

The Study on Elements Forming the Traditional Village in South Jeolla Province, Korea - Focusing on Sangsa & Dorae Village -

Kim, Dong-Ryeol¹ and Cheon, Deuk-Youm²

¹Department of Architecture, Chonnam National University, Gwangju, Korea,
free_holiday@nate.com

²Department of Architecture, Chonnam National University, Gwangju, Korea,
dycheon@hanmail.net

ABSTRACT: Villages has had their unique social and cultural positions in Korea's traditional society. Though most of traditional villages have been currently losing their original shapes amidst the tendency of drastic changes and dismantlement, it had long been the important living space in the traditional community. The villages hence have been the subject of the study in various fields. The study was intended to identify the elements which form the villages that have been together with our living, along with the investigation of each element that functions in the village and the influence. Among the elements forming the villages are categorized into the natural element and artificial element that have been coexisting. The study is expected to help better and comprehensively understand the village culture and the practice in traditional Korean community.

Keywords: Traditional Village, Forming Elements, Dorae Village, Sangsa Village

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The village is the place where the people with a spirit of mutual help coexist. The village is the community of the residents forming a close relationship among them in daily living, and the regional group with the most important social role in Korea's rural community. The villages have the name of their own that derives from historical background or geological feature, which

serve the primary settlement recognized and known by the villagers.¹

Such a village comprise the farmland, path, pond, house and forest, which have been naturally or artificially formed for a long time of period. Such elements provide the people with the grains and building material as well as help them emotionally stabilize and become comfortable.

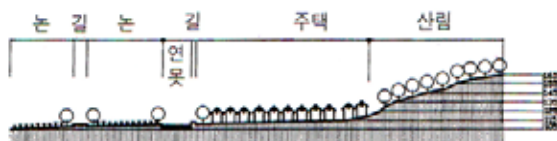
The study was aimed at identifying how these elements have been shared and formed. The study is expected to help better understand the Korean villages more comprehensively.

¹ Kang In-ho, Han Phil-won, 2001. Meaning of The dwelling from the cultural point of view. pp107. Korea

1.2 Method of the Study

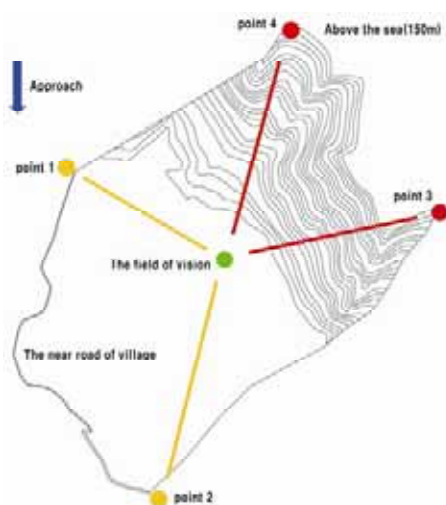
Environmental and socioeconomic conditions serve the certain role in determining the location of the villages.

Environmental conditions includes topographical condition that is favorable in developing the settlement, while socioeconomic condition provides the resources such as water, fuel and building material needed for farming or living.²



<Quotation - Meaning of The dwelling from the cultural point of view>

It's not easy to determine the scope of village to be dealt with in the study. It may indicate the area for housing site development or comprehensively includes even the farmland and mountains. Or it may determine the scope of village according to the administrative zoning rule. The study thus defines the village scope, based on residential zone, from the road in front to the inner side and the mountains below 150m high in the villages in rear boundary, and the boundary on both sides were determined based on road running the two villages according to the villagers.



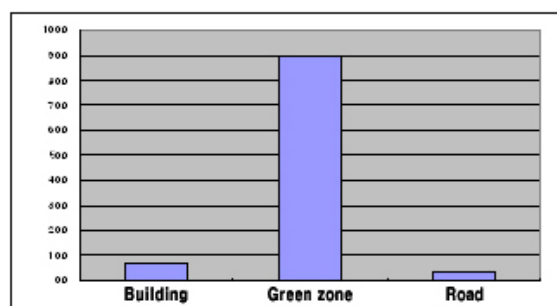
² Kang In-ho, Han Phil-won, 2001. Meaning of The dwelling from the cultural point of view. pp108. Korea

Buildings, green zones and road were designated as the elements forming the village, and the private and shared-space were included as sub-elements of building and water, forests and farmland were for green zone

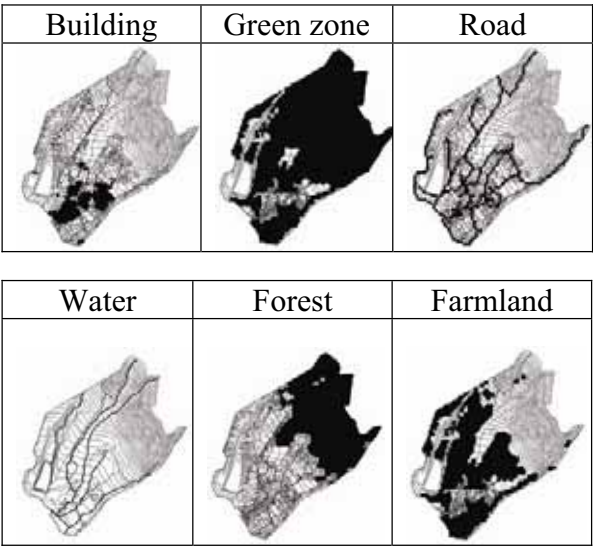


2. Analysis of the elements of Sangsa Village

Sangsa Village is the traditional village situated at Sado-ri, Masan-myun, Gurae-gun, which is a typical rice and dry-field farming village. The buildings in private space are mostly the modern brick or traditional clay tiled-houses and the shared-space accommodates the church, town hall, elderly house and pavilion, while green zone includes paddy field, farm, reservoir, bamboos and hill. The road includes the local road running near the access to the town and paved or unpaved street in the village. As element, building, green zone and road accounts for 7.0%, 89.5% and 3.5 of the village elements, respectively.

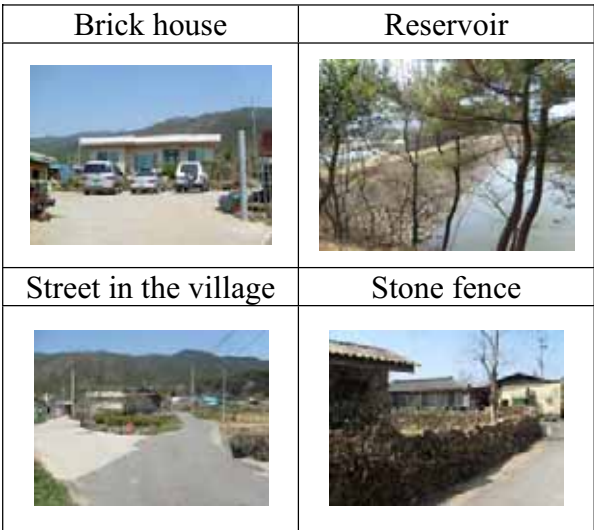


The village was represented by green zone more than anything else because the village is the typical rural town



Viewing the figures above, buildings, road, water and farmland were allocated in front, which indicates that the village was formed based on topographical condition and farming environment. There might be certain limitations in developing the farmland on hilly land in rear, and no road was built because of low productivity. In contrast, a broad open field lied ahead of the village encouraged the people to develop the farmland. And the water running from the mountain might have been used for farming. Reservoir was used to keep the extra water just in case. For such reasons of shorter distance to carry the grain and better accessibility to the water, the houses were built near the open field, with the road.

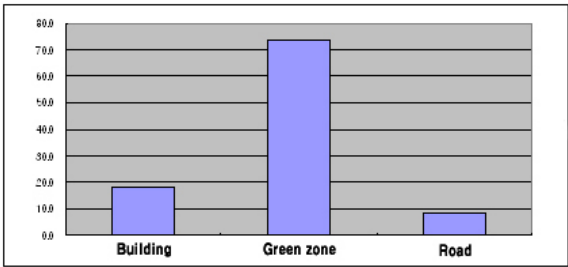
Consequently, Sangsa Village was built on the back of the benefits from the farmland. The elements needed for farming appeared to have been created artificially.



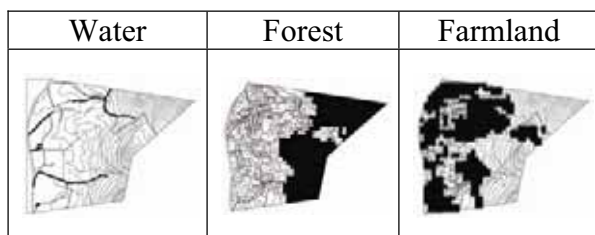
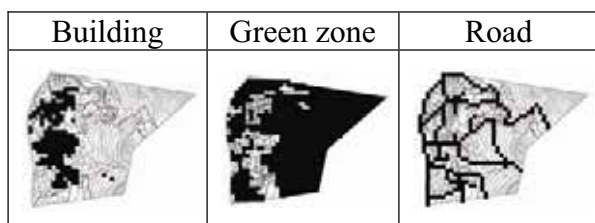
3. Analysis of the Elements of Dorae Village

Dorae Village is the traditional village situated at Poongsan-ri, Dado-myun, Naju City, which is a typical rice and dry-field and greenhouse farming village.

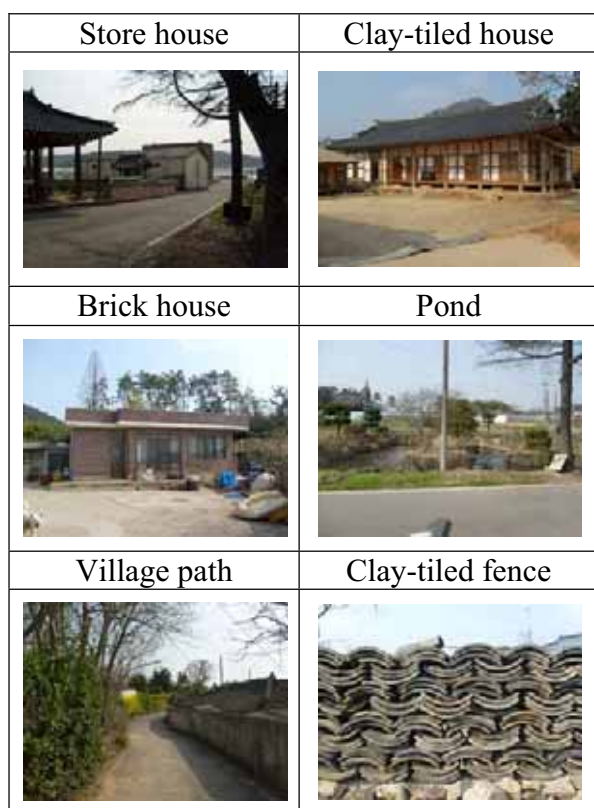
The buildings in private space are mostly modern brick or traditional clay tiled-houses or straw-roofed house, while the shared-space accommodates the storehouse, church, elderly house and pavilion, The road includes the local road running near the access to the town and unpaved street in the village.



As element, building, green zone and road accounts for 18.1%, 73.7% and 8.2 of the village elements, respectively.



Viewing the portion above, the green zone accounted for more than other elements in general, but not that much compared to Sangsa Village. But more building and road than Sangsa Village.



Viewing the figure above, in contrast to Sangsa Village, the road and buildings were broadly distributed along the road adjoining the village, rather than being concentrated in

a specific region. However in general, buildings, road, water and farmland were distributed in front, like Sangsa Village. And the houses and road were naturally built in front simply because the farmland couldn't be developed in rear due to being surrounded with mountainous environment. It's noted that the road was developed in rear unlike Sangsa Village, which was attributable to greenhouse farming. A large scale greenhouse has been developed at the foot of the mountain, which led to development of the infrastructure to carry the crops to the access to the village

Like Sangsa Village, a decisive element in forming the village in Dorae was a farmland.

4. Conclusion

Establishing the elements forming the traditional village as building, green zone and road, and more specifically, with a private space, shared-space, water, forest and farmland, the study was intended to identify the portions of each element in the village and how they react each other. As a result, the elements artificially created appeared to have been formed in front of the village, which indicated that the infrastructure was relocated to the plain, which has favorable environment for development simply because it's difficult to cultivate the farmland on a steep hill. That is, a decisive element forming the traditional farming village was a farmland. The road was built to create the convenient interaction between the farmland and the residential zone and the irrigation facilities were developed in a bid to cultivate the crops. And the shared-space was created in between the residential zone and the

farmland to encourage the people to socialize with each other.

The farmland was extended up the foot of the mountain because of increasingly growing greenhouse farming, which also led to building the road even in the rear of the village.

In conclusion, overall layout of the village in Korea is heavily dependent on where the farmland is developed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“This work was supported by the Korea Research Foundation Grant funded by the Korean Government(MOEHRD)" (The Regional Research Universities Program/Biohousing Research Institute)

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