

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Chan Ancestral Hall**  
**Sheung Kwai Chung Village, Tsuen Wan**

The Chan Ancestral Hall (陳氏家祠) in Sheung Kwai Chung Tsuen (上葵涌村, Upper Kwai Chung Village) in Kwai Chung is one of the ancestral halls in the village which was a multi-lineage village occupied by the Tsangs (曾), the Chans (陳) and the Laws (羅). Chan Fung-fui (陳鳳魁), the founding ancestor, settled in the village in the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was some years later when the ancestral hall was built. *Historical Interest*

Located in the back row of village houses of the village, the ancestral hall is a Qing (清) vernacular building having a one-hall-one-courtyard plan. The open courtyard is in front of the main hall. It is constructed of green bricks with its walls to support its pitched roofs of timber rafters, purlins and clay tiles. The walls are plastered and painted. Some portions of the walls are covered with ceramic tiles. The front façade of the recessed entrance is covered with pink ceramic tiles. The altar at the end wall is with a soul tablet of the Chan ancestors for worship. A name board of the hall is on the wall above the lintel. The doorframe and entrance steps are of granite. *Architectural Merit*

The ancestral hall is to remind the settlement of the Chans in Sheung Kwai Chung Tsuen of Tsuen Wan (荃灣). *Rarity*

It has little built heritage value.

*Built Heritage Value*

The building is in upkeep condition. The authenticity is kept.

*Authenticity*

The building has group value with other ancestral halls in the village.

*Group Value*

The ancestral hall was not used as a study hall for the teaching of village children. They studied at the Nam Yuen Study Hall (南園書室) in Tsuen Wan and later at the Kwai Chung Public School (葵涌公立學校) in the 1950s. Chan Hing-tong (陳慶棠), a clansman of the village taught at the Study Hall and was one of the founders of the Public School. Ancestral worship is held regularly at the hall and at festival including the Chinese New Year, the Chung Yeung Festival (重陽節) and others with special offerings. *Social Value, & Local Interest*