

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Nos. 3, 4 & 5 Nam Pin Wai Tsuen**  
**Sai Kung**

Nam Pin Wai Tsuen (南邊圍村) is a small village a short distance south of Ho Chung (蠔涌) village, west of Marina Cove (匡湖居) in Sai Kung. It was established by the Tses (謝) who moved from Ho Chung in the 1900s due to the increase of the Tse population. The Tses, natives of Nanshe (南社) of Dongguan (東莞) in Guangdong (廣東) province, moved to Sha Kok Mei (沙角尾) village, north of Sai Kung town centre in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of Chongzheng (崇禎, 1643) reign of the late Ming (明) dynasty. Their founding ancestor was Tse Lo-po (謝路保) of the 7<sup>th</sup> generation. His grandson Kei-sui (奇瑞) moved to Ho Chung later. Two rows of houses standing side by side are the only old buildings of the village. Nos. 3, 4 and 5 are three connected houses on the left row. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are five connected houses of the right row. Nos. 3, 4 and 5 were built in the 1930s by two brothers, Tse Ming (謝明) and Tse To (謝土), both worked as sailors. The three houses are owned by the Tses. No.3 was leased for residential use but has been left vacated. No. 4 has been leased for use as a warehouse. No. 5 is left unoccupied.

***Historical  
Interest***

The three connected houses have a spacious open foreground in their front. No.5 was used as a kitchen for the Tses. Nos. 4 and 5 are under the same roof for residential use. They are Qing (清) vernacular buildings. They are constructed of green bricks and rubbles with their walls to support their pitched roofs of timber rafters, purlins and clay tiles. Except the front facades of Nos. 4 and 5 of green bricks, the walls of the houses are plastered and painted. The entrances of Nos. 4 and 5 are recessed with their entrance doorways in the middle. Their doorframes are of granite. A living room is in the front on their ground floor with a bedroom at the back. A mezzanine is above the living room and bedroom. A ceramic cock is at the ridge of No.4. Cornice mouldings are under the eave of the front façade. Wall frieze paintings were under the eave but have been weathered.

***Architectural  
Merit***

The three residential houses are to remind the settlement of the Tses in the village.

***Rarity***

It has some built heritage value.

***Built Heritage  
Value***

Its authenticity is kept.

***Authenticity***

It has group value with the row of houses on their right including their ancestral hall at No.8.

***Group Value***

The Tses were farmers engaged in cultivation mainly in rice growing and also supported by poultry and pig rearing. Villagers were forced to build the Hiram Highway (西貢公路) by the Japanese during the Japanese Occupation (1941-45). Tse Ming like many of the village children studied at Chik Shin School (積善學校) in Ho Chung village. The school fee was three to five dollars. With the contribution of the villagers, a new school building was built in 1953 and Tse Ming was the supervisor of the school until 1980s. Due to the physical constraints of the schools in the areas, eight village schools were merged to become the Sai Kung Central School (西貢中心小學) established in 1984. Tse Ming was a member of the management committee of the school in the 1980s.

*Social Value,  
& Local  
Interest*