

# Planning delicate Yangzhou City by constructing livable and humanity space

## 1. Theoretical Research: the connotation exploration on delicate Yangzhou

### 1.1 The essence of delicate Yangzhou city

Yangzhou's urban construction has experienced a history of nearly 2500 years together with its unique historical culture, which mold the blend pattern of the artificial surroundings with the natural environment. The historical city of Yangzhou enjoys a good reputation at home and abroad because of its humanistic scale of streets and alleys (Fig.1), exquisite spatial texture and the masterpieces of the beautiful gardens. The fine "Huai-Yang" food culture and the bathe workout culture both represent the unique standard of mixture between traditional and modern service industry.

The historical culture tradition and the pursuit of elegant and high-quality lifestyle idea had already established the foundation of the construction of delicate Yangzhou city, which gives the city no other choice except to be the "Delicate City Model" in the urban construction field.



Fig.1 the agreeable scale of streets and lanes in Yangzhou

## **1.2 The enlightenment on delicate city construction experience Domestic and overseas**

### **1.2.1 The experience of Florence, Italy**

On one hand, the city makes great effort on European culture demonstration and art expo city construction. The Florence rich culture & art atmosphere glows the vitality through 40 museums and the art galleries, more than 60 palaces and the numerous churches, which deserves the reputation of European culture and art expo city (Fig.2). On the other hand, the city has graceful and delicate urban style. Most buildings along the streets are 3-5 floors. The compact streets and alleys space, the main architecture style characterized by the faint yellow outer wall and the small pink pitched roof and the ancient city color, manifest the gracefulness and fineness of the city(Fig.3).

### **1.2.2 The experience of Nara, Japan**

First, the Tang Dynasty flavor establishes the basic tune of this ancient capital construction. From the streets and alleys pattern for the ancient city to the millennium ancient temple and tower, from the frame architectures along the street to the modern architecture's abundant with ancient elements and all kinds of decorations, all the things above demonstrates the distinct characteristic style for a historical and cultural city. Secondly, the pleasant spatial scale reflects the livable quality. The chess board streets and alleys system builds the agreeable pedestrian space. The urban construction pays great attention to the protection of traditional frame houses, distinctive stores and boong, and the traditional decorations were well mixed into the modern buildings (Fig.4). As a result, the suitable urban scale, the streets and alleys space and the architecture style have been carefully maintained and inherited.

### **1.2.3 The experience of Shaoxing, China**

First, the city focuses on the characteristic built of pleasant environment surrounded by "water and green". The ancient Shaoxing city was constructed along the river, surrounding by wide-open forest and plants (Fig.5). Secondly, the new and ancient city enhances each other's beauty, and the delicate criterion of both cities derived from the same origin. The new city overall is the modern style with succinct and sprightful color, the height of building has been controlled in good state. Meanwhile, the traditional elements are added to these buildings, the skyscrapers are only centralized in CBD, which formed the rich urban horizon.



Fig.2 the art museum in Florence



Fig.3 the compact layout of west

Europe



Fig.4 the traditional design elements in architectures of Nara

Resource: <http://image.baidu.com/>



Fig.5 the ancient Shaoxing city

#### **1.2.4 The experiences of international cases**

At first, the urban renaissance in the guidance of culture becomes the important developmental strategy for most famous cultural cities gradually. Afterwards, Generally speaking, delicate space requires compact spatial layout and pleasant design, which includes moderate street scale and height limit for buildings in central area and so on. At last, the natural resource and beautiful surroundings are the precious and unique heritage for a city, which can be made great use of in the process of protecting. By introducing natural elements like the water and green to the physical space, the delicate and graceful urban space can be mold.

#### **1.3 The connotation of delicate Yangzhou city**

First of all, delicate Yangzhou is a compact city with Smart growth idea and agreeable city scale. The city's spatial organization should be intensive and compact instead of urban sprawl. Industry and residence should both be taken into account in each spatial group.

Secondly, delicate Yangzhou is a culture expo city with deep connotation and abundant literary atmosphere. The city has a history of nearly 2500 years, which cultivates rich and deep culture tradition. Depending on the culture marketing measures like the Grand Canal exhibition, Yangzhou city can be promoted as a famous Expo city and cultural heritage city of the world.

Thirdly, delicate Yangzhou is both an ecological livable city and lifeful water city surrounding by water and greens. The river and water gives pregnancy to the city, and makes it become flexible and vivid. "Green willows surrounding the city walls" is the historical ecology patterns of Yangzhou, which should be maintained and developed in the future.

Fourthly, delicate Yangzhou is a beautiful city full of exquisite and elegant scenery. With the landscape making, the relevant land use and function were also updated.

## **2. Strategy Research: building delicate Yangzhou city, and promoting urban quality**

### **2.1 Constructing a compact city with smart growth idea and agreeable city scale**

With the rapid economic growth, the city presented sprawl tendency to some extent. The construction land of Yangzhou has dramatically increased from 53.5 km<sup>2</sup> in 2002 to 127 km<sup>2</sup> in 2009, the average growth rate reaches as high as 13.3% per year. Therefore, the compact layout and intensive landuse are the main course in urban planning of Yangzhou.

After several schemes comparison, we recommended the city spatial form, which was described as “the group layout penetrated by water and green” scheme, can manifests the compact, ecology and wide-open specialty for Yangzhou city most. And this scheme can also maintain the pleasant scale for each spatial group.

The “Group development” structure, which are classified into different large-scale districts by the principle of main function unity. Following the principle, the inner city zone are classified into four agglomerate districts, thus historical city, western new city, southern industrial district and the eastern new city. Depending on the transportation line and the river, the belt ecology corridors are formed between groups, to guarantee the compact layout of group inner space. The historical city takes the tourism, cultural presentation, traditional trade and business as its leading functions, while the western new city takes the urban exhibition and residence as its leading functions, by comparison, the eastern new city has several comprehensive functions including finance and commerce, modern service industry and residence. Therefore, these four groups construct a compact layout, which share supplementary functions and also relative independent from each other.

The “Water and green penetration” structure, which means introducing green wedges composed of big rivers and belt-shaped afforestation to the outer space of construction land and among four groups(Fig.6). As a result, the agglomerate spatial form could be maintained, the urban sprawl could be controlled, and the urban construction land can be guaranteed to be adjacent to the open space fully. Specifically speaking, depending on the central and west of Shugang Mountain and Slender west lake scenic spot, the wide-open green space can be formed in the north of inner city. Depending on the scenic belt along the hill and river, the ecological wedge space can be formed from the west side. In the south of inner city, the Yangtze Jin ecological corridor constructs the southern belt-shaped open space.

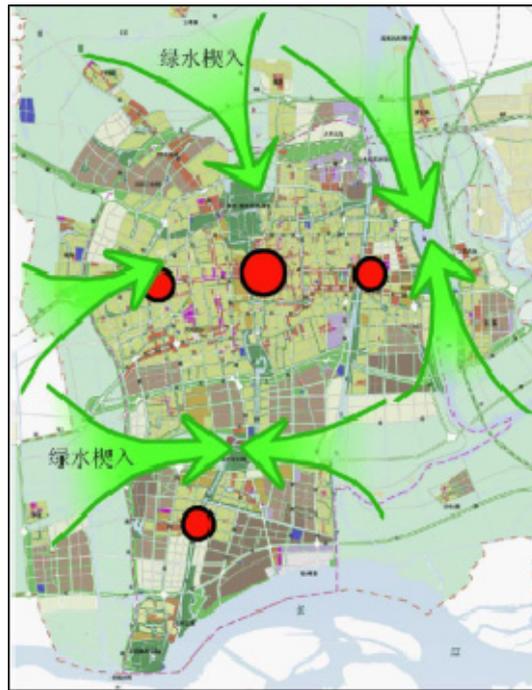


Fig.6 the spatial pattern of “group development, green wedge penetration”

## 2.2 Building a cultural expo city with deep connotation and abundant literary atmosphere

In the first place, to transform the separate protection into the whole city protection and exploitation in the general thought on historical city protection. Undoubtedly, the “Yangzhou historical district” composed of ancient city in Ming & Qing dynasty and the scenic spot of “Shugang and slender west lake”, is the core area which can manifest Yangzhou’s human ecological feature most, this area should be built as a whole. Secondly, there are two aspects should be implemented at present in the urban renewal work. On one hand, by the building of water system around the city and afforestation along the rivers, the historical city frame is prominent. On the other hand, by centering on the renewal of historical and cultural block and organization of competitive tourism routines, the present museums, cultural relic protection units and the tourist attractions could be connected together. Therefore, the cultural Yangzhou's demonstration can weed through the old to bring forth the new endlessly.

## 2.3 Building both an ecological livable city and a lifeful water city surrounding by water and greens

The main suggestions and measures on the waterfront space development for Yangzhou city are as follows: First, the development thought should be transformed from constructing fully underway for speed into making the representative waterfront area first. By choosing several model areas, the development mode and steps of waterfront areas should be carefully analyzed in the near future, in order to avoid unnecessary waste caused by speed greed.

Secondly, enriching the landscape styles of waterfront area, and enhancing the water affinity of waterfront areas, which makes the waterfront areas easily be appreciated, accessed, stayed and enjoyable. As can be seen in figure 7, the riverside of Grand Canal is separated

from the river; people can only view the canal in a distance instead of touching water. On the opposite, the waterfront area of Song Jiacheng set a good example, where you can easily access the riverbank at a close distance(Fig.8).

Thirdly, strengthening the relationship between city and water, and advancing the waterfront landscape penetration to the urban area. By increasing the connecting paths from city to the waterfront areas, the people-oriented waterfront areas are constructed.



Fig.7 the riverside of Grand Canal in Yangzhou



Fig.8 the waterfront area of Song Jiacheng wetland in Yangzhou

### **2.4 Building a beautiful city full of exquisite and elegant scenery**

The following issues are the main suggestions and measures on delicate public space molding. First, the construction principles should be insisted, which are “large amount and dispersed layout, agreeable scale and delicate building”. Secondly, the afforestation landscape built and public space construction should be combined together. The spatial relationship between public space, public infrastructure and commercial blocks should be intensified. The public utilities could be arranged in specific afforestation belt or landscape node. Thirdly, classic and delicate landscape scenery could be arranged properly, which can add the cultural elements and historical literary to the urban recreation utilities such as sculpture, parks at intersections and other landscape sceneries.

## **3. Implementation Research: the suggestions on representative projects before 2014<sup>1</sup>**

### **3.1 consummating a high-quality block: the “Shuang Dong” district**

“Shuang Dong” district has the most former residences of celebrities and historical attractions, it also has the strongest commercial atmosphere among all the historical blocks in Yangzhou city. Therefore, we suggest that Yangzhou city should concentrate on building Shuangdong district as the representative delicate block in the whole city, and no consideration should be taken to make great improvement for the other historical blocks.

The following countermeasures should be done to comprehensively advance the “Shuang Dong” historical district level. First of all, the scale of present district should be enlarged. By extending “Dongguan” street west to “Dadong Men”, renovating and widening “Caiyi” street, the culture effect of “Dongguan” street could be strengthened. Meanwhile, the renovation of historical block should be improved in depth by arranging static commercial facilities.

Secondly, the function of historical block should be enriched, and the commercial industry situation full of participation should be increased. On one hand, by adding commercial facilities for daily leisure, the vitality is given to the historical block. On the other hand, by introducing the traditional regimen culture such as “Yangzhou Tree-knives”<sup>2</sup>, some residence should be renovated, commercial facilities and tourism shops such as delicate hotels, foot therapy shops and “Huaiyang cuisine” restaurants should be added to meet the demand for different tourist.

Thirdly, the diversify streets scenery should be mold by increasing the recreation facility and the landscape node. As can be seen in figure 9, there aren't any leisure facility like desks and chairs for tourists in Dongguan street, while Jinli historical street in Chengdu city did much better(Fig9, Fig10).



Fig.9 the Dongguan street of Yangzhou



Fig.10 Jinli street of Chengdu

### **3.2 Constructing a representative waterfront area: the waterfront area in the south side of Grand Canal**

The waterfront area in the south side of Ancient Canal is adjacent to Yangzhou ancient city of Ming and Qing dynasty, and faces Kangshan Culture Park across the river. At present, this region's relocation project has almost completed, and the plan and design work has already been compiled, which can guarantee the project implementation before 2014.

The countermeasures on this area development are as follows: in the function localization, this waterfront area should take the recreation and entertainment as its primary function. The delicate waterfront dining, the enjoyment and regimen experience area are the most important direction in the near future. Meantime, in the handle of waterfront surface, the architectures, square and landscape should be integrated to emphasize humanity sense and to make diversify space. By increasing water affinity in architectures, people can get wide vision of waterfront area.

### **3.3 Renovating several delicate tourism routines**

#### **3.3.1 Renovates “Yanfu” road to make the excellent tourism routine of ancient city**

First, making necessary adjustment and optimization on the land function. The public service ministry of prefecture-level city should be relocated to relieve traffic congestion. On the basis of present tourist attractions, a trade market for curio, ancient books, calligraphy and painting should be built next to present flower market. By the use of Yechun Teahouse, a food plaza can be formed, and a core node of the top-grade international tourism routines which

demonstrates arts and crafts of Yangzhou city should be built, depending on the new art gallery and the present art and craft exhibition. Secondly, renovating the street elevation and improving the appearance of small private shops along street. The elevation appearance of reserved architectures should be improved by adding traditional Yangzhou design marks. The newly built building must be unified with the original constructions in the architecture style. The newly-built architectures should employ the new Chinese type style with elegant and neat color in moderate building volume. By adding street afforestation and urban furniture for pedestrian rest, the comprehensively landscape design of the whole district should be taken into account.

### ***3.3.2 Dredging the partial sector of small Qinhuai River, and making the pedestrian space full of commercial characteristic in the ancient city***

By integrating several important commercial districts in the ancient city such as Jiaochang, Zhenyuan and Wenchang Baihui, the special commercial axis could be formed gradually. The sector from Zhenyuan to Nantong road is the renovating district in advance, which will build the prophase foundation of the whole landscape improvement of Small Qinhuai River. Afterwards, the sector from Jiaochang west to Small Qinhuai River should be renovated in order to integrate the present commercial resources in the ancient city. Therefore, a tourism path will be gotten through from the Wenchang Baihui-Yuxian street extending to Jiaochang- Small Qinhuai River and Zhenyuan, and then the tourism collection of sightseeing, leisure, shopping and dining in the ancient city can be shape up.

## **4. Policy leading and tactic security**

First, carefully planning guides the high-quality urban construction. In the next stage, the work importance should be focused on the strategy plan of historical city, and consummates the city design under the guidance of strategy plan. At last, the whole city can realize the entire cover of multiple plan system including the strategy plan, master plan, regulatory plan and urban design. In the aspect of planning appraisal system, encouraging the participation of social group and the warm-hearted inhabitant to the process of plan decision-making, supplementing the urban planning committee's group, and promoting the justice and influence of plan.

Secondly, building the urban projects carefully. Treating each urban construction project with whole hearted, no matter the project is as big as historical district renovation, or as small as the urban furniture's ornaments. The detail design and construction must be grasped to guarantee the high-quality, instead of being eager for quick success and instant benefit.

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## Endnotes

1. 2014 is the 2500<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Yangzhou city's construction.
2. Yangzhou three knives contains haircut knife, Pedicure knife and kitchen knife.

Name: Zhu Jie, Xu Jufen  
Work: urban planner  
Country: China