

## Historic Building Appraisal

### Shrine

#### No. 106 Pok Wai, San Tin, Yuen Long

Pok Wai (壘圍) village in San Tin (新田), Yuen Long, was erected by Man Sau-fuk (文壽福) around a century ago. The shrine was built at the same time the village was established to mark its founding. It serves as the major worship centre of the villagers. It has 13 deities housed in the altar for worship including Kwun Yam (觀音), Tin Hau (天后), Man Cheong (文昌), Yeung Hau (楊侯) and others. It is at the back row of the village houses on the central axis of the village. It faces the entry vertical lane of the village. It is in a strategic fung shui location giving protection to the villagers. The shrine has the worship of the villagers regularly and at festivals with special offerings.

**Historical  
Interest**

It is on the last row of the seven rows of village houses in Pok Wai. The village was probably a walled village which entrance gate and the enclosing walls have been demolished. The shrine is a Qing vernacular building of a one-hall plan. It is constructed of green bricks with its walls to support its pitched roof of timber rafters, purlins and clay tiles. The altar is in the middle of the end wall facing the entrance at the opposite end of the building. The brickwork of the walls is with a one header course to nine stretcher course (九順一丁) bonding. Its floor is with concrete screeding. A wall frieze is with plastered moulding of geometric and plant patterns.

**Architectural  
Merit**

It is a shrine to remind the settlement of the Mans in the village.

**Rarity**

It has some built heritage value.

**Built Heritage  
Value**

The building has its authenticity kept.

**Authenticity**

The shrine is managed by two villagers in turn annually. They would be responsible for the cleaning and incense offerings on the 1st and 15<sup>th</sup> days of each lunar month and at festivals. Dim Dang (點燈) ritual would be held at the shrine for new born baby boys of previous year by writing their names at the bottom of lanterns hanged on the 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> days of the first lunar month. On the last day evening they would have *yindingjiu* (飲丁酒) with basin meal (盆菜). Da Chius (打醮) were held once every three years in the village but has been discontinued.

**Social Value,  
& Local  
Interest**