

The Mood of Pastoral Poetry Expressed in the Modern Countryside Park Space Design: Take China Meishan Cultural Park for Example

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Abstract. Because of its profound cultural heritage and aesthetic value, Chinese classical pastoral poetry becomes the fertile ground where spiritual home of descendants inhabits poetically. Its artistic connotation has heuristic origin meaning for the tectonic space of the Chinese perspectives countryside park. Based on the analysis on the figure-ground theory, the mood of pastoral poetry expressed in the modern countryside park space design is discussed, and taking China Meishan Cultural Park for practice case, some new ideas are presented that how to construct the rural tourism space which has Chinese characteristics and individuality.

Introduction

As the characteristics and individuality of the rural tourism grow, it has become a proposition for designers that how to construct the countryside park space of ecological characteristics and cultural connotation. "Gardening, such as poetry creation, can become masterpieces by making the twists and turns, echoing each other in front and behind, repelling stacking and jumble[1]." As a poetic genre with unique artistic charm of Chinese classical poetry, pastoral poetry left such a fresh and gorgeous mark on the traditional culture because of its graceful, meaningful, elegant and distant style. Pastoral poetry builds a ideal homeland of the Eastern tone, dwelling the landscape, nostalgia and homesickness that only belong to Oriental feelings. Poetry and landscape co-exist and interact with each other. Back the spiritual source of traditional culture, we can gain more design inspiration from pastoral poetry and internalize it into the artistic conception and character of modern countryside park, bringing picturesque aesthetic experience to people. Based on the analysis on the figure-ground theory, the mood of pastoral poetry expressed in the modern countryside park space design is discussed thoroughly, and taking China Meishan Cultural Park of graduate team led by my tutor for practice case, some beneficial insights are offered that how to construct the rural tourism space which has Chinese characteristics and individuality.

Pastoral Poetry and Artistic Space

Chinese pastoral poetry first began in the Eastern Jin Dynasty Xie Lingyun and Jin Dynasty, Tao Yuanming, by the Tang Dynasty reached a climax by Wang Wei, Meng Haoran. It mainly describes the mountain landscape, rural scene and carefree and quiet life of seclusion. Pastoral poetry contains sentiment in scenery and creates a delicate and significant artistic conception, expressing the spiritual pursuit for the delight in water and mountains and the philosophical wisdom of

“Correspondence between Heaven and Human”. Poets translate the landscape and pastoral scenery



Fig.1, Riyue Pavilion in Morning Mist

into concise language of poetry with their rich emotion and ingenious conception. When transforming the experience of four-dimensional space-time into the planar and abstract text, it doesn't weaken the perception of space, instead, it enriches the space and space spirit by the creation of artistic conception to a certain extent .

The unique poetic makings and aesthetic characteristics of pastoral poetry can provide a useful reference for the intention and technique of modern countryside park space design. First, pastoral poetry establishes the original meaning of cultural connotation and inner quality for the spatial extension and intention of Chinese sense of countryside park space design. The design goals and spiritual demands of modern countryside park correspond to the mental chase in pastoral poetry of the harmonious coexistence between man and nature. Second, pastoral poetry has vivid beauties of painting and music in the artistic expression and aesthetics features. Its spatial layout rules and construction of artistic conception have practical guiding significance for the design method of the modern countryside park. On the one hand, as the subject of poetry appreciation, readers take their place in the natural landscape with poets by a few lines of poetry, obtaining aesthetic enjoyment of being personally on the scene and feeling and setting happily blended in the vast space of poetry. The breeze moon, Madadayo smoke rising from the distant village, are all into their arms. It shows that pastoral poetry creates a clever way in space construction and artistic conception. On the other hand, as aesthetic subject of the objective space, people refine the aesthetic experience of the object space as “poetic and pictorial splendor”. It can be said that there is a scene in the poem, there is a poem in the scene.

In this paper, figure-ground theory is chosen as the main analysis method to investigate the generation of pastoral poetry artistic conception of space and the mood of pastoral poetry expressed in the modern countryside park space design. Figure-ground theory is one of the main basic ideas of cognitive poetics. It was originally proposed by the Danish psychologist Rubin Edgar in 1915 and

employed by Gestalt psychologists to study space organization. This theory is mainly based on the prominence view and the core of the process of dealing with prominence view is the figure-ground segregation. Gestalt psychologists believe that figure-ground segregation can not only explain the way people perceive the spatial organization and also can be applied in the analysis of language cognition. They classify “foreground” which has a more complete structure, easy to be perceived by the attention of the other things as a figure, while the “background” is other thing that is back to the scene setting the foreground. Figure-ground theory has practical and powerful interpretation when applied to the literary research, especially in the creation of the artistic conception of classical poetry. As a kind of cognitive methods of spatial organization, it also reveals the cognitive laws of the perceived space at the same time. Based on the two points, figure-ground theory is used as the key point of the analysis on the pastoral poetry and the space mood to make up for deficiencies of previous interpretation of text subject.

The Mood of Pastoral Poetry Expressed in China Meishan Cultural Park Space Design

China Meishan Cultural Park is a rural tourism project which is designed and built to show and promote the ancient regional culture in Meishan. It's located in Fuxi Forest Farm of 700m above sea level, Anhua Country, Yiyang City, Hunan Province. The scale of the project which designed by the author's tutor graduate team in 2007 is 4200 acres. It has been developed into a comprehensive development project which sets Meishan culture display, research and dissemination, the university education practice base, the rural tourism in one. As a rural tourism project on the theme of Meishan culture, Meishan Culture Park focuses on the intention to create a poetic mood from the initial design conception to the expression of the overall design. Meishan landscape, poetic garden. The park's interpretation and reconstruction of the mood of pastoral poetry is recognized and respected by the tourism market.

Beauty of Conception. Firstly, design of the elimination of design constructs unrestrained space. “The one which has lofty realm can strike out a special style[2].” Pastoral poetry is a self-sufficient and unrestrained world. The idea that “Let the weeds grow, let the wild flowers open, and let the beasts come.” becomes the fundamental conception of Meishan Cultural Park at the beginning of the design. Organic combination of architecture and environment, so that everything seems to grow from the land. Random juxtaposition of the gravel road, natural irregular coastline, free growth of flowers and trees, the psychological state of the visitors also subsequently stretches. Seemingly inaction, but in reality are all intentions business. “Although it is artificial, as if it was made by nature.” Secondly, the idea of Pan-design creates a symbiotic environment. The designers are not limited to the construction of the physical scene of architecture and landscape, but by means of a comprehensive reconstruction of the design elements to create the poetic artistic conception. Visitors can experience pastoral life everywhere in the park: golden grain mass stacks in the farmhouse, the firewood in stove smokes delicious bacon, the geese in the pond wake up the visitors in the morning, the enthusiastic and honest beekeeper shares fresh honey with the visitors. The designers use living life experience to construct the spiritual core of space, guiding the visitors to feel the vivid poetry of pastoral life.

Beauty of Poetic Space Composition. Dialectical treatment of scenery relationship to highlight poetic picture effect, creating poetic mood by the artist's vision. The designers weight the layout of architecture and landscape which in view of space as a painting, making the scenery in the eyes of visitors looks like a picture of a poem. Utilizing the architecture as the most important intention of space to communicate with the surrounding environment. In the southwest of the park, Riyue Pavilion is located in the valley. The designers make a lake of open water in according to the

principles of adaptation to local conditions. The scale of Riyue Pavilion is pleasant, seems to rise



Fig.2, Fingqing Street



Fig.3, Stilted Buildings



Fig.4, Ancient Stage



Fig.5, Oil Press Workshop



Fig.6, Meishan Culture Museum



Fig.7, Jingpai Pavilion



Fig.8, Farmhouse



Fig.9, Xizhao Pavilion



Fig.10, Stilted Buildings

above the water. Riyue Pavilion becomes the vision interest as the figure that comes out from the picture, and the landscape of lakes and mountains becomes the unified background. Graphic features of Riyue Pavilion make the background of lake and distant mountains more rich and profound in space hierarchical structures. It also makes the field of vision form a interests climax in composition at the same time. The figure and background here silhouetted against each other . The wide and boundless landscape of lakes and mountains serves as a foil to the pleasant scale of Riyue Pavilion. The two brings out the best in each other. A clever arrangement in composition to create white space, seemingly less, leaving more expression space to nature instead and creating the clear wildness and distant artistic space. Construction of the spiritual space of profound meanings brings a aesthetic experience of feeling and setting happily blended to the tourists.

Beauty of cadence of the spatial sequence transformation. The spatial organization layout of Meishan Cultural Park is ingenious. “Gardening is also called the constitution, focusing on the structure, with profound significance. Deep in thinking, wonderful in the fun, not only the civil engineering and greening business[3].” The park is located in the mountains where the terrain is undulant and full of changes. The designers make a deep study of the site conditions, concluding the environmental elements, refining the spatial structure. Respecting and making use of the original terrain to maintain the authentic interest of pastoral. The winding gravel path leads to a secluded quiet place in the narrow valley. Strolling past the foot of the mountain, a small bridge over the flowing stream besides the oil press workshop. The view is open after turning the foot of the mountain, smoke curls upwards from the stilted buildings built near the water. Linear paths connect

building group, landscape nodes are well-arranged at the turning point of space. All layout is due to terrain of the park, using terrain to lead path experience, space arrangement to the climax at the same time. “Mountains multiply, streams double back I doubt there's even a road; willows cluster darkly, blossoms shine another village ahead”(Lu You, Song Dynasty). Pastoral poetry makes the picture full of the dynamic rhythm through the alternation between figure and background. In the park, with the gradual expansion of the multi-level space scene of path experience, figure and background in the space environment is also constantly changing, so that visitors engender the psychological experience of twists and turns and rich in levels. The designers make the spatial levels rich in flow variations through the guidance and indication, the levels and penetration, the spatial contrast and other techniques, greatly enriching and expanding the poetic space. Varying scenery with changing view-points, so that visitors get unlimited reverie and interest in a limited space.

Beauty of the dialogue between color and light. “The moonlight shone into the deep forest, flowing upon the green mosses”(Wang Wei, Tang Dynasty) . Because of the identification degree and dynamic sense, color and light often stand out from the background as the figure. The architectural environmental design of Meishan Cultural Park is also good at using color and light to express. The grey bricks, grey tiles, wood, soil and other traditional materials of rural architecture generate a very cordial texture and tone. The colors called “white wall and black tiles” of architectural are elegant and quiet, by the reconciling of light and clouds in the mountains to create a poetic space of profound mood, like a dynamic landscape painting. The changes of the plants in different seasons present beautiful postures and colors, infiltrating the architectural, to construct a space where all in nature. Light and shadow are the most dynamic elements in space. The creation of space atmosphere reflects the idea of "let the light do the design". For example, the pool in the atrium of Meishan Culture Park Museum makes light and colors of the space more delicate and richer. The platoon of the arch are more rhythmic through the light and shadow over the water. The whole space is dancing with light and shadow. The use of color and light and shadow reaches an extremely delicate realm, extending out of the artistic conception space, which is very intriguing and serene.

Summary

China is vigorously promoting the characteristics and personalized development of rural tourism. Under realistic conditions, generally westernization of environmental space design and the symbol extraction of superficial form on traditional cultural departure from the construction of environmental space of Chinese cultural connotation while in the process of globalization. How to construct the rural tourism environment of characteristics and individuality, pastoral poetry has a positive significance to the spiritual connotation and artistic conception. This paper probes into the mood of pastoral poetry expressed in the modern countryside park space design, contributing to the rural tourism environment space design of more Chinese connotation and cultural vitality.

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