# **Historic Building Appraisal** Nos. 405 and 407 Shek O Village, Shek O, H.K.

Shek O Village (石 澳村) was established by fishermen of the Chan, Yip, *Historical* Li and Lau clans, whose descendants are still living in the village. The former *Interest* site of Shek O Village was located at the present Shek O Country Club Golf Course (石 澳鄉村 俱樂部 高爾夫球場) and Shek O Police Station (石 澳 警署), and it was not until construction works of the golf course began that some of the original inhabitants moved to the present site. In about the 1920s, villas started to appear around the beautiful beaches, while the villagers kept their traditional buildings.

Nos. 405 and 407 Shek O Village comprise one single house which was built in 1948, with an occupation permit issued by the Building Authority in that year. The earliest recorded owners of the plots of land on which the house is now situated were Li Yung-sang and Li For-po who sold the said property to Li Fat (李 發 ) in around 1939. After the Second World War, Li Fat sold the property to Henry G. Leong Estates Ltd, an investment, property development and management company.

The building is a two-storey rectangular structure with projecting extensions *Architectural* at the rear. The elevations are finished with rough cast rendering and Shanghai *Merit* plaster. Chinese architectural elements are combined with Western elements. The front facade is strictly symmetrical featuring a central entrance doorway flanked by plain square columns and windows fitted with ornamental grilles. A traditional Chinese style porch roof of glazed green roofing tiles and vermilion eaves projects over the entrance. The facade has a plain rendered dado or plinth and rows of hexagonal Chinese style windows to the ground floor and three rectangular bands of coloured glass windows to the first floor. The roof appears to be flat with a projecting eaves and ornamental parapet. The side and rear elevations are fitted with matching Chinese style windows. Some differences in design between the two rear extensions indicate either some alterations in the past or division of the house into two separate units.

The building with its unique style of architecture is very different from the *Rarity*, other village houses and therefore constitutes a rare piece of built heritage in Shek Built Heritage No significant alterations which may have diminished the O Village. authenticity of the exterior can be identified.

Value & Authenticity

The house is well known in the village and it is a reminder of the old days. Social Value As most of the old houses in the village have been demolished and redeveloped, & Local Interest

Nos. 405 and 407 has now become a rarity there.

Nos. 405 and 407 Shek O Village is within walking distance from Tin Hau *Group Value* Temple (天后古廟, Grade 3) in the village and Shek O Bus Terminus Building (石澳巴士總站建築物, Grade 2).

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