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序宫丹尼斯·考克思

记得还是上小学的时候,我第一次学到有关"世界奇观"的知识。教科书中的照片激起了我的好奇和想象,其中最让我感兴趣的,当然是那张中国长城的照片,它像一条巨龙蜿蜒爬行在山岭上,一直延伸到远处的地平线。

作为最著名的"世界奇观"之一,中国长城的摄影图片一直是全世界无数报刊反复刊登的内容。在过去的二十多年里,我也有幸拍摄过五、六处最容易到达且得以修复的长城遗址,并向报刊提供所拍摄的照片。但是对于尚存的其他许多长城遗迹,人们却知之甚少。中国人民美术出版社出版李少白先生拍摄的《长城野韵》画册,意在弥补这一缺憾。

何谓长城之"野"?李少白先生的画册向我们展示:一是那些分布四野、人迹罕至的长城;二是那些虽有人迹、但没有修复的长城。在中国北方绵延万里、覆盖九省市和自治区的沙漠里、草原上、山岭间,存在着许许多多经过数百年、甚至上千年风雨消蚀变得残缺、荒芜、却从未修复过的长城,这些野性十足的古长城比起那些游人如织的旅游热点如北京附近的八达岭,更加多变和奇特,更富有沧桑感和神秘感。

近几年来,爬野长城、游野长城之风在中国蔚然兴起,无论是年轻人,还是老年人,也无论是中国人,还是外国人,都把攀登野长城作为一大快乐和具有趣味的探险。据说每到周末或节假日,北京郊区的箭扣野长城竟大有人满为患之势。这一现象说明,生活好起来的中国人已不再满足常规性的旅游,而希冀从探寻中国的原始和自然遗迹之中发现更多的内容,也说明对中国传统文化感兴趣的外国人士,在登临野长城中亦能发现一个精神的绿洲。

从这个意义上说,我的中国朋友、著名风光摄影家李少白先生积十年之辛劳,出版这本以专门介绍中国野长城的摄影 画册,将它展现给广大的读者,的确是一件令人感到高兴的事情。李少白先生多年醉心于拍摄这些深居荒野、历经磨砺的长城,将其永恒的美感和历史感融会于此书,对于世界人士认识野长城、感受野长城,从而进一步保护野长城,都是有意义的。

丹尼斯·考克思先生是美国"中国图片库"主任,亦是美国著名摄影家,拍摄足迹遍布世界七大洲,曾获得许多摄影奖项。

Dennie Cox

When I was a young student I first encountered the wonders of the world in an elementary school geography book. My imagination and sense of discovery were piqued by the photographs in that book and certainly none more so than that of an image of the Great Wall of China winding along the ridge of a mountain and over the horizon like a giant slithering dragon.

As one of the best-known wonders in the world, photos of the Great Wall are an essential content of numerous publications throughout the world. Over the past quarter century I have been fortunate to personally contribute some of these images which I have made at a half dozen of the most accessible locations on the restored parts of the Wall. But many sections of the Wall remain mostly unknown. In this book of The Wild Great Wall, published by the People's Fine-Art Publishing House of China, Mr. Li Shaobai aims to correct that.

What does the "wild" Great Wall mean? Mr. Li characterizes it as either the inaccessible sections of the Wall in remote locations or the accessible but un-restored ruins of the Wall. In northern China there are many ruins of the Wall spreading far and wide over six thousand kilometers through nine provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. These remnants are hidden in deserts, grasslands and mountains eroded by wind and rain over hundreds or even thousands of years. Compared to the crowded tourist spots of the Wall such as Badaling north of Beijing, these wild sites are more characteristic, more complicated in their structure, and are full of variety and mystery.

In recent years climbing and touring the "wild" sections of the Great Wall has become ever more popular in China. Participants not only include young people but also the elderly, not only Chinese but also foreign visitors. They do it for pleasure, for the sense of discovery, and for the sheer exhilaration of it. I have heard that during weekends and holidays there are big crowds climbing the Wall at Jiankou, a wild site of the Wall near Beijing, and the crowds are so big that every corner of a main watchtower there is packed with people. This phenomenon illustrates that as the Chinese people become more prosperous they are no longer satisfied with taking regular tours but are seeking out more of China's original and natural sites, and that foreign visitors who are interested in traditional Chinese culture find in the wild sites of the Great Wall a spiritual oasis.

So in this regard it is good news that after a decade of hardship and perseverance, my friend Li Shaobai, a renowned landscape and fine-art photographer in China, presents us with this photo book chronicling his highly ambitious endeavor to bring the wild sections of the Great Wall to the widest possible audience. Mr. Li has devoted himself fully to photographing those wild and ruined pieces of the Wall and exploring their eternal beauty and essence to produce this book. Ideally his work will contribute to the world's knowledge, enjoyment, and further protection of the Great Wall in its wild state.

As a stock photography agent, I am pleased to represent a number of Chinese photographers, particularly Li Shaobai, circulating some of his Great Wall photos for publication to the American and world media. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Mr. Li for his achievement represented by this book. His talent and dedication is inspiring. It is my hope that he will present even more spectacular photos of the Great Wall to us in the future.

Dennis Cox is an award-winning travel photographer based in the United States who has photographed on all seven continents. He is the director of China Stock, a stock photography agency specializing in all aspects of China, and director of Photo Explorer Tours, an operator of international tours designed for photographers. His Web site: www.DennisCox.com

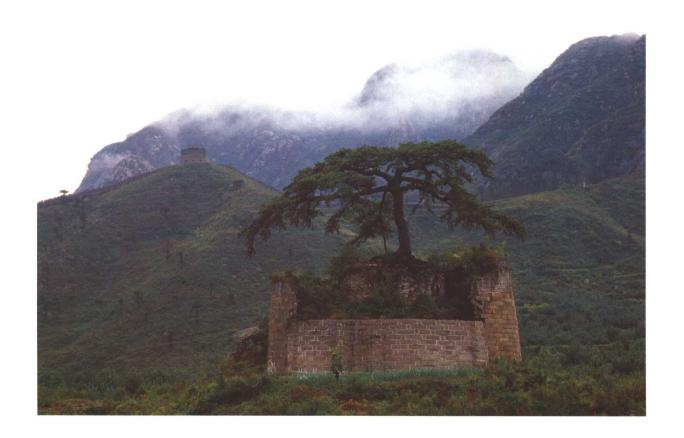
长城野韵_{季少白 摄} HE WILD GREAT WALL

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辽宁省绥中县九门口附近有一座圆形敌台,台上生有一株巨大的古松。

A round watchtower near Jiumenkou Pass in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province. An age-old pine grows on top of the watchtower.

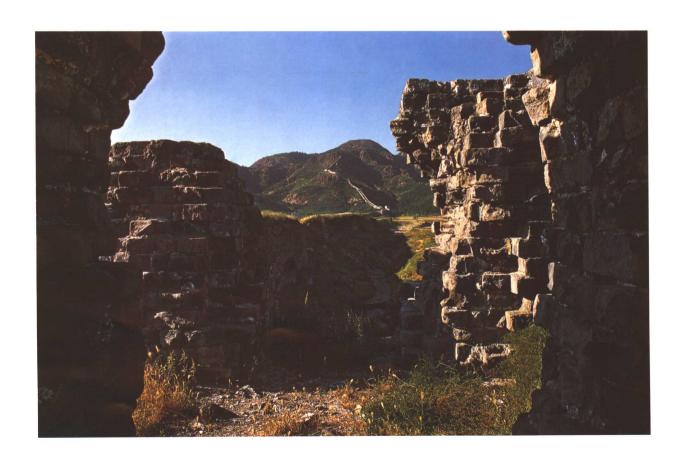


山海关位于河北省秦皇岛市渤海之滨,是东北进入华北的咽喉要冲,是明长城东部最重要的关口之一。 Located in Qinhuandao City, Hebei Province, along the coast of the Bohai Sea, Shanhaiguan Pass is the gateway from northeast China into north China. Built in the Ming Dynasty, it is one of the most important passes in the eastern part of the Great Wall.



北水关位于山海关关城西北数里。图中前景为北水关的遗迹,远景为海拔518米的角山长城。

Beishuiguan Pass is located a few kilometers to the northwest of Shanhaiguan Pass. The foreground shows the ruins of the Beishuiguan Pass, with the Jiaoshan section of the Great Wall, 518 meters above sea level, in the distance.

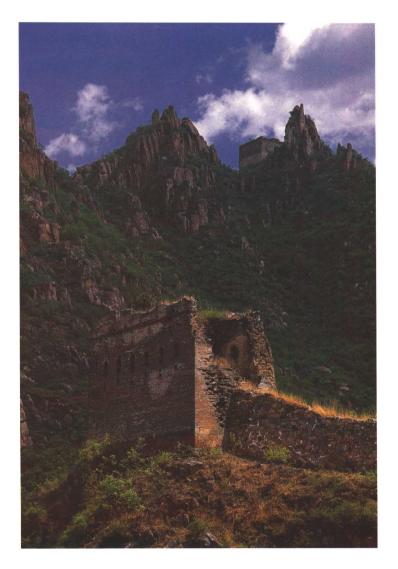


河北省抚宁县境内长城约108公里,多建在山上,随山势上下起伏,曲折西行。图为罗家峪长城。

The Great Wall in Funing County, Hebei Province, is about 108 km long. Built mostly on mountains, it traverses along the ridges and zigzags its way to the west. The photo shows the Luojiayu section of the Great Wall.

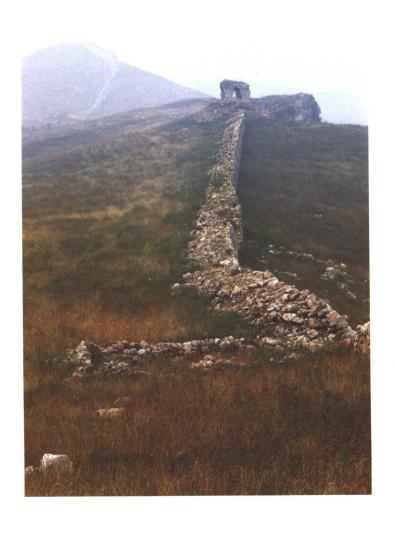


河北省抚宁县梁家湾一带,山高崖陡,多奇峰怪石,长城横亘于山上,断断续续,城墙皆为就地取石所建。 Around Liangjiawan in Funing County, Hebei Province, the ancient Wall, running up and over spectacular peaks and crags, was built completely of stone from the mountains.



河北省卢龙县桃林口长城多为石砌,坍塌严重。

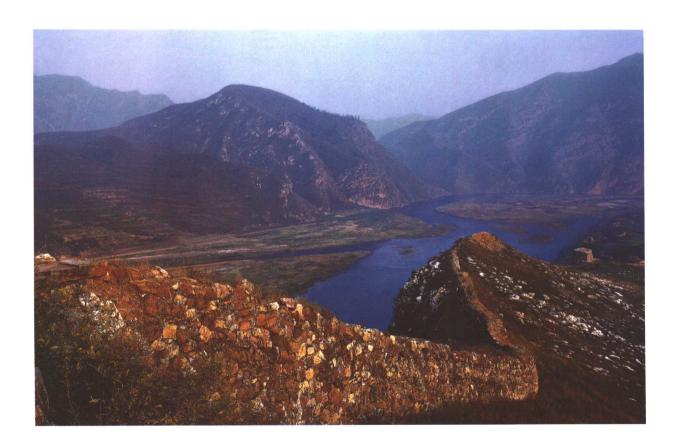
Most parts of the Taolinkou section of the Wall in Lulong County, Hebei Province were built of stone, and have collapsed badly.



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河北省卢龙县境内明长城约20余公里。图为桃林口长城沿青龙河桃林口水库所筑。

The section of the Ming Dynasty Wall in Lulong County, Hebei Province, is about 20 km long. The photo shows the Taolinkou section, built along the Qinglong River by the Taolinkou Reservoir.



河北省卢龙县刘家口长城,有砖砌的过水关楼设在关口处,平时可通行人,发水时山洪可由水门流去,今关口两侧城墙早已拆毁,过水关楼因被农民用作盛柴草用,得以保存。

Liujiakou section of the Wall in Lulong County, Hebei Province. A brick gate tower, for discharging floodwater, also carried foot traffic. The Walls on both sides of the pass were pulled down long ago but the tower remains, as the local farmers have long used it to store firewood.



