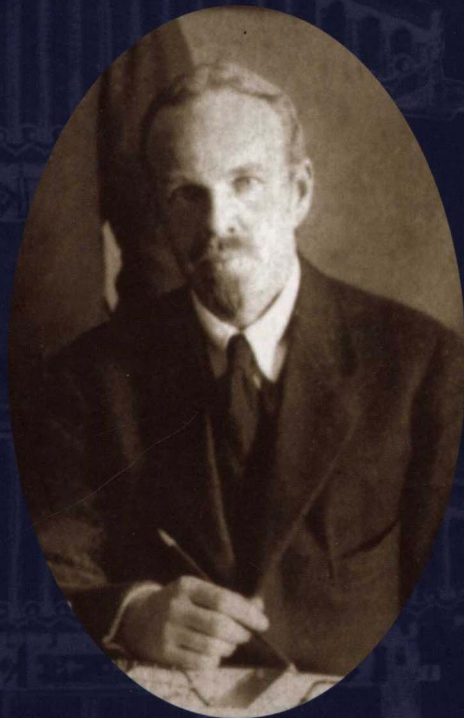


BUILDING IN CHINA

Henry K. Murphy's "Adaptive Architecture"

1914-1935



Jeffrey W. Cody

Building in China:

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1914–1935**

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The Chinese University Press



University of Washington Press
Seattle

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Published simultaneously in the United States of America
by the University of Washington Press,
PO Box 50096, Seattle, WA 98145-5096.

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ISBN 962-201-871-8 (The Chinese University Press)
ISBN 0-295-98095-8 (University of Washington Press)

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
SHA TIN, N.T., HONG KONG
Fax: +852 2603 6692
+852 2603 7355
E-mail: cup@cuhk.edu.hk
Web-site: www.chineseupress.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Cody, Jeffrey W.

Building in China : Henry K. Murphy's "adaptive
architecture," 1914-1935 / Jeffrey W. Cody.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-295-98095-8

1. Murphy, Henry Killam, 1877-1954. 2. Architecture,
Modern—20th century—China. 3. Architecture, American—
China. I. Title.

NA737.M87 C63 2001
720.92—dc21

00-051177

Printed in Hong Kong

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Acknowledgments

This book germinated at Cornell University in 1985, gestated in Shanghai and Ithaca during the next five years to become a Ph.D. dissertation, and then matured in the last decade as I moved from Ithaca to Paris to Hong Kong. In these past fifteen years Henry Murphy has been an unwitting companion of mine as I have sought to better understand Chinese architecture, urbanism and culture. If I wore the kind of hat he and many of his peers did nearly a century ago, I'd be doffing it to him now.

Many others have also figured in my adventures associated with Murphy and China. In Ithaca, where the seeds of my research were planted, I owe warm gratitude to Michael Tomlan, who supervised my dissertation, rode a bicycle by my side in Shanghai and supported me unwaveringly both prior to my Murphy discoveries and ever since. Sherm Cochran, with quiet modesty and unparalleled acuity, taught me many critical lessons about Chinese history, business and society. The late Barclay G. Jones possessed an eagle's eye that sharpened my focus on historic preservation dynamics in non-U.S. contexts. My first adviser at Cornell, the incomparable John W. Reps, nudged me gracefully not only by illuminating the meanings imbedded in city plans but also by becoming a friend. Other friends in Ithaca bolstered my efforts more than they realize. These included — to name a few among many — all the Trautmanns, Smiths, Lees and Dinsmores, as well as Judy Holliday, Julee Johnson, Leslie King, Susanne Lichtenstein, Jim Warren, Bob McCullough and David Naylor.

Other friends and colleagues in China figured prominently in my Murphy-related work. Professor Hou Renzhi, Beijing University's noted historical geographer, initially helped blaze my trail when he visited Cornell in 1985 and piqued my curiosity about Murphy, the supposedly famous American architect. In 1987–88, when I was a *yanjiusheng* at Tongji University, Professor Luo Xiaowei was my encouraging adviser. She introduced me to Wu Jiang, then a graduate student and now an Assistant to the President of Tongji, who assisted me enormously. Others in China who played key roles during my initial research included David Piver, Rong Dawei, Reinhard Strecker, Wang Tan, David Westendorff and Wang Lin,

Wu Chengjian, Wu Huanjia, Xue Guangbi and Zhang Fuhe. I also heartily thank those who shared with me their reminiscences about Murphy and the architectural world in which he practiced: Edmund Bacon, Arnulf Brandt, Chen Congzhou, Chen Deyu, Chen Zhi, Eric Cumine, Dao Guilin, Dong Aishen, Wilma Fairbank, Robert Fan, Jr., Lin Keming, Lin Zhun, Y. S. Tang, John Townsend, Wang Dingzeng and Zhuang Jun. For six months in 1993, and even more consistently since 1995 I have benefited significantly from my affiliation with the Department of Architecture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where several professionals have stimulated my ongoing research. Professor Emeritus Tunney Lee was a constant supporter, as was his successor Tom Peters. My thoughtful friends Ho Puaypeng and Andrew Li have likewise encouraged me with healthy consistency. In the past six years many students in the department have also inspired me to think about Murphy, what he witnessed and how he acted, in ways that I had not imagined.

Librarians and archivists the world over were also immeasurably helpful to me as I pieced together Murphy-affiliated puzzles. In the U.S. these included those at Cornell's Fine Arts and Olin Libraries; Yale's Sterling and Divinity School Libraries; the Rockefeller Archive Center, Pocantico Hills, New York; the Harvard-Yenching Library; Berkeley's Bancroft Library; the YMCA Archives at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; the New York Public Library, Missionary Research Library, Burke (Union Theological Seminary) Library and Citicorp Archives in New York City; the National Archives and AIA Archives in Washington, D.C.; the Hagley Museum Library in Wilmington, Delaware; Oberlin College Library; the Archives of the Loomis-Chaffee School, Windsor, Connecticut; the Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies, Wesleyan University; and the New Haven Colony Historical Society. In China, I vividly remember university libraries at Tongji, Fudan, Qinghua, Beijing, Nanjing, Zhongshan, Wuhan, and Fuzhou's Shifan daxue; city libraries in Shanghai, Nanjing and Guangzhou; national libraries in both Beijing and Taipei; and the Chengjian dang'anguan in Shanghai. In Europe my work was enriched by the Library of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), London; the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; and the Royal Library (Det Kongelige Bibliotek), Copenhagen. Alexander and Shirley Murphy, in Branford, Connecticut, graciously permitted me to consult Henry Murphy's papers for a seemingly unlimited period, for which I sincerely thank them.

Mandarin skills and monetary support have figured prominently in my research. I take pleasure in thanking the U.S. Department of Education, which awarded me a National Resource Fellowship so I could study Mandarin in Cornell's FALCON Program; the Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People's Republic of China, which granted me a graduate fellowship so I could follow in Murphy's China-bound footsteps; the Rockefeller Archive Center in Pocantico Hills, New York; and Cornell University's International Studies in Planning Program, Center for International Studies and Graduate School. At an early

stage of my graduate education Amherst College provided me with a key fellowship, for which I am very grateful. In 1992 the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded me a fellowship to attend an inspiring Summer Seminar concerning urban history at the University of Virginia, directed by Prof. Olivier Zunz, who prodded me in fruitful directions. Since 1995 the Chinese University of Hong Kong has awarded me several Direct Grants for Research, which I have used to research more comprehensively some of the questions and challenges posed by my initial research efforts. All these awards were strategically important catalysts that kept me on track at fundamental junctures in my research.

This book also owes its existence to two publishers, The Chinese University Press and the University of Washington Press, whose editors — Olivia Wong and Michael Duckworth, respectively — have worked assiduously to bring my architecture-, China- and history-infused analysis into your hands. I sincerely appreciate their patience and professionalism in seeing this project to fruition. The anonymous readers who reviewed earlier drafts of this book provided me with very helpful suggestions for revision.

I also recall joyfully other friends and colleagues who have been at my side — either actually or virtually — as this book has matured: John and Alice Berninghausen, Knight Biggerstaff, Anne and Peter Caines, Tom Campanella, Pierre Clément, Françoise Ged, Jeff Howarth (and his helpful editorial staff), Tess Johnston, Ron Knapp, Libby and Tony Nelson, Kristin Stapleton, Nancy Steinhardt, Frank Sun, Tony Sutcliffe, Bent and Annelise Tholander, Torsten Warner, Ellen Widmer, and John and Abigail Wiebenson. The Smuts family and my brother Jerry have also long been steadfast supporters of my work and I thank them dearly for their confidence and patience.

My wife Mary has lived with Henry Murphy as long as I have, and she deserves boundless credit for hoisting me aloft in so many ways. Without her gentle tenacity this book simply would not have been possible. As they have grown, my vibrant and inquisitive children, Maura and Aaron, have inspired me as they have endured Murphy's intrusions into their lives without even knowing he was there, and as they have benefited from Murphy's career without being fully aware why. They have witnessed China, have been changed by it, and as young global nomads have adapted themselves to the rhythms and challenges China places before all who seek to understand it. Murphy was one such person; I another. With all these grateful acknowledgments to so many who assisted me, I remain the one accountable for the inaccuracies and deficiencies that undoubtedly remain in a work like this.



Plates

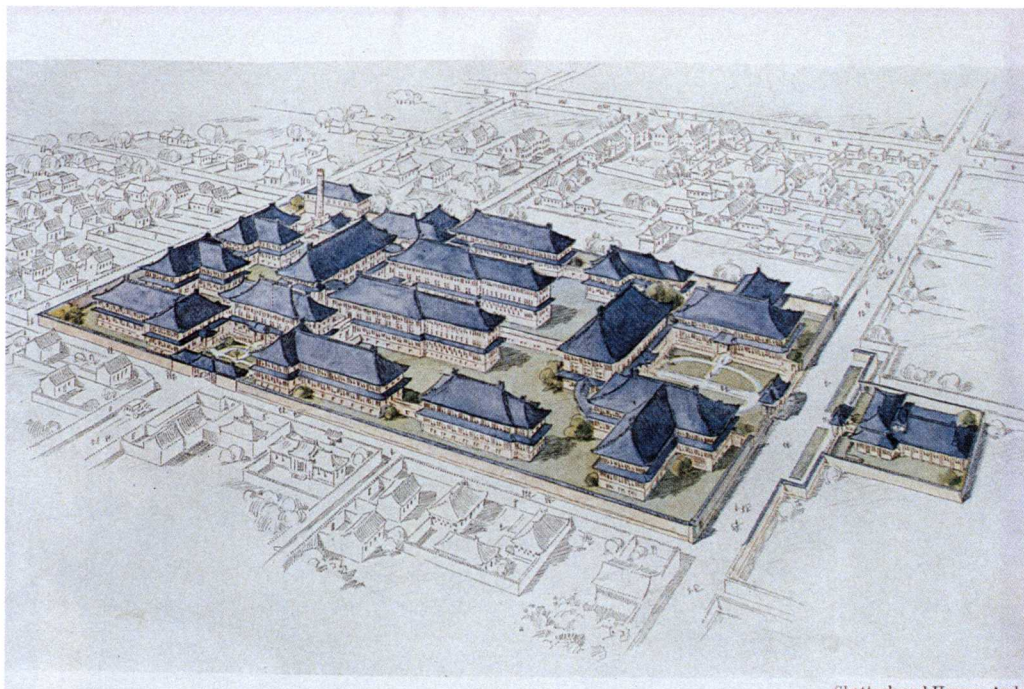


Plate 1 Harry H. Hussey's bird's-eye view of his design for Peking Union Medical College, ca. 1918.

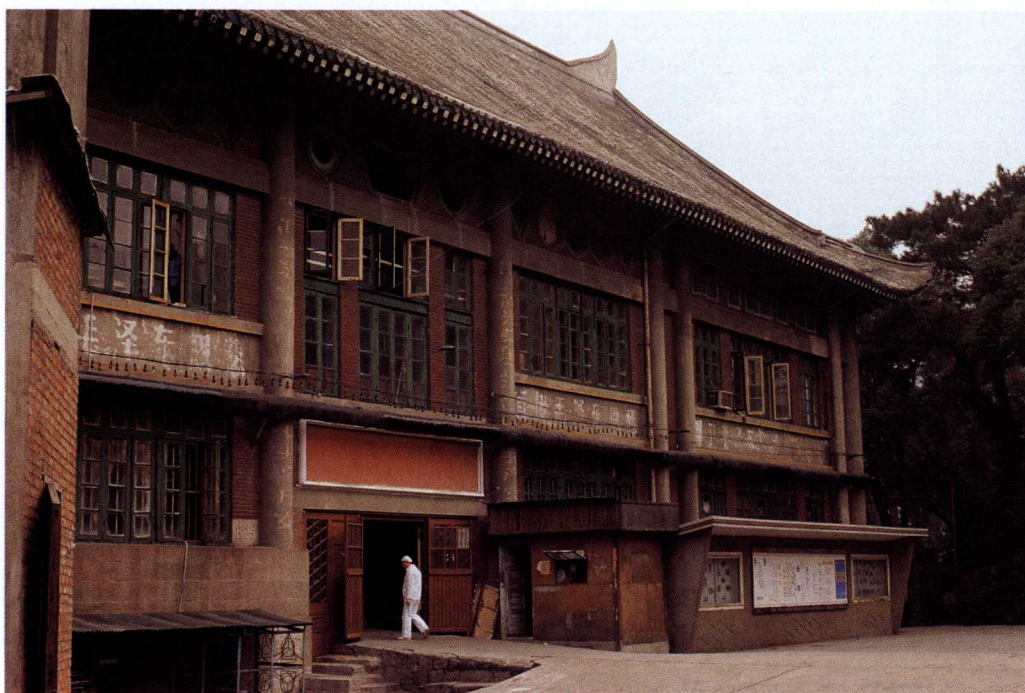
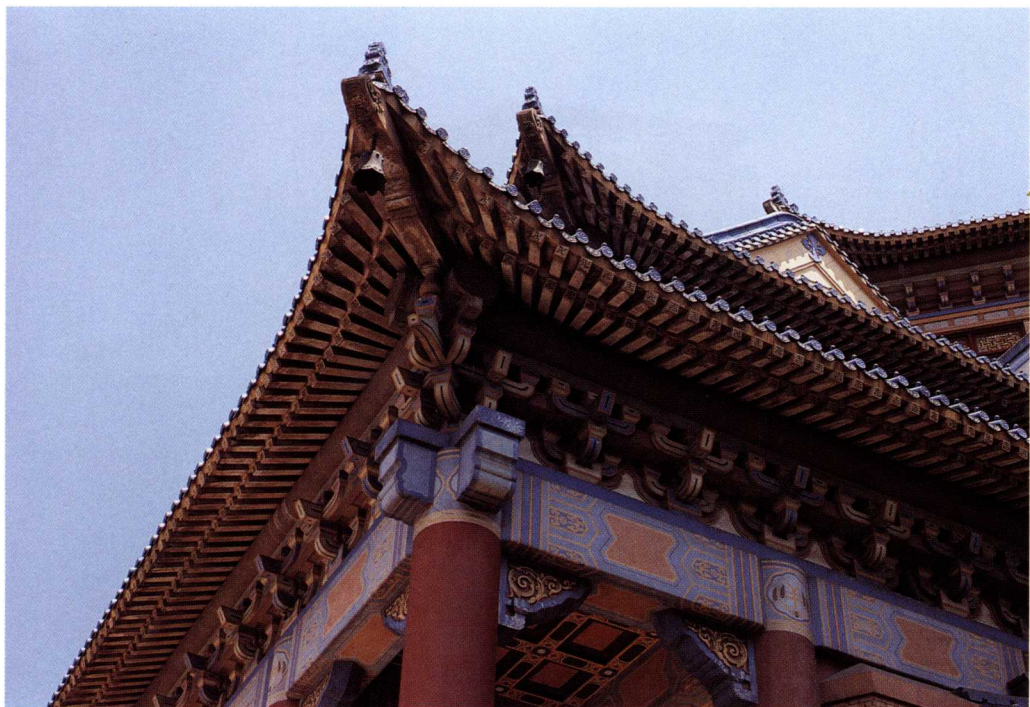


Plate 2 Elevation of one of the former Fukien Christian University's classroom buildings, Fuzhou, 1988.



Plate 3 Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall (Sun Zhongshan jiniantang), Guangzhou, designed in 1925 by Lu Yanzhi, but completed after Lu's death by Fan Wenzhao and Lin Keming. Erected by Voh-Kee Construction Company, Shanghai.



Plates 4 and 5 Eaves, cornices and other elevation details of buildings at Beijing University, designed by Henry K. Murphy in the mid-1920s.



Plate 6 High-rise buildings with roof forms imitating traditional Chinese architecture, Wuhan University, 1988.



Plate 7 House in Coral Gables, Florida, designed by Henry K. Murphy, 1926.



Plate 8 One of the main buildings designed in the early 1920s by Henry K. Murphy and his associates at the former Ginling College for Girls (Shifan daxue), Nanjing. Photograph taken in 1988.

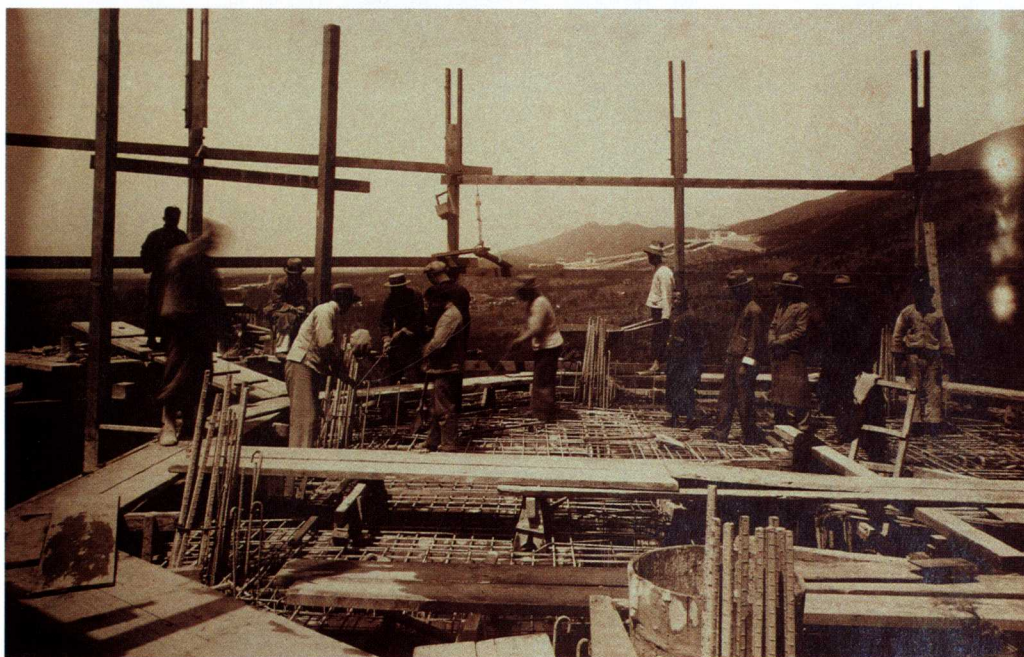


Plate 9 Workers pouring concrete for the construction of the "Pagoda-Tower," designed between 1930 and 1932 by Henry K. Murphy for what he called "the Chinese Arlington," a memorial cemetery for "revolutionary martyrs" erected in the Linggusi area by the KMT government in Nanjing, early 1930s. The Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum can be seen in the distance, behind the man in white standing near the rear of the photograph.



Plate 10 A concrete pailou, or gateway, designed by Dong Dayou (working for Henry K. Murphy) that helped create a key axis of the memorial cemetery erected by the Nationalist government in the early 1930s (see Plate 12).

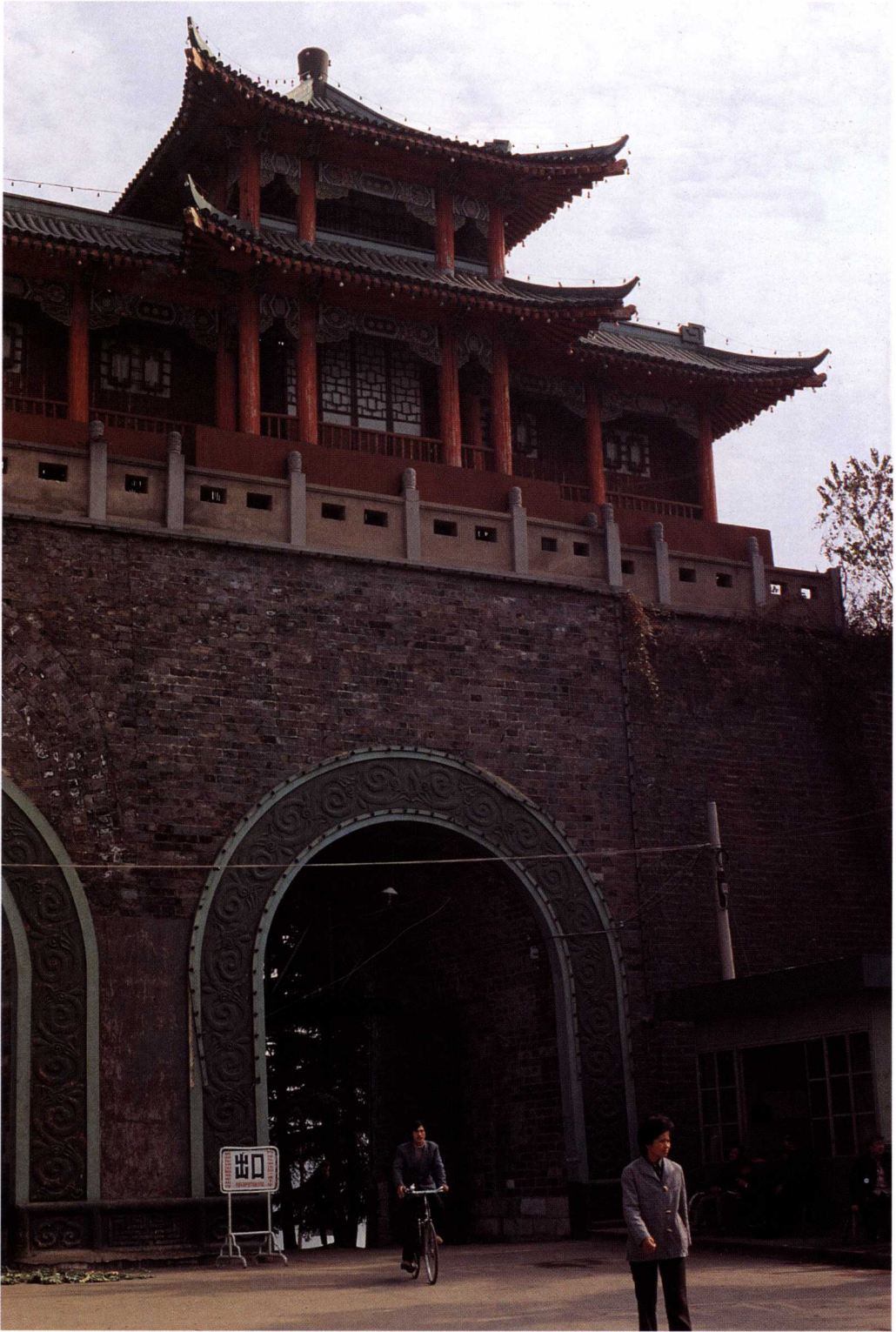


Plate 11 One of the main gates of Nanjing's city wall, rehabilitated in the early 1930s as part of the new capital plan.



Plate 12 View from the top of the “Pagoda-Tower” (Linggusi ta) toward the south, showing the axis created by the Memorial Hall (center of the photo, erected in the early 1930s), beyond which is the “Beamless Hall” (Wuliang dian; Ming dynasty, rehabilitated in the 1930s) and the pailou (see Plate 10).