

Rock Carvings and the Wanshan Community

The Wanshan Rock Carvings are located within the traditional territory of the Rukai Tribe's Three Lower Communities (also known as the Zhuokou Group). These communities include Maolin (Indigenous name: Toruluka), Dona (Indigenous name: Kindawan), and Wanshan (Indigenous name: Oponohu). Among them, the ancient Wanshan Community, located approximately three kilometers southwest of the rock carvings, has the closest connection to the site. Historically, the indigenous people of the Wanshan community had to pass through this area for their livelihood, such as hunting. Additionally, legends of intertribal marriages have been passed down in the collective memory of the people. It is speculated that the creators of the Wanshan Rock Carvings belonged to a group that shared cultural origins with both the Rukai and Paiwan tribes. These carvings predate the establishment of the ancient Wanshan Community. However, the traditional territorial divisions and intertribal relationships have uniquely linked the carvings to the Wanshan Community. Therefore, they have been named the "Wanshan" Rock Carvings.

Currently, the Ministry of Culture has entrusted the Kaohsiung City Government Bureau of Cultural Affairs, as the primary agency responsible for the site's supervision and protection, conducting daily maintenance and on-site inspections. They established a cooperative relationship with the tribe and formed a rock carving patrol team. In 2021, this site became Taiwan's first co-managed archaeological site with an Indigenous tribe. In addition to increasing the frequency of inspections, both the tribe and the government are jointly leading efforts to explore and interpret the historical context and artistic beauty of the carvings.

岩雕與萬山部落

萬山岩雕群所在區域，屬魯凱族下三社，即濁口群之傳統領域，下三社包含茂林(原住民語：Toruluka)、多納(原住民語：Kindawan)、萬山(原住民語：Oponohu)等三個部落，其中又以距離岩雕群最近的萬山舊社，關係較密切，地緣上，萬山部落位在岩雕群西南方，直線距離約三公里處，過去該社原住民如果為生活，如狩獵等，就必須經過此地，另有異族通婚的傳說故事，流傳於族人記憶之中，據推測萬山岩雕群的製作者，雖應屬於魯凱族、排灣族，具有其相同文化源頭的族群所雕刻，屬早於舊社建立之前作品，但相較三部落之間傳統領域的劃分及族群關係，又連結形成該岩雕群與萬山部落間的獨特性，故命名為「萬山岩雕」。

現由文化部委託高雄市政府文化局為主要監管保護機關，進行日常維護及實地巡查，並尋求與部落間合作，成立岩雕巡守隊等，於民國110年，成為全台第一處與原住民部落共營之考古遺址，以利加強岩雕之巡查頻率，亦由部落與公部門一起帶領民眾，觀賞與解說岩雕之歷史脈絡與藝術作品之美。



TKM1 - Human Figure with Circular Swirl Pattern (top image) and Carving Rubbing (bottom image); These rubbings were made by a professional team after evaluation. For related requests, please contact the supervising authority for approval. Unauthorized creation of rubbings is prohibited.

人像圓渦紋飾(上圖)、雕紋拓印(下圖)皆屬專業團隊評估施作之拓印，如有相關需求，請洽主管機關核備，切勿任意施作。



Research & Visit Guidelines

- National Wanshan Rock Carvings Historical Site:** Located deep in the mountains, the site is difficult to access. The trails are unclear and often traverse landslide-prone areas. During the rainy season, swollen streams make passage impossible. Even in the dry season, reaching the site requires several days of travel under the guidance of professional indigenous guides. For safety reasons, general tourism is not recommended.
- Research, Investigation, and Filming Projects:** Approval must be obtained from the Ministry of Culture (Bureau of Cultural Heritage).
- Visit Registration Requirements:** Submit a visit registration form to the Bureau of Cultural Affairs, Kaohsiung City Government. Entry is permitted only upon confirmation.
- Prohibitions and Penalties Related to the Rock Carvings:**
 - Do not step on the carvings or surrounding rocks while wearing shoes.
 - Do not use solvents, stiff brushes, hoes, fire, or any other methods to remove moss or natural growth from the rock surface.
 - Do not strike or grind the carvings or surrounding rocks with any tools or hard objects.
 - Any other actions deemed damaging to the national site by the supervising authority.

Article 103: Damaging the whole, part, or relics of the archaeological site is punishable by imprisonment from six months to five years and a fine of NT\$500,000 to NT\$2,000,000.
Article 106: Conducting archaeological excavations without a permit may result in a fine of NT\$300,000 to NT\$2,000,000.
- Penalties:**
 - According to Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, Article 103: Anyone who commits any of the following offenses shall be punished with imprisonment from six months up to five years, and a fine of NT\$500,000 to NT\$2,000,000 could be imposed.
 - According to Cultural Heritage Preservation Act, Article 106: Anyone who commits any of the following offenses shall be liable to a fine of NT\$300,000 to NT\$2,000,000 could be imposed.
- Ownership and Management:**
 - Supervising Authority: Ministry of Culture (Bureau of Cultural Heritage).
 - Management and Maintenance Authority: Kaohsiung City Government (Bureau of Cultural Affairs).
 - Landowner: The Republic of China (Taiwan).
 - Land Administrator: Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency, Ministry of Agriculture (Pingtung Branch).
 - Land Usage: National Forest Recreation Area.
- Contact unit:**
For matters related to the joint protection of cultural assets, please contact: Kaohsiung City Government (Bureau of Cultural Affairs), telephone: 07-2225136 / National Wanshan Rock Carvings Historical Site Official Website: <https://heritage.kcg.gov.tw/Wanshan/>

研究調查、探訪等之注意事項

- 國定萬山岩雕群考古遺址位處深山，交通不易，登山路徑不明顯且多為崩塌地形，遇雨季時溪水暴漲更無法通行，乾季時期需由專業原住民導領，嚴禁數日，方能抵達，基於安全維護等考量，並不建議民眾自行前往，進行一般觀光旅遊。
- 相關調查研究、拍攝紀錄等計畫：請務必向主管機關文化部(文化資產局)申請獲得核准。
- 探訪登記規定：向高雄市政府文化局提交探訪登記表，經審核後，始能進入探訪。
- 岩雕群考古遺址之相關禁止事項與罰則：
 - 禁止穿鞋踩踏上岩雕本體及週圍岩體。
 - 禁止使用滾刷、硬刷毛、鐵鎚、火燒及各式方法，清除岩體表面苔蘚或自然生成物。
 - 禁止以任何工具、藥物敲打或磨損岩雕本體及週圍岩體。
 - 其他主管機關規定之保護國定遺址之行為。
- 罰則：
 - 依據《文化資產保存法》第103條規定：毀損考古遺址之全部、一部或其遺物，處六個月以上五年以下有期徒刑，併科新臺幣五十萬元以上二千萬元以下罰金。
 - 依據《文化資產保存法》第106條規定：未經核准進行考古發掘者，處新臺幣三十萬元以上二百萬元以下罰金。
- 權屬單位：
 - 遺址主管機關：文化部(文化資產局) | (2) 管理維護機關：高雄市政府(文化局) | (3) 土地所有人：中華民國(臺灣) | (4) 土地管理：農業部林業及自然保育署(屏東分署) | (5) 土地使用情形：國有林林地
- 連絡單位：共同守護文化資產相關事務通報，請聯絡：
 - 高雄市政府文化局，電話：07-2225136。
 - 國定萬山岩雕群考古遺址官網：<https://heritage.kcg.gov.tw/Wanshan/>



中英版 國定考古遺址 萬山岩雕群

National Wanshan
Rock Carvings
Archaeological Site

Introduction: National Wanshan Rock Carvings Historical Site

The Wanshan Rock Carvings, located on the northern side of Mantoulan Mountain in the Maolin District of Kaohsiung City, are the only known rock carvings archaeological site in Taiwan to date. Situated within the traditional territory of the Wanshan Community (Oponohu of the Rukai tribes), the site is named the "Wanshan Rock Carvings." Local legends tell a poignant tale of the carvings, centered on a tragic interracial marriage that reflects the historical interactions between different ethnic groups.

After hearing the story in 1978, Professor Gao Yi-rong, guided by members of the Wanshan Community, carefully documented the patterns of the carvings and initiated efforts for their preservation. The Wanshan Rock Carvings were designated as a Level III National Monument in 1989. Subsequently, additional carvings were discovered, leading to the site's re-designation as the "Wanshan Rock Carvings National Site" in 2008. To date, four locations with a total of fourteen carvings have been identified: one at Kopaca'e, two at Tubullili, one at Sanaginaeh, and ten at Takalravoe, all named after the traditional Wanshan locations.

The discovery of the Wanshan Rock Carvings opened up new avenues for the study of prehistoric cultures and arts in Taiwan, offering insight into the spiritual world of Taiwan's prehistoric inhabitants. Recent archaeological data indicate significant human activity in the area surrounding the carvings over the past 1,200 years. The patterns of the carvings reveal a clear connection to the decorative systems of the present-day Rukai and Paiwan tribes. This information is essential for understanding the timeline of interactions between related cultural groups, shedding light on the historical context of human migration and cultural systems. As a precious cultural asset of Taiwan, the Wanshan Rock Carvings are in urgent need of protection and preservation.

萬山岩雕位於高雄市茂林區萬頭山北側，是臺灣現今唯一發現的岩雕考古遺址。座落地點在魯凱族萬山社(原住民族語：'Oponohu)傳統領域中，故稱為「萬山」岩雕。當地自古即流傳著關於岩雕的傳說，屬於一段凄美的異族婚姻過往與不同族群之間的交往歷史。

1978年，高業榮老師聽聞這段故事，在萬山社族人的帶領下，紀錄岩雕的圖紋並開啟後續保存之路。萬山岩雕於1989年公告為「國家第三級古蹟」，此後又陸續於附近發現多處岩雕，2008年重新指定為「國定萬山岩雕群考古遺址」，至今已累計有4處14座岩雕，分別為「孤巴察峨」1座、「祖布里里」2座、「莎娜奇勒娥」1座及「大軋拉烏」10座等，皆以萬山的傳統地名命名。

萬山岩雕的現蹤，開啟臺灣的史前文化和史前藝術研究之新契機，引領人們探究臺灣史前文化人群的精神與人文世界。近年考古資料顯示，距今1,200年前，岩雕群周邊區域，開始有較明顯的人群活動，而其紋路內涵與現今的魯凱族、排灣族裝飾系統，具有顯性關聯，其訊息可供理解相關文化群體互動的交往、時間、深度等參考，顯示其人群遷徙與文化體系的時空脈絡，屬於臺灣珍貴且亟待保護的史前文化資產。



TKM3 莎娜奇勒娥 Sanaginaeh

The Sanaginaeh rock carvings are composed of two sandstone blocks. The most distinctive feature is the man-made stone slabs stacked in the crevice between the two blocks, making them appear connected. At the top, there is a naturally formed large pit, which has been chiseled into densely packed indentations. Numerous long, winding abstract lines and densely arranged dotted patterns extend outward from the pit.

Carving Features: Large indentations, scattered indentations, and more.

莎娜奇勒娥：由兩塊砂岩所構成，裂縫中有人為的石板疊砌，使兩塊岩體者，似成相連為其最大特色。其頂端有一自然形成的大凹坑，坑內被敲擊成密集凹點，並由上舒展開許多長條的抽象線條及密佈的點狀紋。紋路特徵：密集大凹點、長條的抽象線條及密佈的點狀紋、散置凹點等。

TKM2 祖布里里 Tubullili

The Tubullili rock carvings consist of two rocks, best known for the 'footprint patterns' on their surface. These footprints are made up of densely chiseled dots, creating a directional pattern from left to right. The TKM2-1 rock features a unique stepped pattern with three levels.

Carving Features: Footprint patterns, cup-shaped patterns, scattered indentations, and more.

祖布里里：岩體共兩座，以岩體上的「足印紋」最為著稱，足掌紋由密集的点擊刻所構成，整體形成由左向右的方向性紋飾，其中TKM2-1岩體，呈現獨特三階的階梯狀。

紋路特徵：足掌紋、杯狀紋、散置凹點等。

TKM1 孤巴察峨 Kopaca'e

Kopaca'e means "rock with patterns" in the Wanshan language. According to legend, this site is famous as the place where the snake-eating woman waited for her husband. It is the most richly decorated of the four rock carving sites, with a diverse array of carvings covering over 80 square meters of rock surface. This site holds significant value for artistic research.

Carving Features: Human-faced snake patterns, human figure patterns, hundred-pace snake (Deinagkistrodon acutus) patterns, cloud swirl patterns, frog patterns, and more.

孤巴察峨：萬山語意指「有圖案的石頭」，作為神話傳說中，吃蛇女子，等待丈夫的地點，為四處岩雕雕刻圖像紋飾最多且豐富而為人所周知的地區，在80餘平方公尺的岩石表面上，佈滿的各式雕紋，深具高度的藝術研究價值。

紋路特徵：人面蛇紋、人像紋、百步蛇狀紋、捲雲紋、蛙紋等。

TKM4 大軋拉烏 Takalravoe

Takalravoe is the area with the highest number and density of rock carvings among the sites. In 2008, ten carvings were discovered within a 200-meter range. The carvings are not deeply etched, and, except for a few images, most appear to be unfinished or improvised abstract symbols.

Carving Features: Grid patterns, eye-shaped patterns, circular swirl patterns, scattered indentations, and more.

大軋拉烏：於2008年，發現約200公尺範圍，具10座岩雕，屬岩雕群中，數量最多且最密集的岩雕區。岩雕群刻琢不深，除少部份圖像外，似屬未完成、即興式抽象符號的圖像。

紋路特徵：格狀紋、眼形紋、圓渦紋、散置凹點等。

Legend of the Rock Carvings

Once upon a time, a young man from the Latavelengae family in the Wanshan Community of the Rukai tribe fell in love with and married a girl from the Bunun tribe. Whenever she went to work in the fields with her family, she would always diligently prepare food in the kiln in advance, earning a good reputation as a hardworking daughter-in-law.

However, unlike the people of the Wanshan Community, who have a strong taboo against catching, killing, and eating snakes, the family did not know that the daughter-in-law had a habit of eating snake meat. She would whistle to attract snakes and cook them together with the family's food. Only after eating the snake meat would she invite her family to eat. Soon, everyone noticed that they were gradually losing weight and wondered, "Why have we all become thinner since she came into our family?"

They secretly followed her and discovered that her food was cooked with snake meat. Confronted by her family, the daughter-in-law was deeply saddened and confused. She put on her traditional dress and left, believing that her husband would find her at the Wanshan rock with carvings.

While waiting for her husband, she began to draw on the rock with her fingers. Wherever her fingers touched, the rock softened, allowing her to create various patterns. She also left footprints on the rock. This is how the legend explains the creation of the Wanshan Rock Carvings. Whether the couple ever reunited at the designated rock remains a mystery, leaving future generations to ponder their fate.

(Note: The rock carvings in the story mainly refer to TKM1 Kopaca'e. The carvings from TKM2 to TKM4 were discovered later, featuring abstract patterns, and no associated legends have been preserved.)

岩雕的傳說故事

萬山部落有個名為Latavelengae的家族，其中一名青年，愛上布農族的女孩，並將她娶回來。每當她和家人一起於田裡工作時，總會動手的提前去窯烤食物，是家人眼中認真的媳婦，但不同於萬山社族人，很忌憚捉蛇、殺蛇和吃蛇，家人並不曉得這位媳婦有吃蛇肉的習慣，她總會吹口哨，引來蛇群並與家人們的食物，一同烹煮，等吃完蛇肉，才邀請家人來用餐。不久之後，大家發現自己都漸漸消瘦，很納悶：「為何自她嫁進來以後，我們都瘦了？」

於是偷偷跟著媳婦的行蹤，才發現原來其食物中，參雜著蛇肉一同烹煮，隨即遭到家人的指責。媳婦非常難過，便挽起傳統服飾離開，並相信丈夫會到擁有岩雕那塊最大石頭，找她。她一連等丈夫，一連用手指在岩體上面作畫，岩體被手指碰觸，就變軟，畫出許多圖案，並用其腳踩在岩石上，而留下足跡，成為傳說中，現蹤萬山岩雕的緣由。

至於這對夫婦，是否再次相遇於約定的岩雕，就留給後世人們，細細玩味。(故事中的岩雕，主要指TKM1-孤巴察峨，而TKM2至TKM4岩雕，因發現時間較晚，岩體紋路抽象，並未留存與岩雕相關的傳說故事。)

