“THE METHODOLOGY OF HISTORIC TOWN LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION IN CHINA”

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PROJECT BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

With the rapid development in social, environmental, and economic in China, huge amounts of historic towns were fading away in the past 30 years, especially those small towns with some certain history. In some famous small towns, overwhelming business development resulted in the “modernization”, even worse, all of the towns cloned with each other and based on the similar construction and the tourism plan, such as Zhouzhuang, Xitang, Zhujiajiao, and Tongli (Figure 1-4). In addition, many who lived in the those historic towns appreciated moving to “big” cities pursuing a better living style and left the towns “empty”. It was a tragedy for both kinds of towns losing their own culture tangibly and intangibly.

Fortunately, some professional preservationists had realized the problems and proposed to save the endanger towns since 1990s in China. With the help of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), numbers of towns were listed as World Heritage sites which were forced by the limitation of construction and kept conservation with maintenance. However, some issues arose: 1) town preservation was not only buildings preservation, landscape in the towns was also important to the entire town forming. In other words, buildings could be recognized as part of landscape; 2) preservation was unequal to maintenance or build “fake antique”
with high expense; 3) judging criteria was unequal to market value which changed by the economy frequently.

Cultural landscape in the U.S. formed a comprehensive system since the first case of preservation - Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1816. The approaches of historic preservation were studied and imitated by many countries, including national register, cultural landscape report, and guidelines issued by National Park Service (NPS). This study tried exploring a feasible methodology to preserve small town landscape with current Chinese conditional basis through borrowing ideas from the U.S. approaches. Even though the government organizations are different, it was still inspired by register nomination, significance evaluation and integrity treatments.

The study analyzed a series of cases of historic town landscape preservation in the following chapters to find the most potential matching approach, or hybrid couple methods to create a new one fitting to China.
Figure 1 Xitang, China

Figure 2 Zhouzhuang, China
Figure 3 Tongli, China

Figure 4 Zhujiajiao, China
CHAPTER 1

Statement of the Problem

The goal of the project was to find a feasible methodology that fitted to historic town landscape preservation and development in China through the comparison of the cases studies. Six U.S. towns including Charleston, South Carolina; New Orleans, Louisiana; Jacksonville, Oregon; Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia; Santa Fe, New Mexico; and Annapolis, Maryland would be compared with two Chinese towns Pingyao in Shanxi Province and Lijiang in Yunan Province. Based on the comparison conclusion, the site – Guoqing Road in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province would apply or hybrid the preservation methodologies of two countries to the guideline design.

Delimitation

The delimitation of the study included four aspects:

1. The preservation comparison in two countries only concentrated on the landscape, preservation and architecture fields, not including any relevant decisions that resulted from governmental, administrative or political participation.

2. The study did not involve with raising preservation funds.
3. The study focused on the town landscape preservation rather than building conservation. The research on building conservation only contained those facades which formed the streetscape or enclosed the space in the town.

4. The scope of the creative project was Guoqing Road in the Yangzhou downtown area.
CHAPTER 2

Definition of Town Landscape

Town is defined as a human settlement which contains certain density of population, residential areas, commercial areas and related governmental administrations. It is impossible to regard buildings as the isolated or the only part in the towns. In contrast, open space usually combines with buildings when mentioning towns. As Gordon Cullen described in “The Concise Townscape”, open space is enclosed by a group of buildings which were layout together and allowed people get into the “inside”. When people get into the enclosed space, they would say “I am inside it” or “I am entering it”. These open spaces in the town are commonly recognized as the part of town landscape except the buildings. Open space helps building up the spatial belonging feeling which may be influenced by the building quality, size, color and intricacy. The basic elements for open space are point, line and district. The combinations of the three elements together with the footprints of the buildings form the figure grounds of the town – town landscape (Cullen, 1971).

For the town landscape purpose, Cullen described in his book well:
In fact there is an art of relationship just as there is an art of architecture. Its purpose is to take all the elements that go to create the environment: buildings, trees, nature, water, traffic, advertisements and so on, and to weave them together in such a way that drama is released. For a city is a dramatic event in the environment. Look at the research that is put into making a city work: demographers, sociologists, engineers, traffic experts; all co-operating to form the myriad factors into a workable, viable and healthy organization. It is a tremendous human undertaking.

From Cullen’s viewpoint, town landscape usually concerned on optics, place, and content.

Optics was similar to someone walking along a street with the destination to the monument at the end of the road. However, the landscape along the street attracted the walker’s vision before arriving at the destination. When sudden new views attracted the walker’s eyes after turning into a square, he would expect more excitement in the following walking. Finally he reached the monument after the road curved and swung into view. Then this occasion was named “Serial Vision.”

Place normally related to the position of body in its environment. For example, one might say “I am outside it, I am entering it, I am in the middle of it”. The level of consciousness interrelated with the range of experience, exposure or enclosure. One of the main reasons for the consciousness connected to scale, including individual scale and integral scale. Integral scale is more important in the town landscape. If there was an instinctive and continuous environment, the sense of the position could not be ignored easily.
Content referred to the fabric of towns: color, texture, scale, style, character, personality and uniqueness. The fabric showed the evidence of different periods in its architectural styles and in the varieties accidents of layout. Mixture of style, materials and scales are common in many towns (Cullen, 1971).

Town landscape in this study referred to those artificial and natural settings constructed for public activity, appreciation and recreation. The town landscape described the overall quality of the town environment more than the only collection of buildings. It suggests the improvement of the town environment creates a base for an enriched daily life. According to Kevin Lynch in 1986 defined the terms in “The Image of the City”, town landscape included paths, edges, nodes, districts and landmarks (Lynch, 1986).

“Path” was the channel which might be street, walkway, transit line, canal or railroad.

“Edge”, noticeable changing in fabric on the ground, was the linear element not used or considered as path. It was the boundary between two phases and the linear break in continuity. The typical example was the building facades along the streetscape.

“Node” was point, the strategic spot in the towns where people might enter, stay and enjoy the local living environment. Node usually was the primarily junction of couple paths, the place of a break in transportation, or moment of shift from one structure to another. Or node might be simply concentration, such as a street-corner or an enclosed square which owned influence radiates and stood as a symbol.

“District” was the medium-to-large section which owning two-dimensional extent. District in the town landscape was the comprehensive concept that mainly involved with
the public activities combining large open space with certain numbers of buildings. In other words, district was the combination of paths, edges and nodes.

“Landmark” was one of the types of point-reference. It was usually defined as a specific objective, such as building, monument, sculpture, sign or mountain. Landmark was the important element in town landscape which may reflect the town culture and history and passed the essence to strangers directly (Lynch, 1986).
CHAPTER 3

Based on the different governmental system and social philosophy, the origin and development in preservation in the U.S. and China were different.

U.S has already involved in historic preservation, especially in cultural landscape since 1880s, and the application of the methodologies also got successful experience. The criteria of the evaluation in National Register (NR) and Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) are detailed and complicated. The description in the NR and CLR is precisely required, including historical years, forming reason, significance, preserving integrity, relevant event, person or place. National Park Service was established as the governmental agency takes charge and monitors the preservation stuff. The entire historic landscape preservation in the U.S. is systematical and scientific. Town landscape preservation and landmarks preservation in the U.S. are the parts of cultural landscape. A lot of preservationists and landscape architects researched the field and wrote amounts of literatures about them. Colleges also have special departments educating historic preservation. Various foundations of preservation or state governments are willing to invite the students participating in the preserving work.
In China, however, historic preservation was proposed in the late 1990s. Though China has already approved Chinese National Register Bulletin, the criteria of evaluation are vague. One of the main reasons is the research history on the field is short, but too long history of China. Preservation normally focused on the objectives with thousands years or hundreds years, nevertheless, decades history which also important to the national culture were ignored. The preservation in China is difficult to some extent in that it cannot consider covering everything at one time. Additionally, there is a misunderstanding in the professional realm: historic preservation is equal to building preservation maybe because the experts on the field are architects in majority. In addition, the preserving objectives were paid less attention on landscape context. Cultural landscape is a new topic in China. There are few educators studying in this topic, as well as departments or majors in historic preservation in colleges. Fortunately, preservationists realized the importance of historic preservation, and began to learn the methodologies from developed countries of American and European positively.

**Historic Preservation in the U.S.**

Referring to the definition proposed by Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation in the U.S., historic landscape preservation ranged from large tracts of land to small front yard. They could be either designed and formal landscapes or vernacular cultural landscapes (CT Trust for historic preservation, 2010).

There were many definitions for historic landscape preservation over the years based on the overwhelming thoughts and perspectives. Before explaining the landscape
preservation, it was essential to explain the common definition for “Historic Preservation”. Initially, the term “Historic Preservation” refers to:

*the activities of those who attempt to save “architecturally” significant buildings from destruction. Preservation serves economically to recycle old structures, socially to revitalize communities, and symbolically to link the culture of the present to that of the past through the juxtaposition of their architectures (Weinberg, 1979)*.

As time went by, the range of “Historic Preservation” enlarged to include landscape gradually. Open space, street, garden, landmark, monument, community and other historic landscape all became preservation objectives. However, the term still stood for building preservation in many countries, such as China.

The more recent acceptable definition of historic landscape preservation is based on the definition of cultural landscape.

*Cultural landscapes represent the combined works of nature and of man and are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal (UNESCO, 2005)*.

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) clarified the preservation objectives to include the landscape designed and created intentionally by man, embracing garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which were often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles (UNESCO, 2005).
National Park Service in the U.S. also defined “Cultural Landscape” from similar viewpoint and categorized four general types for cultural landscape: historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes.

Town landscape preservation was not contrary to cultural landscape, however, the focus was more on towns’ organically evolved landscape. Town landscape resulted from an initial social, economic, administrative, and religious imperative, and then developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. The visible pattern of the history was representative of the town landscape.

Town Landscape Preservation Methodology - Historic Zoning District

The common historic preservation approach – historic zoning district inherited from the nineteenth century, which was formed by historic house museum village. The famous house museum – Williamsburg, Virginia was the successful precedent marked as the origin of development of historic zoning district. On the basis of the experience of Williamsburg, VA, numbers of house museums formed the village which was the rudiment of the historic zoning district – a more comprehensive method of landscape preservation.

As recorded, Charleston, South Carolina initiated the first historic districts by a city zoning ordinance dating from 1931. In purpose the historic district was intended to preserve
the qualities relating to the history of the City of Charleston and a harmonious outward appearance of structure which preserve property values and attract tourists and residents alike…these qualities being the continued existence and preservation of historic areas and buildings; continued construction of buildings in the historic styles and a general harmony as to style, form, color, proportion, texture, and material between buildings of historic design and those of more modern design (Weinberg, 1979).

This district made great achievements in historic preservation in the towns. It also influenced the relevant neighborhoods being the part of the zone maps.

The second historic district was the Vieux Carre, New Orleans in the U.S. The Vieux Carre shared most of the advantages in Charleston. And its famous inner city owned the unique combination of architecture and history – the settlement of French and Spanish along the Mississippi.

The colonial history richly endowed the town with a unique charming landscape. The preservation movement saved the French Quarter from the gradual decline during the hard times of the Civil War and World War I. The preservationists emphasized the district’s uniqueness – colonial French and Spanish styles, particularly in architectures with courtyard, shutters, iron balconies, dormers and steep roofline (Weinberg, 1979).

Both Charleston and Vieux Carre are the contributed cases for the historic district zoning because:

1. Unique history of architectures and landscape in towns made historic zoning easily defining and acceptable. Town pattern was formed by history, in other words, town pattern of cause and effect was formed by the sequences of events or
disciplines occurred in the area. Buildings, streets, open spaces, sidewalks and other patterns were all the effects of the town activities.

2. An awareness of the history and pattern encouraged by literature and art resulted in more involvement from various professionals and public.

3. Social and professional supports were helpful for the historic district zoning. They prompted the preservation smoothly and authoritatively.

4. Architectural revivals and related civic festivals provided the opportunities to revalue the town culture, organization and function. It encouraged public involvement and absorbed investment and other economic incomes. Architectural revivals and related civic festivals did not appear in Charleston, South Carolina, but some played roles in New Orleans.

5. Tourism was one of the goals for the preservation. It was obvious to see the advantages and disadvantages of the tourism. With the rising numbers of tourists, the economic income and town reputation promoted. The overwhelming tourist capacity, however, leaded the demolition of the landscape and overload infrastructure. The situation became more severe in China because of the density of population.

Besides the above five elements, the below two also important factors to the historic district zoning did not occur in Charleston and New Orleans were concluded by the preservationists later.

6. Neighborhood preservation which may encourage community involvement, civic festivals and awareness of tradition and architecture. It may stimulate real estate
speculation and civic restorations that can undermine the benefits to the community as a whole.

7. Adaptive reuse may find some new functions for old properties (including landscape and buildings) that respect the historic identity, or it may destroy that identity because of the mishandling in economic rush.

**Town Landscape Preservation Methodology – Guideline**

Same as urban design, guideline was a systematic methodology for town landscape preservation. Due to the specific towns, rigid standards or regulations were not suitable for the preservation. Respecting to the town history and developing needs, guidelines described the recommendations and limitations to make the features of the town stand out, and proposed the suggestions for the town planning.

Guidelines were commonly supposed to be based on the site survey, statement of significance, analysis of the former plan and regulations. Guidelines not only listed the preservation requirement, also stated the attention and suggestions of the design. For instance, “Chatham-Arch and Massachusetts Avenue” issued by Indianapolis government, the historic area preservation plan illustrated the guideline methodology thoroughly, including background introduction, boundary map definition, existing conditions analysis, architectural and design guidelines. The guidelines for architecture and design were really detailed, such as renovation, new construction, signage, site development, parking lots, street trees, public infrastructure, building system and demolition (Indy. Gov, 2009).
The guideline specifications in “Chatham-Arch and Massachusetts Avenue” proposed various recommendations to guarantee the balance between preservation and development. For example:

“Guideline for Renovation” clarified the first chosen renovation approach in the overall project was categories. It defined the process of five categories which were slightly bit different from the cultural landscape treatments: stabilization, preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and renovation. The guidelines also described the recommendation and non-recommendation for the contributing landscape in the town, such as fundamentals, accessibility, awnings and canopies, doors, masonries, paints, porches, roofs, security, sidewalls, storefronts, trim and orientation, windows and wood siding.

“Guideline for New Constructions” followed the main approach of the project, falling into four categories of the site: developed site, isolated lot, large site, and expansive site. All the new constructions must observe the principles of material, setback, orientation, spacing, building heights, outline, mass, style and design, fenestration, foundation, entry and accessibility. The new constructions contained buildings and landscape here. In addition, the guideline also emphasized the relationship of the pattern when designing (Indy. Gov, 2009).

Actually, the guideline was a methodology in preserving town landscape as well as a goal and principle during the design process.
Guidelines often combined with the criteria for landscape identification and evaluation, instead of limitation in the standards. Both historical researchers and historic resources surveyors in the field were trying to figure out how to approach the landscape documentation and analysis process in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the U. S. National Park Service and private practitioners were developing and testing various criteria in identifying and evaluating landscape. On the basis of the moderating and applying on varieties of projects, professionals in the field made the achievements: National Register (NR) and Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) – the systematical and lawful preserving methods in the U.S.

Quite different from the guidelines, NR and CLR emphasized on the objective facts found in the sites. They respected the chronologic events, played emphasis on significances of properties and focused on the integrity of the existing landscape. NR and CLR were the documents recording the conditions of the properties. Based on the objective survey and evaluation, NR and CLR proposed the treatments on the properties, such as preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. Every treatment had rigid criteria and defined the level of treating (National Park Service, 1996).

After the evaluation, guidelines were the recommendation bulletins which indicated the approaches of construction. Thus, the first stage in the guidelines was observing the standards described in NR or CLR if the property was listed in them. And the second stage was taking NR and CLR as references when treating the property which was not listed in them.
CHAPTER 4

Town Landscape Preservation Approach

Different from the systematic methodology commonly used in town landscape preservation, the approach of landscape preservation was more like a method which applied in the specific case. Approaches were the minors or the concrete ways to conserve the landscape in towns.

Comparative Analysis

Comparative analysis was an important methodological approach in Cultural Landscape Report. It determined a landscape’s period of significance and evaluated its integrity. Due to the four types of cultural landscape – historic site, historic designed landscape, historic vernacular landscape and ethnographic landscape, the comparison was based on the existing conditions and those of clearly defined and delineated historical periods. It was a standard step in historic landscape documentation and analysis, while at the same time, it was also the basis for historic zoning districts or guidelines.

Sequential maps were one of the most common methods on comparative analysis which stood for the periods of significance, however, comparative analysis changed over
time. At the beginning of analysis period, hand drawing was the common method. After computer technology developed, especially Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) invented, comparative analysis depended more on the sophisticated photographic and computer-assisted methods of investigation and analyses.

As in the case of architectural resources, photographic documentation is a decisive part of the inventory process. Aerial photography has become a valuable tool in recording and analyzing large-scale landscapes. For some landscapes, infrared photography has been used to provide even more information. An important part of the methodology for analyzing many landscapes is the comparison of early-twentieth-century aerial photographs with current photographs and other information to develop period plans and aid in evaluating integrity.

Global positioning system (GPS) complement GIS in cultural landscape projects. Though certainly not limited to historic preservation and natural resources planning, GIS and GPS have become invaluable in these areas where efficient, economical, and accurate inventory and location of features are vital (Stipe, 2003).

Archaeological techniques were also used in cultural landscape studies. Today they included a variety of options that ranged from written archaeological overviews to traditional ground-penetrating investigations, then to sonar, infrared and satellite imagery of sites. Specific methods and techniques also developed when meeting specialized landscape (Stipe, 2003).

In summary, comparative analysis in town landscape preservation promoted the analysis and evaluation of existing conditions more scientifically, quickly and thoroughly.
Museum: Case Study of Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia

The restoration of the historic town of Williamsburg influenced generations of Americans and their understanding of life. The restoration of Williamsburg also inspired and developed the national movement in historic preservation in the early-to-mid 20th century (Figure 5 and 6).

Unique politics, culture and education made Virginia’s capital - Colonial Williamsburg be the largest, most popular and influential of the American colonies in 18th century. Most of the original Colonial Williamsburg was lost before 1930s. The historic area was preserved as a large museum which represented as an interpretation of a Colonial American city with exhibits including dozens of authentic or accurately recreated colonial houses relating to American Revolutionary War during the 18th century. Rather than simple preservation, the extensive restoration combined with thoughtful recreation of the entire colonial town facilitates envisioning the atmosphere and understanding the ideals of 18th century American revolutionary leaders. Interpreters worked and dressed as they did in the era, such as colonial wearing, animal breeding, American family roots tracing, religion role playing, ancient craft trading, and tavern foods enjoying. And they also used colonial grammar and diction though not colonial accents. The interpretation created a vivid colonial living experience for visitors rather than common boring orientation journey (Welsh Color & Conservation, 2008).

It was certain that the preservation of living style needed living scenes as its base. Besides the historic architectures, it identified character in Colonial Williamsburg with the archaeological investigations—defining landscape features such as historic plant
material or the configurations of walks and fences. The achievement of Colonial Williamsburg was not only the preservation of famous colonial gardens, but landscape details also recognized as the elements to conserve.

Colonial Williamsburg successfully conserved the American democratic system living style for future generations. The museum preserving methodology was an outstanding way for history to be vivid, although it was supposed to be on the basis of the unique characteristics distinguished from history and not be applied as common.

**Façade Unification: Case Study of Jacksonville, Oregon**

Town landscape preservation was kind of different from city or metropolis conservation, especially in preservation techniques. Because of the main reason - small population, the landscape preservation in towns was more artificial, and environment grew together with the town development which usually did not happen in big cities. The architectures in towns were easily ignored by townsfolk, especially landscape.

Façade unification was one of the common approaches to preserve the town landscape. As the name suggested, it referred to the preservation of facades, including individual buildings, streetscapes, blocks for union of function and aesthetics. It was based on the commanding of local cultural history and landuse, typical fabric patterns and architectural characteristics. It usually contained two parts of unification. One was unifying the town pattern in aerial or figure ground view, such as squares for public and private, space enclosed or hazards avoided, texture and code of town floors, prairie planning and outdoor publicity. The other was unifying the town pattern in vertical view
layer change including buildings, structures and vegetation. Building facades unification was a separate item. It involved with the adaptation of the building function, restoring the old or ruined buildings, and modifying incongruous buildings utilizing same façades and scales. Façade preservation here was more like harmonizing various tunes. The successive facades formed the main landscape of towns, emphasizing their features, history and culture. The details on the facades represented the craftsmanship, imagination, and living styles such as doors, windows, roofs, awnings, canopies, signs and colors (Cullen, 1971).

Jacksonville, Oregon was one of the successful examples in façade unification. Jacksonville was a small town of 1,600 people, founded during the gold rush of the 1850s in southern Oregon. It thrived and lasted by mines and declined in the railroad bypassed the town (Figure 7).

To unify the facades during the preservation process, the preservationists who mostly were the private individuals and private businesses tried to restore the old commercial buildings. For instance, the United States Hotel was replaced by the branch office of the U.S. National Bank of Portland in 1884. And the ground floor was restored as a nineteenth-century bank. The electric transformer station in Jacksonville was restored as a branch office by the Pacific Power and Light Company; and then used as tourist information center and became an electrical museum some time later. Local preservationists also persuaded both the post office and telephone company to utilize the same brick facing and an appropriate scale on new buildings when constructed in the commercial area of the town (Weinberg, 1979).
Due to the effective preservation in Jacksonville, the adverse effect and favorable effect were reflected in couple years.

The successful preservation of Jacksonville revived the town which attracted more and more people moving to the town which made the economy increase quickly and commerce developed continuously. As time went by, however, the disadvantages appeared. Numbers of people pouring into the town created the problem which away from the initial concerns with the preservation. Large amount of population leaded to more comprehensive concerns about building with environmental settings of town and its pattern of future growth. The town had to improve the sewer system and other infrastructural systems which became the heavy burden for the town (Weinberg, 1979).

Thus, town preservation required a long term plan and effective capacity calculation. This was not only applicable to building preservation, but landscape also. Living with high quality could not be satisfied without sufficient open space and landscape.

**Easements: Case Study of Annapolis, Maryland**

Easements were one of the techniques to preserve the landscape in towns, and included negative easements and positive easements. Negative easements meant stopping further development of the property, while positive easements prescribed restoration to be carried out and maintained on the property.

Annapolis, Maryland, nationally well-known as the site of the U.S. Naval Academy, was the successful example in easement (Figure 8). As the state capital of Maryland, Annapolis had a good number of buildings from before the time of the Revolution
through early nineteenth century. The historic Annapolis district followed the negative easement to save a part of the historic past, while the positive development was planned in broad scale preserving the open space, nature, and resources.

...protect the marshlands and creeks of the city from the intrusion of commercial marinas and landfill dumps, to preserve the historic path and trails of the surrounding countryside from the impact of residential subdivisions, to insure the traditional open space and public access to the waterfront that have characterized the town against transfer to exclusive private uses, while at the same time allowing the town to grow – require careful development site planning, deed restrictions, and scenic easements (Weinberg, 1979).

Preservationists and environmentalists conserved and developed Annapolis compatibly. The image and identity of the old town were separated from its landscape settings, which was representative of the negative easement. In the larger city, preservation was less important, as the landscape settings and topography of the historic core was often only a subject of conjecture.

In the broad scale of environmental preservation, it was hard to control the historic districts. In other words, the definition of the range of historic districts was hardest since the landscape, probably the core landscape setting was scattered throughout the rural and semirural areas around the town. Usually this kind of landscape needs carefully evaluated and careful evaluation and options selected by the preservationists. Annapolis also describes the method of selection.

This usually involves the description of the ecology of the area and the identification of ecologically and visually important areas. As these areas are often not suitable for residential use because of slope, drainage, or soil conditions, residential growth can
be planned around them so as to protect the appearance and uses associated with the traditional landscape. On the other hand, without this planning, these areas are usually disrupted through unnecessary grading and dumping, and pointlessly lost to public view and use (Weinberg, 1979).

Two kinds of outcomes resulted. One was only the preservation area getting focus, and the surrounding area was neglected. The other one focused too much on the development of the surroundings which came to the serious problem in tourism plan: preserving scattered landscapes would distract visitors focus and result in incompatibility of preservation and development. For example, the historic landscape was absolutely negative easements, while the surrounding area was positive development. The landscape was supposed to be large enough to form the buffer; otherwise, the landscape would be buried by the surrounding scattered highrises, which called “pencil development”. “Vacant” or “pencil development” were both tragedies for the town preservation. Thus, positive easement must be followed by the preservation principles. The objective of the development emphasizes the importance of preserving area and moderated the pressure of infrastructure requirements.

Façade Protection: Case Study of Indianapolis, Indiana

Downtown Indianapolis was a maze of massive hotels and building facades held up by steel girders after the construction design of Circle Center Mall. The revitalization of Circle Center Mall lasted 16 years which successfully proved the combination of reconstruction and preservation (Figure 9 and 10).
Based on the review of the mall’s impact on historic buildings, the preservation community signed an agreement dictating how 43 buildings in the mall area were handled. 17 buildings were retained, eight facades-only were saved and 18 buildings were completely demolished.

The special approach of preservation in the case was demolishing the building, but leaving the façade standing only, such as the Journal Building, 46-48 Monument Circle and Rost Jewelry Co. Building, 25 North Illinois. It was a challenge to design the building from exterior to interior veiled the leaving facades, which satisfying preservation of the historic property, as well as harmonious with the new environment. The crucial step for the decision was the evaluation on each building. And the proposal was supposed be approved by related preservation commissions, like Circle Center Mall received the formal approval from the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission (Indianapolis Star, 2003).

Besides façade protection, the plan for Circle Center Mall also solved the problem of various connections, such as retail space and restaurant with the mall, pedestrian walkway, underground parking lots, and first three floors as part of the mall.
Figure 5 Williamsburg, Virginia, US

Figure 6 Williamsburg, Virginia, US
Figure 9 Circle Center, Indianapolis, US

Figure 10 Indianapolis, Indiana, US
CHAPTER 5

Historic Town Landscape Preservation in China

Historic town preservation in China was traced to the early 1950s. Sicheng Liang, the outstanding Chinese architect and architectural educator, began the research of town preservation and proposed the suggestions on reuse city walls in Beijing (Zheng, 2006).

In the early 1980s, a large number of historic buildings, ancient ruins, landmarks and landscape were destroyed in different levels during the economic development and city sprawl. In 1986, China National Construction Department declared 109 cities that needed preserving and was ready for preservation. Besides the metropolis such as Beijing and Shanghai, many historic towns were also on the name list.

However, there were a couple of issues during the preserving process:

1. Preservation ≠ Developing Prohibition

Because of the force of the preservation from China National Construction Department, some historic towns were preserved in negative attitude. The preserving districts were defined the boundaries, limited buildings heights, volumes, styles and
prohibited any opportunities on constructing or developing. In these cases, preservation was equal to never development. Preservation did not become the part of town planning.

2. Preservation ≠ Building Conservation

According to the Chinese “Law of Ancient Preservation”, preserving objectives include those properties significant for its association with historic event, activity, or person. The definition of the law is biased since without mention about the surrounding environment and city context. However, cultural landscape defined by the U.S. National Park Service clarified the preservation objectives of those properties related to historic events or people was one type of the cultural landscapes. The other three types were historic designed landscape, vernacular landscape and ethnographic landscape. Partial definition of preservation objectives plus Chinese long history resulted only or a focus of antiquity, but without attention to recent past (Zhang, 2008).

Preservation in towns did not mean the only building preservation. The preservation scope in China needed further enlargement and development.

3. Preservation ≠ Destroy’s Reconstruct

Misunderstanding in historic town preservation brought out counterfeiting architectures or streetscapes. The real antiques were removed relentlessly. It was tragic that destruction/reconstruction was more harmful than the natural erosion.

4. Preservation ≠ Plagiarism Preservation
The towns with similar backgrounds were preserved to be the same, including buildings, landscapes, scale, style, color, even material. Visitors can hardly tell the difference with these towns because the photos backgrounds were same, souvenir were same and typical foods were same. Towns did not lose their characteristics so greatly, but superficial studies failed to recognize the essence of the towns. These towns were different in the civic structure, daily experience, town development and construction even though they might go through the same history, have same architectural style or share same cultural background. So uncovering the difference was one of the tasks for the preservationists, respecting to the history, civic people and town future.

In China, town landscape was the easiest one to be ignored, because it was more abstract than the building preservation. Landscape, however, was the basis for the civic living. Fortunately, more and more Chinese specialists started to pay attention to the landscape preservation. This creative project took Pingyao in Shanxi Province and Lijiang in Yunan Province as cases to study the preservation methodologies in China.

Case Study: Pingyao, Shanxi Province

UNESCO judged the ancient Pingyao downtown as the outstanding precedent of Han Nationality during Ming and Qing Dynasty (1368-1911) in China. So Pingyao was supposed to preserve the largest and most completed historical town features including culture, society and religion.

Pingyao is a town of 1,260 square kilometers with population of 0.45 million. The ancient downtown is located in the north-west of Pingyao with area of 2.25 square
kilometers and 60,000 people. Ancient Pingyao downtown is famous for the pottery and porcelain which has a history of 2,700 years. The downtown pattern was constructed followed by the traditional Confucian way, and is well preserved in historical blocks, circulation organization, spatial structure and residential architectures.

The value of ancient Pingyao downtown was not only the historical remains, but represented the Confucian spatial aesthetics - the complete and grand city walls. The walls were made with rectangle concrete and covered by flashed bricks. There was a memorial pavilion every 50 meters and 71 pavilions in the entire ancient downtown.

The preservationists suggested relocating some parts of residents before the authentic preservation began, which was based on the analysis and evaluation on the existing condition, typical historical town features and desires of residents. The preservationists also encouraged the residents who were willing to continue living in the downtown to conserve the exterior courtyard, neighborhood and blocks; at the same time, they provided modern infrastructure inside (Zhang, 2008).

Besides the maintenance of the historical architecture, the preservation plan concentrated on the town context which was the memory and root for the ancient town. The town context contains courtyards, gates, corridors, bricked walls, arches, storage houses, vegetation and street furniture.

The main approaches of Pingyao landscape preservation were to create a buffer zone and conserve the spatial features.
Due to the various developments occurring in the surroundings of the preservation zone, buffer zone was essential for the following reasons:

1. The aggressive development demolished the surrounding area of the preservation zone which impacted the view sheds from inside to outside.
2. The air and water pollution caused by industry seriously threatened the preservation zone.
3. Circulation and large scale vacation infrastructure attracted numbers of tourists, which resulted in overwhelming capacity for the preservation zone.
4. Visitor rush increased the requirements of sewage, decreased the quality of air and water, increased noise and population density, blocked the traffic and declined residents’ living space.
5. Over capacity of the visitors destroyed the landscape of preservation zone, balance of ecology and local residential environment.

Thus, buffer zone was supposed to be in a certain scale to promise the enough visual spreads. And the zone should also set aside area for viewing the skyline of the ancient downtown. For these purposes, the preservation plan encouraged residents building new houses in other area instead of original site, controlled the pedestrian street, and constructed reception infrastructure out of the ancient downtown.

Besides buffer zone, conservation on typical spatial features was the other approach preserving Pingyao town landscape.
The existing environmental condition in the ancient downtown was messy: 1) 65.28% existing roads were earth; 2) without sewage system; 3) shortage of water sources; 4) utility poles influence the streetscape (Zhang, 2008).

The preservation solutions to the existing issues were: 1) to control the design of architectures besides streets, including material, color, form and size; 2) to formulate guidelines for the advertisements, logos and signboards; 3) to place utility wires underground; 4) to recover the pavement of bluestone; 5) to remain the structure of factories and use parts of them for museum, exhibition, shopping mall or hotels. However, those factories which were not planned to be reused as new buildings were planted with vegetation or green.

In addition, considering ancient Pingyao downtown as the financial center in the middle of China, the specialists also was encouraged to reconstruct stores which owned hundreds years reputation and promoted their unique products, e.g. arts and crafts to be the tourism targets. Besides tourism, agriculture combining with commerce might become the theme for the town, or handcrafts could also regenerate the town.

The typical culture pattern was considered in various levels of plan, including master plan, landscape design and architecture design. The main purpose for the plan of preservation and development was to guarantee the town integrity and sustainability (Zhang, 2008).
Case Study: Lijiang, Yunnan Province

Another example of famous preservation precedent in China was Lijiang, the only town in ancient Chinese history without a guarded surrounding wall. Lijiang was initially built in Song Dynasty (early 13th century), and the oldest existing remains were from 1723.

As the transport hub in the west of China, Lijiang was an important commercial center, home to large numbers of merchants who were engaged in silverware, furniture, fabric, wine and traditional handcrafts. Special geographic location made the constitution of population in Lijiang complex, especially the varieties of minor races there. Man made town was totally built respecting and making use of the natural environment, including topography, geology, climate and resources which made a particularly rich spatial layout.

The sources of water came from the surrounding snowy mountains, which resulted in the complicated net of rivers in the town. Bridges over the rivers became a prominent characteristic of the town.

The architecture and spatial layout in Lijiang represented the local living style, customs and religion. And the related features included special earthquake resistance, shading, waterproof, ventilation and decoration.

With the rapid economic development, Lijiang was also suffered by the impacts on preservation:
1. The increased number of visitors threatened the local culture and ecological balance. Overwhelming capacity of population affected environment, transportation and recreation. More and more residents moved out and left the town in “business”.

2. Over construction for the tourism purposes declined the quality of environment, polluted water, destroyed the vegetation and melted the snowy mountains.

3. Over development resulted in the new construction which conflicted with the ancient town. High density of the buildings, wired European streets and large area of real estate made Lijiang lose the features and destroy the integrity of the town.

Based on the preservation strategies, Lijiang approved positive protection, integral preservation and conservation as development.

1. Historic District Zoning

Besides the central historical area, the historic district zoning also covered the surrounding areas including villages, mountains, water and farmlands as an integrity. It defined the boundary of vernacular landscape, controlled construction in these areas and conserved the existing farmlands.

2. Waterscape Preservation Guidelines

Guidelines limited or stopped the sprawl of construction along the rivers, proposed to conserve the varieties of species, protected the visual corridors from town to farmland and emphasize the exterior features of the town. In addition, recreational construction beside was controlled by the regulations.
3. Mountainscape Preservation Guidelines

It prohibited extracting ores, destroying vegetation and hunting surrounding the town. The group of architectures in the mountains was listed as preserving objectives and the constructions on the mountain or at the foot of mountain were supposed to be controlled.

4. Historic Architecture Preservation Guidelines

It prohibited construction in the core preserving district, however, it encouraged maintaining the existing architectures, trees, wells, bridges and other related elements of importance.

5. Historic Streetscape Preservation Guidelines

It limited the height of the buildings along the street and controlled the form, material and size of the new façade. Any historic block façades were prohibited reconstruction for the commercial purposes. It remained the street winding and inconstant features, conserved the intersections, trees, plazas and wells. The elements which influenced visual aesthetics, such as wire poles were supposed to be removed and recover the pavement being local patterns. All the street furniture was designed to fitting to the local style.

In addition, the preservation plan also paid attention to the minority cultures, such as respecting each racial tradition, encouraging multicultural communication, improving cultural heritage and increasing ethnic pride.
Lijiang was a special case in China that published a series of regulations for preservation and maintenance, the encouragement of the public participation and sustainable management was rare in China (Zhang, 2008).
Figure 11 Ancient Town Wall in Pingyao, Shanxi Province, China

Figure 12 Ancient Pingyao Downtown, Shanxi Province, China
Figure 13 Lijiang, Yunnan Province, China

Figure 14 Lijiang, Yunnan Province, China
CHAPTER 6

Comparative Conclusion

With the cases description above, research for this creative project listed and compared the methodologies and approaches used in historic town landscape preservation between U.S. and China. The comparative conclusion would be taken as the reference and applied in the following creative project.

Considering the history of historic preservation in U.S. is longer and more accomplished than China, it is obvious the methodologies applied in China are similar to U.S. known from the case studies – historic zoning district and guidelines.

Pingyao, Shanxi Province and Charleston, South Carolina applied the methodology of historic zoning. The purposes for the two towns were both to preserve the landscape fabric relating to the history, represent the value of the town and attract more tourists and residents. Charleston divided the town into preservation districts where there could be concentrated continuous construction of buildings in the historic styles and historic town pattern such as streets, sidewalks, open spaces and surrounding zoning for the relevant neighborhoods. Pingyao also divided the town into preserving district, buffering zoning and developing area. No construction, less construction, or amount of construction was
the simplest categories for the preservation plan indicated from the two towns’
preservation plans.

In general, the problems before preservation and the challenges after preservation in
Pingyao and Charleston were the same though the contexts and details were in two
countries. Both goals of Charleston and Pingyao were preservation of historic contexts in
order for the future generation to inherit the history and culture. The difficulties in two
towns were the evaluation of significance, preservation of integrity, improvement of
living conditions and suitability for the future development. The issues after preservation
in two towns included controlling visitors, infrastructures, capacities and maintenance.

Guidelines were the other methodology both used in the two countries, such as
Indianapolis and Lijiang. Guidelines for Chatham-Arch and Massachusetts Avenue in
Indianapolis illustrated the recommendations and non-recommendations for the landscape
preservation, covering landscaping, facades, signages, parking lots, street trees,
circulation and street utilities. The detailed suggestions were based on the full of
understanding on the existing condition and evaluation on the significance and integrity.
Guidelines for Lijiang were rough, just mentioning the preservation on waterscape,
mountainscape, historic architectures and historic streetscape. There are fewer detailed
guidelines recommending how to preserve, encourage or avoid in the case of Lijiang.

Besides methodologies, approaches of town landscape preservation were same in the
two countries also, such as comparative analysis, façade unification and easements.
Comparative analysis was one of the basic approaches used in town landscape preservation in the two countries. Comparative analysis always determines the significance of the history and evaluation of its integrity. Nevertheless, the analysis in the U.S. depended on the Cultural Landscape Report, with no references of this process in China. The only difference resulted in opposite effects. Comparative analysis in the U.S. was more reasonable, rational and systematical. It guaranteed covering every objective in the landscape. At the same time, it was easy for those who want to preserve landscape but without professional background to understand historic preservation and figure out how to start the process. The approach was also an educating method for novice preservationists in the U.S. Lacking in standards made preservation difficult and inconsistent in varieties cases in China. Some cared about pavement, some paid attention to street furniture, while some focused on vegetation. Although preservationists learned the precedents before work, it still needed the guidelines - a lawful regulation.

Façade unification was the basic approach applied in town landscape preservation, especially in streetscape. The successive bricked facades form the main streetscape in Jacksonville, Oregon and emphasized the town features, history and culture. Unifying color, material, scale and details represented the craftsmanship, perspectives and living styles in Jacksonville. Streetscape preservation in Lijiang also proposed the façade unification through height limitation, union in color, material and size. Almost all of façade unification was based on the analysis and evaluation on the existing conditions, and then proposed the suggestions on style union, setback, and an application of color, material, size and skyline control. However, there was a misunderstanding in China:
façade unification is not just architectural façade union. The façade meant street façade which contained street furniture, pavement, street vegetation, pedestrian passing and space for activities. Actually it was the same problem mentioned before – historic preservation is not equal to architectural preservation.

Negative easements and positive easements were the approaches used in both countries. Annapolis, Maryland saved part of the historic past through stopping further development on the properties, at the same time it protected the open space and nature in broad scale. Annapolis controlled the balance between preservation and development through the core landscape selection. Although easements were applied in Pingyao and Lijiang, the boundaries for the positive and negative easements were vague because of the illegal or unsystematical regulation in China. Positive easements were encouraged in both countries. However, negative easements were much safer when there was no ability to guarantee the positive easements. At least, negative easements preserved the historic properties rather than ruined them without instructions.

There were few cases of town landscape preservation using museum or façade protection in China, which required specific background and special conditions for towns if applying that approach.

Museum preservation was a particular interpretation involving large amounts of unique historic characteristics of the town, such as Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. Distinct politics, culture and education gave it a distinguished history. The combination of restoration and recreation made Colonial Williamsburg of 18th century corre “alive”. Though the buildings were reconstructed in late 1930s, the effect was striking. In reality,
the thousand-year history of China brought out numbers of towns owning the
prerequisites to be designed as museums, such as Zhujiajiao, Xitang, Hongcun,
Fenghuang, Red Mansion Garden, etc. They all owned special historical features,
abundant natural and cultural resources, vivid historic events, fairly intact remains and
beautiful landscapes which were the basis for the museum preservation.

Façade protection was a little bit difficult for many Chinese towns. One of the key
reasons was material, such as the stone façade for Circle Center Mall in Indianapolis.
Material decided the load-bearing structure. However, most historic construction, except
for a few important public structures in Chinese history were constructed with woods as
material, especially residential construction. It was much more difficult to save the
facades in the reconstruction process. If this approach was selected, it would be a great
challenge from evaluation to reconstruction.

Considering the comparative conclusions, the creative project applied historic zoning
districts and guidelines as basic methodologies, assisting the approaches of comparative
analysis, unifying façade and easement. Referring to the existing condition of the site,
museum and façade saving might be the options.
CHAPTER 7

Creative Project

The site for the creative project is Guoqing Road in Yangzhou, middle of Jiangsu Province, China (Figure 15). Yangzhou is one of the oldest and most famous historical towns in China. It is 6,634 km² (2,561 square mile), with population of 4.6 million (2008 Census). Yangzhou played critical role in the past 2,400 years in Chinese history. A historical event made Yangzhou initially famous that Emperor of Sui Yang (569-618) ordered the canal construction from Beijing to Hangzhou (close to Yangzhou) which was more than 2,700 kilometers (1,677 miles). One of his purposes for the canal construction was to appreciate guelder rose¹ in Yangzhou (Figure 16).

Yangzhou is a historical town in Chinese history, abundant in historic constructions and landscapes. Comparing with other towns in China, Yangzhou keeps vividness for long time in history. Most existing town fabrics remained the pattern of AD 1700, and constructions are still in use with repair or maintenance. Except a few private gardens in Yangzhou, however, the town landscape was of less concern. Open space shrank rapidly caused by over-building temporary structures.

¹ Guelder Rose: Viburnum macrocephalum f.keteleeri in term, the typical flower bloomed best in Yangzhou in history.
Yangzhou has been the commercial connection on land and on water since the canal opened to public. The town is full of unique architecture, classic landscapes, private gardens, craftworks, dramas, poems, minerals, and traditional foods. Lunar March (April) is the best time to visit Yangzhou.

Guoqing Road, in the middle downtown of Yangzhou, played critical role in Yangzhou history. Many historic retail stores with great reputation located in Guoqing Road for hundreds years. The residential houses and resultant figure ground pattern of the town are in the traditional Su-pei style, a typical style developed along Yangtze River.

Unfortunately, there was no specific preservation plan for the landscape along Guoqing Road and its surrounding. Congested traffic, lack in infrastructure, haphazard living environments, temporary construction without permission and shrinking open space made Guoqing Road fade away.

The goal of the project for Guoqing Road was to design a balance of preservation and development by applying the researched methodologies. The objective of the project was to preserve the historic town landscape, as well as to construct a reasonable living environment for the neighborhoods.

**Introduction, Boundary Description, and Significance of the Properties**

Yangzhou, as many other towns in China, was first developed near a river in AD 600. Initial residents built houses along the river for the source of water.
Plenty of water enlarged the town to the west. With nearly one thousand years development, Yangzhou formed basic figure ground and contributed to the diverting water. However, Yangzhou suffered the worst ruin in 1640 because of the change in regime. Buildings were buried, residents were killed and environments were destroyed (Yangzhou, 2010).

After the massacre, escaping town people and immigrants rebuilt the town again which formed the existing pattern of townscape in Yangzhou. The reconstruction of the town followed the historic patterns and sprawled to the west further.

At the beginning of 1980s, Yangzhou aimed to develop economics: building highways, railways and shipping routes successively, increasing import and export, attracting investors and tourists. The town west-sprawl reached the level that had never occurred in history. The sprawl gradually abandoned the traditional matrix pattern and built the new radiating districts. More and more highrises were built along the waterfronts, even in the districts with intensive historic properties.

Figure 17 showed the changes and three important periods in the town map, as well as its images of the community. The dateline as below showed some of the major events through time (Yangzhou, 2010).

486  Historical Yangzhou Province named, including surrounding decades towns today.
600  Yangzhou founded and named the current district.
610  Jing-Hang Canal was constructed through Yangzhou.
919  Yangzhou was the capital of Dynasty of Wu.
993  Shipping commerce improved n Yangzhou district
1292 Jing-Hang Canal was open to traffic
1357 Governmental system reestablished in Yangzhou
1368 Yangzhou was set as the subordinate of Nanjing
1640 Yangzhou suffered the massacre because of the war between Dynasty Ming and Qing
1645 Jiangsu Province established, Yangzhou belonged
1853 Name of Yangzhou disappeared
1912 Yangzhou recovered the name and district
1956 Yangzhou covered 11 districts
1983 Yangzhou covered 20 districts
1990 Jing-Hu State Road constructed through Yangzhou
1994 Yangzhou covered 30 districts
1996 Ning-Tong Interstate Road constructed through Yangzhou
2005 Ning-Qi Rail road constructed through Yangzhou
2006 Yangzhou opened 184 shipping routes
2008 Yangzhou covered 70 districts

According to the Yangzhou Master Plan in 2003 and during 2006-2010, Yangzhou aimed to enhance the comprehensive economic development. The districts zoning plans contained hierarchical commercial centers, recreational areas, medical and educational locations, new neighborhoods construction and industrial development. However, a historic preservation district was not one of the categories among the planning districts (Figure 18 and 19).

Considering the historic significance of the properties in Yangzhou, historic district zoning was essential for the plan of the town. The creative project was limited by the time and space, so the historic area - Guoqing Road and its surrounding area was selected as the site for the project.
The boundary for the creative project was defined in regards to the significance evaluation and property density assessment in the historic zoning districts following the examples of Charleston, U.S. and Lijiang, China. Charleston defined the preserving boundary through the evaluation on the qualities of existence relating to history, including architectural style and general harmony to the environments (Charleston’s Finest City Guide, 2010). Lijiang defined the boundary through landuse, especially on vernacular landscape, built areas and agricultural areas. Therefore, the boundary for this creative project was defined as followed (Figure 20):

1. Neighborhoods and commercial area around Guoqing Road was unique in Su-pei style for architectures and landscapes. The historic district was defined by the town pattern caused by history;

2. People began to realize the critical status of Su-pei style in Chinese history because of the encouragement by literature, photography, art and film since 2000. More and more professionals and common people who were willing to be involved in the preservation movement;

3. Every Lunar March (April) was the civic festival for visiting Yangzhou which provided the opportunities to revalue the town culture, organization and function. The revivals were closely interrelated to the town fabrics and architectures. The integrity and significance of properties along Guoqing Road was the best within the range of all neighborhoods in Yangzhou;

4. Tourism was the majority reason for visiting Guoqing Road which made the road crowded and noisy. Signs of the retail stores were hanged up only for attracting
visitors while disregarding façade integrity. Tourism became an incumbrance
instead of an assist for the road;
5. There were few professionals addressing preservation plans for Guoqing Road,
nor for the surrounding neighborhoods, and then historic landscape was being
ruined in various levels.

Due to the existing conditions, the goals and challenges for the district within the
boundary included:

1. To preserve the intensive properties with most significance, including the retailing
stores with hundred-year reputation, intersections, alleys, main streetscape, open
space, facades, sidewalks and pavement;
2. To respect to the existing circulation and typical transportation—tricycle routes;
3. To ensure the varieties opportunities developing in the area except historic
preservation, such as landuse of commercial, residential, recreational and others;
4. To adaptive reuse historic drill ground which was abandoned for a certain time
and reconstructed as temporary market in disorder.

When defining boundary of historic district zoning, the creative project applied the
similar method on selecting landscape in Annapolis, Maryland: positively maintained the
historic figure grounds, and kept the balance for new construction area and the
preservation district.

The properties with historic significance identified by National Registration Bulletin
took preservation objectives for granted, such as Fuchun Dim Sum Building, Memorial
Arch, Historic Businessman Villa and the Christian Church. In the creative project, the preservation mainly concentrated on façades since the surrounding landscape has declined out.

As did Charleston and the New Orleans Vieux Carre, the main historic preservation district in the creative project contained S. Guoqing Road, three alleys with unique features of Su-pei style and the scattered properties with great significance. The district was representative of a period of town fabric in history and showed the traditional culture of China. So the treatments were highest required, basically applied preservation and rehabilitation, no allowance for reconstruction on the existing historic properties (Figure 21).

In regards to the treatment in Pingyao case, the historic preservation buffer contained most residential area on both sides of Guoqing Road. The buildings in the buffer areas remained in the traditional Su-pei style, but reconstructed by townpeople though the years. The treatments were the combination of preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and allowance for selected reconstruction through the serious evaluation on the individual properties.

The reconstructing district contained the area full of modern shopping malls, vacant space along Guoqing Road and historic drill ground. The treatments mainly focused on reconstruction on streetscape and facades compatible to the historic properties without simply copying old facades.
Considering the current living environment, the approach of “Museum” applied by Colonial Williamsburg does not fit for the site in large scale due to the following reasons:

1. The integrity of historic properties was not preserved so well that could be built as museum.
2. Hundreds of residents lived in the site for generations and would not leave;
3. The intersection of roads were busy in traffic, especially the intersection of Guoqing Road and Middle Wen Chang Boulevard;
4. Activities in the district were complicated, and few of them were isolated from the historic district.

**Treatments on the Properties**

The detailed criteria for the treatments on the historic properties were described in the documentations of cultural landscape thoroughly, in contrast, Chinese preservation examples did not issue legal or formal “treatment” codes. Thus, the treatments on historic properties defined by cultural landscape set an example for the historic preserving district and historic preserving buffer in the creative project.

> Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.
Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical or cultural values.

Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

Reconstruction is defined as the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structures, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location (Birnbaum, 1996).

The main objectives for the treatments in this project were the fabric of the site landscape, including paths, edges, nodes, landmarks and districts. The treatments involved in the unifying color, texture, scale, style, character, personality and uniqueness.

In the project, paths were the road (Guoqing Road), streets and alleys; edges were the sidewalks and façades; nodes were the intersections, squares and open space for public activities; landmarks were the certain building (Fuchun Dim Sum Building), structure (Memorial Arch), trees and wells; districts were the figure grounds and footprints in the site.
**Existing Condition and Comparative Analysis**

The comparative analysis on the existing condition evaluated the importance of the objectives, classified the features of the landscapes, and determined the potential treatments on the properties.

The comparison between existing conditions and historical features showed the differences and changes as time went by. No matter if the changes were good or bad, the contrast indicated the problems in the site and addressed the potential solutions to the difficult compatibility.

**Circulation**

As one of the original elements of the circulation matrix, Guoqing Road was the main historical road in the site. In the early of 1920s, Guoqing Road was the busiest road in Yangzhou, and established decades of retailing stores with great reputations. At that time, the majority transportation was bicycle or tricycle. There were scarcely any parking lots along the road since fewer motor-vehicles. Tricycle was the typical commuting transportation which was still in use as sort of historic experience on purpose. Few of them were used in commuting function (Figure 23).

After the 1980s, motor-vehicles increased greatly on Guoqing Road. The road was also converted from relaxation to circulation. Therefore, Guoqing Road was claimed as a secondary vehicle road and became as a one-way road from north to south. Guoqing Road went across Middle Wen Chang Boulevard. Because of the reconstruction on Middle Wen Chang Boulevard, the intersection of two roads became as one of the biggest
commercial centers in Yangzhou which got heavy traffic soon. Cars, buses, bicycles, tricycles and pedestrians made Guoqing Road noisy, unsafe and disorder. Quickly developed tourism made this even worse. Guoqing Road became one of the most popular destinations for trips since the plenty of the historical stores. It was common to see residents and visitors hustling against each other along Guoqing Road (Figure 22).

Guoqing Road was 11 meters (36 feet) in width, including two sidewalks in 2m (6.5 feet). Air and noise pollution were extremely terrible on Guoqing Road which influenced the living environment in the nearby neighborhoods. Besides people felt uncomfortable, street trees were also small and unhealthy and few birds flew through (Figure 24 and 25).

Lacking in parking lots was obvious problem because of the multiple purposes on Guoqing Road, such as driving through, shopping, travelling and wandering. In addition, there were few parking lots on the ground or underground near Guoqing Road because of the historic pattern. It was even worse shortage of non-vehicle parking areas. Illegal bicycle or tricycle parking made Guoqing Road further crowded and messy.

The diverse style of shops in the north and south part of Guoqing Road satisfied the various needs in daily life. South part of Guoqing Road concentrated on historic retailing stores, while large shopping malls were located on north part. Visitors usually walked through south part, but residents preferred the supermarket in the north. Those who lived surrounding usually left the site for work, school or recreation.

Besides the mess and congestion along Guoqing Road, the surrounding alleys were not up to expectations. Pedestrians walked across the alleys to visit friends or relatives.
who lived in another neighborhood. Bicyclists rode across the alleys for short cut or avoided crowded Guoqing Road. Some tricycles even passed through the alleys if they were wide enough. In reality, the normal alleys were 3m in width (10 feet). The pavement for the alleys was the typical blue stone which was too slippery to ride (Figure 26).

The messy streetscape along Guoqing Road was caused by the various activities without a systematic plan. The creative project was intended to update the streetscape fitting to the modern living style, while enjoying the great historic properties at the same time. Charleston, South Carolina set a good reference on multicultural merge and extended the history to the youth. People visited Charleston seeking for the sense of belonging and appreciating the perfect merge in multiplication. King Street in Charleston divided into fashion district and antique district which was similar to Guoqing Road. Fashion district-Upper King Street in Charleston was full in wide variety of shopping, accommodations and restaurants; while antique district-Lower King Street was the heaven for arts, galleries, antiques and history. Fashion and antique coordinated and complemented with each other, which gained the reputation for the theme of “a treasure hunter’s dream”. King Street well annotates “Fashion is the historical rebirth” (Charleston’s Finest City Guide, 2010).

**Landuse**

The initial landuse in the historic preservation district was simple: buildings along Guoqing Road were retailing stores, while others were residential houses.
Current landuse was more complicated than before. Buildings along Guoqing Road were mostly used as retailing stores, residential houses, restaurants and recreating places. Most stores were aligned along the sides of Guoqing Road, but gradually sprawled to the neighborhoods nearby. The commercial support was based on the residents surrounding and visitors purposed to Guoqing Road. Recreational buildings were limited, only a historic businessman villa, a memorial arch and a Christian church. Historic Drill Ground was a special area which was in obsolescence for long time. Local people constructed squatters or temporary structures in the area without permission, which made historic drill ground disordered. Guoqing Road was divided into two parts by Middle Wen Chang Boulevard. Local people pulled down historic buildings and reconstructed large scale shopping malls in north part, while most of the historic houses remained in south (Figure 27). The extreme styles made Guoqing Road break in Middle Wen Chang Boulevard. However, more and more residents preferred to move into north part for the new apartments because the old buildings lacked infrastructure and were uncomfortable to live. On the other hand, south part was “left” rather than “preserved”. Townpeople had not realized the importance of preservation. Even though some of them got to know the importance, their preservation objectives were buildings rather than landscape (Figure 30).

**Open Space**

Traditional open space in Su-pei style was the public courtyard at the end of the alley. The conception of public courtyard was the one in small size which could not be claimed as plaza or square. The drinking well was the particular landmark for those public
courtyards. Public courtyard was used as children’s playground or daily relaxation area. The varieties of combination of alleys and public courtyards contributed to the interesting spatial layout (Figure 29). Open space shrank greatly in the past years because of numbers of new buildings. Therefore, one of the objectives of the creative project was to preserve, design and recover the open space for the communities through easement applied in Annapolis, Maryland: never stopped further development of properties, but prescribed restoration to be carried out and maintained on the property.

The treatment involved preserving original courtyard in form, color, material and size. Open space in the communities would be designed for slightly more recreational function except playground and simple rest. The combination of the spatial layout was recommended as the reference in the guideline design (Figure 28).

The intersection of Guoqing Road and Middle Wen Chang Boulevard was only for traffic right now, but it was recommended to be designed as a biggest node for recreation and circulation in the site.

**Vegetation**

There was little vegetation in the historic preservation district, except the street trees on both sides of Guoqing Road. Actually, street trees were added in the late of 1980s and camphor trees were not typical in Yangzhou.

As literature recorded, guelder rose, peony, gingko and willow were the typical vegetation in Yangzhou. Positive easement would restore the vegetation features along the Guoqing Roads.
Facade

Yangzhou was famous for its typical Su-pei architectural style in Chinese history. Buildings usually combined pitched roofs with tiles, red wooden frames (including windows, doors and guard rails), flash bricked walls and supportable awnings (Figure 31 and 32).

Since Chinese preferred the building size to be in a module which was the multiples of 3m (approximately 10 feet), such as 3m, 6m, 9m, etc. The traditional building was one or two floors, 6 or 9m (20 feet or 30 feet) in width, no taller than 12m (39 feet) if the roof is included.

There were two types of classic doors. One was pieces of red wooden boards which meant there would be no doors if pull off the boards. The other type was the folding doors with two or four pieces. Awnings were triangular if seen from the section. Wooden stick was the only support for the awning board (Figure 33).

Typical Su-pei architecture normally used flash bricks as main material, assisting with red woods and black tiles. Balcony was one of the decorating characteristics which were too narrow to stand one person. Classic signs were made of wood in horizontal or vertical, and embedded in traditional Chinese characters of the store name. Unfortunately, the typical Su-pei architectural style was fading away because of over construction or decoration. Some wooden frames of windows or doors were upgraded by aluminum alloy. More and more classic signs were replaced by the modern plastic, canvas or board advertisements which also covered the building facades and destructed the integrity and
traditional aesthetics. The buildings along South Guoqing Road were sort of better than the other areas (Figure 34 and 35).

New buildings constructed in vacant space usually used concrete as main material which seemed incompatible to the traditional buildings in form, façade, scale and style. The creative project addressed the guidelines for unifying façade as the case of Jacksonville, Oregon, which including individual buildings, streetscapes, and blocks for union of function and aesthetics. The project aimed to recover the traditional Su-pei style on fabric patterns and architectural characteristics through the treatments described in cultural landscape and façade saving in Indianapolis. The unifying view from aerial and vertical scale would harmonize the rhythm of the town.

**Street Furnishings**

There were few street furnishings along Guoqing Road and its surrounding paths such as benches, waste receptacles, signs and lights.

Electric poles were added in the early of 1980s. After a few decades, poles and street trees influenced each other (Figure 38). Pavement was the typical element with varieties patterns in Yangzhou (Figure 37). Usually flash bricks were used as the material for pavements (Figure 36). Grass grew in the gaps of the bricks which was the famous description in classic literature.

Approach of positive easement would preserve the typical pavement, material and pattern as the vocabulary for future design. Poles removal would be considered and recommended in the guidelines.
Figure 15 Site Location – Yangzhou
Figure 16 Jing-Hang Canal Route
Figure 17 Town Historical Development in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, China
Figure 18 2003 Yangzhou Master Plan
Figure 19 2006-2010 Yangzhou Master Plan
Figure 20 Site Boundary
Figure 21 Main Historic Preserving Objectives
Figure 22 Guoqing Road and Its Surrounding Circulation
Figure 23 Tricycle on Guoqing Road, Yangzhou

Figure 24 Guoqing Road Existing Condition Section
Figure 25 Circulation Analysis on Guoqing Road
Figure 26 District Diagram
Figure 27 Figure Grounds along Guoqing Road
Figure 28 Spatial Combination Diagram
Figure 30 Landuse
Figure 31 Vocabulary for Su-pei Style Architecture
Figure 32 Vocabulary for Su-pei Style Architecture
Figure 33 Vocabulary for Su-pei Style Architecture
Figure 34 Vocabulary for Su-pei Style Architecture

Figure 35 Guoqing Road Existing Ads Streetscape
Figure 36 Stone Alley Typical Paving

Figure 37 Pavement Pattern
Figure 38 the Incompatible Existing Block Streetscape
CHAPTER 8

Guoqing Road Design Guidelines and Applications

Since there were no Chinese legal or formal codes specifically suitable for applying to the town landscape preservation, especially for the design site – Guoqing Road District currently, the creative project was supposed to provide a series of guidelines illustrating and applying the general and specific preserving methodologies for the site based on the research and comparison between the U.S. and Chinese cases studies.

The guidelines for the Guoqing Road within the design scope contained circulation, building footprints, path and street, architecture, open space and planting. The chapter proposed the recommendation guidelines, and then illustrated the prototype of application on the site.

In regard to the existing diverse styles in North and South Guoqing Road, the road was recommended to be divided into antique and life district separately referring to King Street in Charleston, South Carolina. The antique district - South Guoqing Road was for the cherishing of antiques, history, craftsmanship and traditional architectures. While the life district – North Guoqing Road was full in a wide variety of shops, groceries, accommodations and restaurants. Antique and life coordinated and complemented with
each other, which facilitated Guoqing Road a harmony cycle of history, culture and living environment.

Considering the site complication and creative project limited time, the guideline recommendation scope mainly focused on the part of South Guoqing Road and entry to the North Guoqing Road (Figure 39).

**Circulation and Parking**

The history of Guoqing Road was long and originally was not designed for motor vehicle access. However, the road was widened and became motor accessible during the industrial development. In the previous analysis, the key of current messy situation for the site was caused by the crowded circulation. Considering Guoqing Road was like Charleston, South Carolina mainly used as multi-cultural or history-current period communication, large amounts of people would like hanging around or shopping in the area. In addition, the traditional tricycle was the typical and unique commute method in the site which required a certain space for picking-up, dropping-off and parking. Therefore, the circulation route was recovering to be for pedestrians and non-vehicles only, meeting the purpose for safe walking, displaying and enjoying the tradition-contemporary merge culture.

Non-vehicular circulation could decrease air pollution, noise pollution and commuting density, which was good for the existing historic properties preservation treatments in the site, particularly for those treatments with high requirements, such as preservation and rehabilitation mentioned in Cultural Landscape Report.
As Figure 40 indicates, the vehicle route was relocated underground, continuing through the intersection of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard and Guoqing Road. Then the middle part of Guoqing Road (between Yan Fu Road and Gan Quan Road/Guang Ling Road) was non-vehicular route. The surrounding vehicle circulations were: Yan Fu Road one way west only, Gan Quan Road and Guang Ling Road were one way east only. Vehicles on the both one way roads may only turn right onto Guoqing Road vehicle allowing parts.

The non-vehicular part on Guoqing Road was for tricycles, bicycles and pedestrians. The tricycle and bicycle were riding in the middle of the road. And the paving pattern and street tree locations helped identifying the lanes for non-vehicles or pedestrians.

The original formal parking lots within the scope were for vehicles, and given location and size these areas were recommended used as open space in the future.

There are no formal parking areas for tricycles and bicycles in the site. However, those are essential for the site and should be considered. Since the intersection of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard and Guoqing Road became underground vehicles passing, the two dead ends of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard were designed as tricycle and bicycle parking areas. The west end was for tricycle parking area, as well as picking-up and dropping-off station, while east end was bicycle parking area with a certain number of racks. These two main and large enough parking areas may eliminate or greatly decline the disorder related to circulation issues on the site.
Besides these two parking areas, the preservation plan for the historic part along South Guoqing Road includes series of small parking harbors for bicycle racks and tricycle dropping-off stops. The parking harbors combine contemporary ideas with traditional commuting methods. These parking areas or stops are accessible easily from surrounding roads, streets or alleys (Figure 41).

**Footprints and Setback**

In the Chinese historic towns, buildings normally were the major component for the town landscape. Thus open space or street space was rare and precious, not only serving as the connections for various buildings, but for fresh air as well. Setback\(^2\) and building spacing\(^3\) played an important role in establishing town footprints. The typical setback distance for Guoqing Road was range from 1.5m-2.0m (5 feet – 6.5 feet) on average, some special stores with hundreds years history would be much wider, but the maximum does not exceed 7.0m (23 feet) (Figure 42 and 43).

Within the guideline design scope, the non-confirming structures or those buildings that were recommended to be reconstructed (Figure 47) were supposed to be demolished for future open space or new constructions. After removing, if these vacant spaces were used for new constructions, the setback space is proposed to be on the average of existing setbacks. If the scale was large or the location was important, the setback space is proposed not to exceed 7.0m (23 feet).

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\(^2\) Setback: the distance a structure is set back from street or valley. Several structures enclose a space for activity, rest, or landscape enjoyment in varieties scale from plaza to patio.
\(^3\) Building spacing: the distance between contiguous buildings along block face.
For new construction on the vacant lots in the future, they are proposed to follow the preservation guidelines, and be compatible in design with the context, style, scale, material, texture, color and features of historic fabric (Figure 44). The new constructions are not intended to be cloned copies, which detract from the authentic properties. Period of construction is to be distinguishable, a special requirement for those new constructions. However, it was possible to “borrow” the ideas of traditional architectural characteristics.

For those new buildings “inserting into” the vacant space along South Guoqing Road, there were some recommendations as follow:

1. The new buildings should follow the block façade skyline, no more than 15m (49 feet) if including roof and cornice height, lower than 12m (39 feet) was recommended.
2. Pitched roof would be much more compatible to the existing historic buildings.
3. Multiple of 3m (10 feet) would be easier for those new buildings to be in harmony with the historic ones in scale.
4. Odd number was recommended for the fenestration on the new buildings.
5. Main entries to the buildings were supposed to face to Guoqing Road.
6. Setback distance was ranging from 1.5m – 7.0m (5 feet – 23 feet) in regarding to the appropriate scale.
Path and Streetscape

Due to the non-vehicular design proposal, it was decided in the circulation guideline to reserve the south part of Guoqing Road mainly for tricycle, bicycle and pedestrian use. The tricycles and bicycles were recommended to ride in the middle of the road, providing safety for pedestrians and providing more space for pedestrians to gather. Pedestrian lanes on both sides were recommended to be 3.0m (10 feet) in width each, and non-vehicular lane was 5.0m (16.4 feet) wide (Figure 45).

Curbs were not recommended, although they help divide pedestrian lanes from non-vehicular lane. Because curbs were not the typical feature in traditional Su-pei style and they might affect case for pedestrians crossing the road. Paving pattern and street trees were recommended as the identities for the lanes to be distinguished.

Combining with the non-vehicular drop-off stops (Figure 41), bicycle racks were recommended at these stopping harbors. Benches and related street furnishings were recommended as well (Figure 46).

Architecture

Traditional Su-Pei buildings were in the majority made of flashed brick masonry with red painted wood as decoration in windows, doors, awnings and guard rails. The building unit was multiples of 3m (approximately 10 feet) in common, one or two floors and no more than 12m (39 feet) in height. Considering buildings were a major element for the town’s landscape preservation objectives, the creative project did not list or illustrate the methods how to preserve the individual building or interior design. Instead, the façades of
the buildings, especially those buildings facing to Guoqing Road were recommended to apply the overall guidelines referenced in proposal treatments outlined by Cultural Landscape Report methods (Figure 47):

**Preservation:** a process to sustain the existing significance of property in present status. The façade treatment involves in Fuchun Dim Sun Building, Memorial Arch, and the business villa.

**Rehabilitation:** a process to repair or alternate portions that compatible to contemporary use while preserving the historical or cultural values. The treatment involves in most façades in South Guoqing Road.

**Restoration:** a process to recover the appearance of the property in Su-Pei style by removing the additional or replacing missing features. The treatment involves in part N. Guoqing Road and combines rehabilitation in South Guoqing Road.

**Reconstruction:** a process to new construct a property compatible to the surrounding historic properties in characteristics, landscape, and detailing. The treatment involves in historic drill ground.

For building façade preservation treatments, the general guidelines were recommended as follows:

1. Any methods for adding, removing or replacing were supposed to follow the evidence that indicated the original look in history, as well as decrease the affection to the building facades as least as possible.
2. Original components or authentic elements were recommended for reuse or repair rather than replace with new ones, which include window, door, guardrail, awning, roof and balcony.

3. Flashed bricks, red painted wood, frosted glass and black tile were the basic elements for those stores with hundreds years on South Guoqing Road.

4. All the treatments were supposed to respect the module of the characteristics, such as size, odd or even number modulars.

**Open Space**

The figure grounds layout (Figure 27), it clearly indicated the shortage of open space along Guoqing Road. So many residents and visitors may only walk through Guoqing Road and surrounding alleys, with few opportunities to stay for a while, resting, gathering, communicating or doing some other social activities. Unfortunately, some vacant areas were occupied to use as temporary structures rather than open space for recreation. Children could only play around in the typical small public courtyards which are unsafe since wells are the typical landmarks. Lacking of shade, benches, receptacles and other related amenities discourage staying and the slippery stone pavement are hard for walking.

As Figure 48 shows, the largest proposed open space was the intersection of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard and Guoqing Road. This intersection played the critical role in the historic preservation district (Figure 50).
1. It is a circulation roundabout, connecting and gathering the largest numbers of proposed non-vehicles and pedestrians.

2. It is the buffer from north modern part to south antique part.

3. It is the largest open space along Guoqing Road where various activities may occur and where interpretation of the relationship between history and current can be provided.

In regard to the previous proposed circulation reorganization (Figure 40), vehicles drove underground and the two dead ends of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard were designed to be tricycle and bicycle parking areas. The west end was proposed to be tricycle parking lots, as well as the main picking-up and dropping-off station along the Guoqing Road. This station would decrease the circulation crowds and provide circulation management of Guoqing Road from most extent. The small tricycle information venue may also provide the coordinating and booking services. At the same time, the small bicycle information venue on the east provided the bicycle management and storage service also. The two blocking walls at both ends were recommended to be 1.5m (5 feet) in height which may saw Wen Chang Boulevard from elevated views.

The center of the intersection is proposed to be the interpretation area modelled from the idea of Williamsburg museum, the area would display Guoqing Road or Yangzhou town culture, explaining the history development and showing the communication between past and current.

The typical Su-pei style gateway monument indicates the formal entry to the south historic Guoqing Road part (Figure 53) and is designed with stone material, imbedding
character name on top of the wall, curling cornice, black tile roof and red painted wood. Trees are provided to block the views to the north entry of Guoqing Road and create a buffer zone from historic to modern.

The Christian church in the south-west corner should be preserved. The church was over 100-year history and is still in use these days. The communication between western culture and eastern reflects the specific period in Chinese history.

Besides the church, the other buildings should remain as long as their façade facing to the intersection were recommended to restore the façades compatible to the historic Su-pei style, while remaining their original use. Considering the building scale and architecture of the original period, the compatible restoration was inspired from color, material, pattern and some details. The restoration was not a clone. Fake antique beyond authentic scale is discouraged. The façade restoration idea was enlightened from the case of Indianapolis, IN, though which only saved the façades and applied the multi-function to the buildings.

The intersection was recommended to be designed as a flexible open space for people walking, approaching non-vehicles, relaxing, enjoying and absorbing historic interpretation (Figure 50).

Except for the intersection, the other proposed vacant spaces (Figure 44) were those areas along Guoqing Road to be reconstructed. The historic drill ground was an additional special situation requiring a special preservation treatment.
As the analysis in the previous chapter indicated, the temporary buildings in the historic drill ground are proposed to be demolished, and the proposed Su-pei style buildings were recommended to enclose the space and form a center area as the typical tea courtyard node (Figure 52). Canopy trees with stone or wooden benches were the traditional elements in these enclosed spaces. The enclosed buildings were usually used as tea building or typical Yangzhou feature – Dim Sum building. This enclosed space was similar to the traditional layout of the public courtyard, but in large scale for residents’ social communication and potential for the occasional markets. The entry to the enclosed space is recommended to be the small scale of traditional gateway monument (Figure 53). In front of the gateway monument, bicycle parking racks were recommended which may create a pure open space for recreation after entering the gateway.

In addition, some existing large public courtyards (Figure 49) are recommended to be renovated as open spaces as well, which keeps the traditional characteristics compatible to the existing surrounding structures but adds more related facilities for more convenience, such as bicycle parking racks, tree shades, benches, receptacles and lights. These related facilities are proposed to be in the same style as the traditional courtyards.

**Paving**

In regard to the previous road design, the paving should indicate the lanes for pedestrians or non-vehicles (Figure 46). Considering the diverse style on Guoqing Road north and south part, paving patterns were recommended to be continuous and compatible to the buildings style.
From the pattern vocabulary (Figure 37), linear paving would be more fitting to the north part which derivative from the traditional features with some modern elements. Cube or small square paving were recommended for the South Guoqing Road part which are representative of the tradition and history. For south Guoqing part, linear and cube elements are proposed to be combined since there is a non-vehicular lane in the middle and pedestrian lanes on the sides. The buffer and gradual transfer of the paving pattern from south area combination to north area combination occurs on the intersection of Middle Wen Chang Boulevard and Guoqing Road (Figure 54).

In addition, the paving pattern should match to the building façade pattern also, especially on the South Guoqing Road. The proposed streetscape on the historic part reinforces the integrity of the historic views.

**Planting**

Usually Chinese tradition preferred private gardens in history, so there were few street trees along the roads (Figure 55). Nevertheless, the existing street trees - Cinnamomum camphora that people planted during town development after 1980s have already grown about 30 years. These trees became part of the history and people got used to the canopy trees for viewing green, shading, blocking noise, absorbing dirt and purifying air.

Besides Cinnamomum camphora, Ginkgo biloba was also recommended as the option for the street trees since they were planted largely in Yangzhou private gardens.
Blooming flowers were recommended used as shrub or pot decoration on Guoqing Road, such as Viburnum macrocephalum and Paeonia suffruticosa (Figure 56).

**Others**

In addition to the landscape elements above, some other elements also require recommendations, such as color, material, signage and street furnishings.

Traditional Chinese color was the feature for historic Guoqing district, including red, grey, black and blue. The specific color palette is recommended to be applied due to its heritage of use (Figure 57). Hardscape was recommended to use blue and green, grey and beige series. Façade color was recommended to be conforming to blue bricks and red wooden framework.

The material applications in the historic Guoqing district were classified into hardscape and softscape. Hardscape mainly contained paving and exterior buildings. Softscape were trees, shrubs, few grass or turfs. The material selection was recommended to be compatible with the landscape and buildings in the historic district, particularly in the materials’ texture, pattern and dimension. Natural material would be a priority for the area full of the historic fabric, such as flashed bricks, stone pavements and wooden decorations. Wooden decorations include flower pots, bicycle racks, trash receptacles and lighting poles.

Signage was encouraged to provide clear and accurate information to people in order to highlight the preservation objectives but which would not distract from the historic qualities of the properties. The signage was supposed to be integral with the buildings
and is recommended to be divided into three categories: road signage, scene spot signage and advertisement signage.

Road signage was recommended to comply with the applicable signs in Yangzhou which made local regulation and ordinances in union within the town. Scene spot signage, particularly for those historic properties was recommended to be concise and interpretive. Advertisement signage was supposed to be compatible with the historic properties on size, color, material, shape and graphics. Wooden advertisements were recommended for those Su-pei style buildings, including both traditional horizontal and vertical signs.

There are few existing street furnishings along Guoqing Road. The newly added ones include street lights, traditional sculptures, planter pots, trash receptacles, benches and bicycle racks. All the adding furnishings were supposed to be comfort with the streetscape in material, color, features, dimension, layout and pavement. Furnishings with multi-functions were recommended which may provide convenience and save room, such as planter pots combining with benches. Street light poles were recommended no more higher than 15m (49 feet) and existing electricity poles were recommended to be buried underground instead. Trash receptacles were recommended to be divided into recyclable and unrecyclable.
Figure 39 Proposed Guideline Recommendation Scope
Figure 40 Proposed Historic Guoqing District Circulation Relayout
Figure 41 Proposed Parking Area Diagram
Figure 42 Setback Diagram

Figure 43 Guoqing Road Building Setback Line
Figure 44 Proposed South Guoqing Road Proposed Vacant Space Locations
Figure 46 Proposed Typical South Guoqing Road Plan
Figure 47 Proposed Building Facade Treatment Layout on Guoqing Road
Figure 48 Proposed Open Space and Buildings on Guoqing Road
Figure 49 Existing Public Courtyards Layout
Figure 50 Proposed Intersection Layout of M. Wen Chang Blvd & Guoqing Road
Figure 51 Proposed Historic Drill Ground Layout
Figure 52 Perspective Tea Courtyard

Figure 53 Typical Traditional Su-Pei Style Gateway Monument
Figure 54 Proposed Paving Pattern on Guoqing Road

Figure 55 Example of Original Streetscape without Street Trees
Figure 56 Proposed Examples of Tree Types on South Guoqing Road
Figure 57 Proposed Color Palette
CONCLUSION

The goal or objective for this creative project was to develop a hybrid or design a new town landscape preservation method fitting to current Chinese urgencies, through a series of cases studies, analysis and comparison.

The methods suitable to the current Chinese town landscape preservation vary due to the methodologies and approaches researched throughout the United States and Chinese existing cases treatments.

The common methods were historic zoning districts and guidelines, and treatments approaches contained comparative analysis, museum, façade unification, easements and façade protection. Different cases need various treatments which occur similarly in the two countries. However, the town landscape preservation achieved better results in the U.S. since their plans incorporated the completed and detailed Cultural Landscape Report and National Registration system. No matter the differences in the varieties cases, the foundation for the preserving principles were concisely and accurately listed in Cultural Landscape Report and National Registration system which are supervised by National Park Service. This was found to be the crucial weakness in Chinese town preservation field.
The application for Guoqing District in Yangzhou was the initial beginning of the methodologies and approaches in the field. The town landscape preservation was not limited only the landscape footprints, open spaces, circulation, paving pattern and related streetscape reconstruction, as it needed involvement by more fields of professionals, such as architecture, economics, history, sociology and culture. If there was opportunity to further refine the project in the future, the preservation design might be cooperated by landscape preservationist and architecture preservationist, focusing both on large scale of the district figure grounds and related appropriate matching of landscape treatments, the designs for the buildings, and the interior integrities.


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