

**World Cultural Heritage**  
**the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains**  
**2019 Report on the State of Conservation**



**National Cultural Heritage Administration**  
**December, 2019**

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## **Executive Summary**

Since August 2018, the Management Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone has actively implemented the 42COM7B resolution of the 42nd Session of World Heritage Committee, continued to do a good job in the lift-up protection project, cultural relic restoration project and platform construction of the Wudang Mountains Yuzhen Palace, further strengthened the construction of the tourist management system, and has particularly increased the special research on the carrying capacity of tourists in heritage sites. The work sticks to the core of highlighting universal values and has carried out a large amount of work in the areas of implementing protection according to law, strengthening capacity building, recording heritage information, optimizing monitoring systems, implementing maintenance, improving open services, strengthening security prevention and control, promoting value research, etc.

At the same time, the *Plan for the World Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)* was compiled and completed. The plan further clarifies the world heritage elements, outstanding universal value statement and heritage buffer zones boundaries of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains and strives to promote the legal, scientific and sustainable development of the protection and management of the Wudang Mountains Heritage.

This report mainly responds to the 42COM 7B Resolution of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee regarding the conservation of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains.

## **I. Basic Heritage Information**

The Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains

Location: Hubei Province, China

Listed: 1994

Meets value criteria: criteria (i), criteria (ii) and criteria (vi)

Introduction: The ancient palaces and temples in the Wudang Mountains exemplify the architectural and artistic achievements of the secular and religious buildings of the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties in China. Situated in the scenic valleys and on the slopes of the Wudang Mountains in Hubei Province, the site, which was built as an organized complex during the Ming Dynasty, contains Taoist buildings from as early as the 7th century. It represents the highest standards of Chinese art and architecture over millennium period of nearly one thousand years. The Ancient Building Complex reached its apogee during the Ming Dynasty, with 9 palaces, 9 Taoist temples, 36 nunneries and 72 rock temples, and it reached a high level of architectural art and aesthetics with rich cultural and technological connotations, serving as important material evidence for studying early Ming politics and the Chinese history of religion.

According to the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains meets criteria (i), (ii) and (vi).

(i) The Ancient Buildings in the Wudang Mountains represent the highest standards in Chinese art and architecture over millennium period of nearly one thousand years. They were planned and constructed at the order of emperors, and distributed in the mountains with Tianzhu Peak at the center. The architectural system was strictly organized from topographical reconnaissance

and planning to construction. Designed based on rigorous hierarchical rules, the buildings are either magnificent or exquisite, either hidden in valleys or erected on cliffs. Highly integrated with the nature, they reflect the supreme harmony between architecture and the nature. The architectural layout in which palaces and Taoist temples are at the core and celestial paths are used to connect nunneries and rock temples had universal influence on the religious buildings in the Ming Dynasty, and served as an important venue for the emperors to realize ideological control through Taoism. With a big size, a high grade, rigorous structures, exquisite decoration and a vast number of god statues and sacrificial supplies, they are unique Taoist buildings still in existence in China, and are among the best preserved and largest Taoist building complexes in the country.

(ii) The Wudang Buildings exercised influence on the development of religious and public art and architecture in China. The buildings come in diverse types and are made of different materials. The design, structure, decoration and ornament of all the buildings, which include wood palaces and Taoist temples, gilded bronze halls and rock temples, and of all the god statues made of bronze, wood, stone or clay, reach a very high technical and artistic level. All the god statues and sacrificial supplies in the Gold Hall are made of gilded bronze. As the size is big, wax moulds were used for casting, which represents a major achievement in technology and casting in the early Ming Dynasty (15<sup>th</sup> century).

(vi) The religious complex in the Wudang Mountains was the center of

Taoism, one of the major eastern religions and one which played a profound role in the development of beliefs and philosophical in the region. The buildings in the Wudang Mountains were arranged according to the tale about Emperor Zhenwu, and constructed based on the purpose of combining political power and divine right. They reflected the “solemn”, “mighty”, “mysterious” and “magic” atmosphere required by the imperial power and Taoism. During planning and construction, they also reflected the Taoist ideology about the worship of nature.

#### **Taihe Palace**



**Nanyan Palace**



**Fuzhen Temple**





## **II. Decision**

Decision:42 COM 7B.1

The Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China)(C705)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision 40 COM 7B.30, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the redesign of the shoreline and the progress made on the finalization of the lift-up process for the Yuzhen Palace, and requests the State Party to provide an update on the reinstallation efforts as they continue to be implemented;
4. Also requests that the State Party provide more information on the visitor management system in place, and in particular that specific studies be carried out at all component parts of the property to better understand carrying capacities, and to guide the preparation of a visitor management plan, so as to guarantee the necessary physical conservation of the property and its setting and also to ensure that visitor experience is not compromised by too many people visiting any one component at the same time;



5. Welcomes the adoption of the municipal legislation for the protection of the property and further requests that the protection and management plan for the property be completed and submitted as soon as possible to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;

6. Requests furthermore the State Party to initiate a meeting with representatives of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to clarify the following issues and determine the necessary processes for their resolution:

- a) Final determination of the number of component parts of the property,
- b) Potential revision of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for the property, depending on the final number of component parts,
- c) Revised buffer zone to ensure that it is large enough to protect the entire property and its setting;

7. Requests moreover, further to the outcomes of the above-mentioned meeting, that the State Party prepare and submit the appropriate documentation for review by the World Heritage Committee at its subsequent session, especially regarding the final number of component parts, the definition of the buffer zone, and the SOUV;

8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre,

by 1 December 2019, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

### **III. Item-by-item Reply to the Decision**

**Clause 3. Notes the redesign of the shoreline and the progress made on the finalization of the lift-up process for the Yuzhen Palace, and requests the State Party to provide an update on the reinstallation efforts as they continue to be implemented;**

#### **1. Overview of the Promotion of the Yuzhen Palace Lift-up Project**

According to the construction design, the lift-up protection project of the Yuzhen Palace is divided into four parts: the cultural relics disintegration project, the lift-up project, the earth-stone elevation project and the cultural relics restoration project. Firstly, through the implementation of the cultural relics disintegration project, we perform the in-situ surveying, numbering, photographing, registration and filing of various bricks, stones and wooden components of all the buildings, courtyards, paved roads, hathpace and gold bricks on the ground of the East and West Palace ruins, palace walls and the Central Palace; then they are transported to the Yuzhen Palace cultural relics treasury, where they are sorted, partitioned and temporarily stored. Afterwards, the lifting project of Gate to the Temple and Eastern and Western Palace Gates is implemented, where dense hole piles, penetrating box girders and prestressed concrete are utilized to form a basic tray under the Gate to the Temple and Eastern and Western Palace Gates, implementing the overall

lifting of 15 meters in situ. At the same time, the earth-stone elevation project is implemented and after surface clearance, silt removal and slag removal are completed, earth-stone elevation and layer rolling are conducted. Finally, the reconstruction of cultural relics is carried out on the elevated body and after repairing the various types of bricks, stones and wooden components that were demolished, they were restored in situ according to the disassembly number.

#### **Components Numbering, Photographing**



### **Components Packaging Protection**



## **2. Earth-stone Elevation Project**

The Yuzhen Palace lift-up protection project started the cultural relics disintegration project in October 2011 and completed the cultural reconstruction project in July 2019, taking nearly 8 years. Among them, the operation unit of the cultural relics disintegration project was Beijing Landscape and Traditional Architecture Engineering Company, and the supervision unit was Beijing Fangting Project Management Company. The project started on October 10, 2011 and was completed in March 2012. The operation unit of the lift-up project was Hebei Academy of Building Research,

and the supervision unit was Beijing Fangting Project Management Company. The construction started on December 30, 2011 and completed lifting to 175 meters on January 16, 2013. The construction unit of the earth-stone elevation project was Hubei Xinqi Construction Group Co., Ltd., and the supervision unit was Hubei Dotell Construction Management Consulting Co., Ltd. The construction started on March 10, 2012 and the elevation was completed to 175 meters in April 2013. The construction unit of the cultural relics restoration project was Beijing Landscape and Traditional Architecture Engineering Company, and the supervision unit was Beijing Fangting Project Management Company. The project started in August 2016 and completed in July 2019.

### **3. Project Management and Periodic Acceptance**

In order to implement a high-level lift-up protection project of the Yuzhen Palace, in July 2011, Hubei Provincial Department of Culture, the Immigration Administration of Hubei Province and Shiyan Municipal People's Government jointly established the Yuzhen Palace Protection Project Leading Group, instructed the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone Management Committee as the subject responsible for the project, and quickly set up the special working team, with the goal of creating a model of world cultural heritage protection to push forward various project construction

tasks.

During the implementation of the project, Hubei Provincial Bureau of Cultural Relics issued the *Letter on Further Promoting the Protection of the Yuzhen Palace* and the *Notice on Practically Strengthening the Management of the Lift-up Protection Project Specifications of the Yuzhen Palace*, requesting the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone Management Committee to standardize management, ensure progress, construct scientifically, ensure quality, organize carefully and ensure safety; they also organized relevant experts to visit the Yuzhen Palace's lift-up protection project site for many times, strengthened business guidance, urged the construction unit to carry out various tasks in strict accordance with the *Administrative Measures for the Conservation of Cultural Relics, Construction and Acceptance Specifications for Ancient Building Construction Projects*, etc., and united relevant departments to organize and carry out periodic acceptance in a timely manner. Among them, the Yuzhen Palace lift-up project, the earth-stone elevation project and the cultural relics restoration project passed the inspection and acceptance by the expert group on July 23, 2015 and July 10, 2019 respectively. On September 4, 2019, the lift-up protection project for the Wudang Mountains Yuzhen Palace successfully passed the national technical acceptance. On December 7, 2019,



the cultural relics protection project for the South-to-North Water Diversion reservoir area of the Wudang Mountains Yuzhen Palace lift-up protection project was fully completed, the cultural heritage was protected and utilized, and the project passed the overall acceptance of the country (final inspection).

During the implementation of the project, leaders of the South-to-North Water Diversion Office of the State Council and National Cultural Heritage Administration visited the site for many times and fully affirmed the Yuzhen Palace lift-up protection project.

In 2014, when the joint delegation of the World Heritage Center, International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and ICCROM was visiting the Yuzhen Palace lift-up protection project in the Wudang Mountains, they fully affirmed the management methods and engineering technology of the project.

The Yuzhen Palace in-situ lift-up protection project is a protection project of the world cultural heritage in the South-to-North Water Diversion Project. The protection technology and quality requirements are extremely high, and the construction period is very long (among them, only the settlement observation of the elevation body lasted for more than two years). Next, we will continue to carry out the follow-up environmental improvement, display improvement and other work.

#### **4. Reinstallation Progress and the Next Steps**

At present, the main project of the protection for the Yuzhen Palace has been completed. The next step will be to deepen the design in strict accordance with the relevant requirements of the *Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) Inspection Report (March 8 to March 13, 2014)* by adopting the natural plant community planting methods around the Yuzhen Palace building complex, forming the natural environment of the countryside and appropriately setting the walking tour channels; also, the project will actively explain and utilize the site through current status presentation, tourism, citizens' leisure, etc.

Regarding the final shape of the earthmoving platform where Yuzhen Palace is located, the artificially created peninsula effect has been weakened as much as possible according to the decision: fill the narrow gullies respectively on the eastern and western sides of the ruyi-shaped platform in the original design with earth and stones, with vegetative concrete and nonwoven fabric laid on the surface to avoid sinking caused by the impact of waves. After the filling, the eastern and western sides are fully connected with the northern side, looking beautiful and making the boundary of the platform appears naturally.

**Latest Installation Effect of the Yuzhen Palace**



**Shape of the Earthmoving Platform**



### **Restoration Effect of the Main Hall and the Courtyard**



### **Restoration of the Ruins Components of the Western Palace in Yuzhen Palace**





### **Restoration of the Dragon & Tiger Hall**



### **Restoration of the Ground Tiles**



### **Timber Structure of the Hall**



### **Restoration of the Stone Components**



### **Effect of the Ruins of the Western Palace**



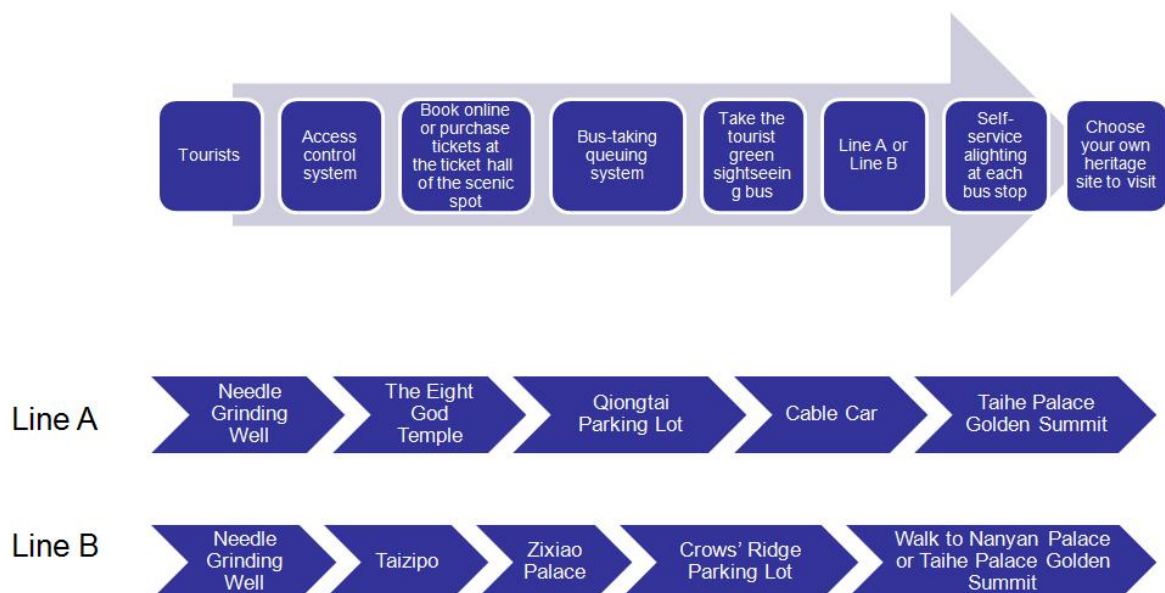
**Clause 4. Also requests that the State Party provide more information on the visitor management system in place, and in particular that specific studies be carried out at all component parts of the property to better understand carrying capacities, and to guide the preparation of a visitor management plan, so as to guarantee the necessary physical conservation of the property and its setting and also to ensure that visitor experience is not compromised by too many people visiting any one component at the same time;**

The Wudang Mountains have strictly controlled the number of tourists in the past two years (2018 and 2019), with the average annual number of the tourists ranging from 1 million to 1.5 million and even during the Golden



Weeks such as the May Day Holidays and the National Day Holidays when there are the largest number of tourists, the daily tourist reception volume is strictly controlled to fewer than 25,000; at the same time, the Wudang Mountains scenic area is managed in a closed manner and visitors who enter the various heritage sites must purchase tickets, pass the management system of the scenic ticket service center, uniformly take the tourist green sightseeing bus (1-1.5 hours), get off at each transportation stop, and visit the heritage sites by walking or cable car.

## 1. Information on the Currently Implemented Tourist Management System



## Ticket Sales Access Control and Security System of the Scenic Area



## Ticket Hall of the Scenic Area



### Tourist Bus-taking Queuing System



### Tourist Diversion System at the Traffic Stops





## Monitoring and Dispatching System for the Tourist Volume



## Monitoring and Dispatching System for the Tourist Volume



## **2. Study on Tourist Data of the Heritage Sites**

(1) The number of tourists to the Taihe Palace (Golden Summit area) shows an obvious characteristic of time division. During important festivals (the third day of the third lunar month and the ninth day of the ninth lunar month) and long holidays (Qingming, May Day, Mid-Autumn, National Day), the tourist numbers are much larger than usual while the heritage site strictly controls the number of people entering the Golden Summit by suspending the sales of cable car tickets and the ticket inspection system of the Taihe Palace, to ensure the overall number of tourists. According to statistics, from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, the total number of people entering the Taihe Palace (Golden Summit area) within a year was 680,000, which was about 45.3% of the total number of people entering the scenic area. The average daily number of tourists was about 1863, and it reached a peak between 10 and 14 o'clock every day with the average number of tourists during this period being 1,100. The highest number of daily visitors during the year was about 13,000, appearing on October 3, 2018.

Once the real-time monitoring for the number of tourists exceeds the predetermined value, we will immediately take control measures: the Taihe Palace (Golden Summit area) is the most important and most crowded scenic spot in the Wudang Mountains. It has been determined that the maximum

instantaneous carrying capacity of this region is 8000 people, and specific measures have been set to ensure the enforcement of this limit. Tourists take the cable car to the Golden Summit so we use the checkpoint to monitor the real-time number of people entering the Golden Summit. Once there exceeds 6,000 people, we will stop transporting tourists to the Golden Summit; once there exceeds 7,000 people, the sales of the cable car tickets will be suspended. Through this measure, we can ensure that the maximum instantaneous carrying capacity of 8,000 people in the Golden Summit is not exceeded. At the same time, the heritage site will use radio, outdoor electronic screens and tips from the scenic area staff (people wearing little red hoods) to inform tourists that they can choose to walk up to Golden Summit (takes 4 hours) or wait in line for 2 hours. Also we will coordinate the dispatch of sightseeing buses and tour groups to avoid the continued concentration of people in this area.

(2) The number of tourists to the Nanyan Palace shows an obvious characteristic of time division. During important festivals (the third day of March and the ninth day of September by lunar calendar) and long holidays (Qingming, May Day, Mid-Autumn, National Day), the tourist numbers are much larger than usual. According to statistics, the total number of people entering the Nanyan Palace in 2018 was 580,000, which was about 38.6% of

the total number of people entering the scenic area. The average daily number of tourists was about 1589, and it reached a peak between 12 and 16 o'clock every day with the average number of tourists during this period being 1,200. The highest number of daily visitors during the year was about 10,000, appearing on October 3, 2018.

Once the real-time monitoring for the number of tourists exceeds the predetermined value, we will immediately take control measures: after arriving at the Nanyan parking lot by bus, the tourists can choose from two tour routes. Line A: walk to Golden Summit (4-hour walk), Line B: walk to the Nanyan Palace (30-minute walk); the heritage site monitors the real-time number of people entering the Nanyan Palace area. Once there exceeds 8,000 people, it becomes saturated; the dispatch system is activated to divert visitors from the Nanyan parking lot to Line A. Through this measure, we can ensure that the maximum instantaneous carrying capacity of 8,000 people in the Nanyan Palace area is not exceeded. At the same time, the heritage site will use radio, outdoor electronic screens and tips from the scenic area staff (people wearing little red hoods) to inform tourists that they can choose to visit other heritage sites to avoid the continued concentration of people in this area.

(3) Zixiao Palace, since it is on the way of the bus route, is not a heritage



site where people are longing for, nor a final destination, therefore, there are fewer tourists; according to statistics, from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, the total number of people entering the Zixiao Palace within a year was 300,000, with an average of 821 people per day, accounting for about 20% of the total number of people entering the scenic spot. The average daily number of tourists reached the peak between 10 and 13 o'clock, with the average number of tourists during this period being about 500; the annual maximum daily reception was about 4,000 people on October 3, 2018. So far, the instantaneous maximum carrying capacity has not been witnessed.

Once the real-time monitoring for the number of tourists exceeds the predetermined value, we will immediately take control measures: tourists take the bus to the Zixiao Station and walk for 10 minutes to enter the Zixiao Palace; the heritage site monitors the real-time number of people entering the Zixiao Palace area. Once it exceeds 5000 people (the instantaneous maximum capacity), the tourist sightseeing bus will not stop at the Zixiao Station, and will transport tourists to other unsaturated heritage sites to visit. Through this measure, we can ensure that the maximum instantaneous carrying capacity of 5,000 people in the Zixiao Palace area is not exceeded. At the same time, the heritage site will use radio, outdoor electronic screens and tips from the scenic area staff (people wearing little red hoods) to inform tourists that they can

choose to visit other heritage sites to avoid the continued concentration of people in this area.

(4) Since other heritage sites are located in remote locations, the tourists don't have high attention to or yearning for them, therefore, there are few visiting tourists, and has not witnessed crowding visitors so far.

The monitoring data from the Wudang Mountains Management Agency and the Heritage Administration Department show that in recent years, tourism activities have not caused a significant impact on the material carriers of heritage value in the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains, and no risk or damage to the value carriers has been caused by improper tourists behavior. This is also due to the high attention paid by management agencies to hidden danger investigation and prevention. Monitoring equipment is installed in the tourist concentration areas and remote areas of the scenic region, which can transmit data to the management agencies in real time and take timely response measures. Scenic spot comprehensive law enforcement brigade cooperates with management agencies to combine the heritage management systems in the scenic spot, carry out daily inspections and give feedback at any time.

At present, through the above mentioned methods, we achieve the effective management of the tourists to the Wudang Mountains, avoid the

situation of too many tourists visiting the same heritage site at the same time, and protect the world cultural heritage.

**Clause 5. Welcomes the adoption of the municipal legislation for the protection of the property and further requests that the protection and management plan for the property be completed and submitted as soon as possible to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;**

The Shiyan Municipal Government attaches great importance to the legislative protection of the heritage. On September 15, 2017, a meeting passed, promulgated and implemented the *Regulations on Conservation of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains of Shiyan City* (see the annex for details) and designated September 15 of each year as the Wudang Mountains World Cultural Heritage Protection Day as well as the Wudang Mountains Ancient Buildings Protection Publicity Day. At the same time, a professional technical team was entrusted to compile and complete the *Plan for the World Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)*. In strict accordance with the requirements of the 38 COM 7B.9 resolution of World Heritage Committee, the plan reasonably delineates the property areas and the buffer zones of world heritage,

improves the protection and management system of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains, formulates the specific protection measures for the cultural heritage and non-material cultural heritage of the Wudang Mountains, and coordinates the relationship between heritage protection and tourism management, so as to ensure the safety of the heritage and the sustainable development of tourism. The plan will be submitted to the World Heritage Center as soon as possible.

**Clause 6. Requests furthermore the State Party to initiate a meeting with representatives of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to clarify the following issues and determine the necessary processes for their resolution:**

**a) Final determination of the number of component parts of the property,**

**b) Potential revision of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for the property, depending on the final number of component parts,**

**c) Revised buffer zone to ensure that it is large enough to protect the entire property and its setting;**

**Clause 7. Requests moreover, further to the outcomes of the above-mentioned meeting, that the State Party prepare and submit the appropriate documentation for review by the World Heritage Committee at its subsequent session, especially regarding the final number of component parts, the definition of the buffer zone, and the SOUV;**

### **6.1 Heritage Elements:**

The **Ancient Building Complex** in the Wudang Mountains should include 49 heritage sites while the so-called "62 components" exactly refers to the cultural relics protection sites listed in the 6th batch of State Priority Protected Sites "**Ancient Building Complex** in the Wudang Mountains" in 2006, of which 13 sites did not belong to the heritage composition nominated in 1994. In the 2011 retrospective Outstanding Universal Value Statement (OUVS), we made a mistake in our work and caused trouble in world heritage. We sincerely apologize again for the misunderstanding and inconvenience caused by this mistake in work. During the reactive monitoring of the Wudang Mountains in March 2014, we also confirmed the number and list of heritage components with three international experts from the World Heritage Center, ICOMOS and ICCROM. In the OUVS, "53 groups of buildings and 9 sites still

exist ..." was proposed to be changed into "a large number of ancient buildings and sites still exist, of which 49 sites are nominated as ..."; "All the 62 ancient buildings and sites ..." was proposed to be changed into "All the 49 ancient buildings and sites ...". The submitted drawing of the heritage zoning of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains marked 49 heritage sites when it was listed as a World Cultural Heritage in 1994. In 2011, when submitting the world heritage retrospective OUVS, periodic report questionnaire and map information, we clearly marked the property areas and the buffer zones of the 49 heritage sites, recommending to determine the composition of the Ancient Building Complex of the Wudang Mountains as 49 heritage sites.

#### 6.1.1. Ancient Building Complex

There are 49 buildings in total, including Yuxu Palace, Yuzhen Palace, Zixiao Palace, Nanyan Palace, Taihe Palace, Chaotian Palace, Qingwei Palace, Wulong Palace, Yuanhe Temple, Huilong Temple, Fuzhen Temple (Taizipo), Longquan Temple, The eight God Temple, Qiongtai Up Temple, Qiongtai Middle Temple, Qiongtai Down Temple, Taishang Temple (Taichang Temple), Renwei Temple, Laojun Temple, Xiangfu Convent, Chongxu Convent, Taishan Temple, Huixin Convent, Needle Grinding Well, God Guan Temple,

The God of wealth Temple, Langmei Temple, Jiangjun Temple, Yuxu Rock, Laojun Rock, Prince Cave (Taizi Rock), Cave of the God of Thunder, Lingxu Rock, Huayang Rock, Lingying Rock, Yinxian Rock (Hidden Fairy Rock), Huanglong Cave, Up Courtyard (Shangyuan), Middle Courtyard (Zhongyuan), Down Courtyard (Xiayuan), Feisheng Rock, Gold Hall, Ancient Bronze Hall, Xuanyue Gate (“Zhi Shi Xuan Yue” Memorial Archway), Jianhe Bridge, The first sky Gate, The second sky Gate, The third sky Gate and Great Tower Manor.

#### 6.1.2. Auxiliary Cultural Relics (For display)

Stone tablets in different building complexes, including imperial tablets, tablets of records, tablets of merits and virtues and other inscribed tablets.

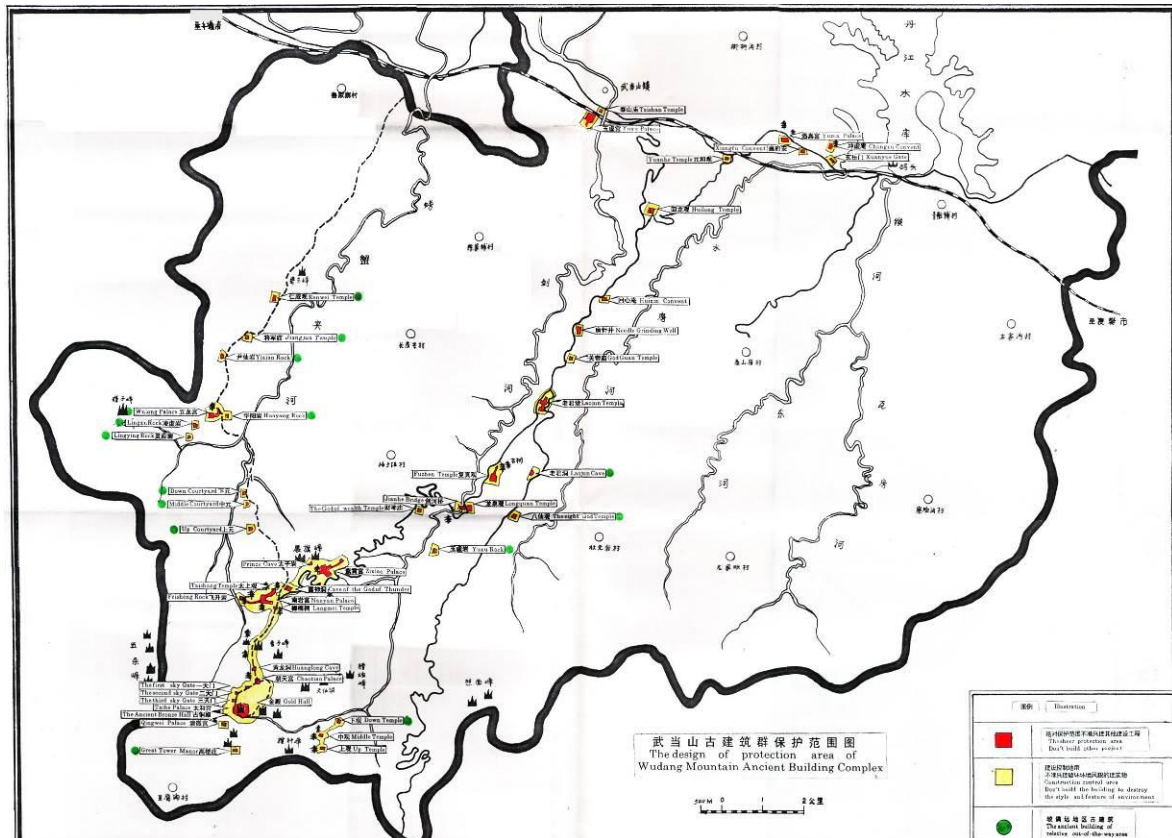
Ancient wells, ponds, altars and other functional facilities in different building complexes.

Statues of gods, mural paintings, color paintings, sacrificial tables, halls and musical instruments used in a Buddhist or Taoist mass in halls, and censers and other sacrificial relics outside the halls.

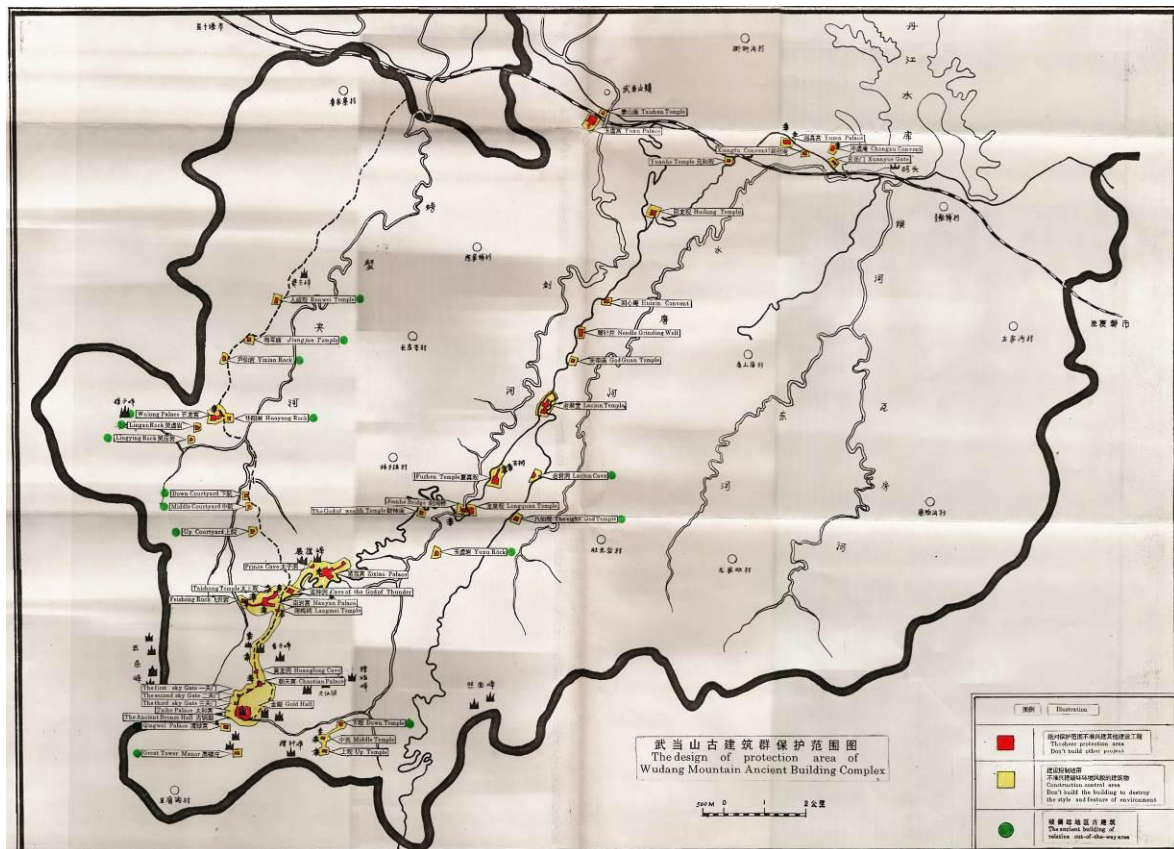
### **6.2 Review of Buffer Zone Boundaries and Triple Protection of "One Tourist Attraction, Two National Parks"**



## 6.2.1 Legends provided when nominating the heritage

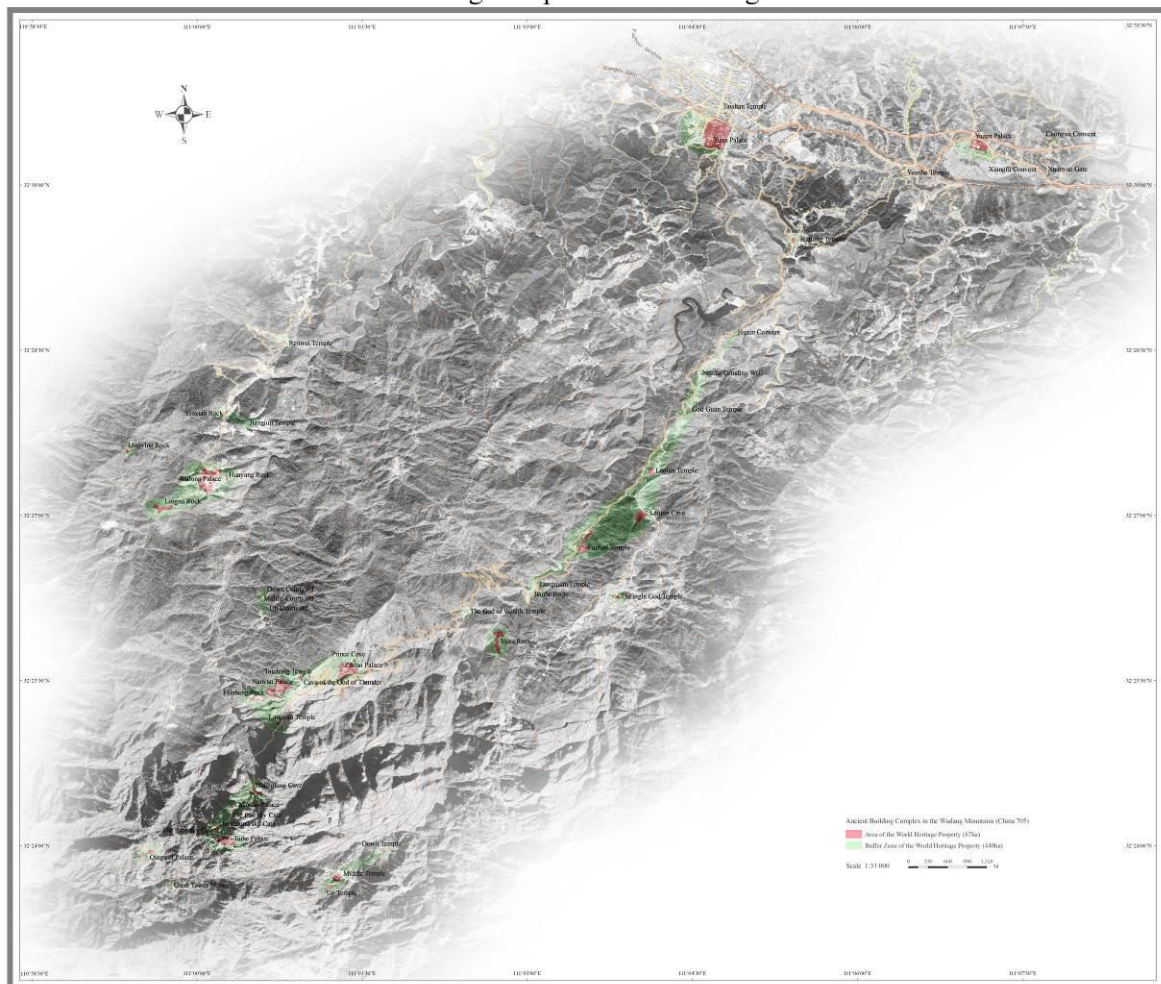


6.2.2 At the request of ICOMOS in 1994, the supplementary drawing of heritage zoning was submitted, which clearly marked the heritage sites (small red squares), construction control areas (yellow areas) and remote heritage sites (green dots); the thick black line is the boundary of the administrative division at that time. (yellow areas are the buffer zones)



6.2.3 In the retrospective OUVS of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains in 2011, the State Party was requested to provide more detailed maps of the property areas and buffer zones presented by local governments. The red parts are the property areas that cover 67.1 ha and the green parts are the buffer zones that cover 440.81 ha.

Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains



6.2.4 The whole Wudang Mountains are designated as the "State-level Tourist Attraction ", "National Geopark" and "National Forest Park", with restrictive conditions and protection requirements proposed from the aspects of landscape, geology, ecology, etc. and executed by the corresponding professional departments.

#### 6.2.4.1 State-level Tourist Attraction

The *Master Plan for the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area*, compiled in 1986 and approved by the State Council in 1991, was revised to form the *Master Plan for the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area (2006-2020)* (Annex 4), which expands the scope of the first-class protected areas in the tourist attraction (that is the zone to protect landscapes), adjusts the 90 km<sup>2</sup> second-class protected areas (restricted construction zone) to the first-class protected area, expands the total range of the first-class protected area to 170 km<sup>2</sup>, and further reduces the range allowed for construction.

In terms of construction activities, we set the requirements for the height, volume and hue of the buildings in control zones and buffer zones of cultural relics construction. All construction projects in property sites and buffer zones need to go through administrative approval of construction projects in accordance with prescribed procedures, fill in the *Approval Letter for Opinions on Site Selection for Construction Projects*, submit to local cultural

relics department for review and relevant departments for joint examination, and get reported layer by layer.

*The Master Plan for the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area (2006-2020)* specifically points out the development purpose of the plan:

a)to protect the world cultural heritage of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains;

b)to explain, spread, inherit and develop the Chinese Wudang culture;

c)to integrate natural & cultural, physical & non-physical scenic resources, to provide and develop natural & cultural heritage tourism, sightseeing tourism, Kungfu tourism, leisure vacations, historical architecture research, religious studies and activities, and to disseminate the scenic tourism culture;

d)to promote the comprehensive development of local economy, culture and ecology in the scenic area;

e)to provide a world heritage management and education base for the dissemination of world heritage concepts.

The purpose is to better protect and inherit the ( i ) ( ii ) (vi) criteria met by the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

The core scenic area of the tourist attraction is composed of the cultural & historical part and special natural part, with a total area of 60 km<sup>2</sup>.

From the north edge of Jinhushu village, it extends eastward to Danjiangkou reservoir; along the 172-meter contour line, it extends southward to 200 meters east of Xuanyue Gate; along the southern edges of Yuzhen Palace village and Yuanhe Temple village, it extends to 150 meters east of the main highway in scenic area; along the contour line and scenic road direction, it extends southward to 300 meters in front of The Eight God Temple; following the terrain, it extends to the environment area in a 300-meter radius around The Eight God Temple; continuing to follow the highway, it extends southwest to Qilishanggou ditch; along the ridge line westward to Jianhe river, and along the Jianhe river to Yanwo Pond, it intersects with the scenic highway; along the contour line to the scenic boundary, along the scenic boundary to Xisha river, it extends northward to the junction of Zixiao Palace and Wulong second village; along the ridgeline, it extends northeast to the scenic boundary; from the Wulong Summit and along the ridgeline, it extends northeast to the highway; along the highway, it reaches Jinshaping village boundary; along the village boundary, it extends southward to the peaks west to Wuchalami ditch; along the ridgeline to the boundary of Taizipo village, and along the Jianhe river, Yuanhe Temple village boundary, Tonggou ditch,

Xiaodonggou ditch, Diangou ditch, it extends to Jinhushu village boundary.

The *Plan* places strict requirements on the protection of historical and cultural resources: strictly control related construction projects within the protection areas, construction control zones and buffer zones of the cultural relics protection units at all levels, and can only be implemented after the approval of the construction plans. The reconstruction and restoration of the Wudang Mountains historical sites of ancient buildings is strictly in accordance with the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics*, with further thematic research and demonstration conducted based on its necessity and rationality and submitted to National Cultural Heritage Administration for approval.

The *Plan* also implements partition management, overall protection, key areas rescue, individual tracking, comprehensive remediation, individual reconstruction, scientific management and census rescue for all related construction projects.

*The Master Plan for the Wudang Mountains Scenic Area (2006—2020)* delimits the core scenic area (within the red line), which basically covers the property areas and buffer zones of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains, and puts forward the requirements of taking ancient building complex protection as the core, implementing key areas protection



and display, and strengthening overall protection within the core scenic area.

The delineation of the core scenic area follows the commitments of the world heritage sites and the provisions of heritage protection.

The core scenic area is designated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Articles 15 and 17 of the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics* on the protection scope and the construction control areas, and it covers 60 km<sup>2</sup>.

#### 6.2.4.2 Ecological Protection Area

In accordance with the spirit of the Letter of Natural Resources of Hubei Province [2019] No. 518, the Wudang Mountains Land and Resources Ministry has initially adjusted the ecological red line distribution map of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone. Since the ecological red line map coincides with the buffer zones of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains, the ecological red line zone basically covers the buffer zones of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains.

The Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone has required the land department and the cultural relics department to communicate with each other, combine relevant provisions on property areas and buffer zones with international regulations such as the *Administrative Measures for the Protection of World Cultural Heritages*, the *Operational*



*Guidelines for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, the *Venice Charter*, etc., and delineate the ecological red line in a scientific and rational manner:

The ecological red line distribution map follows the commitments of the world heritage sites and the provisions of heritage protection.

The ecological red line distribution map is designated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Articles 15 and 17 of the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics* on the protection scope and the construction control areas, and it covers 209 km<sup>2</sup>.

#### 6.2.4.3 National Geopark

The Wudang Mountains National Geopark in Hubei Province started the nomination of Wudang Mountains Provincial Geopark in May 2006; in May 2007, with the approval of Hubei Provincial Department of land and resources, the Wudang Mountains Provincial Geopark was established; on August 19, 2009, the Ministry of Land and Resources granted the Wudang Mountains with the qualification of the National Geopark.

The overall layout of the Wudang Mountains National Geopark takes the peak clusters landscape constructed out of the Wudang (rock) groups of ancient metamorphic rocks as the core landscape, the uphill highway and the transformed tourist highway as the axis, integrating the ancient building

complex of palaces and temples with other ecological resources as a whole, and takes the "core remediation, foothills reorganization and further excavation" as the action policy.

In the Article 21 of cultural landscape protection in the *Plan of the Wudang Mountains National Geopark of Hubei Province(2011-2025)*, it is clearly stated that the Wudang Mountains National Geopark embodies rich historical and cultural landscape, and the ancient building complex has been inscribed in the World Cultural Heritage List. In the *Plan*, focus of the protection lies in the protection of the ancient building complex, including individual cultural relics protection and overall environment protection. The main protection measures are as follows:

Strictly forbidden the construction of various engineering projects and any form of commercial activities within the protection area and control area of the cultural heritage units.

Carry out the maintenance and restoration of the damaged or potentially damaged parts of the world cultural heritage (national key cultural relics protection units) in accordance with conclusive historical data.

Strengthen the promotion of fire prevention knowledge, establish a fire prevention monitoring mechanism, and increase the construction of fire alarm facilities and fire prevention equipment so as to prevent severe fire accidents.

Dredge the drainage facilities in the building to prevent the water from corroding the building.

Increase the prevention and control of termites, and timely forecast and deal with ant disasters.

Demolish the residential houses built on ancient cultural sites, and restore the original appearance and the cultural integrity of the sites.

The plan of the Wudang Mountains National Geopark follows the commitments of the world heritage sites and the provisions of heritage protection.

The plan of the Wudang Mountains National Geopark is designated in accordance with the relevant provisions of Articles 15 and 17 of the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics* on the protection scope and the construction control areas.

In previous protection status reports, periodic reports, retrospective compilation of maps and plans and other work, we have been submitting relevant documents according to the separate property areas and buffer zones, while the actual protection management work is also performed in accordance with the established divisions. In addition, the whole Wudang Mountains has been designated as the "State-level Tourist Attraction", "National Geopark" and "National Forest Park", and the restrictive conditions and protection

requirements have been proposed from the aspects of landscape, geology, ecology, etc. and been executed by corresponding professional departments.

### 6.3 Boundary Delineation of Buffer Zones

The newly compiled and completed *Plan for the World Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)* further clarifies the elements and zoning of the world heritage of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains. Relevant issues raised in the decision will be finalized after the discussions in the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains protection and management network conference.

#### Boundaries of Buffer Zones

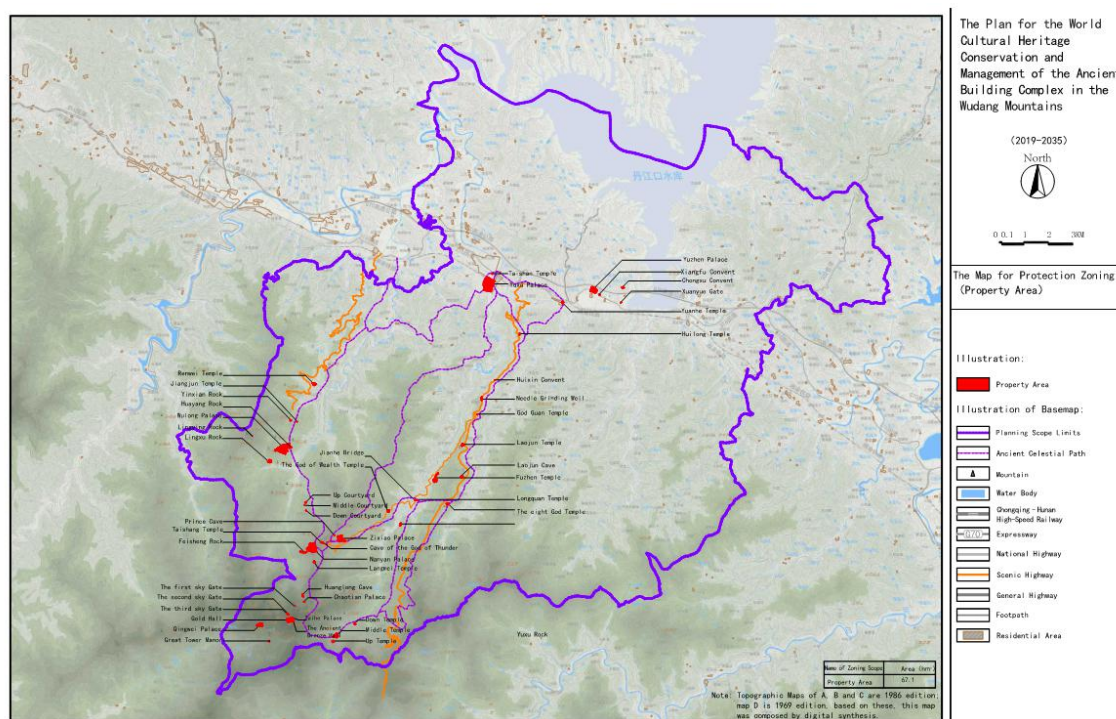
No.	Heritage name	Area (ha)	Boundary Description
001	Xuanyue Gate	0.20	60m from the protection scope in the east; 30m from the protection scope in the south; to the highway in the west; 50m from the protection scope in the north
002	Chongxu Convent	1.03	60m from the protection scope in the east, 50m from the protection scope in the south, 40m from the protection scope in the west, 40m from the protection scope in the north
003	Yuzhen Palace	15.56	330m from the protection scope in the east, 80m from the protection scope in the south, 60m from the protection scope in the west, to the highway in the north
004	Xiangfu Convent	0.41	10m from the protection scope respectively in the east, south, west and north
005	Yuanhe Temple	1.58	40m from the protection scope in the east, 30m from the protection scope in the south, 50m from the protection scope in the west, 70m from the protection scope in the north
006	Taishan Temple	0.33	40m from the protection scope in the east, 10m from the protection scope in the south, 25m from the protection scope in the west, 30m from the protection scope in the north
007	Yuxu Palace	41.68	To the dike of Jianhe River in the east, 130m from the protection scope in the south, 350m from the protection scope in the west, to the railway subgrade in the north

008	Huilong Temple	3.07	60m from the protection scope in the east, 30m from the protection scope in the south, 40m from the protection scope in the west, 60m from the protection scope in the north
009	Huixin Convent	Combined with the buffer zone of Fuzhen Temple	50m from the protection scope of Huixin Convent in the north, 100m from the protection scope of Jianhe Bridge in the south; outward expansion of 100m in the directions of east and west from the lines that connect the protection scopes of Huixin Convent, Needle Grinding Well, God Guan Temple, Laojun Temple, Laojun Cave, Fuzhen Temple, Longquan Temple and Jianhe Bridge
010	Needle Grinding Well		
011	God Guan Temple		
012	Laojun Temple		
013	Laojun Cave		
014	The eight God Temple	4.06	120m from the protection scope in the east, 20m from the protection scope in the south, 60m from the protection scope in the west, to the highway in the north
015	Yuxu Rock	12.29	130m from the protection scope in the east, 40m from the protection scope in the south, 130m from the protection scope respectively in the west and north
016	Fuzhen Temple	154.37	50m from the protection scope of Huixin Convent in the north, 100m from the protection scope of Jianhe Bridge in the south, 100m from the lines that connect the protection scopes of Huixin Convent, Needle Grinding Well, God Guan Temple, Laojun Temple, Laojun Cave, Fuzhen Temple, Longquan Temple and Jianhe Bridge in the east and west
017	Longquan Temple		
018	Jianhe Bridge		
019	The God of wealth Temple	2.65	60m from the protection scope in the east, 20m from the protection scope in the south, 90m from the protection scope respectively in the west and north
020	Prince Cave	80.32	100m from the protection scope of Zixiao Palace in the north, 100m from the protection scopes of Prince Cave, Taishang Temple, Nanyan Palace, Feisheng Rock and Langmei Temple in the east and west, 100m from the protection scope of Langmei Temple in the south
021	Zixiao Palace		
022	Cave of the God of Thunder		
023	Nanyan Palace		
024	Langmei Temple		

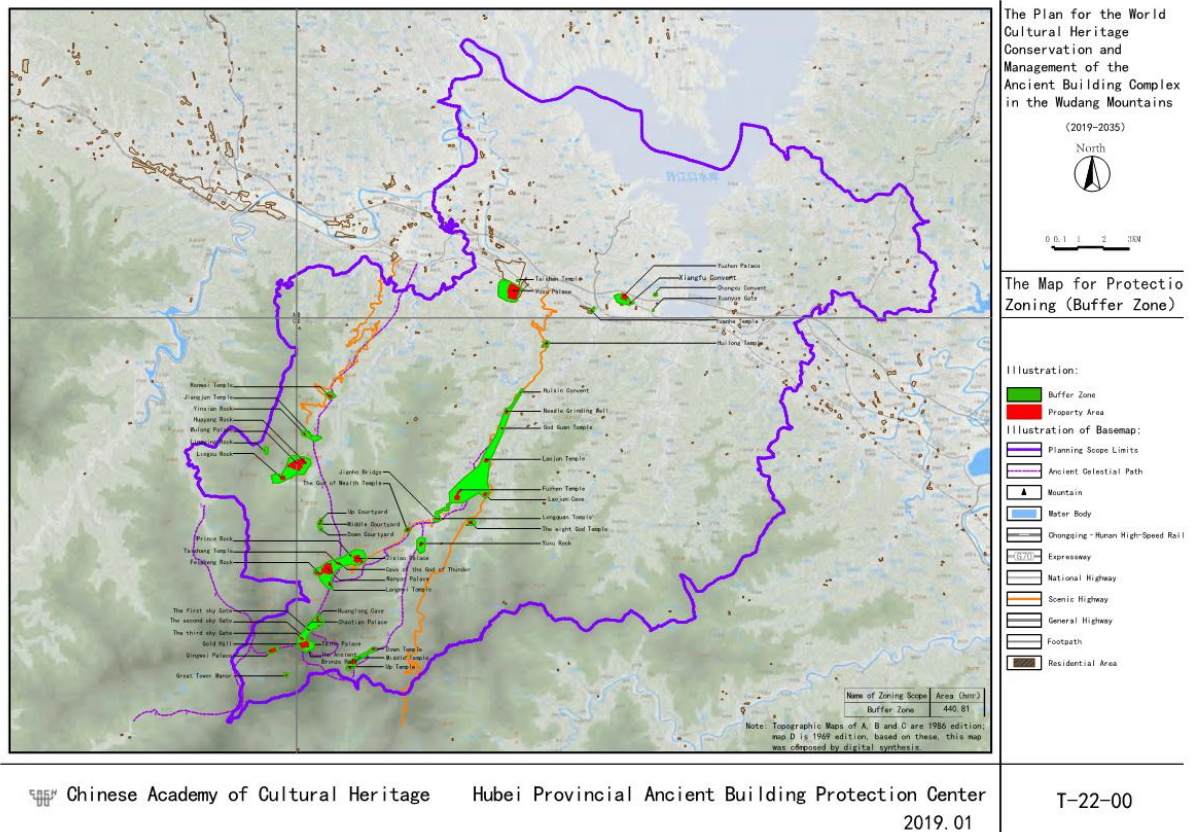
025	Taishang Temple		
026	Feisheng Rock		
027	Huanglong Cave	Combined with the buffer zone of Taihe Palace	100m from the protection scope of Huanglong Cave in the north, 100m from the protection scopes of Chaotian Palace, The first sky Gate, The second sky Gate, The third sky Gate and Taihe Palace in the east and west, 100m from the protection scope of Taihe Palace in the south
028	Chaotian Palace		
029	Gold Hall		
030	Down Temple	17.16	100m from the protection scope of Down Temple in the north, 100m from the protection scopes of Down Temple, Middle Temple and Up Temple in the east and west, 100m from the protection scope of Up Temple in the south
031	Middle Temple		
032	Up Temple		
033	Great Tower Manor	1.56	60m from the protection scope in the east, 50m from the protection scope in the south, 40m from the protection scope in the west, 40m from the protection scope in the north
034	Qingwei Palace	5.64	40m from the protection scope in the east, 170m from the protection scope in the south, 30m from the protection scope in the west, 110m from the protection scope in the north
035	The Ancient Bronze Hall	43.08	100m from the protection scope of Huanglong Cave in the north, 100m from the protection scopes of Chaotian Palace, The first sky Gate, The second sky Gate, The third sky Gate and Taihe Palace in the east and west, 100m from the protection scope of Taihe Palace in the south
036	Taihe Palace		
037	The first sky Gate		
038	The second sky Gate		100m from the protection scope of Huanglong Cave in the north, 100m from the protection scopes of Chaotian Palace, The first sky Gate, The second sky Gate, The third sky Gate and Taihe Palace in the east and west, 100m from the protection scope of Taihe Palace in the south
039	The third sky Gate		
040	Up Courtyard	4.79	50m from the protection scope of Down Courtyard in the north, 80m from the protection scopes of Down Courtyard, Middle Courtyard and Up Courtyard in the east and west, 50m from the protection scope of Up Courtyard in the south
041	Middle Courtyard		
042	Down Courtyard		

043	Lingying Rock	0.8	60m from the protection scope in the east, 20m from the protection scope in the south, 40m from the protection scope in the west, 15m from the protection scope in the north
044	Lingxu Rock	33.5	50m from the protection scope of Wulong Palace in the north; 80m from the lines that connect the protection scopes of Wulong Palace, Huayang Rock and Lingxu Rock in the east and west; 50m from the protection scope of Lingxu Rock in the south
045	Wulong Palace		
046	Huayang Rock		
047	Yinxian Rock	11.8	80m from the protection scope in the east, 150m from the protection scope in the west, 80m from the protection scope respectively in the south and north
048	Jiangjun Temple		
049	Renwei Temple	4.93	140m from the protection scope in the east, 50m from the protection scope in the south, 100m from the protection scope in the west, 20m from the protection scope in the north
	Total	440.81	

### Zoning Map of Property Areas



## Zoning Map of Buffer Zones



## IV. 2018-2019 Conservation and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains

Protecting the world cultural heritage is not only an important part of promoting the Chinese culture and building a common spiritual home for the Chinese nation, but also a great achievement for the benefit of mankind. While we feel the honor, we also feel a deep sense of responsibility. Therefore, in



treating world heritage, our philosophy is to "love the world heritage like protecting our own eyes"; in protecting ancient buildings, our philosophy is "rescue comes first, and minimize interventions"; in treating human, financial and material resources invested in protecting the cultural relics, our philosophy is to "adhere to giving priority to protection"; in terms of maintaining the dignity of heritage, our philosophy is to "do subtraction in scenic areas and addition in urban areas", striving to create the surrounding environment of the heritage.

In accordance with the above-mentioned philosophies and under the guidance and supervision of National Cultural Heritage Administration, the protection and management of the "World Cultural Heritage-the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains" mainly includes the following six aspects between 2018 and 2019:

#### **4.1 Strictly Implement the Protection According to Laws and Regulations.**

In order to reflect the pertinence of the laws and regulations for the protection of heritage sites and according to the decisions of the 29th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the 12th People's Congress of Hubei Province, in July 2017, the *Regulations on the Protection of the Ancient Building*

*Complex in the Wudang Mountains of Shiyan City* (hereinafter referred to as the *Regulations*), announced and implemented by the Standing Committee of People's Congress of Shiyan City, was officially promulgated; the local government, cultural relics administration departments, heritage protection agencies, etc. have always complied with the relevant provisions of the *Regulations*, strictly performed their statutory duties, and strengthened the coordination with departments of finance, development and reform, construction, natural resources, environmental protection, tourism, meteorology, public security, fire, etc.; organized the compilation of the *Plan for the Protection and Management of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (2019-2035)* and the *Five-year Plan for the Wudang Mountains Ancient Buildings Cultural Relics Protection Projects*; continued to increase investment in the protection and management of world cultural heritage; regulated the management of matters related to protection, repair, construction, etc. around the world heritage, so that the heritage components of the Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains have been strictly protected, the awareness of relevant departments to protect according to laws has been increasing, and the level of protection according to laws has been continuously improved.

#### **4.2 Continuously Strengthen the Management Capacity Construction.**

Improving and strengthening the protection and management institutions is the key to ensuring effective protection and scientific management of the heritage. In order to effectively strengthen the management of the Wudang Mountains world heritage, in 2003, the Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial Government of Hubei Province further rationalized the Wudang Mountains management system, decided to set up the "Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone of the Communist Party of China" and the "Management Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone", which are the dispatched agencies of the Municipal Party Committee and the Municipal Government of Shiyan City, giving the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone the independent exercise of county-level government management functions and powers, implementing closed management, and taking the overall responsibility for the protection, management, development, utilization, planning, and construction of the Wudang Mountains.

After the establishment of the Working Committee and Management Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone and in accordance with the needs of protection for the Wudang Mountains cultural relics, the Cultural Relics Bureau, which is the directly affiliated institution of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special

Zone Management Committee, was specifically established to perform and implement the protection and management of the Wudang Mountains world heritage on behalf of the Special Zone Management Committee.

The Cultural Relics Bureau of the Special Zone also has the divisions of a Cultural Relics Inspection Team, a Cultural Management Office and a Museum. Under the Cultural Management Office, there are five Cultural Relics Management Offices, which are specifically responsible for heritage protection.

At present, a hierarchical management mechanism of the Management Committee of Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone → Cultural Relics Bureau of Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone → Cultural Relics Inspection Team, Cultural Management Office and Museum of Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone → Cultural Relics Management Offices of Wudang Mountains has been formed.

The Cultural Relics Bureau (Cultural Relics Management Offices) of Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone has 210 staff members in total, including 72 professional technical staff of cultural relics and 34 professional technical staff of other areas. All of them are equipped with technical titles except the newly recruited personnel.

While establishing the particular institutions for the protection of cultural

relics, a highly targeted heritage protection linkage mechanism has been established, in response to the fact that the ancient buildings in the Wudang Mountains have many sites, keep long lines and cover wide ranges. In order to effectively strengthen the work of preventing fire, burglary, robbery and vandalism in the heritage, the first is to set up a fire brigade in the Wudang Mountains Special Zone to strengthen the fire management of ancient buildings; the second is to set up police stations in the scenic areas and urban areas to strengthen the anti-theft, robbery and vandalism management of cultural relics; the third is to sign protection and management agreements with the village groups near the ancient buildings, and hire volunteer administrators to strengthen the protection of ancient buildings; the fourth is to set up a comprehensive law enforcement team in the scenic areas to strengthen the unified management, bringing the management of the Wudang Mountains heritage site to a standardized and legalized track.

In terms of management capabilities, combining with the compilation of the heritage protection management plans, the protection management agencies at various locations strengthen communication and exchanges with the plan compilation team, systematically understand the philosophy and practices of world cultural heritage protection, as well as the OUV, components carriers and work requirements of the heritage to improve the

scientificity and standardization of the practices of protection management.

In terms of personnel training, the Cultural Relics Bureau of the Special Zone organized staff to participate in training programs such as the "China World Cultural Heritage Capacity Building Training Course", co-sponsored by UNESCO and China Academy of Cultural Heritage, to promote communication and exchanges at home and abroad, enrich the professional knowledge and to improve the operational capacity. In June 2019, the Protection Management Training Course of the Wudang Mountains Ancient Buildings World Heritage was held, which invited domestic well-known experts and scholars to give lessons. Through classroom teaching, on-site teaching and case analysis, relevant officials and stakeholders of world heritage protection had a more comprehensive understanding and command of the cultural heritage resources, the laws of protection management and the sustainable development of cultural tourism of the Wudang Mountains.

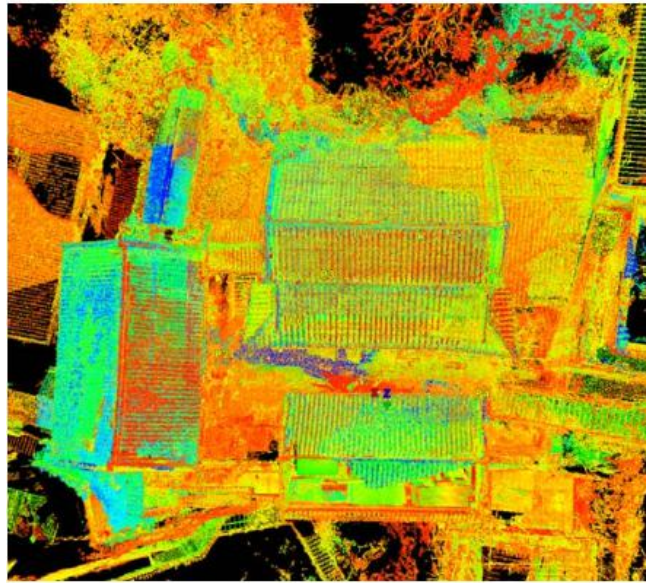
#### **4.3 Explore and Promote Digital Heritage Protection**

In view of the importance of digital recording and preservation of heritage information for the protection of world cultural heritage value, the Management Commission of Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone, Beijing Jiangong Architectural Design and Research Institute, School of Architecture, Tsinghua University and other professional institutions

implemented the fine mapping project for the Scriptural Hall and Gold Hall of the Taihe Palace in 2019. Cultural relic protection workers made full use of the latest technologies such as drones, 3D laser scanning and arranged multiple scanning points to perform the comprehensively refine mapping of the overall pattern, building structure and component details of the architecture complex such as the Scriptural Hall and Gold Hall of the Taihe Palace, and to perform the X-ray inspection and non-destructive X-ray fluorescence analysis(XRF) of the components. Through this project, a digital three-dimensional model of the Wudang Mountains Gold Hall was established, which provided accurate basic data support for the protection and repair of this world cultural heritage site, and laid a solid foundation for the progressive realization of the preventive protection of the Wudang Mountains World Cultural Heritage.

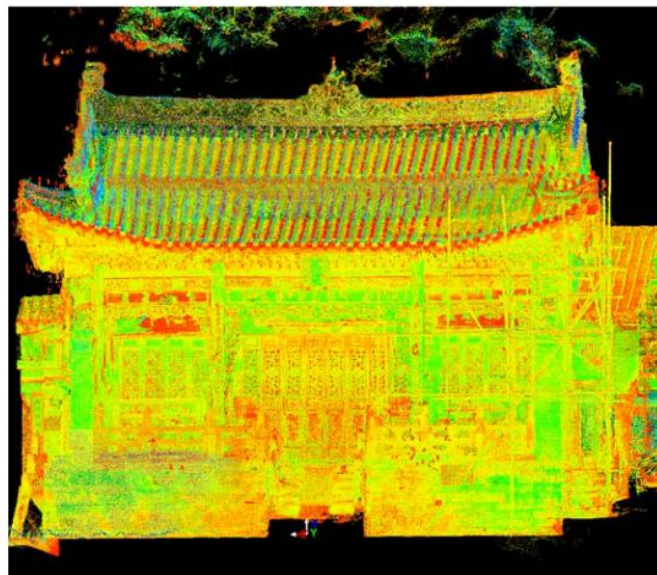
**A cloud screenshot of the top view point of the Scriptural Hall and its surroundings**





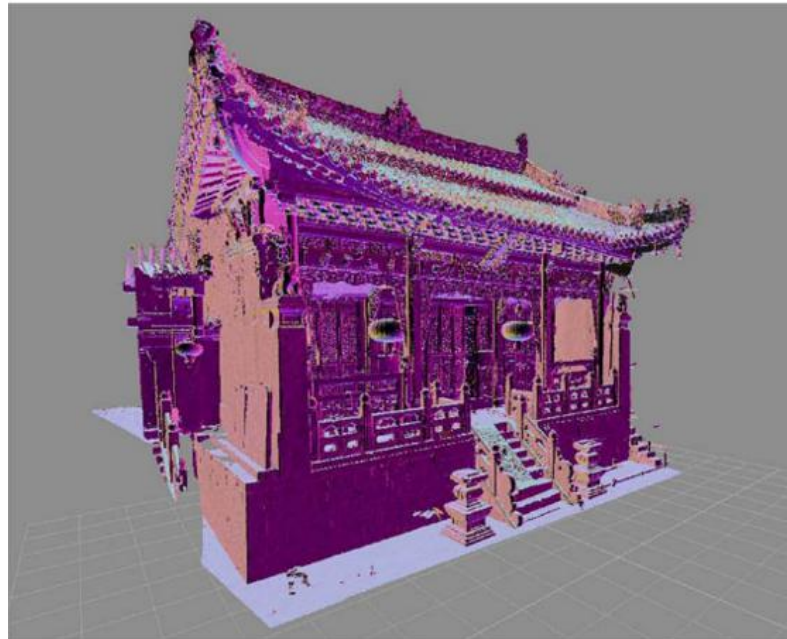
皇经堂及周边俯视点云截图

**A cloud screenshot of the front view point of the Scriptural Hall**



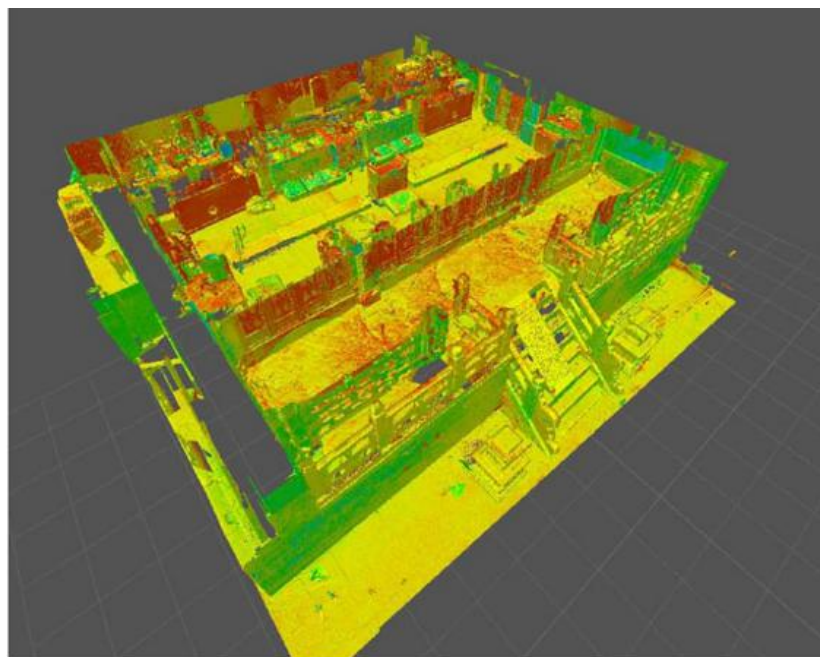
皇经堂正面点云截图

**A cloud data graph of the southwest façade point of the Scriptural Hall**



皇经堂西南立面点云数据图

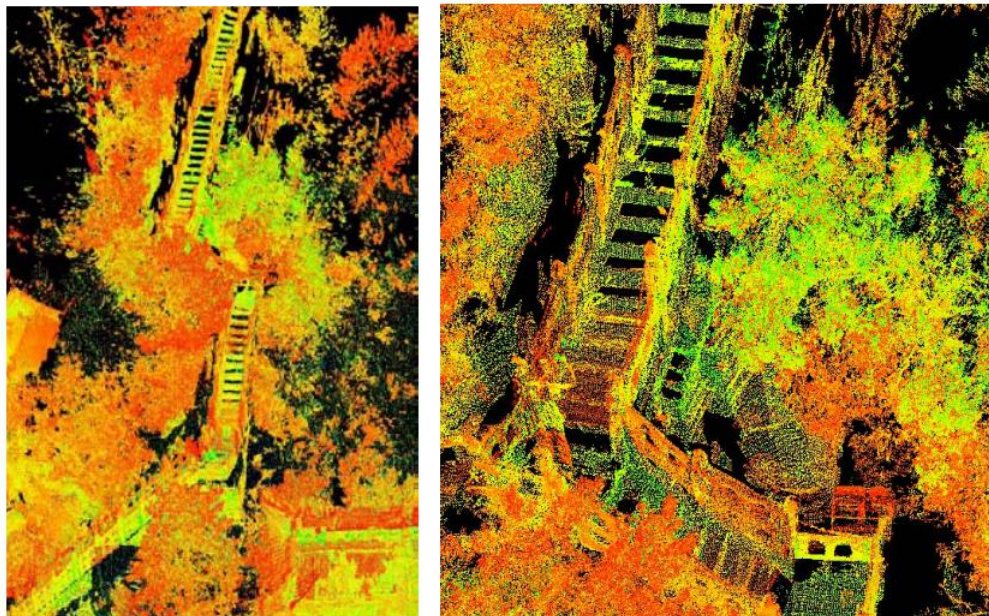
**A cloud data graph of the interior layout point of the Scriptural Hall**



皇经堂室内布置点云数据图

**A cloud splicing screenshot of the Jiulian Steps point**

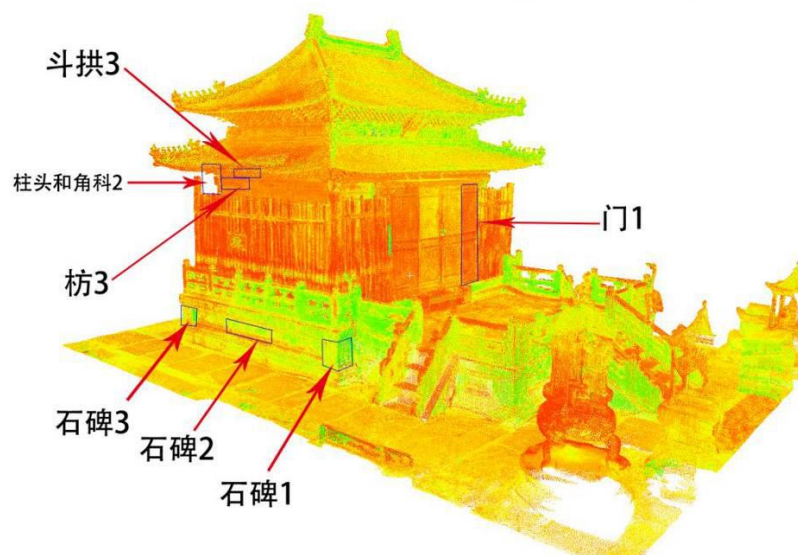




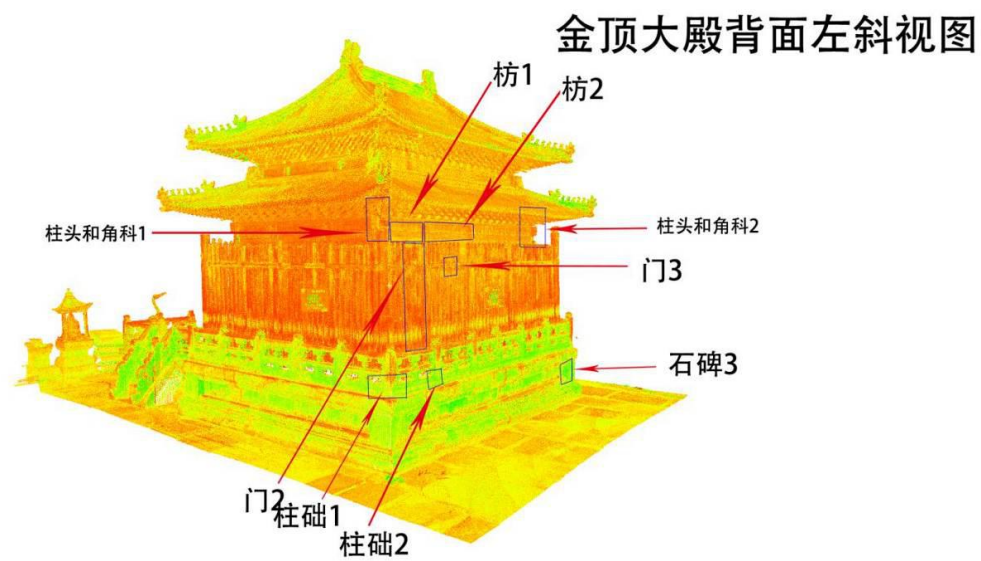
九连蹬点云拼接截图

A left oblique drawing of the front view of the Golden Summit

金顶大殿正面左斜视图



A left oblique drawing of the rear view of the Golden Summit



**A Front View of the Gold Hall of the Wudang Mountains (East Side)**



**4.4 Focus on the Conservation of the Physical Fabric, Ensure the Comprehensive Protection of the Ancient Buildings.**

Pay attention to the conservation of the physical fabric and ensure the comprehensive protection of the ancient buildings. Follow the principles of "rescue comes first" and "minimize interventions ", give priority to the "minor repairs" such as routine inspections and yearly maintenance, to control and eliminate the risk of the cultural relics physical fabric at the least cost, and to prevent minor illnesses from becoming serious illnesses. For serious dangers, rescue projects of the cultural relics protection will be organized and implemented in accordance with the requirements of the *Administrative Measures for the Conservation of Cultural Relics* of National Cultural Heritage Administration, the *Administrative Measures for the Repair of Culture Relics Buildings*, the *Venice Charter*, etc. More than 10 key maintenance projects have been completed, including the Western Taoist Yard of Yuanhe Temple, Chongxu Convent, Temple of God of Fire, etc. and dozens of maintenance projects have been finished, including the rooftop leak detection of Taizipo and the reinforcement of the Depository of Buddhist Sutras of Liangyi Hall, which eliminated the hidden safety hazards of the Ancient Building Complex of the Wudang Mountains World Cultural Heritage. During the repair process of cultural relics, we complied with the guidance of National Cultural Heritage Administration and the Provincial Bureau of Cultural Relics, strictly followed the principles of

cultural relics maintenance and effectively avoided the protective damage.

Persist in the demonstration and approval of the repair plans. The repair of ancient buildings in the Wudang Mountains insists on inviting experts from well-known domestic universities to host the design, such as Professor Lv Zhou and Professor Wang Guixiang of Tsinghua University, Professor Zhu Guangya of Southeast University, insists that each repair plan be reported to National Cultural Heritage Administration after being verified by experts from the Hubei Provincial Bureau of Cultural Relics, and implemented after being reviewed and approved by the experts. In selection of construction enterprises, we adhere to the national open bidding in accordance with laws and regulations, and clarify that construction enterprises must have the "Double-first-level" qualifications (First-level Qualification for Construction of Cultural Relics Protection Projects issued by the State Cultural Relics Administrative Department and First-level Qualification for Professional Construction of House Building Projects issued by the Construction Administrative Department).

#### **4.5 Strengthen the Governance of Surrounding Environment, Ensure the Adequate Maintenance of the World Heritage Dignity.**

The first is to clean up the substandard structures. As for the irregular buildings around the ancient building complex such as Langmei Temple,

Taizipo, Nanyan Palace, Zixiao Palace, Wulong Palace, Taichang Temple, Needle Grinding Well, Qiongtai Middle Temple, etc., and as for the 75 shops around cultural relics and the Ancient Celestial Path, we implemented restoration projects based on the principle of not disturbing cultural relics or being unsightly; we also implemented the burial project of "three lines" (electrical lines, telephone lines and closed TV lines) surrounding the cultural relics to ensure the coordination of the surrounding environment of cultural relics. The second is to control the constructions. According to the higher laws and regulations, we formulated and implemented the *Administrative Measures for the Appearance of the Wudang Mountains* and *Administrative Measures for the Capital Construction in the Wudang Mountains Planning Area* and other laws and administrative regulations, and strictly controlled the construction in the core areas and buffer zones of the heritage. The third is to standardize the signs. In accordance with the principles of aesthetics, practicality, standardization and science, all the shabby, irregular and missing instruction signs, guidance signs and warning signs in the heritage area were totally updated. The fourth is to implement forest greening. We unremittingly carried out projects of mountain closure and forestation, afforestation, returning farmland to forests, and forest fire prevention. At the same time, we comprehensively implemented the "ban on logging" project in scenic areas



and created a heritage environment of "covering the sun". The fifth is to promote sanitation and cleaning. We implemented the "Toilet Revolution" and comprehensively upgraded the 12 public toilets in the whole mountain, in accordance with the principles and requirements of environmental protection and coordination; we also implemented the garbage downhill project and the "8-minute cleaning system", which fundamentally tackled the threat of garbage to the World Heritage Site and its influence on the appearance, and ensured the internal and external environment of the heritage. The sixth is to minimize interference with the heritage. In order to minimize and reduce the interference of tourism activities on the world cultural heritage, the first is to implement closed management of scenic road transportation, to establish scenic environmental protection convoys and construct the tourist service centers in urban areas, and to prohibit non-tourist vehicles from entering the scenic area so as to reduce the pollution to the heritage; the second is to limit ticket sales and separate visitors to other sites in the urban area during peak tourist seasons, so as to limit the number of tourists at the attraction and minimize the pressure on cultural relic areas.

#### **4.6 Strengthen the Fire Prevention and Anti-theft Mechanism, Ensure the In Place Safety Management of Cultural Relics.**

Firmly establish the concept and idea of "100%", adhere to the strictest

safety precautions and make the security work become safe projects of top priority in the heritage site.

1. Establish fire management agencies. In order to "prevent problems before they occur", the Special Zone has invested heavily in the establishment of the Wudang Mountains Fire Brigade, which specializes in the fire safety of cultural relics. The project not only effectively guides the safety management of cultural relics in the Wudang Mountains, but also greatly improves the prevention and fire suppression capability.

2. Improve the fire protection facilities for cultural relics within the whole mountain. We steadily advanced the fire protection and security engineering of various cultural protection units and equipped them with various fire protection equipment and facilities, which greatly improved the technical defense level. In order to further strengthen the safety management of ancient buildings in the Wudang Mountains, we invited professional departments to compile the *Engineering Construction Plan for the Fire Protection, Security and Lightning Protection of the Cultural Relics in the Wudang Mountains*, which has been approved by National Cultural Heritage Administration and has been implemented; in the next steps, we will undertake the upgrade of security and fire-fighting levels-Smart Firefighting.

3. Investigate and rectify hidden safety hazards. Taking the

implementation of the cultural relics safety management responsibility system as the starting point, we continuously increased the efforts in security inspections and hidden dangers rectification, cleaned up and regulated the electrical circuits in the temples of cultural relics, replaced all aging wires, and added safety protection pipes; we banned the contractual commercial activities which utilize ancient buildings in cultural relics protection units, and completely corrected the external lease and illegal use of the ancient buildings; we formulated management systems such as *Five Injunctions on Cultural Relics Safety* and *Seven Prohibition in the Use of Cultural Relics*; we arranged accommodation and office areas for the cultural management personnel outside the core area of the cultural relics protection units, and realized the separation of the cultural relics area from the living area.

4. Establish a joint conference system for heritage safety protection. The Management Committee of the Wudang Mountains Tourism and Economic Special Zone regularly organizes the departments of cultural relics, public security, fire protection, landscape management, village groups and other relevant departments to hold special meetings so as to study the problems and solutions in the protection and management of heritage, and has played an active role in ensuring the security of the heritage.