Abstract

Architecture of Hyanggyo in Gyeongsangbukdo province
Southern and western part
(The Third Research Report about Confucian Architecture of Korea)

Hyanggyo (郷校, Traditional Public Schools and Confucian Shrines) in Korea

The Hyanggyo was a public school built in each county and prefecture from late Goryo Dynasty (高麗, 918–1392) to Joseon Dynasty (朝鮮, 1392–1910). The aims of the Hyanggyo were to make a progress in Confucian ideology and to strengthen the ideas of the ruling classes.

The school consists of two main parts: a religious service area – Confucian shrine and a studying area – public school. Basically, the religious area consist of four buildings: a main shrine hall (Daesungjeon 大成殿), an east hall and a west hall for memorial services (Dongmu 東廰 and Seomu 西廰), and gate–building (Naesammun 内三門).

The studying area consists of four buildings: Myeongryundang (明倫堂), Dongjae (東齋) and Seojae (西齋) as well as Oesammun (外三門). The Myeongryundang is a main lecture hall, the Dongjae and the Seojae are dormitories on the east and the west housing a number of students studying at the Hyanggyo and the Oesammun is a main entrance of the Hyanggyo.

There are also other facilities in the Hyanggyo, such as administration office (Gyojiksa, 校直舍) for the school manager, and a two–storied pavilion on the main gate of the Hyanggyo.

1. The Hyanggyo in Daegu (大邱郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Daegu is designated as Cultural Material No.1. The shrine facilities comprises Daesunjeon, Yangmu (兩廰, meaning Dongmu and Seomu) and Naesammun. The educational facilities comprise Myeongryundang, Yangjae (兩齋, meaning Dongjae and
Seojae) and Oesammun. There are also many other buildings in this complex. The Hyanggyo faces south with an axis. Two main areas are arranged in the east and the west of the axis.

The Daeseongjeon is a building of three by three bays in plan. It has a gabled roof and bracket sets Dapo (多包) style. There is not any ceiling in the Daeseongjeon, and this is unusual for Dapo-style structures.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bays in size with a gabled roof. Its bracket sets are made in the Ilkong (翼拱) style. It is a building following traditional Korean architectural style. The building was moved and rebuilt in 1605, finally moved to the present site in 1932.

2. The Hyanggyo in Chilgok (梁谷郷校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.6. The Myeongryundang is located in front of the Daesungjeon. There is a Yangjae but without Yangmu. The Myeongryundang and the Daesungjeon are not located along the same axis. The Hyanggyo faces south.

The Daesungjeon is a three by three-bay building having a gabled roof. Its bracket sets are in the Jusimpo (柱心包) style. In fact, it was made in a fashion of combining the Jusimpo and the Dapo. It was repaired in 1907.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bays in size having a gabled roof. The bracket sets are in the Ilkong style. This building is now using for educational events which are related to the Confucianism.

3. The Hyanggyo in Cheongdo (淸道郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Cheongdo is designated as Tangible Cultural Properties No. 207. The Daesungjeon and the Myeongryundang are positioned along the east–west axis. In general, traditional Korean architecture is oriented north–south. But, the Hyanggyo stands to the north. It might be determined by the village which is oriented to the north. There is a two-storied pavilion in front of the Myeongryundang. In the Hyanggyo, there are also many other buildings.

The Daesungjeon is three by two bays and has a gabled roof with Ilkong styled bracket sets.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bays having a gabled roof and Ilkong styled bracket sets. The Sarakru (思樂樓, a special name of a pavilion) is a two-storied pavilion which is three by two bays in plan having Ilkong styled bracket sets and a hipped-and-gabled roof. It rebuilt in 1996 is located in front of the Myeongryundang.
4. The Hyanggyo in Gyungsan (慶山鄉校)

The Hyanggyo in Gyungsan is designated as Cultural Material No. 105. It has been under moving to another place since 1997. In the religious area is in front.

The Daeungjeon is a three by two-bay structure having a gabled roof. It has excellent entasis-style columns and Jusimpo-style brackets sets. Its construction date is unclear. According to its basic scale, it might be built in the late 17th century. And a foundation stone is followed an old style.

The Myeongryundang is five by three-bay in plan, and has a gabled roof with Ilkong-styled bracket sets. It was reconstructed in 1998. The roof shows members belongs to hipped-and-gabled roof frame, although it is a gabled roof.

The Yangjae, the Jungsinmun (a special name of Naesammun), the Sajumun (a gate with four columns, 四柱門) and the Gyojiksa were all rebuilt in September, 2002. Additionally, the Oesammun, Yangmu, Hyupmun (a small gate, 夾門) and another administration office are expecting to be built soon.

5. The Hyanggyo in Hayang (河陽鄉校)

The Hyanggyo in Hayang is designated as Cultural Material No. 107. It shows a typical arrangement: the Daeungjeon at the back and the Myeongryundang at front. There is a little difference between the axis of the religious area and that of the studying area. The Yangjae (dormitories) is located behind the Myeongryundang. It is an unusual pattern in Gyeongsangbukdo province (慶尚北道).

The Daeungjeon is three by three bays, having a gabled roof with Ilkong-styled bracket sets. There is an office for managing the memorial service (Jeonsachung, 典祀廳) and a building to store things needed in the memorial service (Jegigo, 祭器庫) instead of a memorial service hall (Yangmu).

The Myeongryundang is three by three bays, having a gabled roof with Ilkong styled brackets sets. The Myeongryundang has a back door because a dormitory building (Yangjae) is located at the back.

6. The Hyanggyo in Jain (慈仁鄉校)

The Hyanggyo in Jain is designated as Cultural Material No. 106. A pavilion called Mosungru (崇聖樓, a special name of a pavilion) stands on the south–north axis.

The Daeungjeon is a three by three-bay building which has a gabled roof and Ilkong-styled
bracket sets. According to the record on roofing tiles, this building was built in the 18th century and renovated in the early 20th century.

The Myeongryundang has a five by three-bay plan, a gabled roof and Ilgong styled bracket sets. The shape of the platform is a convex shape. It has a higher column (Hwalju 活柱) used as a part of the hipped–and gabled roof to support a big rafter placed at the corners.

7. The Hyanggyo in Indong (人同郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Indong is designated as Cultural Material No. 20. It was relocated to the current location in 1968. An administration office (Gyojiksa) is located to east. It does not have Yangmu. The Daesungjeon and the Myeongryundang stand on the south–north axis.

The Daesungjeon is three by three bays, and has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. Its center bay is much larger than other bays. The building was built by raising the platform in the ground.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bay and has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. The shape of the roof looks like a ‘T’. There are 17 stone monuments made between the 17th and the 20th centuries. They are placed along the Oesammun wall.

8. The Hyanggyo in Sangju (尚州郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Sangju is designated as Tangible Cultural Properties No.155. It is oriented to the south. The Daesungjeon and the Myeongryundang stand on the south–north axis. The Gyojiksa is recently moved from the west to the east.

The Daesungjeon is five by three bays in plan having a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. Some parts of the building for example, some stones of the platform are reused taken from another Buddhist temple. The Daesungjeon is believed to be built in the mid–Joseon dynasty.

The Myeongryundang has a ‘L’ shaped plan which is an unusual one. The original building was destroyed by fire in 1961. The existent building was rebuilt by using a pavilion located in the Sangju city. The Yangmu is ten by two bays in plan. It is an unusual one in the architecture of Hyanggyo. It might be built before the early 19th century.

9. The Hyanggyo in Punggi (豊基郷校)

The Daesungjeon and the Yangmu are designated as Cultural Material No, 123. The Hyanggyo in
Punggi is oriented to the south and the Myeongryundang is located to east. There were a two-storied pavilion and Yangjae, but destroyed by fire during the Korean War (1950–1952).

The Daesungjeon is a three by three-bay building having a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. It was repaired in 1977 and 1991. The Yangmu, three by one bay, has a gabled roof. Its bracket style is an unique one. It has a floor heating system (Ondol, 暖突). Judging from the characteristics of the architecture, it was built in the 18th century.

The Myeongryundang, four by three bays, has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. The bay's numbers are generally in odd numbers, but this building has four (even number). Usually, the Myeongryundang has two rooms (east and west) but the east room is omitted in this building.

10. The Hyanggyo in Gimsan (金山郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Gimsan is designated as Cultural Material No.257. The Daesungjeon is located in front and the Myeongryundang is at the back. These two building stand on an east–west axis. The Yangjae is located behind the Myeongryundang which is not an ordinary case in the Gyeongbuk province.

The Daesungjeon, three by three bays in plan, has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. According to the record on the roofing tiles, the building was repaired in 1688.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays in plan and has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. The left side of the Myeongryundang appears three bays. It was repaired in 1979 and renovated fully except some important structural members.

11. The Hyanggyo in Yecheon (醴泉郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Yecheon is designated as Cultural Material No.138. The arrangement of the Hyanggyo is oriented to the south without Yangmu and Yangjae. The Daesungjeon is located to the south and the Myeongryundang is located to the north. The Oesammun’s position inclines towards the east.

The Daesungjeon is three by three bays and has a gabled roof with Ilgong–style brackets. It has different decorations in front and the back.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a gabled roof with Ilgong–styled brackets. It has many wooden plates which contain the record of this building. And the beam of this building has been painted with a blue dragon and a yellow dragon.
12. The Hyanggyo in Jirye (知禮郷校)

The Daesungjeon of the Hyanggyo in Jirye is designated as Cultural Material No.118. The Daesungjeon and the Myeongryundang are oriented to the south but with different axes. The Dongjae was built in 1990 and the Seojae was rebuilt in 1986. A two-storied pavilion was constructed in the mid-19th century and repaired in 1980.

The Daesungjeon is three by three bays and has a gabled roof with Ikgong-style brackets. There is a small niche (龕室) in the wall and it contained the portrait of Confucius.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a gabled roof with Ikgong-style brackets. It is located on the higher platform.

There is a two-storied pavilion (Sanbanru, 漫沖樓, a special name of a pavilion) in front of the Hyanggyo. It is three by two bays having a hipped-and gabled roof with Ikgong-styled brackets.

13. The Hyanggyo in Goryeong (高靈郷校)

The Hyanggyo in Goryeong is designated as Cultural Material No.229. The arrangement of the Hyanggyo is oriented to the southeast and the Daesungjeon with facilities is located in the rear, while the Myeongryundang with facilities is located in front. These two buildings stand on a south-north axis and there is not Yangjae.

The Daesungjeon is three by two bays and has a hipped-and gabled roof with Ikgong-style brackets. There are round foundation stones (礎石) and some of them are decorated with a turtle pattern. The building was originally built in the mid-17th century, and it had been repaired several times but still preserve its elegance.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a gabled roof. The brackets are in Ikgong style. The building was moved to the present location in 1701. It was repaired in 1974 and keeps the characteristic of the architecture of the late Joseon dynasty.

14. The Hyanggyo in Mungyung (聞慶郷校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.132. There is not Yangmu. The Daesungjeon with facilities is located in the rear and the Myeongyundang with facilities is located in front. They have different axes. The arrangement of the Hyanggyo is oriented to the south.

The Daesungjeon is three by two bays and has a gabled roof. Brackets are made in the Ikgong
style. The building has a window in upper part of the facade for daylight.

The Myeongryundang is four by two bays and has a gabled roof. Brackets are made in the Ilkong style. Two bays in the middle of the building are paved with wood panel and both end bays are the ondol rooms. It has an even number in front bays which is not a normal case in traditional Korean architecture. The Yangjae is located in the back of the Myeongryundang. It looks like a two-storied building from a south view but it is a single-storied building.

15. The Hyanggyo in Hamchang (咸昌鄉校)

The Hyanggyo in Hamchang is designated as Cultural Material No. 124. There is an old gingko tree in front of the Hyanggyo. The Hyanggyo is oriented to the south.

The Daesungjeon with facilities is located in the rear and the Myeongryundang with facilities is located in front. There is not Yangmu. The Yangjae is located in the back of the Myeongryundang. The arrangement of the Hyanggyo inclines to the west one after another: Oesamnum, Myeongryundang, Naesamnum and Daesungjeon.

The Daesungjeon is a three by three-bay building having a hip-and-gabled roof. Brackets are in the Ilkong style. A portrait of Confucius is hanging in the rear wall of the center bay.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a hipped-and-gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. It is a two-storied building located in the front part. There are many records about the history of buildings, from the 18th century to the modern time. This building is restored last time in 1986.

16. The Hyanggyo in Seongju (星州鄉校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.114 and the Myeongryundang is designated as Tangible Cultural Properties No.165. The plan of the Hyanggyo is not a common case: religious area is located to the east and studying area to the west. The whole building is oriented to the south. There were a two-storied pavilion and a Yangjae. But, they were all destroyed by fire during the Korean War.

The Daesungjeon, three by three bays, has a gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. It has a characteristic of architecture of the late Joseon dynasty, such as paintings inside and outside, and the way of carving structural members.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bays and has a gabled roof with Ilkong-styled brackets.
The columns of the center bay are thicker than others. It has many records about the history of the buildings. There is an attic in the top of the rooms for storing the books. There is a small well (Myeongryunjeong) in studying area.

17. The Hyanggyo in Hyunpung (玄風鄕校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.27. The Hyanggyo is oriented to the south, the Daesungjeon with Yangmu and Myeongryundang with Yangjae stand along the south-north axis. The Gyojiksa is located in the west of the Hyanggyo and shaped as a traditional Korean house.

The Daesungjeon is a three by three-bay building having a gabled roof with Ilkong-styled brackets. It uses wide stone-panel for a foundation which was an elegant skill in traditional Korean architecture. There are many materials believed to form a stone pagoda or a stone lantern, especially in foundation stone. Generally, it is presumed to be a building of the 18th century.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. It has a hanging board with calligraphy on it which was written by Lee Hwang (李滉, 1501~1570) who was a great confucian scholar in the Joseon dynasty. This building is believed to be built in the 19th century.

18. The Hyanggyo in Uiheung (義興鄕校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.198. The Hyanggyo is oriented to the south and religious area is in the east-north area of the school area. There is no Yangmu and a house for stone monument stands in the west of the entrance of the Hyanggyo.

The Daesungjeon is a three by three-bay building having a gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. It contains memorial tablets for 27 holly sages including Confucius.

The Myeongryundang is five by two bays and has a gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. The Dongjae was rebuilt in 1956 and the Seojae in 1993. It was possible to enter the Hyanggyo through the center bay of the first floor of the Gwangpungru(光風樓, a special name of a pavilion). The Gwangpungru was a two-storied building, four by two bays, having a gabled roof with Ilkong-style brackets. But in the 1968 repair, the height of first floor was reduced by cutting the rotten part of columns, so it lost its original passage.
19. The Hyanggyo in Sillyeong (新寧鄕校)

The Daesungjeon is designated as Cultural Material No.102. The Myeongryundang is also designated Tangible Cultural Properties No.168. The Hyanggyo is oriented to the south and it has not Yangmu. The Daesungjeon and the Myeongryundang stand on a south–north axis and the Gyojiksa is located at the rear of the Seojae.

The Daesungjeon is three by three bays and has a gabled roof with Ikgong–style brackets. It shows a mixed style of the Depo and the Ikgong.

The Myeongryundang is five by three bays and has a gabled roof with Ikgong–styled brackets. It did not painted. However, one can find some scars of the painting pattern of flowers and bamboo in important members of the framework. It was heavily repaired in 1852. A little lofty stone stands in the left side of the front stairs. The Seojae was built in 1991 and the Oesammun in 1990.
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