Exhibition Hall

Built in: Circa 1937



Designation: Historic Building of Taoyuan City

The Native History Hall, from the Japanese colonial era to the period of the Kuomintang's arrival in Taiwan, functioned as police dormitories. Its structure consisted of a row of four distinct units, known as the "Four-Unit Dormitories." Though these separate spaces were interconnected to accommodate the museum's requirements, care was taken to preserve the original walls, main doors, doorplates, and certain wooden components. This preservation aimed to showcase the building's historical marks and evoke memories of its former residents.



Business Hours

Tuesday to Sunday: 09:30 - 17:00

Closed: Mondays, New Year's Eve, and the first day of the Lunar New Year. Open on national holidays but closed

the following day.

Exhibition Venue

Tel

Native History Hall, part of the Daxi Wood Art Ecomuseum

23 Puji Rd, Daxi District, Taoyuan City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)



(03)388-8600

Museum Floor Plan

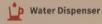


Theme Areas

- The Evolution of Daxi's Woodcraft
- Setting Down Roots and Prospering
- Collaborative Creation and Management
- Celebrating Daxi's Development









Free Charging

Information



Exhibition Overview

Themed "Unboxing Daxi", this exhibit illuminates Daxi's evolution and the tireless endeavors of its inhabitants. Approaching from perspectives of individual journeys, familial legacies, and the various organizations over the centuries, it guides you step-by-step through the intertwined tales of Daxi's land and its people.

Daxi itself is a living museum where the local environment performs its daily narrative. Stepping into Daxi is entering a museum.



Hailed from Dahan Creek

Situated near the mountainous region and boasting the water transport advantages of the Dahan Creek, Daxi in the 19th century was an essential aggregation and distribution point for Northern Taiwan's products, such as tea and camphor. Utilizing the waterways, these goods were shipped and marketed globally. The favorable natural conditions transformed Daxi into an inland port, linking it with the international trade network.



Nittoh Tea Advertisement, 1934

Furthermore, Daxi was also one of Northern Taiwan's coal-producing areas in the 20th century. From the 1960s to the 1980s, the coal production in Daxi accounted for 50-70% of Taoyuan's total coal output. It not only became a primary source of livelihood for the locals but also revitalized the region's development, which had stagnated after World War II.





Boats waiting to be loaded with tea eaves along the banks Dahan Creek (formerly known as Takoham Creek) Courtesy of the National Museum of Taiwan History, 1800-1900



/intage Photograph of Shuiliudong Coal Mine, 1930 Featured in The Memorial Album of Police at Daxi County in Hsinchu Prefecture Courtesy of Chiu Yushih



Setting Down Roots and Prospering

Since 1796 in the Oing Dynasty, various ethnic groups including those from Zhangzhou, Quanzhou, Fujian, and the Hakka migrated to Daxi. Over time, they expanded from the west (left bank) to the east (right bank) of Dahan Creek, gradually transitioning from individual settlers to sprawling family clans. Historically, families used collective monikers as family enterprises or pooled resources in joint-stock initiatives termed consortium as organizational units for development. These groups did not just jointly venture into business territories; they further solidified their influence and legacies through active participation in public affairs, such as temple donations and taking turns in festival organization, thereby laying the foundation for individual and collective growth that spanned centuries.



Celebrating Daxi's Development

Woodcrafting is a hallmark of Daxi, rooted in the Oing Dynasty when prominent local families, including the Lin Ben Yuan clan, built their mansions and crafted furniture. To ensure excellence, they invited master craftsmen from Tangshan to Taiwan, introducing Daxi to the fine art of woodwork. As the economy progressed, these Tangshan masters imparted their knowledge to local artisans, laying the foundation for the flourishing woodcraft industry in Daxi, With skills handed down through family lineages and from masters to apprentices over centuries, the woodcraft industry faced challenges with societal changes, shifts in lifestyles, and market dynamics. Traditional wood industries began to contemplate transitions, seeking pathways that align with contemporary societal demands.



Amuping Agricultural Fields: Captured Commemorative Photos from the Daxi in a Postcard, 1920



Bridge Completion Exhibition, 1934

4 The Evolution of Daxi's Woodcraft



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Morimoto Furniture Shop, 1939

Collaborative Development and Management

For the last century, the people of Daxi have committed themselves to reclaiming the land, nurturing a positive



social climate, bolstering education efforts, championing infrastructural developments, and preserving iconic archways. This deep-rooted love and active involvement paved the way for a more vibrant community. The Daxi Wood Art Ecomuseum, established in 2015. stands as a testament to this enduring community spirit.

In this exhibit, an interactive timeline guides you to familiarize yourselves with the significant milestones marking the dedication and efforts of Daxi's community.

6 Daxi's Storyteller

While grand narratives provide insights into the epoch's ethos, local stories draw us intimately closer to the land. Daxi's residents have collectively shaped its legacy, each individual acknowledging their era's essence.

This section sporadically spotlights tales of Daxi's inhabitants or clans. Starting with everyday experiences, it transports you across time to reimagine the experiences of various individuals from diverse backgrounds and periods in Daxi.