Assessment of Visual Resources Desirable for Tourism and Recreational Uses Along the Site of Lake Choon-Chon in Korea[1]

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Abstract: This paper describes the inventory and analysis of visual resources in the Choon-Chon lakeside tourism route between the Seoul tourism circle and the Seolag tourism circle. The study was a service requested by the Korean Society of Landscape Architects under supervision of the Tourism Department of the Kang Won Provincial Government Office, Republic of Korea. It reflects the sightseeing and recreation center of this area in assessing its scenic value. Accordingly, the area that was inventoried and analyzed included about 92 km^2 (Mt. Sam Ack district, Ui Am lake district, Choon-Chon lake district and So Yang lake district) reaching So Yang lake and the upper coast of north river Han within a visual corridor (Litton 1968) northeast from Seoul. The result of the inventory and analysis was outlined as follows: First, the unpolluted and calm water scene was characterized. Second, graceful and sublime mountain peaks' scenery includes rivers and lakes to provide contrast (USDA 1973) and can be reached by several mountain roads. Third, they can be developed for tourism (Korean Landscape Development Corp. 1975) of a dynamic nature. Fourth, the area has an unpolluted and pure natural environment.

INTRODUCTION

Objective of the Study

The Choon-Chon Area provides graceful mountain peaks, well-wooded scenery (Litton 1968), clear and peaceful rivers and lakes, a majestic dam, historic temples, relics, and abundant scenic resources. This area is located about 120 km northeast of Seoul (fig. 1*) with an inconvenient road access (fig. 2*). So far, the visual resources throughout this area have not been developed and utilized, but have been inventoried and analyzed, and the scenic value preserved. In order to develop and utilize this resource, this study aims to recommend a nation-wide circulating tourism system in relation to the Seoul tourism circle with Seolag tourism circle (National park of Mt. Seolag).

Scope of the Study

The areas of this proposed plan are centered around the Choon-Chon area and the visual corridors are distributed linearly along the upper-coast of the north river Han. The topography and dam are its bounda-ries. The total area is divided into four areas including: 1) Namisum Island and Kangchon Bridge from Seoul which is called the Mt. Sam Ack district, 2) all districts covering Choon-Chon city from Ui Am Dam which is called the Ui Am Lake district, 3) the north district from Choon-Chon city which

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[1/] Presented at the National Conference on Applied Techniques for Analysis and Management of the Visual Resource, Incline Village, Nevada, April 23-25, 1979.

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*See color illustration on page 392.

Table 1--Specifications of the Reservoirs

Dam / Sources	Choon-Chon Dam	Ui Am Dam	So Yang Dam
Stream dimension (km^2)	3,901	7,765	2,703
Floor level (EL, m)	104	73,360	198
Ordinary filled Water level (")	103	71.50	193.50
Maximum level (")	98	66.30	150
Quantity of reservoir (m^3)	$1.5x10^8$	$0.8x10^8$	$29x10^8$
Acceptable quantity of using: (m^3/sec)	131.30	71.00	304

Table 2--Assessment table based on valuation, perception and resource values.

	Area / Criteria	Mt. Samag	Lake Ui Am	Choon-Chon Lake	Sc Yang Lake
Landscape value	Historic value	numerous	numerous	scarce	numerous
	Fair land	scarce	numerous	scarce	scarce
	Economics & Social values	scarce	numerous	scarce	numerous
Landscape perception	Aesthetic factors	form, line, color texture	line, color	form, color texture	form, line, color texture
	Characteristic[1/] landscape	feature & panoramic	water-scape	water- scape	panoramic water-scape
	Diversity	numerous	numerous	scarce	scarce
	Native fancy	numerous	scarce	scarce	numerous
Landscape Resource	Scale	large	wide	small	large
	Hydrology	scarce	numerous	numerous	numerous
	Forest resources	numerous	scarce	numerous	numerous
	Temples	existed (1)	none	none	existed (1)
	Historic place	numerous	scarce	scarce	numerous

[1/] After Litton 1968.

landscape and legend. The assessment (see tables 1 and 2) takes landscape values, perception and resources into consideration.

From the assessment in the previous tables, the character of tourism and recreation for Choon-Chon lakeside area is summarized as follows:

Mountain Samag Area

This area offers mountain climbing, golfing, lawn-skiing, picnicking, camping, an archery site, and waterside camping (coast of Kang Chon area).

Lake Ui Am Area

On Chung Island and Sand Island area are the lakeside of fantasy, sandy teach of adventure, future world and hill of tradition).

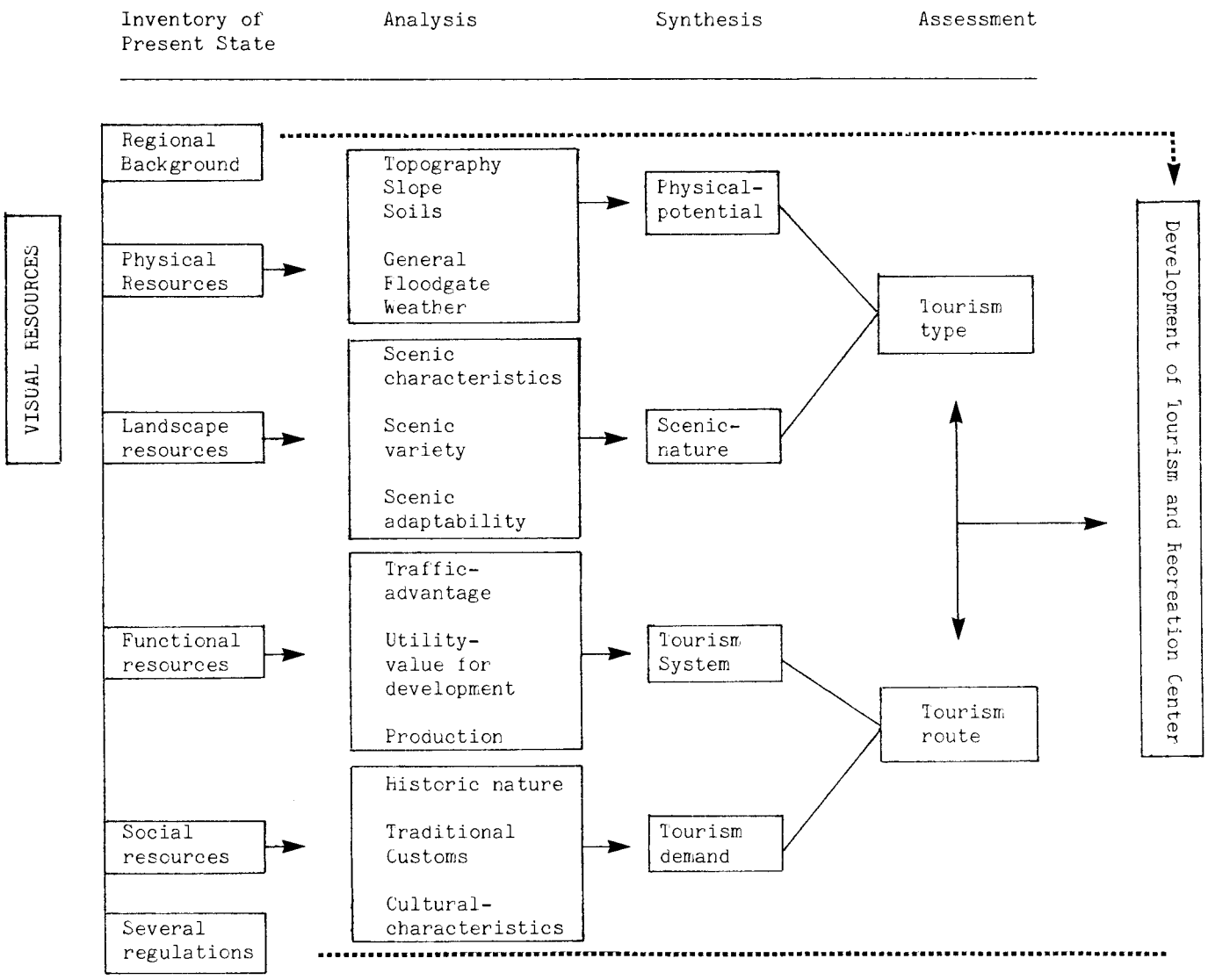

Figure 3--The process of the study

is called the Choon-Chon Lake district, and 4) the central district of So Yang Lam located 12 km northeast of Choon-Chon city.

METHOD OF STUDY

The method of this study was an attempt to document visual access by assigning foreground, middle ground and background (Litton 1968) along the land route. There is presently a paved two-track line. A single track railroad is under construction along the upper coast of the north river Han which is northeast of Seoul.

Process of the Study

Generally this process was advanced in proper sequence after inventory of the present state. It included analysis, synthesis and assessment. In particular, the analysis of the visual resources aid not rely upon any quantitative measurement method. It included a subjective assessment of interest from mountains and water scenery based on a pure natural view of the Korean landscape (Youn 1974). The overall process is shown in Fig. 3.

Method of Approach

After the potential of the visual

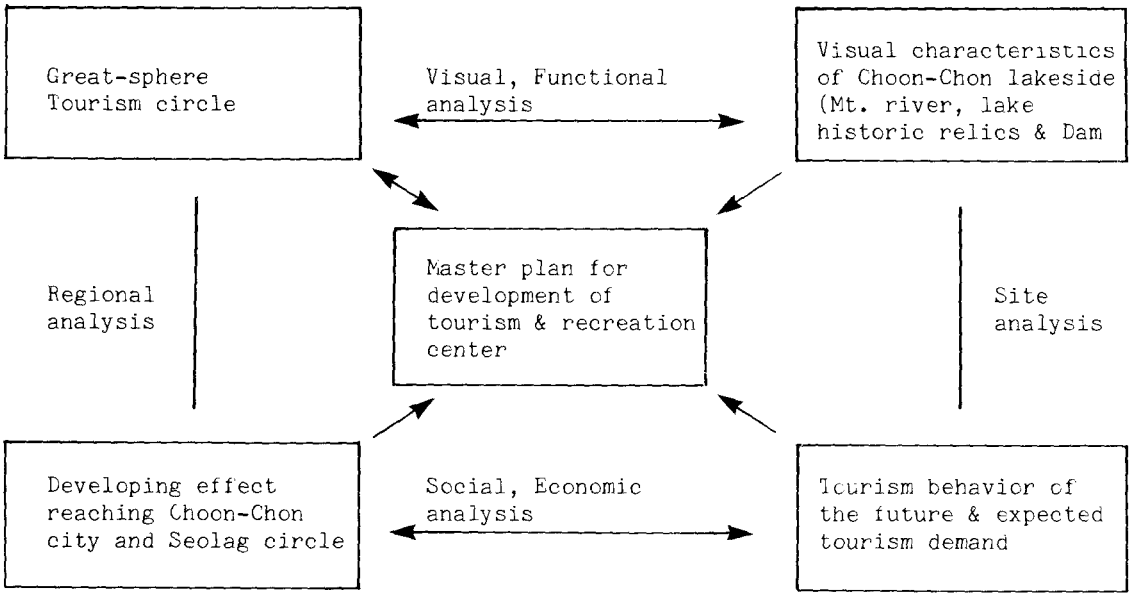

Figure 4--Approach

resources and tourism center, which the Choon-Chon lakeside area involves, was inventoried, analyzed and assessed, it was projected as to the future potential tourism behavior and visual management. A diagramatic illustration for a desirable assessment of the visual resources of Choon-Chon area is shown by Fig. 4.

Comprehensive Map

The visual resources dispersed in this area, as based on the present state and analysis suggested above, were integrated via inventory maps. The analysis included detailed mapping of all the districts. Mille an intensive visual corridor along the north river Han is developing, the scenery itself is the dominant from. Lake Li Am gives a special feeling of a distant and broad view of a mountain system and accompanying clouds. Chung Island and Tong Island lack vertical elements to give counterpoint to their vast horizontal space. Dung Sun Falls of the Samag Mountain district is a graceful scenic area, with interesting rock forma-ions, and forms a visual vista. Choon-Chon Lake is at the far north end of the area. the calm lake among the mountains gives us peaceful and emotional sentiment and it is very good for fishing and boating.

Lake So Yang Dam is high with a steep slope and is the largest dam mace of soil in the Orient. It utilizes a large valley to store a large amount of water. Its steep slopes and high mountains sink into the broad horizontal water surface, this area furnishes a variety of spatial experiences and directions. Lake So Yang is the largest artificial inland lake in the Orient. On the left valley of Lake So Yang, there can be found the old temple Chong Pyong temple, Am Bong, falls, forests, historic relics and other abundant tourism resources. In particular, natural monument-mandarin fish (fresh water fish) are found in rivers and lakes of the valley.

Assessment

The Visual Assessment is based upon three major concerns: 1) valuation for the use of tourism and recreation center, 2) resources for development and preservation in the future, and 3) perception of beautiful elements of the scenery (See fig. 5*) (cube et al 1975). In particular, traditional-natu-ral views in Korea tend to include mountains and water (Kim and Suh 1977) (see figure 6*),

*See color illustration on page 392.

Ui Island

This island has an international meeting hall, lawn ground, picnic site, motel, pool, hotel, and boating).

Choon-Chon Lake Area

This area offers fishing, boating, and other waterside recreation activities.

So Yang Lake Area

This area has an international boat race, cable car, high class villa, yachting place, recreation center of Chong Pyong Temple valley, and water-transport for car-ferry to Yanggu and Inje reaching the entrance of Nae Sul Ak Mountain.

The above items are distributed in the drawing of synthetic planning.

CONCLUSION

The Choon-Chon lakeside area presently has rather poor transportation facilities to this mountainous, isolated area and limited access connection to other areas. It is also located near the DMZ northeast from Seoul. Economic development is low due to a small population and little development of industrial facilities. The area has not been recreationally developed because past tourism activity in Korea has focused on the southern parts. This area, which has been called a small diamond mountain of Korea, is located near the National Park of Sulag with abundant physical potential. If it is to play a larger role between the Seoul and Sulag tourism systems, four track lines between Seoul and Choon-Chon should be paved and expanded as an expressway in the near future. The existing railroad should become double-lined, and be extended to So Yang Dam. It should be connected to Nae (Inner) Sulag Mountain by water-transportation via car-ferry from So Yang Dam. I believe that this area has potential for developing appreciation and enjoyment of splendid landscape involving both active and passive water recreation activities and mountain scenery.

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