

Q&A – Flagstaff House

1. The Flagstaff House, now the Museum of Tea Ware, was previously

a:

- A) Military base
- B) Government building for the Flags Department
- C) Private residence of a rich Chinese businessman
- D) Museum of another subject

Correct answer: (a)

The Flagstaff House was the British's first military establishment in Hong Kong.

2. The Flagstaff House is located at:

- A) The Peak
- B) Tamar Site
- C) Hong Kong Park
- D) "Bing Tau Fa Yuen", today's Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens

Correct answer: (c)

The Flagstaff House is located at the Hong Kong Park. The site offered a complete view of the Victoria Harbour when it was built in 1846.

3. The British Royal Navy had landed in Hong Kong prior to the signing of the Treaty of Nanking. What year was it?

- A) 1840

B) 1841

C) 1842

D) 1843

Correct answer: (b)

The British Royal Navy landed in Hong Kong in 1841 at "Possession Point" in Sheung Wan, at what is now Shui Hang Hau. The name of the street in English remains to be "Possession Street".

4. The site of the Flagstaff House was chosen for its strategic advantage. Which of the following was the main advantage?

A) The site offered an unobstructed view of the Victoria Harbour

B) The site was close to the Government House, where the Governor lived

C) The site was away from areas where most Chinese resided, preventing the Commander from catching the ongoing plague

D) The site was beyond the range of attack from sea

Correct answer: (a)

The site of the Flagstaff House was chosen because it offered an unobstructed view of the Victoria Harbour. It allowed military personnel to monitor all activities at sea, including commercial and pirate vessels coming in from both ends of the harbour.