

Research on the Protection and Development of Temple and Garden Complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin

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Abstract: The Ganjiang River Basin, as an important ecological barrier and cultural heritage region in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, holds significant historical and cultural value. Its temple and garden complexes are not only important cultural heritages but also play crucial roles in ecological protection and tourism development. This study explores the protection and development of these complexes from four aspects: protection principles, cultural heritage protection goals, protection measures, and development strategies. First, it clarifies the principles of protection, including prioritizing ecological protection and integrating cultural inheritance with natural restoration. Second, it proposes goals for cultural heritage protection, aiming to improve protection catalogues and mechanisms to ensure the integrity of the complexes and their surrounding environments. In terms of protection measures, it suggests establishing a systematic protection system, implementing categorized protection, and strengthening technological support to enhance protection efficiency. For development strategies, it proposes a development pattern combining "point," "line," and "area" approaches, including creating diversified "point" tourism paths, cultural health-care and Zen-seeking "line" themed tour routes, and an "area" development pattern integrating temple and garden complexes with regional culture. This study provides theoretical and practical guidance for the sustainable development of temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin.

Keywords: Ganjiang River Basin, Temple and Garden Complexes, Protection and Development.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Ganjiang River Basin is an important ecological and cultural region in southern China, with rich natural landscapes and profound historical and cultural heritage (Zhang et al. 2018). As the largest river in Jiangxi Province and a major tributary of the Yangtze River, the Ganjiang River serves as an important ecological barrier and water source conservation area. Temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin are important cultural heritages, carrying rich historical, religious, and artistic values (Xu et al. 1999). The garden art of these complexes is unique in site selection, Zen-inspired plants, and landscape conception (Guo et al. 2016). However, with the acceleration of urbanization and increased human activities, the ecological environment and cultural heritage protection in the Ganjiang River Basin face many challenges. The protection and development of temple and garden complexes are also affected by environmental degradation, insufficient cultural inheritance, and excessive tourism development (Lu et al. 2016).

Currently, ecological protection and sustainable development in the Ganjiang River Basin have become key issues for regional development. On one hand, ecological restoration and environmental governance are being gradually implemented (Xie et al. 2018). For example, Ji'an City has improved the ecological environment quality through the "Three Strengths" project, creating ecological attractions along the Ganjiang River. On the other hand, the protection and tourism development of cultural heritage are also being explored. For example, the Ganjiang River Source Scenic Area is attempting to balance ecological protection and tourism development. However, how to achieve cultural inheritance and sustainable development while protecting the ecological environment remains an urgent problem to be solved.

This study focuses on the protection and development of temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin. It aims to explore how to achieve coordinated development of ecological protection, cultural inheritance, and tourism development in the process of modernization by systematically analyzing protection principles, cultural heritage protection goals, protection measures, and development strategies. It is expected to provide theoretical support and practical guidance for the sustainable development of temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin, reference for regional ecological protection and cultural heritage inheritance, and contribute to the high-quality development of the Ganjiang River Basin in the new era.

II. RESEARCH AREA OVERVIEW

The Ganjiang River originates from the western foothills of the Wuyi Mountains on the border of Jiangxi and Fujian provinces. It is a major tributary of the Yangtze River and the largest river in Jiangxi Province. The river flows from south to north through Jiangxi Province, covering a total length of 766 kilometers and an area of 83,500 square kilometers, accounting for 51.5% of Jiangxi Province's area. The Ganjiang River Basin includes 44 counties (cities, districts) under the jurisdiction of cities such as Ganzhou, Ji'an, Pingxiang, Yichun, and Xinyu. Based on its hydrological characteristics and natural geography, the basin is divided into upper, middle, and lower reaches. The upper reach includes counties (cities, districts) under the jurisdiction of Ganzhou City; the middle reach includes counties (cities, districts) under the jurisdiction of Ji'an City and Le'an County in Fuzhou City; the lower reach includes counties (cities, districts) under the jurisdiction of Xinyu, Yichun, and Pingxiang cities. The Ganjiang River Basin spans three provinces—Jiangxi, Fujian, Guangdong, and Hunan—with 98.45% of its area in Jiangxi Province and 1.55% in the other three provinces. The unique geological landscape and pleasant natural environment of the Ganjiang River Basin have formed distinctive cultural heritage landscapes, including a variety of temple and garden complexes, which account for 47.2% of the province's total (Zhang et al. 2023). In recent years, the Ganzhou area has made important contributions to the inheritance of religious culture, which have been affirmed by the Jiangxi Provincial Ethnic and Religious Affairs Bureau and the National Religious Affairs Bureau. figure 1 is the study area.

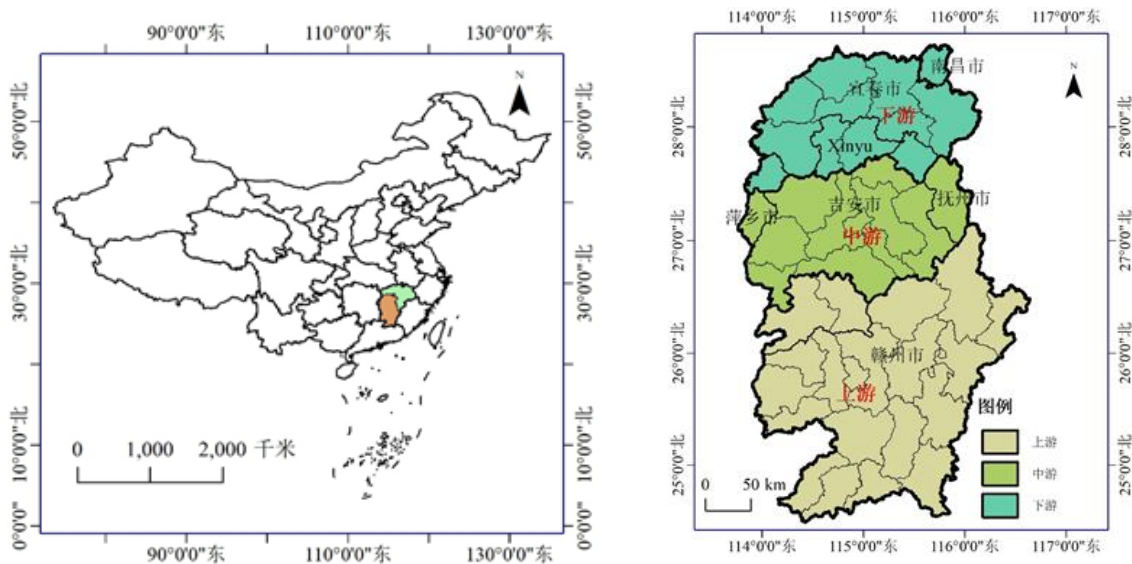


Figure 1: Overview of study area

III. PROTECTION PRINCIPLES AND GOALS OF TEMPLE AND GARDEN COMPLEXES IN THE GANJIANG RIVER BASIN

3.1 Protection Principles

3.1.1 Historical and Cultural Heritage Principle

Temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin are important components of cultural heritage, carrying rich historical information and cultural connotations. They are witnesses to the integration of religious culture, Central Plains culture, and local culture. In the protection process, it is essential to respect their historical value, maintain their original appearance and historical characteristics, and ensure the continuity of cultural inheritance to avoid cultural discontinuity or alienation (Ma 2004). The original architectural styles, garden layouts, or stone inscriptions should be preserved. For buildings and facilities damaged by age, a "restoration as is" approach should be adopted.

3.1.2 Harmony between Nature and Humanity Principle

Temple and garden complexes are often located in areas with beautiful natural scenery, influenced by natural geographical conditions. They are not only carriers of natural landscapes but also manifestations of human spirit. In the protection process, it is important to protect the natural environment and avoid overdevelopment or transformation that may damage natural landscapes. At the same time, integrating human elements such as historical anecdotes, legends, and folk culture should be emphasized to create a perfect combination of natural and cultural landscapes.

3.1.3 Zonal Protection and Coordinated Development Principle

Based on the spatial distribution characteristics of temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin, a zonal protection strategy should be implemented. For core and secondary core areas, protection efforts should be strengthened to ensure the integrity and authenticity of the complexes and their surrounding environments. At the same time, coordinated development among different regions should be promoted through regional cooperation, resource sharing, and joint development, forming a positive situation of overall protection and common development(Sun 2021). On the basis of zonal protection, the relationship between protection and utilization should be balanced to ensure effective protection while reasonably utilizing their resources and values to promote the development of cultural tourism industries.

3.1.4 Continuous Monitoring and Dynamic Adjustment Principle

A continuous monitoring mechanism for the protection of temple and garden complexes should be established to regularly monitor and assess protection efforts. Data collection and analysis should be used to understand the progress and effectiveness of protection work. Based on monitoring results and assessment findings, protection strategies and management measures should be adjusted in a timely manner(Wei et al. 2023). Problems and deficiencies should be promptly rectified and improved to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of protection efforts. Strengthening supervision and assessment of protection work is essential to ensure the implementation of protection measures. Units and individuals who fail to protect or have issues should be held accountable according to laws and regulations.

3.1.5 Cultural Adaptability and Sustainable Development Principle

The protection of temple and garden complexes should be integrated with local sustainable development. During the protection process, emphasis should be placed on the protection and restoration of the ecological environment to avoid negative impacts on the local environment. At the same time, the tourism development and cultural inheritance of the complexes should be actively promoted to achieve a win-win situation in economic and social benefits.

3.2 Protection Goals

3.2.1 Ensuring Effective and Complete Protection of Temple and Garden Complexes

The material cultural heritage of temple and garden complexes includes various forms such as ancient architectural complexes, sculptures and stone carvings, calligraphy and paintings, garden art, and landscapes. To effectively protect these complexes, a comprehensive inventory of cultural heritage resources should be established to ensure all valuable items are protected. Core protection zones should be established for the main buildings, sculptures, stone carvings, calligraphy and painting works, and important garden art and landscapes, with the strictest protection measures applied to prohibit any form of destruction or alteration(Wu et al. 2023). Buffer zones should also be established around the core protection areas to provide an additional layer of protection.

3.2.2 Enhancing the Vitality of Cultural Heritage Inheritance

The vitality of cultural heritage inheritance is reflected in the continuous transmission and development of the material cultural heritage of temple and garden complexes. These complexes should not merely be static objects of preservation but should become living, evolving cultural practices. This requires the continuous exploration and promotion of the essence of traditional culture while adapting to the needs and development of modern society. The material cultural heritage should keep pace with the times and maintain its vitality and appeal. This can be achieved by telling the stories and cultural spirit behind the temple and garden complexes, such as how they were built, the legends associated with them, and their artistic features. These stories can then be disseminated through exhibitions, lectures, books, films, and other means.

3.2.3 Integrating into the Regional Socio-Economic Sustainable Development Strategy

Combining the urban environment and cultural characteristics along the Ganjiang River Basin, a special plan for the protection of temple and garden cultural heritage should be developed. This plan should clearly define the scope of protection, objects of protection, measures to be taken, and development goals. The protection of temple and garden cultural heritage in the Ganjiang River Basin should be incorporated into the "Jiangxi Province Cultural Relics Thematic Tour Route Construction Special Plan" and integrated into the Zen-seeking and questioning brand cultural display project. This will ensure that the protection of cultural heritage progresses in tandem with regional development. Utilizing Buddhist and Taoist wellness philosophies, these concepts should be integrated into resort services to support the "Yichun City Land Space Planning (2021–2035)," "Xinyu City Land Space Planning (2021–2035)," "Pingxiang City Land Space Planning (2021–2035)," "Ganjiang Midstream Ecological Economic Belt High-Quality Development General Plan," and "Ganzhou City Land Space Planning

(2021–2035)." These plans focus on the integrated development of culture, wellness, and tourism industries, as well as the "Jiangxi Province Cultural Relics Thematic Tour Route Construction Special Plan."

IV. PROTECTION MEASURES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR TEMPLE AND GARDEN COMPLEXES IN THE GANJIANG RIVER BASIN

4.1 Establishing a Protection System

4.1.1 Improving the Survey and Record System

Currently, the basic information on religious activity venues provided by the National Religious Affairs Bureau only includes the most fundamental details such as religious type, denomination, venue name, and address. This does not cover deeper cultural and historical values. Therefore, it is essential to conduct surveys on multiple aspects of temple and garden cultural heritage resources in the Ganjiang River Basin, including their historical evolution, architectural style, landscape features, cultural connotations, and current status of inheritance. This will ensure that every temple and garden complex with historical, artistic, and scientific value is documented. First, a comprehensive archival system for temple and garden cultural heritage in the Ganjiang River Basin should be established, clarifying the classification, numbering, storage, and borrowing procedures to ensure the integrity and security of the archives.

4.1.2 Establishing a Representative Project System

Based on the established survey and record system, a national, provincial, municipal, and county-level representative project catalog system should be further developed according to the type, characteristics, and protection needs of temple and garden cultural heritage. Through a multi-level selection and recommendation process, representative temple and garden cultural heritage projects should be included in these catalogs to form a complete and systematic protection system. Regular assessments should be conducted on aspects such as preservation status, environmental conditions, and implementation of protection measures. Through these assessments, existing problems and deficiencies should be identified promptly, and corresponding improvement measures should be taken. Additionally, a dynamic adjustment mechanism should be established to modify the representative project catalog in a timely manner according to the assessment results, ensuring the relevance and effectiveness of protection efforts.

4.1.3 Improving the Representative Responsible Person System

After establishing the representative project system, a national to local (provincial, municipal, county) representative responsible person certification and management system should be developed. The responsibilities and authorities of each level of government in the certification and management process should be clarified to ensure the fairness and authority of the certification process. Detailed certification standards and procedures should also be established to ensure that only individuals with firm religious beliefs, noble character, profound religious knowledge, and cultural literacy, who have undergone ordination and vocational certification, can serve as representative responsible persons.

4.2 Implementing Categorized Protection

Based on assessments by national and local governments, the temple and garden cultural heritage in the Ganjiang River Basin should be classified into five levels: national, provincial, municipal, county, and general. A comprehensive survey of temple and garden complexes not listed in the county-level cultural relics protection catalog should also be conducted, evaluating their construction date, historical background, and cultural connotations to refine their protection levels. Different protection measures should be applied to these five levels: the strictest protection for national-level complexes, focused protection for provincial-level complexes, basic protection for municipal-level complexes, general protection for county-level complexes, and routine maintenance for general complexes. This ensures the integrity, authenticity, and continuity of national-level temple and garden cultural relics, the transmission and promotion of core values of provincial-level complexes, the preservation of overall appearance and historical features of municipal-level complexes, the basic safety and stability of county-level complexes, and the smooth operation and cleanliness of general complexes.

4.3 Strengthening Technological Support

Modern information technologies such as OCR (Optical Character Recognition), big data, and cloud computing should be utilized to digitize the archives of temple and garden cultural heritage. This will enable rapid retrieval, remote access, and efficient use of these records. High-definition photography, drone aerial filming, virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR) should also be employed to comprehensively and systematically document the cultural heritage at a high quality. This will help preserve the original state of the cultural heritage and provide important references for subsequent restoration, protection, and research. Finally, the integration and

sharing of temple and garden cultural heritage resources across the entire basin should be strengthened by establishing a regional cultural heritage database to achieve interconnectivity of resources.

V. DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR TEMPLE AND GARDEN COMPLEXES IN THE GANJIANG RIVER BASIN

5.1 Developing Diversified Tourism Paths for "Point" Temple and Garden Complexes

First, a spatial tiered protection system for temple and garden complexes should be established. Based on their distance from the city center, these complexes can be divided into three categories: those in the city center, suburban areas, and rural outskirts. Due to differences in historical background, scenic beauty, facility usability, transportation convenience, and population density, the protection and development approaches should vary. All complexes should fully interpret their values, such as the spiritual and psychological comfort of Buddhism, the philosophical thoughts of Taoism like the unity of heaven and humanity and the worship of nature, and the architectural, artistic, historical, religious, mural, and cultural values contained within these complexes.

5.1.1 Development Strategies for Temple and Garden Complexes in City Centers

For temple and garden complexes located in city centers, they often possess advantageous geographical locations and rich resources in terms of population, economy, and historical significance. Their tourism value should be fully utilized as an important part of the tourism industry. Through the development of well-known temple and garden complexes in the city center, related industries such as catering, accommodation, and shopping can be stimulated, forming a complete tourism industry chain.

(1) Developing Diversified Tourism Products

Based on the historical background, location advantages, and cultural characteristics of temple and garden complexes, diversified tourism development goals, positioning, and markets should be clarified. These may include religious cultural experience tours, garden sightseeing tours, and leisure vacations. The development of cultural tourism in temple and garden complexes can be promoted through a combination of online marketing and offline activities. Online channels can utilize social media platforms such as Weibo, WeChat, and Douyin to post beautiful scenery, cultural stories, and event previews of temple and garden complexes to attract tourists' attention. Periodic online photography contests and cultural quizzes can be held to increase tourists' participation and loyalty. Collaborations with travel bloggers and internet celebrities for on-site visits and live broadcasts can also expand the complexes' visibility. Offline activities may include cultural festivals related to temple and garden complexes, such as Buddhist cultural festivals and flower appreciation events, to enrich tourists' cultural experiences. Inviting well-known cultural scholars and artists for lectures and performances can enhance the cultural depth and appeal of these complexes. Additionally, collaborations with schools and educational institutions to launch study tours and activities related to temple and garden complexes can provide opportunities for young people to learn about traditional Chinese culture and religious culture.

(2) Innovating Cultural and Creative Product Development

Design cultural and creative products in different categories such as religious culture, garden art, and creative fusion based on market demand and tourists' preferences. These products can meet the collection and commemorative needs of tourists and believers, further spreading and promoting the cultural value of temple and garden complexes.

(3) Enhancing Tourism Service Quality

As cultural heritage resources for the tourism industry, temple and garden complexes must have their tourism service quality improved. The infrastructure within these complexes mainly includes roads, bridges, lighting, signboards, electronic guides, seating, and shading facilities, which need regular inspection and maintenance to ensure normal use. Regular checks and patrols should be conducted on fire protection facilities, electrical circuits, and safety exits within the temples to ensure comprehensive and thorough safety. To enhance service levels, catering and shopping areas can be set up within the complexes, and characteristic guesthouses and inns can be developed in the surrounding areas to provide comfortable accommodation for tourists.

5.1.2 Development Strategies for Temple and Garden Complexes in Urban Suburbs

Temple and garden complexes in urban suburbs are usually located in forested areas on the outskirts of cities, away from urban noise but still easily accessible for city residents to visit and engage in religious activities. The layout of these complexes often relies on natural topographical features, creating a harmonious blend of natural landscapes and cultural architecture. Taking Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple in Yichun as an example, the development strategies for suburban temple and garden complexes are as follows:

Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple is located at the foot of Jiayun Peak in Mingyue Mountain, 23 kilometers south of Yichun City, Jiangxi Province. It is far from urban noise and has convenient transportation. Established in the fifth year of the Huichang era of the Tang Dynasty (845 AD), it is the ancestral temple of the Weiyang School, one of the five major schools and seven sects of Chinese Buddhism. The temple houses many cultural relics and historical sites, such as the pagoda of Master Huizhi. Surrounded by the beautiful environment of Mingyue Mountain, the temple has high cultural and tourism value. As a well-known suburban attraction, it plays an important role in promoting urban integration and new urbanization. Figure 2 is the development planning map of Yangshan Qiyin temple garden.

(1) Enhancing Transportation Connectivity

Optimize existing provincial and national highway connections to ensure convenient access from both urban and rural areas to Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple. Increase the frequency of public transportation routes from the city center to the temple, or establish dedicated tourist bus lines to facilitate visits by tourists and residents. Develop walking and cycling paths from surrounding villages to the temple, encouraging rural residents to travel to the temple in an environmentally friendly manner and promoting community cultural exchanges. Install rest areas and scenic platforms along these paths to enhance the travel experience for visitors.

(2) Activating Religious Resources

As a carrier of Zen culture, Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple should deeply explore its historical origins, Zen philosophy, and meditation practices to create a unique Zen cultural brand. Regularly host Zen meditation experiences, Zen culture lectures, and Zen-inspired calligraphy and painting exhibitions to attract urban and rural visitors and enhance cultural engagement. Utilize public spaces within the temple, such as lecture halls and tea rooms, to hold urban-rural cultural exchange salons or seminars to promote understanding and communication between urban and rural residents. Protect and restore ancient buildings and cultural relics within the temple while preserving its unique Zen traditions and rituals.

(3) Utilizing Surrounding Resources

Establish cooperative relationships with villages along the Hongjiang Town route to jointly develop tourism resources, such as agricultural product processing and handicraft sales, providing employment opportunities and income for villagers. Create a shared urban-rural tourism resource mechanism to integrate and share the tourism resources of Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple with those of surrounding villages. Enhance the overall tourism visibility and attractiveness of the region through collaborative tourism efforts, achieving a win-win development in the tourism industry.

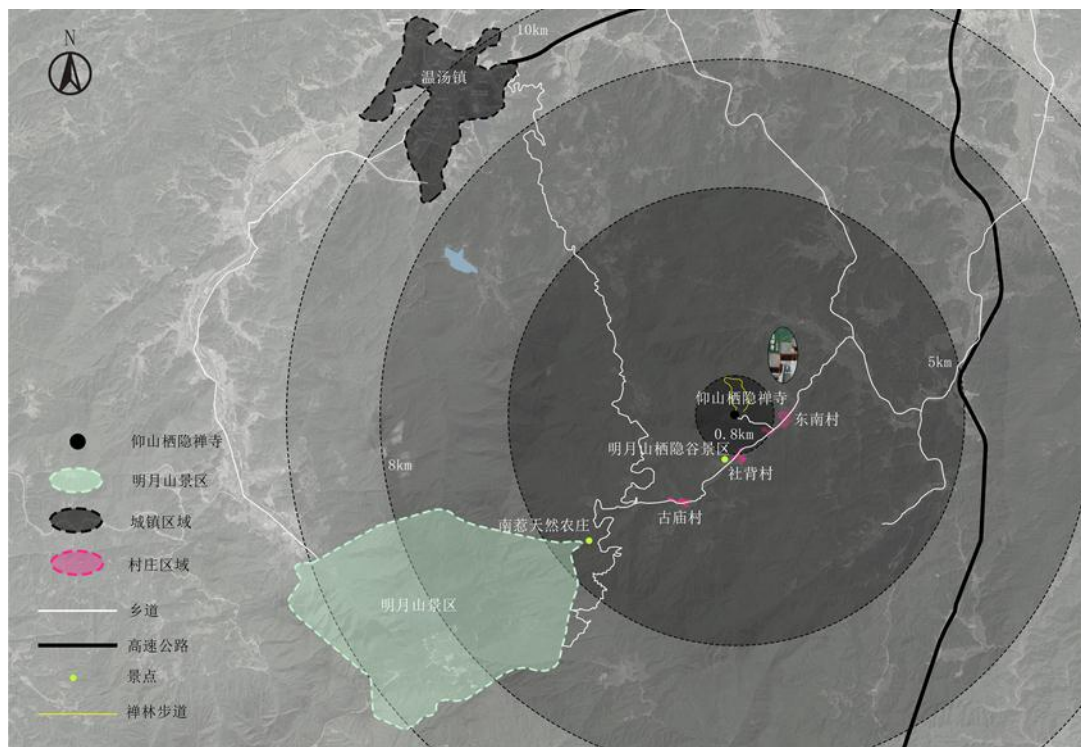


Figure 2: Development planning map of Yangshan Qiyin Temple

5.1.3 Development Strategies for Temple and Garden Complexes in Rural Outskirts

Temple and garden complexes in rural outskirts or villages can generally be divided into those with high fame and those with lower fame. Those with high fame can enhance their cultural influence by improving transportation facilities and establishing convenient access systems, becoming a cultural calling card for local economic development. For ordinary complexes, usually funded by local residents or partially supported by the government, they often serve as platforms for community cultural exchanges and resident cohesion, embodying shared local values. Based on exploring their historical and cultural values, define protection scopes, renovate main buildings, and add appropriate facilities for communication and activities to achieve dual goals of protection and utilization. Example: Huanglong Temple in Yongxin County

Huanglong Temple is located opposite Longtian Primary School in Longtian Township, Yongxin County, Ji'an City, within the Ganjiang River Basin. It is 120 meters from the township road and serves residents within the village and township areas. With average fame, the temple is surrounded by permanent basic farmland for rice cultivation, and several villages are located within a 200-500-meter radius. The temple's main hall, Mahavira Hall, was founded in 2013, and the temple also includes the Guanyin Hall, kitchen quarters, and guest quarters, all enclosed by a wall. Figure 3-5 are the Huanglong temple development planning map.

(1) Deepening Cultural Connotations

Gain a thorough understanding of Huanglong Temple's historical background and cultural heritage. Integrate Buddhist elements such as Buddha statues, pagodas, and incense burners into core buildings like the Mahavira Hall and Guanyin Hall to highlight the temple's religious atmosphere. Use scenic walls and information boards within the temple to explain the historical development and core values of Buddhism associated with Huanglong Temple, providing opportunities for local residents to understand its ideological significance. Combine local cultural characteristics of Longtian Township, such as traditional handicrafts like mugwort fruit and folk activities like dragon dances, to host warm and culturally rich events for villagers and the elderly during important festivals. This will make Huanglong Temple a cultural hub for the region. Establish cooperative relationships with Longtian Primary School to conduct cultural education and exchange activities, such as traditional culture lectures and calligraphy and tea ceremonies, enhancing the temple's cultural influence.

(2) Enhancing the Aesthetic Environment Inside and Outside the Temple

As a venue for religious activities and cultural exchanges, Huanglong Temple requires a well-maintained and clean environment. Highlight the central position of the Mahavira Hall by adding Buddhist-themed landscape features and sculptures within the temple to enhance its cultural ambiance. Plant greenery suitable for the local climate and soil, such as camphor trees, arhat pines, black pines, and azaleas, both inside and outside the temple walls to create a green barrier, beautify the temple environment, and incorporate the surrounding rice fields into the temple's landscape, creating a serene atmosphere for meditation.

(3) Creating Leisure and Social Spaces

Utilizing the existing living facilities within the temple, a teahouse and vegetarian restaurant can be established inside Huanglong Temple. This will provide a leisure space for tourists, believers, and local elderly in need to enjoy tea and meals while also promoting the concept of healthy eating. In addition, centered around Huanglong Temple, the surrounding paddy field landscapes, village resources, Longtian Middle School, and Lian Shui River can be connected using village roads, township roads, and field paths. Reasonably placed rest areas and scenic features can be installed along the way to create a slow-moving system for rural residents in the countryside. This will transform Huanglong Temple into a comprehensive rural religious venue that integrates cultural heritage, ecological protection, and leisure and social interactions, providing high-quality services and experiences for both villagers and tourists.



Figure 3:Huanglong temple main building



Figure 4:Huanglong temple entrances

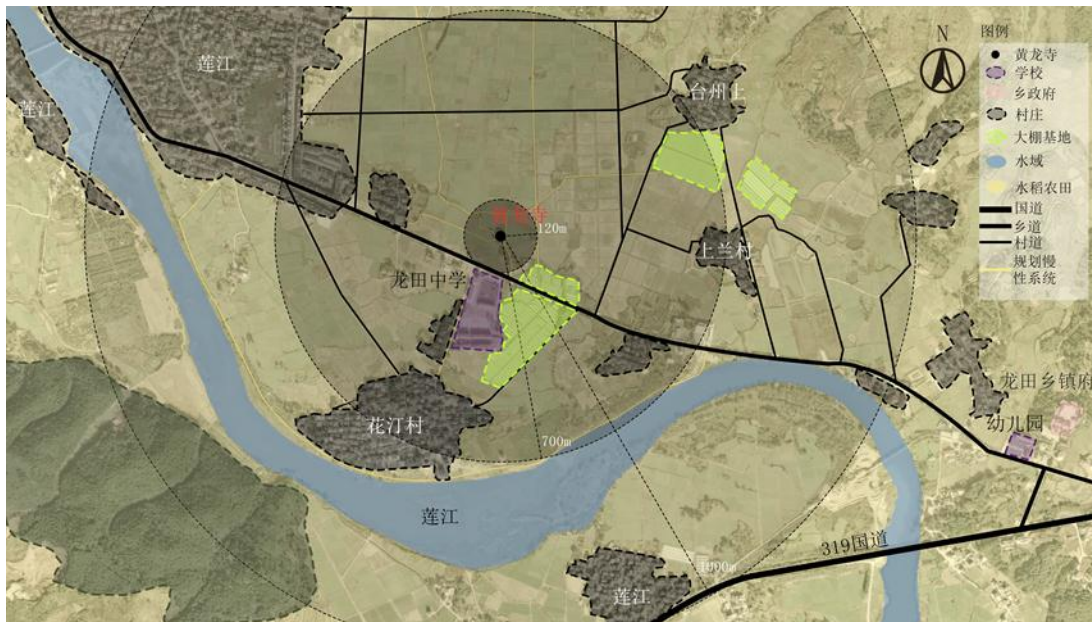


Figure 5: Huanglong Temple development planning map

5.2 Developing a "Linear" Themed Tourist Route for Cultural Wellness and Zen Seeking

Yudu County will serve as the core growth pole for cultural tourism of temple and garden resources in the Ganjiang River Basin, while Xingguo County, Ningdu County, Luxi County, and Xinjian District will serve as secondary growth poles. Based on the layout of these growth poles in Yudu, Xingguo, Ningdu, Luxi, and Xinjian, resources will be further integrated and layouts optimized to construct a core growth axis centered on Yudu.

As shown in Figure 5.3.2, the construction of temple and garden tourism growth axes will focus on several key axes: Ningdu County-Yudu County-Anyuan County centered on Yudu County; Suichuan County-Wan'an County-Xingguo County centered on Xingguo County; Shicheng County-Ruijin City-Huichang County-Xunwu County centered on Ruijin City; Ji'an County-Ji'zhou District-Jishui County-Yongfeng County-Le'an County centered on Ji'zhou District; Lianhua County-Luxi County-Yuanzhou District-Fenyi County-Yushui District centered on Yuanzhou District; Wanzai County-Yifeng County-Shanggao County-Gao'an County centered on Yifeng County; and Xinjian District-Fengcheng City-Zhangshu City-Xingan County centered on Xinjian District.

Jiangxi Province boasts a well-developed expressway network, a dense network of national and provincial highways, and a continuously improving high-speed rail and railway network. North-south high-speed railways traversing the Ganjiang River Basin include the Nanchang-Ganzhou High-Speed Railway, Shanghai-Kunming High-Speed Railway, and Ganzhou-Ruijin-Longyan Railway. Expressways include the Shanghai-Kunming Expressway, Jinan-Guangzhou Expressway, Daqing-Guangzhou Expressway, Quanzhou-Nanning Expressway, Xiamen-Chengdu Expressway, and Nanchang-Shaoguan Expressway. National highways include G319, G320, G105, G323, and G206. The modern transportation system in the Ganjiang River Basin is characterized by a multi-level and multi-directional layout with the Beijing-Kowloon Railway, Daqing-

Guangzhou Expressway, Shanghai-Kunming Railway, and Shanghai-Kunming Expressway serving as the vertical and horizontal backbones. This system connects different districts and counties within the Ganjiang River Basin. Building upon the existing transportation system and in accordance with the "Jiangxi Comprehensive Three-Dimensional Transportation Network Plan," we aim to link all the temple and garden cultural heritage resources along both banks of the Ganjiang River Basin using the main transportation routes in the Ganzhou area. This will create a temple and garden-themed tourist route dedicated to "cultural wellness and Zen seeking."

Cultural Theme Tour Route of Temple and Garden in the Ganjiang River Basin.

Ningdu-Yudu-Anyuan: Qinglian Ancient Temple - Yongning Temple - Hailian Temple - Jinjing Cave & Bixu Taoist Temple - Luotian Rock Grottoes - Yudu Futian Zen Temple - Chaotian Temple.

Suichuan-Wan'an-Xingguo: Zifu Zen Temple - Efeng Temple - Guanyin Temple - Tangling Temple - Dasheng Temple.

Shicheng-Ruijin-Huichang-Xunwu: Chaotian Temple - Luotian Rock Grottoes - Yudu Futian Zen Temple - Qingliang Temple - Tianxing Temple - Longguang Pagoda - Hanxian Rock - Longyan Ancient Temple.

Xinjian-Fengcheng-Zhangshu-Xingan: Yulong Wanshou Palace - Guiyun Temple - Dawanshou Chongzhen Taoist Temple - Dongshan Temple.

Yuanzhou-Luxi-Lianhua: Cihua Temple - Yangshan Qiyin Zen Temple - Huacheng Zen Temple - Jade Emperor Palace - Jianxun Temple - Chantai Temple.

Ji'an County-Ji'zhou-Qingyuan-Jishui-Yongfeng-Le'an: Jingju Temple - Ziguozen Temple - Qingdu Taoist Temple.

Xingguo-Ningdu-Ruijin: Tangling Temple - Dasheng Temple - Qinglian Ancient Temple - Yongning Temple - Hailian Temple - Jinjing Cave & Bixu Taoist Temple - Longzhu Temple - Ruijin Arhat Rock.

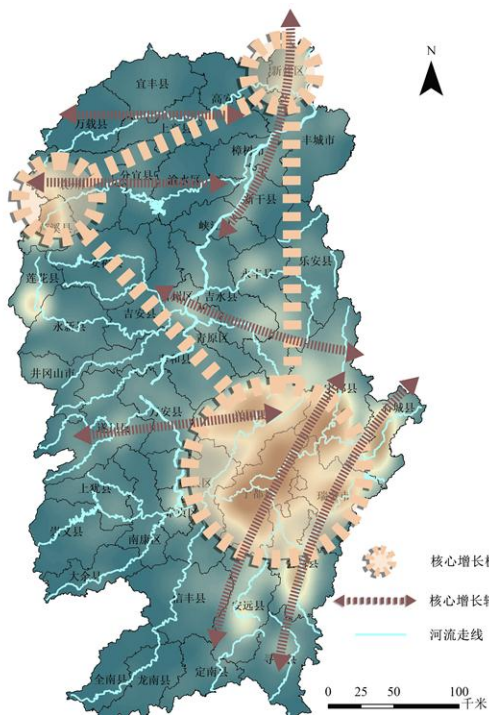


Figure 6: The growth pole and growth axis of temple garden tourism in the Ganjiang River Basin

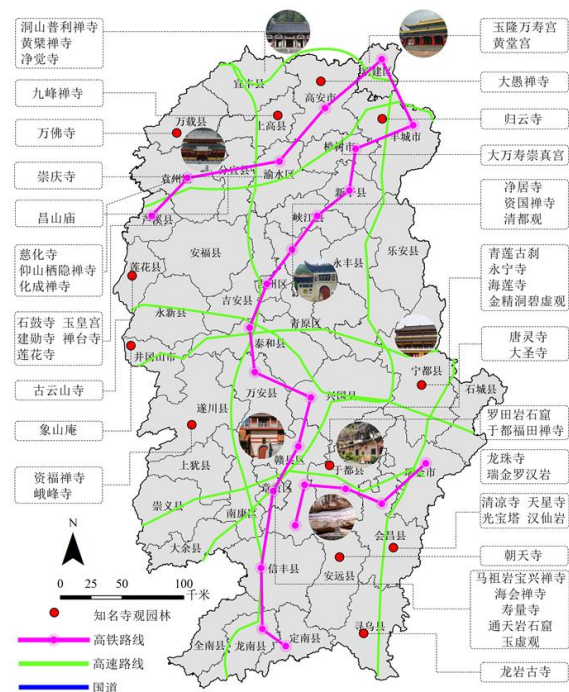


Figure 7: Ganjiang River Basin Cultural Health Care, Zen Seeking and Asking the Theme Tour Route

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper presents systematic research on the temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin, proposing strategies for their protection and development:

Protection Principles and Goals: The study clarifies the principles that should guide the protection of temple and garden complexes, including the inheritance of history and culture, harmony between nature and humanity, zonal protection and coordinated development, continuous monitoring and dynamic adjustment, as well as cultural adaptability and sustainable development. It also sets specific goals for cultural heritage protection, namely ensuring the integrity of temple and garden complexes, enhancing their vitality in cultural transmission, and integrating them into the regional socio-economic sustainable development strategy.

Systematic Protection Measures: A comprehensive protection system is recommended, encompassing a survey and record system, a representative project system, a representative responsible person system, and a regional integrated protection system. The implementation of categorized protection and the strengthening of technological support are proposed to improve protection efficiency and management levels.

Innovative Development Strategies: The study proposes a development pattern combining "points," "lines," and "areas." This includes creating diversified "point" tourism paths for temple and garden complexes and developing "line" themed tour routes for cultural wellness and Zen-seeking.

This research provides theoretical foundations and practical pathways for the sustainable development of temple and garden complexes in the Ganjiang River Basin. Through scientific protection measures and rational development strategies, these complexes can achieve a virtuous interaction between ecological protection, cultural inheritance, and tourism development in the process of modernization. Future research could further explore the role of temple and garden complexes in addressing climate change and promoting community participation, offering more comprehensive theoretical support for regional ecological protection and cultural heritage inheritance.

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