

Degang Wang

A Cotswold Vernacular Architectural Tradition

The Windrush Spring Settlements

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出版说明

本书作者在英国牛津学习，体验了英国 The Windrush Spring 地区的传统村落的环境、民俗和文化背景，研究了当地乡土建筑的过去、现状和发展，做了乡土建筑学科的研究论文，得到英国学者的赞赏，获得硕士学位。作者导师 Paul Oliver 教授是世界著名乡土建筑学权威，主编《世界乡土建筑大百科全书》（由英国剑桥大学出版社 1998 年出版），现为英国牛津 Brooks 大学乡土建筑研究中心主任，他特为本书作序。他的研究中心仍将在此论文研究的基础上继续对 The Windrush Spring 地区的乡土建筑作进一步研究。

出版本书旨在帮助我国建筑学界进一步了解英国乡土建筑及其研究方法。尤其是对国内学生和准备出国留学学者，阅读此书在做研究论文时将得到启示和裨益。

THE WINDRUSH SPRING SETTLEMENTS
A COTEWOLD VERMACULAR ARCHITECTURAL TRADITION

Preface

Paul Oliver

Every country has its vernacular architecture, the buildings of the ordinary people which were built by them or by members of their communities. In many parts of the world the vernacular traditions are thriving, but in others, notably in the West, they have declined as mass-produced suburban and high-rise urban housing has been erected. This is particularly a feature of the cities, but in most western countries the rural areas have many surviving vernacular buildings, though they are not always appreciated. In England however, the rural traditional houses are generally protected, with a large proportion of the population living in them. It is the aspiration of many a suburban family to own "a little cottage with roses round the door", and such houses are much admired by visitors to the United Kingdom.

England is a small country with a large population for its size. It has a remarkable variety of vernacular styles of building: travel fifty kilometers in any direction and the building forms and materials are different. There are a number of reasons why this is the case, being partly due to the influence of the Roman, Scandinavian, Teutonic and Gallic cultures who invaded and settled in the islands over a period of a thousand years. But the available resources were also important, with timber from the forests, wattles

每个国家都有当地居民兴建的乡土建筑。在世界上很多地区,这一建筑传统方兴未艾,但是在其他地方,尤其在西方,这一传统已经凋落,代之而起的是大批量建造的城郊建筑和城市中的高楼大厦,这也是很多城市的共有特征。然而在大多数西方国家的乡村里仍残存许多乡土建筑,尽管他们不太为人所关注。但在英国,乡村传统民居一般都受到保护,亦有相当多的人居住其中。城郊的很多家庭都渴望拥有一座“玫瑰花簇拥”的小屋,游客们对这种民居亦十分欣赏。

就其面积而言,英国是一个多人口的小国。英国的乡土建筑风格多样,引人瞩目,沿任何方向走上 50km,就会发现房屋的建筑式样及所用材料都不尽相同。这种现象是由多种原因造成的,部分归因于曾经侵占这片土地达千年之久的罗马人、斯堪的纳维亚人、日耳曼人及高卢人的文化的影响。再者,就地取材也是另一重要原因。森林里的木材、河滩边的树枝以

from the riversides and clay from the ground being widely used. So much so, that the most dramatic "half-timbered" wood-framed houses came to symbolise traditional Britain. The house in which the poet William Shakespeare lived still stands at Stratford-upon-Avon, and is a typical example of the timber-framed vernacular houses of Warwickshire. This is a region some seventy kilometers north of Oxford. Between them lie the Cotswolds.

Deriving from the west Saxon word *weald*, the word "wold" is used to describe large tracts of open, hilly, "rolling" countryside, while the prefix "Cots" may refer to *cotes*, the stone-walled enclosures in which the large flocks of sheep were protected from cold winter winds and snow. Much of the Cotswold region is wooded, though the soil is thin and does not support intensive agriculture, for just below the surface soil there is limestone. The Cotswolds form an 80-kilometer section in the great arc of the limestone belt which extends from the Dorset coast in the south-west of England to the Yorkshire moors in the north-east of the country. Consequently, the limits of the Cotswolds are not sharply defined, but this sector of the limestone arc is notable for its overall topography. Like a stone slab which has been lifted on one edge, it slopes from a steep escarpment to the west and north, to a low plain as it meets the broad valley of the river Thames to the south and east.

It is not a region that was developed in recent times; there were Bronze Age settlements in the Cotswolds 3500 years ago, and the Romans left

及地里的粘土, 这些都被广泛运用。凡此种种, 最惹人注目的莫过于“半木结构的”木构架房屋了, 它甚至象征着传统意义上的不列颠。诗人威廉·莎士比亚曾居住过的房屋仍然座落在 Stratford-upon-Avon, 这是 Warwickshire 地区典型的木结构房屋。这一地区位于牛津城北 70km 处, Cotswolds 就位于其间。

"wold" 这个词来源于西萨克森语 "weald", 用来描述丘陵起伏的大片开阔地, 前缀 "cots" 可能与 "cotes" 有关, 意为大群绵羊挡风防雪的石墙。这一地区大多为森林覆盖。该地区土地贫瘠, 薄薄的浅层表土下就是石灰岩, 因而不适宜农耕。从英国西南部 Dorset 海滨到东北部 Yorkshire 荒原区绵延着一个巨大的石灰岩地带, Cotswolds 地区在其中成弧形绵延 80km。因而, 该地区的边界难以准确界定, 但这一弧形石灰岩带仍然因其显著地貌而引人注目。它像被掀起一边的一块石板, 由陡峭的悬崖峭壁向西北倾斜, 沿一片低缓的平原和宽阔的泰晤士河谷交汇在一起, 然后又向东南方向绵延。

这片土地很久以前就已经被开发了。早在 3500 年以前的青铜器时代, 这地区就有了居民。公元初期,

their mark in the early years of the Christian era. But the Cotswolds became significant as subsistence cultivation was largely replaced by extensive sheep farming to meet the demands for fine quality wool for the weaving industry in Europe. The hardy “Cotswold Lion” sheep which were bred in vast numbers on the grassy slopes of the wolds, brought prosperity to the region in the 12th and 13th centuries. As a result the region enjoyed a period of expansion and building. Though the forests had been diminished by former settlers, sufficient had remained for timber-framed housing to be common, and only the monasteries, the churches and the manor houses were built in stone. In the Cotswolds as in most of England, the manorial system introduced by the Normans from France in the eleventh century, persisted. Typically, a village would have a church at its centre, often on a hill, and nearby a large house in which the “lord of the manor” lived. It would also have a tavern which sold drinks and acted as a social centre for the villagers.

With the expansion of the wool and textile industries in Europe the Cotswolds went into a period of decline, but the Great Fire of London in 1666 contributed to a new period of prosperity as Cotswold stone was used in rebuilding the city. With agricultural reform and renewed wealth, with operating quarries and many skilled craftsmen, much of the timber building was replaced by building in stone. Ranging from light orange in the north to a warm grey in the west, Cotswold stone varies in its suitability for carving as it does in its colour. Decorative moulding can be seen on the buildings of

罗马人在此留下印迹。后来,为了满足欧洲毛纺业对精羊毛的大量需求而发展了绵羊养殖业,并且代替了传统的农耕生存方式,这时 Cotswold 的重要性才凸现出来。“Cotswold 狮子”绵羊的大量饲养使该地区在 12、13 世纪时非常繁荣。于是这一地区发展迅速,大量的建筑得以兴建。尽管早期的居民砍掉了大量的林木,但仍然有足够的木材保证人们普遍兴建木结构的房屋,只有修道院、教堂、庄园宅第才用石材。同英国的大部分地区一样, Cotswolds 地区仍然盛行庄园式建筑体系,这种建筑体系是在 11 世纪随着诺曼征服从法国带来的。它的典型特征是村庄的中心部位通常有一座教堂,建在小山上,靠近教堂有一座大宅,“庄园主”就住在里边。村庄里也会有一些小酒馆,出售一些饮品通常是村民们的社交中心。

随着毛纺业在欧洲的扩展, Cotswolds 渐渐衰落。1666 年的伦敦大火使该地区再度繁荣,因为重建伦敦需要该地区的石头。随着农业生产方式的进步及经济的再度繁荣,随着露天石场的开发,能工巧匠的出现,石构房屋代替了许多木构房屋。从北部的淡橘黄色为主到西部的暖灰色为主, Cotswolds 地区的石料色彩丰富,适用于多种雕刻。西部的建筑上随处可见装饰性的雕刻,那些由商人们出资兴建的著名的“羊毛教堂”无

the west, and the famous “wool churches”, paid for and built by successful merchants, are finely detailed. Occasionally, roofs are thatched but the majority are clad with overlapping stone tiles, graded from ridge to eaves. Manors and churches, houses and outbuildings, barns and sheep-cotes, field walls and bridges are all built in local stone, giving a remarkable sense of harmony and unity to the landscape.

Though there had been studies of the geology of the region there was nothing on its architecture until Guy Dawber and W. Galsworthy Davie published their *Old Cottages, Farmhouses and Other Stone Buildings in the Cotswold District* in 1904. Except for monographs on manor houses and churches, little has been written about the traditional architecture since then. Instead, there are many guidebooks for walkers and holiday visitors, and innumerable picture books. Cotswold vernacular architecture deserves more systematic research, but writers have had difficulty in finding a basis on which to select buildings for examination. That is why I am so pleased to introduce *The Windrush Spring Settlements* by Degang Wang. While studying for his Master's degree in the International Studies in Vernacular Architecture course at Oxford Brookes University, Degang Wang saw the importance of the rivers, such as the Coln, the Evenlode and the Windrush, in the siting of the farmhouses and villages. He recognised that the limestone was common to them, but that it was the rivers that established a logical association between the settlements. At the foot of the valley on whose southern

not have the refined details. Occasionally one would see some thatched houses, but the majority of the roofs are made of stone tiles from the ridge to the eaves, layered and overlapping. The manor houses, churches, cottages and outbuildings, barns, sheep-cotes, field walls and bridges are all built in local stone, giving a remarkable sense of harmony and unity to the landscape.

尽管早已有人涉猎该地区地质学的研究,但是直到 1994 年 Guy Dawber 和 W. Galsworthy Davie 出版了他们的《Cotswolds 地区的旧式小屋、农场住房和其他石构建筑》一书后,对该地区建筑的研究才正式开始。自那以后,很多人对庄园及教堂做了大量研究,但是对于传统建筑的研究却少有问津。倒是很多为游人编写的旅游指南和画册对此却多有提及。Cotswolds 地区的传统建筑值得系统研究,但是作者们很难找到一些建筑物作为他们研究的基点。这就是我非常乐意将王刚的 *Windrush Spring Settlements* 一文作序的缘故。在牛津 Brookes 大学攻读国际民居研究的硕士学位时,王刚先生就意识到许多河流对村庄、农场选址的重要影响,如 Coln、Evenlode 及 Windrush 等。他认为石灰岩应用于建筑相当普遍,但是在各居民点间建立起有机联系的却是河流。座落在 Windrush 流过的溪谷南岸的古镇 Burford 是他最为推崇欣赏的,所以

bank was his favourite Cotswold town of Burford, flowed the river Windrush, and it was its "spring settlements" that he chose as the basis of his study of a Cotswold vernacular tradition.

Degang Wang has brought a discerning mind to his work, with an interest in geology, a strong sense of history, the perceptions and knowledge of an architect and the objectivity of a member of a different culture. But he also developed a love of the Cotswolds and a sympathetic understanding of the lifeways and values of those who created its vernacular architecture tradition. His work is an important contribution to the study of the subject and requisite reading for those who will follow him in its documentation and interpretation.

他选择 "Spring Settlements" 作为研究 Cotswold 地区传统建筑的基础点。

土的刚先生怀着对地质学的兴趣,强烈的历史感,以及作为一个建筑师的知识 and 感悟,一个有着不同文化背景的人的客观态度,对这一课题进行探索。同时,他对 Cotswolds 地区怀有一份情感,对于亲手创造 Cotswolds 地区传统建筑的人们的生活方式和价值观亦有一份同情和理解。他的工作对研究该课题作了重要的贡献,他的研究文献和注释对那些欲从事这一课题研究的人来说是必不可少的读物。

Abstract

The purpose of this essay is to analyse the native formations of the vernacular architecture of the River Windrush area, which contain and represent the characteristics of the Cotswolds in whole, and to attempt to lay a foundation for the further comparative studies through this case study.

The method of analysis is that draws some basic principles on the basis of the local physical environment and farming economy, which influence the forms and growth of houses and settlements, and uses the existed buildings and their groups to demonstrate the points made.

The natural phenomena in the River Windrush area influence the local farming economy, forms of settlements and styles of buildings. The weathering of limestones gives the Windrush land a thin brash soil, which makes an excellent sheep country environment. The development of woollen industry coming from the wool gives this area rich potentialities in fleece income, this accounts for the ubiquitous use of stone as the main construction material, and influences the forms of Windrush buildings and settlements based on the relief environment and river valley. The forms and growth of the buildings, villages and towns in the River Windrush area associate with its natural formations, farming economy and culture having the prolonged individualities. Limestone is the main feature characterising the Windrush hills and Windrush buildings. The techniques of the limestone are used at all parts of the building construction. The buildings of the River Windrush area constitute a consistent sub-regional tradition contains and represents many characteristics of the Cotswolds.

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Paul and Degang



Location of the River Windrush area in England

Copy from the Penguin World Atlas



Map of the River Windrush Area

Copied from Ordnance Survey, UK

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