### 上海社区花园参与式空间微更新微治理 策略探索

Study on the Strategy of Micro-renewal and Micro-governance by Public Participatory of Shanghai Community Garden

刘悦来 寇怀云

LIU Yuelai KOU Huaiyun 摘 要:基于作者团队在上海社区花园参与式微更新、微治理的研究、设计和实践,对社区花园的发展脉络、实施机制、参与路径、发展模式和价值判断进行了梳理,并进行了自我反思,旨在为风景园林等相关专业学科介入城市空间更新和社区营造的可持续发展提供策略上的借鉴。

关键词:风景园林;社区花园;空间微更新;社区营造;多元参与

文章编号: 1000-6664(2019)12-0005-07 DOI: 10.19775/j.cla.2019.12.0005

中图分类号: TU 986 文献标志码: A

收稿日期: 2019-11-04 修回日期: 2019-11-12 Abstract: Based on the research, the design and practice of the author's team's participation in the micro-renewal and micro-governance of the community garden in Shanghai, this paper summarizes the development context, implementation mechanism, participation path, development mode and value judgment of the community garden, and conducts self-reflection, aiming to provide reference for the related professional disciplines such as landscape architecture to intervene in the urban space renewal and the sustainable development of community building.

**Keywords:** landscape architecture; community garden; space micro-renewal; community building; multiple participation

20世纪80年代以来,中国快速城市化进程 带来了大规模、高强度的空间生产, 在资本和权 力的推动下,城市绿地建设在快速增长[1-2]。公 园绿地由政府财政支持和专业队伍养护, 财政经 费限制和快速生产导致简单指标型绿地在实际 运营中往往出现空间质量低下, 缺乏社会参与 性的现象; 而附属绿地特别是居住社区绿地, 则 由于管养物业化, 受维护经费和技术的限制, 呈 现衰败和荒废。这些居住景观作为社区配套的组 成部分, 地产公司完成销售使命后, 便移交社区 物业管理, 甚或成为社区的负担。以上海为例, 2010年以来当快速建设的绿地增量骤减,存量 土地优化和因资源不均衡带来的衰败地区的更新 成为城市建设面临的重大挑战。如何提升公共空 间品质,复合使用,调动社区民众的积极性,共 同参与设计营造维护管理, 是当前都市空间发展 与社会治理的重要任务[3]。

上海的社区花园系列微更新行动正是面对上述问题,从疏于管理的社区公共空间入手,基于民间对社区环境美好生活的迫切需求,也是一种在地力量的突围。上海社区花园缘起于2014年企业的支持,到2016年获得基层政府支持,

这是一个逐渐深入的过程。这些行动最早并非发 源于园林绿化、规划建设等专业部门, 也不是地 方政府,而是空间运营企业对自身空间环境景观 服务质量提升和持续改善的需求。这些企业不是 销售物业为主的开发企业, 而是自己持有物业进 行长期运营以期获得持续利润的运维企业,它们 敏锐地感知到空间质量的持续价值, 社区花园的 社区参与能够获得流量这些参与者对其物业的美 誉度又成为口碑和品牌, 使得这类企业成为社区 花园先行实验的重要支持力量——确切来说早期 有组织的社区花园的雏形, 也是来自于企业的探 索——2010年以来上海一些商场在屋顶开放空 间进行的都市农业俱乐部型实践, 在获得口碑的 同时也促进了人与人之间的交流。研究和实验在 企业支持与社会组织在地力量实践和推动下,逐 渐获得了政府的认可和支持。政府支持的前提是 认为社区花园可能是推动社会治理的重要抓手, 而社区治理是社会治理、国家治理的基础。

也正是在这样的大背景下,上海各区和基 层政府启动了不同名称的空间更新与社会治理 行动,市规划与土地系统自2015年起开展了系 列公共空间微更新行动,希望可以摈弃以视觉 美学为主旨的空间设计营建,走向空间更新与社区建设的有机互动和融合<sup>[4-6]</sup>。于是笔者团队倡导的社区花园系列微更新与社区营造相结合的实践,也逐渐被公众和基层政府所接受<sup>[7]</sup>。2014—2019年10月,笔者团队直接参与设计营造的上海社区花园已经完成了60余个,经过培训而成长起来的培训者所完成的居住社区自治型小微社区花园500余个,并初步形成了以社会组织为纽带,链接社区自治组织、志愿组织、企业团体的力量,形成与政府职能部门的合作伙伴关系,充分发挥政府、企业和民众的积极力量<sup>[8-9]</sup>。

#### 1 社区花园: 定义与类型

社区花园是社区民众以共建共享的方式进行园艺活动的场地,其特点是在不改变现有绿地空间属性的前提下,提升社区公众的参与性,进而促进社区营造(图1)。社区花园以可食地景为主要设计元素,正是可食地景对都市土地生产力的恢复,对人与人之间协作的需求,点燃了社会大众的参与性。社区花园倡导的都市田园生活是植根于中华文明对理想诗意生活的向往和期待,当社区居民觉醒可以为自己社区的公共空间负责,

并有时间和能力来负责的时候, 社区主体性逐渐 显示, 协同共创得以促进。中国大部分城市的 城市化时间不长,农转非第一代由20世纪80年 代的青壮年到目前刚处于退休年龄,空闲时间较 多,加上50年代以来城市居民特别是大院时代 的住居空间环境,经历过相当长时间的居民(大 部分是单位内的组织和安排)自主管理和运维, 具有较强的群众基础。上海的社区实践基于高密 度都市公共空间或社区共有空间, 其用地属性决 定了种植可食地景带来的收获物分配复杂性, 所 以作者团队的实践在种植元素方面强调非常见蔬 菜瓜果,产出以园艺科普教育为主。社区花园作 为公共空间使用的一种形式,没有参与改变土地 性质和绿地属性,而是一种功能的叠加——以深 入的社区参与丰富了城市绿地的内涵。从参与设 计到在地营造再到维护管理机制的建构, 这种建 构是基于空间的自然保育和修复, 又在不断加深 人与人之间的联系,逐渐成为公众日常生活的有 机组成部分。在其开展的过程中, 直接指向了生 态文明建设和社会治理创新,实现了人们对美好 生活追求过程中不平衡、不充分的弥补和修复, 这正是上海社区花园实验的当代价值所在。

关于社区花园的分类,目前没有明确标准。根据作者团队的实践,大致可从用地性质、空间尺度、发起机制方面进行以下几种区分:根据土地性质和空间使用划分为街区型、住区型、校区型、园区型及其他类型(含商业空间、屋顶等);根据用地规模划分为大、中、小型社区花园;根据组织发起性质分为有组织的自上而下型、公众自发的自下而上型等<sup>[10]</sup>。

2 社区花园的社会参与:类型与策略的演化 2014年作者团队在上海宝山区建成第一个专业 组织运作的社区花园——火车菜园;2016年6月培 育出第一个住宅小区内居民参与的社区花园——杨 浦区四平路街道鞍山四村第三小区百草园;2017年 开始到现今获得超过10个行政区支持以政府购买服 务的形式进行更大规模的推广,逐步演化形成社区 花园社会参与的5种类型和相应的运营策略[11]。

2.1 政府、企业、社会组织、社区共建的综合型 社区花园

综合型社区花园通常其用地属性为公园绿地(一般为G14游园的范畴),由政府、企业、社

会组织和社区参与共建, 功能复合程度较高, 具 有都市农业、儿童自然教育、社区公共客厅和文 化空间的复合功能,成为社区花园和社区营造的 示范性基地。通常是政府进行行业指导, 企业投 资,专业组织运作,在地社团参与,该类社区花 园由于其规模和功能的完备, 通常还承担了社区 营造项目培训、孵化社区自组织的角色功能。以 创智农园为例, 地处杨浦区创智天地一个有围墙 的新老社区之间,地块为围墙外侧的一片占地面 积2 200m<sup>2</sup>的狭长闲置用地,用地性质为游园, 2015年由企业代建,社会组织参与设计运营, 目前已形成一定的社会影响力, 吸引了更为广泛 的社会力量加入社区花园和社区营造。农园由设 施服务区、公共活动区、朴门花园区、一米菜园 区、互动园艺区组成,园内设置有垃圾分类箱、 蚯蚓塔、堆肥桶、小温室等可持续能量循环设 施。农园中部是旧集装箱改造而成的移动式建 筑,作为睦邻社区活动空间和自然教室(图2)。 基础建设完成后, 由社会组织带动居民加入了后 续的设计、建设和运营,并提供学术沙龙、自然 教育、社区音乐会等文化活动资源。政府、企业 和社会组织由此搭建了多方共治的平台, 以促进 跨越世代、阶层、经济和社会障碍的社区交往为 目标, 营造多元化城市中的环境健康与公平。

创智农园老旧社区由于围墙的隔离,到



图1 上海社区花园——创智农园

Fig. 1 Shanghai community garden-knowledge and innovation garden

图2 综合型社区花园的多元参与互动科普系统

Fig. 2 Multi-participatory interactive pop science system of comprehensive community garden

农园参与活动需要绕行。在设计师发起的农园公共艺术活动中,在墙上画了一道五彩缤纷的魔法门,更预留出了一条通向这扇门的道路,希望未来真的能够打开门,拉近农园与住区的距离。通过在地社会组织团队与政府的沟通,以及社区的努力,在花园边围墙上凿开一个小门,冠之以"睦邻门",打通了新老社区之间的空间隔离,促进了2个社区的邻里交往。带着"打破心墙"的寓意,作为多元参与社区共治的典型项目,连续入选2017、2018年度上海手册及2018年中国(上海)社会治理创新实践十佳案例。

2.2 居委主导、居民参与的社区花园 由专业组织培训,在地居委会主导、部分出



资,居民参与的社区花园,面积在200m<sup>2</sup>以上, 旨在激发居民互动和对社区公共事务的参与度和 积极性。此类社区花园现有60余处,多处于老 旧小区, 社区花园作为社区参与的空间载体, 由 居委会发动党员和楼组长带动居民,成立社区花 友会等社区在地组织, 承担日常维护、活动组织 的工作。以杨浦区四平路街道鞍山四村第三小区 百草园为例,面积210m2,用地性质为居住区 附属绿地。该小区是建于20世纪50年代的密集 型居住区, 社区内公共活动空间缺乏且质量较 差、老龄化比例较高(23.5%)。但小区人口关系 较为稳定,长期邻里关系和谐,居委会组织能力 也较强。小区内爱好园艺的老年人比较多,已经 存在园艺自治社团组织。经与业委会共同商议, 划出这块对居民影响比较小、环境不佳的公共空 间地块, 商定种植与管理方案需经社区居民一致 通过。在广泛的社区沟通基础上,确定居民休闲 活动、亲子互动和自然教育的功能,以及儿童活 动、香草种植和大众花园3个分区。就方案草图 征询居民意见, 在设计改造方案的过程中, 还举 办了"小小景观设计师"的现场创作活动,给予 儿童表达想象和期望的机会。施工中将流程拆解 为若干可以独立完成的步骤,包括地形、厚土栽 培、铺草坪、栽植、撒种、铺路、覆盖等, 并逐 次设置成居民可参与的课程,边教学、边施工, 还鼓励居民把自家植物带到花园与大家分享。

社区空间营造的过程,也是社区凝聚力营造的过程。研究者借助百草园组织多种自然教育或社区营造的主题活动,对社区居民进行再组织和再培训,挖掘社区达人,建立社区内部的人才库,鼓励让居民去影响居民。目前百草园有2个自治兴趣小组:社区里的老年花友会,他们统计每个人的空闲时间,结合各自特长以及各施工阶段所需要的主要能力,制作出施工排班表,组成了浇水施肥组、捡拾垃圾组、整理花园组等,并在社区中分享养护管理的心得体会;百草园小志愿者队伍,有40余位成员,能独立完成给蔬菜搭架子,给植物浇水、施肥等简单的养护工作。小志愿者还组织过中秋灯谜会等社区活动,已成为社区营造和花园管理的重要力量。

2.3 培训社区领袖,带动片区参与型社区花园

在专业组织的指导和示范下,由在地居民自 行设计、自发建设、自我管理的迷你型社区花园





图3 社区花园在地培训

Fig. 3 Community garden on-site training 图4 共治的景观社区参与工作坊推动在地小组

 ${\tt Fig.\,4}\quad {\tt Joint\,\,landscape\,\,community\,\,participation\,\,workshop\,\,empowers\,\,the\,\,local\,\,group}$ 

现已超过500余处(这些大量的小花园是经过社 会组织专业培训后进行自我升级的),这类花园 一般面积较小、成本较低, 但是在地居民建园 护园的自发性、主动性、积极性较高, 后期维护 运营效果较好。在社区参与花园营造的实践中, 社区中特别积极并富有影响力的人起到了关键作 用,一般可称之为社区领袖。2017年9月,作者 团队与上海浦东新区浦兴路街道合作进行社区花 园工作坊培训, 通过培训社区领袖, 以带动各自 社区的花园营造(图3)。首次参加工作坊培训的 共34人,来自19个小区,主要是居民区党组织 成员、居委会成员和社区积极分子, 也有小区比 较有号召力的其他成员。有些准备学习后回社区 开展花园营造工作,也有的已经开展,但遇到一 些困难,希望得到街道和专业的支持。培训包括 策划、设计、施工、维护和管理5个部分,室内 讲座、户外动手培训和参观在2天时间内穿插进 行。学员回小区进行技术传播,该工作坊至今已 完成了3期培训,这种以街道为更大范围突破点 进行系统赋能支持培育社区领袖的方式, 显著提 高了社区花园的社会实践传播速度。

2.4 社区自主提案、营建与管理的在地共创小组型社区花园

作者团队一直在探讨一种社区自主提案的机制,自2017年开始陆续通过共治的景观工作坊形式开展系列社区参与培力(图4)。2019年初在创智天地政立路580弄片区实施"在地共创小组"计划,一方面组织社区完全自主提案社区花园的营建;另一方面,以此链接研究者、青年学生、独立设计师和部分社区创业者,让有志于社区规划的学生和学者的理想与专业技能落地,也让居民的诉求借助研究的力量被社会听到。根据计划,小组由各社区志愿者组成,自行策划社区

营造的内容、位置、规模和方案,大学生亦可自行提案,提案相互支持的社区和大学生可联合组建小组,作者团队以大学专项科研基金给予每组资助。在实验中,小组提案已不限于社区花园,而扩展到了与社区环境和文化相关的多类主题,比如增加围墙的立体绿化及休闲座椅等设施、做墙绘、利用废弃材料制作装置、建设疗愈花园、发掘小区零散闲置用地进行利用以及社区戏剧和文化采集等,反映出居民最实际和迫切的诉求。小组亦不断吸纳社区其他居民,逐步壮大在地自组织,协力建设维护、合力监督,并建立管理团队成立社区社会组织。

#### 2.5 社会广泛参与的普惠型社区花园

市民通过与专业组织广域的线上或线下互 动,获得相应的种子和工具,并尝试在公共空间 种植的活动,以在地社会组织发起的上海郁金香 种子计划,以及和民间公益组织与平台发起的 萌芽计划为例,参与人员为市民个人,空间不限 于居住社区或其他公共空间,参与人数众多,辐 射面广,旨在向未来的支持者传递社区自治、公 众参与理念,增加陌生城市中人与人之间的联系 和温情。以微信的形式在社区花园项目中同步进 行网络推广, 受到全国范围内的关注和个人、团 体的线上询问。作者团队同步策划和实施"萌芽 计划",与民间公益基金会合作,对希望营建社 区花园的群体进行培训和指导,培育这些个人或 团体走出社区花园第一步、自主进行社区花园建 设。"萌芽计划"以线上答疑指导、线下集中培 训的方式进行,2017-2019年,已连续开展3 期,从永续种植技能、生态花园设计到花园营造 方法,提供全程专业知识,学员来自全国十多个 省市。通过对这些热爱园艺的普通市民的培养, 可以让其作为主导者,影响更多社区居民自发加



图5 社区花园开源技术——实践手册样张

Fig. 5 Community garden open source technology-practice manual samples

入社区花园营造中。在所参与计划的系统支持下,逐渐联合多方资源,扩大规模并形成长期性的在地社会组织,共同目标均在于通过不同方式共同营造更加自然美好的社区环境,实现社区的健康可持续更新。

依托萌芽计划线上线下答疑的问题汇编,结合 另外几个项目的实践体会,作者团队进行了开源设 计,将全部社区花园参与和技术流程出版专著《共 建美丽家园——社区花园实践手册》(图5),包括 社区花园的类型、营造前的调研准备、可能遇到 的困难、花园设计要点、维护与管理以及建立自 组织社团等内容。手册设计图示生动清晰、文字 简洁、通俗易懂,便于向全社会推广。

目前作者团队正在发起"花开上海"社区花园参与行动,更多去发掘已经进行的个体社区种植园艺行动,进行一定的支持,使得这些迷你自建花园具有一定的开放性,减少参与者行动的负面外部性,在社区进行登记,加入民间网络,成为普惠型社区花园的有机组成部分。

上述5种不同的社区花园实施机制,不是截然分开的类型,而是应对不同阶段和空间类型的策略。这些策略在很多情况下是相互嵌套组合

的,以应对公共空间和共有空间的复合性,也正在成为城市空间规划和治理体系的一个有机组成部分。2019年初以作者团队社区花园实践为原型的上海市民花园已经成为市政协大会提案<sup>[12]</sup>,正在积极向政府相关支持政策方向演化。

#### 3 社区花园参与式微更新反思

上海的社区花园是作为一种公共空间生产和运维方式反思的存在,实验了景观的社会价值:回归日常生活的景观,居民深度参与自己所在社区的空间更新和社区建设,使之成为一种新的生活方式,我们能够清晰地看到这个趋势。这个趋势也是景观文化的发展趋势,即走向善治的景观<sup>[13]</sup>。社区花园参与式微更新过程中,政府、企业、民众、社会组织的关系是什么?如何更可持续?根据我们社区花园设计营造维护管理的经验,那些小型的、周期较长的、居民从一开始就高度参与的项目,社区感受度较高,成为居民高质量的体验,项目建成后,居民往往具有较高的满意度。越是政府投资大、建设周期短(工期紧)、居民参与度低的,社区感受度越不明显。

根据作者团队的实践, 社区花园作为空间

微更新的一种,强调物质投入是适时适地低成本的,设计营造是贴近生活、易于实施、充满期待的过程。社区花园的设计和营造如何通过一种新的方式,实现与通常快速生产相对的一种平衡,以社区花园作为空间象征和社会治理的媒介,引导用户主动参与景观空间生产,通过在地行动,使参与者从被动的消费者变为负责而有生产力的人民[14]。

除却景观的参与性,城市社区花园中可食地景的食品安全问题,是一个不能回避的问题。在较大规模的花园实践中首先进行土壤检测特别是重金属污染检测,这是必不可少的环节。在先期土壤检测技术条件难以实现的项目,采取可食种植箱、种植槽换土的方式,以确保参与者食用的安全可靠。由于当下城市土地特别是居住绿地的共有性,涉及产出的分配机制较为复杂,上海社区花园蔬菜瓜果的种植数量较低——以作者团队的实践为例,仅在花园中开辟极少量直接种植瓜果蔬菜的种植箱,这些种植容器都进行了专门的换土控制,并以社区在地有机堆肥的方式进行维护。

从景观空间的服务功能而言,越精准的设计,反而局限了使用者,其空间实质上是封闭



图6 上海社区花园地图(截至2018年12月) Fig. 6 Shanghai community garden map (as of December 2018)

的。用户只能被动地使用这块场地,对这些被精确设计过的"物"的迷恋,对技巧的执着,不同程度上会降低对自然的反应。与之相对,社区花园倡导一种开放并适度"留白"的设计,如何让人们在自由参与设计过程的同时,逐步提高动手能力,并认可自己的营造成果,从中感知自己力量的壮大,与自然生命和社区共同成长,让居民的人格得以更加健全,"留白"的度需加以设计。

从长期可持续而言,快速实施的景观产品,在整个设计、生产和后续报废的处理过程中,需要消耗大量的能源,特别是其降解,很多成为环境问题。这是资本推动消费导向空间生产的根本问题,目前没有好的解决办法,景观空间只是其中一个小小呈现。作为风景园林从业者,我们在汹涌的发展大潮中需要时刻保持警惕,思考如何更好地参与到友善环境保护培育和社会善治中去。

#### 4 结语

社区花园是社区营造的绿色起点,需要特别说明的是,社区花园作为空间微更新的一种, 其投入是低成本的,设计营造是简单易行的,是 小而美的实施,是充满期待的过程。目前,以枢 纽型的专业组织运营的社区花园为基地,逐步培

育居委会主导、居民参与的社区花园, 到系统培 育发展出完全由居民自组织社区花园以及通过在 地小组更深入的互动探索, 最终希冀扩展出影响 广泛的普惠型社区花园行动(图6)。上海作为全 国早期进行以社区花园为抓手的参与式空间微更 新、微治理探索以应对"城市病"的城市,对于 中国城市空间更新与社会治理的发展具有一定的 借鉴意义。这种意义就是空间更新和社会治理的 有机结合, 旨在提升广大市民日益增长的对美好 空间、美丽家园的探索, 其路径一定是多元的、 包容的。社区花园只是其中一种探索而已,这就 是对美好生活本质的理解,对市民自我实现价值 观的深度理解和支持,也是风景园林学科的重要 社会价值所在。当然, 社区花园参与式微更新、 微治理同样存在着不可回避的矛盾和难点, 就是 民间力量的可持续性及多元利益相关的协同性, 这也是一个漫长的社会教化过程: 市民观念的 改变与培育, 社区能力的提升与实践, 相关机 制和政策的完善与持续,都值得深入研究,也 期冀上海的社区花园实验能够给国内相关城市 的风景园林社会参与研究实践提供一个鲜活的 讨论的样本。

注: 文中图片均由作者拍摄或绘制。

#### 参考文献:

- [1] 马宏,应孔晋.社区空间微更新:上海城市有机更新 背景下社区营造路径的探索[J].时代建筑,2016(4): 10-17
- [2] 于海. 回到生活世界和生活空间:以上海创智农园为例 [J]. 城乡规划,2017(4):94-100.
- [3] 刘悦来. 中国城市景观管治基础性研究[D]. 上海: 同济 大学, 2005
- [4] 言语,徐磊青,谭峥.空间修复与公共空间更新的行动 主义:一个公共性与自主性的理论综述[J].风景园林, 2018,25(4):25-33.
- [5] 赵波. 多元共治的社区微更新:基于浦东新区缤纷社区 建设的实证研究[J]. 上海城市规划,2018(4):37-42.
- [6] 卓健, 孙源铎. 社区共治视角下公共空间更新的现实困境与路径[J]. 规划师, 2019, 35(3): 5-10; 50.
- [7] 刘悦来. 社区园艺: 城市空间微更新的有效途径[J]. 公 共艺术, 2016(4): 10-15.
- [8] 刘悦来, 尹科娈, 魏闽, 等. 高密度城市社区花园实施 机制探索: 以上海创智农园为例[J]. 上海城市规划, 2017(2): 29-33.
- [9] 刘悦来,尹科娈,魏国,等.高密度中心城区社区花园 实践探索:以上海创智农园和百草园为例[J].风景园 林,2017,24(9):16-22.
- [10] 刘悦来, 尹科娈, 葛佳佳. 公众参与 协同共享 日臻完善: 上海社区花园系列空间微更新实验[J]. 西部人居环境学刊, 2018, 33(4); 8-12.
- [11] Kou H Y, Zhang S C, Liu Y L.Community-Engaged Research for the Promotion of Healthy Urban Environments: A Case Study of Community Garden Initiative in Shanghai, China[J]. Public Health, 2019, 16(21): 41-45.
- [12] 王永娟. 王慧敏委员: 发展市民花园, 让上海更美、更有温度[EB/0L]. (2019-01-29) [2019-11-11]. http://sh.eastday.com/m/2019shlh/u1ai12208957.html.
- [13] 徐青, 韩锋. 西方文化景观理论谱系研究[J]. 中国园林, 2016, 32(12): 68-75.
- [14] 刘悦来,魏闽.共建美丽花园:社区花园实践手册[M]. 上海:上海科学技术出版社,2018.

(编辑/马琳)

#### 作者简介:

#### 刘悦来

1971年生/男/山东青岛人/博士/同济大学建筑与城市规划学院 讲师/高密度人居环境生态与节能教育部重点实验室/(同济大学) 社区花园与社区营造分实验中心主任/上海四叶草堂青少年自然 体验中心理事长/研究方向为社区花园、可持续风景园林规划设 计、社区规划与社区营造(上海 200092)

#### 寇怀云

1974年生/女/山东淄博人/博士/同济大学建筑与城乡规划高等研究院副研究员/研究方向为历史性城镇景观及社区参与遗产保护(上海 200092)

# Study on the Strategy of Micro-renewal and Micro-governance by Public Participatory of Shanghai Community Garden

LIU Yuelai, KOU Huaiyun

China's rapid urbanization process has brought about large-scale and high-intensity space production since the 1980s. Under the impetus of capital and power, urban green space construction is growing exponentially. Park spaces are supported by the government finance and maintained by professional teams; due to financial constraints and simple fit-all type green space delivered by such process, in reality they often show signs of low spatial quality and lacks social participation. And the affiliated green space, especially residential community green space, maintained by property management companies, are commonly declining and abandoned due to fund and technological restrictions. In the face of the above problems, a series of Shanghai community garden micro-renewing actions took place, rooted in people's urgent pursuit of a better life in the community environment, initiated from the neglected community public spaces, and local power breakthrough.

In 2014, Shanghai community garden originated with the support of enterprises, and received support from basic-level government in 2016, it took a gradual process. These actions were not driven by professional departments for park and landscape, or planning and construction, nor local governments, but a need from private space operating enterprises for quality landscaping service and their continuous improvement; the premise of government support is that community gardens may be an important starting point for social governance, and community governance is the foundation of social governance. The author's team directly participated in the design and construction of more than 60 Shanghai community gardens, and more than 500 residential community autonomous micro-community gardens were completed by trained trainers; a partnership via social organization, linking the power of community self-governing organizations, volunteer groups, and corporation, partnered with government function departments, has slowly took form, giving full play to the positive forces of the government, enterprises and the public.

#### 1 Community Garden: Definitions and Types

Community garden is a venue for community residents to carry out horticultural activities in the form of joint construction and sharing. It is characterized by improving the participation of the

public without changing the nature of the existing green space, and thus promoting community empowerment. The main design element of the community garden is the restoration of urban land productivity by edible landscape, and the need for collaboration between people, which ignites public participation. As a form of public space usage, they do not participate in changing the nature of land and green space; it is a superposition of functions-enriching the connotation of urban green space with in-depth community participation. From participation in design to on-site construction and to the formation of maintenance management mechanism, this process is based on the conservation and restoration of space and nature, and it is constantly deepening the connection between people, and gradually becoming an integral part of the public daily life. In the process of its development, it aims directly to the construction and innovation of ecological civilization and social governance, to compensate and repair the imbalance emerged in people's pursuit of a better life, and this is the contemporary value of Shanghai community garden experiment.

#### 2 Social Participation in Community Gardens: Evolution of Types and Strategies

In 2014, the author's team built the first professionally operated community garden in Shanghai Baoshan District, the Nature Line Park; in 2016, the first residential community garden, Bai Cao Yuan, was established with the participation of residents in the Third Community of the Anshan Fourth Village, Yangpu District; from 2017 to now, more than 10 administrative districts have supported its promotion in the form of government procurement services, and gradually evolved into five corresponding types of participation and operational strategies for community gardens.

# 2.1 Comprehensive community garden as a result of the collaboration among government, enterprises, social organizations and community members

Comprehensive community gardens are usually designated as park green space, jointly built by the government, enterprises, social organizations and communities. It has a high degree of compound functions, combining purposes of urban agriculture, children's natural education, community public living room and cultural space, thus became a show case for

ideal forms of community gardens and community empowerment, in which the government conducts industry guidance, enterprises invest, professional organizations operate, and local communities participate. Due to its scale and functionality, this type of community garden usually also undertakes the role of project training for community empowerment and incubator of community self-governed organizations. Governments, enterprises, and social organizations have thus shaped a multi-party governance platform to promote community interaction across various generations, classes, economic and social barriers, to create environmental health and equity in diverse cities.

## 2.2 Residents' committee led and residents engaged community gardens

Trained by professional organizations, these community gardens are typically led and partially funded by the local residents' committees with active resident participation, with an area of more than 200m², designed to stimulate residents' participation and their enthusiasm for community public affairs. There has more than 60 such community gardens being built, mostly in older communities. These gardens serve as a public space for community participation. Led by the neighborhood committees and the team leaders, community flower clubs and other residents' groups are formed to carry out the daily maintenance, and activity organizing.

# 2.3 Trained community leaders driven and district level participatory community gardens

Under the guidance and demonstration of professional organizations, local residents designed, constructed and managed community gardens. There are more than 500 such community gardens; generally small in size and low in cost, but due to high local initiative and enthusiasm, the long-term maintenance and operation results are typically better.

Community leaders play a key role in the community's involvement in gardening practices. In 2017, the author's team collaborated with a street to conduct community garden workshop training. This type of street-wide systematic empowerment, compared with previous single-point experiment, has significantly increased the speed of social practice in community gardens.

## 2.4 Autonomous local community group initiated, built and managed community gardens

The author's team has been tirelessly

exploring a mechanism for community autonomous proposals. Since 2017, a series of community participation training have been carried out in the form of joint landscape workshops. In early 2019, it was implemented in the KIC Area, the "Local Create Group" program. On the one hand, it organizes the community to fully construct the community garden for the initiative; on the other hand, it links the researchers, young students, independent designers and some community entrepreneurs to make the ideals in community planning come true; so that the professional skills could be practiced in real life cases, and the appeals of the residents can be heard by the society, as well as to receive help through the power of research. The groups are continuing to take in other residents of the community to gradually grow and self-govern in the local area, work together to build, maintain, jointly supervise, and establish a management team to set up community social organizations.

## 2.5 Inclusive community gardens with extensive social participation

Citizens obtain appropriate seeds and tools and try to plant in public space by interacting with the professional organization's wide-area online or offline initiatives. The participants act as individuals, the space is not limited to residential community or other public spaces, with large number of participants, and wide radiation area; aiming to convey the concept of community autonomy and future supporters of public participation, and to increase the connection and warmth among people in unfamiliar cities. At present, the author's team is launching the "Blooming Shanghai" community garden participatory action, more to explore the existing individual community gardening actions, and then to provide technical support, so that these small micro-self-built gardens can obtain higher level of openness, and the negativity of participants' actions could be reduced by registration in the community, therefore becoming part of the civil society participation network, and an integral part of the inclusive community gardens project.

The above five different implementation mechanisms for community gardens are not completely separated from each other, but rather are strategies for dealing with different stages and spatial types of the projects. Many of these strategies are nested and combined with each other to cope with the complexities of public and shared spaces, and are becoming an integral part of urban spatial planning and governance systems.

#### 3 Reflection on Community Garden Participatory Micro-renewal

Community garden in Shanghai is a result of

reflection of the production and operation and maintenance of public space; it experimented with the social value of landscape: the returning of landscape to daily life, and the residents' deep participation in the spatial renewal and community building of their communities has become a new life. We can clearly observe such trend. This trend is in tune with the development of landscape culture, that is, the landscape towards good governance.

According to the practice of the author's team, community garden is a type of spatial microrenewal, emphasizing timely, appropriate and low-cost material input, as well as down-to-earth, easy-to-implement designs. The focus is how to design and create a community garden in a new way to achieve a balance between common rapid production; using community gardens as a symbol of space and social governance, guiding users to actively participate in the production of landscape space, so that through the ground actions participants can be transformed from passive consumers to responsible and productive people.

In terms of the service function of the landscape space, community garden advocates open and moderate "white space", as a way to invite people to participate in the design process, gradually improve their hands-on ability, appreciate the results, recognize their own creative power, and grow together with nature and the community. As landscape architects, we need to be vigilant in the turbulent development tide, to better participate in environmental protection and social good governance.

#### 4 Conclusion

Community garden is a green starting point for community empowerment. Specifically, as a kind of spatial micro-renewal, for community gardens, the investment is low, the design is simple and easy to implement, and its small scale yet beautiful implementation, is a process full of expectation. At present, community garden is based on the practice of the hub-type professional organization, gradually cultivating the community gardens led by residents' committee and the residents, as well as systematically empowering and developing the self-organized resident's community gardens, exploring through the in-depth interaction of the local groups. It is hoped that it will eventually lead to the expansion of widely influential inclusive community garden action.

As one of the pioneers in the country, Shanghai leveraging participatory community garden as a starting point for the micro-renewal of the space, and reconstructing way of governing to cope with common "urban disease" faced by cities,

will provide reference for the development of urban space renewal and social governance in China. The organic combination of renewal and social governance aims to enhance the public's growing exploration of beautiful space and beautiful homes, the path is diverse and inclusive, and community garden is just one of the endeavors; it is the understanding of the essence of a better life, the in-depth understanding and support to citizens' self-realization, and it is an important social value of landscape architecture discipline.

Of course, community garden participatory micro-renewal and micro-governance also has its unavoidable contradictions and difficulties, that is, the sustainability of grass-root civil power and the synergy among multiple stakeholders, and it will continue to be a long process of social education: the change and cultivation of citizen's perceptions, the practice and improvement of community competence, the improvement and sustainability of relevant mechanisms and policies, they are all key topics of research for in-depth study and experimentation. It is also expected that the Shanghai community garden experiment can provide a lively sample of discussion for relevant social participatory landscape study and practice in China.

(Editor / MA Lin)

#### Biography:

LIU Yuelai, male, born in 1971 in Qingdao of Shandong Province, Ph.D., Professor, College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University, MOE (Ministry of Education) Key Laboratory of Ecology & Energy-saving Study of Dense Habitat, Director of Community Garden and Community Empowerment Sub-experiment Center, Director of Shanghai Clover Nature School, research area: community garden, sustainable landscape architecture planning, community planning and community empowerment (Shanghai 200092)

KOU Huaiyun, female, born in 1974 in Zibo of Shandong Province, Ph.D., Associate Research Fellow, Institute of Advanced Architecture and Urban-rural Planning, Tongji University, research area: historic urban landscape and community participation in heritage protection (Shanghai 200092)