Site Spirit Analysis of Yanshan, Hekou Ancient Town in Jiangxi Province

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Abstract. Hekou ancient town, Yanshan county, Jiangxi province, is one of the famous towns in the south of qing dynasty, which is neck and neck with jingde town, zhangshu town and wucheng town, and is known as the four famous towns in Jiangxi. Due to its late development, people have a very limited understanding of it. This paper is based on architectural phenomenology and based on noberschutz’s place theory, Starting from the site composition of Hekou ancient town, this paper makes a comprehensive analysis of it, so as to have a more comprehensive understanding of Hekou ancient town and provide some reference for the protection and renewal of Hekou ancient town.

Keywords: Hekou ancient town, site constitutes, place spirit

1. Introduction

In the 1960s and 1970s, western countries set off the trend of thought of postmodernism, which influenced many fields. The urban design of the post-modern city integrates the thoughts of architecture and social culture with its openness and inclusiveness, which promotes its rapid development and forms a relatively mature design system. Under such background, the famous architect’s berg, puts forward the place spirit of classical theory, its core idea is to explain the site space physical meaning and the natural environment is very different, function and contact people and building environment constantly, the longer it will be in living memory and emotion to form a specific concept. This specific concept includes specific buildings, specific places and special people. These special factors are interdependent to form an organic whole, which cannot be separated from the three major factors of people, buildings and environment. It is an important product formed by the interaction between people and natural environment. In addition, he also based on the theory of philosophy to guide targeted put forward a method to analyze and evaluate the architectural phenomena, this method is to directly on the thing itself, to the detailed description and analysis on the architectural phenomena, on this basis to explore the phenomenon of more deep connotation of the core, also is to see the essence through the phenomenon, this is the main content of the place spirit architecture phenomenology [1]. In order to grasp and understand the site spirit connotation of Hekou ancient town in a more comprehensive and detailed way, this paper studies and analyzes the site spirit from two aspects: the main structure of the site and the embodiment of the site spirit.

2. Site Structure Type of Hekou Ancient Town and its Analysis

In essence, a place is a complex of two elements: human and nature. In order to further grasp and analyze the phenomenon of places, schulz mainly analyzes the structure of places from the following two perspectives: one is to use landscape and settlement to describe the place; the other is to grasp the structure of places from the perspective of space and characteristics and define the type of places [2].

2.1 Site Structure Type of Hekou Ancient Town

2.1.1 Landscape

The geographical location of the estuary is superior, surrounded by a broad impact plain, the overall terrain is very flat, fertile soil, field into a field, all these are the characteristics of the layout.
of the ancient town of Hekou. On the one hand, Hekou ancient town is built along the river, which can greatly promote the urban economic development. The water vein divides the main stream, the tributary two systems linger in the township. To meet people's needs of water and fire protection. he characteristics of Hekou ancient town are closely related to its own survival. The whole layout of Tibetan wind raising and gathering qi is the sublimation of its soul core. The overall terrain trend of the estuary is very complex, from the beach to the platform and then into the hilly area, the terrain is lower in the northern region, higher in the south. From ancient Hekou town to the north, you can see jiushi mountain and the beautiful scenery of xinjiang river. In terms of overall effect, it creates a magnificent and magnificent natural landscape atmosphere. In the folk and the town of "golden nine lion" myth. In ancient times the people in building a house, choose to take rock in remote areas, are not willing to destroy nine lion mountain natural barrier, making it good to meet the requirements of the feng shui town layout.

2.1.2 Settlement

The river estuary has superior geographical conditions and is located at the center of the inland river trade between fujian, zhejiang and Jiangxi, which gives full play to its commercial value. The transportation and processing industries in this area are very prosperous. There were so many merchants and craftsmen that they formed a special group. The natural environment promotes the rapid development of trade and transportation, and this strong commercial atmosphere also brings local people a subtle influence. Under the influence of this business atmosphere, people gradually shift their life focus to business. Everyone in the group is independent, but they have done in the unconscious to the estuary area of business development, therefore, the ancient town has a very obvious social collaboration and cooperation between people brought a strong cohesive force, the spirit of the people under the influence of the relationship closer.

2.2 Site Connotation Analysis of Hekou Ancient Town

2.2.1 Features

According to the theory of place spirit, character is a very common and common concept. The so-called character not only reflects a comprehensive atmosphere, but also reflects the specific appearance and modeling characteristics of the place, which is the core content of space elements. Each site has its own unique characteristics, and this natural environment, geographical location, history and culture, as well as ethnic gathering conditions are closely related. These themes are not isolated from each other, but a mutual integration, interaction, and eventually form a unique place. The place is the product of the collision and interaction between natural environment and man-made environment. It is a whole with rich special meaning, from which we can analyze the life style and environmental characteristics of people gathered in the place, which is the characteristic. This paper mainly interprets the characteristics of place from the following three aspects.

(1) The natural environment

There are three main ways in which the relationship between man-made places and the natural environment can be formed. First of all, the existence of human improves the accuracy of the natural structure, highlighting the basic starting point of survival. Hekou ancient town integrates local people, zhejiang people, fujian people and ethnic minorities with commercial links. Merchants give Hekou ancient town its meaning of existence, while settlers and Hekou ancient town complement each other, thus creating a relationship of place, nature, Hekou ancient town and guild hall. Secondly, in the process of creating artificial environment, people need to constantly expand and supplement the situation, which is not available in the natural environment. It mainly involves the pursuit of material and spiritual aspects. For example, the location and topography of lead mountain are complex. When mountains and rivers meet, people build floating Bridges between the rivers and build wharves along the river's stone beaches, forming the prototype of bayou ancient town. It is a perfect and supplement to the lack of natural environment, that is, people need to symbolize in the process of exploring the natural environment. Symbolism is based on people's accumulated experience. The main purpose of symbolism is to better present the meaning contained
in the context. Natural environment is an integral part of the ancient town of Hekou. In this living environment, many residents of Hekou put forward their demands for urban construction, which reflects the will of the people.

(2) Historical tradition

The buildings of Hekou ancient town can be traced back to the Ming dynasty. It has a very long history. In the long process of development, it has gradually formed its own very distinctive commercial and cultural tradition. In the past, people who engaged in business faced great risks. When businessmen felt uncertain about their future, they would choose to pray and worship to the gods. For the manual workers, the gods encouraged them to face the hardships of life. By building guilds dedicated to the gods of their respective homestories, the merchants strengthened the concepts and internal principles and orders of their fellow townspeople and peers, protected themselves by the group, and relieved their loneliness. For example, the quanfu association hall in Fujian is also known as the Tianhou Palace. This association hall mainly believes in the empress of heaven and worships and worships the empress of heaven to pray for the prosperity and development of the chamber of commerce. Architectural styles and cultural customs can be presented, and traces of historical development can be preserved. With the characteristics of ancestral halls and religious buildings, the guild hall is a perfect integration of material elements and non-material spiritual elements, and a perfect carrier of the site spirit of Hekou ancient town.

(3) Human activities

People love to celebrate traditional folk festivals in streets or major landscape nodes, which is a process of deepening the identity of the place. For example, before the sun rises on the ninth day of the first lunar month, people need to go to Tianru Temple to participate in the worship ceremony. Every year the Lantern Festival will hold a dragon lantern activities, very lively. With the continuous expansion of urban areas, in order to ensure the safety of residents, these folk activities are usually held in the new urban areas. In the past, whenever festivals were held in Hekou ancient town, the hall would hold very heavy celebrations, so as to clarify the main development direction of the chamber of commerce and form a close relationship with the surrounding environment. The hall will also invite famous actors to perform the opera, and usually there will be a lot of support from residents. These activities can show the confirmation of the site environment from some aspects, so as to enhance their sense of dependence and belonging to the site.

2.2.2 Space

The expansion of Hekou ancient town is characterized by linear expansion, which is closely related to water body. Integration with water body can achieve better lighting effect and ensure smooth ventilation. Water affects the border of urban expansion, the ancient buildings are built along the river, formed the very distinctive main street, main street and the rivers are parallel, put it as a building is the main frame, on the basis of seepage type development, which can form crisscross streets of time, there are T word, also have Y street, finally formed a distinctive pattern of spatial distribution. Because the ancient towns are restricted by rivers, the towns grow along with the river and take on a zonal pattern. Because of its convenient transportation, there are more and more people gathered in this area. The whole spatial layout presents the form of "looking at the mountains through water and combining the old with the new". The cultural and natural environment in different areas of Hekou ancient town is also different. For example, the embankment separating the ancient town of Hekou from the Xinjiang river, the landmark shops and Bridges in the streets of the town and so on. These markers contain elements at two levels of function and meaning. Different geographical locations and natural environments will form different regional Spaces. The closely arranged blocks here are the most common regional space, including shops, residences and courtyards. These three areas have different functions and are organized in an orderly way in the layout of the ancient town. First of all, different shops define different spatial levels. There is a door between the street and the shops. When you open the door, it is the store space. The second area is residential area. There is a shortage of land in the area along the river, so the courtyard houses here are closely connected with each other. Therefore, the internal space does not cover a very large area. When people enter the door, they enter a private space.
Another is that the houses will have their own courtyards, which are mainly stilted buildings. They usually build platforms and courtyards, leaving a certain amount of space to raise flowers and plants, which is a transitional semi-open space between public space and private space. The contrast between public and private spaces creates a stronger sense of belonging.

The path is the key to connect various regions, and the spatial sequence formed can guide people to carry out activities. These are closely related to geographical location and natural environment. With the increase of population, the scale of ancient towns is also increasing. The water network business road has laid a foundation for the development of the street and lane system, and formed two sets of closely connected but complementary systems, jointly organized the path of the ancient town. Is mainly to the old street as the core of the diffusion. The average width of old street is between five and seven metres, while the height of buildings is between ten and fifteen metres. The scale design is very reasonable, creating a very harmonious space environment, very life atmosphere. The road surface is made of green flagstones, and the rutting marks of different depths of the road surface can reflect the feelings and memories of the prosperous development of the wharf in the last century. Parallel streets connect the lanes, making the street space texture more hierarchical and more convenient for people to communicate with each other. With the passage of time, the trunk and branch of Hekou ancient town expand continuously, thus forming an organic whole and forming a unique pattern of Hekou ancient town route.

3. Place Spirit Analysis of Hekou Ancient Town

Place is the embodiment of the environment and living space, contains a different connotation, sites can provide a place for people to live, to form a fixed space, in the natural environment and artificial environment in the process of the collision and fusion of each other to build a distinctive, living in the environment of special group will continue to feel place spirit connotation, and people eventually form dependence on place and belonging. The formation of the spirit of place and the characteristics of buildings are closely related to the relationship between human beings. It not only has its own architectural form, but also contains spiritual connotation, which is a special sense of space formed by people in the living environment. The structure of the place is mainly reflected in two aspects: space and characteristics. Place spirit and structure interact and co-exist[2].

3.1 Presence of Place

Under the guidance of natural places, people have gradually formed the ability to determine themselves and site management, that is, people can correctly recognize the objective relationship between human and nature. It mainly involves: in the case that the level of social productivity remains the same, climate, soil, water and terrain and other factors may bring about the impact on people's life, can have a correct understanding of human place phenomenon. The geographical environment has a decisive impact on the settlement, directly determining the main characteristics of the settlement, mainly through the site energy exchange and information transmission to promote historical development and human progress. In this process, a unique place logic is gradually formed. Hekou was still a small market at the end of the Ming dynasty. During the jiajing period, due to the impact of the flood, qianshan county had to change its route and use Hekou as the water transportation center. From the perspective of climatic factors, the lead mountain is very close to the sea and belongs to the subtropical monsoon climate. The annual precipitation is very sufficient and the climate temperature difference is relatively large. The summer temperature is relatively high and the sunshine duration is relatively long. The climatic environment and topographic conditions of lead mountain are closely related, and the southern climate shows obvious vertical differences[3]. In such a climate, moisture-proof, ventilation and heat dissipation are very important for residents' life. Such survival needs directly affect the layout of buildings. The building hall is very bright and
equipped with patios to help with lighting and ventilation, as well as heat and light for the residents. Door window is very transparent, can effective moistureproof. These architectural features are the result of mutual adaptation to climatic conditions. In addition, people will build settlement system with the help of some very special topographic conditions, and build cluster houses with limited space, which is a mutual integration with the natural environment. It can be seen from this that, when the level of productivity is not very high, the geographical environment is the core factor affecting the relationship between people and land, which has a decisive impact on the development of settlements.

3.2 Sense of Direction of Architectural Pattern

In the book city image, Kevin lynch mainly USES five factors, namely, road, node, region, sign and path, to describe and explain the sense of direction of basic spatial structure. As an ancient town with commercial operation center, the most important thing for foreigners to do business in this town is to have the ability to identify the direction and know how to reach the desired destination quickly. That is to say, defining the relationship between oneself and the place is an important prerequisite for settlement.

(1) In the direction of streets and alleys

Estuary town of internal road system mainly has three kinds of different types, one is the street (as shown in figure 1), the other is roadway, a third is terminal aisle (figure 2). The street directly controls the spatial pattern of the whole building and is the most important traffic artery. The vertical distribution of buildings and streets constitute a semi-closed space, which is the main reason for the formation of network roadway. The road hierarchy continues to decline, making personal space more prominent and internal public order less prominent. From the clubhouse to the end of the pier is the dock aisle. It can be seen that streets and alleys play a very important role, which is not only the main cause of the formation of commercial rationality, but also the core of maintaining social order.

Figure 1: Street
Photo credit: by the author

Figure 2: Dock and cargo lane
Photo credit: by the author
2) Residential group as the field

The ancient town of Hekou contains three main residential areas, namely, the area along the river, the area of huiji canal, and the area of large houses. In the process of long-term development, due to a series of factors such as terrain, location and function of the comprehensive effect, make people in the process of experience places, have the ability to know and clear place identity and positioning, in order to make the three residential group formed very introverted surround close relations with regional characteristics, are independent of each other and connect with each other, form the distinctive pattern of human settlement.

3) The guild hall is the node

There are various guildhall in the ancient town, and the shape and structure of these guildhall are different. The guildhall is often located at the end of the wharf and freight road, which is the only way for businessmen to do business. It is like a beacon in the mist, paying attention to the teams of businessmen (as shown in figure 3). Under the influence of guildhall, businessmen have a very clear understanding of their own positioning. These important nodes point out the spiritual direction for businessmen. The hall dedicated to various gods, merchants can feel the sanctity of the situation, clear their own positioning. In the estuary town area, businessmen, wharf and hall are mutual integration and function, form an effective whole, these elements are short of one cannot, as shown in figure 4).

3.3 The Identity of Commercial Life

The environment contains not only the spatial structure, but also a very clear object. Without this object, the environment cannot carry out self-identification, and the landscape extension will have no boundaries. Place identity is an important premise of human identity. Hekou ancient town has a very long history of development, in the long process of development, gradually formed a very unique natural and cultural environment. Settlement is the result of the equilibrium and stability of spatial structure and site characteristics. With the passage of time, the specific form of settlement has changed, and the meaning of the place has become more hierarchical. Identity can be sustained and preserved over time. Commercial culture is sensitive to social changes. The ancient town of Hekou has undergone historical changes and undergone many renovations and planning. In this process, it has absorbed a lot of fresh contents, but it does not mean that the spirit of the place has disappeared. The characteristics of Hekou ancient town are still embodied in its architecture, and its sense of identity has never been lost.
the definition of extension and continuation, while settlement mainly reflects the entity of package. Nowadays, with the development of society, the rise of railway traffic and the expansion of new urban areas, the historical mission of Hekou ancient town has come to an end. However, its huge volume forms a unique relationship with xinjiang and qianshan county, which is clear and clear, so that Hekou ancient town has its own identity.

4. Summary

Hekou ancient town has a very long history of development and plays an important role in the construction of Yanshan county. Although the structure of the ancient town will change constantly with the intention of the builders in different periods. But this does not mean that the place spirit will die out, on the contrary, there will be new structures that will bring new "place spirit". The new "place spirit" is still very closely related to people's lives. To maintain the spirit of the place, we need to materialize the temperament of the place. In this process, a high degree of identification of the place is formed. To protect and renew the architectural space design of ancient towns, the purpose is to deeply explore the place spirit and culture hidden behind the long history and rich humanistic feelings of ancient towns in Hekou. This needs to respect the site characteristics, so as to arouse people's subconscious experience and feelings, and implant them into people's real life, mainly through the integration of people and places to ensure the effective continuation of the spirit of the place.

Acknowledgments

Fund project: Jiangxi university humanities and social sciences general project (YS18126).

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