

BUILDING CHINA MODERN / 1919-1958: EXPERIMENTS FOR A NEW PARADIGM

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The quest for an architecture both modern and Chinese has been going on for significantly more than a hundred years. In the early years of the last century a desire for this kind of language of building, one that could be both international and specific, was a common puzzler world over. But in China, the quest started early and continues to this day, running parallel with changing ideas of “China”—the place and nation—a concept radically reconstrued at least four times in the course of the same period of time.

This seminar proposes to investigate experiments in new Chinese building run in three of these moments—around the May 4th Movement (1919), by Nationalist China (1927-48) and the inaugural years of the People’s Republic (1949-58)—periods representing sharply distinct mind sets but in which the reimagining of Chinese architecture and China itself was equally all-important.

The first four weeks of the seminar will introduce the “tradition” of Chinese architecture. This grounding will be combined with an introduction to the deep resources of Columbia’s research collections: Avery’s periodical holdings (i.e. Zhong Guo Ying Zao Xue She Hui Kan / The Bulletin of the Society for Research in Chinese Architecture), Department of Drawings and Archives (the Richard Dana and Talbot Hamlin collections), The Union Theological Seminary’s Burke Library’s China Collections, C.V. Starr East Asian Library’s film collection, etc.

The balance of the semester will use primary resources from these collections and assigned readings (tailored to each student’s research project) to explore case study “experiments” in modern Chinese building, buildings which purposely broke with certain aspects of tradition while safeguarding others, in terms of the qualities of “new” and the character of the building, and other discourses they represent. The first hour of each class will be reserved for student led discussion. In the second, a short lecture will set up the following week’s reading.

Seminar members will be expected to write short assignments, one 1500-word bibliographic (“sources”) essay, and a longer 3000 word final research paper related to an experiment in “modern Chinese” building and configured around an accessible primary source.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

-Class discussion (preparation and participation), weekly research journal and reading responses	25%
--Sources Essay (1500 word)	25%
--Final Project (preliminary proposal, draft, final presentation and final 5000 word paper)	50%

PLAGIARISM

Please review the GSAPP website for the School’s posted statement “Plagiarism and Acknowledgement of Sources.” Students are forewarned that any such breaches will be taken very seriously. Any student caught plagiarizing will—at minimum—receive no credit for the course.

SCHEDULE

0. INTRO / GROUND RULES / EVIDENCE 9.10

1. TYPE AND MODULE 9.17

GEORGE KUBLER, "THE CLASSING OF THINGS," AND "THE PROPAGATION OF THINGS," IN *THE SHAPE OF TIME: REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF THINGS*, (YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1962), PP 28-75.

RAPHAEL MONEO, "ON TYPOLOGY," *OPPOSITIONS*, NO. L3 (SUMMER 1978): 23-45 (10.5)

LOTHAR LEDDEROSE, "INTRODUCTION" AND "THE SYSTEM OF SCRIPT", IN *TEN THOUSAND THINGS: MODULE AND MASS PRODUCTION IN CHINESE ART*, THE A.W. MELLON LECTURES IN THE FINE ARTS; 1998, BOLLINGEN SERIES; 46, PP. 1-23. (19)

QUATREMERE DE QUINCY, "TYPE," INTRODUCTION ANTHONY VIDLER, *OPPOSITIONS*, NO. 8 (SPRING 1977), PP. 147-150.

-----"CHARACTER," 9H, NO. 7 (1985), PP. 25-39.

ANTHONY VIDLER, "THE IDEA OF TYPE: THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE ACADEMIC IDEAL, 1750-1830," *OPPOSITIONS*, NO. 8 (SPRING 1977), PP. 95-115.

BACKGROUND

R. KEITH SCHOPPA, *REVOLUTION AND ITS PAST: IDENTITIES AND CHANGE IN MODERN CHINESE HISTORY (RP)*, 3- EDITION, (PRENTICE HALL, 2011), PP. 106-180.

1368—1958 (MING—FIRST DECADE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA) TIME LINE

MODEL ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED / SHORT WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE IN CLASS 9.24

2. HOUSE AS FUNDAMENTAL MODULE 9.24

STARR EAST ASIAN LIBRARY / KRESS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: LECTURE, COLLECTIONS REVIEW, INTRODUCTION TO STARR AND ONLINE SOURCES WANG CHENGZHI

GEORGE N. KATES, *THE YEARS THAT WERE FAT: THE LAST OF OLD CHINA (YTWF)* (HARPER AND BROTHERS, 1952), PP. 16-27.

JIA JUN, *ELEGANT HOUSES IN THE CAPITAL: BEIJING SIHEYUAN*, UNPUBLISHED ENGLISH TRANSLATION (TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY PRESS).

JIANFEI ZHU, *CHINESE SPATIAL STRATEGIES: IMPERIAL BEIJING 1420-1911* (ROUTLEDGE, 2004), PP. 97-148.

RONALD G. KNAPP, "COMPOSING SPACE", IN *CHINA'S OLD DWELLINGS*, (2000) PP. 21-40. (14.5)

BACKGROUND

SCHOPPA, RP, 181-240.

3. ORDER OF THE CITY

10.01

RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS LIBRARY / LECTURE, COLLECTIONS REVIEW

ARTHUR F. WRIGHT, "THE COSMOLOGY OF THE CHINESE CITY," IN *THE CITY IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA (CLIC)*, ED. G. WILLIAM SKINNER (STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1977), PP. 33-73.

SEN-DOU CHANG, "THE MORPHOLOGY OF WALLED CAPITALS," IN *CLIC*, PP. 75-100.

MARCO POLO, *TRAVELS IN THE LAND OF KUBILAI KHAN*, (PENGUIN, 1958), PP. 32-82.

KATES, *YTWF*, PP. 82-103.

"THE DIVINE PIVOT (HUANGDI NEIJING LING SHU)," IN *SOURCES OF CHINESE TRADITION. SECOND EDITION, VOLUME 1, FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 1600 (SCT)*, ED.S WM. THEODORE DE BARRY AND IRENE BLOOM (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1999), PP. 275-8.

DONG ZHONGSHU, "THE CONDUCT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH," FROM *LUXURIANT GEMS OF THE SPRING AND AUTUMN ANNALS (CHUNQIU FANLU)*, IN *SCT*, PP. 295-7.

-----, "ESTABLISHING THE PRIMAL NUMEN," IN *SCT*, PP. 298-301.

WU HUNG, "MONUMENTALITY OF TIME: GIANT CLOCKS, THE DRUM TOWER, THE CLOCK TOWER," IN ROBERT S. NELSON AND MARGARET OLIN, ED.S., *MONUMENTS AND MEMORY: MADE AND UNMADE, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, (2003), PP. 107-32.*

BACKGROUND

SCHOPPA, RP, 241-304.

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS—DISCUSSION OF FINAL PROJECT RESEARCH FOCUS

4. TYPOLOGICAL VARIATION

10.08

AVERY DRAWINGS AND ARCHIVES / LECTURE, COLLECTIONS REVIEW

CRAIG CLUNAS, *FRUITFUL SITES: GARDEN CULTURE IN MING DYNASTY CHINA* (REAKTION, 1996), PP. 9-103.

OSVALD SIREN, "MOUNTAINS AND WATER," "ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS OF THE GARDENS" AND "GARDENS IN LITERATURE AND PAINTING," IN *GARDENS OF CHINA*, (RONALD PRESS, 1949), PP 17-28, 41-84.

YOUNG-TSU WONG, *A PARADISE LOST: THE IMPERIAL GARDEN OF YUANMING YUAN* (UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I PRESS, 2001), TBD.

MAGGIE KESWICK, "ARCHITECTURE IN GARDENS," IN *THE CHINESE GARDEN: HISTORY, ART AND ARCHITECTURE* (HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2003), PP. 129-67.

BRUCE GORDON DOAR, "ACQUIRING GARDENS," *CHINA HERITAGE QUATERLY*, NO. 9, (MARCH 2007)

SUSAN NAQUIN, *PEKING TEMPLES AND CITY LIFE: 1400-1900*, (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, 2000), PP. 19-56, 128-144, 311-318.

BACKGROUND

SCHOPPA, RP, 305-345

5. LITERATI / LEXICON

10.15

W. PERCEVAL YETTS, A" CHINESE TREATISE ON ARCHITECTURE," BULLETIN OF THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, VOL. 4, NO. 3 (1927), PP. 473-492 (14) (BROWSE)

GUO QINGHUA, "YINGZAO FASHI: TWELFTH-CENTURY CHINESE BUILDING MANUAL," ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY, VOL. 41, 1998, PP. 1-13. (7)

PIERRE RYCKMANS, "THE CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PAST," 47- GEORGE ERNEST MORRISON LECTURE IN ETHNOLOGY, *CHINA HERITAGE QUATERLY*, No. 14, (JUNE 2008): [HTTP://WWW.CHINAHERITAGEQUATERLY.ORG/ARTICLES.PHP?SEARCHTERM=O14_CHINESEATTITUDE.INC&ISUE=O14](http://www.chinaheritagequarterly.org/articles.php?searchterm=O14_CHINESEATTITUDE.INC&ISUE=O14)

JIREN FENG, *CHINESE ARCHITECTURE AND METAPHOR: SONG CULTURE IN THE YINGZAO FASHI BUILDING MANUAL*, HAWAII (2012), PP. 14-99.

6. BATTLE BETWEEN NEW AND OLD / MAY 4TH STRATEGIES

10.22

PETER G. ROWE AND SENG KUAN, ARCHITECTURAL ENCOUNTERS WITH ESSENCE AND FORM IN MODERN CHINA, MIT (2002). PP. 2-136

SOURCES ESSAY DUE AT END OF CLASS:

IN 1500 WORDS DESCRIBE THE PRIMARY SOURCE OR SERIES OF PRIMARY SOURCES YOU HAVE DECIDED TO WORK WITH AS YOUR CASE STUDY AND 8-10 SECONDARY SOURCES YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED TO SUPPORT YOUR INVESTIGATION OF THIS SOURCE.

7. STRATEGY PRESENTATIONS WITH RESPONSE (1919-25)

10/29

OLIVER J. CALDWELL, "CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN NEW CHINA," FAR EASTERN SURVEY, VOL. 11, NO. 23 (NOVEMBER 16, 1942), PP. 236-7.

JOHN FRANKLIN GOUCHER, "SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN CHINA," THE JOURNAL OF RACE DEVELOPMENT, VOL. 4, NO. 2(OCTOBER 1913), PP. 220-241.

MYRON F. WICKE, "MAKING A COLLEGE MORE CHRISTIAN," CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, VOL. 32, NO. 3 (SEPTEMBER 1949), PP. 234-40.

8. STRATEGY PRESENTATIONS WITH RESPONSE (1925-37)

11.05

AVERY DRAWINGS AND ARCHIVES / COLLECTIONS REVIEW

FREDERIC WAKEMAN, JR., "LICENSING LEISURE: THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS' ATTEMPT TO REGULATE SHANGHAI, 1927-49," THE JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES, VOL. 54, NO. 1 (FEBRUARY 1995), PP. 19-42.

XIN ZHAO AND RUSSELL W. BELK, "ADVERTISING CONSUMER CULTURE IN 1930'S SHANGHAI, GLOBALIZATION AND LOCALIZATION IN YUEFENPAI," JOURNAL OF ADVERTISING, VOL. 37, NO. 2 (SUMMER 2008), PP. 45-56.

9. STRATEGY PRESENTATIONS WITH RESPONSE (1937-58)

11.12

NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV, EXCERPTS FROM "SPEECH AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS AND WORKERS IN CONSTRUCTION AND ROADS MACHINERY INDUSTRIES, AND EMPLOYEES OF DESIGN AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS," (DECEMBER 7, 1954).

10. FINAL PRESENTATIONS 11.19

THANKSGIVING BREAK 11.26

12. LAST CLASS / TYPES STRATEGIES REDUX 12.03

**FINAL PROJECT DUE
EXAM / PAPER WRITING WEEK (12.14 – 23):** **TBD**

SAMPLE COLLECTIONS

- CACHE 1 ZHONG GUO YING ZHAO XUE SHE HUI KAN / THE BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN CHINESE ARCHITECTURE, *AVERY*
- CACHE 2 INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION, *RBML (RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY)*
INDUSCO, *RBML*
- CACHE 3 AMERICAN BUREAU FOR MEDICAL AID TO CHINA 1937-79, *RBML*
THE MODERN HOSPITAL (JOURNAL), *BURKE*
- CACHE 4 CHARLES W. STOUGHTON ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS (C. 1905-37), *AVERY*
- CACHE 5 TALBOT FAULKNER HAMLIN PAPERS AND ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS, *AVERY*
- CACHE 6 ARTHUR ROTHSTIEN PHOTOGRAPHS *AVERY*
WARREN AND WHETMORE, DRAWINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS, *AVERY*
- CACHE 7 KLAUS HERDEG PAPERS, *AVERY*
SKIDMORE, OWINGS AND MERRILL PHOTOGRAPHS 1945-69, *AVERY*
- CACHE 8 LING LONG (MAGAZINE), *STARR*
- CACHE 9 MAKINO MAMORU COLLECTION ON THE HISTORY OF EAST ASIAN FILM, *STARR*
- CACHE 10 EUGENE E. BARNETT PAPERS, YOUNG MENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION (YMCA) 1905-1970, *RMBL*
DAVID WILLARD LYON PAPERS, YMCA 1870-1949, *BURKE*
- CACHE 11 HELEN FOSTER SNOW, *OHRO* (ORAL HISTORY)
DEMOCRACY (JOURNAL), *BURKE*
INDUSCO?
- CACHE... WELLINGTON KOO, PHOTOGRAPHS AND MEMORABILIA, 1888-1985, *STARR + OHRO*

HARRISON SALLISBURY, *RBML*

PARE LORENTZ, *RBML*

QUINCY WRIGHT, *AVERY?*

XIONG SHIHUI, *RMBL*

SHEN I-YUN, *OHRO*

LESLIE H. CHEN, *RMBL*

STARTING POINTS / REFERENCES ON RESERVE:

A RESERVE COLLECTION OF "STARTING POINT" MATERIALS FOR ANY AND ALL OF THESE THEMES IS AT AVERY.

MARIE-CLAIRE BERGERE, SHANGHAI: CHINA'S GATEWAY TO MODERNITY, STANFORD, 2009

NANCY BERLINER, YIN YU TANG: THE ARCHITECTURE AND DAILY LIFE OF A CHINESE HOUSE, TUTTLE, 2003

YOMI BRAESTER, PAINTING THE CITY RED: CHINESE CINEMA AND THE URBAN CONTRACT, DUKE, 2010

JEFFREY CODY, BUILDING IN CHINA: HENRY K. MURPHY'S "ADAPTIVE ARCHITECTURE" 1914-1935, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, 2001

ALEXANDER TOWNSEND DES FORGES, MEDIASHPERE SHANGHAI: THE AESTHETICS OF CULTURAL PRODUCTION, HAWAII, 2007

MADELEINE YUE DONG, REPUBLICAN BEIJING: THE CITY AND ITS HISTORIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, 2003

QINGHUA GUO, A VISUAL DICTIONARY OF CHINESE ARCHITECTURE, IMAGES, 2002.

LEO OU-FAN LEE, SHANGHAI MODERN: THE FLOWERING OF A NEW URBAN CULTURE IN CHINA, 1930-1945, HARVARD, 1999

LIANG SICHENG, A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF CHINESE ARCHITECTURE: A STUDY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS STRUCTURAL SYSTEM AND THE EVOLUTION OF ITS TYPES, MIT, 1984

----- CHINESE ARCHITECTURE: ART AND ARTIFACTS, FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS, 2011

HANCHAO LU, BEYOND THE NEON LIGHTS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, 1999

LU JUNHUA, PETER G. ROWE AND ZHANG JIE, EDS., MODERN URBAN HOUSING IN CHINA: 1840-2000

PAULA LUPKIN, MANHOOD FACTORIES: YMCA ARCHITECTURE AND THE MAKING OF MODERN URBAN CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS, 2009

SUSAN NAQUIN, PEKING: TEMPLES AND CITY LIFE, BERKLEY, 2000

MALCOLM PURVIS, *TALL STOREYS: PALMER AND TURNER, ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS—THE FIRST 100 YEARS*, WANCHAI, HONG KONG, 1985

PETER G. ROWE, ARCHITECTURAL ENCOUNTERS WITH ESSENCE AND FORM IN MODERN CHINA, MIT, 2002

R. KEITH SCHOPPA, REVOLUTION AND ITS PAST: IDENTITIES AND CHANGE IN MODERN CHINESE HISTORY, THIRD EDITION, PRENTICE HALL, 2011

WANG JUN, BEIJING RECORD: A PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY OF PLANNING MODERN BEIJING, WORLD SCIENTIFIC, 2011

Y.C. WANG, CHINESE INTELLECTUALS AND THE WEST: 1872-1949, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-CHAPEL HILL, 1966, PP. 41-146

CHARLES ALFRED SPEED WILLIAMS, CHINESE SYMBOLISM AND ART MOTIFS: A COMPREHENSIVE HANDBOOK ON SYMBOLISM IN CHINESE ART THROUGH THE AGES, TUTTLE, 2006 (OR EARLIER)

WEN-HSIN YEH, SHANGHAI SPLENDOR: A CULTURAL HISTORY, 1843-1945, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, 2008

ZHANG ZHEN, AN AMOUROUS HISTORY OF THE SILVER SCREEN: SHANGHAI CINEMA, 1896-1937, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 2005

CHINA FOREVER: THE SHAW BROTHERS AND DIASPORIC CINEMA, ILLINOIS, 2008

CINEMA AND URBAN CULTURE IN SHANGHAI, 1922-1943, STANFORD, 1999

OTHER REFERENCES

FILM

LINKS TO ONLINE MOVING IMAGES:

[HTTP://DIGITAL.TCL.SC.EDU/CDM/SEARCH/COLLECTION/MVTNWARFILMS/SEARCHTERM/CHINA/FIELD/COVERA/](http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/search/collection/mvtnwarfilms/searchterm/china/field/covera/mode/any/conn/and/order/nosort/ad/asc/cosuppress/1)
[MODE/ANY/CONN/AND/ORDER/NOSORT/AD/ASC/COSUPPRESS/1](http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/search/collection/mvtnwarfilms/searchterm/china/field/covera/mode/any/conn/and/order/nosort/ad/asc/cosuppress/1)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (NARA):

[HTTP://WWW.ARCHIVES.GOV/RESEARCH/SEARCH/](http://www.archives.gov/research/search/)

BRITISH PATHE:

[HTTP://WWW.BRITISHPATHE.COM/](http://www.britishpathe.com/)

ARCHIVE.ORG:

[HTTPS://ARCHIVE.ORG/DETAILS/MOVIES](https://archive.org/details/movies)

GENERAL

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:

PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIALS, RESEARCH TOOLS, HISTORICAL EXHIBITS, PHOTOGRAPHS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS....

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION:

PRIMARY SOURCES—WIDE VARIETY, MILITARY, POLITICAL...

HARVARD YENCHING LIBRARY:

[HTTP://HCL.HARVARD.EDU/LIBRARIES/HARVARD-YENCHING/](http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/harvard-yenching/)

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