

Architectural Heritage of Hahoe Village in Andong City, South Korea and Vigan City in Ilocos Sur, Philippines

한국 안동시 하회마을과 필리핀 일로코스씨 비간시의 건축 문화유산

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Abstract

A nations' cultural heritage embodies its intellectual and spiritual contributions to its civilization of mankind. Cultural properties, whether tangible or intangible, represent both the essence and the basis of national cultures. Both the Philippines and South Korea's cultural heritages have survived various unfortunate chapters of their long histories. This study's purpose is to explore and evaluate the phenomenon of the architecture of Hahoe village in Andong city, Korea and Vigan city of Ilocos Sur, Philippines and to understand and cherish the cultural heritage of both countries. The historic city of Vigan has a unique architecture that blend Ilocano, Filipino, Chinese and Spanish styles in a tropical Asian setting, with a typical Spanish colonial urban layout as specified by the Ley Delas Indias. Hahoe village also represents a masterpiece of human creation and exhibit an important interchange of human values in architecture, monumental arts, town planning and landscape design. Though diverse in milieu, Hahoe village and Vigan city share a common phenomenon which is architecture that is called cultural heritage.

Keywords : cultural heritage, cultural properties, architecture, Hahoe village, Vigan city, common phenomenon
키워드: 문화유산, 문화특성, 건축, 하회마을, 비간시, 공통현상

1. INTRODUCTION

Hahoe village and Vigan city are both endowed with magnificent geography that influenced them tremendously. Both are Asia-Pacific regions with different historical backgrounds and cultures that were greatly reflected in their architecture. Though diverse in milieu, they shared a common phenomenon which is called cultural heritage. There is a physical and tangible cultural legacy of the two places that includes houses, buildings, historic places, and monuments. They were preserved, and inherited from past generations and are unique and irreplaceable. Both maintained their architecture bestowed for future generations.

The cultural heritage of these two places brings about a sense of identity, pride and sense of belonging to their people. They attract activity and investment,

give new life to the communities, and make the places more competitive. They play an important role in regeneration of their cities, and just like any historic place, Hahoe and Vigan are inspiration for the great architecture of the future. The design of their buildings gives excitement to the new ones.

Both are considered to be representative of their individual countries: Andong city containing Hahoe village being the spirit of Korean culture, and Vigan city the source of pride and a national symbol of the Filipinos.

2. INFLUENCE ON ARCHITECTURAL PHENOMENON

2.1 History

Hahoe village is located in Andong city and was listed on the Korean National Folk Village in 1984. It was listed on the World Heritage Tentative List since 1998. It belongs to a type of Dongjok-chon which means the village of one family of the same blood. It

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has 122 houses, with a population of 230 persons and 75% of it belongs to the Ryu family.

Andong was founded by the Jinhan people, and it was known as Gochang. During the Three Kingdoms period, the area was controlled by the Silla kingdom. The battle of Gochang in 930 was fought here between Hubaekje forces and the Goryeo army led by Wanggeon, who won control of the city and renamed it Andong. During the Joseon dynasty, Andong became a center of Confucianism. The area was extremely conservative for a long time and produced many Confucian scholars that also lead to the construction of noted Confucian academies.

The Ryu clan from Pungsan established the Hahoe folk village in the 16th century during the Joseon dynasty and has been a one-clan community since that time. The village is notable because it has preserved many of its original structures and maintains folk arts such as the Hahoe mask dance drama, Byeolnsin-gut which is a shamanist rite honoring the communal spirits of the village.

Andong was the site of intense fighting during Japanese colonial period which lasted from 1910 until the defeat of the Japanese at the World War II. Hahoe village was spared of physical damage because of the surrounding water. Hahoe folk village is a valuable part of Korean culture because it preserves Joseon-style architecture, folk traditions, valuable books, and old tradition of clan-based villages.

Before the coming of the Spaniards, Vigan was an indigenous settlement consisted of wooden and bamboo houses on stilts. It was the center of trade and commerce in the region and its members were trading with Chinese and other foreigners since longtime. The Philippines was colonized by Spain under the command of Fernando de Magallanes in 1511. According to Blair and Robertson, King Philip II of Spain appointed Juan de Salcedo as Lieutenant General, Encomendero of Ilocos coast. He conquered Ilocos on June 12, 1572 and founded Villa Fernandina de Vigan Ferdinand and made it as the trading center instead of fortress.

At the end of the 17th century, a new form of architecture evolved, the traditional construction was combined with the building technique of stone and wood as introduced by the Spaniards. Use of bricks in the construction of churches was brought in by the Augustinian friars.

For 160 years from 1595 to 1758, Vigan was a

flourishing Spanish settlement, fast developing center of Spanish influence and politico-economic power in the north. In 1755, the Diocese of Nueva Segovia was transferred from Lallo, Cagayan to Vigan. Augustinian Missionaries pacified the natives and reduce them to the obedience of the King of Spain, and to make them accept the holy Catholic faith.

At present, Vigan was inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List of Sites and Monuments December 2, 1999. Since then, Vigan has become a source of pride, and a national symbol of the Filipinos.

2.2 Geography and Topography

Hahoe village is in the city of Andong in northern part of Gyeongsangbukdo province. It is located 25 km away from downtown Andong, 80 km north of Daegu city toward the mountainous Taebaek ridge. Hahoe is an isolated village, less than 1 mile from the city road. The village is located on the Hwachon stream which is an extension of the Nakdong river. To the north of the village is Buyongdae cliff while Mt. Namsan lies to the south. Positions of houses harmonized with land topographical condition. They are irregularly clustered following the rolling contour of the mountainous site. Streets are free flowing stretched along the land shape to avoid sharpness of street path.

Vigan city is located in the Northern part of the Philippines, 406 km stretch from Manila, 408 km northwest from San Fernando, La Union(the government center of Region. It is the capital of Ilocos Sur province. It has a land area of 27.4km which represent 1.06% of Ilocos Sur land area.

Its strategic location at the delta of Abra River (Mestizo and Giovantes River now) going to the China Sea that made city once the center for trade and commerce in Ilocos Region and Cordillera Region. It's a fluvial harbor connected to the China Sea made trading possible with other islands and with China.

Vigan is mostly plains with gently rising hills on the southern portion. Its flat lands became a perfect site for a line and grid urban planning system of the Spanish colonizers.

3. ARCHITECTURAL PHENOMENON

3.1 Layout of Hahoe village

As shown in Fig. 1, Hahoe village is organic, following and accommodating the natural form flow of

the landscape. Neither the roads nor the fences follow perfect symmetry. They tend to follow the organic form of the streams and tributaries which surround the village. The reason for this is that the location and shape of Hahoe village was determined by the principles of Feng Shui.



Fig. 1. Layout of Hahoe village

The development plan of Hahoe village was based on the theory of wind and water which is compare to a lotus floating on the water and a sailing ship. It is bounded by mountain on the east and the winding Nakdong river on all other sides. Artificial woods are built along the river to balance the imperfection of the houses' orientation.

The village is situated on the west end of a peninsula-shaped land form surrounded by a bow-like curve of the river. Trees grow on the west side of the mountains that surround Hahoe village.

The village is situated on the top of a mounded hill. From the highest area, called Chaedmadang(ridge yard) the roads run radically. The village streets networks are unparalleled except by accident and none is straight because the street system followed the valleys and the houses.

Houses and buildings were built on suitable lands, form a complete connection with the surroundings. The beauty of wooden houses showed not in the subtlety of construction techniques but in harmony with the environment. Types of houses are separated into two parts by main road, which was built along the ridge line of the hill. The lays of houses are in every direction to take advantage of the breathtaking view of the place. The houses are positioned in such a way to harmonize with its natural environment. Houses of the upper class are located in the center of the village, while those of the lower class who are mostly farmers

are located on the outskirts.

Typically, the traditional Korean village houses are positioned facing south. Such an arrangement has an advantage in utilizing solar energy. However, in this village, houses face all directions offering undisturbed observation of a particular scenic spot, thus creating a winding and semi-circular village layout.

3.2 Layout of Vigan city

As shown in Fig. 2, the town plan is a representative of the style the Spanish colonizers had designed and established in the 18th century, conforming to the Ley Delas Indias(the Law of the Indies) that regulated the lay-out, street patterns and open spaces of all new settlements during the Spanish era: a regular urban design of grid street pattern radiating from a central plaza.

The central plaza(Plaza Salcedo) is dominated by different administrative and religious buildings. Ancestral houses are tightly twined along narrow streets forming a grid-like pattern within the Kasanglayan or Mestizo district(historic district) which used to extend from the Mestizo River on the east to Rizal street on the west.



Fig. 2. Layout of Vigan city

The ancient urban plan survived the ravages of time, nature and the last World War, but a number of historic buildings were destroyed by fire during the Japanese occupation.

3.3 Hahoe Houses

Hanok is a word used to describe houses constructed in Hahoe village which is the traditional Korean style of architecture that considered primarily the positioning of the house in relation to its surroundings, land and seasons. The interior structure

of the house is also planned appropriately. This principle is called Baesanimsu, meaning the ideal house is built with a mountain at the back and a river in front.

Kan is the unit used to measure the Korean houses, based on the distance between columns or walls and the number of spaces or rooms. Square Kan is approximately equivalent to 36 to 81 square feet.

Houses were made of stalks, brushwood, mud and stone and tile roofs. The houses have two types: the upper class houses and houses of the middle and lower class.

The house of the upper class, with their dominating thatched roofs have similar layout even as they differ in overall scale and composed of several Kan. Each is composed of several quarters within wings: habitable rooms and other structures with different functions that naturally created courtyards between them, providing in the process an extension of interior space.

Madang is the generic name for courtyard, any vacant area between buildings, vacant space and work place at the same time. It is for practical, functional, social and climatic needs. Sarangmadang is a social courtyard for the master of the house. Anmadang is an inner courtyard for women and children. Haengnongmadang is a courtyard in front of the servants' quarter which is accessible to the house.

Gudeul also called Ondol, is an under floor heating system installed within closed rooms that are used for sleeping. Gudeul draw heat from a fire hole in the kitchen stove. The warm of Gudeul has given Korea a lifestyle of removing their shoes or slippers before entering because the comfortable warm floor is used for sitting and sleeping.

Maru rooms with wooden boards as floor finish function as living halls; the main hall is called Daechongmaru. One side of the Maru room is open to courtyard outside with no walls between its supporting pillars. The wooden floor of Daechongmaru may also extend out in front of the bedroom to form a colonnaded veranda. Maru used is for warm season while Guedul is for cool weather.

The rooms of houses were named according to their inhabitants, locations and functions, regardless what shape a dwelling might take. Anchae is a women's quarter, placed in the innermost part of the house. It is consisted of series of Gudeul and Maru rooms all built in single row. Buouk is a place for cooking and

heating. Anbang is a living and working space for the wife at daytime and sleeping space at night time, a place where the babies are born and raise. Gonnobang is an extra bedroom located across the Anbang and used by grown children or married son and his wife.

Middle and lower class residences have a simple structure of the room, porch, kitchen and a courtyard and composed of 3 Kan. It also use the same clay and stone for the wall straw was used to thatch the roof.

3.4 Vigan Ancestral Houses

Vigan ancestral houses, just like any ancestral houses in different parts of the Philippines evolved from the pre-colonial Bahay Kubo of wood and bamboo, with roofs of Nipa palm or cogon grass. In the 17th century, stone and mould bricks were used with lime mortar to construct fire-resistant structures. They are massive pilaster houses with red tiled roofs and imposing doorways, grand staircases, broad Narra floorboards and Piedra china, sliding Capiz windows, and Ventanillas and cool Azotea reflect the artistic and technological craftsmanship of the 18th and 19th century artisan who developed an architectural style that can be seen only in the Philippines.

Puerta, main door, is wide enough to accommodate the width of the Caruaje(horse-drawn carriage) and high enough for the Carroza(shoulder-borne and later on, carriage-mounted religious images). A Puertita, smaller door, is hinged to the main door to let visitors in by pulling a string from the second floor. Zaguan or hall is on the ground floor. Horses for carriages were tethered in the Caballoreza(horse stable) at the rear of the ground floor. Shops and bodegas, storage rooms, take up the rest of the space on the ground floor.

The grand staircase has two sections: a few steps to a landing where ordinary visitors were received; then a long flight of staircase to the second floor.

More important visitors are received in the Caida or Antesala where informal entertaining is held. Sala, living room, is the biggest and most important part of the house and is used for family gatherings and important occasions. Cuartos is bedroom. Families sleep together in two to three large Cuartos in the pre-colonial Bahay Kubo.

Comedor, dining room, is either located at the end of the sala or separated by partition which leads to the Cocina. Cocina, kitchen, is cooking area. Cobeta, toilet,

is adjacent to the Cocina, which is a separate structure that was built at a later stage when sanitary toilets were introduced in the late 1800s.

Azotea, open terrace, is an extension at the back of the second floor where residents and guests gather to cool off and enjoy the stars after dinner.

4. ANALYSIS

4.1 Influences

Based on the research and documents gathered for this study, influences on architecture of both villages were the main factors that made their architecture and plans unique and remarkable that made both communities cultural heritages.

Vigan city and Hahoe village had different historical backgrounds but both backgrounds greatly influenced its architecture. Vigan city was a simply indigenous community consisted of wooden and bamboo houses on stilts which is called Bahay Kubo. But because of the Spanish colonization it evolved to a typical Neo-classical urban community composed of Antillian houses made of bricks, adobe stones and woods.

Vigan is a flat terrain while Hahoe is surrounded by mountains. The common denominator is the body of water that surrounds them. Because of Vigan's strategic geographic location at the delta of Abra river going to the China Sea, it was the center for trade and commerce in Ilocos region and Cordillera region. It's a fluvial harbor connected to the China Sea that made trading possible with other islands and with China. In contrast, Hahoe is an isolated village, less than 1 mile from the city road and very ideal place for living because of the surrounding Nakdong river, and the magnificent view provided by the mountains.

Vigan is mostly plains with gently rising hills on the southern portion. Its flat lands became a perfect site for a line and grid urban planning system of the Spanish colonizers. Lands outside the poblacion are devoted to agriculture. On the other hand, Hahoe village positions of houses harmonized with land topographical condition. They are irregularly clustered following the rolling contour of the mountainous site. Streets are free flowing stretched along the land shape to avoid sharpness of street path.

For geological aspect, Cordillera mountains of Vigan were the source of mineral resources such as Bnatog clay, used for the production of Burnay jars, floor tiles,

and bricks. Hahoe village, has rich supply of clay granite stones, and timber from the surrounding mountains, as well.

Existence of elegant neo-classical churches and catholic schools made Vigan city an ideal Spanish community. Feng Shui which is the basis of layout and positioning of the houses, in contrast, in Hahoe belongs to shamanism in nature and the simple design and decoration of house were dictated by the Confucian principles.

Grandeur of houses, high ceiling and wide openings of windows and doors in Vigan city were due to its tropical hot temperature while Hahoe's houses are compacted, low ceiling, surrounded by balconies and flexibly designed to resists the extremity of winter and summer seasons and to enjoy the breezes of spring and autumn.

4.2 Site Development

The theory of Hahoe village is based on Feng Shui which literally means "take wind and get water". The essential determinants of the environment of this village are the shape of the earth and the flow of water. Feng Shui therefore became the philosophical and scientific tool for harmonizing the situation of man with his environment in Hahoe's site plan.

On the other hand, the theory of Vigan city planning system conformed upon the prototype of the Ley Delas Indias, the Law of the Indies that regulated the lay-out, street patterns and open spaces of all new settlements during the Spanish era. It follows the grid pattern of spatial organization that result to a regular form and spaces. However, because of ordering principle of hierarchy, a trivial transformation had been made.

Hahoe village is rusticly informal and irregularly picturesque as dictated by nature and curvilinear site form. The village is an earlier example of organic design as the term coined by Frank Lloyd Wright in his Broadacre city, because the structures in a way are pleasing and kinder to the environment. Streets are winding and go after the organic form of the streams which surround the village.

The architectural form of Hahoe village and its landscape elements are an extension of Feng Shui principles. They offer a better understanding of the relationship of these elements to traditional values and attitudes in terms of how and why the space was

organized. Hahoe village may look disordered and featureless, but with the understanding of the siting principles of Feng Shui and the elements of the cultural landscape, then Hahoe reveals a continual and stable spatial organization.

The form of Vigan city is regular urban design with a formal gridline street pattern. The plazas which are the center of activities are surrounded by streets and blocks of ancestral houses. The form of Vigan, like the Medieval and Renaissance cities, follows the principle of arrangement, proportion and scale and is purposed with clarity and objectivity.

Vigan is a three-dimensional grid that consists of repetitive modular units of spaces. It has a defined entrance and outdoor spaces that allows growth and expansion.

It also created a hierarchical set of modules differentiated by the building categories. Institutional buildings, religious, commercial and educational surround the plaza which is called the Poblacion. Straight lines streets threaded from the main plaza and these contained blocks of ancestral houses.

However, Vigan grid plan underwent transformation. Portions of the grid were altered to allow visual and spatial continuity across its field. In result, the grid pattern was interrupted to define major spaces and to accommodate the natural feature of the site.

5. CONCLUSION

There are numerous concepts employed and reflected in city planning today which originated from the past. Though Hahoe village and Vigan city are extremely different in theories and form, they are alike in legacy and heritage. They were great examples of basic pattern of the urban planning development of each country. The simplicity of design of both communities provides an existing historical background of the complexity of the present trend of architecture community planning.

The historic city of Vigan has a unique architecture that blend Ilocano, Filipino, Chinese and Spanish styles in a tropical Asian setting, with a typical Spanish colonial urban layout as specified by the Ley Delas Indias. The traditional grid pattern plan and the Asian influences in some of the features and style made Vigan city a distinctive example of architecture.

Hahoe village also represents a masterpiece of

human creation and exhibit an important interchange of human values in architecture, monumental arts, town planning and landscape design. The village which is a living museum itself is a great example of the past history and lifestyle.

Though diverse in milieu, Hahoe village and Vigan city share a common phenomenon which is architecture that is called cultural heritage. They are the physical and tangible cultural legacy of the two communities that they contributed to. They were preserved, inherited from past generations, unique and irreplaceable. Both countries maintained and bestowed them for the benefit of future generations.

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