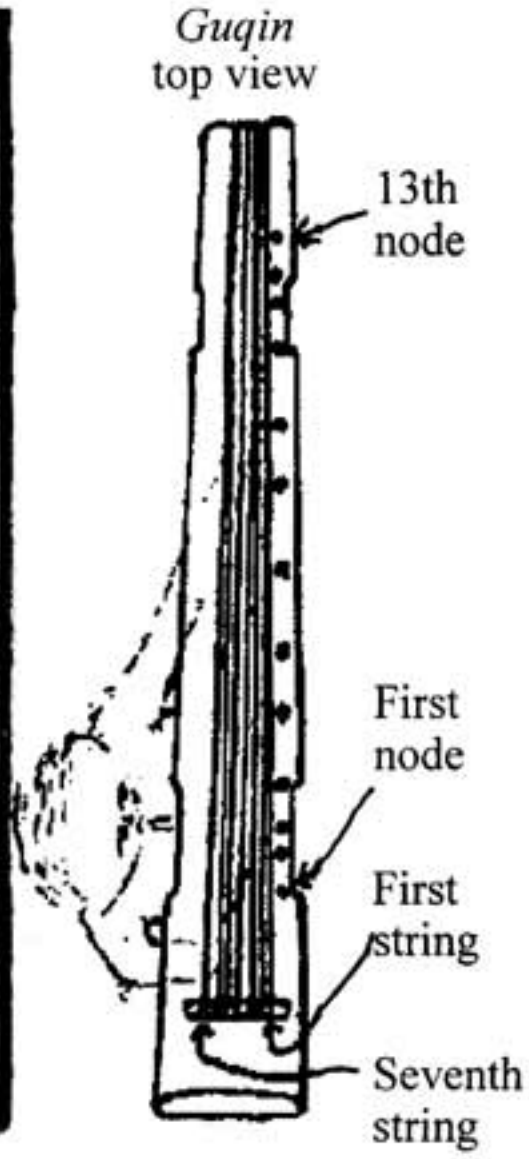
Shen Qi Mi Pu (Handbook of Spiritual and Marvelous Mysteries), Sample Page



Translation of Numbered Items (see also **http://www.silkqin.com/07play/fngrng.htm**):

1. The Emaciated Immortal's *Shen Qi Mi Pu*. Final Volume (of three);
2. Sacred Pieces from Beyond the Rosy Clouds;
3. Yellow Bell Mode -- Same as *Wu Yi* (Mode);
4. (To change from 'standard' tuning 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 to Wu Yi tuning) tighten the fifth and lower the first (strings) each one tone (giving 4, 6, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 transposed to 1, 3, 5, 6, 1, 2, 3). The open seventh string then 'responds to' (has the same pitch as) the fifth string stopped at the eighth node;
5. Sacred Piece Giving the Meaning of the Wu Yi (Mode);
6. (This is music tablature, describing finger positions, phrasing and ornamentation for the guqin. Note values [rhythm, etc.] are not directly indicated. The top part of a cluster says what the left hand does, the bottom part refers to the right hand. Thus the first four clusters are explained as follows):

A:	= 散		: open string (i.e., do not use left hand);
	= 挑七弦		: 'pick' 7th string outward with right hand 2nd finger;
B:	= 大指	at 九徽	: left thumb at 9th node;
	= 鉤	the 四弦	: 'hook' 4th string inward with 3rd finger;
C:	= 少息		: short rest;
D:	= 打圓		: 'hit around' (i.e., repeat previous two notes three times, making six notes in all);

7. 泛 = 泛起 : harmonics begin (melodies often end with harmonics)
8. Yellow Clouds of Autumn at the Frontier Pass
   (-- The first of four pieces using the *Wu Yi* tuning)
9. The Emaciated Immortal says that this might be a very old melody. It speaks of expanses of desert in the barbarian border regions, where one must travel great distances, of the yellow clouds that conceal the heavens, and the bitter winds which pierce the body, filling the eyes with a cold misery (etc.)....
10. (Music tablature -- as at 6.)