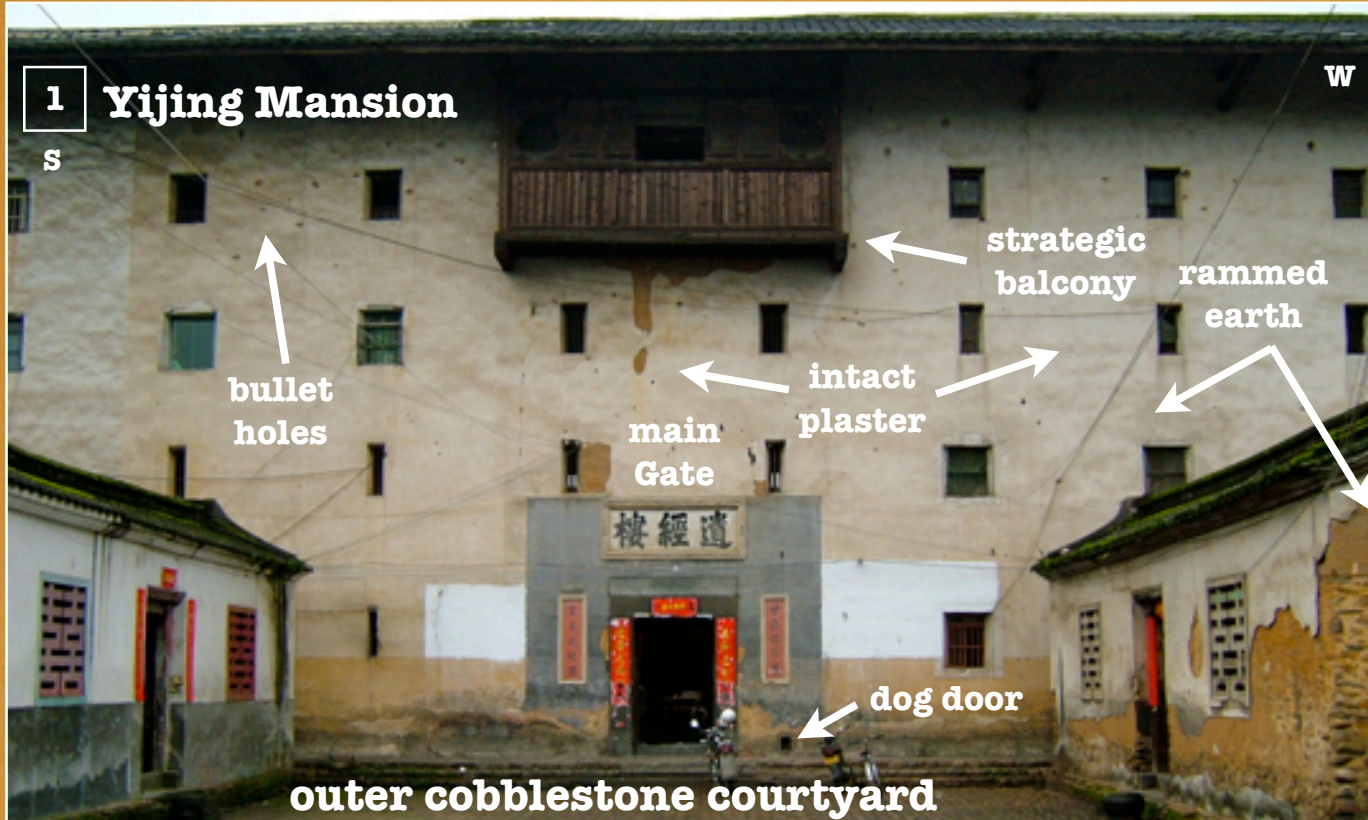


Hakka Heritage 2: to all interested in Hakka history, culture & architecture 1/2
Yijing Manor, Shangyang Village, Gaopi Town, Yongding, Fujian jdo © Feb. 27/11



FACTS on Yijing: Hakka BioSphere+Trail, sustainable historical villages in south China Jorg Ostrowski © Feb. 27, 2011

- ~ 150 km NW of Xiamen, "The Yijing building includes a garden, a fish pond, ... a place for grinding rice,...everything needed for life"¹, "It comprises 3, 5-story square buildings, in the front, center and back, and 2 4-story square buildings on the left and right. It is either one huge earthen building or a spectacular group of earthen buildings"^{1,2}; built by Chen clan, 1806-1876 AD¹ (Qing dynasty) for 700 residents³; facing NE³; military siege in 1930s left bullet holes in wall (FF 1, 8)¹; 5 Phoenix style Mansion: outer courtyard with schools (FF 1-3), inner courtyard with Ancestral Hall & breezeways (FF 4, 13, 14)
- **Specs:** land area^{1,2}: 10,336m²; Length: 136m east-west; Width: 76m (north-south); Height: 6 stories (FF 1, 9, 13, 14); 17m high rammed earth wall^{1,2}, 1.1m thick³ (F11); few wood wall partitions; 400 rooms, 24 halls^{1,2}; 2-story schools on 2 sides of outer courtyard with narrow walled yard¹; 3 light wells

CONCLUSIONS: based on-site, neighbourhood tours, overnight stay, interviews, plan analysis & book/internet research

- **Unique aspects of complex:** size, height, graduated massing, single/family arrangements/stairs; interior rammed room firewalls; self-sufficiency; slatted wood corridors overlooking inner courtyard on 3 sides; **details** such as clothes hangers below windows, brick floors (fire barrier) (F 11); fire extinguisher; greywater system & 2 drinking water (wells) still working (F 15); whitewash veneer still intact (rare); **Art:** few paintings/rafter carvings left (FF 5, 12)
- ACE+ASH-Incs. Calgary Alberta Canada: sustainable design/consulting, <http://www.SustainableChina.net>, <jdo@ecobuildings.net>

- **Sustainability:** garden, pond, rammed earth, wood, self-sufficiency 2/2
- **other:** few residents left, school, plants make courtyard beautiful



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

- 1) He Baoguo, *Home Is Where the Heart Is - A Guide to the Earthen Buildings*, Haichao, 2008, pp 19-21
- 2) Ye Enzhong, ed., He Baoguo, *Fujian's Earthen Buildings*, Beijing, 2009, pp 98-103
- 3) Kentaro Okada, "Hakka Enro" *Ryokojin Ultra Guide*, Ryokojin, Tokyo, June 2004, pp 56-57 (in Japanese)
- 4) Wang Fu Ping, *A History of Tulou Buildings*, Haifeng, 2008, p 14

Notes/Site/Info/Recomendations: "one of the biggest [Hakka] buildings"³

- 1) **Note:** 136m x 76m = 10,336 m² (including 2 courtyards). This is 1 building, not 3^{1,2} (see page 1)
- 2) **Site:** walk around area to see similar structures. View Yijing from nearby Xibei Tian Hougong Temple.
- 3) **Information:** Stay overnight to experience & understand people, life, culture & architecture. We did.
- 4) **Recommendation:** should be part of UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bring binoculars.

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

