



The Qiaos' House abounds in decoration. The picture shows the chimneys on top of the roof, which are well decorated despite the

Located in the valley of the Fenhe River, Qixian is the most affluent area in Shanxi Province. People of this county have a tradition of engaging in business. During the reigns of emperors Daoguang and Xianfeng (1821-61) in the Qing Dynasty, over a half of the number of households were doing business outside the county. As a result, there were many luxurious houses in the county. Today, over 40 of them are still well preserved. The Qixian residences have three main features of Shanxi residences: First, high

surrounding walls. The brick, windowless walls rising as high as a four- or five-story building functions as a strong defense. Second, the main buildings have pent roofs, allowing rainwater to flow towards the courtyard, which implies “no rich water should be let out of one’s own fields.” Third, the rectangular courtyards are long from north to south while narrow from east to west, and the gate is often positioned in the southeast corner.





The Qiaos' House in Qixian County, Shanxi

The screen wall facing the entrance of the Qiaos' House is known as "Hundred Longevity Screen Wall," as it is carved with 100 forms



Among the many parlors in the Qiaos' House, the main parlor was the place where the host



Having many courtyards, the Qiaos' House also has many gates, each of which has its own characteristics. Their common features are abundant decoration





The Qiaos' House, a representative of the traditional rural residences of Qixian, is a museum of folk culture today. The picture shows the entrance to

Cave Dwellings

