



Yilan County

LANYANG MUSEUM

Guidebook



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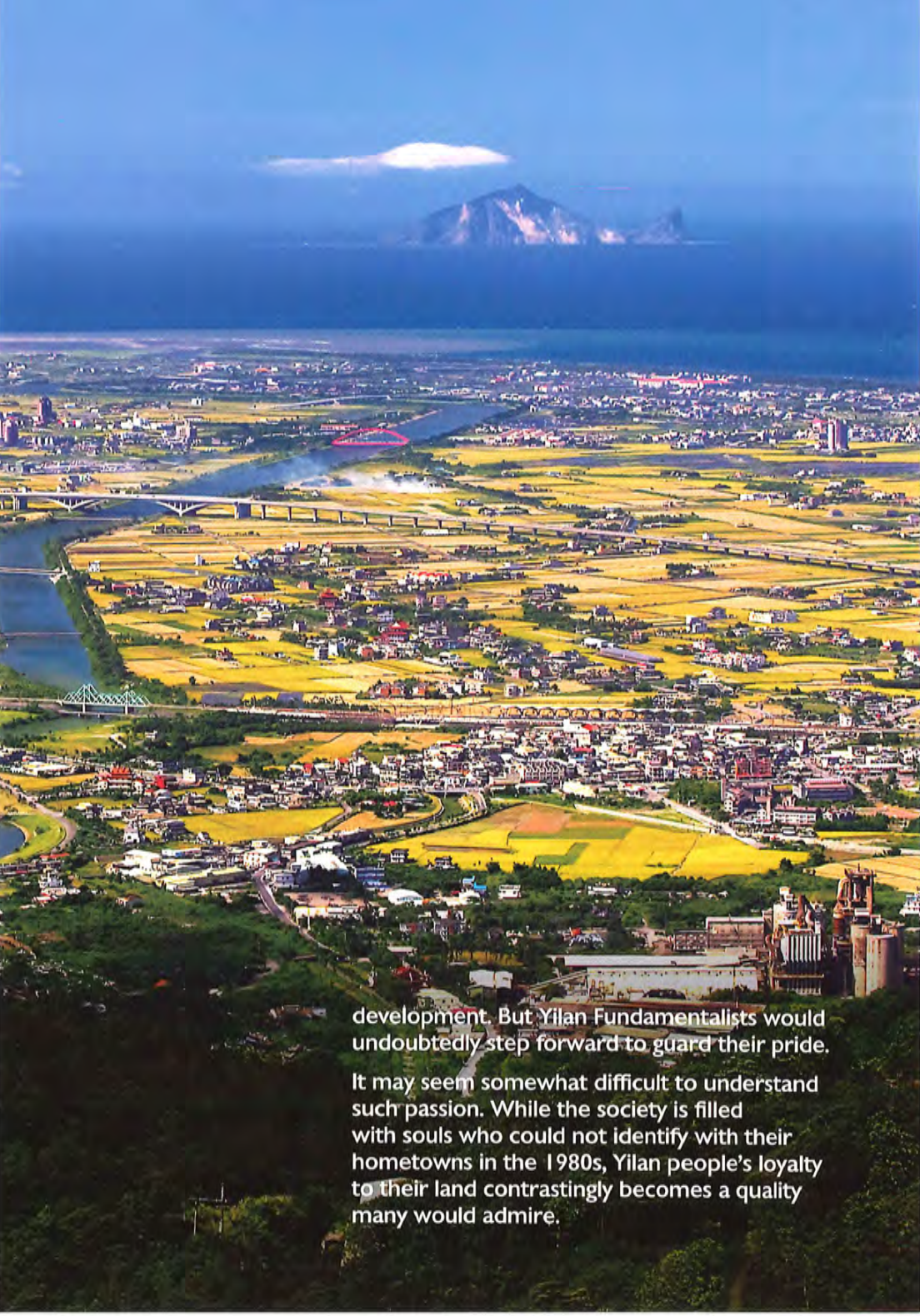
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Stepping into Yilan

You may have heard of Yilan Fundamentalists, who see Yilan as a blessed land with great natural scenery, lifestyle, and geography. Even the local accent, often described as “eating a braised egg with rice, yellow, acidic, and soft,” is a divine heritage with elegance and classic.

Some may challenge the truth behind such a wonderful description — inconvenient transportation system and poor business



development. But Yilan Fundamentalists would undoubtedly step forward to guard their pride. It may seem somewhat difficult to understand such passion. While the society is filled with souls who could not identify with their hometowns in the 1980s, Yilan people's loyalty to their land contrastingly becomes a quality many would admire.

Yilan is a Museum Itself!

In 1990, a group of fervent Yilan people decided to build a museum to showcase the region's nature and culture.

Limited museums existed back then. To some folks, all museums were equivalent to the National Palace Museum, which was no more than a large building filled with treasures. As for the way to construct such a large building, it was another challenge.

That drove the Yilan County Government to invite Lu Li-cheng, a Yilan native and also a township expert from the National Museum of Prehistory, back home to start a museum.

Yilan, a place filled with beauty of ecology and culture, is a large museum itself worth of visitors' staying and discovery.





Lu understood Yilan was indeed a poor county. In terms of the architecture, the collection and structure of the organization, it would be difficult to make the Lanyang Museum outstanding in any way.

Nevertheless, Yilan's best asset lied in its ecology, historical sites, cultural activities, and devoted locals. If these characteristics could be organized and exhibited properly for further learning activities that help locals and visitors understand the area's heritage, it would be possible to make a lively museum with comprehensive Yilan coverage.

In addition, if the founding of the Lanyang Museum can provide an example for the region, Lu confidently felt that Yilan's museum circle would become the top cultural role model for the rest of the nation. The principle — Yilan is a museum itself — jumped out to be the main principle for Lanyang Museum's establishment.

Following this thought, the Lanyang Museum is given an important role — a window to Yilan's nature and culture. By preserving the local nature and humanity, as well as integrating the research resources, the museum aims to become a dynamic education venue. 🌿

1. The Sanxing wels onion grown in Yilan's Sanxing Township is the most famous in Taiwan.

2. A tea plantation located in Yilan's Datong Township.



You may see Wushi Port reached its heyday with numerous ships packing its waters in the Qing Dynasty's paint "Spring Sail in the Wushi Port."

Stories of Dark Stones

The Wushi Port, also known as the "dark stone port," was named from the three large dark stones in the region. Once the most important port in Yilan in the Qing Dynasty, the Wushi Port reached its heyday with numerous ships packing its waters.

In 1826, the Wushi Port was officially appointed the "Zheng Kou" (the official entry) by the Qing imperial court, meaning that all goods for trade would go through this port. Back then, goods would first enter the river from the Wushi Port and then head to the Touwei Port before reaching Yilan City or the Yuanshan Lake. Its geographical significance controlled the economy of the Yilan area.

From the end of the 19th century, the Wushi Port has gradually lost its function, as floods brought a substantial of sedimentary sands to block the river course. With the completion of the railway system during the Japanese Colonial Period, the rising inland transportation eventually took the place of water transportation, severely impacting the commerce of Toucheng.

After a hundred of years, the current Wushi Port is no more than plain water and land. The port is leased for fishery and water chestnut farms, but the land formed by the river deposits has low agricultural value due to its high concentration of salt. However, salt-water guava and peanut from this soil are outstanding.

The Wushi Port was revitalized in 1991, as the Fisheries Agency under Council of Agriculture built a



Lanyang Museum is located on the old Wushi Port with a meaning of inheriting the past and ushering in the future.

new ocean fishery port over the old Wushi Port, with a fishery building constructed on the port zone. Then, leisure fish boats were introduced to provide the whale watch services and excursions to the Guishan Island, which successfully changed the value of the Wushi Port.

Finally, at the end of the 20th century, Yilan people's outcry for a museum was heard. In 1999, the Executive Yuan passed the proposal for building the Lanyang Museum next to the old Wushi Port site. The location is undoubtedly a very appropriate choice, as the port has always been a gate into Yilan, which would also successfully make it a window into Yilan's culture.

Besides, the location made the museum face the Guishan Island, the landmark for Yilan. The dark stones in the site reflect the history, culture, and the geographical feature of the area, while the site itself becomes a permanent ecology of the wetland. The 10.9 hectare site may function as a ground of recreation and activities for the community, making the museum coexist with its environment even more meaningful. 🌿

Museum Family

In December 1992, the Yilan County Government established the museum's Preparatory Planning Committee and officially agreed on the name "Lanyang Museum." From 1994, the government commissioned Dr. Chang Yui-tan at the National Museum of Natural Science and the National Taiwan University Building and Planning Research Foundation to carry out the planning project for the museum. After years of discussions, the museum outline was gradually formulated.

When the planning process was almost completed, the Yilan County Government sought aids from upper administrative organizations. To avoid disruption of the construction process, a Yilan County Museum Group Committee was established in 1997 to facilitate the preparatory work for the Lanyang Museum.

In order to expand the museum network throughout the county, the preparatory team established a "Yilan County Museum Family" to conduct searches on county members who have museum resources. The family members cover comprehensive groups including the Atayal, the Kavalan, the Hakka, the Taiwanese,



宜蘭縣博物館家族協會
I-LAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION



宜蘭
設
治紀念

館·甲

甲子蘭酒文物館、台灣戲劇館、仰山文教基金會九芎埕人文空間、宜蘭縣史館、慈林基金會、台灣民主運動館/慈林紀念館、二結庄生活文化館、學進國小校園采風館、宜蘭縣自然史教育館、孝成國小校園博物館、北成庄荷花形象館、白米木屐村、珍珠社區博物館、珊瑚法界藝術館、碧涵軒帝雉生態館、南安國中漁史文物室、陳忠藏美術館、無尾港生態社區、冬山風箏館、無尾港文教促進會、養蜂人家蜂采館、呂美麗精雕藝術館、樹木教育農場、蘭陽博物館、北關螃蟹博物館、河東堂獅子博物館、攝之鄉蜜餞形象館、宜蘭設治紀念館、甲子蘭酒文物館、台灣戲劇館、仰山文教基金會九芎埕人文空間、宜蘭縣史館、慈林基金會、台灣民主運動館/慈林紀念館、二結庄生活文化館、學進國小校園采風館、宜蘭縣自然史教育館、孝成國小校園博物館、北成庄荷花形象館、白米木屐村、珍珠社區博物館、珊瑚法界藝術館、碧涵軒帝雉生態館、南安國中漁史文物室、陳忠藏美術館、無尾港生態社區、冬山風箏館、無尾港文教促進會、養蜂人家蜂采館、呂美麗精雕藝術館、樹木教育農場、蘭陽博物館、北關螃蟹博物館、河東堂獅子博物館、攝之鄉蜜餞形象館、宜蘭設治紀念館、甲子蘭酒文物館。



Memorial Hall of Founding
of Yilan Administration

and migrants from Mainland China, as well as various geographical locations in Yilan County, and industries such as farming, forestry, fishery, and husbandry.

The Yilan County Museum Family is a group established under free will. Each member shares museum resources, mutual manpower support, identification system, communication system (pamphlets, guide information, visitor passport),



websites, museum resource development strategies, integrative education planning and promotional activities.

The purpose of the Lanyang Museum and the Yilan County Museum Family advancing at the same pace is to activate a greater museum movement for Yilan County. Such flexible structures would enable the Lanyang Museum to be lively with ongoing resources. 🌸

1. Taiwan Theater Museum
2. Institute of Yilan County History



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