

感知

The Pulse of Nature — Mid-Levels West

龍虎山環境教育中心

Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre

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A close-up photograph of a tree trunk. The bark is dark, rough, and deeply textured. A large, irregular hollow or cavity is visible on the left side of the trunk, showing a lighter, possibly decayed interior. A thin, light-colored wire or string is wrapped horizontally around the trunk, passing through the hollow. A small, rectangular, light-colored tag is attached to the wire on the right side of the trunk. The tag has handwritten text in black ink. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a forest setting.

SA1644-TS026



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② 羅便臣道15號
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③ 羅便臣道69號F及69號G
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龍虎山 Lung Fu Shan

⑯ 龍虎山環境教育中心(前薄扶林濾水池看守員宿舍)
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漫遊, 由這裏開始
To Wander, Begin Here

我的龍虎山二三事
My Stories of Lung Fu Shan

侯智恒 | Billy Hau

我與龍虎山的相遇始於 1988 年。那年，我獲香港大學生物系取錄，並成為太古堂宿生。在此之前，我根本從未聽過龍虎山，它亦未劃為郊野公園。

第一次上龍虎山是在舍堂迎新活動後的夜晚，我們經克頓道夜行上山頂，路上幾位學長熱心地簡介松林炮台。我依稀記得在太古堂三年間，也曾和其他宿生一起上炮台燒烤，大夥兒要把沉甸甸的炭、水和食物抬到山上，我至今還是不明白，為何他們會選擇去那裏燒烤。而我印象最深刻的回憶，就發生在我於太古堂的最後一個盛夏。那是一次浪漫的告別，我和一位女孩漫步上山頂。我們互有好感，但當年的我只敢在克頓道一個非常漆黑的叢林牽牽她的手。青蔥歲月多美好。

大二，我第一次在龍虎山進行研究，題目是群落生態學，我們研究的是鵝掌柴 (*Schefflera heptaphylla*) 開花時出現在它周邊的昆蟲。研究在冬天進行，選擇克頓道是因為那裏有大量看得到樹冠的鵝掌柴。雖然是個簡單的研究，但我對偽裝成黃蜂和蜜蜂的食蚜蠅很感興趣，牠們以鵝掌柴花蜜為食，屬那次研究中最常見的昆蟲。

在龍虎山的第二項研究，是我從 1995 年至 1999 年間進行有關森林復育的博士研究。我以西高山一個灌木林作為香港森林演替的其中一個研究對象。基於我的種植實驗涉及原生樹種的種子和幼苗，龍虎山便成為收集種子的不二之選。在九月至一月的結果高峰期，我每周都遊走於龍虎山、山頂、西高山和薄扶林水塘的小徑，尋找果實和種子。收集種子的時機很重要，不同物種會在不同時期結果，假若果實未成熟，而你過早收集種子，它們便無法萌芽。相反，如果你來晚了，果實可能會被野鳥吃光。有些種子可以在地面上搜集，像是殼斗科樹木的橡子，有些就得從樹上採摘。

香港所有天然次生林都以潤楠屬的樹種為主，因此我用的短序潤楠 (*Machilus breviflora*) 種子皆來自龍虎山和山頂。你需要具備一種特殊技能才能成功收集短序潤楠的果實，一項我小時候在鄉村已掌握的技能——爬樹。雖然我持有漁農自然護理署的果實和種子收集許可證，但任務開始後不久我便轉趨低調。龍虎山和山頂是熱門行山路線，若然公開採摘，我就要費勁向好奇的行山人士解釋我為何在搜集果實和種子。所以，後來我索性像猴子那樣，極速爬樹、坐上樹枝、摘果。每當聽到有人走近，我便會停手，一動不動不作聲，這樣才不會惹來過多關注，而且好玩。

My stories of Lung Fu Shan started in 1988 when I was admitted to the Biology programme of The University of Hong Kong (HKU) and became a resident of Swire Hall. Before then, I had never heard of Lung Fu Shan and it was not yet a country park.

My first visit was after the orientation to Swire Hall, when there was a night hike up to The Peak via Hatton Road. I was introduced to Pinewood Battery on the way by a few senior students. The introduction was of course very brief. I also vaguely remember BBQs there with some hallmates, but I could never figure out why they chose such a site when you had to carry all the heavy charcoal, water and food uphill. The most remarkable story for me was a rather romantic farewell hike up to The Peak at night with a girl during my last summer in Swire Hall. We liked each other then but we only held each other's hands very briefly when we walked into a bit of very dark forest on Hatton Road. What a good old memory of my youth!

My very first research project at Lung Fu Shan was for Community Ecology in my second year. I needed to study the insect fauna of the flowering Ivy Tree (*Schefflera heptaphylla*). The study was done in the winter and our team chose Hatton Road where there were plenty of Ivy Trees and we could observe the canopy easily. That was a fun project and I was intrigued by the mimicry of wasps and bees of the hoverflies, the most common insects found feeding on the Ivy Tree nectar.

My second project at Lung Fu Shan, from 1995 to 1999, was for my PhD research on forest restoration. I conducted a plant survey in a shrubland in High West to study forest succession in Hong Kong. Since my study involved seeds and seedlings of native tree species for planting experiments, Lung Fu Shan became a very convenient site for seed collection. On a weekly basis, I walked various paths in Lung Fu Shan, Victoria Peak, High West and Pokfulam Reservoir to look for fruits and seeds during the peak fruiting season, which is from September to January. Seeds need to be collected at the right time and different species bear fruits at different times. If you collected seeds too early when the fruits were not ripe, they would not germinate. On the other hand, if you went too late, there would be nothing left, as many wild birds eat fruits. While some could be picked up from the ground like most of the Fagaceae trees, others had to be plucked from the branches.

自 2001 年起，教學成為我在龍虎山的主要活動。我在這裏教的第一個課程是陸地生態學。學生要在龍虎山進行實地考察，對下坡的外來樹種紅膠木 (*Lophostemon confertus*) 進行樣方調查，然後與上坡的天然次生林比較，從而突顯種植單一外來樹種會減慢香港森林自然演替的問題。此外，學生還會學到小型哺乳動物的調查方法，包括設陷阱活捉，還有借助紅外線自動攝影機記錄。雖然龍虎山就在城市旁邊，但透過攝影機，已可發現不少有趣的哺乳動物，像豹貓 (*Prionailurus bengalensis*)、東亞豪豬 (*Hystrix brachyura*)、赤麂 (*Muntiacus muntjak*) 和小靈貓 (*Viverricula indica*) 等。

基於龍虎山豐富的生物多樣性，又毗鄰香港大學，遂成為香港大學理想的生態課室。2004 年，我開始為香港大學生態學及生物多樣性學系的學生開辦辨認鳥類、植物、蝴蝶、蜻蜓、魚類、兩棲爬行動物的課外學習課程，龍虎山往往是課程的首個考察地。

龍虎山亦是林鳥的出沒熱點，除了紅嘴藍鵲 (*Urocissa erythroryncha*) 和鳳頭鷹 (*Accipiter trivirgatus*) 等留鳥，還有棕尾褐鵲 (*Muscicapa ferruginea*)、鵲姬鵲 (*Ficedula mugimaki*) 和斑脇田雞 (*Porzana paykullii*) 等稀有候鳥。2009 年 5 月，龍虎山環境教育中心發現有斑脇田雞出沒。我還記得那時的盛況，那個星期，每天都有幾十位來自全港各處的鳥類愛好者與雀鳥攝影師擠進狹小的中心，爭相一睹這種稀有鳥類的風采。

除了雀鳥，龍虎山也是兩棲爬行動物的理想棲息地。森林和溪流孕育了許多罕見物種，當中更包括香港受保護物種。亦因此夜遊龍虎山愈見熱門，還引來不少校外人士。短腳角蟾 (*Xenophrys brachykolos*)、香港湍蛙 (*Amolops hongkongensis*) 和蟒蛇 (*Python bivittatus*) 都是龍虎山常見的稀有或瀕危的兩棲爬行動物。我就曾在碧珊徑上見過一條白環蛇 (*Lycodon aulicus*) 在捕食中國壁虎 (*Gekko chinensis*)。

過去 30 年，無論求學還是教學，我的生活都與龍虎山息息相關。對許多人來說，龍虎山大抵沒甚麼變化。但作為森林生態學家，我看到龍虎山和

Since all natural secondary forests in Hong Kong are dominated by *Machilus* tree species, all of the Short-flowered *Machilus* (*Machilus breviflora*) seeds I used came from Lung Fu Shan and The Peak. Collecting this fruit required a special skill which I mastered as a kid growing up in a rural village: tree climbing. Although I had a permit from Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for fruit and seed collection, I learnt to do it in a very subtle way soon after I started. This was because the paths of Lung Fu Shan and The Peak are popular hiking trails and if I worked openly, I would have to explain what I was doing to curious hikers, which quickly became a tedious task! As a result, I soon acted like a monkey, climbed up a tree, sat on a branch and plucked the *Machilus* fruits. Whenever I heard people approaching, I would stop and keep quiet. It worked very well this way, that was an interesting experience.

Then, from 2001 onwards, my main activities at Lung Fu Shan were formal and informal teaching. The first course I taught was Terrestrial Ecology. Lung Fu Shan was my field site where students would conduct a quadrat survey of plants in the exotic plantation of Brisbane Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) on the lower slope and then compare the results with another quadrat in a natural secondary forest plot on the upper slope of Lung Fu Shan. This exercise illustrates the problem of single species exotic tree plantation in slowing down the natural succession of forest in Hong Kong. In addition, students were also taught different small mammal trapping methods, including both live-trapping and camera-trapping. Though Lung Fu Shan is just on the edge of our city, camera-trapping unveiled many interesting mammal species such as Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), East Asian Porcupine (*Hystrix brachyura*), Red Muntjac (*Muntiacus muntjak*) and Small Indian Civet (*Viverricula indica*).

With its rich biodiversity and its proximity to HKU, Lung Fu Shan is an ideal ecology classroom. Since 2004, I began to run extra-curricular courses for the field identification of birds, plants, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies and fish for ecology and biodiversity students, and Lung Fu Shan was often the first field site for students of these courses.

Lung Fu Shan is a local hotspot for forest birds. Apart from resident birds such as the Red-billed Blue Magpie (*Urocissa erythroryncha*) and Crested Goshawk (*Accipiter trivirgatus*), rare migratory species such as the Ferruginous Flycatcher (*Muscicapa ferruginea*), Mugimaki Flycatcher (*Ficedula mugimaki*) and



龍虎山上正在結果的短序潤楠
A fruiting Short-flowered Machilus (*Machilus breviflora*) at Lung Fu Shan



鳳頭鷹 Crested Goshawk (*Accipiter trivirgatus*)



Dear Very Advanced Primates,

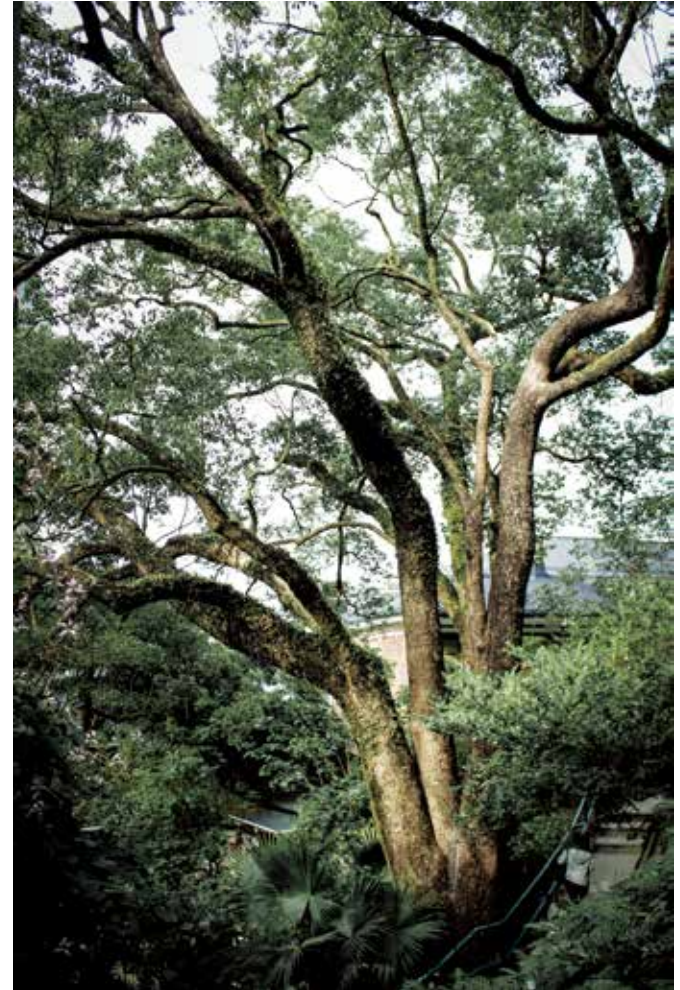
Here I am, *Cinnamomum camphora*, a Camphor Tree on the slope just above May Hall on the HKU campus. Now May Hall was built in 1913, so I think I date from about that time. My species is native to Hong Kong, so I might have grown naturally from seed or I might have been planted by somebody. I can't remember I'm afraid, it's a long time ago now!

If you pick one of my leaves and crush it between your fingers, you can smell the scent of Camphor Tree. Historically, we have been cut down to make Camphor oil and our timber used to make furniture that is insect repellent. If it's all the same to you, I prefer to remain a living tree, breathe good air and provide you with shade in the summer!

Now you've already heard from the others that trees like me need space to grow to our full potential. Fortunately for me, you have left me space here and haven't disturbed my roots or branches.

It's hard to see where my branches begin and other tree branches end, as there are several trees living together here at HKU. From tip to tip, my branches spread nearly 30 metres or 100 feet, as wide as Des Voeux Road West! Imagine that!

Camphor Tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*)
next to May Hall, HKU





親愛的人們：

我們是紅膠木，學名 *Lophostemon confertus*（舊學名 *Tristania conferta*），英文名 Brisbane Box。從我們的英文名，幾乎就能肯定我們來自澳洲吧！那我們來這裏幹麼？嗯，要是你們看看 19 世紀中期山頂和半山的圖畫和照片，不難發現山坡上一棵樹都沒有。原始的亞熱帶森林在那之前已被砍伐，表土因侵蝕而流失。

隨着香港日漸發展，對食水的需求也更加迫切。港英政府開始建造水塘，其中一個就是薄扶林水塘。水塘的水經一條連接龍虎山環境教育中心（原為水務署職員宿舍）的管道，沿現在的干德道，一直送到發展中的城市。十九世紀下半葉，港英政府開始在山坡上展開大規模植林，部分原因是為了控制水庫的侵蝕，並調節水庫集水區和其他山坡的徑流。

當時光禿的山坡幾乎就像沙漠，又時常有人為山火，價在亞熱帶森林生長的原生樹種都不能紮根，政府於是進口包括桉樹、相思樹與我們等外來樹種，重新造林！

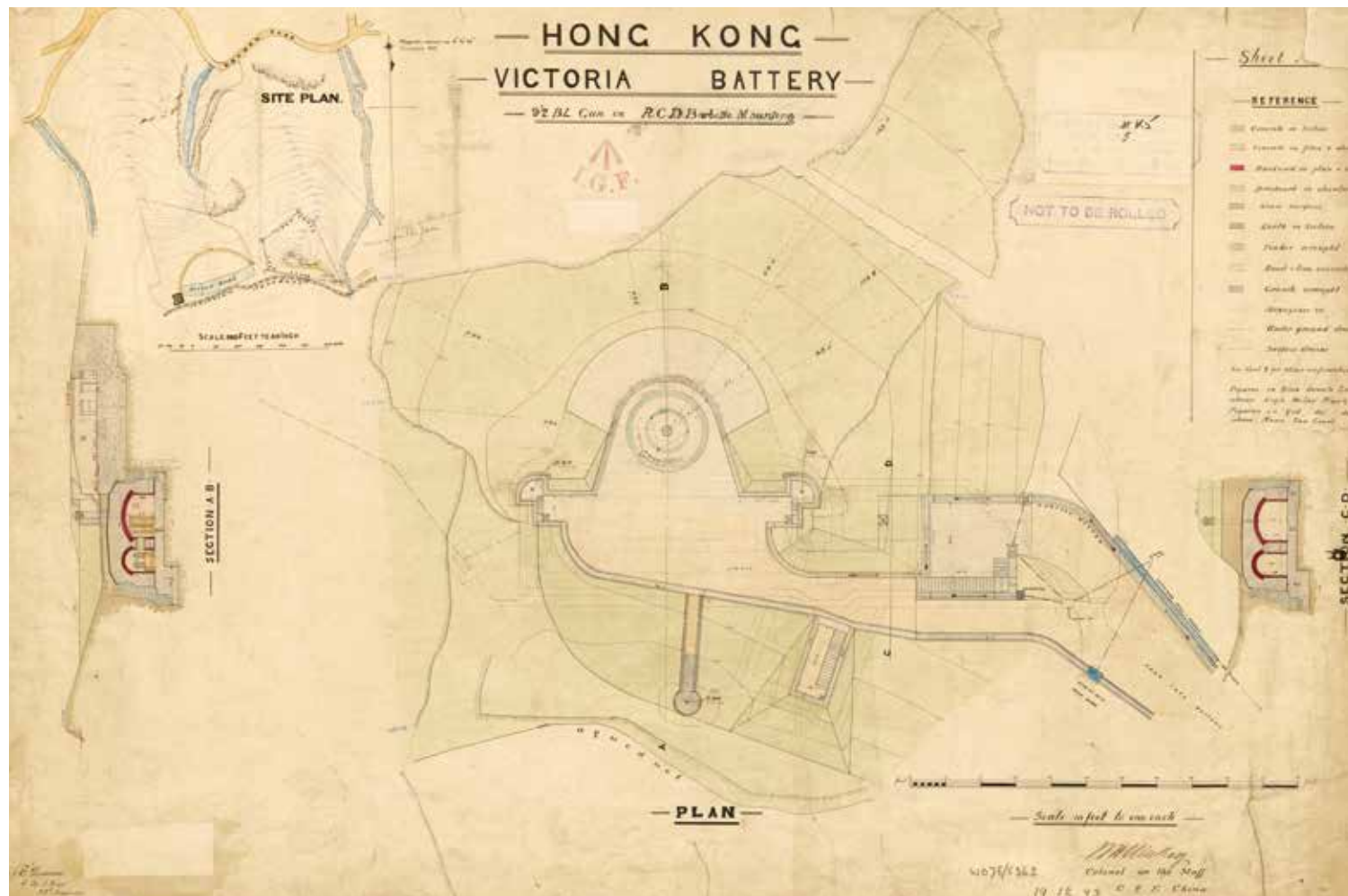
第二次世界大戰期間，山坡上大部分林木被毀，因此又再大量種植我們。近年，要求重新種植原生林地樹種的聲音愈來愈多，所以我們不再是植林的主角了。為甚麼人們想要更多原生樹種？唉！不就因為我們對本地生態沒多大貢獻，不像土生土長的樹木那樣吸引各種各樣雀鳥來生活啊。

為何我有一新一舊兩個植物學名？那是因為人類學懂的分析植物基因，便為好些植物重新分類。這或許有點惱人吧。但對我們來說其實沒有分別。怎也好，我們大概已完成在香港的歷史使命。看來不用多久，你們要到布里斯班才可以看到我們了！

龍虎山克頓道
紅膠木 上

山居雜憶——旭龢道 50 號 (1890 —) Living in the Hills —50 Kotewall Road (1890 —)

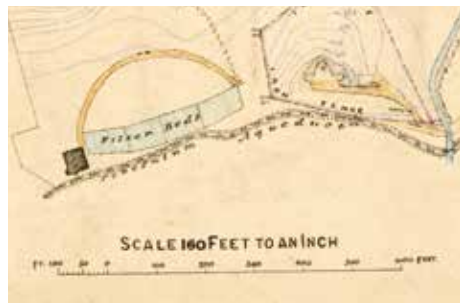
龍虎山環境教育中心 | Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre



相片提供：英國國家檔案館 Courtesy of The National Archives, United Kingdom

1890 年，本港第一座濾水池於亞賓尼谷（今上紅棉路一帶）落成，過濾蓄自大潭水塘的食水，那是大工程，拍了照，許多史料都有記載。鮮有人提及的是，同年落成還有規模小得多的薄扶林濾水池，用作過濾建於 1863 年、香港最老水塘薄扶林水塘的食水。還好這張藏於英國國家檔案館的 1891 年地圖記下了，四個長形濾水池，旁邊一棟黑色方形建築，就是濾水池附屬平房（Bungalow），亦即今天的龍虎山環境教育中心。

In 1890, the first filter beds in Hong Kong were built in Albany Valley (near upper part of Cotton Tree Drive) to filter water from Tai Tam Reservoir. While this large project was well recorded in photos and documents, much less attention was paid to the smaller-scale Pokfulam Filter Beds that was built in the same year to filter water from Hong Kong's oldest reservoir — Pokfulam Reservoir. This 1891 map is a rare document showing the original four filter beds and the black rectangular bungalow next to it, where Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre is now housed.



感知西半山——就是自然

The Pulse of Nature —— Mid-Levels West

龍虎山環境教育中心 策劃

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