

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Mak Ancestral Hall**  
**No. 16 Pan Chung, Tai Po**

Pan Chung (泮涌) is a multi-clan village where the Maks (麥) are the majority who branched out from Wun Yiu (碗窑) village to its south. The Maks moved from Baoan (寶安) of Guangdong (廣東) province to Wun Yiu in the late Ming (明, 1368-1644). Mak Shing-ki (麥盛祈), the 10<sup>th</sup> generation ancestors, and his 10 brothers moved to Pan Chung later. This Mak Ancestral Hall (麥氏家祠) is a family ancestral hall to commemorate Tin-chung (殿中), the 20<sup>th</sup> generation ancestor. It is not known when the old ancestral hall was built. The present one was rebuilt in around the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

*Historical  
Interest*

The ancestral hall is in the second row of six rows of village houses of the walled village. The wall however does not exist. It is a Qing (清) vernacular building having a one-hall-one-courtyard plan of three bays. It is constructed of green bricks with its walls to support its pitched roofs of timber rafters, purlins and clay tiles. The walls except the front façade are plastered and painted. The floors are covered with ceramic tiles. A kitchen is at the right side of the open courtyard. Cocklofts are on either side of the hall. An altar with a big soul tablet of the Mak ancestors is at the end wall of the hall for worship. A big Chinese character “壽” (longevity) is on the wall. A tie beam with the carving of “百子千孫” (Hundreds of Sons and Thousands of Grandsons) is at the hall. The name of the hall is moulded above the lintel of the recessed entrance. Four plastered fish for draining rain water are at the front façade.

*Architectural  
Merit*

It is a family ancestral hall of the Maks to witness their settlement in Pan Chung village.

*Rarity*

It has some built heritage value.

*Built Heritage  
Value*

It has its authenticity kept.

*Authenticity*

It has group value with the shrine of the walled village.

*Group Value*

The ancestral hall has been a place for ancestral worship of the Mak ancestors. Many of the Maks in Pan Chung branched out to Fung Yuen (鳳園) village, north of Tai Po Industrial Estate (大埔工業邨), Tai Po Kau (大埔滘) and Ha Keng Hau (下徑口) in Tai Wai (大圍).

*Social Value,  
& Local Interest*