

Historic Building Appraisal
Ching Chung Koon – King Wah Tong and Ming Wah Tong
Tsing Chung Koon Road, Tuen Mun

Ching Chung Koon (青松觀) is a Taoist monastery in Tuen Mun. It was established in 1960 in a site at Kei Lun Wai (麒麟圍) of Tuen Mun bought from a Catholic mission. The monastery developed from the Longmen Sub-sect (龍門派) of Quanzhen Sect (全真教) of the Taoism. A monastery of the Sub-sect called Chi Bao Tai (至寶台) was set up in Guangzhou (廣州) in 1941 by a Ho Kai-chi (何啓志) which had free Chinese medical service for the public. The monastery was closed in 1949 and Ho and many of his Taoist fellow believers fled to Hong Kong. A temple named Ching Chung Sin Koon (青松仙觀) was set up in Yau Ma Tei in 1951. His work was handed over to his fellow disciple Ip Sing-nam (葉星南) and the temple was moved to Nathan Road. Hau Bao-yuan (侯寶垣), a retired merchant devoted himself entirely to the service of the temple raised fund for the establishment of the monastery in Tuen Mun. A two-storey building of western style existed in the site was occupied by a nun. The building was constructed in the 1940s and became the Yee Wo Chai (怡和齋) of the monastery. Shun Yeung Din (純陽殿) was the first building completed by the monastery in December 1960. Other than buildings constructed for the worship of Taoism and with its services extended to the elderly, the poor and for ancestral worship, many buildings have been built in the compound.

***Historical
Interest***

King Wah Tong (景華堂) and Ming Wa Tong (明華堂) are two names of two halls housing ancestral soul tablets for worship in one single building to the west of Yik Fa Kung (翊化宮). It is a pitched roof building constructed between 1975 and 1979. It has a Chinese building look compliment to the Shun Yeung Din and Yik Fa Kung of the monastery. King Wah Tong is facing Yik Fa Kung and Ming Wah Tong, sharing a common wall with the former, is on the opposite end. They are under the same green glazed ceramic roof each with wide red wooden folding doors for their entry. The ridge ends are decorated with a pair of green ceramic *longwens* (龍吻). The gable walls are with blue wave pattern and under the eaves are the name boards of the two halls and convex patterns of dragons, auspicious flowers and interlocking.

***Architectural
Merit***

It is a building of the monastery for ancestral worship.

Rarity

It has some built heritage value.

***Built Heritage
Value***

It is in good condition. Its authenticity is kept.

Authenticity

The building has related group value with others in the Ching Chung Koon compound.

Group Value

Kin On Lau (乾安樓) is a three-storey building of western style built in the 1977 as a hostel for the aged. The name Ching Chung Home for the Aged (青松安老院) is moulded vertically on front and side elevations of the building. The name of the building in Chinese, 乾安樓, is engraved on a board above the entrance flanked by a couplet. The building is constructed of concrete with its walls and beams to support its flat-roof structure. It is a plain and unadorned building with minimal decoration. Its walls are plastered and painted. Its floors are with ceramic tiles. Bed-rooms, living rooms and toilets are provided in the buildings. A bridge is connecting the building to the neighbouring Mui Ngok Hin (梅萼軒) building.

*Social Value,
& Local
Interest*