For discussion on 23 June 2014

Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene – <u>Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets</u>

Positioning and Functions of Public Markets

PURPOSE

At the meeting on 25 March 2014, this Subcommittee requested the Administration to provide, inter alia, the following information to facilitate Members' discussion on the positioning and functions of public markets –

- (i) details of each public market, including the name, year of establishment, number of rented stalls (with number of rented stalls being used as storage), number of vacant stalls (with the duration of vacancy and reasons for vacancy), and a floor plan indicating the location of vacant stalls; and
- (ii) the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD")'s evaluation of the operating environment of each public market, including major difficulties in operating the public market (e.g. the number of competitors in the vicinity, the demographic change in the district).
- 2. This paper provides the Administration's response to the above requests.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

- 3. Information requested in paragraph 1(i) is provided at **Annexes I** to **III**.
- 4. Regarding paragraph 1(ii), there are at present 76 public wet markets managed by FEHD. The facilities of some of the public markets have aged with the passage of time, and their design has also fallen short of meeting present-day expectations. Shoppers' preferences and behaviour,

the availability of alternative shopping facilities in the community, as well as the profile of shoppers and market tenants have also been evolving in the course of time, in tandem with rising expectations on the part of consumers who patronise public markets. Each market may have its own unique circumstances (in terms of the physical facilities required, the operational problems encountered, the competition that it is facing from similar retail outlets in the vicinity, etc.).

5. Indeed, the consultant commissioned by the Food and Health Bureau ("FHB") in December 2013 to study ways to improve the operating environment of public markets, has been asked to come up with improvement proposals for specified markets and provide general suggestions for the routine improvement works for public markets. We will brief the Panel / the Subcommittee when the outcome of the consultancy study is ready.

POSITIONING AND FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC MARKETS

Developments over the Years

- 6. In early years, public markets were provided by the two former Municipal Councils to resite hawkers who would otherwise be trading on-street causing environmental nuisance and obstruction to pedestrians and vehicular traffic. Hence the older markets were developed with their design and layout reflecting, to a large extent, the then prevailing hawker policy.
- 7. In recent years, with enhanced hawker management, the problems concerning hawkers have largely been contained. Since the late 1990s, the main function that public markets used to serve as a measure to support the hawker policy was no longer valid. Over time, the design and layout of new public markets have also evolved to provide bigger stalls with wider passageways. Public markets have become convenient places for the public to buy their daily necessities, in particular fresh provisions.

Survey conducted in 2009

8. The Administration last reviewed the positioning and functions of public markets in 2009. From March to June 2009, FEHD conducted a survey on 79 public markets¹ to collect information about the patronage of

¹ The total number of public markets has since been reduced to 76 due to the closure of Mong Kok Market, Kwong Choi Market and Bridges Street Market in 2010, 2011 and 2013 respectively.

individual markets, and the views of market tenants, patrons frequenting public markets and non-patrons who chose to shop in places other than public markets. The initial findings were reported to the Panel on 14 July 2009 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2155/08-09(04)). The overall findings finalised in September 2009 are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

Patronage

- 9. According to the survey conducted in 2009, the total patronage of the 79 public markets during the seven peak business hours was over 540 000 a day. The average daily patronage of each public market was around 7 000. Around 82% of the respondents surveyed visited the markets every day or at least every other day. The reasons for shopping at public markets included "convenient location" (72%), "fresh food" (43%), "wide choice of goods" (34%), "as a habit" (32%), and "low prices" (30%). The major items they bought at public markets were vegetables and bean curd (79%), followed by seafood (73%) and meat (69%).
- 10. For non-patrons, their weekly shopping frequency was relatively lower. Only 38% of them visited food retail outlets other than public markets every day. The reasons for shopping elsewhere included "convenient location" (54%), "wider choice of goods" (49%), and "low prices" (44%). Compared with market patrons, non-patrons purchased goods of a greater variety in the retail outlets, e.g. vegetables and bean curd (56%), fruits (47%), meat (43%), food-related dry goods (33%), and seafood (30%).

Level of Satisfaction

- 11. The survey indicated that around 90% of the market patrons rated the overall conditions of public markets from being "average" to "satisfactory". A total of 96% of patrons would continue to shop in public markets even their conditions remain unchanged. Such findings reflect that the community has generally accepted and got used to the mode of operation of public markets and their positioning geared towards ordinary folks.
- 12. However, both patrons and non-patrons identified areas for improvement in market management. Both considered "wet floor", "obstruction to passageways" and "too many non-operating stalls" the priority areas for improvement. They also proposed diversification of market services to other new trades and services such as "light refreshment", "bread & pastries", "organic food", "automatic teller machines", "pharmacies", etc. In the light of the suggestions made by patrons and

non-patrons under the survey, in July 2009, FEHD started to introduce light refreshment, bakery and service trade stalls in public markets.

Profile of Market Tenants

13. At the time of the survey, there were around 9 000 tenants renting nearly 11 000 public market stalls². Over 95% of these tenants were small traders operating their own business at one to two stalls in public markets. Those 9 000 tenants employed about 6 000 registered assistants in the daily operation of market stalls. The operation of market stalls involved logistic support services such as supply and sale of goods, transportation, etc., which also provided job opportunities for low-skilled workers.

Findings on the Positioning and Functions in the 2009 survey

- 14. As revealed from the daily patronage of public markets, the profile of market patrons and the major types of goods purchased, public markets remained one of the major sources of fresh provisions for the general public. They offer a wide array of commodities of good quality at reasonable prices amidst competition posed by other retail outlets which have mushroomed over the past decades or so and which offer similar, if not the same, commodities as public markets. With small stocks kept in market stalls and the fast turnover of goods, members of the public preferred buying live and fresh foods, especially vegetables and seafood in markets. The findings also reflected that patrons generally accepted the "public-at-large" oriented positioning of public markets. Public markets also enabled small traders to set up their businesses and provided employment opportunities for the general public, meeting their livelihood needs.
- 15. Insofar as the prices of the goods sold in public markets are concerned, tenants of public markets are free to determine and adjust the prices of their goods having regard to such market forces as supply and demand, as well as their operating costs (including transportation costs, rentals and staff salaries, etc.). The Government does not control the prices of the goods sold in public markets. Nor is the Government in a position to guarantee that the goods sold in public markets would be cheaper than those in other shops.

4

As at May 2014, there were around 9 500 tenants renting nearly 13 100 public market stalls.

CONSULTANCY STUDY CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

- 16. We have since 2009 been subscribing to the positioning and functions of public markets as set out in paragraph 14 above. When we consulted the Panel at its meeting in early 2013 on the Administration's latest proposed rental adjustment mechanism for stalls in public markets, Members requested the Administration to conduct a comprehensive review covering the policy and usage of public markets before the proposed rental adjustment mechanism was put into place.
- 17. In response to the Panel's request, FHB commissioned a consultant in December 2013 for developing proposals to improve the operating environment of public markets. As reported to this Subcommittee on previous occasions, apart from formulating proposals to improve the operating environment of public markets, the consultant will (based on the feedback from public engagement sessions, questionnaire surveys and focus group discussions) tender views on the updated positioning and functions of public markets.
- 18. We will brief the Panel / this Subcommittee when the outcome of the consultancy study is ready.

ADVICE SOUGHT

19. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Food and Health Bureau Food and Environmental Hygiene Department June 2014

Occupancy Rate of Public Wet Markets (as at 30.4.2014)

Serial No.	Name of Market	Commencement Year	No. of Stalls Let Out	No. of Vacant Stalls	No. of Frozen Stalls [#]	Total No. of Stalls	Occupancy Rate
1	Aberdeen Market	1983	328	7	0	335	98%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	2008	55	16	0	71	77%
3	Apleichau Market	1998	58	5	0	63	92%
4	Bowrington Road Market	1979	293	3	0	296	99%
5	Causeway Bay Market	1995	50	1	0	51	98%
6	Centre Street Market	1976	36	0	11	47	77%
7	Chai Wan Market	2001	167	6	0	173	97%
8	Cheung Chau Market	1991	232	5	0	237	98%
9	Choi Hung Road Market	1988	91	0	25	116	78%
10	Electric Road Market	1993	96	3	0	99	97%
11	Fa Yuen Street Market	1988	180	0	0	180	100%
12	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1978	58 (2)*	0	30	88	66%
13	Heung Che Street Market	1972	221	2	0	223	99%
14	Hung Hom Market	1996	222	2	0	224	99%
15	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	1987	82	0	133	215	38%
16	Java Road Market	1993	188	6	0	194	97%
17	Kam Tin Market	1964	41	0	0	41	100%
18	Kowloon City Market	1988	565	16	0	581	97%
19	Kwu Tung Mkt 1985 Shopping Centre		98	0	0	98	100%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Commencement Year	No. of Stalls Let Out	No. of Vacant Stalls	No. of Frozen Stalls#	Total No. of Stalls	Occupancy Rate
20	Kwun Chung Market	1991	210 (4)* 6 2 2		218	96%	
21	Lai Wan Market	1992	41	1	0	42	98%
22	Lam Tei Market	1969	7	0	0	7	100%
23	Lau Fau Shan Market	1964	22	0	3	25	88%
24	Lei Yue Mun Market	2000	19	1	0	20	95%
25	Lockhart Road Market	1987	147 (7)*	19	0	166	89%
26	Luen Wo Hui Market	2002	322	16	0	338	95%
27	Mui Wo Market	1993	32	1	0	33	97%
28	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1986	378	24	0	402	94%
29	Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981	407 (17)*	2	57	466	87%
30	North Kwai Chung Market	1984	209	13	0	222	94%
31	North Point Market	1970	39	3	0	42	93%
32	On Ching Road Flower Market	1979	13	0	0	13	100%
33	Pei Ho Street Market	1995	226	1	0	227	99%
34	Peng Chau Market	1999	16	2	0	18	89%
35	Plover Cove Road Market	1991	240	4	0	244	98%
36	Po On Road Market	1988	411	38	0	449	92%
37	Quarry Bay Market	1988	97	16	0	113	86%
38	Sai Kung Market	1985	206	3	0	209	99%
39	Sai Wan Ho Market	1984	263	11	0	274	96%
40	Sai Ying Pun Market	1999	91	4	7	102	89%
41	San Hui Market	1982	321	3	0	324	99%
42	Sha Tau Kok Market	1998	63	3	0	66	95%
43	Sha Tin Market	1980	171	1	0	172	99%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Commencement Year	No. of Stalls Let Out	No. of Vacant Stalls	No. of Frozen Stalls [#]	Total No. of Stalls	Occupancy Rate
44	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	1984	22	0	7	29	76%
45	Shaukeiwan Market	1973	46	0	36	82	56%
46	Shek Tong Tsui Market	1991	148	3	0	151	98%
47	Shek Wu Hui Market	1994	391	1	0	392	100%
48	Sheung Fung Street Market	1989	71	0	0	71	100%
49	Sheung Wan Market	1989	216	6	1	223	97%
50	Shui Wo Street Market	1988	295	7	0	302	98%
51	Smithfield Market	1996	213	1	1	215	99%
52	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2007	19	1	0	20	95%
53	Tai Kiu Market	1984	376	3	0	379	99%
54	Tai Kok Tsui Market	2005	133	2	0	135	99%
55	Tai O Market	1989	25	1	0	26	96%
56	Tai Po Hui Market	2004	313 (12)*	0	0	313	100%
57	Tai Shing Street Market	1998	420	9	17	446	94%
58	Tai Wai Market	1985 175		0	20	195	90%
59	Tang Lung Chau Market	1963	33	1	0	34	97%
60	Tin Wan Market	1979	177	3	0	180	98%
61	To Kwa Wan Market	1984	264	3	0	267	99%
62	Tsing Yi Market	1999	67	9	0	76	88%
63	Tsuen King Circuit Market	1990	63	0	178	241	26%
64	Tsuen Wan Market	1981	366 (3)*	15	0	381	96%
65	Tui Min Hoi Market	1983	34	0	0	34	100%
66	Tung Chau Street 1992 Temporary Market		181	2	176	359	50%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Commencement Year	No. of Stalls Let Out	No. of Vacant Stalls	No. of Frozen Stalls [#]	Total No. of Stalls	Occupancy Rate
67	Tung Yick Market	1991	189	0	257	446	43%
68	Wan Chai Market	2008	49	1	0	50	98%
69	Wing Fong Street Market	1982	104	8	0	112	93%
70	Wong Nai Chung Market	1996	65	4	0	69	94%
71	Yan Oi Market	1983	108	0	0	108	100%
72	Yau Ma Tei Market	1957	134 (1)*	10	0	144	93%
73	Yee On Street Market	1999	64	1	0	65	98%
74	Yeung Uk Road Market	1990	316	2	0	318	99%
75	Yue Kwong Road Market	1981	194	3	0	197	98%
76	Yue Wan Market	1979	355	19	0	374	95%
	Total:		12 638 (46)*	359	961	13 958	91%

Remarks:

#: As at 30.4.2014, a total of 961 market stalls have been frozen for reasons such as forthcoming improvement works. They have been counted as vacant stalls for the purpose of calculating vacancy rate / occupancy rate. Separately there are 213 ex-poultry stalls that have been set aside from the table above. We will review their alternative use after completion of the Consultancy Study and decide whether and how they should be released for auction.

^{*} Figure inside the bracket denotes the number of occupied storage stalls.

Analysis of Vacant Stalls (as at 30.4.2014)

Duration of Stalls being Vacant		Number of Stalls	(I) Not yet put to auction (pending OMR evaluation or conversion / improvement / repair works by ArchSD / EMSD)	(II) Already put to auction but received no bids	
1	Not more than	208	163 stalls	45 stalls	
	6 months		(26 stalls)*	(11 stalls)*	
2	More than 6	60	16 stalls	44 stalls	
	months to 12 months		(4 stalls)*	(12 stalls)*	
3	More than 12	91	28 stalls	63 stalls	
	months		(11 stalls)*	(6 stalls)*	
	Total:	359	207 stalls	152 stalls	
			(41 stalls)*	(29 stalls)*	

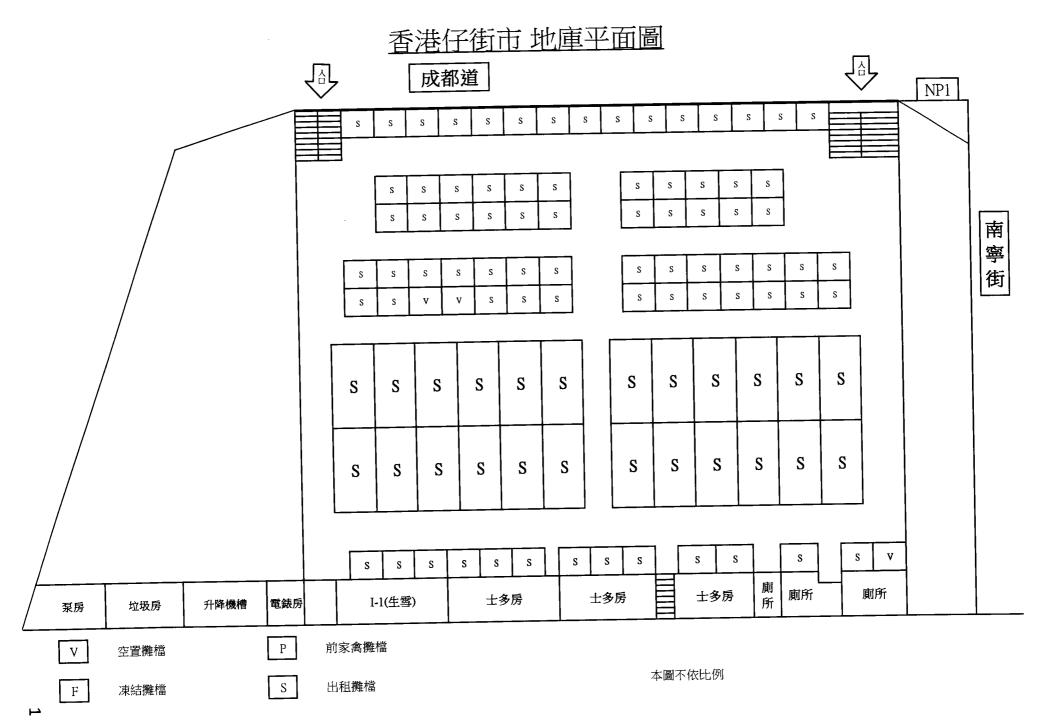
Remarks:

OMR- Open Market Rental

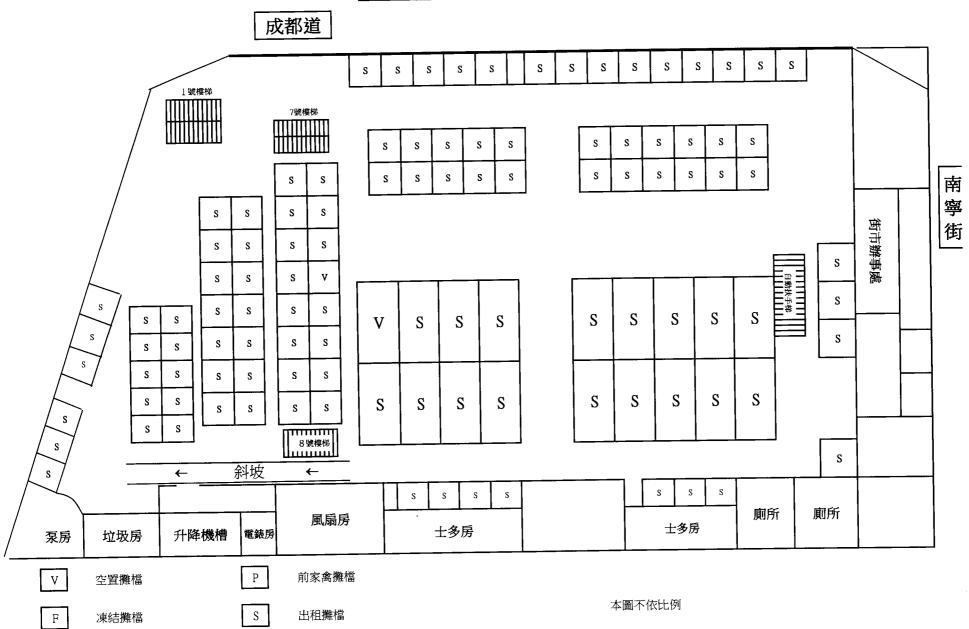
ArchSD - Architectural Services Department

EMSD - Electrical & Mechanical Services Department

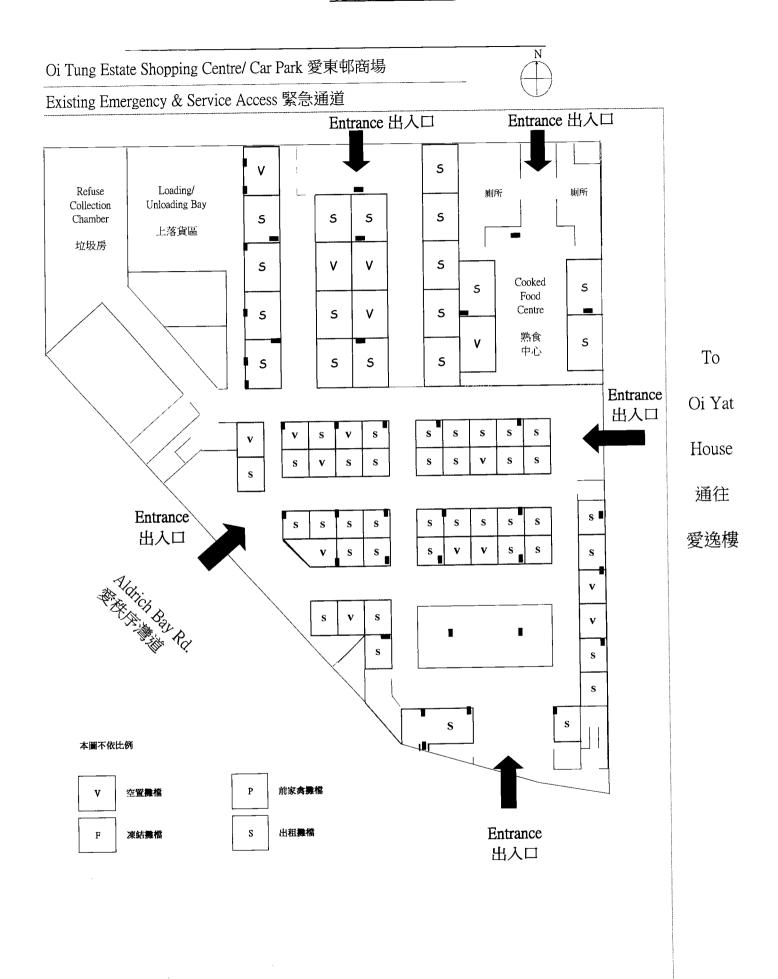
* The number of vacant stalls have been let out after 30.4.2014.

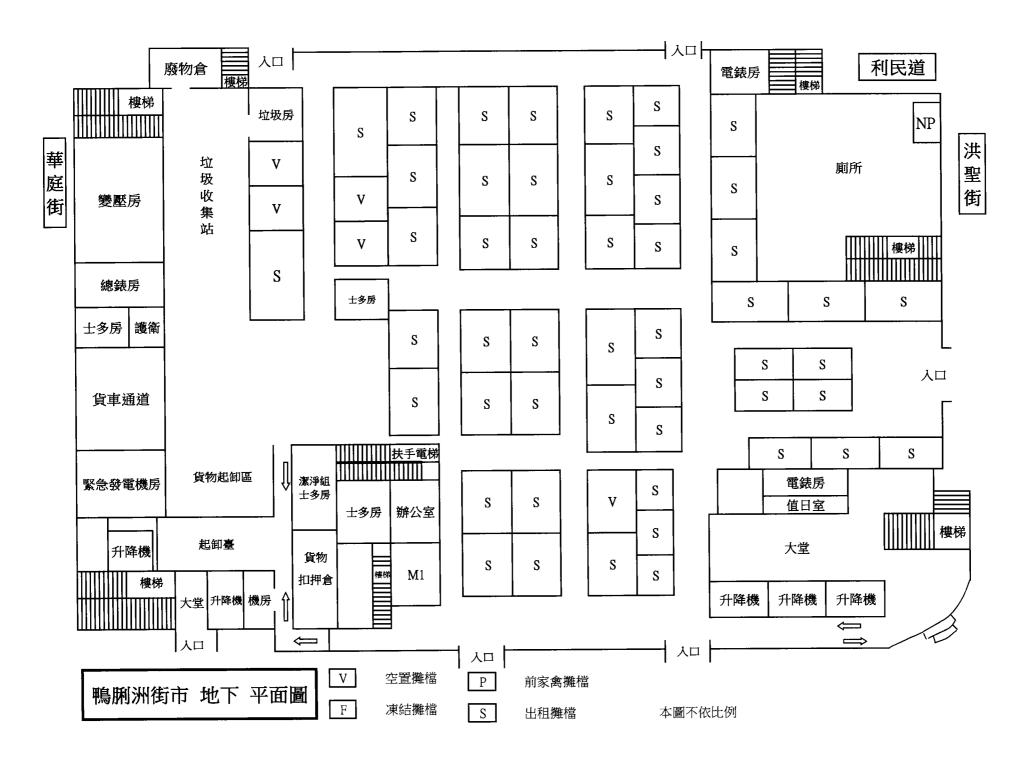


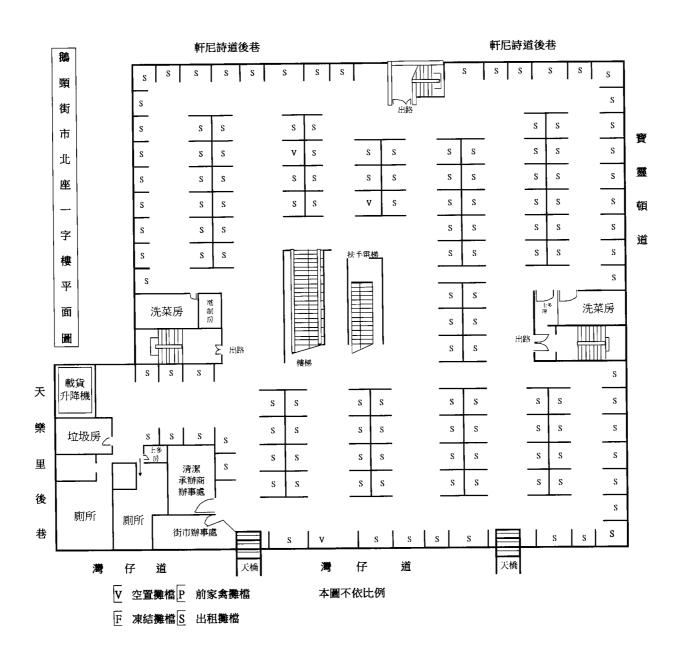
香港仔街市一樓平面圖

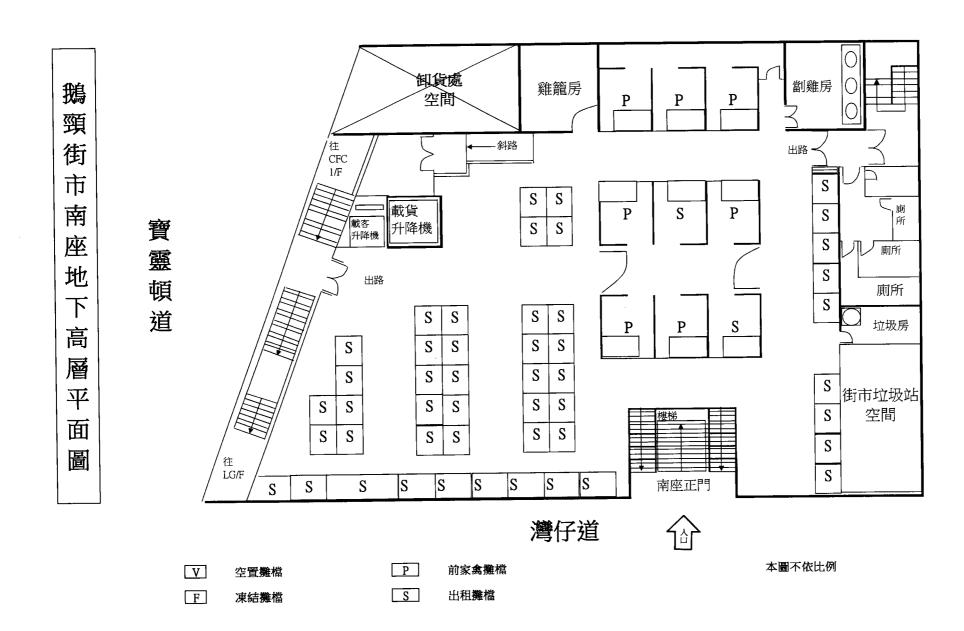


愛秩序灣街市



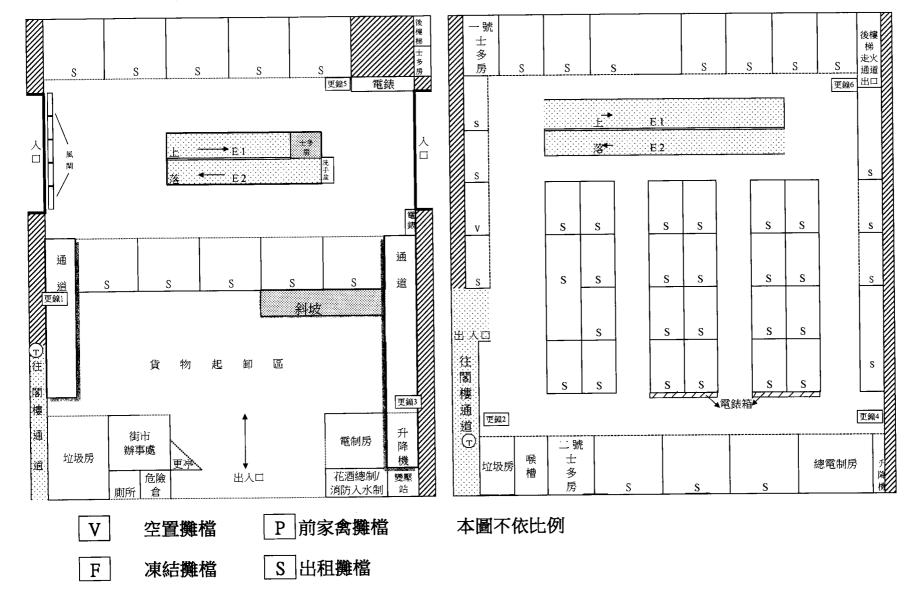




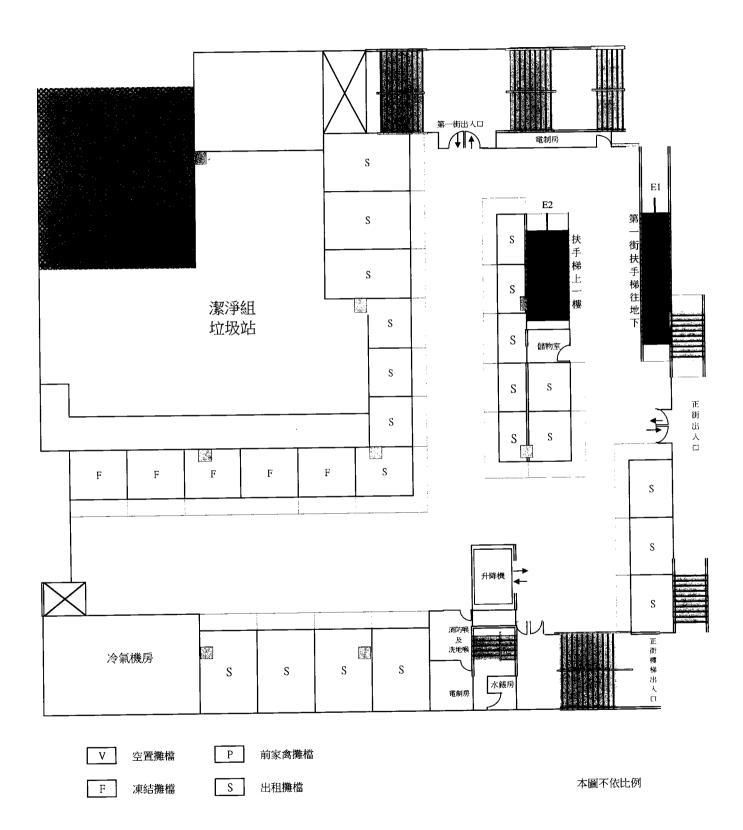


銅鑼灣街市地下

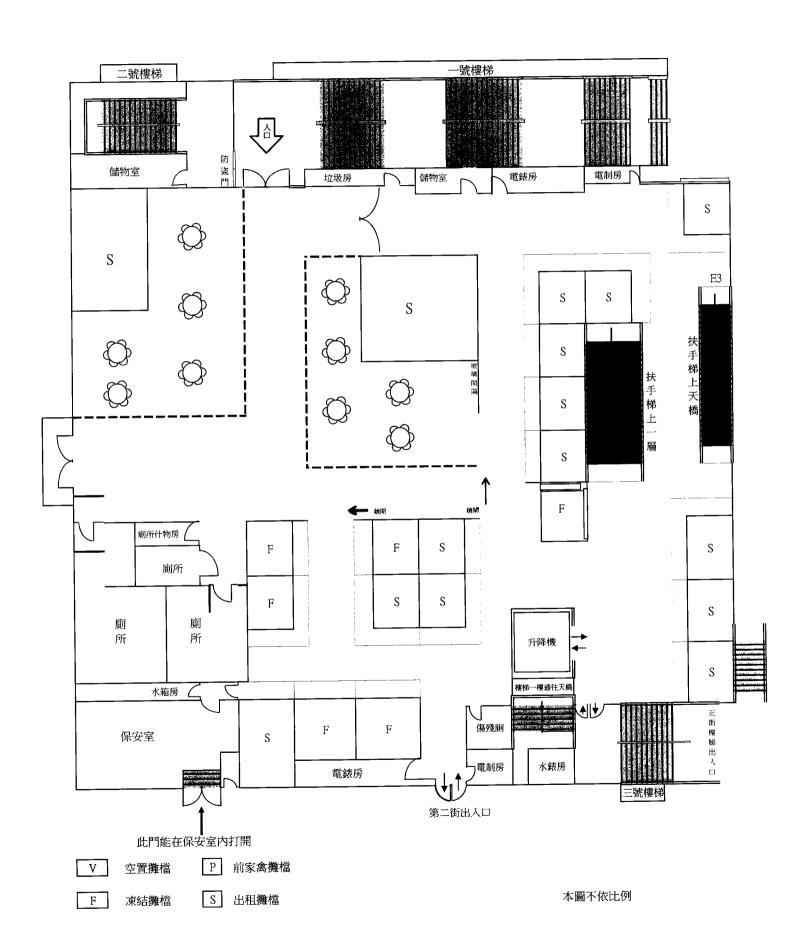
銅鑼灣街市一樓



正街街市地下

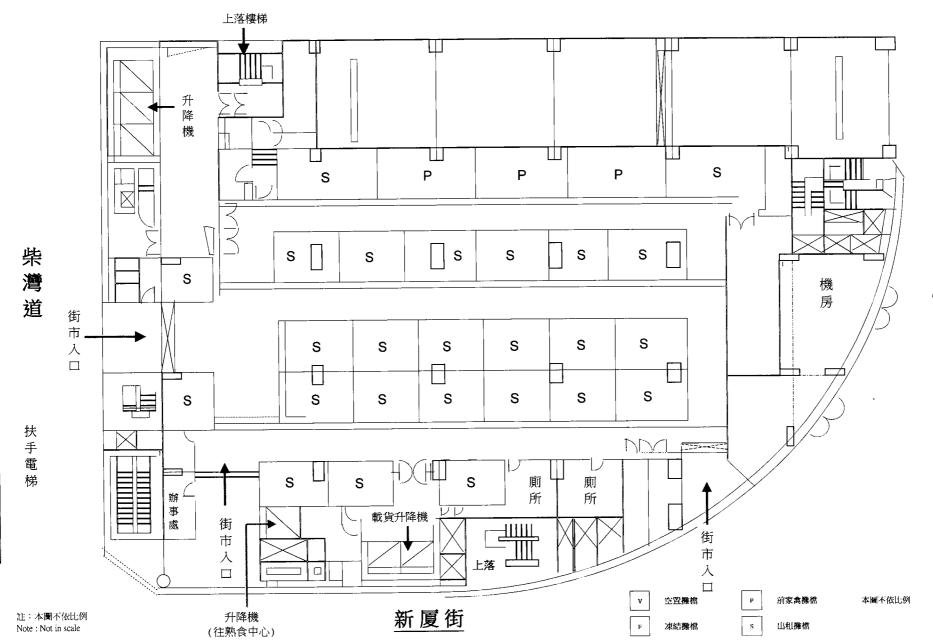


正街一樓



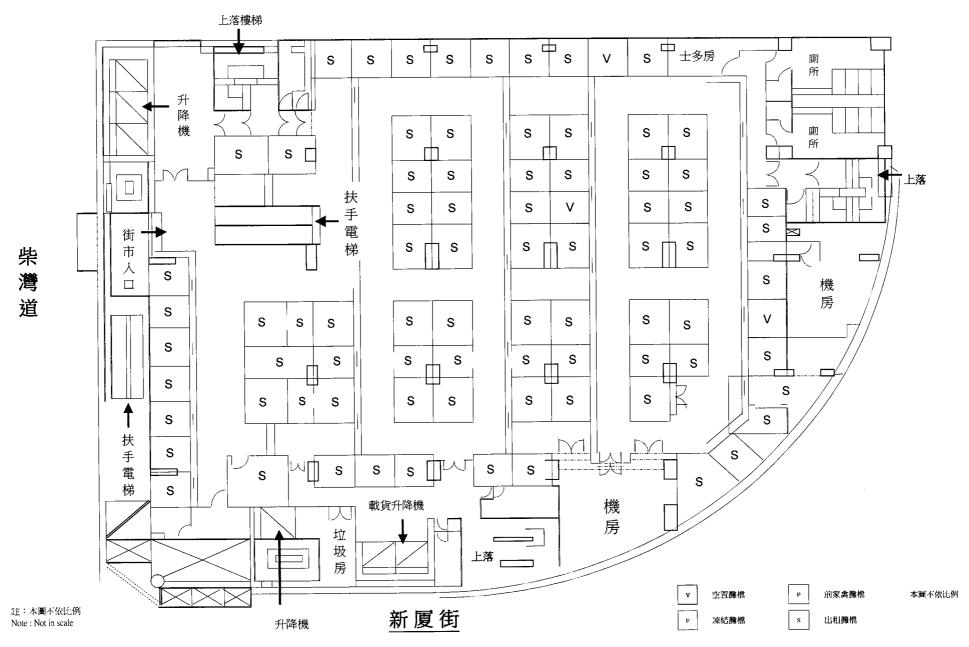
柴灣街市 CHAI WAN MARKET

地下 檔位分佈圖



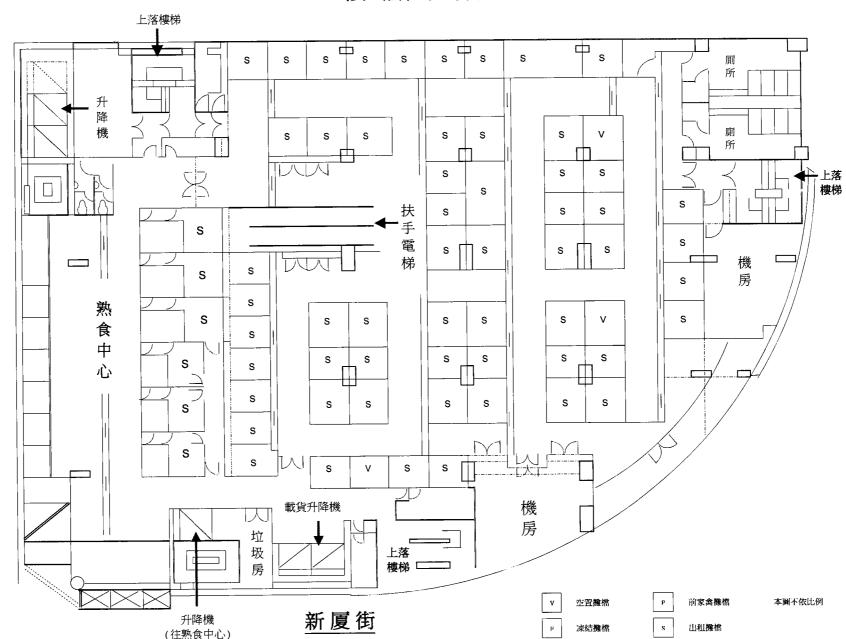
柴灣街市 CHAI WAN MARKET

一樓 檔位分佈圖



柴灣街市 CHAI WAN MARKET

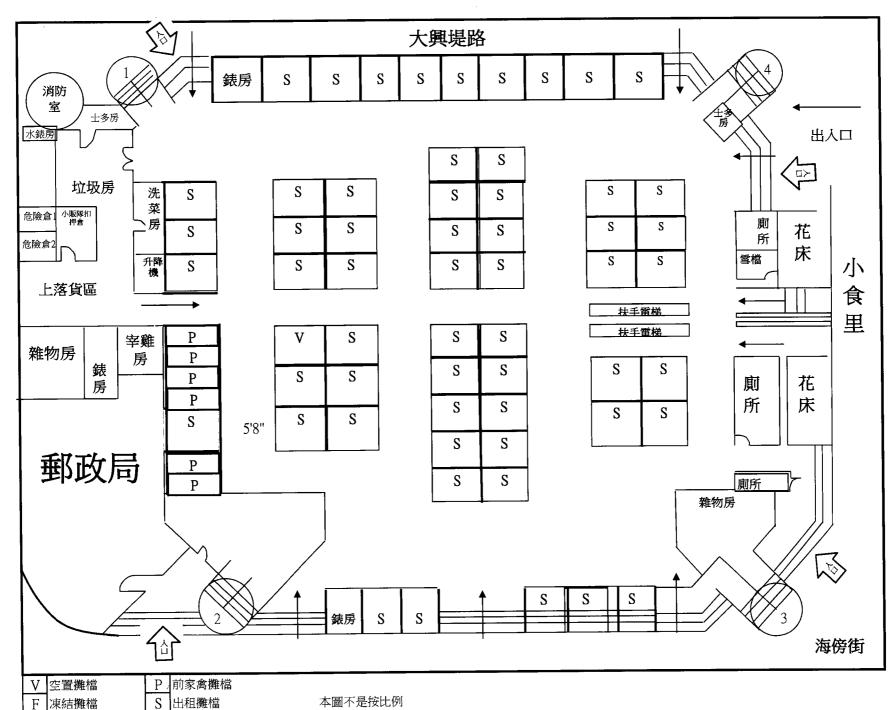
二樓 檔位分佈圖



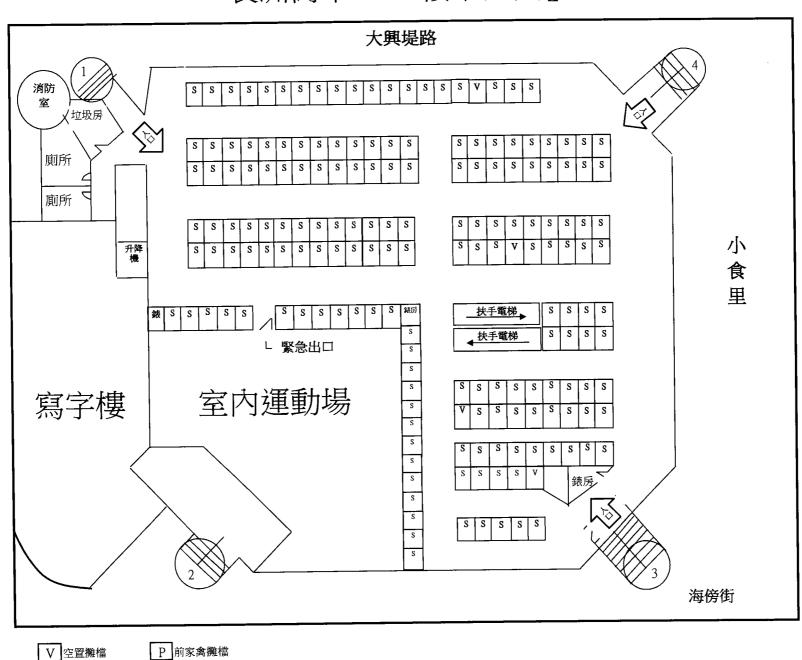
註:本圖不依比例 Note:Not in scale

柴 灣 道

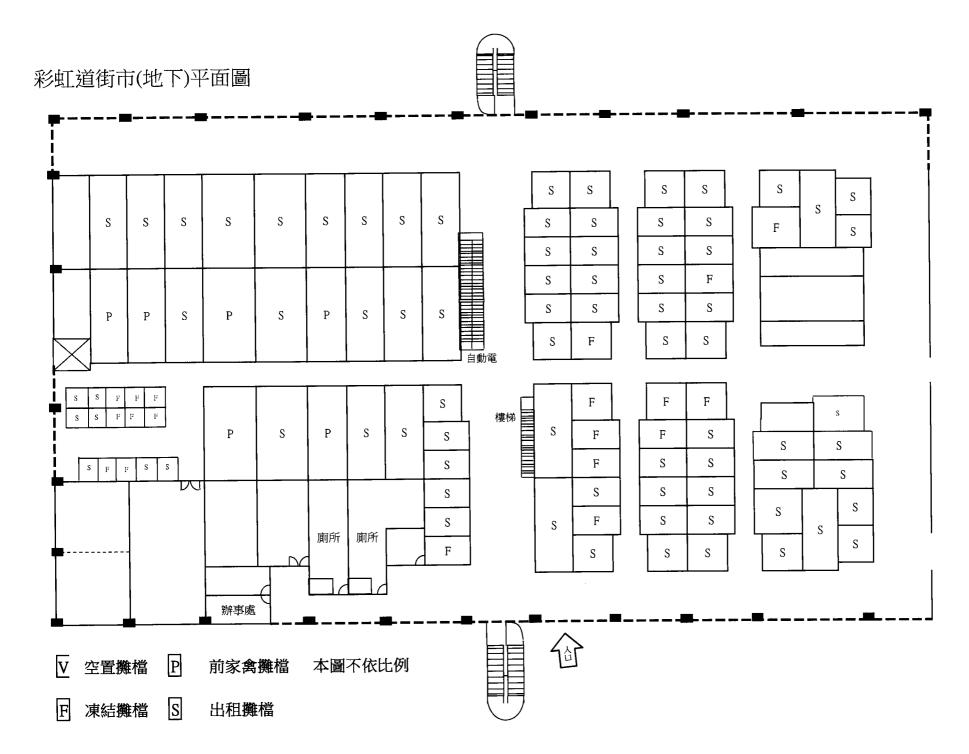
長洲街市地下

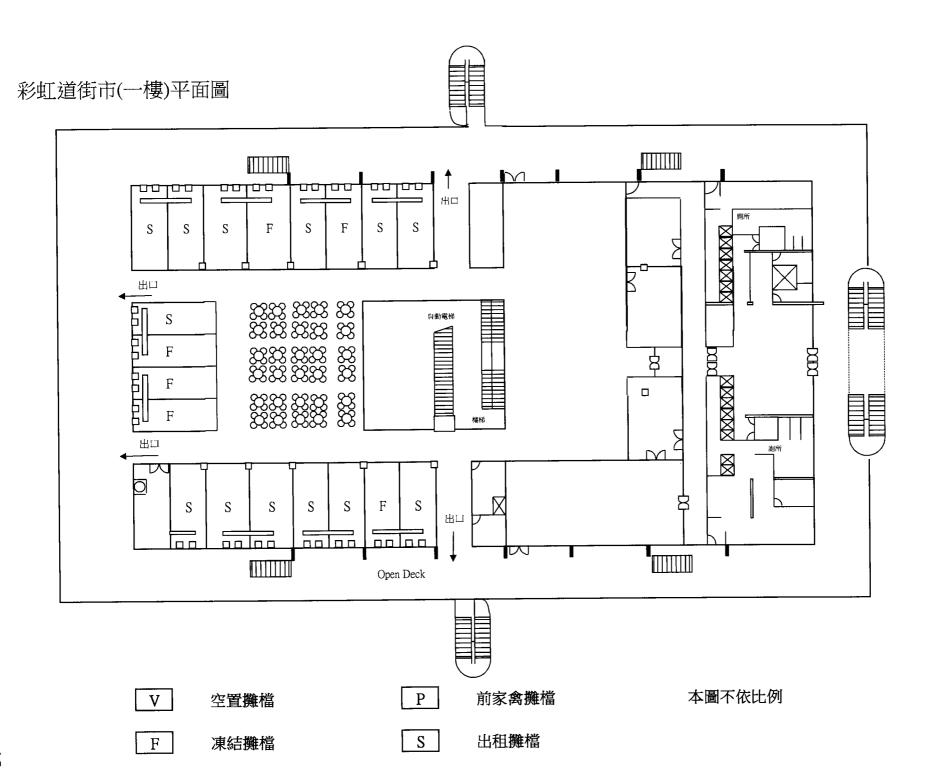


長洲街市『一樓平面圖』

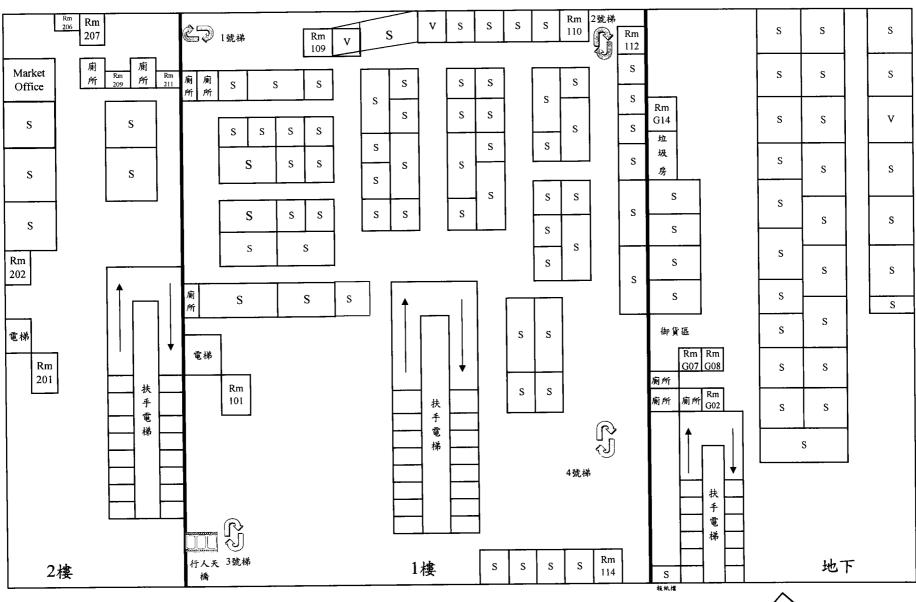


木圖不是按比例





電氣道街市



V 空置攤檔

P前家禽攤檔

本圖不依比例

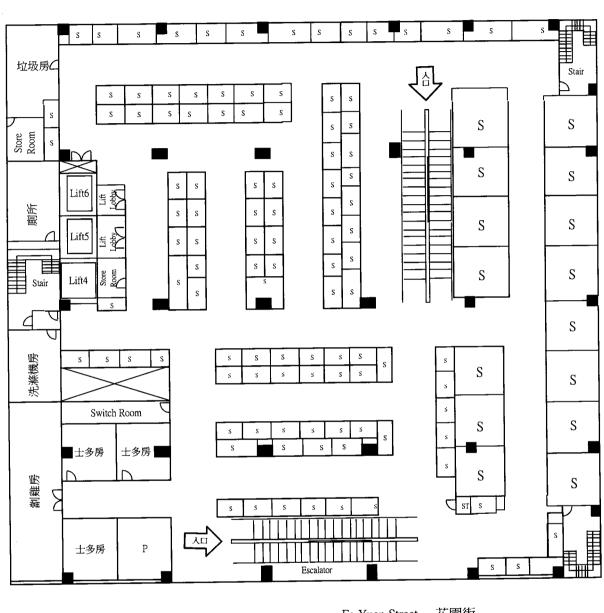
硷

F 凍結攤檔

S出租攤檔

花園街街市(一樓)平面圖

Tung Choi Street 通菜街



Fa Yuen Street 花園街

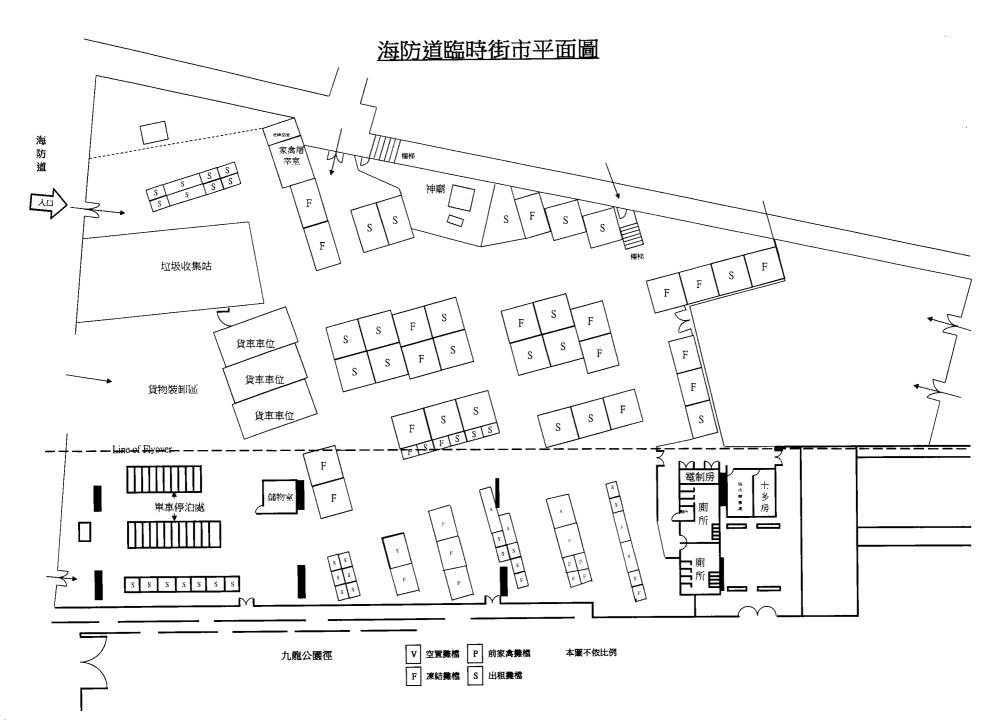
V空置攤檔

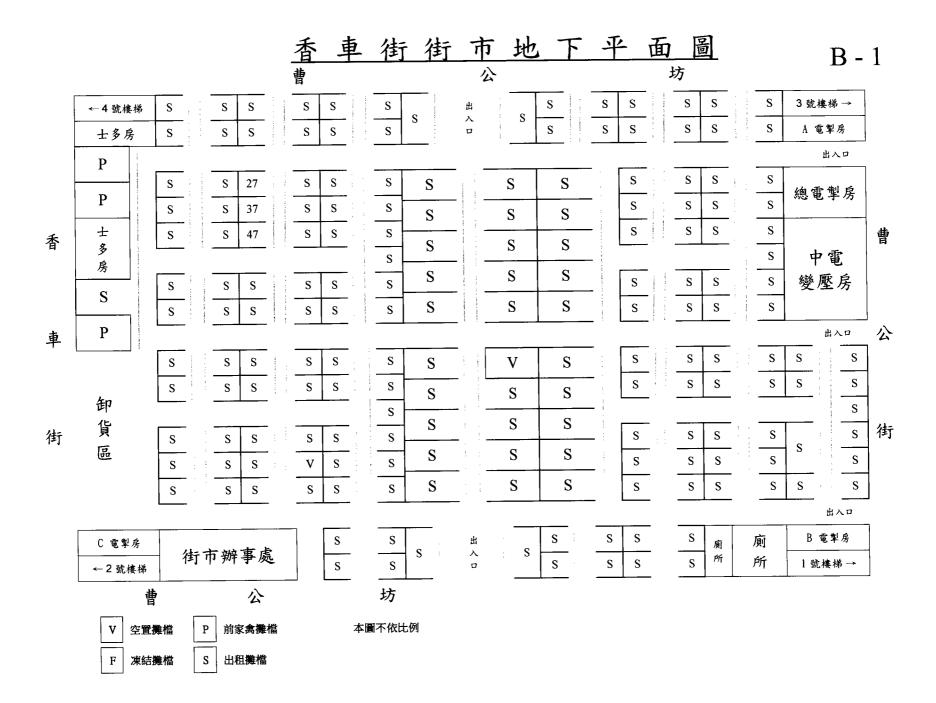
P前家禽攤檔

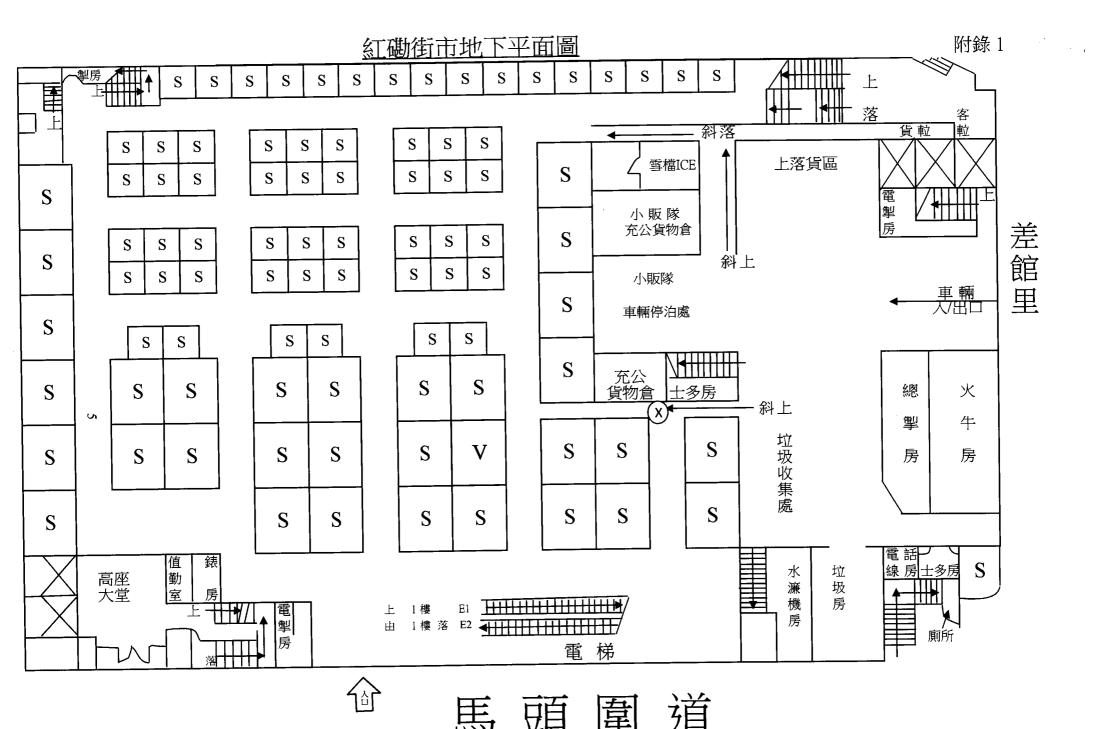
F凍結攤檔

S出租攤檔

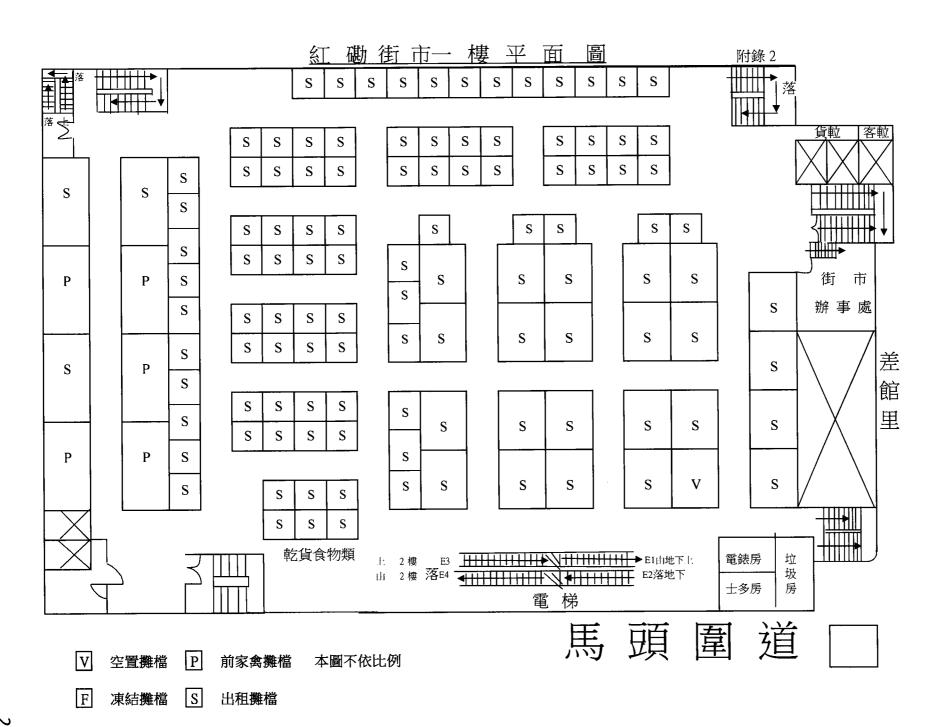
本圖不是按比例

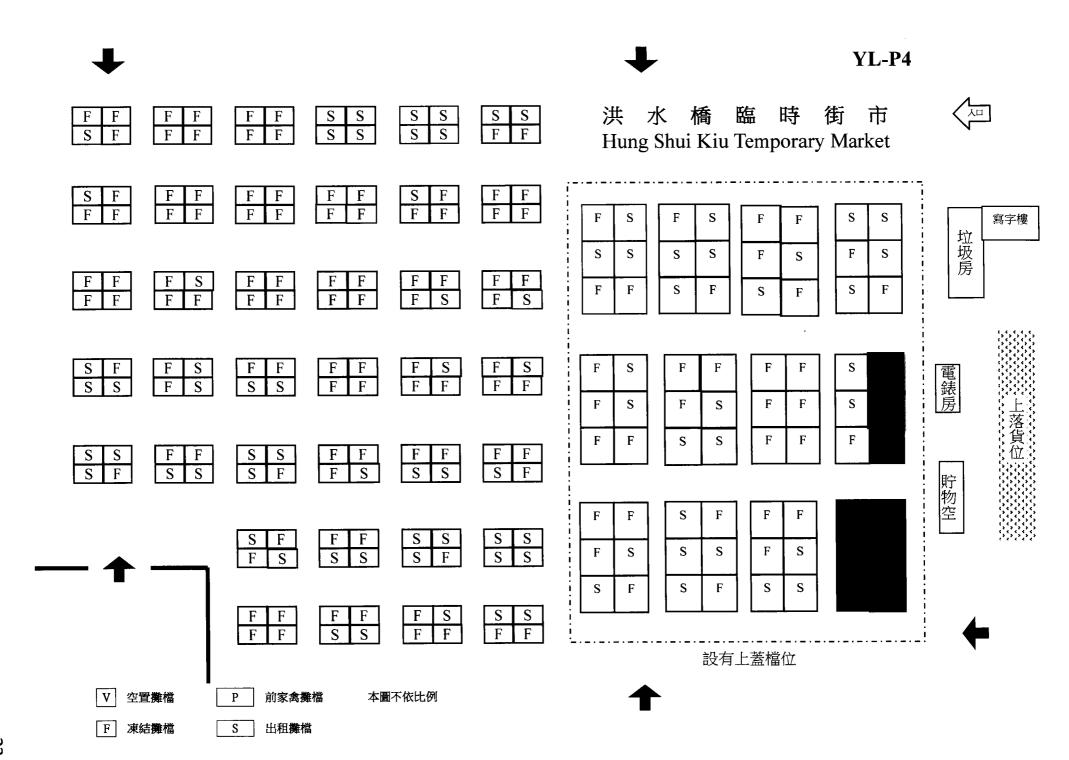


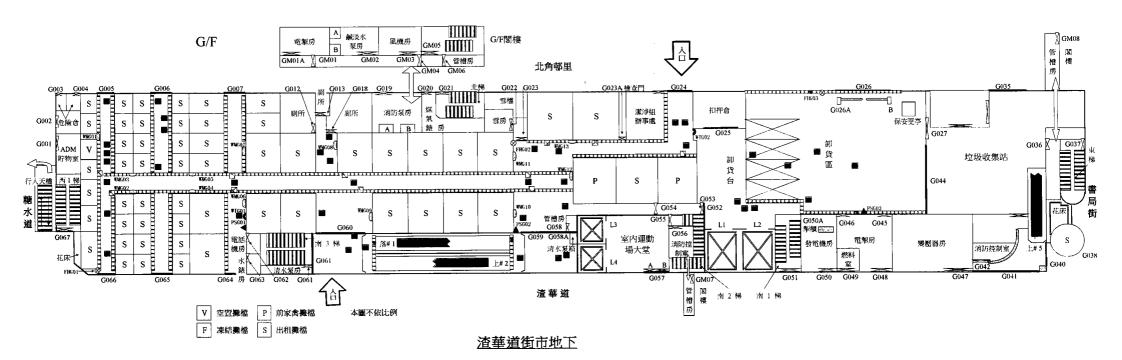


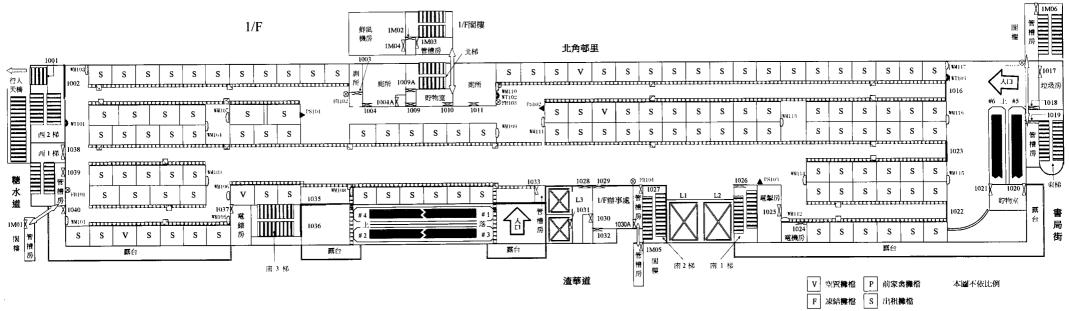


NV 空置攤檔 P 前家禽攤檔 本圖不依比例



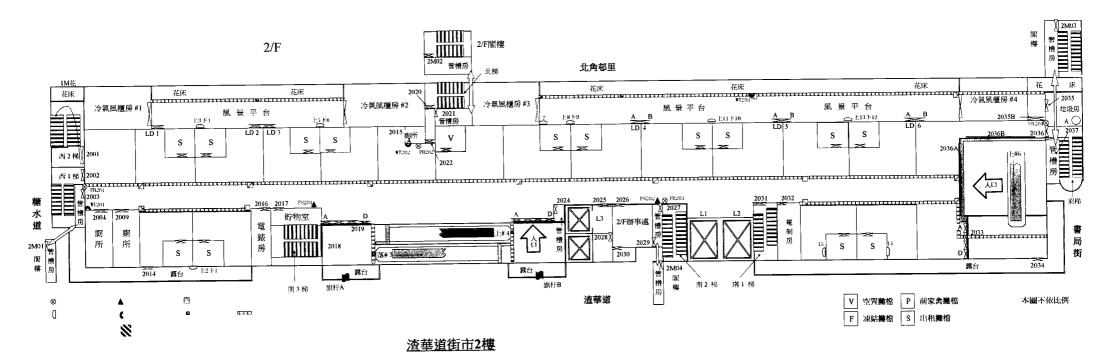


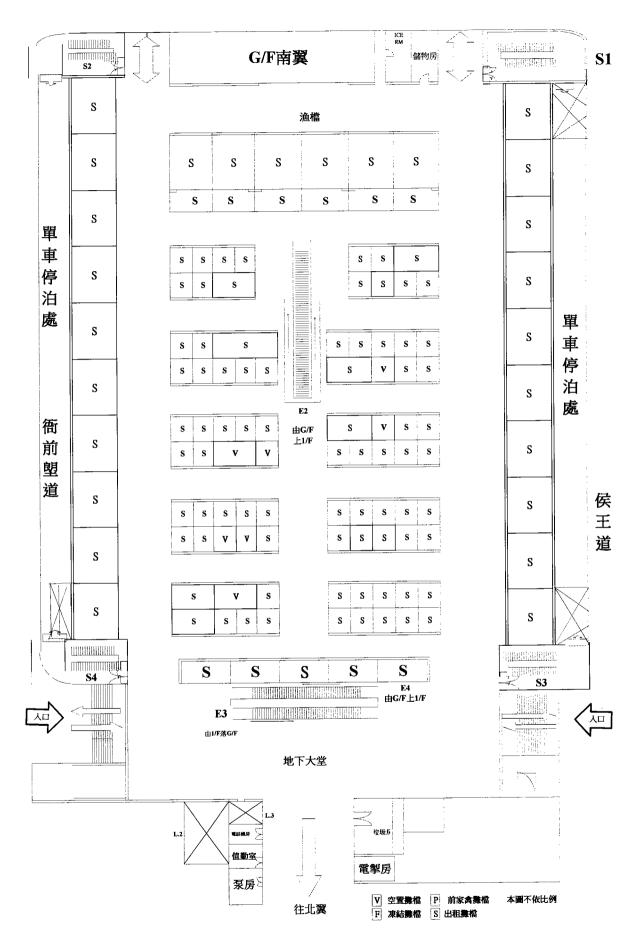




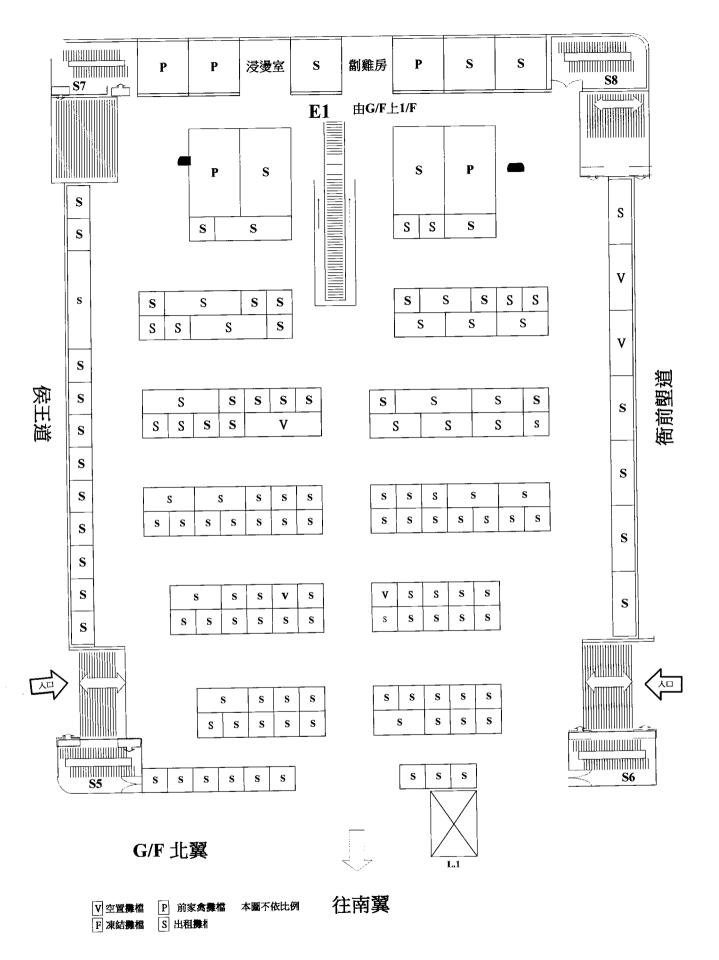
渣華道街市1樓

渣華道街市

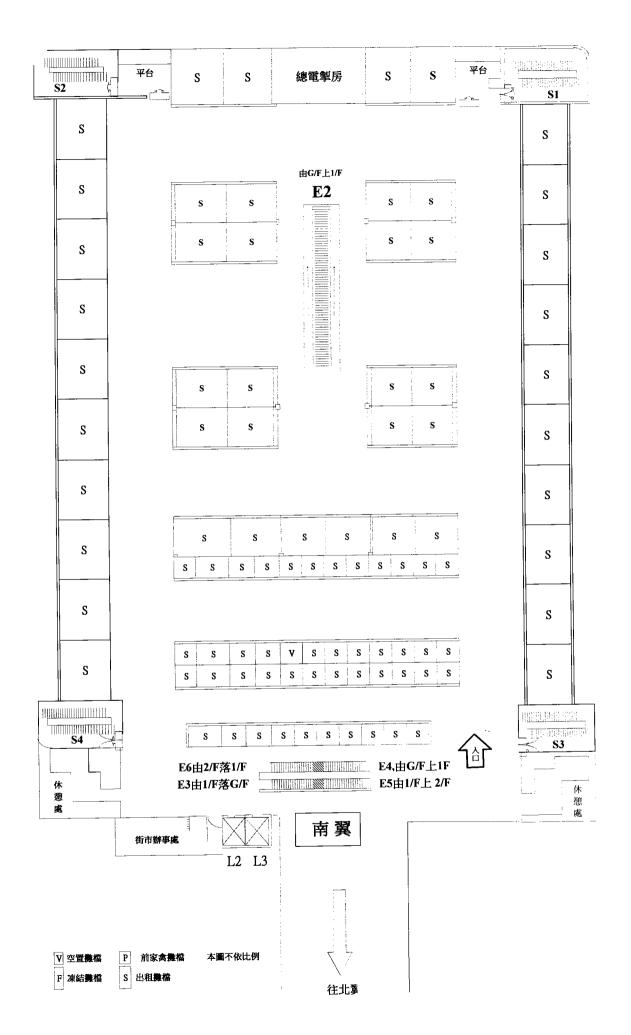




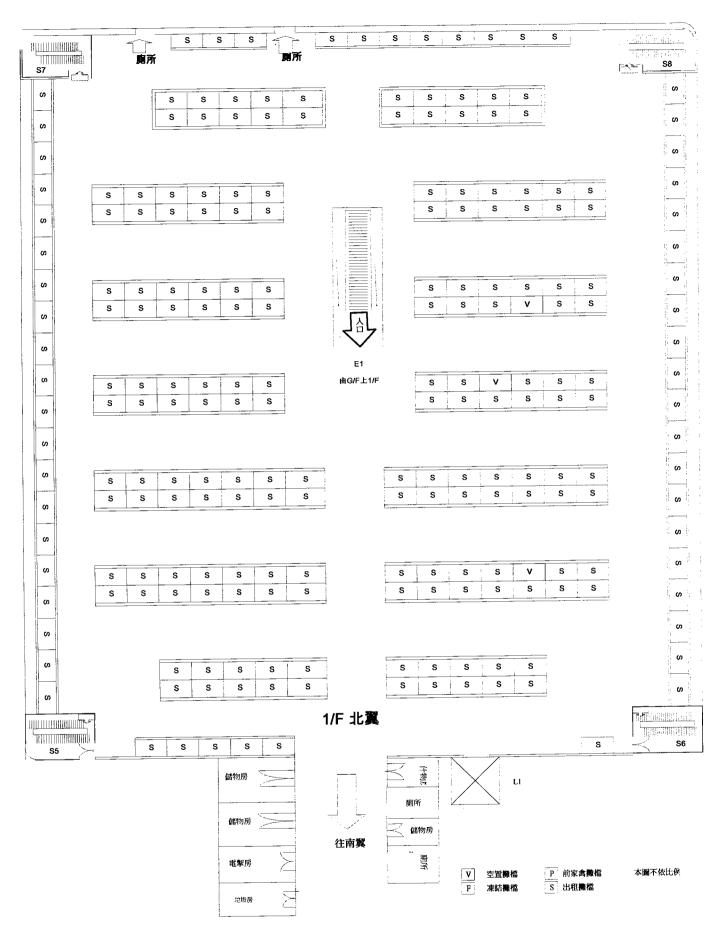
<u>九龍城街市地下南翼</u>



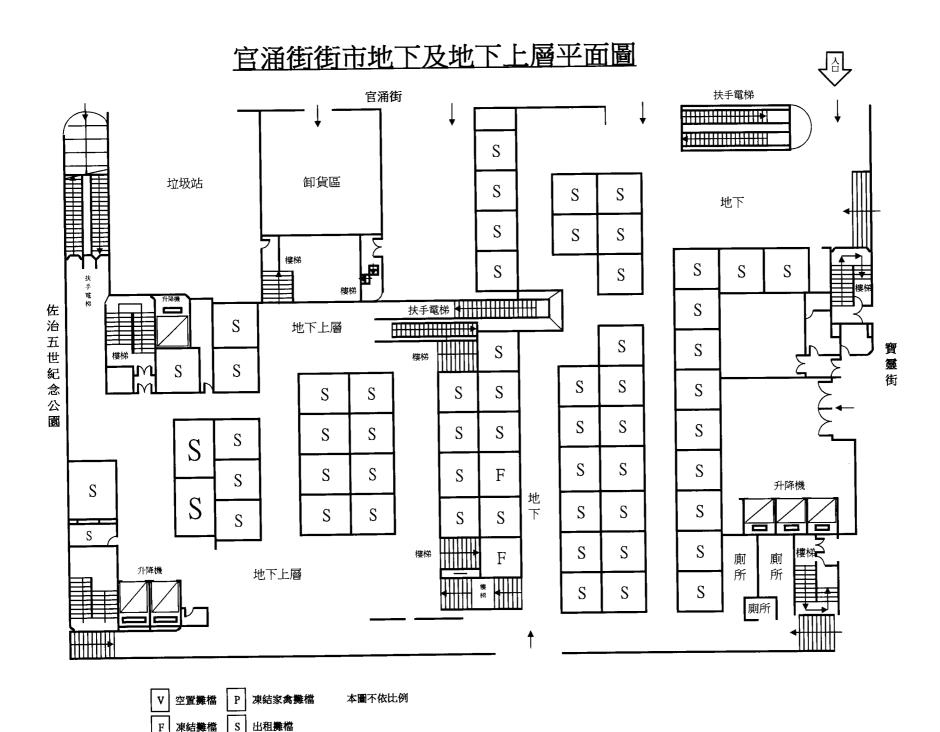
九龍城街市地下北翼



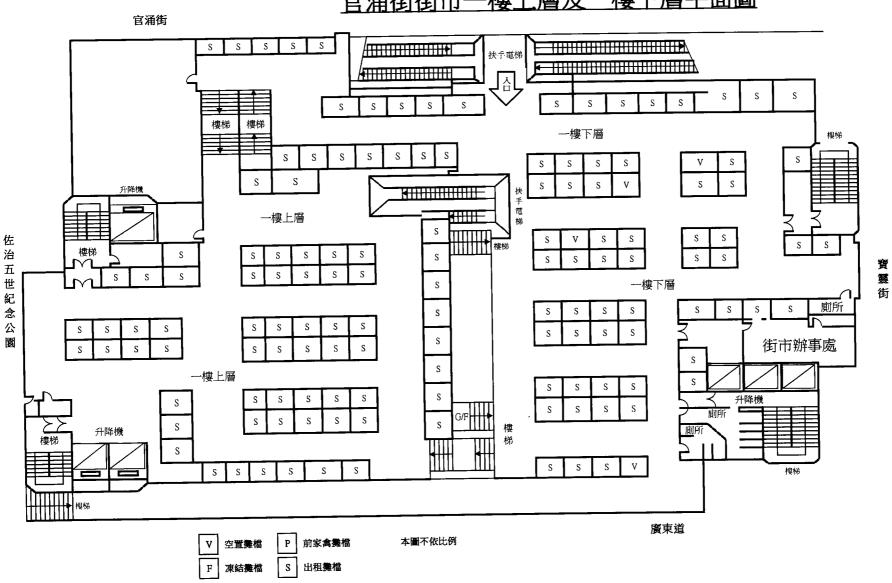
九龍城街市一樓南翼

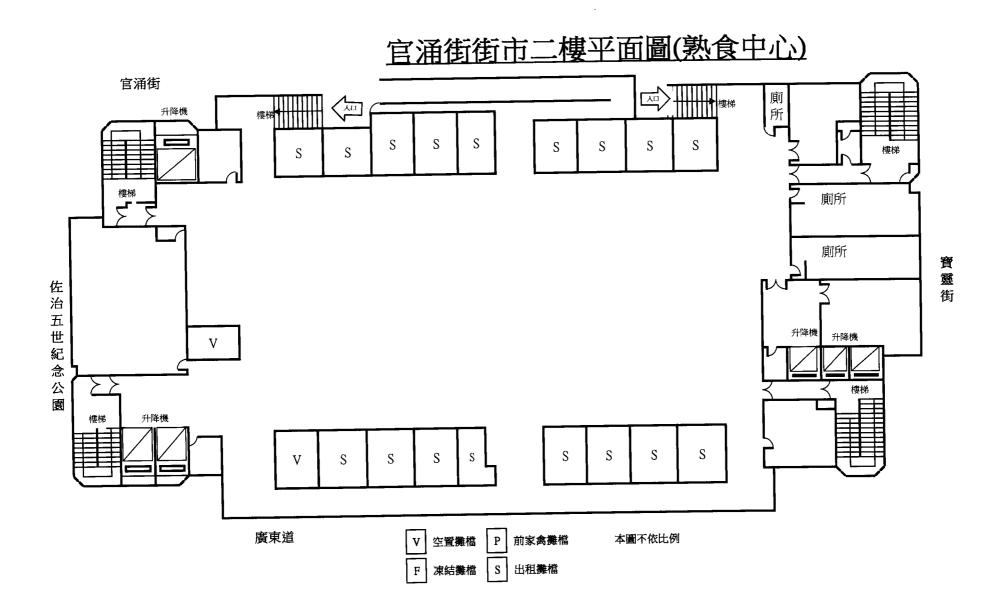


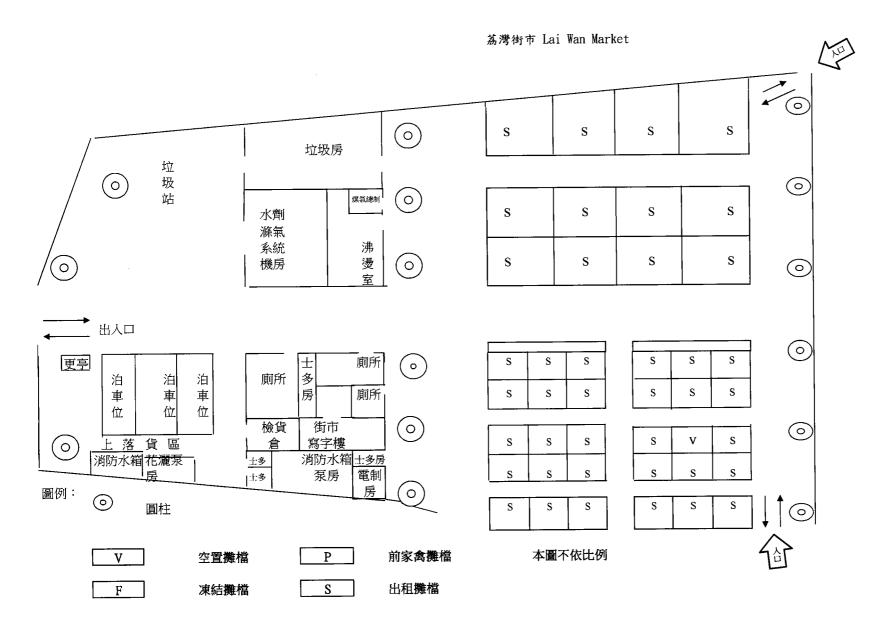
九龍城街市一樓北翼



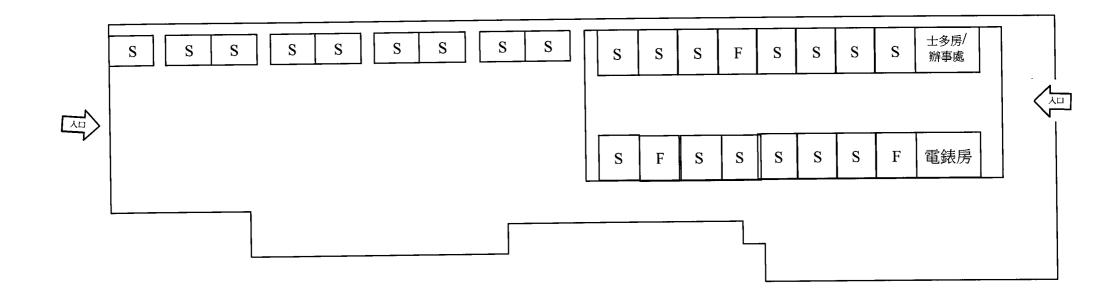
官涌街街市一樓上層及一樓下層平面圖





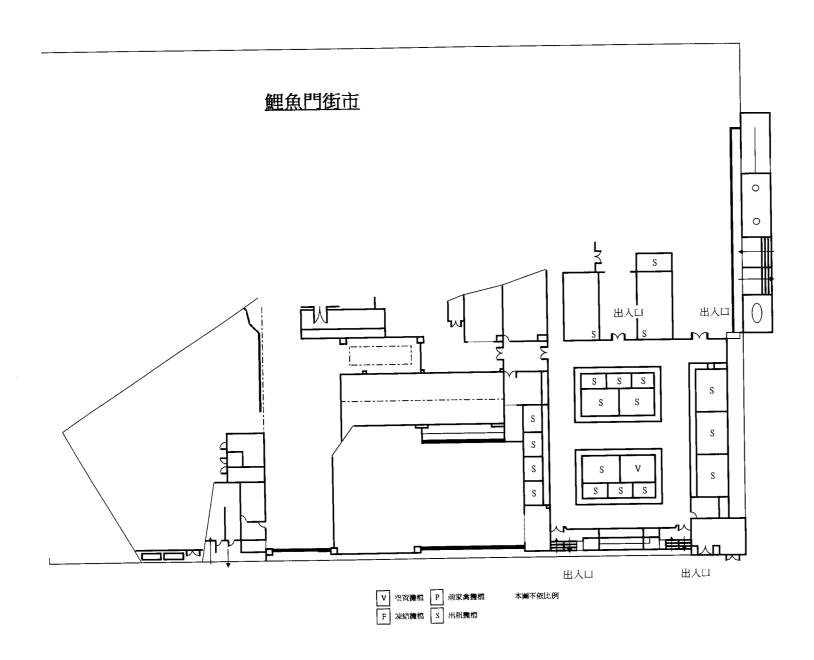


流浮山街市平面圖

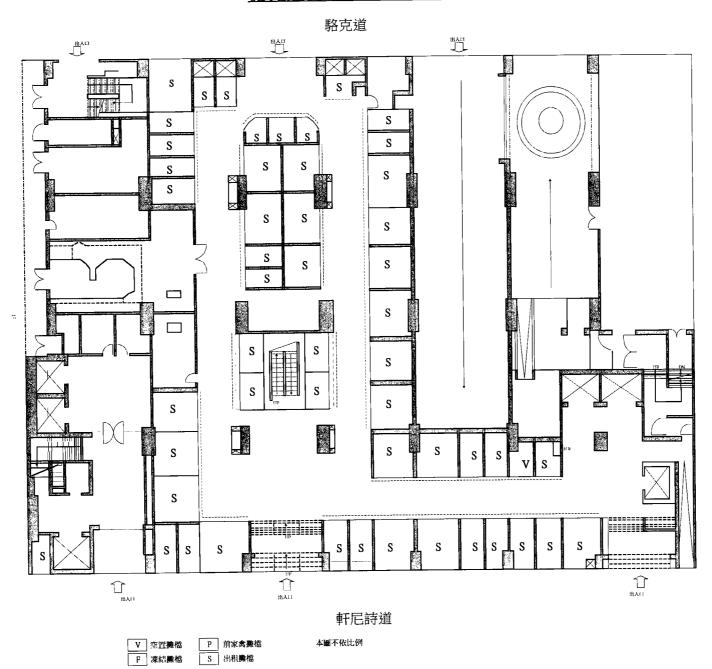


V 空置機檔 P 前家禽機檔 本圖不依比例

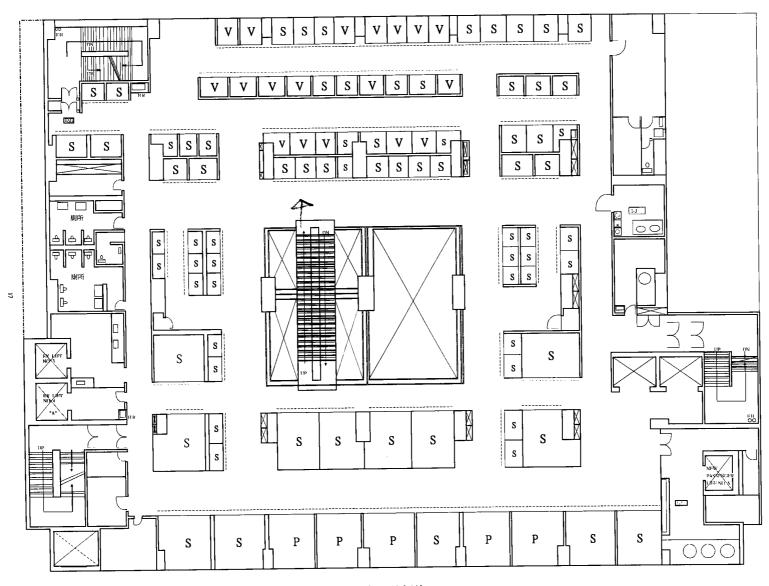
F 凍結攤檔 S 出租攤檔



駱克道街市 地下平面圖

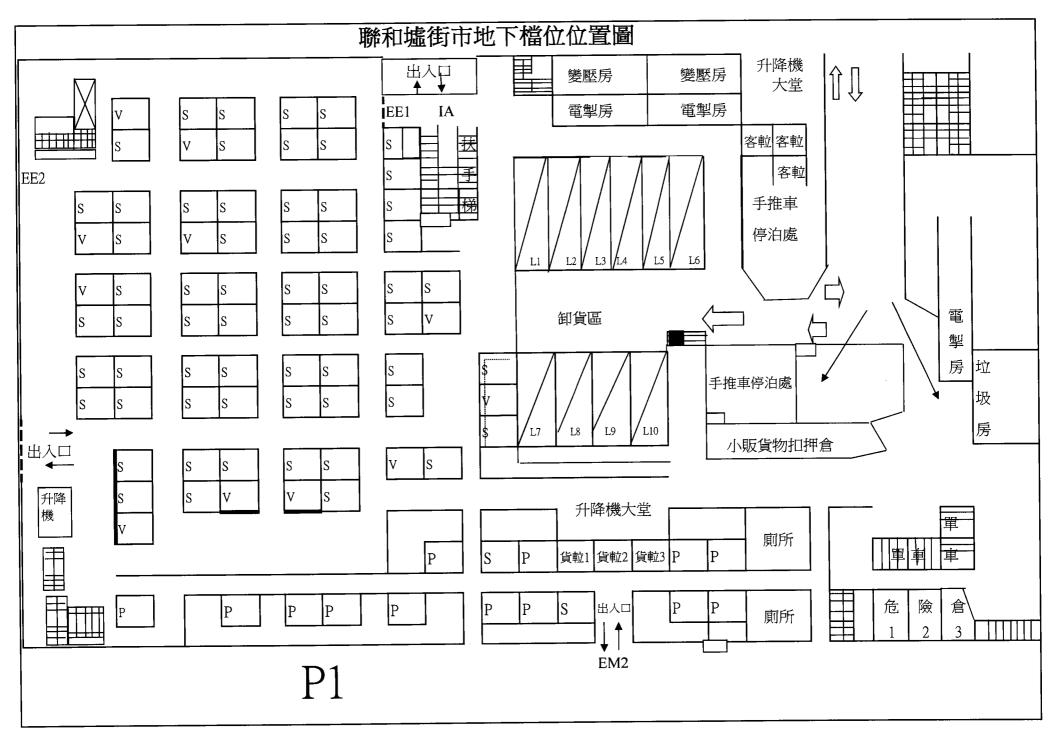


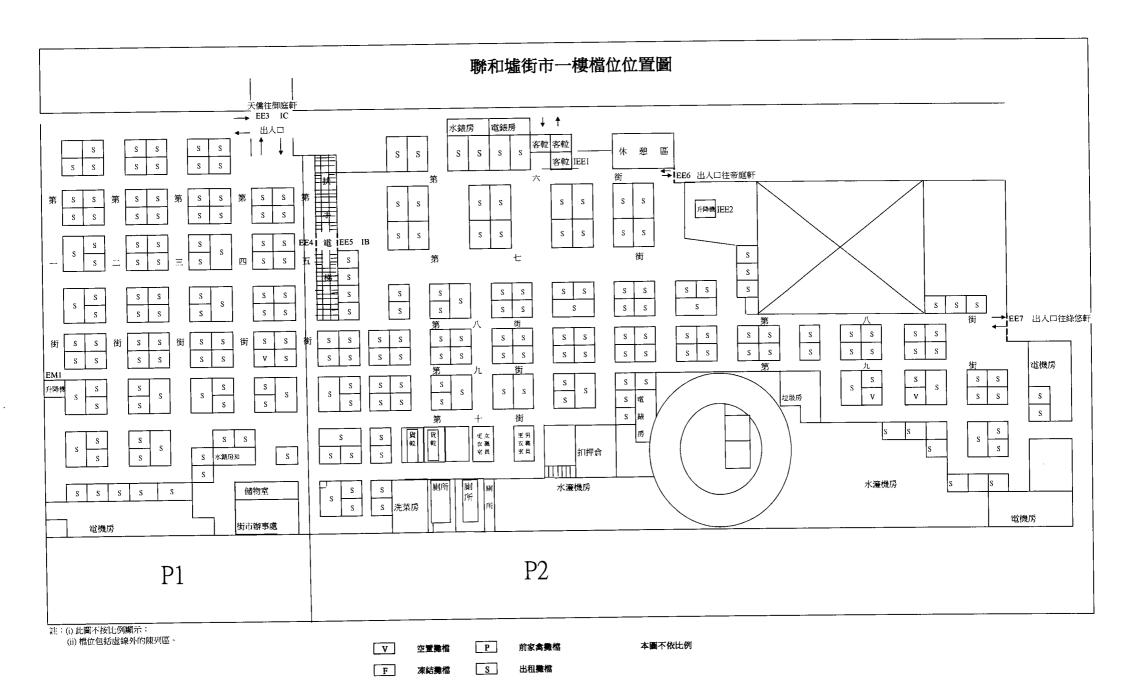
駱克道街市 一樓平面圖

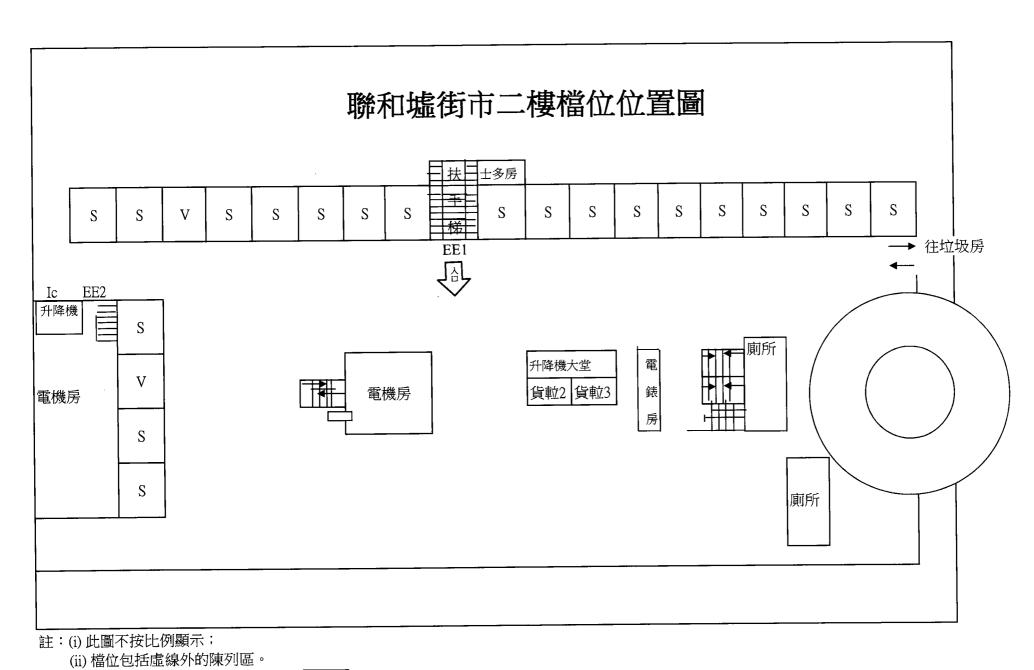


軒尼詩道

- V 空覽舞檔 P 前家禽舞檔 本圖不依比例
- F 凍結機構 S 出租機構







V

F

凍結攤檔

空置攤檔

P

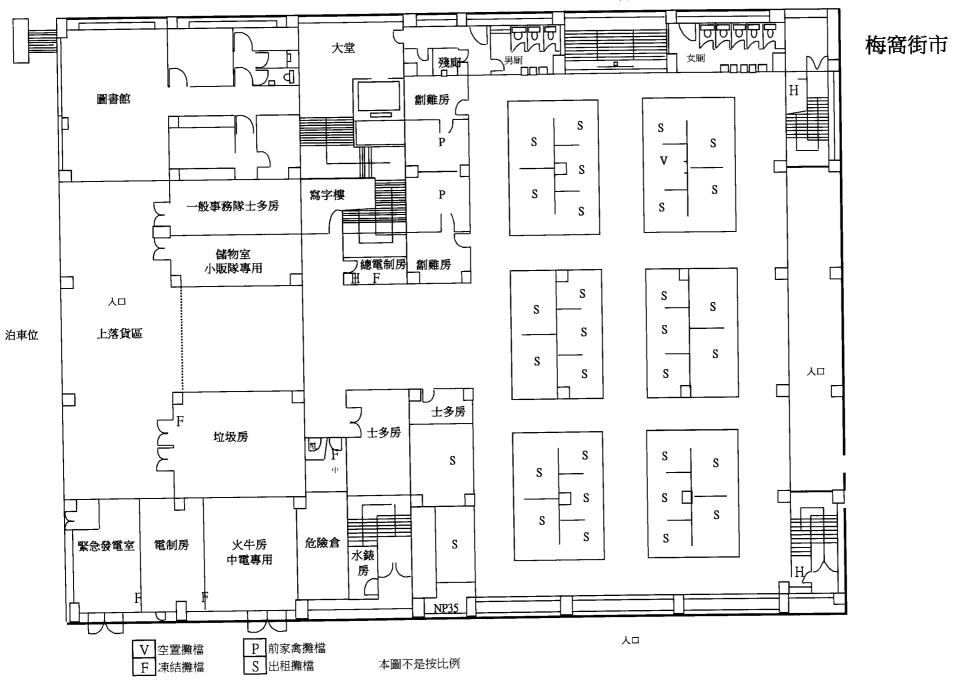
S

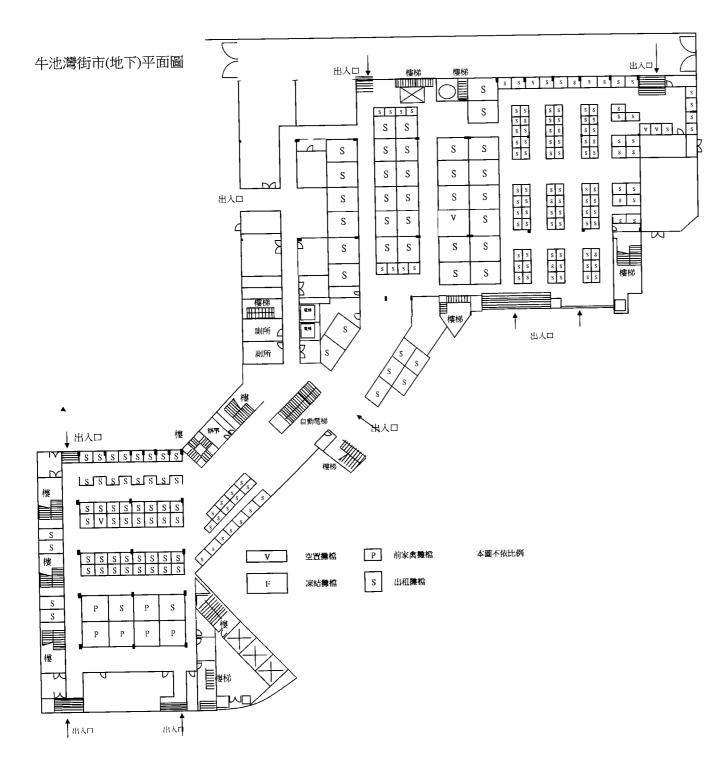
前家禽攤檔

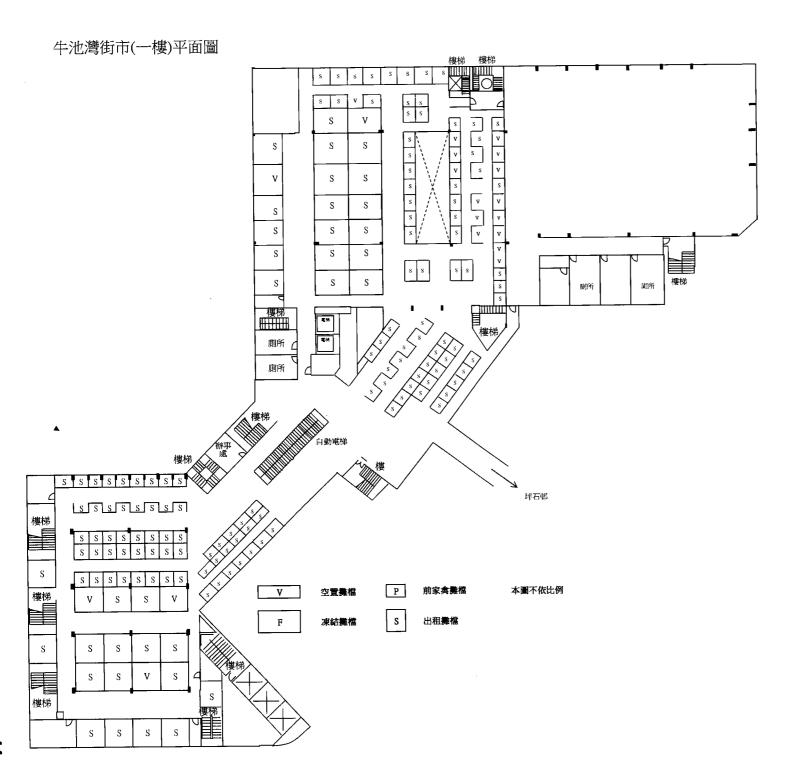
出租攤檔

本圖不依比例

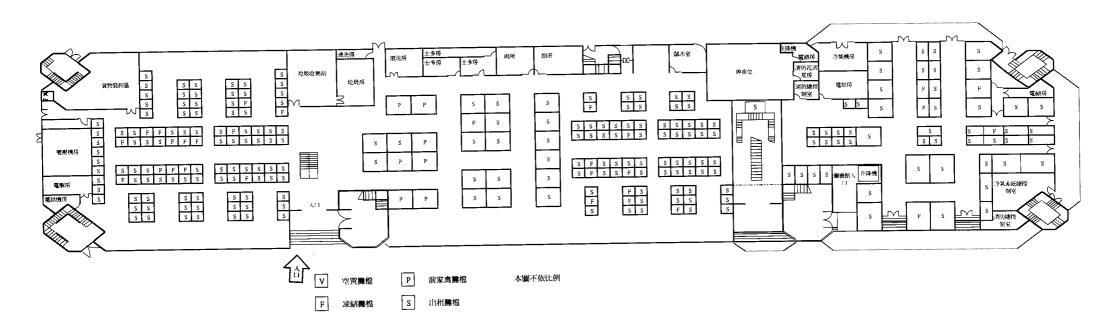








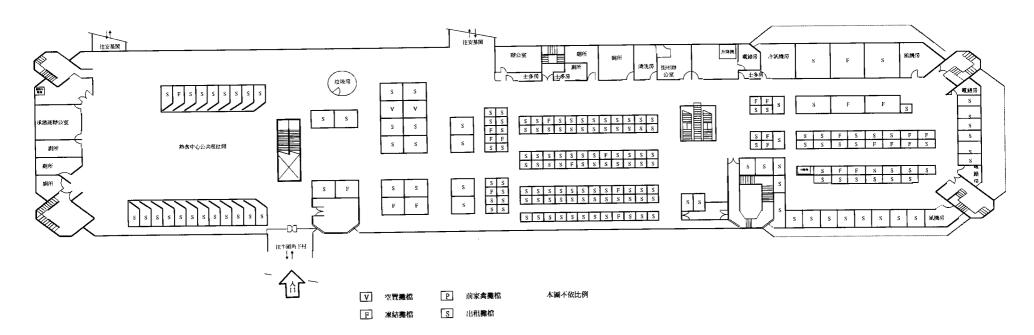
牛頭角街市地下平面圖



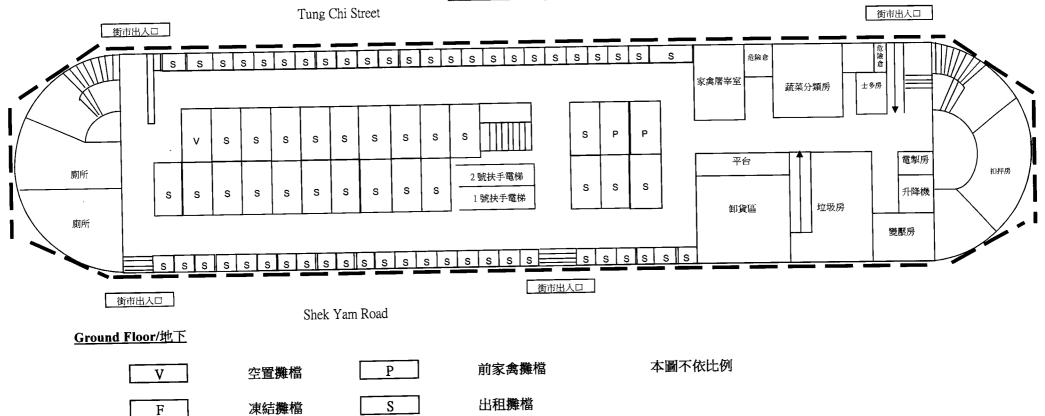
牛頭角街市一樓平面圖

舊翼

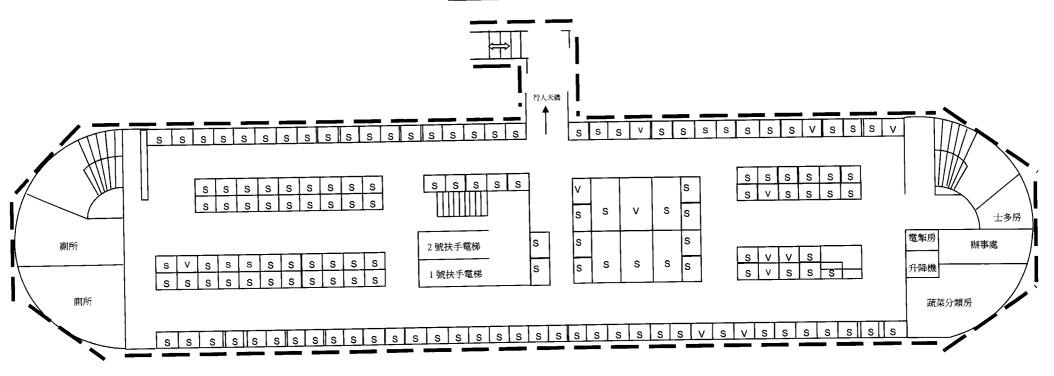
新翼



North Kwai Chung Market 北葵涌街市



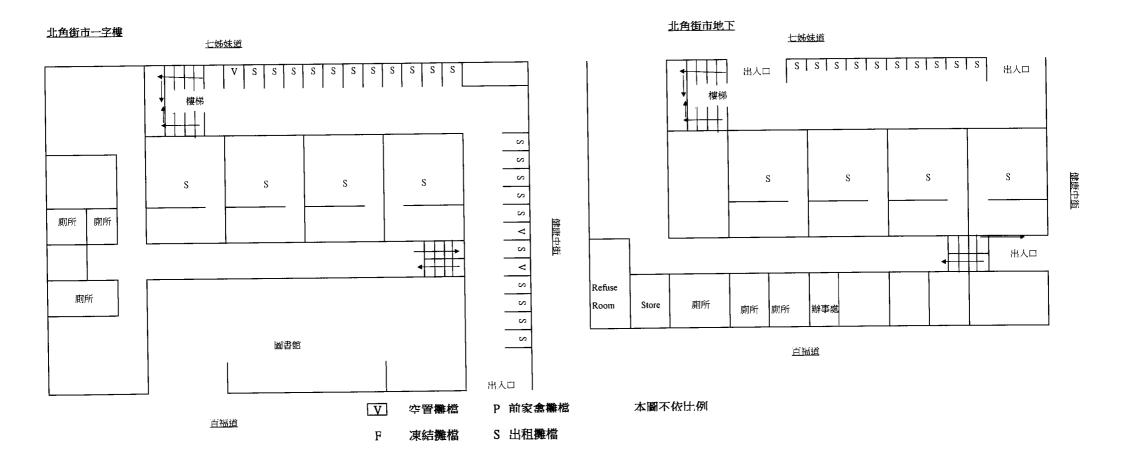
North Kwai Chung Market 北葵涌街市

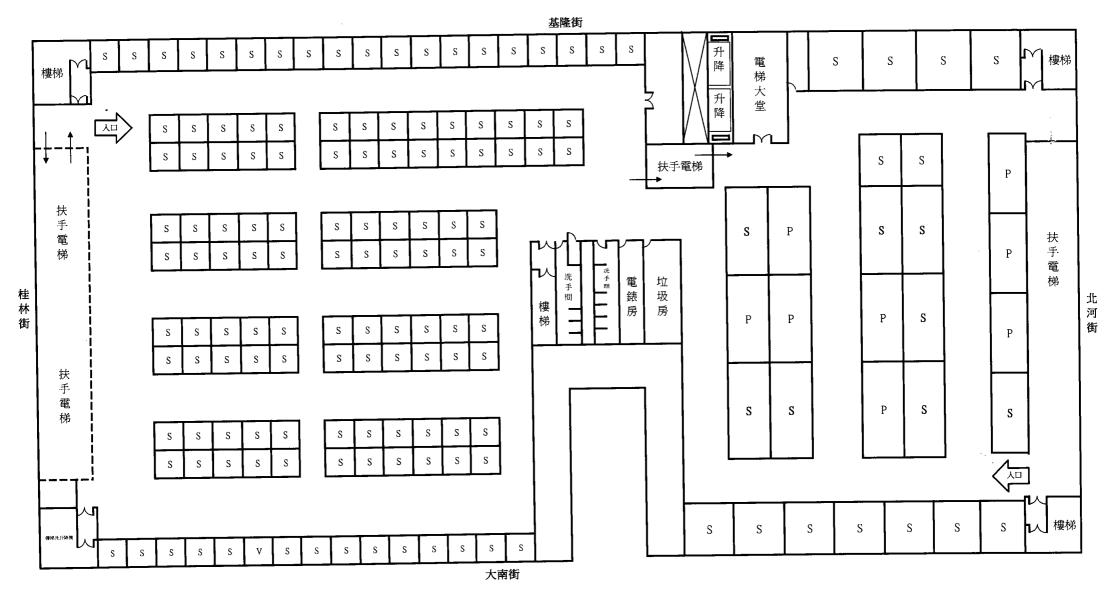


First Floor/二樓

V	空置攤檔	P	前家禽攤檔	本圖不依比例
F	凍結攤檔	S	出租攤檔	

北角街市





北河街街市一樓平面圖

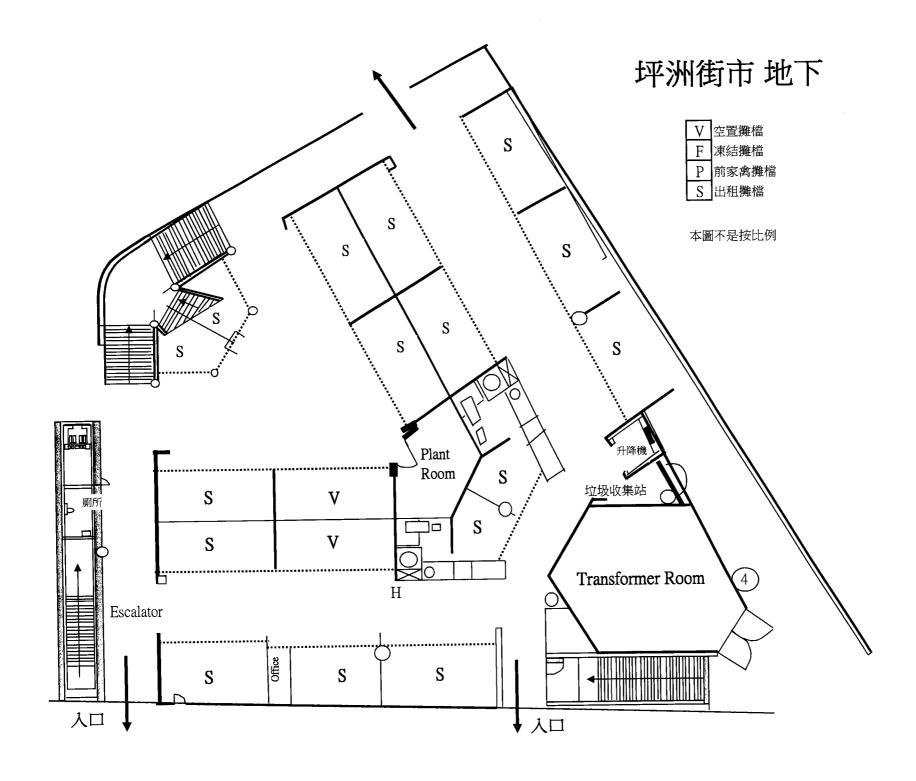
V 空置機檔

P 前家禽攤檔

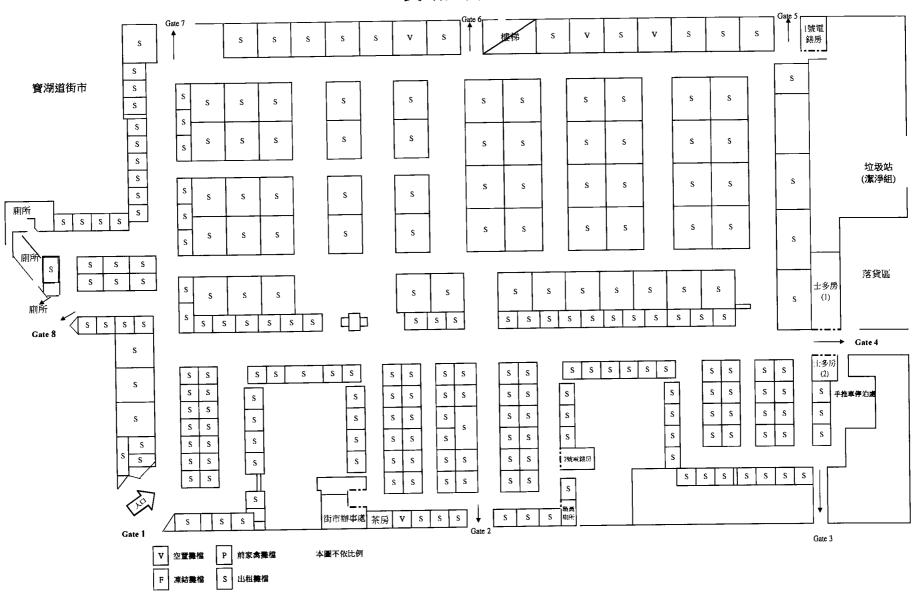
本圖不依比例

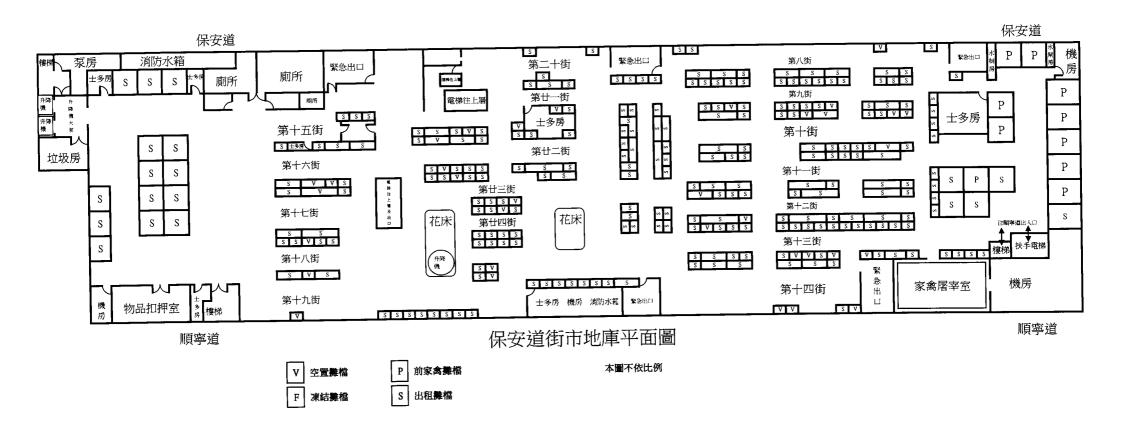
F 凍結機檔

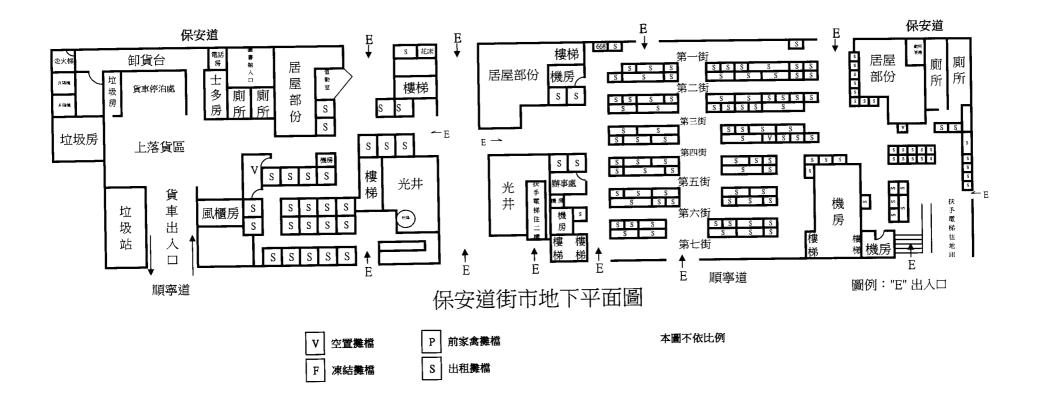
S出租攤檔

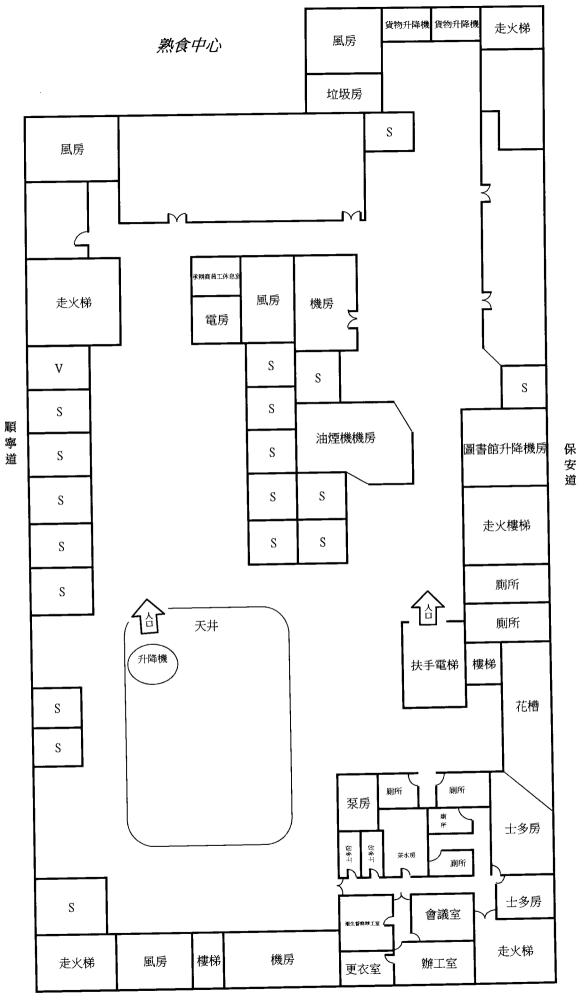


寶湖道街市









保安道街市三樓平面圖

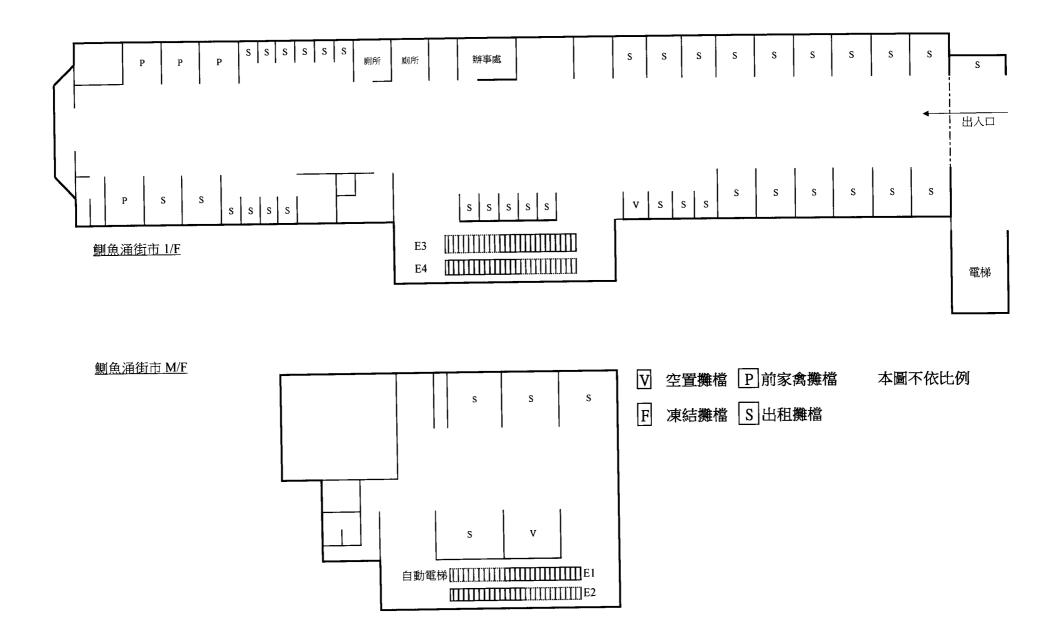
▼ 空置機檔 F 凍結機檔

P 前家禽攤檔

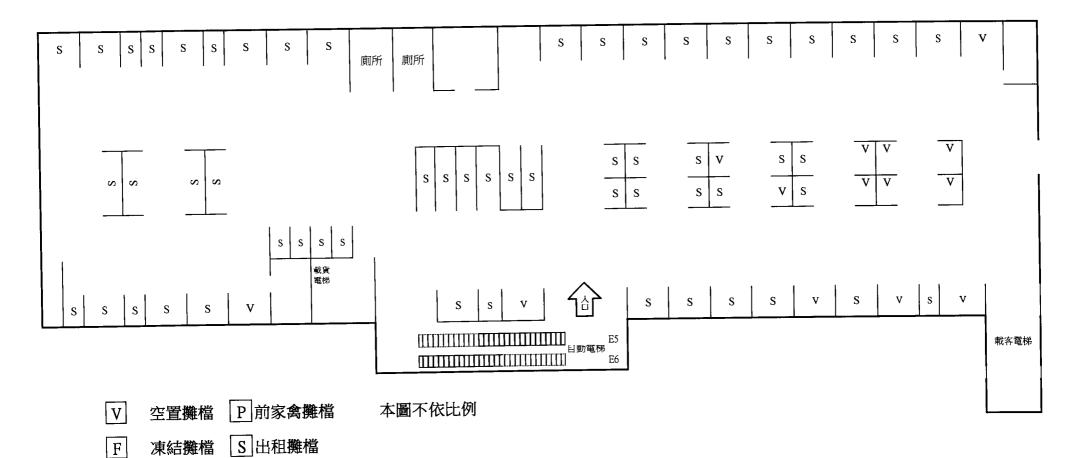
出租攤檔

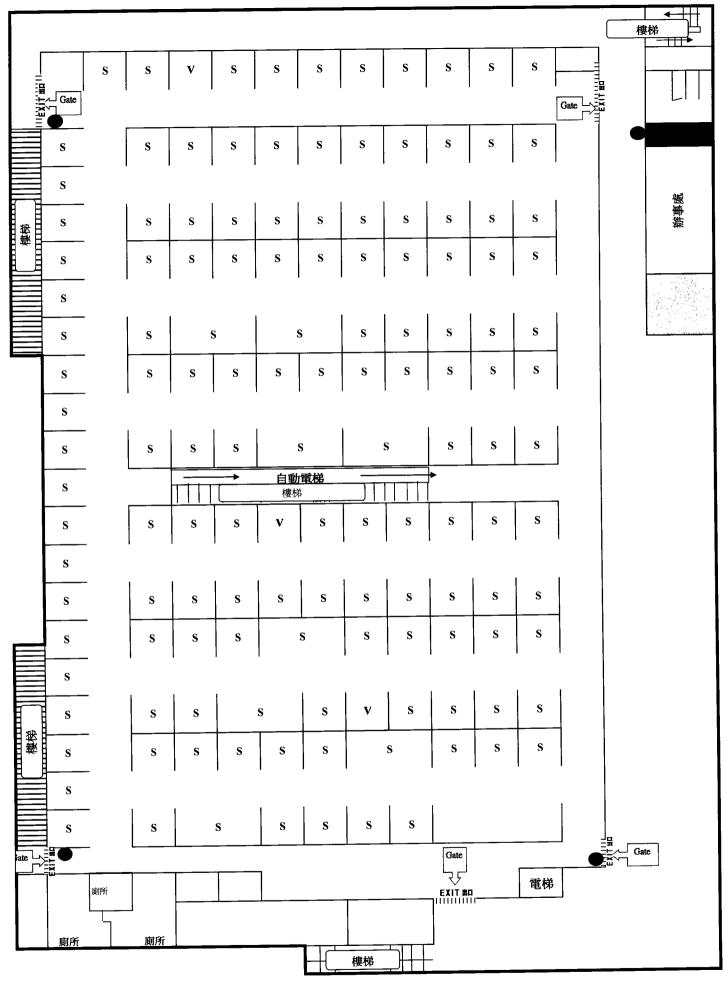
本圖不依比例

鰂魚涌街市 1/F & M/F



<u> 鰂魚涌街市 - 2/F</u>





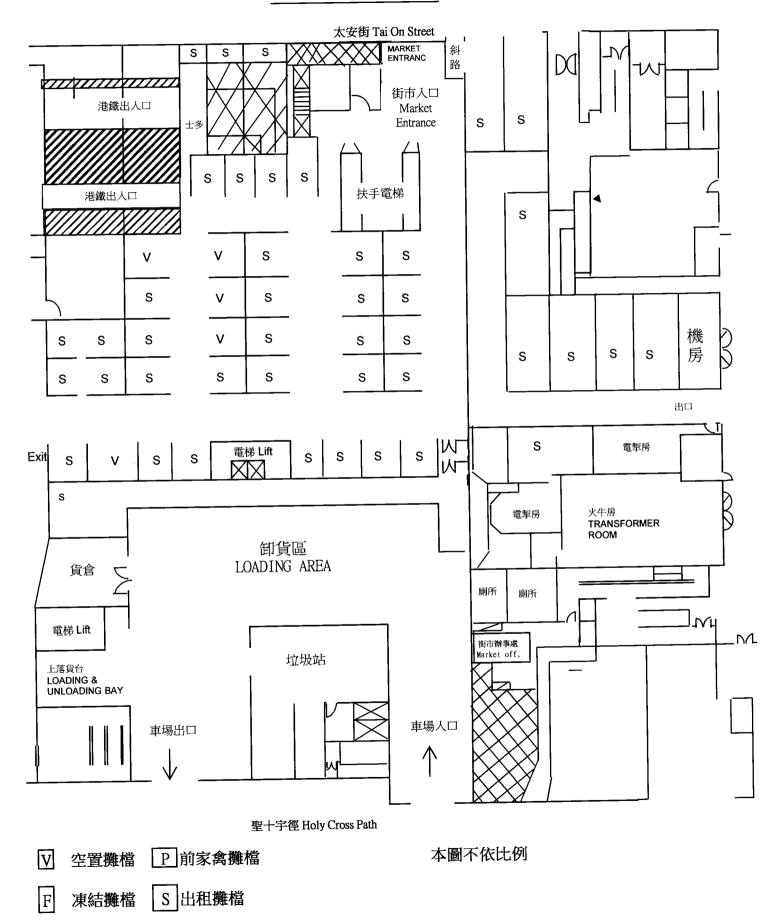
年春街 西貢街市一字樓

本圖不依比例 空置機檔 出租舞檔 S

凍結機檔

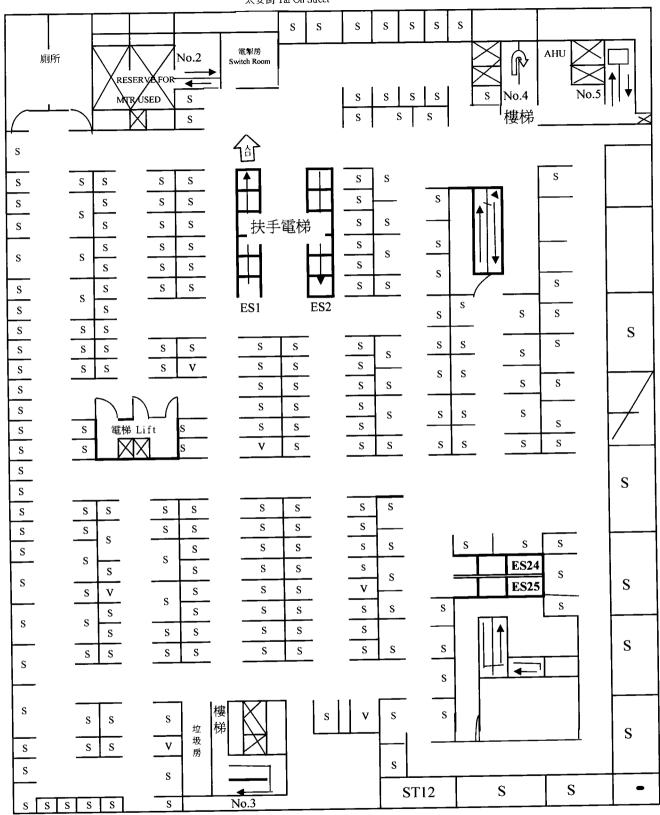
58

西灣河街市地下



西灣河街市-·樓



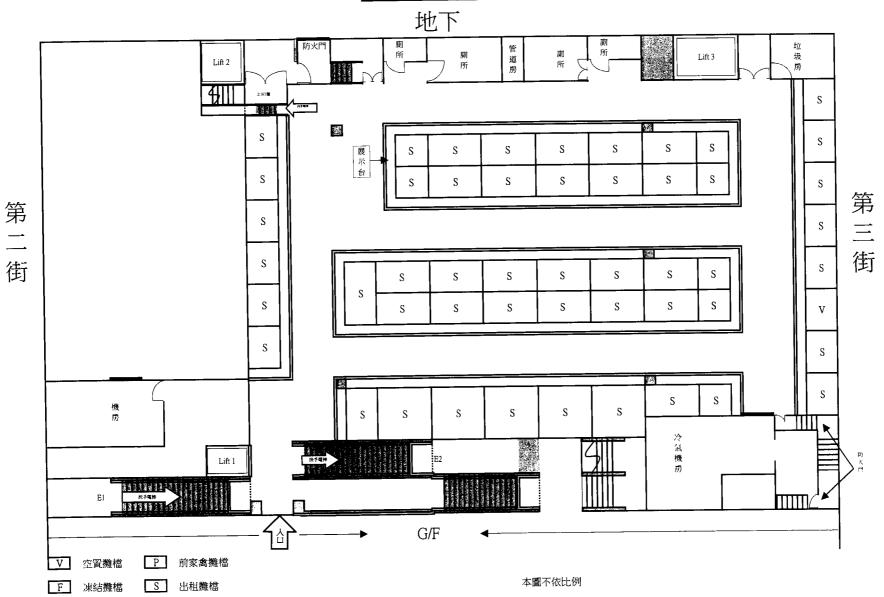


聖十字徑 Holy Cross Path

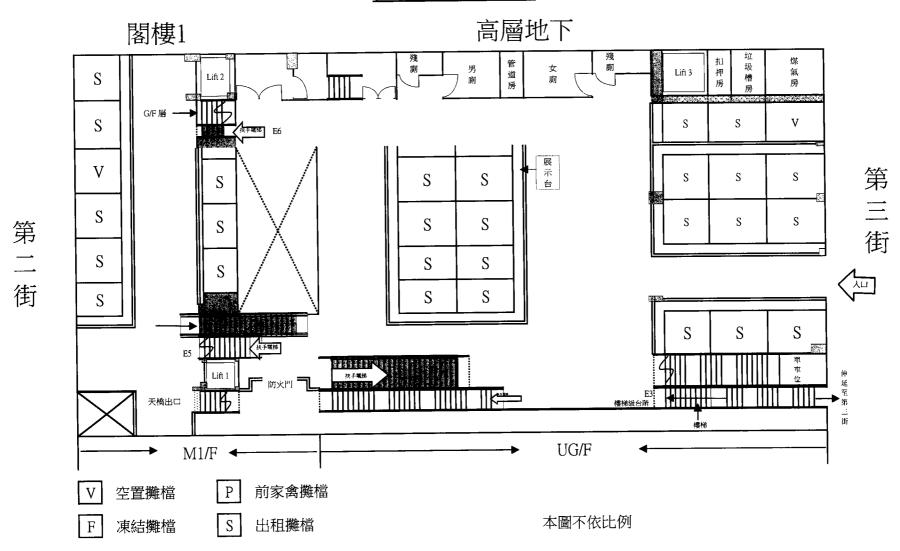
本圖不依比例 P|前家禽攤檔 V 空置攤檔

S出租攤檔 F 凍結攤檔

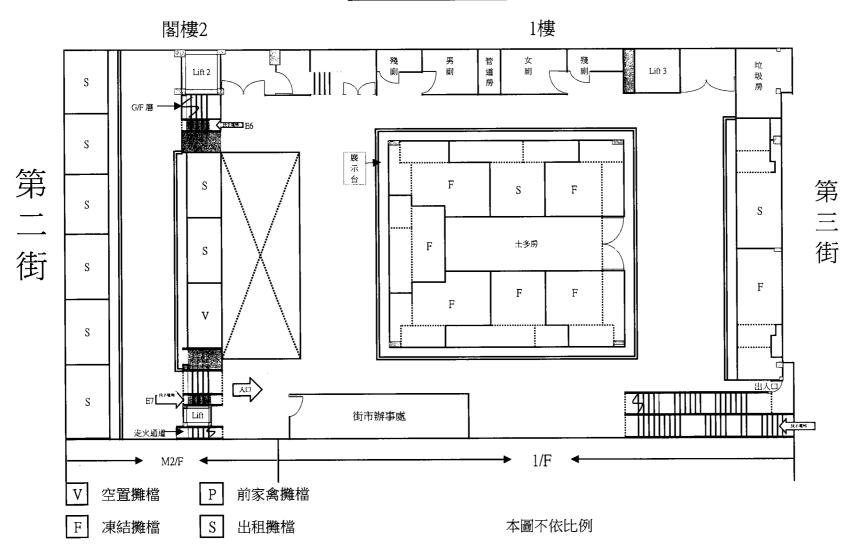
西營盤街市



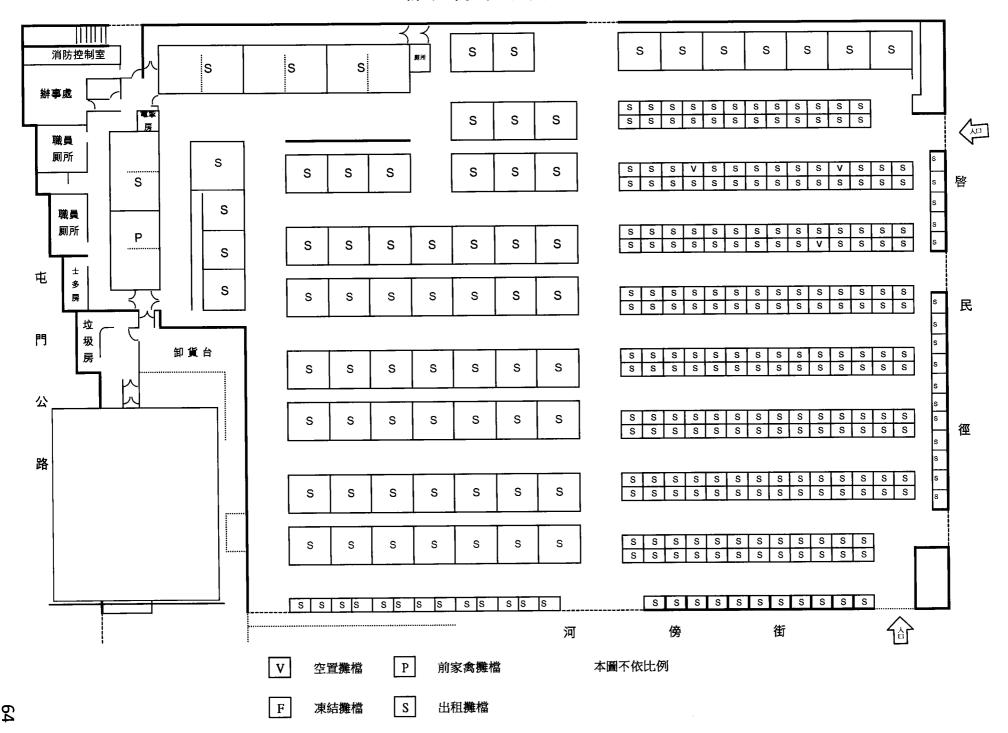
西營盤街市



西營盤街市



新墟街市平面圖





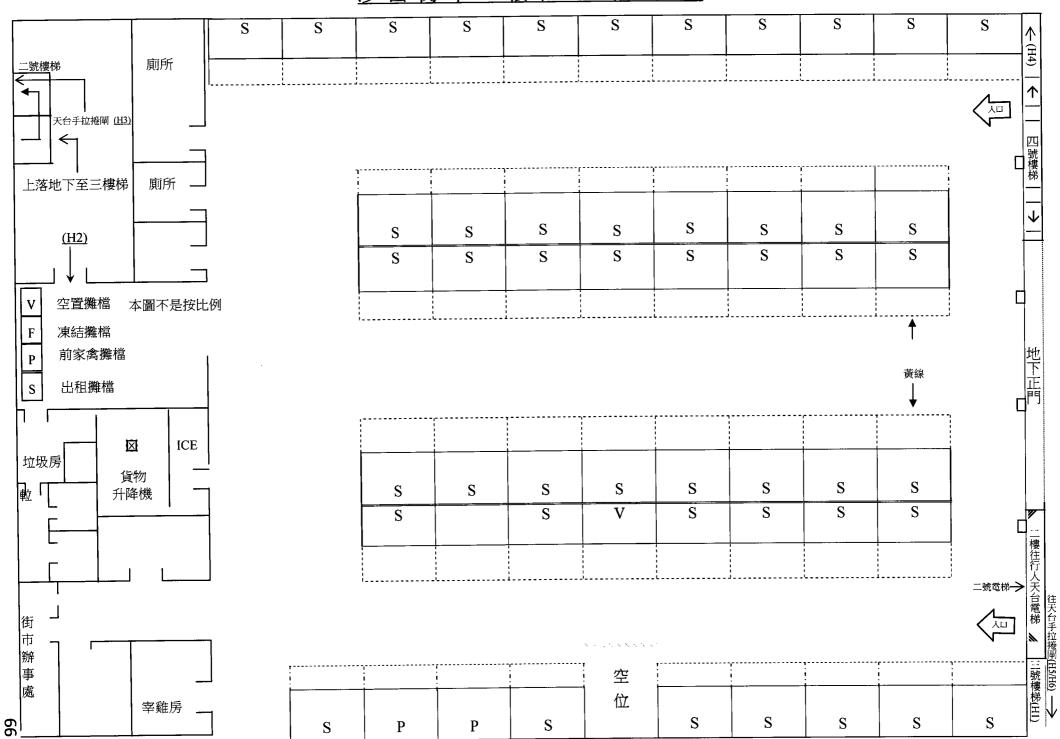
S

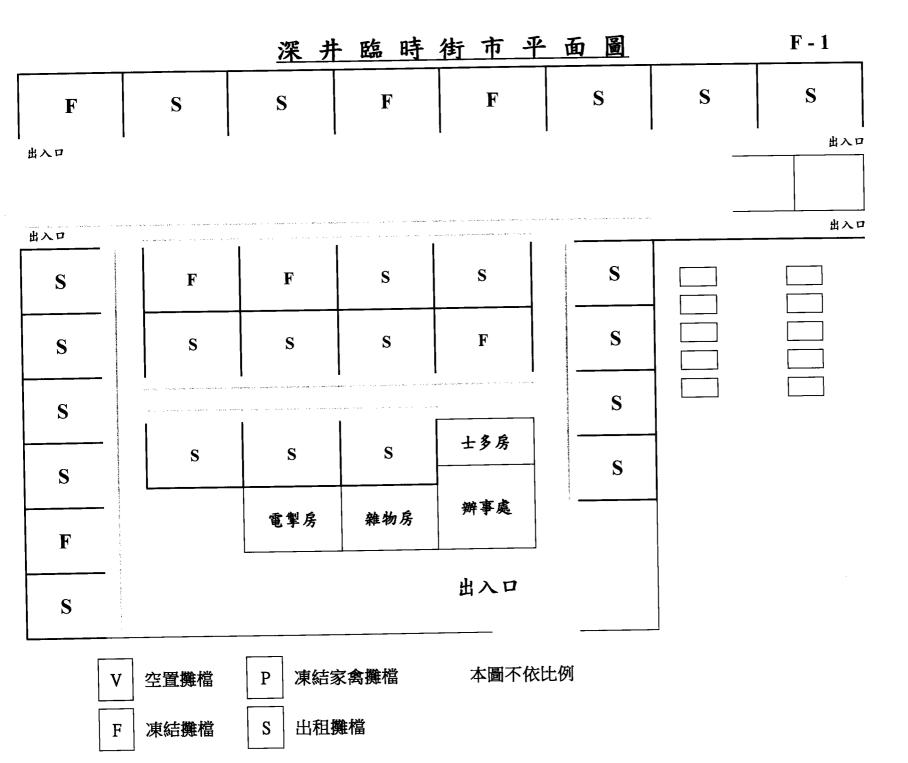
出租攤檔

F

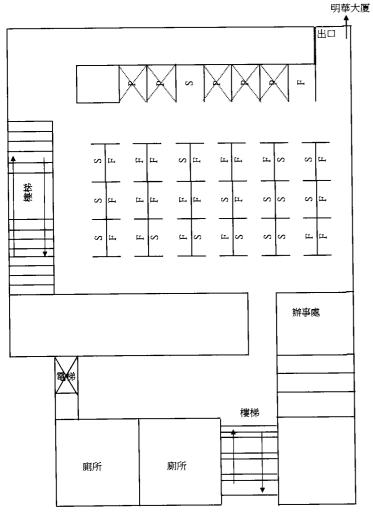
凍結攤檔

沙田街市一樓位置指示圖





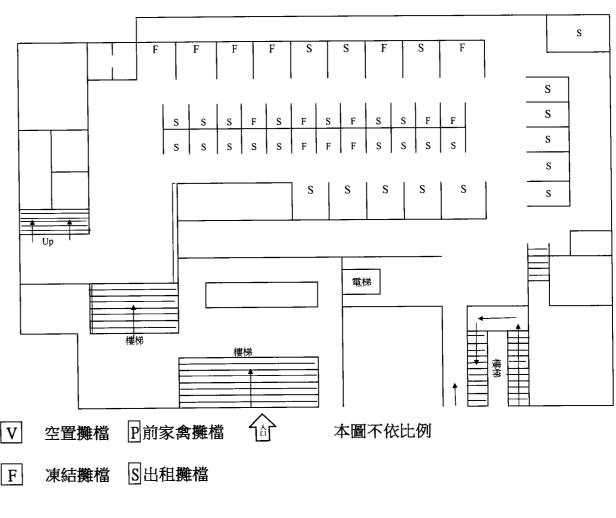
<u>筲箕灣街市一字樓</u>



筲箕灣東大街

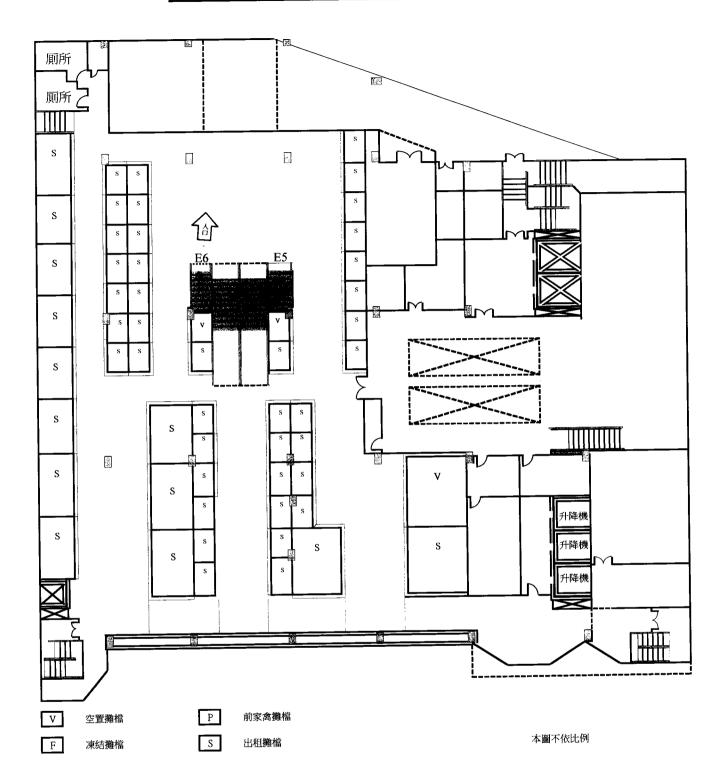
筲箕灣街市 地下及一字樓

筲箕灣街市地下

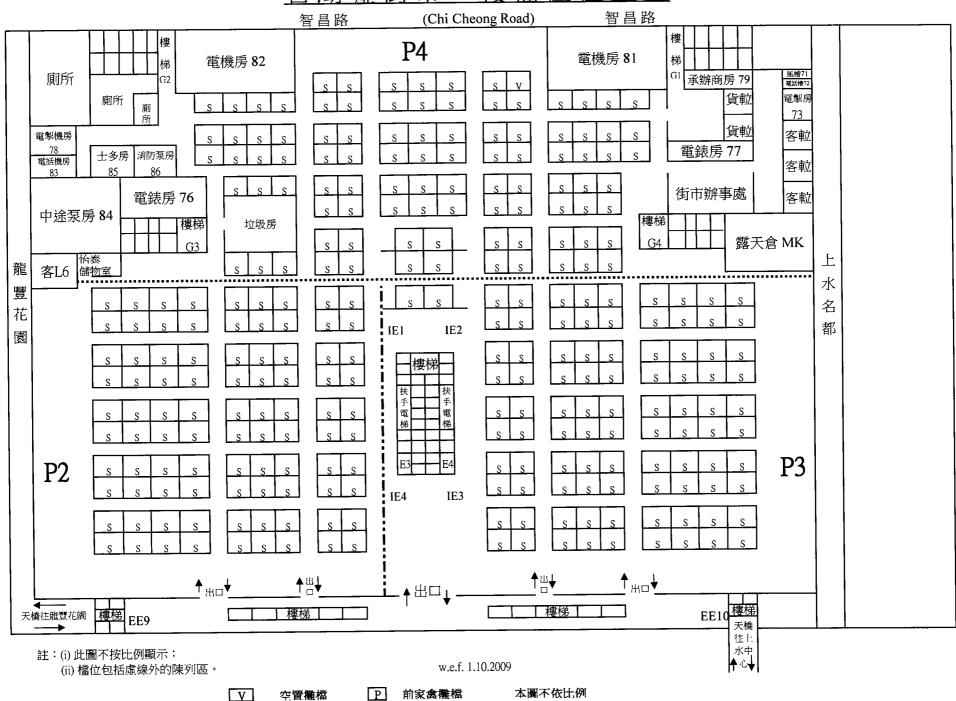


筲箕灣東大街

石塘咀街市一樓平面圖



石湖塘街市一樓檔位位置圖

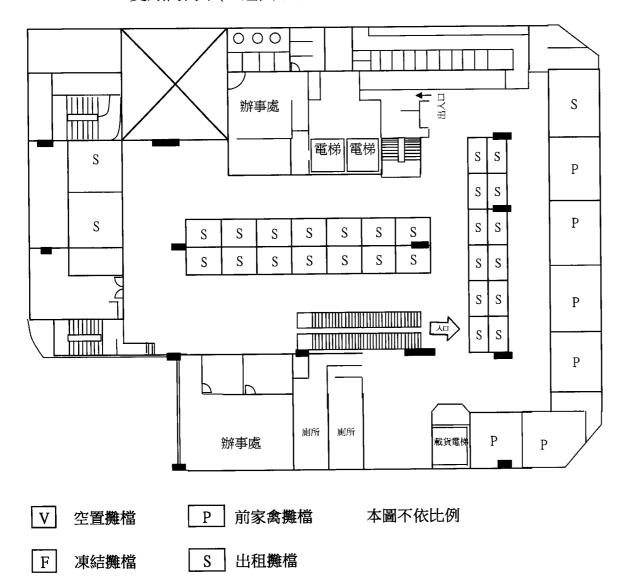


S 出租攤檔

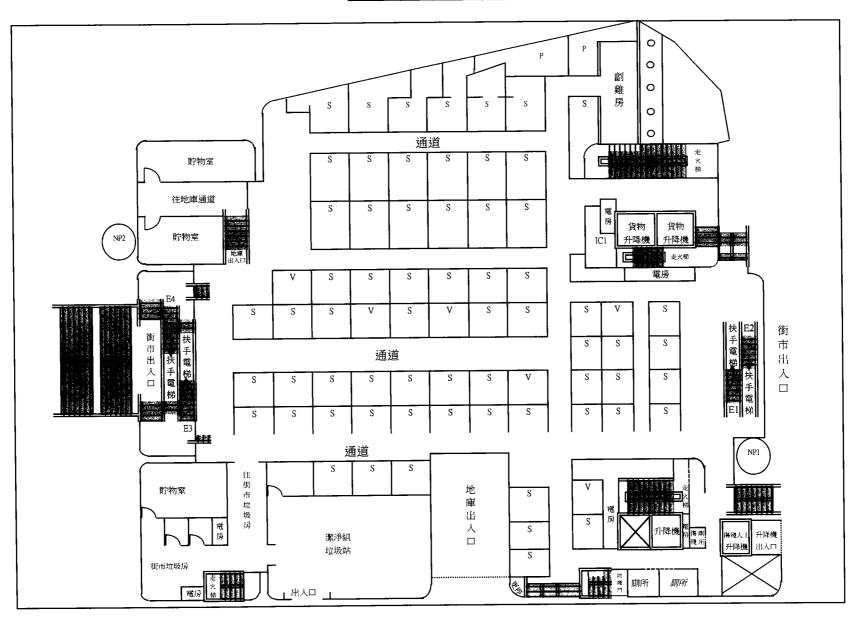
F

凍結攤檔

雙鳳街街市(上層)平面圖



上環街市地下平面圖



V 空置攤檔

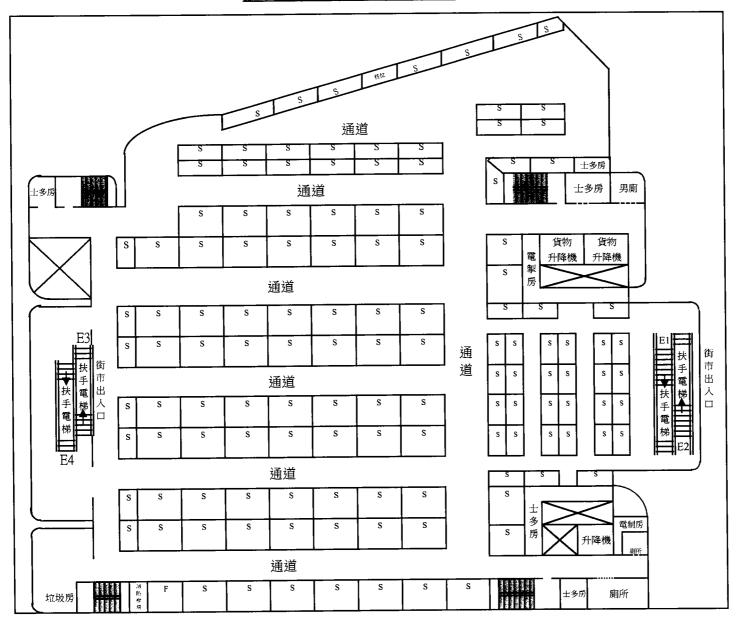
P 前家禽攤檔

F 凍結攤檔

S 出租攤檔

本圖不依比例

上環街市一樓平面圖



V 空置攤檔

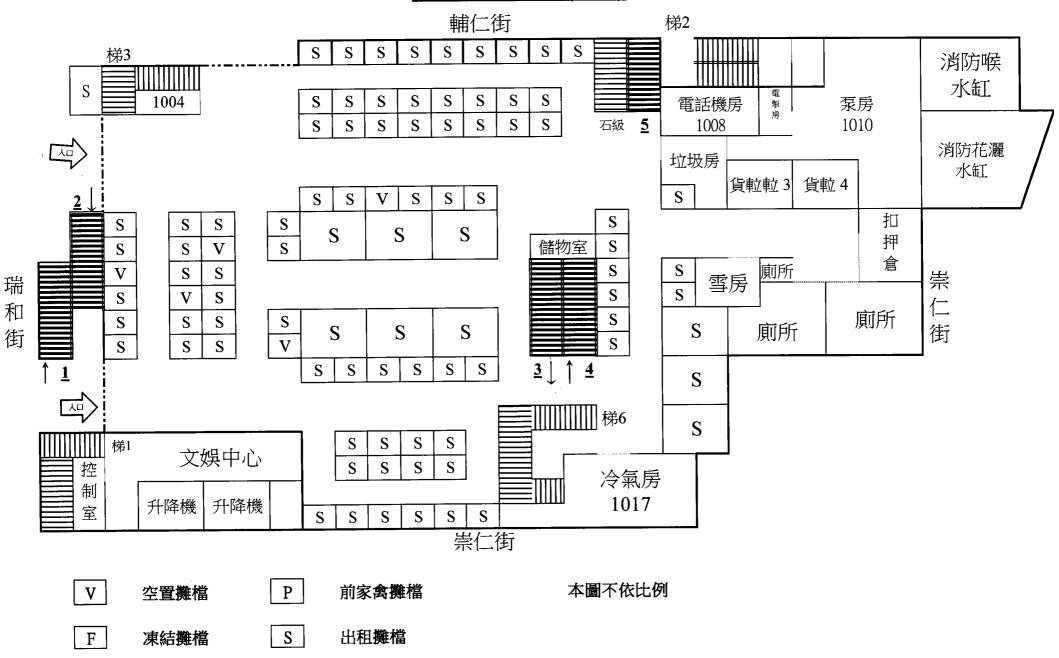
P 前家禽攤檔

本圖不依比例

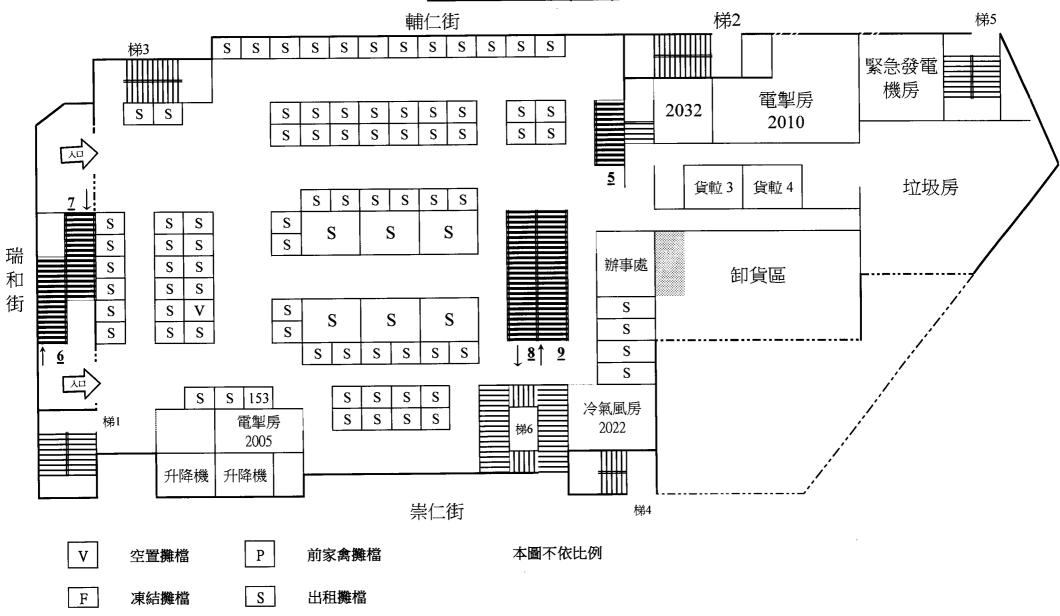
F 凍結攤檔

S 出租攤檔

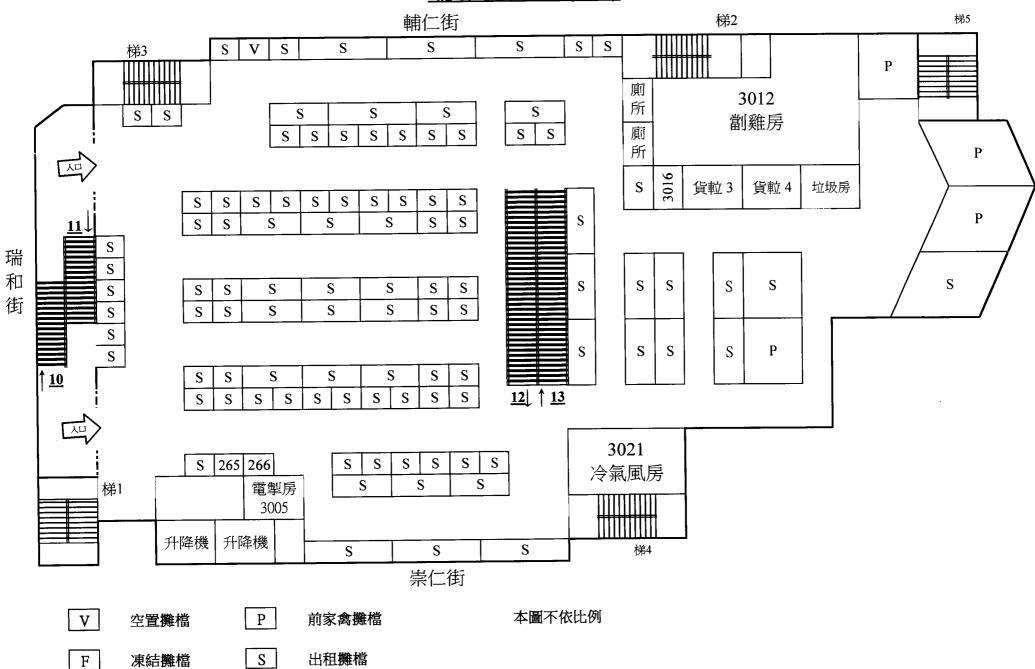
瑞和街街市(1樓)



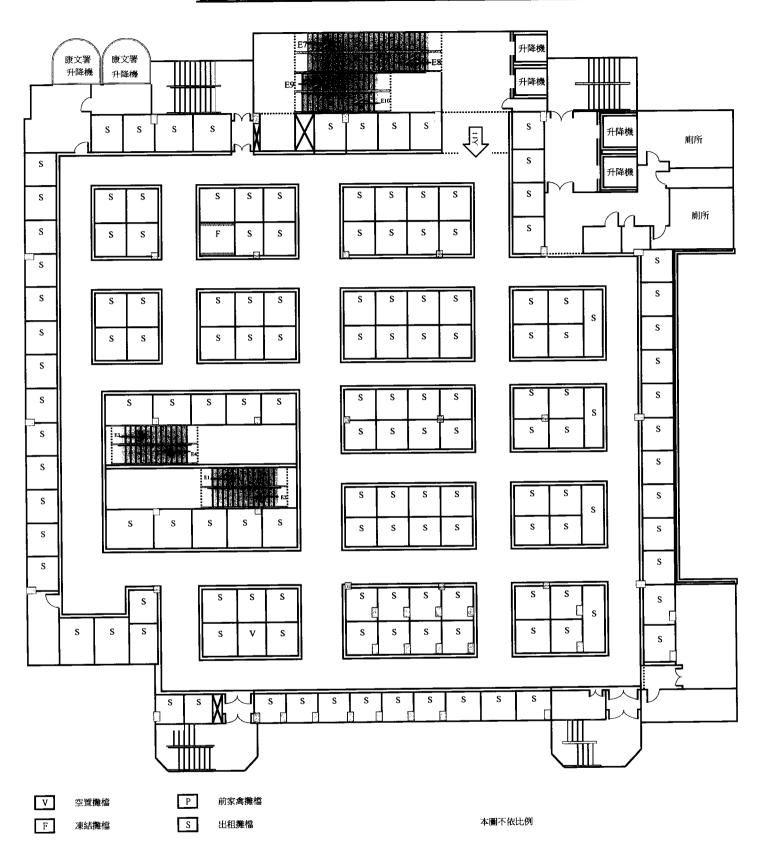
瑞和街街市(2樓)



瑞和街街市(3樓)

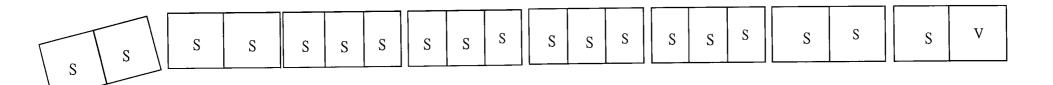


士美非路街市一樓平面圖



緊急車輛通道 Emergency Vehicular Access

起卸貨區 Loading and Unloading Zone



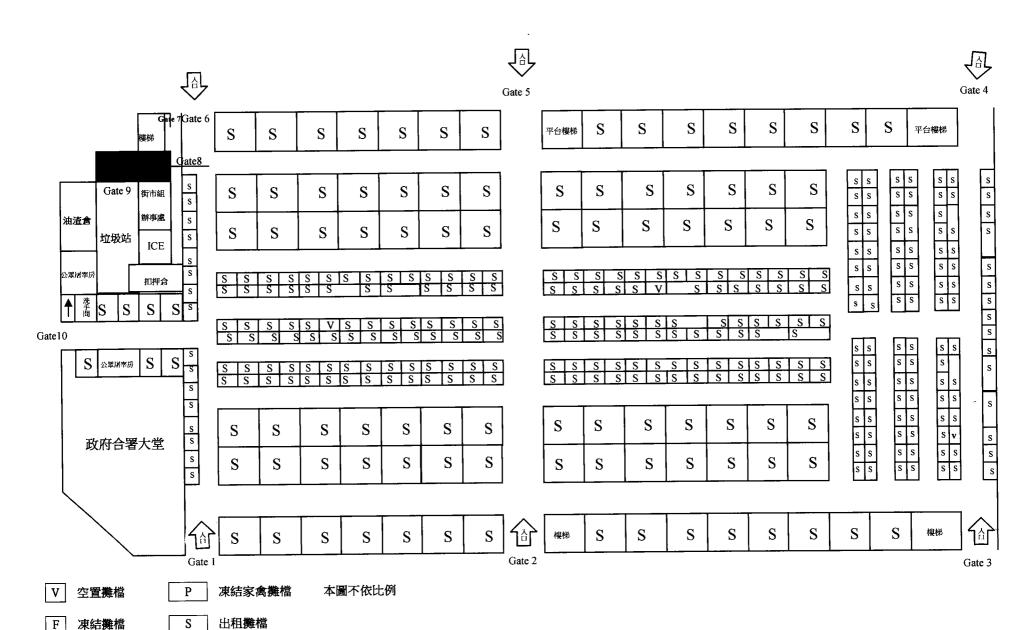
赤柱灣

CHEK CHUE WAN

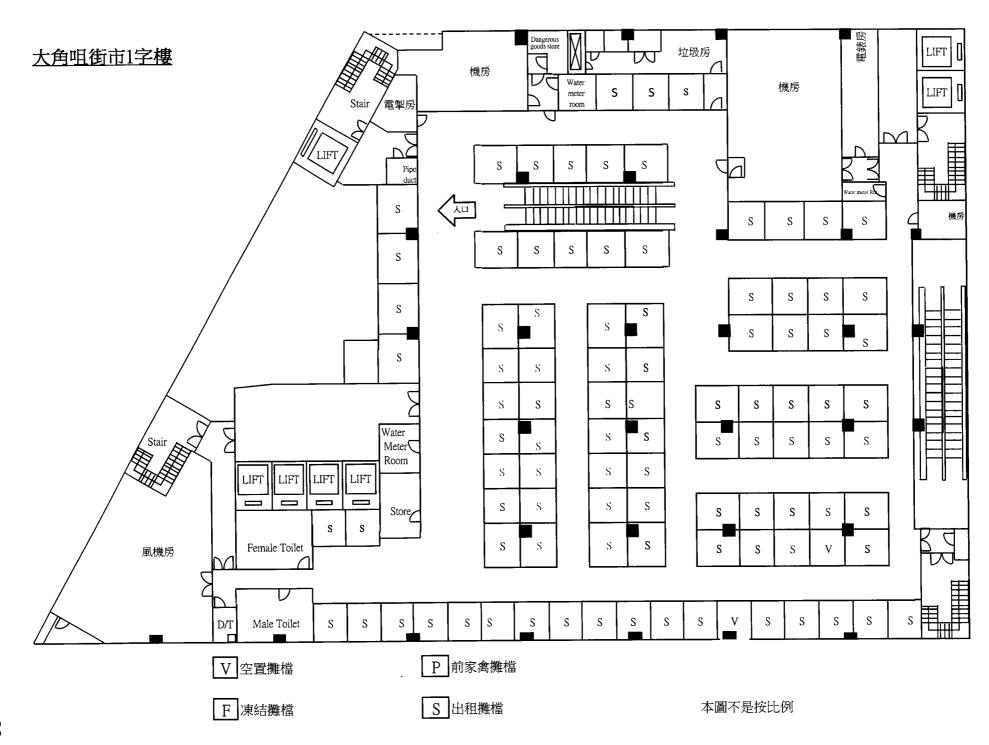
赤柱海濱小賣亭 平面圖

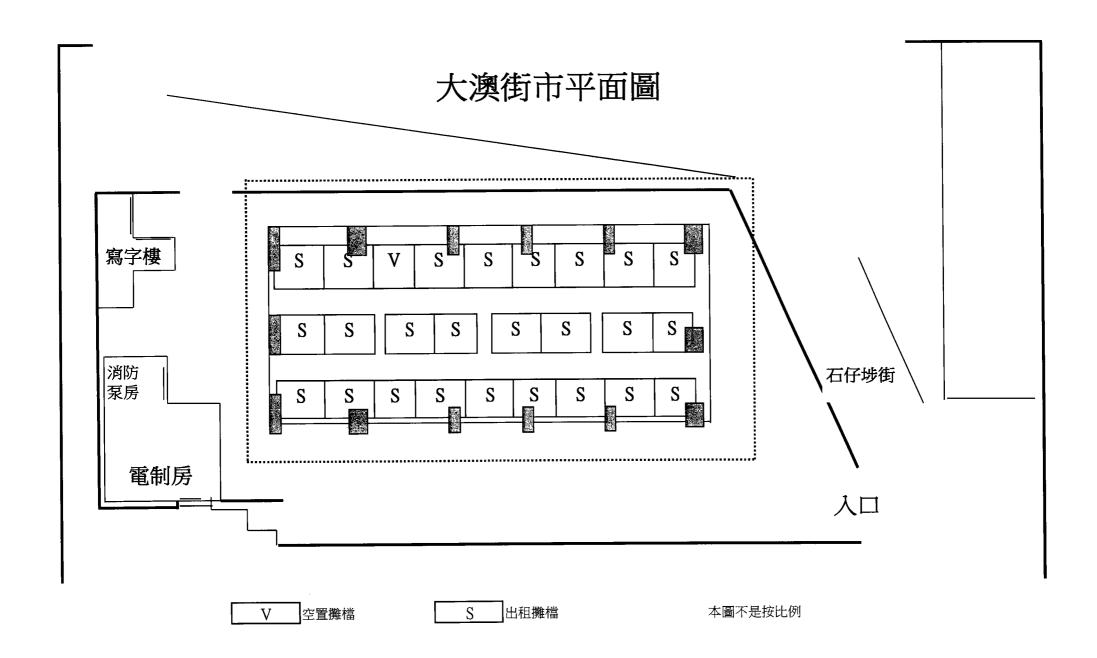
V 空置攤檔

大橋街市平面圖

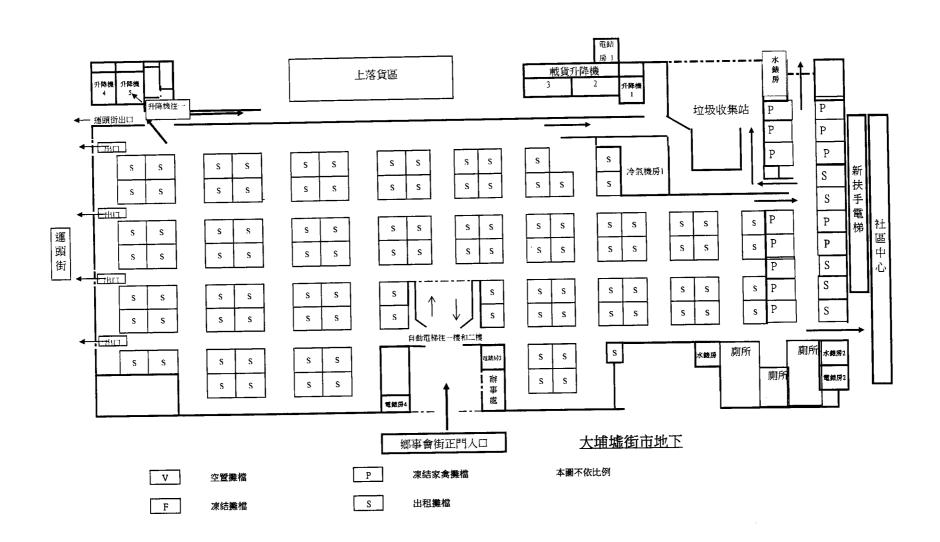


79

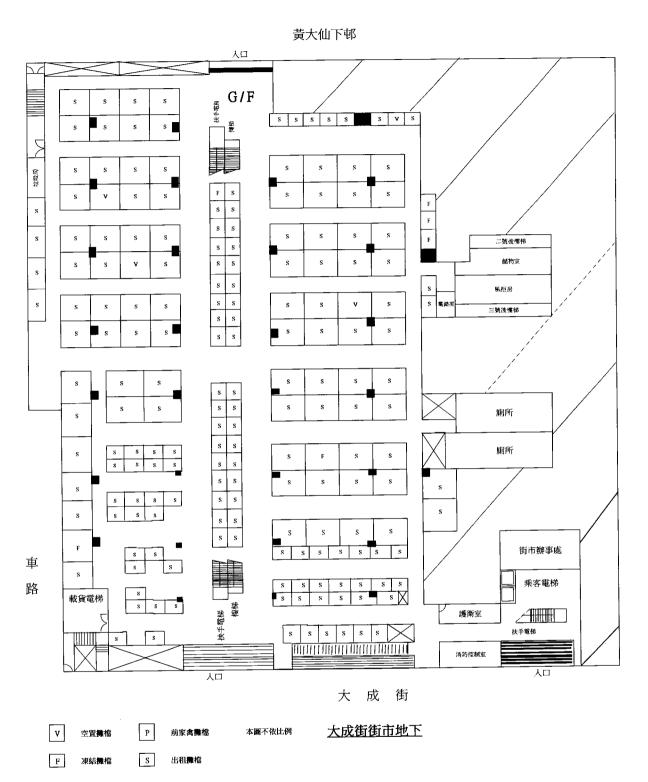


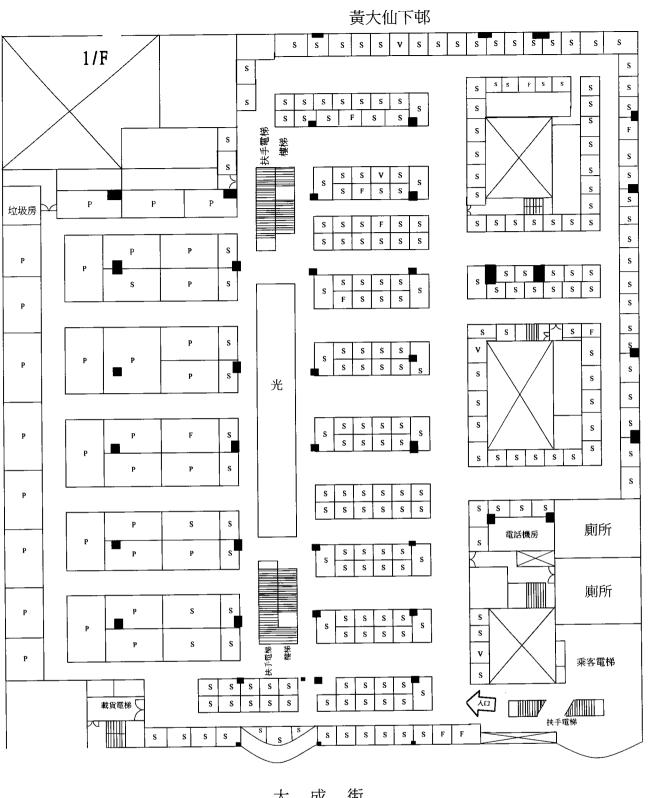


大埔墟街市地下檔位分布圖





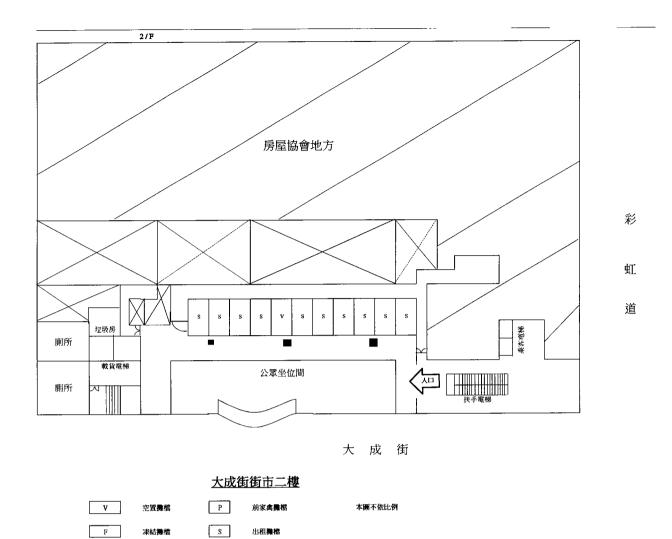




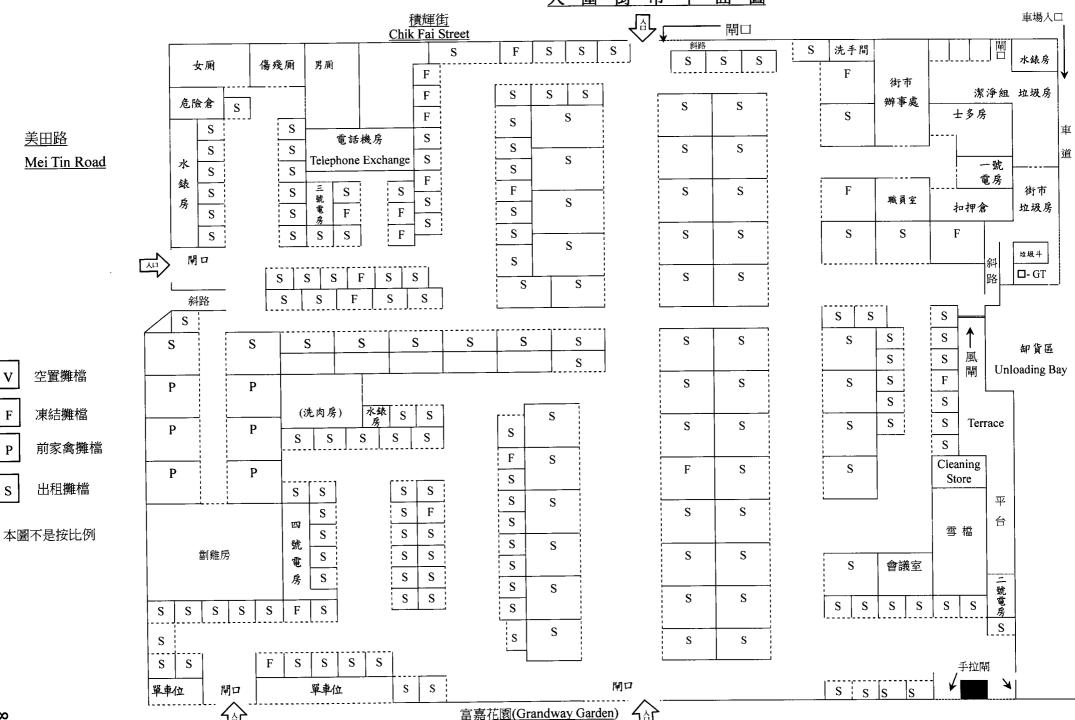
成 街 大

本圖不依比例 V 空置舞檔 P 前家禽農檔

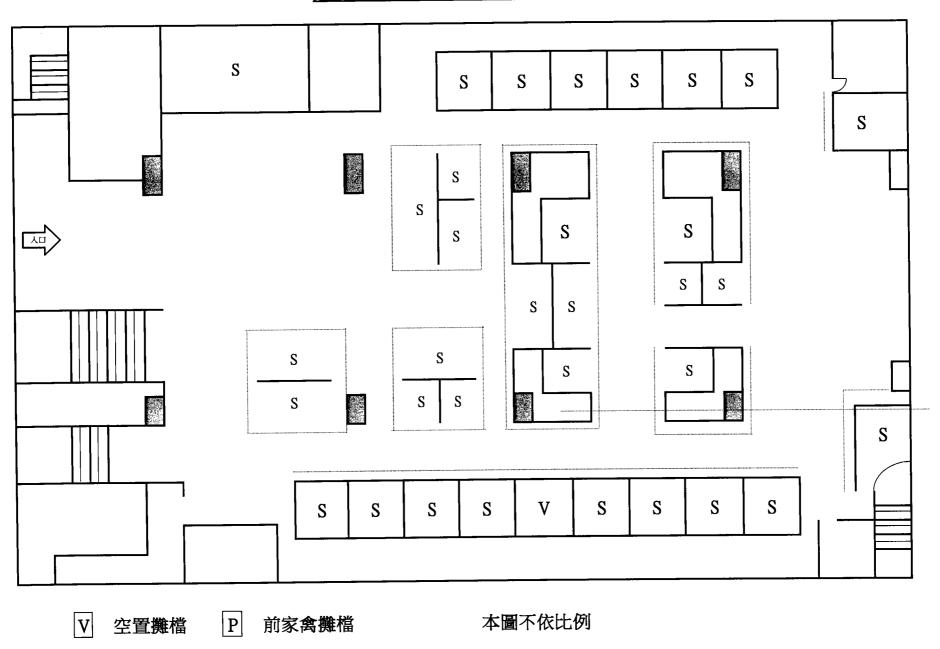
F S 大成街街市一樓 出租舞檔 凍結費檔



大 圍 街 市 平 面 圖



燈籠洲街市地下平面圖

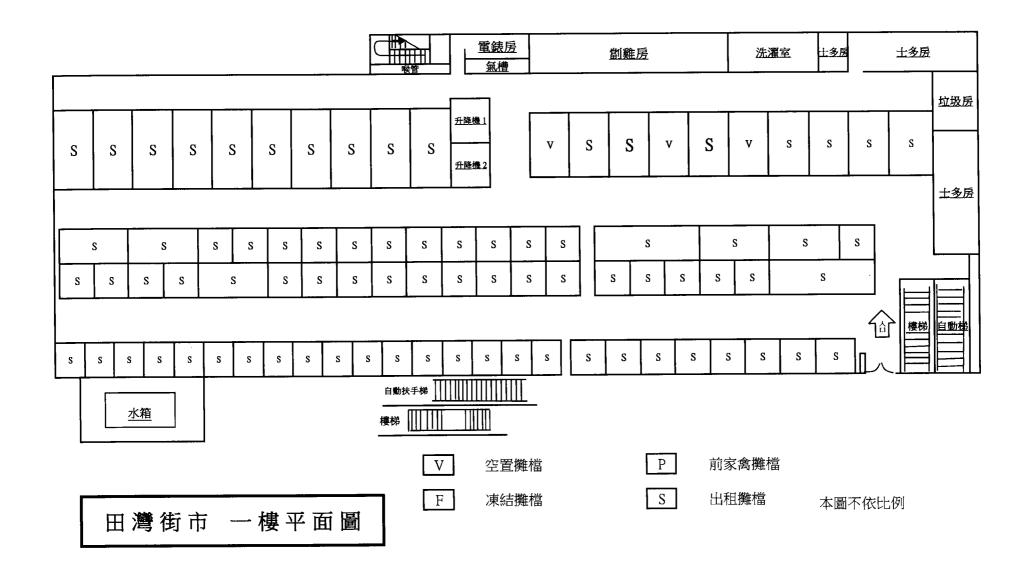


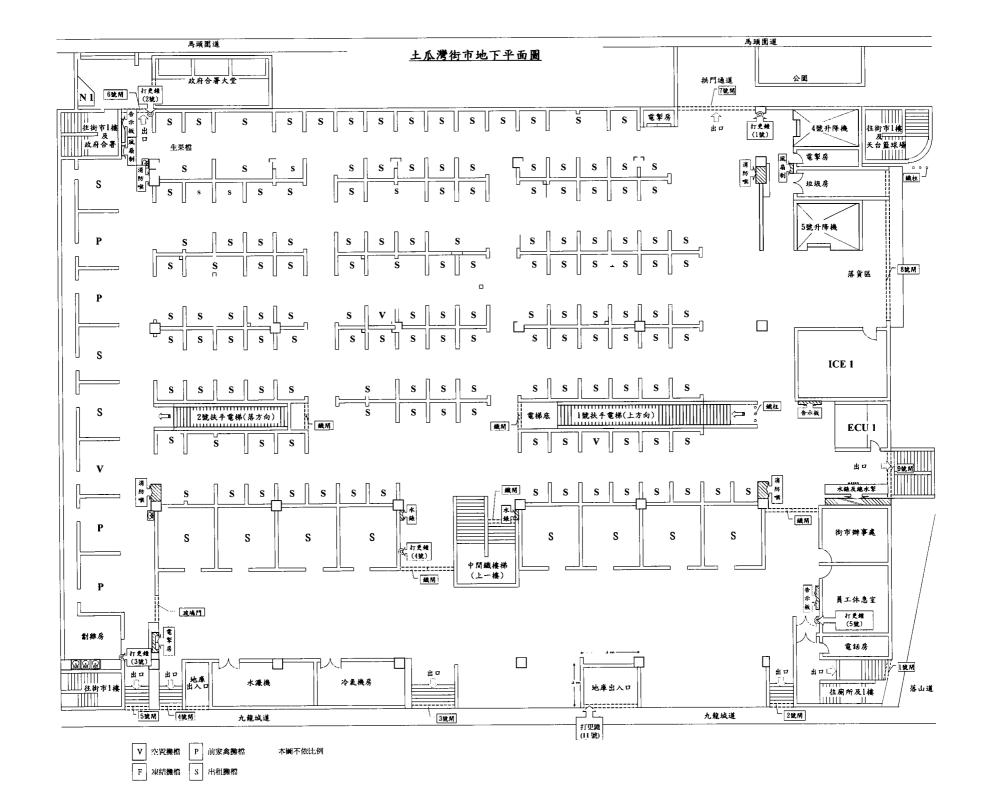
F

凍結攤檔

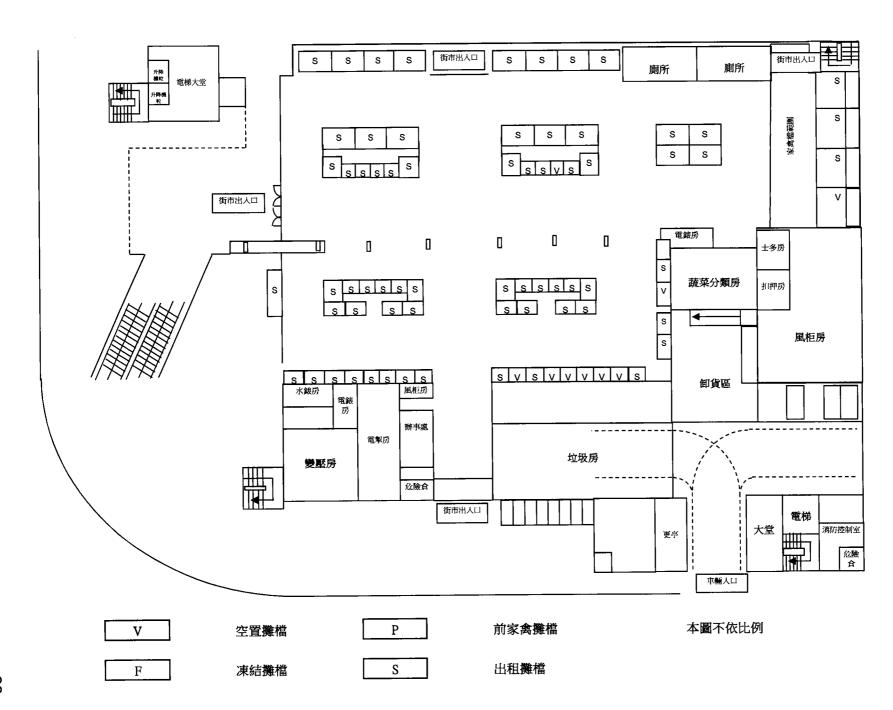
S

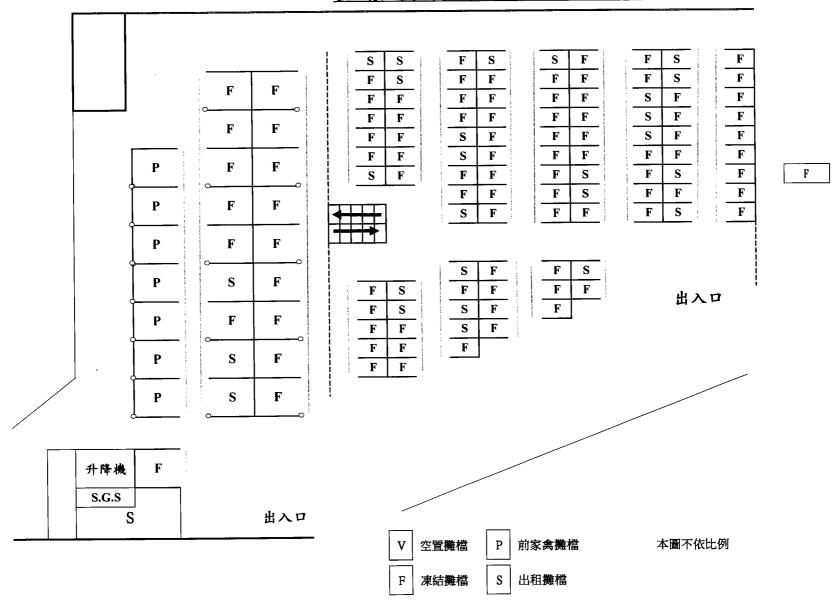
出租攤檔

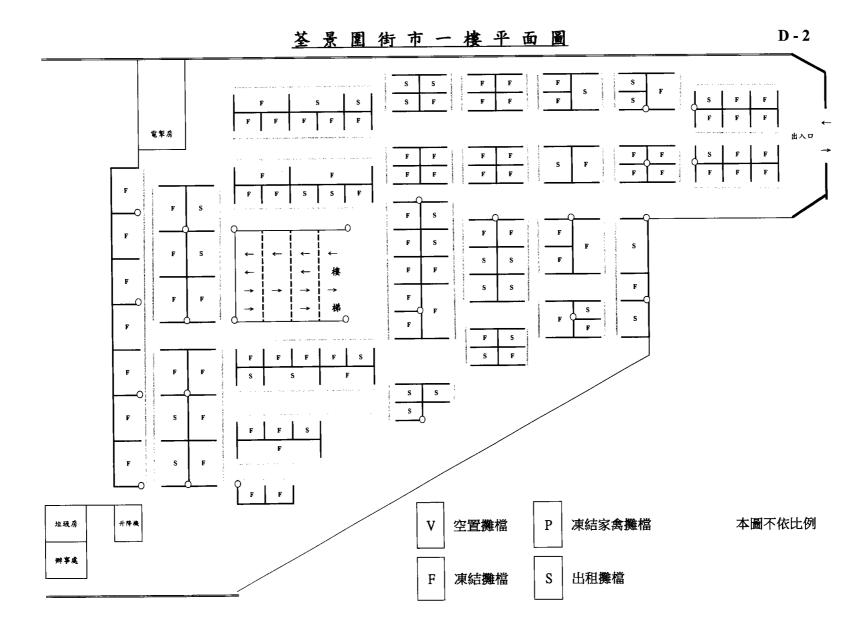




青衣街市平面圖

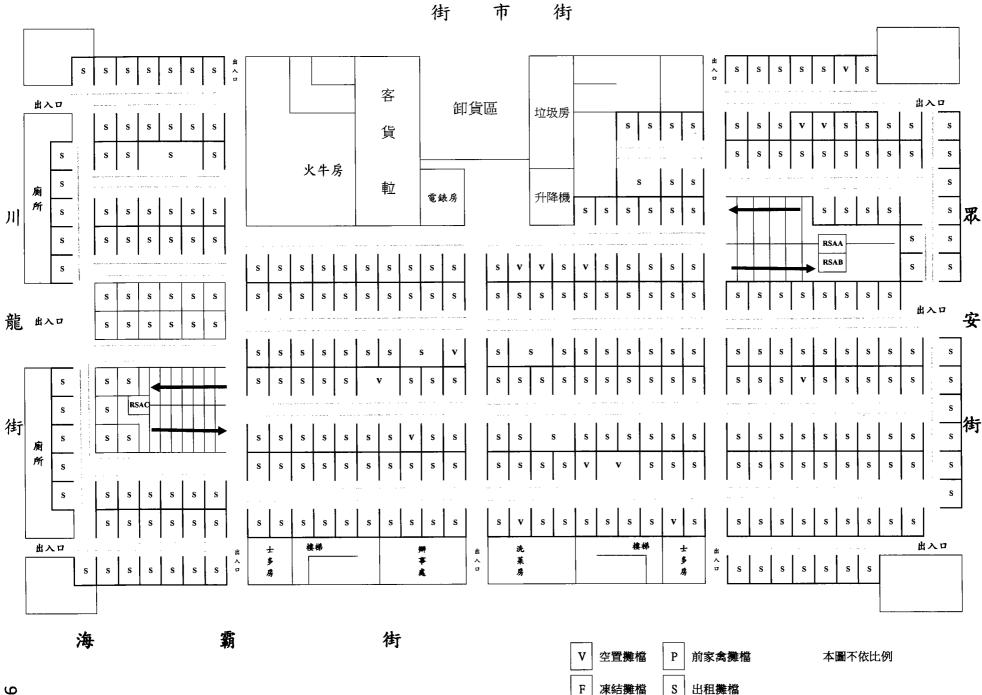






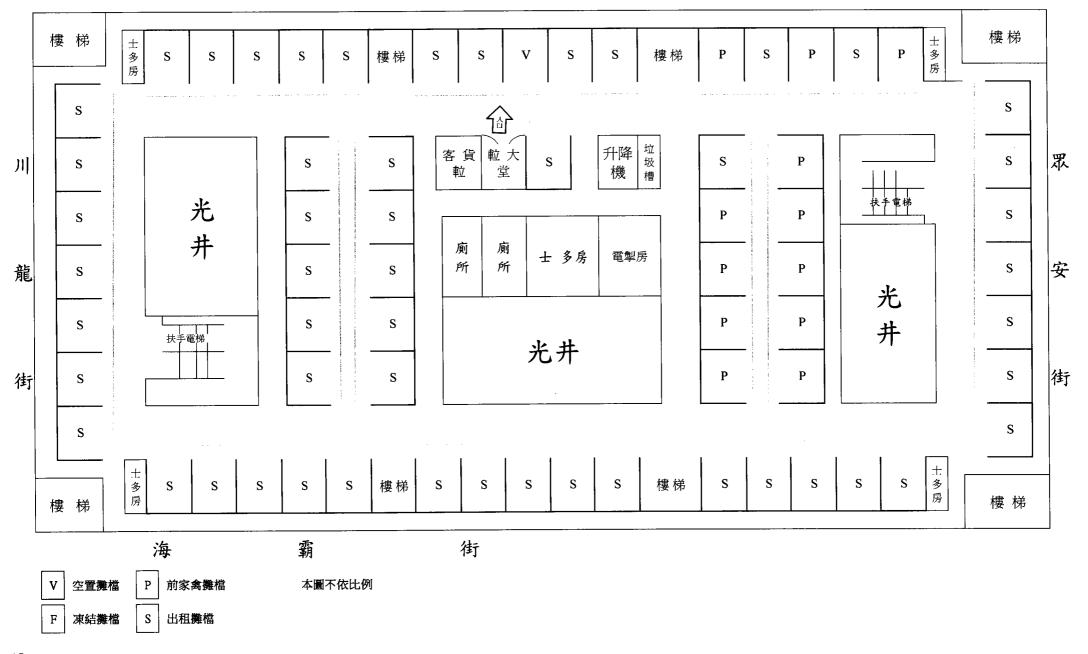
荃 灣 街 圖 市 地 面

C - 1

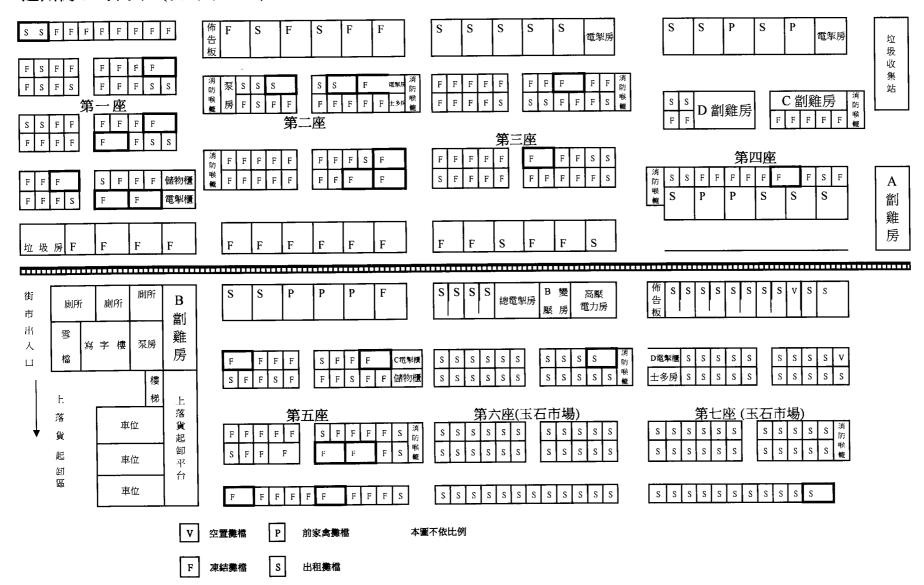


荃灣街市一樓平面圖

街 市 街

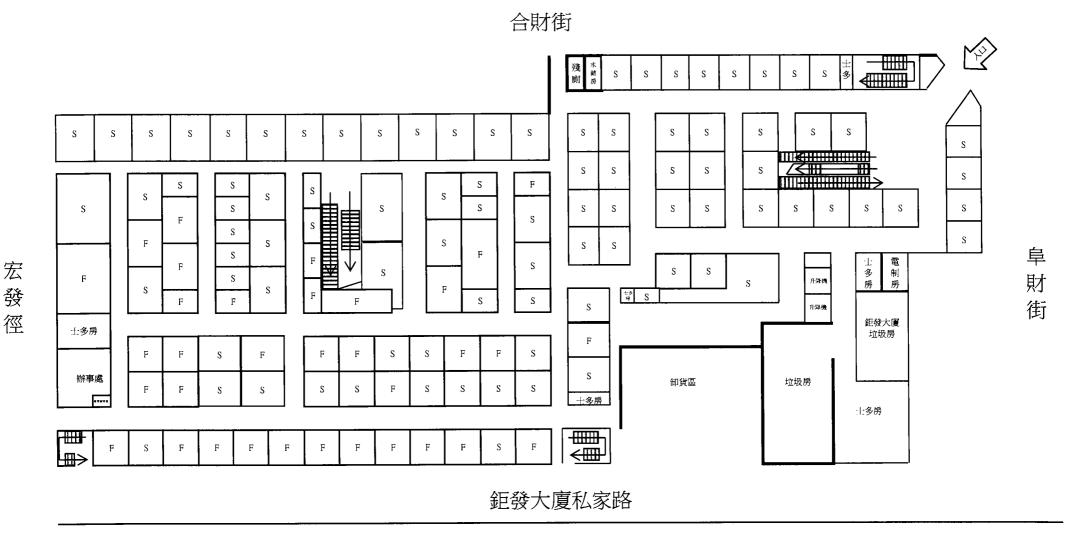


通州街臨時街市 (現時平面圖)



同益街市(地下)

4 TITE 164 . 1 . 1



地下平面圖

☑ 空置攤檔

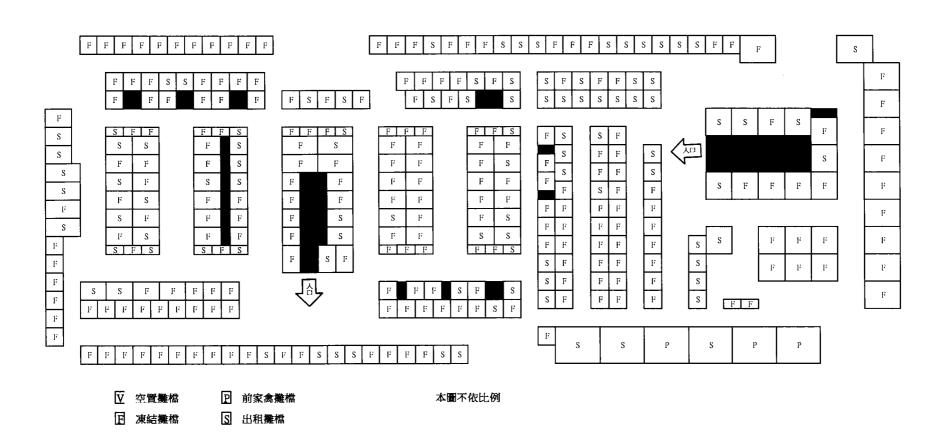
P 前家禽攤檔

本圖不依比例

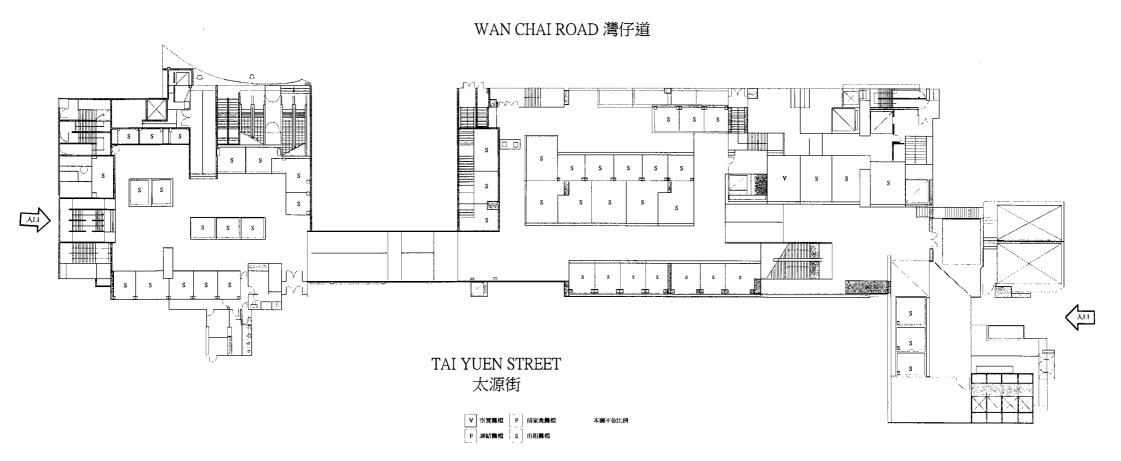
F 凍結攤檔

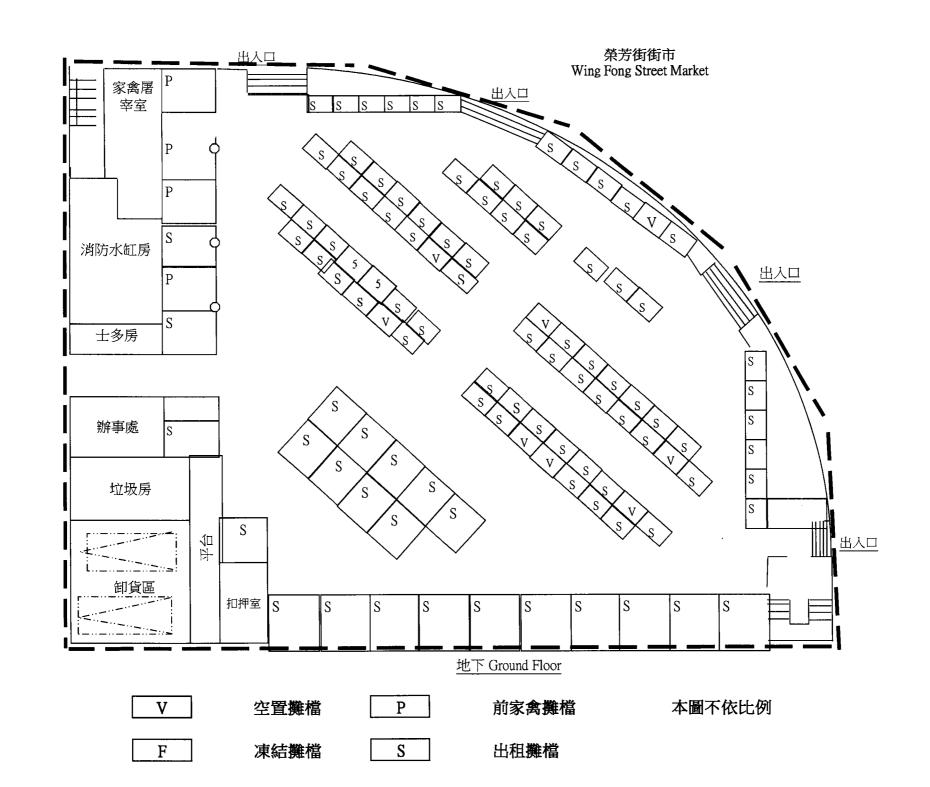
S 出租攤檔

同益街市(一樓)



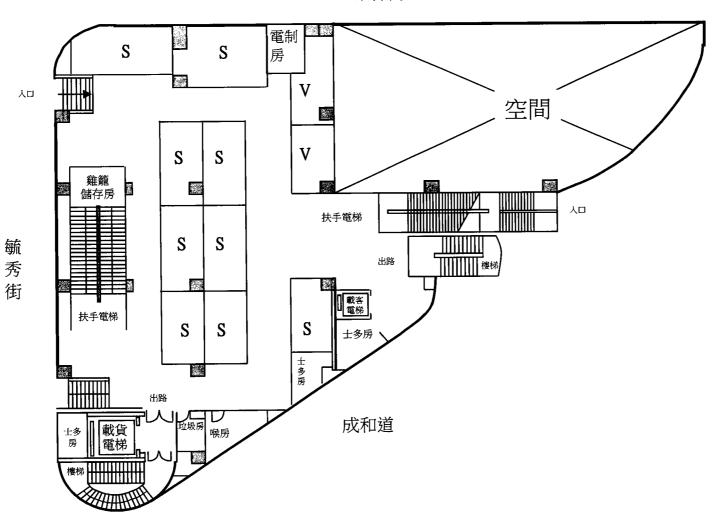
灣仔街市地下平面圖





黃泥涌街市高層平面圖

集祥街

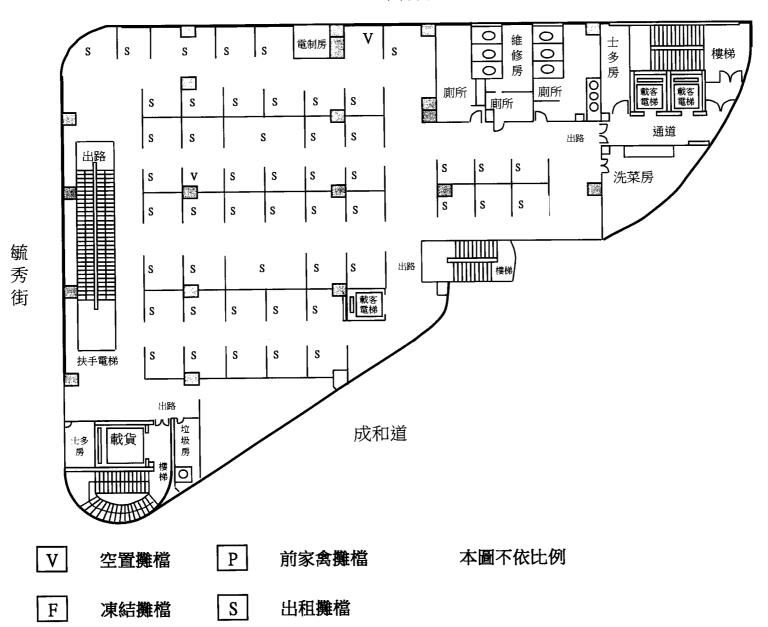


本圖不依比例

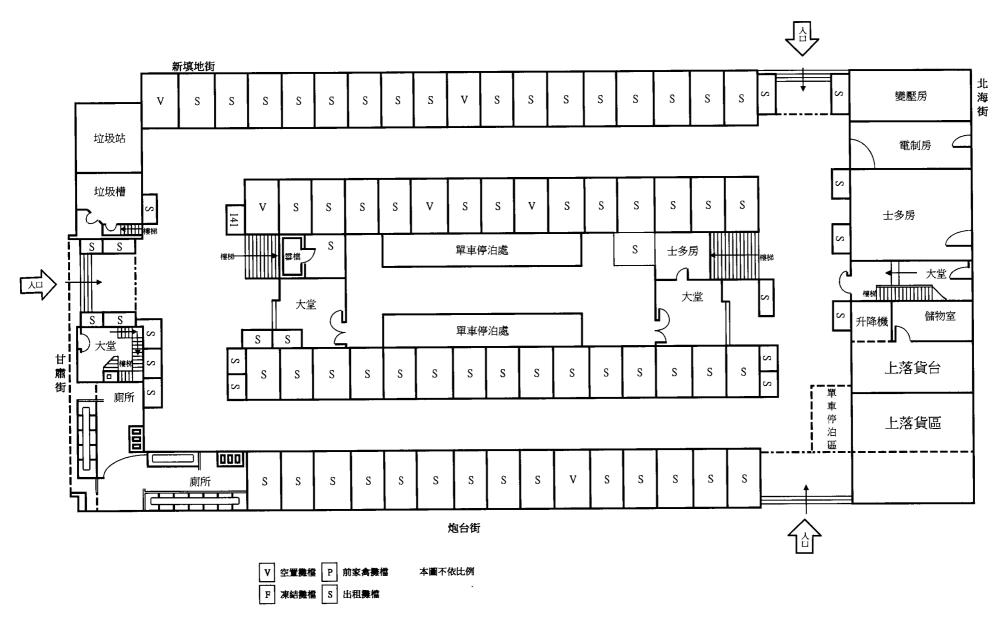
- V 空置機檔 P 前家禽機檔
- F 凍結攤檔 S 出租攤檔

黄泥涌街市一字樓平面圖

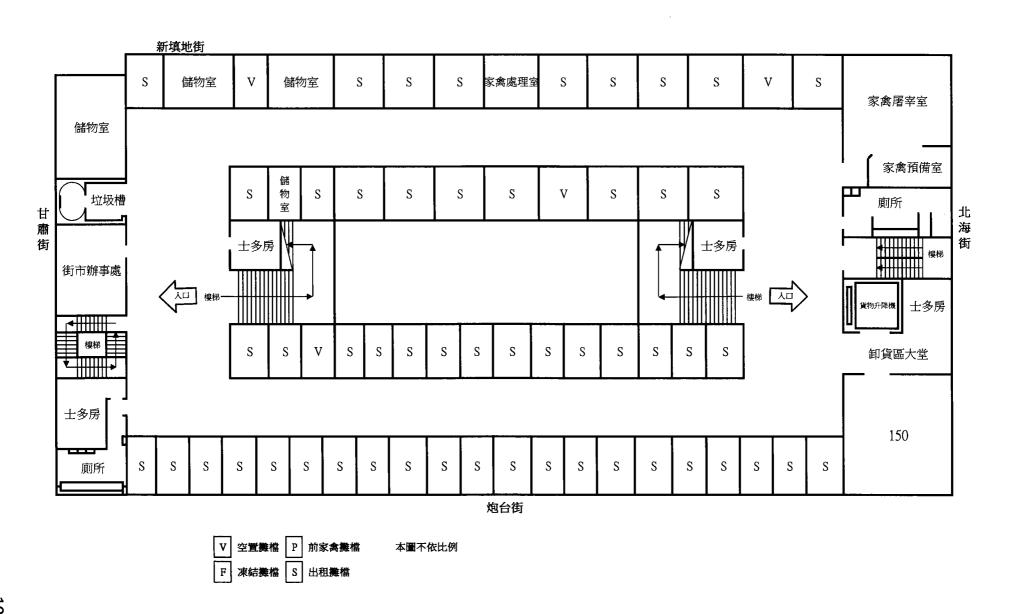
集祥街



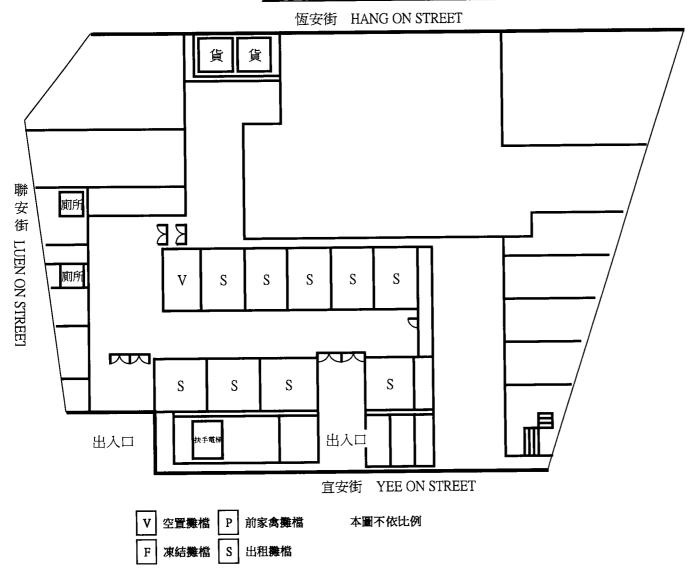
油麻地街市地下平面圖



油麻地街市一樓平面圖



宜安街街市 低層地下



楊屋道街市一樓平面圖 星 道 楊 **電級** 房 出入口 S S 升降機 S S S P S P S S S S S P S P P S \mathbf{S} \mathbf{S} S S S S S 〃 禾 S 魋 街 出入口 P S S S P S 街 S S S S S S P P S \mathbf{S} 升降機 S S S S P S S 升降機 S 升降機 出入口 电极 房 街 河 背 本圖不依比例 P 前家禽攤檔 空置攤檔 V 105 S 出租攤檔 凍結攤檔

