

Geoparks and the Society: A Tale of Two Awarded Buildings in Geoparks of Taiwan

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This paper provides a critique towards two lately (2010-2011) awarded architectures that were built in Geoparks of Taiwan and deciphers the entangled relationship between the geopark and society. Firstly, the building of Lan-Yang Museum, at the Northeastern Coast Geopark, successfully appropriates the landform of *cuesta*, which shapes the fundamental local landscape of the Geopark. Secondly, the establishment of Xiang-Shan Visitor Center and the Administration of the Sun-Moon Lake Scenic Area is designed with an expectation to entrench itself in surrounding landscape, but *de facto* shows its domination over geomorphology with coercion. Two conclusions are derived from the tale of the case studies. First, in the sense, geopark is socially constructed by the society at its epoch; and second, architects and their society are actually hegemonic over geopark landscape rather than as claimed with the rhetorics of 'green architecture' or 'sustainability' which are the goals of developing geoparks.