



Sustaining China's Villages

Making a Difference to Rural Village Regeneration

13th January - 25th January
11am – 4pm Monday to Saturday

Temporary Contemporary Happening Evening
Thursday 23rd January (5pm - 7:30pm)

Curated by
Adrian Pitts,
Yun Gao
and Ching-Lan Chang

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Introduction

The University of Huddersfield has for a number of years been undertaking collaborative work (both teaching and research) in China. Through this it has established a number of links with universities, research groups, practitioners and other organisations. As a result of these activities, funding was awarded from the Arts and Humanities Research Council in the UK to initiate the 'Sustainable and Creative Villages Research Network – SW China'. This has led to the development of a research alliance with Chinese partners which has considered how to support sustainable redevelopment that is rooted in villages and towns in the southwestern region.

Many villages in this region are located in remote areas and compared with the eastern coastal provinces and urban areas, the relative economic development has been slower, but is being addressed by national policies to support revitalisation of the countryside. At the same time there is a rich cultural accumulation, including the multiculturalism of ethnic minorities, with 30 out of the 55 nationality groups represented in SW China; and colourful dynamic landscapes. These factors provide a rare opportunity to develop and strengthen traditional skills, vernacular design and creative craft industries.

At present, the migration of a large number of rural people to cities has become a well-known phenomenon. From the economic, environmental, and social perspectives, there have been many projects studying urban sustainable development. However, even as the planned urbanization process accelerates, a large number of people (over 500 million) still live in rural areas. The decreasing population, as villagers migrate to cities, has caused imbalances in age and gender, and left a number of dwellings unattended and unmaintained. This situation has affected the sustainable

development of local communities, and is also linked to the loss of traditional construction and handicrafts. One of the problems with current village construction and crafts is that where redevelopment does take place industrially produced materials and unsuitable building technologies have replaced the products and technologies produced by local traditional craft knowledge and skills. It is therefore imperative to understand how to disseminate excellent residential construction experience and information, and optimize it by modern means.

This exhibition displays exemplars of architectural, art and craft work tackling the need for a more sustainable approach to construction and the built environment generally in these villages and towns. This also supports local heritage craft and design skills. They aim to show what is possible, both in terms of buildings that are efficient and have a low ecological impact and in terms of development that aims to make the most of each community's unique nature, heritage and culture. A key focus of the technology of the buildings is for them to be buildable and repairable with local skills whilst offering contemporary levels of comfort and usability. The work presented has been undertaken by a number of universities along with professionals from design practices and other organisations in China collaborating with researchers from the University of Huddersfield.

The organisers hope you enjoy the exhibition and welcome any feedback.

Adrian Pitts, Yun Gao and Ching-Lan Chang
Centre for Urban Design, Architecture and Sustainability (CUDAS)
School of Art Design and Architecture
The University of Huddersfield

TV screen 1 & 2:

These two TV screens show images to illustrate visits and research work undertaken by the Huddersfield team and their collaborators in China. Examples are shown from 4 villages – two on each screen and about 25 images from each village are shown in a rotating loop. These images are used to give visitors some varied impressions of what the buildings and local life is like in a range of villages found in SW China.

Further information on the villages:

Dahuang Village

This village was visited by the Huddersfield Team (along with network members) to participate in an investigation and design workshop with local village leaders. The village is in need of renovation with many old buildings and it has also been designated to absorb residents of another village who are being moved to make way for expanding tourist facilities.

The team visited several older properties and worked with residents on potential designs.

Gaodang Village

This village was visited by the Huddersfield Team with network collaborators to see the changes made when the village was turned into a tourist attraction. New modern apartments were built outside the old village for residents and buildings in the village renovated to provide a good visitor experience and a visitor centre built. Visitors are taken by electric buggy from the car park to the village entrance, or they can walk along the river.

Damoyu Village

This village has been visited several times by the Huddersfield Team and collaborators have been involved in its renovation. The village had experienced a loss of population due to migration to the nearby large city of Kunming; it is now being partly re-developed with some new artisan inward migrants.

Some of the styles of houses seem to ignore energy efficient and sustainable design but others are being rebuilt in traditional ways.

Manzhang Village

This village has been visited several times by the Huddersfield Team alongside staff from the local Architecture and Planning Institute. The village is in the heart of the Dai Ethnic area of Xishuangbanna (a popular tourist destination for people from across China). It already has a number of tourist facilities and a number of houses have been renovated. Many of the new style houses could be better designed for sustainability, and an interesting 'hybrid' design is evolving.

TV screen 3:

The University of Huddersfield Team have been sponsored by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to lead a research network in SW China.

This TV screen shows a series of images that relate to the 7 Symposia and Workshops that the University of Huddersfield Team have organised as part of the network over the last 2 years.

Some of the images are from the formal events and some are from visits to local village projects.

List of contributors

Sustainable Design of Dwellings in Rural Southwest China – a Guide to Improving Environmental Conditions and Performance

Adrian Pitts, Yun Gao, University of Huddersfield

An Investigation of The Construction of Small Towns Based on The Sense of Belonging — A Case Study of Chongqing

Dong Lili, Wang Wei, Chongqing Jiaotong University

Gou Hanmei, Chongqing Vocational College of Civil Engineering and Architecture

Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Demonstration Project of Guangming Village

Wan Li, Chi Xinnan, Ng Edward, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Wenfeng Bai, Kunming University of Science and Technology

Conceptual Planning and Design of Chenggong Old Town in Kunming, Yunnan

Li Weibing, Wang Rui, Yunnan Arts University

Conservation and Development of Wengding Village in Yunnan

Li Weibing, Yunnan Arts University

Regeneration of Rural Settlements: Practice in Yang-Fan Village, Henan Province, China

Liao Hanwen, Zhang Jian, Beijing University of Technology

Leju Village Visitor Center And Village Construction Demonstration Project

Yang Nan, Chen Bing, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Bai Wenfeng, Xiao Jing, Kunming University of Science and Technology

The Reproduction of Hani Traditional Residences in Contemporary Times — taking the design of Azeke homestay hotel as an example

Chen Xin, Yunnan Arts University

Self-Construction and Update — A Case of The Rongjiang Village

Kong Derong, Tsinghua University

Tian Chi Miaowang Village Planning in Wulong

Chang Mao, Zhong Ye Sai Di Engineering Technology

Tourist Center Design of Hegai Scenic Spot

Yu Shui, Chongqing Design Institute

Exploration of Rural Revitalization Planning of Santuo Village, Anping Town, Fengjie County, Chongqing

Liu Chang, Chongqing Jiaotong University

The Village of Haiyan In Dayu Street of Chenggong District, Kunming City, Yunnan Province

Zou Zhou, Yunnan Arts University

Ba-Yu Hostels in Xingtian Village, Chengkou County, Chongqing

Xue Feng, Ni Lan, Yang Zhan, Wang Junmei, Liao Yi

Renovation & Development of Kajiping Village, Xinglong Town, Fengjie County

Jiulu (Beijing) Urban Planning Consulting Co., Ltd

Beautiful Village Construction in Zhongguancun Zunyi City, Guizhou Province

Fu Yingbin, Zhang Haoran, Yan Lu, Liu Yang, Fu Yingbin Studio

Rural House Design in Ancient Villages in Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province

Jiang Yu, Soochow University Jintanglang Construction and Environmental College; Huang Di, Suzhou University
Yang Nan, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Contemporary Bamboo Space Practice

Yang Baoxin, Suzhou University

Youyang County Youyang Kong Huxi Village Tujia Residential Renovation

Liu Yihao, Chongqing Jiaotong University

Cangdonglu Residential Yunnan Dali Township Construction Practice

Bai Haowen, Haobai Design Studio

Rural Revitalization Project of Buyi Village in Gui Yang

Ding Yangyang, Qian Kezhen, Zhuo Yingfei, Xu Zhuo, Fu Fuchen
Liu Zixuan, Chen Bing, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Manwu · Lanqing Resort Hotel in Dali

IDO Yuanxiang Architecture; CAS Qianmai Design;
Chongqing Hexin Architectural Design Institute

Rural Traditional Industrial Culture and Creative Town Planning Strategy — A Case Study of Nakoli Tea Horse Station

You Juanjuan, China Architectural Design & Research Institute

Xu Ke, Chongqing Jiaotong University

Cui Zhiheng, Chongqing Tianhua Architectural Design

Practice Project of Primary Schools in Rural Sichuan

Xiao Yiqiang, South China University of Technology

Guangzhou Dongyi Architectural Design Consultancy

Cultivation of Innovative Talents of Traditional Metal Crafts in Yunnan

Yang Jingsong, Wu Qian, Yang Zhichen, Zhu Haiting, Li Yuezhou, Li Bi, Zhang Lei, Zhao Qi, Wang Xiaoxiao, Liu Haiqing, Wang Xinbo, Wu Wei, yang Liu, Yang Weidong, Xie Yan, Su Yani, Lu Yong, Guan Fengxin, Zhang Linhuan, Zhao Li, Wang Kairong

Collaborating Universities Joint final exhibition

Chongqing Jiaotong University

Tutors: Wei Xiao, Zhou Yi, Luo Rongrong

Yunnan Arts University

Tutor: Chen Xin

Guizhou Minzu University

Tutors: He Lin, Chen Mei, Xiong Yuan, Niu Wenjing

Guangxi Arts University

Tutors: Yu Panliang, Gan Ping, Du Taiyang, Yu Yong, Mo Fujian, Tu Zhaoquan, Jia Siyi, Bian Jichen

Acknowledgements

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