Maritime Asia Heritage Survey

Project Synopsis

The Maritime Asia Heritage Survey works to systematically inventory and document endangered tangible cultural heritage in the Maldives and Indonesia – including historical structures, archaeological sites, manuscripts and physical objects. The documentation produced in the course of our work includes site, feature, and object records with geospatial data, digital photography, LiDAR point clouds, ortho-photomaps, photogrammetric 3D models, CAD site plans and architectural elevations, IIIF digitized manuscripts, and oral history video interviews.

The materials documented through this work are critically endangered, facing both natural and human threats. Our work thus creates a digital archive of multimedia source material for the history of the Indian Ocean world. All data is also made open-access available on our project website: https://maritimeasiaheritage.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp

The Maritime Asia Heritage Survey is based at Kyoto University's Center for Southeast Asian Studies. It is led by Prof. R. Michael Feener (PI and Director), together with Dr Patrick Daly (Co-PI) and Prof. Noboru Ishikawa (Co-PI). The project is financially supported by the Arcadia Fund, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin (project number 4309).

The MAHS Digital Heritage Documentation Lab is hosted by the Kyoto University Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Work in the Maldives is done in partnership with the Maldives National Center for Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Arts, Culture and Heritage, and in Indonesia with the Directorate General of Culture, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology.

Project Team

Headquarters Office

R. Michael Feener, Principal Investigator and Director

Noboru Ishikawa, Co-Investigator

Patrick Daly, Co-Investigator

Maida Irawani (Era), Project Manager

Jędrzej Marcin Majewski, Field Survey Manager

Krisztina Baranyai, Database Manager

Mizuho Ikeda, Heritage Documentation Manager

Alexandru Hegyi, Digital Heritage Manager

Kata Kenesei, Database Heritage Officer

Miyuki Kawai, Project Administrator

Maldives Field Survey Team

Shaiha Ahmed Easa, Country Coordinator

Ibrahim Mujah, Field Survey Team Leader

Mohamed Shamran, Field Survey Team Member

Aishath Mohamed Rasheed, Field Survey Team Member

Midh'hath Moosa, Field Survey Team Member

Shuaib Abdulla, Field Survey Team Member

Indonesia Field Survey Team

Multia Zahara, Country Coordinator

Ahmad Zaki, Field Survey Team Leader

Greg Kuswanta, Field Survey Team Member

Fauzan Azhima, Field Survey Team Member

Sofiani Sabarina, Field Survey Team Member

Ario Wibhisono, Field Survey Team Member

Sari Novita, Field Survey Team Member

International Advisory board

Anthony Reid

John Miksic

Pierre-Yves Manguin

Angela Schottenhammer

Valerie Hansen

Himanshu Prabha Ray

Elizabeth Lambourn

Andrew Peacock

Sunil Amrith

Nira Wickramasinghe

Alan Strathern

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Anne Haour

Arlo Griffiths

Lê Thị Liên

M. Mauroof Jameel

Idham Bachtiar Setiadi

Bachamiya Abdul Hussainmiya

Leonard Andaya

Susanto Zuhdi

Tansen Sen

Dennis McGilvray

Peter Borschberg

Xavier Romero-Frias

Edmund Edwards McKinnon

Miriam T. Stark

George Bryan Souza

Contact Information

Professor R. Michael Feener, PI & Director - MAHS

    Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University

    46 Shimo-Adachi, Yoshida, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501 JAPAN

    TEL (+81) 075-753-7314

    MAHS@cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp

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    Associate Member, Faculty of History, University of Oxford

    michael.feener@history.ox.ac.uk

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Archive organisation

This archive contains data collected in the first year of the Maritime Asia Heritage Survey, from the start of the project in 2020 until the end of August 2021 in the Maldives and Indonesia. It includes raw and edited material from the surveyed historical structures, archaeological sites, manuscripts and physical objects. The documentation produced in the course of our work includes site, feature, and object records with geospatial data, digital photography, LiDAR point clouds, ortho-photomaps, photogrammetric 3D models, CAD site plans and architectural elevations, IIIF digitized manuscripts, and oral history video interviews.

Records are available in our online Arches database. We provide two kinds of backup of this database in the archive, one is a CSV export of the heritage records, and the other one is a pg_dump (PostgreSQL Dump), which is a text file in SQL format, that can be used to reconstruct the database.

Field books are included in the archive containing information on the regions where the surveys were carried out.

The MAHS project website is preserved in this archive in a readable printout format, while the URLs of the webpages were submitted to the *Wayback Machine Internet Archive* (https://web.archive.org) where they can be browsed.

For a detailed folder structure of the archive, please see the supplementary material.

Data organisation

All project data is organized here geographically, with file names reflecting the conventions used for recording sites, features, and objects by our field survey. The folder structure of the archive and the MAHS Site location codes for all the surveyed locations can be found in the supplementary material enclosed to this document.

The **structure of the file names** consists of the abbreviated project name (MAHS) and a three-letter code for the country where the survey was carried out:

MAHS-MDV - Maldives

MAHS-IDN - Indonesia

The country identifier is followed by a 2 or 3 times three-letter code (MAHS Site location code) unique to each region:

Country	Region identifier	Example	MAHS code
Maldives	Atoll-Island	Kaafu-Malé City	KFA-MLE
Indonesia	Province-District-Subdistrict	Aceh-Banda Aceh-Baiturrahman	ACH-BNA-BTR

*For a complete list of site location codes see the supplementary material below.

After that, each site is given a unique number, stating with 'S' representing 'site'.

Records within that site inherit the MAHS Site location code of the site and are organized by a second series of identifier code. Record types are distinguished by the following system of abbreviations:

F - Feature

O - Object

MS - Manuscript

OHV - Oral History

Example MAHS code for a feature associated with a site:

MAHS-IDN-ACH-BNA-BTR-S-001-F-0001

The **structure of the file names for collections** consists of the abbreviated project name (MAHS) and a three-letter code for the country where the survey was carried out:

MAHS-MDV - Maldives

MAHS-IDN - Indonesia

MAHS-Z - not associated with a country (only in case of Collections)

After that, each collection is given a unique number, stating with 'COL' representing collection.

Records within that collection inherit the collection code and are organized by a second series of identifier code. Record types are distinguished by the following system of abbreviations:

O - Object

MS - Manuscript

Example MAHS code for an object associated with a collection:

MAHS-MDV-COL-001-O-0001