

Spring 2023 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era
Sponsored by the *Society for Asian Art*

Topographies of Ming Architecture, 14th-17th Centuries

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March 31, 2023

MING dynasty, 1368-1644

Important Emperors

Hongwu (r. 1368-1398), capital in Nanjing
Tomb Xiaoling and his father's tomb in Nanjing

Yongle (r. 1403-1424), rebuilt Beijing and established it as primary capital
Tomb Changling first of 13 in Beijing suburbs

Jiajing (r. 1522-1567), added outer city wall to Beijing

Wanli (r. 1573-1619), tomb Dingling only excavated Ming royal tomb

European Topographies

Beamless Hall (Wuliangdian), Linggu Monastery, Nanjing, 1381
Henry Murphy (1877-1954) Pagoda (1930-1932)

Porcelain Pagoda, Bao'en Monastery, Nanjing, 1431
Semedo, Nieuhof, Fischer van Erlach, Robinson Crusoe, William Chambers

Masterpiece Ming Pagodas

Flying Rainbow Pagoda, Guangsheng Upper Monastery, Zhangcheng, Shanxi, 1515-1527

Five-Pagoda Pagoda, Wuta Monastery, Beijing, 1473
Topography FROM India

Ming Beijing

Forbidden City (Gugong)

Noon (Meridian) (Wu) Gate
Two sets of marble bridges
Gate of Great Harmony (Taihe)
Three Great Halls (Outer Court)
Hall of Supreme Harmony (Taihe)
Hall of Central Harmony (Zhonghe)
Hall of Preservation of Harmony (Baohu)
Gate of Heavenly Purity (Qianqing)

Back Halls (Inner Court)
Hall of Heavenly Purity (Qianqing)
Hall of Mutual East (Jiaotai)
Hall of Earthly Repose (Kunning)
Gate of Earthly Repose
Residential Complexes

Altars

Altar to Heaven (Tiantan) Complex, 1420, 1530-1545, 1751
Circular Mound
Imperial Vault of Heaven
Hall for Prayer for a Prosperous Year
Ancestral Temple (Taimiao), 1420
East of axis between Duan and Wu Gates
Temple to Rulers of the Past, 1373 Nanjing; Beijing
Soil and Grain Altar(s), 1530, 1534, 1430, 1421
West of axis between Duan and Wu Gates
Now Sun Yatsen Memorial
Altar of First Crops (Agriculture)
West of imperial way in outer city
Altar to Jupiter, 1420
Located at Altar of Agriculture
Altar to Gods of the Sky
For sacrifices to gods of wind, clouds, thunder, rain
Located at Altar of Agriculture
Altar of Earth, 1530; 1534
Northeast of inner city
Altar of Moon, 1430
West of inner city wall
Altar of Sun. 1430
East of inner city wall

Ming Imperial Tombs in Beijing

Thirteen tombs
Pailou (ceremonial gate)
Great Red Gate
Stele Pavilion
Spirit Path
Dragon and Phoenix Gate
Changling at focus
Romb of Yongle
Ling'en (Heavenly Favors) Hall
Dingling to west
Tomb of Wanli (r. 1572-1620)

Major Buddhist Monasteries

Zhihuasi, Beijing, 1443, 1980s restoration

Ceilings in Nelson Gallery, Kansas City and Philadelphia Museum of Art

Chongshansi, Taiyuan, Shanxi, 1381-1391

Built by Hongwu's son, Prince of Jin

Bao'ensi, Pingwu, Sichuan, 1439

Qutansi, Ledu, near Xining, Qinghai

Founded 1392 by Tibetan Buddhist monk, expanded by two later Ming emperors in 15th c

Main Hall (Dadian), Kaiyuansi, Quanzhou, Fujian, 1576

Twin pagoda monastery with long history

Yongningsi, Telin, 1413-1414, 1432

Today Tyr, Khabarovsk

Important Ming Mosques in China

Great North Mosque, Qinyang, Henan, 14th c.

Xi'an, Great Mosque, est. 742, many Ming structures

Beijing, Ox Street Mosque, est. 996

Tibetan Buddhist Architecture

Ta'ersi (Kumbun), founded 1577 by Altan Khan (1507-1582)

Meidazhao, outside Höhhot, founded 1575

Burial place of Altan Khan's wife

Dazhao, Höhhot, founded 1579 by Altan Khan

Xilituzhao, Höhhot, founded 1585 by Altan Khan's son

Four Tombs of Non-Chinese Royalty

Tomb of King of Boni, Nanjing, ca. 1408

Tomb of King of Sulu, Dezhou, Shandong, 1417

Tomb of King Sejong (1397-1450), Kyōnggi

Tōshōgū, tomb of Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616), Nikko, 1634-1636

reibyō

Further Reading

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Liu Chang, *The Forbidden City* (Beijing: Tsinghua University Press, 2012).

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Nancy Steinhardt, *China's Early Mosques* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2015).