

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**Shek Lei Pui Treatment Works**  
**(Two buildings of Shek Lei Pui Treatment Works, & Valve House)**  
**Kam Shan Country Park, Sha Tin, New Territories**

**Shek Lei Pui Treatment Works** (石梨貝濾水廠) is situated immediately below Shek Lei Pui Reception Reservoir (石梨貝接收水塘, which is also known as Kowloon Reception Reservoir 九龍接收水塘). It was constructed in several stages from 1925 to 1939. It was the first treatment works with rapid gravity filter beds in the Kowloon area. It mainly received raw water of Shek Lei Pui Reception Reservoir and filtered about 20 million gallons water per day. The treated drinking water was stored in a covered underground service reservoir and released into the public water supply system via the water house. In the early days, it supplied drink water to Hong Kong Island, including the Government House, through the harbour pipe. During the Japanese Occupation, it was partly damaged. An air-raid shelter (now closed) behind Shek Lei Pui Treatment Works once sheltered villagers.

*Historical  
Interest*

The **Treatment Works Buildings** (濾水廠房) consist of two long rectangular buildings parallel to each other with raised filter beds on each side connected by a rear annex to form a U-shaped complex. The buildings are two and three storeys high. The concrete framed structure is exposed and painted white. The brick walls and infill panels have been painted red. The roofs are flat and parapets have tubular steel safety railings painted blue. Windows appear to be modern aluminum replacements. The main entrance doors are painted blue and are reached by short flights of steps. The architectural style is similar to the Elliot Pumping Station at Pok Fu Lam and can be classified as **Modernist** with **Classical** influence.

*Architectural  
Merit*

The **Valve House** (水掣房) is situated on the west side of the underground reservoir. It is a small brick building which has been painted red, white and blue to match the Treatment Works Buildings. It has a flat roof, a projecting cornice all the way around it, windows in each elevation, a steel door, and a typhoon canopy over the door.

The buildings are built in quite an unusual style which is rarely found in Hong Kong. As early 20<sup>th</sup> century waterworks buildings they have built heritage value. Apart from replacement windows and modern building services installations, the buildings retain their authentic appearance.

*Rarity,  
Built Heritage  
Value &  
Authenticity*

The social value of these buildings lies in the role they have played in the development of water supply in Hong Kong. However, as waterworks buildings

*Social Value  
& Local*

they are not well known to the general public so have limited local interest.

*Interest*

It is doubtful whether these buildings, which are purpose-built specialist buildings, could be adapted without destroying their heritage value.

*Adaptive*

*Re-use*