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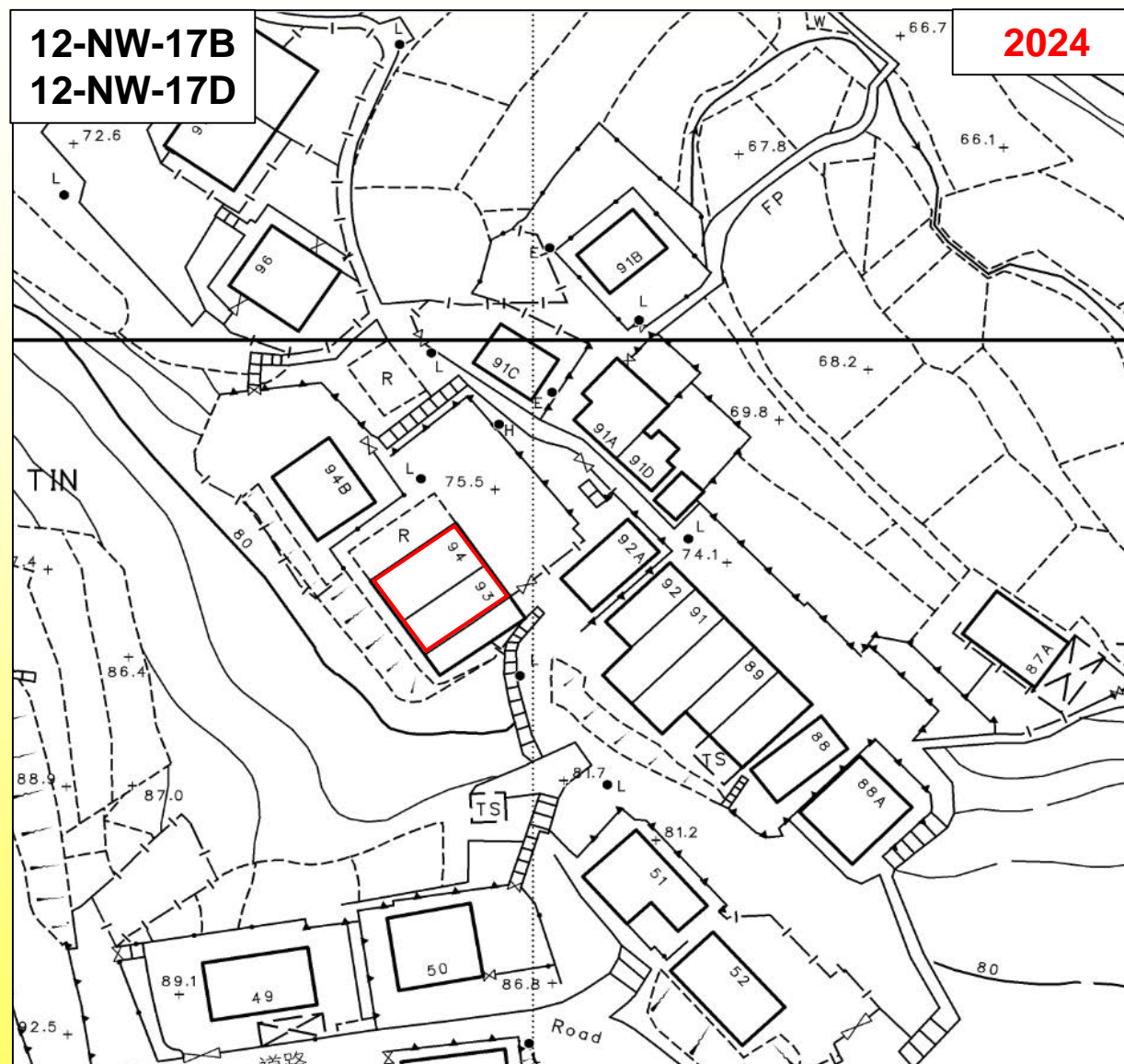
**新界西貢清水灣五塊田93至94號
Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin,
Clear Water Bay, Sai Kung, N.T.**

N431

新界西貢清水灣五塊田93至94號
Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin, Clear Water Bay, Sai Kung, N.T.

擬議二級歷史建築
Proposed Grade 2

建於1924-1935年
Built in 1924-1935



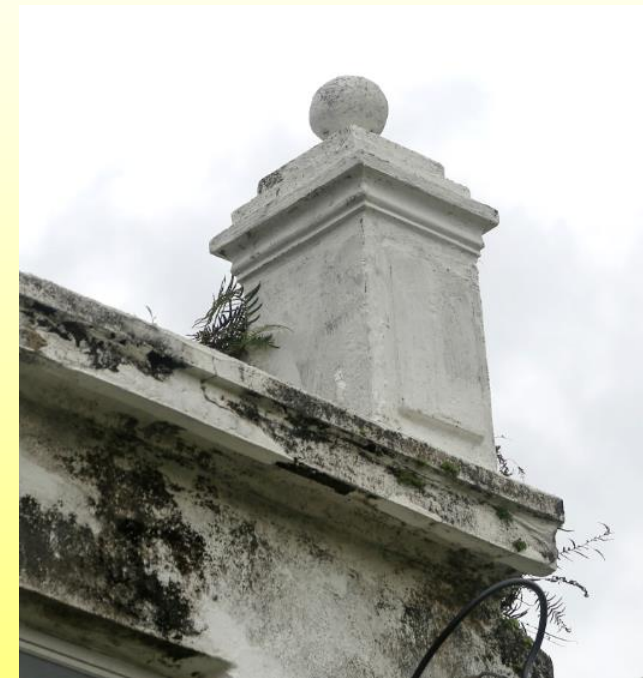
只用於識別位置，並非確實範圍 For identification of location only, not exact boundary



正立面
Front elevation



金字瓦頂及四角的裝飾矮柱
Pitched roof with clay tiles and decorative pedestals at four corners



Historic Building Appraisal

Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin, Clear Water Bay, Sai Kung, New Territories

Ng Fai Tin (五塊田, meaning “five fields”) is the name of a hamlet that branched off from Pan Long Wan (檳榔灣), a Hakka village inhabited by the Lau clan that was established about 300 years ago. A total of 13 generations have lived in Pan Long Wan since the first members of the clan arrived from Niwei in Huizhou (惠州坭圍) in Guangdong province.¹ As the village’s population grew over time, some families decided to move away and settle in what is now Ng Fai Tin. The building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin, which is an ancestral house belonging to a Lau family,² was once used as a base for the Urban Detachment (市區中隊) of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Brigade³ (港九大隊, the “Brigade”) during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression.⁴ Judging from old aerial photos, it is believed that the building was constructed between 1924 and 1935.⁵

**Historical
Interest**

When the Japanese invaded Hong Kong in December 1941, armed units of the Guangdong People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas (廣東人民抗日游擊隊) under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC)⁶ made their way into various parts

¹ 梁煦華：《穿村：鄉郊歷史傳聞與鄉情》（香港：天地圖書有限公司，2002年），頁164–165；葉德平、邱逸：《古樹發奇香——消失中的香港客家文化》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2016年），頁43–44, 48；坑口區鄉事委員會：《坑口區鄉事委員會金禧紀念特刊》（香港：坑口區鄉事委員會，2007年），頁86。

² Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024.

³ The Brigade was named Hong Kong and Kowloon Brigade (港九大隊) when it was established in early 1942. It was later renamed as Hong Kong and Kowloon Independent Brigade (港九獨立大隊) in late 1944 when it became a unit directly led by the headquarters of the East River Column of the Guangdong People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas (廣東人民抗日游擊隊東江縱隊). See 劉智鵬、劉蜀永主編：《港九大隊志》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2022年），頁24。

⁴ 方蘭：〈刺向香港日寇的一把尖刀——港九大隊市區中隊概況〉，載莫世祥編：《香港抗戰親歷記》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2023年），頁329；劉智鵬、劉蜀永主編：《港九大隊志》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2022年），頁185–186。

⁵ From the aerial photo taken in 1924, the site where the building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin now stands was a tract of agricultural land with no indication of any buildings on it at that time. The next available aerial photo, which was taken in 1935, shows that a structure with the same footprint as the existing building had now been erected on the site. This supports the view that the existing building was constructed between 1924 and 1935. Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department, Aerial Photo No.: PEGASUS_RN_H_0014, dated 13 November 1924 and Aerial Photos No.: EAGLE_RN_HK_0003, dated 22 January 1935.

⁶ When Japan accelerated its invasion of South China in late 1938, Zeng Sheng (曾生), a CPC member, returned to his homeland to form the Huiyang Bao’an People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas (惠陽寶安人民抗日游擊總隊). At the same time, another CPC member Wang Zuorao (王作堯), formed the Dongguan Braves Guerrillas (東莞壯丁模範隊). The two groups merged in 1940 to become the Guangdong People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas. The Guangdong People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas was renamed the East River Column of the Guangdong People’s Anti-Japanese Guerrillas in December 1943. See 曾生：《曾生回憶錄》（北京：解放軍出版社，1992年），頁

of the New Territories. They called the locals to action to defend their home and assisted in driving out bandits who were taking advantage of the chaotic situation to intimidate and rob villagers. As a result, the guerrillas gained the support of the long-suffering villagers, including the Laus in Pan Long Wan and Ng Fai Tin.⁷ These armed guerrilla units were then consolidated into the Brigade, which announced its establishment at the Rosary Mission Centre, a chapel in Wong Mo Ying (黃毛應), Sai Kung on 3 February 1942.⁸ The Chinese name used by the Brigade was *da dui* (大隊, large team), and all the detachments in the Brigade were called *zhong dui* (中隊, medium-sized team) regardless of how many members they included.⁹

The Urban Detachment, one of the six detachments¹⁰ that made up the Brigade, was formed in late 1943¹¹ initially with fewer than 20 members. Within a year, it had grown in strength to more than 100 members, and by the spring of 1945 it numbered some 300 members, more than 100 of whom were women.¹² During the War of Resistance, the building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin was a place where the detachment's female commander Fang Lan (方蘭) met other key leaders, including Chen Peiwen (陳佩雯), Huang Yangsheng (黃揚聲) and Song Luochuan (宋洛川) to plan operations against the Japanese.¹³ Members of the Urban Detachment were widely spread throughout urban areas in Kowloon and on Hong Kong Island, where they harassed Japanese activities and supply lines whenever possible.¹⁴ They also

72, 93-104 and 劉智鵬、劉蜀永主編：《港九大隊志》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2022年），頁21。

⁷ 曾生：《曾生回憶錄》（北京：解放軍出版社，1992年），頁315 and Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024.

⁸ Chan Sui-jeung, *East River Column: Hong Kong Guerrillas in the Second World War and After* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2009), pp.38–39.

⁹ Chan Sui-jeung, *East River Column: Hong Kong Guerrillas in the Second World War and After* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2009), p.67.

¹⁰ In addition to the Urban Detachment and the Marine Detachment (海上中隊), the Brigade was in command of the detachments deployed in various areas, including Lantau Detachment (大嶼山中隊), Sha Tau Kok Detachment (沙頭角中隊), Sai Kung Detachment (西貢中隊), Yuen Long Detachment (元朗中隊). See 中共深圳市委黨史辦公室、東縱港九大隊隊史徵集編寫組：《東江縱隊港九大隊六個中隊隊史》（深圳：深圳市印刷廠，1986年），〈前言〉and Chan Sui-jeung, *East River Column: Hong Kong Guerrillas in the Second World War and After* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2009), p.67.

¹¹ 方蘭：〈刺向香港日寇的一把尖刀——港九大隊市區中隊概況〉，載莫世祥編：《香港抗戰親歷記》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2023年），頁329；中共深圳市委黨史辦公室、東縱港九大隊隊史徵集編寫組：《東江縱隊港九大隊六個中隊隊史》（深圳：深圳市印刷廠，1986年），頁92。

¹² 潘琦：〈港九大隊市區中隊的抗戰救亡〉，《紅廣角》，2015年7期，頁27。

¹³ 方蘭：〈刺向香港日寇的一把尖刀——港九大隊市區中隊概況〉，載莫世祥編：《香港抗戰親歷記》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2023年），頁329、341-342。

¹⁴ One of the major operations was led by Liang Fu (梁福) of the Urban Detachment, in which the railway bridge across Waterloo Road in Kowloon was sabotaged on the night of 21 April 1944.

engaged in propaganda work, for example launching “paper bomb raids” (紙彈戰) to distribute anti-Japanese flyers in the city. Additionally, they gathered intelligence on the strength and deployment of the Japanese forces, as well as the number of ships in Hong Kong harbour, passing on this information to the Allies to enable them to draw up detailed plans for eventual counterattacks.¹⁵

During the War of Resistance, Fang Lan and other members of the Urban Detachment gained the support of the Lau family that resided on the ground floor of the building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin and that then provided the guerrillas with accommodation upstairs.¹⁶ The detachment used messengers, nicknamed “little devils (小鬼隊)”,¹⁷ to carry out work for it, one of whom was Lau Bing On (劉炳安), a member of the Lau family that lived at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin. According to Lau Bing On, his duties after joining the detachment included carrying information and messages across enemy lines to Kowloon by land — via Clear Water Bay Road and Ngau Chi Wan to Yau Ma Tei — or by boat from the liaison checkpoint in Hang Hau to Shau Kei Wan and then on to destinations in Causeway Bay or Central.¹⁸

The building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin comprises two side-by-side units that are two storeys high. Its load-bearing walls are made of stone, while all the wall surfaces are plastered and painted in white. The units each have their own entrance on the ground floor, both of which have granite thresholds and traces of decorative

*Architectural
Merit*

This successful mission effectively disrupted Japanese the deployment of Japanese forces to the New Territories to conduct raids against the guerrillas, as the units sent to take part were called back to defend the urban areas after the bridge was blown up. See 梁福口述、紀文整理：〈四月春雷〉，載廣東青運史研究委員會研究室、東縱港九大隊隊史徵編組：《回顧港九大隊》（廣東：廣東省委辦公廳勞動服務公司印刷廠，1987年），頁18–27；劉智鵬、劉蜀永主編：《港九大隊志》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2022年），頁186；方蘭：〈刺向香港日寇的一把尖刀——港九大隊市區中隊概況〉，載莫世祥編：《香港抗戰親歷記》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2023年），頁337–338。

¹⁵ 方蘭：〈刺向香港日寇的一把尖刀——港九大隊市區中隊概況〉，載莫世祥編：《香港抗戰親歷記》（香港：中華書局（香港）有限公司，2023年），頁329–333, 336–337；《港九獨立大隊史》編寫組著；劉蜀永、嚴柔媛校訂：《港九獨立大隊史》（香港：中華書局，2022年），頁134–135；紀文：〈儒林臺八號——憶文淑筠同志與對敵觀察哨〉，載廣東青運史研究委員會研究室、東縱港九大隊隊史徵編組：《回顧港九大隊》（廣東：廣東省委辦公廳勞動服務公司印刷廠，1987年），頁31–33。

¹⁶ Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024.

¹⁷ Most of the Brigade’s messengers were children, some as young as 7 or 8 years old, who were familiar with their hometown and could generally move around more freely when running errands. See Chan Sui-jeung, *East River Column: Hong Kong Guerrillas in the Second World War and After* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2009), p.50.

¹⁸ Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024. At the age of 9 in 1941, Lau came under the influence of the CPC and then involved himself in guerrilla activities by serving as a boy messenger. See also 徐月清編：《活躍在香港——港九大隊西貢地區抗日實錄》（香港：三聯書店（香港）有限公司，1993年），頁127–128。

pilasters on either side of the doorways. All the windows are rectangular and are spaced at regular intervals; those on the gable walls feature projecting hood mouldings to protect against the weather. The building is easily identifiable by the decorative pedestals that sit at the four corners of the roof and that are each topped by stepped mouldings and a ball ornament, which add visual interest to the exterior of the building. In contrast to the Western influence that are evident in the building's decorative features, the roof is laid with traditional Chinese clay tiles in Hakka style on timber rafters and purlins — building materials and a construction method that reflect a Chinese style.

Internally, the floor plans are divided into two units by walls. Doorways in the walls originally allowed the residents to move between the units on both storeys, but the one on the ground floor is now blocked. Access to No. 93 Ng Fai Tin was not allowed, but the interior of No. 94 Ng Fai Tin was inspected. The ceiling of this unit reveals the underside of the upper floor, which is constructed with timber planks laid over timber joists although some of the timber flooring has collapsed. Based on site observation, it is believed that the internal staircase to the upper floor, which no longer exists, was located at the rear of the unit.

The building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin has undergone some alterations over the years. For example, a balcony with an ornamental balustrade originally extended across the two bays on the first floor, but it was enclosed after the end of the Second World War.¹⁹ Moreover, all the original windows have been replaced with modern aluminium frames. Despite these changes, the original built form of the building, including the footprint and the two-storey structure with a pitched roof, remains unchanged. The prominent decorative features at the corners of the roof are still in sound condition, and some old timber structures on the ground floor have been retained. A member of the Lau family who lived in the building recalls that the pitched tiled roof of the building has not been altered since 1941,²⁰ which indicates that it has been kept in more or less authentic condition. The building has stood in Ng Fai Tin for many decades and is regarded as a valuable piece of built heritage, as it features a rare and distinctive design of this type of pre-war residence compared with the other village houses in the neighbourhood.

Authenticity & Rarity

Once serving as a base of the Urban Detachment of the Brigade during the Japanese occupation, the building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin bears witness to the heroic deeds of the Brigade's personnel, who joined forces with the local population

Social Value & Local Interest

¹⁹ Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024.

²⁰ Oral history interview with Mr Lau Bing On, conducted by the Antiquities and Monuments Office on 24 July 2024.

to contribute to the War of Resistance and eventual victory in the Second World War.

The building at Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin forms part of a group of graded buildings in Sai Kung that have historical associations with the War of Resistance. They include the Che Kung Temple in Ho Chung (蠔涌) (Grade 1), Holy Family Chapel in Chek Keng (赤徑) (Grade 2), Rosary Mission Centre in Wong Mo Ying (Grade 2), Sai Kung Lok Yuk Kindergarten in Sai Kung Market (Grade 2), Immaculate Conception Chapel in Tai Long (大浪) (Grade 3) and Yuk Yin Study Hall in Sha Kok Mei (Grade 3).

Group Value

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