

The Library of Congress Qing Period Scroll Map of the Route From Shaanxi to Sichuan (陕境蜀道图)

Further Information see: [Shu Roads Web Site](#).

Cartobibliography Reference in English, Pinyin and Chinese

Li Xiaocong (Ed) (2004). "Summaries of holdings in the US Library of Congress' Collection of ancient Chinese maps", Beijing, Cultural Press, October 2004. (Chinese and English)

Meiguo Guohui Tushuguan Guancang Zhongwen Gu Ditu Xulu, Li Xiaocong bianzhu, Beijing Wenwu Chubanshe, 2004—10. (Zhong Ying)

美国国会图书馆藏中文古地图叙录, 李孝聪编著, 北京:文物出版社, 2004—10. (中英)

1. Translation of the Chinese Entry directly into English for the Scroll Map

G7823.S3P2.S4

1820

[陕境蜀道图]

[Shan jing shu dao tu]

(Map of the Route From Shaanxi to Sichuan)

Panoramic, Middle Qing, Colour scroll map, (size) 31 by 1672 cm, painted in the (traditional) ink Landscape Painting style. Using landscapes and scenes along the way, the route of the "Shu Road" that passes through Shaanxi from Baoji county, is shown crossing the Wei river, through the Qinling, until it enters Sichuan at the "Qin Shu" border at Qipan Guan near Ningqiang Zhou. Mountain peaks, river valleys and ravines, bridges, plank roads, cities and towns, postal stations, flood control stations, barrier passes, tea stalls, temples and places of historical interest are all depicted in the map. Contents include names of divisions, notes marking county boundaries, headwaters of rivers etc.

(The map records that) in the 15th Qianlong year (1750) a Hanzhong government official resided at Greater Liuba post station, promoting it to Liuba Ting. In addition, the character "Ning" (in Ningqiang Zhou) has also not been changed (on the map) to avoid the name of the Daoguang emperor. This leads to the identification of the time of drawing of the map as between 1751 and 1820.

This map was later used by someone travelling the Shu Road, on the way he made corrections in black ink as evidenced by annotations (such as): "Refreshment stop", (where you eat along the way), "Accommodation place" (accommodation en route) etc.

Purchased by A.W. Hummel (Heng Muyi, 恒慕义) in 1930 for the US Library of Congress, Original catalogue number 16. Original serial number: gm 71005016

2. [中文词条]

G7823.S3P2.S4

1820

[陕境蜀道图]

[Shan jing shu dao tu]

(Map of the Route From Shaanxi to Sichuan)

清中叶，纸本彩绘，长卷 31 x 1672 厘米，山水画式全景图。描绘自宝鸡县渡渭河入秦岭，至宁羌州七盘关秦蜀交界处，陕西省境内入川"蜀道"的路线和沿途山川景致。凡山岭、川涧、桥梁、栈道、城镇、驿铺、塘汛、关卡、茶亭、庙宇及名胜古迹，尽绘图上。除地名外，注记还兼述州县管界、河流源尾等内容。

乾隆十五年(1750)汉中府同知驻大留坝驿，升置留坝厅，已见注记;"寧"字不避道光皇帝讳而改写，故推断此图应绘制于 1751 年至 1820 年间。

该图曾被后人取蜀道入川时所用，沿途补墨书注记："打尖处" (途中吃饭)、"宿站" (途中住宿)，可为证。

恒慕义 (A.W. Hummel) 1930 年购入美国国会图书馆，原藏品第 16 号。地图部原系列号: gm 71005016

3. English Language Entry for the Map

Ca. 1751-1820

One colored map on a scroll 31 x 1672 cm.

The Shu Dao, or road to Sichuan, is the trans-mountain road spanning the rugged Qinling Shan and Daba Shan mountains, connecting two of the most important key economic areas of ancient China: The Wei He valley of Shaanxi province and the Sichuan basin to the south. The Road was used as early as the third century B.C. by the Qin army to subjugate Sichuan and, even since, because it is a major connection line linking the political centers of north China with the productive Sichuan Basin. Due to the abrupt topography along the road, the road was extremely expensive to maintain and difficult to repair. Through the dynastic period, local governments had to conscript an enormous labor force to keep it open. About a third of this road is seated entirely on wooden trestles propped along upper canyon cliffs or along streambeds. The maintenance of this strategic road has been a major concern of the rulers of China. This map, showing the north section of the road in Shaanxi province and is to be read from right to left, was designed as an itinerary guide for travelers from the north. The panoramic pictorial drawing shows settlements along the road, possible stop over places, courier stations, inns and temples, mountain passes and walled cities, bridges and famous places. The areas where wooden trestles were used to support the road are also indicated. (A.W.Hummel purchase (1930), No.16).

Cf: Bibliography: Herold J. Wiens, "The Shu Tao or Road to Sichuan" Geographical Review 39 (1949), pp. 584-604.