

Article

Evaluation of Policy Influence on Long-Term Indoor Air Quality in Emperor Qin's Terra-Cotta Museum, China

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Abstract: Long-term measurement results of indoor air quality (IAQ) from 1989 to 2013 inside Pit No. 1, the largest display hall in Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Museum (QTM), were used to evaluate the effectiveness of measures for conservation environment improvement of antiques. By comparing the results of sampling campaigns in 2013 with databases in 1989, 2004–2005, 2006–2007 and 2011, seasonal and inter-annual variation in microclimate, aerosol chemical compositions and gaseous pollutant concentrations were incorporated in estimating the probable influences of the management of the surroundings, tourist flow, excavation and restoration tasks and renovation and/or new construction work on IAQ in the QTM. After the implementation of the environmental policies in 1990s, a significant decrease of indoor particulate matter mass for the QTM was quantified. The mass concentrations of summer TSP decreased from 540.0 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 1994 to 172.4 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2004, as well as the winter TSP decreased from 380.0 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 1994 to 312.5 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2005. The mass concentrations of summer PM_{2.5} decreased from 108.4 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2004 to

65.7 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2013, as well as the winter $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ decreased from 242.3 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2005 to 98.6 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ in 2013. However, it is noted that potential hazards due to the fluctuant microclimate conditions, gaseous and secondary particulate acidic species in indoor air should still be considered to ensure the long-term preservation and conservation of the museum's artifact collection.

Keywords: indoor air quality; environmental policy; terra-cotta warriors; museum

1. Introduction

Cultural heritage is an irreplaceable witness of human civilization and is vulnerable to both natural disasters and anthropogenic pollution. Air quality in museums is critical to the preservation and conservation of rare antiquities [1–7], with damage from air pollution being firstly reported in the middle of the 19th century at the British Art Gallery [3]. Since the 1990s, the microclimate in museums and airborne pollutants originating from indoor activities and/or penetration from outdoors have been of increasing concern in Europe [5,8–11] and the United States [4,12]. In China, particulate pollution due to rapid industrialization and urbanization has become a serious environmental problem at the regional scale [13]. Thus, the surrounding environment was also considered to evaluate the potential soiling and weathering hazards from outdoor particulate matter for statues inside naturally-ventilated museums [14–19].

In 1974, a huge burial pit with thousands of terra-cotta warriors and horses was discovered and subsequently excavated about 1.5 km to the east of Emperor Qin Shihuang's mausoleum. The largest display hall of the museum, namely Pit No. 1 (Pit 1), was built over more than 1200 terra-cotta sculptures in the archaeological pit and has been opened to the public since 1979. Since then, more and more tourists have visited the museum for the fabulous terra-cotta army in full battle array in Pit 1. In 1980, the visitor number was 1.04 million, the maximum number reaching 5.27 million in 2011, which stimulated the rapid growth of transportation and tourism infrastructure around the museum. Moreover, the Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Museum (QTM) museum is located about 30 km east of Xi'an, a city of 8.46 million people with high coal consumption and intensive construction work. Similar to most of the megacities in China, Xi'an is experiencing extreme air pollution problems with the dense population, rapid economic growth and urbanization [20]. Long-term monitoring records from 2002 to 2011 also showed that the annual average of ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ decreased with a speed of 4 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}\cdot\text{y}^{-1}$ [21]. The museum is also surrounded by agricultural fields in which biomass burning and suspended soil dust are prominent. Therefore, a series of measures have been adopted to improve the conservation environment in the QTM since the 1990s, including continuous vegetation in landscape maintenance, energy innovation and relocation of the parking lot and surrounding factories [22].

The earliest indoor environment investigation in the QTM was accomplished in 1989 [23] in which the summer and winter microclimate conditions in Pit 1 were recorded. Subsequently, several respective monitoring and sampling campaigns initiated in 1993 [23], 2004 [17], 2006 [24] and 2011 [25] have incorporated gaseous pollutants and particulate matters into the dataset of indoor air quality in Pit 1. In this study, updated information on the current status of indoor air quality and its long-term variation in

the QTM was provided to evaluate the influence of the environmental policy implemented since the 1990s.

2. Methodology

2.1. Indoor and Outdoor Sampling

The Pit 1 display hall covers a total area of 14,269 m² with a hangar-like steel-frame vault to shield the statues from direct solar illumination and precipitation. Most of the wide windows in Pit 1 remain open all year long. There is no heating, air conditioning, mechanical ventilation or filtration system equipped in Pit 1. As shown in Figure 1, the indoor sampling site was placed in the restoration zone at the rear of Pit 1. All of the samplers and real-time analyzers were placed about 1.0 m above the ground. The outdoor site was located on the roof of a two-story office building, about 10 m above the ground and 150 m in the south of the Pit 1.

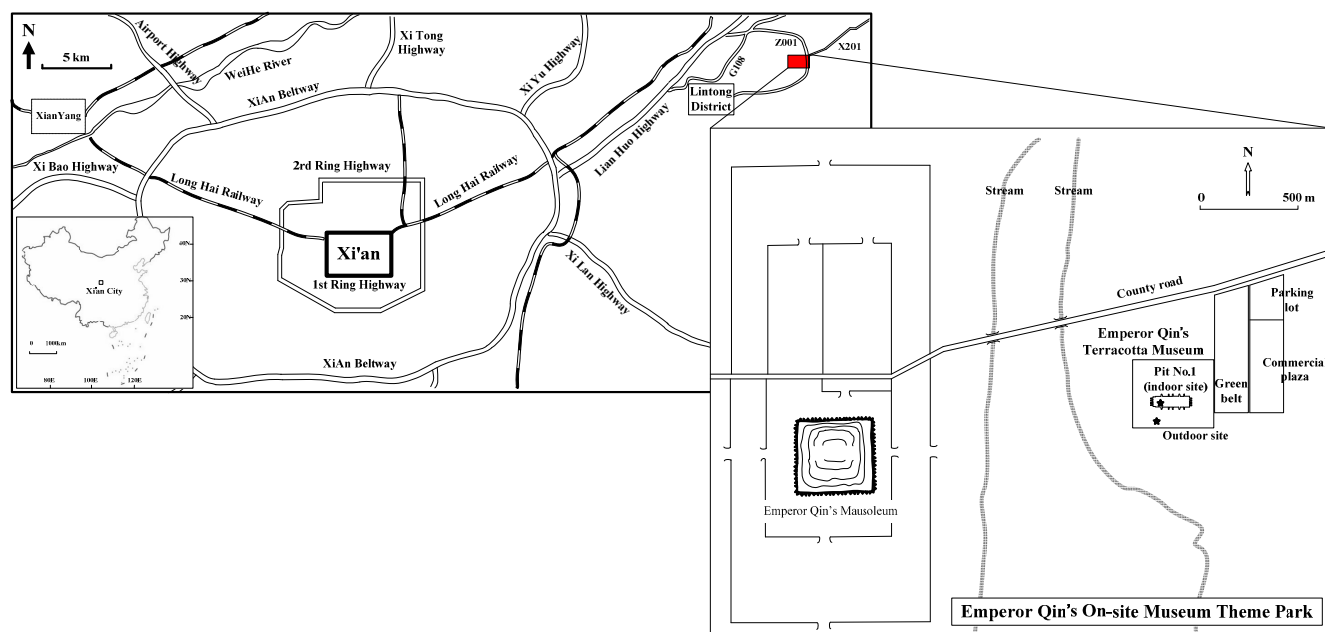


Figure 1. Locations of the sampling sites inside and outside the Pit No. 1 Display Hall of Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Museum in Xi'an, China.

PM_{2.5} samples were collected for 24 hours at a 5-L·min⁻¹ flow rate with a mini-vol portable sampler (Airmetrics, Springfield, OR, USA) onto 47-mm quartz-fiber filters (Whatman, Clifton, NJ, USA) from 6–19 August in summer to 27 November–10 December in winter, 2013. The quartz-fiber filters were pre-heated at 900 °C for 3 h to remove the residual carbon before the sampling. The sampler flow calibration was performed using a calibration device (Bios Definer, 220H, 300–30,000 sccm) every month. Gaseous pollutants, including NO₂ and SO₂, were measured using portable electrochemical analyzers (Models 4150 and 4240, Interscan Corporation, Chatworth, CA, USA) at 1-min interval. The analyzers were zeroed before and every 4 hours during each sampling campaign with the C-12 zero filter (activated carbon), and their calibrations were accomplished before and after each sampling campaign, with volumetrically diluting (Sabio 4010 Gas Dilution Calibrator) the NO₂/nitrogen and SO₂/nitrogen gas standard with zero air (Sabio 1001 Zero Air Source). Two portable Q-Trak Plus indoor air quality

(IAQ) monitors (Model 7565, TSI Inc., Shoreview, MN, USA) were used to obtain the 1-min average CO₂ concentrations, air temperature (T) and relative humidity (RH) records indoors and outdoors, respectively. The Q-Trak CO₂ calibrations were accomplished before and after each sampling campaign, by volumetrically diluting (Sabio 4010 Gas Dilution Calibrator) CO₂/nitrogen gas standard, and its temperature and relative humidity calibration were conducted by TSI in Beijing.

2.2. Sample Analysis

Quartz-fiber filters were gravimetrically analyzed for PM_{2.5} mass concentrations using an electronic microbalance with 1- μ g sensitivity (Model MC5, Sartorius, Göttingen, Germany) after 24-hour equilibration at a temperature between 20 °C and 23 °C and RH between 35% and 45%. Each filter was weighed at least three times before and after samplings, and the net mass was obtained by subtracting the difference between the averaged pre- and post-sampling weights. Daily, after the balance is turned on, calibration/adjustment was carried out using an internal check weight and an external check weight (with 2 sets of standard weights, 100 mg and 200 mg).

Concentrations of elemental K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Ni, Zn, As, Br, Mo, Cd and Pb collected on the filters were determined by energy-dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (Model Epsilon 5, PANalytical B.V., Almelo, The Netherlands). The X-ray source is a side-window X-ray tube with a gadolinium anode, operated at an accelerating voltage of 25 to 100 kV and a current of 0.5 to 24 mA. A spectrum of X-ray counts *versus* photon energy was acquired during analysis, with the individual peak energies matching to specific elements and peak areas corresponding to elemental concentrations. The ED-XRF spectrometer was calibrated with thin-film standards obtained from MicroMatter Co. (Arlington, WA, USA). In total, 15 elements (*i.e.*, S, Cl, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Ni, Zn, As, Br, Mo, Cd and Pb) were determined [26].

One-fourth of each filter sample was removed and extracted in 10 mL of high-purity water. Nine ionic species (NH₄⁺, K⁺, Na⁺, Mg²⁺, Ca²⁺, NO₃⁻, SO₄²⁻, Cl⁻, F⁻) were measured by ion chromatography (Model DX600, Dionex Inc., Sunnyvale, CA, USA) [27]. An ACS12 column (150 × 4 mm) and an AS14 column (150 × 4 mm) were used for cation and anion analysis, respectively. Field blank levels were averaged and subtracted, and standard deviations were propagated to the measurement precisions. Method detection limits (MDLs) were 4.6 μ g·L⁻¹ for Na⁺, 4.0 μ g·L⁻¹ for NH₄⁺, 10.0 μ g·L⁻¹ for K⁺, Mg²⁺ and Ca²⁺, 0.5 μ g·L⁻¹ for F⁻, Cl⁻ and Br⁻, 15 μ g·L⁻¹ for NO₂⁻ and NO₃⁻ and 20 μ g·L⁻¹ for SO₄²⁻. Ten percent of the samples was submitted for replicate analyses. Standard reference materials produced by the National Research Center for Certified Reference Materials (Beijing, China) were analyzed for quality control and assurance purposes. All of the reported ion concentrations were corrected for field blanks, *i.e.*, filters brought to the field and installed in the samplers, but for which no air was pumped. The experimental uncertainties were ± 0.04 for F⁻, NO₃⁻ and SO₄²⁻, ± 0.03 for Ca²⁺, ± 0.02 for Cl⁻ and Br⁻, ± 0.01 for NO₂⁻, NH₄⁺, K⁺ and Mg²⁺, and ± 0.004 for Na⁺.

A punch of 0.5 cm² from each quartz filter was analyzed for organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) concentrations by the IMPROVE A thermal/optical protocol method using a DRI Model 2001 thermal/optical carbon analyzer (Atmoslytic Inc., Calabasas, CA, USA). The analyzer was calibrated with known quantities of CH₄ every day. Replicate analyses were performed at the rate of one per group of 10 samples. Sixteen blank filters were also analyzed and the sample results were corrected by the average of the blank concentrations [28].

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Environmental Policy in the QTM

Aiming to improve the landscape and air quality in the QTM, the largest on-site museum in China, environmental policies and measures have been continuously developed and strengthened since the 1990s. An afforestation plan started in 1990, focusing on the continuous improvement of the vegetation in the yards and landscape maintenance each year. In 2002, under the support of an energy innovation plan of the QTM, the coal-fire boiler for office and staff dormitory heating in wintertime (coal consumption 1200 ton/y) was replaced by an electric boiler. During a reconstruction project from 2002 to 2004, the adjacent parking lot was relocated to ~1 km away from the east gate of the QTM and separated by a 0.2-km² greenbelt. In 2006, the Emperor Qin Shihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum Theme Park project was initiated to merge the QTM with the mausoleum, which is located 1.5 km to the west. As a part of the first stage of preparation work, 26 tourist souvenir factories and 1002 residential dwellings dispersed between the QTM and the Mausoleum have been relocated before 2007. Although most of those implemented environmental measures were to reduce the burden of outdoor air pollution coming from the emission of fossil fuel combustion and re-suspension of road dust and fugitive soil, the decrease of ambient aerosol in the outdoor environment may lower indoor particle levels due to infiltration through natural ventilation in Pit 1.

However, since the QTM opened to the public in 1979, there also appeared some potential sources of indoor particulate matters, including outdoor construction work and indoor activities. Besides several excavation and restoration campaigns and routine indoor cleaning, the infrastructures of the QTM have been intermittently expanded to satisfy the rapid growth of tourist flow. From 1992 to 1993, more than half of the terra-cotta warriors and horses in the front part of the Pit 1 display hall were rearranged into the full battle array between rammed walls after the cleaning of the brick ground and rammed walls. From 2002 to 2003, a conference hall with an area of 3998 m² was built on the south of Pit 1. From 2004 to 2005, a commercial plaza was constructed adjacent to the greenbelt. There have been three excavation campaigns (1974, 1985 and 2009) since the burial pit was discovered. The third campaign started in 2009, and the excavation work was accomplished in 2011, followed by long-term on-site restoration work at the rear of Pit 1. Alcoholic solvents and resin adhesives were frequently employed for antique cleaning, repair and restoration. Before 2010, only two entrance and exit gates of the display hall were opened during the opening hours of the museum. Since 2010, all seven gates were available under increasing pressure from visitor numbers.

3.2. Microclimate

Records of microclimate conditions during the sampling campaigns from 1989 to 2013 are listed in Table 1. The average indoor air temperature increased by 2.6 °C in winter and 6.9 °C in summer, in accordance with the tendency for outdoor air temperature in Xi'an city [29], as well as the indoor RH decreased by 26.1% in winter and 12.1% in summer from 1989 to 2013. Although the fluctuations of indoor temperature during each sampling campaign varied from 5.3 °C to 18.2 °C in winter and 9.0 °C to 17.7 °C in summer, the seasonal variation of indoor temperature remained at a high level, with the average reaching 23.4 °C due to the natural ventilation in Pit 1. The fluctuant relative humidity was

found during each sampling campaign with an average of 35.2% in winter and 25.3% in summer. The seasonal variation of indoor relative humidity was observed ranging from 27.9% to 58.5% with an average of 43.5%. Those fluctuations of microclimate conditions, including short-term fluctuations in each sampling campaign, seasonal and annual variations, are far beyond the permissible fluctuation limits in controlled museums [30] and may bring potential weathering hazards to the statues.

Table 1. Winter and summer temperature and relative humidity records inside the Pit No. 1 Display Hall of Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Museum during several sampling campaigns from 1989 to 2013.

	T (°C)			RH (%)			Reference
	Avg. ± S.D.	Max.	Min.	Avg. ± S.D.	Max.	Min.	
Winter							
November–December 2013	7.3 ± 1.9	13.2	2.8	40.9 ± 3.3	57.6	20.0	This study
December 2006	4.9 ± 5.5	16.3	−1.9	53.5 ± 18.1	68.4	22.8	[24]
January 2005	2.3 ± 1.8	5.3	0	64.0 ± 7.8	78.0	48.0	[17]
December 1989	4.7 ± 3.1	6.6	−2.0	67.0 ± 10.8	80.1	52.6	[23]
Summer							
August 2013	30.7 ± 2.2	37.5	23.2	59.9 ± 3.2	78.5	43.0	This study
August 2006	32.2 ± 5.7	40.3	22.6	45.2 ± 1.9	51.3	40.2	[24]
August 2004	26.2 ± 3.5	32.4	21.9	70.8 ± 7.3	80.0	56.0	[17]
August 1989	23.8 ± 2.8	31.2	22.2	72.0 ± 11.8	84.5	53.9	[23]

The unstable microclimate conditions in the 2013 sampling campaigns are also illustrated in Figure 2, including summer and winter diurnal fluctuations in air temperature, relative humidity and concentrations of carbon dioxide inside and outside Pit 1. The huge building covering Pit 1 is only to shield the statues from direct solar illumination and precipitation. In this naturally-ventilated display hall, it can be found that the fluctuations of indoor air temperature and relative humidity followed those outdoors in the respective summer and winter sampling campaign (Figure 2). The variation of daily average indoor temperature and RH between winter and summer reached 23.4 °C and 19.0%, implying a potential hazard for the statues from the dramatic seasonal fluctuation of the microclimate conditions. Since the excavation in the 1970s, the priceless and irreplaceable statues have suffered frequent microclimate changes for more than 30 years of exposure in the display hall.

Indoor CO₂ varied from 432 ppm to 701 ppm with an average of 511 ppm in summer and from 486 ppm to 586 ppm with an average of 518 ppm in winter. Outdoor average CO₂ concentration is 351 ppm during summer and 426 ppm during winter. The peak of excess indoor CO₂ in Figure 3 indicates obvious influences from visitors and museum staff activities.

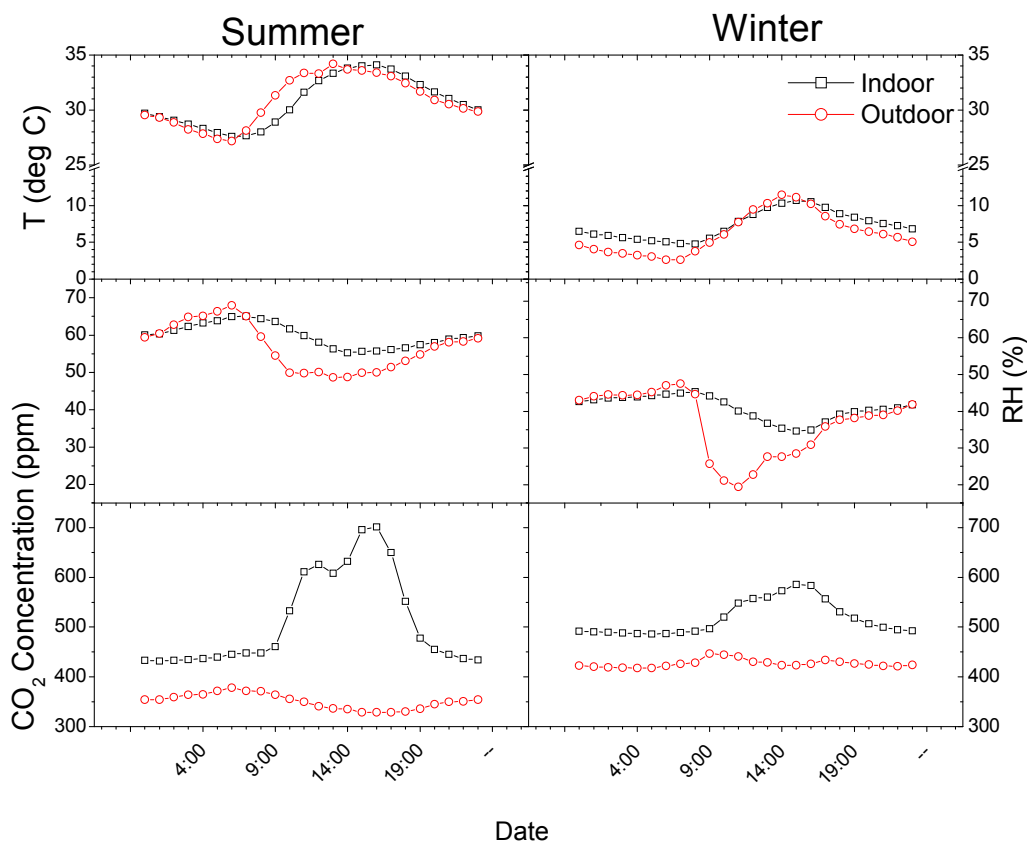


Figure 2. Fourteen-day averaged diurnal fluctuations in air temperature, relative humidity and concentrations of carbon dioxide inside and outside Pit No. 1 Display Hall of Emperor Qin’s Terra-cotta Museum in the summer and winter sampling campaigns in 2013, respectively.

3.3. Chemical Compositions of PM

The mass concentrations and mass balance of PM_{2.5} and TSP collected inside and outside the Pit No. 1 display hall during winter and summer sampling campaigns from 1993 to 2013 and the tourist numbers, environment-related measures, construction work and indoor activities in Emperor Qin’s Terra-cotta Museum since the 1990s are illustrated in Figure 3. The length of the arrowed lines represents the durations of environmental measures that may reduce the source emission of indoor particles (green arrowed lines) and construction work or indoor activities that may increase the level of indoor airborne particulate matter (black arrowed lines). As shown in Figure 3, a significant decrease of indoor particulate matter mass was achieved under the implementation of the environmental policies since the 1990s. Indoor mass concentrations of summer and winter TSP decreased by 68.1% and 17.9% from the 1993–1994 campaign to the 2004–2005 campaign, as well as the mass concentrations of indoor PM_{2.5} during the summer and winter campaigns in 2013 decreased by 39.3% and 59.3% compared to those in 2004–2005, respectively. Moreover, the decrease of particle emission from uncovered soil and coal combustion inside the area of QTM and the surrounding area led to a sharp decline of outdoor TSP and PM_{2.5} mass concentration.

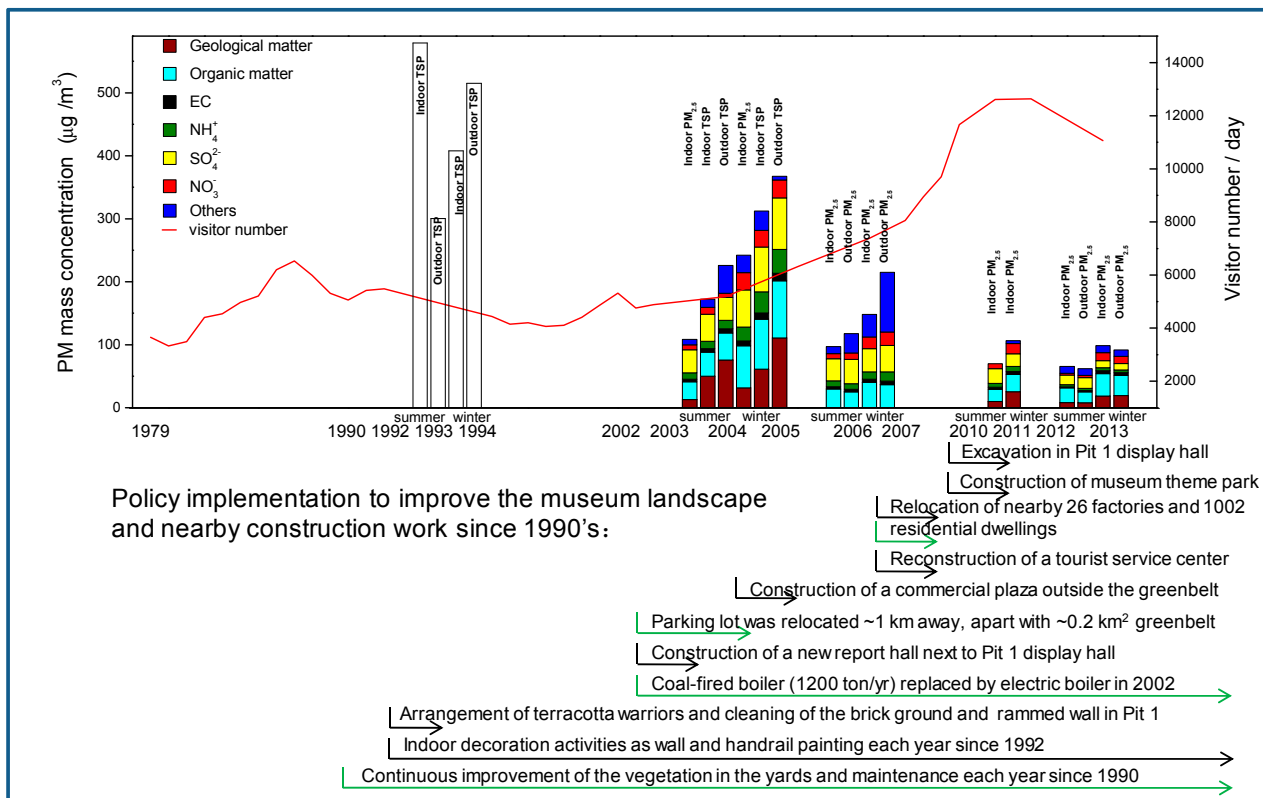


Figure 3. Tourist number, mass concentrations and mass balance of PM_{2.5} and TSP collected inside and outside the Pit No. 1 display hall during the winter and summer sampling campaigns from 1993 to 2013 and environment-related measures, construction work and indoor activities in Emperor Qin’s Terra-cotta Museum since the 1990s. EC, elemental carbon.

The mass concentrations of PM_{2.5} inside and outside Pit 1, their indoor/outdoor (I/O) ratios and visitor numbers during the summer and winter sampling days in 2013 are shown in Figure 4. The I/O ratios of PM_{2.5} mass concentrations ranged from 0.82 to 1.45 with an average of 1.07 in summer and from 0.89 to 1.59 with an average of 1.05 in winter. Since the third excavation campaign started in 2009 and the on-site restoration work started in 2011, dozens of museum staff worked in the rear half of the display hall. Although no significant association between visitor flow and mass concentrations of indoor PM_{2.5} was found, most of the I/O ratios of PM_{2.5} mass were larger than one, implying that excavation, restoration work and cleaning activities were important airborne particulate sources in Pit 1 besides tourist flow.

The chemical compositions of indoor and outdoor PM_{2.5} samples collected during the summer and winter campaigns in 2013 are listed in Table 2, and the indoor levels are compared with those measured in the 2004–2005 [17] and 2011 [25] campaigns. Although the summer and winter mass concentrations of indoor PM_{2.5} in 2013 were lower than those in 2004–2005 and 2011, respectively, the winter to summer ratios of elemental K were 4.7 in 2004–2005, 2.4 in 2011 and 3.0 in 2013, indicating an obvious influence of biomass burning from domestic heating in the wintertime around the museum. In all three sampling campaigns, the most abundant water-soluble ions were sulfate, nitrate and ammonium, suggesting the heavy influence of anthropogenic activities. The sum of the three ions account for 32.7% and 29.1% in summer and winter PM_{2.5} mass in 2013, respectively, lower than those in 2004–2005

(50.7% in summer and 44.7% in winter), implying the benefit from the energy innovation inside the museum and the relocation of the parking lot, factories and residential dwellings in the surrounding area.

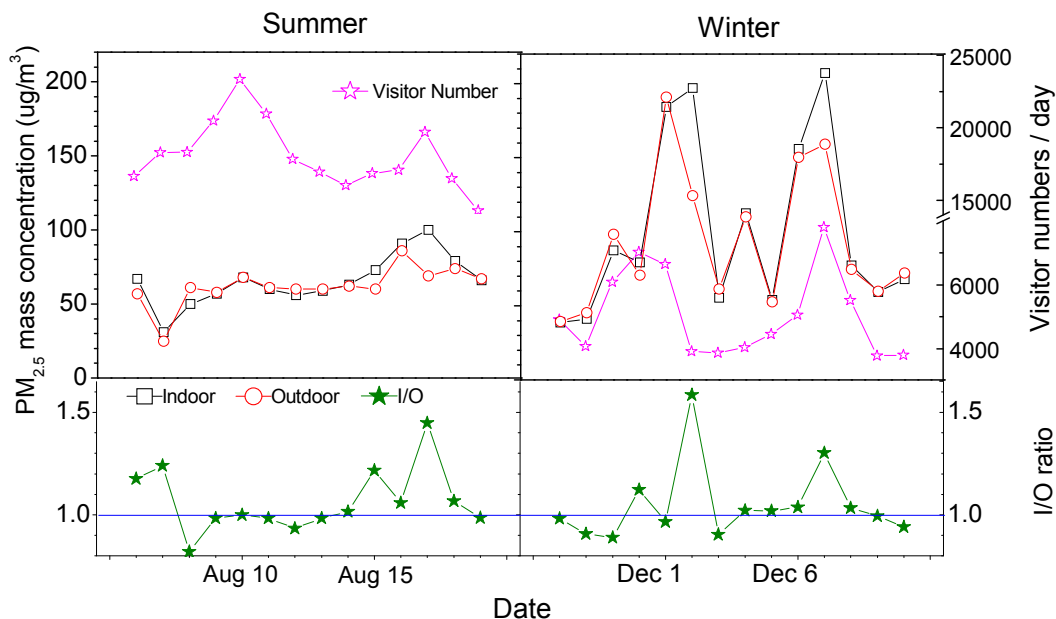


Figure 4. The mass concentrations of PM_{2.5} inside and outside the Pit No. 1 display hall, their indoor/outdoor (I/O) ratios and visitor numbers during the summer and winter sampling campaigns in 2013.

The indoor and outdoor mass concentrations of major water-soluble ions related to anthropogenic activities in PM_{2.5} collected in the 2013 campaigns are shown in Figure 5. Correlation analysis showed that ammonium was strongly correlated with sulfate and nitrate in PM_{2.5}, both in the summer and winter campaigns. Wheat straw and maize stalk are widely used as fuels for domestic cooking and winter heating in suburban Xi’an. A strong relationship between chloride and potassium was also observed during winter (R = 0.96), implying the significant influence of extensive biomass burning from domestic heating in winter around the museum.

Table 2. Statistical summary of indoor and outdoor PM_{2.5} chemical composition for 24-hour integrated samples acquired over the summer and winter periods in 2004–2005 [17], 2011 [25] and 2013 (in this study) campaigns at the Emperor Qin’s Terra-Cotta Museum in Xi’an, China. OC, organic carbon.

	Indoor PM _{2.5} (2013)		Outdoor PM _{2.5} (2013)		Indoor PM _{2.5} (2011)		Indoor PM _{2.5} (2004–2005)	
	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter
Mass	65.7 ± 17.1	98.6 ± 58.5	62.1 ± 13.1	91.9 ± 45.7	65.7 ± 31.1	106.5 ± 58.2	108.4 ± 30.3	242.3 ± 189.0
OC	14.6 ± 3.8	22.2 ± 11.5	10.9 ± 2.9	20.1 ± 9.4	12.0 ± 3.0	17.0 ± 4.5	17.6 ± 2.2	41.7 ± 27.8
EC	1.7 ± 0.6	4.7 ± 3.2	1.9 ± 0.7	4.0 ± 2.6	3.2 ± 1.7	4.5 ± 1.8	3.9 ± 0.6	7.7 ± 5.7
NO ₃ ⁻	2.9 ± 1.2	12.8 ± 11.1	3.6 ± 2	11.5 ± 8.7	7.9 ± 6.8	16.3 ± 13.7	8.0 ± 4.1	27.2 ± 20.5
SO ₄ ²⁻	15.2 ± 6.5	11 ± 7.4	16.9 ± 5.9	10.3 ± 5.3	23.2 ± 12.1	20.1 ± 12.5	36.6 ± 14.5	58.9 ± 45.0
NH ₄ ⁺	3.4 ± 1.7	4.8 ± 4.9	3.7 ± 1.5	4.3 ± 4.1	6.5 ± 4.2	8.1 ± 5.7	10.3 ± 4.6	22.3 ± 17.9

Table 2. Cont.

	Indoor PM _{2.5} (2013)		Outdoor PM _{2.5} (2013)		Indoor PM _{2.5} (2011)		Indoor PM _{2.5} (2004–2005)	
	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter
Ca ²⁺	1.1 ± 0.4	1.4 ± 0.5	1.2 ± 0.4	1.5 ± 0.5	1.7 ± 0.5	1.8 ± 0.5	1.5 ± 0.4	2.2 ± 1.9
K ⁺	0.5 ± 0.2	1.3 ± 0.9	0.5 ± 0.2	1.1 ± 0.6	1.0 ± 0.6	2.1 ± 1.2	1.1 ± 0.4	3.8 ± 2.4
K	0.4 ± 0.2	1.2 ± 0.7	0.4 ± 0.2	1.1 ± 0.5	1 ± 0.7	2.4 ± 1.3	0.9 ± 0.4	4.2 ± 3.0
Ti	16.8 ± 11.2	42.5 ± 13.5	17.2 ± 10.2	47.4 ± 15	19.4 ± 12.5	65.8 ± 33.3	65.2 ± 21.4	162.7 ± 190.3
V	0.2 ± 0.8	1.4 ± 1.8	1.3 ± 2.4	0.9 ± 1.2	1 ± 1.3	1.5 ± 2	4.4 ± 3.5	13.3 ± 10.5
Mn	28.4 ± 10.3	51.6 ± 19.2	28.1 ± 11.5	49.1 ± 23.1	26.2 ± 16.7	62.2 ± 36.1	35.5 ± 13.5	104.3 ± 66.3
Fe	285.2 ± 115.8	650.2 ± 181	274.7 ± 141.4	680.7 ± 193.5	346.7 ± 160.4	897.1 ± 435.1	459.3 ± 136.9	1105.8 ± 1447.9
Ni	1.2 ± 2	1.8 ± 2.7	0.6 ± 1	0.1 ± 0.4	4 ± 2.2	4.8 ± 1.9	6.4 ± 5.9	13.1 ± 12.6
Cu	6.5 ± 3.6	16.2 ± 7.5	6 ± 4.2	13.8 ± 5.9	10.4 ± 4.7	22.7 ± 9.6	7.3 ± 2.1	5.3 ± 2.6
Zn	207.6 ± 114.1	503.9 ± 298.2	231.1 ± 150.1	450.8 ± 259.9	334.1 ± 213.4	484.1 ± 268.2	305.0 ± 183.8	603.3 ± 581.1
As	7.3 ± 8.6	8.8 ± 12.3	4.3 ± 7.7	8.2 ± 10.9	5.3 ± 9.7	32.7 ± 43.8	19.8 ± 6.1	63.2 ± 55.2
Br	3.7 ± 3.2	14.1 ± 13	5.1 ± 4.7	10.3 ± 10.1	9.1 ± 7.3	17.2 ± 8	14.1 ± 13.6	34.7 ± 30.8
Sr	6.5 ± 12.2	1 ± 2.7	4.9 ± 12.6	3.7 ± 5.6	7.7 ± 3.9	20.9 ± 13.1	10.3 ± 9.7	24.8 ± 21.2
Pb	47.2 ± 27.7	126.6 ± 61.8	62.5 ± 36.8	109.5 ± 48.3	98 ± 49.3	267.7 ± 179.9	154.0 ± 75.2	461.0 ± 312.8

Units: from mass to K, µg/m³; from Ti to Pb, ng/m³.

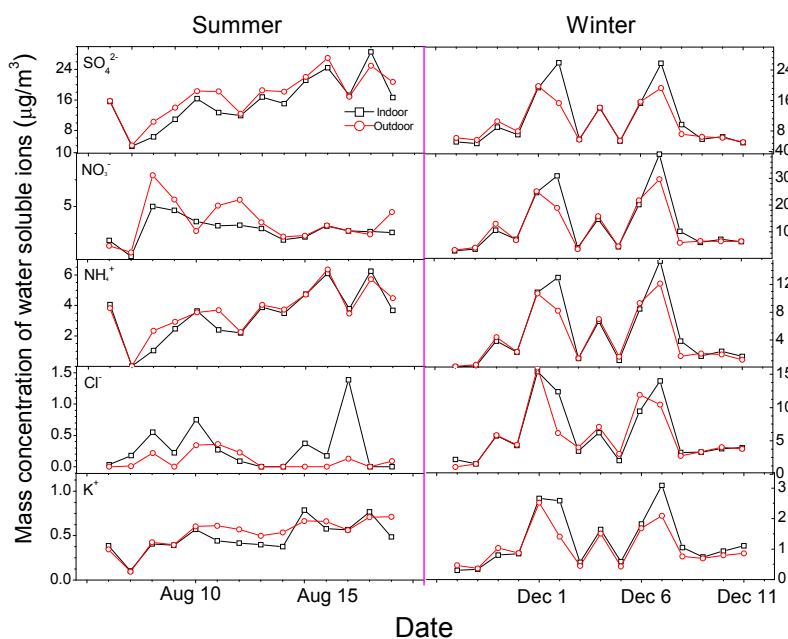


Figure 5. The mass concentrations of major water-soluble ions in PM_{2.5} inside and outside the Pit No. 1 display hall during the summer and winter sampling campaigns in 2013.

The charge balance between cation and anion was calculated using Equations (1) and (2). The correlations between cation and anion are summarized in Table 3.

$$Cation\ equivalence = \frac{Na^+}{23} + \frac{NH_4^+}{18} + \frac{K^+}{39} + \frac{Mg^{2+}}{12} + \frac{Ca^{2+}}{20} \tag{1}$$

$$Anion\ equivalence = \frac{Cl^-}{35.5} + \frac{NO_3^-}{62} + \frac{SO_4^{2-}}{48} \tag{2}$$

Table 3. Cation and anion balance in indoor PM_{2.5} samples collected during several seasonal sampling campaigns from 2004 to 2013 [17,24,25].

Date	Summer		Winter		Reference
2013	A.E. = 1.28C.E. + 0.03	R ² = 0.97	A.E. = 1.41C.E. + 0.004	R ² = 0.99	This study
2011	A.E. = 1.22C.E. - 0.16	R ² = 0.98	A.E. = 1.27C.E. - 0.22	R ² = 0.99	[25]
2006–2007	A.E. = 1.21C.E. - 0.27	R ² = 0.69	A.E. = 1.21C.E. - 0.37	R ² = 0.96	[24]
2004–2005	A.E. = 1.38C.E. - 0.05	R ² = 0.98	A.E. = 1.08C.E. + 0.08	R ² = 1.0	[17]

Notes: A.E. refers to anion equivalence; C.E. refers to cation equivalence.

The cation and anion concentrations measured for indoor PM_{2.5} in all four campaigns have a correlation coefficient (R²) greater than 0.9, suggesting the same origin for ions in indoor PM_{2.5}. Most of the slopes of indoor PM_{2.5} were all larger than 1.2, both in summer and in winter, indicating that the suspended fine particles inside the Pit No. 1 display hall were acidic [31]. Although the acidic secondary inorganic species, such as sulfate and nitrate, in indoor PM_{2.5} decreased from 2004–2005 to 2013 and the concurrent percentage of geological materials increased slightly due to the excavation activity and tourist flow, excess sulfuric and nitric acidic particles were not neutralized in the atmosphere. Those acidic particles inside the museum could deposit onto the surface of statues and pose corrosion and salt weathering hazards to the statues.

The sulfur oxidation ratio was defined as $SOR = n\text{-SO}_4^{2-} / (n\text{-SO}_4^{2-} + n\text{-SO}_2)$, and the nitrogen oxidation ratio was defined as $NOR = n\text{-NO}_3^- / (n\text{-NO}_3^- + n\text{-NO}_2)$, where *n* is the number of moles. SOR and NOR could reflect the degree of the secondary transformation processes in the atmosphere. In primary emissions, the SOR is typically less than 0.10 [32,33], and SOR larger than 0.10 occurs by photochemical oxidation of SO₂ [34]. The SOR and NOR inside and outside Pit 1 during the summer and winter sampling campaigns from 2006 to 2013 are listed in Table 4. All of the SORs and NORs are higher than 0.10 during the summer and winter campaigns in 2006 and 2013, showing that indoor and outdoor atmospheric SO₂ and NO₂ had been photochemical oxidized. Higher SORs were observed in summer, implying that the sulfation reaction was favored by higher temperature, high relative humidity and strong solar radiation. Moreover, a high concentration of ammonia in summer might also accelerate the secondary conversion [35].

Table 4. Sulfur oxidation ratio (SOR) and nitrogen oxidation ratio (NOR) inside and outside the Pit No. 1 Display Hall of Emperor Qin’s Terra-cotta Museum during the summer and winter sampling campaigns from 2006 [24] to 2013.

	SOR		NOR	
	Indoor	Outdoor	Indoor	Outdoor
Summer 2013	0.48	0.53	0.13	0.13
Winter 2013	0.26	0.12	0.14	0.14
Summer 2006	0.53	0.60	0.41	0.57
Winter 2006	0.43	0.39	0.33	0.34

The I/O ratios for the mass concentrations of PM_{2.5} and its major components during the summer and winter campaigns in 2013 are illustrated in Figure 6. By comparing those I/O ratios obtained in the 2004–2005 campaign, the significant influences of indoor activities were observed. Most of the I/O

ratios were larger than 1.0 in Pit 1, including PM_{2.5} mass, geological matter, organic matter and elemental carbon, due to the increased tourist flow and human activities at the archaeological site. The summer I/O ratio of organic matter was the highest in 2013, reaching 1.35 in the summer, probably owing to the evaporation of the alcohol solvent and resin adhesive used in the excavation and restoration works. The I/O ratios of sulfate, nitrate and ammonium were lower in 2013 than those in 2004–2005, implying less formation of secondary inorganic aerosols with the indoor RH decreasing in recent years.

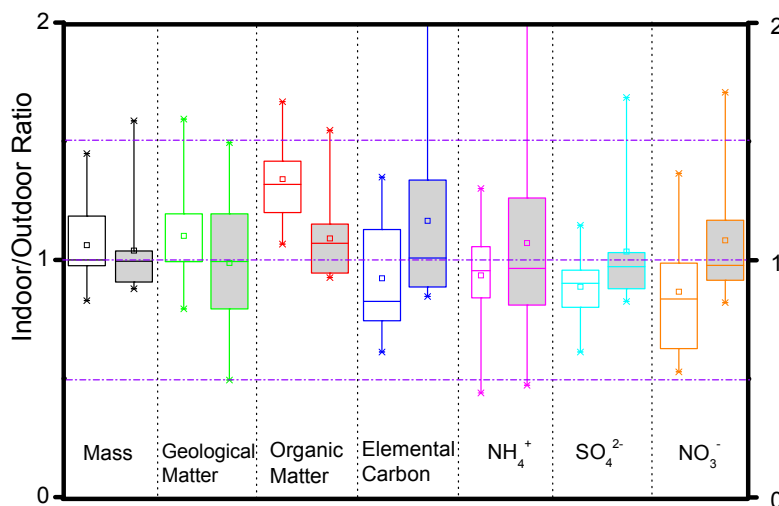


Figure 6. I/O ratios for PM_{2.5} mass and its major components during the summer (empty boxes) and winter (shaded boxes) campaigns in 2013.

3.4. Acidic Gaseous Pollutants

The indoor and outdoor concentrations of acidic gaseous pollutants in Pit 1 of the QTM during the summer and winter sampling campaigns from 1993 to 2013 are summarized in Table 5. The concentrations of SO₂ and NO₂ were higher in winter than those in summer during all sampling campaigns, indicating the emission from combustion for winter heating. In the past 20 years, the outdoor SO₂ slightly decreased due to the energy innovation and relocation of combustion sources. The concentration of indoor NO₂ increased in 2013 compared to those in 1993–1994, probably due to the increase of the visitor number and heavy traffic around the museum.

Table 5. The concentrations of acidic gaseous pollutants inside and outside the Pit No. 1 Display Hall of Emperor Qin’s Terra-cotta Museum during the summer and winter sampling campaigns from 1993 to 2013.

Date	Site	SO ₂	NO ₂	Reference
Summer				
August 2013	Indoor	4.6 ± 1.3	16.2 ± 6.2	This study
August 2006	Indoor	7.0 ± 1.4	4.5 ± 1.6	[24]
August 1993	Indoor	6.3	7.8	[23]
August 2013	Outdoor	6.0 ± 6.5	18.0 ± 8.0	This study
August 2006	Outdoor	8.2 ± 1.2	3.9 ± 1.1	[24]
August 1993	Outdoor	26.3	11.7	[23]

Table 5. Cont.

Date	Site	SO ₂	NO ₂	Reference
Winter				
November–December 2013	Indoor	27.0 ± 11.9	18.9 ± 4.5	This study
December 2006	Indoor	13.1 ± 3.1	13.1 ± 3.9	[24]
January 1994	Indoor	11.2	10.2	[23]
November–December 2013	Outdoor	33.6 ± 17.1	24.1 ± 5.6	This study
December 2006	Outdoor	19.4 ± 3.6	15.8 ± 4.5	[24]
January 1994	Outdoor	44.8	16.1	[23]

4. Conclusions

In this study, the results of long-term indoor air quality measurement from 1989 to 2013 were summarized to evaluate the influence of environmental policy and indoor activities on the potential hazards to the priceless and irreplaceable statues in QTM. The poor air tightness and thermal performance of the building envelope of Pit 1 resulted in the sharp changes in microclimate conditions for more than 20 years. With the dramatic decrease of indoor PM mass and multiplied tourist flow and restoration work during the past 10 years, the influence of indoor activities on the mass concentration and chemical composition of indoor suspended particulate matter should be of increasing concern. Remedial measures, as extensive as renovation of the building's structure and an effective ventilation and filtration system and some less extensive measures, such as protective devices, proper floor coverings, cleaning and display strategies, should be adopted to reduce the fluctuation of microclimate conditions and the influence of indoor activities on suspended particles.

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Author Contributions

Junji Cao, Tafeng Hu, Rujin Huang and Tao Ma conceptualized, designed and implemented the project. Hua Li, Wenting Jia, Suixin Liu and Na Xi performed the experiments and data collections. The manuscript was drafted by Hua Li and Tafeng Hu.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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