

Hakka Heritage 1: to all interested in Hakka history, culture & architecture 1/2
Eryi Lou, Dadi Village, Xiandu Town, Hu'an County, Fujian jdo © Feb. 24/11



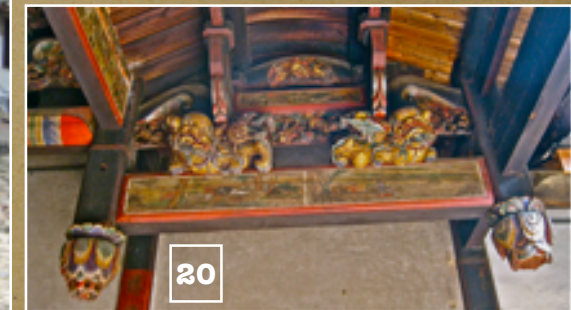
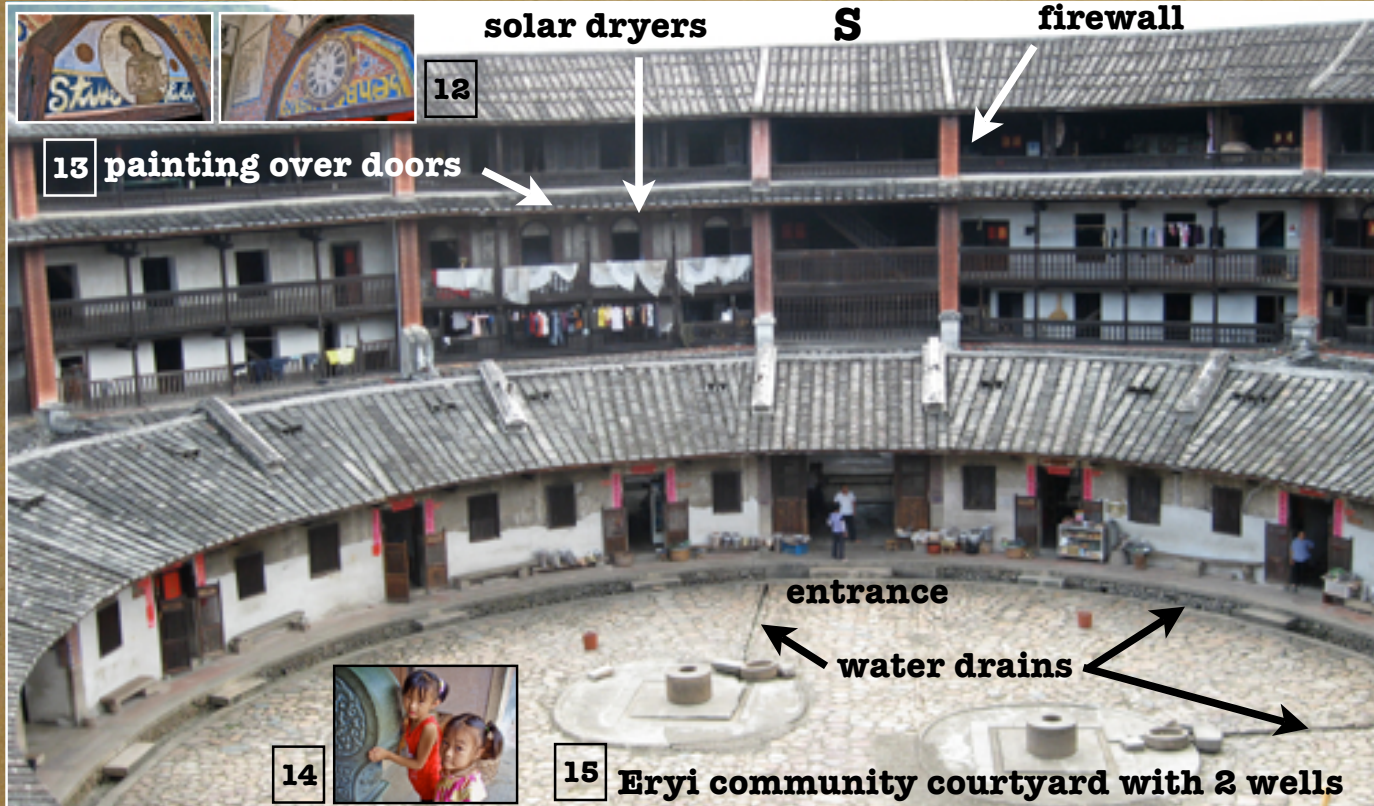
FACTS: Eryi Tulou: international Hakka BioSphere & Trail, sustainable historical villages in south China Jorg Ostrowski © Feb. 24, 2011

- ~70/142 km from Zhangzhou/Xiamen⁷ "King of Round Tulou"^{1,2,7}, "No. 1 (Tulou¹) Round Building in China"^{6,10}, "Round Building Treasure"¹⁰, "National Treasure"⁶
- built by Jiang clan, 1740-1770 AD^{1,5} (Qing dynasty^{1,2,7,10}), good Feng Shui¹⁰ in peaceful valley, facing south (without river), hills behind. Nanyang nearby
- **Specs:** 9,300m², 73.4m id ø^{2,5,6}, outer/inner rings - 4/1 stories^{1,2}, 3m H stone foundation, 13m H 2.53-1.8m W (1-3 floors) rammed earth wall^{1,2,5}
- **Plan:** defence: thick walls, 1 gate, 4th floor windows, rock-throwing opening above gate (FF 4, 5, 11), fire extinguisher, metal cover over doors
 residential: 12 stacked townhouses @ private courtyard, stairs, shared fire walls. 213 rooms¹, wood/earth floors, Ancestral (+other) Hall(s) (F19) on 4th floor¹⁰
- no usual interior corridor overlooking courtyard, but 1-1.5 m W^{1,2,5,10} hidden passage/escape corridor (FF 17, 18) on 4th floor for daylight & rifle holes

CONCLUSIONS: based on site visit, interviews, survey sheets, sleep over, hillside hikes & further research

- **Grand:** unusual in: huge size, simplicity, excellent condition & lived-in authenticity (Note, Shenyuan lou, Gaobei Cluster, has 70m od ø⁴),
- **Design:** different to most tulous, thick defensive walls, 1 gate, escape corridor; open community courtyard with 2 wells; private units & courtyards, private stairs, rooms/balconies overlooking courtyards; firewalls between units extending over the roof (FF 8, 15), in harmony with nature^{2,7,10}
- **Acoustics:** several openings in exterior walls² (FF 6, 7) & outstanding courtyard acoustics
- **Art:** 226 murals (593m²) (F 19)^{1,2}, 228 paintings (99m²)^{1,2} over doors (F 19), yet no usual mural around Gate, decorated beans & rafters (F 20)

- **Sustainability:** local food, rammed earth & wood, south orientation 2/2
- **other:** solar clothes/vegetable dryers, daylight, sheltered & safe playground



References: this postcard will reside at <http://www.HakkaHeritage.com>, Note: site sign same as # 1.

- 1) *Brief Introduction to Eryi Lou*, <http://www.chinavtour.com/china/news/view/965>
- 2) Wang Fu Ping, *A History of Tulou Buildings*, Haifeng, 2008, pp. 116-121
- 3) Ye Enzhong, ed., He Baoguo, *Fujian's Earthen Buildings*, 2010, pp. 196-207
- 4) *Fujian Tulou*, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fujian_Tulou#Eryilou
- 5) He Baoguo, *Home Is Where the Heart Is - A Guide to the Earthen Buildings*, Haichao, 2008, pp. 87-95
- 6) *Plans 2008 - China Fujian Hakka Tulou, - General*, <http://ihavetravellust.blogspot.com/2008/07/plans-2008-china-fujian-hakka-tulou.html>
- 7) *Dadi Tulou Cluster*, http://www.whatsonxiamen.com/travel_msg.php?titleid=1204
- 8) *Visiting Hua'an Dadi Tulou Cluster*, http://www.appletravel.cn/holidays/travel_info.php?id=37
- 9) *Eryilou*, <http://www.discoverfujian.com/TulouHighlights-1.asp?id=189>
- 10) *Eryi Lou*, <http://www.3dtourchina.com/dest/scenic/3489-209>

Notes/Site/Info/Recomendations: authentic, living, grand, rare, ingenious, defensive Hakka Tulou “treasure” 1, 2, 6

- 1) **Note:** research indicates much confusion about area & diameter. If the area = 9,300 m², then the outside \varnothing = 108.8m (this needs to be verified)
- 2) **Site:** hike up closest mountain side to see tulou from above & truly appreciate context, Feng Shui & orientation. Bring binoculars.
- 3) **Information:** ¥ 30/15 A/S fee ¹⁰ Few visitors. No crass tourist traps at the site, although ugly shopping plaza nearby.
- 4) **Recommendation:** Site should be included in UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stay overnight to better experience & understand people, culture & architecture

• ACE+ASH-Incs. Calgary Alberta Canada: sustainable design/consulting, <http://www.SustainableChina.net>, <jdo@ecobuildings.net>