

Chinese Art (Ming and Qing Dynasties)

Wu Family Reception Hall, early 17th century, Ming dynasty, 98.61.1

Spend some time looking at the reception hall. Write down your thoughts and observations about the following aspects:

Architectural elements of the room (walls, ceiling, rafters, floor) – consider materials used and scale:

Decorative elements of the room (woodworking, paintings, furnishings, surfaces):

Layout of the room and furnishings:

Based on your observations, what do you think the reception room expresses about Chinese practices and values?

(over)

The Studio of Gratifying Discourse, 1797, Qing dynasty, 98.61.2 (including the garden)

Now spend some time in the scholar's studio. Consider how the following aspects are similar to or different from the Wu Hall:

Architectural elements/materials and scale (including the rock garden):

Decorative elements:

Layout of the room and furnishings:

Based on your observations, what do you think the studio expresses about Chinese practices and values?