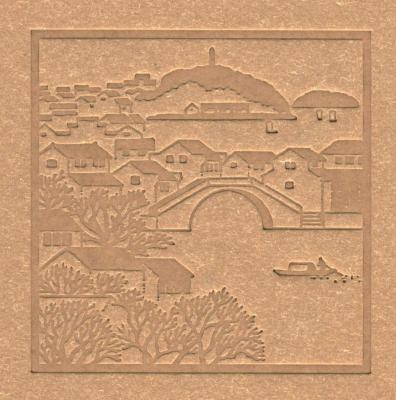
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APICTURE-BOOK CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE HISTORIC CITY OF SUZHOU THE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL TOWNSHIPS OF SUZHOU



古吴轩出版社 GUWUXUAN PUBLISHING HOUSE 20111

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A PICTURE-BOOK CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE HISRORIC CITY OF SUZHOU

THE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL TOWNSHIPS OF SUZHOU





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周大炎

古镇、古村落是苏州历史文化的重要载体,承载着不同历史时期的信息,既是苏州历史的见证,也延续着苏州的文脉,有着重要的历史文化价值。

二千五百多年的悠长岁月,无数中华英杰在苏州留下了丰厚的历史文化遗迹,形成了星罗棋布的古镇、古村落,其文物古迹之多,湖光山色之美,文化氛围之浓,国内少见。这些古镇、古村落以其独特的风貌与苏州古城相得益彰、交相辉映,是不可再生的人文资源和宝贵财富,值得我们倍加珍惜!

苏州市人民政府历来重视文化遗产的保护工作,从上世纪五十年代对园林名胜的保护,到八十年代至今对古城、古镇、古村落的保护,基本形成了覆盖古城、古镇、古村落三级的历史文化保护体系,取得了明显的成效。但是我们也清醒地看到,保护工作仍存在不足,一些地方对古镇、古村落保护的重要性和紧迫性重视不够,缺少保护和利用并举的规划方案,一些古镇、古村落随着自然和经济环境的变化正在日渐衰落,甚至可能湮没在岁月的烟尘中,必须引起政府和全社会的高度重视。

今天,我们正处在日新月异的巨大发展变革之中。我们越来越深切地感受到无处不在的传统文化的巨大力量,前人创造的光辉灿烂、博大精深的传统文化,正日益成为凝聚民族精神、提升爱国主义情操的强大力量,尽可能更多更好地保护古镇、古村落资源,使其继续绽放独特的人文光华,是历史赋予我们的神圣使命和责任。基于这样的认知,苏州市文广新局在市吴文化研究会和相关部门协助下,对十三处省级以上的历史文化名镇(包括古村落),择其有代表性的景观和历史文化遗存编成图集,以推动社会各界自觉保护这些宝贵遗产,也希望能为今后城镇经济和文化建设规划提供一部分可资参考研究的真实图证。这是一件极有意义的工作,必将对保护传承苏州的文化遗产有所启示和促进。

Introduction

Written in Chinese by Zhou Dayan

With outstanding historical and cultural value, the old townships and old villages here serve as an important carrier of history and culture and sufficient database in all phases, bearing testimony to the long history of Suzhou. In fact, they are cultural continua of Suzhou.

A galaxy of townships and villages came into being over a long span of more than 2500 years. And numerous Chinese men and women of great talent have left their marks on these cultural sites. It is very rare in China to see the old townships, old villages and places of special historic interest in great numbers in one cultural area with the scenic splendors of the hills and lakes and rich cultural ambiance. With unique appearances, these old townships and old villages, complementing brilliantly the old city of Suzhou, are irreplaceable cultural treasures and resources, and certainly deserve to be highly valued.

The Suzhou Municipal People's Government has for long attached great importance to the protection of cultural heritage. As early as the 1950s the classical gardens of Suzhou were put on the list of protection. Since the 1980s a comprehensive protection system has been formed and marked progress has been made in protecting the old city of Suzhou and its outlying old townships and old villages. Nevertheless, we must be clearly aware that there is still much room to be desired. Some local governments have not paid adequate attention to the protection of the old townships and old villages, which is a matter of great urgency. Consequently, they lack good plans for their protection and utilization. Under the impact of natural and economic changes, some of the old townships and old villages have become vulnerable, facing the danger of sinking into oblivion over years. It has raised the alarm to which the governments at all levels and the society as a whole must give much heed.

Today we are in a period of radical transformation, bringing about changes day by day. We've deeply felt the powerful, omnipresent force of traditional Chinese culture, which, created by Chinese ancestors, is brilliant, profound and all-embracing. Full of robust vitality, it has now become the cohesive, patriotic, national ethos. History has entrusted to us the sacred duty and task of better protecting the time-honored townships and villages so as to let them go on shining culturally. Bearing in mind this cognition, the Suzhou Municipal Bureau of Culture, Broadcasting, TV and Press, aided by the Society of Wu Culture Studies and relevant departments of Suzhou, has selected 13 historic and cultural townships and villages listed by the Province or the State and supplied with pictures of representative sights and cultural sites, and has compiled and edited this picture-book in order to awaken the people from all walks of life to a sense of their responsibility in conscientiously protecting invaluable cultural heritage, and to hold out authentic illustrations for reference and research by urban planners in economic construction and cultural advancement in the future. This is a matter of great significance. Certainly, it will enlighten us on how to protect and carry forward Suzhou's cultural heritage.

目录

Contents



同里镇 The Township of Tongli / 017



沙溪镇 The Township of Shaxi / 059



沙家浜镇 The Township of Shajiabang / 097



光福镇 The Township of Guangfu / 141



角直镇 The Township of Luzhi / 033



千灯镇 The Township of Qiandeng / 071



东山镇 The Township of Dongshan / 107



震泽镇 The Township of Zhenze / 153



周庄镇 The Township of Zhouzhuang / 001



木渎镇 The Township of Mudu / 047



锦溪镇 The Township of Jinxi / 085



金庭镇 The Township of Jinting / 125



汾湖黎里古镇 The Old Township of Lili, Fenhu / 165

The Township of Zhouzhuang

Located at the southwestern corner of Kunshan about 30 km. away from the city of Suzhou, the township of Zhouzhuang is not far distant from Shanghai on the east and borders Wujiang on the west. It covers 38.96 sq.km., half of which being areas of water. The old township of Zhouzhuang covers 0.47 sq.km.

It is said that during the Spring & Autumn period this land had been the fief granted to the Prince of Wu and the Prince Yao of Yue respectively. In ancient times it was known as Zhenfengli. In the reign of Yuanyou (AD1086 - AD1094) under the Northern Song Dynasty, one Mr. Zhou, under the title of Digonglang, set up a village and donated the farmland of the village to a monastery. Hence the name Zhou Village or Zhouzhuang in Chinese.

Crisscrossed by lakes and waterways, it was necessary to travel by boat from place to place, even within a short distance in days of old. The old township of Zhouzhuang boasts a network of canals in the form of ‡. Characteristically, the canals are running parallel to alleyways and the houses rest on the canals as on pillows. Situated in the narrow alleyways are numerous noteworthy buildings and cultural sites including the Shens' Mansion, the Zhangs' Mansion, the Bridge of Wealth and Peace, the Enchantment Building, the former Residence of Ye Chucang, the Taoist Temple of Pure Emptiness, and the Double Bridges. The scene of the Double Bridges serves now as an emblem of the Venetian area south of the lower Yangtze in China.

With unique local customs and rich cultural connotations, the wonderful Venetian appearances of Zhouzhuang are still kept after experiencing many ups and downs for over 900 years, setting a fine example to others in preserving old townships in this cultural area.

Zhouzhuang was listed from among the very first as China's Grade AAAA Tourist-Site, Environmentally Beautiful Township, Historic and Cultural Township, Hygienic Township, and Model Township in the Construction of Townships. It was awarded a prize by UN and Dubai World for giving a good example to all on how to improve the environment and how to make a place fit for habitation. Also, it was given an achievement award by UNESCO for world cultural heritage preservation in Asia and the Pacific.

周庄镇

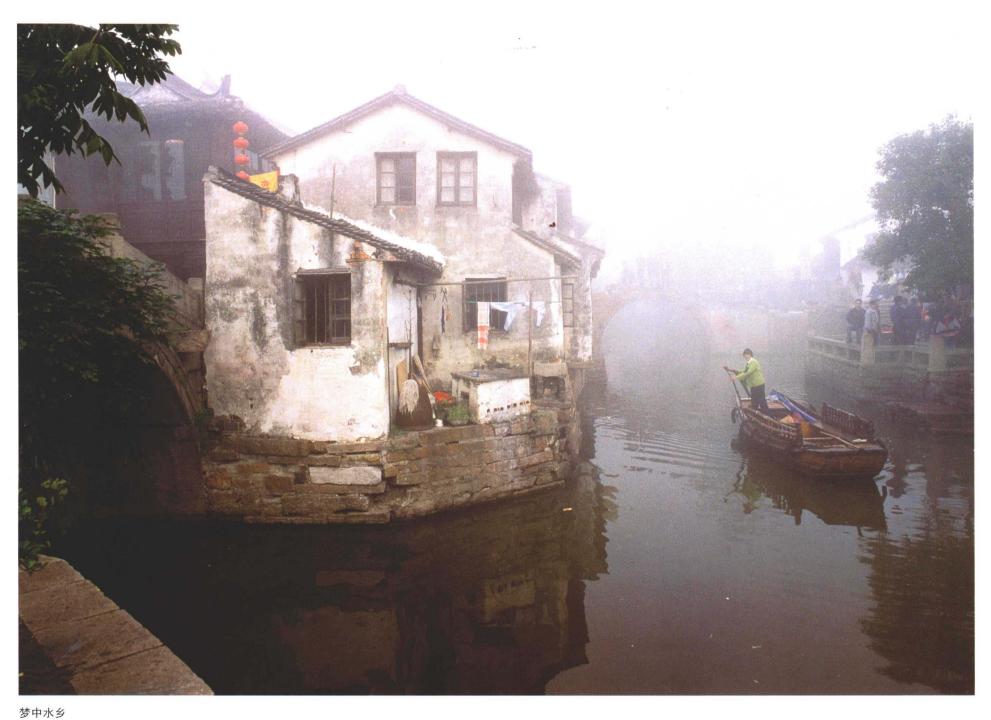
周庄位于昆山市西南隅,距市区约30公里,东近上海,西邻吴江。镇域面积38.96平方公里,其中一半是水域。古镇区面积为0.47平方公里。

相传此地曾是春秋战国时期吴王子和越王摇的封地。古名贞丰里。北宋元祐年间(1086—1094),周迪功郎在此设庄,并将庄田捐作庙产,周庄因此得名。

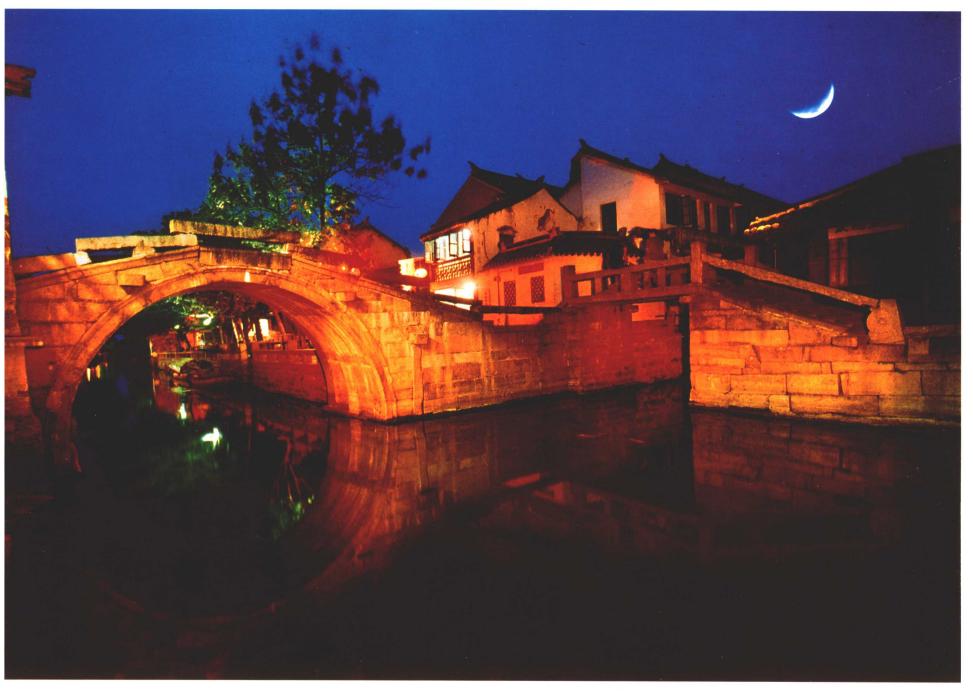
这里湖荡密布,古人曾有"咫尺往来,皆须舟楫"的感叹。镇内河浜交叉,成"井"字形格局,依水成街,人家枕河。在小巷曲弄之间,散布着沈厅、张厅、富安桥、迷楼、叶楚伧故居、澄虚道院等众多古迹。其中双桥的景色,已成为中国江南水乡的标志。

历经九百余年的岁月沧桑,周庄灵秀 的水乡风貌、独特的民风民俗、厚重的人 文底蕴至今依然保存,堪称江南水乡古镇 成功保护的典范。

周庄是中国首批AAAA级景区、中国环境优美镇、中国历史文化名镇、国家卫生镇、全国小城镇建设示范镇,并荣获联合国迪拜国际改善居住环境最佳范例奖、联合国教科文组织亚太地区世界文化遗产保护杰出成就奖等。



A dreamlike Venetian scene.



双桥 由拱式世德桥和梁式永安桥组成,俗称钥匙桥。始建于明万历年间,清道光二十三年(1843)重建。双桥及沿河建筑为江苏省文物保护单位。

Made up of the Bridge of Virtue and the Bridge of Lasting Peace, the Double Bridges, popularly known as the Key Bridges, were built in the reign of Wanli under the Ming Dynasty and rebuilt in the 23rd year of the reign of Daoguang (AD1843) under the Qing Dynasty. The Double Bridges along with the canal-side houses have been listed as cultural relics under the protection of Jiangsu Province.



晚霞映楼台

The canal-side houses at sunset.

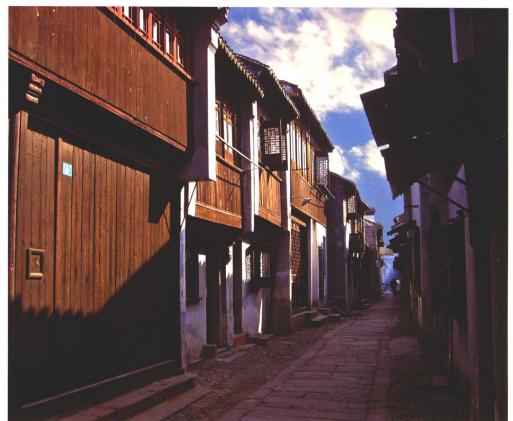


富安桥 始建于元至正十五年(1355),清咸丰五年(1855)重建。单 孔石拱桥,四角建有桥楼。如此富有江南水乡特色的古桥现已十分罕见。

The Bridge of Wealth and Peace was built in the 15th year of the reign of Zhizheng (AD1355) under the Yuan Dynasty and rebuilt in the 5th year of the reign of Xianfeng (AD1855) under the Qing Dynasty. Characteristically, it is a single arch bridge of stone possessing four two-storied buildings on the piers of the bridge, a very rare scene to be found in the area south of the lower Yangtze.







老街民居
The time-tested houses in the alleyway.

贞丰瑞雪 A snowy view of Zhenfeng.



松茂堂 原名敬业堂,江南巨富沈万三后裔沈本仁于清乾隆七年 (1742)建成。清末改为松茂堂,俗称沈厅。江苏省文物保护单位。

The Hall of Prosperous Pine, formerly called the Hall of Diligence, was built in the 7th year of the reign of Qianlong (AD1742) under the Qing Dynasty by Shen Benren, a descendant of the wealthy man Shen Wansan in the area south of the lower Yangtze. By the end of the Qing Dynasty it was renamed the Hall of Prosperous Pine, popularly known as the Shens' Mansion. It has been listed as cultural relics under the protection of Jiangsu Province.



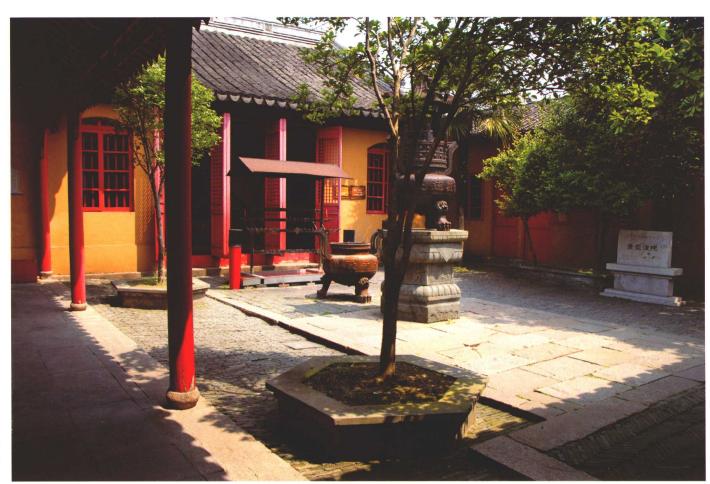
玉燕堂 原名怡顺堂,徐达之弟后裔建于明正统年间。清初易主张 氏,改今名,俗称张厅。江苏省文物保护单位。

The Jade Swallow Hall, formerly called the Hall of Satisfaction, was built by the descendant of Xu Da's brother in the reign of Zhengtong under the Ming Dynasty. It was acquired by the Zhangs' and renamed the Jade Swallow Hall in the early Qing Dynasty, popularly known as the Zhangs' Mansion. It has been listed as cultural relics under the protection of Jiangsu Province.



张厅后院水埠 外河支脉穿过院落,有"轿从前门进,船自家中过" 的妙趣。

A branch of the canal runs through the backyard of the Zhangs' Mansion. It is amazing that sedan-chairs are carried in from the front door and a canal boat passes through the house.



澄虚道院 始建于北宋元祐年间,明清重修,近年整修。昆山市文物保护单位。

The Taoist Temple of Pure Emptiness was built in the reign of Yuanyou under the Northern Song Dynasty, repaired in the Ming and Qing Dynasties and repaired again recently. It has been listed as cultural relics under the protection of Kunshan City.



全福讲寺 原为水乡古刹。1995年重建,恢复了"水中佛国"的风貌。

Rebuilt in 1995 on the site of a ruined temple of great antiquity in the Venetian township, the Temple of Perfect Happiness has restored the appearance of "the Watery Kingdom of Buddhism".