Optimization Design of Public Space in Huizhou Traditional Villages
--Taking Qinghua Town as an Example
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Abstract
In the renovation of public activity spaces in traditional villages in Huizhou, preserving the existing architectural style while combining the vitality of space use provides new perspectives for promoting rural development and the needs of villagers' lives. Research on the public space in Qinghua Town, Wuyuan County, analyzes the characteristics and role of traditional public space, and summarizes its status quo, dilemma and design strategy under the contemporary problem of rural hollowing out. Further, through the design practice of Qinghua Town, we will explore how to diversify the public space of traditional villages in the context of rural revitalization.

Keywords
Huizhou, Traditional Villages, Public Space, Optimization, Rural Revitalization.

1. Overview of Public Space in Huizhou Traditional Villages

Traditional villages are an inseparable part of Chinese culture and an extremely important part of the farming culture of Chinese civilization, which are the material inheritance carriers and figurative symbols of culture, and according to the statistics, the number of traditional villages in China reaches more than thirty thousand. Huizhou traditional villages are one of China's famous historical and cultural cities, famous for their unique layout and architectural style. The layout and architectural style of traditional Huizhou villages reflect the pursuit of harmony, order and beauty by the Huizhou people. These villages usually have a water system as the backbone and mountains as the background, creating a unique landscape and idyllic scenery. The architectural style of the village, on the other hand, is characterized by white walls, horse-head walls, small bridges and rivers, and homes, and is full of rich local flavor and historical charm. The spatial layout of traditional Huizhou villages is often centered on ancestral halls and temples, with various types of buildings, such as residential houses, stores and schools, distributed around them. This layout reflects both the clan concepts of the Huizhou people and their concepts of education and social hierarchy. In addition, Huizhou traditional villages also focus on the construction of public spaces, such as squares, theaters and pavilions, which provide villagers with a wealth of places for cultural and recreational activities.

2. Status of Public Space in Clearwater Township

2.1. Status of Qinghua Township
Qinghua town is located in wuyuan county, Shangrao city, Jiangxi province, located in the north central part of wuyuan county, started to build wuyuan county in 740, the rule of wuyuan county, the rule of wuyuan county, the rule of wuyuan county, the rule of wuyuan county is set up in Qinghua; 1984 restored the town of Qinghua. With a maximum distance of 25 kilometers from east to west and 30 kilometers from north to south, Qinghua Town is located in a low
mountainous and hilly area, with a high terrain in the northeast and a low terrain in the southwest, tilting from northeast to southwest. Fewer of the traditional Huizhou-style buildings have been preserved intact, and most of them have been renovated because they were built too long ago and are no longer suitable for living. Town center old street both sides of the building distribution dense, building distance near, layout compact, traditional ancient architecture retains complete, has wuyuan county second batch of cultural relics protection unit. With a population of 16,000 as of 2019 of which most are seniors and children, there is one middle school and no high school. There is a more serious outflow of population, a lack of young adults and a more pronounced aging of the population. Qinghua Town belongs to Subtropical humid monsoon climate, mild and humid, with four distinct seasons and abundant precipitation. The frost-free period is long and the average annual rainfall is about 1,856 millimeters. The number of existing public activity spaces in Qinghua Town is insufficient, and according to the statistics from the field survey, the number of public activity spaces in traditional villages in Huizhou is generally low. This is mainly due to changes in the spatial layout of the village as a result of the exodus and economic development pressures of the past decades. The existing public activity space is mainly dominated by squares and streets, and the lack of diversified activity facilities restricts the villagers' daily life and the diversity of community activities. The environmental quality of public activity spaces in some villages is average, with problems such as improper waste disposal and low green coverage.

2.2. Clearwater Township Public Space Dilemma

In recent years, with the continuous development of social economy and the implementation of urban-rural integration policy, villagers in Qinghua Township, in order to improve the quality of life of their families, a large number of young and middle-aged people have gone to the big cities to work. Most people are always on the move and rarely return home, while some villagers have brought their families to live in the city after getting rich, and the problem of aging in the village is becoming more and more serious. Although Qinghua Town is located in Wuyuan County, there are fewer characteristic attractions, tourists stay for a short time, school-age children in the town usually focus on their studies, and the utilization rate of public activity space decreases with the population of migrant workers. At present, the infrastructure of Qinghua Town is still in a relatively backward state, although the government is actively promoting the implementation of some powerful policies, but the construction of the traditional fall, human, material and financial support is still intentional but not enough. Although the living conditions of the villagers in Qinghua Town are not too bad and can provide help for the rural tourism business, their infrastructure is not complete, which also impedes the local tourism business to a certain extent. With the penetration of urban lifestyles, the habits and socialization of villagers are also changing. Traditional public spaces may gradually lose their appeal because of their single function or outdated facilities. Therefore, adapting to the needs of contemporary society, updating and improving public space to bring it closer to the lives of villagers has become a current challenge. As time passes, some of the public spaces in Clearwater Township are gradually showing a trend of decline. In the case of the old temples in the village, for example, their architectural structures have deteriorated and poor maintenance has rendered some of the premises unusable. This not only affects the cultural activities, but also makes the village lose part of its historical imprint. Huizhou traditional villages are famous for their unique architectural styles, rich historical and cultural connotations and beautiful natural landscapes. However, with the development of society and population growth, the public activity space in these traditional villages can hardly meet the needs of the residents. On the one hand, the number and area of public activity spaces
are seriously insufficient, resulting in residents not being able to fully enjoy their needs for recreation, social interaction, etc. On the other hand, there are many problems in the design of some of the public activity spaces, such as single-functionality, irrational layout, and outdated facilities, which seriously affect the quality of life of the residents. The number and area of public activity spaces in traditional Huizhou villages are seriously insufficient. In many villages, only one or a few small squares are used as public activity areas, and they are too small to accommodate the participation of more residents. In addition, the public activity space in some villages has been occupied by private dwellings or converted to other uses, further aggravating the tension in the public activity space.\textsuperscript{[2]}

Figure 1: Current situation of some buildings in Tsinghua Town

Figure 2: Current situation of public spaces
3. Optimized Design of Public Space in Tsinghua Village

3.1. Design Strategy

The design strategy of public activity space in Qinghua Town is intended to protect and inherit the traditional village culture, based on the rational planning, design and transformation of public activity space to meet the needs of daily life of the residents and improve the quality of life and drive the development of the local economy. The optimization of the existing public space in Qinghua Town was designed to make the public space more dynamic and at the same time how to drive the development of rural economy became the focus of the design.

3.1.1. Upgrade event facilities to make the space more vibrant

Through the field research, it was found that the following problems are common in the public activity space of traditional villages: firstly, the aging of activity facilities, which cannot meet the needs of modern life; secondly, the unreasonable layout of activity space, which lacks effective organization and management; thirdly, the single content of activities, which cannot meet the needs of different age levels. Updating basic activity facilities to provide villagers with a more comfortable and convenient activity environment; optimizing the activity space layout of the dam area according to the current situation of Qinghua Town and improving the efficiency of space utilization; and developing activity contents to meet different age levels in conjunction with the geographic location of the dam.

3.1.2. Create a special nighttime economy to enhance rural economic development

With the continuous improvement of people’s living standards, people's pursuit of a better life is also growing, not satisfied with a single daytime economy, the night-time economy in recent years is widely loved by young groups, in the city has formed a unique landscape. [3] Introducing the night-time economy into traditional villages enables tourists to extend their stay in the villages under the "micro-resort" mode, bringing new vitality to the villages and boosting local economic growth. Optimize the design of the public activity space of the local dam area, design and build camping card in the dam area, night market and other activities to increase the ornamental dam area at the same time increase the economic nature of the dam, so that the public activity space of the traditional village is more diversified. [4]

3.2. Design Focus

3.2.1. Explore the tourism industry

Qinghua Town is still in the early stages of tourism, the characteristics of the attractions are more lacking, tourists will not play Qinghua Town as the main place to play, most of the Qinghua Town is an additional attraction, tourists come to the Qinghua Town directly to the scenic area, the scenic area around the circle and then directly out of the Qinghua Town to the next attraction. To create Qinghua Town's special tourism routes, excavate Qinghua Town's tourist attractions, design and plan Qinghua Town's special one-day tours, Qinghua Red Study and other projects. [5]

3.2.2. Create a night market culture

For the unique geographic location advantages of Qinghua Town dam, optimize the public activity space in Qinghua Town, the beautiful environment of the mountains and water, backed by the fields, to create a campground by young people like, the introduction of night market economy, enriching the villagers' life in the fields for the villagers to increase an income at the same time to attract tourists for the town of Qinghua to do more stays. During the day the dam can do villagers tourists to enjoy the scenery of Qinghua Town, and at night it injects a point of youthful vitality into Qinghua Town.
3.3. **Design Purpose**

In traditional villages, the public activity space is not just a simple place, but an important part of the daily life of the villagers. These spaces can be in the form of plazas, streets, parks, ancestral halls, and many other forms, and they provide a platform for villagers to communicate and interact. On this platform, villagers can participate in various collective activities together, such as celebrating festivals and organizing marriage and funeral ceremonies. At the same time, these spaces are also important places for villagers to relax, socialize and make friends. The optimized design of Qinghua Town takes into full consideration the practical needs of the villagers of Qinghua Town, in-depth investigation of public opinion, combined with professional knowledge to redesign Qinghua Town.

3.4. **Design effects**

3.4.1. **Status of the base**

Qinghua Town natural resources with distinctive features, rich and colorful cultural resources, but not enough publicity, tourism management resources to be strengthened. Roads on both sides of the dam are longer and wider, close to fields and houses and by the mountains and water, but the dam is underutilized and only has the function of villagers' daily walks and vehicle traffic, and tourists seldom pass through it. The dam has a better environment and is undeveloped, and no one pays attention to it even though it has a better view.

![Figure 3: Ground wire of dam road](image)

3.4.2. **Design effect**

Aiming at the characteristics of Qinghua Town and combining the history and culture of Qinghua Town, designing characteristic landscape sketches for both sides of the road of Qinghua Old Street, and creating a net red punch point with the characteristics of Qinghua Town. Traditional villages of residential distance closer to the floor landscape sketches occupy a large area and affect the normal passage, choose to use the wall space, the Qinghua town of oil paper umbrella non-heritage crafts to show. It adds to the vitality of the countryside while passing on the local non-heritage culture.

The location of the dam area is relatively wide, designed as a campground combined with the night market economy, attracting tourists to choose to stay here at night, providing activities such as purchasing, resting and partying, carding and photo-taking, etc. The overall choice of tents, food trucks and other facilities with high mobility, creating a convenient and more dynamic rural night economy, and providing more options for the combination of space for the
town of Qinghua. Overall without changing the image of the existing public space under the premise of adding part of the neon decorations, so that the dull and single night life in Qinghua Town becomes more dynamic, while extending the length of stay of tourists in Qinghua Town, driving the growth of the local economy.

Figure 4: Rendering

4. Conclusion

Optimizing the design of public activity spaces also respects the traditional architecture and environment. The architecture and environment of traditional villages have their unique historical and cultural values, and designers should preserve and utilize these resources as much as possible, rather than simply demolishing the old to build the new. By optimizing the design, these traditional elements can be incorporated into the public activity space so that it has a modern function while maintaining its original appearance. In the long run, optimizing the design of public activity space is also an investment in the future. As society develops and changes, traditional villages may face a variety of challenges. However, if there is a good space for public activities, villagers can carry out various activities here to empower themselves and improve their quality of life. In this way, even when faced with challenges, they are able to respond positively and maintain the vitality and vigor of their villages.

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