.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	Locality.	Contents in Acres.	Upset Annual Crown Rent.
				$
2	Ngau Shi Wan Quarry Lots Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.	Ngau Shi Wan.	12·73	4,334
3	Tsat Tze Mui Quarry Lot No. 1.	Tsat Tze Mui.	27·60	300
4	Tsat Tze Mui Quarry Lot No. 2.	Tsat Tze Mui.	27·38	660
5	Shaukiwan West Quarry Lots No. 3 and 4.	Shaukiwan West.	72·90	3,312
6	Hok Un Quarry Lot No. 6.	Hok Un.	9·44	2,068
7	Ma Ti Quarry Lot No. 9.	Ma Ti.	1·94	617
8	Jordan Road, Kowloon Quarry Lot No. 10.	Jordan Road, Kowloon.	5·30	1,680
9	Tsaimati Quarry Lot No. 11.	Tsaimati.	2·98	1,008
10	Pak Tsun Heung Quarry Lot No. 12.	Pak Tsun Heung.	4·29	1,440
11	Ngau Tau Kok Quarry Lot No. 5.	Ngau Tau Kok.	2·00	900

W. CHATHAM,
Director of Public Works.

Figure 3.71 Auction of individual quarries on Hong Kong Island and Kowloon Peninsula

The Register General had the ultimate power in managing the Four Hills. The quarry master should reside in or near the quarry and pay a royalty of 14% on the value of all stone cut in their quarries to the headmen. The modes of measurement were in accordance with the Quarrymen's Guild of the Four Hills, and any disputes would be referred to the Register General.

The headmen had the power to stop work should in any quarry the royalty be in arears, until such royalty was paid. The quarry master as the permit holder could use the pier and wharf free of charge but should use them in good order. Other conditions were the same as those stated in the tender of Hong Kong or Kowloon Quarry.

Photo 3.16 The old quarry at Cha Kwo Ling

Photo 3.17 Tin Hau Temple at Cha Kwo Ling

It is interesting to note that the Quarrymen's Guild Rules were referred to in the Regulations. The British government did not want to disregard the Chinese customs, so a mixture of the east and west customs was seen in the setting of rules. Public auction or tendering for the Four Hills quarries started to appear in the Gazette in 1910, the transition took six years to complete.

Clause 4 of the Summary Offence 1845 restricted rough dressing of stone in the city, which meant that the process had to be carried out in quarries. Ordinance No. 1 of 1848 entitled "An ordinance to regulate Manufacture and Storage of a certain description of Gun Powder within the Colony of Hong Kong" limited the maximum storage of gun powder to 2 lbs, otherwise the keeper should obtain licence. These two ordinances ruled quarrying for the first thirty years. The Summary Office 1845 was revised in September 1872, which expressly restricted dressing of granite in the city with the exception of re-construction. This shows re-development in the city was progressing and the law had to revise to suit. At the same time, Ordinance No. 12 of 1872 entitled "An Ordinance to regulate the Manufacture, Importation, Storage and Carriage of Explosive Substances" was enacted to include nitro-glycerine and cartridges, a more powerful blasting material than gun powder, showing the increasing use of blasting. Within a year, the dangerous goods ordinance (No. 8 of 1873) added dynamite, lithofraction, Horesely's Patent Blasting

Powder as dangerous goods in the ordinance. The control of blasting was entrusted to the Surveyor General works in the 1887 Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. In 1903, the new Public Health and Buildings Ordinance was introduced. The control of blasting fell into the hands of the Director of Public Works under Clause 210 and building nuisance was defined under Clause 229.

The 1903 Ordinance had relaxed city blasting, but limited to two half-hour periods at noon and at 4:30pm after debating in the Legislative Council. Other details remained intact. The regulations for blasting of stone in quarries were left to be made by the Government in Council. In fact, these regulations were never made, but the quarries blasted as usual.

Despite the grey area in the regulations for quarries, the Buildings Ordinance and the lease conditions were the references. Nuisance and blasting were the two major control areas that the Government kept an eye on. The ordinances and lease conditions had not affected the quarry practices. In material, the Rules and Regulations in government quarries were set up according to the customs of Hakkas from which the regulations of the employer's and employee's guilds were also drawn. The management was that of a typical Chinese style which the British were well aware of and they had stood firm, to the principle laid down ninety years ago of administering Hong Kong with Chinse customs. This management orientation helped explain why blasting accidents had not stopped since the 1870s.

Case Study 4: Wong Po Kin Stone House in Guangzhou 1912

In China, buildings are commonly built of timber, brick, steel or concrete, and stone buildings are rather rare. In Guangzhou, there are three famous stone buildings. The Sacred Heart Cathedral and the Guangdong Customs House are non-residential and of western style, and attract attention of the tourists. The third one is Wong Po Kin Stone House in the residential area of Guangzhou.

The uncommon features of the house include the tall stone arch door, the storey high carved wooden door, and the lively stone lion statue are all presented with the house beautifully by stacking the stones. This house has been awarded by the Guangzhou authority as oen of the Cultural Protective Unit.

The house was owned by Dr. Wong Po Kin who was a famous medical practitioner. Built in 1912, the house was designed by Wong's second elder brother in USA. The site is about 400 sq m and the house is facing west. The granite stones were transported from Hong Kong. The external walls are made of imported granite blocks of grey colour with irregular texture pattern. The two circular stone pillars at the main entrance provides a great impression in front. The height of the first storey is in excess of 4m, and the two upper levels of 3.5m each in height presenting the massive and bright western architecture. The corners and the external wall consist of some green and red brick stones. Both the green and red stones are sandstones. The former one is of regular size, rare to be imported and with zero-radioactivity, thus not harmful to human beings.

The stone house has an appealing appearance, and the material is strong and of high durability. The thick stones prevents the heat

gained in summer and have high resistance to humidity; thus one would feel the cool inside the house. Because of their unavailability, only the wealthy people can afford using stone in building houses.

There was a saying that the stones used for this building come from the excess in the construction of Sacred Heart Cathedral and the new Custom House. This has been rejected by the descendants of Mr. Wong.

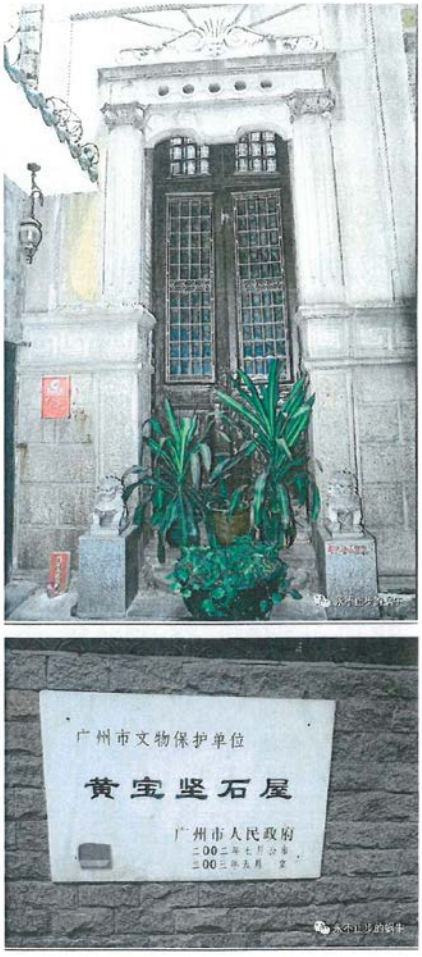


Photo 3.18 Wong Po Kin Stone House – the door at the main entrance and the plague showing the Cultural Protective Unit

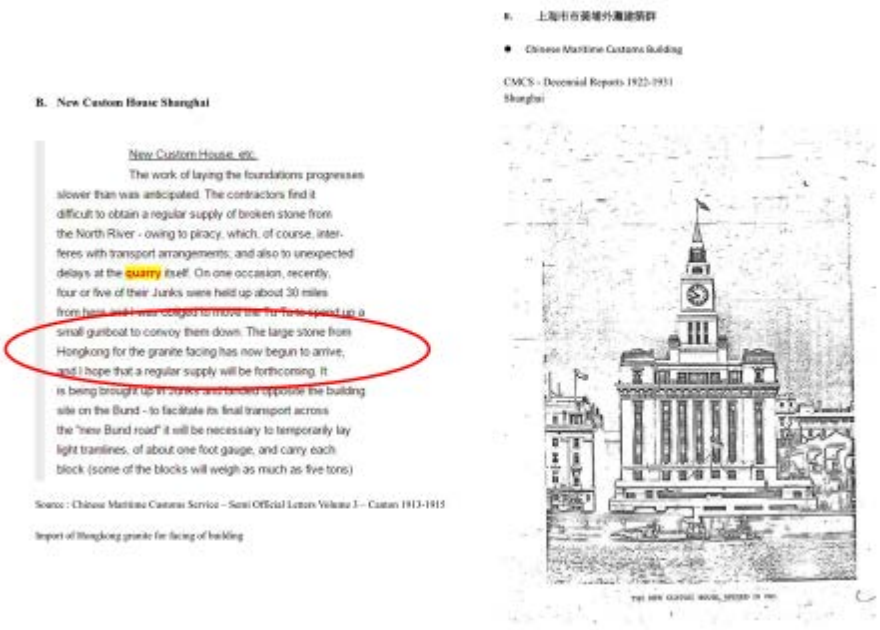
Details of Wong Po Kin stone house is attached in the Appendix.

Case Study 5: New Customs House, Guangzhou 1916

This house was built in 1916 by the Customs. It was designed by the British architect David C. Dick. The foundation was laid by Li Kai Shen, the Civil Administrator, in association with Sung Shou Cheng, Superintendent of Customs, and F.W. Maize, Commissioner of Customs on 28 March 1914. The work was completed on 25 June 1916. The 5-storey building is 31.85 m tall and consists of one level basement. The construction area is about 3,300 sq m. The architecture resembles the Roman style with the stone platform, circular pillars, arch door frame and the big clock. The ground level is made of big stone blocks, whereas the upper levels are of smaller columns.

Photo 3.19 New Customs House in Guangzhou. The front view and the foundation stone laid on 28th March 1914

Phot 3.20 Front views of New Customs House in Guangzhou. Note the extent of granite construction.



B. New Custom House Shanghai

New Custom House, etc.

The work of laying the foundations progresses slower than was anticipated. The contractors find it difficult to obtain a regular supply of broken stone from the North River - owing to piracy, which, of course, interferes with transport arrangements; and also to unexpected delays at the quarry itself. On one occasion, recently, four or five of their Junks were held up about 30 miles from here, and I was obliged to move the Tu Ta to speed up a small gunboat to convoy them down. The large stone from Hongkong for the granite facing has now begun to arrive, and I hope that a regular supply will be forthcoming. It is being brought up in Junks and landed opposite the building site on the Bund - to facilitate its final transport across the "new Bund road" it will be necessary to temporarily lay light tramlines, of about one foot gauge, and carry each block (some of the blocks will weigh as much as five tons)

Source : Chinese Maritime Customs Service – Semi Official Letters Volume 3 – Custom 1913-1915

Import of Hongkong granite for facing of building

● Chinese Maritime Customs Building

CMCS - Decennial Reports 1922-1931

Shanghai

Figure3.72 The stone from Hong Kong for the New Customs House in Shanghai

Case Study 6: Wing On and Bank of East Asia Building in Shanghai 1917

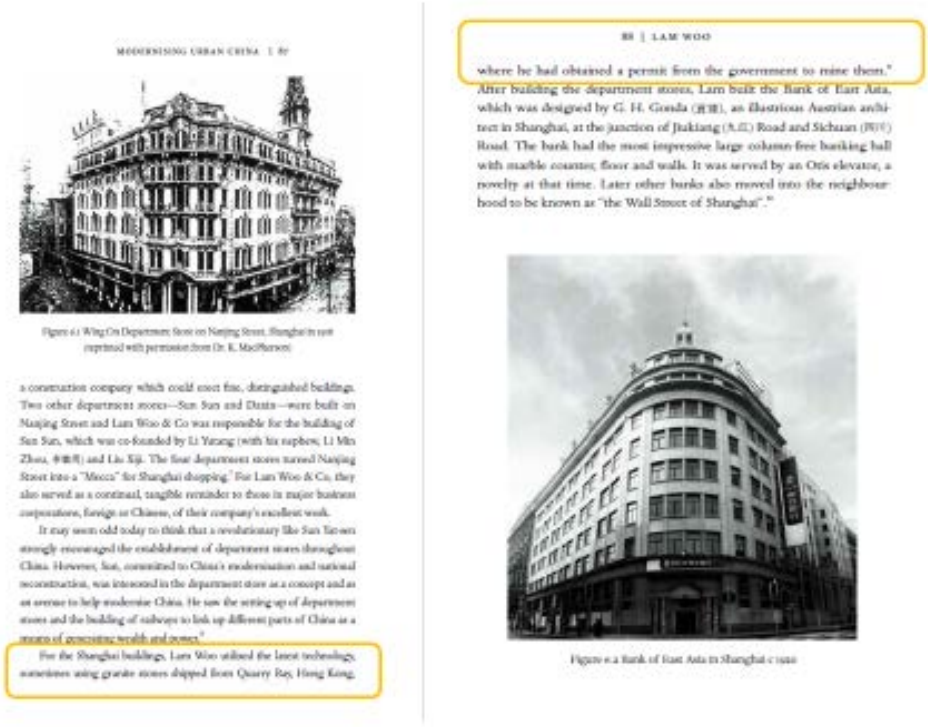
After the revolution in 1911, China had been back to a bit normal in development. Shanghai was a place to where the foreign and local investment always focused on. Many business buildings were needed, in particular, the department store buildings were erected as it was a trend to attract the spenders.

Lam Woo together with his firm Luen Yick Constructors took part in the construction activities in Shanghai. Based on his experience and the latest technology, they built taller buildings which were restricted to only three storeys before. He also owned at least a few quarries in order to support the construction of stone buildings which were a trend in those days.

Shanghai Bund

Photo 3.21 Many buildings along the Shanghai Bund are constructed using granite

The Wing On Department Store and Bank of East Asia Building in Shanghai



MODERNISING URBAN CHINA | 87

Figure 6.1 Wing On Department Store on Nanjing Street, Shanghai in 1916 reprinted with permission from Dr. K. MacPherson)

a construction company which could erect fine, distinguished buildings. Two other department stores—Sun Sun and Dunin—were built on Nanjing Street and Lam Woo & Co was responsible for the building of Sun Sun, which was co-founded by Li Yutang (with his nephew, Li Min Zhou, 李敏周) and Liu Xiji. The four department stores turned Nanjing Street into a "Mecca" for Shanghai shopping.[7] For Lam Woo & Co, they also served as a continual, tangible reminder to those in major business corporations, foreign or Chinese, of their company's excellent work.

It may seem odd today to think that a revolutionary like Sun Yat-sen strongly encouraged the establishment of department stores throughout China. However, Sun, committed to China's modernisation and national reconstruction, was interested in the department store as a concept and as an avenue to help modernise China. He saw the setting up of department stores and the building of railways to link up different parts of China as a means of generating wealth and power.[8]

For the Shanghai buildings, Lam Woo utilised the latest technology, sometimes using granite stones shipped from Quarry Bay, Hong Kong,

88 | LAM WOO

where he had obtained a permit from the government to mine them.[9] After building the department stores, Lam built the Bank of East Asia, which was designed by G. H. Gonda (高登), an illustrious Austrian architect in Shanghai, at the junction of Jiukiang (九江) Road and Sichuan (四川) Road. The bank had the most impressive large column-free banking hall with marble counter, floor and walls. It was served by an Otis elevator, a novelty at that time. Later other banks also moved into the neighbourhood to be known as "the Wall Street of Shanghai".[10]

Figure 6.2 Bank of East Asia in Shanghai c 1920

Figure 3.73 The Wing On Building and Bank of East Asia Building in Shanghai were built of granite from Hong Kong. Constructor: Lam Woo of Luen Yick.

Case Study 7: The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Building 1923

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Building in Shanghai consists of many special features: the six-column colonnade, triple-arch entrance, long flight of steps, lion statues, and granite blocks cladding. Granite was obtained from Hong Kong, though the exact location was not known. The building could have been completed at least one month earlier had the granite delivery not been delayed from the quarry in Hong Kong.

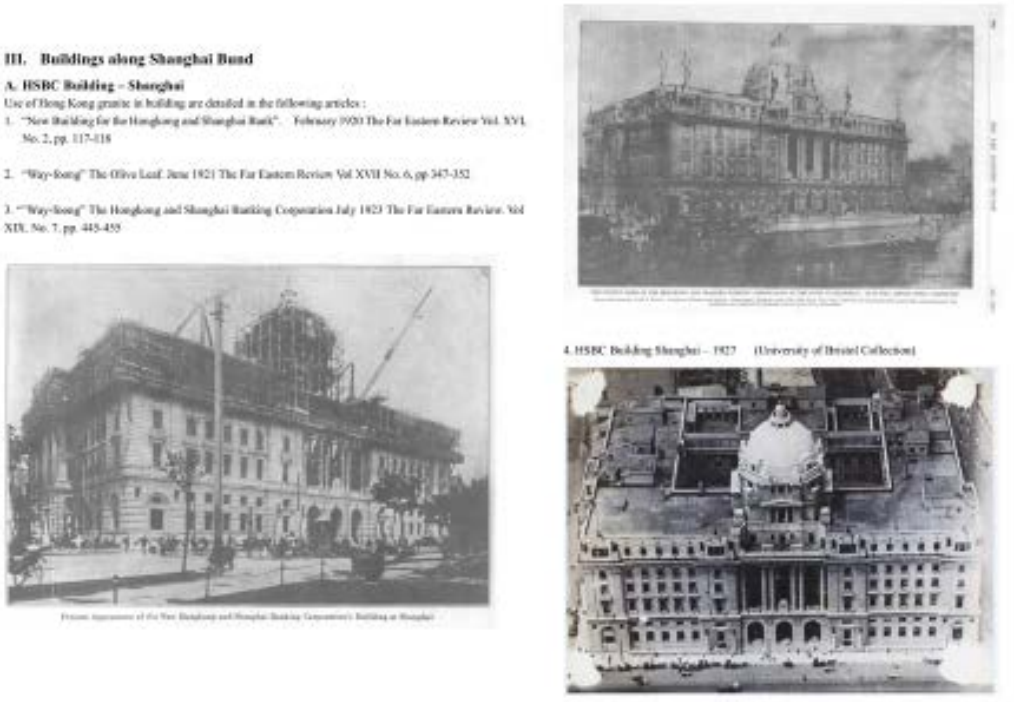


Figure 3.74 The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Building in Shanghai 1923. Granite stones were obtained from Hong Kong and delivered to Shanghai.

Case Study 8: Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum, Nanjing 1925 - 1931

Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum, built in Nanjing between 1925 and 1931, serves as the final resting place of the body of Sun Yat-sen. The place is well known nationally and internationally as the monument and the compound is prominent and significant historically and in architecture.

The design of the building was awarded to Y.C. Lu after the design competition. Granite stones from Hong Kong were used at many places. The architect should have heard of the quality of Hong Kong granite from his visits around the world or seeing projects making use of such stone.

The quality required is not just the strength but also the durability. Granite from Hong Kong has demonstrated its suitability to satisfy the design and functional requirement.

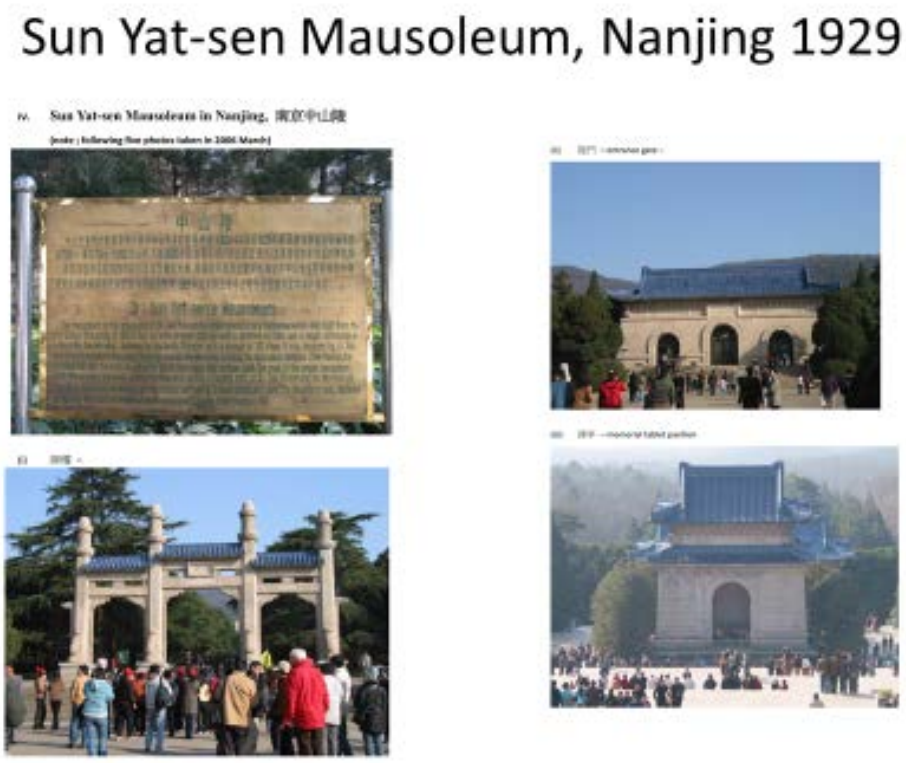


Photo 3.22 Dr. Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum in Nanjing

(iv) 石階 –

(v) 石階圍牆 – boundary wall
(vi) 平台 - platform
(vii) 祭堂 – memorial hall
(viii) 墓室 – tomb

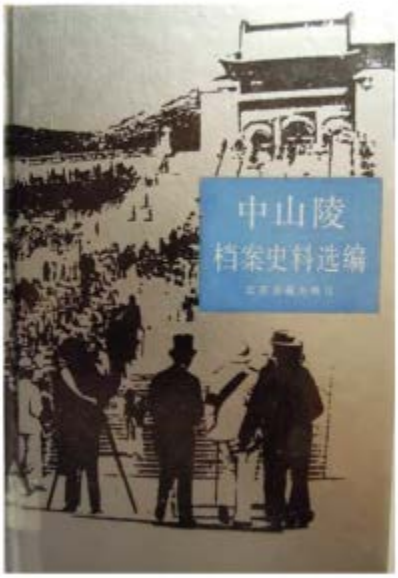
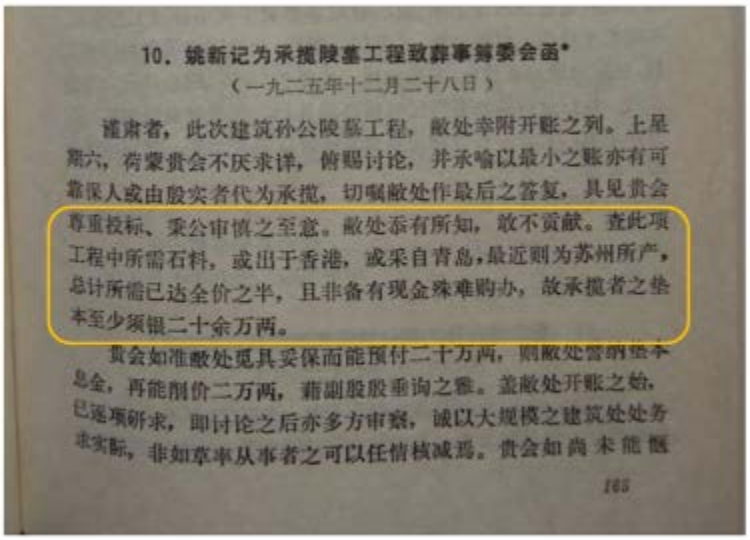


Photo 3.23 The steps and the file references of the Mausoleum



10. 姚新记为承揽陵墓工程致葬事筹委会函*

（一九二五年十二月二十八日）

谨肃者，此次建筑孙公陵墓工程，敝处幸附开账之列。上星期六，荷蒙贵会不厌求详，俯赐讨论，并承喻以最小之账亦有可靠保人或由股实者代为承揽，切嘱敝处作最后之答复，具见贵会尊重投标、秉公审慎之至意。敝处忝有所知，敢不贡献。查此项工程中所需石料，或出于香港，或采自青岛，最近则为苏州所产，总计所需已达全价之半，且非备有现金殊难购办，故承揽者之垫本至少须银二十余万两。

贵会如准敝处觅具妥保而能预付二十万两，则敝处营销垫本息金，再能削价二万两，藉副股股垂询之雅。盖敝处开账之始，已逐项研求，即讨论之后亦多方审察，诚以大规模之建筑处处务求实际，非如草率从事者之可以任情核减焉。贵会如尚未能慨

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Figure 3.75 Granite stones from Hong Kong, Tsingtao and Soochow were used in construction. Constructor paid 200,000 taels for the purchase of granite before receiving reimbursement from client.

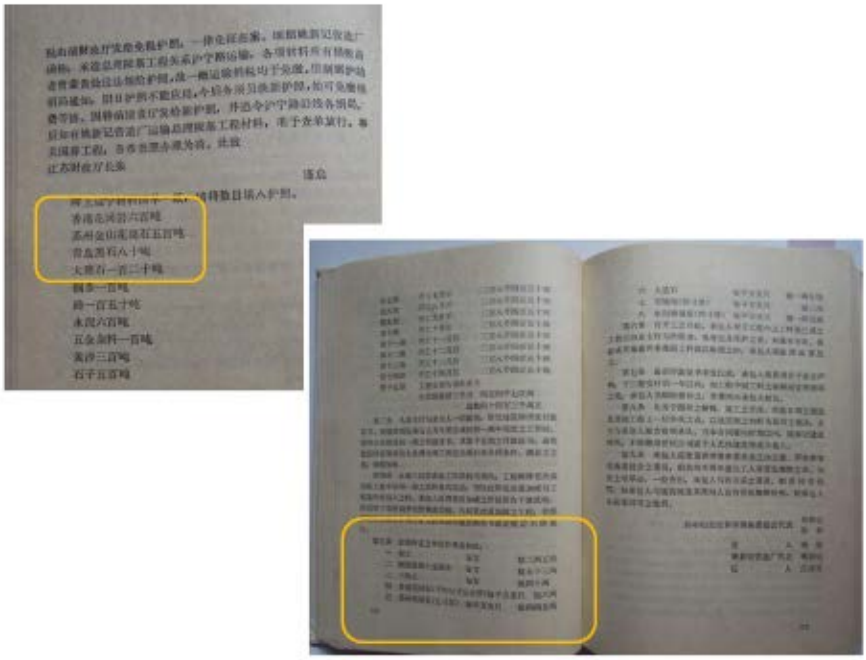


Figure 3.76　600 tons of Hong Kong granite for Mausoleum construction

Figure 3.77　The book about Mausoleum files (left). Three architects: Lu Y.C., Lee K.P. and Huang T.P. (right)

Photo 3.22　Progress photo of the third stage of Pai Lau installation 12th June 1931

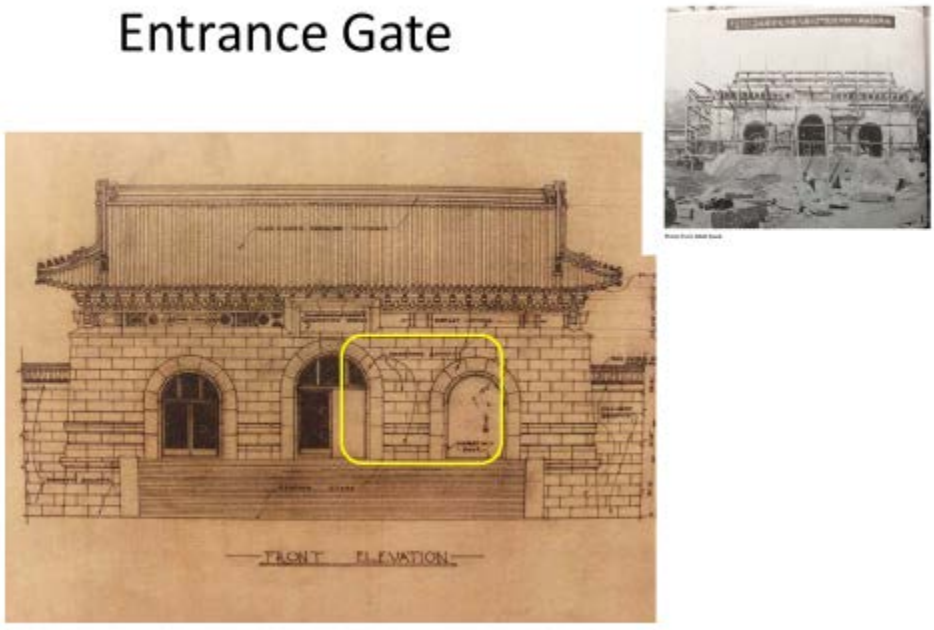


Figure 3.75　Drawing and progress photo of the Entrance Gate dated 9th April 1931. Hong Kong granite is used as the facing brick as circled.

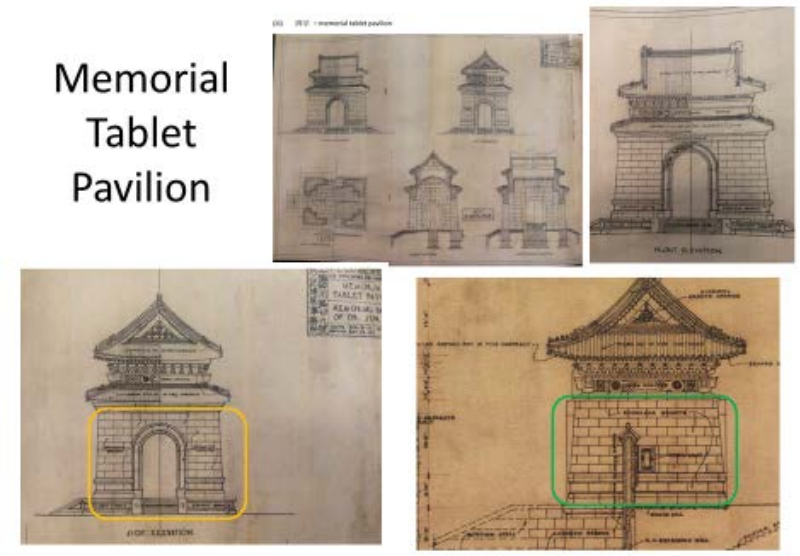


Figure 3.76 Drawings of the Memorial Tablet Pavilion. Hong Kong granite facing as circled.

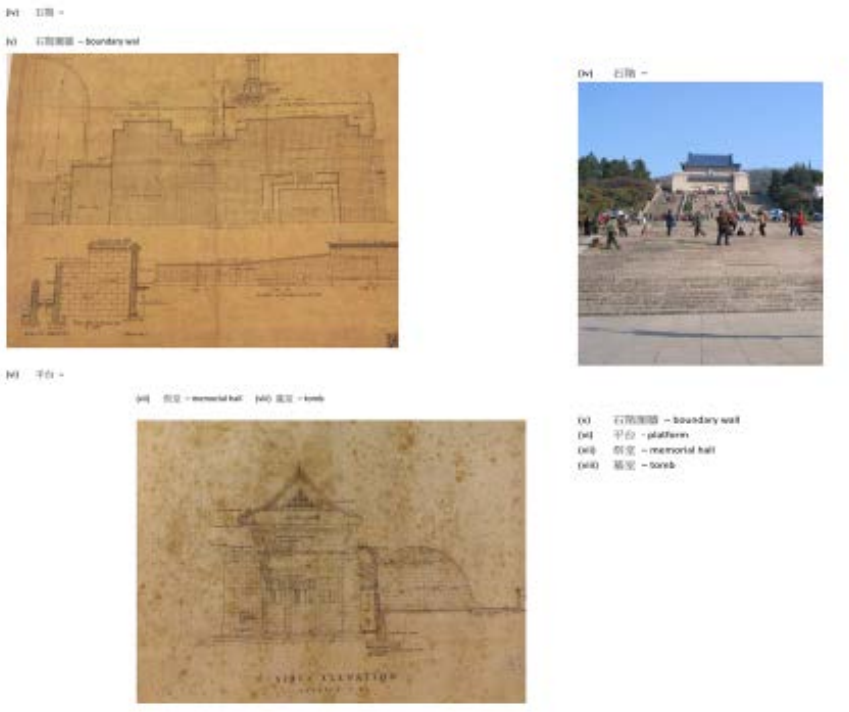


Figure 3.77 Pavement, Platform, Surrounding Wall and Tomb of the Mausoleum

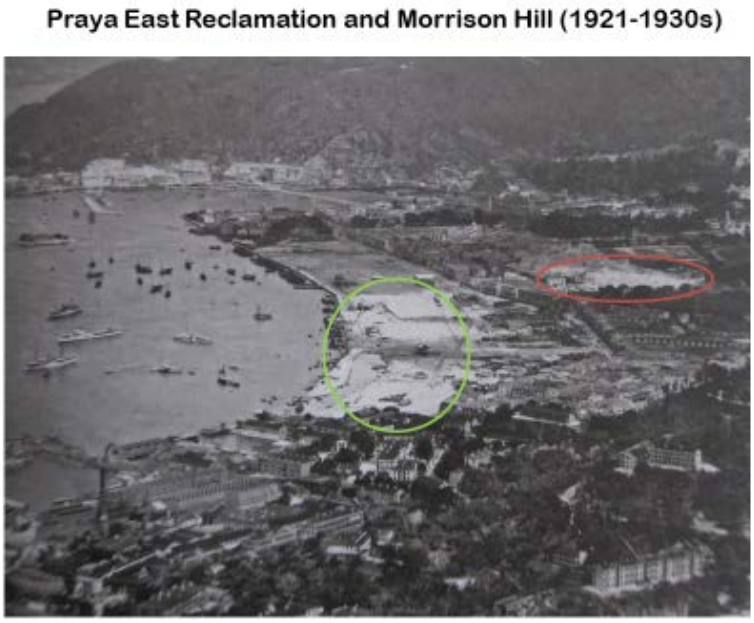


Photo 3.23 Wanchai reclamation (circled green) and filling material from Morrison Hill Quarry (circled red) 1921 – 1930s

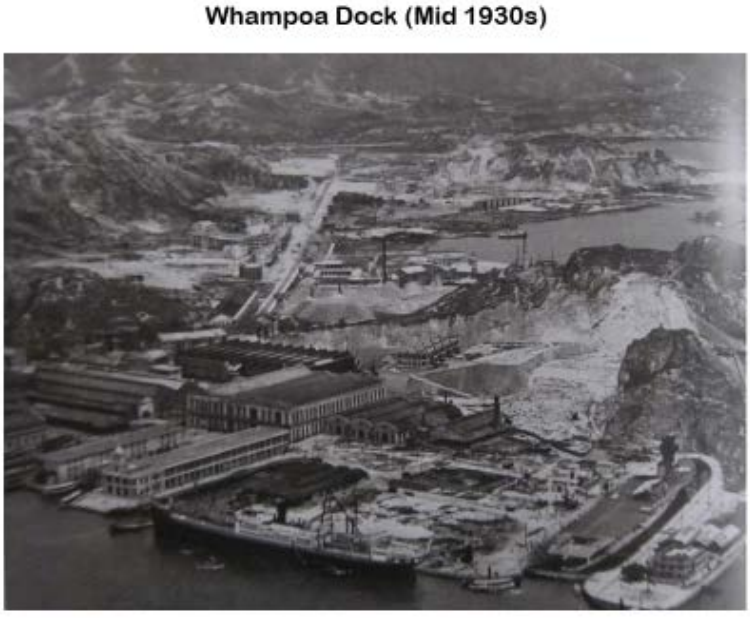


Photo 3.24 The quarry next to Whampoa Dock (mid 1930s)

Case Study 9: Sun Yat-sen Memorial Cenotaph, Guangzhou 1930

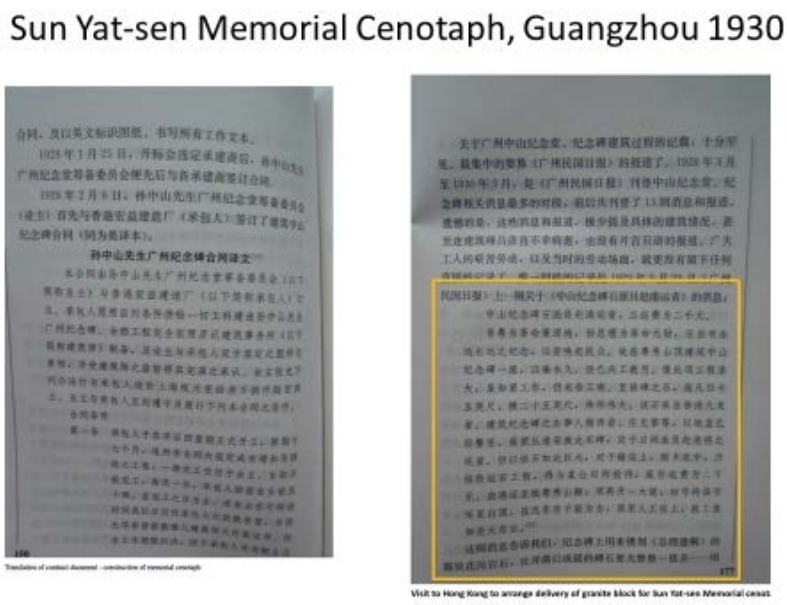


Figure 3.78 Contract for the Auditorium and transportation of the Cenotaph

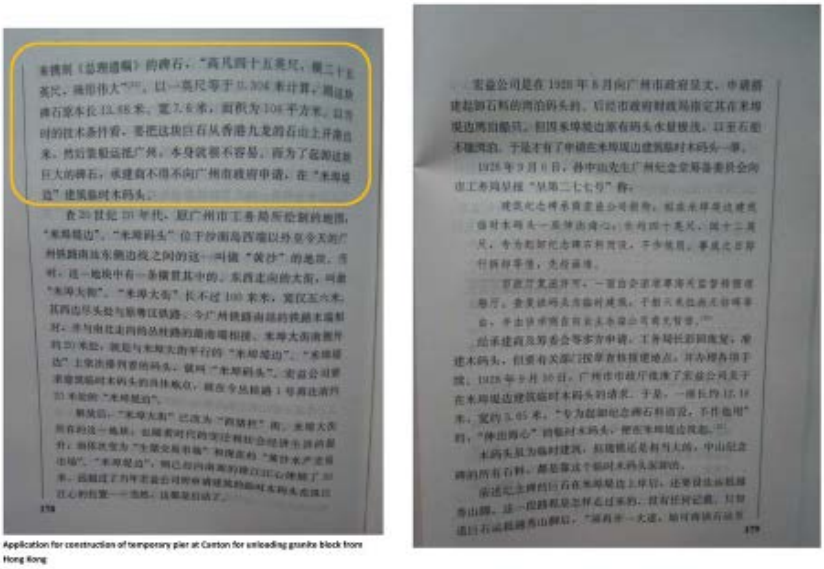
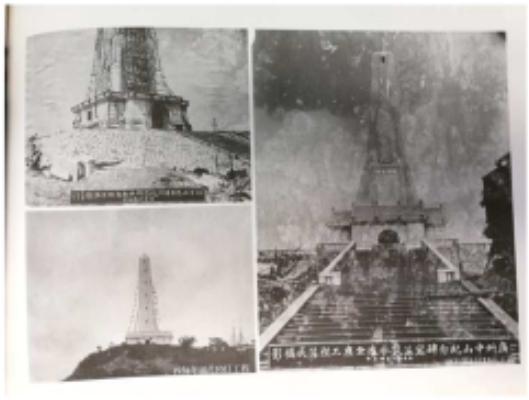


Figure 3.79 Details of the Cenotaph and its transportation. Temporary pier is constructed.



Progress photos and record photo

2. 香港華字日報 1929 年 9 月 25 日 – transport of HK granite block to Guangzhou

中山紀念碑將由港運省

廣州粵秀山建築中山紀念碑一座、經已興工數月、
惟工程浩大、雖加緊工作、仍未告工竣、查該碑之石
高凡四十五英尺、橫二十五英尺、殊形碩大、乃採自
本港九龍者、建築紀念碑之辦事人以地盤已經翦妥、
頃準從速安放此石碑、定于日間派員來港、將之運返
廣州、但切該石如此鉅大、對于輸運山上、頗多艱辛
、乃招投運石工程、聞爲某公司投得、底價運費爲二
千元、至運赴廣州抵粵秀山腳時須再闢一大道、始可
將該巨石運上山上、凡汽車亦不能爲力、須用人工運
上、故工值如是之昂云、

Figure 3.80 Delivery of the granite Cenotaph from Hong Kong to Guangzhou reported by the Hong Kong Chinese Newspaper in 1929. Left: Progress and record photos.

The Cenotaph was a huge piece of granite stone from Hong Kong. The dimensions are 45 feet by height, and 25 feet in width. After the site was made ready, the stone block was then delivered to Guangzhou. An access road was formed from the bottom of the Yuet Sau Hill for the transportation of the stone by human effort.

Details of this case is attached in the Appendix.

Case Study 10: Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Auditorium, Guangzhou, 1931

The design commenced in 1927 and completed by Y.C. Lu and his partners in 1928. The auditorium was designed as a palace. Granite stone from Hong Kong was used to form the base of the bronze statue and the pavement steps surrounding walls.

Sun Yat-sen Memorial Auditorium, Guangzhou 1931

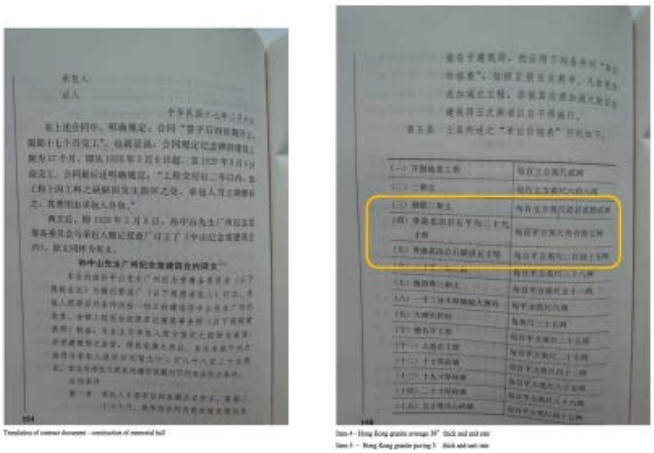


Figure 3.81 Hong Kong granite average 39 inches thick and pavement 5 inches thick.

Cover of Specifications for Materials and labor in connection with the erection of Memorial Auditorium of Dr Sun Yat-Sen – Y C Lu Architect - Oct 7 1927

Huang in the construction site of Guangzhou Sun Yat-sen Memorial Auditorium

Figure 3.82 Left: Specifications for materials and labour for erection of Memorial Auditorium by Y.C. Lu dated 7th October 1927. Right: Photo of Huang at the construction site of Memorial Auditorium

Sha Mian, Guangzhou

Granite stone is a common construction material from quite a number of buildings and infrastructure in Sha Mian. Unfortunately relevant construction details was not found after a review of the lease documents supplied by Professor Ting Sun-pao.

Photo 3.25 Granite stones were taken from the demolished fortress nearby

Photo 3.26 Plague of a building used for Butterfield and Swire before in Sha Mian.

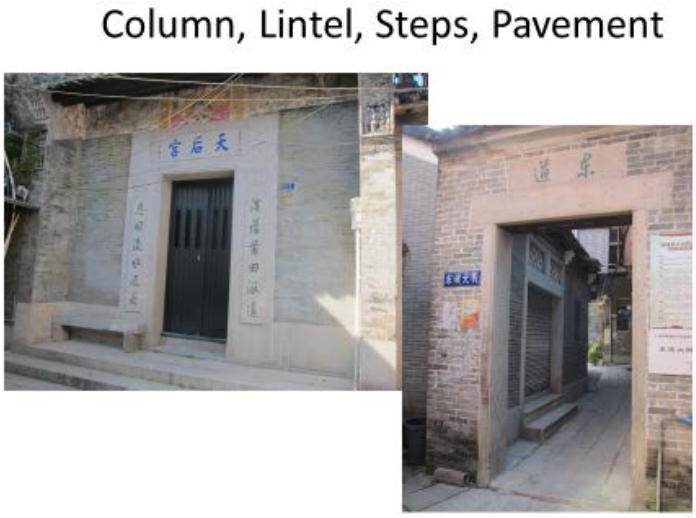


Photo 3.27　Granite stones typically used as door frame, lintel, pavement and steps in construction in Guangzhou

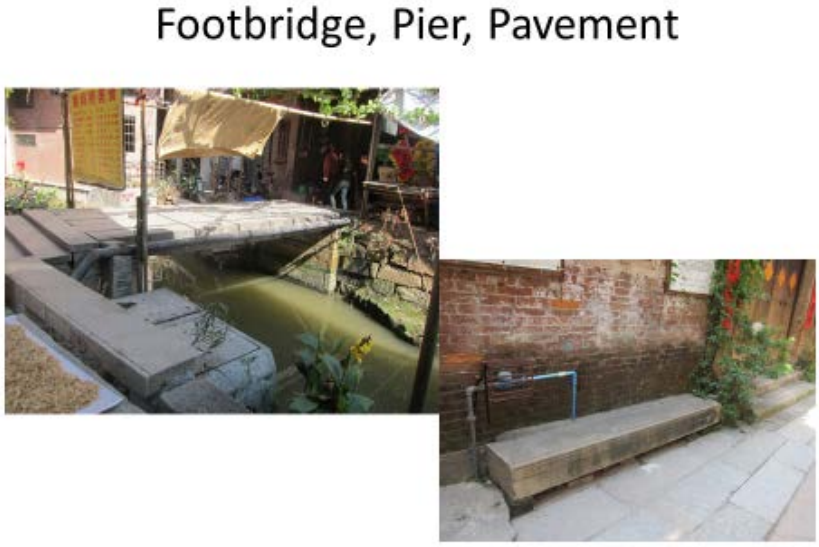


Photo 3.28　Granite blocks used as footbridge, pavements, steps and bench.

Summary of export of Hong Kong granite for overseas construction

Table 3.7 Export of Hong Kong granite for overseas construction

Year of completion	Name of building / Project	Location of city and country	Remarks
1852	Parrott Building	San Francisco USA	Granite blocks for facing stone of facade
1863	Sacred Heart (Stone) Cathedral	Guangzhou China	Major building materials for beams, columns and walls
1912	Wong Po Kin Stone House 黃寶堅石屋	文昌南路敬善里 13 號 Guangzhou, China	Ditto
1916	New Customs House	Guangzhou, China	Ditto
1917	Sincere Department Store	Nanjing Road, Shanghai, China	Facing blocks
1918	Wing On Department Store	Nanjing Road, Shanghai, China	Facing blocks
1923	Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Building	The Bund, Shanghai, China	Granite blocks for facing stone of facade
1929	Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum 南京中山陵	Nanjing, China	Various locations
1930	Sun Yat-sen Memorial Cenotaph 廣州中山紀念碑	Guangzhou, China	Various locations
1931	Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall (Auditorium) 廣州中山紀念堂	Guangzhou, China	Various locations

14. 1928 March – Application for exportation of Hong Kong granite to Singapore for the construction of Naval Base. Application not supported by the Director of Public Works (HKRS58-1-148)

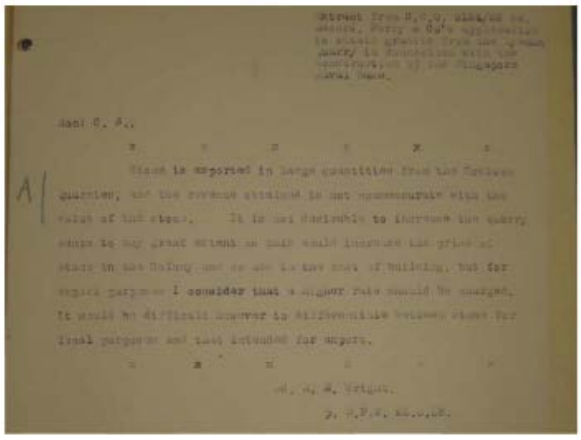


Figure 3.83 Application for exportation of Hong Kong granite to Singapore for the construction of Naval Base in 1928. It was turned down by the Director of Public Works.

15. 1953 Mar 7 – SCMP – Dr S G Davis talk – Export of HK granite to Shanghai Phillipines and Singapore

TALK ON OLD HONGKONG

Ginger Industry Established Soon After Colony's Foundation

HAKKAS ARE STONE EXPERTS

Although it might not be one of the biggest, the ginger industry was one of the Colony's oldest, having started in 1846 soon after the foundation of Hongkong.

This was one of the points made by Dr S.G. Davis and the Rev. F. T.F. Ryan, SJ, when they continued their discussion about early Hongkong over Radio Hongkong last night.

The ginger industry had come to Hongkong from Canton and there was a romantic story about it, Fr Ryan said. A food hawker selling ginger in Canton had discovered a way to preserve it and he found that it was very palatable. He gained a lot of foreign customers and as the foreign population grew the market became better. Ginger eventually got to England and the story was that Queen Victoria, liking it, ordered it to be served at all her banquets as a dessert.

The product was one of the few things over which Hongkong had a complete monopoly throughout the world—it was the only place in the world which really mattered when it came to ginger. Many efforts had been made to distribute it on a big scale but it was still being treated as a luxury product and in some countries the price

The Hakkas earned for a pattern and there were really artists among them. One granite site was Morrison Hill, the clearing of which had begun in 1922 or 1923 when it had been expected that the hill would be levelled in two or three years' time. To-day, they were still trying to do so. Many of the Colony's roads were metalled with the rock from Morrison Hill.

There was no doubt that one thing in which Hongkong was very well off was building stone. Outside of granite the Colony had the very resistant volcanic rock and there was, too, the Blue Stone. The Peak was of volcanic rock. Most of the Kowloon hills were mainly granite except Kowloon Peak which was volcanic. Lion Rock was also of granite.

Hongkong granite had been sent to Shanghai, the Philippines and even to Singapore. The buildings along the Shanghai waterfront were of granite from Hongkong, Dr Davis pointed out.

Figure 3.84 Hong Kong granite has been well known and exported to Shanghai, Philippines and Singapore – A talk on old Hong Kong reported on South China Morning Post dated 7th March 1953.

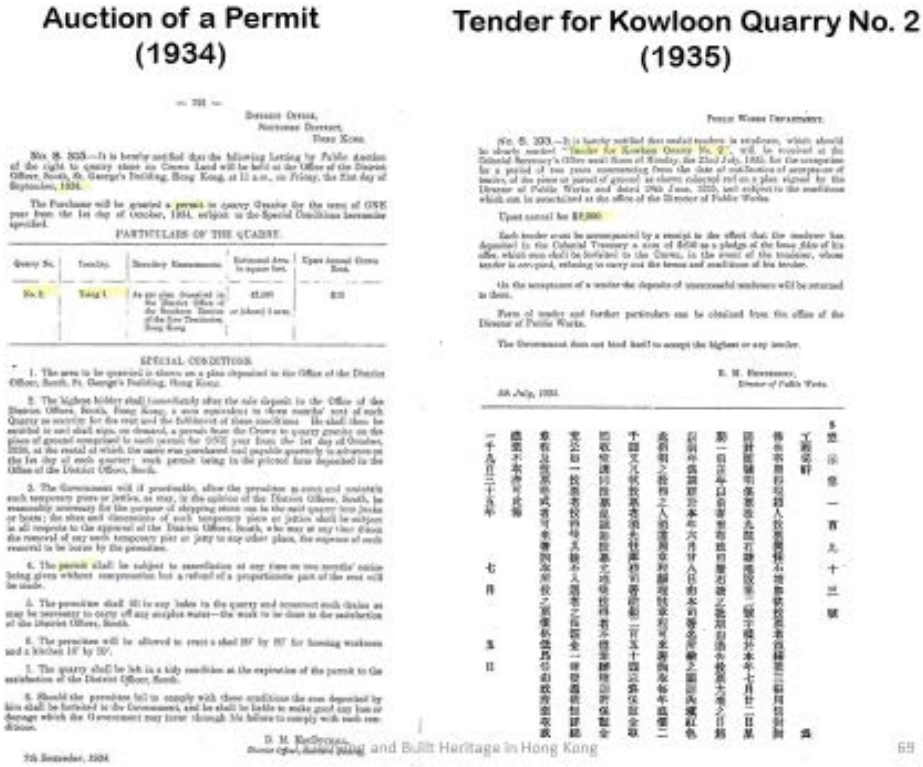


Figure 3.85 Announcement of an auction of a quarry permit in 1934 and a tender for a Kowloon quarry in 1935.

4. Other Quarrying Issues

4.1 Pirates

Pirates had been a frequent problem faced by the sea travelers. As illustrated previously, the stone boats had been a common target for the pirates who focused on not just the ships, the cargos but also the people on board.

Mr. Kin met with the pirate trouble when he won the license in 1845. Among the others, such unfortunate experience could attribute to his big loss in the stone business.

The table below shows the stone boat was captured by pirates about 10 miles from Cheong Sa Wan in March 1855.

2. Despatches : 1855 May to June - Report on list of piracy

13 march 1855 – stone boat captured at cheong sa wan 10 miles by 1 pirate boat

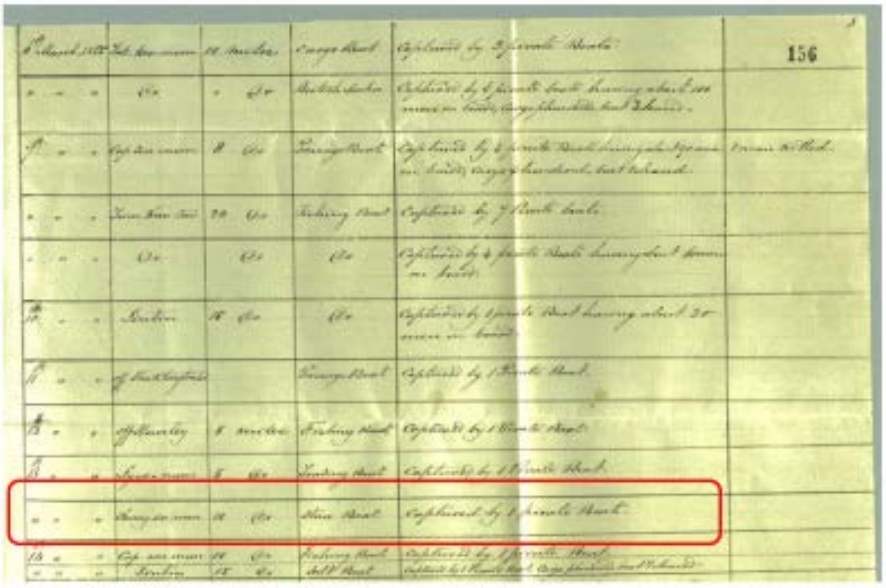
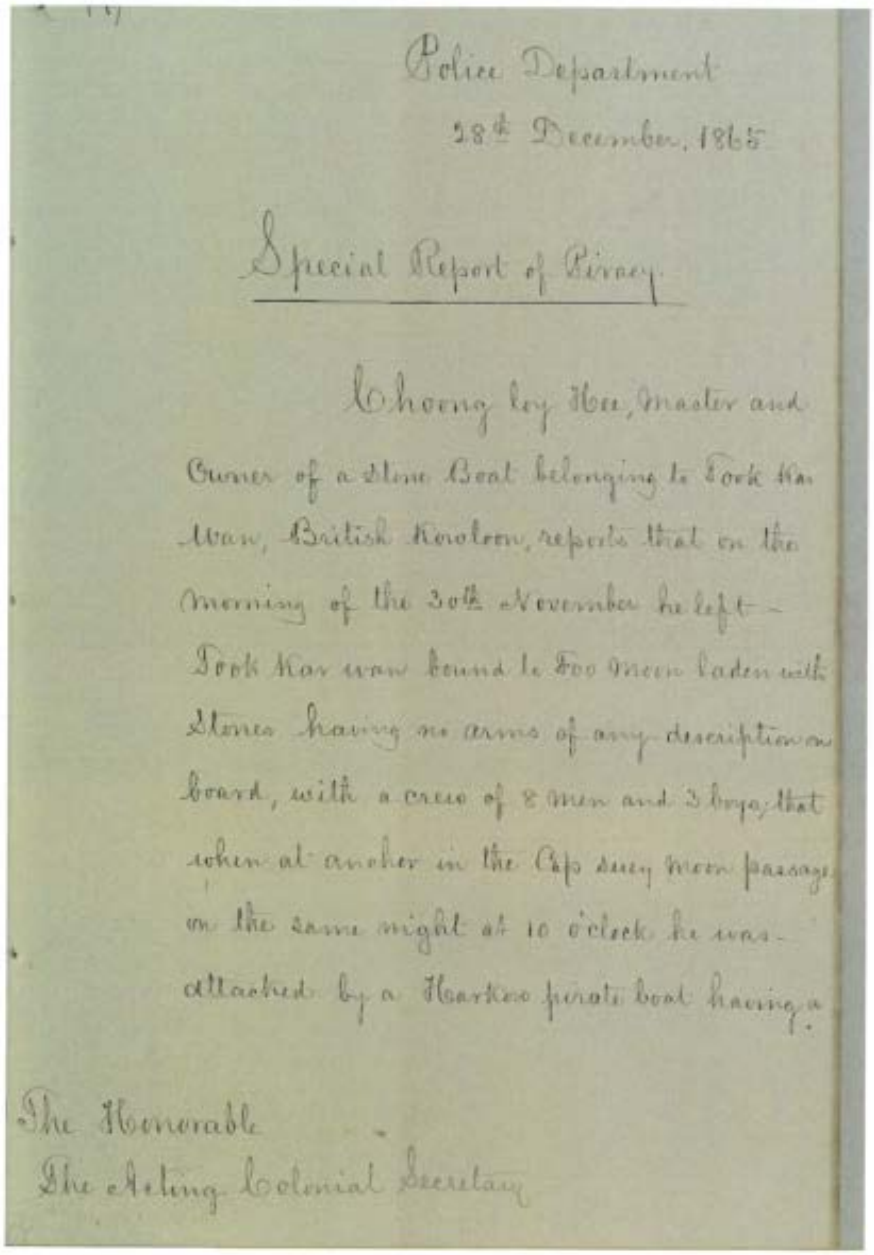


Figure 3.86 Report on piracy from May to June 1855. A stone boat was captured 10 miles from Cheong Sha Wan by a pirate boat on 13 March 1855.

- 1866 Despatches : Jan to Feb – special report on piracy
  Captain Superintendent report dated 28th December 1865 – Choong loy hee, master and owner of a stone boat belonging to Took Kar Wan (To Kwa Wan ?) British Kowloon attacked and captured by pirate when anchor at Cap Suey Moon.



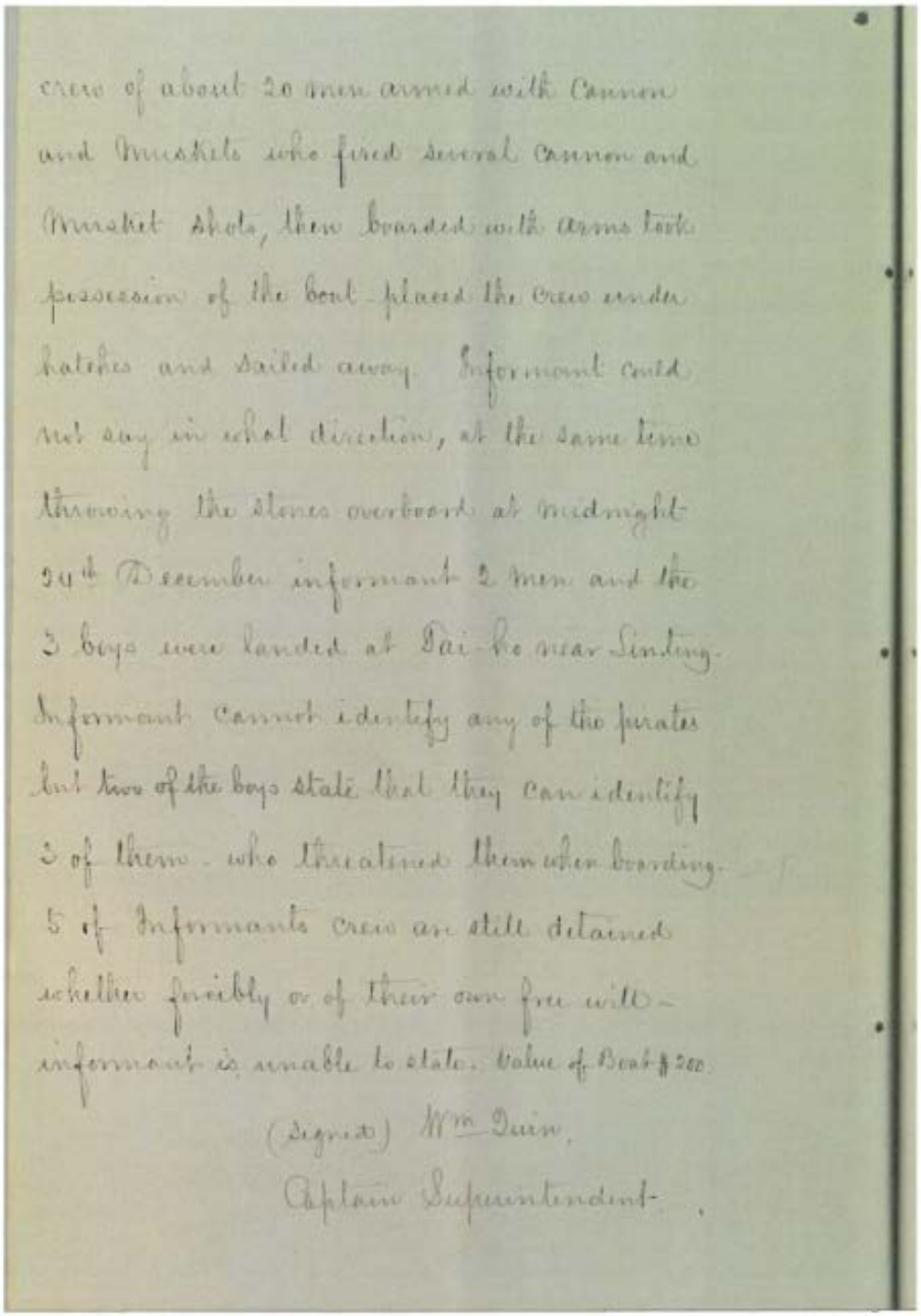
Police Department
28th December, 1865

Special Report of Piracy.

Choong loy Hee, master and
Owner of a Stone Boat belonging to Took Kar
Wan, British Kowloon, reports that on the
morning of the 30th November he left –
Took Kar wan bound to Foo Moon laden with
Stones having no arms of any description on
board, with a crew of 8 men and 3 boys, that
when at anchor in the Cap suey Moon passage
on the same night at 10 o'clock he was
attacked by a Hoklow pirate boat having a

The Honorable
The Acting Colonial Secretary

Figure 3.87 Report on piracy by Captain Superintendent dated 28th December 1865.



crew of about 20 men armed with Cannon and Muskets who fired several Cannon and Musket Shots, then boarded with Arms took possession of the boat placed the Crew under hatches and sailed away. Informant could not say in what direction, at the same time throwing the stones overboard at midnight 24th December informant 2 men and the 3 boys were landed at Dai-ho near Sinting. Informant cannot identify any of the pirates but two of the boys state that they can identify 3 of them - who threatened them when boarding. 5 of Informants crew are still detained whether forcibly or of their own free will - informant is unable to state. Value of Boat $200.

(Signed) Wm Quin.
Captain Superintendent.

Figure 3.88 Choong Loy-hee, master and owner of a stone boat belonging to Took Kar Wan, British Kowloon, was attached and captured by pirate when anchored at Cap Sui Moon

4.2 Masons

Masons from Ng Wah, Guangdong, well known for their skills nationally and Internationally. Before 1949, they left home to come to Hong Kong and south-east Asia, using their skill in stone work to earn their living. Many shops were open by the masons in Guangdong, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore. Many delicate stone works were made possible based on their smart skills and hard work. The Chinese from Ng Wah are mostly masons.

At the start of the colonial Hong Kong, there was a need for cutting the hill, opening for roads, stacking the sea walls, erecting the buildings, and constructing roads, many Ng Wah masons went to Hong Kong to find a job. They are particularly famous in the skills to form circular columns. In Hong Kong, these people settled from Hollywood Road in the west, passing Shek Tong Tsui, and Pokfulam, towards Queen's Road East in the east, passing the places such as Happy Valley, Tai Hang, North Point, and Shau Kei Wan. Sai Ying Poon, Pokfulam, Tai Hang, Shaukeiwan have become villages due to their staying.

According to Professor Law Heung Lam, in his paper about the early history of masons in Hong Kong and the relationship with its development, it was mentioned that a review of magnificent architectures in Hong Kong always have their appearance formed by dressing the stone faces, erecting arch door frames, putting up stone pillars with differing appearance and stylistic. Because of the geographic layout, seawalls formed by stacking the stone blocks and tunnel construction are great works. The Hakka masons demonstrate their skills in Hong Kong's architecture.

Besides contributing to the stone work, many of them have become popular constructors. Lee Ho Yue, the father of the Asian Footballer Lee Wai Tong, was one of the prominent representative. His skills in handling the stone attribute to accumulation of his wealth. He also had been elected as the Chief of Guangdong and Hong Kong Stone Trade Associations. He had the nick names of the Stone Great Man and the Stone Champion. The stone work of the third generation of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Building in Hong Kong was erected by him and Ngai Bill Kee.

To satisfy the China's need of large scale infrastructure construction, Masons from Ng Wah went to work in all places in China. They are superior in cutting and carving work.

In the early days, lots of granite were available for quality building construction at the western end of Hong Kong island. Masons from Waizhou settled early in Shek Tong Tsui. In Emperor Qi Lung's 36th year, a mason called Chu Kui Yuen from Cheung Lok came and settled in Hong Kong. Masons quarried and cut the stones as bricks, then transported them to the coast of Aberdeen for delivery by boats. As stones were arranged in rows, the place has been called Stone Row Bay (Shek Pai Wan). Many of them became rich from quarrying work such as Tang Yuen Cheong, Tsang Sam Lee, Tsang Keng Kee, Yuen Shek Sau, Lee Shui Kam and Lee Hon Si.

Tang Yuen Cheong came to Hong Kong and established his Yuen Cheong Mason Company near Man Mo Temple in Sheung Wan. He was the sixth child of his parents so called "Stone Cutting Six". He was honest and skillful, with confidence of the government officials he was able to contract a lot of stone works. He was involved in cutting the rocky hill between Shek Tong Tsui and Sai Ying Poon. He donated a lot and supported the Koon Yam Temple at Tze Wan Shan.

Tsang Sam Lee, also called "Short Brother Three". Came to Hong Kong with his brother, he first worked at a quarry in Shaukeiwan. He was highly appraised by the boss, and some years later he set up his Tai Yuen Masons Company. Contracting to quarry rocks, he made a lot of money. Twenty years later, he built the big mansion in Shatin. Named as Tsang Big House, it was regarded as the typical Hakka architecture.

The following is extracted from the Report on the history of Quarrying in Hong Kong

Workers working in the quarries were local people who had set up their own way of management and rules. Their houses were their homes and the quarry was their society. Besides masons, the other profession found was blacksmiths who had to take the routine repair of the sharp cutter, hammer and spade. As all dressing must be done in the quarry, the stone polisher was the skilled artisan living in the quarry. A small independent society was thus formed in the early days.

Quarrymen had to bring their tools to work. The major ones included sharp cutter, hammer, spade, maul, chisel, wedges, and rattan baskets. There was a fixed time for blasting, the announcement is required normally by hitting a copper pan called "gong' which could produce a sharp sound to alert people, not only for safety, but also for collecting large stones to produce stones of different sizes. Stone cutters were grouped outside the restricted area waiting to obtain the best size of stones for cutting. When the blasting was completed, some cutters would run as fast as they could to identify their stones. They used a small red brick to mark a sign on the stones which they would cut. Obviously there were quarrels most of the time. As the rule was based on "first come first served", the quarry master would not involve unless there were arguments causing blood. Quarry masters were delegated the power to maintain order and stability under the quarry lease.

After identifying their boulders, stone cutters had to use the cutter and hammer to chop the stones into smaller pieces. Others would polish the stones to the required standard. There was no safety protection except a thin glove made from the used cloth. The suitable sizes of stone were placed in a rattan basket and weighed by the quarry master to assess the payment. Sometimes, there were serious disputes, and these were normally settled in the temple. The thickness of stone products normally varied from 3" to 2", with sizes from 1'6" by 9" to 6" by 2'. The small piece of 1'6" by 9" by 6" was around four cents, and the largest piece of 6' by 2' by 2' was $7 and 20 cents in 1865. There were other specifically made structural stones used as stanchions in buildings, by that was on a special order.

The historian professor H.L. Lo categorized rock cutting into five types as shown in the following table.

Table 3.8 Five types of rock cutting by Professor H.L. Lo

Stone block	*A virgin piece of granite from the quarry.* *Normally use for base course in roads or reclamation.*
Dressing	*The granite was polished to have a smooth and regular face.* *Normally produced in the form of stanchion, facing, or ion shape, and used in building structures or decorations.*
Curbing	*The granite was cut to a rectangular shape.* *Normally used in buildings, retaining walls and foundations.*
Craving	*Names were carved on the granite.* *Used as related accessories for tombs.*
Grinding	*The granite was grinded into small pieces.* *Normally use for roads and aggregate.*

Of the five types, Block, Dressing, Curbing and Craving were common during this period. As concrete was not yet used locally before the end of the nineteenth century, aggregates were not common production in the early days.

Two major changes in the twentieth century were production of aggregates and use of dynamites. The machinery used for transportation and crushing were only used in special quarries, of which the government could purchase from England. The use of rubber instead of cloth for protecting the fingers was a step forward. However, accidents were common. Lack of precaution shields and keeping dynamite without permits were common changes to stone masons and contractors. Henry Blake had also written vividly on the Chinese stone-cutting techniques. The practice of quarrying before the Second World War can be summarized below.

As all the outcrops of granite had been quarried in the past years, the general nature was that good grade granite laid about fifty feet below the surface, this layer of surface subsoil was decomposed granite. The other geological structure that made blasting necessary was that the rocks were not disintegrated by river erosion.

The overburden was normally of either sedimentary deposits of decomposed rock; and the thickness ranged from twenty to forty feet. The usual practice in other places was that a road was constructed to the top of the quarry, and overburden was removed and carried away through the road. But in Hong Kong, the practice

was to shovel the soil down the rock face to be carried away by trucks from the foot of the quarry. It is obvious that this was very labour intensive. The disadvantages were safety of the workers and contamination of the rock caused by the soil rolling down. The reasons for using this method were small scale of the quarry and steep hillsides which made the construction of a road to the top very difficult."

4.3 Revenue from Quarry Leases and Opium License 1844 - 1940

It has been noted that revenues from quarrying is generally small; about a couple of percentages of the total. The revenues from 1844 until the second world war is listed below. To make a comparison with other revenues, the income from opium is listed.

Table 3.9 Revenue from quarry leases and opium license 1844 - 1940

Year	Quarry Rents ($)	Opium hkd($)	total revenue hkd($)	Quarry	Opium
1844	412.8	0.00	45,763.20	0.90%	0.00%
1845	2097.6	11,443.20	106,761.60	1.96%	10.72%
1846	2731.2	19,766.40	129,825.60	2.10%	15.23%
1847	2409.6	15,278.40	149,174.40	1.62%	10.24%
1848	2856	8,961.60	120,436.80	2.37%	7.44%
1849	3076.8	7,516.80	113,361.60	2.71%	6.63%
1850	2424	6,748.80	164,707.20	1.47%	4.10%
1851	4305.6	6,302.40	163,752.00	2.63%	3.85%
1852	3849.6	7,099.20	166,872.00	2.31%	4.25%
1853	3196.8	7,185.60	118,560.00	2.70%	6.06%
1854	2049.6	8,908.80	129,816.00	1.58%	6.86%
1855	2294.4	12,278.40	230,270.40	1.00%	5.33%
1856	4761.6	12,417.60	170,400.00	2.79%	7.29%
1857	5270.4	11,817.60	282,441.60	1.87%	4.18%
~~1858~~	0	21,638.40	298,444.80	0.00%	7.25%
~~1859~~	0	28,161.60	313,080.00	0.00%	9.00%
~~1860~~	0	49,886.40	452,073.60	0.00%	11.04%
~~1861~~	0	59,577.60	610,756.80	0.00%	9.75%
~~1862~~	0	76,420.80	631,257.60	0.00%	12.11%
~~1863~~	0	77,640.00	576,374.40	0.00%	13.47%

~~1864~~	0	78,297.60	637,843.20	0.00%	12.28%
1865	3475	69,057.60	844,411.20	0.41%	8.18%
~~1866~~		73,035.00	700,070.58	0.00%	10.43%
1867	8251.2	84,500.00	859,403.02	0.96%	9.83%
1868	5208	94,968.00	1,134,120.00	0.46%	8.37%
~~1869~~	0	108,660.00	923,053.01	0.00%	11.77%
1870	4348.8	113,080.00	914,076.37	0.48%	12.37%
1871	7800	113,793.60	844,617.60	0.92%	13.47%
1872	4224	122,400.00	925,027.20	0.46%	13.23%
1873	4248	96,696.00	847,579.20	0.50%	11.41%
1874	9379.2	130,564.80	854,913.60	1.10%	15.27%
1875	23232	136,996.80	896,726.40	2.59%	15.28%
1876	1315.2	132,998.40	885,144.00	0.15%	15.03%
1877	14325.33	132,000.00	1,005,312.03	1.42%	13.13%
1878	14311.5	132,000.00	947,637.72	1.51%	13.93%
1879	9506	209,916.63	964,094.99	0.99%	21.77%
1880	12954	205,000.00	1,069,947.64	1.21%	19.16%
1881	13200	187,916.67	1,120,796.77	1.18%	16.77%
1882	15249	200,005.71	1,209,517.08	1.26%	16.54%
1883	23600	246,449.95	1,289,448.29	1.83%	19.11%
1884	19600	113,826.13	1,171,098.99	1.67%	9.72%
1885	15950	153,751.64	1,251,889.70	1.27%	12.28%
1886	17400	178,500.00	1,367,977.74	1.27%	13.05%
1887	17400	182,400.00	1,427,485.79	1.22%	12.78%
1888	19680	182,074.00	1,557,300.03	1.26%	11.69%
1889	20946.67	428,400.00	1,823,549.13	1.15%	23.49%
1890	22993.33	477,600.00	1,995,220.47	1.15%	23.94%
1891	26265.56	389,900.00	2,023,302.51	1.30%	19.27%
1892	16700	407,900.00	2,236,933.37	0.75%	18.23%
1893	11280	340,800.00	2,078,135.26	0.54%	16.40%
1894	15250	340,800.00	2,284,203.32	0.67%	14.92%
1895	8100	295,133.34	2,486,228.89	0.33%	11.87%
1896	15850	286,000.00	2,609,878.94	0.61%	10.96%
1897	15500	286,000.00	2,686,914.70	0.58%	10.64%
1898	15860	357,666.66	2,918,159.24	0.54%	12.26%
1899	18600	372,000.00	3,610,143.25	0.52%	10.30%
1900	24130	372,000.00	4,202,587.40	0.57%	8.85%
1901	43865	687,000.00	4,213,893.22	1.04%	16.30%
1902	29250	750,000.00	4,901,073.70	0.60%	15.30%
1903	29870	750,000.00	5,238,857.88	0.57%	14.32%
1904	41425	1,945,000.00	6,809,047.99	0.61%	28.56%
1905	41887	2,040,000.00	6,918,403.85	0.61%	29.49%
1906	41887	2,040,000.00	7,035,011.78	0.60%	29.00%
1907	40999.5	1,550,000.00	6,602,280.25	0.62%	23.48%
1908	40897.5	1,452,000.00	6,104,207.38	0.67%	23.79%
1909	40897.5	1,452,000.00	6,822,966.93	0.60%	21.28%

1910	38092.5	1,228,000.00	6,960,869.28	0.55%	17.64%
1911	45139	1,183,200.00	7,497,231.23	0.60%	15.78%
1912	26016	1,183,200.00	8,180,694.08	0.32%	14.46%
1913	26376	1,183,200.00	8512308.84	0.70%	31.62%
1914	29429	3,741,500.20	11,007,273.09	0.27%	33.99%
1915	27644.78	4,701,877.82	11,786,106.67	0.23%	39.89%
1916	20064.78	5,811,110.15	13,833,386.86	0.15%	42.01%
1917	22715.57	5,887,475.44	12,358,396.88	0.18%	47.64%
1918	32675	8,686,622.48	15,764,783.93	0.21%	55.10%
1919	29704.03	6,803,034.65	16,524,974.90	0.18%	41.17%
1920	32756.04	4,317,970.90	14,689,671.93	0.22%	29.39%
1921	38331.03	3,938,197.99	17,728,131.94	0.22%	22.21%
1922	41117.98	5,551,305.35	22,291,061.81	0.18%	24.90%
1923	44658.04	5,712,056.97	24,783,762.53	0.18%	23.05%
1924	47899.13	5,147,012.05	24,209,639.72	0.20%	21.26%
1925	25891.28	3,392,381.00	23,244,365.94	0.11%	14.59%
1926	6993.24	2,831,305.22	21,131,584.64	0.03%	13.40%
1927	10610.75	3,344,370.65	21,344,535.72	0.05%	15.67%
1928	18302.02	3,318,225.95	24,968,398.88	0.07%	13.29%
1929	24189.6	2,651,491.72	23,554,475.16	0.10%	11.26%
1930	30347.49	2,835,286.90	27,818,474.00	0.11%	10.19%
1931	38269.29	3,019,724.02	33,146,724.00	0.12%	9.11%
1932	35728.99	2,314,226.25	33,540,716.00	0.11%	6.90%
1933	23304.1	1,152,851.70	32,099,278.00	0.07%	3.59%
1934	23155.51	655,067.94	29,574,286.00	0.08%	2.21%
1935	19098.64	352,713.55	28,430,550.00	0.07%	1.24%
1936	16603.55	432,026.10	30,042,984.00	0.06%	1.44%
1937	18880.47	314,769.00	33,196,367.00	0.06%	0.95%
1938	19591.67	345,090.64	36,735,855.00	0.05%	0.94%
1939	20634.99	1,025,269.76	41,478,052.00	0.05%	2.47%
1940	20607.45	3,082,851.22	58,958,084.00	0.03%	5.23%

It can be seen that the revenue from quarry leases was only up to a couple of percentage. Revenue from opium license can be up to half of the total income.

5. Conclusions

Well before the British came, quarrying of stone near the sea shore on Hong Kong island had frequently been observed and recorded. The island had often been described as rocky and barren by visitors in the early days.

As a matter of fact, the geology map of Hong Kong shows that there is abundant reserve of granite particularly on the two opposite sides of the Victoria Harbour.

John Davies started to levy the stone works as an assertion of sovereignty even the amount of revenue was very low. Tender for a quarrying license started in 1844 and the license was awarded to Lo Sin at a cost of $800. Due to later expansion in territory governance, separate license was issued to all quarries in Kowloon Peninsula and to individual quarry in the New Territories.

Quality granite was not only used in Hong Kong construction but also has been exported to mainland China and Asian cities. At first, granite could have been used as ballast for vessels. In 1850s, quality granite was exported to San Francisco for the Parrott Building construction. In 1860s granite from Ngau Tau Kok and Cha Kwo Ling was quarried for the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Guangzhou. In 1892 granite cladding was being shipped and installed at the Gap Rock Lighthouse. All these buildings have been made known for more than a century yet the quality granite has not caused any undesirable maintenance and repair problem.

Data from Reports of Trade Ports in Hong Kong indicated that several tens of thousand pieces of granite were exported annually.

In 1910s both the Wong Po Kin Stone House and the New Customs House in Guangzhou used granite as the facing of the buildings. A decade or so later, stone cladding from Hong Kong were used for commercial high rise buildings in Shanghai.

To pay tribute to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the Mausoleum in Nanjing, the Memorial Cenotaph and the Memorial Auditorium in Guangzhou all specified Hong Kong granite were used as the facings to the walls.

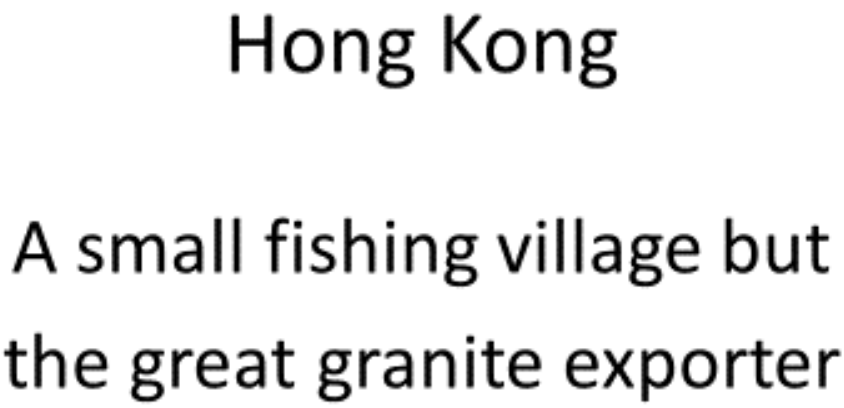
Quality granite from Hong Kong had been found to possess high strength and durability particularly suitable to be installed in locations where extreme

temperatures, strong winds and sea waves were encountered. Many of these buildings or structures with such installation are still functioning well today.

The masons working in Hong Kong were mainly come from Ng Wah of Guangdong province. They are well known for their skills in cutting and dressing stones.

The combination of the Ng Wah masons' skill, the hard work of local workers, and the flexible mindset of businessmen had produced quality granite for use locally as well as for overseas construction for almost a century.

With the full history of granite revealed, Hong Kong should be remarked as a place where vast quantities of world class granite was produced not just to meet the local need but also for overseas construction. We should remember Hong Kong not just a small fishing village before but also a great granite explorer.



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