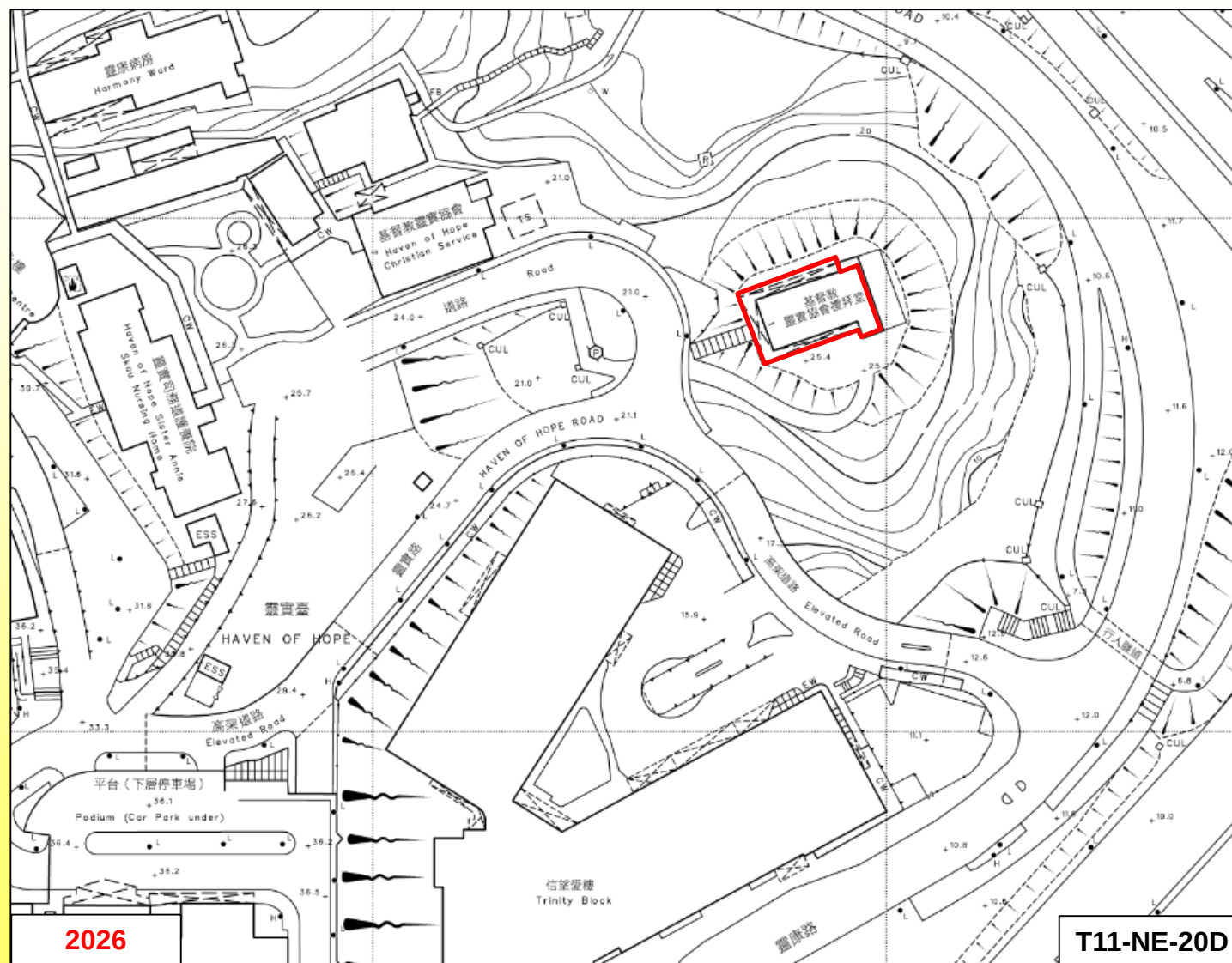


N253

新界將軍澳靈實路1號靈實禮拜堂

**Haven of Hope Chapel, No. 1 Haven of Hope Road,
Tseung Kwan O, New Territories**



建於1961年
Built in 1961

擬議評級範圍
Proposed grading
boundary

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



靈實禮拜堂的外部
Exterior of Haven of Hope Chapel
2026
(Source: AMO)



靈實禮拜堂的內部
Interior of Haven of Hope Chapel
2026
(Source: AMO)

Historic Building Appraisal

Haven of Hope Chapel, No. 1 Haven of Hope Road, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories

The Haven of Hope Chapel (靈實禮拜堂) (the “Chapel”), managed by the Haven of Hope Christian Service (基督教靈實協會), stands on a hillock at No. 1 Haven of Hope Road. Completed in 1961, it became an integral part of the Haven of Hope Tuberculosis Sanatorium (靈實肺病療養院). It was later renamed the Haven of Hope Hospital (靈實醫院) in 1976. **Historical Interest**

The Chapel traces its origins to the Haven of Hope Tuberculosis Sanatorium, which grew out of the medical relief provided by missionaries to the refugee settlement at Rennie’s Mill (now Tiu Keng Leng) in the early 1950s. Following the influx of immigrants in 1949, around 20,000 people settled at Rennie’s Mill, then a remote and desolate area where a refugee camp opened in June 1950.¹ With limited government resources, missionaries from diverse national and denominational backgrounds, many of whom had previously carried out evangelistic work in the Chinese Mainland, soon began relief work at Rennie’s Mill, including the provision of medical services.² Among these medical missionaries,³ who were trained healthcare professionals, was Annie Skau Berntsen (司務道), a Norwegian nurse who served there until 1973.⁴

Medical services began humbly in 1951 for settlers with an open-air clinic set up on a stone slab. In February 1954, a stone-and-brick building was constructed to house a clinic.⁵ Operated by missionaries from different denominations under the name Rennie’s Mill Church Clinic (調景嶺基督聯合醫務所), the clinic, the predecessor of today’s Haven of Hope Hospital, was administered by the Rennie’s Mill

¹ “Hong Kong Departmental Report by the Social Welfare Officer for the Period 1948-1954”, Social Welfare Office, 1948-1954, pp. 25-26; Geoffrey Gilbert, “Rennie’s Mill Camp: Model of Self-Government on Democratic Lines”, South China Morning Post, 25 August 1951.

² 梁家麟：《福音與麵包—基督教在五十年代的調景嶺》（香港：建道神學院，2000年），頁81；劉義章：《盼望之灣—靈實建基五十年》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2005年），頁26-32。

³ Other medical missionaries include Mary Myers (麥瑪莉) of the Evangelical and Reformed Church of America, Helen Wilson (孫海倫), a cousin of Governor Alexander Grantham from the Church of Scotland Mission and Hanny Gronlund (葛瑞霖) of the Covenant Church of Norway Mission, all of whom devoted much of their time to providing medical assistance in Rennie’s Mill. See “New T.B. Sanatorium: Officially Opened at Rennie’s Mill”, South China Sunday Post - Herald, 23 October 1955; “Rennie’s Mill Camp: Dedication of New Church Clinic Yesterday”, South China Morning Post, 12 February 1954; 梁家麟：《福音與麵包—基督教在五十年代的調景嶺》（香港：建道神學院，2000年），頁165-169。

⁴ 司務道口述、尚維瑞撰：《司務道信心行傳：《陝西鈴蹤》、《荒原上》圖文典藏版》（香港：基督教靈實協會，2021年），頁377-379。

⁵ 劉義章：《盼望之灣—靈實建基五十年》（香港：商務印書館（香港）有限公司，2005年），頁27-29。

Camp Church Clinic Committee (調景嶺基督教醫務所委辦會).⁶ The clinic treated patients mainly suffering from tuberculosis and other chest diseases, reflecting the high prevalence of such illnesses in the overcrowded settlement. Unfortunately, the clinic was destroyed by Typhoon Ida in August 1954. This disaster, however, strengthened the missionaries' determination to establish a purpose-built sanatorium. Berntsen and her fellow missionaries identified a hilly site at Yuen Chau (元洲), about a mile from the refugee camp, overlooking Junk Bay, and envisioned a chapel alongside the medical facilities.⁷ With overseas support, construction began in March 1955, and the Haven of Hope Tuberculosis Sanatorium⁸ opened on 22 October 1955, with Berntsen as its first matron.⁹

Although Berntsen's dream of a chapel was initially delayed by lack of funds, a white cross marked the site until a donation from the Evangelical and Reformed Church of America enabled its construction.¹⁰ The foundation stone of the Chapel was laid on 6 October 1961 by the Rev. Elbert E. Gates of Church World Service, and the dedication ceremony took place on Christmas Eve that year, attended by more than 500 people.¹¹ The Chapel, also named "Haven of Hope" and "靈實", became a quiet refuge for prayer and worship for the staff and patients of the sanatorium alike. It symbolises interdenominational collaboration during Hong Kong's post-war refugee influx, embodying the integration of medical, social, and spiritual care.

Designed by William Sue Ing (also known as Ng Siu-biu, 吳兆彪),¹² the **Architectural** Chapel is modest yet distinctive. It consists of a single-storey sanctuary with an **Merit**

⁶ In 1957, the Rennie's Mill Camp Church Clinic Committee was renamed the Junk Bay Medical Relief Council (將軍澳區醫援會), reflecting the expansion of services from Tiu Keng Leng to the wider Tseung Kwan O district. In February 1990, it was further renamed the Haven of Hope Christian Service. 見劉義章：《盼望之灣—靈實建基五十年》(香港：商務印書館(香港)有限公司，2005年)，頁73。

⁷ Gleason, Gene. *Joy to My Heart*. United States: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1966, pp.146；司務道口述、尚維瑞撰：《荒原上一司務道教士自傳之二》(八版修訂本)(香港：靈實福音佈道團，2003年)，頁23-34。

⁸ The name "Haven of Hope" embodied a vision of providing a safe refuge for the sick and offering them hope, while "靈實" derived from the Book of Galatians of the Bible (5:22-23), refers to the "fruits" (果實) of the "Holy Spirit" (聖靈), symbolising the virtues brought forth by the Spirit.

⁹ "Haven of Hope: T.B. Sanatorium at Rennie's Mill Opens Tomorrow", *South China Morning Post*, 21 October 1955; "New T.B. Sanatorium Officially Opened at Rennie's Mill", *South China Sunday Post - Herald*, 23 October 1955.

¹⁰ 司務道口述、尚維瑞撰：《荒原上一司務道教士自傳之二》(八版修訂本)(香港：靈實福音佈道團，2003年)，頁77-86。

¹¹ Shown on the foundation stone near the entrance of Haven of Hope Chapel；司務道口述、尚維瑞撰：《荒原上一司務道教士自傳之二》(八版修訂本)(香港：靈實福音佈道團，2003年)，頁77-86。

¹² Ing, a Chinese architect, was first registered as an authorised architect in 1934. He was removed from the register in 1957 but reinstated in 1960. See "G.N. (S.) 22 of 1969", *The Hong Kong Government*

interconnected tower rising from its southeastern corner. Constructed with a reinforced-concrete frame with plain cement-plastered external walls, it blends Western ecclesiastical forms with Chinese architectural elements. The sanctuary is crowned with a steep Western ecclesiastical-style gable roof, complemented by the gentle upward sweep of the eaves, a feature reminiscent of traditional Chinese design. The parapet gable walls, rising above the roofline, are finished with green-tiled coping and stepped moldings, while each gable apex is topped with a round Chinese-style finial. The symmetrical façade features a white cross above the doorway, flanked by octagonal windows, one of which sits above the inscribed foundation stone “To the Glory of God 傳福音榮耀神 1961”. Along the northern, western and southern elevations of the sanctuary runs a covered walkway supported by cast-iron posts and a concrete roof.¹³ Sliding glass doors, bullseye windows and rectangular windows allow daylight into the interior. The tower is more ornate, with a pagoda-like roof with upturned eaves and green glazed pantiles and cross at its apex. Decorative corbels, Chinese relief patterns, and arched openings add character to the building, while a large mosaic cross adorns its south elevation.

Internally, the sanctuary features a rectangular and column-free open plan that accommodates seating for approximately 200 people in movable chairs facing a raised chancel. A doorway on the south side of the chancel leads into the tower, where a simple staircase ascends to the first floor, which was built with hardwood joists and floorboards according to the building plans of 1960-1961.¹⁴ This floor was initially used for prayer meetings, later served as the pastor’s room, and now functions as the bride’s room.¹⁵ Above this sits a hardwood loft, accessible only by a cat ladder.¹⁶

The Chapel’s exterior remains largely faithful to its original 1960s design,¹⁷ although it has undergone some changes over the decades. A fire in 1972 destroyed the main roof of the sanctuary¹⁸ and partially damaged the roof of the tower.¹⁹ Soon after, new sandwich panels over a layer of metal sheet roofing were installed on the sanctuary, while the tower roof was repaired by replacing the damaged tiles.

***Authenticity
& Rarity***

Gazette, 25 April 1969.

¹³ General Building Plans and Structural Plans of 1960-1961 provided by the Haven of Hope Christian Service (HOHCS).

¹⁴ General Building Plans and Structural Plans of 1960-1961 (Elevations & Sections) provided by HOHCS.

¹⁵ Oral history interview conducted by Antiquities and Monuments Office on 6 and 11 August 2025 with staff of HOHCS.

¹⁶ General Building Plans and Structural Plans of 1960-1961 (Elevations & Sections) provided by HOHCS.

¹⁷ General Building Plans and Structural Plans of 1960-1961 provided by HOHCS.

¹⁸ Digital photo of chapel burnt and Annie Skau Bernsten in 1972 provided by HOHCS.

¹⁹ Digital photo of the Haven of Hope Chapel in the 1970s provided by HOHCS.

Nonetheless, the hardwood truss of the sanctuary remained intact.²⁰ A renovation in 2013 introduced new windows and doors, acoustic improvements in the sanctuary, and modern flooring in the tower. Despite these updates, original openings and structural elements were preserved. With the demolition of the early sanatorium buildings, the Chapel now stands as one of the oldest surviving buildings on the site that still serves its original function.

Beyond worship, the Chapel has long served as a community hub for the Haven of Hope Hospital. From 1955 to the early 1980s, hospital staff and trainee nurses, most of them Christians, lived on site and gathered daily for prayers. The Chapel therefore offered spiritual comfort and nurtured communal bonds among staff and patients. Today, the Chapel remains a licensed place of worship, hosting marriages, funerals and memorials, and continues to mark institutional milestones for the Haven of Hope Hospital.²¹

***Social Value
& Local
Interest***

Within walking distance of the Haven of Hope Chapel are Mau Wu Shan Observation Post (Grade 1) and the former Rennie's Mill Police Station (Grade 3), which, along with the Chapel, once overlooked the sea channels before land reclamation. The approach of amalgamating Chinese and Western architectural elements is also evident in another post-war church building, namely the Chapel of the Holy Spirit Seminary in Wong Chuk Hang (Grade 3).

Group Value

²⁰ Oral history interview conducted by Antiquities and Monuments Office on 6 and 11 August 2025 with staff of HOHCS.

²¹ See "List of Licensed Places of Worship for Celebration of Marriages (In alphabetical order) (as at 15-08-2025)", Immigration Department, HKSAR Government, <https://www.immd.gov.hk/pdf/licensedmarriages.pdf> (accessed on 18 August 2025); 〈靈實協會五十週年感恩〉，《基督教週報》第2011期，2003年3月9日，<https://www.christianweekly.net/2003/ta6875.htm>（2025年8月14日瀏覽）。After the founder of Haven of Hope Hospital, Annie Skau Berntsen, passed away in 1992, her memorial service was also held at the Haven of Hope Chapel.

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