

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

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

The topic is of great interest, but the document lacks a clear structure to help understand the purpose of the document.

-Apparently the intention is to set out reasons for preserving historic buildings.

The structure of the document is not well explained.

-The methodology or the steps followed in the research should be explained beforehand in the text.

-It would be interesting to have a background study, with bibliographical references to the questions mentioned, in order to contrast the data presented with the opinion of other experts or with other publications.

The historical, spiritual, and technological value of the houses is very well described, but these houses are not adequately documented. Apparently, all the information seems to be taken from a book, Ben Tre. It would be helpful to know if the authors have visited these houses or if they have checked the data with reality or with other sources of information.

- It would be interesting to provide a list with names or identification of the houses, their location, or other available data.

-A figure could be included to provide graphic information about the 9 houses, their location, or a plan to complete the information.

Regarding the other building studied, The Old House in the Center of Ben Tre City.

Much more information is provided about this building, its origins, its architecture. The authors explain the reasons why this building should not be demolished. The inclusion in the same article of 9 houses without details contrasts with the detailed information on the French building.

Precisely in chapter 3, the authors mention that it is necessary to carry out an inventory according to the criteria specified in clause 9, article 1 of the Amendment Act, with public participation.

The authors point out that the houses have not yet been inventoried and catalogued, which is why a prior and systematic study of the houses that could contribute to the development of an inventory to catalogue these dwellings as heritage buildings is lacking.

Citations

- Huynh Tan Ph should be properly cited if there is a document attesting to his contribution to the urban development of Ben Tre City.

-Nguyen Thi Hau, professor at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities, is not adequately cited.

On the proposals and conclusions.

-The authors make constructive proposals on how to carry out the restoration of heritage buildings, but these proposals do not seem to be related to the above discussion.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE EDITOR on article acceptance

Paper returned for major revision and second review