



Modern Chinese Architecture 180 Years

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ISBN	9781961856073
Publisher	ORO Editions
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding USA, Canada, Australasia. Asia non-exclusive.
Size	333 mm x 241 mm
Pages	470 Pages
Illustrations	400 color
Price	£59.95

- This is a clear, accurate, readable survey with superior illustrations that includes every major building constructed in China from 1840-2020
- Outstanding visual record of 180 years of architecture in China
- Ideal textbook for surveys of modern Chinese architecture, as well as for courses in modern architecture and Chinese architecture
- Makes clear that even as Chinese architecture was becoming modern, traditional-style construction persisted. The book insists on understanding modern Chinese architecture as part of the multimillennial Chinese architectural tradition

This is a clear, accurate, readable survey of the dramatic transformation of Chinese architecture from 1840 through 2020. It narrates the change from a predominantly timber-frame tradition to construction in twisted steel and ecologically sensitive local materials. The book places the buildings in historical context.

Modern Chinese Architecture: 180 Years tells the dramatic story of the transformation of Chinese architecture from a predominantly modular, timber-frame, single-story building system with ceramic tile roofs of anonymous, local craftsmen to skyscrapers designed by internationally acclaimed architects, from temple markets and itinerant peddlers to megamalls, and from open air stages to auditoriums and stadiums with cutting-edge acoustics. The architectural transformation occurs as China transforms from a dynasty ruled by emperors to a republic to a people's republic, from a country in which fewer than half the male population, and perhaps 10 percent of the female population could read to at least 97% literacy, and from a population that was fewer than 5 percent to more than 60 percent urban.

The development of architecture in China is explained century-by-century through five generations of architects: foreigners, China's first generation who study modern architecture abroad, their students who design in China during years of war with Japan, internal warfare, and the Cultural Revolution, the next generation who in the 1980s begin to study abroad again, and designers of this century from every continent who compete to transform the Chinese landscape. The buildings in this book come from every province.

Nancy S. Steinhardt is Professor of East Asian Art and Curator of Chinese Art at the University of Pennsylvania. She is author or editor of 13 books and more than 100 articles.

