

# Study on the Protection Strategy of Red Buildings in Nanjiang River Basin of Guangdong Province

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**Abstract.** A large number of red buildings constitute an important part of the red culture in Nanjiang River Basin, which is of great significance in preserving historical memory, inheriting red genes and assisting rural revitalization. It is necessary to discuss how to protect these red buildings. It is an effective protection and inheritance strategy to focus on grading, sorting out original materials and digital protection, which can provides reference for the protection of red buildings in this basin and other areas.

**Keywords:** Red gene  $\cdot$  Protection and inheritance  $\cdot$  Rural revitalization  $\cdot$  Digitalization

# 1 Preface

The red culture "refers to the sum of all kinds of materials and spiritual wealth created by the people of all nationalities, ranks and classes in China in the two fundamental historical tasks of striving for national independence, people's liberation and realizing the prosperity of the country, that is, the modernization of the national economy" [1]. For the Nanjiang River Basin, it is often difficult to divide the red cultural resources into material or spiritual ones, but the material and spirit are intertwined, among which the most representative is the red buildings. Have gone far beyond the scope of material wealth and have very rich spiritual implications. They are witnesses and recorders of the people in Nanjiang River Basin in the process of pursuing national independence, people's liberation and a better life, with extremely high historical value and practical significance. However, due to the influence of many factors, many red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin have been damaged to a certain extent. The situation is not optimistic. People need to protect and repair them in time, to ensure their role in inheriting red genes, guaranteeing people's production and life and promoting social progress. The following discusses the present situation, significance and protection strategy of the red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin, in order to provide more reasonable protection suggestions and provide reference for the protection and inheritance of red culture in other areas and other aspects.

### 2 Classification and Status

## 2.1 Classification

There are a large number of red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin. According to the functions of these buildings, they are classified into three categories: residential buildings, memorial buildings and productive buildings.

**Residential Buildings.** The residential buildings in the red cultural relics of Nanjiang River Basin mainly refer to the places where those people lived and worked, who have made outstanding contributions to national independence and people's liberation, i.e., the former residences of celebrities and the former sites of institutions. There are two kinds of representative former residences of celebrities in Nanjiang River Basin, which contain red cultural genes: one is the former residence for those who contributed their strength and even life to the Anti-Japanese War, e.g. Cai Tingkai, Chen Zhang, Qu Shounian, Tan Qixiu and Cai Chaokun etc.; the other is the former residence for those who contributed their lives to people's liberation, e.g. Deng Fa, Li Wan, Liang Guihua and Tan Qijing, etc. Organization former site (The reason why it is also included in the residential building is that these institutions often borrow residential houses and often undertake residential functions while working), is also the former site of anti-Japanese institutions and early institutions of the Communist Party. The followings are representative ones: the former site of Sanluo People's Anti-Japanese Headquarters (Luoding Luocheng Pengjia Temple), the former site of the headquarters of the Fourth Detachment of the Central Guangdong Column (Luoding Silun Nanmudong Tongtai Business Center), the former site of the People's Government of Yunfu County (Huang Shanchu House, Yunan Fulin Boundary Stone), the former site of the CPC Yunbei District Committee (Yang Rongchang Hall, Yunan Duyang, former residence of Yu Weiquan, former secretary of the special branch of Yunfu County of the Communist Party of China), etc. Interestingly, Rongchang Hall is not only the former site of the institution but also the former residence of celebrities.

Monumental Buildings. The monumental buildings in the red cultural sites in Nanjiang River Basin are mainly buildings and their appendages set up to commemorate the major events and important figures in the process of anti-Japanese war, liberation and the construction of New China. They can also be subdivided into several sub-categories: battle activity sites, martyrs 'cemeteries and monuments. Some representative battle activity sites include Yunan "April 18" armed uprising site and Fulin battle site (Memorial Pavilion), Lianzhou Battle Site (Memorial Park), and Martyrs Cemetery and Monument all over the country.

**Production-Oriented Buildings.** The production-oriented buildings in the Red Cultural Relics of Nanjiang River Basin are mainly a large number of water conservancy projects built by the local people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China after the founding of New China in order to solve the limitation of agricultural production due to the special geographical environment and climate characteristics of Nanjiang River Basin. Among them, the water diversion aqueducts and canals of different sizes are scattered all over the Nanjiang River Basin, mainly known as "South China Red Flag Canal", including Luoding Changgangpo Aqueduct, Yun 'an Baishi Canal, Luoding

Chuanbu Dongshuikeng anti-siphon pipe, etc. These representative water conservancy projects, which are completed by the local people under the leadership of the Communist Party by making full use of scientific knowledge and technology and relying on the strength of the masses, fully embodying the spirit and wisdom of the local people under the leadership of the Communist Party to fight against nature in pursuit of a better life.

#### 2.2 Current Situation

Compared with the current situation of serious damage to ordinary ancient residential buildings, the protection of red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin started earlier and the government invested more funds, manpower and material resources, so the overall situation is better. However, even so, there is considerable damage to red buildings, such as Xieyuan (Tan Qixiu's residence) located in Longtougang, North District, Luocheng Town, Luoding. Tan Qixiu was the commander and position commander of Wusong Fortress in 1932, and the 78th Division Deputy Commander of the 19th Route Army. Now there is only a relatively complete outer wall in Xieyuan, and the interior has collapsed. In addition, the railings of Changgangpo Aqueduct located in Luoping Town, Luoding, have been severely damaged. Other parts can only be protected by reconstruction, such as the former residence of Martyr Liang Guihua located in Sankeng, Silao Town, Yuncheng (because the original building is rammed earth structure, which has collapsed for a long time, but now it is reconstructed), and the former residence of Martyr Li Wan in the heart of Silao Road, Yuncheng, has also collapsed and has been reconstructed.

# 3 Significance and Principles of Protection

Red culture plays an important role in the independence and liberation of the Chinese nation and the construction and development of various social undertakings in New China. It needs to be protected and inherited. For Nanjiang River Basin, the red buildings in physical form contain rich spiritual and cultural contents, which is of great significance for preserving and protecting historical memory, inheriting red culture, assisting rural revitalization, guaranteeing people's life and production, etc., which requires the joint efforts, economic input and targeted protection.

# 3.1 Significance

**Preserve and Protect Historical Memory.** The red building is one of the places and achievement forms of people's living and activities in the process of pursuing national independence and people's liberation, national prosperity and modernization. It records and preserves the deeds, activities and spiritual life of the characters related to it in the form of physical state. It is the witness and recorder of historical figures and historical events. The red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin are the materialized forms in which the local people contribute to the country and the nation and struggle against nature for a better life under the leadership of the Communist Party. They witness the surging social struggle and transformation in Nanjiang River Basin and record the changes of various

undertakings in social life in Nanjiang River Basin. They are an important part of the history of Nanjiang River Basin. Their protection is to preserve and protect the historical memory of the region.

**Protect and Inherit the Red Gene.** As far as Nanjiang River Basin is concerned, the spiritual connotation of red culture contained in red architecture has the same universality as that of other red cultures, such as "the unity of class and science, the unity of revolution and advancement, the unity of practicality and people, the unity of nationality and internationalization, the unity of inheritance and innovation, the unity of eclecticism and keeping pace with the times" [2], which is considered by some scholars. It also has some characteristics of its own. Specifically, it can be simply summarized into three points: First, the patriotic spirit represented by Cai Tingkai and others, with the spirit of the rise and fall of the world and the responsibility of every man, devoted themselves to the cause of national independence, people's liberation and national prosperity. The second is the selfless revolutionary dedication and heroic struggle spirit represented by Deng Fa and others, who selflessly devoted themselves to China's revolution and socialist construction. The third is the spirit of hard struggle and scientific spirit represented by Changgangpo, etc. The water conservancy projects such as Changgangpo embody the hard struggle of the people in Nanjiang River Basin under the leadership of the Communist Party and the rigorous scientific attitude in the process of struggle. These connotations are not independent but mutual influence and integration, which is an important part of the spiritual connotation of red culture in Nanjiang River Basin. The protection of red buildings is conducive to providing spatial form proof for the inheritance of red genes, and is conducive to giving full play to the education and encouragement of red culture.

Assist Rural Poverty Alleviation and Rural Revitalization. (1) Economically, the buildings as red cultural relics are an important part of Nanjiang culture. Under the cultural background of cultivating and practicing socialist core values and the economic policy of vigorously developing tourism in the whole region and rural tourism, these red buildings mostly located in rural areas have also become important cultural tourism resources in Nanjiang River Basin, protecting red buildings and ancient residential buildings. Protection, beautiful rural construction, folk custom development, etc. are combined. Jointly promote the development of rural tourism, generate income for rural farmers, and help rural farmers get rid of poverty and rural revitalization economically. Protecting production-oriented red buildings can still provide a strong guarantee for urban and rural living water and agricultural production water. (2) Ideologically, due to various reasons, the development of Nanjiang River Basin is relatively lagging behind, the poverty phenomenon in rural areas, especially the spiritual poverty phenomenon, is still serious, and the idea of waiting for help and incorrect values are still common within a certain range. To truly solve this spiritual poverty phenomenon, it is necessary to fully inherit and carry forward the aforesaid red cultural spirit within the framework of socialist core values and on the premise of protecting the red buildings, and encourage poor households to support them with external forces. Through self-reliance, hard work, with the help of scientific knowledge and technology, to overcome the lazy idea of relying on others to achieve poverty alleviation; We can also make full use of the red cultural spirit (gene) contained in the red building, "which has internal unity with the socialist core value system" [3], to play a certain role in clearing up the root of all kinds of bad ideological tendencies such as money worship. It can be said that the red cultural spirit contained in the red building is the spiritual motive force to encourage the countryside and farmers to get rich from poverty and realize the rejuvenation of the countryside, the wisdom source to solve all kinds of difficulties and solve the difficulties, and an effective prescription to solve the spiritual poverty.

# 3.2 Principles

In the process of protecting red buildings, we must ensure the correct direction of socialism of red buildings, keep the original appearance and style of buildings as much as possible, and constantly update and improve the protection methods according to the requirements of the times.

The Party and Government Main Body, Multi-participation Principle. There is a big difference between the red building and the common ancient residential buildings. The historical artifacts of the ancient residential buildings in the Nanjiang River Basin "mainly focus on three aspects: building materials (stone, lime, concave brick, etc.), building technology (waterproof layer, non-column structure, etc.), and decorative arts (gray sculpture, mural, wood carving, etc.)" [4]. Many of these historical artifacts also have high commercial value, which can be protected and utilized according to who benefits who invests. However, the historical objects of red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin mainly focus on the people and things related to buildings and the red genes contained in people and things. Everything else is secondary. They cannot be measured by commercial value and general cultural value, nor can they be protected and utilized by commercial operation. The main position of the party and government departments must be established and protected and utilized by the party and government departments. Encourage the participation of social and civil forces (especially the descendants and clan members of celebrities related to red buildings) to ensure the correct interpretation of the cultural spirit contained in red buildings.

Keep the Original Appearance and the Original Style Principle. The most primitive state and style of red architecture can truly reflect the people and things related to architecture, and it is most easy for outsiders to receive the original information of people and things related to architecture, and it also fully displays the spiritual connotation of red culture. Therefore, in the process of protection of red buildings, it is necessary to follow the principle of keeping the original appearance and original style as much as possible. For some red buildings that are seriously damaged and unable to keep the original appearance, they should be close to the original style in the process of re-repair and reconstruction, so as to reproduce the historical objects of red buildings as truly as possible.

Give Full Play to the Principle of Red Gene Inheritance Function. The protection of red buildings is not for the sake of protection, but to adapt to the needs of the times, let them play the function of red gene inheritance in the new era, and serve to ensure the correct direction of socialism. As mentioned above, the historical objects of red buildings mainly focus on people and things as well as the red genes contained therein. Protecting

and inheriting the red genes is the greatest value of protecting these red buildings. Therefore, it is necessary to give full play to the red gene inheritance function of red buildings, so as to make the red cultural spirits such as patriotism, dedication, heroic struggle, hard struggle spirit and scientific spirit pass on from generation to generation to realize the value of red buildings to the greatest extent.

# 4 Protection Strategy

The protection of the red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin is also a systematic project, which needs to be carried out with the help of the Party and government departments and the masses. We believe that it is an effective strategy to protect the red buildings reasonably and inherit the red genes by leading the Party and government departments to protect the red buildings at different levels, sorting out the original materials and digitizing them.

Highlight Key Points and Protect Them at Different Levels. Although the ideal state is to protect all the red buildings best, in fact, due to the large number and scattered distribution of red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin, and the limited funds of government departments in Nanjiang River Basin, it is necessary to highlight the key points in the process of protecting red buildings. The local propaganda department and cultural relics protection department can take the lead to carry out the general survey of red buildings in the whole region, and then Yunfu City where Nanjiang River Basin is located or the county level where they are located shall organize experts to identify and grade according to the standards of social impact, historical value and practical significance. According to the level of classification, high-level red buildings with wide social influence, high historical value and great practical significance should be protected by higher party and government departments. Those that can be repaired according to the aforementioned protection principles should be repaired, and those that cannot be repaired should be rebuilt in situ as much as possible. The lower grade should also be properly protected if conditions permit.

Collect and Organize the Original Materials. Red genes are not only contained in the red building itself, but also in people and things. Therefore, after determining the object of protection, the basic work is to rely on the red building itself and collect as many relevant original materials as possible. These original materials are mainly related to words, pictures, objects and images. For example, in the process of protecting General Cai Tingkai's former residence, it is necessary to collect and sort out the information materials of General Cai's family members (genealogy, portraits, photos, etc.), the deeds of his childhood (such as the stories about his youth spread among the people), the experience of fighting against Japan in the army (relevant historical records, news reports, deeds with subordinates), the written words, the furniture used, the clothes worn, etc.;In the process of protecting Deng Fa's former residence, we also need to collect and sort out similar materials, especially the materials about his revolutionary struggle. The collection and arrangement of original materials is directly related to the restoration of red cultural information and the protection and inheritance of red genes. Therefore,

we must try our best to do a good job in relevant work. It is suggested that professional route should be combined with mass route, historical data information should be collected by professionals, and physical objects and oral legends can be collected from the masses. The collection of original materials can provide sufficient evidence for subsequent protection, display and inheritance.

**Digital Protection and Inheritance.** The red building itself is an immovable cultural relic, and the storage space of various original materials collected is relatively fixed. People need to visit the site to obtain relevant information and feel the red cultural spirit contained in it. It may take a lot of time, material and financial resources, and may also damage the red building and its surrounding environment. In the current Internet + context, the limitations and drawbacks of a single display mode in the dissemination of red genes are very obvious. Therefore, the protection of red buildings needs to change with time. "With the progress of science and technology and the development of computer technology, the research and application of modern digital photography, three-dimensional information acquisition, virtual reality, multimedia and broadband network technology are becoming more and more mature, and the digital protection of red cultural heritage has become a reliable and effective method." [5]. With the help of modern digital technologies such as AI technology, 3D images, holographic images, etc., professionals can be hired to complete the digitization of red buildings and various original materials. For example, the digital protection of Changgangpo Aqueduct can digitize the architectural structure, parameters, technical construction difficulties, construction equipment, construction process and changes before and after completion with the help of 3D image and holographic image technology, and can also make the construction process into film and television works, so that people can observe the whole picture of aqueduct and feel the hardship and greatness of construction. After the digitalization is completed, the red gene can be inherited online by means of micro-digital museum (through micro-platforms such as WeChat, Weibo, and Vibrato) and red culture inheritance website, and the digital main hall can be built online to gather the scattered red buildings together for classification and time-based display, and to meet the needs of different groups in combination with the traditional physical building display mode. Digital protection enriches the transmission mode of red building and its red gene, expands the range of red gene inheritance group, shortens the space distance of red gene inheritance, saves the time and economic cost of the audience, which can be said to have obvious advantages. Digital protection also needs to grasp the right direction, but also needs a strong technical team to guarantee.

### 5 Conclusion

It should be said that the protection of red buildings in Nanjiang River Basin has great historical value and practical significance for recording history, inheriting red genes and assisting rural revitalization. We need to continuously invest manpower, material resources and financial resources, and properly protect and make good use of these red buildings with the help of modern high-tech means to ensure the continuous inheritance of red genes.

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