

“Historical and Architectural Traces of Sam Tung Uk” Audio Transcript

Location: Entrance Hall

Theme: Plaque inscribed with the words “Cho Tak Lau Fong”

You’re now in the Entrance Hall of the Chan Ancestral Hall. The rooms on both sides of the entrance are said to have been storerooms for tools and food. They’re now the Orientation Rooms of the Hong Kong ICH Centre. You can watch videos on the “Lost and Sound” exhibition later and discover more information and games about Hong Kong’s ICH items in the Orientation Rooms.

Hung above the central door of the Entrance Hall is a plaque inscribed with the words “Cho Tak Lau Fong”, giving us some hints about the migration history of the Chan clan. Originating from Fujian, the Chan clan migrated several times before arriving near Lo Uk Cheung to establish Kwan Mun Hau Tsuen (it’s located at present-day Tai Wo Hau in Tsuen Wan). A branch of the Chan clan then moved to the present location of Sam Tung Uk.

The plaque bearing the characters “Cho Tak Lau Fong” was a gift from Chan Sam Ying Tong, of Kwan Mun Hau Tsuen, to celebrate the rehabilitation of the Chan Ancestral Hall at Sam Tung Uk, which is also known as “Chan Si Bi Tong”, in the 7th lunar month in 1968. This reveals the close relationship between the Chan clans of the two villages and reflects the history of their relocation to Tsuen Wan.

If you would like to find out more about the naming and establishment of Sam Tung Uk, cross the open courtyard and proceed to the Middle Hall. During your visit, note the granite steps and door sill along the way, both of which exemplify features of traditional architecture. The next interpretation stand is in the Middle Hall near the open courtyard.