

UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape was adopted at the 36th Unesco General Assembly in 2011. This recommendation notes that historic city is understood as the result of historic layering of cultural and natural values and attributes, extending beyond the notion of 'historic centre' or 'ensembles' to include the broader urban context and its geographical settings. It also includes social and cultural practices and values, economic processes and the intangible dimensions of heritage as related to diversity and identity. Moreover the terminology 'Urban heritage' was suggested as a category of cultural properties at "annex III of Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention" at The International World Heritage Expert Meeting on the Mainstreaming of the methodological approach related to the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in the Operational Guidelines.

Historic Layering of urban Heritage carved on SEOUL CITY WALL

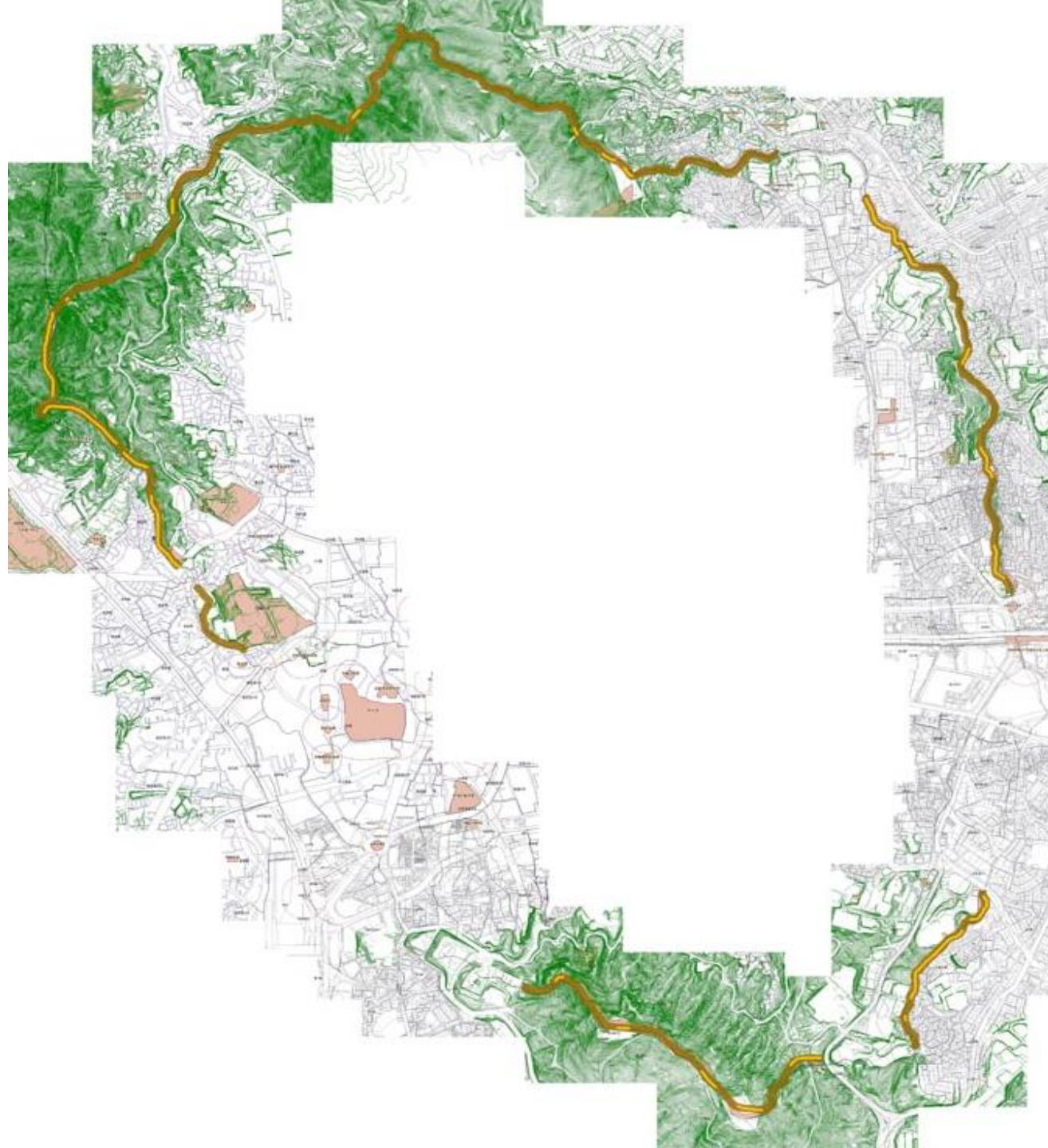
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Seoul City Wall (Hanyang-doseong) is the urban artifact that could be defined as an representative urban heritage of capital wall in East Asia. In the end of 14th century Seoul City Wall was constructed as the capital wall of Joseon dynasty. It was the model of city wall that was evolved through the centuries with the combination of flatland-wall and mountain-wall on the basis of topography inside and outside of Korean Peninsula.

Moreover Seoul City Wall is the architectural and technological ensembles, that were constructed with stone and earth on the ridges of four mountains. Therefore it makes a integrated entity of topography and artifact.

During the 500 years the form and function had been sustained as capital wall through restoration, reconstructions and repairs. Although Seoul had experienced the colonial period, Korean War, and rapid urbanization in 20th century, the remains and memories of Seoul City Wall are well conserved to corroborate the historic layering of continuance through five hundred years.



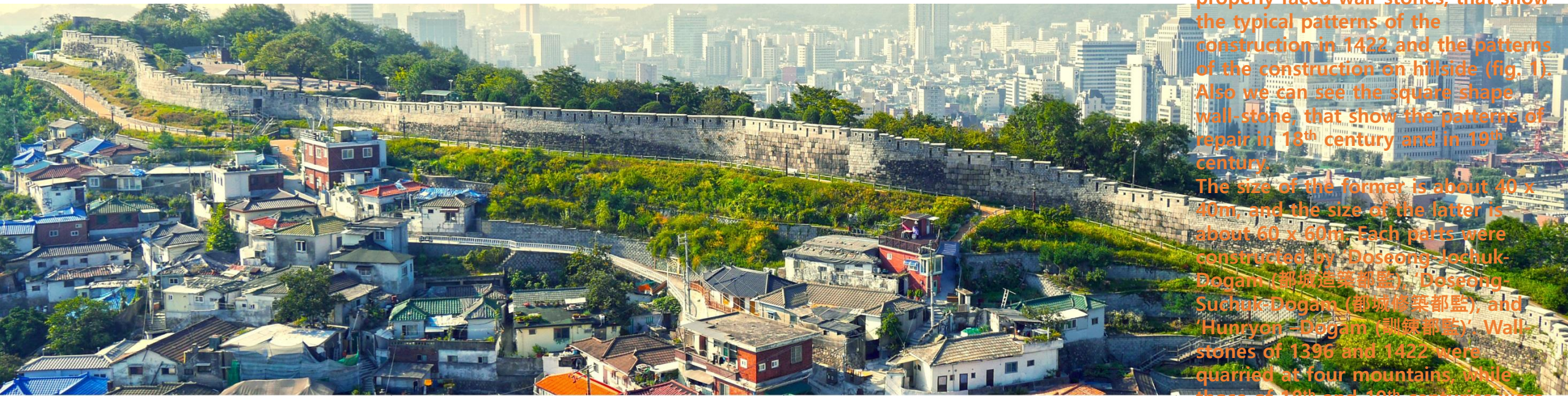


. All sections of the city wall were created in accord with the natural topography of the mountains, hills and lowlands around the building sites, as well as the soil conditions varying between bedrock and soft earth. The Seoul City Wall represents an outstanding example of a stonework and rammed earth being tailored to the surrounding natural conditions.



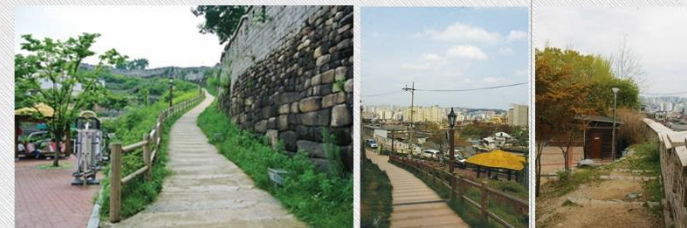
Among the four mountains we can see the morphological patterns of historic layering of continuance through five hundred years on the section of Baekak (白岳, north mountain) and on the section of Naksan (駝酪, west mountain).

In Bukak mountain, we can witness the natural shape wall-stones, that show the typical pattern of the construction in 1396 and the patterns of the construction on natural rock.



In Naksan mountain we can see the properly faced wall-stones, that show the typical patterns of the construction in 1422 and the patterns of the construction on hillside (fig. 1). Also we can see the square shape wall-stone, that show the patterns of repair in 18th century and in 19th century.

The size of the former is about 40 x 40m, and the size of the latter is about 60 x 60m. Each parts were constructed by 'Doseong-Jochuk-Dogam (都城造築都監)', 'Doseong-Suchuk-Dogam (都城修築都監)', and 'Hunryon-Dogam (訓鍊都監)'. Wall stones of 1396 and 1422 were quarried at four mountains, while those of 18th and 19th centuries were quarried at Nokbeon mountain and Niwon Mountain of the outskirt surrounding mountains.





historic sites of the Chosen shrine placed on the historic sites of Seoul City Wall



Recently the multi layered relics were excavated on the site of Namsan mountain, where we could specifically corroborate the historic layering of fluctuations through the Japanese colonial period and the urbanized process in 20th century. While the dark memories on 'Joseon Jingu' remain beneath the modern public park, the Wall relics of the earliest stage were excavated vividly on the site. The historic layering of cultural and natural values on the site of Namsan mountain should be a exceptional testimony of continuance and fluctuation as urban heritage.

With the perspective of the Historic Urban Landscape approach, the historic layering of Seoul City Wall could be defined as following. The first is the multi-layered testimonies that was been accumulated through the continuance of construction, reconstruction, restoration, and repair through the five hundred years of Joseon dynasty. The second is the discontinuous testimonies that was been overlapped through the fluctuation in 20th century of Seoul.