

A history of Chinese architecture

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Abstrak

Chinese architecture has had a long history exceeding 3500 years if we acknowledge the palace ruins of the prehistoric Shang-Yin dynasty as its earliest surviving example. Architectural complexes described in ancient texts, such as the He Palace of Huangdi (Yellow Emperor), suggest their existence at the very beginning of the Chinese civilization. Some fundamental principles developed by architects and builders centuries ago have perpetuated for thousands of years. One such notion is mentioned in the chapter titled Da-yu-mo (Counsels of the Great Yu) in Shang Shu (Book of History) – putting right the virtues, using tools that provide the conveniences of daily life, and securing the rich means of sustaining life are things that must be harmoniously attend to.