

# Protecting and Promoting the Value of the Displayed Artifacts at Thanh Hoa Province Museum, Vietnam

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## Abstract

Over the past years, Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum has continuously improved its operational efficiency, performing well the work of collecting, preserving and displaying documents and artifacts of historical value; Deploying many synchronous solutions to promote the value of artifacts, meeting the needs of visiting, learning, studying, and educating traditional people, especially the younger generation. With a favorable location, synchronously invested technical infrastructure, professionally trained staff, and many innovative exhibition systems, Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum has been performing its duties well protecting and promoting the values of artifacts. Thereby, meeting the public's need for research and study tours about cultural heritage; is an attractive destination for tourists when returning to Thanh Hoa.

Keywords—Protection, promote, artifacts, display, Thanh Hoa museum.

# I. INTRODUCTION

Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum was established and fully operational in 1983, formerly the Department of Conservation and Museum of Thanh Hoa Cultural Department (now ThanhHoa Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism), according to Decision 1291-TC/UBTH dated December 10, 1983.In 1961, facing the development requirements of the cultural cause and the management of cultural heritage; Many important historical and cultural relics of the province have been ranked at the national level, so the Museum and Conservation Department was upgraded to the Conservation and Museum Department in the organizational structure of the Culture Department. Thanh Hoa at that time.In 1994, the Management Board of repair, restoration and embellishment of Lam Kinh relic was established. At this time, although the Provincial Museum had few officials and employees left, it still continuously strived to continue focusing on building facilities, collection, preservation of artifacts, and propaganda displays to build a strongly developed Museum. In the early years of the 21st century, historical and cultural relics

in developed localities require the management, protection, exploitation and promotion of the value of historical and cultural relics, requiring a competent management agency set of professional capacity to implement, so the number of officials from the Provincial Museum's relics management department was mobilized to establish a relics and landscapes management board.

In 2020, Thanh Hoa Relics and Scenic Relics Management Board was established on the basis of transferring all functions and tasks of the Provincial Museum Relics Management Department to the Relics and Scenic Relics Management Board.At this time, the Provincial Museum no longer has the function of protecting monuments but focuses on professional museum activities. Since 2012, to meet the implementation of the Project "Collecting, preserving and revising and upgrading the content and display form of the Provincial Museum in the period 2010-2020",The Museum has established a Collections Department. Up to now, the organizational structure includes: 01 Director and 01 Deputy Director; There are 04 professional departments: Department of Administrative Organization, Collection,

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Inventory and Preservation, and Propaganda Display with a total staff of 17 people; Perform functions and tasks: Organize research, collection, inventory, preservation, display and introduction of culture, history, society, nature and people of Thanh Hoa;Carry out research, inventory, management and promotion of historical and cultural relics, artistic architecture, archeology, scenic spots, provide professional guidance on protection and museum work for districts, town in the province.

Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum currently stores and preserves more than 30,000 artifacts, including many collections of unique and rare artifacts highly appreciated by domestic and foreign experts such as: Collection of prehistoric artifacts, collect Dong Son bronze jars, collect Dong Son weapons, collect Tam Tho ceramics, collect brown flower jars; The most unique and typical is the collection of bronze drums with the largest number in the country,...Currently, there are 3 National Treasures being kept at the Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum including: Nua Mountain Short Sword, Cam Thuy Bronze Cauldron and Cam Giang Bronze Drum. These are extremely precious artifacts with special cultural and historical value that are being preserved and promoted to contribute to the education of revolutionary historical traditions, meeting the needs of sightseeing and exploring understanding, learning, and research by a large number of people and tourists.

The display system is regularly arranged according to the historical process from prehistoric times until 1975. In addition, the museum is also a venue for thematic exhibitions to help researchers and visitors gain insights. panoramic view of culture and history of Thanh Hoa province. Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum is on track to become an address that attracts a large number of visitors such as pupils, students, workers, intellectuals... to visit and research, thereby contributing to raising awareness of Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum aesthetic awareness, pride in the nation's cultural and artistic identity. It is also a form of protecting and promoting the values of the museum's exhibits that are increasingly sustainable over time.

## II. METHODS

The author collects information and approaches evidence through observation, analysis of direct visit documents, experimental investigation methods, combining in-depth interview methods, and expert opinion methods. to supplement information for research results. This is an important basis for accessing useful information in the process of completing the author's research.

#### III. DISCUSSION

## 3.1. Protection activities

In the 50s of the 20th century, when it was still a specialized department under the ThanhHoa Cultural Department, the Department of Conservation and Museum, organized collection, preservation, and display activities to serve political tasks such as: Displaying a number of images of Uncle Ho, combined with propaganda of the long-term resistance policy to ensure victory; Exhibition introducing the Russian October Revolution. From 1975-1983, the room organized many thematic exhibitions: Ham Rong Victory: Thanh Hoa in the cause of building and defending the country; Special topic on Thanh's treasures. During this time, the department has participated in coordinating with the Vietnam Institute of Archeology to organize many excavation studies at relics in the province. These studies have contributed to revealing and protecting many archaeological relics and collected more artifacts for the Museum. By the end of 1983, the number of artifacts in the Preservation Warehouse had 15,276 units of artifacts, which was the result of great contributions of the staff of the Protection Department and Museum at that time.

In 1987, after receiving the Vietnam - China Hospital, the Museum focused on renovating the rooms that were formerly the clinic and patient rooms to create a warehouse to preserve artifacts on the first floor with a total area of nearly 280m<sup>2</sup>, divided into 04 warehouse divisions. Since then, the warehouse system has still been located in this location. Every year the Museum renovates, repairs, installs cabinets, platforms and many other necessary equipment. The 2nd and 3rd floors of the building were renovated to make 04 showrooms with a floor area of more than 500 m<sup>2</sup>. In later years, 22 storey houses on both sides were renovated and repaired with 03 more rooms. Thus, the Museum currently has 04 fixed galleries, 04 thematic galleries and 01 National Treasures room along with a large outdoor display system that is always invested in renovating and upgrading its content and content. The form of display combines vehicles,

equipment, furniture... to both preserve artifacts and serve visitors well (Trinh Dinh Duong, 2018).

From 2002 - 2010, the Provincial Museum focused on researching, collecting, preserving, and displaying propaganda, continuing to participate with the Institute of Archeology in archaeological research at many relics in the province including: Cultural historical relics of Dong Son, Hoa Loc, Cong Village, VucThuong, Quy Chu, Lotus Mountain, Tam Tho Pottery Kiln, Nam Giao Altar, Ho Dynasty Citadel, Lam Kinh Relics, Trieu Tuong Tomb and Temple, Linh Xuong Pagoda, Mountain and Ancient Bronze Temple. Through archaeological excavation research, it has contributed to clarifying historical and cultural values to serve the management, protection and promotion of the value of many relics in the province. Some relics also serve the work of researching, planning, protecting, restoring and embellishing to bring practical results such as: Lam Kinh relics, Ho Dynasty Citadel, Ba Trieu temple, Mount and Dong Co Temple...During this time, the Museum continues to display topics to serve the political tasks of the industry and the province: displaying "Bronze drums discovered in ThanhHoa"; "ThanhHoa in the cause of building and protecting the Fatherland in the period 1945 - 1975", in collaboration with the Exhibition -Fair - Advertising Center to display "Echoes of Dien Bien" on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Dien Bien victory Government; Coordinated with the Museum of History to display the theme "Dong Son Culture - brilliant ancient Vietnamese civilization", coordinated exhibition in Quang Nam province...Organized to help districts in the province build many traditional rooms.

The warehouse system is also invested in installing cabinets, shelves, platforms and renovating warehouse ventilation, installing ventilation fans. dehumidifiers, and air conditioners, ensuring compliance with warehouse standards for preserving humidity. from 40-50%, temperature maintained at 26 - 27 degrees Celsius, arrange artifacts by material and type, research and build systematic collections to serve current management, search and preservation. From the date of establishment in 1983, to 2018, an additional 13,000 artifacts were collected, records were compiled and information was supplemented in accordance with regulations on artifacts, the Museum had more than 27,000 units of artifacts, this is a very good result. huge part of the entire operation process of the Provincial Museum.

In 2010, the Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee approved the project "Collecting, preserving and adjusting the content and form of display for the period 2010-2020". ThanhHoa Provincial Museum is continuing to organize the implementation of the project, focusing on Comprehensive survey and assessment of facilities, equipment and facilities: cabinets, podiums, shelves, lighting, humidity, temperature, fire prevention and fighting, security and protection equipment; Inventory and evaluate all existing artifacts, classify and arrange artifacts according to material and type according to historical progress in separate warehouses in a scientific and methodical manner, and add background records for artifacts lacking in order to effectively serve research and look up information quickly and conveniently; Organize and implement the preservation of artifacts according to the project's program and periodically, hire experts with experience in preservation research, and follow the correct process steps to ensure safety and long-term sustainability artifacts.Up to now. 20.047 units of artifacts have been preserved, on all of the museum's existing artifacts. To add value and promote the effectiveness of the artifacts, the Provincial Museum has been recognized by the State as 03 national treasures including: Nua mountain short sword; Cam Giang bronze drums; Cam Thuy bronze cauldron in 2013.In order to create a change in awareness and action in the process of organizing activities so that ThanhHoa Provincial Museum can keep up with the development trend of society, truly becoming a center of continuing education about patriotic traditions, ThanhHoa province. In 2022, ThanhHoa Provincial Museum has introduced to serve visitors the digitized product of 3 National Treasures.In order to improve quality and diversify forms of propaganda and promotion, the Museum increases writing articles and posting news on the website so that the public can be most fully updated on information unit's operational information; Organizing the compilation of many publications (progam introducing galleries, books on Bronze drums discovered in ThanhHoa, ThanhHoa literature...); Coordinate with Press agencies, Central Radio and Television Stations and localities to propagate; with the education industry through educational programs and experiences at the Museum...

Directing traditional grassroots activities: The Museum has provided professional guidance to private museums, traditional houses in localities... contributing to

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improving the quality of protection and preservation work. promote value; Helping a number of units build, renovate, and upgrade traditional rooms... contributes to improving the quality of protection, preservation, and promotion of heritage values.

After 40 years of construction and growth, ThanhHoa Provincial Museum has developed strongly, performing well its functions and tasks of collecting, preserving, displaying and effectively promoting the value of artifacts and heritage. culture of the nation, serving better and better the needs of sightseeing, research, and learning of pupils, students, and the people of the province, the whole country, and international visitors. In particular, since implementing the project "Collecting, preserving and adjusting the content and display form of ThanhHoa Provincial Museum, period 2010 - 2020", the facilities have been invested relatively synchronously. The showroom and storage system have been renovated and upgraded, with door systems, ventilation fan systems, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, security cameras, fire protection systems, etc. installed...Invested in research and collection activities to purchase 618 additional typical artifacts; Investing in the preservation, editing, and preparation of additional records of artifacts, in the warehouses, artifacts are classified and arranged according to systematic, scientific, neat, clean, and convenient collections. Convenient for preservation, management of artifacts and scientific research. From the above activities, the Provincial Museum's role and position in social and cultural life has been affirmed, with the preservation, protection and promotion of cultural and national heritage values. Thoughts, research, research, and well-organized museum activities to bring to the public and people an approach throughout ThanhHoa's historical process from prehistory, early history to modern times. Today, tapes and artifacts that demonstrate a period, a period of history, continue to be preserved, protected, promoted by Provincial Museum staff for today and passed on to future generations.

## 3.2. Promotion activities

Promoting the value of artifacts displayed at the museum is not only to educate and propagate to the public and visitors, but also to bring those cultural heritage values closer to spread widely in society, so that each individual People who know how to appreciate those values are more deeply aware of works of art that carry the national soul, thereby affirming national pride (Truong ThiHai Phuong, 2022).

To promote the value of cultural heritage, meet the people's increasing need for cultural enjoyment and contribute to the world's cultural heritage treasure. In recent years, Thanh Hoa Museum has made many efforts and innovated its activities to adapt to social changes and the need to enjoy community culture. The Museum has stepped up all stages of its work, including attaching importance to the work of displaying - propagandizing and collecting documents, artifacts, and antiques of national cultural heritage and ethnic groups on landThanhHoa supplemented the base warehouse and display system.In total, more than 2,000 relics, antiques, treasures... on display have initially introduced the cultural and social appearance of Thanh Hoa during the process of building and defending the country. Through the system of displaying the true values of cultural heritage (artifacts) that have come to the public, the educational propaganda display has attracted more and more visitors to the Museum.

To improve the quality of museum activities and strengthen traditional education in the country's reform process, the Museum regularly innovates, renovates, upgrades, revises content, and supplements current materials. objects for 7 galleries, including: 3 galleries according to historical periods (chronicles) and 4 thematic galleries. The ThanhHoa Provincial Museum's display system has approached new awareness of historical science, museum science, and new scientific and technical achievements applied in display work.ThanhHoa Museum learns and draws experience from the organization of exhibitions in a number of central and local museums to apply it to suit its conditions, gradually perfecting and improving the quality of the exhibition system. Regarding content: Stick closely to the theme, scale, and nature of the exhibition to build content. Displayed according to the outline, ensuring scientificity and partisanship in the display. Select typical, typical events without spreading them out to create highlights in attractive and practical display content to attract visitors.

Regarding exhibits: first of all, comply with the characteristics of the museum, display original artifacts with full information and legal basis. Use original artifacts primarily, select typical, valuable, and historicallyculturally significant artifacts combined with works of art, drawings, and stamps illustrating the event to attract viewers.

Regarding display solutions: each showroom is renovated and upgraded to display artistic architecture and display space in a creative way consistent with the content and theme of the display. Gradually change the method of displaying artifacts in a single listing style by building collections of artifacts by type, material, and theme. For the topic of armed struggle, the construction of combat and combat service complexes, military equipment, military equipment or illustrations with Mannequin images to represent a problem or an event of the content display.Using solutions to honor rare and unique artifacts, using original artifacts and solid objects to create the attraction of the gallery, directing viewers' attention to artifacts, groups of artifacts... the focus .Harmonious combination of lighting system, color array, decorative motifs suitable for display content. Supporting scientific documents are presented more elaborately and in more detail using new high-tech materials.Regarding display facilities: renovate the wooden belt system, walls with paneling to create a flat surface to increase display area, replace the separate cabinet system with wall cabinets that are both beautiful and ensure the safety of the artifacts without reducing them. value of the artifact. The photo frame system has been replaced to ensure neat uniformity in display. Use platforms, shelves, racks, glass cabinets, glass covers... to honor the displayed artifacts in a solemn manner.In addition to the investment in upgrading, editing, and supplementing exhibits and exhibits, attention is paid to the work of explanation and guidance for visitors. The interpreters tried their best to learn and research to create exam content that was both comprehensive and easy to understand, delving into the introduction of artifacts to reflect and demonstrate historical and cultural events, society...stone and bronze relics from famous sites such as Do Mountain, Con Moong Cave, Da But, HoaLoc, Dong Son culture; to antiques, treasures - evidence in the production labor process, in social life from the beginning of the country's founding under the Hung Kings to the Early Le - Ly - Tran - Le - Nguyen dynasties ... command drums on the day of the uprising; the bicycle in the Dien Bien Phu campaign, the ghosts of Thunder Gods disintegrated at the foot of Ham Rong Bridge ... along with thousands of memorabilia of people who made history... the gallery staff actively reviving historical and cultural

relics from the dawn of human history on ThanhHoa to the nation's process of building and defending the country (Tran ThiXuan, 2007).For each viewer to see the origin of our nation, from the first steps of our ancestors to establish the country today. The collections of artifacts and documents are the language, the voice of the display, and the dynamic visual teaching tools that permeate each person to become deeply felt and aware of his or her responsibility to the history of ThanhHoa.In order to attract visitors to the museum and also promote education, the Museum regularly coordinates with national and international organizations... to organize many of the most existing ones and in recent years the Museum has collected attracting more and more visitors to visit, research and study (the Museum has provided materials for graduate students to successfully defend their doctoral and master's theses and for students to complete their graduation theses).Especially since 2000, the Museum has served more than 100,000 visitors, including students at all levels, students from universities and colleges, and social organizations. During holidays and political events of the province and country, the Museum has become a place of sightseeing, learning, and entertainment for the domestic public and foreign visitors.

Organizations and individuals... visiting the Museum all record their feelings about the pride in the cultural heritage left by their ancestors through the museum's display system museum: "Extremely moved and proud of the heroic homeland Thanh Hoa of thousands of generations of civilization. Children who have been away from their homeland for many years still remember their roots with Do mountain, Chu river, VongPhu island, and Lam Kinh, there is the Citadel of the Ho Dynasty...Land of literature, famous people of today's generations look up to their ancestors..."

## IV. CONCLUSION

After 40 years of operation and development, Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum has achieved proud achievements, basically demonstrating the historical flow existing in the history of formation and development of Vietnamese culture and history. South: Prehistory - early history, feudal period from the 10th - 19th centuries, revolutionary tradition in the period 1858 - 1945 and two resistance wars against French colonialism and American imperialism in the period 1945 - 1975. Through many ups and downs of history, with a team of enthusiastic leaders and the dedication of generations of Museum staff, Thanh Hoa Provincial Museum has gradually affirmed itself as one of the most attractive local museums domestically and internationally international.

Thanh Hoa Museum is a place that regularly welcomes visitors to study, research and enjoy national cultural values. In the coming time, Thanh Hoa Museum will continue to build and complete the permanent display system to meet the scope of a Provincial General Museum (Local Research). The propaganda display at the Museum has promoted the value of the museum's artifacts, contributing to the Party's cause in all fields and fulfilling its mission not only in the past, today and every day tomorrow of the nation.

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