

Gateway Education Course

Organized by Raymond Wong,
Division of Building Science and Technology

Course Code: GE2227

Course Title:

Preservation and Revitalization of Buildings with
Heritage Value inside City Environments

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A brief introduction about this course

“Heritage, Preservation, Revitalization” are some of the hot-issues being mentioned by public frequently in the recent years world-wide. For those practicing professionals, other than its cultural value and the technicality behind, this is also a business with high commercial potential. To certain extent, this may result in some cases that true meaning of heritage being distorted or even abused for marketing convenience.

In view of this, this course aims to provide some background knowledge for students to develop a better understanding on this topic. At the end, knowledge to grasp a better picture about the meaning and classification of heritages inside city environments, under what principles and practices it is operated, the technicality concerns, how these valuable assets are being utilized, as well as some representing cases which can be found from an international prospective, can be obtained by students after the completion of this course.

After all, this is also a very interesting course for general education purpose for it covers a wide range of topics including architecture, development history of representative cities, as well as issues on culture, social, economic, and sometimes even political concerns.

This course will cover a wide range of related topics, such as

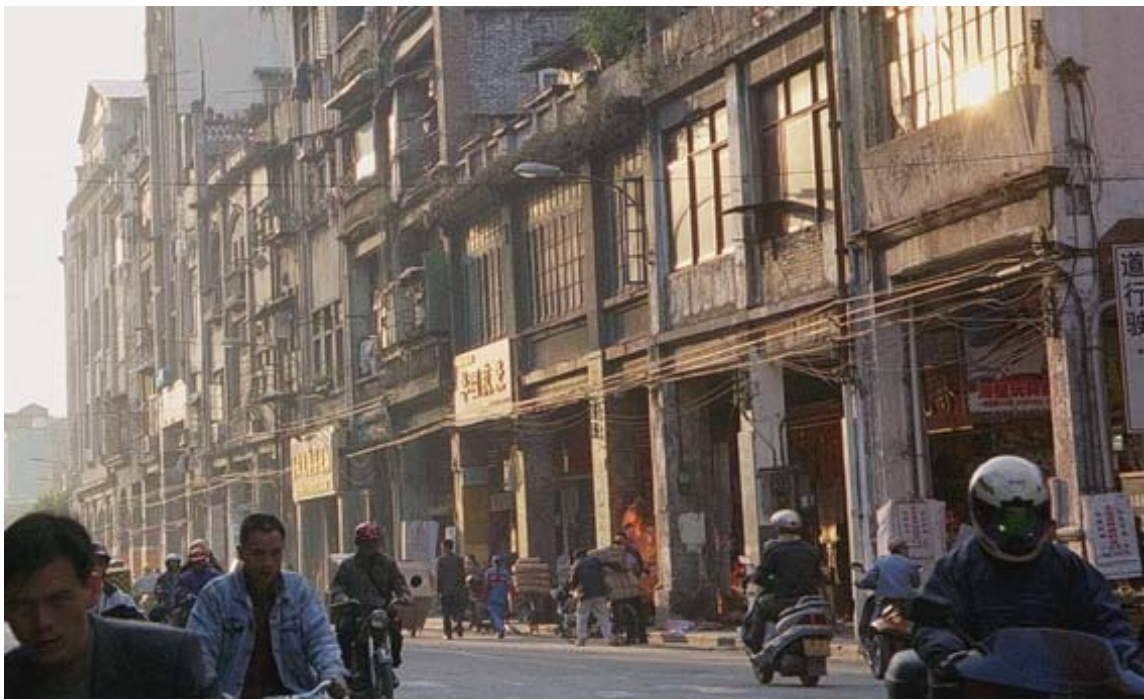
1. Meaning and classification of buildings with heritage value.
2. International experience in preserving heritage buildings .
3. Common policies and practices adopted by various governments in the preservation process.
4. Existing condition of heritage buildings in representing cities worldwide.
5. Case studies in representing locations to review the existing condition, way of preservation and utilization of the heritages. These include:
 - Hong Kong and Macau
 - Major China cities including Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Chongqing
 - Asia cities with significant colonial influences including Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Pinang.
 - Representing western cities including New York, London, Paris, Barcelona, Amsterdam, Rome and Istanbul
6. Understanding the basic architectural styles, structures, materials and construction of common traditional/historic buildings.
7. Principles and basic techniques in preserving and upgrading historic buildings.

Let us have a look of the following slides and get some general understanding about various meanings and perceptions about heritage.

(The photo images used in this presentation are all from the Course Examiner as a by-product of his city studies since 1995)



What are the differences and similarities of these houses?



How about this?





A general cityscape of Rome



A general cityscape of London





A general cityscape of Paris



A general cityscape of Istanbul



A general cityscape of Shanghai



A general cityscape of Guangzhou



A general cityscape of Hong Kong



Streetscape that has been preserved for more than a century, one from an European city and one from Guangdong, China.

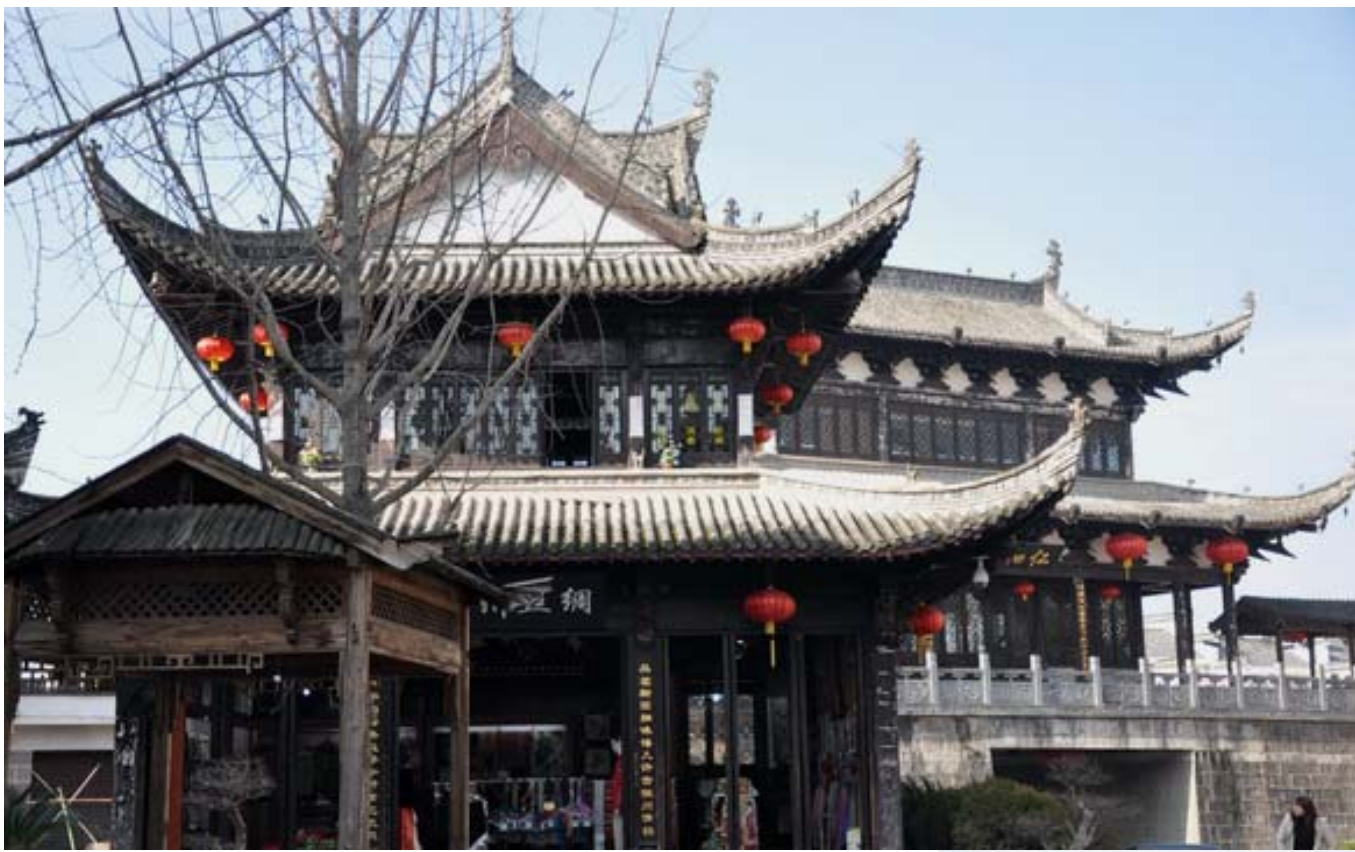


A place to worship,
but between
different civilizations

Holy figures





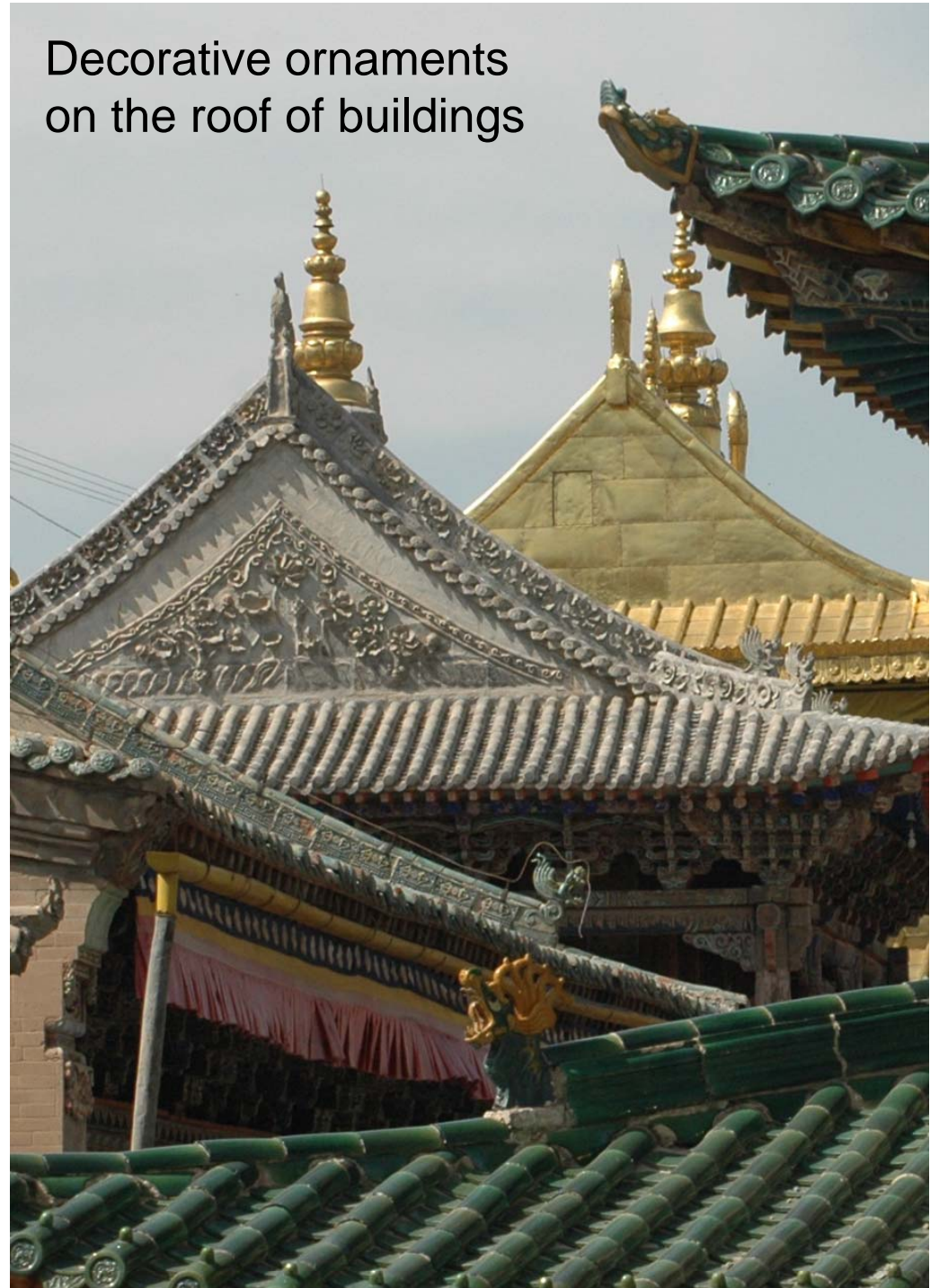


Roof style as a major part of building





Decorative ornaments
on the roof of buildings





Decorative ornaments,
the Chinese style



Decorative ornaments,
the Western style



Another form of heritage, the industrial heritage - A factory constructed in late 19th Century converted into a Science & Technology Museum in Manchester, UK



Industrial heritage

- Canal network and railway bridges that triggered the industrial revolution in England



Industrial heritage - Old factory in Shanghai converted into a creative art centre

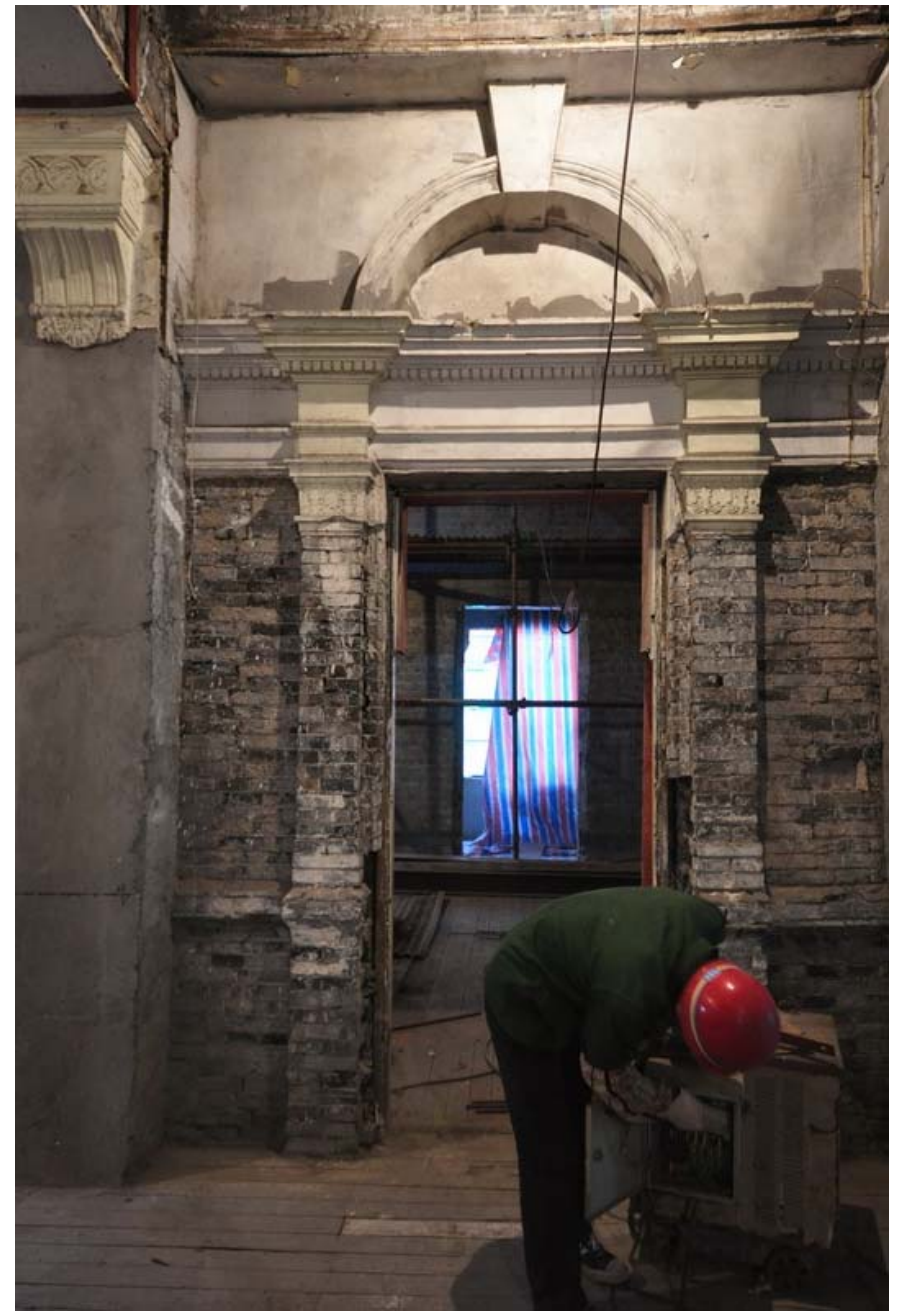




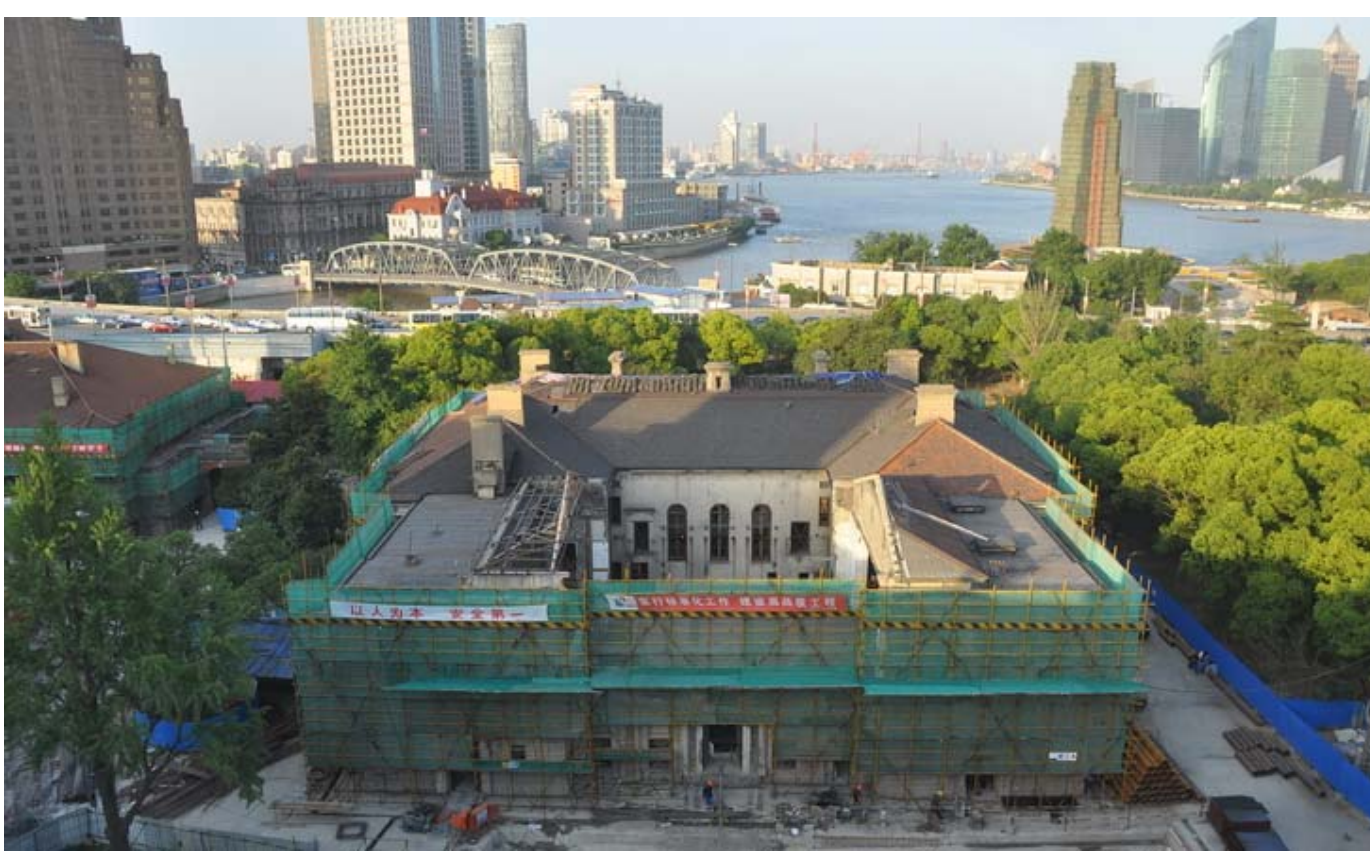
Historic buildings are often in a poorly maintained condition







The preservation and revitalization process



Before the revitalization,
North Bund, Shanghai



North Bund after
the revitalization



From the slides as shown, we hope we can stimulate you by the use of these impacting images the broad and diversity of historic buildings and how it can illustrate a deeper meaning towards the studies of heritages.

Come and join us and explore more, from an international eye-sight.