



Research on Design Strategies of Cultural and Creative Landscape Space from the Perspective of Living Heritage Transmission of Traditional Skills

Yuting Zhang*, Zhaoli Wang, Minghao Liu, Chunlei Cao

Harbin Institute of Information Technology, No. 9, University Town, Binxi Town, Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province, China

*Corresponding author: 229009720@qq.com

Abstract. Traditional craftsmanship serves as a vital carrier of China's outstanding cultural heritage, embodying the wisdom and cultural DNA of the nation. Its living inheritance is a key pathway to safeguarding cultural roots and achieving creative transformation and innovative development. As a crucial medium for cultural dissemination and experiential engagement, cultural creative landscape spaces integrate traditional craftsmanship with landscape design, offering both a physical platform for dynamic display and transmission of craftsmanship while enriching the cultural connotations and experiential value of the spaces. This approach helps address the challenges of homogenization and formalism in the inheritance of traditional craftsmanship. Based on the core essence and value propositions of living craftsmanship inheritance, this study employs literature research, field investigations, case analysis, and interdisciplinary methodologies to analyze current issues in the design of cultural creative landscape spaces—such as insufficient cultural exploration, singular transmission forms, inadequate interactivity, and weak functional adaptability. Taking the intangible cultural heritage cultural creative landscape space in Nanhancun, Guangyang District, Langfang City, as an empirical case, the study proposes targeted design strategies from four dimensions: cultural exploration, spatial creation, experiential design, and operational safeguards. These strategies aim to provide theoretical references and practical insights for the collaborative development of living craftsmanship inheritance and cultural creative landscape spaces.

Keywords: Traditional craftsmanship; Living inheritance; Cultural and creative landscape; Spatial design; Inheritance strategies

1 Introduction

Against the backdrop of deepening cultural confidence strategies and sustained efforts in rural revitalization and urban renewal, the preservation and inheritance of traditional crafts have become pivotal topics in cultural development. Unlike static museum-based conservation approaches, living inheritance of traditional skills emphasizes dynamism,

practical application, and innovation. Its core objective is to sustain craft traditions through contemporary life practices, ultimately achieving organic integration of "people, skills, and living." Meanwhile, the deep integration of cultural and creative industries with landscape design has established cultural creative landscapes as crucial bridges connecting traditional culture with modern lifestyles. These spaces, centered on cultural elements, landscape architecture, and experiential design, transform abstract traditional techniques into tangible, participatory, and communicable spatial forms, pioneering new pathways for living heritage preservation. Drawing from perspectives of traditional skill inheritance and incorporating national policy frameworks with domestic best practices, this study systematically explores design strategies for cultural creative landscapes. Through scientifically grounded spatial planning, it aims to truly "bring traditional skills to life" within scenic environments and "integrate them into daily living," ultimately achieving mutual empowerment between living heritage preservation and value enhancement of cultural creative spaces^[1].

2 Research Methods

To ensure scientific rigor in the research process and practical applicability of conclusions, this study employs a comprehensive approach integrating four methodologies: Literature Review Methodology. This involves systematically analyzing core journal publications, master's/doctoral dissertations, national policy documents, and industry standards in fields such as living heritage preservation of traditional crafts, cultural innovation-driven landscapes, and experiential landscape design. The analysis clarifies key conceptual frameworks and establishes theoretical foundations, laying essential groundwork for subsequent problem identification and strategy formulation.

Field Research Method: Twelve representative intangible cultural heritage (ICH) creative parks, craft-themed streets, and rural cultural landscape spaces across China were selected for on-site surveys. The study documented spatial layouts, craft presentation formats, experiential facility configurations, public participation behaviors, and on-site feedback to obtain primary spatial data and user perceptions, thereby accurately identifying common design challenges in current practices.

Case Study Methodology: Taking the ICH creative landscape space in Nanhan Village, Guangyang District, Langfang City as a representative case study, this approach establishes case selection criteria by collecting project planning documents, operational data, interview transcripts with heritage bearers, and tourist satisfaction surveys. Through systematic analysis and logical deduction, the feasibility and effectiveness of the research strategy are validated.

3 Definition of Related Concepts and Theoretical Foundations

3.1 Definition of Core Concepts

Living inheritance of traditional skills: Traditional craftsmanship refers to handcrafted techniques and production methods passed down through generations, closely tied to

daily life and economic activities. These encompass diverse fields such as wood-working, carving, textile production, lacquerware making, and ceramics, embodying the wisdom of the Chinese nation. The core philosophy of preserving and developing traditional crafts lies in "living inheritance," which differs from static museum-style preservation^[2]. Its essence lies in "dynamic continuity and practical innovation," emphasizing the role of inheritors as central figures and skill practice as the medium. By integrating contemporary lifestyle needs and aesthetic trends, this approach ensures the transmission, innovation, and dissemination of techniques, allowing traditional crafts to endure through practice and rejuvenate through innovation. Key characteristics include: inheritors as primary bearers, hands-on experiential learning, innovations aligned with modern demands, and integration into everyday living spaces.

Cultural and Creative Landscape Space: Cultural and creative landscape spaces are integrated environments that center on traditional culture as their core essence, expressed through landscape design while incorporating cultural innovation, experiential interaction, and leisure entertainment functions^[3]. Their fundamental value lies in the principle of "culture empowering landscapes, landscapes embodying culture." Distinct from conventional landscapes focused on aesthetics and recreation, these spaces prioritize cultural expression and dissemination. By deeply integrating traditional cultural elements, craft symbols, and landscape architecture, they create spatial forms that combine aesthetic, cultural, experiential, and commercial values, serving as vital platforms for living cultural transmission. Key types include intangible cultural heritage creative parks, craft-themed parks, traditional craft experience districts, and rural cultural landscape projects.

3.2 Theoretical Basis

Living Heritage Theory: The Living Heritage Theory emphasizes the "dynamic nature" and "practicality" of cultural transmission, asserting that traditional culture preservation transcends mere replication or conservation. It advocates sustaining vitality through practical application to achieve synergistic development among people, culture, and environment^[4]. This framework provides essential guidance for traditional craft inheritance, requiring cultural and creative landscape design to center on hands-on skill transmission. By creating interactive spaces that enable public participation in craft experiences and appreciation of their charm, the theory transforms heritage transmission from passive reception to active engagement.

Cultural Translation Theory: Cultural translation theory is a methodological approach that transforms abstract cultural connotations, symbols, and techniques into perceptible and expressive visual languages and spatial forms. In cultural and creative landscape design, cultural translation serves as a crucial link between traditional craftsmanship and landscape carriers. By refining, reconstructing, and innovating the symbols, techniques, and essence of traditional crafts, these elements are transformed into landscape features, spatial layouts, and experiential activities, achieving contemporary expression of traditional skills while preserving cultural authenticity and meeting modern aesthetic and spatial requirements^[5]. As relevant studies indicate, the modern translation of intangible cultural heritage symbols requires three-level con-

version: visual symbols, craftsmanship techniques, and cultural spirit, thereby constructing a cultural bridge connecting the past and the future.

Experiential Landscape Design Theory: Experiential landscape design theory prioritizes user-centered approaches by creating interactive and immersive spatial environments that enable participants to gain emotional engagement and cultural understanding. This philosophy aligns seamlessly with the need for dynamic preservation of traditional craftsmanship^[6]. It advocates for cultural landscape designs that transcend static displays, crafting multidimensional experiential spaces where the public can explore traditional techniques through hands-on activities and sensory interactions. Such designs facilitate a dual process of "transmitting heritage through experience and experiencing heritage through practice," allowing people to deeply appreciate both the craftsmanship and cultural significance of traditional arts.

4 Existing Issues in Cultural and Creative Landscape Space Design from the Perspective of Living Heritage Transmission of Traditional Skills

4.1 Cultural Exploration Remains Superficial, With Insufficient Expression Of Technical Connotations

Most contemporary cultural and creative landscape spaces exhibit a tendency to "emphasize symbols over substance" when incorporating traditional craftsmanship. Some designs merely replicate superficial elements of traditional techniques—such as transplanting woodcarving patterns and ceramic motifs into landscape features and signage systems—without delving into the historical origins, production processes, cultural symbolism, or artisanal ethos behind these practices. For instance, while bamboo weaving and embroidery motifs may be integrated into rural landscapes, the absence of detailed demonstrations of production techniques and cultural significance renders cultural expressions superficial. This disconnect prevents public understanding of traditional craftsmanship's essence and undermines the goal of living heritage preservation. The root cause lies in insufficient pre-design research and excavation of traditional techniques, failing to establish a coherent framework of "technological essence → symbolic refinement → spatial expression." As studies indicate, many rural landscape designs exhibit homogenization and over-symbolization in intangible cultural heritage applications, lacking deep exploration of local cultural connotations^[7].

4.2 Single Inheritance Format With Insufficient Interactive Experience

The essence of living heritage preservation for traditional crafts lies in "practical engagement." However, most cultural and creative landscape spaces currently rely on static displays that lack interactivity and experiential elements. These spaces predominantly showcase finished products and historical artifacts through exhibition panels, sculptures, and physical displays, leaving visitors passive observers unable to partici-

pate in the creative process or develop profound cultural immersion. For instance, some intangible cultural heritage parks only exhibit finished lacquerware and wood carvings without interactive workshops, preventing public participation in traditional craftsmanship techniques. This approach undermines heritage preservation efforts and fails to inspire public enthusiasm for participation. Additionally, while certain spaces offer experiential activities, the content remains simplistic and monotonous, lacking professional expertise and engaging formats. Such limitations prevent visitors from truly appreciating the charm of traditional crafts, falling short of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology's goal to "upgrade interactive experiences in the arts and crafts industry."

5 Design Strategies for Cultural and Creative Landscape Spaces from the Perspective of Living Heritage Transmission of Traditional Skills

The dynamic preservation of traditional craftsmanship requires first delving into its cultural essence, transitioning from "symbolic extraction" to "meaningful expression"—a fundamental prerequisite for cultural and creative landscape design. Comprehensive surveys of traditional techniques should be conducted, documenting production processes, representative works, and lineage of inheritors while uncovering historical narratives, cultural symbolism, artisanal ethos, and regional characteristics to establish a cohesive cultural framework. For instance, when designing woodcraft-themed landscapes, designers must not only capture carving patterns and tool symbols but also explore the interplay between woodworking techniques and local customs, lifestyles, as well as the artisans' commitment to "pursuing excellence through meticulous craftsmanship."

On the other hand, cultural translation theory should be applied to transform abstract technical connotations into perceptible spatial language. By refining, reconstructing, and innovating craft symbols and production processes, these elements can be integrated into landscape features, spatial layouts, signage systems, and plant arrangements. For instance, ceramic techniques such as wheel throwing, glazing, and firing can be showcased through landscape sculptures and interactive installations; embroidery patterns and stitching methods can be adapted into designs for landscape paving and seating systems; while lacquerware colors and textures can be incorporated into architectural facade designs. Concurrently, emphasis should be placed on expressing regional characteristics by combining local natural environments with cultural contexts to achieve organic integration between traditional crafts and regional landscapes, avoiding homogenized designs. This aligns with the approach proposed by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and other departments: "Leveraging regional resource endowments and comparative advantages, adhering to 'one policy per industry,' and supporting the development of distinctive local arts and crafts industries."

6 Case Analysis

6.1 Criteria for Case Selection

This study selects the intangible cultural heritage (ICH) creative landscape space in Nanhan Village, Guangyang District, Langfang City as the core case study, based primarily on the following criteria: Resource representativeness: The village possesses 21 ICH techniques, including wood carving, jade polishing, lacquer decoration, and gemstone inlaying, four of which are recognized as provincial-level ICH items. It has cultivated 21 provincial and municipal-level ICH inheritors, forming a comprehensive ICH skills industrial cluster characterized by diverse traditional techniques and a well-established inheritance system, making it highly representative.

Model maturity: The project has established a comprehensive implementation system encompassing "cultural excavation – experiential creation – operational support," achieving synergistic development in skill inheritance, landscape design, rural revitalization, and industrial income growth. The model is replicable and scalable.

Data accessibility: The project provides comprehensive public planning materials, operational data, and visitor feedback. Primary information can be obtained through field surveys and in-depth interviews, facilitating systematic validation and logical reasoning.

6.2 Data Collection Methods

Field survey method: Conducted three on-site investigations of the cultural and creative landscape space in Nanhan Village, documenting spatial layout, experiential workshops, landscape elements, craft display formats, and on-site operational conditions.

In-depth interview method: Interviews were conducted with 6 intangible cultural heritage inheritors, 2 project operators, 15 local villagers, and 30 random tourists to collect experiential feedback and operational recommendations.

Secondary data collection: Organize project planning documents, cultural and creative product sales data, annual output value, media reports, policy support documents, and other materials to form comprehensive data support.

6.3 Case Practice and Argumentative Analysis

Nanhuan Village focuses on the core requirement of dynamic inheritance of traditional crafts, achieving a deep integration of traditional techniques with cultural and creative landscape spaces: Cultural excavation and translation implementation: By systematically documenting the history, processes, and cultural significance of various intangible cultural heritage techniques, elements such as wood carving patterns, jade polishing textures, and lacquer decoration colors are incorporated into landscape features, road pavements, and building facade designs, creating a "Craft Culture Corridor." Through sculptures and exhibition panels, the craftsmanship processes and sto-

ries of artisans are showcased, fully implementing the theory of cultural translation and enabling precise spatial expression of the technical essence.

Implementation of experiential scenario development: Establishing 36 intangible cultural heritage workshops with dedicated experience zones for woodworking, lacquerware, jade carving, and other crafts, where inheritors provide on-site instruction; Developing three core product lines—practical cultural and creative items, decorative trendy toys, and collectible artworks—to implement experiential landscape design principles, effectively fostering cultural identity among younger consumers.

Implementation of spatial layout optimization: Establishing a clear spatial framework of "exhibition zone – experience zone – industrial zone – supporting zone" to connect nodes such as intangible cultural heritage workshops, skill demonstration halls, and cultural innovation stores. The functional zoning is rational with smooth circulation paths, fully meeting the spatial requirements for dynamic heritage transmission and demonstrating strong functional compatibility.

The operational support mechanism was successfully implemented: adopting a collaborative operation model of "heritage bearers + enterprises + government" and complemented by a promotion strategy of "exhibitions + competitions + media," the project's annual output value exceeded the 100 million yuan threshold, fully validating the effectiveness, feasibility, and sustainability of the strategies proposed in this study.

In conclusion, the Nanhan Village case study conclusively demonstrates that the four strategies proposed in this paper—cultural excavation, experiential design, spatial layout, and operational safeguards—effectively address common challenges in contemporary cultural and creative landscape design, thereby achieving synergistic development between the living inheritance of traditional craftsmanship and innovative cultural landscape spaces.

7 Conclusion

With the deepening implementation of cultural confidence strategies and sustained development of the cultural and creative industries, the integration of traditional craftsmanship with cultural and creative landscape spaces will exhibit increasingly diversified and intelligent development trends. Future design of such spaces should further enhance the fusion of traditional techniques with modern technology and contemporary elements, leveraging big data and artificial intelligence technologies to innovate experiential formats and elevate spatial intelligence levels. Concurrently, regional collaboration should be strengthened to consolidate traditional craft resources across different areas, creating distinctive cultural and creative landscape clusters that expand the reach of traditional craftsmanship. Additionally, emphasis must be placed on nurturing and supporting inheritors, refining inheritance systems to ensure traditional skills remain vibrant and perpetuated. This approach facilitates the creative transformation and innovative development of China's outstanding traditional culture, providing robust support for building a culturally strong nation.

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