



### 7. 老屋 Old House

位於上巷最左邊，該是村內最古老的建築，部份結構自始至今保存下來，有助估計原建築的規模及佈局。這屋主體朝北，以夯土和青磚建成，是典型的「三間兩廳」客家民居。 Located at the far left of the Upper Row, the building is the oldest house with part of its components endured since its completion. It serves as an important reference for understanding the scale and design of the original form. Facing North, the house was a typical "three-bay, two-chamber" Hakka vernacular architecture that was built by rammed earth and bricks.

### 8. 風水林 Fengshui forest

昔日人們觀看山川大勢選址建村，山前蒼鬱的樹林也是旺地風水的要素。村後的風水林，有風水上藏風納氣、祈求財丁兩旺的考慮，也有防止水土流失的實際功用。 In the old days, topographical features were essential considerations for settlement location selection. Forest at the back of the village takes into account the auspiciousness in terms of fengshui, while performing its function to prevent soil erosion.

### 村座向 Orientation of Village

梅子林村屋兩巷整體坐西朝東，屬於兌宅，為「紫氣東來」之格局，除了在風水上吉祥之意外，亦有地理上的考慮，村屋坐西向東可直而旭日東升，令室內採光充足，而中午過後室內的氣溫也會相對清涼。 Two rows of village houses are sitting West and facing East, which categorizes the houses into "dai" house in terms of fengshui. Such sitting commonly represents "auspicious wind coming from the east" and has practical consideration to allow sunlight to penetrate into rooms in morning and lower the temperature in afternoon.



# 梅子林

## 村生活文化足跡 Point of Interest in Mui Tsz Lam

### 1. 伯公及荔枝樹 Pak Kung (local tutelary god) and Lychee Tree

村口的伯公神壇，亦即土地神，梅子林昔日每年兩次祭祀伯公，稱為「造社」。「春社」祈求豐收，「秋社」旨在酬神。伯公設於荔枝樹下，相傳此樹在立村前已存在，它曾是聞名的「東北荔枝王」，是村內的地標。 The Pak Kung altar located at the entrance of Mui Tsz Lam is the local tutelary god, which is a traditional belief of the villagers. Two seasonal ritual ceremonies known as "cho she" are held annually to worship Pak Kung - in spring pray for good harvest, and in autumn to express thankfulness to the tutelary god. The ancestors of Mui Tsz Lam set up the altar under the lychee tree, an old tree that said to exist long before the birth of the village. This lychee is a landmark as it was the "King of Lychee in northeastern district".

### 2. 遊樂場 Playground

它是慶豐約七村中少數仍保留至今的兒童遊樂設施。除了方形鋼架及拱形攀爬架外，曾經還有滑梯。有說某前港督喜愛遠足，曾到訪本村，見村內兒童眾多，設施不足，故為村輩興建了這座遊樂場。 The playground is one of the few surviving children playgrounds in Hing Chun Yeuk today. Apart from the cube and arched climbing frames, it used to have a slide. Some said that the playground was built after a visit of a former governor - also a hiking enthusiast - as he found the village lacked facilities to entertain the large number of children lived here.

### 3. 牛屋 (因壁畫而稱) Cattle House (named after the mural painting)

上世紀初，村民赴海外謀生。經濟充裕者會寄錢回鄉重建祖屋，光宗耀祖。這屋以「外西內中」形式重建，中西合璧，其西式元素包括建築上層的中央山頭型簷牆，也有五角星紋樣的裝飾。 In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, villagers went overseas to earn a living. Those who are well-off used to send money back and renovate their ancestral houses. This house is a typical integration of Chinese and overseas architectural style with Westernized outlook and Chinese internal layout. Notable Western features on its external façade include star-shaped motifs and pediment at the uppermost part.

### 4. 眾屋 Common House

位於上巷中央的樓房，由村民共同擁有，是以前用來祭祀及商議事務的地方。 The common house jointly owned by the villagers is located in the centre of the Upper Row. It was a place for ritual ceremonies and internal meetings.

### 5. 埤塘 Farm Pond

埤塘是以前村民特意開挖的水池，位於屋前梯田旁，用以儲水，方便灌溉。埤塘昔日養有鴨仔，是不少村民的共同回憶。 Farm Pond is an intentionally excavated pond near the terraces. It was not only constructed for water storage and irrigation purposes, but also served as a habitat for ducks that constitutes the villagers' collective memories.

### 6. 梯田 Terraced Fields

從舊日航空照可見這村的梯田甚具規模，一直連綿至毗鄰蛤塘村。如今只剩屋前斜坡一段仍能清晰見梯田輪廓，梯田的結構是靠一層層的擋土石牆來穩定土坡，是人們昔日逐塊石砌成的心力傑作。 Historic aerial photos reveal that the extensive terraced fields of Mui Tsz Lam used to run up to Kop Tong, still only those on the slope in front of the village houses are visible now. The entire terrace landscape is maintained by layers of slope-stabilizing retaining walls, which were results of the villagers' collaborative efforts.

### 私塾 Private School

村內的私塾大概在十九世紀末已荒廢，其場方遺址，如今已被大樹遮蓋。它是現時長者的祖父輩曾唸「卜卜齋」的地方，往後村內學童都步行到荔枝窩的小瀨學校讀書。 The private school was abandoned in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the building foundations are now covered by vegetation. It was a place where the grandparents of the living elders studied in the past. After its closure, children walked to Lai Chi Wo to attend Siu Ying School.

### 水井 The Well

鄰近水源，有建於1954年的水井，是由嘉道理農業輔助會捐助興建，上面刻有「1954 K.A.A.A.」字樣，該井方便村民日常用水。 The well near the watercourse was constructed in 1954 with the donation support from Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Association as reflected in the inscription "1954 K.A.A.A.". It has eased villagers access to water for daily consumption.

### 糞寮 Fertilizer Storage

從前村範圍內設有不少糞寮，儲存排泄物發酵作肥料用。 There were a considerable number of fertilizer storages in the village where organic waste was kept and fermented as fertilizer.

A

往蛤塘  
To Kop Tong

梅子林與毗鄰的蛤塘村相距約10分鐘路程

Mui Tsz Lam and Kop Tong is a ten-minute walk distance from each other

B

往烏蛟騰  
To Wu Kau Tang

今天經此路可步行到大埔烏蛟騰；昔日梅子林村民則經此古道，經分水坳步行至谷埔，是沙頭角區接駁東和墟古道網絡中重要一員，如今路上仍可見有大麻石作見證。

This path connects Mui Tsz Lam to Wu Kau Tang of Tai Po. In the old days, villages navigated this ancient trail to Kop Po via Fan Shui Au as a part of the crucial link to the Tung Wo Market. The granite that sits on the trail is an evident of this piece of history.

