

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Bin Mo Bridge**  
**Shui Tau Tsuen, Kam Tin, Yuen Long**

Bin Mo Bridge (便母橋), literally meaning a bridge for the convenience of mother, was built by Tang Chun-yuen (鄧俊元) in the 49<sup>th</sup> year of the Kangxi (康熙, 1710) reign of the Qing (清) dynasty for his mother crossing the river in Shui Tau Tsuen (水頭村) of Kam Tin. The Tang clan began their settlement in Kam Tin as far back as in the Song (宋, 960-1279) dynasty. Chun-yuen first stayed with his brother and mother in Tai Hong Wai (泰康圍), south of Shui Tau Tsuen. He later moved to the latter village and his mother had to cross over a river in order to visit her grandsons. Chun-yuen instead carried her mother to cross over it. It was dangerous when the water rose high. He then saved money and hired some masons from Fujian (福建) province to erect the bridge. The bridge has lost its function as the river became much narrower.

***Historical Interest***

The granite bridge is composed of two groups of three parallel stone slabs which meet at a concrete pier in the middle of the stream. A commemorative tablet to detail its history is erected nearby. The bridge was renovated in the 1960s. The gaps between the slabs are filled up with cement-sand mortar.

***Architectural Merit***

A rare historic structure to remind the history of the Tangs.

***Rarity***

A special structure of some heritage value.

***Built Heritage Value***

The bridge is in good condition.

***Authenticity***

It has distant group value with other historic buildings such as Cheung Chun Yuen (長春園), So Lau Yuen (沂流園) and others in Shui Mei Tsuen (水尾村).

***Group Value***

The act of Chun-yuen was much praised by his clansmen and a stone tablet was erected to commemorate his filial piety, setting good example for others.

***Social Value, & Local Interest***