

WHITR-AP (Shanghai) NEWS LETTER 08

联合国教科文组织亚太地区世界遗产培训与研究中心（上海）简讯

World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region under the Auspices of UNESCO (Shanghai)

特别报道：“文化遗产管理规划”国际培训

Special Coverage: International Training Course on Management Planning for Cultural Heritage

遗产保护奖项：2008年亚太地区遗产保护奖

Awards: 2008 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards

研究课题：平遥古城保护管理规划

Research: Management Plan of Ancient City of Pingyao

遗产知识：世界遗产全球“4C”战略

Knowledge of World Heritage: Global 4 C Strategy of World Heritage

世界遗产在中国：福建土楼

World Heritage in China: Fujian Tulou



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“文化遗产管理规划”国际培训

International Training Course on Management Planning for Cultural Heritage



首届“文化遗产管理规划”国际培训班于2008年11月24日在上海中心拉开帷幕,标志着中心的运作进入了实质性阶段。来自亚太地区19个国家的专业人士参加了本次培训班,其中政府及非政府组织成员9名,遗产地一线工作者7名,专家学者3名。

文化遗产管理规划,顾名思义,为了使学员掌握文化遗产地的管理规划方法,并根据各国特定的人文背景下,编制出合适的管理规划。培训班从管理规划的关键因素出发,包括管理机制、经济的可持续发展、遗产地突出普遍价值的认定、遗产地边界划分、文档信息的整理修订等多方面,通过案例分析以及七宝古镇、苏州园林两个遗产地的考察,使学员在理论与实际相结合的情况下,分组提交总结报告。

历经愉快、紧张而又硕果累累的两周,学员们都出色地完成了总结报告,获得了各位专家的一致好评。

在闭幕仪式上, ICCROM代表 Joseph KING先生及来自巴基斯坦的学员代表 Fauzia女士对本次培训班予以高度评价, Joseph KING先生和上海中心执行主任周俭教授作为主办方代表为学员们联合颁发了结业证书,为国际培训班画上圆满的句点。



On November 24, 2008, the WHITR-AP (Shanghai) hosted its first international training course on Management Planning for Cultural Heritage. This event was a fulfillment of the center's goals in practical development. The course brought together professionals from 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Nine of these participants came from governmental and non-governmental organizations, seven worked directly at the site, and three were from academic or research institutes.

The main objective of the course was to equip participants with the principles, methodology, and procedures necessary for developing appropriate management plans in each of their specific situations. Given key concepts in management planning, including system management, sustainable development in the economy, identification of values in heritage sites, determining boundaries and buffer zones, data gathering, etc., participants were expected to submit final reports after evaluating the two case studies of Qibao Ancient Town and Suzhou Garden.

After a fruitful two-week study, the participants successfully presented their final reports, awarding the consensus from the experts.

During the closing ceremony, Mr. Joseph KING, representatives of ICCROM and Ms. Fauzia, representative of participants, expressed their high evaluation to this course. On behalf of the organizers of the course, Mr. King and Prof. Jian ZHOU awarded certificates to the participants. The international training course concluded with a closing banquet.



2008年10月21日至30日，UNESCO景观与环境设计教席在上海青浦区金泽举办了主题为“郊区景观规划——城市周边、城郊结合部品质提升与可行性发展战略”的国际研讨会暨联合城市设计。

From October 21 to 30, 2008, the International Seminar of UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design was held in Jinze, Qingpu District, Shanghai. The Seminar focused on the topic, “Suburban Planning—Improving the Quality of Life and Developing a Sustainable Strategy in the Suburbs.”

2008年11月3日至7日，中心执行主任周俭教授参加了2008中国南京第四届世界城市论坛，并参与“我们共同的街区”分论坛。此次论坛由中国住房和城乡建设部与联合国人居署共同主办，主题围绕“和谐的城镇化”展开。

From November 3 to 7, 2008, Professor ZHOU Jian attended the fourth World Urban Forum held in Nanjing. It featured a sub-forum called “Our Common Community.” The Forum, which focused on Harmonious Urbanization, was jointly organized by the Chinese Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

2008年11月21日，中心执行主任周俭教授作为“实践中的世界遗产”硕士课程编纂执行委员会的成员出席了在意大利都灵大学举办的硕士培训班并发表了《中国历史城区的保护》的演讲。该课程侧重于世界遗产保护中的经济管理与平衡控制，注重既能保护当地文化和自然环境，亦可促进遗产保护中的可持续发展。

On November 21, 2008, Professor ZHOU Jian, Executive Director of WHITR-AP (Shanghai) and Member of the Committee Meeting on Steering the Master Degree Programme of World Heritage at Work, participated in a training course held at the Polytechnic University of Turin. Professor Zhou gave a presentation on the Conservation of Chinese Historical Areas. This course focused on economic management in World Heritage preservation, as well as on how to balance the local culture with the natural environment to create sustainable development.



2008年11月26日至28日，首届世界遗产旅游博览会及第四届世界遗产论坛在澳门举办，博览会以“保护、发展、推广、交流”为主题，展示了各个世界遗产地丰富的景观资源。我中心研究部主任张艳华博士出席了该论坛并发表《中国民间遗产保护组织过程的成长》的主题演说。

The first World Heritage Travel Expo and the fourth World Heritage Forum were held in Macau from November 26 to 28 2008. The EXPO featured the theme, “Conservation, Development, Promotion, & Communication,” and showcased cultural and natural heritages from around the world. Dr. Zhang Yanhua, Director of Research Unit of WHITR-AP (Shanghai), lectured on “The Growth of Heritage NGOs in China” at the forum.



2008年12月4日至5日，由WHITRAP苏州中心和苏州市园林和绿化管理局主办的世界遗产保护论坛在苏州举行。来自联合国教科文组织世界遗产中心、国际文化财产保护与修复研究中心和国内外的百余名专家学者、技术人员就古建筑保护与修复技艺以及如何更好地开展世界遗产教育两大主题进行了研讨。

The World Heritage Protection Forum was held in Suzhou from December 4 to 5, 2008. Over one hundred experts, scholars, and technicians from the UNESCO World Heritage Center, ICCROM, and other organizations at home and abroad attended the forum to discuss the protection and restoration of traditional architecture, as well as how to improve World Heritage education.



2008年11月7日，韩国首尔的联合国教科文组织二类中心——国际共识教育亚太地区中心项目专家LEE Ji-Hyang女士和LEE Un-Kyung女士对我中心进行了友好访问，就二类中心所共同面对的法律地位、运作机制、资金筹措等问题以及未来合作前景与我中心进行了深入交流。

On November 7, 2008, Ms. LEE Ji-Hyang and Ms. LEE Un-Kyung, Junior Programme Specialists from the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) in Seoul, Korea, paid a visit to WHITR-AP (Shanghai). The two centers discussed legal statuses, operational systems, fundraising, and other issues as well as possibilities for future cooperation.



2008年12月4日，由尼泊尔国家文物局局长Kosh先生带队，由尼泊尔教科文组织全国委员会、遗产地Lumbini（释迦牟尼出生地）以及东方文化遗址保护联盟代表共同组成的尼泊尔文化遗产代表团对我中心进行了友好访问，双方就文化遗产地保护中面临的一些共同问题及未来合作前景进行了深入交流。

On December 4, 2008, a Nepalese cultural heritage delegation, led by Mr. Kosh Prasad Acharya paid a visit to WHITR-AP (Shanghai). The delegation included members from the Nepal National Commission for UNESCO, the Lumbini World Heritage Site (birthplace of Buddha), and the Eastern Cultural Heritage Preservation Union. They discussed possibilities for future collaboration as well as common problems in cultural heritage preservation.

亚太遗产保护论坛

WHITR-AP Conservation Forum

论坛简介 (Introduction)

本论坛由中心与同济大学建筑与城市规划学院联合主办,论坛秉持建设性、前沿性、开放性理念,以“发现价值,寻求共识”为目标,每月在我中心举行。为形成一个多元参与、百家争鸣的舞台,论坛采用主题对话、互动加评论形式,以期在嘉宾及参与者之间激发一场头脑风暴,成为中国遗产保护领域具有一定学术及社会影响力的交流平台。论坛负责人为中心部门主管李昕博士,目前已获得多家机构的合作支持和强大的志愿者团队支撑。

This forum is co-sponsored by WHITR-AP (Shanghai) and the College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP) of Tongji University. It aims to be constructive, forward, and open-minded, and to "discover the value and seek for consensus." The Forum will be held on a monthly basis at the center. To provide a place for diverse dialogue open to all, the Forum encouraged topic-based discussion and interactive commentary. This is meant, to inspire participants to brainstorm solutions as well as to form an effective platform with academic and social impact on heritage protection in China. Dr. Li Xin, director of the Forum, has obtained support from numerous institutions and has built up a strong volunteer team.

Email: whitrforum@gmail.com



第一期主题: 寻找遗产保护的制度基点

——不同层级政府间的对话

建设部城市规划司原副司长王景慧首先介绍了历史文化名城名镇名村保护条例出台的经过。上海市城市规划局副局长伍江结合上海实际情况,从法律、制度和操作三个层面揭示了地方政府基于地方实际的立法创新行为对完善现有保护法规体系的重要意义。周庄镇原镇长庄春地则介绍了周庄在一无保护条例、二无保护资金的情况下,如何在十几年间白手起家发展成为中国第一水乡的曲折故事。论坛进行中,国家文物局单霁翔局长的到来使现场气氛达到了高潮,他就国家部委间合作等问题发表了自由演说。(08.10.18)

第二期主题: 如何才能成为世界遗产?

——我国的世界遗产申报与管理现状

建设部城市建设司原副司长王凤武系统介绍了目前我国世界遗产申报与管理的流程、部门分工、国际合作等基本情况,以及社区居民参与度较低、国际组织公关等存在问题。随后,同济大学建筑与城市规划学院教授张松、副教授韩锋分别就遗产地的代表性、遗产地评估的科学性等中国世界遗产申报存在的问题进行了阐述。(08.11.24)



第三期主题: 保护“双城记”: 北京 vs 上海

《城记》作者、新华社高级记者王军从一个记者的独特视角出发,运用大量生动的北京四合院案例,从历史维度深入阐述了制度特别是产权对于遗产保护的基石意义。作为弄堂里长大的上海人,同济大学城市规划系教授孙施文则对当前上海里弄保护的一些深层次问题,如产权历史信息的批露、历史建筑如何满足现代居住需求等进行了深入的理论剖析。(08.12.10)

Forum on October 18, 2008

Topic: The Search for a Standardized System of Heritage Protection—Dialogue Between Different Government Ranks

The former Deputy Director of the Department Urban Planning of the Ministry of Construction, Mr. WANG Jinghui, gave an overview of the efforts that went into the creation of The Regulations on the Protection of Famous Historical and Cultural Cities, Towns and Villages. Mr. WU Jiang Deputy Director of the Shanghai Urban Planning Bureau, realistically evaluated the legal, regulatory, and operational importance of local governments in determining heritage conservation laws. The former mayor of Zhouzhuang Village, Mr. ZHUANG ChunDi, told of his experiences and how Zhouzhuang village, without any form of government protection or funds, became China's first water town in a little over a decade. Last, Mr. SHAN Qixiang, Director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, gave a spirited speech on the Cooperative Issues from Different National Departments, raising a big round of applause.

Forum on November 24, 2008

Topic: How to Achieve World Heritage Status?—The Current State of China's World Heritage Declaration and Management.

The former Deputy Director of Ministry of Urban Construction, Mr. WANG FengWu, talked about the processes, departmental allocation, and international cooperation necessary for the selection and management of World Heritage sites in China. He also spoke about the low rates of participation amongst local residents, as well as public relations problems in international organizations. Prof. ZHANG Song and Associate Professor Han Feng discussed problems in applying for World Heritage status, such as problems in representation and standardized assessment.

Forum on December 10, 2008

Topic: "A Tale of Two Cities" in Protection: Beijing VS Shanghai

"Cities" author and Xinhua News Agency senior correspondent Mr. WANG Jun reported from a unique perspective by describing the Beijing Courtyards from a historical point of view. His aim was to show how regulations and property rights play significant roles in the heritage protection. In addition, Professor Sun Shiwen from CAUP, who grew up in Shanghai's Nong Tang region, experienced firsthand the problems currently occurring in the protection of Shanghai's Longtang, such as the issue of property rights. He explores how historical buildings may fit the needs of today's residents.



特邀嘉宾评语 (Guest Comment)

今天问题讨论之深入、气氛之热烈完全出乎我的意料,很高兴能参加这个论坛,下次有机会到上海我一定还要来。
——国家文物局局长单霁翔

"The positive attitude of today's in-depth discussion is quite a surprise. I am delighted to have participated this forum, and I will be sure to come again the next time I am in Shanghai."

——SHAN Jixiang, Director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage



2008年亚太地区遗产保护奖揭晓

Winners Announced for the 2008 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards



Herat Old City in Afghanistan and Stadium Merdeka in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia have been honoured with the two Awards of Excellence in the 2008 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation.

The three Awards of Distinction went to the National Pass in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales, Australia, the Fujian Earth Buildings in Fujian Province, China and Suffolk House in Penang, Malaysia.

The three Awards of Merit include Vysial Street in Pondicherry, India, the Shigar Historic Settlements and Bazaar Area in the Northern Areas, Pakistan and Wat Pongsanuk in Lampang, Thailand.

Six Honourable Mentions were also announced. They are the Béthanie in Hong Kong SAR, China, the Archbishopal Palace in Goa, India, the Craigie Burn Bungalow in Matheran, India, Bach 38 in Rangitoto Island, Auckland, New Zealand, the Amphawa Canal Community in Amphawa District, Samut Songkhram Province, Thailand and the Crown Property Bureau Building in Chachoengsao Province, Thailand.

A total of 45 entries, from 13 countries in the Asian Pacific region, were submitted for consideration. The conservation project entries include hotels, offices, cultural institutions, educational institutions, religious sites, memorials, public institutions, residential buildings and urban districts.

The 2008 Heritage Awards Jury Commendation for Innovation was awarded to 733 Mountbatten Road (Singapore). The Jury Commendation recognizes newly-built structures which demonstrate outstanding standards for contemporary design well integrated into the historic architecture.

(<http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=7707>)

日前，2008年亚太地区遗产保护奖在曼谷揭晓，阿富汗Heart老城和马来西亚吉隆坡的Merdeka体育馆被授予2008年亚太地区最佳遗产保护奖，杰出成就奖授予了澳大利亚新南威尔士的蓝山项目、中国福建土楼和马来西亚槟榔屿州的Suffolk House，优秀奖授予了印度的Vysial大街项目、巴基斯坦北部地区的Shigar历史城区和集市，以及泰国的 Pongsanuk 寺庙。六个提名奖包括中国香港特别行政区的Bethanie、印度果阿地区 Archbishopal 王宫、印度的 Craigie Burn Bungalow、新西兰 Rangitoto 岛的38号小屋、泰国的 Amphawa 社区，以及泰国的 Crown Property 政府大楼。

以上奖项是从亚太地区13个国家提交的45个项目中挑选出来的，涵盖了旅馆、办公楼、文化机构、教育机构、宗教场所、纪念馆、公共建筑、住宅和城市街区等不同类型的文化遗产。

为了表彰那些在历史环境下做出探索的新建筑设计，评委会还设立了一项特殊的“特别创新奖”，此次授予了新加坡的Mountbatten公路733号。

(来源：<http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=7707>)



背景资料：UNESCO亚太地区文化遗产保护奖

UNESCO亚太地区文化遗产保护奖的设立是为了见证个人、机构，以及公私合作的计划来成功进行文化遗产价值的保护成果。

该项目开拓了UNESCO的全球战略，即“促进文化领域内标准的制订与实施”。在此全球框架下，该项目把目标进一步区域化，“把文化领域发展和实施的标准本土化和具体化”。

UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation

The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation have been established to recognize the achievement of individuals and organizations within the private sector, and the public-private initiatives, in successfully restoring structures of heritage value in the region.

This project advances UNESCO's global strategic objective of "promoting the drafting and implementation of standard setting instruments in the field of culture". Within this global framework, it builds on the regional pillar of "localization and empowerment of the culture profession to develop and implement standards".

平遥古城管理规划

Management Plan of Ancient City of Pingyao

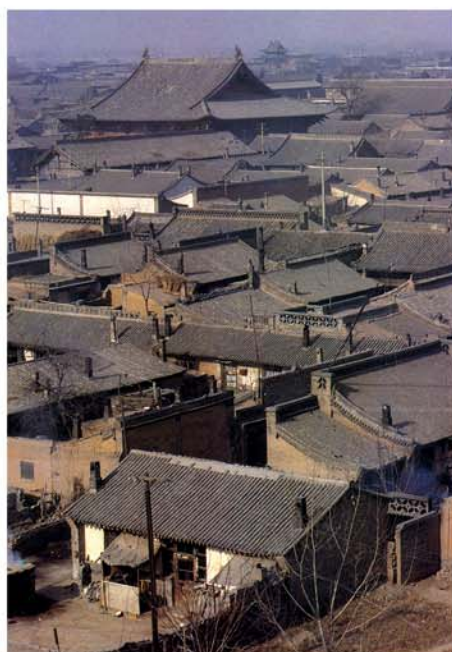


1997年平遥古城被联合国教科文组织列入《世界遗产名录》。世界遗产委员会对其评价为：平遥古城是中国汉族城市在明清时期的杰出范例，平遥古城保存了其所有特征，而且在中国历史的发展中为人们展示了一幅非同寻常的文化、社会、经济及宗教发展的完整画卷。

《世界文化遗产平遥古城管理规划》是遗产地管理的重要组成部分。规划希望通过管理体系的架构来达到管理能力的提高和外部环境的保障，同时明确管理主体，简化管理程序，增强管理效率。管理规划内容包括遗产地基本情况介绍，遗产管理专项规划，遗产管理实施计划三个部分。其中专项规划内容主要包括：管理机制、建设管理、可持续性旅游管理、资金的来源保障和合理分配、遗产目录、档案库建立与管理、灾害预防和危机处理、日常管理监控、人力资源管理、社会管理、文物保护单位管理及非物质文化遗产的保护与管理。

同时规划中还分别针对以上具体内容的实施原则、实施项目确立、实施时间等提出了详细安排。在确定管理目标基础上，以实施原则为指导，针对每个专题提出执行建议，设立相应的、独立的执行项目，并通过项目清单形式明确领导机构、资金来源、时间段等信息，以利于管理工作有效进行和公众监督。

来源：邵甬 同济大学建筑与城市规划学院副教授



The Ancient City of Pingyao was inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1997. The World Heritage Committee's evaluation is as follows:

The Ancient City of Ping Yao is an outstanding example of a Han Chinese city of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (14th-20th Centuries) that has retained all its features to an exceptional degree and in doing so provides a remarkably complete picture of cultural, social, economic, and religious development during one of the most seminal periods of Chinese history.

The Management Plan of Pingyao consists of a very important component related to the conservation of the World Heritage site; the specific plan aims to improve the management capability, secure the external managing environment of the city through establishing a systematic frame, define the managing agent, simplify the procedures and enhance the efficiency. The contents of the management plan include basic information, special planning and implementation plan.

Regarding the special planning, the following topics were discussed in depth: the management mechanism, new construction projects, sustainable tourism, fund-raising and fund allocation, inventory of the historic monuments, establishment and management of archives, risk management, daily monitor, human resources, community management, and conservation of intangible heritage. Concerning the implementation plan which is especially beneficial to the effectiveness of work management and public supervision, the aforementioned subjects, were further considered, based on clear implementation principles. Different tasks were discussed such as the specific responsibilities of governmental agencies, fund sources and the time necessary for establishing a clear implementation inventory.

Provided by: Shao Yong, Associate Professor of College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University



世界遗产全球“4C”战略

The Global 4C Strategy of World Heritage



2002年6月，在布达佩斯举办的世界遗产委员会第二十六届会议上通过了《战略目标》内容如下：

- (a) 增强《世界遗产清单》的可靠性
- (b) 确保有效地保存世界遗产
- (c) 促进在缔约国开展有效的能力培养
- (d) 通过交流，提高公众对世界遗产的认识、参与和支持

这也就是我们所说的世界遗产全球“4C”战略，即能力建设（Capacity building）、信誉度（Credibility）、保护（Conservation）和交流（Communication）。其中，能力建设包括培训和研究两方面；信誉度是指进入《世界遗产名录》的标准。联合国教科文组织有一套理论体系来证明某地是否能被评为世界遗产；保护是确保世界遗产的有效保护；交流包括网络平台和信息服务方面，在群众、官员、学者三个层面进行宣传与普及。

在2007年新西兰基督城举行的31届世界遗产委员会会议上，世界遗产的全球“4C”战略被增补为“5C”，即增加了社区公众的协调和参与（Community）。

The World Heritage Committee concluded its 26th session in June 2002 by adopting the Strategy Objectives determined in Budapest, capital of Hungary. The Objectives are:

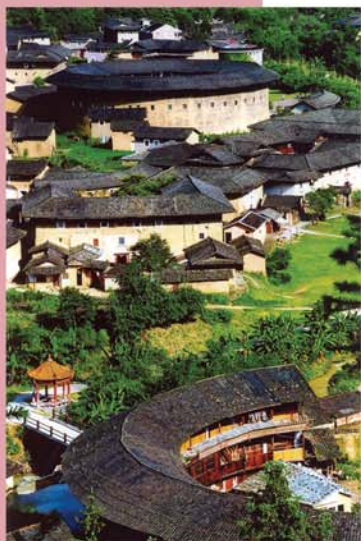
- (a) to strengthen the credibility of the World Heritage List;
- (b) to ensure the "effective conservation" of properties on the List;
- (c) to promote capacity building within all State Parties of the WHC;
- (d) to promote the concept of heritage protection through dialogue and mutual understanding, so as to encourage public participation and support.

The above-mentioned points are called the 4C Strategies—Capacity Building, Credibility, Conservation, and Communication. Capacity Building is divided into two parts, training and research. Credibility is the prerequisite that world heritage sites must meet in order to be inscribed onto the World Heritage List. UNESCO has an integrated theoretical system for the selection of each site. Conservation ensures the capability of World Heritage conservation. Communication is designed for popularizing and disseminating the network platform and information service to officials, scholars, and the masses.

To promote social harmony as well as public participation, the 31st Session of the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch, New Zealand on 2007 added a fifth C, Community, to the 4C Strategy.

福建土楼

Fujian Tulou



陈道庆 摄

陈道庆 摄

福建土楼修建于12至20世纪，多为2-4层土坯房屋。其主要用于防御外敌，通常只有一个入口和一个位于中心的露天庭院，基本没有对外的窗户。这些房子里住着一个大家庭，起着村落的作用并且以“家庭聚集的小王国”或“热闹的小城市”而闻名。

福建土楼于2008年7月列入联合国教科文组织公布的“世界文化遗产”名单，其符合世界遗产评价标准中的III、IV及V项，即标准（III）：长期以来有记录详实的资料证明土楼作为集体居住的防御性建筑有着悠久的文化传统，反映了精湛的建筑传统和谐合作思想；标准（IV）：土楼有独特的规模，建筑传统和功能并且在更广范围内反映了社会对经济和社会史上不同时期的反应；标准（V）：无论是所有的土楼还是福建土楼，它们的样式独特反映了集体生活和人们的防御需求，它们也与周围环境和谐统一，因此，它们是人类居住的杰出典范。

世界遗产委员会的评语为：

“福建土楼是中国东南部山区中最具代表性，保存最好的土楼。这些激动人心的土质防御性建筑规模宏大，技术精湛，修建于13到20世纪。在富饶的山谷这样极易被破坏的环境里，它们突出反映了人们对曾经风靡一时的居住方式的共同反应。这些土楼以及和它们广泛联系的文书档案反映了7个世纪以来土质建筑这一杰出艺术的诞生，革新和发展。其内部复杂的隔间有些表面装饰华丽，既满足了大集体的物质和精神需求又以独特的方式反映了一个复杂社区在偏僻又有潜在敌意的环境里的发展过程。这些大型建筑搭配周围环境既符合风水的标准又体现了风景优美和谐的理念。”



Hu Jienwen

胡剑文 摄

Fujian Tulou was built between the 12th and 20th centuries over 120 km in south-west of Fujian province. Set amongst rice, tea and tobacco fields the tulou are earthen houses. They were built for defence purposes around a central open courtyard with few windows to the outside and only one entrance. Housing a whole clan, the houses functioned as village units and were known as “a little kingdom for the family” or “bustling small city.”

The Fujian Tulou was inscribed into the World Heritage List of UNESCO in July 2008. It fit the criterion of Outstanding Universal Value of iii, iv and v, which are:

Criterion (iii): The Tulou bear an exceptional testimony to a long-standing cultural tradition of defensive buildings for communal living that reflect sophisticated building traditions and ideas of harmony and collaboration, well documented over time.

Criterion (iv): The Tulou are exceptional in terms of size, building traditions and function, and reflect society's response to various stages in economic and social history within the wider region.

Criterion (v): The Tulou as a whole and the nominated Fujian Tulou in particular, in terms of their form are a unique reflection of communal living and defensive needs, and in terms of their harmonious relationship with their environment, an outstanding example of human settlement.

The evaluation from the World Heritage Committee was:
The Fujian Tulou are the most representative and best preserved examples of the tulou of the mountainous regions of south-eastern China. The large, technically sophisticated and dramatic earthen defensive buildings, built between the 13th and 20th centuries, in their highly sensitive setting in fertile mountain valleys, are an extraordinary reflection of a communal response to settlement which has persisted over time. The Tulou, and their extensive associated documentary archives, reflect the emergence, innovation, and development of an outstanding art of earthen building over seven centuries. The elaborate compartmentalised interiors, some with highly decorated surfaces, met both their communities' physical and spiritual needs and reflect in an extraordinary way the development of a sophisticated society in a remote and potentially hostile environment. The relationship of the massive buildings to their landscape embodies both Feng Shui principles and ideas of landscape beauty and harmony.

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封面及封底照片：福建土楼
(来源：永定县文物局)
封面照片摄影：陈坚
Front cover: Fujian Tulou by
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