

Historic Building Appraisal
Ting Yat Study Hall
No. 141 Loi Tung, Sha Tau Kok

Loi Tung (萊洞) village was called Lai Tung Tsuen (黎峒村) occupied by the Lais (黎) and had been called Sheung Lai Tung (上黎峒, Upper Lai Tung). The village was renamed by the Tangs (鄧) as Loi Tung after the Second World War. A village on the opposite side of Sha Tau Kok Road (沙頭角路) occupied by the Tangs was called Ha Lai Tung (下黎峒, Lower Lai Tung). The Tangs told the Japanese soldiers during the War that the village was called Tai Tong Wu (大塘湖) and the village has been called such since then. Ting Yat Study Hall (定一家塾) in Loi Tung village, west of Wo Hang (禾坑), Sha Tau Kok (沙頭角), was one of the schools built by the Tangs of the village for their children. It was built probably before the 19th century. The Tangs of Loi Tung village are the descendents of Tang Yuk (鄧玉) and Tang Tong (鄧堂) branched out from the Tangs of Tai Po Tau (大埔頭).

***Historical
Interest***

Situated in the third lane of the village, the study hall is a Qing vernacular building having a two-hall plan. 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. The main hall of the building was used as the major teaching classroom of the study hall. The present front hall might be a combination of the previous courtyard and the entrance hall. The roof of the entrance hall has been turned flat-roofed. A kitchen is housed in the entrance hall. A cockloft is at the back of the main hall. The external walls are of a nine courses of stretchers to one course of header bonding (九順一丁). Above the doorway of the front façade is a huge pediment of cloud and step shape with the name of the study hall moulded on it.

***Architectural
Merit***

It is a study hall of the Tangs to remind their settlement in Loi Tung village.

Rarity

It has little built heritage value.

***Built Heritage
Value***

The authenticity of the building is kept.

Authenticity

It has group value with the Wan Gau Study Hall (允教書室) in the village.

Group Value

The study hall provided education for village children of the Tangs. The teacher was employed from mainland China. The study hall premises provided quarters for the teacher where he could sleep and eat in the hall. Chinese classics,

***Social Value,
& Local
Interest***

mathematics and calligraphy were taught to the students so that they could get prepared for the Imperial Civil Service Examination. When modern education was introduced, modern subjects were taught. The study hall was limited by the physical constraint of the building that it was gradually replaced by the modern schools of better facility. The children went to Kok Man School (覺民學校) in Tan Chuk Hang (丹竹坑) and the Sha Tau Kok Public School (沙頭角官立學校) instead.