

Hakka Heritage 9: to all interested in Hakka culture, history & architecture 1/2
Jiqing Lou, Chuxi village, Xiayang Town, Yongding, Fujian, jdo © March 9/11



FACTS on Jiqing: part of a sustainable **Hakka BioSphere+Trail**, J. Ostrowski/M. Ueda © March 9, 2011

- ~ 190 km east of Xiamen, Chuxi is a 14.72 ha UNESCO World Heritage site ^{1a}, with 5 round & 4 square tulous on north slope
- **Specs:** Jiqing lou was built 1403-1424 (Ming dynasty) ^{1b, 3, 4} by Xu clan ², 66 m ø ^{2, 5}. Area = 2,826 m² ^{2, 5}. Outer ring: 4 story, 2 m wide ^{2, 3} rammed earth wall (FF 1-6). Ground floor: 53 rooms, upper floors @ 56 rooms ⁵. 1 stairway @ 72 units ^{2, 4}. Inner ring: 1-story ^{3, 4} 26 rooms of brick & wood ⁵. Total rooms: 247. Design is based on traditional Chinese Feng Shui ³ (8 Trigrams). No nails used ³. Similar in design concept to Eryi & Shengwu tulous by providing both private & common space ². Front gate leads to entrance hall, to open patio, inner ring, passage, courtyard, Ancestral Hall & backyard. Ground: Kitchen/Dining; 2nd: barns; 3rd: living rooms, 4th: bedrooms ³

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

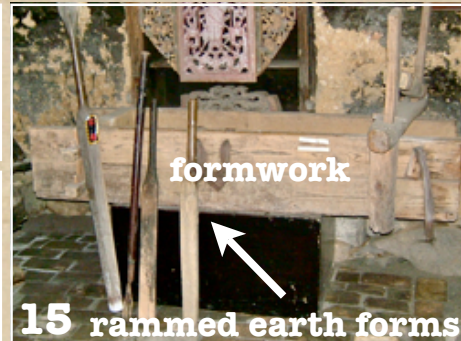
Lat: 24° 33' 00", Long: 116° 53' 58" ^{1a}

- 1) **capacity:** Chengji lou: 400 rooms/66m ø/5,376 m² for 600 persons → **Jiqing** lou 250 rooms/66m ø/2,826 m² = ~320 persons
- 2) **changes:** from no stone foundation to pebble veneer, inner corridor to open gallery (F 8-11) & 1 to 72 stairs (in 1744)
- 3) **defence features:** 9 wooden watch stands ² (FF 1-6), hidden rear escape stairs to secret hole in wall (at back) ⁵

• ACE+ASH-Incs., <http://www.HakkaHeritage.com>, <jorg@HakkaHeritage.com>



- **Sustainability:** local rammed earth/wood, self-sufficiency **Jiqing 2/2**
- wise land use/high density/courtyard/community living+shared amenities



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

- 1) UNESCO, a) http://whc.unesco.org/download.cfm?id_document=101073 4) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fujian_Tulou
 b) http://whc.unesco.org/archive/advisory_body_evaluation/1113.pdf 5) <http://www.ydtu.com/EarthBuilding/Jiqing-Lou.asp>
- 2) Wang Fu Ping, *A History of the Tulou Buildings*, Haifeng, 2008, pp 77-81
- 3) *Hakka Legends*, http://www.whatsonxiamen.com/travel_msg.php?titleid=444&traveltype=Travel%20in%20Xiamen

Notes/Site/Info/Recomendations: worth visiting with 9 UNESCO tulous, 5 round, 4 square

- 1) **Note:** a large unusual 587-year old, defensive tulou that underwent significant physical changes through the years
- 2) **Quote:** "This one Hakka Tulou can house a small community"³, "disobedient building" (rules not followed)²
- 3) **Site:** 5 round tulous: Jiqing, Gengqing, Yuqing, Fuqing & Shanqing; 4 square tulous: Shengqing, Fangqing, Gongqing & Xiqing
- 4) **Information:** ¥70/¥35 Rammed earth forms & natural ingredients are displayed in museum (FF 13-15).
- 5) **Recommendation:** Stay for week. Hike in surrounding hills overlooking site. Bring binoculars.

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