

## **Chinese Architects' Thinking of Chinese Garden**

*- An Intellectual History 1930-2015-*

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### **Dissertation Abstract**

This research maps out an intellectual history: how three generations of Chinese architects examined and analyzed the Chinese garden both as a unique element of traditional architectural culture and important source of inspiration for their designs from 1930 to 2015. Chinese architects utilized various approaches to interpret the Chinese garden to realize their goals in twofold: the rich spatial concepts and architectural languages of Chinese garden are essentially different from western ones; the Chinese garden can be translated into a series of distinctive concepts and languages that helps to modernize the China's architecture in a particular way.

Through archival materials, notes, field trip memoirs, interviews and relevant publications of these architects' research and designs, this research explains as well as highlights both the different perspectives and limitations of this intellectual development.

Being interwoven into a global context, this study contributes to the philosophy and design methodology of contemporary Chinese architecture and landscape since it offers a cross-reference to fill the research gap from the perspective of historiography and ameliorates the narrow view of current studies to a broader extent. The output also contributes to the history of contemporary Chinese arts, architectural educations and the strategy for high-density cities.