

No. 2 - Shing Mun Fung Shui Woodland

Site

There is a "Fung Shui Woodland" about 6 hectares in area near the north-eastern end of Jubilee Reservoir.

Date of Designation

25 February 1975

Special Scientific Interest

This "Fung Shui Woodland" was related to the village "Tai Wai Village" which was evacuated in 1929 as part of the water catchment scheme in the area.

The woodland was protected by villagers in accordance with ancient traditions relating to the inter-actions of Wind (Fung) and Water (Shui) on the village, and is believed to present a remnant of the forest type which might have been expected to cover large areas of Hong Kong if a similar standard of portection had been applied over the whole territory.

There are few other sites in Hong Kong which exhibit such dense, tall, natural plant cover representing an interesting collection of local hardwood trees. About 3,100 trees all over 4" in diameter and 76 different species have been recorded in this compact area.

This woodland will provide the basis for comparison with similar relic woodlands occuring elsewhere in Hong Kong.

Degree of Hazard

Being located within a water catchment area, this woodland is protected by the management and protection services of the Agriculture & Fisheries Department.

Though it escaped destruction in the serious hill fire which broke out nearby on 31 December 1973, a few trees at the edge were scorched. Hill fires pose a continual threat to its existence.

Recommended Additional Protection Measures

Agriculture & Fisheries Department will continue to give priority to the protection of this woodland. However, a fire break of the bare-ground type round the woodland is not appropriate for sylvicultural, amenity and soil erosion reasons. An Acacia firebreak was planted round the north eastern boundary of the woodland in 1974 planting season.

Information as at the date of SSSI designation 根據具特殊科學價值地點指定日期時的資料

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References

Shen, D.C. (1971) "Fung Shui Woodland" Wildlife Conservation Newsletter No. 13, published by Agriculture & Fisheries Department