

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Tai Wong Temple**  
**Stanley Main Street, Stanley**

Tai Wong Temple (大王宮) in Stanley Main Street (赤柱大街), Stanley, was built before the Second World War for the worship of Tai Wong (大王). The temple was constructed on the seashore facing the sea. The deity might refer to a God of the sea as Stanley was a big fishing village occupied by Hakkas (客家) and Hoklos (鶴佬) people. The deity might also be the Hung Shing (洪聖) deity, a most popular sea god commonly called Tai Wong Yeh (大王爺). The temple is at the crab's eye location as the locals considered the shape of Stanley as a crab. The temple is managed by the Stanley Kai Fong Welfare Advancement Association (赤柱街坊福利會).

*Historical  
Interest*

Located in front of a giant oval-shaped granite rock and thick vegetation, the temple is a Qing (清) vernacular one-hall building with an irregular-shaped temple-keeper's quarter and a kitchen built to its left. A small separate To Tei Temple (土地廟) is to its further left. The building appears to be constructed of bricks with its walls to support its pitched roofs of timber rafters and purlins. The walls are plastered with its floors in red cement screeding. The roofs are covered with green ceramic tiles. Its doorframe is of granite which lintel has the name of the temple engraved on it. The altar is at the end wall of the building houses the statue of Tai Wong in the middle with its travelling statue in its front. Statues of other deities including Kwun Yam (觀音) and Kwan Tai (關帝) are respectively on its left and right for worship.

*Architectural  
Merit*

It is a Tai Wong temple to remind the settlement of the old Stanley village.

*Rarity*

It has little built heritage value.

*Built Heritage  
Value*

A renovation was carried out in 2002. It is in good condition with its authenticity barely kept.

*Authenticity*

It has group value with the To Tei Temple to its left.

*Group Value*

The temple is one of the four temples in Stanley. The other four are the Tin Hau Temple (天后古廟), Shui Shin Temple (水僊古廟) and Pak Tai Temple (北帝廟). Tin Hau Temple is the biggest and the most popular one. Being a small temple, Tai Wong Temple has no festival celebration in association with the deity. The worshippers are mainly the locals.

*Social Value,  
& Local Interest*