

# Study on Landscape Characteristics and Protection Methods of Liangshan Yi Traditional Villages

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## Abstract

Traditional villages carry the Chinese nation's historical memory, production and life wisdom, cultural and artistic crystallization, and national and regional characteristics, maintain the roots of Chinese civilization, and carry the homesickness of Chinese people of all ethnic groups. However, the landscape characteristics of traditional villages in China are gradually disappearing. Taking the traditional villages of Yi nationality in Liangshan, Sichuan as the research object, this paper analyzes and studies the landscape characteristics, settlement characteristics and architectural characteristics respectively through the macroscopic landscape level, the mesoscopic settlement level and the microscopic architectural level. By summarizing the characteristics of Liangshan Yi traditional landscape, this study provides theoretical support for the protection of traditional villages.

## Keywords

Traditional Village; Landscape Characteristics; Value; Protect Method.

## 1. Foreword

Traditional villages, also known as ancient villages, refer to villages that formed earlier, are rich in cultural and natural resources, and have certain historical, cultural, scientific, artistic, economic and social values, which should be protected. Since the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, the Ministry of Culture, National Cultural Heritage Administration and the Ministry of Finance jointly issued the guiding opinions on the protection of traditional villages in 2014, the protection of traditional villages in China has gone through 10 years, and 8,155 traditional villages have been approved. Great progress has been made in the protection of traditional villages, but the protection of traditional villages in ethnic minority areas is still urgent. According to statistics, among the 1,165 traditional villages approved in Sichuan Province, Liangshan Yi traditional villages only account for 29 seats. It is urgent to study the protection and development of Yi traditional villages.

## 2. A study of landscape characteristics

### 2.1. Research methods

This paper analyzes and studies the landscape characteristics, settlement characteristics and architectural characteristics from the macro landscape level, the meso settlement level and the micro architecture level respectively. The research methods of spatial characteristics mainly adopt field investigation, literature analysis and typology to record real images and extract keywords respectively, and the final verification of types is carried out by expert evaluation and resident interviews.

## 2.2. Landscape features

### 2.2.1. Geographic features

By combing the relevant literature, the geographic features are generally summarized from the macro perspectives of natural environment (including rivers and water conservancy) [1-3] and living environment [2, 4]. This paper summarizes the geographic characteristics from three main aspects through research. Natural environment: The Yi village in Liangshan, Sichuan Province is located in the rolling mountains, and the high altitude causes the cold climate and pale vegetation. The rivers in the mountains meander down with the slopes and valleys, forming the geographic characteristics of mountains coexisting and rivers meandering. Production and construction: the mountains and fields are naturally connected together, and winding roads are built around the mountains, and roads are built around mountains. Living environment: settlements and rivers merge together, forming a geographic feature of following the trend and blending rivers and villages. Finally, the geographic features of Yi villages in Liangshan, Sichuan Province can be summarized from three macro perspectives: mountain symbiosis-winding river, mountain-field dependence-building roads around mountains, following the trend-river village integration.

### 2.2.2. Settlement characteristics

By combing the relevant literature, the characteristics of settlements are generally summarized from the perspectives of distribution characteristics [5], factor relationship [4] and environmental integration [6]. The research and summary of this paper are as follows: in terms of distribution characteristics: the natural conditions in high-altitude mountains make the houses show scattered and stretched distribution characteristics. Some houses are distributed on the gentle slope of the plateau, and some are scattered along the slope of the mountain. In the aspect of factor relationship, there are many streets and lanes that are irregular, random and formed by the place. Environmental integration: the house makes full use of the natural environmental characteristics, always maintains a landscape style that is highly harmonious with the mountain features, showing the characteristics of deep and primitive environmental integration with the earth. Finally, in the aspect of environmental integration, the settlement characteristics of organic mosaic of houses and streets and lanes are formed because of the land.

### 2.2.3. Architectural features

By combing the relevant literature, the architectural features are generally summarized from the microscopic perspectives of material, structure and decoration.

The research of this paper is summarized as follows: in terms of materials, the traditional building materials of the Yi people are all taken from local natural materials, the walls are generally made of rammed earth, and the roofs are paved with local high-altitude mountain wood such as slates and boards, which are finally built. Structural aspect: Because the tiled house is commonly used with a bucket-crossing frame structure [7] and the eaves are deep, the whole building presents the architectural characteristics of simplicity and deep eaves. Decoration: The typical architectural feature of tiled house is the combination of earth wall and wood wall, which spell out various patterns, and its yellow-brown pattern is in harmony with brown wooden frame and brown earth wall, and the black shingles make the whole house look magnificent. In addition, we will carve and draw patterns related to nature and animals on the building to make the building more simple and sincere. The final formation: natural and simple, deep through the eaves of the bucket.

## 3. Landscape value

Through the previous research, this paper summarizes the spatial value of Yi people in Liangshan Prefecture, Sichuan Province into the following three aspects:

### **3.1.1. Inheriting the typical representative of traditional Yi settlement etiquette culture.**

Yi etiquette culture is different from other national cultures, which has its own deep historical factors, reflects the survival wisdom of Yi ancestors and the overall values of the nation, retains the internal cultural factors passed down from generation to generation, and has important value attributes.

### **3.1.2. To create a model under the traditional concept of family support system and family co-construction.**

The family branch system is a typical representative of the traditional cultural concept of the Yi people, and it is also the cultural internal cause of the formation of the settlement pattern of the Yi people for thousands of years. The development and inheritance of the family branch system makes the traditional settlement of Yi people different from other ethnic groups, and has a typical mode of getting along with the land and ethnic groups. The traditional settlement of the Yi nationality under the construction of the family branch system is not only the carrier of the living culture of the Yi nationality, but also the full embodiment of regional characteristics and spatial value. Preserving the traditional Yi settlement form under the influence of the value system is an effective way to protect national culture.

### **3.1.3. A typical case of harmonious coexistence between human and environment full of ecological wisdom.**

The Yi people's production and lifestyle skillfully resolved the contradiction between man and land, realized the sustainable acquisition of production resources in settlements and maintained the stability of the ecosystem [8]. The production and life style of Yi people is a typical representative of the concept of low-carbon survival, which has achieved the goal of harmonious coexistence between ethnic minority areas and the environment. It provides a practical basis for the living style of residents in other parts of China to live in harmony with nature, and its ecological wisdom is a valuable experience constantly derived from the process of national culture and nature. It has important case study value.

## **4. Protection methods**

### **4.1. Promoting cultural self-confidence**

The cultural wealth created by any nation is accumulated over time and lasts forever in the long river of history. We must enhance residents' cultural self-confidence and show their own cultural characteristics while having a clear understanding of traditional culture. The national culture is rooted in the unique living environment and unique, which is an extremely precious feature in today's world convergence. Only by improving residents' cultural self-confidence can local residents return to the land voluntarily, inherit and carry forward their own cultural traditions, thus passing them on from generation to generation. The settlement landscape of the Yi people is the result of a hundred years' struggle and evolution against the land. The Yi residents have been neighbors to the mountains for generations, forming a mutual feedback scene in which the settlements are built on the mountains and the mountains are thriving because of the settlements. The mountains are the conditions for the survival of the Yi people, and they are one of the few and uninterrupted traditional lifestyles at present. The protection of Yi settlement landscape is also the protection of traditional lifestyle, which has unique value and significance in the world settlement culture forest and plays an important role in carrying forward Yi culture.

### **4.2. Protection of the overall environment of traditional villages**

Yi villages have been struggling with the land for a hundred years and moving towards harmony. In this process, a unique way of living with nature has been established. For example, most

villages are built on the hills, and farming and herding are the modes of production. However, there are actually ecological problems that come with it, which conflicts with the ecological red line protection required by today's country. In fact, the traditional lifestyle of Yi residents has little impact on ecology. Today, the protection of ecology is strict, so if we want to protect villages, we must bring the whole village into the category of environmental protection. According to the protection requirements of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, we should establish a "one village, one file" protection work for traditional villages in China. Consider and predict the impact on the environment, effectively guide the construction of residential areas on the basis of less impact on the environment, and protect the traditional villages as a whole to the greatest extent.

### 4.3. Introduction of tourism mechanism

The traditional villages of Liangshan Yi people are located in the high mountains. After a hundred years of continuous development, they have formed a landscape feature that blends with mountains. However, due to the deep mountains, traffic problems have led to the continuous decline of most traditional villages. In the list of traditional villages published by Sichuan Province, the traditional villages of Yi people only occupy three seats. In fact, Liangshan area is less bound by foreign capital. What causes so few traditional villages? Through investigation and study, it is found that most traditional village areas are located on the hills, which is inconvenient for living, and due to the comprehensive reasons such as disrepair of buildings or environmental problems, most of them adopt the method of relocation from other places or reconstruction of the original site. Therefore, the number has decreased sharply, and the remaining few traditional villages cannot escape the fate of new buildings destroying the overall style. In the final analysis, top-down financial remedies can't solve the dilemma of Yi traditional villages disappearing gradually, or we should adopt the local landscape environment and cultural features to introduce tourism mechanism to solve the dilemma of local protection and development. Of course, for traditional villages applying for tourism, the premise is that strict protection planning and tourism planning must be formulated in accordance with national protection regulations and standards. On the premise of protecting the environment and not destroying the ecology, the proper introduction of tourism development mechanism will help to improve the living conditions of residents and increase fiscal revenue, so as to achieve the function of continuously replenishing traditional villages, which can play a certain role in the disappearing traditional villages of Yi nationality.

## 5. Summary

This paper analyzes and studies the landscape characteristics, settlement characteristics and architectural characteristics from the macro landscape level, the meso settlement level and the micro architecture level respectively. The results show that the landscape features of Yi villages in Liangshan, Sichuan Province can be summarized from three macro perspectives: the symbiosis of mountains-winding rivers, the dependence of mountains and fields-building roads around mountains, and the integration of rivers and villages. The settlement characteristics of organic mosaic of houses and streets and lanes formed by land. Natural and simple, the architectural features that penetrate through the eaves are deep. The landscape value is summarized in three aspects: inheriting the typical representative of traditional Yi settlement etiquette culture; A model under the traditional concept of family support system and family co-construction; A typical case of harmonious coexistence between man and environment full of ecological wisdom. Finally, the methods of landscape protection of Yi traditional villages are put forward, hoping that the research in this paper can provide theoretical reference for the construction of traditional villages in China.

## Acknowledgements

(1)General Project of Humanities and Social Sciences of Southwest Petroleum University: Study on Local Knowledge Map of Liangshan Yi Traditional Village from the Perspective of Rural Revitalization (2022-2023RW015). (2)Nanchong City School Science and Technology Strategic Cooperation Project: Research on the Training Mode of Urban and Rural Planning Talents Serving Regional Economic Development (23XNSYSX0115). (3)Sichuan Provincial Key Research Base for Philosophy and Social Sciences - Modern Design and Cultural Research Center(MD23E026).

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