Sixth Working Trip to Guigang

(19th May – 21st May, 2018)

By Chan Chun Hin BSc (Surv) I

During the exam period, 6 HKU students, led by Dr. Ryan C.P. Wong, visited Guigang for 3 days to undergo land surveying. The working trip aimed at conducting surveying work for the construction of the kindergarten and toilet in Duling Primary School, inspecting on the construction of enhancement of the rooftop and discussing with the Principal. The main objective of the discussion was to compromise the design ideas and the materials used for the kindergarten and toilet.

After taking 3-hour train from Shenzhen North, we finally arrived Guigang. In the first day afternoon, we split into two teams, one conducting land surveying and another one measuring the dimensions. We conducted land surveying inside Duling Primary School and taped the dimensions of the staircase in the school. At night, Dr. Wong briefed our students and introduced the work to be done in the next day. Students were responsible for gathering previous data and merging it into our new work.

On the second day, we headed back to Duling Primary School for more land surveying. The total station was set in the entrance of the school and the slope of the mountain behind the school. We measured the spot level of about 60 points around the school to record more accurate data. We stopped the surveying work after lunch because of the high temperature. Therefore, we checked the enhancement work of the rooftop. The rooftop cover was satisfactory. It succeeded in blocking the heat and making the second floor cooler. Furthermore, it prevented rainwater from sipping into the building and damaging the building structure.

After checking the enhancement work, we continued the surveying work. There was a heavy rain at around 3pm and stopped us from working. The back of the school became muddy and difficult to walk. Fortunately, the rain only lasted for a few minutes and the team still managed to finish the surveying work. At night, we have discussion with the Principal after dinner. Since the architect wanted to amend the design by using tiles as the material of the façade, we had to compromise with the Principal to discuss the feasibility of using this material. However, according to the previous tests on tiles, it was expected that it is not quite feasible to use tiles because it was difficult to drill holes on tiles. The principal then suggested using plastic instead of tiles. We will later present this idea to our architect and adopted the material used soon. Apart from the material,
we also discussed the toilet issue. Due to the lack of space, we suggested using unisex toilet instead of two separate toilets. However, the principal did not accept and then we later decided to remain building two separate toilets. The principal advised us to relocate the security room and relocate the school main entrance to have more space for the toilet. The above suggestions will be discussed with the architect later. It is foreseeable that the construction will kick start by July after fine tuning these details.

The trip eventually came to an end and we ended it by visiting Guigang Donghu Park. Donghu Park was a park surrounding the lake – Donghu. We walked around the park and took photos of the flowers and buildings. We also visited the calligraphy gallery and appreciated different styles of Chinese traditional calligraphy. Donghu Park was certainly a tranquil and relaxing place and many locals went there for relax. Some of them sang songs and some of them played card games under the trees. We enjoyed wandering around the park freely after two days of exhausting work.

In conclusion, the trip was rewarding and the villagers were welcoming and warm. It is hoped that this Guigang project could construct smoothly and we look for another working trip to Guigang in the future.

List of the team member for the trip

Teaching staff:
Dr. Ryan C.P. WONG

Undergraduate students:
CHAN Chun Hin - BSc (Surv) I
CHAN Wai Hang - BEng (CivE) III
HO Yan Lam Emily - BSc (Surv) I
NG Nga Wun - BSc (Surv) I
NG Cheuk Hei Curtis - BEng I
TSOI Yu Tung - BEng (CivE) II