**Project 1: Digital Archive of Early Chinese Daybook Manuscripts.**

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For my digital translation project, I aimed to create a digital archive of early Chinese daybook manuscripts. The daybook (日書, rìshū) is a type of hemerological text that early Chinese people used to determine auspicious and inauspicious days for specific activities, such as marriage, travel, or childbirth. While daybooks are commonly found among early Chinese excavated manuscripts, it has been difficult to systematically categorize them or establish comprehensive information on each one.

To address this issue, I developed a webpage that provides English-language information on extant daybook manuscripts from early China. While my long-term goal is to digitize all daybook texts and build a searchable digital archive, my initial focus was on creating an index page. By translating and visually presenting the introductory content of Qu Xiaoshang’s 曲晓霜 book, *The Daybook Manuscripts in the Unearthed Bamboo Slips and the Society of Qin and Han Dynasties*, into a digital infographic, this introductory page offers a chronological overview of known daybook manuscripts along with essential details about each one.

The key concept of this webpage is to categorize the manuscripts based on their affiliated historical periods—Pre-Qin (Warring States period), Qin dynasty, and Han dynasty—and display them chronologically to illustrate the evolution of early Chinese daybooks. To achieve this, I designed a flexbox layout. At the top, I created a flexbox container that holds the title, *Navigating Early Chinese Daybooks*, along with a subtitle. Below this, I added three flexbox containers with individual child boxes containing images and basic information about specific daybook manuscripts. However, due to the limited size of these boxes, it was not possible to display all details within them. To solve this, I implemented a flip effect: the front side of each box displays an image, and when hovered over, the box flips to reveal key details such as the manuscript’s title, place of origin, and excavation date. Since I had not learned JavaScript in class, I used ChatGPT to generate the relevant code and integrated it into the HTML and CSS files.

In both analog and digital environments, extant daybook manuscripts are not compiled into a single comprehensive volume but are instead scattered across various excavated manuscript collections. This fragmentation makes it difficult to obtain an integrated understanding of daybooks. While academic publications on daybooks often provide brief overviews in their introductions, these summaries are usually limited in detail and are available only in Chinese, making it challenging for non-Chinese readers to access comprehensive information. Moreover, printed books and journal articles cannot be updated in real time with newly excavated texts. In contrast, my digital daybook archive allows users to visually grasp key information at a glance, and new discoveries can be easily incorporated by simply updating the HTML code.

However, the current webpage only provides chronological information on daybook manuscripts and does not yet offer access to the original texts. To make it a more meaningful tool for historical research, I aim to digitize and store the daybook texts in the future, allowing users to access the original manuscript data by clicking on each entry. Additionally, a search function should also be implemented to enable users to filter manuscripts by specific keywords. Developing these features will be my long-term goal.