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## Review of Old and Valuable Trees in Hong Kong 香港古樹名木的概況

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## Background and History of OVT 古樹名木冊的背景與由來

- Registration of OVT taking effect on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2004. Aims to preserve old and valuable trees on unleased Government land  
於2004年9月13日正式設立古樹名木冊，目的旨在保護已發展官地上的古樹及有特別價值的樹
- Technical Circular 技術指引: ETWB TCW No. 29/2004
- The TC including the procedures for nomination, monitor, maintenance, transplantation, removal, report of death, etc.  
內容包括提名，監察，護理，移植，移除，死亡報告等的程序等
- Managed by LCSD, AFCD and HD  
康樂及文化事務署、漁農自然護理署和房屋署

## Before OVT registration... 沒有古樹名木冊前...

- **Champion Trees** (357) by Urban Council  
冠軍樹 - 1994
- **King of Hong Kong Urban Trees** by Provisional Urban Council's (9 in the final round, total nominations ~120)  
香港市區樹王 (9棵最後入圍，約120棵被提名) - 1997

**They are the foundation of the existing OVT!**  
他們是現時古樹名木冊的基礎!

## Criteria 入選準則

- Trees of large size  
大樹
- Trees of precious or rare species  
珍貴或稀有樹種
- Trees of particularly old age (such as aged over 100 years)  
古樹 ( 例如樹齡超過一百年 )
- Trees of cultural, historical or memorable significance  
具有文化、歷史或重要紀念意義的樹木
- Trees of outstanding form  
樹形出眾的樹木



## As OVT, what caring received? 古樹名木的護理

- Regular assessments (2 times a year)  
一年兩次的定期檢查
- Treatment if needed (pruning, cabling, etc)  
護理工作，如修剪，纜索加固等
- Volunteers help to monitor the trees condition  
義工協助監察和報告樹木的狀況
- Application before any nearby construction works  
任何工程可能會影響樹木，皆必須申請
- Tree Protection Zone for any work  
工程可能會影響樹木需要設立樹木保護區



However, OVT failure cases  
have happened one by one in  
recent years

然而，近年古樹倒塌的例子仍  
一個接一個地發生

1/3 main trunk of the "King of the King" collapsed in Kowloon Park in August 2007 九龍公園樹王中的樹王1/3主幹於2007年八月倒塌



Stanley tree failure fatal accident August 2008 本年八月赤柱樹木塌下的致命意外



## OVT review project by The Conservancy Association 長春社古樹名木評估項目

- Aim: to understand the condition of urban trees with high conservation priority and to establish a database for third party to monitor the management of these OVTs  
目的: 了解和評估這些被優先保育樹木的狀況 · 建立獨立的古樹名木資料庫以監察其管理工作
- Basic assessment was carried out by trained staff, volunteers (Tree Lovers) and 4 in-house ISA Certified Arborists. Collected information will be evaluated and analysis by Arborists  
樹木調查由經訓練同事和義工(Tree Lovers) · 以及機構內4位註冊樹藝師進行 · 收集到的資料再由樹藝師審查和分析
- 220 trees out of the 527 (during start) OVT have been evaluated  
220 已評估棵古樹名木冊上樹木527(項目開展時)棵中的220棵
- Some have been removed after the assessment  
當中有部分於評估後已被移除

## Major problems OVTs in Hong Kong 香港古樹名木的主要問題

Problems	Percentage (among the 220 assessed trees)
Poor Pruning (stub pruning, lion tailing, removing major branch/ trunk, etc) 錯誤修剪(截短 · 獅尾 · 修剪主要或大直徑的幹/枝等)	95%
Not Enough Space (Space for root development) 生長空間不足 (沒有足夠根部生長空間)	92%
Structural defect (Included bark, cavity, decay, etc) 結構問題 (內夾皮 · 樹洞 · 腐爛等)	52%
Damaged (by vehicle, engraved bark, etc) 保護措施不足 (遭車輛撞傷 · 被刻字於樹幹等)	33%

- 527 registered OVT in early this year and only 509 registered trees now  
本年初古樹名木冊上的樹有 5 2 7 棵 · 現在只有 5 0 9 棵

Most of the problems come from poor management  
大部分的問題皆來自不當護理



Removal after carried out assessment  
評估後已被移除



Coral Tree 刺桐 (LCSD WTS/1)



Chinese Banyan 榕樹 (LCSD YTM/9)

## Problems also can be found on other trees

### 同樣問題亦發生於香港其他的樹木

The Conservancy Association also carried out small scale tree survey on other urban trees

長春社亦進行了一項較小規模的市區樹木狀況調查

Problems	Percentage (among the 500 assessed trees)
Poor Pruning (stub pruning, lion tailing, removing major branch/ trunk, etc) 錯誤修剪(截短/獅尾·修剪主要或大直徑的幹/枝等)	<b>90%</b>
Not Enough Space (Space for root development) 生長空間不足(沒有足夠根部生長空間)	<b>87%</b>
Structural defect (Included bark, cavity, decay, etc) 結構問題(內夾皮·樹洞·腐爛等)	<b>85%</b>
Damaged (by vehicle, engraved bark, etc) 保護措施不足(遭車輛撞傷·被刻字於樹幹等)	19%

## Over 50 Champion Tree had collapsed out 357

超過 50 棵冠軍樹已倒塌或移除



Champion Tree at Bonham Rd  
於般含道的冠軍樹



## What is the reason?

### 原因何在？

- Tree defects caused by long term poor management in the past 20-30 years!  
現在很多樹木問題，皆是過去二、三十年來不當護理所造成
- Practitioners lack of up-to-date knowledge for proper tree management (i.e. poor pruning)  
樹木工作者缺乏新而正確的樹木管理知識 (不當修剪)
- Not enough consideration was given to trees during urban development (not enough space)  
城市發展並沒有充分考慮樹木生長的需要 (生長空間不足)
- Tree and tree management are not widely respected and appreciated in Hong Kong  
樹和樹木管理工作仍未廣泛地被社會人仕重視和欣賞

Leung King Estate (2006), HK\$150K “pruned” over 300 mature trees = HK\$500 per tree!

良景邨 (2006) 以15萬港元修剪超過300棵成熟大樹，即修一棵樹約為500港元

**We only want to pay such a little for our trees?  
我們只願意為樹木付出這麼少嗎？**



## What we can do for our long term greening?

為達到長遠的綠化目標，我們可以做甚麼？

- **Continuous learning**, certification and recertification systems for local tree management practitioners in different levels (decertification?)  
加強本地樹木管理人員的**持續培訓**，認可證書和再續證書的制度(加入停牌制?)
- **Right Tree, Right Place** and reserve enough space and environment for tree growth in any development projects  
**適地適樹**，於任何發展亦要留有適合樹木生長的空間和環境
- **Public education** activities to enhance community's knowledge on the importance of proper tree management and the appreciation of trees  
**公眾教育**和活動以加強市民了解正確樹木護理的重要和對樹木的欣賞

