

The Return of Neighborhood Space in the Context of Urban Renewal

Kai Cao, Zhipeng Jiang

School of art and design Wuhan Textile University, Wuhan, China

Abstract. With the intensification of urban construction and urbanization, there is a positive picture across the country. However, with the spread of “urban disease”, the supporting facilities of cities and the quality of life of residents are relatively weakened. Through the discussion of the space loss of urban neighborhood interface caused by land policy under modern transformation and marketization, the negative reasons of urban neighborhood space and the importance of transforming it into positive space to promote its return are analyzed from multiple levels. According to the relevant basic elements, the basic constraints of the urban neighborhood interface are analyzed, the function and conceptual orientation of the urban interface space are expounded, and finally the regression strategy of the lost space of the urban adjacent interface is given.

Keywords: Urbanization; Lost space; Neighborhood interface.

1. Neighborhood space renovation leads to anomie

The old community has experienced the lives and operations of several generations. While precipitating the cultural context, the buildings have also left traces of dilapidation. There are common phenomena such as disrepair and aging facilities. Large areas of public space are filled with self-built houses and demarcated to expand personal living space. The additions attached to the original building structure increase the burden of the building and cause safety hazards. The streets are narrow, and the sides are occupied by debris and vehicles disorderly.

The functional decline of buildings makes it difficult to meet the needs of modern life. Most of the buildings are restricted by the old way of life, social form, economic ability, etc., and the spatial layout only stays at a reasonable level. On the one hand, there is a serious shortage of public service facilities and municipal infrastructure; on the other hand, some stock spaces scattered in the community are underutilized.

The renewal of the neighborhood space of the old community is not just a process of physical space planning and transformation, but also a revival of the community culture and the daily life of the residents. Jane Jacobs said: “Urban space should not be purely engineering and only pursuing technical efficiency, but should become a space for human growth and interpersonal interaction, which injects the blood of life into the urban environment.”

Nowadays, the living habits, communication methods and entertainment activities of residents are changing, becoming more diversified and complex, which will inevitably generate new demands for the functions of the neighborhood space. However, most urban construction practices still only focus on the physical environment and functional form.

The enthusiasm and subjective initiative of interaction increase the possibility of interpersonal interaction among residents, rather than an objective necessity. The update process lacks targeted research based on cultural uniqueness. Designers, managers, and residents have not communicated reasonably and effectively, ignoring the real demands of the real “subject” (that is, residents). It ignores the diversity, richness and unpredictability of daily life behind the urban space, the crux of the decline of the community and other issues, deviates from the original intention of renewal, and the renewal and transformation of the neighborhood space leads to anomie.

2. Research Significance

In the past, the renewal and activation of the neighborhood space of the old community focused on the “renovation of the old appearance” in the physical space, the inheritance of the old architectural

context and style, the revival of the human environment, the reconstruction of the collective consciousness and memory of the local residents, and the spatial communication activities. There are few studies, and the relevant theories are not perfect or systematic. By sorting out and summarizing the renewal status and development trend of the neighborhood space of old communities at home and abroad in the past few years, this paper proposes feasible strategies and applies them to practical cases, providing a certain reference basis and theoretical basis for future research. It stimulates useful thinking about revitalizing community life and cultural exchanges.

Through theoretical analysis and field research, we propose activation strategies and provide direct guidance for practice. Combining with the current situation of Binghui community, on the basis of following the texture of the old city and coordinating urban development, this paper provides a new model for the renewal and activation of neighborhood space from the perspective of crowd structure and space creation.

Analysis and development trend of research status at home and abroad:

The focus of foreign research on the space renewal of old communities has shifted from the characteristics of “material space” to the research of “humanism”, and then entered the stage of multi-dimensional thinking such as “multiple synthesis”. Compared with foreign countries, the research on the renovation of old community space in my country started relatively late, and most of them were based on foreign basic research. In recent years, the focus of renovation has changed from large-scale demolition and construction with a single goal to multi-dimensional and progressive sustainable development, and the quality of the space environment has been improved through a local, small-scale, and incremental update model [2]. Based on the improvement of people's livelihood, it pays attention to the research on people's behavior and psychology, and puts the improvement of residents' living standards and the improvement of the material environment at the same important position, so as to realize the real revival of the neighborhood space of the old community.

3. “People, Activities, Spaces” Build Relationships

(1) Population structure

Certain groups of people have corresponding characteristics and needs in their interactions. In the neighborhood space of the old community, the elderly and children are the main users of the neighborhood space, and at the same time, children are also an important force in pulling parents to participate in activities. As the backbone of the whole society, the young and middle-aged people, as the source of income of the family, have less leisure time. The frequency of use of the neighborhood space is low, and the communication activities are limited.

By improving the physical environment, it provides a shared platform for neighborhood communication, creates objective communication opportunities to stimulate people's subjective initiative, attracts a group of young and middle-aged people who are less active in the community, and injects fresh blood into the neighborhood space of the community. People of different ages and occupations Activity subjects gather here to form a good complementary relationship and form a heterogeneous structure group, which has changed the current situation of the over-aging of the active population in the old community space, avoided excessive differentiation and isolation of social space, and achieved space sharing, more Efficient use of urban resources.

(2) Type of activity

Activities in public spaces are mainly divided into three types: necessary activities, spontaneous activities and social activities. Although the requirements for the physical environment of various types of activities are quite different, a good physical environment increases the number of activities in the community. possibility of occurrence.

Necessary activities are activities that people have to participate in to varying degrees, mainly including daily work and life things, such as going to school, going to work, shopping, picking up children, waiting for people, waiting for a bus, etc. Most of this type of activity is related to walking. Although it is not closely related to the physical environment, due to its good environment, the activity

time tends to be prolonged. The main body of communication aims at necessary activities, and necessary activities can trigger low-intensity communication activities, so there are objective opportunities for communication in the process of activities.

Spontaneous activities are more dependent on external material conditions, mainly including recreational activities, such as walking, stopping to chat, basking in the sun, etc. The spaces for spontaneous activities in the community are divided into two categories, one is the necessary behavior path space. , according to the conditions of the environment at the time to determine whether there are conditions for spontaneous activities, the second is that in addition to the necessary path space, residents can choose a comfortable space for rest, chat and a series of activities. The two types of spaces correspond to public transportation space, stock space and multi-functional space in the community.

Social activities refer to various activities in public spaces that depend on the participation of others, mainly including shallow, passive contact social activities, such as children's games and group activities . In the course of the activity, the main body of the activity is not for the purpose of communication, but because each of them may engage in the same necessary activities, which can further develop into a deep-level communication relationship, which means that the prerequisite is to gather in the same space .

Neighborhood space uses necessary activities as a medium to create a suitable space environment to encourage spontaneous activities, promote more residents' communication activities, and indirectly promote chain social activities.

(3) Build relationships

Neighborhood space is a carrier that provides residents with daily life and social interaction, and human activities endow the space with vitality and existential meaning and attributes. From a macro perspective, the main body of space refers to the main body of space production (government, designers, residents, etc.), and from a micro perspective, it refers to the main body of community space use. Activities refer to residents' daily activities, exchanges, practices, etc., and gradually form a local-specific way of life year by year .

People of different age groups have diverse cognition of the objective material environment due to their different cognitive structures composed of values, purpose of use, and space needs. Space carries and guides the occurrence of activities. A good space can provide people with a variety of activity choices while meeting the needs of people's daily life. Along with the changes of space, such as aging of buildings, renewal of public facilities, renovation of public space, improvement of environmental quality, etc., it can not only arouse the enthusiasm and subjective initiative of interpersonal communication, but also affect the purpose and way of actions of individuals in the space. Adapt to changes in lifestyle and type of activity. There is neither a one-way action nor a static development among the three, but an interaction and interdependence to form an organic circulatory system.

By sorting out the related research on public space and daily life in the community, analyzing the commonalities and differences of the behavior patterns of the crowd structure, and discussing the coexistence mode of the crowd and the optimization strategy of public space, as the expansion of the living space of the local residents, it can provide different services for different people. Age groups provide opportunities and sharing platforms for entertainment, work, and communication, so as to stimulate the vitality of the community.

4. Neighborhood space update strategy

(1) Multi-party coordination

Most of my country's urban construction is top-down, led by the government and developers. During the renovation process, the public space develops according to the expected blueprint, while the designer manipulates the space subjectively in order to meet the functional requirements and the visual appearance, regardless of the real demands of the residents. Ezio Manzini summed up the

design of social innovation as “new ideas to meet social goals”. He believed that social innovation activities not only need to be promoted from “top-down”, but also need to be developed from “bottom-up”. Faced with the social innovation activity of space renewal and activation of old communities, it is a process of coordinating and balancing the demands of all parties.

Establish a complete public participation mechanism, connect the government, local residents, community grass-roots staff, designer teams, and social and public forces to jointly explore a new way of community building, and build a “government-led, expert participation, public support, “Social Synergy” is a top-down and bottom-up implementation mechanism. The government forms top-down guidance with the help of external forces, establishes internal councils within the community, broadens the channels for residents to participate, and organizes bottom-up community building activities. With the technical support of community organizations and professionals, it takes solving the most concerned, direct and realistic interests of residents as an entry point, uses existing resources to improve public space, arouses community people to participate in community affairs, and builds community consensus. As the main body of the construction, the designer group, on the one hand, is entrusted by the relevant government departments to participate in the preparation and implementation of the community plan in the whole process. On the other hand, it is a bridge of communication and interaction between the government and the masses, and undertakes responsibilities such as technical support and public coordination.

(2) Vitality of public space

The obsolescence of old communities arises from the incongruity between their existing functions and needs. Renovation and reuse of existing buildings to accommodate new activities and uses. However, the improvement of the physical environment of the community neighborhood space is only conducive to stimulating the enthusiasm and subjective initiative of the main group of activities and increasing the possibility of interpersonal interaction, which does not mean that its initiation is inevitable. This means that after the renewal of the neighborhood spaces in most communities, the residents' communication activities in the activity rooms of various functions have not increased accordingly, and the social benefits of their public spaces have not been exerted. Be the best choice for people to stop and stop. Due to the lack of in-depth analysis of communication behavior during the renovation process, the problem of “seeing things but not people” has not been fundamentally resolved, and the space generally lacks vitality. Residents in old communities are seriously aging and the proportion is rising, their economic capacity is relatively low, and community consensus is declining.

According to the interpretation of the Japanese economist Toshiaki Tachibana, the connection between people and others in society is called “relationship”, which mainly includes family members (blood relationship), other people in the area where they live (geographical relationship), and people they meet in the workplace. (Social relationship). However, in today's society, the shrinking of family size has diluted the “blood relationship”, the elderly in the old community who are mostly retired have also lost their “social relationship”, and the neighborhood relationship that used to play an important part in interpersonal communication has also become flat and peaceful. Alienation, alienated from the development of “geo”. According to the analysis of the types of human relationships, when the karmic relationship and geographical relationship are no longer the main components of the social population, the similar relationship and chance relationship can be used to establish the residents' communication system and reconstruct the intimate neighborhood model. Residents form strong social bonds through frequent contacts in unconscious social interactions. This social bond between neighbors is rooted in the spatial form of the community and provides an effective medium for the occurrence of communication activities. For example, the “Four Leaf Herb Hall organization initiated by teachers of Tongji University uses “community gardens” to activate space renewal and social governance, allowing local residents to build, share and govern their homes together, and thus have more connections. Residents of the “Baicao Garden” in Anshan No. 4 Village, Yangpu District, Shanghai, organized and maintained the garden on their own initiative, and carried out various community activities around the garden, such as the community garden market.

As the carrier of daily communication, the source of vitality of public space largely depends on the overlapping and mixing of various activities and spaces. In order to maintain the lasting vitality of the public space, flexibly adjust according to changes in external conditions, endow the space with flexible use functions, and build planning guidance for the use of space in different time periods to meet the needs of residents for different types of public activities at different levels of space. Secondly, in the past, space was often divided into a single field of activity due to functional division, showing a “scattered” circle structure in the space. Among them, the single function, the extreme and the overemphasis on the dynamic and static partitions lead to the spatial alienation of each area. Therefore, on the basis of satisfying the crowd's requirements for a sense of security and privacy, by promoting the diffusion and flow of crowd gatherings, a positive “multi-nucleus” and “cluster-like” circle structure is created to rejuvenate the vitality of crowd life.

To create a good neighborhood space, it is not only necessary to improve the physical environment of the old community, to create a vibrant atmosphere, but also to return to the daily life of the residents. Designers need to get rid of personal subjective standards to judge the quality of the space and the development direction, so as to meet the needs of residents. The design should be based on the guide of the living needs of the residents, and the interaction between the daily life of the residents and the public space should be explored .

(3) Inheriting the architectural style

As an effective means of integrating urban resources, inheriting the regional historical context, and activating the vitality of the community, the renewal of the neighborhood space of the old community aims to maintain the continuity of the historical context of the old buildings in the community, while maintaining the continuity of the historical context of the old buildings in the community . The way it was built is injected with new features and rejuvenated. From the aspect of inheriting the regional context, respect the existing urban texture and spatial pattern, and deal with the relationship between the reconstructed building and the surrounding environment, and find a delicate balance between the two opposing relationships of “new” and “old”. On the other hand, by revitalizing the stock space of the old community, the public life of the community is more diversified, providing better living space and quality of life for local residents. The specific renovation content can be comprehensively renovated and modernized and livable according to the actual quality of the house, such as adding necessary equipment and public service facilities, improving the regional environment, and improving building safety performance.

In addition to the continuation of the architectural style, the preservation and continuation of the lifestyle of the community residents, social relations and the enhancement of community vitality are also indispensable contents. Pay attention to the creation of community humanistic atmosphere, combine hard material transformation with soft community cultural activities, refine local traditional characteristic elements, guide bottom-up community cultural construction, mobilize and organize local residents to actively participate in community cultural activities, Give the community more sense of life and multicultural atmosphere. Example: Wanchai area of Hong Kong, China, through strategic means such as recreating the community texture and restoring historical buildings, creating a regional cultural and artistic space, holding various forms of exhibitions and activities, showing the local culture, anecdotal stories, etc., to establish the belonging of the residents sense and identity.

5. Conclusion

The rapid development of urbanization has led to the increasing contradiction between the continuous renewal of urban material space and the rapid disappearance of historical and cultural memory, and the old community carries the historical context and cultural memory of the city. Therefore, the behavior of the crowd structure cannot be ignored in the transformation of the community. The relationship between demand and neighborhood space, the place spirit of neighborhood space includes the relationship between society, economy, culture and space. Improving neighborhood space is the key to activating community vitality. The material renewal of

community space should be accompanied by the continuation and inheritance of cultural memory. in order to maintain the sustainable development of the city. Old community renewal and community renovation projects are important and complex topics in urban development. This case is limited to “sliced” research and design practice on community neighborhood spaces. The research objects and data samples are limited, and the definition of time and space is limited to The current status of the community, and in view of the lack of practical experience and the lack of social experience, the details are not well considered, and there is still some gap from the ideal and expected goals. I hope to deepen and improve in the follow-up related practice.

References

- [1] (Canada) Jane Jacobs, translated by Jin Hengshan. *The Death and Life of American Cities* [M]. Nanjing: Yilin Publishing House, 2005.
- [2] Wu Liangyong. Several Theoretical Problems of Ju'er Hutong Experiment--Beijing Dilapidated Building Renovation and Renovation of Old Residential Areas (3) [J], *Chinese Journal of Architecture*, 1991(12):2-12.
- [3] Hu Wen. *Principles and Design Methods of Residential Area Planning* [M]. Beijing: China Construction Industry Press, 2007.
- [4] Cao Yu. *Community Spatial Form and Neighborhood Communication* [D]. Beijing: China Architectural Design and Research Institute, 2012.
- [5] Zhang Zhen, Liu Wanru. An Analysis of the Protection and Renewal of Historic Districts from the Perspective of “New Urbanism”: Taking the East Qianmen District of Beijing as an Example [J]. *World Architecture*, 2019(10): 106-111+125.
- [6] (Denmark) Jan Gale, translated by He Renke. *Communication and Space* [M]. Beijing: China Construction Industry Press, 2002.
- [7] Zheng Chen. *Research on the Design Method of Neighborhood Open Space in Taiyuan Old City* [D]. Shanxi: Taiyuan University of Technology, 2015.