

Ping Che Evolving: Understanding Its Community in Response to “City Development”



中大人社區
CUHK in Communities

Ping Che (坪輦)

A rural area @ The New Territories

Consists of 6 villages

Replanned in 2015: from North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning (新界東北發展計劃) to New Territories North Study (新界北研究)

Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant
(TDLEG) Project 2016 - 2019

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CUHK in Ping Che (中大人坪輦)

An 8-month on-site participatory learning project, provides students first-hand observation and chances to review the concepts learnt in class (land justice, community-initiated development, equal participation in civil society & the pursuit of good life)

21 CU students recruited (mainly from Arts & Social Science)

Led by independent curator and urbanist Dr. Wong Yu Hin, Sampson

Sept 15, 2018

Tour around Ping Che:

A general touch of the villages' physical environment, figured out the local spatial pattern.

Induction of the program, raised three main questions:

1. What is community/social group?
2. What is rural/urban area in Hong Kong?
3. What is community art? What are its functions?



Sept 24, 2018

Mid-Autumn Fire Dragon experience:

Participated in the newly-established festive activity held by non-indigenous inhabitants & social activists.

Understood how it revives rural cultures, connects indigenous and non-indigenous people, and constructs the identity of Ping Che people.



Oct 6, 2018

Sharing talk by external organizers and social activists:

An introduction of the history of the government's planning and the process of empowering locals to resist the biased urban planning.

Understood more about land justice and why/how they tried to actualize the concepts of civil society in Ping Che.



Oct 20, 2018

Guided tour by expert on local agriculture:

A site visit to various kinds of farms (Aquaponics, Hydroponics & Conventional).

Understood agriculture in Ping Che context, including its economic, environmental and social impacts, the difficulties in operation and the functions of farmers' co-op.



Nov 10, 2018

Sharing talk by local farmer and external organizers:

A reflection of the community dynamics.

Learnt from various stakeholders their success, conflicts and difficulties during community building process.



Work in Progress (Spring Term 2019):

To organize a community art festival/
to publish the historical records and
stories of Ping Che community.



Students' Reflections (in Chinese)

今天劉海龍先生的分享，讓我反思農業的角色。我們一向對農業的想像，只停留在傳統、常規的東西，除了經濟效益以外，其他方面我們很少討論。其實農業亦可以作為介入社區的方法，坪輦魚菜共生農場財哥的理念非常有啟發性。

梁恩寧／文化研究四年級

聽到關於蔬菜合作社的作用，我覺得很新鮮（雖然並非預料之外）。也許農村／鄉郊在還未被工業化影響之前，種植、養殖這些基本生產活動之間的彼此協作，是最傳統亦最久遠的「共同體」雛型。之後我希望能進一步探索到，傳統社區協作與現代（如壁畫藝術）社區創造的關係，以及它們內在的發展脈絡。

王澤恩／哲學五年級

（導賞裡）最印象深刻是，我親身明白傾倒建築廢料是甚麼。尤其意識到自己就站在城市的碎片廢墟上時，我反想到香港的現代性問題。

佚名

