

China Local Records

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On Village Records Compilation in the “End of Villages” Era

..... *Huang Jian'an* (4)

Village records compilation in the spontaneous non-governmental state, is difficult to cope with demands of the “End of Villages” era, with hard-to-predict achievements, and hard-to-guarantee quality. Responsible government agencies must adjust their roles and positions in a timely manner, put village records compilation fully on agenda as soon as possible, further perfect relevant laws and regulations and institution setup, incorporate the “every village compiles village records” strategy, preferably compiles by every natural villages, into national third-round local records compilation planning, and actively explore establishment of the village records work mechanism led by government, participated by market, and supported by society. Forces from various fronts of society must be stimulated to participate in village records compilation, particularly those villages that have already disappeared or about to disappear. The status quo of lack of system supplies and lack of force in management and planning of village records compilation must be changed, since only by doing this the aim of rescuing culture can be fully realized.

The New Practice of Historiophoty—The Creation and Development of Chinese

Visual Local Records *Wang Danlin* (22)

The birth of historiophoty has had profound influences on history and local records studies. The creation and development of Chinese visual local records is a symbol of the transformation of the local records cause. It reflects on the one hand local records recording carrier transform from paper into multiple mediums of paper, magnetic material, light, and electronics; on the other hand the transformation of local records compilation and communication forms. Historiophoty has unique cultural features, integrating local records culture with film and television culture. The vivid, direct, and diversified means of communication of historiophoty break through the boundaries of languages, words, and nations, enhance the exchange and understanding between social groups with different cultural backgrounds. The development of Chinese visual local records has already had a good start. In future development, it needs regulation and management to establish Chinese visual local records brands; good story-telling with film and television through integration and collaboration of different subjects; inheritance

of local records traditions and construction of visual local records theories and methodologies; and production of down-to-earth works centered around people that combine local records culture with film and television culture to forge fine works of visual local records.

Tentative Review of Family Genealogies and Famous Towns Records Compilation—A Case Study of Jiangsu Famous Town Records *Hutang Town Records*

..... *Zang Xiujuan* (29)

In regions south of the Yangtze River, many family and clan genealogies are preserved, providing references for famous town records compilation with relatively true reflections of historical landscape, spirit of the age, and social trends. Hutang Town of Jiangsu province has rich historical and cultural background, good regional conditions and economic development basis. The compilation of its town records paid close attention to usage of regional family genealogies materials that fully reflected basic conditions of rural society, highlighted transformation features of contemporary rural areas, and reflected its cultural features as a famous town and its contributing factors with multiple origins, attaching distinctive regional characteristics to its town records. Family rules, family instructions, clan conventions, and stories of local celebrities quoted in the town records have positive effects on our current efforts to uphold good social customs.

A Brief Review of the Compilation of *Great China Geography Records*

..... *Xie Jiegang* (35)

In June 1916, to eliminate the adverse current of imperialism dictatorship, advocate republican concepts, enhance national intelligence, China Geography Society, in combination with Zhonghua Book Company, initiated the compilation of a 3000-volume *Great China Geography Records* that integrated the information of the nation, provinces, and counties. However, with subsequent dissolve of the National Assembly, and withdrawal of investment from Zhonghua Book Company, the project was on the verge of collapse, if not fortunately saved by the full support of Lin Chuanjia. The project became the greatest enterprise and achievement of China Geography Society during this period. In January 1922, Lin Chuanjia died of illness after completion of the *The Great China Jilin Province Geography Records*, and the compilation enterprise of the *Great China Geography Records* that hinged to one single person also came to an abrupt end.

Brief Analysis of the Formation of Chen Xunzheng's Local Records Compilation Thoughts—From Republican Period *Dinghai County Records* to *Yin County General Records* Tang Xiejun (44)

Chen Xunzheng's local records compilation thoughts started to develop when he compiled *Dinghai County Records* in the Republican Period, took shape when he was the chief compiler of *Ye County New Records*, and finalized when he was the chief compiler of *Yin County General Records*. Its formation was deeply influenced by new types of local records such as *Baoshan County Continued Records*, while at the same time was also the product of conscious drawing of nutrients from traditional scholarship. Due to this reason, it not only reflects obvious features combining Chinese and Western culture as well as old and new styles, but also becomes the specific example of local records compilers' increasing rational search for the balance between compilation style and narration structure in the Republican Period.

Exploration and Analysis of Social Management Power Structure of Macao and Surrounding Areas During Early Qing Dynasty—As Seen from the Newly Discovered *Macao Brief Records* Zhang Zhongpeng (55)

In recent years, *Macao Brief Records*, interview records of the seventh year of the Reign of Daoguang (1827) that recorded the geography, history, administrative management, and social customs of Macao and surrounding areas during the Ming and Qing Dynasty was discovered and utilized. Centered around *Macao Brief Records*, and in combination with existing literature such as archives, local records, and genealogies, Macao and surrounding Chinese living areas during early Qing Dynasty can be taken as an overall subject of investigation, which is helpful for clarifying the relationship between Macao and surrounding areas during that time and information about its social management power structure, particularly issues concerning the administrative institutions established by the Qing government in Macao, the nature and duties of government officials, and classes of local elites that lead to further examinations on the formal and informal power structure in Macao and surrounding Chinese living areas during early Qing Dynasty, and their inherent connections with local social management.

Brief Review of *T'aengnji* of the Joseon Dynasty Period—Also on the Influences of Chinese Local Records Compilation in the Korean Peninsula Dang Bin (66)

Yi Chung-hwan's *T'aengnji* was praised as the first cultural geography work during the Joseon Dynasty Period. As a set of widely influential local records literature compiled privately by an individual,

it has great significance for local records in the Korean Peninsula. Seen from the style and contents of *Taengniji*, it should have been influenced to a certain extent by the compilation thoughts of books such as *Yu Di Ji Sheng* and *Yu Di Ming Sheng Lu*, which is a reflection of the spreading and influences of ancient Chinese local records compilation thoughts on surrounding areas.

Investigating the Location of “Jifu” in *The Spring and Autumn Annals*

..... *Fan Ning* (72)

The Battle of Jifu between the Wu and Chu State was an important event in the history of the Spring and Autumn Period. About Jifu’s location, Du Yu took the view that it was in the south of Anfeng County. But on where Anfeng County is, there have always been two theories, one in Gushi County, and the other in Shou County. Combining records in historical literature such as geography records in official history, *Shui Jing Zhu* (*Notes on Book of Waters*), and *Taiping World Records*, we can reach the conclusion through analysis that the Shou County theory was erroneous. Furthermore, we continue to discuss the causes of this mistake: As late as Qi and Liang Dynasty of the Southern Dynasties Period, Anfeng County had always been in the southeast of Gushi County of Henan Province. After three times of relocation, it was moved to the southwest of Shou County of Anhui Province in early Sui Dynasty. Yet since the Tang And Song Dynasty, some scholars had failed to get a clear picture of county seat transformations over the generations, and mistakenly took Anfeng County of Shou Zhou as Anfeng County during the Han and Jin Dynasty. Hence the mistake was carried on over the years until this date.

New Interpretation of the Location of Xiang Cheng Buried by Xiang Yu

..... *Zhang Qinglu* (77)

Xiang Cheng was the first city buried by Xiang Yu. Most people of the academic circle have thought of it as the Xing Cheng in Ying Chuan. The phenomenon of different places having the same name were common during that period. According to unearthed documents on bamboo and wooden strips, there are at least 4 places called Xiang Cheng. In fact, the Qin army then was in control of Yang Jun and Chen Jun, making it impossible for Xiang Yu to attack the faraway Ying Chuan. According to Xiang Liang’s military deployment, the objective of Xiang Yu’s attack was somewhere in the north of Dong Hai controlled by Qin Jia. The bronze spear of the Governor of Xiang Cheng unearthed in Liangyugang City revealed to us that by the late period of the Warring States, there had already been a Xiang Cheng along the eastern border of the Chu State. Therefore, the Xiang Cheng buried by Xiang Yu must be the Xiang Cheng in Dong Hai.

Research on the Distribution of Production Bases and Usage of Chinese Peppercorn in Southeast Long Region Since Ming and Qing Dynasty—Centered Around Local Records Literature *Jiang Lan, Pan Chunhui* (84)

The southeast Long region has always been an important production base of Gansu peppercorn since Ming and Qing Dynasty. The south Long region, in particular, has natural environment very suitable for the growth of Chinese peppercorn where plantations are distributed in virtually every county or district. From Ming and Qing Dynasty to the Republican Period, the production of Chinese peppercorn in southeast Long region started to be commercialized. The usage of Chinese peppercorn also experienced a transformation from medicinal use to usage both as medicine and spice, and more popularly as spice.

Reexamination of the Establishment of Xinjiang as a Separate Province at the End of Qing Dynasty and the “Province Name” *Liu Zhijia* (96)

When Xinjiang was first established as a province, though Liu Jintang emphasized “merging with Gansu as one province”, it was a “separate province” in practical operation. Moreover, the offices of “Gansu Xinjiang Governor-in-General, and Governor” Liu Jintang proposed to establish by the Imperial Court in April of the tenth year of the Reign of Guangxu (1884), and the decision taken by the Imperial Court in September of that year, had already deviated from Liu Jintang’s initial conception of “establishing Gansu Governor-in-General, and Governor of Places Outside of Gansu Jiayu Pass”, and was especially in contradiction with the suggestion of “merging with and be put under Gansu as one province” and “following the establishment of Jiangsu”. Before the compilation of the Guangxu Imperial Code in the 25th year of Reign of Guangxu, there were lack of unified standards for the administrative naming of Xinjiang, so much that there were slight confusion in the expressions of Xinjiang as a high-rank administrative region in officially transferred documents and official proposals to the Imperial Court. The Guangxu Imperial Code established the special name of “Xinjiang”, and recognized the usage of “Xinjiang Province”, but it was not until after the offices system reform that the Qing Imperial Court finally established Xinjiang Province in legal sense of the word.

Anci County Seat Was Not Relocated to Songzhou City
..... *Wang Yuliang, Jin Jiuhong* (106)

In history, the Yongding River has been shifting its course in the Jingnan Plain, resulting in floods in consecutive years. The Ancu County seat was relocated many times for these flooding disasters. Due to vague recordings in county records, people of later generations were left with the wrong idea that the county seat was relocated to Songzhou City. Through amendments, proofreading, and research of relevant recordings

in several Anci County Records, and by cross-references to literature such as the Ming and Qing Dynasty Shuntianfu Records, we can make the conclusion that Anci County seat was not relocated to Songzhou City. There were hasty inferences in local records, and also wrong interpretations from people of this age.

**Textual Writings of the All-Fronts War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in
Republican Period County Records *Fan Xiaojing* (112)**

The whole nation's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in 1937 – 1945 was portrayed and reflected to various extent in county records compiled after 1937. The quick acceptance of county records to the War of Resistance was active conduct reflecting the traditional features of local records in giving detailed accounts of current affairs and brief about past events. The writings of texts on the War of Resistance in county records reflect not only the common nature of the events themselves, but also the specific and special nature of the region. The common presentation of some writings are the spontaneous display of local records' own characteristics. Local records are important territories of official political consciousness expression, yet the production of texts can not totally eliminate the writer's personal characteristics. Therefore it is not difficult to find initiatives independent of government views between the lines of county records. County records interpret the society at large from angles of small places, and supplement the face of big history of war with visualized war encounters. The presentation of the all-fronts War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression was on the one hand memory and recreation of regional history, and on the other hand highlights of the timeliness of county records.