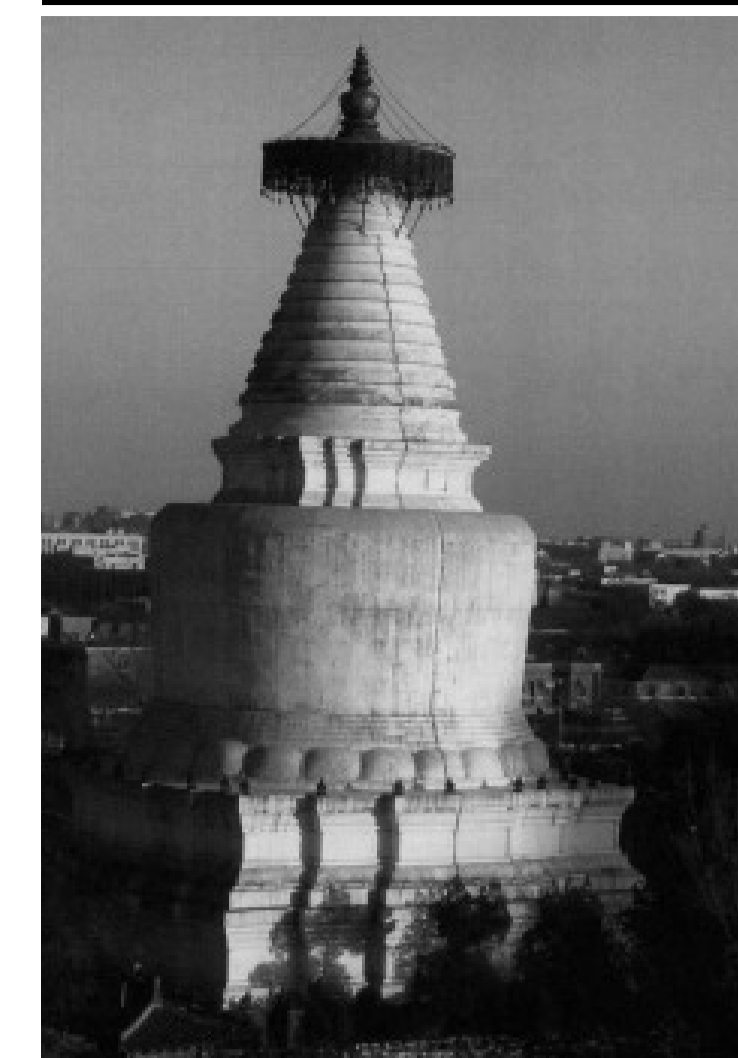
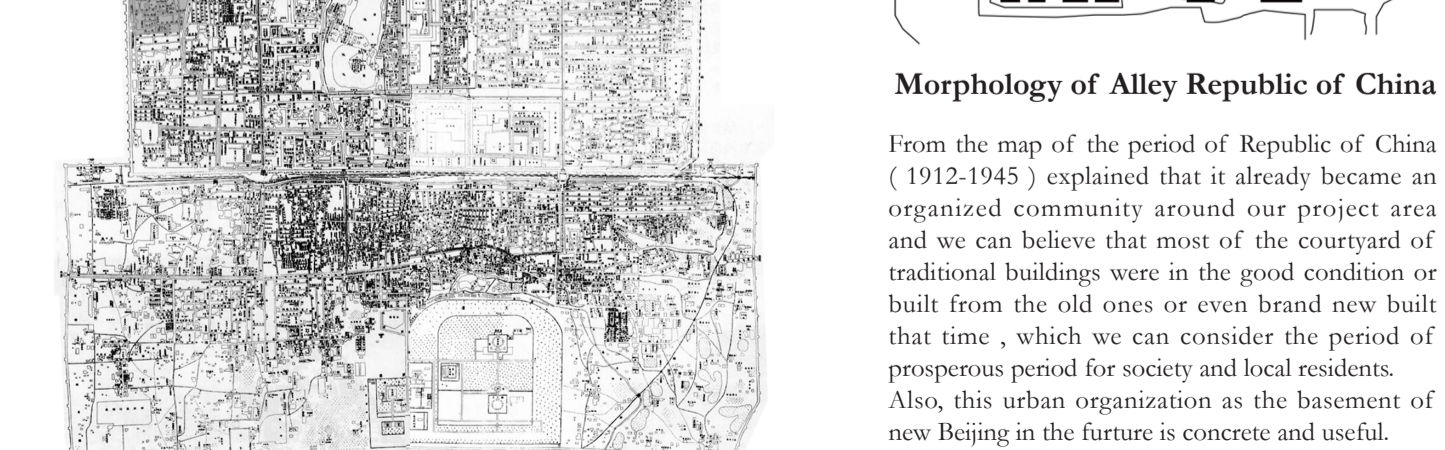
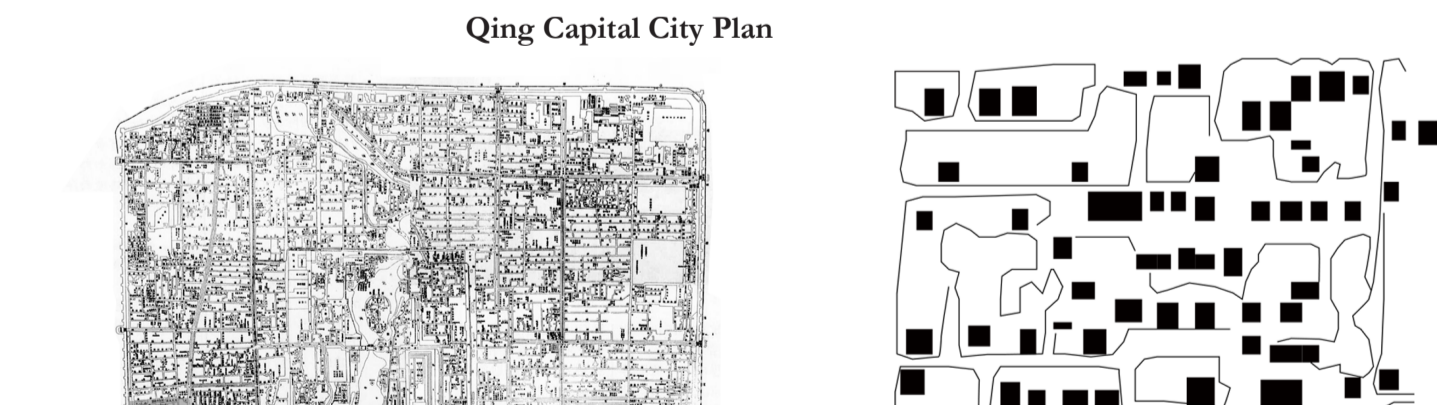
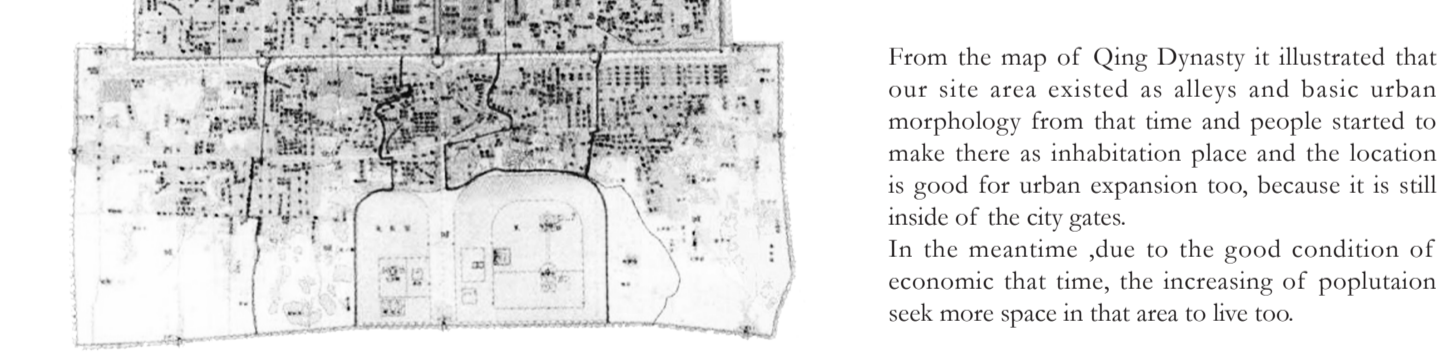
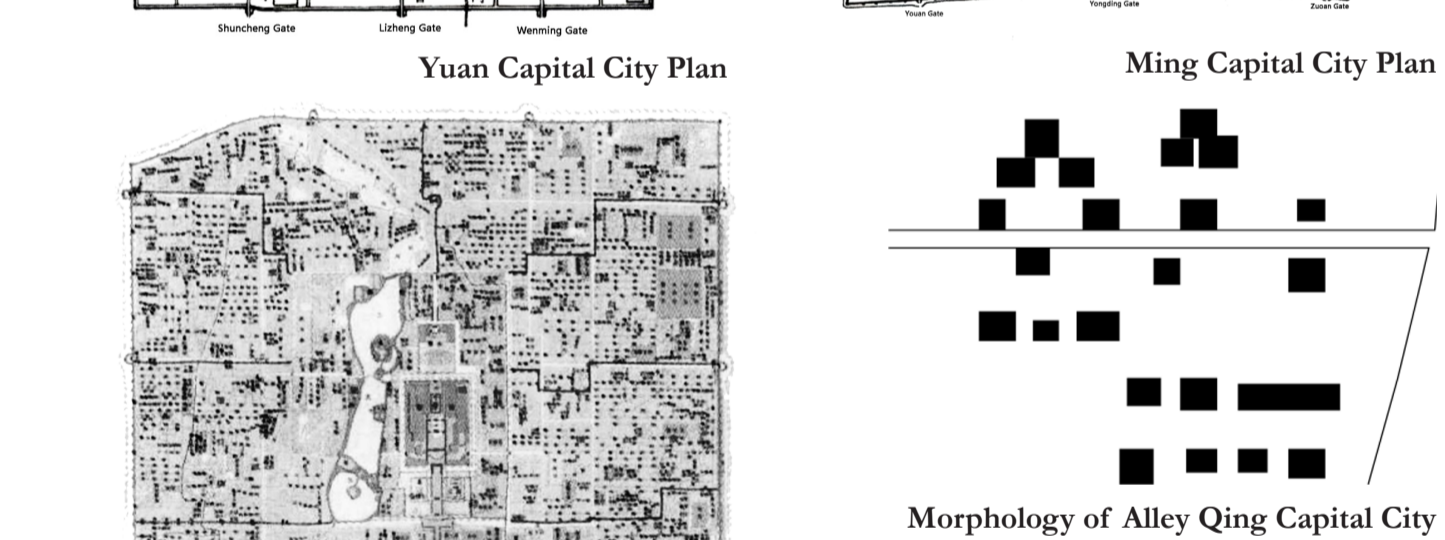
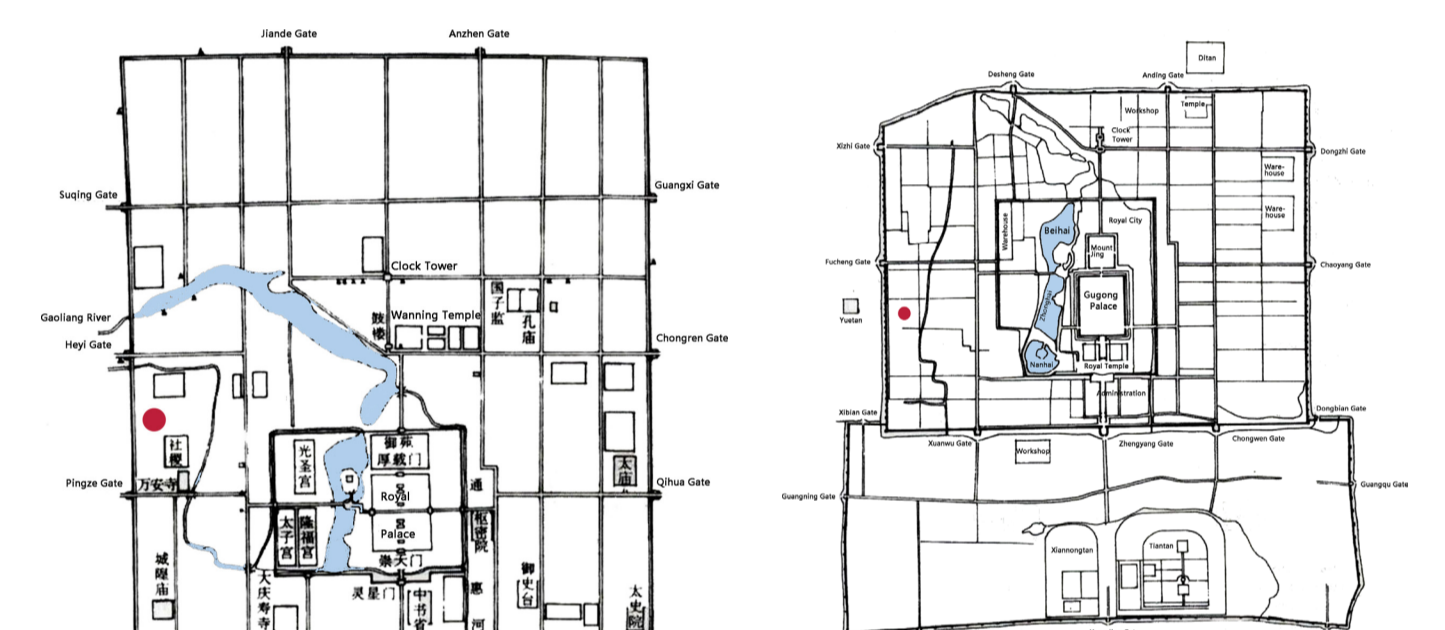
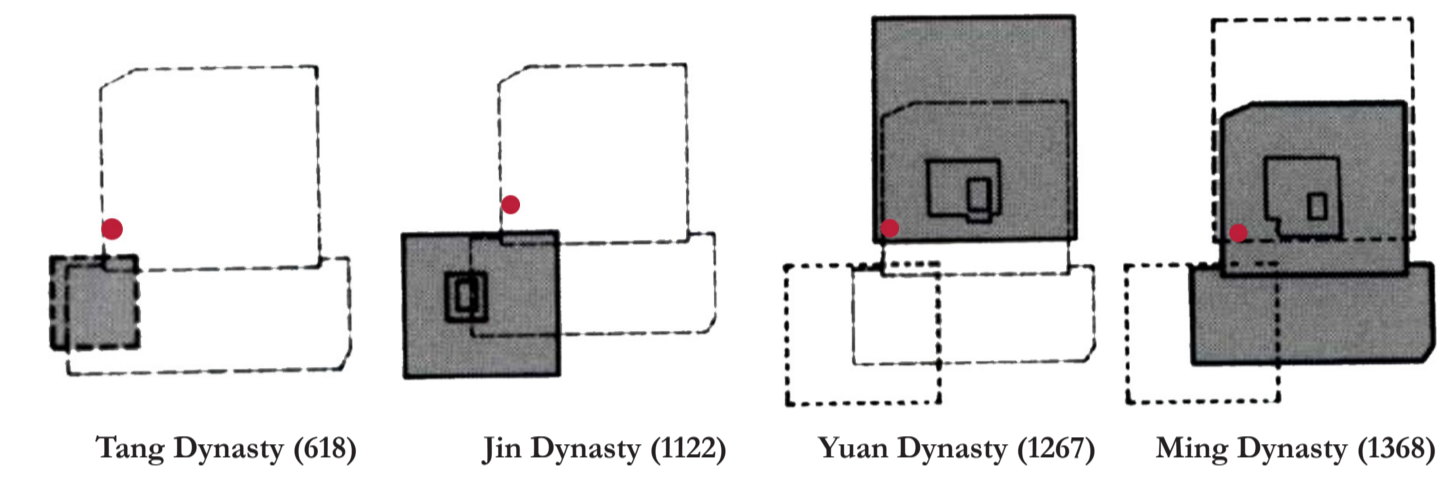


1. Project Background and Researches

Beijing City Evolution

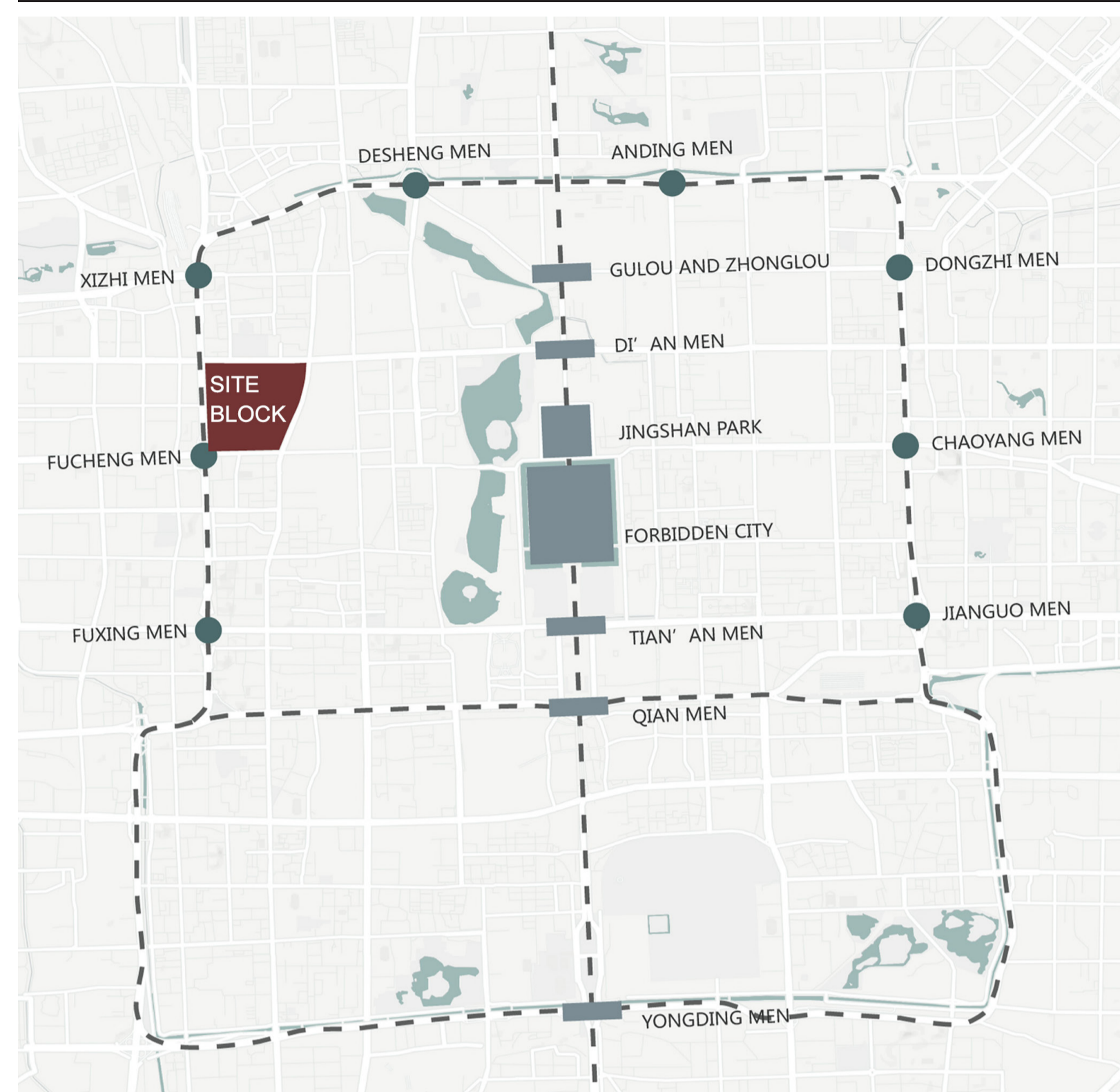


Beijing is a national and historical city in present and a place of multiculturalism. With the time, Beijing's architectural style bonds traditional Chinese architecture with various architectural styles around the world, which influenced the urban morphology too. Hutong and Siheyuan, as representatives of traditional Chinese architecture, showcase the characteristics of traditional Chinese dwellings. At present, the traditional courtyard houses have been greatly challenged. Due to the development of society, the traditional courtyard houses can no longer meet the needs of modern life, with the remaining part not changed a lot in old part of the city, parking, electric cable, and various modern facilities do not fully enter the courtyard. In the meantime, diversity of the neighbours with lack of culture awareness is not ideal either. Some residents have moved out to the modern community because of the demolition of the courtyard, while some of them have stayed, continue to live here. Traditional culture is worth retaining and learning. The culture of the courtyard is a part of traditional culture, which is a good interpretation of Chinese traditional culture: close interaction with the neighborhood and good privacy. Today, we have the opportunity to help to change this situation both in urban and residential scale.

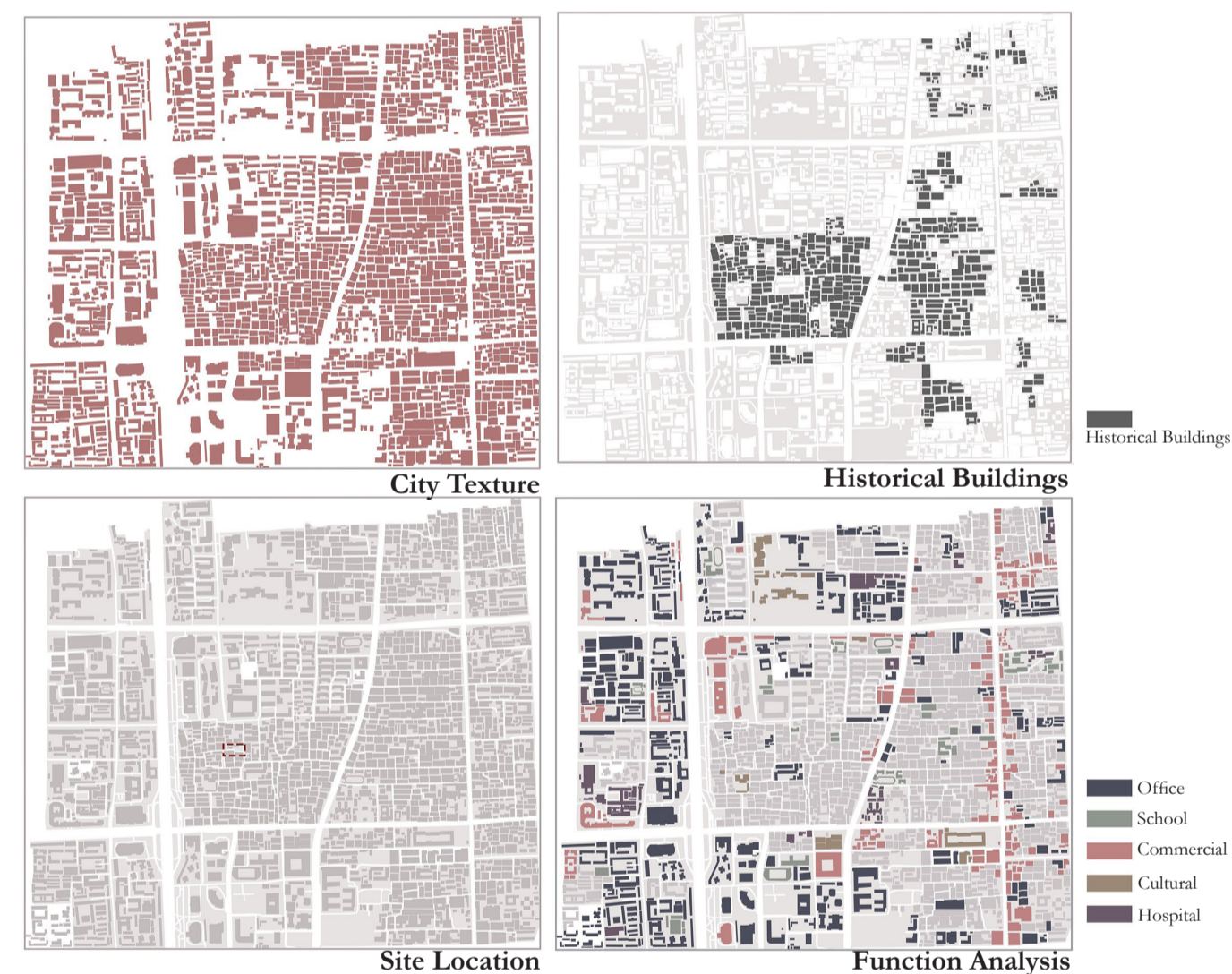


The Republic of China City Plan

Project Location in Gongmenkou No.5 (宫门口五条)



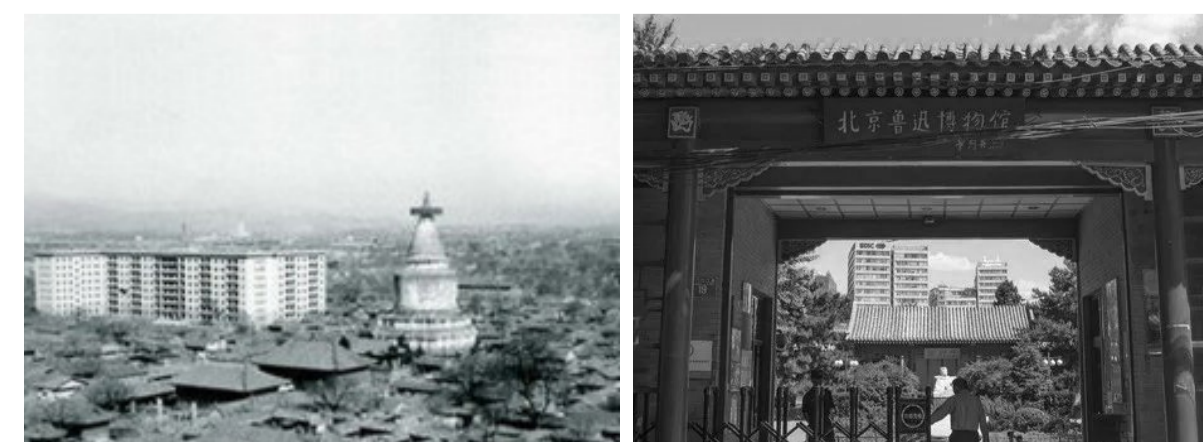
Site Block Location



Highlights of Surroundings

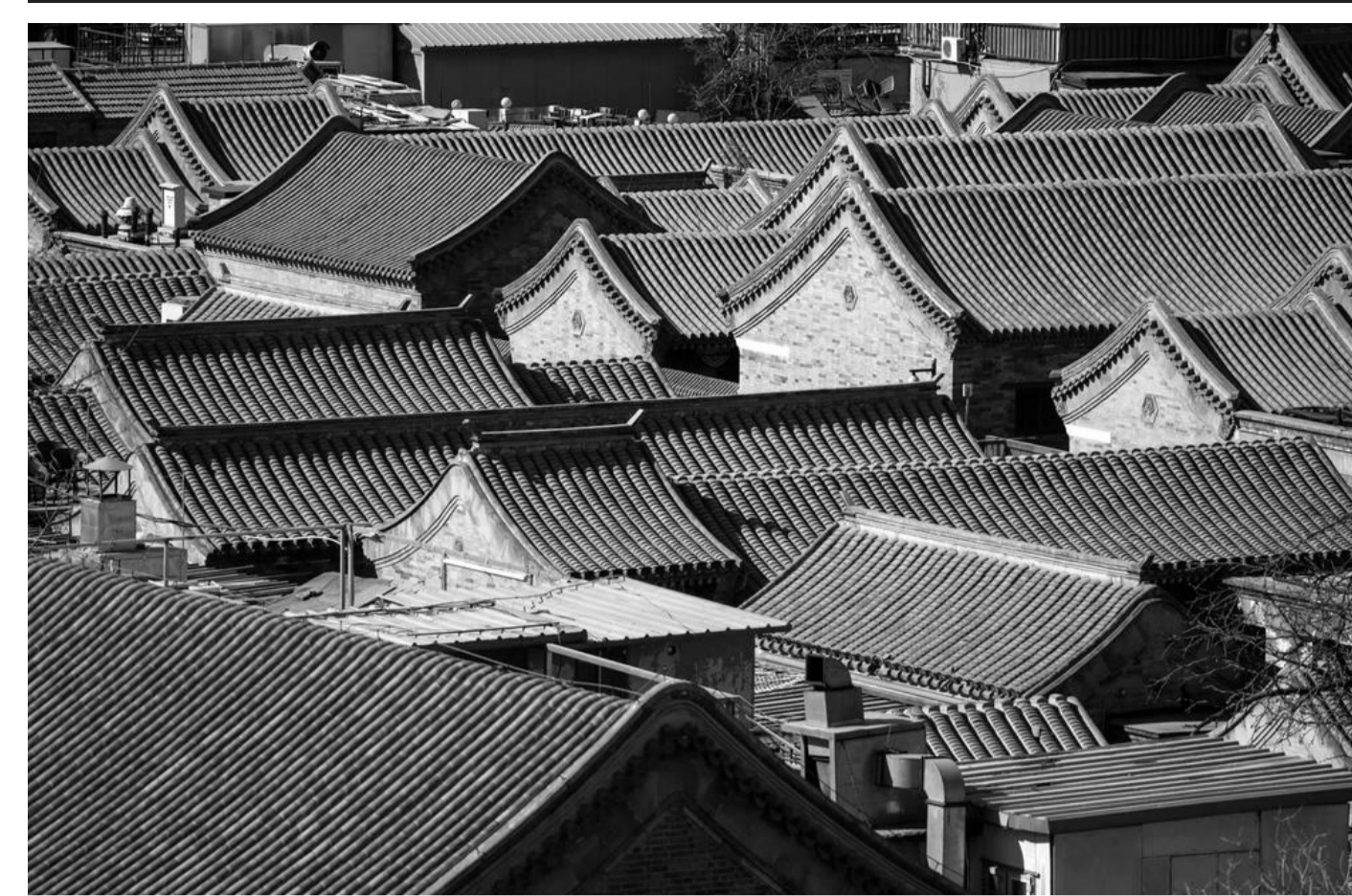


Metro Lines Near the Site Miaoyin Pagoda Temple

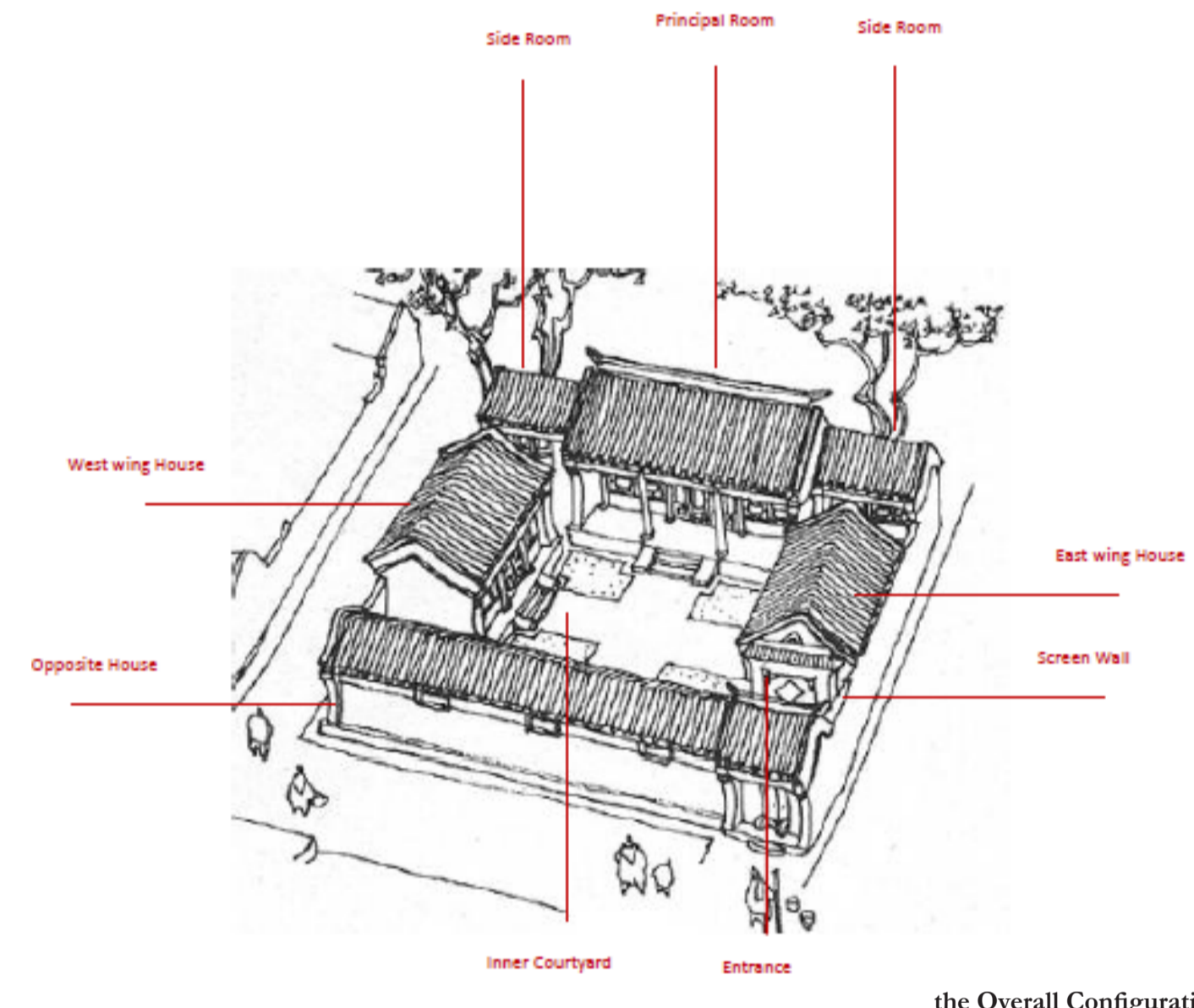


Fusuijing Building Culture Movement Museum

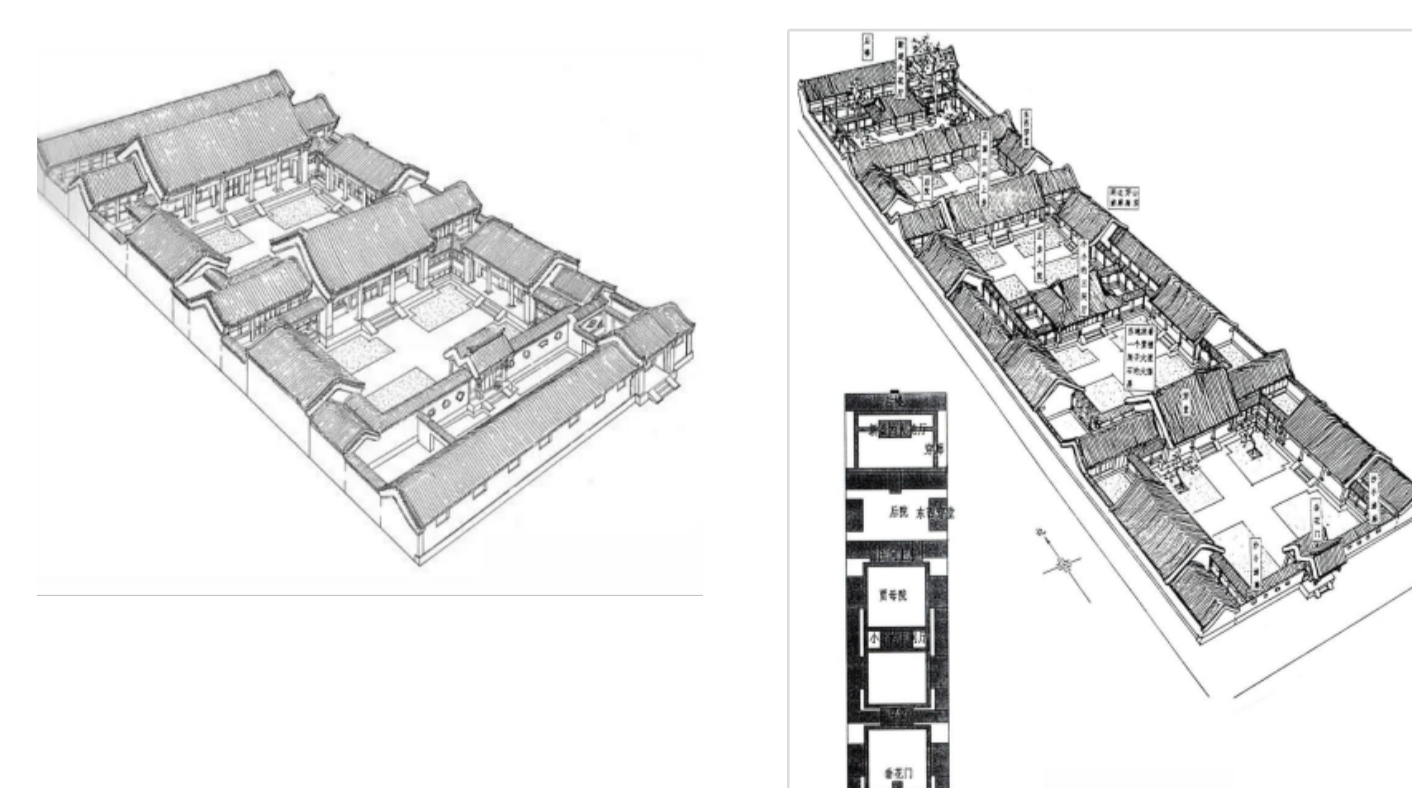
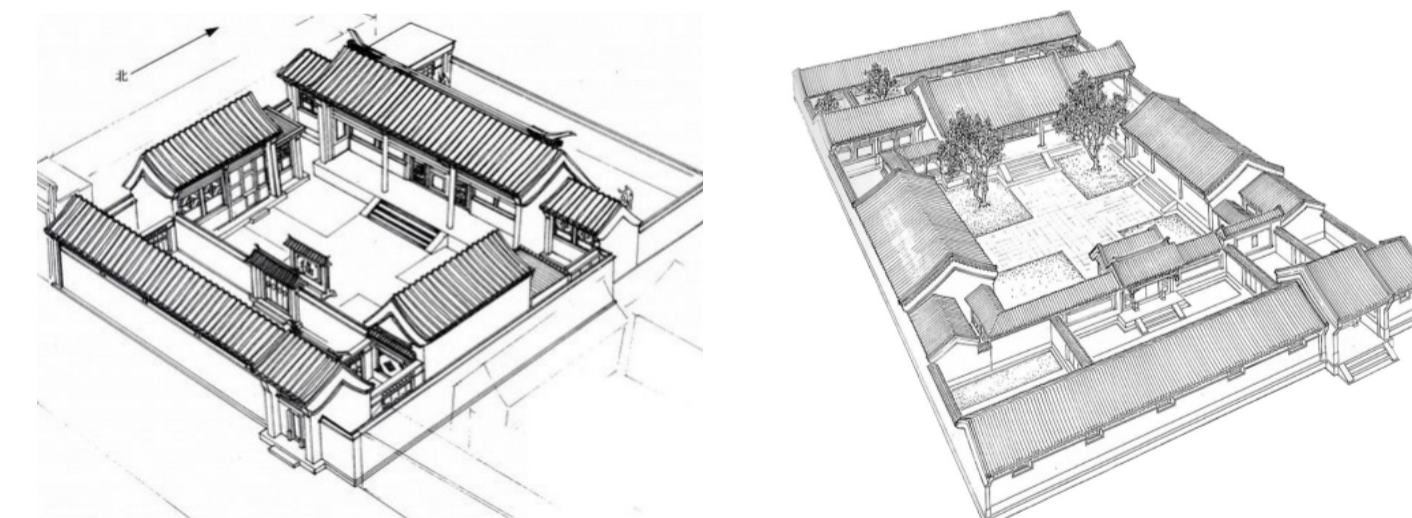
Traditional Building Typology- Beijing Courtyard (Siheyuan 四合院)



To understand Beijing courtyard, we must know two keywords: Siheyuan and Hutong. The first one means the courtyard in Beijing which is enclosed by one floor small rooms with 4 sides make it looks like a square, the second one means that the alley between courtyard communities. The enclosure courtyard (Siheyuan) is a historical type of residence that was commonly found throughout China, most famously in Beijing and rural Shanxi. Throughout Chinese history, the courtyard composition was the basic pattern used for residences, palaces, temples, monasteries, family businesses, and government offices. In ancient times, a spacious courtyard would be occupied by a single, usually large and extended family, signifying wealth and prosperity.



the Overall Configuration

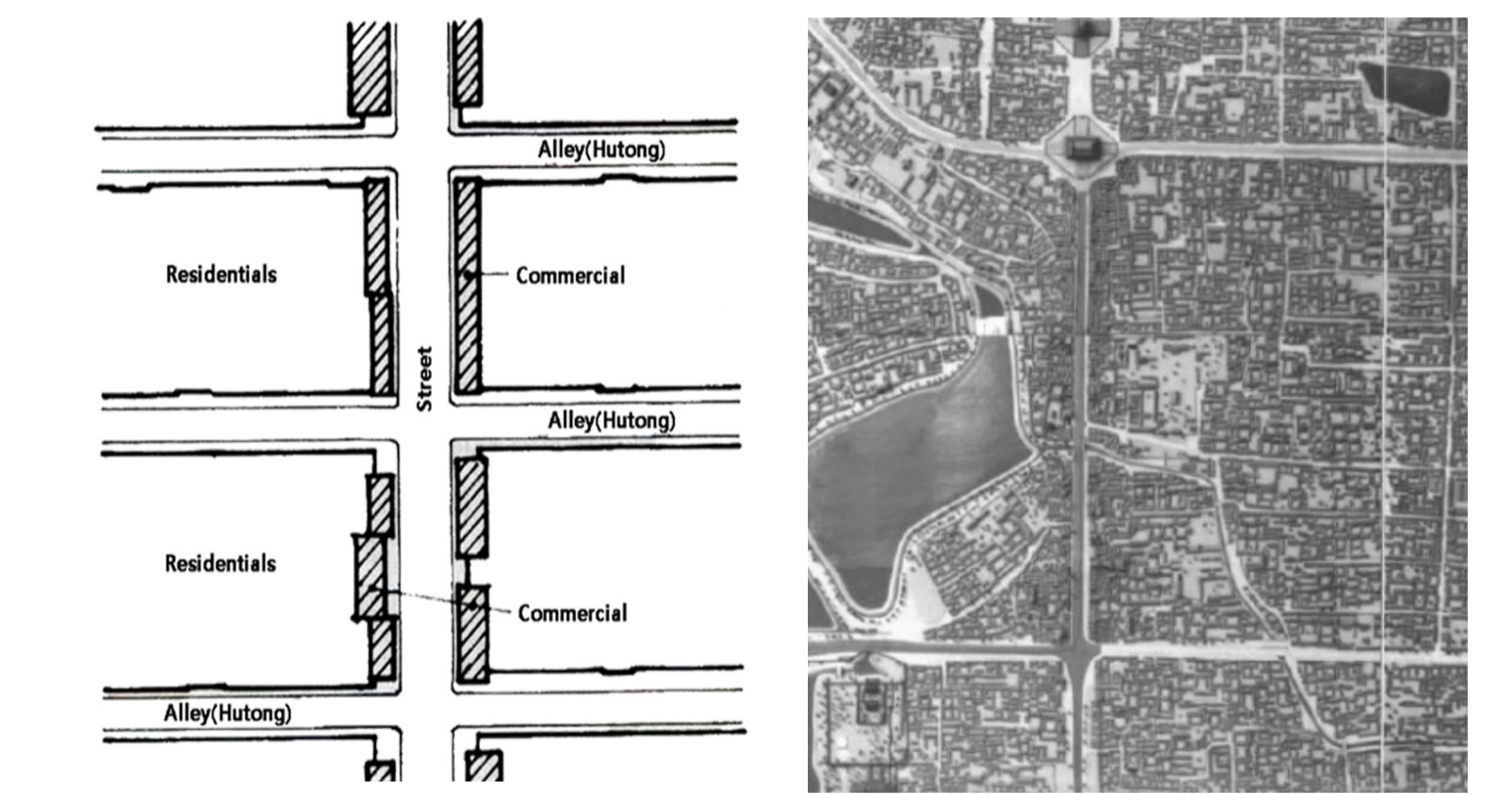


Different Types with Different Depth

Traditional Street Typology-Beijing Traditional Alley (Hutong 胡同)



As we know courtyards laid the double sides of the alley. Therefore, the direction of hutong is depend on the placement of siheyuan. It origins from the time of courtyard. It is a type of narrow street or alley commonly associated with northern Chinese cities, especially Beijing. Many neighborhoods were formed by joining one siheyuan to another to form a hutong, and then joining one hutong to another. The word hutong is also used to refer to such neighborhoods. Hutong, named from Mongolian "gudum", means the water well. In 1206, Genghis Khan united many of the nomadic tribes of Northeast Asia and established the empire "Mongol Empire". In 1260, Kublai Khan became the fifth emperor of Mongol Empire, and in 1271 capital in Han's Dadu (now Beijing), established Yuan dynasty.



Arrangement of Hutong in Yuan Dynasty



the morphology of hutong East old city of Beijing, 1900s



the morphology of hutong West old city of Beijing, 1900s