



中国

历史·文化·名·镇

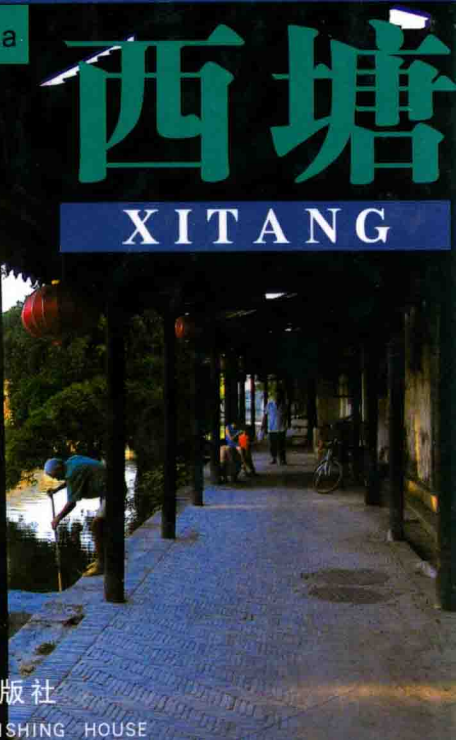
国家历史文化名城研究中心 审定

EXAMINED BY NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER OF HISTORICAL CITIES

A famous historic and cultural town of China

西塘

XITANG



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CHINA RAILWAY PUBLISHING HOUSE



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图例 Legend

文物保护单位

Unit of Cultural Relic

● ● ● 国家级 At the National Level

● ● 省级 At the Provincial Level

● 市(县)级 At the Municipal (County) Level

总 序

在神州大地上有许多历史城镇，是中华民族悠久历史文化的结晶。1982年以来，国家已命名了4批共101座历史文化名城，2003年又命名了首批10座历史文化名镇，许多乡镇正在积极申报，这说明国家已把历史名镇的保护提升到新的高度，也反映了人们对保护遗产的共识。历史名镇和名城一样，拥有较高的文化、科学和艺术价值，承载着不同地区和民族的优秀传统文化。不少名镇有幸地保留了更多的具有鲜明特色的文化遗存，弥足珍贵。我国地域辽阔，城镇众多，历史文化名镇的保护与合理发展方兴未艾。我们编辑出版这套关于中国的历史文化名镇系列画册，是想通过介绍这些名镇的的历史文化精华，以及介绍各地保护名镇的经验，更好地促进历史文化名镇保护工作。

阮宜安

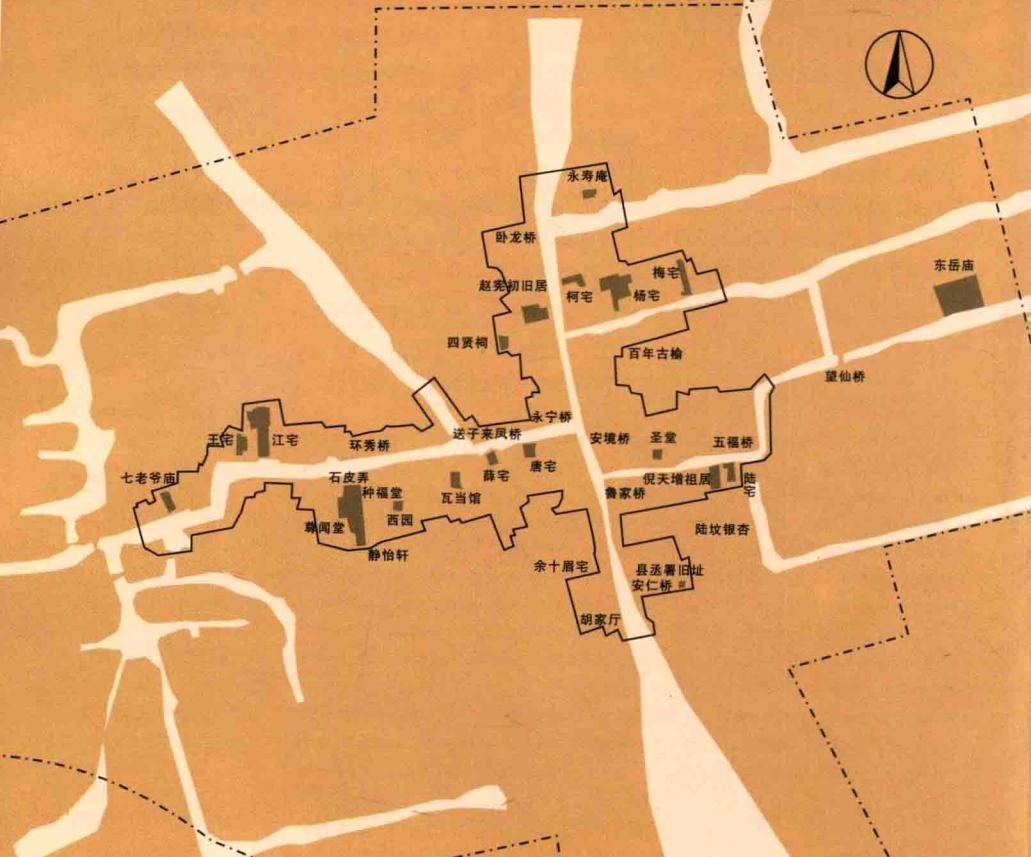
GENERAL PREFACE

There are numerous historic and cultural cities and towns on the vast territory of this Divine Land; they are the cultural crystallization of the long history of the Chinese Nation. Since 1982 the State has nominated 101 historic and cultural cities in successive 4 groups, and in 2003 it again nominated 10 historic cultural towns for the first time; now a great number of towns are enthusiastically applying for the nomination, which explains that the State has raise the protection of historic towns to a new high, and also reflects that people have got a common view on protecting heritages. Just as famous cities, famous historic towns are also provided with relatively high cultural, scientific and artistic value, and carry the excellent tradition of varied regions and nationalities. Quite a few famous towns have fortunately preserved much more cultural remains with distinctive special features, which are indeed precious. Our country has a vast territory and a great many cities and towns, and the protection and rational development of historic and cultural towns are well under way without signs of decline. The aim of our editing and publishing of this Series Picture Albums of China's Famous Historic and Cultural Towns is that we would like, through introducing the historical and cultural essence of these famous towns and protecting the efforts made for carrying forward traditional culture, to intensify the strength of the billows and waves in protecting the famous towns.

Ruan Yisan

西塘古镇保护范围规划图

A Master Plan Map of the Historic Town





目

CONTENTS

录



名镇西塘 The Famous Township of Xitang

壹 / 古镇风貌 1

The Style and Features of Ancient Town

贰 / 名胜古迹 53

Scenic Spots and Historical Sites

叁 / 民间藏馆 75

Nongovernmental Collection Museums

肆 / 西塘名人 87

Celebrities of Xitang

伍 / 民俗风情 91

Lifestyle and Folk Customs

陆 / 风味特产 99

Local Delicacies

柒 / 旅游服务 105

Tourism Services

西塘位于长江三角洲腹地，行政归属浙江省嘉善县，因其独特的水乡风貌，2001年已列入中国世界文化遗产预备清单，2003年被命名为第一批中国历史文化名镇。

西塘，古称胥塘。春秋时期，吴国伐越，名臣伍子胥出兵于此，开挖运河而名，故又称伍子胥塘，已有2500多年历史。元

名镇西塘

代西塘得到进一步发展，沿河建屋，因水成市，称“斜塘”。至明代正式建镇。

西塘是著名的江南水乡古镇，镇内河道纵横交叉，东西横流的主水道称杨秀泾，南北纵流的主水道为市河，两河形成了丁字河；烧香港、三里塘、六斜港、十里港、来凤港、乌泾塘等河道穿插其间，均

THE FAMOUS TOWN OF XITANG

Located in the hinterland of the Yangtze River Delta, Xitang is under the administrative jurisdiction of Jiashan County, Zhejiang Province; thanks to its unique water-land style and features, it was included in the Preparatory List of China's World Cultural Heritages in 2001, and was denominated as one of the first-batch China's famous historical and cultural towns in 2003.

Xitang was called Xutang in ancient times. In the Spring and Autumn period, Kingdom Wu sent an expedition against Kingdom Yue, and Wu Zixu the famous minister sent troops to dig a canal here, hence the name or the alternate name of Wu Zixu Embankment, which has a history of over 2500 years. Xitang was further developed in the Yuan Dynasty, with lots of houses built along the river; because the river, so it was then called officially into a town in the Ming. Being a famous water-land ancient Xitang has crisscross waterways from east to west is called the longitudinal main river flowing from and they both form the T-Letter



the marketplace was formed due to "Xietang". And it was established Dynasty.

town south of the Yangtze River, inside it; the main river traversing Yangxiujing River, while the north to south is called the Shi River, Rivers, with the rivers of

与丁字河交汇，构成密密的水道交通网，在以舟船为主要交通工具的年代，这些河道方便了集镇的经济发展与人际交往。

西塘有许多长街小巷，以及质朴雅致的古居民宅。雨天，长长的廊棚能使人不必湿足也可遍走全镇；晴天，短短的石皮弄总是让人觉得古朴幽深。老房子崇稷堂简

陋中不失典雅，尊闻堂豪华的木雕梁，富贵中没有傲气。

古镇虽小，但名胜古迹颇多。初建于宋代的东岳庙古风犹存，明代始建的七老爷庙中的七老爷仍被人们尊敬；修复后仿明代西园的西园八景巧夺天工、精巧细腻，尽显江南园林风采。



Shaoxianggang, Sanlitang, Liuxiegang, Shiligang, Laifenggang, Wujingtang and so on threading their way between and connecting with the T-Letter Rivers to form a dense waterway communication network, which, in the years with the boats being used as the main communication means, was convenient for the marketplace town's economic development and interpersonal association.

Xitang has lots of long streets and narrow lanes, as well as ancient civil residences of elegant simplicity. When it is raining, the long sheltered passageways enable people to go all around the town without wetting their feet; while it's shining, the short stone-skin paved lanes make one feel their primitive simplicity and seclusion. With regard to the old houses, the Chongji Hall keeps its gracefulness in its being simple and crude, while the Zunwen Hall, though built with deluxe carved wooden girders, has no arrogance in its wealthy grandeur.

Though small in size, the ancient town has quite a few historical sites and scenic spots. The Temple of the God of Mount Tai, first built in the Song Dynasty, is still of its ancient style and features, the Seventh Lord in the Seventh Lord Temple, first built in the Ming Dynasty, is still kept in people's esteem; the Eight Views of West Garden renovated after the Ming Dynasty West Garden style are of nature-excelling wonderful craftsmanship and fully demonstrate the glorious charm of the gardens south of the Yangtze River with their delicacy and fineness.

Xitang is a gathering place of talented people: the Yuan Dynasty arts and crafts master Yang Mao and the late-Yuan and early-Ming arts and crafts master Zhang Cheng manufactured their excellent-without-compare lacquer-ware; and Zhou Ding the Ming Dynasty poet left behind his poems to praise beautiful Xitang: "Morning sun over the shining rivers, gracefully

西塘是人文兴盛之地，元代的工艺大师杨茂、元末明初的工艺大师张成制作出精美绝伦的漆器作品。明代的诗人周鼎曾留下了许多赞美锦绣西塘的诗篇，“旭日满晴川，翩翩贾客船”，“古塔依清湾，行人指点间”。昆曲玉成奏的戏班演唱的昆曲被评为世界口头和非物质文化遗产。伞旗、荡湖船、蚌壳舞等民间舞蹈，歌颂着家乡的风调雨顺。

西塘是江南水乡富庶之地，物产丰富，汾湖大蟹可与江苏阳澄湖清水大闸蟹媲美，砂锅馄饨鸭独出此镇，让人回味，还有土特产白饼、梅花三白酒、熏青豆、五香豆、西塘粽子、青米团子、状元糕、八珍糕等数不胜数，都是馈赠亲友的佳品。

近年来，镇政府在保护古镇文化遗产方面做了大量卓有成效的工作，在确保遗产原真性的前提下，对全镇展开了大规模的环境综合治理和古建的修缮修复工作，有效地促进了古镇风貌和历史文脉的保护延续。脉的保护延续。

moving are the traders' boats." "Ancient pagoda erects along the limpid stream, and pedestrians are appreciating around it". The kunqu opera Yuchengzou Troupe has sung out the World Oral Nonmaterial Cultural Heritage, while the umbrella flag, lake boat, clamshell and other folk dances are celebrating their homeland's good weather for the crops.

A rich place in the water-land south of the Yangtze River, Xitang is abundant in products: the Fenu Lake crabs compare favorably with the fresh-water crabs of the Jiangsu's Yangcheng Lake hairy crabs; wonton duck in casserole uniquely prepared in this town leads one to aftertastes; there are also special

local products such as Bai cakes, Sanbai wine, smoked green beans, Wuxiang beans, Xitang pyramid dumplings, green rice dumplings, No. One Scholar pastry, Bazhen cake...too numerous to mention one by one, which are all good gifts to be presented to relatives and friends.

Over recent years, the Town Government has done a great deal of fruitful work to protect the cultural heritages of the ancient town; and under the prerequisite of ensuring the original truthfulness, they've launched a large-scale environmental comprehensive improvement and ancient building renovation and repair work, thus to effectively promote the protection and continuation of the ancient town's features and style as well as its history cultural reins.



3





塔湾街 The Tawan Street.



廊棚 The veranda shelter.

塔湾街

位于镇西，是古镇通向七老爷庙的主要通道，原有雁塔禅院，故又名雁塔湾。全街大部分被廊棚覆盖，风貌独特，古宅民居颇多。

THE TAWAN STREET

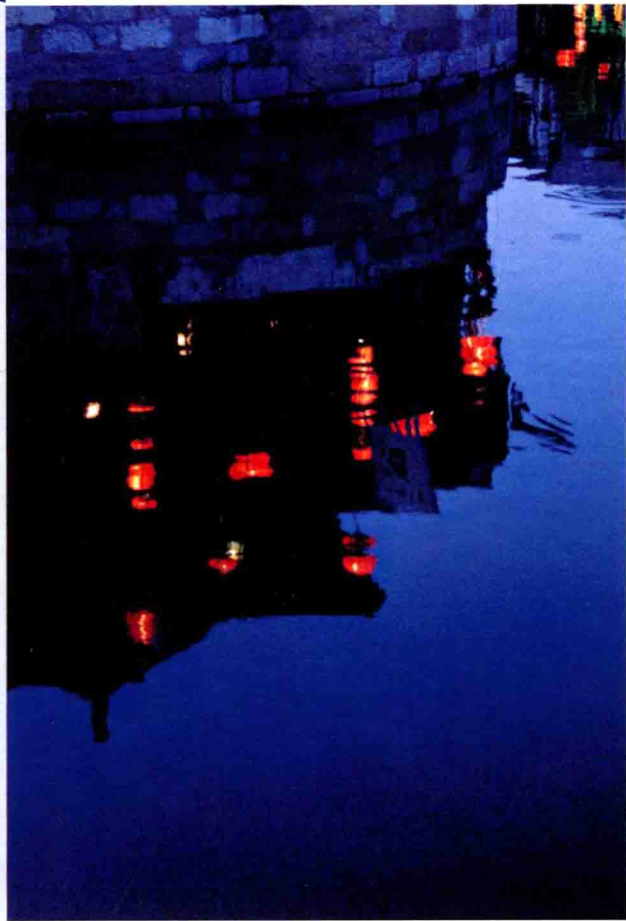
Located on the main passageway from the ancient town to the Seventh Lord Temple, it originally had a temple by the name of Wild Goose Pagoda Buddhist Monastery, so it was also named Wild Goose Bend. The most part of the whole street is covered with veranda shelter in a unique appearance, and there are quite a few ancient-mansion civil residences there.



廊棚 The veranda shelter



河滩之晨
The morning over river band.

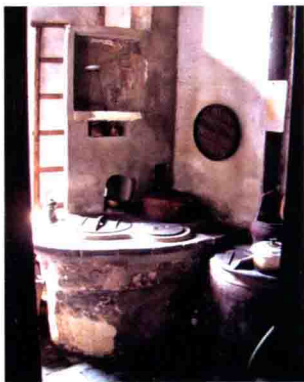


灯影婆娑

The whirling shadowy lanterns.



花墙 A lattice wall.



老灶头
An old-style cooking range.



老房间 An old-style room.

德善堂 The Virtue an Benevolence Hall





廊棚一瞥 A Glimpse of Veranda Shelter



桥联 Bridge couplet



环秀桥

位于塔湾街，初建于明万历九年（1581），原是三孔拱桥，当时为西塘第一高桥，古人有“三券好奥梁，雄哉壮两乡”，可见环秀桥之雄姿。现桥为1997年重建。

HUANXIU BRIDGE

Sited on the Pagoda Bend Street, it was first built in the ninth year of the Wanli period in the Ming Dynasty (1581); originally it was a three-arch bridge, and was the No. One high bridge at Xitang of the time, so the ancient people had the saying that "What a good three-arch bridge, how magnificent it is for the two townships", from which one can see the splendid appearance of the bridge. The nowadays bridge was reconstructed in 1997.



环秀桥 Huanxiu Bridge.