Interpretation of Urban New-type Public Spaces:
An Anthropological Case Study of Fang Suo in Guangzhou

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ABSTRACT As an urban new-type public space, Fang Suo Commune has become an important place for cultural, leisure and consumption activities of urban residents in the context of mass leisure and postmodern consumption. The existence and development of Fang Suo as a unique space are worthy of in-depth analysis given the fact that physical bookstores are declining. This article interprets the unique combination of spaces of Fang Suo, and analyzes the structure of the space itself, features of different consumer groups and their interactions with the space through observation and interview from an anthropological perspective. It has been found that Fang Suo has the multiple attributes of a cultural space, consumption space and leisure space for its multimode fusion and spatial design, and the spatial consumption behavior of people is making the boundary of space form vague while shaping space form. The social significance shown in space consumption needs further exploration.