

**A Brief History  
of Beijing**

Capital Museum



# A Brief History of Beijing

Capital Museum

极简北京史（英文）

首都博物馆 / 编著

# PREFACE

---

Museums serve to collect and study cultural heritage to provide a comprehensive understanding of history, not only the past of our own nation, but of other countries as well, to generate understanding from learning, to understand the present from history, and to accumulate wisdom and power for the innovation and development of the world and human society.

The Capital Museum of China is the city museum of Beijing, a world renowned historical and cultural center. Our museum professionals seek to inform and enlighten the Beijing citizens, our countrymen, and the global community about the history of Beijing, so that we can both know ourselves and be known by others.

The English version of *A Brief History of Beijing* is an attempt to tell the story of Beijing's urban

civilization through cultural heritages for a global audience, since the publishment of the Chinese version in April 2018. The unseen changes of this century have deepened the world's understanding of the community with a shared future for mankind, and strengthened the role of museum professionals in promoting mutual learning among civilizations.

We would like to dedicate this book to our global community, so more people can have a better understanding of our city and our beloved hometown—Beijing.

Bai Jie  
*President, Capital Museum*

Han Zhanming  
*Director, Capital Museum*

Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

---

# C O N T E N T S

CHAPTER

01

## FROM “PEKING MAN” TO BEIJING CITY (APPROXIMATELY 500,000 B.P. – 221 B.C.) / 1

1. “Peking Man”—Ancient Humans Living in Beijing Area / 1
2. “Ji” and “Yan”—the Earliest Beijing City / 6

CHAPTER

02

## HISTORICAL EVOLUTION FROM “CITY” TO “CAPITAL” (221 B.C. – A.D.1911) / 11

1. The Prelude of Capital ( 221 B.C. –A.D. 1271) / 11
  - City Evolution from the Qin to the Sui, Tang and Five dynasties (221 B.C. – 10<sup>th</sup> Century) / 11
  - As Southern Capital of the Liao Dynasty (938–1122) / 19
  - As Central Capital of the Jin Dynasty (1153–1215) / 23
2. Prosperous Ancient Capital (1271–1911) / 25
  - As Dadu of the Yuan Dynasty (1271–1368) / 25
  - As Capital of the Ming Dynasty (1403–1644) / 40
  - As Capital of the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911) / 49

CHAPTER  
03

**VICISSITUDES OF BEIPING / 73**  
(1912–1949)

1. The New Culture Movement / 77
2. The May Fourth Movement / 79
3. The Development toward a Modern City / 80
4. The “December 9<sup>th</sup> Movement” / 83

CHAPTER  
04

**DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION: CAPITAL  
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA / 85**  
(1949–PRESENT)

1. Peaceful Liberation / 85
2. The Founding Ceremony / 87
3. City Development / 90
4. Looking into the Future / 97

CHAPTER  
05

**FROM THE CITY TO THE PEOPLE / 101**

1. Beijing Memory / 101
2. The Sounds of Beijing / 104
3. The Generous Beijing People / 106

**BIBLIOGRAPHY / 108**

CHAPTER  
01

## FROM “PEKING MAN” TO BEIJING CITY

(APPROXIMATELY 500,000 B.P. – 221 B.C.)

When we talk about Beijing, the first thing comes to mind is “Peking Man”, whose survival depended on the favorable and habitable geographical environment of the ancient Beijing area, especially the

abundance of water. For this reason, the Yongding River is nicknamed the “Mother River of Beijing”. The fertile land of the Beijing Plain gave birth to “Peking Man” and Beijing City.

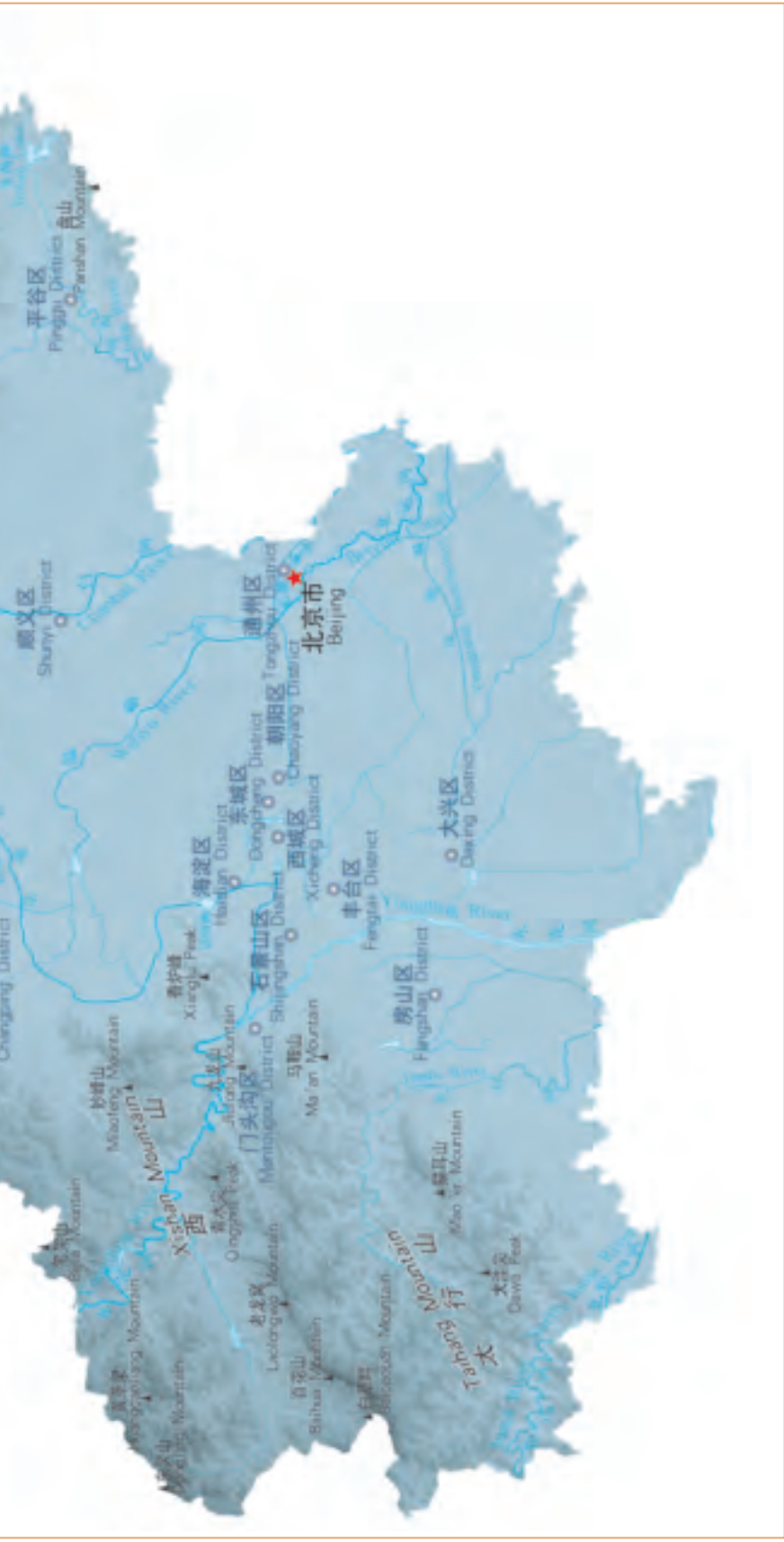
### 1. “PEKING MAN” – ANCIENT HUMANS LIVING IN BEIJING AREA

The Site of “Peking Man” is located at Dragon Bone Hill in Zhoukoudian, Fangshan District, Beijing. On Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1929, the first complete skull fossil of *Sinanthropus Pekinensis* was discovered in a dig presided over by paleoanthropologist Pei Wenzhong. The discovery of “Peking Man” inaugurated the human history of Beijing.



The cave of “Peking Man” Site





审图号：京S（2021）020号

北京市测绘设计研究院 制

北京的空间范围与地理形态示意图  
 Beijing's territory and topography





Bone needles (replica) and ornaments used by the Upper Cave Man

The discovery of the bone needles shows that “Upper Cave Man” had the capability of sewing clothes with fur to withstand the cold. The ornaments demonstrate various techniques, including

drilling, polishing, scraping and dyeing. These objects point to the beginning of using bones and teeth to make tools and decorations, and the beginning of dyeing techniques in the Beijing area.



“Peking Man” refers to a group of ancient humans dated from the early stage of the Paleolithic Period. During the 1930s, in an upper cave of “Peking Man” Site, the fossils of “Upper Cave Man” were discovered, which dated back to 200,000 years ago. The body features of “Upper Cave Man” generally resemble those of modern man.

Archeological discoveries show that the residents of the Beijing area migrated from the hill areas to the plain during the late Paleolithic Period to the early Neolithic Period. In 1966, the “Donghulin People”, dated from the early Neolithic Period, were excavated in a tomb in Donghulin Village of the Mentougou District. The remains were found on the loess platform in the plain area.



Shell necklace

Capital Museum, China

Among the strings of shell necklaces excavated at the “Donghulin People” Site, the largest shell is  $18 \times 16 \times 11$ mm, and the smallest one is  $11.5 \times 8 \times 6$ mm. The shells are identified as a kind of seaside Neritidae. And there are 50 pieces of shells in total.



Bone bracelet

Beijing Cultural Relics Research Institute

Seven bone bracelets made from cut-off and polished ox ribs pieces were discovered, the first to be discovered in the Beijing area.



In December, 1996, a late Paleolithic site of approximately 25,000 years ago was discovered on the construction site of Wangfujing, the central area of Beijing. More than 2,000 pieces of objects were unearthed. These are the first ancient human cultural remains found in the center of an international metropolitan area worldwide. To preserve this valuable historical site, the Beijing Municipal

Government built the Wangfujing Ancient Human Cultural Remains Museum on the original site. The museum is located underground on the third floor of the Beijing Oriental Plaza in Wangfujing Commercial District, and was opened at the end of 2001.

## 2. “JI” AND “YAN” — THE EARLIEST BEIJING CITY

Beijing area has experienced an extremely long historical transformation from a primitive settlement to a city. Around the 11<sup>th</sup> century B.C., a clan of descendants of the Yellow Emperor (Huang Di) settled in the area of today’s Guang’an Gate. The site was located at the gentle southeast slope of a hill, which became the fundamental reason for their settlement. The hill was covered with the plant named “ji” (thistle) and was therefore named Ji Hill. The southeast side of the hill was low and gentle, while the northwest side was steep. To the west of Ji Hill, there was a crossing point of ancient Yongding River. When floods came, the northwest side of the hill became a natural barrier, preventing flooding of the populated area on the southeast. Furthermore, the area beneath the southeastern hill was flat and suitable for farming and settlement, and conveniently located close to water. The settlement evolved into a township and was recorded as the city of Ji. In 1045 B.C. after his conquest of the Shang Dynasty, King Wu founded the Zhou Dynasty. To express his worship to the Yellow Emperor and to appease the Yellow Emperor’s descendants, King Wu

invested them with the State of Ji. The *Record of Music* in the *Classic of Rites* records: “King Wu, after the victory over Yin, proceeded to (the capital of) Shang; and before he descended from his chariot he invested the descendants of Yellow Emperor with Ji.” The Ji people (residents of ancient Beijing) had been absorbed in this way into the Zhou, resulting in their legitimized status in the Zhou Kingdom.



Bronze *He* wine vessel inscribed by *Ke*  
Capital Museum

Ji remained at a distance from the political center of Zhou. To consolidate their reign of Beijing area, the Zhou Dynasty constituted Shi, the Duke of Shao, at the feudal state of Yan, to rule over the southwest part of the present city of Beijing (in the area of Liulihe, Fangshan District) and constructed a walled city. But the Duke of Shao himself didn't re-locate to his fief since he was an important official



Bronze *Lei* wine vessel inscribed by Ke  
Capital Museum

and needed to assist the Zhou Royal houses. It was his eldest son, Ke, who actually took the post.

In 1986, bronze vessels named after *Ke*—*Ke He* (wine or water vessel) and *Ke Lei* (wine jar) were excavated in Huangtupo M1193 in the Liulihe Site of the Western Zhou period in Fangshan District. The inscriptions on the vessel confirm the historical fact of the “investiture of Shi, the Duke of Shao at Yan”. Prior to the subinfeudation, although the exact date is unknown, Ji had already taken on the rudimentary form of a city. The earliest time this may have happened can be traced back to 1045 B.C., the year Ji was conferred by King Wu. Accordingly, this date is regarded as the founding date of Beijing City. The two bronze vessels *He* and *Lei* inscribed “Ke” confirm the historicity of the establishment of the state of Yan and the timing of the establishment of Beijing City.

The inscriptions on *Ke He* and *Ke Lei* read: “Taibao [Duke of Shao], you offer promises and wine to your king. I am very pleased with your offerings and appoint Ke [your son] as the ruler of Yan and to manage Qiang and the other five tribes.’said the Zhou King.” After arriving at Yan, Ke built a walled city and a governing institution, and cast valuable bronze vessels

玻璃河西周遗址

Liulihe Western Zhou Site





Bronze *Gui* food vessel inscribed by *Bo*  
Capital Museum

to commemorate this event. The discovery of bronze vessels *Ke He* and *Ke Lei* provided archeological evidence of the beginnings of Beijing City. *Ke* is thus the first Beijinger to be documented by name and becomes one of the first founders of Beijing area.

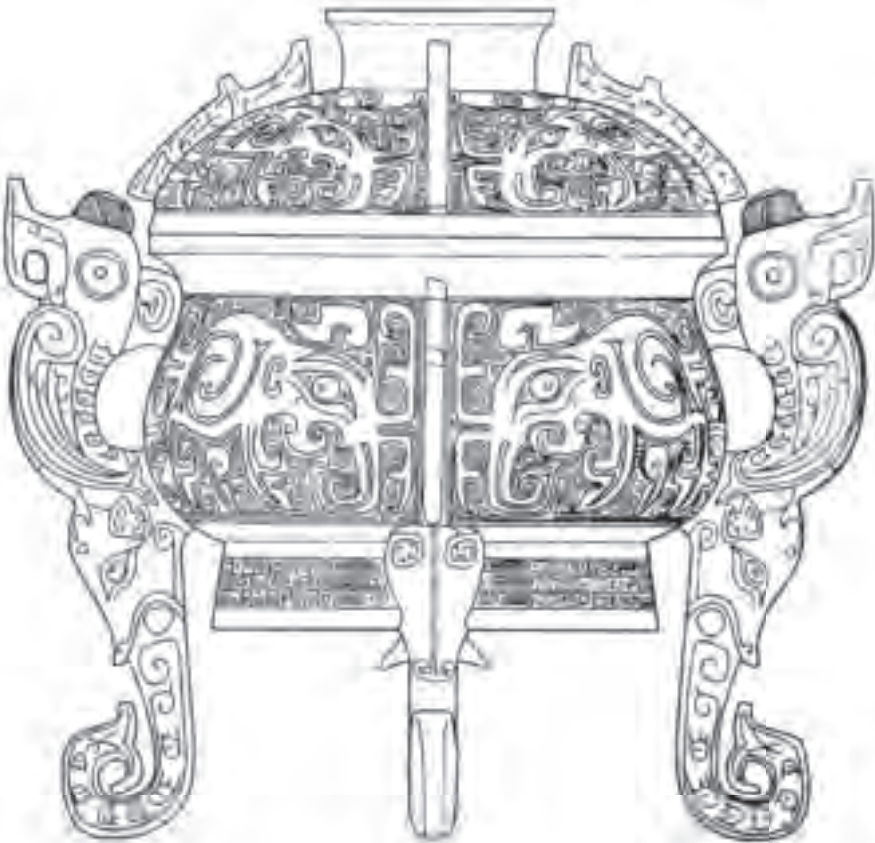
The ruins of Yan city of the

Western Zhou period (1045 B.C.—771 B.C.) are located at Dongjialin Village, Liulihe, Fangshan District. These ruins occupy an area of 829 meters from east to west and 700 meters north to south. The unearthed objects attest to the development of agriculture, animal husbandry, and the casting industry at that time. In

particular, the fine bronzes represent the productivity level of the Western Zhou period.

The coexistence of Ji and Yan lasted until the Spring and Autumn period. With the strengthening of Yan and the weakening of Ji, Yan annexed Ji and relocated the capital to Ji. Philosopher Han Feizi documented this historical change in his eponymous book, *Han Feizi*: “King Xiang of Yan took the Yellow River as the south boundary and Ji as capital.”

After the Spring and Autumn period, the city of Beijing continued its development process centered on the city of Ji. Therefore, the Guang’an Gate area has witnessed the three-thousand-year history of the city’s transformation—starting from Ji to the capital of Yan during the Spring and Autumn Period, from being one of the seven most important capitals during the Warring States period to today.



Sketch of *Gui* inscribed by *Bo*



# HISTORICAL EVOLUTION FROM "CITY" TO "CAPITAL"

(221 B.C. – A.D.1911)

Qin conquered the six states and unified the country in 221 B.C.. As a significant northern military and commercial city from the Qin to the Tang dynasties, Beijing evolved into the auxiliary capital of the Liao Dynasty. Later it became the official capital of the Jin Dynasty, and then turned into the magnificent Yuan

Dadu, the Great Capital of the Yuan Dynasty. Beijing eventually became the political center of the Ming (1368–1644) and Qing (1644–1912) dynasties during the heyday of feudal dynasties. This 800-hundred-year history has set a classic example for the construction of ancient capitals around the world.

## 1. THE PRELUDE OF CAPITAL ( 221 B.C. – A.D. 1271)

### ● CITY EVOLUTION FROM THE QIN TO THE SUI, TANG AND FIVE DYNASTIES (221 B.C. – 10<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY)

The conquest of Ji by the Qin army in 226 B.C. marked the demise of the Yan State. The unified Qin Dynasty (221–207 B.C.) divided the previous Yan land into six commanderies, and Ji became

the capital of the Commandery of Guangyang. During the Han Dynasty (202 B.C.–A.D.220), Ji served as the capital of You Prefecture or Youzhou, and therefore it was called the Youzhou City.

During the Sui (581–618) and Tang (618–907) dynasties, Youzhou City became a military stronghold and an essential trade center among the various ethnicities in northern China.

As a commercial and military hub between the central empire and





**Gilded copper animal-face-shaped knocker**  
Capital Museum

The gilded copper animal-face-shaped knocker and heart-shaped jade pendent, both excavated from Western Han tombs in



**Heart-shaped jade pendent**  
Beijing Dabaotai Western Han Tomb Museum

Beijing area, represent the high standard of craftsmanship of that time.



**Bone ruler**  
Capital Museum

In 1965, in the western suburb of Beijing, west of the Babaoshan Revolutionary Cemetery, the tomb of Wang Jun's wife – Hua Fang was discovered. Wang Jun was an important general of the Western Jin Dynasty. The epigraph contains the earliest record of Ji City's location: "buried 20 *li* (10 kilometers) west of Ji City of Yan Kingdom." The bone ruler found in the tomb is 23.8 centimeters

in length and 1.8 centimeters in width. The ruler is graduated in 10 *cun* (33 centimeters) demarcations on both sides. Each *cun* is further demarcated into 1/10 *cun*. Circle patterns were marked every 1 or 1/2 *cun* on the scale. The ruler provides a reference for the archaeological determination of the location of the ancient Ji City.

the northern nomads, Youzhou City's location was of great importance. To expand towards the eastern and southern area of Liaoning, Emperor Yang of the Sui Dynasty built a canal stretching from south to north, connecting to the canal in

Youzhou City's southern suburb. The canal improved the waterway transportation of the city.

During the reign of Taizong (r. 626–649) of the Tang Dynasty, the expedition army intended to conquer Korea's Goryeo Dynasty pledged in



Taihe statuery  
Capital Museum

This Buddhist statuery, dated from the Taihe reign of the Northern Wei Dynasty, is the oldest extant stone statuery in Beijing. It is 2.22 meters in height and 1.16 meters in width.

Youzhou City. After returning from battle, they decided to build a temple in the southeastern corner of the city to honor their fallen comrades in arms. The temple was completed by the time of the Empress Wu Zetian (r. 690–705). It was named Minzhong Temple, the present-day Fayuan Temple. In the late Tang

Dynasty, Youzhou City became an important converging point between the agricultural civilization of the Central Plain and the nomadic civilization in the north. Centered on the city, the integration of various ethnics has continued to characterize the city since then.

东汉时期的北京地区行政区划图

The administrative map of  
the Eastern Han Dynasty in  
Beijing area









唐幽州城垣位置示意图

The location of the Youzhou city walls during the Tang Dynasty

Since the 1950s, excavations such as Tang epilogues roughly confirmed the location and range of Youzhou City during the Tang Dynasty: with the east wall slightly west of the Lanman hutong in Xicheng District, the west wall slightly east of the Huicheng Gate in Haidian District, the south wall west of Taoranting and north of Yaojiaying in Xicheng District, approximately the area of east and west street of Baizhifang, and the north wall around Toufa hutong in Xicheng District.



### Ten-thousand Buddha Temple (in part)

The Ten-thousand Buddha Temple, located at the foot of Fenghuang Hill, Cijiawu, Fangshan District, was built in the Tang Dynasty. The reliefs of performers on the southwestern wall in the hall are extremely exquisite. Holding various kinds of instruments, the lifelike deities fully illustrate the song and dance scenes from the Tang Dynasty. It is a masterpiece of the Tang-dynasty engraving arts.

### 📍 Ten-thousand Buddha Temple





### Fayuan Temple (Minzhong Temple)

Fayuan Temple, located at Jiaozi hutong, outside the Xuanwu Gate, was called Minzhong Temple during the Tang Dynasty. In the 19<sup>th</sup> year of Zhenguan during the Taizong reign of the Tang Dynasty (645), to honor the deceased soldiers in the expedition to Goryeo, the emperor decreed to build a temple

inside the Youzhou City. The temple was eventually completed during the first year of Tongtian (696) during the Empress Wu's reign. It was rebuilt during the Yongzheng reign (1722–1735) of the Qing Dynasty and acquired its present name. The enormous temple is the oldest in Beijing.

### ● AS SOUTHERN CAPITAL OF THE LIAO DYNASTY (938–1122)

The Liao Dynasty was an important transitional period during which Beijing upgraded to a capital. During this period, Beijing became the political, economic, military and cultural center of the north, and

began its history as a capital.

In 916, Yelü Abaoji, the head of the Khitan (Qidan) nomadic people living in the north of China declared himself emperor and founded the Khitan State. It became a powerful force in north China. In 936, regional military governor Shi Jingtang betrayed the Later Tang



regime. On the condition of ceding the sixteen Prefectures of Yan and Yun, he asked the Khitan emperor to dispatch troops to assist him in conquering the Later Tang. After obtaining the sixteen prefectures the Khitan regime became stronger and adopted the dynasty title of Liao. In 938, Youzhou City was built into the auxiliary capital designated as

one of the five capitals of Liao. Since Youzhou city was located at the south of Liao territory, it is called Nanjing (southern capital – not to be confused with the city of Nanjing in Jiangsu province) or Yanjing.

Nanjing City was the biggest among the five capitals of the Liao Dynasty. It was generally built upon the previous Youzhou City site

辽南京城示意图

Sketch map of Nanjing (Southern Capital) of the Liao Dynasty



during the Tang Dynasty (namely the previous site of Ji City, which centered on the Guang’an Gate area), except that the city walls were rebuilt. The city’s perimeter wall was 23 *li* (11.5 kilometers) and had eight gates. The imperial palace was built in the southwestern corner and had four gates. The city was divided into

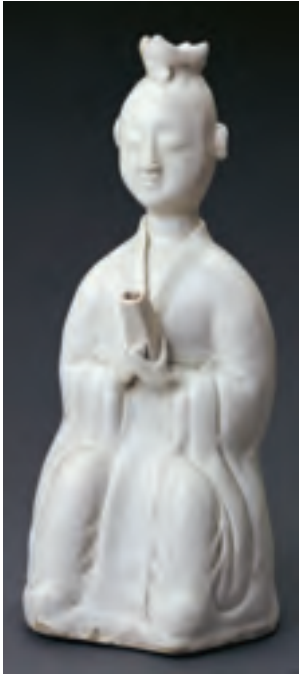
26 walled residential blocks called *fang* (residential quarters). The market was located in the northern part of the city, and offered goods from different places. Prosperous and populated, Nanjing City became the center of commercial trade that accommodated multiple groups of ethnics.



Tianning Temple Pagoda

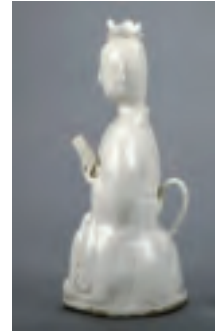
Constructed in the Liao Dynasty, Tianning Temple Pagoda stands 58.7 meters high. With brick construction and densely distributed eaves and bracket

supports, the *miyan* style pagoda is a representative architecture of the Liao Nanjing City.



White-glazed pot in the shape of a boy reading a scripture from the Ding Kiln

Capital Museum



This porcelain pot, ingeniously designed as a whole, 27 cm in height and 3.3 cm in width, was excavated from the Liao Dynasty's Jinguang Stupa in Shunyi District. The pot takes the Buddhist scripture roll as its shape and the center of the scripture as the spout. The child's body serves as the pot's hollow body. The head has a hole for adding water.



Woodblock print *Qidanzang* (Khitan Tripitaka) from Nanjing City of the Liao Dynasty (replica)

In 1974, 12 scrolls of woodblock printed sutras were found inside the Sakyamuni statue in the Liao Dynasty wooden pagoda in Ying County, Shanxi Province, clearly stating

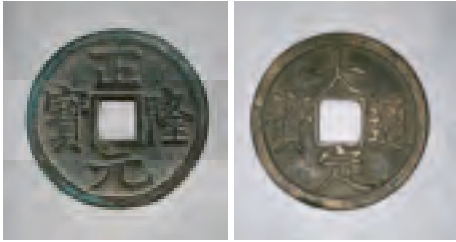
that the sutras were printed in Yanjing. Buddhism flourished in Liao Nanjing City as evidenced by the large number of sutras printed during that time.

## ● AS CENTRAL CAPITAL OF THE JIN DYNASTY (1153–1215)

In 1115, the Jurchen, another nomadic ethnic group living in the northeastern part of China, founded the State of Jin in Huining (present-day A’cheng District, Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province). Its leader, Aguda, declared himself emperor. Jin fought against Liao for primacy over northern China. In 1122, the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the Tianfu reign, Jin allied with the Northern Song and together they attacked the Liao from both the north and the south. Jin subsequently occupied Nanjing City for the first time. According to the agreement, Nanjing City was handed over to the Northern Song and the latter changed it to Yanshan Prefecture (*fu*). In 1125, the Jin army took over Yanshan Prefecture and proceeded southward to conquer the Northern Song. Jin still took Huining as its capital at that time.

In 1151, Wanyan Liang, the Prince of Hailing, relocated the Jin capital to Yanjing and appointed Zhang Hao and others to construct, rebuild and enlarge the capital on the basis of Liao Nanjing City, with reference to the size and shape of Bianjing, the capital of the Northern Song. The new city had three layers of walls. The outmost was the big city, expanding eastward, westward

and southward while leaving the location of the north city wall unchanged. Inside the big city, there was the imperial city; and within the imperial city, there was the palace city. In the process, the city came to incorporate Ximagou of the West Lake (today’s Lianhuachi). A moat was dug to surround the city, and was diverted to the western side of the imperial city, resulting in the Yuzaochi (today’s Qingnian Lake outside the Guang’an Gate in the Xicheng District). The route from Yingtian Gate southward to the south gate of the imperial city—Xuanyang Gate—and all the way toward Fengyi Gate at the south of the capital city, formed an imperial road running through the axis of the entire city. Along the sides of the imperial road, structures including the Qianbu Corridor (thousand-step-corridor), the Wenlou (Civil Tower) and the Wulou (Martial Tower) stood symmetrically. The T-shaped plaza in front of the palace added to its overall grandeur. It is worth mentioning that an imperial retreat—the Daning Palace—was built in the northeastern suburb of the city. The residential areas without walls were still called *fang* (residential quarters), with streets essentially serving as walls. In 1153, the capital was completed and the Prince of Hailing led all the officials to migrate



**Zhenglong Cash Coin and Dading Cash Coin**

Capital Museum

“Zhenglong Cash Coin” and “Dading Cash Coin” were the two most widely circulated coinages during the Jin Dynasty. In December 2012, a large number of ancient coins were unearthed west of Zhongdu’s imperial city (nearby the modern You’an Gate), fully illustrating the prosperous development of commercial trade in Zhongdu.



**Green Nephrite Tortoise and Lotus-leaf Shape Pendant**

Capital Museum

This art piece from the Jin Dynasty is 10cm in length, 7cm in width and 1.3 in thickness. It was unearthed from the tomb of Wolun of the Wugulun Tribe, Fengtai District. The tomb was the first clearly dated Jurchen royal tomb in the Beijing region. With its precise design, vivid pattern, delicate carving and perfect polishing, it is a masterpiece of Jin Dynasty jade carving.



**The Eight Great Sites of Yanjing: The Morning Moon over Lugou Bridge**

Capital Museum

Lugou Bridge (Marco Polo Bridge) was built in 1189, the 29<sup>th</sup> year of the Dading reign in the Jin Dynasty. It is a stone circular arch bridge with eleven arches. It is 265 meters in length including the bridgehead and 8 meters in width. The

baluster column heads are carved into stone lions of various shapes and vivid forms on both sides of the bridge. The scroll above was created by painter Wang Fu, titled *Eight Great Sites of Yanjing*.

Yanjing City, naming the new capital Zhongdu (Central Capital). Built on the foundation of Ji city, Jin Dynasty Zhongdu represents a peak in the development of Beijing.

Zhongdu developed a prosperous economy and a market much larger than that of the Nanjing City. The northern part of Zhongdu was still the most prosperous commercial district.

The “Eight Great Sites of Yanjing” were first recorded in the Jin Dynasty *Mingchang Yishi* (*Remnant of the Mingchang Reign*). The eight sites were: Taiye Lake in Autumn Breeze, Jade Islet in Spring Time, Golden Terrace in the Glow of the Setting Sun, Misty Trees in Jimen, Western Hills after Snow, Rainbow over the Jade Spring, Morning Moon over Lugou Bridge, Juyongguan Great Wall in Green. The sites changed from dynasty to dynasty.

## 2. PROSPEROUS ANCIENT CAPITAL (1271–1911)

### ● AS DADU OF THE YUAN DYNASTY (1271–1368)

In the year 1206, Mongol leader Temüjin established the state of “Mongol Empire” at the headwaters of Onon River and declared himself the “Genghis Khan”. In 1215,

Mongol armies occupied Jin Dynasty Zhongdu. The title was conferred on his grandson Kublai in 1260. In 1267, Kublai adopted suggestions for the construction of a new capital from Liu Bingzhong, who proposed it should be situated on the northeastern outskirts of Zhongdu. In 1271, Kublai established the Yuan Dynasty (as stated in *Qian Triagram of The Book of Changes*: “Vast is the great and power indicated by Qian! All things owe to it their beginning—it contains all the meaning belonging to heaven.”). In early 1274, Kublai held a celebration in the main hall of his imperial palace in the newly built Great Capital of the Yuan Dynasty—Dadu (“the city of the Khan” in Mongolian). It was not until 1276 did Dadu complete constructing and become the capital of a multi-ethnic-group state.

The development of Beijing, from the earliest Ji City to Zhongdu, all took Guang’an Gate as the city center and expanded around it over time. Yet with the construction of Dadu, the city center shifted northeastward. This became a significant turning point of Beijing’s urban development history.

Dadu centered around the lake area of the Gaolianghe river system, located near the Jin Dynasty Daning Palace. Urban planning for





金中都图  
 Map of Zhongdu  
 (Central Capital)  
 of the Jin Dynasty

	寺 庙	Temples
	宫 殿	Palaces
	皇 城	Imperial City
	皇 城 中 心	Estimated location of the imperial city
	城 墙 城 门	City Walls, City Gates
	道 路	Roads
	桥 梁	Bridges
	河 流	Rivers
	湖 泊	Lakes



Dadu drew on principles from the *Rites of Zhou: Book of Diverse Crafts*: “When the builder constructs the capital, the city is square of nine *li* (4.5 kilometers) on each side with three gates separately. Within the city, there are nine longitudinal and nine latitudinal streets, each of them 9 carriages wide. On the left (i.e. east) is the Ancestral Temple, on the right (west) are the Altars, in front is the imperial court and behind the markets.” These principles represent the ideal construction concept of a feudal imperial capital, according to traditional Chinese thought.

During Kublai’s reign, Italian Marco Polo came to Dadu with his father and uncle. Describing Kublai’s palace in his treatise *The Travels of Marco Polo*, Polo wrote, “The grand hall is all highly beautiful, and so admirably disposed that it seems impossible to suggest any improvement to the system of their arrangement.”<sup>1</sup>

According to archeological measurements, the perimeter of Dadu is 28,600 meters. The walls are made of rammed earth with eleven gates. The imperial city was located in the middle of the southern

part of the city. The palace city was located in the eastern part of the imperial city while imperial garden was situated in the northern part of the palace city. *Fang* (residential quarters) and markets scattered around the imperial city.

In terms of the city’s layout, Dadu was situated on a north-south axis, starting from Lizheng Gate in the south, going through the Lingxing Gate of the imperial city, and the Chongtian Gate and Houzai Gate of the palace city, passing through the Wanning Bridge and going directly to the Zhongxin pavilion at the center of the city. A stele erected at the center of Dadu city was inscribed “center terrace”. The Zhongxin pavilion was built next to the stele (north of the present-day Drum Tower), which was a first in the history of Chinese capital construction.

There were fifty *fang* (residential quarters) inside the city, which broke the walled unit system adopted since the Han and Tang dynasties. The *fang* in Dadu took the streets as boundaries, forming a checkered layout. According to *The Travels of Marco Polo*, “the whole plan of the city was regularly laid out by

---

1 Manuel (ed), Polo, Marco. *The Travels of Marco Polo (The Venetian): Revised from Marsden’s Translation and Edited with Introduction by Manuel Komroff*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Co., 1926. p. 83.

line, and the streets in general are consequently so straight... In this manner the whole interior of the city is disposed in squares, so as to resemble a chess-board, and planned out with a degree of precision and beauty impossible to describe.”<sup>1</sup>

The names of *hutong* (narrow residential alleys) in Dadu have been retained in Beijing even today. The Zhuanta Hutong (Brick Pagoda Hutong), for example, in the present-day Xisi area of Xicheng District, was named after a greyish seven-layered octagonal brick pagoda at the east exit of the hutong. The pagoda was built in memory of the monk Wansong Xingxiu, the tutor of Yelü Chucai, the renowned official in Yuan. The name of the hutong was first seen in Yuan-dynasty drama, with the pagoda as the landmark, and has constantly reappeared in documents from the Yuan, Ming, Qing dynasties and the Republican Period. It is regarded as the “root” of Beijing’s hutong.

The governance of Dadu was refined. In *The Travels of Marco Polo*,

it is said that “at both sides of the public roads he causes trees to be planted, of a kind that become large and tall, and being only two paces asunder, they serve—besides the advantage of their shade in summer—to point out the road—when the ground is covered with snow...He also appoints officers of rank, whose duty it is to see that all these are properly arranged and the roads constantly kept in good order.”<sup>2</sup>

Dadu was the commercial center of the entire nation, as well an international commercial metropolis, especially seen in the area of Xieshi Street, on the north shore of Jishuitan, the most prosperous region in the entire city. It is reported in *The Travels of Marco Polo*, “to this city everything that is most rare and valuable in all parts of the world finds its way...The quantity of merchandise sold exceeds also the traffic of any other place.”<sup>3</sup>

Dadu developed into the most prosperous city worldwide, establishing the basic pattern for subsequent city development,

1 Manuel (ed), Polo, Marco. *The Travels of Marco Polo (The Venetian): Revised from Marsden’s Translation and Edited with Introduction by Manuel Komroff*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Co., 1926. p. 84.

2 Manuel (ed), Polo, Marco. *The Travels of Marco Polo (The Venetian): Revised from Marsden’s Translation and Edited with Introduction by Manuel Komroff*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Co., 1926., p.102.

3 Manuel (ed), Polo, Marco. *The Travels of Marco Polo (The Venetian): Revised from Marsden’s Translation and Edited with Introduction by Manuel Komroff*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Co., 1926.,p.94.

安贞门  
Anzhen Gate

健德门  
Jiande Gate

光熙门  
Guangxi Gate

崇仁门  
Chongren Gate

齐化门  
Qihua Gate

都

通  
Tonghui

宫城  
Palace City

太液池  
Taiye Lake  
琼华岛  
Jade Isle

大  
Dadu

金水河  
Jinshui River

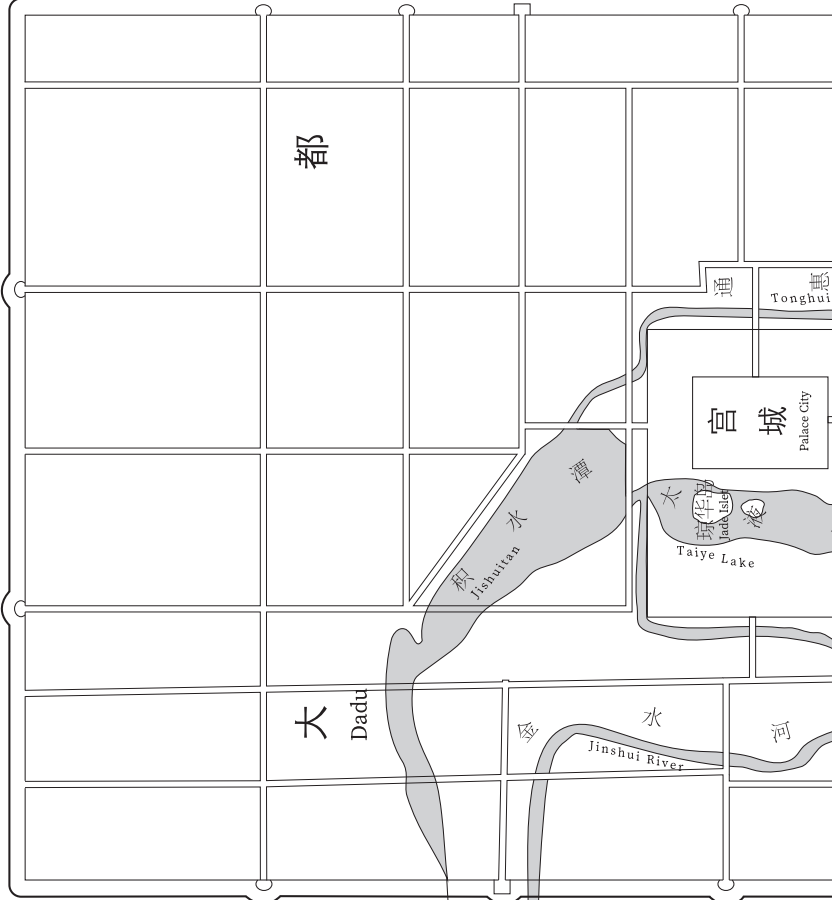
肃清门  
Suiqing Gate

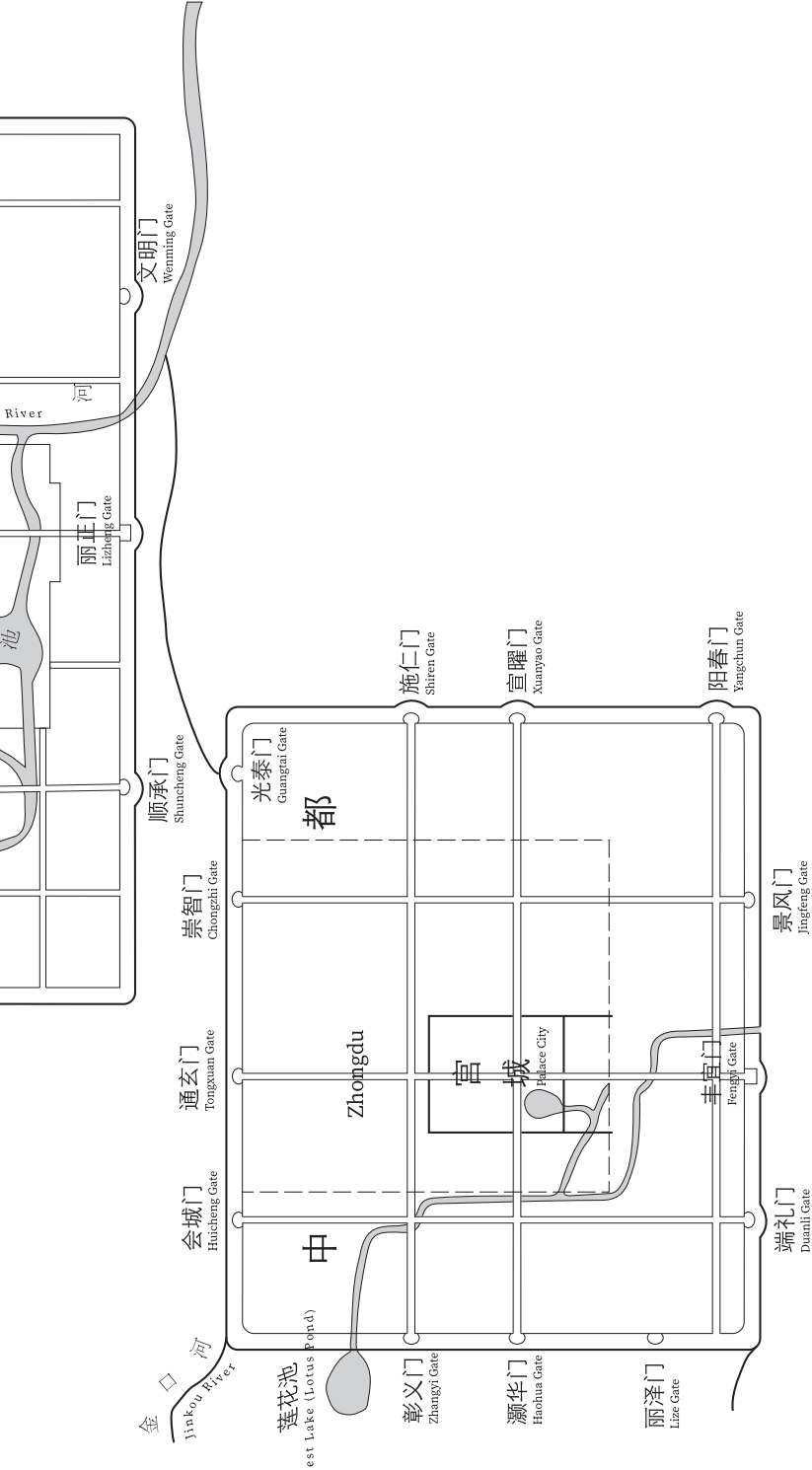
高粱河  
Gaochang River

和义门  
Heyi Gate

金水河  
Jinshui River

平则门  
Pingze Gate





金中都与元大都城址位置图

Location of Jin Zhongdu and Yuan Dadu city site

元大都城

至正年间 (1341—1368)

Dadu of the Yuan Dynasty (Zhizheng Reign, 1341-1368)







Brick Pagoda, the “Wansong Laoren (Elder of Ten-thousand Pines) Pagoda” of the Yuan Dynasty



Houyingfang Hutong Settlement Site of the Yuan Dynasty



Broken lacquer piece with mother-of-pearl inlays carved into a scene of the Guanghan Palace  
Capital Museum

This is one of the artifacts excavated from the Yuan Dynasty Houyingfang Hutong Settlement.





Blue-and-white porcelain gu vase and blue-and-white porcelain bottle

Capital Museum



*Rafts going through the Lugou Bridge* (in part)

National Museum of China

even to the present day. This great accomplishment is owed to the city's planner and constructor Liu Bingzhong and Guo Shoujing. Liu was the major planner of the city, while Guo made remarkable contributions including solving the problem of the city's water source and connecting the canals, enabling

the shipment of grain from the south to the north.

As the sub-center of present-day Beijing city, Tongzhou developed rapidly along with the opening of the Yuan-dynasty Tonghui Canal. In the 19<sup>th</sup> year of Yongle of the Ming Dynasty (1421), the majority of the goods transported by canals gathered

元大都城通惠河示意图

Map of Yuan-dynasty Dadu and Tonghui River



Guangyuan Water-Gate site:  
one of the twenty-four water-gates  
on Tonghui Canal



Tongyun Bridge

Tongyun Bridge is located at Zhangjiawan Town, Tongzhou, Beijing. Zhangjiawan Town started to grow into an important port since the Liao and Jin dynasties. Originally of wooden construction, in 1605, (during the Wanli reign of the Shenzong emperor of the Ming Dynasty), it was replaced by a stone bridge. Completed in October that year, the bridge was named “Tongyun” (clear transportation). It was rebuilt in the first year of Xianfeng in the Qing Dynasty (1851). It is 43 meters in length and 10 meters in width.

in the port of Tongzhou, and were then transferred to the capital. Tongzhou thus became flourished and turned into the east gate and important functional region of the capital.

Dadu was not only the national political and commercial center, but also the cultural center. Talent from

all places gathered here, resulting in the emergence of artistic categories and masters of Yuan drama (*zaju*), such as Guan Hanqing and others. Compliments filled the records of many traveling westerners, enhancing Western society's aspiration for this Eastern Empire's capital.



#### Ancient Observatory site

The site of the Ancient Observatory is located at the southwestern corner of the Jianguo Gate overpass. It was first built in 1279, the 16<sup>th</sup> year of the Zhiyuan reign in the Yuan Dynasty. The site was chosen

by Guo Shoujing and was named as Sima Terrace. Guo produced a whole set of astronomy instruments, including the *Jianyi* (abridged or simplified armilla) and the *Yangyi* (square table).

Baita Temple  
(Temple of White Daboga)



Baita Temple is located at the north side of Fuchengmen Street, Xicheng District. It was constructed in 1271, the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the Zhiyuan reign of the Yuan Dynasty, and was designed and presided

over by Araniko (1243? –1306, from what is now Nepal). The brick and stone temple was named Dashengshou Wan'an Temple, standing at a height of 50.9 meters.

### ● AS CAPITAL OF THE MING DYNASTY (1403–1644)

In the first year of the Hongwu reign of the Ming Dynasty (1368), the emperor, Zhu Yuanzhang, established the capital in Nanjing in the Yangzi River Delta and ordered Xu Da and Chang Yuchun to lead an army northward. Xu subsequently conquered Dadu, and Zhu renamed Dadu to Beiping, meaning “peace and tranquility in the north”. To reinforce defense, Xu abandoned the northern part of the city, and built a new city wall 2.5 kilometers south of the Dadu’s north wall, which became the north boundary of Ming-dynasty Beijing city.

When Zhu Di, the Yongle Emperor, succeeded to throne, he actively prepared to relocate the capital to Beiping, in the light of

the major threats coming from the Mongol nobles in the north. In the first of year of the Yongle reign (1403), he changed Beiping to Beijing, and the name Beijing first came into being. Based on the Yuan Dadu, another round of constructional engineering began and was basically completed in the 18<sup>th</sup> year of the Yongle reign (1420).

The construction of Ming Dynasty Beijing City further highlighted the planning of the imperial city as outlined in *The Rites of Zhou: Book of Diverse Crafts*, and reflected the “inevitability” of the dignified imperial authority. During the Jiajing reign (1522–1566), an outer city was built in the southern part of the city, forming a “凸” shape. The Forbidden City (the palace city, or palace compound) was located inside the surrounding walls



Exterior of Fengtian Palace (Taihe Palace in the Qing Dynasty)



Daxiang Palace, the place for praying for good weather and good harvest  
(Qinian Palace in the Qing Dynasty)

of the imperial city, forming an inner city and an outer city. Wansui Hill or Longevity Hill (Jingshan Hill, Prospect Hill) marked the highest point of the historical axis.

The Ming Dynasty replaced the rammed earth city walls of the Yuan Dynasty with bricks by adding an extra layer of bricks to the surface of the walls and on the semicircular door openings. When building the gate towers, the wooden bridges stretching across the moat were

replaced with stone bridges as well.

Integrity was the prominent characteristic of the Beijing City planning and construction in the Ming Dynasty. By practicing the overall constructing concept of a feudal imperial capital, it became a paradigm in the history of world capital, with a highlighted center, an ordered layout, a strict symmetrical pattern, a standard system, a distinct hierarchy, clear directions and a south-north central axis, balancing

the architecture and brilliantly incorporating both the artificial and the natural. The streets and *hutong* were arranged in neat rows. The glorious palaces and the elegant but simple common residential houses, formed a harmonious integrity. As Ieoh Ming Pei, the contemporary master architect said: the most brilliant part of ancient Beijing City is that it was a whole coming from a thorough plan.

Beijing City in the Ming Dynasty was the national center for cultural education. The Guozijian (Imperial Academy) was responsible

for cultivating the talents for the emperor. The Guozijian started in the Yuan Dynasty, and was enlarged and rebuilt during the Ming-dynasty Yongle reign (1403–1424) and the Zhengtong (1436–1449) reign. In 1783, the 48<sup>th</sup> year of the Qianlong reign in the Qing Dynasty, another group of buildings named the Piyong Palace (the Memorial Archway) was added, forming a layout of “temple on the left and school on the right”.

During the Wanli reign (1573–1620), Italian Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci came to China and translated *Jihe Yuanben* (*Books I-VI*)

The Ming-dynasty Great Wall





### Confucius Temple

The Confucius Temple was built in 1302, the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the Dade reign in the Yuan Dynasty, and renovated in the 1411,

the 9<sup>th</sup> year of Yongle reign in the Ming Dynasty, and was used by the imperial families as venue to worship Confucius.

collaboratively with Xu Guangqi, and introduced Western natural science to China.

Art in the Ming Dynasty developed on the basis of the Yuan Dynasty. Capital Museum has a collection of 12,000 Ming masterpieces unearthed and passed down in Beijing area, including goldware, jades, potteries, porcelains, bronzes, silverware, stone carvings, textiles, coins, snuff bottles, ancient books, paintings, calligraphies, seals, contracts, study utensils,

furniture, Buddhist statuary and more. The religious art murals in the well-preserved Fahai Temple (Dharma Samudra Vihāra) are also great representative among them. The Fahai temple was established in 1433, the 8<sup>th</sup> year of Zhengtong of the Ming Dynasty and is located at the south slope of Cuiwei Hill, Moshikou, Shijingshan District. The murals in the main hall are considered as masterpieces of Ming-dynasty painting.





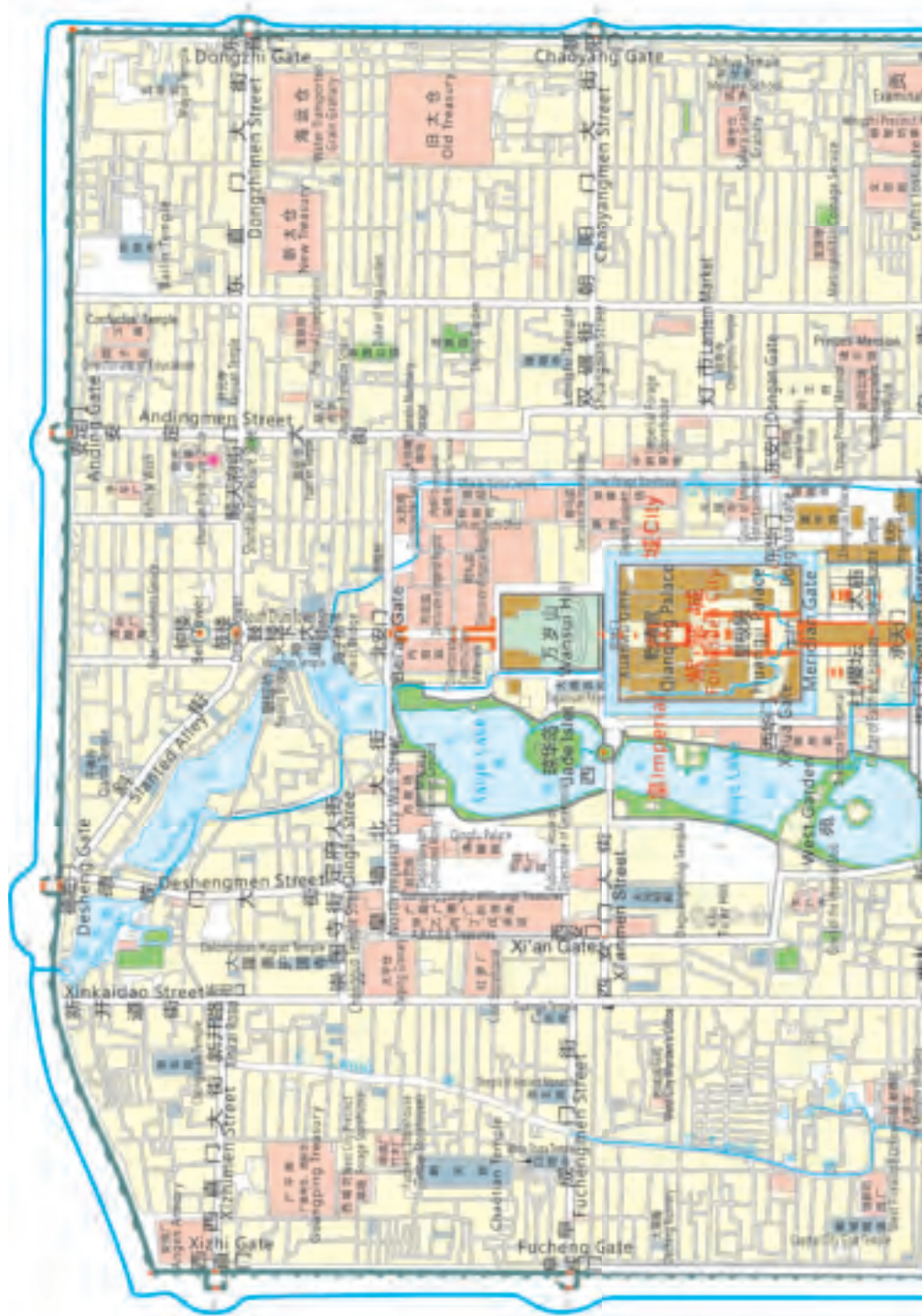
Matteo Ricci (1552-1610) and Xu Guangqi (1562–1633)



The tomb of Matteo Ricci



Fahai Temple mural (in part)





明北京城

万历-崇祯年间 (1573-1644)

Ming-dynasty Beijing City (From the reign of Wanli to Chongzhen, 1573-1644)

As the center of governance, Beijing City's economy developed prosperously, manifested in highly developed craftsmanship and flourishing commerce. Guild halls as social organizations started to play an important role in urban life, and became an essential commercial and humanist tie linking the capital city and the local and outlying areas.



Red lacquered square plate engraved with peonies

Capital Museum



Bridge-eared bronze burner with Xuande mark

Capital Museum

Bridge-eared burner, also called Xuande burner, is 13 cm in height and 19.4 cm in diameter. During his reign (1426–1435), the Xuande emperor enjoyed playing with incense burners. He ordered particularly the import of copper from Siam (now Southeast Asia) and asked the imperial craftsmen to design and produce burners based on the prototypes of the Song-dynasty porcelains in the imperial collections that originated from the famous

kilns. Craftsmen also added gold, silver and dozens of other kinds of precious metals into the copper. The finished incense burners are mostly the colors of chestnut, Buddhist sutras and eggplant skin. Glittering and smooth, they create a sense of solemnity and preciousness. Ming-dynasty Beijing handicrafts include carved lacquerware, Xuande burners and cloisonné.

## ● AS CAPITAL OF THE QING DYNASTY (1644–1911)

The Qing Dynasty, the last feudal imperial dynasty of China was inaugurated by the Manchus from the northeast part of China. After two decades of hardship and struggle, the Manchus named their regime the Great Qing in 1636. They established the capital in Beijing in 1644, calling it “Jingshi” in 1644. The Qing generally followed the layout of Ming-dynasty Beijing City’s layout. The Forbidden City continued to serve as the imperial restricted area enjoyed only by the supreme ruler. The only adjustment was to divide the various city functions in accordance to different districts – the inner city shouldered the capital’s political and military functions, while the outer city was residential and commercial.

The Qing Forbidden City was the symbol of imperial authority. It served both as the venue for residence and work of the royals, and as a national ritual site, together with temples and shrines, which bore the same function. To strengthen national identity, the Confucius Temple was built in the Qing Dynasty. The emperor went personally to Guozijian to give lectures. During the Qianlong reign, 188 previous emperors were

identified in the Temple of Successive Emperors, which was the traditional national ritual site to commemorate previous Chinese emperors. China’s national and cultural identity was reinforced by adhering to the proposition—“all Chinese traditions shall not be broken down”. Today, the Temple of Successive Emperors retains its traditional grace and it is open to the public. The Jingde Archway, one of the archways standing in front of the Temple of Successive Emperors, is now exhibited in the main hall of Capital Museum.

Contributions to Beijing’s city development in the Qing Dynasty were the overall planning and the gardens, especially the famous imperial gardens, the “three hills and five gardens” built in the western outskirts of the city. The Qingyi Garden (Summer Palace) and the Yuanmingyuan (Old Summer Palace) in particular have become paragons of Chinese ancient garden construction.

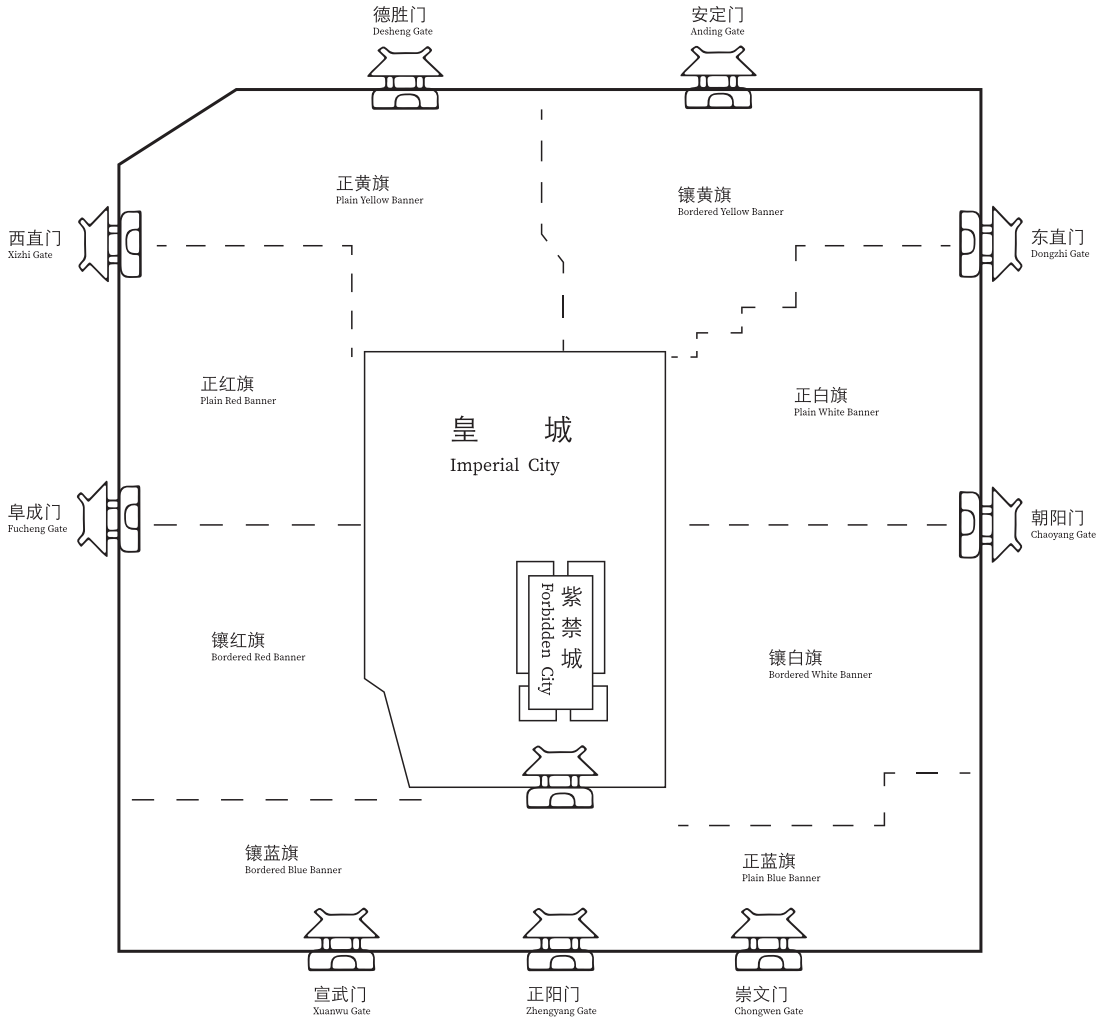
The gardens in the western outskirts of Beijing became the residences and daily work places for the Qing imperial families. Along with the Chengde Mountain Resort, they served as important venues for interaction with the frontier minority groups, for constructing a unitary multi-national state, and for carrying



### Temple of Successive Emperors

The Temple of Successive Emperors is situated in Fuchengmennei Street of Xicheng District. It was first built in 1531,

the 10<sup>th</sup> year the Jiajing reign in the Ming Dynasty.



北京内城八旗方位图

Locations of the Eight Banners inside Beijing's inner city





### Jingde Archway

The three-bay, four pillars and seven-roof style of the Jingde Archway is adhering to the previous saints' virtues, in accordance with the Temple of Successive Emperors. The buildings on the central axis in the temple are all inscribed with "Jingde", such as the "Jingde Gate", "Jingde Chongsheng Hall", etc.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, amid the

rapid development of Beijing City's construction and transportation, the Jingde Archway was dismantled in 1954 and the components were preserved. On the suggestion of experts in ancient architecture like Liang Sicheng, the archway was subject to a series of photographs taking from various angles. Every component dismantled was recorded, creating a valuable record for its



subsequent reconstruction.

At present, the reassembled archway, biggest exhibit among all in Chinese museums, is standing in the hall of Capital Museum. The modern and ancient architectures integrate as one, each enhancing the other's beauty.

forward and advancing Chinese civilization.

The Lei family was a renowned imperial architectural family in the Qing Dynasty. This family included members such as Lei Fada, Lei Jinyu, Lei Jiaxi, Lei Jiawei, Lei Jiarui, Lei Siqi, Lei Tingchang and others and remained, in charge of imperial architectural design for over two hundred years of the Qing Dynasty. Lei Fada, the first generation of the Lei family, came from Jiangning (now Nanjing) to Beijing during the Kangxi reign (1661–1722). Until the death of the seventh generation member Lei Tingchang during the late Guangxu reign (1875–1908), the Lei family was continuously responsible for the design and construction of imperial palaces, gardens, mausoleums, administrative buildings and temples. The most famous in the Lei family is the second generation member Lei Jinyu, who became the head of the architectural division in the construction of the Old Summer Palace. The Lei family successively took this post ever since. Honored as “Lei Architectural Family”, they were the architectural master clan of the Qing-dynasty Beijing.

The architectural legacies passed down from the Qing Dynasty to the present include many princes' residences. Spread over the Beijing





Late Qing-dynasty colored print  
*Xishan Mingsheng Quantu*  
(*Comprehensive Painting of the*  
*West Hills Attractions*)  
(in part)

Capital Museum



◆ Portrait of a member of the  
Lei architectural family

Capital Museum



### White Pagoda Hill of Beihai Park

White Pagoda Hill of Beihai Park was known as Qionghua Islet (Jade Islet) in the Jin Dynasty and Wanshou Hill in the Yuan Dynasty. In 1651, the 8<sup>th</sup> year of Shunzhi

reign in the Qing Dynasty, the White Pagoda was built on the hill top, and the hill was known as the White Pagoda Hill ever since.

inner city, they provide important examples for studying Qing-dynasty political institution and culture. The *Complete Map of Beijing in the 15<sup>th</sup> year of Qianlong*, points out 42 princes' mansions. At present, Prince Gong's Mansion is open to the public and both Prince Zheng's Mansion and Prince Qing's Mansion still exist. The residence of Zai Tao, the last generation *beile* (a rank of the Manchu nobility below that of

the Prince) has had a second life as Beijing's the No. 13 School.

The construction of the Eight Banners' barracks inside the inner city during the Qing Dynasty became an essential feature of Beijing City's layout. In 1646, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Shunzhi reign, the imperial court ordered the relocation of Beijing residents, segregating the Manchu Banner men from the Han people. By 1649, the 6<sup>th</sup> year



Contemporary view of the Summer Palace

of Shunzhi, the division between Bannermen and Han commoners resulted in the Bannermen living inside the inner city and the Han people taking the outer city, with the exception of temple-dwelling monks. The Bannermen lived in diverse districts according to the orientations of the banners. The Bannermen and Han people were not completely isolated from one another however. In 1695, the 34<sup>th</sup> year of Kangxi, Bannermen's dwellings were built based on the Eight Banner's orientations, due to severely overcrowded space in the

inner city. After 1860, the residential layout of the inner city was greatly transformed by the establishment of the embassy area. Meanwhile, the late Qing government allowed the buying of land and houses between the Bannermen and commoners, resulting in an inner city mixed with Bannermen and commoners.

The construction of Nanyuan (South Garden) in Beijing demonstrates the northern ethnic characteristics of the Manchus, in which horseback archery was a key element of Manchu ethnic identity. As an imperial garden, Nanyuan hosted hunting

events annually until the mid-Qing period. It is still the largest hunting ground in the Beijing area.

The foundation of a unitary multi-national state was further reinforced in Qing-dynasty China. The Kangxi Emperor was deeply touched and stated that: “The Qin started mega constructions and built the Great Wall; in my reign I extend grace to the Khalkhas (Mongolian tribes from the Khalkha River region), making them defense against the north, which is even firmer than the Great Wall...The emperor’s governance of the country has a set of principles; the key is to cultivate his virtue and give peace to the people. If the people and army are happy, then the country will become prosperous and the frontier will be strong by itself. It is the so-called ‘unity is as firm as the walls’.”<sup>1</sup> Kangxi’s approach turned the Great Wall – including the Beijing area Great Wall – from defensive barriers into symbols of historical heritage and civilization.

In the *29-Article Ordinance for the More Effective Governing of Tibet*, the Qianlong Emperor established ambans stationed in Tibet, sent station troops, enthroned the

Panchen and Dalai Lama, and set up the Golden Urn system. These efforts constituted a major reform of the Tibetan political and religious institutions, enhancing the political, economic and social status of the Tibetan local.



Golden Penumba Bottle  
Yonghe Lamasery

The Golden Penumba Bottle was placed in the Yonghe Lamasery (Lama Temple) in the 58<sup>th</sup> year of the Qianlong reign (1793) to identify the reincarnation of spiritual children, religious ritual called the Golden Urn system.

1 *Qing shengzu shilu (Veritable records of Emperor Shengzu of the Qing Dynasty)*, volume 151. The 34<sup>th</sup> year of the Kangxi reign, lunar year April.

Xihuang Temple, located outside Anding Gate in Beijing, was constructed by the order of Shunzhi Emperor as the residence for the Fifth Dalai Lama during his visit. The Shunzhi Emperor met and dined with the Fifth Dalai Lama twice in the Taihe Palace (Hall of Supreme Harmony), and issued the decree that “all princes shall hold banquets for him successively in their residences”. More than 800 people attended each banquet, and 90 separate tables were arranged.

During the Qianlong period, the Sixth Panchen Lama asked for permission to travel to Beijing to attend the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of the Qianlong Emperor. To welcome him, Qianlong built the Xumi Fushou Temple (Temple of Happiness and Longevity of the Sumeru Mountain) in Chengde and the Zongjing Dazhao Temple (or Zhao Temple) in Beijing’s Xiangshan (Fragrant Hills) to serve as the Panchen’s temporary palace. After he arrived in Beijing, the Sixth Panchen Lama stayed in the Xihuang Temple, the residence of the Fifth Dalai Lama. During his stay, he held a grand opening-of-light *puja* in the Zhao Temple and had several long conversations with the Qianlong Emperor. When he became ill during his stay in Beijing, Qianlong twice visited him in the

Xihuang Temple, making drawings, writing poems and praying for him. Right after the parinirvana of the Sixth Panchen, Qianlong offered his condolences by making visits to the Xihuang Temple three times. The Qingjing Huacheng Pagoda (The Purity and Imaginary City Pagoda), now well-preserved inside the courtyard of the Xihuang Temple, was the cenotaph built by Qianlong in particular for the Sixth Panchen. Both sides of the pavilion hold stone tablets on which are inscribed two epigraphs written by the Qianlong Emperor himself: *Record on Qingjing Huacheng Pagoda* and *Writings on the Longevious Holy Monk Panchen*.

During his visit to Beijing, the Sixth Panchen had repeatedly been to the Yonghe Lamasery (Lama Temple). He used the two-story attic-tower east of the Falun Hall (Hall of the Wheel of the Law) as a resting place after his sermons and Buddha worshipping. This tower is now known as the “Panchen Tower”. The Shoujie Hall (Hall of Entering the Monkhood), which was remodeled simultaneously with the “Panchen Tower”, was another important locale for the Sixth Panchen’s activity and is now the Jietai Tower on the west of the Falun Hall.

Following their ancestors’ doctrine— “their training was varied, cultivation without changing their





### The Qingjing Huacheng Pagoda in Xihuang Temple

The Qingjing Huacheng Pagoda in Xihuang Temple was built in the 47<sup>th</sup> year of the Qianlong reign (1782), in memory of

the Sixth Panchen Erdeni, and therefore was also called the “Panchen Pagoda”.

customs; and the governmental arrangements were uniform, without changing the suitability”, the Manchu rulers ensured that religious beliefs of all ethnic groups were respected in the Qing Dynasty. The “Imperial Edict Tablet” located in the Niujie Mosque in Xicheng District bears historical witness to this.

Jingshi (Beijing) was the China’s national cultural center. The *Siku Quanshu* (*Complete Library in Four Sections*) that incorporated a great number of Chinese historical documents was compiled in Beijing beginning in 1773, the 38<sup>th</sup> year of Qianlong’s reign. With Ji Yun (1724–1805) as its chief editor, the



### Yonghe Lamasery

Yonghe Lamasery (Lama Temple) is located in Yonghegong Street, inside the Anding Gate. During the Kangxi period, the residential mansion was built and granted to the fourth son of the Kangxi Emperor, and came to be known as Prince Yong's Mansion. In 1725, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Yongzheng's reign, the mansion was converted into a temporary palace, known as the Yonghe Palace. After the Yongzheng Emperor's death in 1735, the 13<sup>th</sup> year of

his reign, his body and coffin were placed in the palace. As a result, Yonghe Palace's turquoise tiles were replaced with yellow tiles. Because the Qianlong Emperor was born here, the Yonghe Palace has imperial status of yellow tiles and red walls, making it equal to the Forbidden City. In 1744, the 9<sup>th</sup> year of Qianlong's reign, Yonghe Palace was turned into a Lama Temple. It is the highest-standard Buddhist temple nationwide.



Niujie Mosque

encyclopedia took twenty years to complete and became a monument of the “Kang-qian Prosperity” in Chinese cultural history. The compilation of *Siku Quanshu* resulted in the unprecedented flourishing of Liulichang cultural street. Known as a venue for the sale of ancient books, antiques, stone rubbings, calligraphies, paintings and cultural supplies, Liulichang cultural street is even now the best place to search for treasures and mysteries of the past.

Jingshi also gathered nationwide cultural works and nurtured a

series of literary masters. The most influential among them are the renowned poet Nalan Xingde (1655–1685) and Cao Xueqin (1715?–1763?), the author of *Dream of the Red Chamber*.

The area just outside Qianmen Gate (Zhengyang Gate) was Jingshi’s most prosperous commercial district hosting a vast number of shops, including over 70 time-honored brands like Quan Ju De (Beijing roast duck restaurant) and Tong Ren Tang (pharmaceutical company). Numerous restaurants, tea houses and theaters, such as the famous



Liulichang cultural street is located outside Heping Gate in Xicheng District

Guang He Lou, which was the earliest and most famous theater in Beijing, could also be found in this thriving and lively district. Southern City (Jingshi's outer city) was home to a group of *huiguan* (guildhalls or assembly halls), established by fellow townsmen or merchants from the like fields from different areas of China. These halls became

places where examinees, officials and merchants could gather for shelter and entertainment. Local sentiments, local accents, local foods and local dramas made the *huiguan* important venues for promoting and shaping Beijing culture. Theatrical stages of various styles became sights in the *huiguan* architectures.



Dashilanr sub-district

Theatrical stage in  
Huguang Huiguan  
(Huguang Guildhall)



Guang He Lou



Highway on ice

This picture was published on *The Illustrated London News* in 1895. Artist

Frank Dade captured the vivid winter scene on Beijing's imperial city moat.

Jingshi's prosperity, however, was interrupted by the invasion of imperialism. In 1860, the Qing army fought fiercely with the Anglo-French Allied Forces in Baliqiao (Eight Mile Bridge), Tongzhou. This so-called Second Opium War ended in Qing army's debacle. The Anglo-French forces captured Beijing and burnt down the Old Summer Palace,

which is an atrocity rarely seen in world history. On Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1861, the great French author Victor Hugo wrote in a letter to *Captain Butler*<sup>1</sup>: "There was, in a corner of the world, a wonder of the world; this wonder was called the Summer Palace...People spoke of the Parthenon in Greece, the pyramids in Egypt, the Coliseum in Rome,

1 Capital Butler was a French lieutenant who participated in the looting of the Old Summer Palace.



Ruins of Xi Yang Lou (Western Houses) in the Old Summer Palace

Notre-Dame in Paris, the Summer Palace in the Orient. If people did not see it, they imagined it...This wonder has disappeared. One day two bandits entered the Summer Palace. One plundered, the other burned...All the treasures of all our cathedrals put together could not equal this formidable and splendid museum of the Orient...Before history, one of the two bandits will be called France; the other will be

called England...I hope that a day will come when France, delivered and cleansed, will return this booty to despoiled China.”<sup>1</sup>

In 1900, under attack by the Eight-Nation Alliance, Jingshi fell once again and the city was demolished. In the defensive battle, Qing army soldier Shu Yongshou sacrificed his life for his beloved homeland. His son, Shu Qingchun, would later become the famous

---

1 Li, Lillian M. (2012). *The Garden of Perfect Brightness (III)*. MIT Visualizing Cultures, p. 2-6, 2-7.





Scene of the destroyed Zhengyang Gate Tower captured during the return of the Emperor and the Empress Dowager, 1902.



Former site of Imperial University of Peking

The former site of Imperial University of Peking is located at No. 59 Shatanhoujie Street. It was founded in 1898, the 24<sup>th</sup> year of Guangxu's reign, and was modern China's first national university.

writer Lao She, a giant of 20<sup>th</sup> century Chinese litterateur much loved by people of Beijing.

Falling behind leaves one vulnerable to attacks. The Chinese people and the rulers gradually awakened to this painful lesson. The young Guangxu Emperor attempted to make a difference.

Guangxu Emperor accepted the moderate reform proposals, including political, economic and educational reforms outlined by Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao and issued the edict *Mingding Guoshi* (A Clear Statement of State Affairs) on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1898, marking the beginning of the “Hundred Days’ Reform”.

After 1901, the Qing government started to emulate the Western nations in an effort to implement new measures. As a result, the construction of Jingshi entered the modern phrase. The most prominent aspect of the reform was education and included the founding of a series of modern schools such as Tsinghua University, sending students abroad and the abolition of the Imperial Examination.

In terms of the urban transportation, these changes also saw the emergence of new modes of transportation. Beijing’s first automobile was a birthday gift

from Yuan Shikai to the Empress Dowager Cixi in 1901. Automobiles entered Beijing city since then. In 1907, the “Peking to Paris Rally Race” was sponsored by the French newspaper *Le Matin*, with over forty entrants. Five entrants shipped their automobiles to China, including the Italian entrant Itala, Dutch entrant Spyker, French entrant Contal, French entrant DeDion 1 and French entrant DeDion 2. The race began in the embassy district in Dongjiaominxiang Alley and ended 62 days later with the Italian entrant arriving in Paris as the triumphant winner.



Zhan Tianyou (1861-1919) is honored as the “father of Chinese railway”.

The late Qing period also saw the construction of China's first intracity railway, the Xiyuan Imperial Railway, while the Peking-Zhangjiakou Railway was the first to be funded and constructed solely by Chinese, with Zhan Tianyou as the chief engineer. The project started in 1905 and opened in 1909, with a total length of 200 km.

In 1904, the first telephone office authorized by the Qing government was established, marking the beginning of development of Beijing's modern communication.

In 1906, Beijing Union Medical College, the predecessor to Beijing Xiehe Hospital, was jointly founded by the London Missionary Society

and five other missionary association from Britain and the United States.

That same year, the Qing government dispatched court officials to investigate abroad. The delegation brought back various animals from Germany including lions, tigers, cheetahs, elephants and zebras. The animals were placed inside Wanshengyuan (Garden of Ten Thousand Animals) under the order of Empress Dowager Cixi. Wanshengyuan (the modern Beijing Zoo) thus become the first Chinese zoo that opened to the public in 1908.

In 1908, the "Jingshi Tap Water Co. Ltd." was authorized and initiated by the Qing government, with water from Sunhe River as the



1907, entrant Itala of the "Peking to Paris Rally Race" was passing through the Dongsu archway.

source. Over the course of two years, waterworks were built, one at Sunhe and one at Dongzhi Gate. These waterworks provided Beijing’s first

tap water, though at that time only wealthy families were able to pipe tap water directly into their homes.

One year later, the Qing govern-



On Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1909, Nankou Train Station in Changping held a ceremony celebrating the opening of Peking-Zhangjiakou Railway.



Old telephone directory

The handwritten copy of the old telephone directory was issued on the first month of the lunar year in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Xuantong’s reign (Feb. 1911). It is proved to be the earliest published Beijing telephone directory.

ment approved the petition of Zhang Zhidong—the grand councilor and minister of the Education Ministry, and prepared to build the Jingshi

Library (the modern National Library) at the Guanghua Temple near Shichahai ( Lake of Ten Temples).



Water tower of the tap water works outside Dongzhi Gate

The tower was built in 1905, with a height of 54 meters and a volume of 750 cubic meters.

CHAPTER  
03

## VICISSITUDES OF BEIPING

(1912–1949)

The Revolution of 1911 led by Sun Yat-sen ended the 2,000-year feudal imperial system, and established the Republic of China. On Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1912, Empress Dowager Longyu issued the *Imperial Edict of the Abdication of the Qing Emperor*, and therefore Aisin-Gioro Puyi became the last emperor in Chinese history. From 1912 to 1928, Beijing remained as the capital of the Republic of China. After the end of Northern Expedition in 1928, the Nationalist Government moved the capital to Nanjing and changed Beijing to Beiping Special Municipality.

Although this new period inaugurated massive historical transformations in Beiping, the ancient capital retained its elegant charm. In 1924, Swedish sinologist Oswald Siren vividly described Beijing in his treatise *The Walls*

*and Gates of Peking*: “The origin of this book is the beauty of the city gates of Peking; their importance as characteristic elements in some of the finest views of the Chinese capital; their wonderful setting amidst old buildings... [What] I’m able to offer may make the reader realize that the Gates and Walls of Peking form an unbroken chain with the past.”<sup>1</sup> “Yet there are also stretches where the moat and canal are lined with weeping willows, or the ground between the moat and the wall planted with ailanthus and locust trees. These are the places that should be visited in the spring-time, when the willows weave their light green, transparent draperies over the mirror-like waters, or a little later, when the locust trees are weighed down by clusters of flowers that fill the air with a

---

1 Siren, Oswald (1924). *The Walls and Gates of Peking*. The Bodley Head, p.vii.



民国北平城区与郊区示意图  
 Beiping's urban and suburban areas  
 during the Republican Period





balmy fragrance.”<sup>1</sup> “Its charm and character are infinitely varying, depending on the season and the light, but it is no doubt richest and

most enchanting when the summer is ripe and the bulrushes and water-lilies are in bloom.”<sup>2</sup>



Panorama south of Dongzhi Gate

---

1 Siren, Oswald (1924). *The Walls and Gates of Peking*. The Bodley Head, p.35.

2 Siren, Oswald (1924). *The Walls and Gates of Peking*. The Bodley Head, p.210.

## 1. THE NEW CULTURE MOVEMENT

After the 1911 Revolution, some progressive intellectuals, who greatly concerned about China's future and fate, attempted to find new ways for China's development in terms of ideology and culture, and initiated the New Culture Movement. As the national political and cultural center, Beijing became the center of the New Culture Movement. The movement called for democracy and opposed autocracy; advocated science instead of superstition; encouraged new morality instead of old morality and promoted new literature instead of old literature.

In July, 1915, Chen Duxiu founded the *Youth Magazine* (*La Jeunesse*) with him as the editor-in-chief and changed its name to *New Youth* in 1916. The editorial board was relocated in Beijing in early 1917. Chen Duxiu, Lu Xun, Li Dazhao, Hu Shih and others participated in editing and writing for the journal, calling for an end to the Confucian ethical codes they felt kept China mired in the past. Cai Yuanpei, president of Peking University, raised the guiding principle “freedom of thought and all-embracing” of running the university, attracting and



*New Youth Magazine*

employing leading advocates of the New Culture Movement to teach at Peking University. This made the university the main battlefield of the movement. A great number of insightful cultural luminaries emerged in this huge clash of Chinese and Western civilizations. Their intellectual engagement revitalized Chinese civilization and their footprints have left a precious mark on Beijing.



**Lu Xun**

The former residence of Lu Xun is located at the No.19 Gongmenkou Ertiao, east of Fucheng Gate, Xicheng District. Lu Xun (1881 – 1936) was a renowned Chinese litterateur and lived here from 1924 to 1926. On the east of his former residence is an exhibition gallery displaying the life story of Lu Xun.



**Li Dazhao**

As one of the founders of the Communist Party of China, Li Daozhao (1889 – 1927) worked and lived in Beijing from 1916 to the spring of 1927, residing in eight different places. From the spring of 1920 to January 1924, Li and his family lived in the northern courtyard of No. 35 Shifuma Street Houzhai Hutong (now No.25 Wenhua Hutong in Xicheng District). The residence was where he spent much of the days with his families besides his hometown.

## 2. THE MAY FOURTH MOVEMENT

In January 1919, after World War I, China attended the Paris Peace Conference as one of the victors, having been a member of the Allied Powers. Yet under the control of the major powers like the United States, Britain and France, the conference rejected China's demands for revoking the major powers' privileges in China and revoking the "Twenty-One Demands", and furthermore transferred the German concessions to Japan instead. The news infuriated the Chinese,

triggering a massive protest held by students in Beijing. On the afternoon of May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1919, 3,000 university students and teachers from Peking University and other local schools gathered in front of Tian'anmen. They shouted such slogans as "Struggle for National Sovereignty Abroad", "Eliminate National Traitors at Home", "Don't Sign the Versailles Treaty" and "Boycott Japanese Goods". The assembly in Beijing adopted the *Manifesto of All Students in Beijing*. The movement spread to 20 other provinces and more than 100 cities. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, the Chinese delegation



Procession of the May Fourth Movement

at the Paris Peace Conference refused to sign on the treaty. The May Fourth Movement had achieved great victory.

The May Fourth Movement, a radical anti-imperialism and anti-feudalism patriotic movement, marked the beginning of China's new democratic revolution.

### 3. THE DEVELOPMENT TOWARD A MODERN CITY

During the Republican Period, Beijing gradually began its modernization process on the basis of the series of measures that had been put in place by the late Qing government.

In 1913, the Republican Government took over the Shejitan (Altar of Earth and Harvests). Zhu Qiqian (Chu Chi-chien), Minister of

the Interior and Chief of Municipal Council of Beijing, proposed opening Shejitan as a park. On Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1914, Shejitan was opened to the public and named the Central Park (now Zhongshan Park). This became Beijing's first modern park. Soon, imperial gardens, altars and temples were opened as the places of leisure for the citizens. The Central Park Library was opened to the public in 1916 as one of the first public libraries in China.

The Temple of Heaven Park was opened to the public in 1918, Beihai Park in 1925 and the Ditan (Temple of Earth) was opened as Jingzhao Park in the same year. The Summer Palace became a park enjoyed by the public in the late 1920s.

On Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1925, the Palace Museum was officially established. The former Imperial Palace started

Bird's-eye view of the Imperial Palace



to open to common people, causing a sensation and attracting a great number of visitors.

The modernization of the city was also evident in the emergence of department stores. In 1917, New World Shopping Center, located at Xiangchang Road, modeled on Shanghai's Great World Entertainment Complex was opened for business, reflecting the increased attention to fashion and dressing.

Beijing also began to witness an increasing number of automobiles at this time. Most were owned by officials and wealthy merchants,



Stylish ladies in the 1930s dressed in qipao (cheongsam) in Beihai Park



New World Shopping Center at Xiangchang Road

-serving as the symbols of status and identity.

Telephone booths appeared in Beijing in the 1930s.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1924, the first public bus service, a tramcar, was inaugurated, running from Qianmen Gate to Xizhi Gate.

In addition to transforming the imperial gardens into public parks, the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs and Tangshan hot spring on the outskirts of Beijing were developed step by step and attracted tourism from outside Beijing. In 1932, the China National Travel Service expanded its business from Shanghai to Beijing and developed featured services such as one-day tours, one-day outskirts tours and three-day getting around tours. Around the same time, the



Telephone booth

first private travel agency started by Beijing natives, Beiping Tour Guide Firm, was opened to business as well.



Tram on Qianmen Avenue, known by locals as the “Dang Dang Trolley Bus” was opened in 1924.

#### 4. THE “DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> MOVEMENT”

After the Japanese Imperial Army occupied Manchuria following the 9.18 Incident (Mukden Incident) in 1931, China was brought into its 14-year long Anti-Japanese War period. The war spread to Beiping in 1935. On Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, led by the Communist Party of China (CPC), the vigorous “December 9<sup>th</sup> Movement” broke out in Beiping. Patriotic petition students from various universities and schools broke the police enclosure lines at dawn and gathered in front of Xinhua Gate of Zhongnanhai. They petitioned the Beiping branch of the Kuomintang (KMT) Military Committee, shouting slogans such as “Down with Japanese imperialism”, “Down with the traitors and collaborators” and “Immediately stop the civil war and together fight against the outsiders”, and offered a six-point demand. The KMT authorities put down the student protesters. On Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, under the leadership of the CPC operating underground, more than 10,000 students in Beiping again held a protest demonstration. They gathered at Tianqiao and launched a big city assembly. The assembly issued

the *Letter to People Nationwide* and request: strongly opposing Japanese Imperialism’s invasion to China; a joint anti-Japanese among the populace, workers, peasants, soldiers, students and merchants; opposing the autonomy of north China. The procession headed for Qianmen and held a student assembly there. They called for opposing autonomy<sup>1</sup>; requesting the government to turn down the Japanese’s political and economic demands; informing students all over the nation to go on strike immediately; and stopping the civil war. Starting from mid-December, the anti-Japanese democratic protest rose all over the country, and responded concordantly to the patriotic movement in Beiping. The “December 9<sup>th</sup> Movement” thus marked the commencement of China’s nationwide anti-Japanese liberation struggle.



Procession of the “December 9<sup>th</sup> Movement” on Beiping street

1 The autonomy of north China refers to a series of schemes conspired by the Japanese secret service, aiming at breaking five provinces in north China away from the governance of KMT. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1935, KMT official He Yingqin (Ho Ying-Chin) signed the He-Umezu Agreement which required that all forces including KMT regular forces be evacuated from Beijing and out of Hebei Province.



On July, 7<sup>th</sup>, 1937, the Imperial Japanese Army attacked the Chinese army in the area of Lugou Bridge (Marco Polo Bridge). The defending 29<sup>th</sup> Route Army of China's National Revolutionary Army fought fiercely. This was the "Double-Seven Incident (Lugou Bridge Incident)" that shocked the world, inaugurating Beiping's 8-year

occupation by Japan, considered by many as the city's darkest time.

In 1945, the World Anti-Fascist War and the Anti-Japanese War gained comprehensive victory. On Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, the Nationalist government took over Beiping and held a ceremony in the Taihe Palace in the Palace Museum, accepting Japan's surrender.



On Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1937, French magazine *Miroir du Monde* published a photo of the 29<sup>th</sup> Route Army on its cover, capturing soldiers of a broadsword team getting ready to charge and grapple in a trench.



During the Dragon Boat Festival of 1942, Eighth Route Army soldiers in eastern Hebei were strafing the Japanese Army at Xifengkou.



People from various sectors in Beiping celebrate the victory in the Anti-Japanese War.



# DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION: CAPITAL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(1949–PRESENT)

---

With the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1949, Beijing started a new chapter in history. As the capital of the People's Republic of China, the city witnessed development and renewal, reform and opening-up, and

realization of becoming a moderately prosperous society. Beijing today is a thriving political and cultural center and a hub of international exchange and technological innovation. It is on its way to becoming a world-leading harmonious and livable city.

---

## 1. PEACEFUL LIBERATION

In the fall of 1948, the War of Liberation had entered the final phase. Headquarter of the Pingjin Campaign was located in Songzhuang (the present-day Songzhuang in Tongzhou District), where numerous military commands were sent out. It took 64 days – from Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1948 to Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1949 – to achieve victory and liberation of Beijing

and Tianjin area. The peaceful liberation of Beiping was crucial in terms of inheriting the ancient capital's civilization. The key figure facilitated the peaceful liberation was General Fu Zuoyi (Fu Tso-i). The “Beiping way” provided an important example for peaceful liberation of other cities around the country.

On Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1949, the city announced its peaceful liberation.

On Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1949, the People's Liberation Army held a solemn and grand city-entering ceremony, directed by Beiping garrison commander and political commissar Cheng Zihua.

On Sep. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1949, the first Chinese People's Political

Consultative Conference was held. On Sep. 27<sup>th</sup>, the meeting adopted the *Resolution on the Capital, Calendar, National Anthem and National Flag of the People's Republic of China*, making Beijing, previously known as Beiping, the capital of the People's Republic of China.



On Jan, 31<sup>st</sup>, 1949, the 121<sup>st</sup> Division of the 41<sup>st</sup> Army of the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Army of Chinese People's Liberation Army entered Beiping through Xizhi Gate.

## 2. THE FOUNDING CEREMONY

At 15:00 on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1949, 300,000 people gathered at the Tian'anmen Square in the capital to celebrate the inauguration of the People's Republic of China. Chairman Mao Zedong pressed the electric button to hoist for the first

time the national flag of the People's Republic of China – the Five-Starred Red Flag. He declared solemnly to the whole nation and the whole world: the People's Republic of China and the Central Government of the People's Republic of China is now founded!



The Founding Ceremony





### 3. CITY DEVELOPMENT

The development of Beijing broke through the limits of its ancient city walls in the 1950s. During the process of building an industrial city and economic center, Beijing's built-up urban area expanded beyond the old city's perimeter. By the 1970s, Beijing's urban area continued to expand, forming a circular shape.

In December 1978, the Third Plenary Session of the 11<sup>th</sup> Central Committee of the Communist Party of China marked the beginning of the strategies of domestic reform and opening up to the outside world. With economic development, Beijing's urban area continued to expand.

Since 1949, Beijing's administrative districts have been adjusted for many times and by the end of 1986, there were 10 districts (Dongcheng, Xicheng, Chongwen, Xuanwu, Chaoyang, Haidian, Fengtai, Shijingshan, Mentougou and Fangshan) and 8 counties (Changping, Yanqing, Huairou, Miyun, Shunyi, Pinggu, Tongxian and Daxing). By 2001, there were

16 districts (Dongcheng, Xicheng, Chongwen, Xuanwu, Chaoyang, Haidian, Fengtai, Shijingshan, Mentougou, Fangshan, Changping, Huairou, Shunyi, Pinggu, Tongzhou and Daxing) and 2 counties (Miyun and Yanqing). In 2010, the previous Dongcheng, Chongwen, Xicheng and Xuanwu districts were revoked and new Dongcheng and Xicheng districts were established. In 2015, Miyun and Yanqing counties were turned into districts, forming an administrative pattern of 16 districts (Dongcheng, Xicheng, Haidian, Chaoyang, Fengtai, Shijingshan, Mentougou, Fangshan, Tongzhou, Shunyi, Daxing, Changping, Pinggu, Huairou, Miyun and Yanqing).<sup>1</sup>

Looking at the development of Beijing as a capital: Zhongdu of the Jin Dynasty covered an area of 22.25 km<sup>2</sup>; Dadu of the Yuan Dynasty was approximately 50.40 km<sup>2</sup>; the Beijing City during the Ming and Qing dynasties occupied an area of 62.70 km<sup>2</sup>; the area of Beijing in 1932 was around 67.91 km<sup>2</sup>; and the Beijing Municipal jurisdiction sprawls over 16,410 km<sup>2</sup> in 2017. The expansion of occupied area explicitly proves the

---

1 Lv, Lachang, & Huang Ru (2016). *Xinzhongguo chengli hou Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian (Urban form and functional evolution after the establishment of the PRC)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press, p.6, p.7.

development of Beijing<sup>1</sup>.

Beijing's economy witnessed rapid development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By 2016, the GDP of Beijing reached 2,489.93 billion CNY, while the GDP was only 0.27 billion at the early days of the founding of the PRC. The urban built-up land expanded promptly accordingly—from 1949 to 1982, the average expanding area was 3.64 km<sup>2</sup>; from 1983 to 2013, the average expanding area increased to 42.84 km<sup>2</sup>. In 1949,

the permanent resident population was 4.201 million and the number raised to 21.729 million by 2016. The urban built-up land expanded by fifteen-fold over 60 years.<sup>2</sup>

Beijing's growth is especially evident in the construction of its urban transportation network, with a total of five ring highways. The construction of the 2nd Ring Road began in the 1970s and opened all fronts in 1992. It was Beijing's first circular expressway consisted of



Beijing subway platform

- 1 Lv, Lachang, & Huang Ru (2016). *Xinzhongguo chengli hou Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian* (Urban form and functional evolution after the establishment of the PRC). East China University of Science and Technology Press, p. 23, p. 97.
- 2 Lv, Lachang, & Huang Ru (2016). *Xinzhongguo chengli hou Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian* (Urban form and functional evolution after the establishment of the PRC). East China University of Science and Technology Press, p 42.





### Beijing subway

On Sep. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1969, Line 1 of Beijing Subway, which runs from Beijing Railway Station to Pingguoyuan in Shijingshan District, was officially put into operation. Beijing became the first city in China with subway lines. In 2016, the annual

passenger capacity of Beijing subway reached 3.03 billion. By January 2017, Beijing had 19 subway lines with a total length of 574 km and 345 stations.

overpasses with all traffic lights removed. The 6th Ring Road opened in 2009. The Sixth Ring Road was completed in 2009. Currently, Beijing's major transportation network consists of six ring roads, twelve radial roads and nineteen subway lines.

The Reform and Opening-up provided the economic foundation for Beijing's city development and brought great vitality. The 1990 Asian Games and the 2008 Olympic Games had a profound impact on Beijing as will the 2022 Winter Olympics.

A group of pictures: depictions of life in Beijing



The counter at the No.1 Shopping Mall, the 4<sup>th</sup> Retail Store of Beijing Department Store Company in 1955.



The bicycle team at the Gulou Street in 1962.



Fashion models wearing colored sashes in the bustling Wangfujing in 1988, showing a number of novel fall / winter outfits for window-shoppers and paying customers.



The Spring Festival Longtanhu Temple Fair in 1990.



In 2017, “Xiaomai Convenience Store” near Suzhouqiao was opened to the public. With no in-store attendant, it was Beijing’s first self-service smart convenience store.



A garden with thousands of acres of pear trees in Mengwu Village, Junzhuang Town in Mentougou District in 2017, children with their parents were running joyfully in the seas of pear blossoms.



The National Stadium (Bird's Nest)



A grand military parade in front of Tian'anmen

On Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, in memory of 70th anniversary of victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, also known as the World Anti-Fascist War, a solemn military parade was held in front of Tian'anmen.

## 4. LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

With the Collaborative Development of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei Province, Beijing has entered a new stage of urban development since 2013. To point out the development direction of constructing a great power's capital facing the future and the world, General Secretary Xi Jinping inspected Beijing twice in February, 2014 and February, 2017.

On Sep. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Central Committee of the CPC and the State Council formally approved the *Beijing's Urban Master Plan for 2016 to 2035*. The plan proposes that by 2020 the permanent resident population of Beijing should be brought down to 23 million. By 2035, the air condition should be fundamentally improved and the mileage of rail transportation should be extended to more than 2,500 km. The city's old town should be strictly protected. The sub-center in Tongzhou District will be the project-of-the-century that serves a millennium development plan, and by 2035 it will be built into a world-class harmonious and livable modern urban area.

At present, intellectualization has become part of the daily lives for common residents in Beijing. Purchasing groceries and breakfast through scanning QR code has become the common practice for citizens,

especially the young generation.

A number of major world-class scientific and technology breakthroughs, including quantum communication and Quantum Anomalous Hall Effect, chemically induced pluripotent stem cells, iron-based high temperature superconductors, were produced in Beijing. Beijing's overall scientific and technology level of progress stands first nationwide.<sup>1</sup> Leading researches in the field like the 5G mobile communication expediting industries such as mobile health, smart home, e-education and e-finance.

As an international metropolis, Beijing demonstrates a global vision and diversified space with Chinese styles, manifested through a series of events like Beijing International Film Festival, Beijing International Music Festival, Beijing International Fair for Trade in Service, Beijing International Book Fair, Beijing International High-tech Expo, Beijing International Cultural and Creative Industry Expo, China Fashion Week and Beijing Design Week...

On Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China was solemnly held in Beijing, and thus socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, and Beijing has attracted attention all over the world.

---

<sup>1</sup> Capital Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy (Ed.) (2016). *2016 Shoudu keji chuangxin fazhan baogao (Capital Science and technology development report in 2016)*. Science Press, p.3.

**BEIJING SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT INDEX,  
INDICATORS AND RANKING IN 2017<sup>1</sup>**

Sci-tech Innovation Development Index 0.587			Overall Ranking 1		
Indicators	Index	Ranking	Indicators	Index	Ranking
Innovative Resource Index	0.603	2	Innovative Performance Index	0.689	1
Innovative personnel	0.732	4	Sci-tech achievements	0.630	1
In-school college students per 10,000 population	0.358	32	Number of SCI/SSCI/A&HCI papers produced per 10,000 population	1.000	1
Urbanization level	0.943	18	Number of granted patents for inventions per 10,000 population	0.260	2
Scientists and technicians per 10,000 employed population	0.896	2	Economic Output	0.319	34
R&D expenditure	0.409	31	Urban households DPI per capita	0.799	9
Share of local finance's sci-tech input in fiscal expenditure	0.297	4	GDP per square kilometer	0.162	12
Share of local finance's educational input in fiscal expenditure	0.520	169	Labor productivity of the secondary industry	0.128	217
Innovative Environment Index	0.344	10	Labor productivity of the third industry	0.185	137
Policy environment	0.161	284			
Amount of foreign investment per 10,000 population	0.287	19	Structure optimization	0.576	5
Enterprise's tax burden	0.036	285	Share of value-added tertiary industry in regional GDP	1.000	1
Humanistic environment	0.535	3	Share of High-tech products' total volume of foreign trade in regional GDP	0.151	14
Number of books in public libraries per 100 population	0.453	5	Green Development	0.744	205

<sup>1</sup> Guan, Chenghua, & Zhao, Zheng et al (2017). *Zhongguo chengshi keji chuangxin fazhan baogao 2017 (Urban science of technology innovation development of China report 2017)*. Science Press, p. 195.

Sci-tech Innovation Development Index 0.587			Overall Ranking 1		
Indicators	Index	Ranking	Indicators	Index	Ranking
Number of full-time teachers per 100 population	0.616	12	Water consumption per 10,000 yuan of GRP	0.932	60
Living environment	0.338	8	Energy consumption per 10,000 yuan of GRP	0.972	29
Number of hospital beds per 1,000 population	0.506	17	Treatment rate of city sewage	0.821	177
Area of park land per capita	0.316	13	Decontamination rate of urban refuse	0.996	114
			Urban air quality level	0.000	237
Number of public buses per 10,000 population	0.194	15	Radiation and guidance	1.000	1
Innovative Service Index	0.546	2	Proportion of in-school college students in total provincial population	1.000	1
Financial Service	0.726	1	Proportion of sci-tech employees in total provincial population	1.000	1
Enterprise listed in National Equities Exchange and Quotations (NEEQ, also known as the New Third Board)	1.000	1	Number of national technology transformation demonstrating institutions	1.000	1
Growth rate of year-end loan balance in financial institutions	0.179	265	Number of top 1% ESI study areas globally	1.000	1
Number of listed enterprises in Growth Enterprise Market	1.000	1	Number of Fortune Global 500 and China Top 500 Enterprises	1.000	1
Sci-tech conditions	0.276	11			
Number of mobile phones per 10,000 population	0.266	7			
Number of users access to Internet broadband per 10,000 population	0.287	20			





## FROM THE CITY TO THE PEOPLE

---

It is one thing to understand the history of Beijing with our minds, but learning of the indelible impressions Beijing has made on

prominent individuals over time may allow us to understand Beijing's history in our hearts and in our souls.

---

### 1. BEIJING MEMORY

What does Beijing look like? Scholars and literati from the past have left their touching and vivid remarks.

Scholar Lin Yutang said: “The best way of seeing the city in a bird-eye’s view is to look down from the pavilion on Meishan [present-day Jingshan], located behind the palaces. The pavilion is the highest point in this area...the entire city is visible. Looking down, the gorgeousness and magnificence of the imperial city unfolds before our eyes.”<sup>1</sup>

Writer Lao She mentioned: “You

must stay in Beijing in autumn. I don’t know what heaven looks like, but from my own experiences, I could say the autumn of Beijing is heaven, since the weather is neither cold nor hot. Speaking of food, apple, pear, persimmon, jujube and grape all are diverse in kind...Other than fruits, mutton is fleshy; with the sorghum turning red, the well-timed crabs are in the market; the smell of the chestnuts from Liangxiang wafts. In terms of flowers and plants, chrysanthemums are the finest in the world with their diversity and wonderful style. There are red leaves in the west mountains; (people can go) boating in Beihai park—though

---

<sup>1</sup> Lin, Yutang (2012). *Huihuang de Beijing (Prosperous Beijing)*. Beijing United Publishing House, p.27-28.

the lotuses have faded, the smell of lotus leaves lingers.”<sup>1</sup>

Contemporary writer Xiao Fuxing wrote: “The roof tiles of old Beijing are grey fish-scale tiles, forming a sharp contrast with the vividly colorful glazed roof tiles of the imperial palace. Unlike the glaring green glazed tiles that symbolize the supremacy, the fish-scale tiles cover the city with heavy grey. They are low, silent, old and clam, as if a weight holds firm the Beijing City. Their breadth of spirit is like surging waves in a cloudy and misty day. No wonder I.M. Pei came to Beijing at that time and was especially willing to go to the top of Jingshan to see these gray fish-scaled tile roofs of the city.”<sup>2</sup>

American author Harrison Salisbury wrote: “The green and grayish faded yellow walls filled with the sandalwood fragrance, floating among the embroidered pavilions of the red doors.”<sup>3</sup>

Beijing reveals itself like this in the hearts of Beijing people: The skyline combines palaces and the quadrangle courtyards, with *hutong* hidden within. The coloring of the city consists of glittering golden

yellow and composed grey. Large areas of grey dwellings bring out the magnificence and resplendence of the Imperial Palace. The beauty of the city, lying in the heart of people, can best be seen from the top of the Jingshan where vivid images delight the senses: the glaring light of the yellow glazed roof tiles; the family laughter in the quadrangle courtyards; carefree leisure in the *hutong*; the western mountains seen from the banks of the moat on a sunny day; the beautiful scenery of hills and lakes along the west dam in the Summer Palace; the singing of the creeks in the shade of trees in the Cherry Vale (Yingtaogou); the fresh aroma of grass on the lawn of the tranquil Xiangshan (Fragrant Hills).

Lao She’s words in *Missing Beijing* capture the depth of feeling the city evokes:

“I truly love Beijing. The love is almost unspeakable. I love my mother. But how? I’m unable to say. When I try to do something to please her, I smile faintly on my own; when I’m worrying about her health, I almost shed tears. Language is not enough to express my feeling. Only

1 Shu, Qingchun (2016). *Xiang Beijing (Missing Beijing)*. China Youth Publishing House, p. 147.

2 Xiao, Fuxing (2014). *Beijingren (Beijingers)*. Nanjing University Press, p. 197.

3 Salisbury, Harrison (1985). *Enjoy New Beijing’s Ancient Capital Flavor*. *New York Times (Sunday)*. Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1985.



Satellite image of the Jiaodaokou area



Overlooking the quadrangle courtyard of Prince Tao's Mansion

Prince Tao's Mansion is located at the No.27 Liuyin Street, Xicheng District.

smiling and weeping in solitude could reveal a small part of my inner world.”<sup>1</sup>

## 2. THE SOUNDS OF BEIJING

Sound circles around the heart of people providing a lingering memory and a nostalgic mood. This kind of haunting feeling accompanies one for a lifetime.

The Jingyun dagu (story-telling in Beijing dialect with drum accompaniment) play, *Da Xixiang* (*Romance of the West Chamber*), portrays the wonderful scene in a quadrangle courtyard: “Everyone says the West Chamber is good. It is indeed exceptionally elegant as expected. The gate tower with clear water ridge decorated with roof-ridge ornament in the shape of mythical animals; stepping stones are at both sides; Boston ivy climbs all over the screen wall; a fish tank is placed behind the wall with lotus seedpods and arrowheads grown inside; blooming lotuses are partially under the shades; red are the pomegranate blossoms; white are the plantain lilies; blue are the delphiniums; green are the evening

primroses...”<sup>2</sup>

A Beijing ballad highlights the city’s seasonal delights, vividly depicting the floral beauty of Beijing throughout the year: “January plum blossoms are very sweet; orchids are loaded into flowerpots in February; March peach blossoms color everything red; roses of April lean on the low walls; pomegranate blossoms of May are red like fire; June lotuses fill the ponds; July gardenia are decorated on heads; osmanthus of August covers branches with yellow; September chrysanthemums just begin to bloom; October cotton roses are putting on makeup; November daffodils are offered on the tables; the fragrance of the December wintersweets spreads in winter snow.”<sup>3</sup>

For old Beijing natives, the most representative sound of the city is the pigeon whistle ringing in the sky. Painter Yu Feng recalled: “I was born and grew up in Beijing. I used to listen to the pigeon whistles over and over in the early morning, whether in the warm spring or snowy winter. As long as you once lived in Beijing,

1 Shu, Qingchun (2016). *Xiang Beijing* (*Missing Beijing*). China Youth Publishing House, p.3.

2 The lyrics of the *Da Xixiang* are transcribed from Luo Yusheng’s singing record.

3 Dong, Shuren (2017). *Beijing geyao jishi* (*Beijing ballad collection and interpretation*). Language Publishing House, p. 321.

you will notice it. It becomes the symbol of Beijing.”<sup>1</sup> British doctor D.F. Rennie was also impressed by Beijing’s pigeon whistle: “Every now and then we are reminded of a steamboat whistle or that of a railway train...with a sort of half whistles half Aeolian harps fitted into their tails...as the bird flies through the air, they give out a sound not unlike that of the Aeolian harp. This appears to be peculiar to Peking.”<sup>2</sup> Wang Shixiang, the renowned antique expert devoted an entire book to the topic—*Beijing Pigeon Whistle*, which includes the history, variety, lacing-up and sound adjustment, whistle craftsmen, whistle materials and other contents. It offers the representative study of the Beijing pigeon whistle.

The pigeon whistle may constitute a sweet memory for Beijing people, especially aged Beijing natives. Yet the Beijing dialect is perhaps the most straightforward representation of “Beijing sound”. The unique Beijing dialect inherits this ancient capital’s past and history, highlights the cultural deposits



Pigeon whistle from the Republican Period  
Capital Museum

of the quadrangle courtyard and *hutong*, and embodies the character of the city’s inhabitants. Because of its readability, it has become the standard pronunciation of Mandarin. The characteristics of the Beijing dialect are manifest in its r-ending and light tone, which convey a sense of kindness, euphony and appropriateness. Lao She’s novels *Rickshaw Boy* and *The Yellow Storm* both offer a taste of the authentic Beijing dialect. If one is lucky, one might get the chance to go to the Beijing People’s Art Theatre to watch Lao She’s stage play,

1 Yu, Feng (2005). Wangshixiang yu fangjiayuan xiaoyuan (Wang Shixiang and fangjiayuan courtyard). *Guren, guxiang, gushi* (Acquaintances, hometown and stories), p. 235.

2 Rennie, David Field Rennie (1865). *Peking and the Pekingese during the first year of the British Embassy at Peking*. John Murray, p. 202.

*Teahouse*, to closely enjoy the Beijing dialect and old Beijing natives' lives. But even easier, one could simply turn on the television to watch the program *This is Beijing* and listen to the authentic pronunciation of the program host A Long's Beijing accent.

Peking Opera provides the best embodiment of “sound of Beijing”, and is honored as the national opera. People who have listened to it would be deeply impressed by its unique sound. Beijing is a city of theatre, with a long history of Peking Opera culture. Peking Opera artists such



Mei Lanfang (1894-1961)

as Mei Lanfang inherited and developed the art and became art masters. At present, Mei Lanfang Theatre and Chang'an Grand Theater continue to carry forward Peking Opera in Beijing—the city of art.

### 3. THE GENEROUS BEIJING PEOPLE

The people of Beijing pay particular attention to etiquette. Derived from generations of tradition, the etiquette marks the long history and manifestations of Beijing people's self-esteem and dignity. Hidden inside Beijing people's sub-conscious, “decency” is something that can't be given up. In 1861, British doctor D.F. Rennie wrote of his observations in his diary: “As we were passing along one of the narrow streets, a well-dressed young man suddenly went down on one knee to an elderly man that he met...the old man acknowledged the salutation in the usual way, by clasping his own hands and shaking them towards him. This is one of the customs of the country: the junior meeting a senior member of his family, whatever his position may be, makes a respectful obeisance to him as he passes; hence there is no ‘cutting’ of poor relations, an eccentricity that does not form an

uncommon element in Western civilization.”<sup>1</sup> Reciprocity indicates reverence and friendliness between people.

When speaking of Beijing, scholar Lin Yutang mentioned: “Beijing people have a unique sense of humor, patience and politeness because of their traditions and customs...As Beijing’s character, clemency has been incorporated into the architecture style and Beijing people’s personalities.”<sup>2</sup>

Writer Xie Bingying affectionately wrote in *Love of Beijing*: “Beijing’s local customs are extremely unsophisticated...In appearance, she is a graceful, refined and courteous gentlewoman; at heart, she is like a lightsome young girl, who has the

fire-like passion hidden inside. She is born to be kind, honest, loyal and simple.”<sup>3</sup>

Beijing natives are on the one hand implicit and courteous, while on the other hand unrestrained and passionate. They are polite yet not punctilious, demonstrating a deep deposit of the capital culture. The qualities of “enthusiasm, cheerfulness, generosity, openness, optimism, and accommodation” of Beijing people exactly reflect the city’s character. People and city co-exist. Beijing people – the founders of the past city and the creators of the current, are the reason why Beijing is great and will become more brilliant.

---

1 Rennie, David Field Rennie (1865). *Peking and the Pekingese during the first year of the British Embassy at Peking*. John Murray, p. 166-167.

2 Lin, Yutang (2012). *Huihuang de Beijing (Prosperous Beijing)*. Beijing United Publishing House, p.6.

3 Xie, bingying (1992). Beijing zhi lian (Love of Beijing). *Beijing hu (Beijing)*. SDX Joint Publishing Company.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

1. Hou, Renzhi, & Jin, Tao (1980). *Beijing shihua (Beijing historical narrative)*. Shanghai People's Press.
2. Qi, Xin (Ed.) (1999). *Tushuo Beijing shi (Illustrated history on Beijing) (Volume One and Two)*. Beijing Yanshan Press.
3. Zhu, Zuxi (2015). *Yuandai ji yuandai yiqian Beijing chengshi xingtai yu goneng yanbian (Urban formal and functional evolution of Beijing in the Yuan Dynasty and dynasties before Yuan)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press.
4. Wang, Yue (2016). *Mingdai Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian (Urban formal and functional evolution of Beijing in the Ming Dynasty)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press.
5. Zhao, Huanxi (2016). *Qingdai Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian (Urban formal and functional evolution of Beijing in the Qing Dynasty)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press.
6. Sun, Donghu, & Wang, Jun (2015). *Minguo Beijing (Beiping) chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian (Urban formal and functional evolution of Beijing (Beiping) in the Republican Period)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press.
7. Lv, Lachang, & Huang, Ru (2016). *Xinzhongguo chengli hou Beijing chengshi xingtai yu gongneng yanbian (Urban form and functional evolution after the establishment of PRC)*. East China University of Science and Technology Press.
8. The editorial team of *Illustrated Journal of Ancient Beijing of Beijing Daily (2016)*. *Jiujiing tushuo (Illustrated journal of ancient Beijing) (Volume One and Two)*. Beijing Daily Press.
9. Polo, Marco (narrated), da Pisa, Rusticello (written down) (1981). *Make boluo youji (Travels of Marco Polo)*. (Komruff, Manuel, & Chen, Kaijun Trans.) Fujian Science and Technology Press.
10. The editorial team of *Beijing History* from the History Department of



- Peking University (1999). *Beijingshi (Beijing history)*. Beijing Publishing House.
11. Sirén, Osvald (2017). *Beijing de chengqiang yu chengmen (Walls and gates of Peking)* (Deng, Ke Trans.). Beijing United Publishing House.
  12. Wang, Juying (2000). *Xin zhongguo dingdu Beijing jishi (Documentary on Beijing as the capital of the P.R.C.)*. Military Science Press.
  13. Capital Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy (Ed.) (2016). *2016 Shoudu keji chuangxin fazhan baogao (Capital Science and technology development report in 2016)*. Science Press.
  14. Rennie, D.F. (2008). *Beijing yu Beijingren (Peking and the Pekingese)* (Li, Shaoming Trans.). National Library of China Publishing House.
  15. Lin, Yutang (2012). *Huihuang de Beijing (Prosperous Beijing)*. Beijing United Publishing House & Qunyan Press.
  16. Luo, Zhewen (et al) (2004). *Beijing lishi wenhua (Beijing history and culture)*. Peking University Press.
  17. Bai, Jizeng, & Bai, Jie (2014). *Beijing huiguan jichu xinxi yanjiu (Basic information and study on guildhalls in Beijing)*. China Business Press.
  18. Li, Jianping (2017). *Beijing wenmai (The cultural context of Beijing)*. Beijing Publishing Group, & Wenchin Press.

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE OF CAPITAL MUSEUM

- Director:** Guo Xiaoling
- Deputy Directors:** Bai Jie, Han Zhanming
- Members:** Jin Fei, Qi Miyun, Huang Xueyin, Yang Wenying, Zhang Ling, Yang Dandan, Long Xiaofei, Peng Ying, Qi Mei, Lu Xiaofan, Liu Shaonan, Huang Chunhe
- Editors:** Sun Ruiying, Zhang Liang, Yang Yang, Pei Yajing, Du Xiang, Gong Xiangjun, Li Jiguang, Li Lanfang, Zhang Ming, Ren He

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF BEIJING

- Academic Advisers:** Li Jianping, Wang Gang, Xi Zhiqun, Tan Liefei, Guo Xiaoling
- Map Counselor:** Yue Shengyang
- Editor-in-chief:** Bai Jie, Huang Xueyin
- Author:** Qi Mei
- Translation:** Zhao Jing
- Research Team:** Li Mei, Zhong Mei, Chen Yujiao, Feng Hao, Wang Xinying, Long Xiaofei
- Contributing Editor:** Yang Yang
- Photographers:** Pu Shi, Liang Gang, Gu Zhongxiu, Zhang Jinghu, Luo Zheng
- Illustration Volunteer:** Wang Wei, Yang Yongqiang
- Illustration Credits:** China Anti-Japanese War Memorial, Beijing Municipal Commission of Planning and Natural Resources, China Railway Museum, Beijing Daily, Confucius Temple and Imperial Academy Museum, Beijing Zhengyangmen Administrative Office, etc.
- Illustration Editors:** Bai Lin, Yuan Wen, Han Xiao, Yang Yan, Wu Jin

## 首都博物馆编纂委员会

主任：郭小凌

副主任：白杰 韩战明

委员：靳非 齐密云 黄雪寅 杨文英 张凌 杨丹丹 龙霄飞

彭颖 齐玫 鲁晓帆 刘绍南 黄春和

编辑：孙芮英 张靓 杨洋 裴亚静 杜翔 龚向军 李吉光

李兰芳 张明 任和

## 极简北京史（英文）

学术顾问：李建平 王岗 郝志群 谭烈飞 郭小凌

地图顾问：岳升阳

主编：白杰 黄雪寅

撰稿：齐玫

翻译：赵婧

科研团队：李梅 钟梅 陈雨蕉 冯好 王新迎 龙霄飞

特约编辑：杨洋

摄影：朴识 梁刚 谷中秀 张京虎 罗征

图片提供：王维 杨永强

图片提供单位：中国人民抗日战争纪念馆 北京市规划和自然资源委员会

中国铁道博物馆 北京日报社

孔庙和国子监博物馆 北京市正阳门管理处等

图片编辑：白琳 苑雯 韩晓 杨妍 吴瑾



官方微信



官方微博



数字出版

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

极简北京史 : 英文 / 首都博物馆编著. — 北京 : 北京出版社, 2021. 4  
ISBN 978-7-200-16419-0

I. ①极… II. ①首… III. ①北京—地方史—英文  
IV. ①K291

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字 (2021) 第055896号

审图号: 京S (2021) 020号

项目统筹: 刘 娜  
责任编辑: 刘 娜 罗晓荷  
责任印制: 陈冬梅  
装帧设计: 金 山

## A Brief History of Beijing

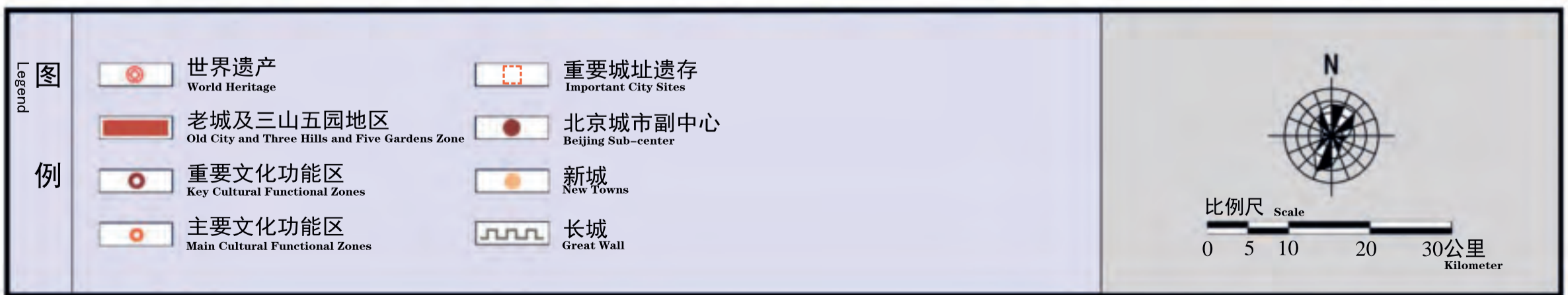
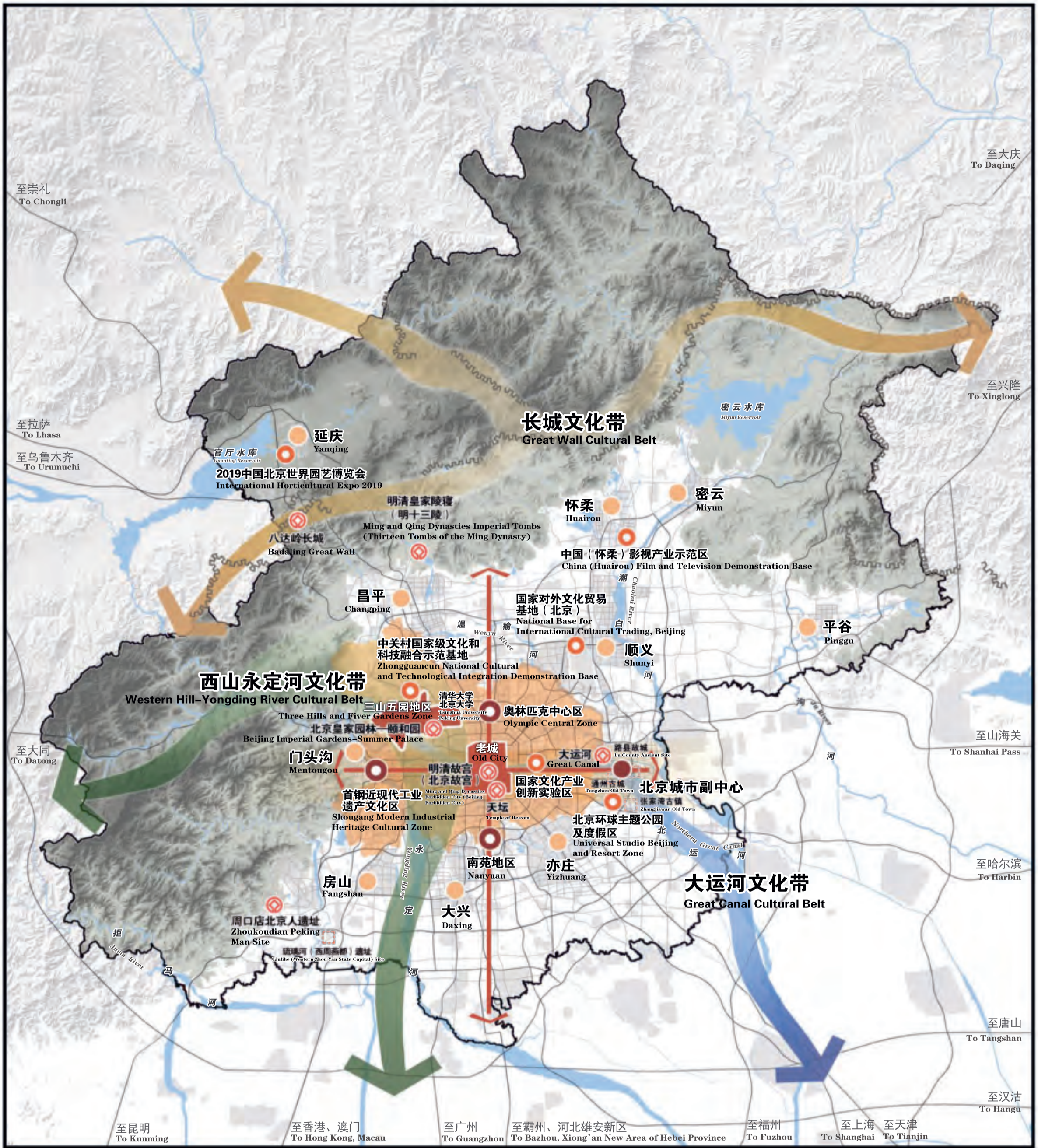
### 极简北京史 (英文)

JIJIAN BEIJING SHI (YINGWEN)

首都博物馆 编著

出 版 北京出版集团  
北京出版社  
地 址 北京北三环中路6号  
邮 编 100120  
网 址 www.bph.com.cn  
总发行 北京出版集团  
印 刷 北京华联印刷有限公司  
经 销 新华书店  
开 本 787毫米 × 1092毫米 1/16  
印 张 7.5  
字 数 15千字  
版 次 2021年4月第1版  
印 次 2021年4月第1次印刷  
书 号 ISBN 978-7-200-16419-0  
定 价 98.00元

如有印装质量问题, 由本社负责调换  
质量监督电话 010-58572393



北京城市总体规划（2016年—2035年）

图03 文化中心空间布局保障示意图

Beijing General City Plan (for 2016 to 2035)