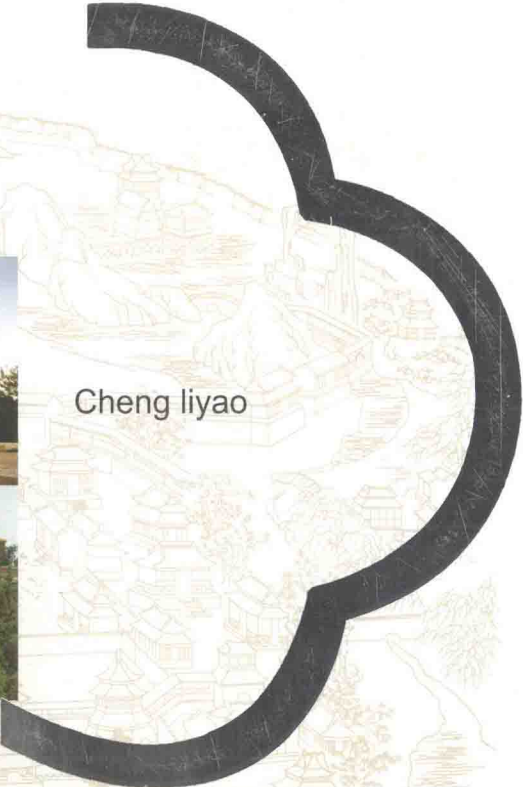


IMPERIAL GARDENS

Gardens for the Exclusive Enjoyment
of the Imperial Family

The Excellence of Ancient
Chinese Architecture



Cheng liyao

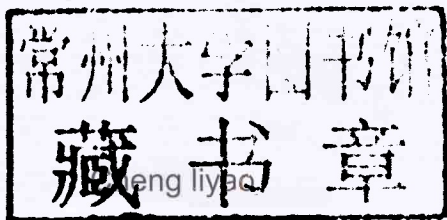


China Architecture & Building Press

The Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture

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The Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture, Chinese Edition

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The Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture

Imperial Gardens

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Cheng Liyao

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Map of Distribution of Imperial Gardens

新疆维吾尔自治区

内蒙古自治区

•敦煌

甘

肃

陕

西

省

青 海 省

省

青海

•西宁

•兰州

宁夏回族自治区

- 甘泉宫(汉) Sweet Spring Garden(Han)
- 上林苑(汉) Shanglinyuan Garden(Han)
- 游乐园(汉) Pleasure Garden(Han)
- 宜春下苑(汉) Yichun Garden(Han)
- 禁苑(汉) Forbidden Garden(Han)
- 外苑(曲江池芙蓉园)(唐) Outer Garden(Winding Lake)(Tang)

•华清宫(唐)

渭 河

•临潼

•咸阳

•西安(长安)

•上林苑(秦)
Shanglinyuan Garden(Qin)

西 藏 自 治 区

•拉萨

雅 鲁 藏 布 江

•成都

四

川

省

湖



- Imperial gardens now existing
- Imperial gardens no longer in existence

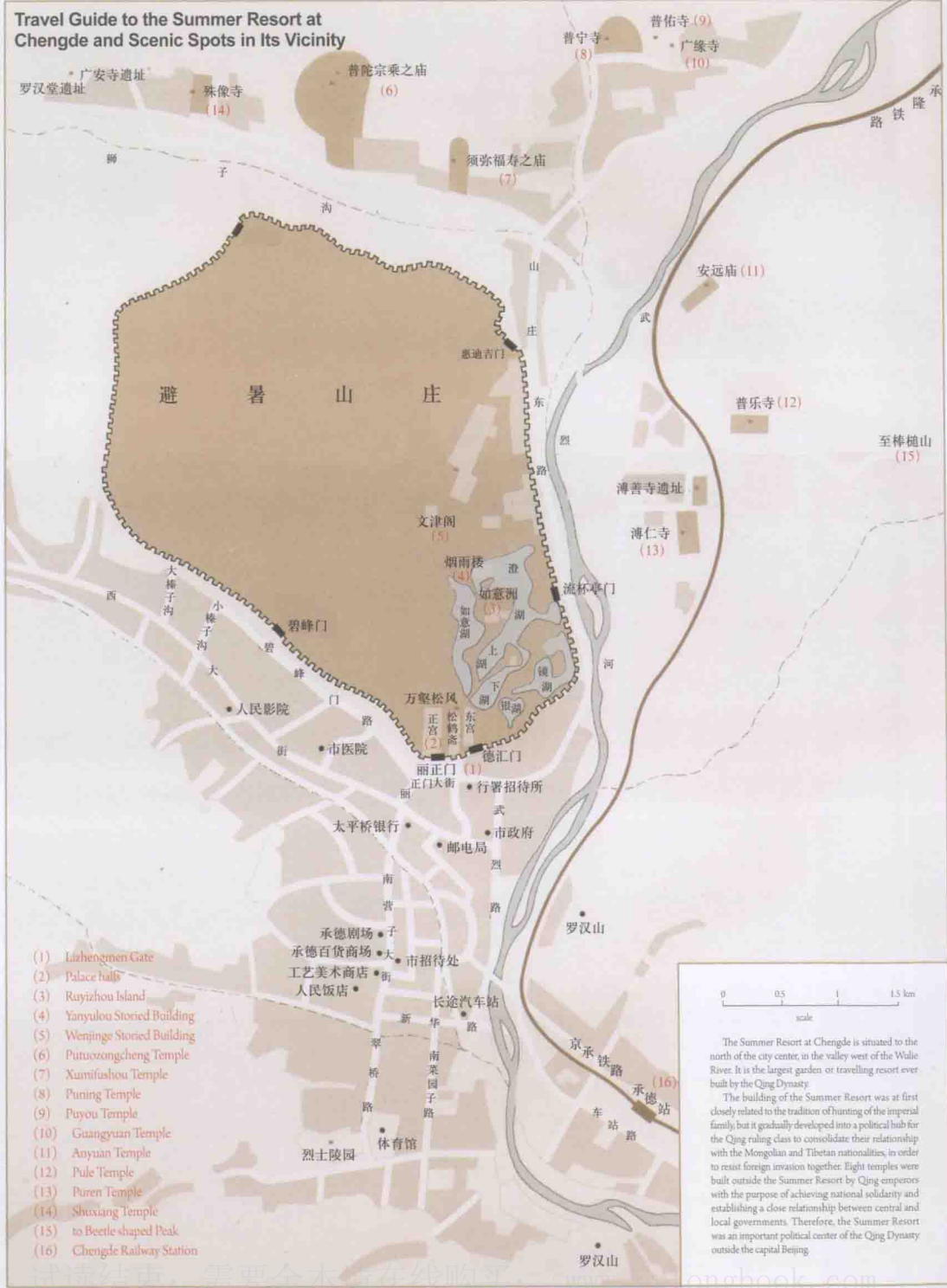
•贵阳 贵州省

•昆明

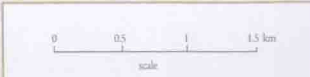
云 南 省

The building of imperial gardens in Chinese history was closely related to the life and attitudes of the emperor. In the early ages, gardens, or more exactly, enclosures, were actually hunting grounds for emperors. They gradually developed, in the course of time, into gardens of emperors to rest, to enjoy themselves, and even to administer court affairs. Therefore, imperial gardens are generally located in capital cities and in their vicinity. For example, in the Qin and Han Dynasties, the grand Shanglinyuan Garden and the travelling resorts were built in the cities of Xianyang and Chang'an. During the period of Wei, Jin, and the Southern and Northern Dynasties, the city of Ye was the capital of the northern dynasties, and so imperial gardens were built in and out of the city. The imperial gardens for the southern dynasties were all in Jiankang, the present city of Nanjing. In the Sui and Tang Dynasties, imperial gardens saw great prosperity in the capital cities of Luoyang and Chang'an. The Northern Song Dynasty established its capital in Bianliang, and its imperial gardens were also built there. When the Southern Song Dynasty moved its capital to Lin'an, present Hangzhou, imperial gardens were built in the region south of the Yangtze River. The Ming and Qing Dynasties set up their capitals in the north, and so Beijing became a place where the development of imperial gardens saw its climax.

Travel Guide to the Summer Resort at Chengde and Scenic Spots in Its Vicinity



- (1) Lizhengmen Gate
- (2) Palace halls
- (3) Ruoyizhou Island
- (4) Yanyulou Storied Building
- (5) Wenjings Storied Building
- (6) Putuozongcheng Temple
- (7) Xumifushou Temple
- (8) Puning Temple
- (9) Puyou Temple
- (10) Guangyuan Temple
- (11) Anyuan Temple
- (12) Pule Temple
- (13) Puren Temple
- (14) Shuxiang Temple
- (15) Beetle-shaped Peak
- (16) Chengde Railway Station



The Summer Resort at Chengde is situated to the north of the city center, in the valley west of the Walle River. It is the largest garden or travelling resort ever built by the Qing Dynasty.

The building of the Summer Resort was at first closely related to the tradition of hunting of the imperial family but it gradually developed into a political hub for the Qing ruling class to consolidate their relationship with the Mongolian and Tibetan nationalities, in order to resist foreign invasion together. Eight temples were built outside the Summer Resort by Qing emperors with the purpose of achieving national solidarity and establishing a close relationship between central and local governments. Therefore, the Summer Resort was an important political center of the Qing Dynasty outside the capital Beijing.

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Editor's Note

- The series consists of ten volumes, each of which deals with respectively palace architecture, imperial mausoleums, imperial gardens, private gardens, vernacular dwellings, Buddhist buildings, Taoist buildings, Islamic buildings, ritual and ceremonious buildings and defense structures..
- Each volume is basically composed of four sections, i.e. general introduction, colour photographs, glossary and chronology of major events.
- The general introduction describes the background, development process, architectural characteristics of different types of buildings and is complimented with photographs and drawings.
- The colour photographs are arranged in the order of building distribution area or the time when the building was completed. The series contains about 1,700 exquisite colour photographs, which are attached with captions explaining the location, construction time, and artistic and technical features.
- Each volume is accompanied with layout plan, drawing of recovered buildings, distribution map and travel guide to mark the location of famous buildings and cultural attractions in the vicinity.
- The glossary is arrayed according to the sequence of strokes of Chinese characters, which is a reference for general readers.
- Chronology of major events is affiliated with each volume of the series. Chinese traditional chronology is adopted in the annals of the series, and is also indicated in the Christian era for easy reference.

Preface 1

China enjoys a long and profound history of ancient architecture. Her verifiable artifacts could be dated back to 7,000 years ago from Hemudu ruins in Yuyao to Banpo ruins in Xi'an. Of course, architecture underwent a long process from primitiveness to sophistication before the Warring States, while in the Qin and Han dynasties, it gained an apparent progress along with the development of production and unification of the country. Moreover, in over a thousand years of the prosperous Tang Dynasty to the Ming and Qing dynasties, it reached several unprecedented peaks which were embodied by diversified building forms and refined planning and exquisite construction.

The love of architecture is the love of history and culture. China Architecture & Building Press (CABP), from the very beginning of its founding, has defined the sorting out and publication of traditional Chinese architecture and the enhancement of Chinese culture as one of important themes in its mission. In 1950s and 1960s, many monographs on the subject by experts such as Liang Sicheng, Liu Dunzhen, Tong Jun, Liu Zhiping and others were published. In early 1980s when China was just opened to the outside world, CABP set aside a special fund for publication of academic books on ancient Chinese architecture despite of the limited financial capability then. As a result, large academic albums of *Ancient Chinese Architecture*, *Ancient Architecture in Chengde*, *the Art of Chinese Gardens*, *the Buildings of Confucius Temple in Qufu*, *Ancient Buildings of Putuoshan*, *Summer Palace as well as five volumes of History of Ancient Chinese Architecture* were put forth continuously. Those books have proved to be of high academic and practical values in consolidation, conservation and protection of the national treasure.

The Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture in English is a series of ten volumes on various aspects of the ancient Chinese architecture, which offer a comprehensive coverage of the art, highlighted by the supreme quality of the photos as well as plenty of drawings of plans, sections and perspectives. The easy description would lead to a comprehension of the cultural essence of Chinese architecture, and appreciation of the aesthetics and philosophy embodied by the art. The authors are famous Chinese experts who have long been engaged in the study of the related subjects, whose dedication makes the series authoritative and informative for interested laymen and specialists alike. Now the Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture is published. It is a happy event. I believe that it will serve as a door for all those who are interested in the study of ancient Chinese architecture.

Zhou Yi

Former President
China Architecture & Building Press

Former Chairman, Committee on Publication
of Science Books
Vice Chairman, Chinese Association of Publishers