

居石侯公祠

Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall



上水河上鄉侯氏

河上鄉位於上水石湖墟西北的排峰嶺山下，東鄰雙魚河，南接古洞，西傍鳳崗。據康熙一六八八年版《新安縣志》記載，河上鄉古時被稱為河尚鄉。

新界侯氏最早發源於上谷，即今日河北省中部及西部一帶。宋朝（九六〇至一二七九年）時由中原南遷至廣東。據《河上鄉侯氏族譜》記載，北宋（九六〇至一一二七年）末年，侯氏先祖侯五郎由番禺遷居寶安縣。自侯五郎下傳至明朝（一三六八至一六四四年）十一世祖侯卓峰，因見河上鄉擁有廣闊的農田，且鄰近雙魚河，水源充足，始開基於河上鄉，至今已有六百多年的歷史。侯卓峰育有六名兒子，並分為六大房，聚居於河上鄉、金錢和燕崗等村落一帶。

河上鄉共分南邊圍、北邊圍、中心村及松園新村四村，鄉內有文物建築，如法定古蹟居石侯公祠。每年農曆二月十三日的洪聖誕，侯氏族人均會進行慶祝活動，並舉行搶花炮儀式。

一九二〇年代的河上鄉（政府檔案處歷史檔案館提供）

Ho Sheung Heung in the 1920s (Courtesy of the Public Records Office of the Government Records Service)



Hau Clan of Ho Sheung Heung, Sheung Shui

Ho Sheung Heung is situated under the mountain of Pai Fung Leng in the northwest of Shek Wu Hui, Sheung Shui, with Sheung Yue River in the east, Kwu Tung in the south and Fung Kong in the west. According to the 1688 edition of the *Xin'an Gazetteer*, the name of the area, Ho Sheung Heung, used to be composed of different Chinese characters that resulted in the same pronunciation.

The Hau clan of the New Territories first settled in Shanggu in the middle and western parts of Hebei Province. In the Song dynasty (960–1279), the clansmen emigrated southward, from Central Plains to Guangdong. According to the genealogy of the Hau clan of Ho Sheung Heung, in the late Northern Song dynasty (960–1127), Hau Ng-long, the ancestor of Hau clan, decided to move from Panyu to Baoan. In the Ming dynasty (1368–1644), his 11th generation descendant, Hau Cheuk-fung, discovered that Ho Sheung Heung was endowed with a vast tract of farmland irrigated by the nearby Sheung Yue River. He decided to settle in this place and the Hau clan there has a history of more than 600 years. Hau Cheuk-fung had six sons who inhabited in various villages such as Ho Sheung Heung, Kam Tsin and Yin Kong.

Ho Sheung Heung comprises four villages, including Nam Bin Wai, Pak Bin Wai, Chung Sum Tsuen and Chong Yuen San Tsuen, containing some heritage buildings, such as the declared monument Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall. The Hau clan celebrates the Hung Shing Festival on the 13th day of the second lunar month every year, and villagers scramble for *fa pau* (paper floral tributes).

一九七〇年代的河上鄉村屋（政府新聞處提供）

Village houses in Ho Sheung Heung in the 1970s
(Courtesy of Information Services Department)



居石侯公祠

河上鄉居石侯公祠相傳始建於明朝末年，據侯氏族譜所載，該祠為紀念侯族十七世祖侯居石（一五五四至一六二八年）而建，是河上鄉的地標建築之一，至今有三百多年歷史。從懸於正門的牌匾年份推斷，祠堂曾於清朝（一六四四至一九一一年）乾隆二十七年（一七六二年）進行修繕。

居石侯公祠是侯氏族人的家祠，祠堂內設有供奉歷代祖先的祖龕，是村民祭祀祖先的地方。祠堂後進曾經用作村校，一樓設有課室，地下房間作為老師的寢室。學校約於二次大戰時停辦。一九五三年，「河溪學校」在祠堂附近建成，全盛時期約有四百多名學生，為上水區最早期的政府津貼小學。戰後，祠堂後進亦曾改作河溪幼稚園，直至一九七〇年代才停辦。

現時，居石侯公祠仍是村民祭祖和舉行傳統儀式的場所，也是侯族日常聚會議事的地方。



一九七六年居石侯公祠的正門仍可見「河溪幼稚園」的牌匾（紅圈）

（政府新聞處提供）

Entrance of the Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall in 1976 bearing the name plaque of the “Ho Kai Kindergarten” (circled in red)

(Courtesy of Information Services Department)

Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall

The Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall in Ho Sheung Heung was reputed to be built in the late Ming dynasty. According to the genealogy of the Hau clan, the Ancestral Hall was constructed to commemorate Hau Ku-shek (1554–1628), the 17th generation ancestor of the Hau clan. It remains one of Ho Sheung Heung's landmarks. The date inscribed on the name plaque hanging over the main entrance suggests that the Ancestral Hall underwent renovation around the 27th year of the Qianlong reign (1762) during the Qing dynasty (1644–1911).

The Ancestral Hall is the Hau clan's family ancestral hall where the soul tablets of the ancestors are enshrined in the altar. It is a venue for the villagers to worship their ancestors. The rear hall was once used as a village school, with the upper floor serving as classrooms and the ground floor providing accommodation for teachers. The school was closed during the Second World War. In 1953, a new village school known as “Ho Kai School” was established near the Ancestral Hall. In its prime, the school had over 400 students and it was the earliest subsidised primary school in Sheung Shui. After the Second World War, the rear hall was once used as the Ho Kai Kindergarten until the 1970s.

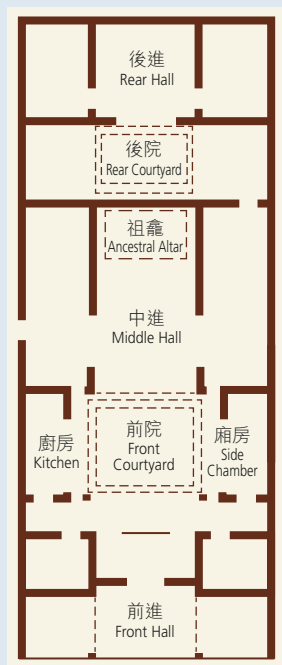
Nowadays, the Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall is still used by local villagers for ancestor worship and as a venue for holding traditional ceremonies. It also serves as a gathering and meeting place for clansmen.



中進祖龕的祖先木主

Soul tablets of the ancestors in the altar in the middle hall

建築特色



祠堂平面圖
Floor plan of the Ancestral Hall

居石侯公祠是三進兩院式建築，前院兩旁建有廂房，其中右廂房用作廚房；中進放置祖龕；後進則樓高兩層，屬規模較大的祠堂。

居石侯公祠主要以青磚築成，正面的鼓台及門框均以紅砂岩建造，而紅砂岩是用於傳統中式建築物的貴重材料。祠堂後進採用了鑊耳山牆的設計，在香港同類建築中實屬罕見。祠堂的屋脊是翹角式的設計，並飾有精緻的灰塑裝飾，建築物的駝峰、簷板及繫樑所雕刻的吉祥圖案及民間故事亦相當精緻。



以「昭君出塞」故事為題的駝峰
Tuofeng (camel hump) decorated with the story of "Zhaojun Departs the Frontier"

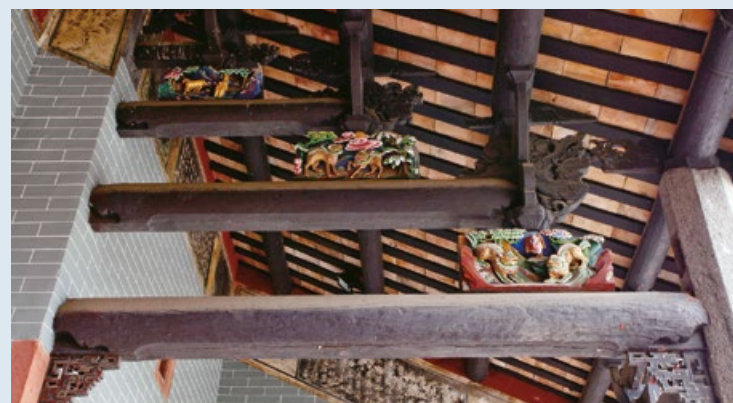
後進的鑊耳山牆
The gable wall of the rear hall in "wok yee" design



Architectural Features

The Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall is a large-scale three-hall-two-courtyard building. There are chambers at both sides of the front courtyard, a kitchen on the right and a side chamber on the left. The ancestral altar is placed in the middle hall while the rear hall is two storeys high.

The Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall is mainly constructed of grey bricks. The drum platforms and doorframe at the façade are constructed of red sandstones, a precious building material for traditional Chinese buildings. The gables of the rear hall are in "wok yee" design not commonly seen in local traditional buildings of the same type. The main roof ridges are richly embellished with curled-up ends. The Ancestral Hall's *tuofeng* (camel humps), fascia boards and tie beams are decorated with exquisite carvings of auspicious motifs and folktales.



雕刻精緻的斗拱及駝峰
Finely carved *dougong* and *tuofeng* (camel hump)



前院的廂房
Side chamber at the front courtyard

修復工程

在古物古蹟辦事處的監督下，居石侯公祠分別於一九九二及二〇〇一年進行全面性的修復工程。工程主要包括維修及更換已殘損的屋面構件、修復木雕及木器、修復屋脊及女兒牆灰塑、維修牌匾及對聯、粉飾內外牆體等。工程完成後，祠堂得以回復昔日的面貌，並於二〇〇一年六月十三日舉行開光儀式，以慶祝重修竣工。

在上水河上鄉侯族的鼎力支持下，居石侯公祠於二〇〇三年十二月十九日列為法定古蹟，受《古物及古蹟條例》保護。



一九九二年的修復工程
Restoration in 1992



修復後的前院及中進
Front courtyard and middle hall after restoration



修復後的祠堂
The Ancestral Hall after restoration

Restoration Works

Under the supervision of the Antiquities and Monuments Office, the full restoration of the Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall took place in 1992 and 2001. Major works items comprised repair and replacement of defective roof components, restoration of wood carvings and carpentry, restoration of plaster mouldings on ridges and parapet walls, repair to plaques and couplets, and redecoration to internal and external walls. With the original appearance of the Ancestral Hall restored, a rehabilitation ceremony was held on 13 June 2001 to celebrate the completion of the restoration project.

With the full support of the Hau clan in Ho Sheung Heung, Sheung Shui, the Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall was declared a monument on 19 December 2003 and is protected under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.



二〇〇一年的開光儀式
Rehabilitation ceremony in 2001



居石侯公祠位置圖

Location Map of Hau Ku Shek Ancestral Hall



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<https://www.hkemobility.gov.hk>

以上資料只供參考，如有更改，以有關機構公布為準。

The above information is for reference only, and is subject to change in accordance with the announcement of relevant organisations.

地址 Venue

新界上水河上鄉

Ho Sheung Heung, Sheung Shui, New Territories

開放時間 Opening Hours

星期一、三至日 上午9時至下午1時及下午2時至5時

星期二（公眾假期除外）、聖誕日、聖誕翌日、元旦日及農曆年初一至初三休息

Monday, Wednesday to Sunday 9 am – 1 pm & 2 pm – 5 pm

Closed on Tuesdays (except public holidays), Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and the first three days of Chinese New Year

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