



珍图本

历代宫廷生活

Palace Life

王境轮 向 斯 【著】

By Wang jinglun Xiang Si

in Successive

Chinese Dynasties

Viewed through

Precious Pictures



金城出版社

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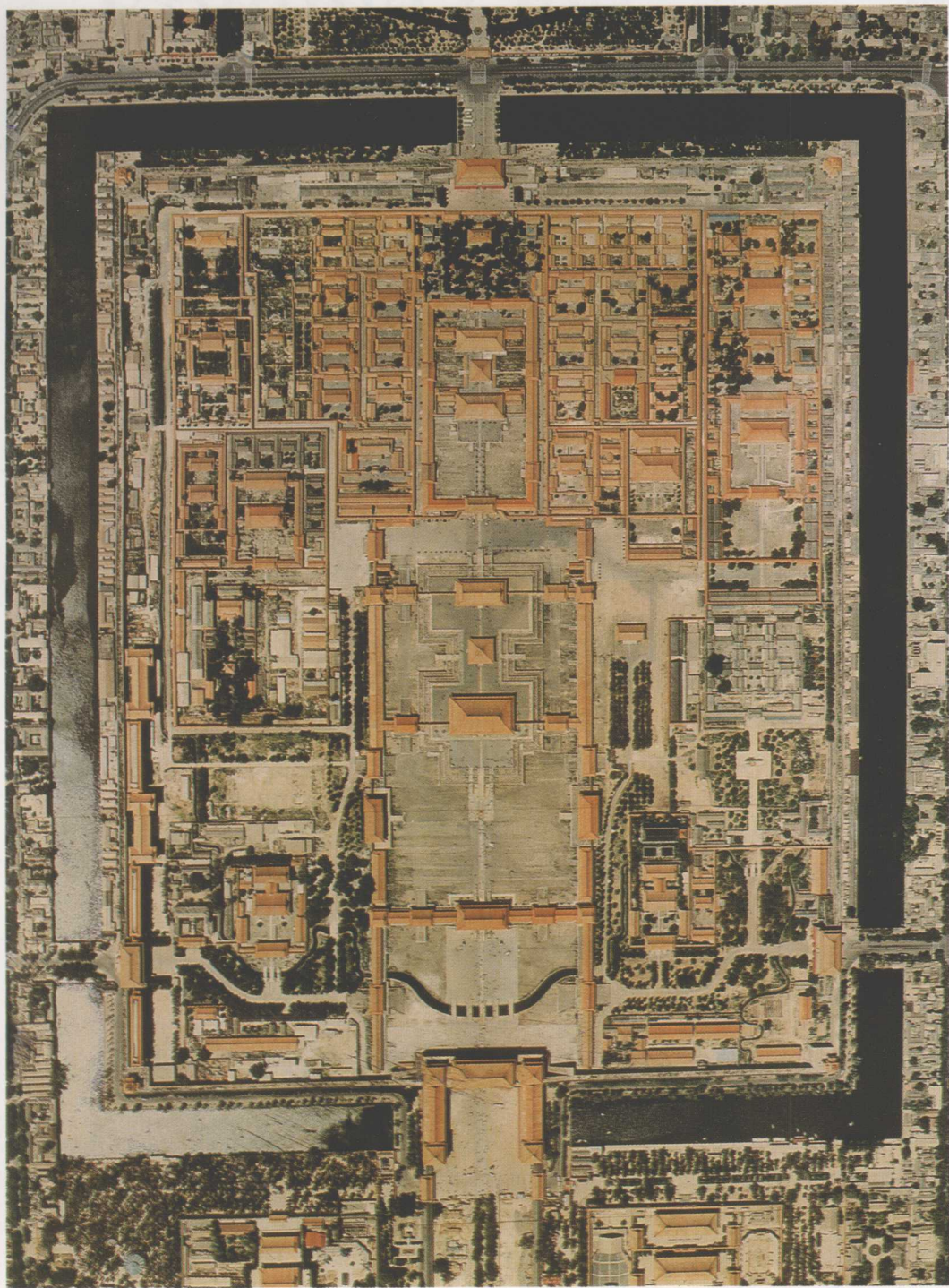
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原书缺页

宫 室 录



紫禁城全景图

Panoramic View of The Purple Forbidden City

上 编

· 第一章 宫室录 ·

中国的历代皇宫，笼罩在历史的迷雾之中，除了建于15世纪的明清紫禁城外，各代的皇宫都像湮没的楼兰古城一样，只剩下一片残垣瓦砾，它们昔日的形象不能展现在当今人们的眼前。人们只能通过文字记述去追想。

列入世界文化宝库的明清紫禁城，是中国皇宫的代表作，但是我们应该知道，中国早在公元前就建造过比紫禁城还要高大雄伟的宫殿，那就是秦朝的阿房宫。秦朝的兵马俑震惊世界，而秦朝为建阿房宫所投入的物力远远高于兵马俑的建造。秦朝还为此招致了民怨，丧失了天下。以后的朝代营建宫室，都以秦朝为戒，反对奢华。尽管如此，中国在中古时代所建造的皇宫在气势上和规模上常常高于明清紫禁城，如唐朝的麟德殿，就相当于紫禁城最大的宫殿太和殿的三倍。

中国皇宫建筑都是土木结构，如能精心保护，可维持上千年。但是可以肯定地说，大部分被毁坏的宫殿都不是自然损耗的结果，几乎每一座宫殿在它尚称完好的时候就毁灭于自然或人为的火灾。中国的改朝换代频繁，许多新兴王朝都以毁灭旧王朝的宫室来标志旧王朝统治的结束，清代除外，这一支少数民族入主中原的政权完全接受了明王朝的皇宫。

中国历代的怀古诗中，有一大部分就是以前朝宫殿的废墟为咏叹对象的。

因此我们在这里，不妨怀着一种诗意，去观赏明清紫禁城，并透过紫禁城，去怀想古代湮灭在迷雾中的宫室。

Volume One

Chapter I

Palaces and Chambers

Imperial palaces in the successive dynasties of China have been enveloped in the mist of history: except for the Purple Forbidden City built in the fifteenth century in the Ming and Qing dynasties, imperial palaces of the successive dynasties were all reduced to crumbling walls and rubble heaps — just like the Ancient Loulan City which had been buried in oblivion. Since the original images of the imperial palaces cannot be unfolded before people of modern times, we can only imagine them in retrospect through literary recordings.

The Purple Forbidden City of the Ming and Qing dynasties listed as one of the cultural treasures in the world is a representative work of Chinese imperial palaces. Nevertheless, palaces taller and grander than the Purple Forbidden City had been built in China even before the Christian era. One such palace was the Epang Palace built during the Qin Dynasty. Terracotta warriors of the Qin Dynasty has shocked the whole world, but the Qin government had spent far more material resources in building the Epang Palace than building those terracotta warriors, which had led to strong public discontent and the ruin of the empire. The following dynasties all took warnings from the Qin Dynasty and opposed extravagance when they built palaces and chambers. However, in terms of momentum and scale, imperial palaces built during the Ancient and Middle times of China were often grander and larger than the Purple Forbidden City in the Ming and Qing dynasties. For example, the Linde Hall of the Tang Dynasty was three times as large as the Hall of Supreme Harmony which is the largest hall in the Purple Forbidden City.

The construction of Chinese imperial palaces usually adopted a wood and earth structure. If carefully protected, those palaces may last thousands of years. However, most of their destruction was not the result of natural wear — almost all of the palaces were ruined by accidental fire or arson while they were still in good condition. Dynastic changes were frequent in China, and many burgeoning dynasties marked the end of the control of the old ones by destroying or discarding their old palaces and chambers; only the Qing Dynasty was an exception: this ethnic minority power entering the Central Plains completely accepted the imperial palace of the Ming Dynasty.

Among Chinese poems of the successive dynasties which meditated on the past, a large portion were directed towards the palace ruins of former dynasties. Therefore, we may also appreciate the Purple Forbidden City with some poetic sentiment, and yearn for the ancient palaces and chambers annihilated in the mist.



1

1. 紫禁城内太和殿

太和殿在明朝称为奉天殿，民间俗称金銮宝殿，是皇权的象征，朝廷一应重大礼仪活动都在这里进行，包括：即位、大婚、册立太子、三大节（元旦、冬至、万寿节）等。

1. Hall of Supreme Harmony in the Purple Forbidden City

The Hall of Supreme Harmony, which was called the Fengtian (Worshipping Heaven) Hall in the Ming Dynasty and Gold Dragon Hall by the folk, is the symbol of imperial power. All important ceremonial activities of the court including enthronement, grand wedding, appointment of the crown prince, three most important holidays (the Chinese New Year, the Winter Solstice, the emperor's birthday), etc., were performed here.