

Huabíao serve as markers of the exceptional.



Contents·目录

The Huabiao 华表

Components of the Huabiao 华表的组件

The Huabiao's historical connection to the Chinese Labour Corps 华表和中国勞工团队在历史上的关系

Symbolism 象征

Height · Weight · Volume 身高 · 重量 · 体积

Chinese Labourer at the Boulogne Grain Centre 中国劳工团队在Boulogne粮食中心 (IWM Q 3481)

Cover Photo courtesy/ 封面图片由 JW Hawkings collection



身份的高尚标志

Huabiao are decorative columns, the origins of which are believed to be the wooden totem poles of ancient China. Just as totems were both decorative and symbolic, so too are their descendants.

The term Huabiao (华表) has become a generic term for all architectural columns, however, not all stone columns are Huabiao, with different forms of stone columns carrying different meanings. The most famous Huabiao can be found in front of the Forbidden City in Beijing's Tienanmen Square. It is commonly supposed that other columns found in front of tombs or imperial burial areas are also Huabioa. Strictly speaking, neither of these latter columns is a Huabiao, as they serve very different purposes from those of the real thing.

In front of tombs, columns are used for commemorative purposes, and include a panel at the top on which is inscribed an epitaph. Columns in burial areas can be seen to differ from Huabiao in that they do not have a beast on top, but rather a flame. These columns are there to illuminate the area for the spirits of those travelling to the next world.

The purpose of both the commemorative and illuminative columns, their purpose can be deduced from their apparent function. The case is not so for the Huabiao. Nor does the name, Huabiao, on the surface, give much indication of the purpose of the this column. The commonest meaning of 华 is "China" or as an adjective, "glorious". 表 means table or list. But as with any language, meanings change over time. The Huabiao in Tiananmen Square were erected in 1421 when the Forbidden City was completed. To find their meaning we need to look at the imperial use of the word 表 Records show that as early as the Tang Dynasty (618–690 & 705–907) the word 表 was used as an accolade meaning a public mark of distinction which could be granted by the emperor to people, or families, even villages, singled out for honour.

From it's name we can therefore understand the purpose of the Huabiao, and why they were be placed outside such buildings as the Forbidden City, for Huabiao can be translated as "a glorious marker of distinction".



Section of "Departure Herald", painted in about 1430, shows the emperor traveling on horseback to the Ming tombs outside Beijing. Note the four illuminative columns centre left.

大约1430年,一幅名叫"出发先驱"的画其中一部分,显示坐在马背上的皇帝来到北京以外的十三陵,请注意中部左边四支照亮的石柱.

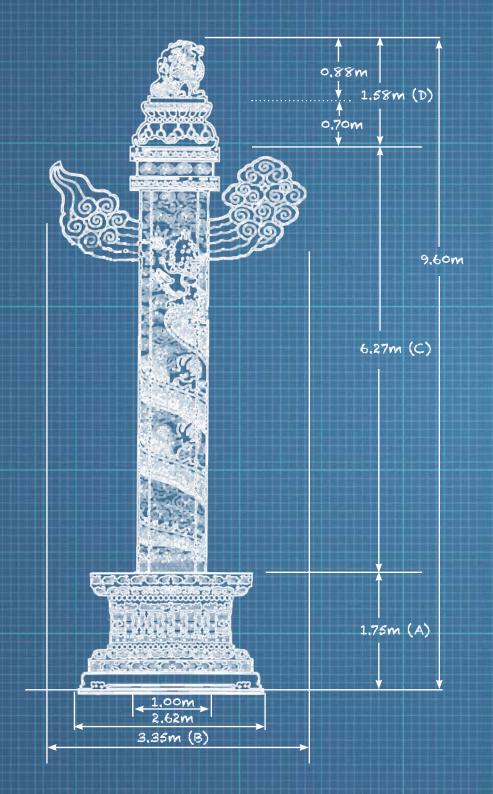
华表是装饰性的柱子。虽然现今可以找到的华表都是石刻的,但在中国 远古时华表皆为木制的图腾柱。 正如图腾的装饰性和象征性,华表亦是如此。

华表一词已成为所有建筑性柱子的 通用术语,不过并不是所有的石柱 都是华表,因为不同风格的石柱蕴 藏着不同的含义。最有名的华表屹 立于紫禁城前。在墓地前或皇陵发 现的所谓华表,其实并不是华表,因 为它们要表达的目的,与真正的华表 是不同的。

在坟墓前,石柱的目的是作为纪念包括一个顶部刻有墓志铭的墓碑。 陵区的石柱看起来与华表稍有不同,因为华表的上方有一只野兽,而陵区的石柱上只有一团火焰。这些石柱是为照亮那些往生极乐之人灵魂精神的所在。

有了同时具备纪念性和装饰性的石柱, 從他们的表面功能就 可以推断出其目的。但这些并不适用于华表。华表这一名称没有在表面上给出华表目的的很多提示,因为这些词的现代意义已经改变了重点。档案显示,早在唐代"表"biao就被当作一种公共身份标志荣誉的代表,它可能是由皇帝授予选拔出的个人或家庭,甚至村庄。

因此从它的名字我们就可以了解华表的目的,以及它们为什么会被放在紫禁城这样的建筑物外,因为我们可以把华表翻译为"身份的高尚标志",它们的目的是作为对特殊事物的一种证明。



In understanding the purpose of the Huabiao we can more fully understand its symbolism.

The Huabiao is made up of four main components, marked A, B, C and D on the diagram.

The base (A) is usually a square. In Chinese symbolism a square represents the earth, while heaven is represented by a circle. It is sometimes referred to as a Sumeru base - Sumeru being the name of the central world-mountain in Buddhist cosmology. The panels of the Sumeru base carry bas-relief carvings of auspicious symbols.

The cloud board (B), represents the sky. The stylised clouds are sometimes referred to as "auspicious clouds" (洋云), because the Chinese word for cloud (yun 云) is pronounced the same as yun (运) meaning "luck" or "fortune". Its form often resembles the auspicious shape of the lingzhi mushroom (known as the immortality plant).

The column (C) can be understood as linking earth with the heavens, piercing, as it does, the clouds in the sky. Imperial Huabiao are carved with a winding five-clawed dragon, representing the Emperor's role as linking the heaven and earth.

Atop the column sits a mythical beast commonly believed to be a Hou (运) or Denglong (蹬龙) - a type of dragon. The role of the Hou is to express the feelings of the people to heaven.

了解华表的目的可 以让我们更全面地 了解其象征意义。

华表由四个主要部分组成,在图上分别标记为A、B、C和D。

基座 (A) 通常是 方形。在中国正方 形是象征地球,而 圆形则象征天空。 基座上有吉祥象征 的浅浮雕。

云板(B),代表 了天空。頗有格调 的云有时被称为" 祥"。其形状经常 酷似灵芝(仙草灵 芝)的吉祥造型。

石柱 (C) 可以理解为连接天地冲向天空中的云别。成严的华表上都雕刻着一条五爪的蟠龙,代表皇帝的身份可以连接天地。

石柱顶上坐着一只 普遍认为是狐的神 兽。狐的作用是表 达人们对天空的感 受。

May Fourth demonstrators at the Huabiao in Tiananmen Square. May 4th, 1919.

1919年5月4日在天安门广场 华表前的五四示威者。

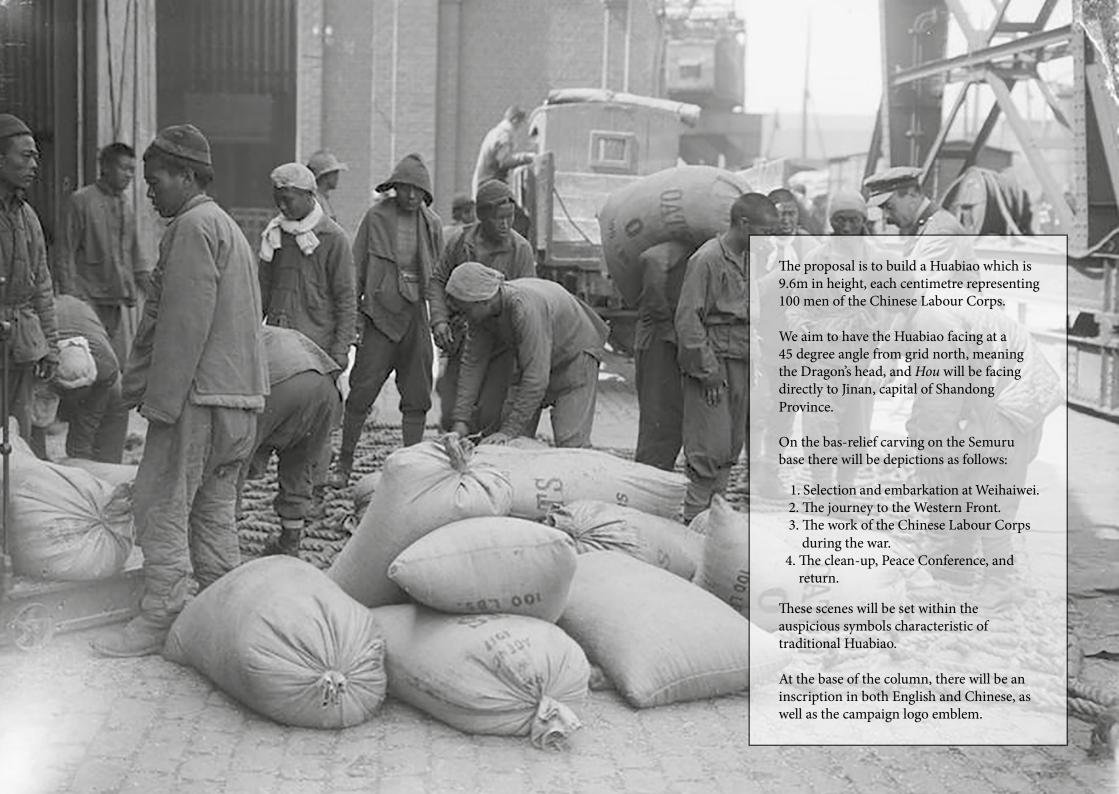
Building a Huabiao in Britain as a memorial to the 96,000 volunteers of the Chinese Labour Corps will be full of symbolic meaning as well as having historical resonance.

At the heart of the decision to allow labourers to go to the Western Front lay the Chinese government's belief that such a contribution to the war effort would ensure the return of the former German concession at Qingdao, which had been seized by Japan, Britain's ally, at the start of the war. News that Britain, France and the USA had decided to allow Japan to keep the concession sparked protests in Beijing on the 4th May, 1919, from which the May Fourth Movement takes its name. The Huabiao in Tiananmen was a rallying point for the demonstrators.

为96,000名中国劳工团队的志愿者,在英国建一座华 表作为纪念碑的提议将充满象征意义,且有历史的共 鸣。

向西线派遣劳工的决定坚定了中国政府的信念,即这样的贡献将确保青岛的德国租界归还中国,而英国的盟友日本早先在战争初期攻占了那里。英法美决定允许日本继续占有租界的新闻于1919年5月4日在北京引发了大规模的抗议活动,这就是五四运动的由来。天安门的华表是当时示威者的一个聚集点。







这个提案是欲建一个高9.6米的华表,每厘米代表中国劳工团队的100人。

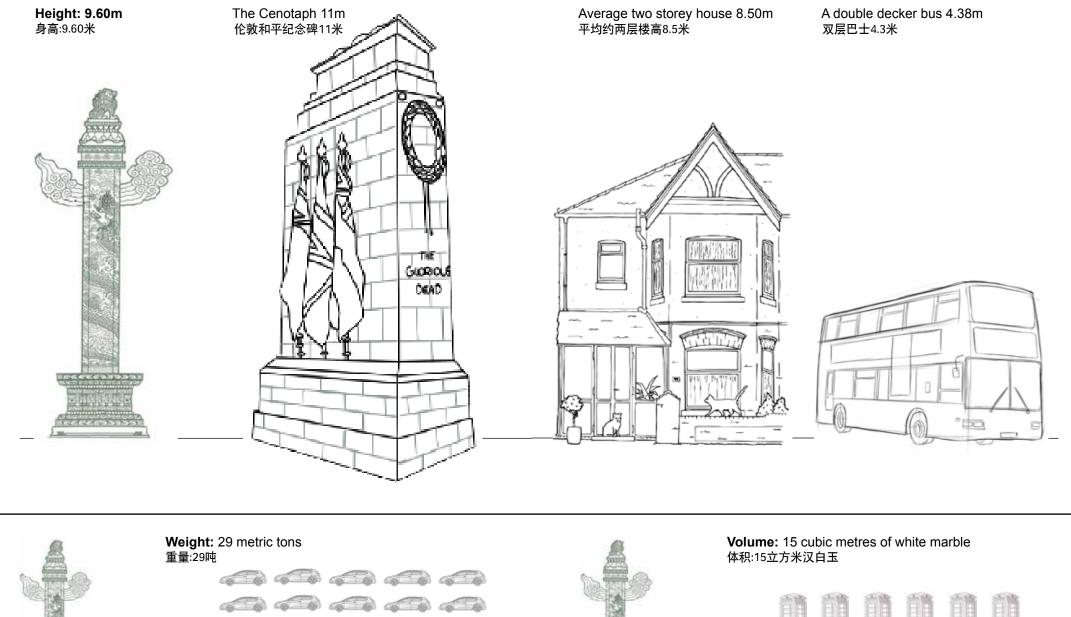
我们计划让华表在 网格北向偏45°度 角,这意味着犼将直望山东省的省会济 南市。

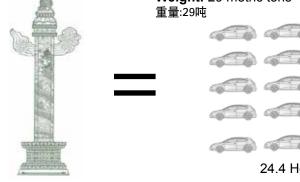
底座的浅浮雕会有如下叙述:

- 1. 挑选和在威海卫登船。
- 2. 西线之旅。
- 3. 战争期间中国劳工团队的工作。
- 4. 清理战场, 和平会议和回乡。

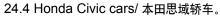
这些场景会设置一些传统的吉祥符号。

石柱的基座会有英中题词,以及活动的 徽号标志。













7.4 telephone boxes/ 电话亭。



Published by the Chinese in Britain Forum on behalf of the Ensuring We Remember Campaign