

# Study on Modern Veranda Style Architecture of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou under the Fusion of Chinese and Western Culture

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**Abstract.** After the Opium War, veranda style architecture, as an important type of modern Chinese architecture, took root and sprouted in the major open trading cities, which was the result of the collision and fusion of Western architectural culture and regional construction culture. Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou is rich in modern veranda style architectural culture heritage, which has a profound influence on the modern urban pattern of Fuzhou and the evolution of modern architecture in southern China. Guided by the theory of modern Chinese architecture and detailed field research and literature research, this paper analyzes the function and form of modern veranda style architecture in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, discusses its evolution process under the background of regional characteristics in Fujian on the basis of the above, and expands the ideas of protection and activation of veranda style architecture.

**Keywords:** Chinese and Western culture; Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou; modern veranda style architecture.

## 1. Introduction

By tracing the history of modern Chinese architecture, it is similar to that of Japan and Korea in East Asia, as well as to that of many Southeast Asian colonies. Colonial veranda architecture has become a common form of consulate, foreign firm, mansion, and other buildings due to its low construction cost, short period, and good adaptability to subtropical climate, which is an important beginning of modern architecture in China. Fuzhou, located on China's southeast coast, was designated as one of the five trading ports following the signing of the Treaty of Nanjing in 1842. By establishing consulates, foreign firms, schools, churches, and other buildings in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, Western politics, economy, culture, and religion gradually infiltrated and spread in feudal society, giving birth to the unique history and culture of the collision between China and the West, which had a fundamental impact on Fuzhou's modern urban form and pattern, and was also an important aspect of the great changes in modern society in southern China. Guided by the theory of modern Chinese architecture, this paper discusses modern veranda architecture in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, investigates the morphological and functional evolution of the veranda style architecture in the context of the regional culture of Fujian, and expands the strategic ideas for the restoration and revitalization of historical buildings.

## 2. Background Research

### 2.1 General situation of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou in modern times

Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou, also known as Tengshan in ancient times, is located at the northern end of Nantai Island, bordering the southern bank of the Min River, a key area for land and water transportation. Salt merchants have built warehouses at the northern foot of the mountain to store salt since the Ming Dynasty, and the area has gradually developed into a salt storage and transportation center in eastern and even northwestern Fujian. According to the book Vine Hill: there was a fortress and a fortress city in Zhongzhou since the end of the Yuan Dynasty and the beginning of the Qing Dynasty, so a smoke pier was set up at the top of the Vine Hill across the river for alarm purposes (Cai, 2002), hence the hill's name "Yantai" [1]. It is obvious that the

mountain's elevated position could be exploited as an excellent observation point for monitoring the trade movements of ships passing along the Min River and as a base for military activities in and around the city of Fuzhou. In 1842, China and Britain signed the Treaty of Nanjing, and Fuzhou was thus officially ported as one of the first five ports of commerce. Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Russia, and other countries established consulates in Yantai Mountain in succession, creating a consulate building area. Yantai Mountain has become a concentrated residence for foreigners whose Chinese and western cultures, religions, commerce, education, and medical care are intertwined since the legalization of the spread of western religions among Fujian's military and civilians in 1846 and the establishment of the taxation department of Fujian Customs in 1861. Foreign firms, halls, customs, churches, church hospitals, and schools, all in various styles, have sprung up all over Yantai Mountain. Through the infiltration of commercial ports, Western powers had a subtle influence on the evolution and transformation of Fuzhou's modern cities. Yantai Mountain's modern architectural history can also be considered as a historical epitome and witness to Fuzhou's modern architectural development history.

## 2.2 Modern historic buildings of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou

The roads follow the contours of the Yantai Mountain, which is high in the northwest and low in the southeast. There are 163 modern historical buildings in and around the mountain, mostly in group layout [2], that can be classified into four categories based on their nature (see Fig. 1): the first category is consulate buildings, which are mostly concentrated in the Cangqian area. At the height of the tea trade, 17 foreign consulates or agencies were located here, but only two American consulates remain with one rented from Jardine Matheson (No.2 Aiguo Road), as well as one Russian consular residence and one French consulate (the former residence of the French poet Paul Crodale at No.23 Lequn Road). Modern consulate buildings in Fuzhou mostly use the veranda style with axisymmetric composition, which embodies the solemnity and majesty characteristics; the second category is foreign firms and banking buildings, which are mostly concentrated in the Fanchuanpu-Cangqian area. Because of the advantages of the Minjiang River's estuary, the Fanchuanpu area has become a port where many ships gather due to the prosperity of the maritime trade of tea and other commodities. By the end of the Qing Dynasty, there are more than 30 foreign companies from all over the world that opened in Yantai Mountain, mostly in veranda style, including HSBC, which had the most capital in Fuzhou in the early days. The third category includes the construction of Fujian Customs and its ancillary facilities, which are primarily located between Fanchuanpu and Lequn Road. With the establishment of Fujian Customs, commercial activities in Yantai Mountain have become increasingly active, resulting in the formation of a new commercial center outside of the old city. The remains are the Mansion of the Tax Department of Fujian Customs currently located at No.12 Lequn Road, and the Mansion of the Deputy Tax Department of Fujian Customs at No.5 Lixin Road. Although the early Fujian Customs was a functional organization of the Qing government, the actual control right of the early Fujian Customs was in the hands of British and American powers, and its buildings also had a strong colonial color, mostly adopting the veranda style instead of the traditional shape; The fourth category is residential and entertainment buildings. With the completion of consulates, western-colored residential buildings such as official residence and residence were introduced into Fuzhou, gradually forming a piece of western-style residential area in Yantai Mountain. The veranda style and Queen Anne British style and its variants, are commonly used in western-style residential buildings. The former residence of Chen Zhilin, a famous overseas Chinese leader in Fuzhou, at No.8 Wanchun Alley, for example, is in the veranda style.

The modern architecture of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou displayed distinct style characteristics in different historical periods: prior to the port's opening, Fuzhou's urban pattern was relatively closed, with the Drum Tower as the city's center and the north-south axis. All types of structures were constructed in accordance with feudal rules. As a result, before and during the port's initial opening, the residential areas of Yantai Mountain were dominated by traditional Chinese architectural forms.

With the port's economic and trade development and prosperity, Traditional timber frameworks are gradually being replaced by East-meets-West or Western-style buildings. In the mid to late 19th century, the veranda style of architecture became popular as a status symbol for the colonists. A large number of historic buildings remain, but they have not yet affected the residential architecture. Fuzhou Port gradually weakened after the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895, and its economic development was slow, resulting in the rise of municipal construction and real estate. Simultaneously, as the tide of overseas Chinese returned to Southeast Asia, a large number of Nanyang English-style residential buildings or commercial and residential buildings (arcades) with veranda characteristics appeared in the first half of the twentieth century, gradually becoming popular among Fuzhou residents.

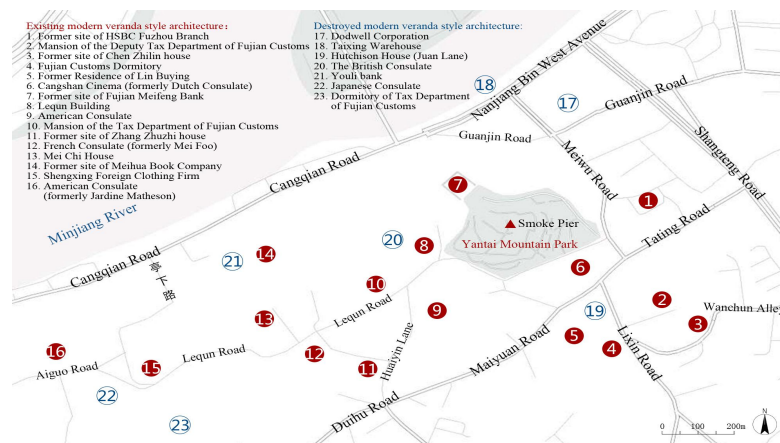


Fig. 1 The distribution map of main modern veranda style architecture in historical and cultural area of Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou.

### 3. Veranda Style Architecture of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou





















#### 3.1 Modern veranda architecture in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou

The Veranda Style, which was popular in the middle and late nineteenth centuries, is the most typical and largest among the modern historical buildings in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou. It is named after the veranda in front of the exterior wall, and it has evolved from a simple column aesthetic space to a living space for entertainment and leisure. Professor Shinsuke Fujimori of Tokyo University was a pioneer in researching veranda style architecture in China. He considers this architectural style to be the birthplace of modern architectural development in China. It developed in Indian colonies in the 16th century to deal with South Asia's tropical climate and the resistance of local aborigines, hence the names "colonial" or "veranda" architectural style. Following the five-port trade, British colonies in Southeast Asia introduced it to China and it quickly became the norm. Because colonial architecture has reached a relatively mature late style at this point, some scholars believe the term "Colonial Veranda Style" is more appropriate [3]. Fuzhou, along with the other four port-opening cities, is located on the southeast and south China coasts. It is similar to veranda architecture in the subtropical monsoon climate, as evidenced by a comparison of the architectural styles of British consulates in Fuzhou and Shanghai, Guangzhou, Xiamen, and Ningbo at the same time. Since the consulate, veranda-style buildings in Yantai Mountain have been popular, and they have gradually been applied to customs, foreign firms, banks, and mansions. They are generally two to three storey brick-timber or brick-masonry structures, with western-style four-slope roofs, chimneys, and tiger windows protruding; the facade is dominated by the outer corridor, with the colonnade bay unit as the main motif. Among them are the common shutter doors and windows and the western cornice, where the East meets the West. As a result, the foreigners' residence in Yantai Mountain has developed, which has had an impact on Fuzhou's modern urban pattern [4].

### 3.2 Plane morphology research

British businessmen failed to fully open the port of Fuzhou ten years after it opened in 1844. The veranda-style buildings in Yantai Mountain flourished with the rise of tea trade only after Russell Company opened a trade route for Fuzhou's tea exports in 1853. The ten surviving modern veranda-style buildings of different periods in Yantai Mountain are the subject of the study (see TABLE I). Using the layout of the outer corridor of the ground floor part of the main building as a basis for classification, the veranda plan morphology can be divided into five main categories: one-sided veranda, two-sided veranda, three-sided veranda, four-sided veranda, and combined type. The term "combination" refers to the use of more than two different types of verandas [5]. The American Consulate and the Lequn Building, which was built in the early days of port opening and houses the British consulates, both have one-sided veranda on the first and second floors. The entrance to the Lequn Building has a protruding porch, which can also be thought of as a combination of two different types of verandas. During the prosperous period, the practice of opening veranda on all sides on the first floor dominated the veranda-style building. The second floor is a circular veranda, but there are doors and windows between the columns, such as the former HSBC and Meifeng Bank, and the mansion of the Deputy Tax Department of Fujian Customs, among others. The three-sided veranda of the Tax Department of Fujian Customs mansion, on the other hand, is quite unique, and it is inclined to the balcony function because the four corners of the veranda are cut off and the veranda is no longer connected. When late veranda-style buildings, such as Linsen Mansion and Zhenlu, are introduced into residential buildings from office buildings, only one-sided veranda or one-sided recessed veranda is usually set at the entrance side of the first floor, and the veranda on the second floor and above is closed.

Table 1. The distribution map of main modern veranda style architecture in historical and cultural area of Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou

Development stage	No.	Build time	Name of building	Address	Plane morphology	Facade morphology	Images
Initial stage 1853-1860	8	1854	Lequn Building	No.8 Lequn Road	Combined 	1F: Arch type 2F: Lintel type	
	9	1855	American Consulate	No.84 Maiyuan Road	One-sided 	1F: Lintel type 2F: Lintel type	
Prosperous stage 1860-1880	16	1863	American Consulate (formerly Jardine Matheson)	No.2 Aiguo Road	Combined 	1F: Arch type 2F: Arch type	
	1	1867	Former site of HSBC Fuzhou Branch	No.57 Meiwu Road	Four-sided 	1F: Arch type 2F: Lintel type	
	2	1868	Mansion of the Deputy Tax Department of Fujian Customs	No.5 Lixin Road	Four-sided 	1F: Arch type 2F: Lintel type	
	7	1868	Former site of Fujian Meifeng Bank	No.29 Guanjin Road	Four-sided 	1F: Arch type 2F: Lintel type	
	10	1877	Mansion of the Tax Department of Fujian Customs	No.12 Lequn Road	Three-sided 	1F: Lintel type 2F: Lintel type	
Late stage 1880-1900	12	1882	French Consulate (formerly Mei Foo)	No.23 Lequn Road	Combined 	1F: Arch type 2F: Arch type	
End stage 1900-1930	5	1920	Former site of Chen Zhilin house	No.8 Wanchun Alley	One-sided 	1F: Arch type 2F: Arch type	
	15	1921	Shengxing Foreign Clothing Firm	No.101 Tingxia Road	One-sided 	1F: Lintel type 2F: Arch type	

Except for the American Consulate at No.84 Maiyuan Road, all of the ten veranda-style buildings on Yantai Mountain emphasize the plane layout of the central axis symmetry, aiming to

reflect the political rigor and dignity, as well as the colonists' identity symbol, through the symmetry of the veranda and plane of public buildings. The degree of freedom gradually increases in later residential buildings, and the symmetrical layout is no longer strictly adhered to. The central bay, which is usually the same width as the central column bay of the veranda, is a communication space with stairs after the building enters the main entrance from the wide veranda. On the left and right sides, two or four rooms are symmetrically distributed, and both the aisle and the veranda have doors. The horizontal traffic system of the aisle and the veranda allows users to easily walk through the four corners of the building. This general layout is related to the veranda-style building's original defense function. The placement of veranda-style buildings is usually more concerned with the surrounding environment and landscape conditions. Considering the factors of being close to the port and gathering information, almost all consulate-style buildings are located on the slopes along the Minjiang River, from which a commanding position can monitor the ships coming and going. They are typically surrounded by office buildings, mansions, dormitory buildings, and other structures to form a large and secure courtyard. The courtyard has landscape design [6]; other public or residential buildings are mostly single structures, the surrounding vegetation is dense and the environment is beautiful, and they are built in accordance with the mountain situation. The veranda is mostly facing the beautiful Minjiang River and is used as an outdoor entertainment and leisure space.

### 3.3 Facade morphology research

When the colonial veranda style was introduced to Yantai Mountain after Fuzhou opened its port, it was in its late stages of development, with many changes and more exquisite facades. Western classicism and even Baroque decorative elements were used, and Chinese symbols were also used in the localization process. Depending on the structure of the facade elements and the way they are stressed, the veranda-style architectural facade of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou can be divided into two categories: lintel type and arch type. The former is a rectangular motif colonnade bay unit formed by beams and columns, while the latter is an arch motif bay unit formed by brick continuous arches [7]. These two motifs can be combined in three ways: the upper and lower floors are arched, as seen in British, American, French, and Russian consulates; the lower level is arch type, and the upper level is lintel type, as seen in the Lequn Building, HSBC, and the Mansion of the Deputy Tax Department of Fujian Customs; and the upper and lower floors are lintel-style, as seen in the Mansion of the Tax Department of Fujian Customs and the American Consulate (No.84 Maiyuan Road). The combination of the first two types is more common, and the lower floors generally continue to issue arches.

The facade can be constructed in two ways: the first is to install railings, hangings, and so on in the colonnade bay unit, and the lower veranda can be completely open to the outside world without railings. The arch type is more vivid and full of rhythm in the facade features of the veranda than the lintel type; the second method is to install windows, doors, or walls in the colonnade bay unit. The shutter door, which is a common facade door and window component in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, can also be regarded as a window without a windowsill. The open veranda has evolved into a semi-closed or closed veranda, with its facade features weakened and the overall feeling of the wall surface emphasized. The veranda has little variation in column spacing, which is essentially equidistant. The change is only emphasized at the building's entrance or end, and the width of brick columns will be widened accordingly; the proportional relationship between column spacing and column height is fairly regular. The Yantaishan veranda-style building has a simple overall style in facade decoration and material technology, with simplified lines for the column cap and foundation, and moldings in western and Chinese style at the cornice; the external brick walls are plastered and painted in light colors, and the more delicate ones, such as the former site of the HSBC Fuzhou Branch, have rich horizontal lines. On the inner wall of the veranda of the Tax Department of Fujian Customs, the water-washed stone method, which was popular in the Republic of China, was

used. The wall method of fair-faced brick walls gradually became popular in Fuzhou from veranda-style buildings in later residential, shop, and school buildings.

Furthermore, because of the hot and humid climate in Fuzhou and the adaptation to the mountainous terrain in Yantai, many veranda buildings have built basements to solve the large terrain height difference, or have adopted high granite wall foundations to extend the service life of the indoor overhead wooden floor in the riverside environment and reduce the damp degree of the wooden floor. As a result, vents of various shapes and sizes are installed near the building's wall foundation, and metal or wood baffles are decorated with various shapes, reflecting the regional climate adaptability of veranda buildings and the characteristics of blending Chinese and western styles (see Fig. 2).

### 3.4 Detail morphology research

#### 3.4.1 Roof

The roof shape is frequently related to the plane shape of the building. Because the plane of the veranda buildings in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou is mostly square, adopting the shape of the four-slope roof can not only emphasize the symmetrical composition and the entrance of the building in combination with the facade, but also pour water on all sides and extended eaves to help the roof drainage during the rainy season. Summers in Fuzhou are hot. Sloping roofs are typically laid on wooden rafters with small green tiles made locally, and western-style fascia boards are attached with wood (see Fig. 2). The ventilation effect is fantastic. Simultaneously, ventilation holes will be installed around the indoor ceiling or a continuous mesh ventilation belt will be installed along the veranda, allowing the air in the ceiling to quickly convect, and the clearance height of sloping roofs will be used to form ventilation rooms, with hot air discharged through tiger windows. Although there is no heating demand in Fuzhou during the winter, the fireplace, a popular heating method in the west, remains in the building's main room. Although it is rarely used, it exists as a symbolic meaning and is represented on the roof by chimneys of various shapes. The American Consulate at No.84 Maiyuan Road has the richest and best preserved roof and chimneys. The architectural language commonly used in modern veranda buildings in Yantai Mountain in the middle and late nineteenth centuries was Western-style four-slope roof. Until the sinicization adjustment of Christianity's missionary strategy in the twentieth century, church schools and residential buildings on Yantai Mountain began to adopt Chinese-style roofs with raised corners and eaves, which were skillfully combined with classical columns, arches, and other elements, such as Pengshi Building in South China Women's College of Arts and Sciences and the former site of Chen Zhilin House.

#### 3.4.2 Doors and windows

Doors and windows, with their various forms and exquisite decoration, are the main elements of the facade composition of Yantai Mountain veranda-style buildings. The most common are rectangular and arched wooden doors and windows (round top, curved top, and pointed arch top). Doors and windows are frequently combined in key parts of buildings to adjust the scale. For example, the main entrance of Fujian Customs' Lequn Building and Tax Department Mansion is a horizontal combination of fixed windows and doors [8].

According to survey data, the proportion of shutter doors and windows used in Yantai Mountain veranda buildings is relatively high (see Fig. 2): when the veranda becomes an essential leisure and entertainment space in the building, the convenience of its connection with indoor rooms becomes especially important. The original indoor room's window facing the corridor has been transformed into a floor-to-ceiling window that not only performs the ventilation and lighting functions of the window, but also functions as an openable door to facilitate entry and exit. An elegant shutter door is usually added to the outside of the floor-to-ceiling window to provide shading and indoor privacy protection. Furthermore, shutter doors will be installed between the veranda's columns and bay units. Rectangular shutter doors are used in lintel veranda buildings like the Mansion and the Sub-Pavilion



of Fujian Customs' Tax Department, while arched shutter doors are used in arched veranda buildings like the French Consulate. Shutter doors are typically divided into three sections: fanlights and upper and lower door leaves. The upper section is an openable door leaf, while the lower section is a fixed door leaf that cannot be opened. To ensure safety, it is about the same height as the window sill. Louvers are also used to replace those that lack fanlights. This method has partially transformed the open veranda into a semi-closed veranda, and it has also appeared in veranda buildings in Xiamen and Vietnam. After being introduced from the equatorial region to the south of China, it was an unavoidable choice for the regional evolution of the "four-sided veranda" architecture. Despite the fact that Fuzhou has a hot summer and a warm winter, it still needs to be protected from the cold in the winter when there is no heating. In the winter, shutter doors keep the open veranda properly closed and windproof.

### 3.4.3 Columns and moldings

Western-style columns and moldings are popular and popularized in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, due to the prevalence of veranda architecture. These western elements are bound to change during the localization process due to the influence of Fuzhou regional factors such as material technology, cultural aesthetics, and so on. Column type are mostly found on Yantai Mountain in the veranda of facade and the entrance protruding porch. The main building materials are bricks, and the local Chinese plain bricks in Fuzhou are mostly used. The veranda is mostly made up of continuous arches, with round arches in contrast to square columns and relatively simple moldings (see Fig. 2). The column type of protruding porches are frequently more beautiful than the veranda's. After incorporating local elements in their manual work, After incorporating local elements in their manual work, for instance, the Russian Consulate portico's Ionic column style incorporated traditional Queti (sparrow brace) components, local artisans have blended Chinese and Western products. The column not only serves as a spiritual symbol of colonialism, but it also serves as a structural load-bearing element. It is uncommon for it to serve only as a decorative function and not bear any load. As can be seen, the functionality of the column is far greater than that of the decoration during the localization process. The complicated lines and patterns are simplified to the greatest extent possible, and the vertical groove of the classical column is cancelled in favor of a smooth column body. Moldings of cornices were originally designed in a Greek-like style. Local craftsmen began to use the corbel technology of fair-faced bricks to imitate western-style cornices in residential and commercial buildings at the turn of the twentieth century.

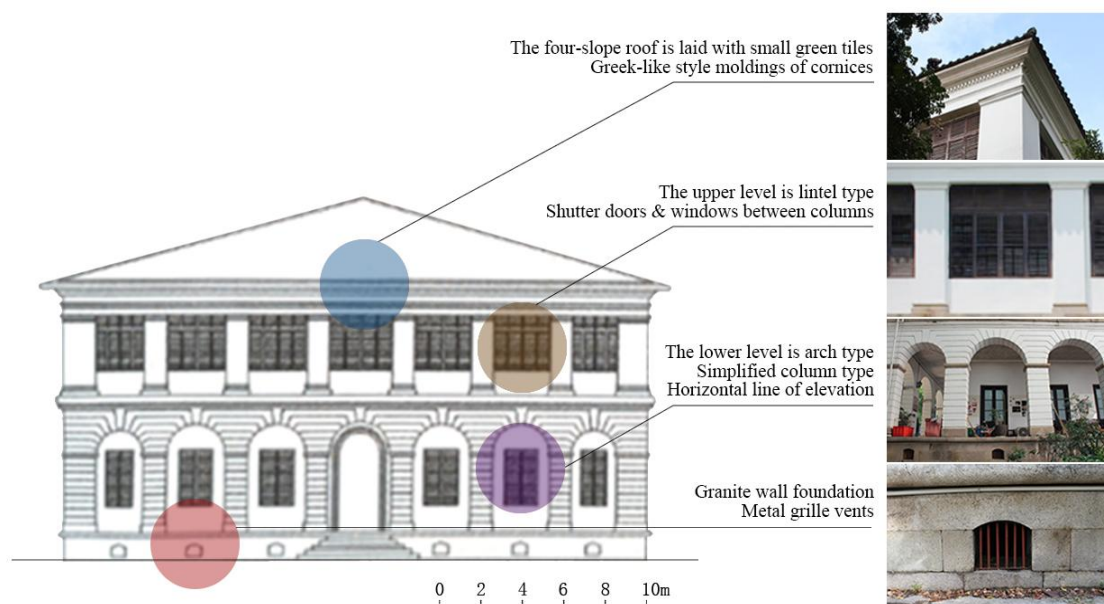


Fig. 2 Typical facade elements of modern veranda architecture in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou

#### 3.4.4 Evolution of function and form of veranda

The development of modern veranda style architecture in China, according to Professor Fujimori, can be divided into five stages: the occurrence stage, the initial stage, the prosperous stage, the late stage, and the end stage. From 1853 to 1930s, the modern veranda style architecture in Yantai Mountain went through an evolution process from the beginning to the end. The consulate building rose when the veranda style was first introduced into Fuzhou, and the identity symbol of colonialism had a strong meaning. As a result, the upper and lower floors of the veranda were completely open, with only railings installed between columns to emphasize the column effect created by the veranda. At the height of the period, both lintel and arch type facade motifs were employed. The lower floor remained open on all sides as a semi-outdoor space for recreation and entertainment during its heyday, while the upper floor became closed due to adaptation to Fuzhou's winter climate. Installing shutter doors between columns became a popular choice, and the outer corridor was shortened as a result. The veranda's colonial symbolic significance was greatly diminished by the end of the period. In residential buildings, it only existed as a traffic space and a function of relaxing and viewing in the plane layout and entrance of the one-sided veranda building, whereas the arcade in commercial and residential buildings carried forward the essence of the veranda. This type of semi-indoor and outdoor shared space could not only adapt to the climate of Fuzhou, but also gain popularity for business and improve communication. Although western culture entered Fuzhou aggressively, the veranda architecture of Yantai Mountain merged with regional characteristics, and people's attitude toward it changed from passive acceptance to active absorption, which was the root of Fuzhou's modern urban pattern changing from closed to extroverted [9].

## 4. Restoration and Protection of Veranda Buildings in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou

In the 1990s, with the rise of the nationwide "city-building movement," many modern historical buildings in Yantai Mountain, Fuzhou, were demolished or destroyed. Many historical buildings have changed hands in various ways, making it difficult to identify their original features. The former splendor of the Museum of Architecture of the World has vanished, and these witnesses to Fuzhou's modern history are being demolished at an alarming rate. As a result, it is critical to safeguard and repair the existing modern veranda-style historical structures.

In 2013, the long-awaited "Fuzhou Historical and Cultural City Protection Plan (2012-2020)" was approved and implemented, identifying four historical and cultural areas, including Yantai Mountain, and providing legal guidance for the planning, protection, utilization, and management of Fuzhou's historical and cultural city. The 14 outstanding modern buildings in Fuzhou within the planning area of the Yantai Mountain Historic District include a number of typical veranda-style buildings from different periods, including one in the initial stage, five in the prosperous stage, one in the late stage, and four in the end. The Yantai Mountain Historical and Cultural Area renovation and construction project began at the end of 2018, with the overall goal of maintaining the residence, cultural, and educational functions, as well as integrating cultural creativity and leisure tourism into a modern foreign cultural characteristic tourist area [10]. Except for the French Consulate, among the ten existing veranda-style buildings studied by the author, the repair principle is based on authenticity, integrity, and the preservation of cultural relics' original state and characteristics. The later period's worthless additions and renovations have been removed, the defects repaired, and the original features of veranda-style buildings have been restored. Aside from the preservation of historical structures, understanding how to maximize the activation value of cultural relics is critical to the true revitalization and long-term development of historic district. At the moment, the majority of the renovated veranda buildings are open to the public, and they have been transformed into public service buildings such as museums, exhibition halls, libraries, and offices, as well as the Yantai Mountain Pan-Museum Art Block, which was jointly built. For example, the former site of



the HSBC Fuzhou Branch was transformed into the Cangshan District Cultural Center and Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection Center, and Linsen Mansion was opened as the province's first children's public welfare picture book library. Only after new blood is injected into old buildings can they be reborn. Simultaneously, users should assume responsibility for management and maintenance of historical buildings during operation, strengthen the professional skills training of existing managers, and establish a comprehensive digital information file of historical buildings, in order to avoid secondary damage to the veranda buildings in Yantai Mountain and ensure the smooth progress of restoration and activation.

## 5. Conclusion

From the founding of capital construction of Minyue State over 2,000 years ago to modern cultural exchange between China and the West, Yantai Mountain is the end of the traditional central axis sequence of Fuzhou ancient city, as well as the typical epitome of Fuzhou's urban context and even modern social transformation in China's southern coastal areas. This paper analyzes and studies the architectural plane, elevation, and details of Yantai Mountain in Fuzhou to clarify the morphological and functional evolution characteristics of veranda style, as well as the adaptation and improvement process of veranda style under the influence of regional climate and local architectural culture. Yantai Mountain, as the epitome of Fuzhou's modern architectural history, has significant practical significance in terms of protecting Chinese and Western cultural heritage, excavating historical details and the activation value of cultural relics, and promoting the rational and effective protection and development of Yantai Mountain's historical and cultural features.

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