Pulmonary TB has been around for many years and, despite medical advances, it is still rife in poor communities globally. In South Africa, pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) is an endemic problem, with the South African TB rate having increased significantly from 333 to 647 per 100,000 people from 2000 to 2007. It is closely linked to the high rate of HIV infection in the country which is 10.8%. However, the suburb of Uitsig, in the Western Cape, has a very low prevalence of HIV (2%), but a high prevalence of TB. Much research has been done in this community, investigating the possible reasons for this high TB rate. Current literature has examined issues of overcrowding, low socio-economic status and low nutritional intake. However, the issue of poor house quality as a risk factor for TB is lacking in the literature and motivated this study, which aimed to investigate the occurrence of TB among a small sample of households in Uitsig, comparing formal and informal households. The research explored possible TB risk factors among the study sample in an attempt to understand why TB is endemic in this community, although the small sample size limits the generalisation of findings to the entire Uitsig community. The research methodology consisted of an open-ended questionnaire, informed by literature and key informant discussions with the Programme coordinator. An indicative statistical analysis was used to assess the possible relationships between the questioned variables and the occurrence of TB within the study sample. Formal homes were found to have twice the number of TB cases in the last 5 years compared to informal houses. In formal houses, significant relationships were noted in the last 5 years between TB and household density, and also correlated strongly with the presence of a living room. Similarly, the averaged data also indicated a positive relationship between household TB occurrence in the past 5 years and household income, size of house and age of house.