Landscape Planning and Design of Shangdengyuan Village in Guilin Based on the Concept of Remodeling Nostalgia

2022, Vol.3 No.3
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DOI: 10.37420/j.adr.2022.020
https://masonpublish.org

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Abstract
The new urbanization construction proposes to build a beautiful China with "seeing mountains, seeing river, and remembering nostalgia". To further this endeavor, this article explores the mechanisms of nostalgia emotion and landscape rural style by examining the planning and design case of Shangdengyuan Village in Guilin. The research proposes a "four-dimensional" landscape planning and design strategy, which comprises "gradual renewal, street de-cluttering, native greenery, and industrial upgrading" to provide reference for the future development and construction of rural areas in China.

Keywords
Remodeling nostalgia; Rural landscape style; Planning and design

Research Background

New urbanization work includes the requirement of "remembering nostalgia"

In 2013, at the Central Urbanization Work Conference, the striking and evocative statement "enabling inhabitants to see mountains, see rivers and remember nostalgia" first connected rural construction to nostalgic culture[1]. This theme was further explored in the Strategic Plan for Rural Revitalization (2018–2022)'s 2018 proposal to "Retain nostalgic memories, meet people's needs for a better life, and recreate the original idyllic scenery and nostalgia," which stirred up conversation amongst experts and public alike concerning constructing a modern urbanization that preserves nostalgia[2]. The slogan “remembering nostalgia” reflects an examination of multiple challenges that stem from the Chinese countryside's former habit of arbitrarily replicating the urban model of construction, ranging from the combination of the urban and rural landscape to regional culture undermining. A scientifically vital topic possessing both theoretical importance and practical rel-

evance, is how to retain nostalgic elements such as emotional recollections, folklore, and regional devotionality through the erection and development of historic villages and how to activate emotional reactions and elements of nostalgia to match tourists' quest for a higher-quality countryside and sentimentality.

The phenomenon of "one look for a thousand villages" has attracted great attention from the state

The People's Republic of China's Fifth Plenary Session made the proposal to "vigorously implement the action of rural landscape style construction," citing "coordinating village planning and construction, protecting traditional villages and rural style" as a key strategy for raising the standard of rural construction. According to the Strategic Plan for Rural Revitalization (2018–2022), "to combine ethnic and indigenous culture aspects while protecting rural landscape style" is one of the new criteria and guidelines for rural development in the modern era. However, the urban aesthetic interventions and concentrated construction campaigns brought by high-speed urbanization are triggering a crisis of rural landscape convergence and weakening of national characteristics with the appearance of "one look in a thousand villages". The "crisis of landscape characteristics", which has been repeatedly discussed in the press in recent years, is not only a crisis at the level of urban and rural material space construction, but also a profound cultural and spiritual crisis [3].

Why Nostalgia Fades: Analyzing the Causes of the Dilemma about the Rural Landscape Style

Hollowing out of both people and rural dwellings at the same time

Karl Marx stated in the introduction of his book Critique of Political Economy that "The relations of production must be adapted to the nature and principles of the productive forces." According to the seventh national census, released on May 11, 2021, the number of rural residents in China decreased by 160 million people, representing a decrease of 36.11% of the total population. Looking to particular villages, the expansive movement of migrant workers nationwide since the implementation of the reform and opening up, the low birth rate in rural areas due to the implementation of the family planning policy by the state, has led to an "emptying-out" of the population in rural areas, which is an increasingly longstanding problem. Furthermore, due to the current policy of "building new houses without demolishing the old ones," the amount of deserted and abandoned houses in the countryside has increased dramatically. Therefore, since both the number of inhabitants and dwellings in rural areas has declined, the difficulties and challenges of rural society have become more rigorous.

Constructive destruction caused by too rapid policy advancement

In recent years, government departments have been paying increasing attention to the issue of rural landscape style, regarding it as one of the main components of "beautiful countryside construction" and "rural revitalization." Nonetheless, a negative attitude of “all-inclusive” has been adopted by some rural authorities, leading to a decline in farmers' enthusiasm for their work and reducing them to observers rather than active contributors to rural development. In addition, enforcement of the traditional village protection, along with other form of “freeze-type” protection, has further exacerbated the conflict between protecting rural traditional styles and improving the living conditions of local villagers[4]. The neglect of the wisdom encased in rural habitat environment has then led to the accidental destruction of the autonomous rural landscape, replacing it with a “new countryside and new community”, which is characterized by “the harmony between man and nature, the local specificity and local materialism”, in the process losing its own distinctiveness.

Rural planning theory is lagging behind for a long time

In order to address the long-standing “dualistic” structural characteristics of urban and rural areas as well as the notion of “emphasizing the city over the countryside”, the enactment of the Urban and Rural Planning Law in 2008 marked a new era in which the practice of urban planning officially entered the realm of rural planning. This has made it possible to settle the problem of having to continually feed the building of an appropriate academic theory for the vast rural areas that make up more than 80% of the nation’s land area. Moreover, rural constructions tend to mimic urban construction models, giving precedence to the functionality of material space, such that the cultural connection behind spatial design is left out from the picture. This lack of having a sound theoretical framework and design guidelines for rural landscapes results in a disruption of the sequences and overall structure of rural landscape narratives, thus making it difficult to solve the problem of “one look in a thousand villages”. It is important to note that designers must have a rich local design language and be able to incorporate regional cultural features into their landscape designs, in order to achieve a harmonious symbiotic relationship between rural landscapes and the local environment, conforming to the organizational laws created by the long-term accumulation of the regional environment.

Remodeling nostalgia by constructing the nostalgic style intention of the ideal spiritual homeland

The mechanism of action between nostalgia emotion and rural landscape style

The displacement in geography and temporal scale induce nostalgia that is mediated by recognition,

retention, and reproduction processes of the human brain. Thereby, humans can internalize and solidify their deeply-rooted memories of distant or lost places, people, events, and items as memories scenes. When one encounters déjà vu sights and familiar landscape intentions after experiencing changes in time and space, it is easy to evoke the emotional resonance and the person's true identity that once occupied the location. The longing for the ideal spiritual homeland in their native environment has become a part of society's collective unconscious as a result of the current urban-rural duality system's mechanical repetition, detachment from nature, and lack of humanistic care in the urban environment(Figure 1). By extracting typical nostalgic landscape intentions from the physical and spiritual surroundings, people can maintain and reproduce nostalgic feelings [5].

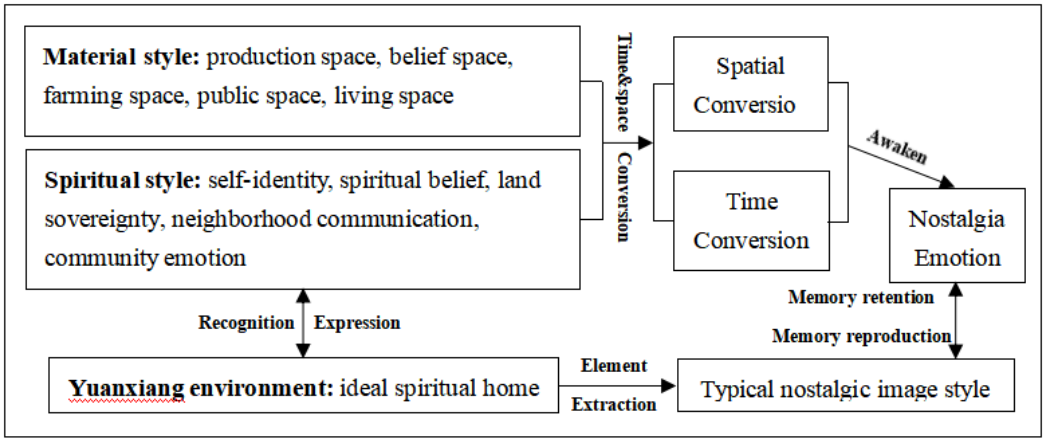


Figure 1: Nostalgia emotion action mechanism model

The general idea and goal of Shangdengyuan village landscape style improvement work

A pleasant living environment is fundamental for sustaining positive nostalgic sentiments and for kindling people's fond remembrances of their homeland. To fulfill the general objective of constructing a novel landscape style suitable for habitation, industry and tourism, it is indispensable to manifest an ideal spiritual homeland from both tangible spatial and mental spaces. This study advances that landscape style planning and design of Shangdengyuan Village should be issue-focused, concentrating on four paramount issues: an irregular building layout, an absence of public green space, a paucity of sustaining service amenities, and a lack of industrial vibrancy, hence allowing the entire village to eventually assume a novel bucolic landscape style with a clean village aspect and thriving agricultural and tourism industries.

Planning and design practice based on the concept of remodeling nostalgia-A case study of Shangdengyuan Village

Basic information about the village of Shangdengyuan

Situated in Dabu Township, Yanshan District of Guilin City, Shangdengyuan Village boasts an advantageous geographic location and convenient transportation networks, lying approximately 20 kilometers to the north of Guilin and 60 kilometers to the south of Yangshuo, right in the centre of the Guilin-Yangshuo tourist highway. Boasting rich ecological resources and surrounded by majestic karst mountains, the village is an ideal destination for a feast of visual pleasure, particularly for the presence of a dense water system, as well as the well-protected riverbanks and lakeshores. Moreover, Shangdengyuan villagers are famed for their sincerity and honesty, and their reliance on the development of tourism industry in the hope of making a prospering economy. Nevertheless, Shangdengyuan village is still in need of infrastructure improvement and restoration; some of dilapidated dwellings, for instance, should be promptly dismantled and rebuilt. As for the cultural heritage of the village, more comprehensive and thorough studies should be made.

Exploration and practice of ' four-dimensional integration ' rural landscape style planning and design

Gradual building style improvement through progressive renewal: Building is an essential material for traditional villages, so the construction of the landscape style of Guilin Shangdengyuan village should not only preserve the regional traditional architectural style, but also maintain the organic nature of the village as a whole. When the village economy tolerant, it should also be able to update the traditional architectural form of the village to adapt to the needs of the villagers. In order to reflect the unification of the village, the main approaches include renovating and repairing the local residences with distinctive features, integrating construction styling of regional characteristics, and strengthening the aesthetic, cultural, and artistic values of vernacular architecture. Four specific methods are employed in small-scale protective and restoration efforts: reinforcement, repair, restoration, and reconstruction of existing traditional dwellings with distinct features and of high quality; restoration and reconstruction of dilapidated earth houses that affect the village's overall landscape vision and of public facilities, such as municipal roads (Figure 2&3); all of which will assist in land conservation. Moreover, it is essential that dwellings be built in accordance with the planning, design plan, and the applicable regulations of Guilin's Rural Architecture and Appearance Control Law.

Street and alley management to rebuilt the look of traffic on the roads: The spatial layout of Shangdengyuan village is remarkable in its external manifestation of the village landscape. To re-

model the nostalgia of this location and further enhance the public activity space, a priority is to dredge the village street space. By integrating with the actual village, demolishing and cleaning the temporary shacks and firewood piles which are not conducive to the overall landscape style of the village, can help unblock the internal roads of the village and rebuild the pathways alongside the rivers. These comprehensive methods are expected to adjust the long-term unruly street pattern, while at the same time maintaining the linear extension of the lanes and a fair village scale (Figure 4).

Vernacular greening: establishing a landscape with indigenous plants:The preservation of local plant species is essential for maintaining the regional ecological balance, rural landscape distinctiveness, and natural ecological environment. Examples of greening trees include indigenous species that boast strong growth, ecological benefits, and economic advantages, such as Ginkgoaceae, Meliaceae, Lauraceae, Magnoliaceae, Moraceae, Oleaceae, Berberidaceae, Punicaceae, and Ericaceae have also been planted. Also, ornamentals, like fruit trees from Rosaceae, Rutaceae, and Punicaceae families, as well as climbing plants from Nyctaginaceae, Passifloraceae, Vitaceae, Bignoniaceae, and Caprifoliaceae families, have been planted near and around the households to create a natural and green manor atmosphere. This greening helps emphasize the harmonious relationship between vegetation and residential areas. (Figure 5).

Industrial upgrading to develop a tourist and leisure culture: The number of tourists engaging in associated tourism activities can be significantly increased by organizing agricultural folklore activities in a well-thought-out manner. To evoke its historic charm, bricks, stones, pebbles, tiles, and other materials are laid in the square. These public spaces also provide an opportunity to exhibit regional folk culture and function as a gathering spot for traditional ethnic art forms. Moreover, through demonstration and guidance, homes are subtly adapted and demonstrated for tourist visits in smaller sizes and in accordance with a predetermined, systematic, and tailored approach. Additionally, the necessary components for tourism services, such as teahouses, cafeterias, farmhouse eateries, traditional accommodations, and farming practice pavilions, are adapted and constructed.

Conclusion

Nostalgia is a valuable inheritance that should be explored and preserved in order to reflect local cultural memory and history. In order to improve and transform the rural environment, this essay investigates the connection between rural landscape style and nostalgia with Shangdengyuan village's landscape planning and design in Yanshan District, Guilin as a case study. Further, it proposes a "four-dimensional integrated" approach to the current landscape planning and design struggles in the village. Over the long run, the concept and model of "remodeling nostalgia" should be strengthened for the development and building of China's vast urban and rural regions, since it can sustain and reinvigorate the foundation and soul of national culture.

Funding

National Social Science Foundation of China (21CMZ001); Guangxi Young and Middle-aged Teachers' Basic Ability Improvement Project (2019KY0276); Guangxi Tourism Industry Research Institute Open Fund Project (GXTA201706Q);

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Figure 2: Classification and rating of buildings in Shangdengyuan village



Figure 3: Renovation of North Guangxi style buildings

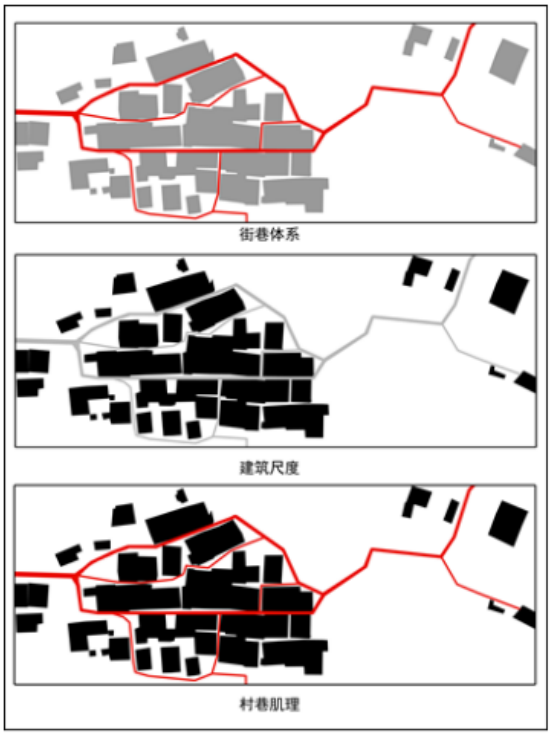


Figure 4: Planning of Shangdengyuan village Street and Lane Space System



Figure 5: Overall greening landscape of Shangdengyuan village