

Review of: "Ancient Houses in Ben Tre City: A Multifaceted Approach to Preserve Artistic Architectural Heritage and Boost Local Tourism"

Margherita Pedroni¹

1 Getty Conservation Institute

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

While the article delves into an interesting subject, I would like to offer some constructive feedback to enhance its overall quality.

Firstly, the language used in the article could benefit from a thorough revision. There are instances of poor English, with incomplete sentences or sentences with unclear meaning. Punctuation requires careful attention. Commas should be used instead of frequent stops, and the incorrect use of ellipses and double punctuation marks needs correction. A polished writing style will significantly improve the article's readability and impact.

Furthermore, the keywords provided seem somewhat misleading. The article lacks a substantial discussion of five out of seven keywords (Soil Stabilization, Cement-Stabilized Base, Load-Bearing Capacity, Sustainable Construction, Tourism Development). I recommend a more precise and accurate selection of keywords that align with the actual content of the article, which focuses more on the heritage values and threats faced by the houses.

To enhance the overall structure, I suggest a restructuring of the content. The article could be organized to provide a detailed description of the houses, their inherent values, current conditions, potential development threats, and viable preservation solutions. This approach would offer a more comprehensive and logical flow of information.

Historical research to uncover more of the history and evolution of the houses could be interesting. The articulation of values within the article could be improved for better clarity and coherence. There is a need for a more cohesive structure, as information is repeated across multiple paragraphs. A comparative analysis, especially in relation to similar heritage houses in Vietnam or in the region, would add depth and richness to the discussion.

One significant area for improvement is the lack of substantiation for the current proposals and interventions, especially concerning the Soil Stabilization and Cement-Stabilized Base. A more in-depth explanation of the current issue and studies carried out is essential to support the need and viability of the proposed solutions.

Finally, the discussion around the tourism potential of the houses and its benefit to the local economy could be improved by providing context and data.

