

**Historic Building Appraisal**  
**No. 167 Shung Ching San Tsuen**  
**Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long**

Shung Ching San Chuen (崇正新村) is a comparatively young Hakka (客家) village in Shap Pat Heung (十八鄉) of Yuen Long. It is in the south of Yuen Long town centre separated by Yuen Long Highway (元朗公路). It is said that the area was inhabited by Chan Cheung (陳祥), a Hakka from Dongguan (東莞) of Guangdong (廣東), in 1924. It was then settled by some other Hakkas returned from overseas mostly Southeast Asian countries or from their own native places in the mainland in the 1930-40s. They bought land from villagers in Hung Tso Tin Tsuen (紅棗田村) and Shui Tsiu Lo Wai (水蕉老圍), two villages in the south. Around 1367 villagers were in the early 1950s. Disputes arose with the two villages. After negotiation with the government, Shung Ching San Tsuen was established in 1957. No.167 is a residential building built by Lee Man-hoi (李文海) in the late 1930s, possibly in 1937 or 1938 as aerial photographs indicate. Man-hoi was a native of Meixian (梅縣) of Guangdong province and a businessman in Indonesia. He did not move his family from Indonesia to Hong Kong. The house was occupied by the two sons of Man-hoi returning from Indonesia in the mid-1960s. Descendents and relatives of Man-hoi are still occupying the house.

*Historical  
Interest*

The house is a few metres east of Tai Tong Road (大棠路) facing north with a small open forecourt in its front surrounded by a low wall. It is a two-storey Chinese near square building constructed of concrete and bricks with its walls and columns to support its pitched roofs of rafters, purlins and clay tiles. It has a two-hall-one-courtyard plan of three bays. The open courtyard is in-between the entrance and main halls in the middle bay. One side room is on either side of the entrance and main halls. Four bedrooms are on the upper floor above the four side rooms. The building is plastered and painted externally in earth yellow colour. Above the recessed entrance at the middle bay is a balcony with interlocking geometric pattern for its balustrade. Cornices and gable friezes are under the eaves for decoration.

*Architectural  
Merit*

It is a residential house to witness the settlement of the overseas Hakkas in Shung Ching San Tsuen.

*Rarity*

It has some built heritage.

***Built Heritage  
Value***

Its authenticity is kept.

***Authenticity***

It has group value with other historic residences in the village.

***Group Value***

The coming of Man-hoi to the village was introduced by Lee Wan-wong (李雲煌), also a native of Meixian and a businessman of Indonesia, who built a house called Wan Wong Kui (雲煌居) at No.99 of the village in 1935. Wan Wong Kui was demolished in 2003. The house was used as a police station in the 1950s as there were disputes between villagers of Hung Tso Tin Tsuen and Shui Tsiu Lo Wai and those of the village. The house is still commonly called Kau Chai Koon (舊差館, Old Police Station) by some old villagers. The house was rented out to others until Lie Kie-siang (李吉祥) and Lie Djing-siang (李清祥), sons of Man-hoi, returned to Hong Kong in the mid-1960s.

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