

The Architectural Art of Hutong Gate Buildings

胡同门楼建筑艺术

李明德 著 Written by Li Mingde

李海川 摄影 Photographed by Li Haichuan

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Author Introduction



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作者简介

Author Introduction



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本书以胡同中四合院门楼建筑，及其门楼、门头、门枕石、上下马石、影壁等造型艺术为例，图文并茂地展示其高超的建筑艺术和民族文化。在门楼建筑上，装饰着砖雕、石雕、木雕，其造型多样、画面丰富、工艺高超。虽历经沧桑，至今仍保留下众多的艺术精品，为研究、考证胡同文化提供了生动的依据。



前言 Forword

北京是一座世界闻名的文化古都，有着三千多年的建城史。

在丰富悠久的历史文化中，胡同建筑占有着重要地位。据史料记载，一些古老街巷形成于元代1276年起，经历明、清沿袭至今，大部分建筑及胡同的位置均少有大的变化。

本书仅以胡同中四合院门楼建筑，及其门楼、门头、门枕石、上下马石、影壁等造型艺术为例，通过简要的文字介绍，结合多幅照片，展示其高超的建筑艺术和民族文化。在门楼建筑上，装饰着砖雕、石雕、木雕，其造型多样、画面丰富、工艺高超。虽历经沧桑，至今仍保留下众多的艺术精品，为研究、考证北京胡同文化提供了生动的依据。每当人们穿街过巷，留心观赏，那一座座造型优美的门楼和装饰在上面的砖、石雕刻精品，会得到高度的艺术享受。

北京在前进。城市现代化正加速进展的时刻，人们对胡同的历史、文化、民俗却有着深深的眷恋之情。本书展示着古老胡同中门楼建筑的画面，从历史和文化艺术方面进行分析介绍，并对所附百余幅照片加以文字说明，以供广大读者研究欣赏。从而进一步认识其历史价值，弘扬它辉煌的一页。

With a history of more than 3000 years Beijing is a world-renowned, cultural city.

In its rich and prolonged history and culture construction of alleys or Hu tongs occupies an important position. According to historical records some of its ancient streets and lanes took shape during the Yuan dynasty (beginning from 1276 A. D.) and were carried on to the present through the Ming and Qing dynasties. Most of the buildings and locations of the alleys have not undergone much changes.

Taking the gates of some quadrangles in Beijing's alleys and the decorative arts on the gates, gate lintels, gate piers stepping stones for mounting or dismounting from a horse and screen walls as examples this book attempts to show the superb, architectural art and folk culture of the gates through brief words and many colored pictures. The varied, rich and fine brick, stone and wooden carvings on the buildings of the gates remain a treasure of works of art today despite many vicissitudes. They provide vivid evidences for the study and textual research of the culture of Beijing alleys. Whenever people walk through the alleys and look at the beautifully-constructed gates and the decorative brick and stone carvings on them they feel they are enjoying a high degree of artistic beauty.

Beijing is fast advancing toward modernization. Still people cherish a profound love for its alleys with their history, culture and folk customs. With a historical and artistic analysis and introduction of the gates buildings in the alleys and with over a hundred illustrated pictures this book will enable our readers to fully appreciate and further realise their historical values and to carry forward their brilliant aspects.

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丰富多彩的门楼

Colorful Gate Buildings

在北京的胡同里，四合院的门楼是最引人注目的建筑。那一座座造型各异、大小不等的门楼，展示着高超的营造艺术和京城悠久的传统文化。早在元代扩建大都时，遵循《周礼·考工记》中所规定的“左祖右社、面朝后市”的原则设计。对城市的街巷按统一的标准来兴建，城内分五十坊，坊与坊之间形成平直的大街小巷。据明《永乐大典》所辑《析津志》载：大街宽二十四步、小街宽十二步、胡同宽六步（一步为今天的1.54m）。大的街巷为南北方向，一般胡同则沿着南北大街的东西侧顺序排列。明永乐四年（公元1406年）在元大都基础上又进行了扩展。历经明、清两代乃至民国和解放以后北京大部分胡同的布局建置均无太大的变化。今天，北京胡同约有4000余条。民间流传着顺口溜儿：“有名的胡同三千九，无名的小巷赛牛毛。”一些老街巷，仍保持原位位置和名称。如：地安门东大街的南锣鼓巷地区就是很好的实例。元代这里称昭回坊与靖恭坊。那南北的主街、东西对称的十余条胡同，形成了蜈蚣状，俗称为蜈蚣巷。胡同内不同类型的四合院门楼很齐整，一些老宅院门前还保存着“上、下马石”，大门两侧还配有造型精美的“抱鼓石”，以及影壁、老槐树等景观，其中部分胡同还是原来的名字。这是胡同里古建筑与民俗文化的真实写照。在清代鼓词说唱中，对宅第的门楼如此描述：“青水脊的门楼安着吻兽，两边有两溜拴马的桩。上马石下马石分为左右，铁丝儿的灯笼挂在当央。”北京民间还流传着：“宅子老不老，要看槐树大和小”的谚语。其意是通过对四合院门楼前种植槐树的树龄来验证古老门楼建筑的年代，这还是很有说服力的。一般大四合院门楼前左右各种槐树一株，其种植与建门楼同时进行的。四合院不仅是我国古建筑中的典型，门楼的样式、规格因宅第主人的身份而区分。采用坐北朝南的位置，在敞亮的院子里，北

面为正房，东西为厢房，南屋称为倒座，门楼大部分均建在院东南角。按古代风水学的要求，“乾宅巽门”为最佳位置。“巽”则指东南，故门楼建在四合院的东南方，以示吉利。北京古老胡同里现存的四合院门楼多为清代所建，至今有一二百年的历史，也有极少数是明代的建筑。这些年代悠久、造型优美、不同规格的门楼，包括其门头、钱檐、门簪、门墩儿……的装饰艺术，有着高度的研究、欣赏价值。为今天我们了解北京胡同建筑历史及文化、民俗提供了活化石，是多么难能可贵啊！

在封建社会中，门楼显示着主人的品位等级。建筑规格及造型装饰是有所区分的。清代的王府门楼很壮观，一般是坐北朝南。有五间三启门和三间一启门。如：朝内大街的孚王府，系清康熙皇帝第十三子的府第，正门五间，门前左右各立大石狮一个。后海的恭王府正门三间，门前石狮一对。这样保存完整的府第今天已为数不多了。官宦及富户的门楼多为广亮大门，位置在宅院的东南角。其造型高大，门头及钱檐装饰精美的砖雕，台基也高大。门外广亮宽敞。有些府第的广亮大门门楼，左右两侧砌八字粉墙（俗称：撒山影壁），上为筒瓦，墙壁磨砖对缝。门楼与粉墙之间留有宽阔地面，设置上下马石一对，其倒座墙上配有四个拴马桩，更显示其门户整体的端庄和严肃。这样的门楼，今天在老胡同中还能见到。但大多数广亮大门前是不砌八字粉墙的，更不能设置上、下马石。一般中小型四合院多为如意门。在北京数千条胡同中，如意门楼的数量很多。其建筑特点是大门设在外檐柱间，门框两侧砌砖墙。门楣上有较精细的砖雕图案，门楣与两侧砖墙转角处砌如意状的砖饰，表示“吉祥如意”的意思，俗称：如意门。街巷中的如意门楼多为清代建筑，也有部分是民国期间所建的。大如意门，门楼占一整间。中型如意门，门楼占多半间。小

型如意门，门楼占半间。在为数众多的如意门中，门楼建筑造型上是多彩多姿的。有的砖料上乘，砌工考究，门头栏板及钱檐的砖雕图案内容丰富，门簷上的木雕工艺精巧，有文字或花卉图案。有的门上还钉有对称的铁皮图案。这些建筑上的装饰都反映出我国古代劳动人民的智慧，其中精品有着高度研究价值。还有为数不少的墙垣式门，其规格较小。门楼与院墙相连，一般较小的四合院或三合院多采取这样的建筑形式。另外，在胡同里老北京平民百姓所居住为数最多的是随墙门，其造型很简易，然而又最为普遍。有的门墙用碎砖头和泥灰砌成，北京人称这类碎砖墙为“核桃酥”，比喻其建筑质量之差。

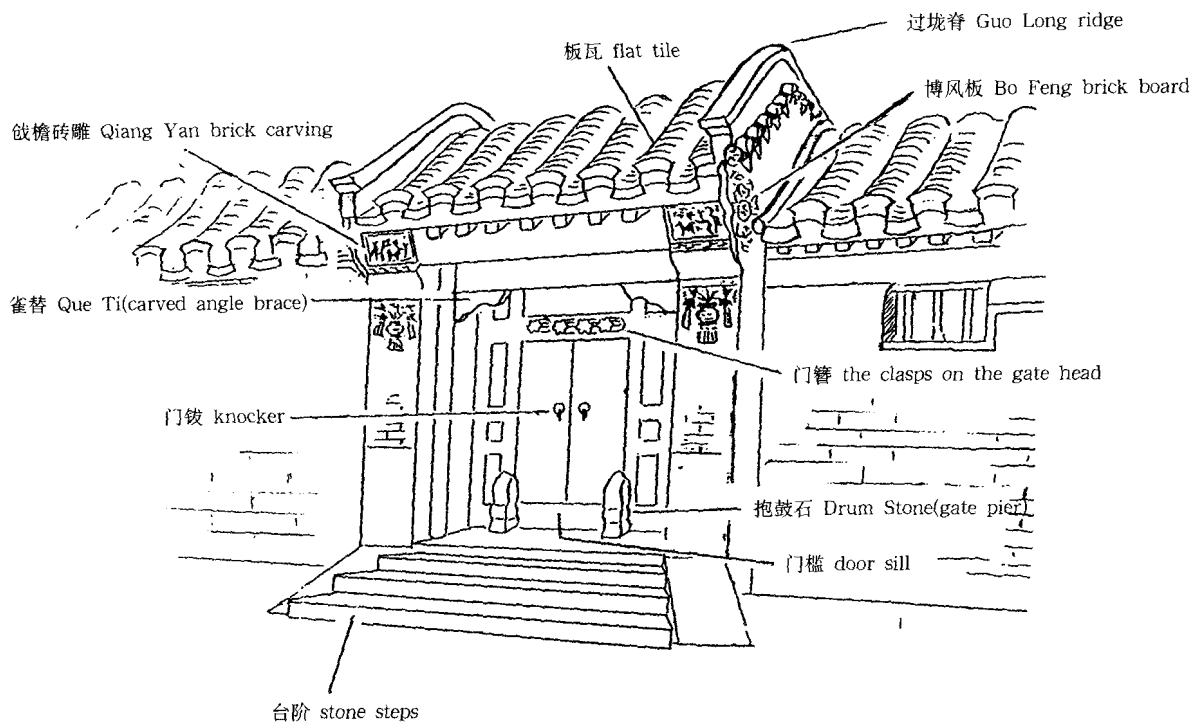
The most attractive buildings in Beijing's alleys are the gates of quadrangles. Of various shapes and sizes these gates display China's superb architectural art and Beijing's long-standing traditional culture. Back in the Yuan dynasty when Dadu (present-day Beijing) was being expanded the designing principle followed was "to build the ancestral temple on the left side and site of sacrifices to the God of land on the right side, with the court in front and market at the rear" laid down in "Zhou Li" or "the Book of Rites of the Zhou Dynasty". The city's streets and lanes were constructed according to a unified standard. There were 50 Fang or portions of land, with straight streets and lanes between them. According to the Yongle Canon compiled during the Ming dynasty, an avenue was 24 Bu (one Bu is equivalent to 1.54 metres) wide, a street was 12 Bu wide and an alley 6 Bu wide. Big streets and lanes were south-north oriented, ordinary alleys ran from east to west on the flanks of the streets. Further expansion was carried out on Dadu in the fourth year of Yongle reign of the Ming dynasty (1406 A.D.). From that time on down through the Ming, Qing dynasties, the Republic of China (1912~1949) and post liberation days the layout

of the great part of Beijing has not been changed much. Today Beijing has over 4000 alleys. A popular doggerel goes, "Well-known alleys number 3900 and unknown alleys are countless just like cow hair." Some old streets and lanes retain their original locations and names. For instance, the Nanluogu Xiang district of the Di'anmen Dongdajie (street). During the Yuan dynasty it was called Zhaohui Fang and Jingong Fang. The north-south oriented avenue and over a dozen symmetrical west-east oriented alleys present the shape of a centipede, hence popularly known as Wugong Xiang or the centipede lane. The lane boasts rows of neat quadrangles with their variegated shapes of gates. Some time-honored dwellings still preserve stepping stones for mounting or dismounting from a horse in front of their gates, exquisitely skulpted Drum Stones on both sides of their gates as well as screen walls, locust trees and other scenic sights. Part of the alleys still use their original names. These give a true portrayal of ancient buildings and folk customs of Beijing's alleys. In story-telling and ballad-singing of the there was such description of the gates of Beijing quadrangles: "Skulpted animals sit on the bluish ridges over the gates, on two sides are posts for tethering horses, on the right and left are stepping stones for mounting or dismounting from a horse and lanterns are hung in the centre." A folk saying runs, "To determine the age of a residence, just look at the size of the locust tree." It means that you can determine the age of the residence through the age of the locust trees planted in front of its gate. Generally a locust tree is planted on either side of the gate. They are planted at the same time when the residence is constructed. Quadrangles are a typical example of ancient Chinese buildings. More than that the styles and standards of their gates vary in keeping with the social status of their owners. They were generally built facing south with spacious and well-lighted courtyards. The principal room faced south, wing rooms were on the west and east sides and

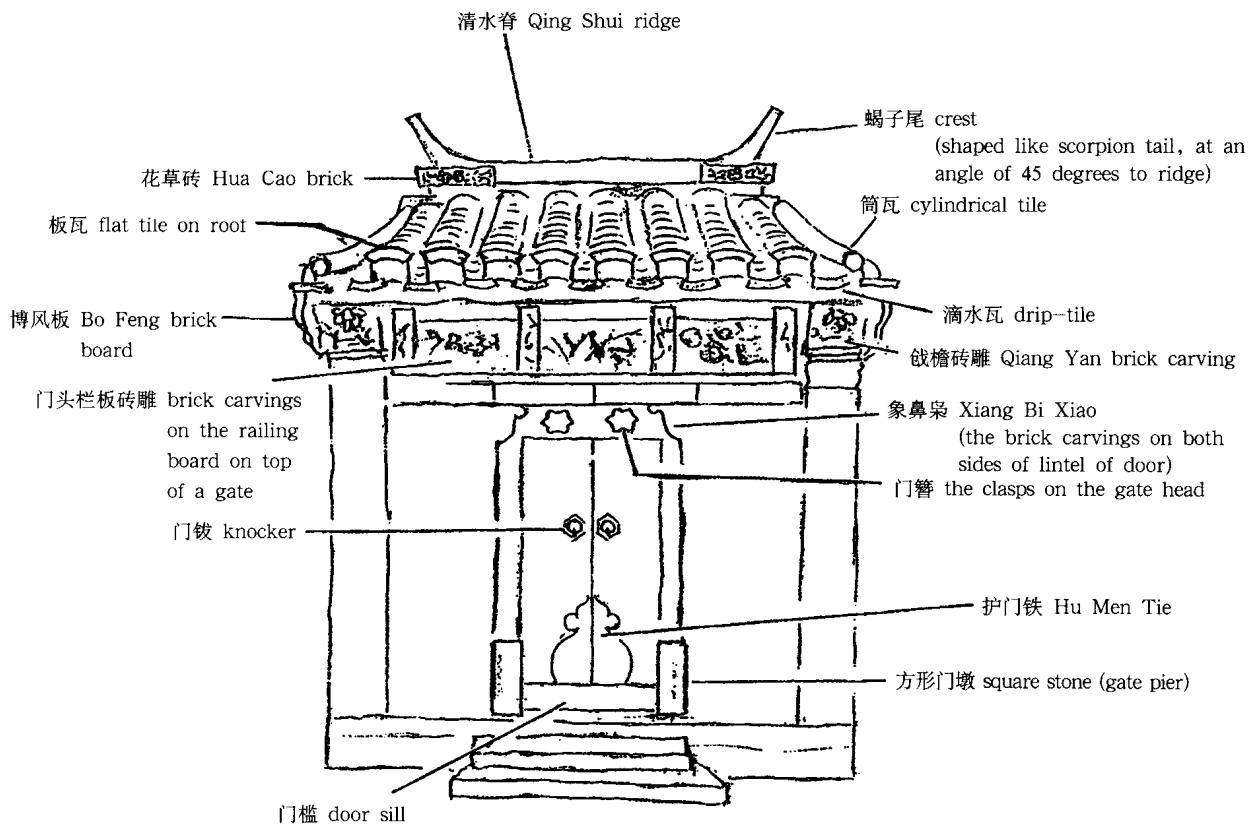
the room facing north is called Dao Zuo Fang or reversely-set room. Most of the gates were opened on the south-east corners of the courtyards. According to the theory of geomancy, it is the best and most propitious location. Existing quadrangles of Beijing's old alleys and their gates were mostly built in the Qing dynasty with a history of one to two hundred years. A small number of them were built in the Ming dynasty. These time-honored, beautifully-shaped and varied styled gates together with their decorations such as lintels, Qiang Yan or eaves, clasps, piers and others are highly valuable for both research and artistic appreciation. They are living fossils providing us with clues to study the history, culture and people's customs of buildings in Beijing alleys.

In the feudal society the gates demonstrated the ranks and social classes of their masters. They were differentiated in constructional standard and sculptural decoration. The gates of residences of Princes of the Qing dynasty were magnificent. They usually face south with 5-bay across or 3-bay across. For instance, Fu Wang Men or the residence of Prince Fu, the 13th son of Emperor Kangxi of the Qing dynasty at Chaonei Dajie. It has a 5-bay principal room having a pair of big stone lions on the two flanks of its gate. Gong Wang Fu or the residence of Prince Gong at Hou Hai or Rear Sea has a 3-bay principal room with a pair of stone lions in front of its gate. Such well-preserved residences are not many. The dwellings of official and wealthy families mostly have Guang Liang gates located on the southeast corners of the houses. These gates are big and tall, their lintels and eaves are decorated with exquisite brick carvings. They also have high steps and spacious areas outside. Some of these gates are flanked with white-washed walls shaped like the Chinese character “八”, (popularly known as Pie Shan screen walls). They are topped with tiles and linked up at the back. Broad spaces are left between the gates and white-washed walls where a pair of stepping stones for mounting and dismounting from a horse

are installed. There are also 4 posts for tethering horses. All this adds dignity and solemnity to the gates. Such gates can still be found in old-time alleys today. But most of the Guang Liang Gates do not have white-washed walls, let alone stepping stones for getting on or down from a horse. Ordinarily medium-sized and small quadrangles have Ru Yi Gates. Their number is the greatest in several thousands of Beijing alleys. They are opened between outer columns and have brick wall on both sides. On their lintels, there are fine patterns of brick carvings. The juncture of lintels and brick walls decorative Ru Yi-shaped bricks implying auspiciousness. Thus people call them Ru Yi Gates. Ru Yi Gates of Beijing' streets and lanes were largely built in the Qing dynasty, part of them were constructed during the Republic of China (1912~1949). Big Ru Yi Gates are one-bay across, medium-sized ones occupy more than half bays and small Ru Yi Gates take up half a bay. Buildings of the numerous Ru Yi Gates are rich and colorful in architectural design and style. Some have meticulously-laid, fine-quality bricks, their panels and eaves bear a great variety of carved brick patterns and their gate clasps are decorated with fine wood carvings with words or floral patterns. Some Ru Yi Gates are set with symmetrical patterns of iron sheets. All these constructional decorations show the wisdom of the working people in ancient China. Exquisite works among them are of great value for research work. There are also a good number of wall-typed gates, comparatively smaller. Linked with walls of courtyards these gates are generally adopted by smaller quadrangles or San He Yuan, threeroom compounds. Besides there are Sui Qiang Gates adopted by the majority of old Beijing residents. They are simple and widespread. Some Sui Qiang Gates are built of broken pieces of bricks and marl. Beijingers call these gates “Walnut shortbreads”, a metaphor insinuating their poor quality.



广亮大门门楼建筑结构图
 The construction of the Guang Liang Gate building



如意门门楼建筑结构图

The construction of the Ru Yi Gate building

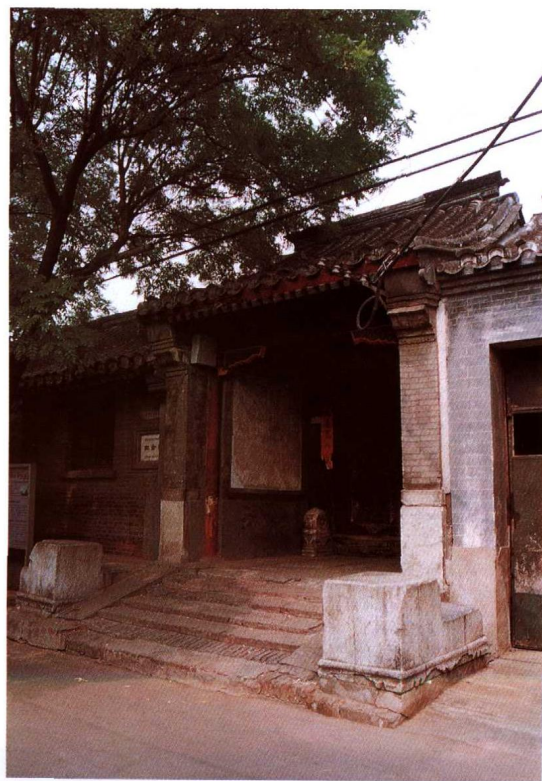
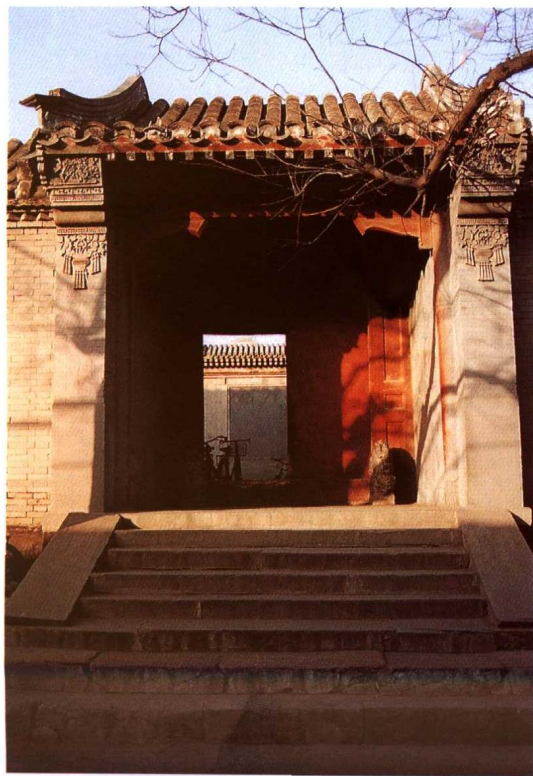


王府的门楼多为五间三启门
或三间一启门

The gates of residences of
princes are mostly 5-bay across
with three pairs of doors or 3-
bay across with one pair of doors

现存完好的四合院广亮大门门楼，
造型精美，砖雕工整，显示出宅主人
的品级地位。

A well-preserved gate of a large
quadrangle. Exquisitely-designed brick
carvings show the social position of the
house owner.





这是蛮子门，大门的门扉安装在外檐柱间就没有大门洞了，是广亮大门的另一种形式。
This is a Man Zi Gate, another type of Guangliang Gate. With its panels set between outer columns it has no gateway.

