

西貢的歷史與發展 History and Development of Sai Kung

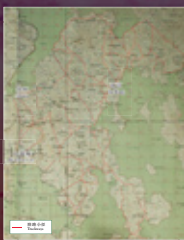
西貢位處新界東南部，由多個半島和七十多個大小島嶼組成。十七世紀客家移民開始到西貢一帶定居，在沿海或河谷上游開墾耕地，聚居成鄉村。村民多以務農或捕魚為生，亦有少數村民製作鹽糖。由於區內人口較少，沒有建立大規模的城市，對外交通亦只有跨越山嶺的小徑，通往九龍或沙田的源頭等地。



1963年(左)及2001年(右)西貢墟和沙田墟址的航空照片
Aerial photo of Sai Kung Market and the HA archaeological site in 1963 (left) and 2001 (right)



西貢於近數十年得以迅速發展，與戰後香港人口急劇增加和經歷連年的苦旱有很大的關係。為配合興建全港最大的儲水庫計劃，二十世紀七十年代政府將西貢墟連接大網仔的道路延伸至萬宜灣，並興建西沙公路連貫十四鄉至沙田。受水庫工程影響，官門海峽兩岸多條鄉村的村民需要遷走，政府遂在西貢墟天后廟對開的地方，進行填海工程以供遷村之用。西貢墟一帶的面貌，亦隨着填海及多項基建工程而徹底改變。



1922年的地圖顯示西貢墟通往九龍或沙田的陸路小徑
Trackways linking the Sai Kung District with Kowloon or Shatin in 1922 map

Situated in southeastern New Territories, Sai Kung comprises several peninsulas and over 70 islands of various sizes. Since the 17th Century, the Hakka people began migrating to Sai Kung and engaging in agricultural cultivation in the valley and the coastal area. Rural settlements gradually appeared. Early settlers primarily made their living by farming or fishing, while a few engaged in manufacturing sugar or salt. As the population could not sustain a marketplace, villagers had to travel through winding trackways to Kowloon, Lik Yuen of Shatin or other destinations.

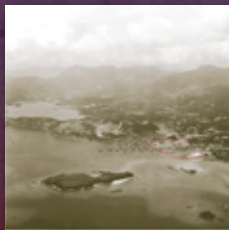
Sai Kung has experienced rapid development in recent decades due to speedy population growth and severe droughts after the Second World War. To complement the largest reservoir construction project of Hong Kong in the 1970s, the road connecting Sai Kung Town and Tai Mong Tai was extended to Man Yee Wan, while the Sai Sha Road was paved to link Shap See Heung with Shatin. The government relocated a number of villages along the Kwan Mun Channel that were submerged by the reservoir project to the newly reclaimed land opposite to the Tin Hau Temple of Sai Kung Market. Following a series of reclamation and infrastructure projects, Sai Kung Town had been completely transformed.



六十年代香港連年大旱，市民輪候食水的苦況
Long queue of people fetching water during the water restriction period in 1960s



1971年至1978年在官門海峽興建萬宜水庫，以解決食水不足問題
The Kwan Mun Strait where the High Island Reservoir was built for fresh water supply from 1971 to 1978



七十年代西貢墟及坑口外的填海工程完成，安置受萬宜水庫工程影響的村落
Reclamation works completed in 1970s, opposite to the Tin Hau Temple of Sai Kung Market, to relocate the villages affected by the construction of the High Island Reservoir