

ONE CULTURAL ROUTE SPAN THE MILLENNARY : CHINESE TEA ROAD

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Introduction

In the process of Chinese ancient civilization, The Tea Road is the most famous and important road as the cultural route that communicated extensively with other countries in the world, which still affects people's life style and behavior yet.

China is the earliest country which found and makes use of tea tree in the world, which is honored "the motherland of tea". According to the document record in the *Shi Jing* and *Er Ya*, 3000 years ago, Chinese began to plant and drink tea which gets around in the world in Han Dynasty. The fashion of planting and drinking tea is all originated from China and Chinese tea as well as the tea pot became the symbol of China. Although the British Major Mr. R. Bruce found the wild tea trees in the north of India in 1824, the knowledge and use of tea was influenced by Chinese tea culture afterwards. Presently, there are about 50 countries planting tea trees which distribute over the wide regions between the north latitude 45° and south latitude 34°, and the rite of drinking tea spreads all over the world.

There are two reasons for the spread of Chinese tea, the first one was its medical function to refresh the brain and health protection, and the second reason was the combination of tea and Buddhism to create the Sado which had deeply affected countries around China. The Korea scholar Shi Longyun analyzed the appellations and pronunciations in different countries and drew the conclusion that all the tea in the world is originated from China. From the pronunciations, we can even judge the exact cradle in the north or south of China. If it is pronounced *CHA*, it is definitely from the north China for example, *CHA* in Russia, *SHAI* in Arab, *CHAY* in Turkey, *CHA* in Japanese Indian Portuguese Farsi. If it is pronounced *TE*, it is from the south China such as Shantou and Xiamen for example, *TEA* in English, *THEE* in Germany and Dutch, *THE* in French, *TE* in Italian Spanish Denish Norwegian Hungarian Swedish Malay, *THEA* in Latin, *TEO* in Esperanto etc. All of these

are compile into chart in his book *The Review of Tea Name*.

When and where did the tea disperse to the world? There is still no answer at present. It is not later than Tang Dynasty, the following passageway from which tea culture spread were:

To the east, the tea culture transported from sea road to Japan and Korean Peninsula etc. In Japan, in 9th century, the monk Zuicheng and Konghai studied in Guoqing Temple of Tiantai Mountain, took the tea seeds back to Japan and planted in Shiga County. It had upraised *Hongrenrongfeng*, the first peak of tea culture. In 12th century, a Japanese monk named Rongxi took *Moshichongchafa* and tea seed from Wutai Mountain in Song Dynasty, and had formed the second peak of Japanese Sado. After that, Chinese tea and Japanese culture mixed together constantly, and formed the modern Japanese Sado eventually.

To the south, the famous *Cha Ma Ancient Path* went through from Sichuan, Yunnan Province to Tibet, and extended to Bhutan, Nepal and India, arrived West Asia and the beach of Red Sea in West Africa in the end.

To the west, the tea extended along the Silk Road along. In Tang Dynasty numbers of Arab merchants purchase Chinese tea and China to Persia through Xinjiang Province.

To the north, it was the great channel from Hubei Province to Mongolia and Russia through Henan, Shanxi and Hebei Province. This paper will discuss this way emphatically.

Thousand-year street for Tea Convey by Jigongche Vehicle

1 The Chama Official, Datijuchamasi, Xunjiansi in the Entrance of Songfeng Mountain

Hubei Province is located in the middle reaches of Changjiang River, and there are many sloping fields as well as mountains in this area. The soil is almost acid and sandy.

Section IV: Cultural routes: the challenges of linear settings for monuments and sites

Section IV: Gérer les routes culturelles dans leur diversité-La conservation de sites linéaires diversifiés

It's mild all year round, much rain, which is adapted to the planting of tea. Shennongjia region in Hubei Province is one of the first cradles of wild tea. According to *Shennongbaicao*: Shennong tasted hundreds of herbages, while one day he caught 72 poisons and recovered from tea. In the Qin and Han Dynasty, the rite of planting and drinking tea in Hubei and Sichuan Province was prevailing, and people have discovered many thousand-year tea trees now.

Yangloudong is located in the southeast of Hubei Province and is the only access to Hunan and Jiangxi Province. It's near Linxiang, Chibi, Chongyang, Tongcheng, Xiushui five counties and the distributing center of goods, which are the first and important region for tea in Hubei Province as well as the main distributing center of tea in all ages. In the 4th century, there were some anecdotes about the tea. In the 7th century, the tea is combined with Buddhism and becomes the key parts of Buddhism culture. In order to study the Buddhism, the tea is extensively planted in the fane, so people cultivate many excellent varieties. For example, the *YuquanXianrenzhang Tea* which comes from Yuquan Temple, in Dangyang, Hubei Province, In 733, the *Saint of Tea* named Luyu, is adopted as an abandoned baby by Monk Zhiji of Longgai Temple in Tianmen, Hubei Province. Under the influence of tea culture in temple, Luyu completed the first tea composing the *Cha Jing* in the world about 27 years later. In 780, because of the economic value of tea, Tang Dynasty began to impose on tea to aid the army. In 834, the Dynasty set up the Quecha Institution, Empire Li'ang deputed the official for tea and horse, who was in charge of the *Dong Tea* produced in Yangloudong. The tea yielded from southeast of Hubei depute spread to the whole state. According to the book *Shanfujing*, the tea is popular from Qizhou and Ezhou. In Song Dynasty, the government still uses the Quecha Institution. In order to increase the number of horses at the frontier, the Dynasty found the station in northwest to exchange the tea and horse and set up six exchange stations in civil state. The three of six in Hubei Province, Yangloudong is the important goods supply of tea and horse exchange in northwest trade. Yuan Dynasty, an empire across the Eurasia make the fashion of drinking tea popular and the further demand of tea. In 1268, the tea sold in Tea Regie around the capital. And 16 officials for the government Quecha Institution were set up, who is responsible for managing the buy and selling of the tea. In 1336, the general administration of tea freight was established in Hubei, Hunan, Guangxi and Jiangxi Province. Yangloudong, which belongs to the Xingguo County, is the important tea regie. According to the record of *Shihuozihi* in Ming History, the good place for yielding tea is Wuchang, and the famous place for yielding tea is Xinguo. In order to increase the income, the government dealt with the tea management strictly. Furthermore, regulations there must be,

the law-breaker will be punished with excruciation. In order to control tea smuggle, the government began to establish bureaus to check the trade of tea or salt and their licenses in 1440. And then the government established Tea Checkpoint in Jinkou in the middle reaches of Changjiang River, which in charge of the tea trades in Yangloudong. In the Qing Dynasty, people in Yangloudong and the surrounding counties made a living on tea planting. The tea was gathered together to be processed in Yangloudong which is at the foot of the Furong Mountain. In the period of Emperor Kangxi in Qing Dynasty, the Shanxi Merchants came to Yangloudong to dealing in tea, along with the tea house being set up. In 1863, the Russian merchants came to Wuhan to deal in tea. In order to reduce the middle link of the trade, they went to Yangloudong and the surrounding places to set up tea house. Yangloudong became famous for tea in the world.

2 The Great Deal of Shanxi Merchants and Tea Convey North

In the early time of Qing Dynasty, Shanxi Merchants bought tea leafs, mainly through agency, in many provinces, such as Fujian, Zhejiang, Jiangxi Province, etc. The tea was processed in the workshops and was sold to the Guanwai by the way of Jiangxi and Henan Province. The tea from surrounding counties was sold outside in the same methods. In 1853, because of the Taiping rebellion, the southern route of tea trade was blocked. So Yangloudong began to stand out by its superiority in transportation. Especially it's the historical planting base of Boma Tea, where there was excellent tea-leaf and abundant workers. It was very good for integrative planting and trade. Shanxi Merchants grasp the opportunity well. They made use of the capital leverage, forming a Tea Road across stretch for thousands of miles through great efforts.

Firstly, Shanxi Merchants directed the local tea planters to improve the tea quality. They took many advanced methods, such as bunch planting, transplant, layer planting, to expand the growing area. In order to adapt to the market need, they guide the tea planters to learn to grade tea and to improve the techniques of processing tea to produce excellent green tea and black tea. These tea products were mostly sold in bulk, which would be bought and packaged by Shanxi Merchants. For the sake of improving the economic performance, Shanxi Merchants started to make the brick tea. This method condensed the physical volume of the tea and brought convenience to conserve and transport. Soon the Shanxi Merchants substitute the more advanced iron-press-tea machine for wood-press-tea machine, which improved the quality of products and the economic performance .Shanxi Merchants stick the trademark on the brick tea and gave clear indication of who supervised the manufacture. When finished, the brick tea marked brand

would be taken to the Xindian by Jigongche vehicle.

3 Chuan Brand Trademark Brick Tea and the Ancient Jigongche Road

In the early time of Qing Dynasty, the tea produced in Yangloudong began to be sold to the whole country. In 1786, two Shanxi Merchants, Sanyuchuan and Jushengchuan, came to Yangloudong and set up a company to buy tea and make brick tea. Their brick tea was marked with the brand Sanyuchuan. Because the material of the brick tea was the old tea-leaf, the tea tasted mellow and strong. The herdsmen liked the tea very much and called the tea elixir vitae, which were heard of by the merchants. Soon they tagged the brick tea with an only one word Chuan (Fig1-Chuan brand trademark brick tea). While the herdsmen wanted to buy brick tea, if they saw the tea tagged with Chuan, they would pick up that tea with no hesitation.

Because of the good market of the brick tea and the efficient transportation, the tea market in Yangloudong expanded increasingly and became very famous. In 1821, the merchants from Hankou, Zhenjiang, Tianjin and Guangdong came here to deal in tea in succession. Soon the Russian, Germany and Japan merchants came here too. Yangloudong gradually became the famous tea market in the world.

The international market expanded, causing supply and demand to be out of balance. The tea produced in Yangloudong was not enough for the great market. Then many towns, such as Chongyang which is near Chibi, Tongcheng, Xianning, Tongshan and the towns of Hunan and Jiangxi Province which is near the south-east of Hubei Province, began their tea production and trade. There were agencies in the area around Yangloudong in about 100km in circumference. Yangloudong is 50km far from Tongshan in the east, 45km far from Tongcheng in the south, 40km far from Linxiang in Hunan in the west and 50km far from Xianning in the north. In 1840, there were more than 50 black tea houses in Yangloudong, which could produce more than 50 thousands Dan every year. Till 1847, the amounts of the companies add up to more than 70, which could produce more than 150 thousands Dan every year. In 1875, the tea companies in Yangloudong sum up to more than 80 in total. The dealers from Tianjin, Shanghai, Hankou bought

and processed about 20 thousands of Dan. The Shanxi Merchants produced 340 thousands of Dan for export. Guangdong merchants processed 370 thousands Dan of black tea for the foreign companies. In total, Yangloudong produced tea products about 700 thousands Dan, which were worth 20 millions taels.

At that time, There were mainly two kinds of vehicles to transport tea products. One was by foot and the other was wheelbarrow named Jigongche vehicle (Fig2- Jigongche Vehicle). In order to make the Jigongche vehicle go smoothly, the tea companies pave flagstone on the soft sections of the road and put up hundreds of bridges on the ravines. Then the good transport net came into being. During the period from March to October every year, there were tens of thousands Jigongche vehicles running on those ancient roads. Having been used like this for more than 200 years, the ancient road was branded with deep tracks (Fig3- Jigongche Vehicle Trace), which witnessed the civilization of tea road.

The Tea Road across Thousands of Miles

1 From Yangloudong to Hankou, the Biggest Tea Factory in the 18th Century

Yangloudong lies at the junction of three provinces. As the supply of the goods of cookie-tea in Cha ma trade, Hankou is the most important port. The boat owners that carry the tea usually stops for rest and supply, then turn to the Han River and went north.

Hankou is at the junction of Han River and Changjiang River, which is the outlet of Han River. In traditional society, the waterage was an important transport form. And Hankou was very superior because of its location. After the Opium War in 1840, Shanghai opened port, the Shanxi Merchants could pass through the channel of Changjiang River to Shanghai and made foreign trade conveniently. And the foreign merchants also enter inland through Shanghai. So, naturally Hankou became the biggest port of inland rivers in China. Yangloudong was the transfer center since the Russian set up tea house in 1863. Because the condition was limited in Yangloudong, to process tea in great scale was not realistic. In 1873, the Russian moved the S. W. Livinoff tea factory to Hankou (Fig4- S. W. Livinoff tea factory), as well

as Co., Molchanoff, Pechatnoff & Co. moved to Hankou did. And soon the Englishmen set up Hankou brick tea factory. In order to be competitive with the Britishman, the Russian S. W. Livinoff tea factory spend much money on improving production techniques. It was recorded that S. W. Livinoff spend 4,000 thousands Yuan and have 5,600 Yuan corporate assets in total. It owned 15 steam brick-tea machines, 7 tea-cookie machines, and employed thousands of chinese workers. S. W. Livinoff tea factory had a two-storied workshop, and there were louver windows on the top of drying workshop. It also had 3 big chimneys and high bounding walls, which was much bigger than the British's. S. W. Livinoff tea factory was the biggest brick tea factory in the world.

2 Russian Concession in Hankou Booming From Tea

In the 6th century, the Russian got chinese tea indirectly through the Arabian. At that time the tea was very precious and expensive. In the later period of Ming Dynasty, the tea spread in Mongolia. In 1638, when the Tsar tasted the tea from Mongolian khan , he liked it very much. After middle period of the 17th century, the tea became luxury goods for Russian upper class and drinking tea symbolized the noble and identity.

In 1863, the Russian opened tea-houses in Hankou, Fuzhou, Jiujiang in succession, dealing in the tea. In 1873, the scale of those tea factories was expanded, so the Russian S. W. Livinoff brick tea house in Yangloudong was moved to Hankou Lihuangpi street, beside of the Changjiang River. At the same time, the Russian built S. W. Livinoff Tea Inn on the river beach which was the first wharf in Hankou in the early modern time.

In 1874, the Russian brick tea processing factory of Molchanoff, Pechatnoff & Co. open in Hankou Fuchang Street in the concession of Great Britain. At end of the same year, the Russian brick tea processing factory of TokmaKoff, Molotkoff & Co. open in the Jixiang Street in the concession of Great Britain too. So far become three major bricks tea factory of Hankou with S. W. Livinoff & Co., Molchanoff, Pechatnoff & Co. and TokmaKoff, Molotkoff & Co.. In 1891, the brick tea factory of TokmaKoff, Molotkoff & Co. held the celebration on 25th anniversary in Hankou. Russian

merchants specially invited the crown prince Nicola to participate in the celebration for this. The crown prince appreciated to the business of the tea processing factory and expansion which Russian merchant ran in Hankou very much. Under the patronage in Russian businessmen of tea, this future Tsar promised to donate a church to countrymen residing abroad, meeting the religious demands of Russian countrymen residing abroad. H. A. NBAHOB, a Russian merchant, promised to provide funds. And one Orthodox Eastern Church Russia church was completed in Poyang street No. 83 in 1876. Soon the Russian set up the Russian concession of Hankou here in 1896, which was the first concession in early-modern China (Fig5- Russia concession in 1926). Not long time after, the Russian not only had large-scale factories in the Russian concession of Hankou, but also had luxurious house, beautiful consulate, completely equipped hospital, stern police station and glorious cathedral.

The Russian tea merchants not only had facilitated and prospered the Russian concession of Hankou, but also make it become the unique example adjoined and building with the concession of Great Britain in China.

3 Hunched Bell Ancient Road and the Life and Culture Connected with Tea in European Countries such as Mongolia, Russian

From the second half of the 17th century to the beginning of the 20th century, the tea in Hubei province was gathered together in Hankou, and carried to Xiangfan by water, cross Tonghe, to Sheqi in Henan Province. Here mule and horse began to be used. The cargo went through Luoyang, cross the Yellow River, via Jincheng, Changzhi, Qixian, Taiyuan, Datong, arrived in Zhangjiakou. The camel started to be put in use. The cargos entered the big grassland and the desert, and cross Saynshand of Mongolia, reach Ulan Bator of Mongolia. Because here is located in the north of desert while the climate is cold, it begin to snow in September, the camels were cold-resistant, so were changed to the ox cart. Through 150km marching, the cargo reached Kyakhta in Russia. So far, the tea cargo spent 3 months, covered 3000 km in total and the speed was 30 kilometers every day on average. From Kyakhta, the cargo would went westwards, via Ulanude, Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, then Omsk, Tyumen, Ekaterinburg, Perm, Kostroma, Yaroslavl, and

Section IV: Cultural routes: the challenges of linear settings for monuments and sites

Section IV: Gérer les routes culturelles dans leur diversité-La conservation de sites linéaires diversifiés

arrived in Moscow finally. Here the tea could be transported to eastern European countries (Fig6- The Route of Tea Road).

The tea spread along the route, bring the tremendous influence to the habits and customs of herdsmen of Mongolian and Russian, the brick tea becomes the necessary for life, and value is steady. In some time, the brick tea was used as the currency in some area. When the Shanxi Merchants entered into Mongolia in the early times, they traded with the herdsman with the brick tea. At that time in some remote area, one brick tea, as generally acknowledged currency, could be changed for a sheep, even an ox.

Because the tea could refresh oneself, make one clear-headed, and do good to their health indeed. For the herdsmen who lived with carnivorous food, cheese, spirits, all these advantage improved the structure of their food, helped smooth away many bad habits, and gradually became their necessities in life, just like the old saying *One can't live without tea*. Drinking tea with the bread in the morning, they won't go to work without drinking tea. Drink tea after lunch. Everyone fond of tea could have 10 to 15 cups. This is their lives. No matter when you visited them, they are sure to treat you tea.

The Mongolian did not drink sweet tea with milk like the Russian. They liked salty tea with milk. They would put green brick tea and black brick tea in the water to be boiled. When the water was boiling, add to the milk and salt. The boiled milk-tea smelled fragrant, tasted delicious. The Mongols drinks tea three times every day, but only have lunch for one time. After drink tea and eat the parched rice in the morning, they go out to graze till the super is ready. Otherwise, old Mongols drink tea at noon. The Mongolian herdsmen consume about 10km every year. Tea has changed the habits and customs of the west Asian people and nomadic people of Eastern Europe to a great extent.

Protection of the Tea Road

1 The Content, Object and the Significance of the Tea Road Protection

The Tea Road from Yangludong to Mongolia, is an international large channel. Because of the mobility, some

being separate, uncertainty and a certain disguise of economic trade, the origin of the channel can't be testified exactly yet, but it's known that tea merchants made tea trade through this road on a large scale from the beginning of the 20th century to the middle period of the 17th century. The large channel connects with a large number of traces and relics. As to this, we have a clear goal that protection range and objects should be established.

As to the protection range, plucking, processing, buildings, streets, roads, marks, means of transports should be taken into account at least. Moreover, the range should be expanded to the site, environment of the buildings, natural environment, historical environment, etc.. Because they can indicate the origin and authenticity of the historical heritage.

The types of protected objects can be confirmed by classification, including the tea production process, the tea trading process, the tea transportation routes, and also the interrelated tea culture. For the tea production process, it includes the growth, pickup, curing and manipulation procedures. For the tea trading process, it includes the exchange, circulation, preservation and reposition procedures. For the tea transportation ways, it includes the transportation tools, roads, posthouse, and docks. For the interrelated tea culture, it includes the teal tools, tea drinks, tea custom, tea pavilion and tea culture, and people can understand better the usage, status, value and function of the Tea Road in history.

The Tea Road is the real carrier of the Chinese tea culture. It shows that the Chinese has made so many contributions for the human society after the four greatest discoveries, and the tea is a representation among them. The significance of Tea Road not only lies in the historical and archeological value for symbolization and forever memory, but also lies in the cultural relic and historic sites left in the roads which are also a kind of historical spectacle. It can give us inspiration and edification when we enjoying these intelligent creations by the ancient craftsmen and experts.

Unfortunately, the Tea Road was eroded and destroyed in a fast speed recently. It can be supposed rationally that the Tea Road will disappear in the near future without proper

protection measures. The stories of Tea Road would be obscure and faraway gradually, and were forgotten by people finally just like the dinosaur disappear from the earth. Agriculture is always the dominant economic backbone in Chinese ancient history, while the business and trade is the light of this agricultural society with years' accumulation, which reflects the modern civilization. This also demonstrates the brightness and wisdom of this ancient nation. We will lose the memory of the youthful spirit and creativity of this nation when the Tea Road was forgotten.

2 The Fragility of the Historic Sites, Relic and Culture Landscape in the Linear System of the Tea Road

There are many historic sites are left in the Tea Road with the 3,000 km length from Yangludong to Kyakhta. These cultural relics take on different characteristics and features, for the difference of the geographical environment, climate, and historical and culture origin in different countries.

The tea transportation was operated by Shanxi merchant directly, and managed in a quite strict manner. They divided the whole trip into several sections, and each section was taken charge by a professional transportation team, which was ordered properly with rigid discipline. Every transportation team takes the responsibility for its own section, and next section is taken charge by another transportation team. The tea transportation task was handed over team-by-team until the tea reaches the destination safely. All the cities where the Tea transportation teams passed through are the nodes in the Tea Road. The teams can have a rest and supply themselves after a long trip in these cities. There are also many luxury club building, daks, tea house in the cities along the Tea Road. The cultural relics in several most important cities along the Tea Road are listed in the following:

Most of the cultural relics in Hubei Province are distributed in Chibi, Hankou, and Xiangfan.

The Yangludong town in Chibi was established in 1626, in Tianqi period of Ming Dynasty. The main street of this ancient town was about 1,000 meters long, 5 meters width, and the street was paved by flagstone. There are over 100 shops, tea workshops, tea restaurant, banks, bars, and

foreign firms in the main street. The ancient town remains the pattern in ancient style with plenty of common people residence in the south of Hubei Province (Fig7, Fig8).

The tea comes from the counties and towns around Yangludong. For the convenience of conveying the tea by the Jigongche vehicle, lots of Jigongche paths and hundreds of stone bridges were built. There are 41 stone bridges which are listed in the Cultural Relic Protection Sites in Chibi where Yangludong county located, such as the Zhaoli bridge in Yangludong, Yezhu bridge in Xindian.

Xindian, the “Ancient Tea Port”, is located 12 kilometers away to the west of Yangludong. Xindian was established between 1368-1398, Hongwu period of Ming Dynasty.

The Pan River nearby, the branch of Yangtze River, makes the Xindian a traffic relay station which have good water transportation system. The tea from Yangludong changes to waterage in Xindian. Here, there are 6 docks, 6 temples, 3 ancient streets, and flagstone path about hundreds of meters long, transportation agencies and shops along the path(Fig9).

Water carriage from Xindian to Hankou.

There are many club building and tea house in Hankou managed by Shanxi merchants. Nowadays, most of relics preserved well are left by Russian tea merchant. The luxury house of Russian merchant named Litvinoff, who built the first brick tea factory in Hankou, is a three-story red building with brick and wood structure in Russian style(Fig10), and it locates in No. 60 of Dongting street. The luxury house of Russian merchant named DaBanBaGong is also a three-story building with modern equipments and unique style(Fig11), and it was built in 1910. The building of Russian TokmaKoff. Molotkoff & Co. brick tea plant was built in 1921, and it is a five-layer building with reinforced concrete structure in tower and classicalism style(Fig12). The Russian Orthodox church was build in 1893, and it was funded by Russian merchants H. A. NBaHOB with the donation by crown Prince Nikola, afterwards the Russian Emperor Nikola II (Fig13).

Water carriage from Hankou to Xiangfan.

There are many club building managed by Shanxi merchants previously in Xiangfan, and only the ShanShan club building exists nowadays, which was built in Kangxi period of Qing Dynasty 1713 with the area of about 4000m².

Tea team can go from Xiangfan toward north, passing by Tanghe, to the Henan Province. The most famous dak in Henan Province is Sheqi, which has been a prosperous and great town in history with the old saying that South ships and north horses come here, and lots of cargo gather here. Needless to say that there are so many tea houses in Sheqi, the club building managed by Shanxi merchants surprise us mostly.

Shanshan club building of Sheqi locates in the center of town, and it was built in 1756 of QianLong period of Qing Dynasty. The building cost 88,788 tael silvers, and the area is nearly 10,000 square meters. The building is quite luxury with elegant craftwork, especially the brick sculpture, stone sculpture, and wood sculpture called “Three Uniqueness” are fine peerless. We can imagine the great scene in ancient time that there were the iron mast, and flying banners and flags in front of the club building (Fig 14).

By mule and horse team From Sheqi to Luoyang.

Shanshan club building of Luoyang was built in Kangxi period of Qing Dynasty in 1711. The building cost 25,000 tael silvers, and the area is about 5,000 square meters (Fig 15).

The tea team goes from Luoyang to Shanxi Province, passing by Jincheng, Changzhi, Qixian, Datong, and to Zhangjiakou in Hebei Province. There are a large number of Cultural Heritage buildings along this road, and most of them are the same as those in Hubei and Henan Province in building style and pattern.

The tea team goes by camel team from Zhangjiakou to the prairie and desert, passing by Zhaiyin Mountain to Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, and then passing by oxcart to Kyakhta, the border town between China and Russia. There are two important culture relics along this road.

One culture relic is in the Youyu County which is the joint of Shanxi Province and Inner Mongolia Province. It is an important gateway of the Great Wall which has another name Shahukou for its rapidity, as well as the necessary spot to the northwest from Shanxi. Ming Dynasty garrisoned the County which becomes the logistics base of the army provisions gradually. There was more than 3000 household in his booming times. It is a shortcut that connects Shanxi Province with the Central China and Inner Mongolia. The road is paved by flagstone, crossing east through Guguanguancheng to Inner Mongolia. There are some inches vehicle traces left on the road by the carriages.

Another culture relic is in Chafanggou of Laojiao village in the Linggeer County. The road begins from Shahukou which is very steep, only a man and a camel can go through at the most dangerous part. There still remains some clear axe and knife trace on the huge rock near the road, and stone house. The relic should be the daks where maintain the stone bottom which used for fix the flag rod.

The Tea Road in Mongolia and Russia won't be shown at present, for the lack of the relative documents and datum.

with the abandon of the Tea Road and the lose of the building function, most of the relic along the Tea Road are in seriously bad condition and need to be maintained and protected. Only several of them have been announced cultural building relic protection sites, for example club building, ancient town, and Russia building have announced cultural building relic protection sites.

3 Protection and Strategies for the Tea Road

In fact ,the protection of the Tea Road is very complicated which involved some directions in culture relic building and environment, architecture and culture, religious, especially linear relic protection which are across Province and country. According to the experience about the relic protection in china , referring to some rules of the international relic protection and operational principle, we put forward some Strategies

(1) The principle of the country protection.

The proportion of Tea Road in china involve many

Section IV: Cultural routes: the challenges of linear settings for monuments and sites

Section IV: Gérer les routes culturelles dans leur diversité-La conservation de sites linéaires diversifiés

regions, counties, cities and provinces which have different economic level. Anyone and city can't afford all protection of Tea Road. Thus, according to *Protection Laws of Cultural Building Relic*, we should put these relic and historic sites into cultural relic protection sites, demarcate protection range and construction-controlled area, and set up corresponding protection department to manage this work.

(2) Ranking in the culture heritage of the world.

The Tea Road not only belongs to China, it belongs to the world. Generally speaking, protection is an international cooperation item. The UNESCO's advantageous should be depended on, it can consider generally the difference of every country's culture and the different recognition in the method of protection, take the expert of the world together, collaborate the different view of every country, benefit for each other.

(3) Strengthen the basic work.

According to the change of the original function of the linear cultural route, cultural relic is in danger and some can't be recognized. The special institution in charge of differentiation and recognize the correlated cultural relic should be established to do basic work and make clear where and when the road of civilization crossed.

(4) Strengthen the propaganda work.

Many historical relic of Tea Road are located in the cities and the communities, so it is necessary to make the citizen to realize the cultural value, historical value, scientific value and affection value contained in these cultural relic buildings. We should regard protecting the cultural heritage the major issue in the community as one's own duty.

(5) Set up "the foundation of protecting the Tea Road".

Chinese tea is world famous in ancient times and well-sell all over the world nowadays. The functions of many tea house and club building are still work. Especially many brands tea are still using their original name. Encouraging the tea merchants and manufacturer to pay attention to one's own history will help them to build the enterprise-culture. In addition, we can hold kinds of cultural and commercial activities about Tea, which can bring us the fund for the protection and do good to the spread of the tea culture.

(6) Set up the regulations of protection.

The Tea Road involves many countries which have different method of protection. For example, there is *Four Maintains* in China, while there is *Reorganization Principle* in Europe. For the involved transnational protection, standards should be unified in theory.

In a word, the protection of the Tea Road should utilize all science and technology farthest, and the harmony of community will refine the protection.

Abstract

In the process of Chinese ancient civilization, The Tea Road is the most famous and important road as the cultural route that communicated extensively with other countries in the world, which still affects people's life style and behavior yet. The paper shows the great international channel from Yangloudong Town to Mongolia and Russia of tea trade by describing the tea-horse trade from Yangloudong to Shanxi Merchants and Russian merchants, and puts forward the content, object, meaning and strategy of the protection.

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ONE CULTURAL ROUTE SPAN THE MILLENNARY : CHINESE TEA ROAD

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Fig.1 Chuan brand trademark brick tea



Fig. 3 Jigongche Vehicle Trace



Fig. 2 Jigongche Vehicle



Fig. 4 S. W. Livinoff tea factory

Section IV: Cultural routes: the challenges of linear settings for monuments and sites

Section IV: Gérer les routes culturelles dans leur diversité-La conservation de sites linéaires diversifiés

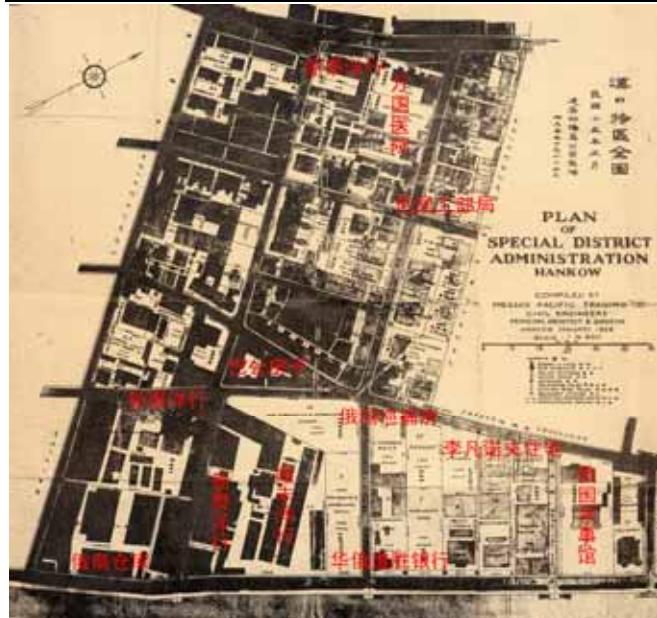


Fig.5 Russia Concession in 1926



Fig.7 Yangloudong Ancient town



Fig.6 The Route of Tea Road

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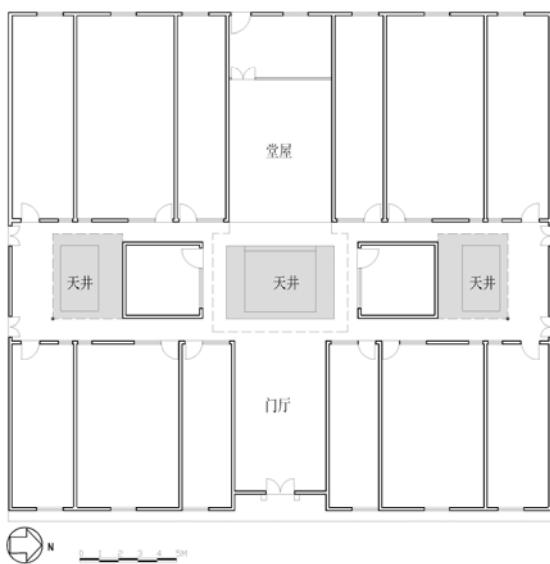


Fig8 Yangludong Tea Factory Plan



Fig9 Ancient Street inXindian



Fig10 Russian Litvinoff Residence



Fig11 Hankou Bagong house

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Fig12 Russian TokmaKoff. Molotkoff & Co. Building



Fig13 Russian Orthodox Church in Hankou



Fig 14 Shanshan Club Building in Sheqi



Fig 15 Shanshan Club Building in Luze Luoyang