

WHV - Dong Building Technology

Dong Villages, China

Site inscribed on a tentative list since 2013

23/07/2017 – 06/08/2017



The Dong Villages are located in southwest China. Residing close to the water is the most important settlement pattern of Dong Villages, and the houses are distributed on mountain slopes along rivers. The drum tower and Sasui altar are the most important basic elements of a Dong village. The multi-storey drum tower, the symbol of a Dong village, is usually built in the flat or high grounds of the village center. A square is built in front of the drum tower, and provides a venue for the entire village to come together for meetings, festival celebrations, and other public activities.

Project objectives:

Entering its third year, the project aims at documenting and spreading awareness about the unique Dong building technologies in order to conserve and renew among the new generation the knowledge and skills needed for their preservation.

Project activities:

The volunteers will survey, draw and build a model of a traditional Dong drum tower, and prepare building instructions in cooperation with the local architects and community. They will conduct training and awareness workshops on Dong heritage conservation issues for government officials, local villagers, tourists and students.

Partners:

World Heritage Office of Tongdao County, Village Committees of Gaoshang Village, Gaosheng Village and Kezhong Village.

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