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GEOLOGICAL EXPLANATORY NOTES

The solid geology of the district is dominated by Upper Palaeozoic sedimentary rocks and Mesozoic volcanic and intrusive igneous rocks. Pre- and post-volcanic Mesozoic sedimentary rocks are also present in the district.

Palaeozoic Lower Carboniferous San Tin Group is divided into the Yuen Long and Lok Ma Chau formations. The Yuen Long Formation comprises pure marble (the Ma Tin Member), and impure and dolomitic marble, with subordinate chert and metasiltstone interbeds (the Long Ping Member). The marbles occur at Tai Shan Wai and Pak Hok Chau as subcrops beneath a cover of superficial deposits of at least 20 m thick. The Lok Ma Chau Formation, mainly exposed on the low hills at Lok Ma Chau and Ma Tso Lung, is divided into two units: the lower Mai Po Member and the upper Tai Shek Mo Member. The Mai Po Member comprises metamorphosed siltstone and phyllite with minor metasandstone and graphite schist, whereas the Tai Shek Mo Member consists of metasandstone with subordinate metaconglomerate and phyllite.

A sequence of metamorphosed siltstone, sandstone and carbonaceous mudstone near Fung Kong Shan, which was previously considered to belong to the Mai Po Member, has now been reassigned to the Tai O Formation. This sequence is now recognized as pre-volcanic sediments underlying the Mesozoic volcanic

Mesozoic volcanic successions include the Tuen Mun Formation and the Tsuen Wan Volcanic Group, both are of Middle Jurassic age. Volcaniclastic sandstone, siltstone and conglomerate with occasional flattened marble clasts belonging to the Tin Shui Wai and Siu Hang Tsuen members of the Tuen Mun Formation are found underneath Tin Shui Wai. Meta-sandstone and conglomerate layers crop out at Mong Tseng Wai, which were previously mapped as part of the Carboniferous Lok Ma Chau Formation, have now been reassigned to the Siu Hang Tsuen Member. The Shing Mun and Tai Mo Shan formations belonging to the Middle Jurassic Tsuen Wan Volcanic Group occur from Kai Kung Leung to Ki Lung Shan (Hadden Hill). Both formations consist mainly of lithic-bearing coarse ash tuff with subordinate tuffaceous sandstone, although the lithology of the Shing Mun Formation is more variable.

The post-volcanic Cretaceous Kat O Formation is exposed along the coastline to the west of Lau Fau Shan and found in offshore boreholes in Deep Bay. It comprises thickly bedded, reddish purple, granite clast-bearing breccia, conglomerate and coarse sandstone.

Granites of Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous age intrude or are in fault contact with the Carboniferous to Middle Jurassic strata. The Tsing Shan Granite is dominantly fine- to medium-grained, locally sheared and intruded by quartz veins, and occurs at a narrow zone extending from San Hing Tsuen to Tsim Bei Tsui. A porphyritic coarse-grained granite, which remains to be undifferentiated, is identified in boreholes at Lok Ma Chau Loop and in Deep Bay. Porphyritic fine- to medium-grained granodiorite, which is tentatively assigned to the Middle Jurassic Tai Po Granodiorite, has limited occurrences near Ng Uk Tsuen and Hong Kong Wetland Park. Undifferentiated felsic dykes cut the sedimentary, volcanic and granitic rocks at various locations. Quartz veins are common in all rock types, the largest being closely associated with the Deep

The structure of the district is dominated by the northeast-trending Lo Wu-Tuen Mun Fold Belt (Fault Zone), which comprises a series of folds and ductile shear zones associated with the major northeast-trending faults, including Deep Bay Fault, Yuen Tau Shan Fault, East Tuen Mun Fault, Mai Po Fault and San Tin Fault. Apart from ductile shearing, the rocks within the fault zone have been subjected to dynamic and hydrothermal metamorphism, and brecciation and silicification are also evident in some of these faults. The rocks of the San Tin Group and parts of the Tsuen Wan Volcanic Group are also regionally metamorphosed to phyllite, biotite and sericite schist, metasandstone and metatuff.

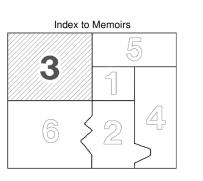
A weathered mantle covers most of the district. The effect of weathering upon the different rock types is broadly reflected in the topographic relief. In general, the finer grained tuffs tend to form higher and sharper peaks, whereas granites and sedimentary rocks form lower and more rounded hills.

Quaternary intertidal deposits form the Tin Shui Wai, Mai Po and San Tin plains. Beach and backshore sand deposits fringe the coastline from Lau Fau Shan to Tsim Bei Tsui, as well as the palaeo-shoreline at Tam Kon Chau. These sediments, together with the marine mud covering the seabed of Deep Bay, belong to the Holocene Hang Hau Formation. Alluvium and colluvium of both Pleistocene and Holocene age are present in the district. Alluviual deposits are present along the lower stream courses and are widespread on low ground at Long Valley, Tsiu Keng and Ngau Tam Mei. In the hilly areas, colluvium is common, lining the upland valleys and the foothills. The Holocene alluvial deposits, accumulated along recent stream courses, are assigned to the Fanling Formation; whereas the older alluvium and colluvium, belonging to the Pleistocene Chek Lap Kok Formation are present in onshore area as well as covered by marine sediments of the Holocene Hang Hau Formation.

GEOLOGICAL MEMOIRS

Earlier descriptions of the geology for the areas covered by the maps in this series are published as memoirs of the Hong Kong Geological Survey. The first edition of Map Sheet 2 (1989 and 1994) was described in Memoir No. 3, "Geology of Western New Territories" (1989). The geology of the district is summarised in two memoirs, The Pre-Quaternary Geology of Hong Kong (2000) and The Quaternary Geology of Hong Kong (2000) that are accompanied by a series of 1:100,000-scale geological maps. An online version of these two memoirs is available at: (http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/about-us/organisation/org_geo/services/pub_info/ memoirs/geology/index.html).

The latest revisions to Map Sheet 2 are described in Geological Report GR 2/2022, "Updating of Hong Kong Geological Survey 1:20,000-scale Maps – Major Findings and Revisions Map Sheet 2 – San Tin". The published maps and memoirs are available from the online Government Book store (http://www.bookstore.gov.hk), and the Geological Report is available on request from the Chief Geotechnical Engineer / Planning, GEO, CEDD.





BASE MAP REFERENCE

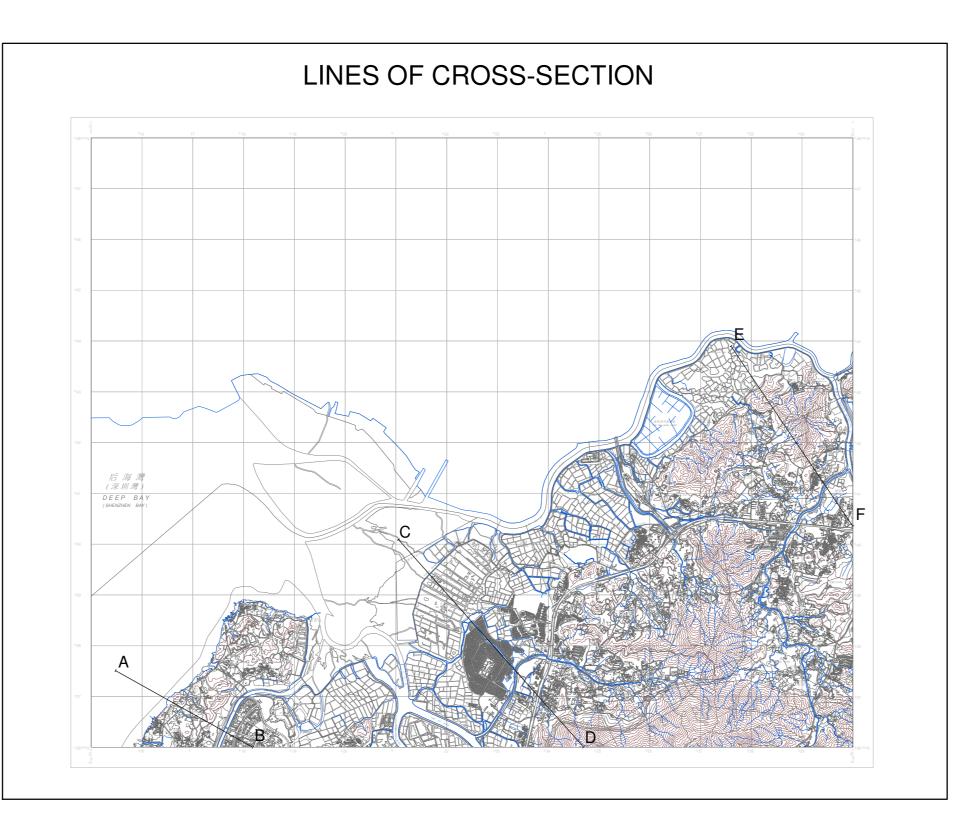
Main road with route number	<u>6</u>
Secondary roads	
Road under construction	=====
Footpath	
Railway with station	Station
River, watercourse & catchwater	
Water tunnel	
Swamp	
Mud	
Building or built-up area	
Cultivation	ADHAR
Powerline	Pylon

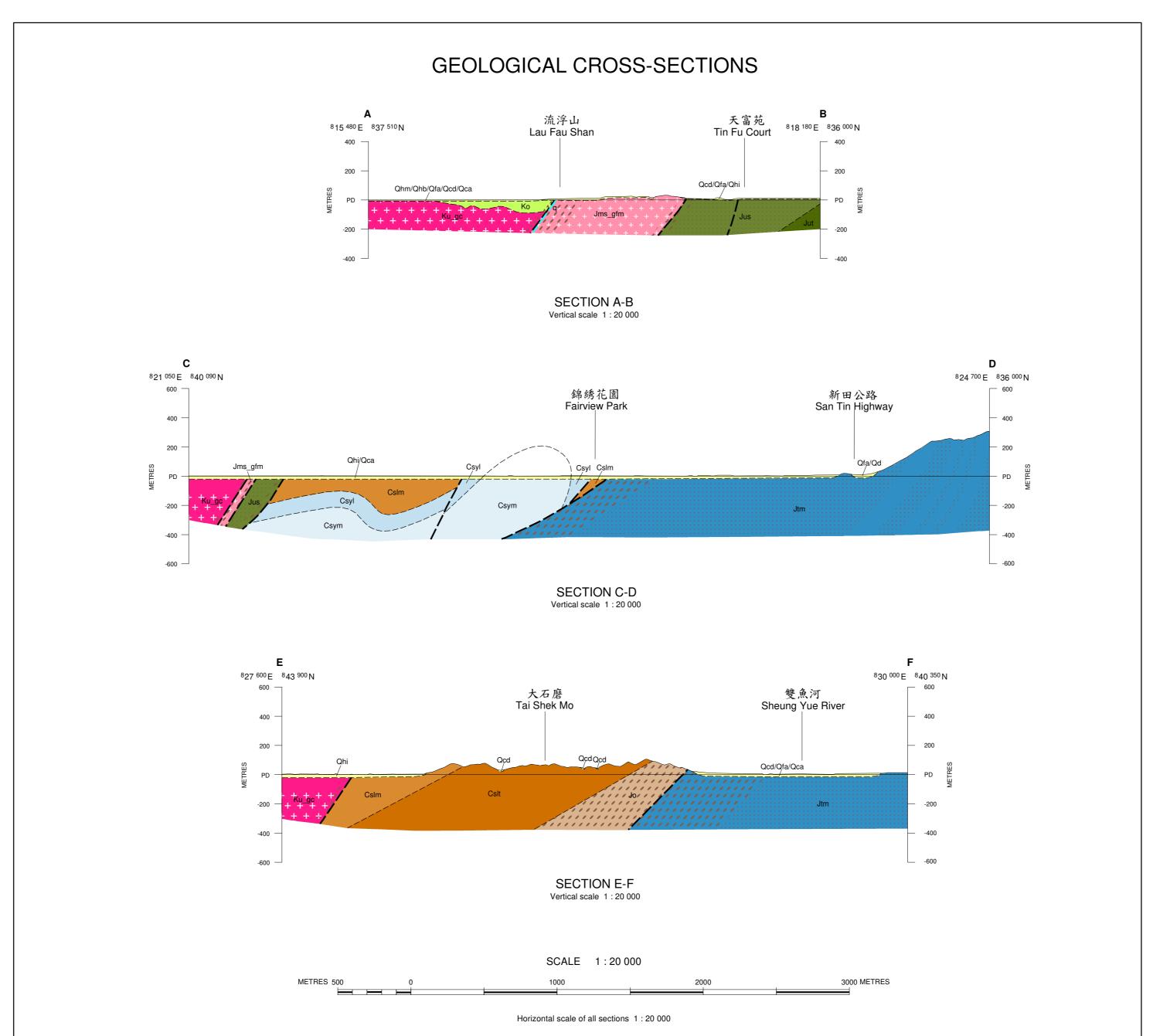
The base map is a monochrome version of Sheet 6, Topographic Series HM20C, published by Lands Department.

Heights are in metres above Principal Datum, which is 1.2m below Mean Sea Level. The contour interval is

Submarine contours, shown by 5m, 10m, 15m, 20m, 30m and 50m, are derived from the Hong Kong Electronic Navigation Charts prepared by the Hydrographic Office of the Hong Kong SAR Government.

The Hong Kong 1980 Grid on this geological edition is shown at 1000 metre spacing. For further information on the topographical and cultural elements, consult the Topographic Series HM20C.





Sheet 2 Series HGM20S