

# PALACE ARCHITECTURE

Imperial Palaces of the Last Dynasty

The Excellence of Ancient  
Chinese Architecture

Ru Jinghua  
Peng Hualiang



China Architecture & Building Press

The Excellence of Ancient Chinese Architecture

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**Ru Jinghua and Peng Hualiang**

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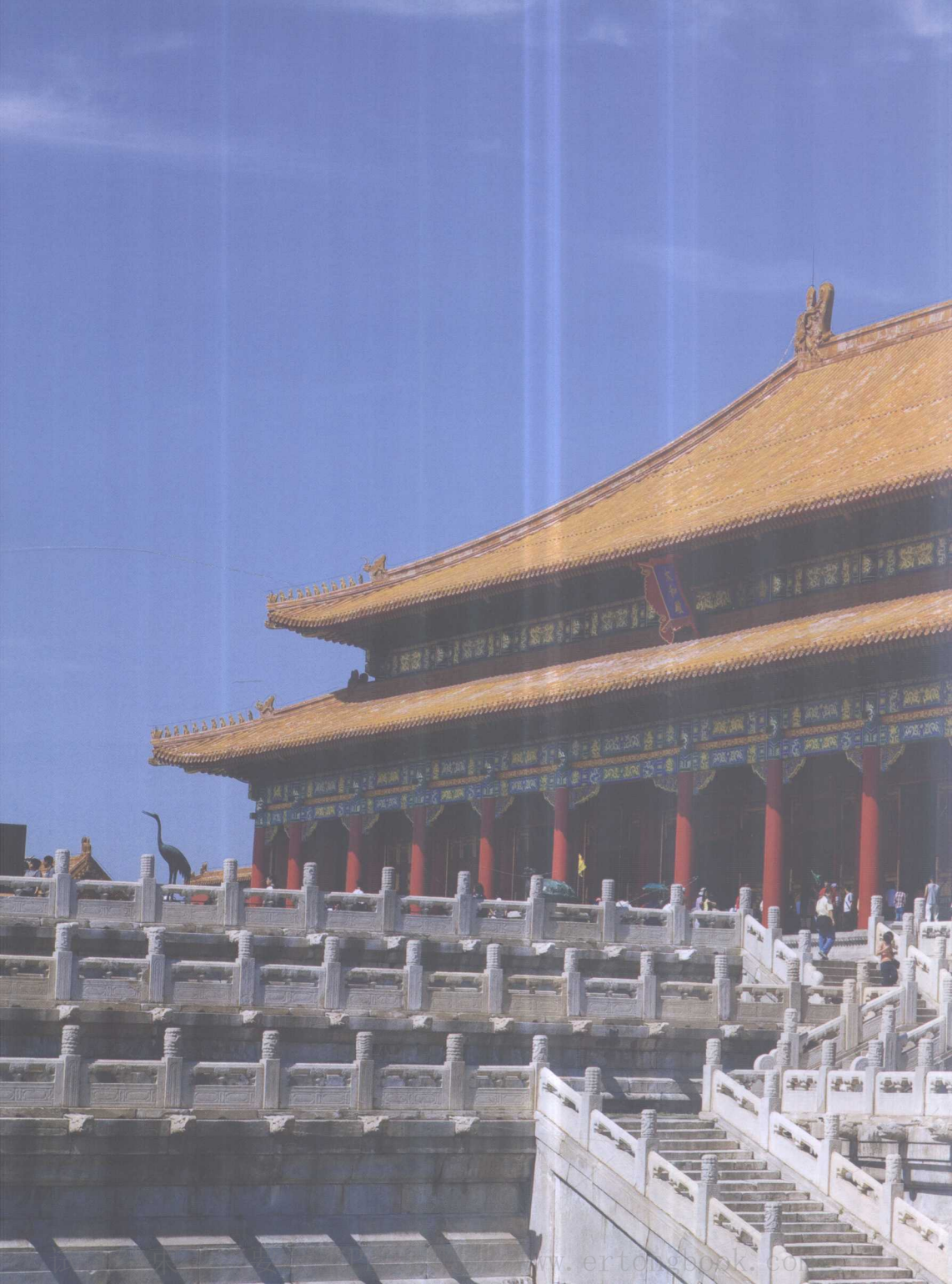
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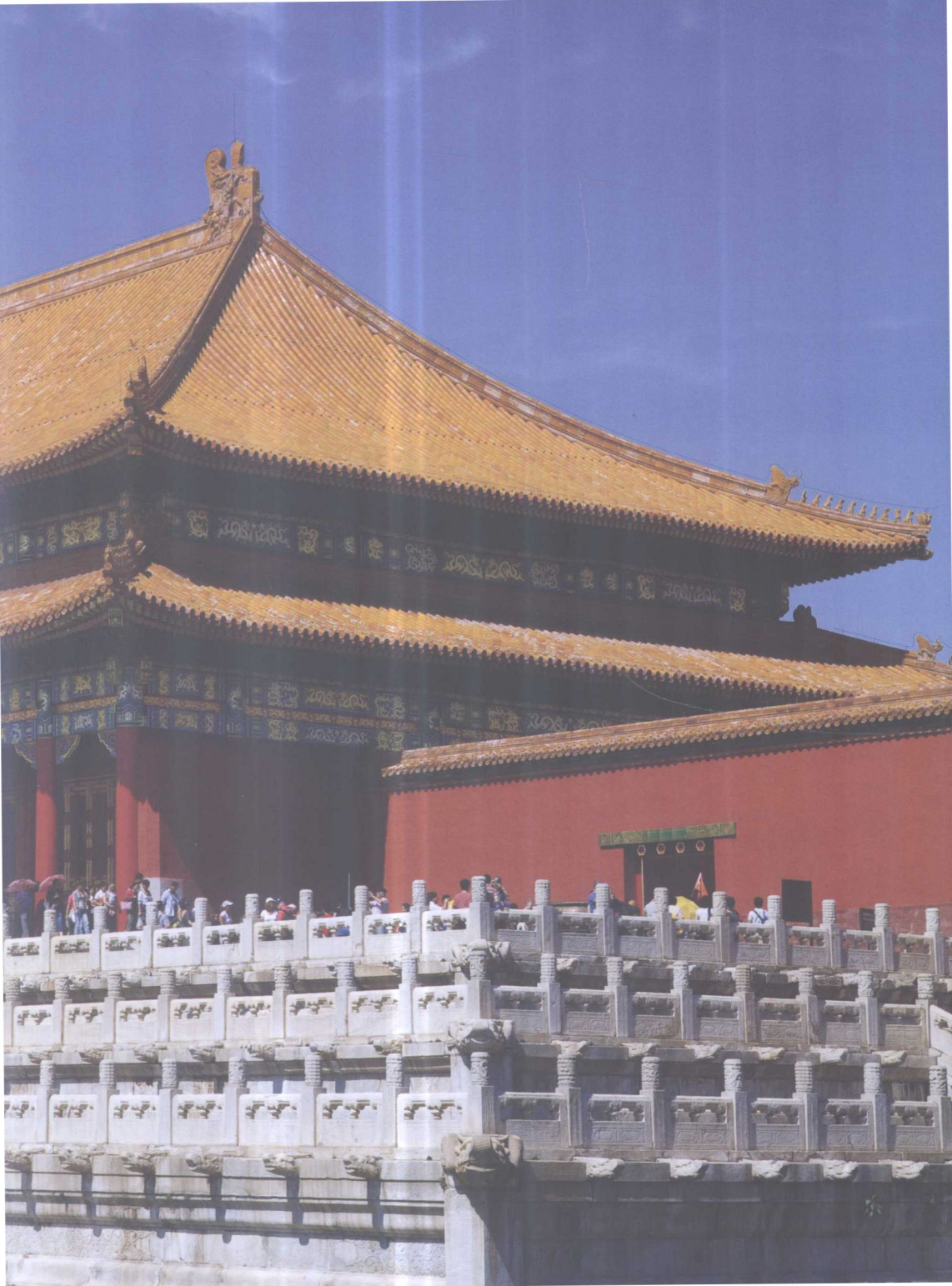
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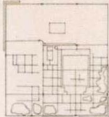
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# Map of Historic Sites of Capital Cities and Palaces



元初  
上都城址平面图

Early Yuan, Plan of the Site of the Upper Capital

新疆维吾尔自治区

内蒙古自治区

甘

肃

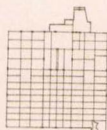
宁夏回族自治区

陕



西汉  
长安城平面图

Western Han, Plan of Chang'an



唐  
长安城复原图

Tang, Plan of Chang'an



青海

西宁

兰州

青

海

省

长

省

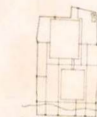
区

西

西藏自治区

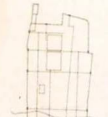
江

江



东汉  
洛阳城平面图

Eastern Han, Plan of the Site of Luoyang



北魏  
洛阳城平面图

Northern Wei, Plan of the Site of Luoyang



隋唐  
洛阳城平面想象图

Sui and Tang, Plan of Luoyang

四

川

省

长

贵

州

省

贵阳

昆明

云

南

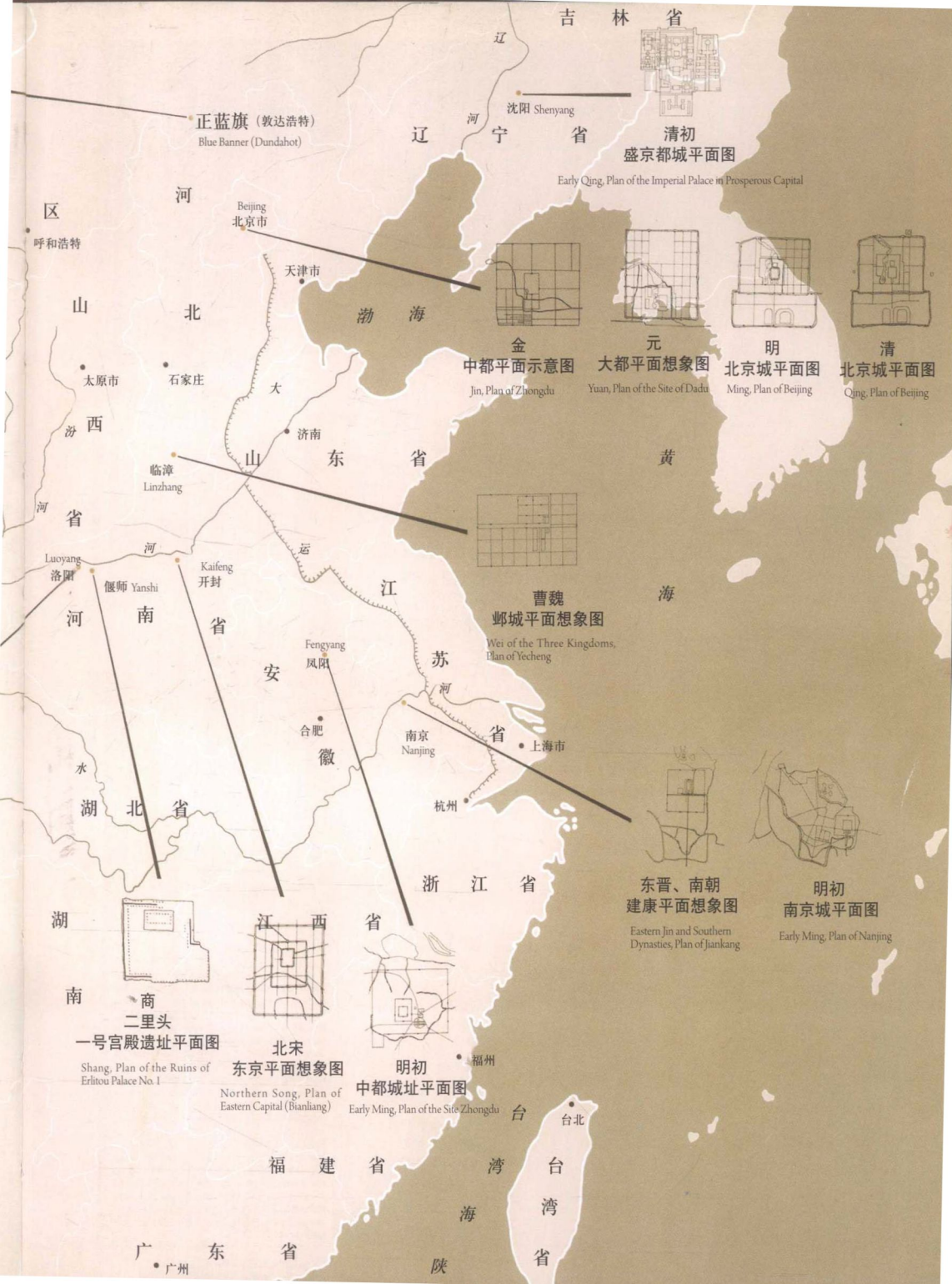
省

广西壮族自治区



In the nearly 3000-year long dynastic period, each dynasty erected for itself the magnificent and splendid palaces in its capitals. These palaces were closely related to the political, economical and cultural achievements of the dynasties in which they were built. Owing to the replacement of dynasties and some political reasons, few palaces are preserved intact excepting the Forbidden City in Beijing and the Imperial palace in Shenyang.

Researches and archaeological excavations prove that the layout of these palaces might be classified into two categories: one was known as the Zhou ritual system in which all the main buildings were laid out on a central axis, such as the Forbidden City in Beijing; the other was the Qin-Han system, in which two detached palaces were built separately, such as the Eastern Han palaces in Luoyang (demolished).



正蓝旗 (敦达浩特)  
Blue Banner (Dundahot)

沈阳 Shenyang

清初  
盛京都城平面图

Early Qing, Plan of the Imperial Palace in Prosperous Capital

北京市  
Beijing

天津市

金  
中都平面示意图

Jin, Plan of Zhongdu

元  
大都平面想象图

Yuan, Plan of the Site of Dadu

明  
北京城平面图

Ming, Plan of Beijing

清  
北京城平面图

Qing, Plan of Beijing

曹魏  
邺城平面想象图

Wei of the Three Kingdoms,  
Plan of Ye Cheng

洛阳市  
Luoyang

偃师 Yanshi

开封  
Kaifeng

凤阳  
Fengyang

合肥

南京市  
Nanjing

上海市

杭州市

东晋、南朝  
建康平面想象图

Eastern Jin and Southern  
Dynasties, Plan of Jiankang

明初  
南京城平面图

Early Ming, Plan of Nanjing

商  
二里头  
一号宫殿遗址平面图

Shang, Plan of the Ruins of  
Erlitou Palace No. 1

北宋  
东京平面想象图

Northern Song, Plan of  
Eastern Capital (Bianliang)

明初  
中都城址平面图

Early Ming, Plan of the Site Zhongdu

广东省  
广州市

陕西省

福州市  
福州

台北市  
台北

福建省

台湾省

陕西省

# The Forbidden City, Historic Sites and Scenic Spots in Beijing



**慕田峪长城 (慕田古堞)**  
 怀柔县, 离市区73公里  
 Mutianyu section of the Great Wall,  
 Huairou County, 73km from Beijing

**八达岭长城 (燕塞雄关)**  
 昌平区, 离市区70公里  
 Badaling section of the Great Wall,  
 Changping County, 70 km from Beijing

**居庸关 (居庸叠翠)**  
 昌平区, 离市区约55公里  
 Juyongguan Pass of the Great Wall,  
 Changping County, 55km from Beijing

**明十三陵 (明陵落照)**  
 昌平区, 离市区44公里  
 Ming Tombs, Changping County,  
 44km from Beijing

**香山·碧云寺 (颐和慧海)**  
 海淀区, 离市区20公里  
 Fragrant Hill and Temple of Azure Clouds,  
 Haidian District, 20km from Beijing

**Summer Palace (Yihe Yuan), Haidian District**  
 海淀区, 离市区约10公里  
 颐和园 (颐和慧海)

**Yuanmingyuan, Haidian District**  
 海淀区  
 圆明园 (万园之园)

**北海 (白塔堆云)**  
 Beihai Park

**故宫 (紫禁夕晖)**  
 Forbidden City

**潭柘寺 (龙潭古栢)**  
 门头沟区, 离市区40公里  
 Tanzhesi Temple, Mentougou District, 40km from Beijing

**周口店北京人遗址 (盘古遗火)**  
 房山区, 离市区75公里  
 Cultural site of Peking Man at Zhoukoudian,  
 Fangshan District, 75km from Beijing

**芦沟桥 (芦沟狮醒)**  
 丰台区, 离市区15公里  
 Summer Palace (Yihe Yuan), Haidian District, 10km from Beijing



Beijing, one of the six ancient capitals in China, has a long history with splendid culture. Not only it has numerous sites of historical interest, it is also famous for its scenic beauty. Historic sites and scenic spots each has its distinguishing feature. They include the largest museum of Eastern culture with the essence of Chinese architecture - the Palace Museum, known as the Forbidden City; the thousand-year-old imperial garden preserved intact-Beihai Park, known as the Winter Palace; the most integrated large-scaled imperial garden now existing-Yihe Yuan, known as the Summer Palace; and several sections of the Great Wall, one of the World Cultural Heritage-Badaling, Mutianyu and Juyongguan Pass, as well as the Temple of Heaven, the Fragrant Hill, the Tanzhesi Temple, the Cultural Site of Peking Man at Zhoukoudian, and Lugouqiao Bridge, all making the ancient capital more elegant and magnificent.

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