

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

From guild hall to heritage site: The functional evolution of Yangsi Temple, Shuhe historic town, on the Han River (1750s–2025)

Supplementary files

Table S1. Evidence matrix

Period	Principal claim	Supporting evidence	Confidence
Shipping era (1750s–1930s)	The compound operated as a boatmen's guild hall, regulating trade and hosting assembly, worship, opera, and lodging	Boat-Trade Regulations Stele; Wharf Anti-Extortion Stele; Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015); measured guild-hall layout; secondary literature (Zhao, 2006)	High
Shipping era (1750s–1930s)	The temple occupied the core node of a wharf–temple–mule–road transshipment complex	Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015); oral history (B1); onsite interpretive panels	Medium
Rupture period (1940s–1970s)	Occupied by district office, railway construction headquarters, and cultural station	Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015)	High
Rupture period (1940s–1970s)	Communal assembly and opera performances continued alongside institutional occupation	Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015); resident interviews (L1, C1)	Medium
Utilitarian era (1970s–2000s)	Railway and highway construction triggered river transport decline; regular dock shipping services ended by the late 20th century	Oral testimony (L1, C1, B1); Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015)	Medium
Utilitarian era (1970s–2000s)	Used as a granary, cinema, carpet workshop, and police station; associated alterations to the fabric	Xunyang County Local Gazette (2015); cut door sill and altered side wings recorded in the survey; testimony (L1, C1)	High
Heritage era (2008–present)	“Restore-as-old” campaigns returned the ensemble to a late-Qing visual state; the riverbank now carries road and parking	Field-measured building fabric; on-site interpretive exhibits; 2025–2026 field observation	High
Heritage era (2008–present)	The building's capacity for supra-household gathering persists but is weakly activated in residents' daily life	Testimony (D1, L1, C1); direct observation; authors' interpretation	Low

Note: The matrix below organizes core research claims, supporting source materials, and corresponding confidence levels, cross-referencing written records, physical site traces, photographic materials, and oral interviews cited across the essay.

Table S2. Transcription and translation of the Stele of Regulations for the Boatmen's Guild (1882)

Original stele text	English translation
近有原家人等，不思寿数有尽，辄行人船混闹，阻拦客货，不准运行，只图籍勒索，如不遂心，又复加控诉诬控，船主受累益深。	In recent times there have been persons who, heedless of their own mortality, repeatedly made trouble among the boats and crews, blocking passengers and cargo from moving on, solely in order to extort money; when their demands were not met, they added lawsuits and false accusations, and the shipowners suffered all the more.
是以汉中至襄樊一带，船帮均议事程：溺毙水手一名，船主给斋醮钱数串，火纸一两块，白布一匹。	The boatmen's guilds from Hanzhong to Xiangfan therefore jointly agreed on a rule: if a boatman is drowned, the shipowner shall give several strings of cash for the funeral rites, one or two bundles of fire paper, and a bolt of white cloth.
现立案勒石，由是诈案之风已息久矣！	This has now been recorded and carved in stone, and since then the practice of fraudulent compensation claims has long ceased.

References

Xunyang County Local Gazette Compilation Committee. (2015). *Xunyang xianzhi (1989–2009)* [*Xunyang County Gazetteer (1989–2009)*]. Sanqin Publishing House. [In Chinese]

Zhao, J. (2006). Chuanbang huiguan de xianzhuang yu fazhan [The current status and development of boatmen's guild halls]. *Relics and Museology*, (1), 64-67. [In Chinese]
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