

生活在二级阶地上的人们

People of the Second Terrace

——半坡遗址概览

An Overview of **Banpo Site**

主编：张礼智



陕西旅游出版社

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二级阶地——智慧与理性的选择

Second terrace—a wise choice



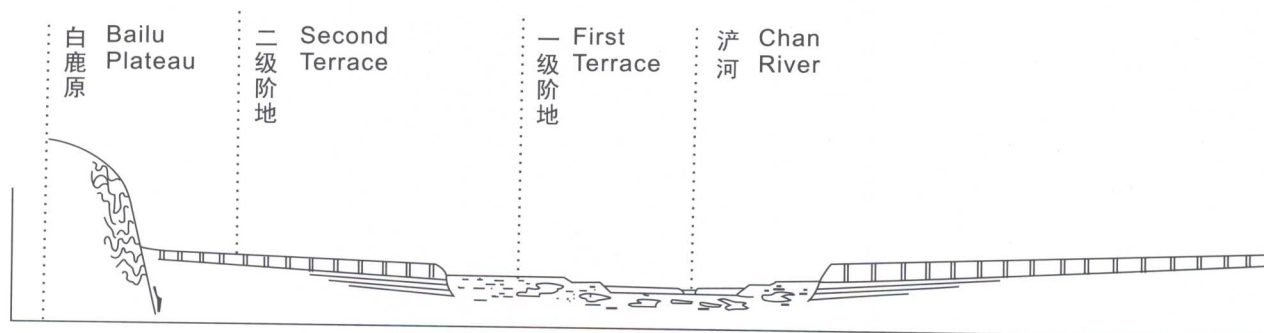
半坡原始人的生活场景 Early Banpo civiligahon

二级阶地是一个地理学名词，指的是河流两岸的第二级平台。考古学家发现生活在渭河流域的新石器时代的人们常常把居址选择在这样的地方。

我们还无法准确地知道半坡人及他们同时代的人们为什么会选择这样的地方栖居，合乎逻辑的解释只能是包括经验和教训在内的生活积累：定居使人们对水源的依赖不可或缺，而过分亲水则易受水患侵扰，于是这不远不近、高低适中的二级阶台便成为最佳选择。

The Second Terrace, a geographic term, refers to the second of a series of raised flat areas usually bordering a river. Archaeologists discovered that Neolithic people living in the Weihe River valley normally chose to live in such areas.

We are not sure why the Banpo people and their peers decided to inhabit such areas, but we believe that it could be justified by their life experiences. Water was a vital element for survival, but it could cause disaster as well. Therefore, a second terrace, not too close and not too far proved the best choice.



浐河东岸二级阶地示意图

An illustration of the second terrace on the east bank of Chan River

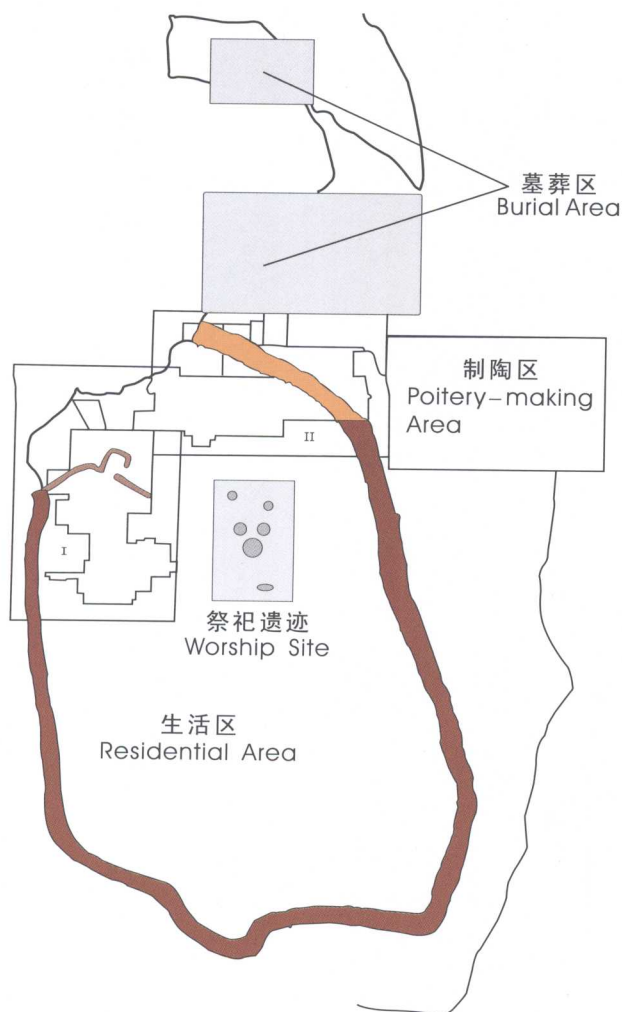


大围沟遗迹 The big trench

这是保存下来的大围沟的一角，深约6米，大沟上宽和底宽分别在6至8米和1至3米之间，如此规模的工程，在没有金属工具的史前时代完成，足以使人称奇。

These remains are part of the trench, which is 6 to 8 meters wide at the top and 1 to 3 meters at the bottom. A project of such scale, built by the Neolithic people, with no metal tools is a real wonder.

半坡遗址平面布局图 Map of Banpo Site



半坡人的词汇中是否已有“规划”这个词，我们不得而知。但考古学家将半坡人的建筑基础发掘出来时，我们发现6000余年前的人们村庄布局有条有理。

一条环状大围沟圈定了半坡人的居住区，大围沟之外，北边是墓葬区，东边是制陶区。2002年，考古学家又在村庄内的中心地带发现了祭祀遗迹，从而扩展了今天的人们对半坡遗址的认识。

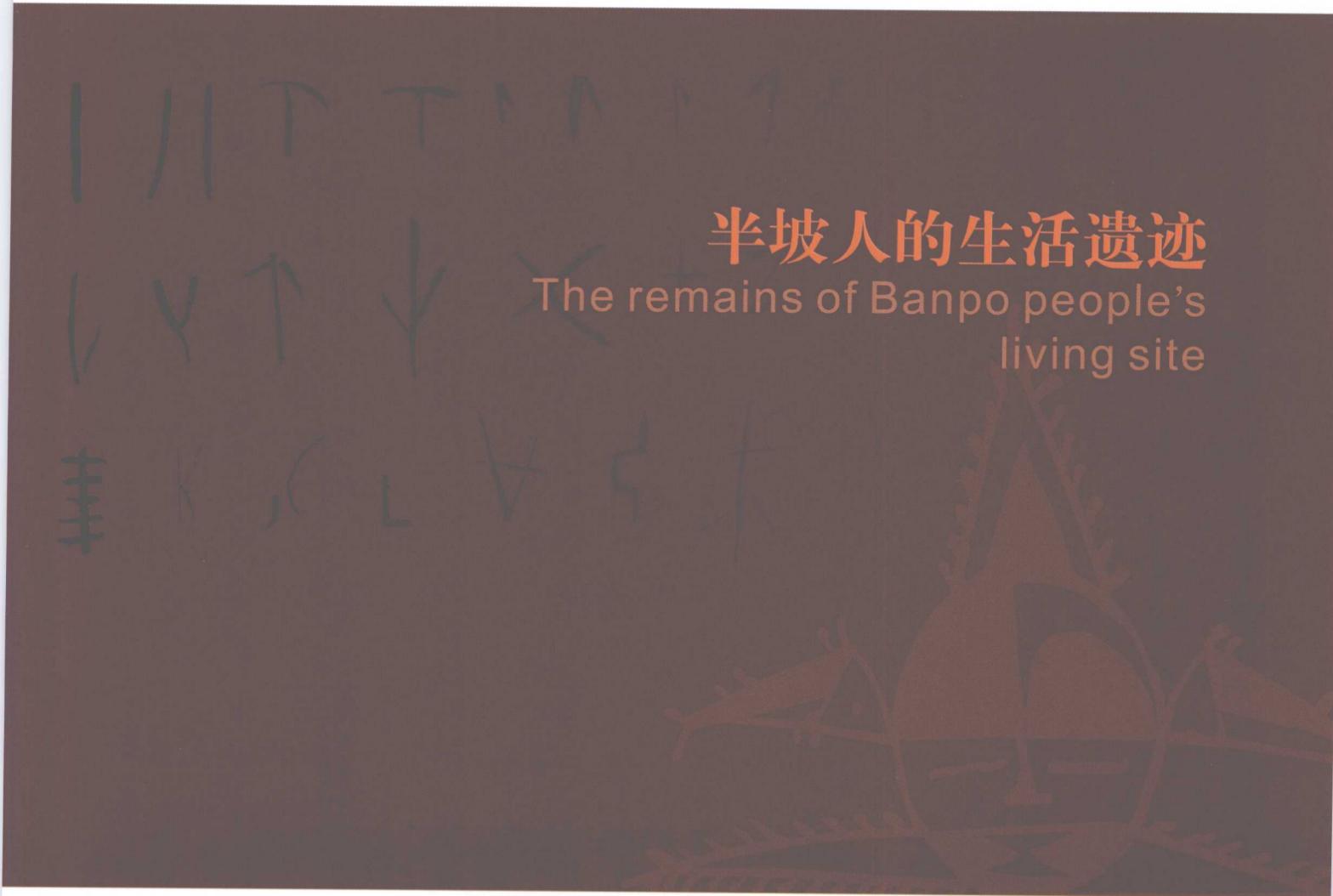
It is still a mystery to us whether the word “order” was in the common vocabulary at that time, but the excavation of the site takes us to a well organized village layout.

Inside a big trench, which bordered the village, was the residential area for Banpo people. To the north of the trench is the burial area, and south the pottery-making area. An ancestor-worship site in the central area of the village was found in 2002, giving us a much better understanding of the Banpo people's life.



半坡遗址模型
Model of Banpo Site

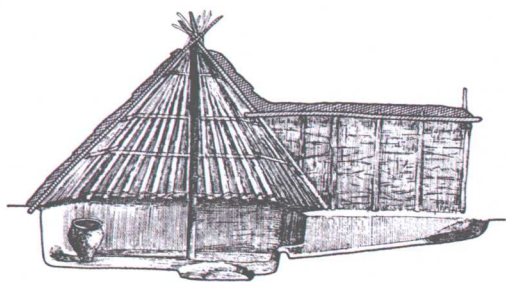
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半坡人的生活遗迹
The remains of Banpo people's
living site



方形半地穴式房子遗迹
The ruins of a square
semi-subterranean house



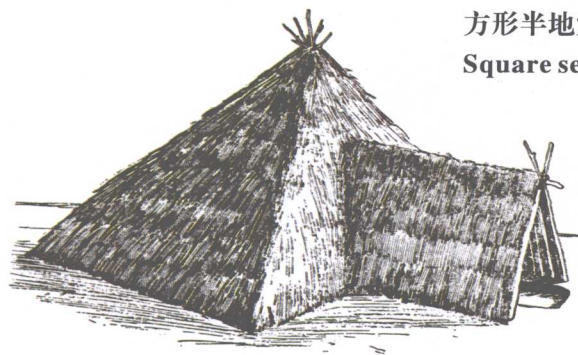
方形半地穴式房子复原示意图
Square semi-subterranean houses

依靠自己的双手建造房子，而不是再继续委屈地栖身山洞，是人类文明的一大进步。从这种半地穴式房子遗迹，我们能够体会到文明演进的痕迹：囿于经验和科技，半坡先民在最早建造这种房子时仍然无法忘怀祖先的洞穴生活，他们向地下挖一个0.4至0.8米深的方形大坑，以坑壁作墙壁，然后在墙壁上架起木椽，一座遮风避雨的早期房子就建成了。

左图是考古学家和建筑史学家依据建筑学原理复原起来的半地穴式方形房子。

It was big stride toward civilization when people moved out of caves and started to build houses. The remains of these houses are a mirror of the culturel evolution: restricted by their experience and technology, their houses still bear traces of cave life. The houses were constructed of thatch over wood beams while the floors were sunk two to three feet into the ground.

A Reconstruction of square semi-subterranean house.



方形半地穴式房子复原示意图
Square semi-subterranean houses

这是一座经火焚之后的房子遗迹。考古学家发现屋内的左侧明显高于地面。这个高约10厘米左右的土台很容易使人联想到后世中国北方普遍存在的“炕”——这会不会是“炕”的雏形呢？

The remains of a burned-down house. Archeologists find that the left side in the house is noticeably elevated above the ground. The elevated platform about 10 square cm in area makes us wonder whether it is the earliest form of Kang.

方形半地穴式房子遗迹

Square semi-subterranean houses



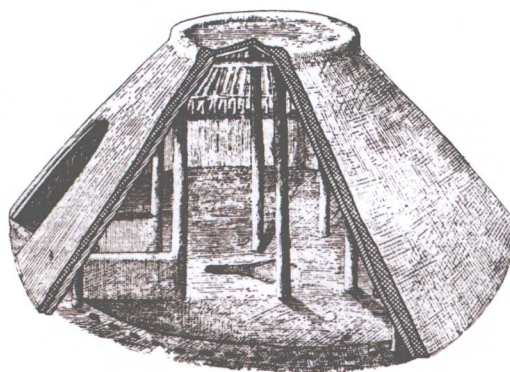




圆形半地穴式房子遗迹
The ruins of circular semi-subterranean houses

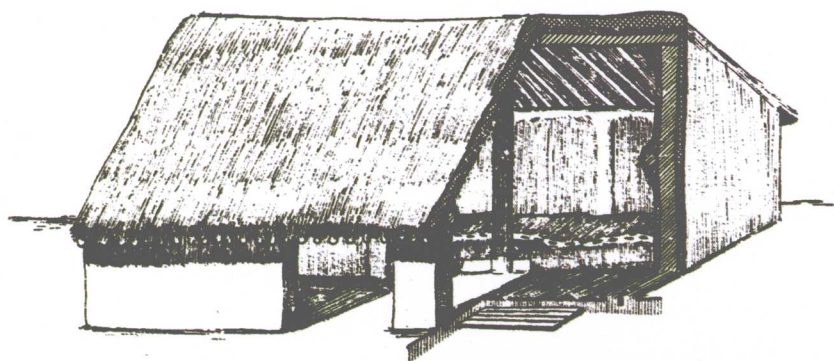
圆形半地穴房子复原示意图

An illustration of the reconstruction of a circular semi-subterranean house



和方形的半地穴式房子不同，这个圆形的半地穴式房子是较晚时代的作品。复原起来像一个倒覆的碗，地面上六根立柱支撑起一个平面屋顶，我们有理由相信这极大地扩大了屋子的有效使用空间，但屋顶的排水问题是如何解决的，却使我们颇感费解。

Unlike the square ones, the circular houses were the production of a much later date. The houses with their flat roofs, supported by six beams look like reversed bowls, which, we believe, maximized the space inside. However, we are not yet clear how they managed to solve the drainage problem.



方形房子复原示意图
An illustration of the reconstruction
of a square house



方形房子遗迹
The ruins of a square house

直接在地面上建造房子而不再依赖坑壁作墙壁，是建筑技术进步的结果。从遗迹来看，这座方形房子是由三排共12根柱子支撑起来的，柱子的分布非常有规律。考古学家分析这种房子复原起来正是中国北方典型的人字形两面坡房子的样子。

It is a revolutionary step in architecture when people finally give up their caves totally to building houses. From the ruins we can see this house was supported by 12 posts, arranged in three neat rows, and is considered a typical style for people in Northern China.