

Planning Proposals for the Construction of Heritage Parks from the Perspective of Regional Cultural Integrity: A Case Study of Ye Cheng National Archaeological Park in Hebei Province

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Abstract: As a key platform for the protection of cultural heritage and the dissemination of regional culture, the heritage park shoulders the important mission of inheriting historical context and promoting regional culture. However, in the current practical process, how to avoid the fragmented presentation of regional culture in heritage parks and achieve its overall expression has become an important issue that needs to be urgently addressed. This article takes the Yecheng National Archaeological Site Park in Hebei Province as an example to deeply explore the overall expression strategy of regional culture in the site park. Through a systematic review of the historical and cultural value and regional cultural characteristics of the Ye City Ruins, the problem of cultural fragmentation existing in the process of protection and display is analyzed, and then a three-in-one expression path of "spatio-temporal accumulation - symbol extraction - scene reconstruction" is proposed.

Keywords: National Archaeological Site Park, Ye City Ruins, Regional Culture, Holistic Expression

1. Introduction

In the current grand context of global heritage protection, the importance of regional cultural identity is increasingly prominent. Regional culture, as a core component of cultural heritage, carries the identity and cultural sense of belonging of the people in a specific area. However, in the construction process of Chinese heritage parks, there is a widespread problem of "emphasizing material remains while neglecting cultural integration". The construction of heritage parks often focuses on the protection of the site itself and the display of its physical form, while neglecting the in-depth exploration and systematic integration of regional culture, resulting in fragmented cultural presentation and an inability to form a complete and unified cultural expression system. This issue restricts the sustainable development of the heritage park and the full realization of its cultural heritage value, and it is necessary to conduct in-depth research and explore effective solutions.

Given this, this study selects Ye City Ruins Park as a case study. As a capital city of six dynasties, Ye City has a profound historical heritage and rich multicultural layers. Over the years, it has undergone systematic archaeological excavations and research, forming a relatively complete archaeological data system and research outcomes, providing solid and reliable foundational data for further in-depth studies.

This research aims to enrich and improve the theoretical system for the protection and dissemination of cultural heritage, explore a three-in-one expression path of "spatio-temporal accumulation - symbol extraction - scene reconstruction", analyze the integration and presentation mechanism of regional culture in heritage parks from multiple dimensions, provide new perspectives and ideas for the theoretical research of cultural heritage, and promote the innovation and development of related theories. Meanwhile, the achievements of this research can provide referenceable paradigms and practical guidelines for the construction of similar large-scale cultural heritage projects such as the Yellow River Basin National Cultural Park, and help achieve scientific protection, rational utilization and effective inheritance of cultural heritage.

2. The holistic expression of regional culture

Regional culture is a precious asset of the Chinese nation [1]. Regional culture is the sum of material and spiritual wealth created by human beings in their long-term production and life within a specific geographical area. It is a complex and composite system that encompasses material remains, intangible traditions, and spatial memories. Material remains form the physical basis of regional culture, including ruins, cultural relics, ancient buildings, etc. Intangible traditions contain the spiritual foundation of regional culture, such as local folk customs, traditional skills, oral legends, and artistic performances. The overall expression of regional culture aims to break through the previous limitations of the scattered and isolated presentation of various elements of regional culture, and achieve a complete, systematic and immersive presentation of regional culture.

At the material level, the coordinated protection of the site itself and environmental elements is required. The site itself is the core material carrier of regional culture. Scientific protection of it is the foundation for achieving the overall expression of regional culture. This includes maintaining the structural stability of the site, treating diseases, and restoring the site itself, etc., to ensure that the site can truly and completely preserve its historical information and cultural value. Meanwhile, environmental elements such as the surrounding natural environment like mountains, waters, landforms and vegetation landscapes, as well as the humanistic environment like the historical districts and traditional villages around, are all important components of regional culture. The site itself and environmental elements should be protected and planned as an organic whole, so that the site can be better displayed and interpreted in a suitable environment, thereby achieving the overall presentation of regional culture in the material space. At the cultural level, emphasis is placed on the integrated narrative of historical events, folk traditions, and artistic forms. Historical events are important milestones in the development of regional culture, reflecting significant changes and contributions in politics, economy, culture and other aspects of the region during a specific historical period. Folk traditions reflect the unique lifestyle and cultural customs of regional culture and are an important manifestation of the dynamic inheritance of regional culture. In the expression, local folk activities, traditional festivals, folk beliefs and other folk traditions should be fully displayed, allowing tourists to participate and experience them personally, and feel the unique charm and vitality of the regional culture. Art forms are the concentrated display of the aesthetic values of regional culture, such as local folk music, dance, drama, traditional handicrafts, etc. Integrating and presenting these art forms can not only enrich the cultural connotation of the heritage park, but also enhance the appeal of regional culture to the audience through the power of art.

At the same time, the overall expression of regional culture also requires a solid foundation, mainly including the construction of cultural gene maps, spatial scene translation models, and digital twin technology support. Through in-depth and systematic research and analysis of regional culture, the material cultural genes within it are explored, such as the architectural style of the ruins and the shapes and patterns of the cultural relics, as well as the intangible cultural genes, such as the production techniques of traditional skills and the ritual procedures of folk activities. In the heritage park, regional culture needs to be presented and disseminated through specific spatial scenes. For instance, historical events can be transformed into specific historical context Spaces through scene restoration. Folk traditions can be displayed and passed down through dedicated folk experience zones, performance venues, and other spatial forms. Intangible cultural elements can be integrated with environmental elements and incorporated into spatial details such as landscape decorations and architectural ornaments. Digital twin technology creates virtual digital models corresponding to real heritage parks. It uses techniques such as 3D modeling, virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR) to highly replicate and vividly present the original appearance, historical scenes, and cultural activities of the sites, breaking through time and space limitations to offer immersive cultural experiences for audiences. On the other hand, digital twin technology enables dynamic monitoring and management of cultural resources in heritage parks. By collecting and analyzing data on visitor behavior and the display effects of cultural resources, it can promptly understand audience cultural needs and feedback, providing scientific basis for optimizing regional cultural content and presentation methods.

3. The practice of Ye City Ruins Park

3.1 Cultural Characteristics of Ye City

The ruins of Ye City are located about 20 kilometers southwest of Linzhang County, Hebei Province.

They consist of the adjacent Ye North City and Ye South City, and served as the capital of six dynasties: Cao Wei, Later Zhao, Ran Wei, Former Yan, Eastern Wei and Northern Qi [2]. The Ruins of Yecheng are located in Yecheng Town, Linzhang County, Handan City, Hebei Province, about 20 kilometers southwest of Linzhang County. The core area of the ruins covers a protected area of 30 square kilometers, and the protected area and construction control zone cover approximately 84 square kilometers. It was once the capital of six dynasties: Cao Wei, Later Zhao, Ran Wei, Former Yan, Eastern Wei and Northern Qi. The unique cultural grace of the Wei and Jin Dynasties was vividly reflected in the poetry, paintings, calligraphy and other artistic works of Ye City. Meanwhile, Ye City is also a typical representative of the integration of multiple religions. The relics such as the pagoda foundations of Buddhist temples preserved in the ruins park have become precious physical materials for studying the development of ancient Chinese religions. The site plan is rectangular, with an east-west main street dividing the city into northern and southern sections. Its central axis layout and functional zoning concepts had a profound influence on the construction of later capitals. The design of the central axis not only reflected ancient Chinese aesthetic pursuits for symmetry and order but also embodied ancient China's political ideology and hierarchical system. As the origin of ancient Chinese capital planning, Ye City holds significant transitional importance in the history of ancient Chinese capital construction. Moreover, Ye City is the birthplace of Jian'an literature, and through the protection and display of related historical sites such as the Three Terraces of Jinyu, it further enriches the cultural content of the heritage park.

3.2 Analysis of Expression Strategies

3.2.1 Narrative Expression of Material Culture

As a traditional material culture, Handan architecture serves as a carrier of cultural heritage, conveying specific cultural information from a particular historical period in creative design [3]. To comprehensively showcase the historical and cultural lineage of Ye City, a three-tiered spatiotemporal corridor has been constructed. Starting with the Warring States period Ye City, it displays relics such as ancient city defenses and workshop sites from that era, illustrating the early origins and development of Ye City, representing the simple and bold Pre-Qin culture. As a traditional material culture, the architecture of Handan during the Ye City period of the Cao Wei Dynasty highlights its glorious achievements as the capital, such as the display of the palace buildings along the central axis and the three copper sparrow platforms and other landmark architectural sites, as well as the restoration of the prosperous political, economic and cultural scenes of that time. The final section showcases the rise and fall of the southern city of Ye during the Eastern Wei and Northern Qi Dynasties. Through the display of archaeological findings on the city sites of this period and the exhibition of Buddhist temple architectural remains, it presents the cultural integration and changes of Ye during the Northern and Southern Dynasties, as well as its ultimate decline and remnants. These three temporal and spatial corridors can provide an in-depth understanding of the cultural characteristics and evolution trajectory of Ye City at different historical stages.

It is appropriate to create a cultural landmark system in the heritage park centered around the remains of the Three Storied Pavilion, the pagoda base of the Buddhist temple, and the ancient riverbed. As one of the landmark buildings of Ye City, the ruins of Tongque Santai carry rich historical memories and cultural symbols. Through scientific protection and reasonable display of its ruins, it has become the primary window for tourists to understand the history and culture of Ye City. Through systematic archaeological excavation and research, on the basis of protecting Buddhist temples and pagodas, carry out appropriate restoration and exhibition to gain a deeper understanding of the spread and development of multiple religions in Ye City. The ancient river course is an important geographical element of Ye City. Through the renovation and display of the ancient river course, combined with the creation of waterfront landscapes, not only has the water transportation style of the city in the past been recreated, but also a unique waterfront cultural experience space has been provided for tourists. These three cultural landmarks together constitute the cultural core of the heritage park and have become an important carrier for the expression of regional culture.

3.2.2 Narrative Expression of Spiritual Culture

Theme culture is the soul and essence of theme parks. Every successful theme park has strong cultural characteristics, establishing a distinct public image for itself [4].

A large number of architectural components were unearthed during the excavation of the ruins, such as bricks, tiles, column bases, and stone carvings of chi heads. Many fragments of stone-carved

architectural components feature engravings of flying celestial beings, swirling cloud patterns, and lotus motifs [5]. In the landscape design of the heritage park, through the analysis of the shape, scale, material and other features of the platform base, a series of landscape structures such as leisure seats, landscape walls and pavilions with elements of flying aptras, rolling clouds and lotus patterns were designed. The structures echo the ancient buildings of Ye City in form, while integrating modern design concepts and functional requirements. It has achieved the innovative expression of traditional architectural language in contemporary landscapes.

As an important component of ancient architecture, the digital extraction and analysis of the patterns on Yecheng roof tiles convert them into paving modules for application in the ground paving design of heritage parks. By simplifying, transforming, and reorganizing the tile patterns through various design techniques, they are adapted to the scale and functional requirements of the paving, resulting in a series of paving patterns with distinctive cultural characteristics of Yecheng.

Utilizing advanced digital technology, the spatial layout of Ye City's 'palace-market-residential quarters' has been virtually reconstructed. By setting up multiple AR scanning points at the site park, visitors can use their smartphones or other smart devices to scan and directly view 3D reconstruction models of the palace buildings, market areas, and residential zones on their screens. This digital representation method transcends traditional display techniques by combining immovable archaeological sites with virtual digital content, further enhancing the cultural impact and educational significance of the site park.

3.3 Technological innovation analysis

3.3.1 Archaeological Information Visualization System

In order to present the archaeological research results more intuitively to the public, the Yecheng Ruins Park has developed an archaeological information visualization system, integrating a vast amount of data from the archaeological excavations of the Yecheng Ruins over the years, including 3D models of the ruins, high-definition pictures and detailed information of the cultural relics, as well as records of the archaeological excavation process. Meanwhile, the system also features functions such as retrieval, screening, and comparison, facilitating professional researchers and ordinary tourists to obtain relevant information based on their own needs. This has achieved efficient dissemination and sharing of archaeological information, bringing archaeological achievements from professional fields into the public eye and enhancing the academic value and cultural appeal of the site park.

3.3.2 A platform for the integration of heritage site monitoring and display

The protection of the site itself is the primary task in the construction of a site park. A monitoring and display linkage platform for the site itself has been established. By installing various sensors on the site, such as temperature sensors, humidity sensors, and displacement sensors, the preservation status of the site can be monitored in real time to ensure the safety and stability of the site itself. Meanwhile, the platform is linked with the display system, which can convey to visitors the importance and urgency of site protection, achieving a positive interaction between protection and display, and providing a strong guarantee for the sustainable development of the site park.

3.3.3 Immersive Panoramic Theater 'The Ode to Copper Sparrow Terrace'

Based on the classic work of Jian'an literature, "The Ode to the Copper Sparrow Terrace", an immersive panoramic theater is created. The theater employs advanced multimedia technologies, such as high-definition projection, surround sound effects, and stage mechanical devices, to create a comprehensive and multi-sensory cultural experience space. Immersive theater performances not only enrich the cultural display forms of the heritage park, but also, through the appeal and impact of art, further deepen tourists' understanding and recognition of the literary culture of Jian'an in Yecheng, becoming a new highlight of cultural inheritance and innovation in the heritage park.

4. Current Issues and Optimization Strategies

Although Ye City Ruins Park has made numerous beneficial explorations in expressing regional cultural integrity, it still faces some urgent challenges that need to be addressed. Meanwhile, to ensure the sustainable development of the ruins park, the following targeted optimization strategies are proposed.

4.1 Current challenges

4.1.1 The Tension between Academic and Popular Interpretations of Cultural Layers

The historical and cultural connotations contained in the Ye City Ruins involve professional knowledge from multiple disciplines such as archaeology, history, and religious studies. Currently, there exists an irreconcilable contradiction between academic and popular aspects in the interpretation at the cultural level. On the one hand, as academic research deepens continuously, the achievements are often presented in professional terms and complex theoretical systems, which are difficult for ordinary tourists to understand and accept. On the other hand, to meet the visiting demands of the general public, some display contents are overly simplified, resulting in insufficiently precise and in-depth expression of cultural connotations. This fails to satisfy the expectations of cultural enthusiasts and professionals, thereby affecting the completeness and accuracy of regional cultural interpretation and restricting the depth and breadth of cultural dissemination in the heritage park.

4.1.2 The erosion pressure on historical environments from surrounding urbanization

With the rapid urbanization of the surrounding areas, the Yecheng Ruins Park is facing a severe problem of historical environmental erosion. The modern style of the surrounding construction projects is out of place with the historical atmosphere of the site, visually severing the organic connection between the site and its surrounding environment. Meanwhile, the environmental pollution brought about by urbanization has accelerated the weathering and damage of the site itself, affecting the preservation status and display effect of the site. In addition, the large-scale influx and movement of population have also put forward higher requirements for the management and cultural inheritance of heritage parks. How to balance the protection of heritage sites and regional development in the process of urbanization has become an urgent problem to be solved.

4.2 Optimization suggestions

4.2.1 Establish a segmented tour guide system

To address the contradiction between the academic nature and the mass nature of cultural interpretation, it is suggested to establish a dynamic cultural interpretation system and implement a segmented guiding strategy. It is necessary to design diverse interpretation content and methods based on the cultural levels, interests, and visiting purposes of different audiences. For ordinary tourists, plain and understandable language can be used to highlight the highlights and characteristics of Ye City's culture, such as the representative works of Jian'an Literature and the legends of the Three Platforms of Copper Birds. For cultural enthusiasts and professionals, in-depth and detailed academic explanations are provided, including interpretations of archaeological excavation reports, progress in historical document research, and other contents. Special topic seminars, academic lectures and other exchange platforms are also set up. Meanwhile, by using intelligent tour guide devices such as mobile applications and smart tour guides, personalized interpretation information can be automatically pushed based on tourists' locations and interests, achieving dynamic and precise interpretation services, thereby enhancing the effectiveness and coverage of cultural dissemination.

4.2.2 Construct an 'archaeological park+' ecosystem

To address the erosion pressure of the surrounding urbanization on the historical environment, an optimization strategy of building a "heritage park +" ecosystem is proposed, and the coordinated development with the surrounding agricultural heritage and traditional villages is strengthened. Establish cooperative relations with the surrounding agricultural heritage and jointly create an agricultural culture experience area with regional characteristics. By showcasing traditional farming techniques and holding harvest festivals, agricultural heritage is organically integrated with the culture of Yecheng, expanding the cultural display space and connotation of the heritage park.

The connection and cooperation with the surrounding traditional villages can be strengthened to form a network of cultural settlements. On the one hand, assist traditional villages in carrying out the excavation and protection of cultural resources; on the other hand, integrate their unique cultural elements such as folk customs and ancient architectural styles into the cultural tourism system of the heritage park. By building a "heritage park +" ecosystem, the coordinated development of culture, ecology, economy and other aspects can be achieved. With the heritage park as the core, it can drive the sustainable development of the surrounding areas. At the same time, the optimization of the surrounding environment can feed back to the protection and inheritance of the heritage park, forming a

virtuous interactive development pattern. Together, they can resist the impact of urbanization and achieve the overall protection and dynamic inheritance of regional culture.

5. Conclusion and outlook

This study explores the theoretical construction and practical application of the overall expression of regional culture in the Yecheng Ruins Park. The ruins park should not merely be a display space for material remains, but should become an "active container" of regional culture. The Yecheng Ruins Park has successfully transformed the profound connotations of historical culture into perceptible and experiential cultural landscapes, rejuvenating the regional culture with vitality and vigor in contemporary society. Secondly, the Ye City Ruins Park provides a set of highly operational and effective practical models for northern capital city-type ruins. Other sites can, in light of their own characteristics, draw on the experience of the Ye City model in terms of the systematic sorting of cultural foundations, the diversity of expression strategies, and the innovation of technological applications, and explore an overall expression path suitable for their own development, so as to promote the cultural inheritance and sustainable development of northern capital sites.

With the continuous advancement of technology and the in-depth development of cultural research, the regional cultural expression of heritage parks will embrace new opportunities and challenges. Based on its cutting-edge technologies such as virtual reality, augmented reality and blockchain, the metaverse technology can build an immersive virtual cultural space. In this space, visitors can break through the limitations of time and space and experience the historical and cultural scenes of Ye City and other ruins more deeply. And the creation of regional linkage routes will become a key trend in the future development of the heritage park. The ruins of Ye City, together with other surrounding sites, traditional villages, agricultural heritage and so on, form a rich cultural network. By constructing cultural routes, these scattered cultural nodes can be organically connected to form a tourism route with regional characteristics and cultural depth, which can achieve the coordinated development of regional culture.

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