

BETWEEN HEAVEN AND MODERNITY



Reconstructing Suzhou, 1895-1937

PETER J. CARROLL

Between Heaven And Modernity Reconstructing Suzhou 1895 1937

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Between Heaven And Modernity Reconstructing Suzhou 1895 1937:

Between Heaven and Modernity Peter J. Carroll, 2022 Combining social political and cultural history this book examines the contestation over space history and power in the late Qing and Republican era reconstruction of the ancient capital of Suzhou as a modern city Located fifty miles west of Shanghai Suzhou has been celebrated throughout Asia as a cynosure of Chinese urbanity and economic plenty for a thousand years With the city s 1895 opening as a treaty port businessmen and state officials began to draw on Western urban planning in order to bolster Chinese political and economic power against Japanese encroachment As a result both Suzhou as a whole and individual components of the cityscape developed new significance according to a calculus of commerce and nationalism Japanese monks and travelers Chinese officials local people and others competed to claim Suzhou s streets state institutions historic monuments and temples and thereby to define the course of Suzhou s and greater China s modernity

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Chinese Architecture and the Beaux-Arts Jeffrey W. Cody, Nancy Shatzman Steinhardt, Tony Atkin, 2011-01-31 In the early twentieth century Chinese traditional architecture and the French derived methods of the cole des Beaux Arts converged in the United States when Chinese students were given scholarships to train as architects at American universities whose design curricula were dominated by Beaux Arts methods Upon their return home in the 1920s and 1930s these graduates began to practice architecture and create China s first architectural schools often transferring a version of what they had learned in the U S to Chinese situations The resulting complex series of design related transplantations had major implications for China between 1911 and 1949 as it simultaneously underwent cataclysmic social economic and political changes After 1949 and the founding of the People s Republic China experienced a radically different wave of influence from the Beaux Arts through advisors from the Soviet Union who first under Stalin and later Khrushchev brought Beaux Arts ideals in the guise of socialist progress In the early twenty first century China is still feeling the effects of these events *Chinese Architecture and the Beaux Arts* examines the coalescing of the two major architectural systems placing significant shifts in architectural theory and practice in China within relevant contemporary cultural and educational contexts Fifteen

major scholars from around the world analyze and synthesize these crucial events to shed light on the dramatic architectural and urban changes occurring in China today many of which have global ramifications This stimulating and generously illustrated work is divided into three sections framed by an introduction and a postscript The first focuses on the convergence of Chinese architecture and the *cole des Beaux Arts* outlining the salient aspects of each and suggesting how and why the two met in the U S The second section centers on the question of how Chinese architects were influenced by the Beaux Arts and how Chinese architecture was changed as a result The third takes an even closer look at the Beaux Arts influence addressing how innovative practices new schools of architecture and buildings whose designs were linked to Beaux Arts assumptions led to distinctive new paradigms that were rooted in a changing China By virtue of its scope scale and scholarship this volume promises to become a classic in the fields of Chinese and Western architectural history Contributors Tony Atkin Peter J Carroll Yung Ho Chang Jeffrey W Cody Kerry Sizheng Fan Fu Chao Ching Gu Daqing Seng Kuan Delin Lai Xing Ruan Joseph Rykwert Nancy S Steinhardt David VanZanten Rudolf Wagner Zhang Jie Zhao Chen *Chinese Cities as Pedagogy* Jiawen Han,Xianwen Kuang,Guanghui Ding,2025-03-17 The book introduces innovative teaching practices and methods with a critical focus on understanding and interpreting Chinese cities as a rich context It highlights the advantages of interdisciplinary teaching in creating new learning experiences for students Additionally the book provides thorough mapping of the applied methods across disciplines and offers deeper reflections on the emerging pedagogy *Suzhou in Transition* Beibei Tang,Paul Cheung,2020-11-11 Through the lens of the city of Suzhou this edited volume presents views on the complex interaction between the central state market agents local governments and individuals who have shaped the development of Chinese cities and urban life Featuring a range of disciplinary perspectives contributors to this volume have all undertaken research in one municipality Suzhou to consider how history and culture have evolved during the modernisation of Chinese cities and the transformation of urban space as well as shifting rural urban relations and urban life during the reform era The volume is underscored by a complex dynamic system consisting of three interlocked mechanisms through which the central and local state interact history and culture social and economic life and administration and governance As such chapters analyse responses both from the state and society as driving forces of local development with an interplay between tradition and heritage on the one hand and China s economic and social development on the other *Suzhou in Transition* will appeal to students and scholars of Chinese and urban studies as well as urban sociology and geography **Shared Histories of Modernity** Huri Islamoglu,Peter C. Perdue,2020-11-29 While pre modernity is often considered to be the time of non European regions and modernity is seen as belonging to the West this book seeks to transcend the temporal bifurcation of that world history into pre modern and modern as well as question its geographical split into two irreconcilable trajectories the European and the non European The book examines shared experiences of modern transformation or modernity in three regions China India and the Ottoman Empire which conventional

historiography identifies as non European and therefore by implication outside of modernity or only tangentially linked to it as its victim In other words this work looks at modernity without reference to any idealised criteria of what qualifies as modern or not studying the negotiation and legacies of the early modern period for the modern nation state It focuses on the experience of modernity of non European regions for they play a crucial role in the new phase of transformational patterns may have deeper roots than are generally assumed Rejecting European characterisations of eastern states as Oriental despotisms the volume conceives of the early modern state as a negotiated enterprise one that questions the assumption that state centralisation must be a key metric of success in modernisation Among other topics the book highlights state formations in the three empires legislation pertaining to taxation property police reform the autonomy of legal sphere the interaction of different types of law law s role in governance administrative practice negotiated settlements and courts as sites of negotiation the blurred boundaries between formal law and informal mediation the ability of 18th century Qing and Ottoman imperial governments to accommodate diverse local particularities within an overreaching structure and the pattern of regional development pointing to the accommodative institutional capacity of the Mughal empire

Quest for Power

Stephen R. Halsey, 2015-10-12 China s late imperial history has been framed as a long coda of decline played out during the Qing dynasty Reappraising this narrative Stephen Halsey traces the origins of China s current great power status to this so called decadent era when threats of war with European and Japanese empire triggered innovative state building and statecraft

Superstitious Regimes Rebecca Nodostup, 2010-07-01 We live in a world shaped by secularism the separation of numinous power from political authority and religion from the political social and economic realms of public life Not only has progress toward modernity often been equated with secularization but when religion is admitted into modernity it has been distinguished from superstition That such ideas are continually contested does not undercut their extraordinary influence These divisions underpin this investigation of the role of religion in the construction of modernity and political power during the Nanjing Decade 1927 1937 of Nationalist rule in China This book explores the modern recategorization of religious practices and people and examines how state power affected the religious lives and physical order of local communities It also looks at how politicians conceived of their own ritual role in an era when authority was meant to derive from popular sovereignty The claims of secular nationalism and mobilizational politics prompted the Nationalists to conceive of the world of religious association as a dangerous realm of superstition that would destroy the nation This is the first superstitious regime of the book s title It also convinced them that national feeling and faith in the party state would replace those ties the second superstitious regime

Behind the Gate

Fabio Lanza, 2010 Through an investigation of 20th century Chinese student protest Lanza considers the marriage of the cultural and the political the intellectual and the quotidian that occurred during the May Fourth movement along with its rearticulation in subsequent protest

Runaway Wives, Urban Crimes, and Survival Tactics in Wartime Beijing, 1937-1949 Ma Zhao, 2020-05-11 From 1937 to 1949 Beijing was in a state of

crisis The combined forces of Japanese occupation civil war runaway inflation and reformist campaigns and revolutionary efforts wreaked havoc on the city's economy upset the political order and threatened the social and moral fabric as well Women especially lower class women living in Beijing's tenement neighborhoods were among those most affected by these upheavals Delving into testimonies from criminal case files Zhao Ma explores intimate accounts of lower class women's struggles with poverty deprivation and marital strife By uncovering the set of everyday tactics that women devised and utilized in their personal efforts to cope with predatory policies and crushing poverty this book reveals an urban underworld that was built on an informal economy and conducted primarily through neighborhood networks Where necessary women relied on customary practices hierarchical patterns of household authority illegitimate relationships and criminal entrepreneurship to get by Women's survival tactics embedded in and reproduced by their everyday experience opened possibilities for them to modify the male dominated city and more importantly allowed women to subtly deflect subvert and escape without leaving powerful forces such as the surveillance state reformist discourse and revolutionary politics during and beyond wartime Beijing

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