

Conclusion

“Full of grace, a beacon to pass on”. This commemorative monograph records the development and evolution of drainage infrastructure in Hong Kong in the past century and more, as well as the achievements of the DSD over the past thirty years. Sir Osbert Chadwick (an engineer and a university professor) proposed in 1882 that an intercepting sewer be laid on Hong Kong Island to collect and convey sewage to the west of the Island and dispose of it into the waters in the vicinity after simple treatment, with a view to reducing water pollution in the central Victoria Harbour. Though in resemblance to the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme of today, this recommendation was never taken on board then. On the other hand, the Bowrington Canal in Wan Chai (beneath the Canal Road Flyover of today) that was built in the 1880s separated the residential area in the west and the industrial area in the east. The engineers built along the canal a promenade lined with trees to provide the public with a green, revitalised and water-friendly sitting-out environment, the concept of which resembles that of “Blue-Green Infrastructure” and river revitalisation of today.

“History is a mirror of the future”. The above exemplars bear testimony to the fact that the project team, with sincerity and spirit of adventure, has been consistently providing people-oriented services. In retrospect, while natural disasters and epidemics have presented both challenges and opportunities, Hong Kong has been developing and evolving through all these trials and tribulations. Nowadays, Hong Kong has reliable sewerage and flood protection infrastructures, as well as professional and highly efficient human assets. We will remain true to our predecessors’ aspiration and belief, and at the same time pass them on to the coming generations, striving with dedication to provide high quality sewage treatment and flood protection services to the public.



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