

The Historical Development and Characteristics of the Architectural Formation of Ancient Academies in Northern Fujian

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Abstract: With the development of Chinese traditional ideology and culture and the changes in history, whether it is from the contention of a hundred schools of thought to the unique branch of Confucianism to the development of Neo-Confucianism, the architecture of the academy always carries and shows the context of its development. At the same time, traces of regional culture and cultural and historical development are imprinted. Research on the origin and diversity of academic architectural forms can protect and inherit the historical context of the academy. Through field investigation and literature research, the article takes several representative academies in northern Fujian as examples. Carry out historical construction investigations, analyze and compare the characteristics and background of the architectural forms of Northern Fujian Academy in different periods of history. Supplementary to the research on the architecture of folk academies in northern Fujian.

Keywords: northern Fujian, academies, architectural shapes, historical origins, changes

1. Research Background

Today, under the influence of globalization, the obstacles to cultural dissemination show great limitations. The process is often generalized and ignores particularities. The lack of regional architectural culture and the loss of regional culture between cities make historical sites tend to decline. “Confucianism” was once considered by foreign scholars to be China’s religious belief, ignoring the diversity of hundreds of schools of thought in the development of traditional philosophical thought. The culture of the college, the diversity of the architecture of the college, and the particularity of the region were once at risk of being unified.

The architectural culture of the academy is the carrier of the cultural spirit of a region and an era, and in the architectural culture of the academy, whether from the architectural structure or the decorative pattern, you can see the traces of the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese education, philosophy, thought and culture shown in the different historical contexts of each region and era, and see the different regionality shown therein. With the development of traditional Chinese thought and culture, whether it is from the contention of a hundred schools of thought to the unique branch of Confucianism and then to the development of science, the academy has always carried and expressed the context of its development, so the lack of architectural diversity of the academy will

not only cause the decline and loss of the architectural heritage of the academy in various places, but also cause the fault line of the historical context of the college.

The northern Fujian region is a bridge between Fujian and the Central Plains, and is the birthplace of Fujian and Vietnamese culture and Min studies. Since the Sui and Tang Dynasties, with the entry of Shi Dafu into Fujian, northern Fujian has re-educated and cultivated many students who have achieved fame. The academy is a place where literati “lecture on the clear way”, and the local atmosphere is simple and strong. Gradually formed ideological morality, architectural cultural forms, historical relics and social customs with strong regional characteristics. However, in the field investigation and research of Minbei College, it was regrettably found that most of the colleges gradually declined, some colleges have long disappeared, some colleges still have reservations but are incomplete, and some colleges have been rebuilt but are unrecognizable. Most of the existing college interiors are vacant, and even the exterior of the building is incomplete. Some sketchy furnishings. You can’t feel the antique charm of a traditional academy. Faced with the lack of regional architecture and the loss of college culture in northern Fujian. It is very important to inherit and carry forward the architectural culture of Minbei Academy and retain the regional characteristics of the college’s architecture. At the same time, the protection of the architectural heritage of the college is of great significance to preserve the traces of changes in traditional philosophical thought. From the perspective of the regional architecture of Minbei College, this paper aims to study the particularity of the historical development of Minbei College and the architectural characteristics of the college.

2. Literature Review

Most of the research on college culture in China today lies in philosophical thought, historical development, and its impact on the economy and politics of the time. In terms of college architecture, it mostly lies in analyzing Confucian philosophical ideas through site selection and spatial function. There is little analysis of the particularity of the architectural structure and courtyard shape of colleges in different regions, and few analysis of the characteristics of regional cultures in different regions in the architectural shape of colleges. The monographs written by expert Deng Hongbo: “History of Chinese Academies”, “History of Yuelu Academy” and “Research on the Chinese Academy System” describe the process of regional distribution of academies, historical official academic movements, and the establishment and step-by-step development and improvement of the academy system by detailing the historical process from the beginning of the Tang Dynasty to the prosperity of the Song Dynasty. In the study of academies in northern Fujian: Jin Yinzheng and Mou Juan’s “Shuyuan Minbei” explores the development of Fujian studies by examining the development and evolution of major academies in northern Fujian since the Tang dynasty and generations. He also commented on the culture of Minbei Academy by famous science scholars, building books, and architectural culture, and finally described the college complex formed through his own visiting experience. Professor Ke Peixiong of Fuzhou University’s “Famous Towns and Villages in Northern Fujian” and “Traditional Houses in Northern Fujian” analyzes several important colleges in northern Fujian through the location feng shui, spatial layout and function, and decorative patterns of the academies. In addition to the monographs on the culture of the northern Fujian region. There are still many primary sources as research materials. In the ancient text “Wuyi Jingshe Miscellaneous Poetry Preface”, the general layout and site selection needs of Wuyi Academy in northern Fujian are recorded, which was called by Joseph Needham as a feng shui aesthetic essay. In the “County Record” preserved in various places, the historical development events of each region are recorded, such as: the construction process and background of local buildings, folk culture, geography, products, etc. In the northern Fujian region, the current collection of “Wuyi Jingshe miscellaneous” “Kaoting Chronicles” “Nanping Chronicles” “Wuyishan Chronicles” “Jian’yan Chronicles” “Jian’ou Chronicles” “Shaowu County Chronicles” as first-hand information for research.

3. Methodology

3.1. Field Trip

Since 2020, the author has visited and searched for college buildings throughout northern Fujian many times. Observe, record, photograph, survey, and so on. the site and collect on-site data. Exchange issues related to the development of the college with local resident villagers, and exchange the development and historical events of the local college with experts and scholars. The field visit to the ancient village environment around the college and the characteristics of local residential buildings are used as reference materials. The historical development, construction process, background, building structure and characteristics of the College are recorded by comparing the current situation of the college. Analyze and compare the historical development and architectural structure of each college, and organize and summarize.

3.2. Interdisciplinary Method

This project is based on the collection and excavation of the architectural cultural particularities of Minbei Academy. In the process of research, theoretical research in many related fields will be involved, such as: historical and social development background, architectural aesthetics, history and culture, geography, Confucian philosophical thought and other disciplines. This paper will combine valuable theories related to the architecture of Minbei Academy in other disciplines.

4. Current Situation and Research Basis of the College

Through the field investigation of the Northern Fujian Academy, the architectural form of the academy can be roughly divided into two construction modes from the period: some of the buildings were created by the Tang and Song dynasties, and the later construction basically retained the original appearance, but the number of preservation was very small and most of them were seriously damaged, and the details of each building were different, such as: Xingxian Academy, Fangzhu Academy, Pingshan Academy, Peace Academy, etc.; Some of the buildings were created in the Ming and Qing dynasties or restored and rebuilt in the Ming and Qing dynasties, and there are a large number, such as: Wuyi Jingshe, You Dingfu Academy, Yungen Academy, Zheng's Yangmeng Academy, Youshu Yuan, etc. The overall building presents a standardized architectural layout during the Qing Dynasty, retaining a small number of previous architectural features.

Table 1: The current situation of the existing colleges and the basis for historical research.

The name of the college	location	Year of construction	Last construction time	Existing appearance	Historical research basis
Wuyi Academy	Wuyishan	Southern song dynasty (Chunhee's tenth year)	During the Kangxi period of the Qing Dynasty	It basically retains the characteristics of the Qing Dynasty. (There are remaining walls in the building)	Wuyi Jingshe miscellaneous [1], WuyishanChronicles [2]

Table 1: (continued).

Khao Ting College	Jianyang City Khao Ting Village	Southern song dynasty (The third year of ShaoXi)	During the Kangxi period of the Qing Dynasty	The original site is no longer the original site, and the reconstruction is based on the appearance of the Qing Dynasty. A stone archway remains.	Kaoting Chronicles [3]
Yungen Academy	Zhenghe County	Northern song dynasty (Eighth year of government)	During the Qing Dynasty	Re-site reconstruction, with reference to the Qing Dynasty construction style.	Nanping Chronicles [4]
Jukui Academy	Jian'ou City	Unknown	The third year of Xianfeng in the Qing Dynasty	It is well preserved and basically retains the characteristics of the Qing Dynasty.	Jian'ou Chronicles [5]
Heping Academy	Shaowu City Peace Town	Late Tang Dynasty	During the Qianlong period of the Qing Dynasty (reconstruction)	It is well preserved, imitating the old period of the Tang and Song Dynasties	Shao Wu County Chronicles [6]
Ping Shan Academy	Wuyishan City Wuvry	Southern song dynasty (The fourth year of Jian Yan)	During the Daoguang period of the Qing Dynasty	It is well preserved, imitating the old period of the Tang and Song Dynasties	Wuyishan Chronicles [2]
Xingxian College	Wufu Town Xingxian Ancient Street	Southern song dynasty	During the Guangxu period of the Qing Dynasty	It is well preserved, imitating the old period of the Tang and Song Dynasties	Nanping Chronicles [4]

Table 1: (continued).

YouDingfu College	Nanping City	Southern song dynasty	During the Daoguang period of the Qing Dynasty	It is well preserved and basically retains the characteristics of the Qing Dynasty.	Nanping Chronicles [4]
Zheng's Yangmeng Academy	Xiaoqiao Town, Jianou City	Southern song dynasty	During the Kangxi period of the Qing Dynasty	It is well preserved and basically retains the characteristics of the Qing Dynasty.	Jian'ou Chronicles [5]
Yungu Han'an Grass Hall	Jukou Town, Jianyang City	Southern song dynasty (The sixth year of the dry road)	During the Chenghua period of the Ming Dynasty	Re-site reconstruction, with reference to the Qing Dynasty construction style.	Records of Jianyang County [7]

exegesis: 《County chronicles》 It is a special book that records the history, geography, customs, people, culture and education, products, etc. of a city, usually recorded by multiple authors - up to dozens of authors in each volume, and some of the existing books are recompiled, and some are historical relics.

5. The Development Background and History of Minbei Academy

The development of academies in Fujian first originated in the Tang Dynasty. Hushan Academy in Putian, founded as a private institution in 557 of the first year of Chen Yongding in the Southern Dynasty. Three academies developed in northern Fujian during the Tang Dynasty: Aofeng Academy in Jianyang during the Tang Qianfu period (874-879), Shaowu Heping Academy in the second year of Later Liang Kaiping (908), and Wufeng Academy in Zhenghe during the Tang and Fifth Dynasties. The northern Fujian region, due to its unique geographic location, is a bridge between Fujian and the Central Plains. The war in the Tang Dynasty caused immigrants to move in Fujian for a long time, and most of them came from Jiangxi and Zhejiang. The migration of immigrants has had a great impact on the local architectural culture, and the integration of foreign architectural culture and local architecture can still be seen in folk architecture, which originated from the shadow of the Hui school architecture brought in by immigrants moving south. Under the influence of the Lifang system during the Tang Dynasty, the scale of the people in the early Fujian period would not be too large. For example: Xingxian Academy, built in Xingxian Ancient Street, the late Tang Liu family moved into Wufuli when they built Xingxian Ancient Street, laying the shape of the neighborhood, very characteristic of Hui-style architecture, the construction of Xingxian Academy in the Song Dynasty is limited by the space of the neighborhood, and the scale of the academy is limited.

The Song Dynasty was the pinnacle of the history of the Academy. The Song Dynasty was the most prosperous period of economic development in the historical process, Confucianism flourished again, and the government encouraged private schools. During the two Song Dynasties, the political and economic center moved south, making northern Fujian flourish. It has built achievements that have influenced the whole country: the rise of Min studies and sciences. The science of science was

created in the second Cheng of the Northern Song Dynasty, spread during the Yang Dynasty of the Two Song Dynasties, and developed and perfected by Zhu Xi of the Southern Song Dynasty, and then called “Zhuzi Lixue”. Many of the people of the Central Plains who migrated south had talented bachelors and bachelors, bringing the folk style of diligence and learning into northern Fujian. For example, Zhu Song, Zhu Xi, Xiong Mi, Cai Yuanding, Ye Weiwei and other ancestors were not of Fujian nationality, and then settled here, and it was they who brought the Central Plains culture into northern Fujian, promoted the rapid development of northern Fujian academy culture, and formed the architectural shape of northern Fujian Academy through the combination of southward migration culture and at regional culture. time, as one of the three major engraving and engraving centers in China, the development of the engraving industry has also played a great role in promoting the development of Minbei Academy, and there are often places for engraving near the college.

After the establishment of the Ming Dynasty, the emperor established a series of policies to maintain and strengthen imperial power. A high degree of ideological unity has been practiced, so running a school has become an important way to disseminate ideas. During the Qing Dynasty, he unified his thinking, opened a science and a scholar, compiled books, advocated Confucianism, and forced reasoning. Strive to control the unity of thought and words and deeds of the scholars. Therefore, during the Qing Dynasty, academies were widely built and many of the previous academies were restored. There are 55 academies in northern Fujian, and during this period, the architectural shape of northern Fujian academies was greatly changed, most of which were built in accordance with the very standardized building Dynastainy codes of the Q a small number of original characteristics. A small number of buildings retain their original architectural form and are restored. Northern Fujian has always been integrated with foreign cultures, and there are many expressions in architecture, such as Peace Academy, which can be seen in the restoration of the academy and the main building presents two different styles. Minbei Academy ushered in another prosperous periodnasty during the Qing D , inheriting and developing Cheng Zhu Lixue. Until the end of the Qing Dynasty, social turmoil, the traditional social system was difficult to resist the impact of modern society, and the academy gradually withdrew from the historical stage.

6. The Development Background and History of Minbei Academy

The northern Fujian region has always been receptive to the influx of foreign cultures, and the architectural forms have been diverse, and have experienced two relatively stable periods in history, as well as two prosperous periods of the development of the academy: the Song Dynasty and the Qing Dynasty. The most obvious features are the size of the building volume and the overall scale of the building, and the early college buildings paid more attention to the decoration of details.

6.1. Courtyard Layout

Ancient academies underwent an evolutionary process from single to multiple. From the earliest single buildings to multiple buildings to the overall courtyard enclosure. The overall layout of the college building is affected by the topographic environment, building function and development scale of the college site. Before the development of a complete system, there were many layout forms: conforming to nature, dependent, and building units. In the early days, the college was only used as a place for private book collections. It is generally a single building. With the slow development, the scale of the college gradually expanded, and the layout of the college gradually appeared a lot of elaborate. A set of normative layout forms with central axis symmetry emerged.

After a long period of development and improvement, it is mainly influenced by the idea of “etiquette”. A set of “split” layout rules that mostly adopt symmetrical and orderly and rigorous central axis has been formed. “Li Ji Leji” said: “The musician is peaceful, and leads the gods from

heaven; The ritualist discerns and dwells in the ghost and follows the ground.” [8] Confucius said, “The way is governed by government, and punishment is punished, and the people are exempt and shameless; Confucius made etiquette as a statecraft for stabilizing society, which shows the importance of the system of etiquette at that time. The essence of “etiquette” is distinction, which means the difference between people: class, old and young, different identities must abide by the behavioral norms, so as to distinguish the difference of class, this order with difference is called “etiquette”. It is precisely because of this distinction between honor and inferiority and order. The college has formed a symmetrical layout of the central axis, and the most important functional spaces in the college are distributed on this main axis and have clear primary and secondary aspects. According to the size of the college, there are two-in, three-in, or more quintux, usually based on the central axis, with series or parallel building groups, arranged lecture halls, entrance halls, ancestral halls, library buildings, houses, gardens. The first entrance is usually the foyer; two-step lecture halls or sacrifices; The ancestral hall is the most noble space dedicated to the sages, and the library building is often arranged in the third or back and the terrain is generally higher, at the highest part of the floor. If the whole building is built on flat ground, there are high platforms and steps raised positions. Ancillary spaces such as residences, shelters, and places to receive friends are arranged on the left and right sides of the central axis. Most of the colleges in northern Fujian that have been preserved relatively completely are in this courtyard layout form. For example, Wuyi Jingshe: with the lecture hall sacrificial space as its axis, it is mainly used for lecture hall sacrifices. On the left is the “Hidden Room” of the residence, and On the right is used to receive guests called “Shuju Liao”. On the left exterior, several houses are distributed for the apprentices’ residence.

6.2. Foyer

The foyer has always been a major feature in the construction of the College, and it is the façade of the College. It can be divided into two construction modes: during the Song Dynasty, influenced by the southward migration culture, the entrance is mostly the characteristics of the gatehouse of the Hui school building. The gatehouse has a variety of forms, and the shape is mainly three-mountain style, with high in the middle and low on both sides. Because most academies were built spontaneously by Shiru during the Song Dynasty, the land and resources were limited, and the scale was not large. Therefore, the gatehouse is not set up independently, but is connected to the entrance hall or eaves corridor and patio, and is combined into a hall-style building. When The lecture hall space is insufficient, the entire space at the front of the building, including the foyer, can be used together as a lecture hall.

The other part of the building has gone through the long river of history, and has been continuously damaged, dilapidated, transformed and rebuilt through the time of filing. By the Ming and Qing dynasties, most academies were rebuilt or repaired due to government support for the academy lecture system. At this time, the scale of the academy land was expanded, and the courtyard enclosure mode was changed, and the transition from hall well type to courtyard type was transitioned. A torii was set up in front of the foyer, and the role of the gatehouse changed slightly. The torii takes on the function of “prayer, appreciation, and reward”. The gatehouse gradually evolved into a foyer, more as an entrance. As a result, more carved decorations adorned the torii, while the gatehouse was significantly less decorated and became a separate foyer building, flanked by a wall or cloister. The style of the entrance hall is mostly mantle pavilion style, the shape is more regular, it is more solemn and solemn, and it adds more sense of ceremony. For example; Wuyi Jingshe, Kaoting Academy. Approaching the academy, you will be greeted by the stone archway at the front, followed by the pavilion-style entrance. The evolution of art and culture Since ancient times has never been erased or discarded, but taken its essence and innovated. Therefore, many college buildings have integrated the characteristics

of the previous gatehouse when reconstruction, retaining the characteristics of the gatehouse official hat when the college was first. : Fangzhu Academy.

6.3. The Main Structure of the Building

The building of Minbei Academy uses wooden structure as the main load-bearing structure. Influenced by the southward migration of culture, the combination of bucket type and beam type wooden frame structure is mostly adopted. The load-bearing columns of the bucket structure are scattered and occupy space. The beam-lifting structure columns are divided on both sides, and the internal space built is more integral and spacious. Therefore, the combination of the outer bucket type and the inner lifting beam structure is more suitable for lectures and exchanges. The place where Minbei Academy gathers and discusses belongs to the central location of the entire layout, the “middle hall”. Horizontal layout, with a desk in front of the back wall on the central axis or in front of a curtain wall for the lectures of the sages. During the Tang and Song dynasties, the style of learning was open-minded, and lectures and teaching encouraged questioning and questioning, so the desks of the apprentices on both sides faced the center line decoration, which was mostly used for communication and discussion. In ancient times, as long as there were aspirations, anyone could participate in the study, but the space for lectures in the academy was limited. Therefore, in addition to the middle hall, the front courtyard, the patio or the eaves corridors on the left and right sides are sometimes used for lectures and exchanges. Early buildings mostly used cedar, and the surface was not painted, and the color was simple and natural. But do more carving decoration, wherever visible, there are carved decorative pictures and texts. In the Qing Dynasty, carved beams and paintings were replaced by a single decorative paint. The roof structure mostly uses its wooden beam frame structure, and the top uses wood row frames to build tiles. The ridge is straight, the cornice corners are upturned, and some buildings are decorated with various forms of upturned corners at the top of the ridge.

The central location of the college is mainly in two courtyard forms: one is the patio connected to the middle hall building, and the left and right are connected to the eaves corridor. The space enclosed by the middle hall and the eaves corridor courtyard building are in line with the characteristics of lecturing, teaching, and discussion. For example: Xingxian College, Peace College, Ping Shan College. Such academies are commonly found in architectural formations during the Tang and Song dynasties. The second is an open courtyard, the scale of the academy is large, most of which is seen in the expansion and rebuilding of the Ming and Qing dynasties. The nave is usually formed as a separate building with the ancillary functional space. Some colleges have built multi-level bucket arch decorative floors or added a row of windows above the wooden beam frame of the central lecture hall. Emphasizing the core part of the college, there are many carvings, which add to its magnificent atmosphere. The college as a whole adopts a rigorous central axis symmetrical multi-entry layout, which is the case with Kaoting College.

The outer walls of the building are mostly made of pebbles, bricks and raw earth walls, and the top is treated with eaves. Masonry of green bricks, cornices. In the middle is a rammed wall of raw earth, and the green brick part at the top of the wall is mostly smoothed with lime, and various auspicious patterns are depicted, which are dense and intricate and exquisite. Some college facades were finished with white lime after construction. The surface picks the beam and reduces the column, and the cylinder is convex. The doors and windows are restrained, and the grid windows and door panels form a relationship between the upper and lower while meeting the functionality and also producing a simple beauty. Some academies build tall wind and firewalls on the façade of the building, which descend from the height of the roof one by one, staggering and undulating, forming a graceful step rhythm.

The lower part of the wall and the stone foundation under the column have a clear difference in height above the ground for timber-framed buildings. The column foundation can play a role in

flattening, moisture-proof, and protecting the column from sinking. In the dwellings, the stone is scarce and hard to obtain, and many of the lower parts of the walls and pillars use pebble stacks or hardwood as the pillar base. The pillars of the academy are mostly made of large stones, which are easy to carve and decorate, and the appearance is rich and varied.

The building structure in northern Fujian is special, the roof usually does not fall directly on the wall, and there is a gap between the roof and the wall. The two sections are usually connected by wooden columns, while the larger college building is a row of skylights. Therefore, the second or top floor of the building is not an enclosed space. After the inquiry of experts and local residents, it should be used for ventilation and moisture-proof, and guess the possibility of lighting function. First, northern Fujian has humid summers and cold winters, and the roofs are mostly load-bearing structures made of wood with bucket-type beams and columns. Wood is heated, humid and heavy. And it is easy to deform if it is not ventilated, so there is a skylight gap to prevent the deformation of the wall roof. Second, the houses on the second floor are mostly storage space, and the college is a library space or ancillary space, which is easy to ventilate and moisture-proof.

7. Results

The specific historical background and practical factors of northern Fujian formed the unique development pattern of northern Fujian. Throughout the development history of northern Fujian academies, the Song and Qing dynasties were the peak period of the development of private academies in northern Fujian. During the Song Dynasty, the business model was open, the culture of the north and the south were integrated, and the Hui school architecture was integrated into the residential architecture of northern Fujian, which laid the foundation for the architectural formation of the academy in the later period. During the Qing Dynasty, the country was stable and prosperous, and under the promotion of the government, the scale of construction expanded; The regulations were strict, the building form gradually changed from diversification to uniformity and standardization, and the detailed decoration was reduced, and the trend was regular. Today, the remaining academy buildings, whether in terms of architectural structure, shape, or decoration, still integrate the historical background of the development of colleges in northern Fujian since the Tang and Song Dynasties. Finally, a diversified and unique college architectural culture with northern Fujian regional characteristics was formed.

8. Conclusion

Through the historical tracking and field architectural investigation of Minbei Academy, this paper analyzes and summarizes the architectural formation of Minbei Academy and concludes that the development of the architectural form of Minbei Folk Academy is the product of the economic comprehensive development, culture, and is not limited to the development of Minbei Academy itself. The architectural shape of the Minbei Folk Academy is based on local houses; dominated by the culture of the literati who migrated south; Develop according to national conditions, policies and economies, and accept the concepts and elements of foreign cultures; It combines diversified philosophical ideas and feng shui aesthetics; Introduce worldly scenes of seeking, studying, and life. Since the development of the Tang and Song Dynasty Academy, the transmutation of the architectural academies is the interpretation of this historical process. The research of this paper is not only an investigation and record of the traditional architectural culture of northern Fujian, but also analyzes the protection and value of architectural heritage from multiple perspectives. , and other related research.

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