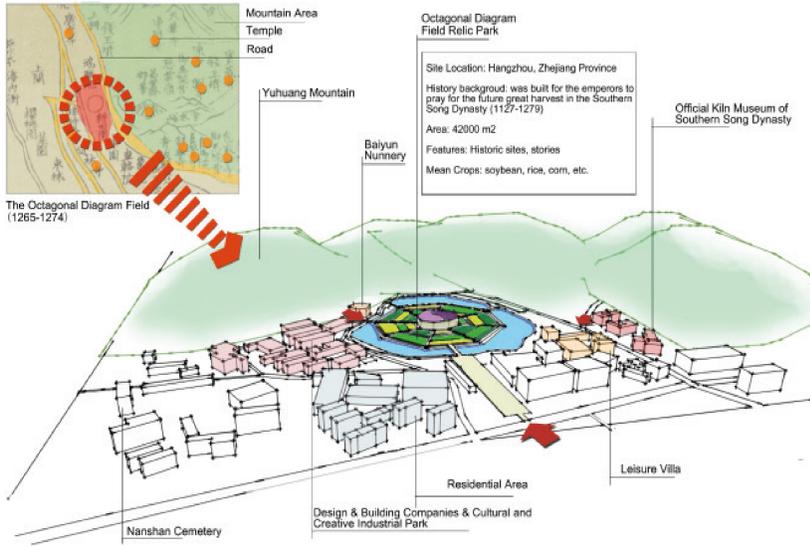




3

Research on Urban Agriculture Heritages Crisis of Nature & Culture?



Best Practice Analysis

Octagonal Diagram Field Relic Park in China

Because the octagonal diagram in China means luck and fortune, this park was built for the emperors to pray for the future great harvest in the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279). At that time different parts of Octagonal Diagram Field has various kinds of crops such as soybean, rice, corn, etc. Now, this park was redesigned and has become the landmark in the urban area, it is also considered as an ideal place for learning Chinese agricultural history and environmental issues.

Urban Gardening in Gärtnerstadt, Bamberg, Germany

Since the Middle Ages, urban gardening has appeared in Bamberg. In 1858, the city counted more than 500 gardening companies, 540 garden owners with a plenty of fellows and assistants. Urban Gardening is an important economic and cultural component of the World Heritage Site and is still practiced in Bamberg.

The study on the UAH is one of the effective measures to explore the relationship between spatial form change and cultural identity with geographic, cultural, and social concept angles. It will introduce more specific regions in China and Germany, and even some parallel research between Germany and China.

Research Background

Now Urban Agriculture can be seen as an excellent tool for designing and maintaining the cities' green infrastructure. It points out interlinks and interactions between urban economics and ecological conditions, which is embedded in, and interacting with the urban ecosystem. There is no doubt that UA provides urbanites with high-quality recreational experiences and sustainable environment. While the multifunction of UA is conspicuous, is it possible to explore its cultural function at depth?

Based on this problem my research emphasizes on Urban Agricultural Heritages (UAH). UAH is one of the heritage styles among the world heritage which reflects the brilliant wisdom of local residents. Generally, it can be defined by well-formed traditional agricultural landscapes and agricultural production systems with a long history in the urban and semi-urban areas. But as the development of the modern science and technique application, traditional agriculture has been losing its status. For this phenomenon this research focuses on the relationship between Urban Agriculture and Cultural Heritage, exploring the way to effectively combine agricultural, historical and spatial dimensions in the city areas. For UAH, developing agricultural ecosystem is a good way to contribute to the preservation of heritages. The main goal of this research is to identify and safeguard UAH and their associated landscapes, agricultural sites (local crops, systems, etc.), knowledge and cultural identity.



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Main project of institution: Urban Agriculture Europe (UAE). The contributions approach urban agriculture from the point of view of social science, economy, agricultural ecology, spatial planning and address the role of citizens, involved parties, and politics, as well as operational models and planning tools.

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