

## **From Historical Context to Architectural Concept: A Case Study of the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum**



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### **ABSTRACT**

In architectural design, concept development is not a purely abstract phase. Rather, it is a process in which contextual conditions are gradually translated into spatial decisions. In this sense, the architectural concept is less a fixed idea and more a way of reading and organizing design thinking.

This study investigates how historical and contextual information, along with different types of design knowledge, becomes operative in the formation of architectural concepts. Rather than treating context as background data, it explores how these elements shape spatial reasoning, design decisions, and formal approaches within architecture and interior architecture. The aim is to understand this process and derive design principles that may inform future project development through a focused case study analysis. The research focuses on the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum, selected for its strong contextual approach, its significance in architectural discourse, and the availability of relevant architectural documentation.

The Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum is developed through a spatial approach derived from historical kiln typology. Its architectural configuration reinterprets traditional kiln forms, generating a continuous spatial sequence formed by vaulted structures of varying scales. Courtyards and semi-open spaces further extend this system, allowing the building to establish a permeable condition that blurs the boundary between interior and exterior spaces. In this respect, the museum functions not only as an exhibition building but also as a spatial experience that reinterprets local production culture through architectural form.

A qualitative descriptive method is used in the study. Digital and printed sources, architectural drawings, and photographic records are examined to trace how design information is translated into spatial decisions throughout the design process.

The study is structured around a theoretical framework followed by a focused case study analysis of the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum. The contextual characteristics of Jingdezhen, the spatial composition of the museum, and its relation to local production culture are considered together. This reading traces how the architectural concept emerges from context and becomes integrated into the design process. The study proposes design principles that may contribute to contemporary architectural discourse and practice.

### **KEY WORDS:**

Architectural Concept Development, Contextual Design, Design Process, Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum.