

Historic Building Appraisal
Yuk Yin Study Hall
No. 37 Tai Om, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po

Yuk Yin Study Hall (育賢書室), in Tai Om (大菴) village, Lam Tsuen (林村) of Tai Po, is some 100 years old built by the descendants of Cheung San-tat (張三達) whose ancestors moved from Wuhua (五華) of Guangdong (廣東) province to Tai Mo Shan first, and settled in the village about 200 years ago. The village is a single-clan Hakka (客家) village. Another bigger study hall next to it built by Cheung Shi-wang (張仕宏) is called Luk Tak Study Hall (六德書室) of younger age. A plaque hanging at the hall indicates a Cheung Shue-fun (張書芬) had the recommendation from two Qing (清) officials to be a *bayuan* (拔元), a local distinguished candidate, in 1909. **Historical Interest**

The study hall is a one-hall building of Qing (清) vernacular design. An annex chamber and a kitchen are connected to its front. The building is a two-bay structure constructed of green bricks with its walls supporting its pitched roofs of purlins and clay tiles. Its recessed entrance has the name board above the lintel. The hall is internally and externally plastered and the floor concrete screeded. The building is without any decoration such as fascia board or wall frieze. **Architectural Merit**

It is a study hall of local context to show the history of the Hakka village. **Rarity**

It has little built heritage value. **Built Heritage Value**

Other than plastering and floor concrete-paving, the authenticity is kept. **Authenticity**

Luk Tak Study Hall and this one in the same village built by two brothers have related group value. **Group Value**

The hall had played major role in educating village children in Lam Tsuen. It combined with Luk Tak Study Hall to work as a temporary branch school in 1946 for the Lam Tsuen Rural Public School (林村公立學校) which was established in 1950. **Social Value, & Local Interest**

With its cease to be used as an education venue, it has been used by the indigenous villagers for their village affairs and matters concerning ancestral worship. **Adaptive re-use**