

The Use of Classical Chinese Garden Aesthetics in Modern Garden Design

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Abstract:

Classical Chinese gardens are treasures of high artistry, and the aesthetic concepts and ideas embedded within them are deeply guided and influenced by traditional culture, showing aesthetic features such as natural beauty, harmony and mood. However, with modern development, there are differences between modern garden art and classical Chinese garden art, both in terms of gardening concepts and gardening techniques, which have strong contemporary characteristics. Therefore, on the basis of the analysis of classical Chinese garden aesthetics, this paper compares the differences between the two and further discusses the application of classical Chinese garden aesthetics in modern garden design, in order to provide reference for modern gardening.

Keywords:

Classical Chinese Gardens, Aesthetics, Modern Gardens

1. Introduction

The art of classical Chinese gardening refers to the form of Chinese landscape gardening represented by private gardens in the south and royal gardens in the north. It has a long history of 3,000 years and has developed a unique oriental garden system in the course of its development. Classical Chinese gardens are equally rich in aesthetic ideas and cultural connotations when it comes to design, and their unique artistic style shows natural beauty, harmony and mood. However, as the art of gardening continues to develop, the concept of gardening in modern gardens differs greatly from the previous idea of gardening in classical Chinese gardens [1]. Therefore, through studying and analysing the differences between the two as well as the aesthetic features and aesthetic elements present in classical Chinese gardens, this paper hopes to provide new ideas for modern garden design - combining classical Chinese aesthetics with modern gardens. In this way, the art of classical Chinese gardens can be inherited and innovated.

2. The Aesthetic Ideology of Classical Chinese Gardens

2.1. Aesthetic Features of Classical Chinese Gardens

2.1.1. Natural beauty

The classical Chinese gardens were created in such a way that the natural scenery was placed in the gardens, and although the gardens were built artificially, they were not decorated with any artificial decoration, whether the landscape or the plants in the gardens were modelled on the natural form and flavour. For example, the rocks and hills in nature are of different forms, and every effort is made to restore their original shape and colour when creating the garden. For example, the scent of plants in nature is either elegant or strong, so in the gardening process, we do not deliberately pursue the flavour, but only let the plants emit their original scent and fit in with nature.

2.1.2. Contextual beauty

Classical Chinese gardens are often used to express a certain mood by means of objects. The different plants in classical gardens are given a certain cultural connotation by people's associations and imagination, which will resonate with the literati who visit them. In addition to this, classical gardens are often landscaped with winding paths that do not lead to the furthest reaches of the garden, and the buildings in the gardens are often hidden by the gardeners among the plants. This kind of landscape design makes people visit with a curious and inquisitive mind, which is a metaphor for people's attitude and philosophy of life. If the beauty of the mood is lost, the garden becomes a mere accumulation of scenery [2].

2.1.3. The beauty of poetry and painting

Classical Chinese gardens have one view at a time, and any landscape is constructed as if it were a beautiful poetic painting. This is due to the fact that the composition of landscape painting has an important influence on classical Chinese garden landscaping. The construction of the landscape, the configuration of the plants and the height of the buildings are all about the harmony of near, middle and far, more and less. Being in this place can cultivate the mind and purify the thoughts.

2.2. Aesthetic elements in classical Chinese gardens

2.2.1. Architectural elements

The architectural elements of classical Chinese gardens can be simply divided into four types: pavilions, terraces, buildings and pavilions. The role of architecture in a garden is not only ornamental, but also functional. In terms of the ornamental role, before the building is formed it is necessary to consider the topography and terrain of the garden and whether the building's massing blends in with the surrounding landscape. In addition, in order to make the garden landscape more comfortable, it is also necessary to consider the orderliness of the architectural space and, if necessary, to make concessions to the creation of the environment to create a sense of beauty. In terms of use, buildings in classical gardens can also provide a variety of functions such as play, rest and housing. For example, the pavilions that can be found everywhere in classical gardens can be used as a place for people to stop and rest.

2.2.2. Landscape elements

In classical gardens, the use of landscape elements is more frequent, and the natural landscape is usually refined to form rockery and superimposed water, which is one of the typical means of scenography in classical gardens. Smaller rocks are mostly used as a set piece and embellishment, while larger ones can be used as a separate scene for

people to enjoy, and there are even huge rocks that allow people to walk through them for a wild playful effect. Water, on the other hand, is softer and more tranquil than rocks, and its ecological value is higher. In classical gardens it often serves to regulate humidity, nurture plants and trees, nourish the soil and balance the temperature. In addition, flowing water can bring life to the mountains and forests, and the combination of mountains and water can bring a different visual experience.

2.2.3. Plant elements

The garden has a relatively large area of grass and trees planted in the outdoor space and with the changing of the seasons the Humble Administrator's Garden will produce different scenes. In the planting configuration, the appropriate plants are selected to suit the location. For example, sunny The garden will be equipped with sun-loving plants for sunny areas and shade-loving plants for cooler areas. Different varieties of plants and trees can bring different ornamental values and effects, which is the manifestation of their "culture" [3]. In addition to this. In addition, the grasses and trees in the Humble Administrator's Garden, such as begonias, bamboo and lotus, all have the function of purifying the garden environment and maintaining the balance of water and soil. Some aquatic plants also have a role in improving water quality and purifying the transparency and clarity of water bodies.

3. A Comparison of Classical Chinese Garden Aesthetics and Modern Garden Aesthetics

3.1. Comparison of the positioning of the gardens

Most classical Chinese gardens were private gardens, only for the use of a few people, and their spatial scale was small. Modern urban gardens, on the other hand, were built to meet the aesthetic needs of the general public and to provide public space for urban green spaces. The two are therefore very different in terms of the positioning of their gardens. In addition, classical Chinese gardens are more ornamental than modern gardens, as modern gardens are also required to play a role in ecological regulation of the city.

3.2. A comparison of gardening techniques

In classical Chinese gardens, the expression of mood is often taken into account in the creation of the natural atmosphere through landscape and plants. In modern gardens, on the other hand, certain technological means and new materials are often used to shape the garden. In addition, modern gardens are more open and free compared to classical gardens, and the forms of expression are more direct.

3.3. Comparison of gardening elements

In terms of architectural elements, the buildings in classical Chinese gardens mainly serve both ornamental and residential functions. Even for buildings in different classical gardens, their overall structure and shape still have a high degree of similarity, such as the shape of the eaves, the roof structure of the building, the materials and materials used in the building, etc., all of which are relatively uniform and have strong classical garden architectural features. However, in modern gardens, the volume of the buildings is usually smaller and they are mainly used for rest and recreation, allowing people to stay for a short time and the function of living is not prominent. Secondly, as modern garden designers have different concepts of

gardening, the architectural shapes vary in form, and it can be said that there is no unified paradigm for the architectural shapes of modern gardens.

In terms of water elements, water in classical Chinese gardens is usually found in a series and is mainly static, giving people a calm and soothing feeling. In modern gardens, however, the form of water can be both gentle and dynamic. Modern gardening often uses water in the form of fountains, and in some designs, water can even interact with people.

4. The Use of Classical Garden Aesthetics in Modern Gardens

4.1. The concept of site-specific creation

The layout and planning of classical Chinese gardens is concerned with the topography, terrain and topography of the location, and the principle of their creation is that mountains are appropriate, and water is appropriate, encouraging a series of garden creations in accordance with the characteristics of the chosen site. Therefore, to some extent, the effect of classical gardens is mostly comfortable and reasonable, and has certain characteristics [4]. Modern gardens can also draw on this concept of creation by analysing the surroundings of the garden, finding environmental resources that can be utilised, and giving full play to the advantages of these resources when creating the garden, which will be more locally distinctive and easily recognisable.

4.2. Rich in cultural depth

Classical Chinese gardens were heavily influenced by Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism in their creation. The pursuit of the natural environment was to cater for the Taoist cultural concept of 'man and nature becoming one'. The pursuit of opulence in the construction of gardens caters for the Confucian hierarchy of 'the supremacy of the monarchy', and the elegance of the gardens is a symbol of dignity. In modern gardens, however, in order to give the gardens a richer cultural connotation, it is possible to grasp the local history and interpret the culture in the garden scenes to enhance the memory and recognisability of modern gardens. This will not only allow people to immerse themselves in it and experience the cultural connotations, but also create the beauty of the garden's mood, so that visitors can be spiritually satisfied [5].

4.3. Layered spatial order

Classical Chinese gardens pay particular attention to the combination of point and line, line and surface, and void and solid in their spatial sequences. Often, classical garden spaces also possess a certain degree of continuity and hierarchy. This technique can both elongate the overall spatial sightline and enhance the depth of the space, which is a good design approach for small-scale spaces. In modern gardens, therefore, spatial axes can be defined first, and combinations of point and line, line and surface, point and surface, void and solid can be made on different axes to give a hierarchical and orderly landscape system and architectural system.

5. Conclusions

Classical Chinese gardens are rich in traditional culture and have strong artistic characteristics and ornamental value. The gardening techniques and concepts used in these gardens are of high significance and guidance for the construction of modern gardens. Therefore, in the process of building modern gardens, the essence of classical

Chinese gardens can be absorbed and combined with modern aesthetic concepts to shape modern gardens, allowing them to develop more comprehensively.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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