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## **FOCUS**

# Underwater Heritage in the South China Sea ......

At a great expense, a large number of sunken ships were left during humanbeing's struggle against the sea for thousands of years. These sunken ships record human civilization of different historical period. The South China Sea is a marginal sea which serves as a vital channel connecting China continent and the other parts of the world. Its important geographical status can be witnessed by its extensive distribution of underwater relics. Since its introduction into China in 1987, with persistent efforts made by the first batch of underwater archaeologists, underwater archaeology has rooted and prospered in China. With the discovery of "Nanhai No.1", China's underwater archaeology has been growing from childhood to maturity; from maturity to growing strong. With the salvage operations on "Nanhai No.1" being carried out and the foundation of the Guangdong Marine Silk Road Museum, China's underwater archaeology has been expanding its influence gradually.

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### HERITAGE VISION

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Industrial construction, as an essential component of industrial heritage, will not be preserved just for the sake of its status as industrial construction. Preservation means to treasure and select important historical imprint and urban characteristic. The recognition of value serves as the basis for preservation.

#### MONUMENTS AND SITES

Live Fossils of Human Habitat Civilization ——Pit Yards

Pit Yards, also named as Dooryard-Cave-House, to be exact, are underground courtyards, which centralized on the Loess Tableland of the Sanmenxia Basin. As live fossils of human habitat civilization, pit yards draw closer the distance between ancient ancestors and present-day people. Despite its advantages, pit yards also have many deficiencies which cannot meet the need of the life and work for modern people. With the sharp decline of its existence, pit yards have the urgent need for salvage and conservation.