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MAGIC STONE OF SUZHOU

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责任编辑：王光生

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序

李应鸣

灵璧石、乐石，是宿州奇石的姊妹石，在中国石文化史上，两者交相辉映，留下了不朽的篇章。如果说灵璧石美在它的自然天成，那么宿州乐石的魅力，则在于雕刻家的巧夺天工。

作为古代四大名石之首的灵璧石，它的闻名始于商周；作为中国传统名砚的宿州乐石砚，其石材的开采，也不晚于秦汉。历经数千年的岁月，围绕它们形成了一部异彩纷呈的宿州石文化史。由于历史的原因和受众面的多寡，相比较而言，其文化轨迹延传至今，乐石文化仍处在复兴发展阶段，而灵璧石文化却跃居宿州石文化的主流位置，且发展史迹清晰。

灵璧石文化在宋代以前，是其形成时期，特别是商周时代，灵璧磬石作为礼器、法器、乐器，主要服务于宫廷皇权，人民大众参与程度很少；宋代以后至明清，灵璧石文化步入兴盛期，以灵璧观赏石为主的灵璧石，开始由“常置帝王案，秘藏将相家”的雅物，进入寻常百姓家，“一入灵境，莫不侈口谈石”。特别是宋及明清时期，园林建设的倡导和赏石之

风的盛行,灵璧石作为首选贡石,经历了历史上的两次大规模发掘,加之众多文人雅士的赏玩、诗咏,书之、画之、记之,灵璧石文化融入了更多的艺术人文内涵,而且在宋代,灵璧石就已有明确的市场交易记录,经济价值初露端倪。当代,国运昌隆,人民生活富足,灵璧石文化进入了繁荣昌盛的发展时期,赏石、藏石、玩石、论石成为一种既传统又新潮的文化现象,风行于宿州,影响波及华夏大地,并吸引了众多国外赏石家的注目。灵璧石产地的部分农民,由务农转为“以石为业”的石农,“时时好事获尺寸,估量牛马未当价”。灵璧石资源的合理开发和保护也逐渐提上日程,灵璧石文化产业方兴未艾,并逐步朝规模化方向迈进。

宿州历史悠久,文化资源深厚,拥有全国闻名的书画艺术之乡萧县;书法艺术之乡、马戏艺术之乡埇桥;民间艺术(钟馗画)之乡、中国观赏石之乡灵璧;泗州戏艺术之乡泗县;国家级生态示范县、酥梨文化之乡砀山。当今,文化产业被称为“21世纪全球经济一体化时代的朝阳产业、黄金产业”,并已逐步发展成为一些国家和地区的支柱性产业。如何整合灵璧石、乐石、书画、马戏、戏曲等珍贵的特色文化资源,发挥宿州文化优势,做好、做强宿州文化产业这篇大文章,提高宿州的软实力,更好地推进宿州经济更好更快地发展,宿州620万人民在思索着、在规划着,也在努力实践着——继《话说宿州》《宿州书画》《宿州文物》出版之后,《宿州奇石》的编写,便是宿州打造文化品牌、促进文化产业发

展的重要举措之一。

《宿州奇石》一书,首次将宿州石文化的历史脉络做了科学、客观的梳理,第一次全方位地展示了宿州石文化产业的现状和规模,资料翔实,图文并茂,雅俗共赏,具有文献性、文学性、鉴赏性、存史性,堪称人们了解宿州石文化、把握宿州厚重人文底蕴、欣赏宿州奇石魅力的一扇窗口。欣逢第三届中国宿州灵璧石文化节开幕之际,《宿州奇石》得以正式出版发行,可喜可贺,谨作此文,是为序。

2008年10月8日于宿州

Preface

Magic Lingbi Stone and Chime Stone are companions of Suzhou Marvelous Stones, which, with their peculiarities, have occupied a prominent position in the history of Chinese Marvelous Stone culture. The beauty of Lingbi Stone is from its pure nature without any embellishment, while, the charm of Suzhou Chime Stone lies in its excellent carving craftsmanship.

Lingbi Stone, as the leading one of the “Four Most Miracle Stones” in ancient China, had gained its reputation as early as in Shang Dynasty, and the stone, used for making Chime Stone ink slab—one of the famous traditional Chinese Stone ink slabs, had been explored at least in Chin or Han Dynasty. Thousands of years have elapsed, because of such two peculiar stones—Magic Lingbi Stone and Chime Stone, a splendorous history of strange stones culture has formed in Suzhou. Comparatively speaking, because of historical reasons, Chime Stone is still on its way of renaissance and development, while Lingbi Stone with a clearer history plays a leading role in the history of Marvelous Stone culture in Suzhou.

The Lingbi's Magic Stone culture was at its formation stage before Sung Dynasty. In Shang or Chou Dynasty; Lingbi Chime Stone mainly served the royals, not the grass roots, for sacrificial rites, religious ceremonies and entertainments. During Ming and Ching Dynasty, the Lingbi's Magic Stone culture stepped into the prosperous stage: Lingbi ornamental stones, especially Magic Lingbi Stone was not the elegant article only admired by the royals and the upper class, and began to gain its popularity among the grass roots. At this stage, for the popularity of garden building and stone appreciating, Magic Lingbi Stone was selected as articles of tribute and underwent two large-scaled exploitation in its producing area, moreover, Lingbi Stone was admired, drawn, and written by lots of ancient learned poets and artists, which made some literary and art elements blend into the culture of Lingbi Magic Stone. Since there are exact records about the trade of Lingbi Stone as early as in Sung Dynasty, its economic value began to emerge at that time. Nowadays, as our country is prosperous and the people rich, the culture of Lingbi Magic Stone enters into its flourishing era. The appreciation, collection and discussion of the Strange Stone become a both traditional and updated cultural theme that originating in Suzhou and spreading to the whole country, even attracting many stone artists from abroad. Some local

peasants begin to shift from planting to stone exploiting as their first industry. The scientific exploitation and protection of Ling-bi Stone resources have been put onto the local government's schedule. The industry of Lingbi Magic Stone is developing flourishingly, and will stride boldly on a way towards a large scaled market.

With a glorious history, Suzhou is blessed with profound cultural resources. The Xiao-xian County here is one famous hometown of calligraphy art and painting art in China, Yong-qiao District the hometown of circus art and calligraphy art, Ling-bi County the hometown of folk art (Zhong Kui pictures) and magic stones, Si-xian County the hometown of local Si-zhou opera art, and Dang-shan County that is national ecology demonstration county, the hometown of crisp pear culture. Currently cultural industry, which is called “the promising and golden industry at an age of global economic integration in 21st century”, has gradually developed into the prop industry in some countries and areas. Similarly, it's necessary to skillfully integrate these precious peculiar culture resources such as ling-bi stone, magic stone, calligraphy and painting, circus, local opera and so on in Suzhou. In this way, the cultural advantages of Suzhou can be displayed; the culture industry here can be highly developed; the soft strength of Suzhou can be en-