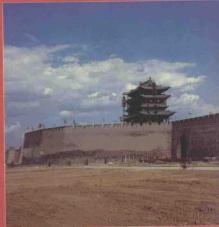
半 遥



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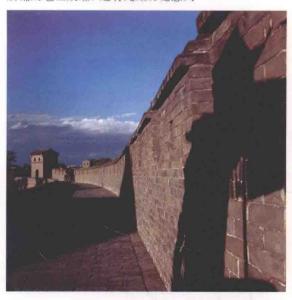
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平遥古城

平遥位于山西中部,太原盆地南端,是一座历史悠久的古城。据史料记载:平遥古城的始建年代在周宣王时期(公元前827年~公元前782年之间)。为西周大将尹吉甫北伐俨狁时的驻兵之处,当时只筑西、北两面。北魏初,夯土筑城、称平陶。魏太武帝拓拔焘始光元年(424)因避太武帝的名讳(焘、陶同音)改名平遥。算起来至今已有二千七百多年的历史了。

明洪武三年(1370)对平遥城进行了扩建,由"九里十八步"改筑为"十二里八分四厘"。之后的明清两季,出于军事防御等需要对平遥城进行了二十五次修葺,但基本规模及格局未变。

现存的建筑主要是明清两代的, 古城及其近郊有保存基本完整的城 墙、井然的街道、匠心独具的木结构 民居民宅以及名震一时的晋商票号、店铺的老屋故址。还有几座历史悠久



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的佛寺、道观,构城一幅完整的古代 县城风情画。

由于兵燹野火、天灾人祸以及岁月的消磨,我国古代县城大多桑田沧海,面目难寻了,而平遥古城保存得如此完好就更显难能可贵。1997年12月,平遥古城被联合国教科文组织正式列入《世界文化遗产》。更加引起全球各界人士的热情关注,成千上万的国内外游客纷至沓来,领略这座中国北方古代城市的风采。平遥古城作为全人类的共同文化财富,必将继续为全世界提供文明的滋养与佐证。

一、古城

平谣古城的城墙内为夯土,外包 砖石、高约10米、墙顶宽3-5米。除 南面的城墙因河川的走势而随之有些 曲折之外, 东、北、西三方均为直线, 全城平面基本为方形,周长6162.7米。 南北各一门,东西各二门,均建有瓮 城,筑有重檐歇山顶的城楼。城墙顶 部每隔50-100米筑敌楼一座,用以瞭 敌,共计72座;垛堞高约2米,共 有垛口3000个。据传象征孔夫子门徒 贤人72、弟子3000之数。古城的四角 原来各有角楼一座,现已无存。另外, 还留有魁星楼、点将台各一。城墙四 周掘有护城壕、深、宽均在 3.3米以 上,沿河植有槐、柳,城门处有吊桥 相通。

当地百姓称平遥城为"龟城"。以南北二门为龟之首尾,东西四门为龟 之四脚。南门有里外两门,犹若龟首 外探,南门外所掘之二眼水井,恰似 龟之双眼。北门的外门向东偏弯,如 龟尾东甩;东西四门又都南向弯曲, 恰如龟足爬行之状。有人认为是筑城 时考虑西北方向的水患所致,但尚无 确证。

二、街市

平遥古城的街道,以市楼为中心。县衙署、城隍庙、文庙、武庙、财神庙、吉祥寺等公共建筑对称有序地排列。主要街道呈"干"字形布局,城内有"四大街、八小街、七十二条蚰蜒巷"之称。街市建筑虽历经沧桑,然风骨犹存,无破败之像。在较为显赫的宅第、商铺的石制门槛上,留有深深的车辙印痕,依稀可见当年车水马龙的盛况。

古城的街道不宽,但布局井然有序,门楼、牌坊点缀其间,墙院连亘,房舍错落。闹市繁华,小巷幽深。令人发思古之幽情,萌怀乡之意念,身临其境,恍若隔世。

市楼原是全城最高建筑,高18.5 米,虎踞于古城中心,下有大街贯通 南北。为三重檐歇山顶木构架楼阁。 因其位于城内商贸中心,昔有一日 早、午、晚三市之说,故名之为市楼。 始建年代不详,清康熙二十七年 (1688)重修,为省级重点文物保护单 位。

三、商铺

平遥是晋帮商人的重要发源地之一。早在1824年,由雷履秦创办的日升昌票号便开始了中国最早的汇兑业务,标志着中国近代金融业的诞生。日升昌创立后的几年之内,其分支机构便迅速拓展到江苏、山东、河南、辽宁等地。以后又在北京、重庆、天津、广州、汉口、西安、南昌、长沙、三原等地增设分号,遍及大江南北当时

的主要城市。日升昌的崛起,使晋帮商人纷纷仿效,票号业影响越来越大,其业务范围达朝鲜、日本、新加坡、俄罗斯等国。平遥城里聚集了如日升通、日升达、百川通、万源盛、协同庆、协同秦等20多家全国性质的票号总部。占当时全国票号总数的一半以上。邻近的太谷、祁县也有许多票号产生,晋帮商人几乎垄断了当时全国主要的金融业务。除商务金融而外,连清朝各级政府的工业、铁路、水利、赈灾、边海防的军事金融以及国际金融等等,也绝大部分由晋帮票号经营、代办。几乎起到了清政府"财政部"、"中央银行"的作用。

时至今日,虽然晋帮票号的往日 辉煌已成了历史遗迹。但我们仍然不 难从平遥古城西大街那些票号的旧址 中寻觅当时"亚洲华尔街"的鼎盛。 四、民居

平遥古城现存传统的四合院民居 3797处,其中400余处保存得非常完 整。这些民居大多数为明清建筑,但 个别宅院是国内罕见的元代民居建 筑,迄今已六百余年。

平遥民居布局多样,有独门院落,也有数进院、穿堂院;有正偏组合式院落,也有偶合院式结构。房屋主要为木架构青砖灰瓦硬山式,也有砖碹窑洞加前檐、或窑洞上再建楼房的。栏额、雀替、窗棂、木门上常有精美的雕刻,石刻的柱础、砖雕的照壁比比皆是。屋顶则筒瓦筑垅,垅端有虎面瓦当,沟头有雕花滴水。体面人家屋脊砖雕华丽,瑞兽、鸱吻具全。平遥民居具有典型的山西中部民居建筑的特征。

五. 衙署

自秦始皇实行郡县制以来,平遥 便一直是县城。在中国的封建社会县 衙不仅是一级政权的行政管理机构, 也是司法机关。因而衙署重地的建设 也就格外的重要了。

平遥县衙位于古城内的衙门街, 始建于元至正六年(1346),现存建筑 为明清规制,除中轴线上最后一座建 筑大仙楼是元代遗构外,其余大部分 为明万历年重修时所建。衙门坐北朝 南,南北轴线长 200 余米。建筑群主 从有序,依照左文右武、前朝后寝的 封建规制,总共建有房屋 299 间半。

其中轴线上布有大门、仪门、戒石坊、大堂、宅门、二堂、内宅与大仙楼 东侧依次为土地祠、酂侯庙、粮厅、花厅,西侧线为牢狱、公廨房、督捕厅、洪善驿。县衙建筑群规距森然,处处体现统治中国两千多年的封建礼制和"王法"。而各建筑物上又多有楹联,其内容极富人情、哲理,使人读来在无穷回味之余,更深刻领会古代中国的社会风貌。

六、寺庙、道观

平遥的寺观和古城一样,有悠久 的历史和很高的文化价值。

双林寺,位于古城西南6公里处的桥头村,是《世界文化遗产》平遥古城的组成部分。原名中都寺,始建年代不详。据寺内现存北宋祥符四年(1011)的碑刻记载:该寺"重修于北齐武平二年(571)"。宋时,取佛经"双林入灭"之说,改名为双林寺。寺庙建筑则在明清两代有过较大的重修或重建,现存建筑主要是明代遗构。

双林寺共有三进院落, 计有殿堂



十座,彩塑两千余尊。其中佛祖、菩萨泰然自若;金刚、神将威武凶猛;天王、罗汉神态各异;供养人则在凡俗中透露着浓浓的生活气息。这些彩塑具有极高的艺术价值和强烈的艺术感染力,双林寺也因之而被誉为"东方彩塑艺术的宝库"。

双林寺是国家级重点文物保护单 位。

镇国寺,位于古城东北12公里的 郝洞村,也是平遥古城这一《世界文 化遗产》的重要组成部分。始建于五 代北汉天会七年(963)。原名京城寺, 明嘉靖十九年(1540)改现名。寺内 主建筑万佛殿为五代遗构,颇具唐代 建筑遗风,大型斗拱和殿内的彩塑都 能给人留下深刻的印像。是国家级重 点文物保护单位。

清虚观,省级重点文物保护单位,在古城城内东大街路北。始建于唐显庆二年(657),鼎盛于元代,是一座布局完整、别具风貌的道教宫观,占地6000余平方米。有龙虎殿、纯阳宫等著名建筑,其中龙虎殿是座应用所谓"悬梁吊柱"法修建的元代建筑物,为国内所少见。

清虚观有道教木雕神像二十余 尊,为我们研究道教艺术提供了可贵 的资料。

清虚观现已辟为平遥县博物馆, 藏有珍贵文物千余件。

城隍庙,平遥城隍庙是目前国内保存最完整的城隍庙之一。其始建于明初,嘉靖三十三年(1554)重修,清康熙、乾隆年间又予补建、修葺。但在咸丰九年(1859)庙会期间被大火焚毁,清同治三年(1864)重修,现存建筑是清代规制。

城隍,为道教中守护城池的神祗,颇有神中"地方官"的意味。因而平遥城隍庙除具有殿前戏楼、殿后寝宫的道教殿堂建筑特点而外,还具有官署建筑风格,而且灶君庙、财神庙分列于城隍庙东西两侧,既"各自为政",又相互沟通,三庙合一,结构颇为奇特。

平遥古城浓缩了两千多年的历史 与文化,仅各级重点文物保护单位就 达99个,这里难以一一介绍。但我们 深信,这些珍贵的文化遗产必将随着 岁月的增长,放射出愈加灿烂的异 彩。

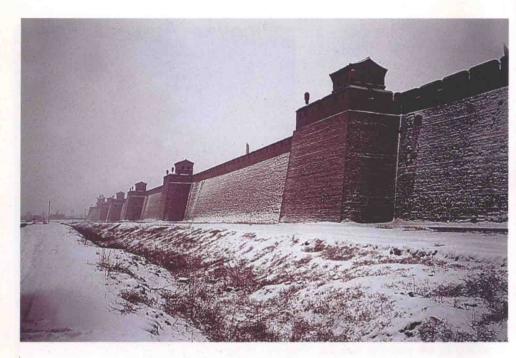
Pingyao Ancient Town

Pingyao, a town with a long history, is located in the central part of Shanxi Province, close to the southern end of the Taiyuan Basin. According to the historical records. this ancient town was originally built in the period of Xuan Emperor of Zhou Dynasty (827 B.C.--782 BC) It was built the northern and western walls only as a garrison town by a Zhou Dynasty general named Yin Jifu, In the early period of Northern Wei Dynasty four rammed earth walls were built and the town was named Ping Tao.In the year 424,the first year of Shi Guang Period of Northern Wei Dynasty, to avoid the sound "Tao", which was part of the Emperor'sname "Tuoba Tao" of Northern Wei Dynasty, Ping Tao was

renamed as Pingyao. From this we can see the town has had a history as long as 2700 years.

In 1370, the third year of Hongwu of Ming Dynasty, the town was expanded with the city wall lengthened from 9 *Li* plus 18 *steps* to 12 *Li* plus 8.4 *Fen.(Li,Fen,and step* are ancient Chinese measurement units.) In later Ming and Qing Dynasties, out of the needs of military defence, Pingyao Town was repaired and strengthened for 25 times, resulting in the present size and state,

The existent buildings were all built in Ming and Qing Dynasties. There are intact ancient city walls, well-planned roads and streets, uniquely designed wood-structured houses and courtyards, historically famous Shanxi commercial banks and



shops, Together with several existent ancient Buddhist and Taoist temples, Pingyao City presents a complete beautiful picture of ancient life style in North China.

Because of natural disasters, war-tearing and time-wearing, most of ancient city towns in China have been destroyed. So well-preserved is the Pingyao ancient city that we can say it is a miracle and it is of great historical significance. In Dec. 1997, Pingyao Ancient City was listed as one of the world cultural heritages by UNESCO. This has aroused people's great interest the

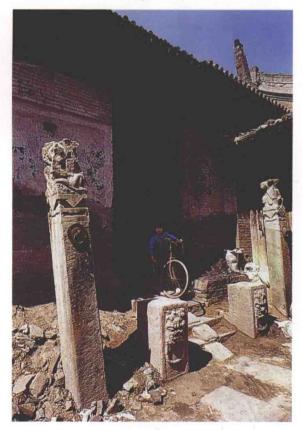
world over, Thousands upon thousands visitors from both at home and abroad have come to visit it and appreciate its ancient beauty. As part of human being's common cultural wealth, this ancient city will help people witness the human history and provide people with more historical nourishment

I Ancient City Walls and Gates

Built with rammed earth inside and brick and stone outside, the ancient city walls measure 10 meters high and 6162.7 meters long with

3-5 meters wide tops. Except the southern wall which zigzags a bit according to the land contour, the other three walls all go straight. making the city area a square one. One city gate was built each to the southern and northern walls and two city gates were built each to the western and eastern walls All six city gates have gate towers and inside gates attached to them. A watch tower was built on the wall top every 50-100 meters away, totalling 72 watch towers in all along the four walls. The parapets measuring 2 meters high each were built along the outside edges of the walls with 3000 mouths left open for defence shooting. It is said that Confucius once had 72 disciples and 3000 students, therefore 72 watch towers and 3000 parapets! openings on the top of the four walls were built. There were another four grand watch towers originally built on the four corners of the squared walls, but they all disappeared long ago, with only one Great Scholar Tower and one Nameroll Calling Platform on the wall tops left today. Dug around the walls is a defence ditch measuring more than 3.3 meters in depth and 3.3 meters in width with trees planted along it. A drawbridge is built in front of each gate.

Pingyao City is called "Tortoise City" by local people, because the southern gate and the northern gate look like the head and tail of a tortoise, while the two gates in the eastern wall and two gates in the western wall look much like the four legs of a tortoise. With the outside gate extended a bit out of the inside southern gate and two wells dug outside on eitherside, the tortoise city seems, to have its own head and its two eyes. What's



more, the northern gate curves a bit towards the east, the four gates in both the western and eastern walls curve a bit all towards the south. This design shows as if a tortoise is crawling forward. Some people say it was for preventing the flood coming from the north—west that the city walls were built in such a pattern. But there is no definite proof for this saying except the symbolic meaning of eternity given by the shape of a tortoise according to the Chinese mentality.

Il Streets and Markets

The three-storey Market Tower is the center and joint point of the city streets. The buildings such as Ancient City Government seat Town God's Temple, Confucius Temple, Military God Temple, Wealth God Temple and Lucky Fortune Temple are arranged symmetrically. With its main streets forming a "干" shape, there are altogether four main streets. eight branch streets and 72 lanes in the city area. Having stood a long time weather-wearing, all these buildings show no sign of dilapidation. In front of the gates of some magnificent buildings and grand shops, deep ruts on the ground are still there to be seen, reminding visitors of its ancient busy traffic and commercial situation.

The streets in this ancient town

are not broad, but very well arranged. Dotted with memorial archways and decorated gateways, stretching one after another and high and low, the old houses and courtyards flanking the streets and lanes remind visitors of the long past and their ancestral places. Walking along the ancient streets, you seem to have landed in a world beyond the present one

18.5 meters in height, and situated in the town centre, the Market Tower is the highest building, with the main street from the south to the north running through it. It is said the marketing was going on around the Tower all day long, thus it was named the Market Tower. Belonging now to the historial sites protected by the provincial government, it was renovated in 1688 during the Emperor Kangxi Period of Qing Dynasty, though people still don't know when it was first built.

III Banks and Shops

Pingyao is one of the birth places of Shanxi's banking and commercial businesses. As early as in 1824, Bank of Ri Sheng Chang (Sunrise Prosperity) initiated by Mr. Lei Lutai had begun its banking business. Probably it was the earliest bank in China and the beginning of Chinese finance business in the modern era. Within a few years of its founding,

its branch banks were rapidly distributed to Jiangsu, Shandong, Henan and Liaoning Provinces Branch banks were also set up in such big cities as Beijing, Chongging, Tianjin, Guangzhou, Hankou, Xi'an, Nanchang Changsha Sanyuan and so on, Followed by many Shanxi merchants and bankers, the banking business of Shanxi developed quickly. reaching such countries as Korea. Japan Singapore Russia and so on Besides Ri Sheng Chang, collected in Pingvao City were more than 20 headquarters of such big nationwide banks as Ri Sheng Tong Ri Sheng Da, Bai Chuan Tong, Wan Yuan Sheng, Xie Tong Qin, Xie Tong Tai and so on There were also many banks in neighbouring counties like Tai Gu and Qi Xian, Shanxi's banks constituted more than half of the banks in China, dominating then nation's finance business. Besides the banking business in commerce Qing government's bank business affairs in the fields of industry railways water projects coastal defence, relief funds and international finance affairs were all handled and managed by Shanxi's Bank System, They almost played the roles of the National Central Bank and the National Finance Ministry of this country at that time,

Up till today, people can still trace its great prosperity of the bank groups nicknamed as "Asian Wall



Street" from the remaining bank and shop buildings along the West Main Street in ancient Pingyao City.

IV Houses and Courtyards

There are altogether 3797 traditional residential "Siheyuan", courtyards enclosed by buildings on all four sides, among which 400 courtyards are still well-preserved. Most of these courtyards have been left over since Ming and Qing Dynasties; some are the Yuan Dynasty buildings enjoying a history of more than 600 years, which are rarely seen in other parts of China.

Residential constructions in Pingyao vary greatly in style. Some are single-doored courtyards with buildings on all four sides. Some are compounds with two or three courtyards in a string, or with a grand passway between two courtyards. Some courtyards have

another courtyard coupled, with the main or two main courtvards paralleling with each other. Most of the houses are wood-framed, having the walls built with bricks and the roofs covered with grey tiles. Some houses have brick-arched ceilings, or have another room built over this cave-like house. Usually, the wooden doors, windows, cornices and their supporters have intricate designs and decorations Stone columns and their bases are also sculptured beautifully. Brick walls opposite to the courtyard front doors always have meaningful sculptures on them Pediments on the house roofs are built up and covered by tiles with both ends decorated by tiger-faced tiles. The pediments on rich families! house roofs are usually fixed with elegant animalshaped tiles specially made of baked clay. The residential houses in Pingyao bear all the typical characteristics of the houses in the central part of Shanxi Province

V Seat of Ancient Government

Since the First Emperor Period of Qin Dynasty (221 B.C.), Pingyao has been the seat of the county government. In the long period of Chinese feudal society, the seat of a county government ont only served not only as a place where civil administration was done but as a

place where law suits were handled and criminals imprisoned. Therefore, the seat of county government was a very important place in the old days.

The seat of old Pingvao government, located in the downtown area of the ancient city, was originally built in 1346 in Yuan Dynasty, Except Da Xian Lou, the grand mansion, which was built in Yuan Dynasty, all other houses and buildings were rebuilt in the Wan Li Period of Ming Dynasty, Facing the south, the cluster of buildings in this ancient county government seat were built along a central line about 200 meters long. The buildings in this compound are arranged according to the feudal rules and regulations with the proper order of the superior and inferior and with the temples and offices to the left and safe-guarding and military services to the right. There are altoaether 299 rooms in the compound. Along the central line are such buildings as the grand gate, the ceremony gate, the archway, the main hall, the official residence's gate. the guest-receiving hall, the residential rooms and the grand masion. To the east of the centralline, buildings are the Land God Temple, Zan Hou Temple, Grain Hall and Flower Garden. To the west are the prison. the court, the garrison and the Hongshan post. The layout and the

scale of these buildings follow strictly the patterns laid down by the feudal rules and regulations with the dignity of the Emperor's laws revealed. On the columns of each hall hung the wooden couplets bearing the words suitable to its function. People can get a better understanding of the feudal society after reading these interesting words on the couplets.

VI Buddhist and Taoist Temples

The Buddhist and Taoist temples in Pingyao are as old as the ancient city, bearing a high value of culture.

Shuang Lin Temple is located in Qiao Tou Village, 6 kilometers away to the south -west of Pingyao. It is part of UNESCO-approved World Culture Heritage in Pingyao, Originaly named Zhong Du Temple, no one knows when it was first built. According to the record of the stone tablet erected in the year 1011 during Northern Song Dynasty, the temple was renovated in the year 571 during Northern Qi Dynasty, In Song Dynasty, the temple was renamed as Shuang Lin Temple, taking after the saying from the Buddhist script that the Buddha passed away in Shuang Lin. The buildings in the temple underwent reconstruction and renovation in a great scale in Ming and Qing Dynasties. The most existent buildings belong to the Ming Dynasty architecture,

There are more than 2000 painted statues in ten halls distributed in three connected courtvards The Sakyamuni and Bodhisattva statues look quite self-possessed The statues of Buddha's quardian warriors and attendants seem majestic and awe-inspiring. While statues of Skandas and arhats are bearing various expressions, the statues of worshippers and contributors appear timid and filial. These painted statues have great artistic values and exercise great artistic appeals. That's why this temple is named the "Treasure House of Painted Sculptures in the East"

Shuang Lin Temple is now a site under the state-level protection.

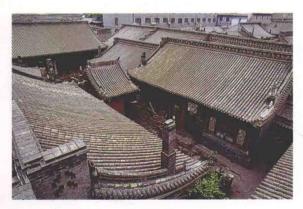
Zhen Guo Temple is located in Hao Dong Village, 12 kilometers away to the north-east of Pingyao City. It is also part of the UNESCOapproved World Culture Heritage in Pingyao, Originally built in 963 and named Jingcheng Temple, it was renamed as Zhen Guo Temple in 1540 during the Ming Dynasty. Its main hall called "Wanfu (10 thousand Buddhas) Hall" enjoys the Tang Dynasty architecture style, leaving visitors a deep impression by its magnificent building and painted statues It is also under the statelevel protection.

Qing Xu Temple is a Taoist temple under the province-level

protection located on the north side of the East Street in Pingyao City, Originally built in 652 during the Tang Dynasty, this welllaid out Taoist temple enjoys a special feature of its own Covering 6000 m2, the famous buildings like Dragon - tiger Hall and Chun Yang (Pure Sun) Palace dominate the temple. Dragon - tiger Hall is a Yuan Dynasty building built in a peculiar and rarely-seen technique called "Hanging beams and dangling pillars". There are more than 20 painted wooden sculptures of Taoist saints. which provide people with valuable samples in doing research of Taoism and Taoist arts

Qing Xu Temple is now opened up as Pingyao Museum, storing thousands of valuable relics,

City God Temple of Pingyao is one of the well-preserved city god temples in China. This Taoist temple was first built in early Ming



Dynasty, repaired in 1554 during the Ming Jiang Jing Period, renovated and supplemented in later Qing Dynasty. In 1859, the temple was burned down during a temple fair. It was rebuilt in 1864, the third year of Tong Zhi Period of Qing Dynasty.

City God, a god for keeping city safe in Taoism, seems to be a "local official". Therefore, the temple built for him looks like a government seat, with the same feature of having a performance stage in front of the main hall and residence behind it as other Taoist temples do. City God Temple in Pingyao is flanked with a temple named Kitchen God Temple to the east and Wealth God Temple to the west, Communicating each other and administering each own affairs, the three gods live in one's own temple close to each other One can't help exclaiming in admiration that the idea is quite prodigious.

Ancient Pingyao City condenses two thousand years' local history and culture. It is very hard for us to introduce one by one as many as 99 key historical sites under the protection of governments at all levels. We firmly believe that these valuable cultural and historical relics and remains in Pingyao will shed even greater brilliance with the time passing by.

平遥古城

平遥は山西省の中部に位し、太原盆地の南端に當にり、歴史の古い城池(都市)である。史料によれば、平遥古城が始めて築かれたのは周の宣王時代(紀元前827年——紀元前782年の間)で、西周の大將尹吉甫が北伐するとき駐兵する所である。當時は北と西の両面にしか城壁が築かれなかった。北魏の始め、土を付き固めて城壁を築き、平陶と呼んでいた。魏の太武帝拓拔燾の始光元年(424)太武帝の忌み名を避けるため(燾と陶は同音)平遥と改められた。こう見てくれば平遥は既に2800年の歴史を持っていることがわかる。

明の洪武三年(1370)に平遥城が増築され、もとの"九里十八步"から"十二里八分四厘"まで擴張された。その後、明、清の両朝にかけて、軍事防御の必要から二十五回にわたる修繕が実施されたが、その基本的な規模や配置はそ

のまま保持されていた。 現存するお建物は主に明、清の両代

