



前署邑令武威張澍前遊寶頂山記

Former acting district magistrate, Zhang Shu of Wuwei,  
“A Record of a Former Trip to Baoding Mountain”

久欲躡寶頂山巔,尋幽探異,問毗盧佛之遺跡,以牒訴。

A long time I have desired to tread [the path] to the summit of Baoding Mountain, to seek out its mysteries, explore the unusual and strange, and to inquire into the vestiges of Vairocana Buddha in order to record them in a document.

倥傯未暇捫壁,旋因涔酸逾月,路甚澇淖,不便肅驂,乃搥鼓北岩宣陽排陰天大哩霽。

Yet I was busy and not yet at leisure to lay my hands upon those walls, and because heavy rains lasted for more than a month, the roads to a great extent were muddy and unsuitable for horses. Then the thunder of drums on the north cliff declared that sun had overcome shadow, that the sky had cleared and the rains stopped.

於十月十八日載途焉。

On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of the 10<sup>th</sup> month, I hereupon undertook my journey.

出東門十餘里,漸折而北,路漸艱坎。

I went out the east gate, and within ten *li*, gradually bent north, the road gradually (getting) harder, pitted.

將至寶頂山五里許,有孤峰斗絕。

When you are about five li from Baodingshan, there's a solitary peak like the bowl of a dipper.

在外鑿白衣觀音像。

Outside of this [peak] is carved a White-Robed Guanyin statue.

上鏤小佛三尊,懸岩覆之。

Carved above are three small Buddhas, covered by the hanging cliff.

遠望西北諸山如狻猊蹲踞,伺攫行人。

Gazing afar at all the mountains in the northwest, it is as if fabulous beasts crouch, waiting to seize upon the traveler.

抵山隅,路側有石屋,鏤林林央央,生甯堪當,轉而東則至山門。

Arriving at the corner of the mountain, at the side of the road there is a rocky hall, carved with a multitude of clear images, terrifying to behold. Turning then to the east, I arrived at the mountain entrance.

門外大石池,方圓三畝許。

Outside the entrance is a great rock pond, three *mu* in area.

池中左側豎一碑.

To the left side within the pond a stone tablet has been erected.

碑左右石上有雙足跡,大如箕.

To the right and left of the tablet, on the stone above, there is a pair of footprints, as big as winnowing baskets.

惜水深不得至.

It's a pity that the water is so deep one can't get there.

碑所摩挲整衿.

The place of the stone tablet has been scoured neatly.

入則石坊高峙橫書<西竺仙境>四字.

I enter to find a stone wall, and up above the four words "Fairy Realm of the West" have been horizontally written.

循階上,內為韋馱殿.

I follow the steps up, inside is the Hall of Weituo.

再進即維摩殿.

I next enter immediately into the Hall of Vimalakirti. (Weimo)

像極莊嚴,令入祇竦.

The statue is of the utmost stateliness, causing one to enter with reverence and awe.

再進為觀音殿.

Next I enter into the Hall of Guanyin.

由維摩殿之右西行有大寶樓閣,即寶頂也.

Going west, from the right side of the Vimalakirti Hall, there is the Great Jewel Pavilion, for which Baoding is named [what is referred to today as the Founder's Pagoda].

內藏毗盧肉身,凡三層,以石砌成.

Within is kept Vairocana's true body. Altogether, the pagoda is of three levels, made of stone.

下層刻達摩,中層刻迦葉,上層刻釋迦.周圍刻經.

On the lower layer is carved Bodhidharma, on the middle layer is carved Kasyapa, while in the upper layer is carved Sakyamuni. All around are carved the scriptures.

間以佛像.

In the spaces between are Buddha statues.

樓閣後石壁下截鐫八字,大如斗。

On a section below the rock wall behind the multi-storied pavilion, there are carved eight characters, as big as dippers.

僅存末<大寶樓閣>四字。

All that now survives are the four characters “Pavilion of Great Jewels”.

由右側陟石級而升高丈許,為平臺,建石屋。

From the right side going up the stone steps about ten feet, there's a level terrace upon which a stone room has been constructed. [This is the *daochang* in Little Buddha Bend].

屋亦高丈餘。

This room is also about ten feet in height.

自東壁抵西壁長三十步。

From the eastern wall to the western wall is a length of thirty paces.

後壁鐫小佛數盈萬。

The rear wall is carved with as many as ten thousand Buddhas..

凡柱梁斗拱網非佛者或向或背或坐或臥或立或行或曲膝或伸臂或瞑目或歡笑或悲戚,靡不生動。

Every square inch of pillar, rafter and bracket has a net of non-Buddha figures: some facing outward, some back turned, some seated, some lying down, some standing, some walking, some sitting tailor-fashion, some sticking an arm out, some with eyes closed, some laughing, some mournful; all are very lively.

曲肖所執香花寶珠鈸鉢纓絡之屬,亦複精巧寡倫。

Winding along there is a place where one keeps fragrant flowers and precious jewels, cymbals and alms bowl and all types of fringes. They are all cleverly carved and unique.

西壁多鐫女菩薩像。

The western wall is carved with many female bodhisattva images.

東壁上鐫毗沙天王像,怒氣鬱勃,陰森逼人。

Above on the eastern wall is carved an image of Vaisravana, swollen with anger, dark and threatening.

旁鐫佛數百,妙麗端嚴,天人俱足。

Beside [him] are carved several hundred Buddhas, mysterious and grave; both devas and humans are present.

屋檐外左側有毗盧石庵。

To the left side outside of the hall and under its eaves is the Vairocana Stone Temple.

左右壁外均鑿佛,又鑿天神彎弓拔劍,拎襖極威猛之狀.

Buddhas are carved on both the right and left walls outside, while also carved are heavenly spirits bending bows and drawing swords, pulling off outer garments in a mighty and ferocious state.

庵後壁外畫寶塔圖.

Outside on the back wall of the temple, a jeweled pagoda is depicted.

圖上鑿佛,橫書<釋迦舍利寶塔,禁中應現之圖>十二字.

A Buddha is carved above the picture, horizontally is written the 12-character phrase: “A depiction of the precious pagoda of Shakyamuni’s relics, and of their manifestation in the palace.”

佛下畫寶塔像.

Below the Buddha, the precious pagoda is painted.

旁刻嘉定十年僧道權記,敘事雅潔有體.

Next to this is carved a record by the monk Dao Quan, written in the tenth year of the Jiading era [1217], his narrative is written cleanly and is well-formed.

庵前楣橫刻<毗盧庵>三字.

In front of this temple, carved horizontally on the lintel, are three characters, “Vairocana Temple”.

庵之下有石洞.

Below this temple there is a rock cave.

內鑿佛像.

Within are carved Buddha statues.

門前立二力士,手執杵鉞.

In front of the door stand two guardian figures, their hands grasping a staff and a halberd.

左右壁亦鑿二力士像.

On the walls [inside] to the right and left also are carved two statues of guardian figures.

厥狀複慈良,喜色可掬.

In appearance, they are kind and good, their faces beaming with smiles.

由觀音殿右出,沿緣而上約十弓許,為聖壽寺.

Passing by the right of the Guanyin Hall, I follow the edge, and then go up approximately fifty feet, where there is the Shengshousi (Sagacious Longevity Temple).

寺踞山頂,巍峨宏敞,老松幽篁宗生族攢.

The temple sits on the mountain's summit, lofty and vast, where old pines and quiet bamboo groves cluster thickly.

殿中塑如來。

Within the hall is a statue of the Tathagatha (the Buddha in his transformation).

上有樓,木刻曉山和尚臥像。

Above there is a pavilion, where there's a carved wooden statue of Monk Xiaoshan asleep.

免視群峰,羅列環拱,如小兒孫,洵此山獨秀矣。

Looking down at the group of peaks, arranged in a circle like little children, [I feel that] truly this mountain is indeed a rare blossom.

寺側石佛數十立。

Beside the temple stand several tens of stone Buddhas

叢芳間悉皆斷裂,土人云系張獻忠所毀。

Among the clumps of grass, they are all cracked and broken, and the local people say that they were destroyed by Zhang Xianzhong.

東南小阜有白塔。

On a small mound to the southeast there is a white pagoda.

下狹上廣,無頂。

Below [the pagoda] is narrow, above [it] is wide, there is no top.

土人云 康熙時飛至瀘州,為鐵索鎖住,不能飛來矣。

The local people say that in the Kangxi era it [the roof] flew to Luzhou [in Sichuan], there it was stopped with iron padlocks, so it wasn't able to fly back.

乃返禪室少憩,出山門,折而西百餘步至佛灣。

Then returning to the Meditation Hall for a short rest, I go out the mountain gate, turning to the west no more than 100 paces to arrive at Buddha Bend.

縱觀右岩腰鑿猛虎下山,狀勢極奔逸。

When I look at the right cliff-face, there's a carving of a fierce tiger descending the hill; it looks as if it is running very quickly.

折而東,岩高百尺,鑿金剛十尊三世佛三尊,各高五丈許,有轉輪,佛口銜金輪,霞光萬道,狀極雄偉。

I turn to the east, where the height of the cliff-face is 100 *chi*, and carved there are the ten *vajrapani* and the Buddhas of the Three Worlds, each about 50 feet in height, and there is a turning wheel [Wheel of Reincarnation]. The Buddha's mouth holds a golden wheel, (which emits) rosy rays lighting innumerable paths; the appearance is quite grand.

少進孱顏,橫镌<寶頂山>三字.

Timidly, I proceed forwards a short distance to where the three characters “Baoding Mountain” are carved horizontally.

末署銜朝請大夫權尚書兵部侍郎兼同修國史兼軍口錄試官修撰杜孝嚴書.

At the end it is signed, “Grand Master for Closing Court, with the authority of the minister, Director of the Bureau of Military Appointments concurrently Associate State Historiographer, concurrently Recorder for the Bureau of Army Activities, the official litterateur Du Xiaoyan wrote this”.

下鑄大佛,尤為奇特,頂上圓光,配藜於崖際.

Below is carved a great Buddha, and what is especially odd is that his halo on top is joined with weeds to the edge of the cliff.

再進則為千手大悲殿.

Next I enter into the Hall of the 1000-Hand Great Compassionate One (Guanyin).

慈憫之懷,溢於眉睫,真鬼工也.

The compassion and sympathy of her heart overflow from her brows and lashes; truly this is great workmanship.

杜覲龜畫所不到.

A painting by Du Nigui would not have been able to achieve this.

[ Du was a painter of the Five dynasties period, ca. 900, expert in painting Buddhist & Daoist subjects, a resident of Sichuan, according to the *Zhongguo renming da cidian*]

稍轉至岩曲,镌睡佛.

Turning a little, I arrive at a bend in the cliff, where there is carved a sleeping Buddha.

首大如屋,身長九丈.

His head as big as a house; his body length 90 feet.

旁镌弟子十餘,向佛若悲泣者.

Beside him are carved about ten disciples, toward the Buddha all are as if weeping with grief.

又折而西,則為北岩,為九龍口.

Again I turn to the west, toward the north cliff-face, where there are the nine dragon mouths.

九龍口噴清泉,飛灑益壽.

The nine dragon mouths spout pure spring water. Its flying drops increase the longevity

始生之兒流於方池,九曲入澗.

of the newborn child {ie the Buddha}, flow into the square pond, and flow through nine bends to enter the mountain stream.

旁有孔雀明王洞。

Beside this there is the Cave of the Brilliant Peacock King.

明王騎孔雀,勢欲凌虛。

The Brilliant King sits astride his peacock, as if about to ascend into the skies.

旁有毗盧閣像。

Beside this there is a statue of Vairocana within a chamber.

靜悶若有思者。

Quiet and melancholy, he seems to be thinking.

再進則鑿佛牙六賊圖。

Next I move on to the carved tableau of the Buddha's Tooth and the Six Vices.

又鑿地獄變相,鬼怪紛沓,暨兜率天宮諸佛拈花,及雪嶺鷹岩,釋迎苦煉,令觀者神遊其境。

Then there is carved the hell transformation tableau, with strange demons in profusion; and the palaces of the Tusita Heaven, where many Buddhas pick flowers, and then a snowy mountain range with eagles on the cliff, where Sakyamuni welcomed his austerities. The scene makes the viewer's soul wander through its realm.

複返至南岩之左,沿岩而西,凡鑿牛九頭十牧童。

Again I return to the left side of the south cliff, and follow the cliff to the west, where carved nine head of oxen, and ten oxherds.

牛或吃草或飲水或拴臥或倚樹或仰首鳴或控勒不可制。

The oxen are either eating grass or drinking water or haltered lying down or leaning against trees or looking up to moo, or pulling against their ropes, not wanting to be lead.

其牧童或用力牽拽或揮鞭或倚石臥或坐石吹簫或延頸斜睨或相抱而戲。

Some of the herding boys vigorously drag or whip their oxen, others sleep against a rock, or sit on a rock and play the flute, or stretch their necks to gaze, or wrestle with each other.

乃楊次公得道牧牛事也。

This then is the story of how Yang Cigong achieved enlightenment by herding oxen.

山峰忽危聳而起,突出丈餘,則為圓覺洞。

Where the peak rises up abruptly and sticks up about ten feet, this then is the Cave of Complete Enlightenment.



有大獅雄踞洞口,拳毛鬥尾,恍聞吼聲,洞甚黝暗。

By the cave mouth is a large crouching lion, whipping its tail around. It seems as if I can hear its roar, while the cave itself is very dark.

上鑿觀音文殊普賢。

Above are carved Guanyin [Avalokitesvara], Wenshu [Manjusri], and Puxian [Samantabhadra].

兩旁刻十二尊者。

To the two sides are carved the twelve venerable ones.

儀態幻眇,匪複人間。

Their posture is magically subtle; they are not of the world of men.

週圍及頂俱鑿巖峰巒,大海波濤,花鳥飛舞,魚龍變幻齟齬者久之。

The surroundings and all the way to the top are carved with the mountain ranges of the Vulture Peak [of the Lotus Sutra], billowing waves on the great sea, beautiful birds flying and dancing, fish and dragons transforming; for a long time I gaze at it in fright.

惟前岩上漏一線天。

Now above the cliff in front there's just a thread of daylight.

天光斜穿入洞,乃辨諸像。

Daylight penetrates the cave at an angle, so that one can make out the various statues.

由獅子岩而西,路徑逼仄,鑿坐佛。

From the lion on the cliff, I then go west; the road narrows, forcing me obliquely [past] a carved seated Buddha.

岩際有若城者,名魯班倉。

At the edge of the cliff-face there is what seems to be a city, called Lu Ban's Storehouse. [NB Lu Ban was a skilled artisan and carpenter of the Spring & Autumn period]

仍返至右,岩口緣蹬而登其上,平阿四徹,建萬歲樓。

I continue returning to the right. At the cliff-face entrance I follow the steps and climb up to a flat place of about four sided where the Wansui Pavilion is built.

作八卦形,簷拱異騫,勢若飛動,蓋是山分南北,二岩中為深澗。

Made in the form of the eight trigrams [ie octagonal], the unusual folded eaves soar, as if having the power to fly away. This then divides the north and south sides of the mountain, and between the two cliff-faces there is a deep mountain stream.

由澗底西行有大足川。

Going west along the bottom of the ravine, there's the Dazu River.

土人云川亦有大足雙跡也。

Local people say this river also has a pair of big footprints.

嗟嗟,餘行天下遍矣,凡所登覽已極耳目之觀。

Alas, I have rambled all over the world, and wherever I have climbed and observed, I have filled my eyes and ears.

今至寶頂,浩眺岩壑,窮睇法像,則舉舌而驚曹,能始曰:《寶頂寺者。

On my visit to Baoding today, I have gazed broadly at the cliffs and hollows, and scrutinized the Buddhist statues in detail, then striking the bell and startling the crowds, I can say: “As for Baoding Temple,

唐柳本尊學吳道子筆意,環岩數里鑿浮屠像,奇譎幽怪,古今所未有也,噫信矣。》

The Tang Dynasty's Master Liu studied Wu Daozi's brushwork, and on the surrounding cliffs and pavilions for miles he chiseled reliefs and carved statues; strange changelings and mysterious monsters; truly, there has been no other place like it, past or present.”

知大足縣事城固王德嘉勒石

Magistrate of Dazu County, Wang Dejia of Chenggu [Shaanxi] had this stone carved.

清同治十三年歲次甲戌孟春上浣穀旦

On an auspicious day in the first ten days of the first month of spring in the thirteenth year of the Tongzhi era, *jiaxu* cycle, of the Qing Dynasty (1874).”

Rubbed image from *Dazu shike mingwen lu*. (*The Collected Inscriptions from the Dazu Stone Carvings*). Chongqing: Chongqing chubanshe, 1999.