

place built in Chinese style, with several courtyards and staircases'. It also housed three cows, two ponies, chickens and a vegetable garden, 'and even a bath, possibly the only one in Lijiang ...[and] one privy in the garden'.

In Lijiang the expedition members began preparations for climbing Mt Sansato. The servants who had been hired in Tengyueh were paid off and replaced by locals who knew the countryside and the mountains. Stores were bought and packed, and Dora and Marjorie had a tailor make them wool-lined jackets. They also spent time sightseeing in the town, and Dora particularly liked the streets where the coppersmiths worked. In her opinion the Lijiang copper pots, kettles, and trays were well made and very artistic, but not as well finished as metalware from Tibet. At that time Lijiang and its surrounding area had no tourist trade to speak of, so that all the artisans in the city produced for local consumption or traditional trade purposes. Dora found that it was impossible to buy silk in Lijiang as there was no local demand for it and no tourists to make importing it worthwhile.

The late monsoon rains had dogged the expedition from the beginning of the journey in Burma. Now the weather was to slow down the progress of reaching their goal by mid-November. On 28 September Mr Andrews, Mick and Kurt made the first trip to the mountain, to find a suitable site to set up a base camp when the weather settled. The job of the guides would then be to establish higher camps and plan the strategy of assault. On 5 October the climbing party followed five mules and their drivers, who had gone ahead carrying tents and baggage for the base camp, the set-up of which was quite luxurious. Situated about 3,300 metres, it was still among vegetation of firs, bamboos, crab apples, deciduous trees and peonies. A nearby spring was piped into wooden troughs made of hollowed-out tree trunks, probably made for the use of cattle, but on at least one occasion used as a hot-water bath. Two charcoal braziers supplied by Mr Andrews heated their living quarters. The supplies brought from Australia and Britain were supplemented by fresh food sent up from Lijiang using one of the porters, who couriered the shopping lists to Mrs Andrews, who did the shopping. Keeping meat fresh was a problem as by the time it arrived at the camp it was three days old and beginning to smell. To solve this they bought live sheep from a nearby village and did their own killing. They ate well, and Dora records that 'the Lijiang provisions included plenty of pumpkins, cabbages, potatoes, oranges, and pears, all very good'.

Two other camps were established higher up the mountain, one at 4,724 metres and the highest on a glacier below the summit, at 5,182 metres. By the time they were set up Mick Bowie and Kurt Suter had climbed to above 5,480 metres, but fog and rain kept them from attempting the summit; in fact, the party waited for a break in the weather from 5 to 25 October. On the 26th Marie and Marjory left for the high camp to join Kurt Suter and Mick Bowie for their first