

18 CARDS

北京胡同,最初形成于元朝。"胡同"两字是蒙古语的译音,原意为"水井"。走进北京的胡同,犹如进入了博物馆,那丰厚的文化底蕴叫人叹为观止。胡同里形形色色的宅院大门,精雕细琢的砖雕,形态各异的门墩儿,参天的古木,还有影壁、石刻……无一不诉说着胡同悠久的历史,展示着古都的独特风韵。胡同像一部丰富多彩的百科全书,既反映了北京悠远的历史,又展开了解现代社会风情的画卷。

北京四合院,历史悠久、特色浓重,作为北京传统的住宅形势,闻名于古今中外,是中国珍贵的民族文化遗产。北京的四合院有大、中、小三种不同规格,均按古代"前朝后寝"的礼制进行布局。四合院的装修、雕饰、彩绘,处处体现着民俗民风和传统文化,表现一定历史条件下人们对幸福、美好、富裕、吉祥的追求。四合院还种有树木、花草,环境优雅宜人。

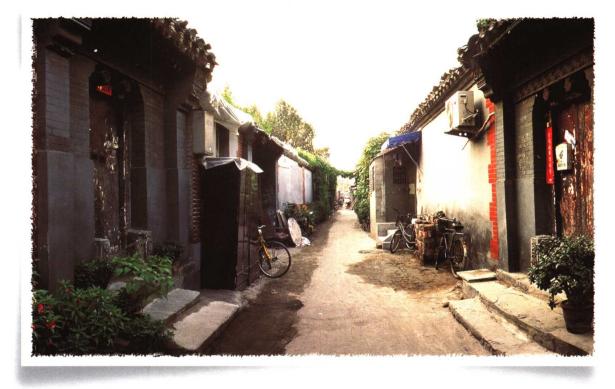
The hutong's history can be traced back to the Yuan Dynasty when the Mongols built Dadu (Great Capital), which later became Beijing. The word "hutong" is said to originate from the word "hottog" which means "well" in Mongolian. One feels as if he entered a museum when walking along the hutongs and feeling the appeal of the local culture, which can be seen in the front gates of courtyards houses, the exquisitely carved bricks, various—shapes of wooden or stone blocks supporting the pivot of a door, ancient trees, screen walls facing the gate inside the courtyard, and stone carvings.

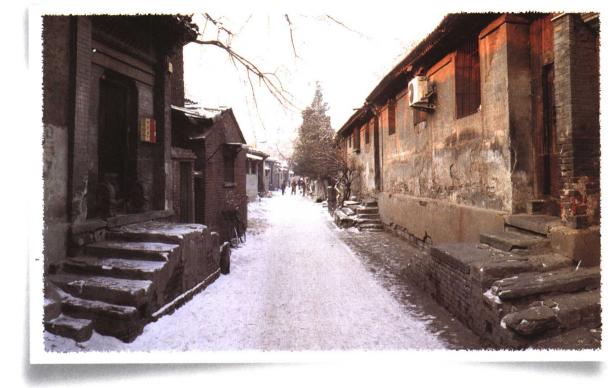
Beijing's hutongs tell the stories of old Beijing and showcase the unique flavor of the ancient capital.

The courtyard houses in Beijing have a long history, and they are traditional residential compounds with houses around courtyards. There are three kinds of courtyard house, large, medium, and small. All of then were built in accordance with a strict set of rules, from their size and style one could tell, whether they belonged to private individuals or the powerful and the rich. The fittings, decorations and paintings in the courtyard houses display the local customs and traditional culture and showcase people's wish for happiness, beauty, well-being, and good luck. Beijingers like to grow trees and flowers in their courtyards, making their homes lovely and pleasant.

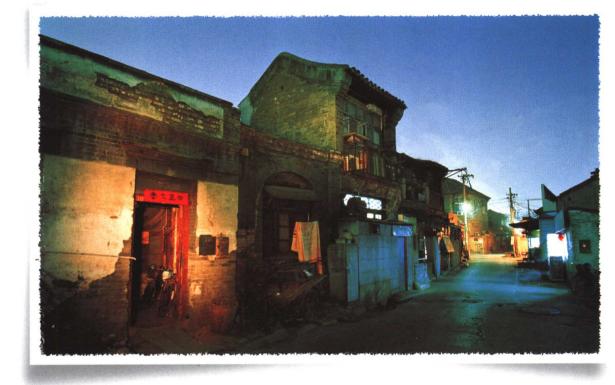
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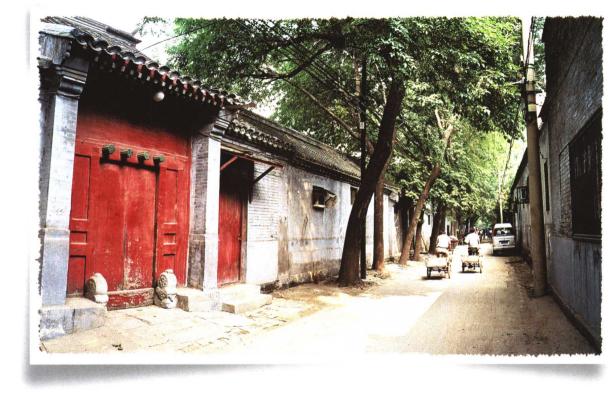
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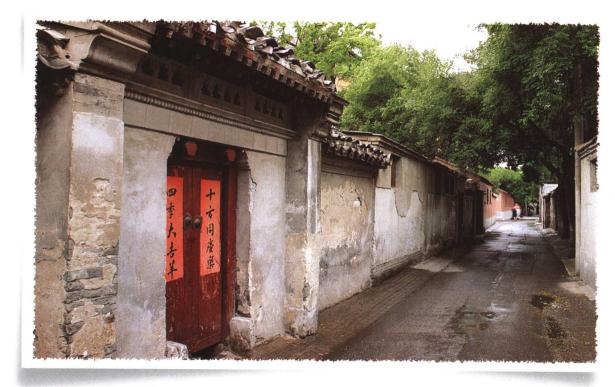
Night scene of Western Xinglong Street in Chongwen District

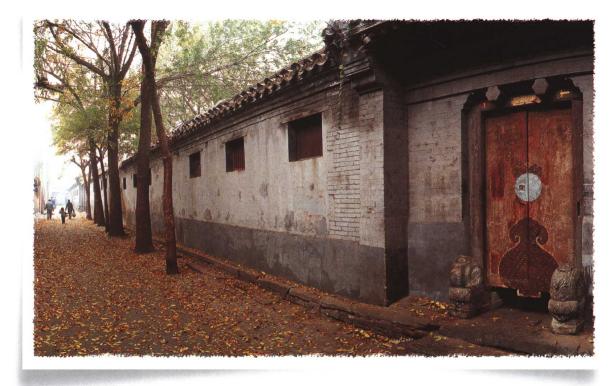




东城区朝内南小街新鲜胡同

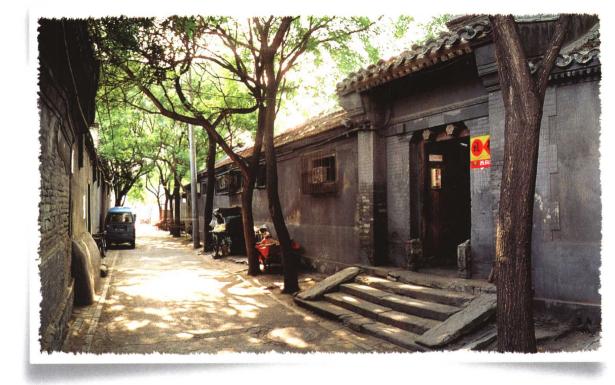
Xinxian Hutong on Nanxiaojie Street inside Chaoyongmen, Dongcheng District







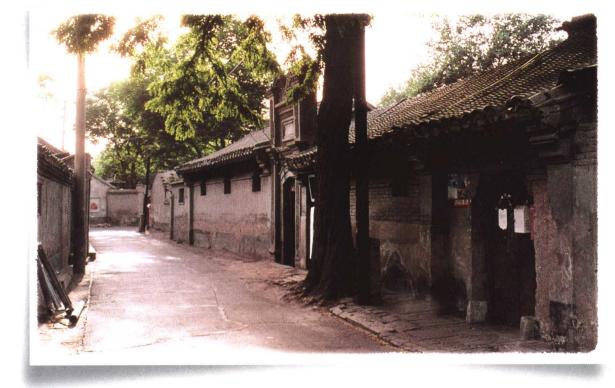
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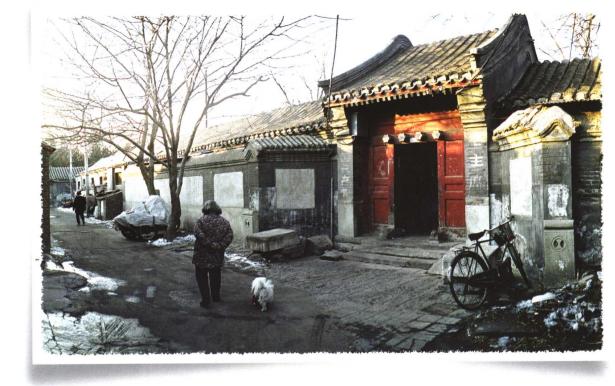




东城区豆腐池胡同东段15号毛泽东1918年居住处

No.15 Courtyard of eastern section of Doufuchi Hutong, Dongcheng District, Mao zedong lived here in 1918





东城区南池子大街飞龙桥胡同5号

No.5 Courtyard in Feilongqiao Hutong on the Nanchizi Street, Dongcheng District

