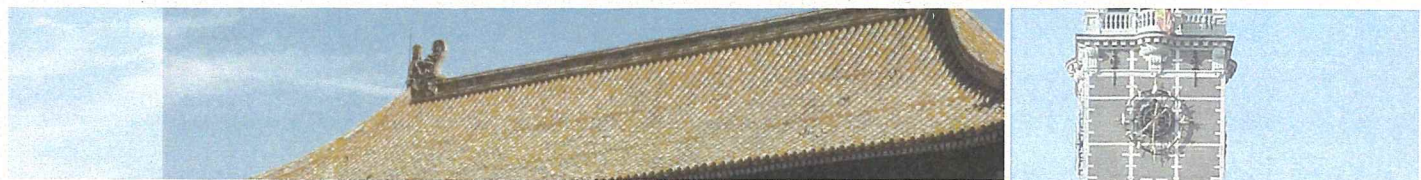


The International Forum on
Sino-European
**Building
Archaeology**

北
京
2
0
1
6



中欧建筑考古国际学术研讨会

The International Forum on Sino-European Building Archaeology

2016年5月，北京

May 2016, Beijing

会议总结

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

2016年9月

September 2016

编制单位 / Organizer

北京大学考古文博学院文物建筑教研室
Section of Heritage Building,
School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University



[Http://sebaf.cbpt.cnki.net](http://sebaf.cbpt.cnki.net)
Email: sebaf_pl@163.com

KU LEUVEN

中欧建筑考古 国际学术研讨会会议总结

The International Forum on
Sino-European Building Archaeology

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

2016年5月, 北京
May 2016, Beijing

主办单位 / Organizer

北京大学考古文博学院
School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University (China)
北京大学中国考古学研究中心
Centre for the Study of Chinese Archaeology, Peking University (China)
比利时鲁汶大学建筑工程学院
University of Leuven, Department of Architecture (Belgium)
比利时鲁汶大学雷蒙德·勒麦尔国际保护中心
Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation, RLIICC, KU Leuven (Belgium)

合办单位 / Co-organizer

中国建筑设计院有限公司
China Architecture Design Academy CO. LTD.
成都博物院
Chengdu Museum
故宫研究院古建筑研究所
Institute of Heritage Architecture, The Palace Museum
中国社会科学院考古研究所
Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

协办单位 / Collaborator

清华大学建筑学院
School of Architecture, Tsinghua University
东南大学建筑学院
School of Architecture, Southeast University
天津大学建筑学院
School of Architecture, Tianjin University

赞助单位 / Sponsor

北京大学人文基金高级访问学者配套基金
Human Culture Foundation, Peking University

编制单位 / Compiler

北京大学考古文博学院文物建筑教研室
Section of Heritage Building, School of Archaeology and Museology, Peking University

2016年9月 / September 2016

Sino-European Building Archaeology International Forum in Beijing

Prof. *Thomas COOMANS*, KU Leuven, RLICC

Prof. *XU Yitao* and Dr. *ZHANG Jianwei*, Peking University

Organising joint international conferences on building archaeology is one of the aims of the cooperation agreement between the School of Archaeology and Museology of Peking University and the Faculty of Engineering Science, including RLICC, at KU Leuven (see RLICC Newsletter 14, p. 13– 14). So, the First International Forum on



Sino-European Building Archaeology / 中欧建筑考古国际研讨会 was held from 13 to 15 May on the beautiful campus of Peking University. The two main goals of the forum were: 1) to show the diversity of present issues, methods and challenges, at the cross-road between different disciplines of archaeology, architecture, art history, construction history, engineering, ect. by bringing together outstanding scholars in all these fields from China and Europe. 2) to reflect about the definition of building archaeology as a discipline on its own, or at least as an interface between disciplines that could better collaborate.

The forum was structured in 11 sessions, all together 37 papers (with simultaneous translation). In the evening, there were 4 parallel sessions for young scholars, each session consisting in 10 short papers. Including young scholars is essential because they are the future of all our different sciences and disciplines. The conference was attended by an audience of about 150 people. Speakers from KU Leuven were Prof. Koen Van Balen, Prof. Krista De Jonge, Prof. em. Marc Waelkens, Prof. Thomas Coomans and Dr. Vincent Debonne, as well as Cui Jinze and Zhao Dongxu, two young scholars related to RLICC. Chinese scholars came from the best universities and research institutes of the country (Peking University, Southeast University, Tsinghua University, Tianjin University, The Palace Museum, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Chengdu Museum, Tongji University, ect.). For most European professors, this conference was a first travel to China. A private visit of the Forbidden City with the heard curator of the Palace Museum was an unforgettable introduction to Chinese culture and heritage for Prof. Ganbri Van Tussenbroek (University

of Amsterdam), Prof. Adam Menuge (University of Cambridge), Prof. Carolina Di Biase (Politecnico Milano), Prof. Werner Lorenz (TU Cottbus), Prof. Val é rie N é gre (Paris La Vilette), and Dr. Elke Nagel (TU M ü nchen).



Visiting the Forbidden City in Beijing © PKU, May 2016

Two books were launched during the conference: 1) Building archaeological research on the Jiwang Temple in Wanrong (Shanxi province), by Xu Yitao; 2) Building Churches in Northern China: a 1926 handbook in context, by Thomas Coomans, Xu Yitao and Wu Meiping. The latter, a fully bilingual Chinese–English book, is another tangible output of the Beijing–Leuven building archaeological collaboration. After this successful international forum, the Beijing–Leuven friendship and collaboration will certainly continue to develop in the next years.

(from *Newsletter RLICC*, issue 18–Autumn, 2016)

Building the Sky: Gothic Vaults in Chinese Churches

Thomas COOMANS, University of Leuven, Department of Architecture
Staff of Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation

【Abstract】

Gothic is widely considered as a universal style for church buildings by many nineteenth-century Christians and it was exported worldwide by missionaries. Modular and repetitive structures, rib vaults, elaborate buttressing systems, pointed arches, and large windows with traceries are main characters of this architectural style. However, when Gothic was introduced to China from the 1860s to the 1930s, technologic encounter were generated. Chinese carpenters who had to be instructed in Gothic forms and Western timber roof trusses, but integrated elements from the Chinese timber building tradition as well created innovative structures. The earliest true Gothic ones in China and in East Asia were built in Guangzhou. The arches and ribs are of granite, while the vaults' panels are made of red bricks. A Chinese roof which was built according to the local building tradition and did not require load-bearing walls was the easiest and most economical way of roofing a church. Example in Yangzhou which was built in this way, looks Chinese, but in fact is only a little. The western wooden vault and Imitations of Gothic Rib vaults with planks, lath and lime are both improvement of traditional vault structures. Even there is a moral issue of Imitation from handbook, the advantages of the technique, which are aesthetic, practical, acoustical, insulation, and economical have been stressed by the author.