

Qinghua Guo
Chinese Architecture and Planning: Ideas, Methods, Techniques

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China possesses a long continuous architectural history, and architecture plays a distinctive role in Chinese civilisation itself, in which the concept of architecture and the way of construction are entirely different from those in the West. In the field of architectural history, a specialist study by a variety of distinguished scholars, both Chinese and non-Chinese, covered the style and aesthetics of Chinese architecture that has been recognised as timelessness and unchanging quality. The architectural diversity and variation, and technological innovation and evolution of Chinese architecture have largely been ignored.

This book presents a thematic discussion of architectural history and a critical evaluation of city planning, with a focus on the issues of ideas, methods and techniques in the context of the culture, politics and religion of the pre-modern China. In the book, Qinghua Guo establishes a broad periodisation for the architectural formation and development with a clear conceptual framework for it, and interprets its architectonics and typology in details. This study attempts to identify major characters of Chinese architecture and planning in order to understand how they were formed and why.

Contents: 1. Formation and early development: architecture in the north; 2. *Kang*: characteristics of domestic architectural heating system; 3. Tomb architecture: old and new questions; 4. From tower to pagoda: structural and technological transition; 5. Multi-storeyed pagodas: the process of technological evolution in East Asia; 6. Timber building structures in Choson, Korea: a comparative approach; 7. *Yingzao Fashi*: twelfth-century manual for state buildings; 8. The architecture of joinery: rotating sutra-case cabinets; 9. Tile and brick making: a study on the *Yingzao Fashi*; 10. Architectural drawing: graphic representation methods and techniques; 11. Shenyang: the Manchurian ideal capital city and imperial palace, 1625–43; 12. Changchun: unfinished capital planning of Manzhouguo, 1932–42; 13. The planning and urban character of Seoul: Chinese perspectives.

Qinghua Guo is senior lecturer of Asian architecture and planning at the University of Melbourne, Australia. She received her B.A. in architecture from Harbin University of Technology, China, and her PhD in architectural history from Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden. Guo is the author of several books and scholarly articles, including *The Structure of Chinese Timber Architecture: Twelfth Century Design Standards and Construction Principles* (1999) and *A Visual Dictionary of Chinese Architecture* (2002).

Distributors

Brockhaus Commission
Kreidlerstraße 9
D-70806 Kornwestheim
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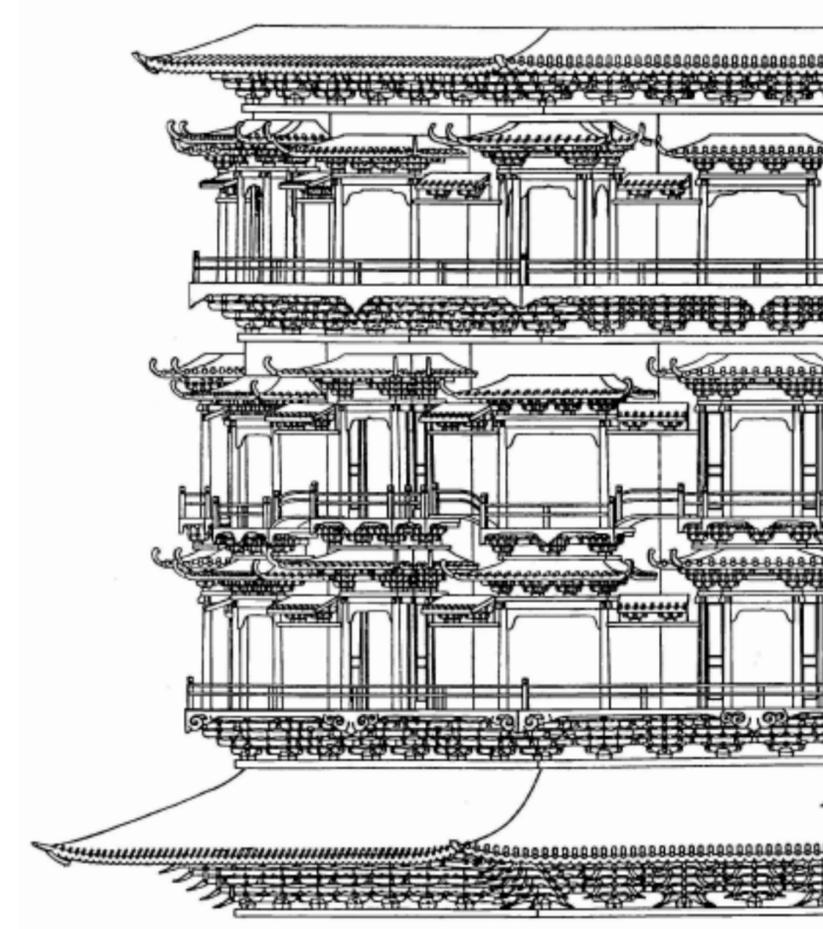
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To my parents Guo Lin and Jin Chunjie

Qinghua Guo

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