

Historic Building Appraisal
Lok Hing Tong
No. 78 San Hing Tsuen, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

San Hing Tsuen (新慶村) is in the south of Lau Fau Shan (流浮山), Yuen Long. The village was established by Wong Tai-shing (黃泰成) who first settled in Sha Kong Wai (沙江圍) in the southeast of the village. Sha Kong Wai had already been occupied by the Chengs (鄭), the Leungs (梁) and the Moks (莫). Tai-shing then moved to the north of the village and founded a new village called Ngau Hom (牛壩). With the increase of the Wong population, some of them moved to the present area of the village and founded a village called New Ngau Hom (新牛壩). The village was renamed as San Hing Tsuen some 200 years ago. Lok Hing Tong (樂慶堂) is a block of detached residential house built by Wong Ka-lok (黃家樂), a 22nd generation member of the Wongs. Their branch is called Lok Hing Tong. A wooden plaque hanging at the front door has the 18th year of Guangxu (光緒, 1892) reign of the Qing (清) dynasty written on it. It can be assumed that the building was first built in that year.

Historical Interest

The two-storey detached building is at the left end of the last row of four rows of houses in the village all facing west. It is a Chinese Eclectic building of the 1930s. It could be converted from the old building erected in 1892. It is constructed of green bricks and concrete with its walls and columns to support its flat roof. A recessed verandah is on the front façade of the ground floor with a balcony on the upper floor. Two columns are at the two ends of the verandah and balcony. Three arched openings were at the balcony but have been blocked up and replaced with aluminium windows. A pediment is at the roof end of the front façade with the name of the building topped with a semi-circular sun rays moulding in the middle. On either side are two short columns with a lion, a ball and geometric decorations. Calligraphy and wall paintings of flowers, birds and rocks are at the recessed entrance.

Architectural Merit

It is a residential building of the Wongs to witness their settlement in San Hing Tsuen.

Rarity

It has some built heritage value.

Built Heritage Value

Its authenticity is basically kept.

Authenticity

Ka-lok was a farmer and a fisherman engaged in rice and vegetable growing with his produce sold in Yuen Long Old Market (元朗舊墟). He had seven sons and a daughter. The house was used as a residence and a venue to hold functions for celebration of birthdays, weddings and festivals. Most of the descendents have moved overseas that the house has been leased out for use as a factory of producing aluminum windows.

*Social Value,
& Local
Interest*