



## Monthly Commentary

CHP wholeheartedly thanks all of our supporters who made 2009 another successful year.

Looking ahead, in 2010 we will continue to improve CHP and make it an even more transparent NGO. In cultural heritage protection and civil society building, CHP will launch an organized volunteer network project in Beijing and several other pilot cities. Trained volunteers will regularly examine their local cultural heritage and report back their vital findings to CHP. In ethnic minority cultural revitalization, we will continue our Congjiang Archive Project and A'er Village Qiang Minority Archive Project. In addition, we are thrilled to announce that we are going to begin the second phase of the Mengma Archive project with the Dai minority. In media mobilization, we will reintroduce a media training project. CHP looks forward to an even closer collaboration with domestic and international media in 2010. Last but not least, CHP will continue to look for support through volunteers and donations.

We can feel that 2010 is going to be another special year for CHP.

We wish you a pleasant Chinese New Year and a delightful year to come!

## Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center

## Articles

### **Another step forward: protecting the Former Residence of Liang Sicheng and Lin Huiyin**

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In November last year, CHP wrote “Uncertain Future: The Fate of the Residence of Liang Sicheng and Lin Huiyin”. This article described the official complaint that Zhang Pei, and six other city residents, had filed with the national-level State Administration of Cultural Heritage about the behavior of the Beijing Municipal Administration of Cultural Heritage.

We now finally have some good news to report! The State Administration of Cultural Heritage has released an “Administrative Reconsideration Letter of Decision”.

[Read more](#)

### **Underground cultural artifacts: Beijing's forgotten and vanishing history**

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Beijing has over three thousand years of history. For a remarkable eight hundred years of those, Beijing has been the nation's capital. Because of its rich cultural history, undoubtedly there are countless of priceless underground cultural relics that remain unexcavated – hidden below both Beijing's buildings and social consciousness.

However, disturbingly it has been revealed that many of these artifacts have been damaged or destroyed in recent years. Some of the cases include:

[Read more](#)

## Project Updates

### Congjiang Archive Project

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#### The Fifth Visit Report



On October 30, 2009, the first phase of the Congjiang Archive project reached its conclusion. From October 14 to 18, Ms. Li Jiangping, National Program Officer for Culture at UNESCO's Beijing office, and Dr. Beatrice Kaldun, UNESCO's Culture Program Specialist, visited Congjiang to conclude and evaluate this phase of the UN-Spanish Government Millennium Goals Fund's project. The first phase of the Congjiang Archive project presided by CHP has received full recognition from UNESCO. However, after inspection and evaluation Ms. Li and Dr. Kaldun raised a few concerns about the project:

[Read more](#)

## Events Update

Mark your calendars! CHP is thrilled to announce details of our upcoming fundraising events:

- Capital Conversations & Cocktails – a two-part lecture series at Capital M on 17 April and 15 May
- A one-night hutong art exhibition at UCCA on June 5.

Want to know more? Don't worry, we will give you a sneak peek of the panelists for Capital Conversation & Cocktails soon!

## CHP events summary

### “Rebirth of Folk Art”

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#### CHP Cooperation Series: All for the cultural rights of local residents — The Lowdown

On the sunny afternoon of Sunday January 10, Beijingers were heading to UCCA for a stimulating and educative lecture, co-hosted by CHP and UCCA. Rebirth of Folk Art, the first of the CHP-UCCA All for the Cultural Rights of Local Residents lecture series was led by He Shuzhong. Mr He shared with the captivated audience the relationship between local residents and cultural heritage rights. He gave a detailed introduction of CHP's history, and stance on cultural heritage protection in China. He also introduced ideas on how local residents can actively protect their own cultural heritage. Featured

guest lecturers included Wang Jun and Wang Hui. [Read more](#)

### CHP at The Bookworm

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## New Beijing - Reinventing a City: A film screening and discussion with CHP



On Thursday 21 January, there was a definite buzz going around Beijing for CHP's second event of the year: a documentary screening at The Bookworm. The event showed Beijingers' interest in cultural heritage protection and all 100 available tickets were sold! The film *New Beijing – Reinventing a City*, produced by Australian film company Film Projects, was well received and the audience was soon peppering CHP founder Mr He Shuzhong, and Memory of China founder Mr Zhang Jinqi, with many questions about cultural heritage protection in Beijing. CHP representative, Mr Matthew Hu Xinyu, deftly moderated the discussion in the packed room.

[Read more](#)

## BCD Dinner – Discussion, delicious food and donations

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On Saturday 30 January, the Beijing Charity Dinner group hosted CHP at Aimo Town, No.46 Fangjia Hutong. It was an evening of delicious Yunnan food, interesting discussions about cultural heritage and CHP, and generosity from the enthusiastic diners. Over 1700RMB was raised from donations and merchandise sales.

CHP would like to thank BCD and their friends for organizing this event and are happy that everyone left that evening with full stomachs and a better understanding of cultural heritage preservation. Thank you also to CHP founder Mr He Shuzhong and CHP representative Mr Matthew Hu Xinyu for their involvement.

## CHP's Annual End of Year Thank You Party – Our CHP

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On Sunday afternoon, January 31, we threw our annual CHP thank you party at the spacious Studio-X Beijing. New and old friends of CHP gathered to meet other supporters, celebrate China's cultural heritage, and find out exactly what their efforts helped to achieve in 2009

University Architecture Professor Luo Deyin, and Wang Lanshun from Beijing Municipal Archives, spoke eloquently about CHP. Many of CHP's diverse partners, including UNESCO, Give2Asia, Qiangulouyuan Hutong Courtyard 7, and Guangming Daily, attended the event and also spoke at various points. [Read more](#)



January 2010 donors:

Amy Stones USD250; James Stent RMB6,710

January 2010 fundraising donation:

21 January | New Beijing – Reinventing a City Documentary Screening RMB2,000

31 January | Beijing Community Dinner RMB1,840

## Media mobilization

[China Daily] Saving History | 25 January, 2010



Lack of investment and rampant property development pose real threats to the preservation of China's cultural heritage, reports Zhang Yuchen

It has stood for more than 1,000 years and was once owned by a Chinese royal family, yet the corridors of Dongyue Temple no longer ring with voices in prayer, nor is the air filled with the scent of incense. Instead, it is close to ruin; the temple buildings are crumbling and the grounds surrounding them are piled high with litter.

[Read more](#)

[The Beijing News] [梁林故居升格不可移动文物 程序办理随后进行](#) | 7 January, 2010

[Wenweipo] [距废墟一步之遥 梁林故居定文物](#) | 8 January, 2010

[China Daily] [Noted Couple's Home Saved from Bulldozer](#) | 8 January, 2010

[People's Daily Online] [Former Liang Sicheng Residence Confirmed as "Immovable Cultural Heritage"](#) | 8 January, 2010

[Global Times] [In the Nick of Time](#) | 19 January, 2010

[Global Times] [Power to the People](#) | 21 January, 2010