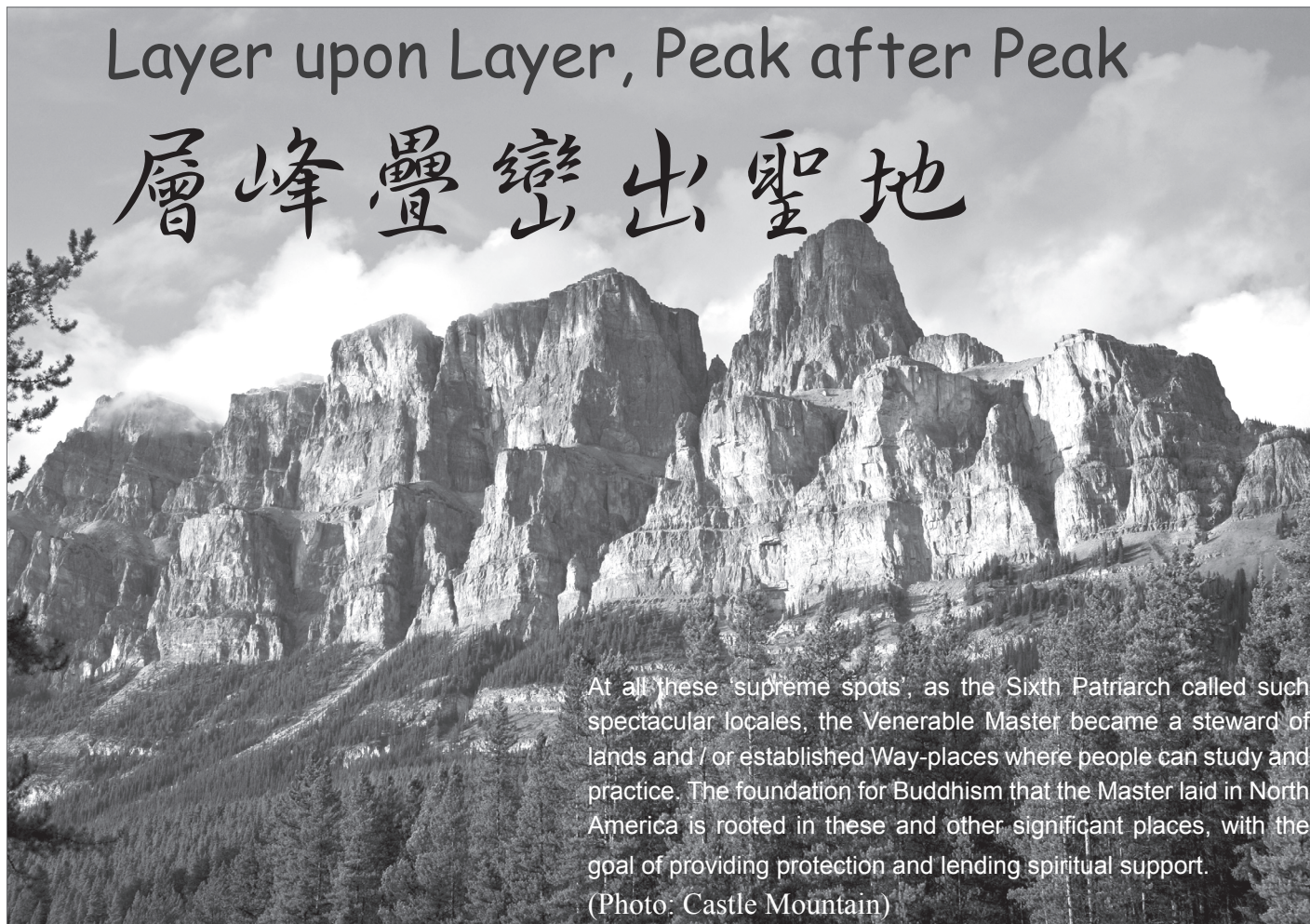


Layer upon Layer, Peak after Peak

層峰疊巒出聖地



At all these 'supreme spots', as the Sixth Patriarch called such spectacular locales, the Venerable Master became a steward of lands and / or established Way-places where people can study and practice. The foundation for Buddhism that the Master laid in North America is rooted in these and other significant places, with the goal of providing protection and lending spiritual support.

(Photo: Castle Mountain)

By Bhikshuni Heng Chih

比丘尼 恆持 文

這些「聖地」，殊勝猶如六祖大師之「寶林」。上人是聖地守護者，亦是道場建立者，讓大家得以安住學佛。上人護衛聖地道場，並予以精神支持，在北美為佛教紮根，打下基礎。（圖：城堡山山景）

Preface: Seeking for the Sacred Mountains

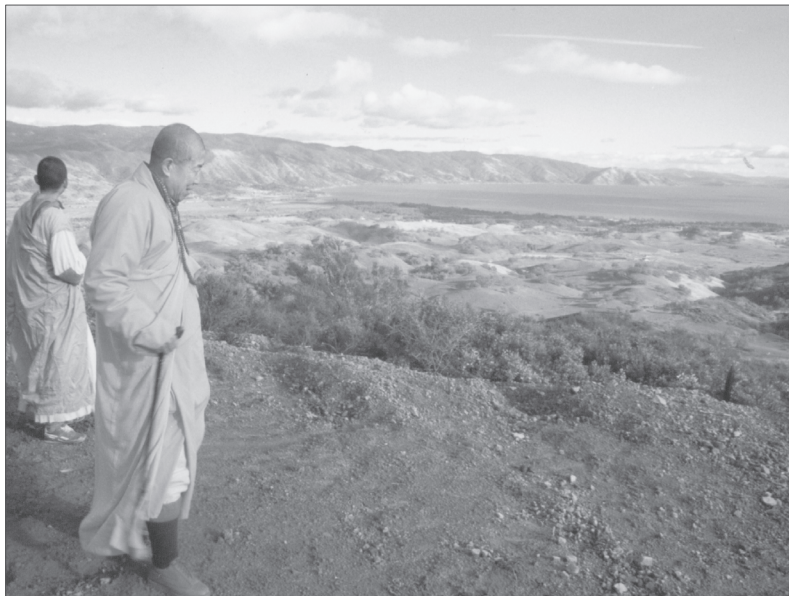
(Excerpts from the Venerable Master Hua's lectures in the 1970s)

When Shakyamuni Buddha was alive, he predicted that the Prajnaparamita Dharma Door would be particularly welcomed in the Zhendan country -- the country that Shakyamuni Buddha spoke of as the Zhendan country is present-day China, therefore the Buddha-Dharma in China is particularly prosperous. As a result, in China, there are four famous mountains, Wutai Mountain, Emei Mountain, Jiuhua Mountain and Putuo Mountain all contain several hundred monasteries. Thus there is a saying in Chinese: "In this world, all the praises have been utterly exhausted, the famous mountains of the world are occupied by the monks." The best prophesies have already been proclaimed by the Buddha. Indeed, monks and nuns already dwell in most of the famous mountains of

楔子 尋找名山

(摘錄於宣化上人七〇年代初期的開示)

釋迦牟尼佛在世的時候，就預言將來佛法在震旦國特別盛行——當時釋迦牟尼佛所說的震旦國就是中國，因為這個，在中國佛法是特別發揚光大。在中國有四大名山——五臺山、普陀山、峨嵋山、九華山，這四大名山都是佛教的聖地，都有好幾百處道場。所以中國有一句話：「世上好話都說盡，天下名山僧占多。」最好的預言佛都說完了，世間的名山很多都



this world. The famous mountains, the ones with Feng Shui, could also be said to have veins; these veins are dragon veins, ordinary secular commoners' traditions could be said to be Feng Shui. Every famous scenic landscape has dragon veins, which is why the temples flourish; there is a share of the sacred spirit. When people come to this place, it is as if they have taken a drink of cool water, the feeling is both comfortable and cool, and it is also similar to being at the Pure Land's Pools of the Seven Jewels and Eight Waters of Merit and Virtue. Although you are not born in the Pure Land's Pools of the Seven Jewels and Waters of the Eight Meritorious Virtues and are instead born in this world, when you go to the Buddhist monasteries, the temples of the saints and the temples of the Bodhisattvas, it will feel as if you are taking a swim in the Pools of Seven Jewels and Waters of the Eight Meritorious Virtues.

In reference to this country (U.S.A.), there are many mountains but not many monks and nuns; that is why the famous scenic landscapes do not yet contain any sacred Buddhist lands. Two weeks ago, I heard that there were some mountains in Calgary and then I discussed it with Guohui and Guozhan, and told them to take a look at the mountains over there. They traveled to the area, looked at several plots of land with the aim of establishing a monastery, and took many pictures. Tomorrow evening, for those who are interested, we can show everyone and ask which places they like, and of the places that they like, which of them possesses a bit of the sacred spirit? There is no need for us to be anxious; our current task is simply to find amidst the big mountains a sacred piece of land. Later on, whether you are monks or nuns, or laity, please be attentive: there are monasteries in the big mountains. Where there are sacred spirits and flourishing lands, we are to find these types of dragon veins and establish temples in the future. Because we are monastics, we should fulfill our duties as monastics of propagating the Buddhadharma and causing it to flourish. That is our responsibility.

是有出家人住著。有名的山——有風水這個山，也可以說有脈；這個脈就是龍脈，一般世俗人的風俗說是風水。凡是名山大川都是有龍脈，所以道場就興盛，因為有一股靈氣；人人到這個地方，就好像喝了清涼散似的，覺得又舒服又清涼，也就好像在極樂世界那個七寶池八功德水一樣。雖然沒有生在極樂世界七寶池八功德水那裏邊去，就在這個世界，你出生到佛的道場、聖人的道場、菩薩的道場，你覺得好像在七寶池八功德水裏頭游泳一樣。

這個國家(指美國)大山是很多，可是沒有什麼出家人，所以這些個名山大川還沒有佛教的聖地。兩個禮拜以前，我和果回和果瞻商量，我聽說 Calgary 有什麼大山，叫他們去看看那個山上怎麼樣。那麼他們到那兒，看了很多地，想找一個道場，照了很多像；等明天晚間誰要是有興趣的，我們放出來給大家看看，你們各位看看是歡喜哪個地方。還有，你們各位歡喜的地方，就都有點靈氣在那兒。那麼我們也不著急，現在不過只是找聖地，到大山的地方去找。以後我們大家，無論出家人、在家人，你們各位居士都留心，在大山的地方有道場；有氣派很盛的地方，我們要找這樣子的龍脈，將來建立道場。我們因為是出家人，出家人就要做出家人的事情；所以我們本分、我們的宗旨，就是要弘揚佛法，把佛教令它發揚光大，這是我們的責任。



The Golden Avatamsaka at the Heart of the Canadian Rockies

Truly Avatamsaka Monastery and the Golden lands represent an apex in North America. Golden's pristine location in the heart of the Canadian Rockies and near the source of the mighty Columbia River is breathtaking and at the same time, life-giving. In that, it rightly represents the *Avatamsaka Sutra*, which, among all the Buddha's teachings, is the apex, the epitome, the breathtaking and life-given source of truth. The Venerable Master's choice of those Golden lands and his decision to establish Avatamsaka Monastery near them is his unspeakably wonderful gift to us all. Let us treasure this gift and live lightly and wisely in those pristine places!

[Editor's Note: The first time the Venerable Master personally visited Calgary, as the airplane flew over the Rocky Mountain Ranges, the Venerable Master told his disciples next to him, "Manjushri Bodhisattva has come to Canada. The snowy mountain below is Manjushri Bodhisattva's Bodhimandala. You should make pilgrimages to this mountain in the future." The snowy mountain that the Venerable Master mentioned is Castle Mountain. Castle Mountain is located within Banff National Park in the Canadian Rockies, approximately halfway between Banff and Lake Louise. The mountain was named in 1858 by James Hector for its castle-like or fortress-like appearance. The Venerable Master told his disciples to purchase this piece of land--Golden, and find an appropriate location for building a large Buddhist monastery in the future. He also predicted, "The Buddhadharma will flourish here in the future."]

Pine Grove in the Montana Rockies

Just across the Canadian border, the Master chose a spot at Eureka, Montana, at the northernmost point of the U.S. Rockies. The veins and pulse of the surrounding peaks converge there, where, under the vast sky, a swift creek runs near a black lake and white cattle graze on sweet green grasses.

Along the Northwest Coast Range

Along the West Coast Range, the Master chose several spots. In Canada, he established Gold Buddha Monastery, facing the Coast Range at Vancouver. He also acquired lands along the significant Fraser River, where the Cascade Range begins.

[Note: Venerable Master Hua mentioned: Four great Bodhisattvas have come to the West to spread Buddhism by teaching people. Everyone is welcome to visit Vancouver to pay homage to Manjushri Bodhisattva, to visit Seattle to pay homage to Universal Worthy Bodhisattva, to visit the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas to pay homage to Guanyin Bodhisattva, and to visit Los Angeles to pay homage to Earth Store Bodhisattva.]

In the U.S. Northwest, he established Gold Summit Monastery,

洛磯山脈之心地——金鎮華嚴

華嚴寺與金鎮所處地段，誠然代表著北美之頂端。金鎮之位置扼要，它不但正位於加拿大洛磯山脈之心臟與鄰近哥倫比亞河源頭，同時是眾多野生動物之棲息處。就其所在看來，它就如華嚴經在整個佛陀教導中之地位一般，是最高、最具象徵性也最扼要，更是真理源流處。上人選擇了金鎮並決定鄰於其處建立華嚴寺，這是他給我們最好的禮物。我們應珍惜這份恩賜，且以光明與智慧來生活於此純淨之地。

(編按：上人第一次親臨卡加利時，當飛機橫越洛磯山脈上空，上人對旁邊的弟子說：「文殊菩薩已來到加拿大，下面的雪山便是文殊菩薩的道場，你們日後要朝禮此山。」上人指的雪山便是城堡山。



城堡山是位於加拿大洛磯山脈班芙國家公園內，約班芙和露易斯湖半路之間。1858年由詹姆斯賀克特根據它的外觀形似城堡或堡壘而命名，是當地印地安人心目中的聖山。上人叫弟子買下金鎮這片地，以備將來興建佛教大叢林之用，並已預先作了授記：將來佛法會在此大興。)

蒙大拿洛磯山脈之松樹林

越過加拿大國界，在美國境內最北洛磯山脈之處，上人選擇了尤利加與蒙大拿。周圍群峰聚匯於此，在浩瀚天空下，可看到一條河鄰著黑湖湍流著，群群白牛在片片綠原上食草。

facing the Coast Range's young and rugged Olympic Peninsula Range, and backed by the Cascades, with Mount Baker visible to the north and Mount Rainier to the south.

In the Oregon Coast Range, the Master found Turtle Mountain along the Smith River, a tributary of the Umpqua, when he was invited to conduct an Amitabha Session in the early '70's at Buddha Root Farm there. Now, a meditation hall serves the practitioners who go annually to study and practice in retreat there.

In California Coast Range, the Mendocino Range surrounds Ukiah (means "Deep Valley" in the Pomo language) and is the home of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB). Just north of the City stand the giant redwoods, ancient and mighty in their presence. Just south are the headwaters of the powerful Russian River.

[Editor's Note: Venerable Master Hua said that the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas is a sacred place created by the will of Heaven on a special site on the earth. It only came into being after hundreds of millions of years, and is a ready-made Buddhist Way-place. As it is naturally suited to Buddhist practice, we all go there to diligently cultivate. The name 'Ukiah' refers to the deep valley where many living beings reside: cranes, deer, a multitude of animals, immortals, monastics and laypeople. Why is it called Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain? Because the shape of the Mountain looks like someone who has just woken up and is reclining there. This person not only enlightens himself, he takes care of all beings throughout the ten directions. That is the meaning of Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain.)

Slightly northeast of CTTB is the Walnut Ranch Retreat and further east the Master found several pieces of land around Clear Lake. A volcanic field and the largest freshwater lake in California, this has been a sacred space of Native American tribes dating back to 6000 B.C.E. More recently the area is home to the Pomo Indians.

Along the Northern Cascade Range

Some say the Cascade Range begins south of the Fraser River; some say it extends up north of the river into British Columbia. But all agree that Mount Baker and its graceful companion Mount Shuksan are a spectacular sight shared by north and south. From the Master's chosen sites at Maple Ridge high above the north bank the Fraser River, we view with awe Mount Baker's many-faceted northern face--stark and sharp on a clear day; mysterious and shrouded on a misty morning. No wonder the Master selected the name Golden Immortal Monastery (金仙寺) for that location!

Southeast of Mount Baker, the Master acquired land at Marblemount which fronts the swirling conflux of the Cascade and the Skagit Rivers just east of gentle Mount Asuk. The rugged Mount Hozomeen rises in the distance.



圖：溫哥華的沿海山峰 Coast Range Peaks at Vancouver

西北沿岸

沿著西海岸，上人選了幾處。在加拿大境內，面臨溫哥華海岸邊，上人建立金佛寺。上人亦同時沿著卡斯卡山脈起源點——費沙門河而擇地。

(編按：上人提到：四大菩薩已經來到西方國家，助佛揚化，令佛教發揚光大。如果有人想朝拜文殊師利菩薩，請到溫哥華；願意朝拜普賢菩薩，請到西雅圖；想要朝拜觀世音菩薩，請到萬佛城；想要朝拜地藏菩薩，請到金輪寺。)

在美國西北部西雅圖，上人建立金峰寺。此寺背山面海，前臨雄武之奧林匹克半島沿岸地帶，背為卡斯卡德山脈，北望貝克山，南望瑞尼爾山。

在奧樂岡沿海岸，沿著安姆仆卡的支流——史密斯河，上人於七〇年代初期，應邀前往佛根地，主持念佛七時，覓得了龜山。目前在龜山道場內之坐禪大殿，已成為每年前往參研佛法，並實修學佛行者之靜修中心。

在加利福尼亞州沿岸山脈，曼都仙諾山脈環繞著瑜伽鎮(Pomo意為深谷)，這裏正是萬佛聖城所在地。聖城北邊為高聳之紅木林，南邊正為俄羅斯河之源頭。

(編按：上人提到萬佛聖城是天造地設的一個聖地，這個聖地是幾萬萬年才出現一次，是給我們佛教準備的一個天然的道場，讓我們到這個地方



圖：從費沙河遠望貝克山 Mount. Baker as seen from the Trasler River.

South of the Baker and Darrington areas of the Cascades, in the Skykomish region, the Master established a Way-place just west of Mount Index. Snow Mountain Monastery is situated at the conflux of the Skykomish, Beckler, and Miller Rivers.

At the southern end of the Washington Cascade Range, the Master chose to steward land at North Bend, close to the Snoqualmie River. This land is situated with stern Mount Washington at its back, Deere Lake in front and below, and mystic Little Si as the table mountain beyond. The Muir Trail runs above this land on Mount Washington's ridge and a winter waterfall plummets down into a rugged creek which courses through the land. The Master walked this wooded property and found the veins and pulse of the surrounding mountains converging at the entrance to this site.

Contiguous to this property is Olallie (Chinook for 'Berry') State Park with its Twin Falls.

In the California Cascades

The Master also became steward of a thousand acres on another Native American sacred mountain in the Cascade Range which straddles the political boundaries of Sonoma and Lake Counties near Calistoga, home of Old Faithful Geyser, which blows approximately every 20 minutes up to 70 feet high.

Mid California Coast Range

The Santa Cruz Range of the Pacific Coastal Range

來用功修行。瑜伽（Ukiah）就是指深谷，這深山的谷裏邊住著很多眾生：有白鶴、麋鹿，種種動物，仙人、出家人及在家人。為什麼叫妙覺山呢？這座山的地形，好像一個人躺著，剛從睡眠始寤，不特自覺，還周顧十方眾生，故名妙覺。）

離聖城北邊不遠處即是核桃園，再往東走，上人在克里爾湖周圍處覓得了幾個據點。克里爾湖位於火山區，其為

加州最大淡水湖，亦為當年（公元前6000年）美國印地安人部落之聖地，目前 Pomo 居住於該處。

北部之卡斯卡德山脈

有一種說法認為，卡斯卡德山脈的起點是從費沙門河之南開始，另一種認為它是延伸到費沙門河之北至哥倫比亞省境內。無論怎麼說，大家都同意貝克山和緊鄰之舒克森山為南北奇觀之一。上人選擇楓樹嶺之地點是處在費沙門河北岸之高處，我們可以看到貝克山北面的多樣性，例如在晴空萬里無雲時，它凸顯而出；在薄霧籠罩之晨，它隱現出神秘之感。難怪上人給楓樹嶺之道場取名為金仙寺。

上人在貝克山東南邊的大理石市山上購得一塊土地。大理石市處於沙爾克山東邊之卡斯卡河與斯坎濟特河之交匯處，此處遠眺可見山勢險峻的（Hozomeen）候若明山脈。

Skykomish行政區，位於卡斯卡德山脈的貝克山與Darrington 兩區段南邊。上人在此行政區內的 Index 山西邊興建了一座道場——雪山寺，位置正座落在 Skykomish、Beckler、Miller 三條河川的匯流處。

沿著華盛頓州內卡斯卡德山脈南行，上人在 North Bend 市 Snoqualmie 河附近，接管了一塊土地。這片土地依山傍水位在陡峻的華盛頓山與Deere湖之間，靜謐的 Little Si 山則分布其外，境內的 Muir 登山道，穿行在華盛頓山脊上；冬季的瀑布流水，直落入蜿蜒起伏的溪流，貫流這片土地。有一次，上人走在這片樹木簞密的土地上，發現周圍群山的山脈走勢，正巧交落於此地，有如含山玄關。

緊鄰這片土地的是 Olallie state 公園。Olallie，是北美印地安族契努客語中「莓類」的意思。公園內有著名的雙子瀑布（Twin Falls）。

加利福尼亞小瀑布

上人也接管了另一座在小瀑布範圍中，有一千英畝的美國原住民聖山。其橫跨加州（Sonoma）索諾馬郡及湖郡（Lake County）兩郡，山上有處老忠實噴泉的熱泉約每二十分鐘噴出七十呎高的泉水柱。

gives San Francisco its steep hills, like the one on which Gold Mountain Monastery is situated.

On the West Bay at Burlingame, where DRBA has its headquarters and a translation institute, we watch the sun rise behind the isolated peak, Mount Diablo. Diablo, 'devilish' is Spanish. Long before, Native Americans had given this lone peak various other names in their own tongues.

The Diablo Range, also part of the Pacific Coast Range, extends south and is what rises above San Jose to the east, where Gold Sage Monastery is located.

Further east of the Bay Area, along the Sacramento River where it cuts into the Cascades to form the Sacramento Valley, the Master founded City of the Dharma Realm.



圖：從加州卡羅來納Newhall公園遠望Diablo山脈 Mount Diablo as seen from Newhall Park in Concord, California

Southern California

The Master chose to establish and sustain three Way-places in the Los Angeles metropolis: Gold Wheel Monastery in Pasadena, Long Beach Monastery and Blessings, Prosperity, and Long Life Monastery in Long Beach.

Avatamsaka Vihara at Bethesda, Maryland

And finally, in the Appalachian Range that covers the eastern coast of the United States, is the Allegheny Range. At Bethesda, Maryland along the Potomac River quite near the U.S. capitol, Washington D.C., the Master founded Avatamsaka Vihara.

At all these 'supreme spots', as the Sixth Patriarch called such spectacular locales, the Venerable Master became a steward of lands and/or established Way-places where people can study and practice. The foundation for Buddhism that the Master laid in North America is rooted in these and other significant places, with the goal of providing protection and lending spiritual support.

加州中部海岸山脈

在太平洋海岸山脈中的聖塔克魯斯山，山勢斜傾向舊金山市，金山寺便建於其坡上。法界佛教總會的總辦事處及國際譯經院，則設於灣區西岸的柏林根市，在此可仰觀旭日東昇於Diablo峰頂後。Diablo，在西班牙語意為惡魔。久遠以來，美國原住民便以他們的母語賦予這座孤峯多樣的名字。

Diablo山脈，也屬太平洋海岸山脈的一支，向南延展，直至聖荷西城東高起，而金聖寺興建在此。東溯至稍遠的沙加緬度河谷，即沙加緬度河切入 Cascade 山處，上人創立了法界聖城。

南加州

上人在洛杉磯市建立三個道場：帕莎迪那的金輪寺、長堤的長堤聖寺及福祿壽寺。

華嚴精舍在馬利蘭州之貝奢斯打

最後要說的是，屬於美國東岸阿帕拉契山脈之阿莉給莉山脈。在馬利蘭州，沿著波拓馬克河，緊靠著美國國府華盛頓之貝奢斯打，上人建立了華嚴精舍。

這些「聖地」，殊勝猶如六祖大師之「寶林」。上人是聖地守護者，亦是道場建立者，讓大家得以安住學佛。上人護衛聖地道場，並予以精神支持，在北美為佛教紮根，打下基礎。