

The Journal  
of the  
Siam Society

Volume 102  
2014



Cover: Thai Chakri, *Chong Kraben* Variation, 1982. Pierre Balmain, Paris. Silk and metal-thread brocade (*phaa yok*) and silk satin; bead and sequin embroidery. Collection of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit. Photographer: Mr. Nat Prakobsantisuk. Photo courtesy of the Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles.

Honorary editor: Chris Baker  
Editor: Paul Bromberg  
Advisors: Tej Bunnag, Michael Smithies, Kim W. Atkinson

© The Siam Society, 2014  
ISSN 0857-7099

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electrical or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or any information storage or retrieval system without prior permission from the Siam Society.

The *Journal of the Siam Society* is a forum for original research and analysis. Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are those of the authors. They do not represent the views or policies of the Siam Society.

Printed by Amarin Printing and Publishing Public Company Limited  
65/16 Chaipayruk Rod, Taling Chan, Bangkok 10170, Thailand  
Tel. (662) 422-9000 • Fax (662) 433-2742, 434-1385  
E-mail: [info@amarin.co.th](mailto:info@amarin.co.th) • <http://www.amarin.com>

Contents

The Minute Books of the Council of the Siam Society Inscribed in the  
UNESCO Memory of the World Register ..... vii

ARTICLES

Symbolism in the Design of Wat Phra Chetuphon Wimonmangkhalaram  
(Wat Pho)  
    Chatri Prakitnonthakan ..... 1

On the Trail of King Taksin's *Samutphāp Traiphūm*  
    Barend Jan Terwiel ..... 41

Archaeological Identification of the Majapahit Royal Palace: Prapañca's  
1365 Description Projected onto Satellite Imagery  
    Amrit Gomperts, Arnoud Haag, and Peter Carey in collaboration with  
    Djoko Umbaran ..... 67

The Chronicle of Phra Nang Chamaridewi of Amphoe Li  
    Hilary Disch ..... 119

William Louis Abbott in Thailand: A Research Resource on Southern  
Thailand in the 1890s  
    Paul Michael Taylor ..... 143

Amsterdam: The VOC Warehouse at the Mouth of the Chao Phraya River  
    Patrick Dumon ..... 169

Final Part of the *Description of Ayutthaya* with Remarks on Defence,  
Policing, Infrastructure, and Sacred Sites  
    Chris Baker ..... 179

Report on a Symposium: *Weaving Royal Traditions Through Time: Textiles  
and Dress at the Thai Court and Beyond*  
    Paul Bromberg ..... 211

The Ai-Lao and Nan Chao/Tali Kingdom  
    Grant Evans ..... 221

Some Annotations to <i>The Chiang Mai Chronicle: The Era of Burmese Rule in Lan Na</i> Ken Kirigaya.....	257
---	-----

## REVIEWS

<i>Gambling, The State and Society in Thailand, c. 1800-1945</i> by James A. Warren Reviewed by Paul Bromberg.....	291
<i>The Memoirs and Memorials of Jacques de Coutre: Security, Trade and Society in 16th- and 17th-century Southeast Asia</i> translated by Roopanjali Roy, edited with an introduction by Peter Borschberg Reviewed by Chris Baker.....	294
<i>The Ideal Man: The Tragedy of Jim Thompson and the American Way of War</i> by Joshua Kurlantzick Reviewed by Jeffery Sng.....	296
<i>Isan Writers, Thai Literature: Writing and Regionalism in Modern Thailand</i> by Martin B. Platt Reviewed by Charles Keyes.....	299
<i>Illuminating the Life of the Buddha</i> by Naomi Appleton, Sarah Shaw, and Toshiya Unebe Reviewed by Rebecca Hall .....	303
<i>In Royal Fashion: The Style of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand</i> by Melissa Leventon and Dale Carolyn Gluckman Reviewed by Jane Puranananda.....	305
<i>How Theravāda is Theravāda? Exploring Buddhist Identities</i> edited by Peter Skilling, Jason A. Carbine, Claudio Cicuzza, and Santi Pakdeekham Reviewed by Patrick McCormick.....	308
<i>Enlightened Ways: The Many Streams of Buddhist Art in Thailand</i> edited by Heidi Tan Reviewed by Paul Bromberg.....	311
<i>The Philosophical Constructs of Wat Arun</i> by Chatri Prakitnonthakan Reviewed by Chris Baker.....	314
<i>Modern Thai Buddhism and Buddhadāsa Bhikkhu: A Social History</i> by Tomomi Ito Reviewed by Claudio Cicuzza .....	317

<i>What's What in a Wat. Thai Buddhist Temples: Their Purpose and Design</i> by Carol Stratton Reviewed by Bonnie Brereton .....	323
<i>Art of Southeast Asian Textiles: The Tilleke &amp; Gibbins Collection</i> by Linda S. McIntosh Reviewed by Paul Bromberg.....	325
<i>Royal Porcelain from Siam: Unpacking the Ring Collection</i> edited by Anne Håbu and Dawn F. Rooney Reviewed by Heidi Tan .....	327
<i>Buddhist Storytelling in Thailand and Laos: The Vessantara Jataka Scroll at the Asian Civilisations Museum</i> by Leedom Lefferts and Sandra Cate Reviewed by Bonnie Brereton .....	333
Contributors to this Volume .....	337
Notes for Contributors.....	341



## The Minute Books of the Council of the Siam Society Incribed in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register



The Minute Books of the Siam Society from 1904 have been inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register as a record of international cooperation in research and the dissemination of knowledge in the arts and sciences.

The full citation is as follows:

“The Minute Books of the Council of the Siam Society”, 100 years of recording international cooperation in research and the dissemination of knowledge in the arts and sciences.

Documentary heritage submitted by Thailand and recommended for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register in 2013.

Contains the official records of the Council meetings and the General Meetings of the Siam Society from 1904 to 2004 and beyond. It reflects the Society’s

system, process and outcome of work, its obstacles and challenges, the personalities and organizations contributing to its success and the scope of its work in a century of great international changes and development. It testifies to the continuous transactions and cooperation of an international and intellectual nature, among the many generations of people elected to carry out the work of the Siam Society over the long and eventful century.

The Memory of the World Register is like UNESCO's World Heritage listing, but for documents rather than buildings. The program was started in 1992 "to preserve these recorded treasures of humanity and mobilize resources so that future generations can enjoy this legacy that is preserved in the major libraries, archives and museums across the globe."

There are now around 400 items on the register. They include the Gutenberg Bible, Bayeux Tapestry, Magna Carta, and the film of the Wizard of Oz.

The Society's Minute Books are the fourth entry from Thailand. The others are: Archival Documents of King Chulalongkorn's Transformation of Siam (1868-1910), Epigraphic Archives of Wat Pho, and the King Ram Khamhaeng Inscription.

The archive of Minute Books contain the official records of the Council meetings and the General Meetings of the Siam Society. It reflects the Society's system, process and outcome of work, its obstacles and challenges, the personalities and organizations contributing to its success and the scope of its work in a century of great international changes and development. It testifies to the continuous transactions and cooperation of an international and intellectual nature, among the many generations of people elected to carry out the work of the Siam Society over the long and eventful century.

This inscription is a great honor for the Siam Society. It recognizes the Society's role in the country's history and especially in international cooperation on academic and cultural topics.