



Zhang Letian Fieldwork Database

张乐天联民村数据库

Landmark sociological fieldwork on village life in rural China is about to see digital light of day.

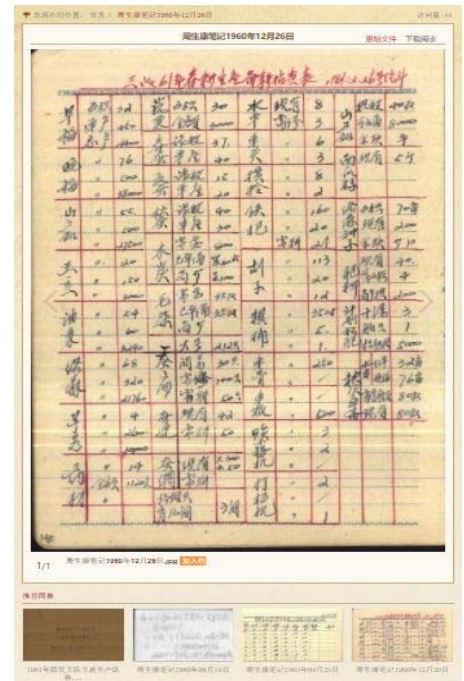
From 1954 to 1982, Chinese society was buffeted by upheaval from the 'Great Leap Forward' and the 'Cultural Revolution.' China was in tumult and the PRC was all but closed.

Zhang Letian, a Fudan University professor and well-known expert in field of development and transformation of rural China, diligently collected rare materials from this era while conducting fieldwork in his ancestral village of Lianmin (Haining, Zhejiang Province).

The meticulous research he compiled has been digitized and made available online as his legacy by China's Social Sciences Academic Press as the Zhang Letian Fieldwork Database. The database offers a remarkable glimpse of social development and the changing fabric of everyday life in a typical Chinese village during an era of great change.

Highlights on Lianmin include:

- **Residency registration** records for hundreds of households and thousands of individuals
- **Accounting records** for the Lianmin Production Team in the People's Commune period, including more than 3,000 photographs
- **Economic output**—all agricultural and industrial production data, with more than 7,000 archival photographs, and the only known set of original documents on work division anywhere
- **Land reform** documents and photographs from the 1950s
- **Household records** not known to exist elsewhere that offer a window into the day-to-day life of China's rural population
- **Oral history**—recordings with searchable transcripts of interviews in local dialects on major events, personal narratives, and special issues. Conducted 2008-2010 and downloadable as MP3 files



Household residency registration from 1960

East View Information Services, Inc.

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- **Primary source and archival materials**—a vast collection of historical documents on the city of Haining, arts and literature, and major political movements and campaigns. In addition to more than 5,000 photographs, the collection features letters of self-criticism written by local cadre and big-character posters put up by villagers during the Cultural Revolution
- **Multi-media**—electronic materials, including images and videos with searchable transcripts offering cultural and social vignettes of traditional handicraft, agricultural practices, silk making, and more
- **Scholarly works** authored by Professor Zhang

No other resource offers such significant historical depth for research on a period when many primary source materials were suppressed or difficult to obtain. The content is rich in detail, with in-depth case studies and comparisons useful for research in sociology, ethnology, anthropology, and related disciplines.

Contact info@eastview.com for a trial or more information. Ask us also about SSAP's other offerings: The Scholarly Serials Database and Pishu 'whitepapers' on China.



From a video on silk making in the village



Audio files of interview with a villager

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