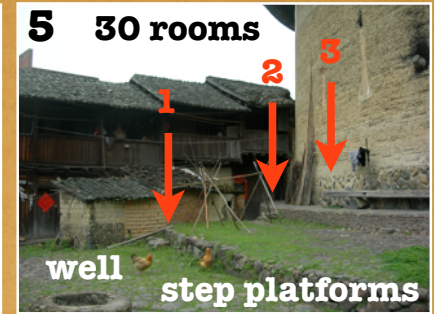
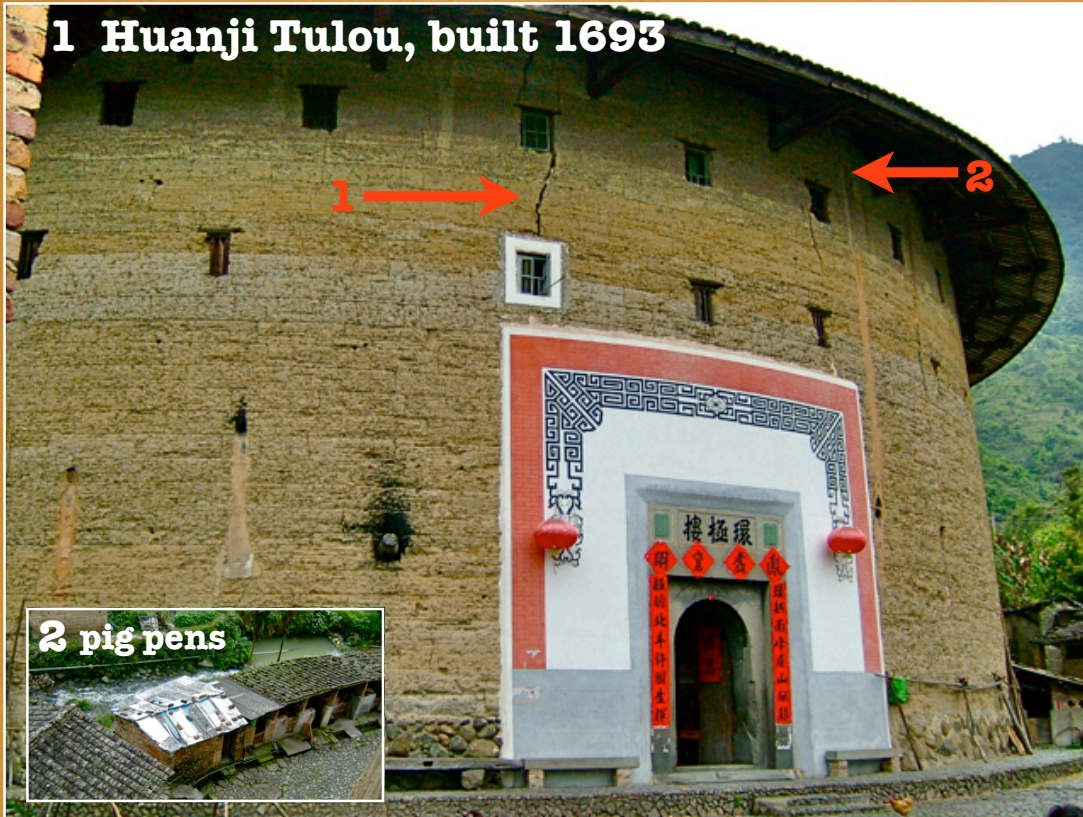


Hakka Heritage 10: to all interested in Hakka culture, history & Ecotecture 1/2
Huanji Lou, Nanjing village, Hukeng Town, Yongding, Fujian, jdo © March 12/11



FACTS on Huanji lou: part of a sustainable **Hakka BioSphere+Trail**, J. Ostrowski/M. Ueda © March 12, 2011

- ~ 190 km east of Xiamen, Huanji lou ("superior circle"⁶), is an intermediate-size round tulou, facing south, on its own.
- **Specs:** Huanji lou was built in 1693^{2,3} (Qing dynasty⁵) by Su clan². 43.2 m ϕ ^{1,2}, ~ 4,800 m² (?)². Outer ring: 4 story, 20 (?) m high¹ rammed earth wall (FF 1, 6, 7). Ground floor: 32 rooms rammed earth/wood. Inner ring: 1-story brick, 12 guest rooms & 2 halls¹
- Total rooms: ~150. A 2-story adjacent building (F 5) flanks Huanji lou with another 30 rooms, probably to house tobacco workers.
- 4 unique aspects: 1) excellent acoustics in centre of courtyard (FF 17-18), 2) Ancestral Hall outside of (north side) of courtyard (FF 19, 20), and survival of: 3) 1918 6.2 earthquake (see cracks FF 1, 6), 4) Kuomintang bombing attack in 1940s⁵

• **Conclusions:** based on 2 visits, notes & further research

- 1) **Capacity:** if Chengji lou's 400 rooms could house 600 people → Huanji lou's ~150 rooms could house ~225 persons
- 2) **Myths:** brown sugar/glutinous rice not used in walls, crack did not self-heal⁴, area based on ϕ given, & height are wrong
- 3) **Acoustics:** this tulou excels in acoustics (based on experience), as does Eyri lou (but much larger at 108m ϕ)

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Sustainability: local rammed earth/wood, durability, acoustics **Huanji 2/2**
 • wise land use/high density/courtyard/community living+shared amenities



References: this PostCard/PlaceMat will reside at <http://www.HakkaHeritage.com>,

- 1) He Baoguo, *Home Is Where the Heart Is*, Haichao, 2008, p 22
- 2) Wang Fu Ping, *A History of the Tulou Buildings*, Haifeng, 2008, pp 64-67
- 3) Ye Enzhong, ed., He Baoguo, *Fujian's Earthen Buildings*, Beijing, 2009, pp 62-63
- 4) *Myths & Secrets of Hakka Round Houses*, http://www.whatsonxiamen.com/travel_msg.php?titleid=339&traveltype=Fujian%20Travel
- 5) <http://www.pixieadventures.com/product/?prodid=44>
- 6) site sign (in Chinese)

Notes/Quotes/Site/Info/Recomendations: the acoustics are unique for Yongding county

- 1) **Note:** a medium sized, 318-year old tulou, famous for its 6.2 earthquake crack & acoustics in the center of the courtyard
- 2) **Quote:** "Anti-seismic Huge Castle" (postcard), "most mysterious"³, "impious" (no Ancestral Hall in courtyard)¹
- 3) **Site:** round tulous: Yanxiang & Zhenfu, ruined walls of burned & rectangular tulou, Liben, are also located in Hukeng¹
- 4) **Information:** no information at this time
- 5) **Recommendation:** not worthy as special trip for this tulou alone, but in conjunction with others, one day will suffice
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