

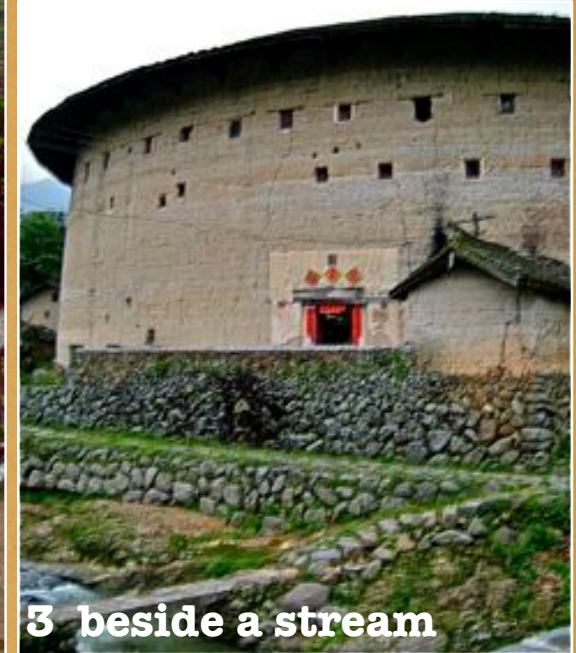
Hakka Heritage 6: to all interested in **Hakka** history, culture & architecture 1/2
Yuchang, Xiaban village, Shuyang district, Nanjing Fujian jdo © March 4/11



1 Yuchang Tulou



2



3 beside a stream

FACTS on Yuchang: sustainable Hakka BioSphere+Trail, J. Ostrowski/M. Ueda © March 4, 2011

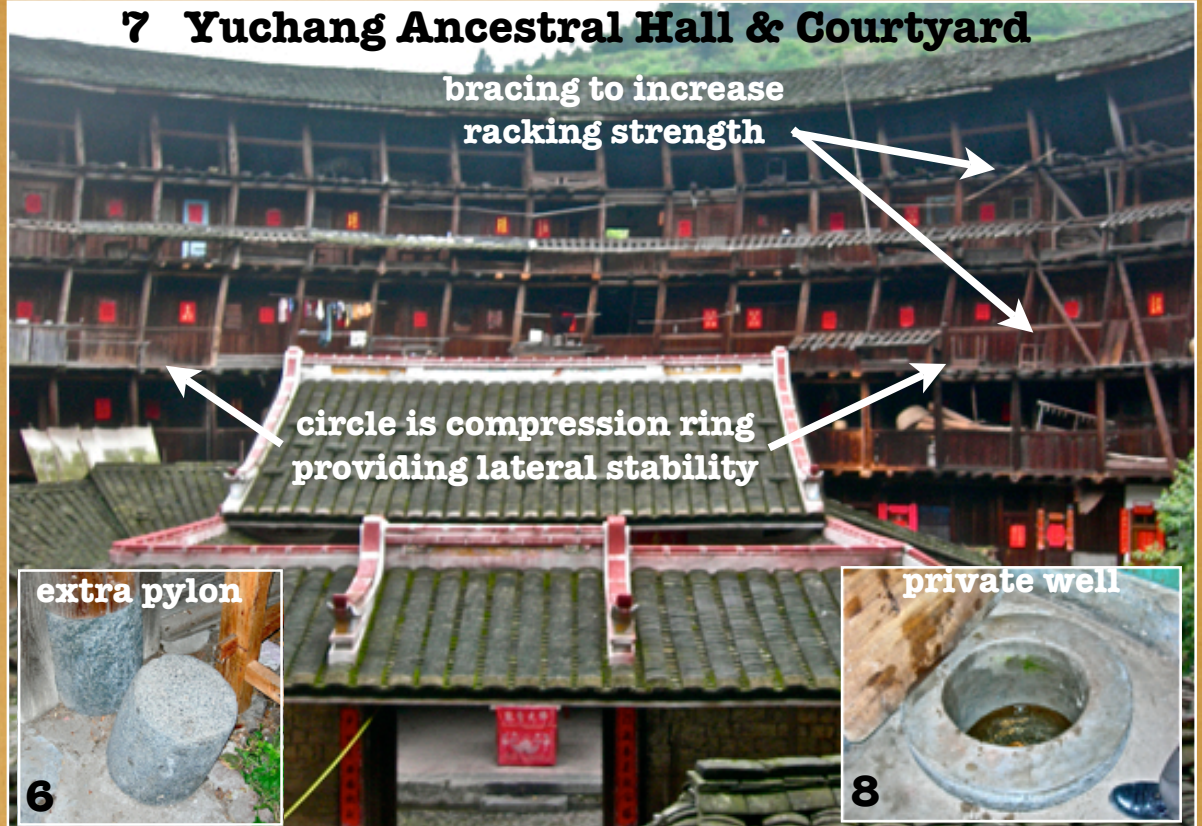
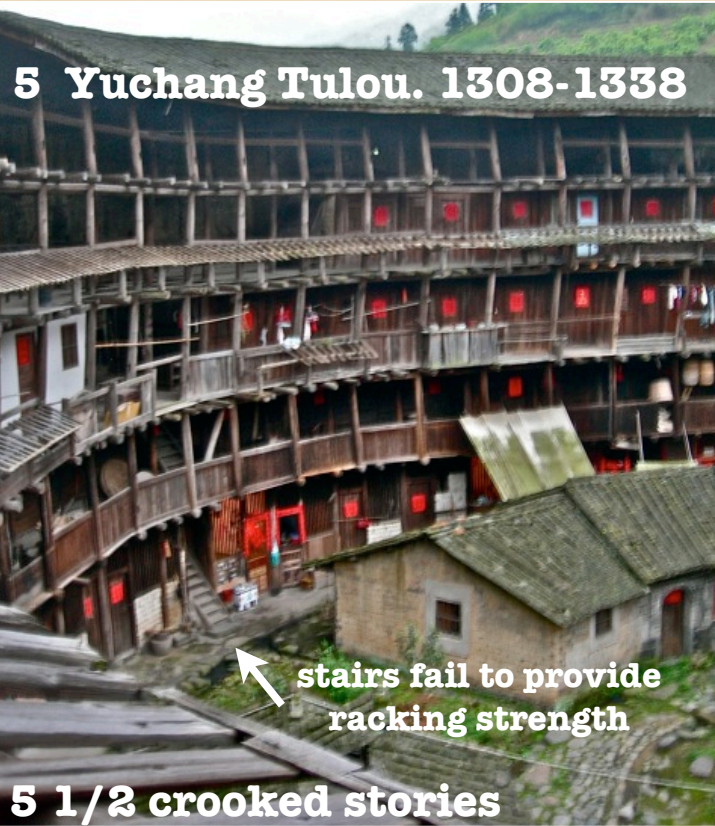
- ~ 4 km from Tianluokeng ², Hekeng Cluster, a UNESCO World Heritage site includes 6 round tulous: **Yuchang**, Yuxing, Chungui, Yongqing, Xiaochun, Dongsheng & 7 square ones: Yangzhao, Yonggui, Chaoshui, Yongrong, Yonsheng, Nanxun, Shengqing ⁵, Yuchang was built by Liu, Luo, Zhang, Tag & Fan clans, 1308-1338 ^{2,3} (Yuan dynasty). It is the oldest tulou in Nanjing County ¹
- **Specs:** 5 stories@54 rooms ^{2,3} = 270, 2 rings: outer ring is 36m id (courtyard od?), 1-story inner ring was dismantled in 2003 ¹ structural posts are off centre by <math><15^{\circ}</math> ^{2,3} (F 6), yet structure has withstood 673 years of live and dead loads, including snow, wind & earthquakes. It is 21.6 m high (Hegui lou is 21.5m ⁴), 5 stairs, \perp not // to circle, do not contribute to lateral bracing, but serve @ of 5 vertical family units ^{2,3}. Only Liu clan lived here in 2009 ³. Each kitchen has a private well ^{1,2}, unique amongst tulous (F 8, 9).
- **Conclusions:** based on 1 visit, talking to locals, taking notes & further research Lat: 24° 39' 05", Long: 117° 03' 05"
 - 1) Canadian inspectors would have condemned this structure as unsafe for each of its 673 years. They would all be wrong.
 - 2) combined structure of circular earth wall + wood gallery provide lateral stability. Stairs could have been used as diaphragms.
 - 3) vernacular architecture (*Architecture without Architects*) has triumphed once again to teach the proud & educated.

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



4

• **Idiosyncrasies:** 673 years old, crooked structure, 1 well/kitchen, 5 clans/stairs/flats, 21.6 m height 2/2



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

- 1) *Fujian Tulou*, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fujian_Tulou
- 2) He Baoguo, *Home Is Where the Heart Is - A Guide to the Earthen Buildings*, Haichao, 2008, pp 35-59
- 3) Ye Enzhong, ed., He Baoguo, *Fujian's Earthen Buildings*, Beijing, 2009, pp 140-143
- 4) *Mystical Hakka Tulou*, http://en.fjta.com/FJTIS/FL/Top10FamousTour/Top10FamousTourShow.aspx?ID=7&mt_id=8

Notes/Quotes/Site/Info/Recomendations: “the tilted building”⁴ & one of the tallest

- 1) **Note:** it is unique as a structural anomaly, and in its age, height, many wells & multi-clan cooperative misadventure
- 2) **Quotes:** “dilapidated (postcard), “Zigzag”¹, “tottering”³, “tilted”³, building
- 3) **Site:** it is adjacent to the Qujiangxi River. There are another 12 tulous in the area⁵
- 4) **Information:** included in ¥100/¥50 Tianluokeng ticket. Stay overnight to appreciate people & culture, life & architecture.
- 5) **Recommendation:** Avoid another “Disneyland” as some tourists now complain. Keep irrelevant trinkets away.

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

