

Postgraduate Student Forum
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HERITAGE IN ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Non ARKARAPRASERTKUL (Harvard University)

Housing and Heritage: Conflicts over Urban Space in Contemporary Shanghai

I address both the practical and architectural conflicts that arise from an anthropological perspective regarding the late low-rise vernacular housing legacy in Shanghai known as the Lilong. Before the 1978 reform, the Lilong houses were the dominating – if not only – forms of housing in Shanghai. The Lilong houses and neighborhoods symbolize modern Shanghai history and urban neighborhood life through micro-politics and interconnectedness of micro-communities. Life in the Lilong neighborhoods has its advantage which is the “sense of community, intimacy, and the continuity of history,” which the individual room in sterile high-rise apartments cannot provide. The Lilong houses today stand in sharp contrast with the growing trend of property-led growth, fueled by the changing family structure of post-reform urban Chinese society, that favors higher density and higher return housing development. That said, whereas many scholars utilize heritage rhetoric to claim that the Lilong houses and neighborhoods are the representation of the history of Shanghai; therefore must be preserved to maintain the identity of the city, there are a number of sensible arguments about the downsides of the Lilong houses, including those coming from the residents themselves. I look at how such conflicts play out, identifying the key elements of the discourse and the reality of this situation.

Atthasit SUKKHAM (Silpakorn University)

The Ancient Rock Arts Management for Sustainable Tourism in the West Coast of Southern Thailand

The rock art sites along the western coast of southern Thailand especially at Krabi and Phangna Provinces have totally 10 sites which mostly belonged to prehistoric period and only one for historic site. This region is well-known among the tourists regarding to the charming of marine attraction. Although the eco-tourist attractions have been rapidly developed but the heritage sites still interrupted by locals leading to the damage of cultural treasure. To prevent the further destruction, the rock arts must be evaluated and maintained as cultural heritage sites. In addition to the benefit of natural resources and landscape, the rock arts located nearby tourist attractions should be introduced and promoted as cultural tourism sites along with other adventure activities. The tour follows the connected tourist route map by 3 main tourist attractive centers like Ao Luk, Phangna Bay and Phi Phi Island. This research's main point is to introduce general knowledge of cultural tourism management for tourist guides in order to support sustainable tourism industry. Furthermore, this plan is able to develop as formal tourist route map issued by Tourism Authority of Thailand.

PENG Weiwen (Kanagawa University)

Labor Unions and Martial Arts Centers in Guangzhou and Foshan in 19th-20th Century - A Social Historical Consideration of Groups Passing Down Knowledge of Guangdong Lion Dance

From Qing Dynasty to Republic of China, there were numbers of martial arts centers in Guangzhou and Foshan, which were two of the most important cities in the Pearl River Delta. Guangdong Lion Dance was passed down by such martial arts centers, until they were dissolved by the Government of the Peoples Republic of China. These centers did not only play a role of teaching martial arts. Behind them, there were Labor Unions, which were the organization of the class of instability that brought about by the development of commerce and industry since Qing Dynasty in Guangdong. And it seems that they carried out a particularly original role to keep balance of the Guangdong society as a mutual aid network formed by such instability layer.

YIN Fei (Minzu University of China)

Miao Silver Ornaments: A Study on Nationality and Inheritance of Handicraft Art in Fenghuang, West Hunan Province

Safeguard of the intangible cultural heritage is a globally social topic. In 2008, "Miao's silver ornaments handicraft art" is awarded "the first batch of national intangible cultural heritage." Silver ornaments, as the symbol of Miao's culture, imply the traditional culture and social historic memory of this group and the aesthetic of Miao's people. They are not only indicate the social development process of Miao's society, but also highlight the special local culture, aesthetic experience, values and emotions etc. of local people. This paper on the bases of detailed description of Fenghuang's geographic situation, the author mainly discuss the origin, appearance, shape and design of silver ornaments, and then fully analyse the symbolic meaning and the social functions of silver ornaments. At the end, this reporter describe the present situation, clear the problems of the inheritance of silver ornament handicraft, and analyse the reasons of the local silver ornament culture vicissitude.