



RESERVE

The ultimate goal of humanity is to preserve ourselves. We are lucky today to easily survive on our planet so that we are able to do something more. Nobody knows when this golden age in human history will end. We even do not know if humanity can exit forever. The fate of everything is death.

So the question is, why we preserve? We preserve heritages because they are valuable at present. Why they are valuable? Because we not just a little things about our past, and heritages are carriers of information from past. We could know more our history through the heritages. This is the main reason we preserve historical architecture now. However, history tells us that most well preserved heritages today are preserved by nature instead of human. They are well preserved because they are forgotten.

Preservation is a fragile topic because we do not know when we will face live or dead issue again and we also did not know if we could preserve all the heritages well all the time. And the most importantly, how we preserve?

We call it preservation but after 100 years' repairing, is it still the original Pyramiden? There is no difference between continuous repairing for 100 years and rebuilding it according to the recorded information after 100 years. We know Pyramiden's history and its background; the reason why we preserve old architecture is untenable for modern things. The value of Pyramiden is limited at present. It is just an amusement park today. Therefore, it is impossible and unnecessary to carefully and completely preserve it all the time. Instead, we can find a way to reserve it for possible future use.



Everything in this world has its own destiny. Pyramiden will decay one day which nobody can stop it. All we could do is recording all the useful information and let it go. We are living in an information-explosion era. Almost everything can be digital and the data can be more easily preserved. However, it is the location makes the Eiffel Tower in Paris different from the fake one in China. For most of modern architecture, location is the carrier of most of its value because everything including materials, structures, style and design strategy are easy to copy. Wherever else in the world we put the Eiffel Tower looks ridiculous even using the original tower. However, nobody will care if the tower put next to the Champ-de-Mars is the one built 100 years ago. Location is the carrier of environment, history and collective memory and is what we need to preserve.

There might be one day, Pyramiden become valuable. At that time, people can come back to 78°65' N 16°33' E, repairing the heritage or even completely rebuild it according to the data we saved. My proposal is preparing for that day—for people to find Pyramiden easily.

Svarlbard settlement

Longyearbyen is the largest, Ny-Ålesund is the northernmost functional settlement

Soviet-era planning and characters

Everywhere in Russia, and countries of former Soviet Union

Mining tradition in Svarlbard

Almost all the settlements have mining history, Grumant is more convenient to visit and Barentsburg has more facilities for visitors, and it still alive!

Svarlbard city with Soviet-era characters and Svarlbard's mining tradition

Barentsburg !

Low value of Pyramiden now

All the settlements are destroyed

500 years

Culture revolution happen in Russia

?

No more coal mining in Svarlbard

50 years



Other settlement become modern city

1000 years

After World War X, Russia being destroyed

100 years

Coal being abandoned for many years and all coal mine disappear

300 years

When it could be valuable ?



What this area could be in the future? Despite the unpredictable disaster like earthquake or impact event, sea level rise is a foreseeable reason which will change this area. The whole Pyramiden might be inundated in 2400. My proposal is too build a brick solid triangle shell to the tram. At the top end of the tram, a platform is created for aircraft to use in the future when all the flat land be flooded. When Pyramiden has not be submerge, the triangle tube act as a pyramid-like monument to memorize the Pyramiden settlement. When Pyramiden is inundated, it act as the thread of tea bag to show where the settlement is. The triangle shape can also avoid snow covering to catch the eye.

