



我们非常感谢以下参与者与我们分享他们的照片和故事：
We would like to thank the following participants
for sharing their photographs and stories:

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THE TEXTURES OF HOME

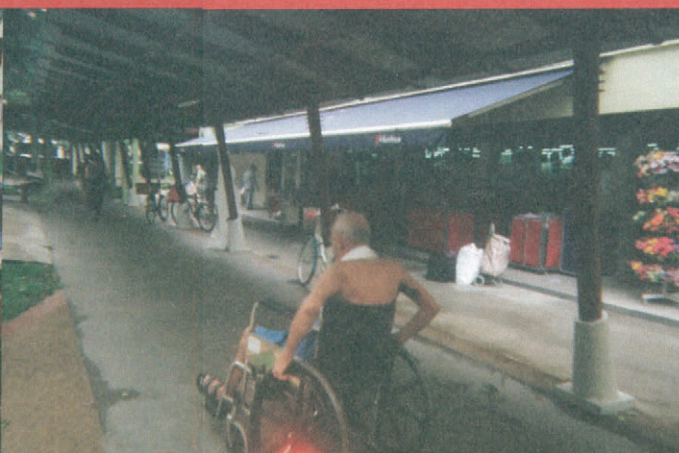
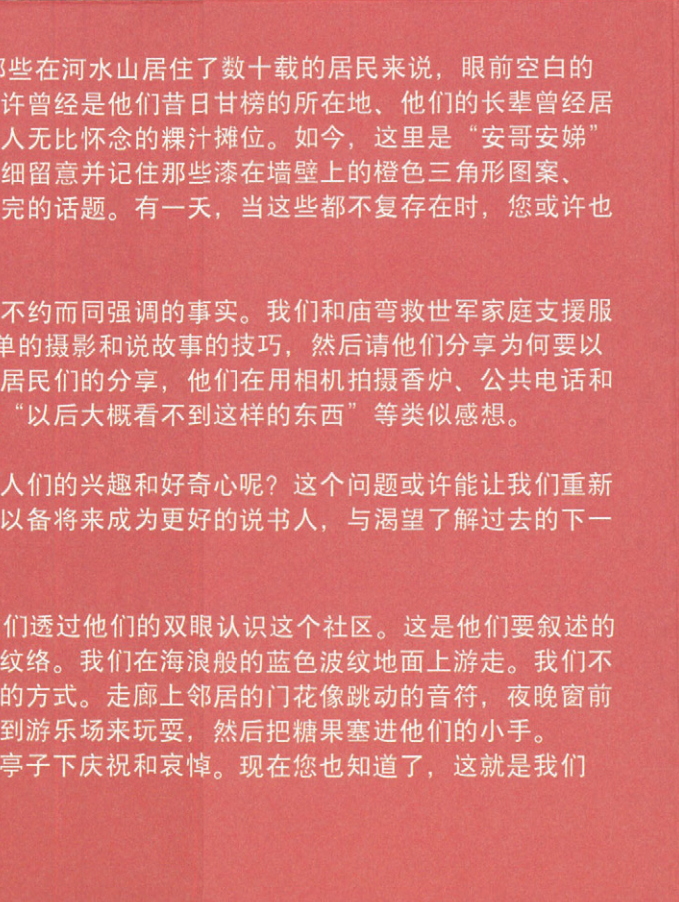


当您来到一座组屋的底层时，您看到的是什么？对那些在河水山居住了数十载的居民来说，眼前空白的一片能勾起无数的回忆。组屋底层这空荡的地方，或许曾经是他们昔日甘榜的所在地，他们的长辈曾经居住、并已被拆除的旧组屋单位，或是已不存在，却让人无比怀念的果汁摊位。如今，这里是“安哥安娣”闲聊和歇脚的地方，但这也只是它今天的样子。请仔细留意并记住那些漆在墙壁上的橙色三角形图案、摸上去感觉凉凉的蓝色长凳，还有那些慵懒午后聊不完的话题。有一天，当这些都不复存在时，您或许也会向他人诉说它昔日的模样。

世界上唯有变化是永恒不变的。这是河水山的老居民不约而同强调的事实。我们和庙弯救世军家庭支援服务展开合作，让 19 名乐龄者向摄影师胡诗韵学习简单的摄影和说故事的技巧，然后请他们分享为何要以河水山的某些事物或景象作为摄影题材。根据这些老居民们的分享，他们在用相机拍摄香炉、公共电话和店屋螺旋梯等事物的当儿，不外都有“这个会拆”或“以后大概看不到这样的东西”等类似感想。

我们今天觉得平平无奇的事物，有哪些会在日后引起人们的兴趣和好奇心呢？这个问题或许能让我们重新审视周围的环境，发现平凡事物和生活的可爱之处，以备将来成为更好的说书人，与渴望了解过去的下一代分享昔日的故事。

这19名参与者透过照片带我们走进他们的世界，让我们透过他们的双眼认识这个社区。这是他们要叙述的故事：这是我们的生活，我们的家园的色彩、形状和纹络。我们在海浪般的蓝色波纹地面上游走。我们不怕穿上逝者的衣物，因为这是我们记住和怀念亲友的方式。走廊上邻居的门花像跳动的音符，夜晚窗前提起了花海般的点点星灯。我们每天下午等着孩子们到游乐场来玩耍，然后把糖果塞进他们的小手。我们爱那巴刹里色泽鲜艳的水果。我们聚在这素净的亭子下庆祝和哀悼。现在您也知道了，这就是我们的生活。



What do you see when you look at a void deck? For those who have lived in Bukit Ho Swee for decades, what appears to be a blank space is often layered with memories —this used to be the site of their old kampong, or the location of their in-laws’ flat that has since been torn down, or a kway chup stall that is no longer around. What this void deck looks like now—a place where uncles and aunties chit-chat and rest their feet—is only the latest version of what it will be. Pay attention: those citrus-coloured triangles painted on the walls, these smooth blue benches that are cool to the touch, the meandering conversations on hot afternoons. One day, you can tell someone what this space was like as a void deck, when it no longer looks like this.

Change is constant—that's what you learn when old-timers tell you about their neighbourhood. In partnership with The Salvation Army - Family Support Services at Beo Crescent, we worked with a group of 19 senior citizens, who learned simple photography and storytelling techniques from photographer Zinkie Aw. We then asked them to tell us why they chose to photograph certain scenes and objects in Bukit Ho Swee. “This will be torn down soon” and “I think you won't be able to see things like this in the future” were constant refrains throughout the sharing session, said about a whole variety of things ranging from communal incense burners to the spiral staircases of old shophouses, and even public telephones.

Which of the things that we find mundane today will become objects of fascination in the future? It's a question that might prompt us to become more alert to the latent loveliness of routine, ordinary life, so that we become better storytellers for a time when the instinct to share is met with a thirst to know.

In these photographs you see the generosity of these 19 participants, who let their neighbourhood become ours too by letting us see it through their eyes. This is the story they are telling: This is how we lived. These were the colours, shapes and textures of our homes. We strolled across surfaces that swirled with blue curves, like waves in the ocean. We were not afraid to wear the clothes of our friends who had passed away, because it was our way of remembering them, of missing them. We had some neighbours who chose grilles for their homes that undulated with the shapes of musical notes, and others who hung up strings of lights shaped like flowers. We handed out sweets to children every afternoon, when they came to this playground. We loved the colours of the fresh fruit at the market, and we gathered in this pavilion to celebrate and to mourn. This is what it was like. Now you know.

