

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Leung Yin Wo Ancestral Hall**  
**Tai Tong Tsuen, Sha Pat Heung, Yuen Long**

Leung Yin Wo Ancestral Hall (彥和梁公祠) in Tai Tong Tsuen (大棠村) of Shap Pat Heung (十八鄉), Yuen Long, was built by the Leungs (梁氏) of the village to commemorate their ancestor Leung Yin-wo (梁彥和) who came to the village from Banshi (板石) of Dongguan (東莞) some 300 years ago. Some of his fellow clansmen settled in Wang Chau (橫洲), Yuen Kong (元崗), Sun Fung Wai (順風圍) and Sai Kung (西貢). Except the Leungs, the village was also occupied by the Lis (李氏). The hall is also called Lok Sin Tong (樂善堂) built in 1913. At the altar of the ancestral hall only soul tablets of the earliest nine generations are on display for worship. The others are at their descendents' home.

**Historical  
Interest**

The hall is a Qing (清) vernacular building with a two-hall-three-bay layout having an open courtyard at the entrance hall. The building is constructed of green bricks with its walls supporting its pitched roofs. Granite blocks are used for its door frames, lintel, bases and wall corners. The roofs are with wooden rafters, purlins and clay tiles. At the main hall in the middle is the altar with rows of soul tablets of the ancestors for worship. The altar is finely carved with an Earth God (土地) shrine at the bottom. At the entrance a stone name board is above the lintel with wall paintings of landscape and flowers beside it. Gable friezes are in floral patterns in black-and white. The main ridge is decorated with moulding of geometric, plant and floral patterns having their colours faded.

**Architectural  
Merit**

It is an ancestral hall of some rarity to show the development of Shap Pat Heung.

**Rarity**

It has considerable built heritage value.

**Built Heritage  
Value**

It has a major renovation in 1994. Parts of its walls have been plastered. The building's upkeep can be considered as satisfactory.

**Authenticity**

Apart from being used as a place for ancestral worship, Dim Dang (點燈) ritual is still held at the hall where new born baby boys of previous year will have lanterns lit up around the first ten days of the first lunar month of the Chinese New Year. The building was also used as a kindergarten for village children from the 1970s to mid-1980s.

**Social Value,  
& Local  
Interest**