

Ran WEI

Department of Geography and Environment
London School of Economics and Political Science
Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom
r.wei5@lse.ac.uk | (0044) 757.983.7774

Education

- 09.2019 – Present PhD in Regional and Urban Planning Studies, expected graduation in Spring 2024
Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
Thesis title: Heritage construction in China: Negotiation and contestation of decision-making and heritage discourses
- 08.2017 – 05.2019 M.S. in Historic Preservation (Preservation Planning)
Stuart Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, USA
- 09.2012 – 07.2017 B.E. in Urban Planning
College of Urban and Environmental Sciences, Peking University, China

Publications

Peer-reviewed articles

- Wei, R., & Wang, F.** (2022). Is colonial heritage negative or not so much? Debating heritage discourses and selective interpretation of Kulangsu, China. *Built Heritage*, 6(21). Published online September 23, 2022. DOI:10.1186/s43238-022-00069-7.
- Wei, R.** (2022). Tyrannical participation approaches in China's regeneration of urban heritage areas - A case study of baitasi historic district, Beijing. *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 28(3), 279-296.
- Wei, R.** (2021). Urban locality and liveability based on the experience of Zhangdefu City of Anyang in the Ming and Qing Dynasties (安阳古城地方性和宜居性研究). *China Ancient City (中国名城)*, 35(9), 43-49.
- Wang, F., Peng, X., **Wei, R.**, Qin, Y., & Zhu, X. (2019). Environmental behaviour research in resources conservation and management: A case study of *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*. *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, 141, 431-440.
- Wang, F., Jiang, C., & **Wei, R.** (2017). Cultural landscape security pattern: Concept and structure (文化景观安全格局: 概念与结构). *Geographical Research (地理研究)*, 36(10), 1834-1842.

Blogposts

- Wei, R.** (July 31, 2023). *Reflection on ACHS Santiago 2022: Languages and decolonisation in (critical) heritage studies*. ACHS – ECRN Blog, ECRSpeak: Early Voices:
<https://mailchi.mp/78f03f658473/achs-ecrn-newsletter-july-2023?e=fad6fc00c4>.
- Wei, R.** (June 30, 2023). *Interviewing Chinese local government officials: Reflection on research transparency and coercion*. LSE Blogs: Field Research Methods Lab, LES SEAC:
<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/fieldresearch/2023/06/30/interviewing-chinese-local-government-officials-reflection-on-research-transparency-and-coercion/>.

In progress

- Wei, R.** Incomplete urban regeneration: Causes, impacts, and the struggles of small and mid-sized cities

in China. [Under review by *Urban Studies*].

Conferences and Presentations

Conference presentations

- 04.09 – 06.09.2023 International Geographical Union – Commission on Geography of Governance Annual Conference 2023: Paradigm Shifts in Local and Urban Governance (Budapest, Hungary)
Decision-making of heritage preservation planning in China: Process, rationales, and impacts on local governance
- 29.08 – 01.09.2023 Royal Geographical Society Annual International Conference 2023: Climate changed geography (London, UK)
Decision-making of heritage regeneration in a small Chinese city: The paradox of fragmented authoritarianism, and decentralisation/recentralisation
- 28.06 – 30.06.2023 AMPS (Architecture, Media, Politics, Society) Conference: Heritages: Past and Present – Built and Social (Prague, Czech Republic)
Voluntary relocation: an improved heritage policy or not? A case study of the Cangxiang Street Historic District, China
- 20.04 – 21.04.2023 Royal Geographical Society Postgraduate Mid-term Conference 2023: Shifting Geographies (London, UK)
Shifting heritage practices in China: From culture to politics
- 04.12 – 07.12.2022 Association of Critical Heritage Studies Biannual Conference 2022: Interculturalities (Santiago de Chile)
Colonial heritage as embodiment of interculturality? Heritage discourses and selective interpretation of Kulangsu, China
- 24.08 – 26.08.2022 Research Committee 21 on Sociology of Urban and Regional Development of the International Sociological Association Conference 2022: Ordinary Cities in Exceptional Times (Athens, Greece)
Mismatched ambition and capacity of urban regeneration in small cities: A case study of South Street project in Anyang, China
- 07.05.2021 2021 Symposium of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies – Early Career Researchers Network: Heritage Justice (online)
Inclusive and holistic regeneration of urban heritage area in China? Reinforced inequalities through the tyranny of participation

Invited talks

- 17.09.2023 Heritage Youth Seminar Series (online)
Local decision-making and heritage discourses in heritage area regeneration
- 29.11.2022 Peking University – University of Cambridge Seminar on Human-Land Relations of Early River Valley Civilisations (online)
Colonial Heritage and History, Heritage Discourses, and Selective Interpretation of Kulangsu, China

Conferences organised

- 07.08 – 18.08.2023 2023 Symposium of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies – Early Career

- Researchers Network: Heritage Justice II: Contestation, Motion and Emotion (online)
- 12.11.2022 11th Academic Forum of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association UK (Glasgow, UK & online)
- 16.06 – 17.06.2022 PhD Conference by the Department of Geography and Environment, LSE: Shifting Landscapes 2022 (London, UK & online)
- 14.11 – 15.11.2019 2019 Asia-Pacific Symposium of the International Council on Monuments and Sites – International Committee on Historic Cities, Towns and Villages & Chinese National Committee for the International Council on Monuments and Sites – Committee on Historic Towns and Villages: Conservation and Regeneration of Historic Cities – Sustainable Management Approaches of Historic Urban Landscape (Beijing, China)

Grants, Scholarships, and Awards

- 08.2023 & 11.2022 Departmental Travel Fund, Department of Geography and Environment, LSE
- 05.2023 LSE Class Teacher Award 2022-23, LSE (highly commended)
- 11.2022 & 05.2022 Postgraduate Travel Fund, LSE
- 09.2019 – 01.2024 LSE PhD Studentship
- 05.2019 The Anthony Nicholas Brady Garvan Award for an Outstanding Thesis, UPenn
- 08.2017 & 08.2018 School of Design Scholarship, UPenn
- 07.2017 Outstanding Graduate Award, Peking University
- 10.2016 Outstanding Scientific Research Award, Peking University
- 05.2015 LOTUS+ Scholarship, Erasmus Mundus Programme
- 06.2014 Principal Fund for Undergraduate Research, Peking University
- 12.2013 May Fourth Scholarship, Peking University
- 12.2013 Merit Student Award, Peking University

Academic Employment

- 12.2020 – Present Research Assistant
NSFC-DFG Sino German Cooperation Group on Urbanisation and Locality & Shanxi Key Laboratory of Watershed Built Environment with Locality, Peking University, China
- 09.2020 – Present Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
Courses: Digital GTA; GY140 Introduction to Geographical Research (3 years); GY247 Field Methods in Geography with Economics (4 years); GY311 The Political Economy of Urbanisation (2 years); GY350 Undergraduate Dissertation – Method Surgery; MSc Postgraduate Dissertation – Method Surgery.
- 08.2018 – 05.2019 Teaching Assistant
Stuart Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, USA
Courses: HSPV 661 Theories in Historic Preservation; HSPV 625 Preservation Economics.

Professional Employment

06.2019 – 08.2019	Junior Engineer & Research Fellow Division of Cultural and Natural Resources, Department of Historical and Cultural City, Tsinghua Tongheng Planning & Design Institute, Beijing, China
06.2018 – 05.2019	Project Assistant Heritage Consulting Inc., Philadelphia, USA
06.2018 – 08.2018	Assistant Planner Haixi Planning Office, Tsinghua Tongheng Planning & Design Institute, Quanzhou, China
06.2016 – 09.2016	Assistant Planner & Research Assistant Division of Cultural and Natural Resources, Department of Historical and Cultural City, Tsinghua Tongheng Planning & Design Institute, Beijing, China

Other Professional Activities and Service

Peer review	International Journal of Heritage Studies; River Research and Applications
02.2023 – Present	Member of the Coordinating Team Association of Critical Heritage Studies – Early Career Researchers Network
02.2022 – Present	Department member Department of Academics and Technology, Chinese Students and Scholars Association UK
09.2012 – 07.2017	Student Assistant, Head of Editing Department Department of Student Affairs, Peking University, China

Academic Visiting

08.2015 – 01.2016	Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, the Netherlands
07.2015 – 08.2015	School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of British Columbia, Canada

Languages and Skills

Languages	Mandarin Chinese (native) English (spoken and written: proficient) French (spoken and written: basic)
Computer skills	ArcGIS, Auto CAD, Sketch Up, Nvivo, Stata, Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator/InDesign/Bridge/Lightroom