

A Look at Vegetation as a Landscaping Factor in the Traditional Houses of the Temperate and Humid Climate of Iran

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Abstract

Architecture is the manifestation of our customs, beliefs, and lifestyle over time. Consequently, we have had the ability to communicate with the different spaces which have been created in different periods, and we feel the closeness toward these spaces, a common feeling that associates green space and landscaping factors and move us toward God and paradise in the minds. In this research, we have tried to investigate the role and state of vegetation as one of the landscaping factors in the traditional houses of the Caspian Sea coast temperate and humid climate, and we want to answer the question “What has been the state and influence of this factor in the lifestyle and spatial experience from the past to now?” We hope that the results of this research will be useful in the present and future buildings.

The current research was done based on field, documentary, and library research methods, and the results indicate that the type of plant and using the courtyard are based on the family’s needs and there is no certain rule in this regard. The productive plants are really important and the factors, such as shadow and positive psychological effects, have increased the importance of this factor.

Keywords: Vegetation, Landscaping Factors, Temperate And Humid Climate, Traditional Houses

Introduction

From the human beings and their thoughts interaction point, and as the rendezvous of the land and heaven, and retaliation point of performance and thought, the garden can be interpreted the best place for the poetic and romantic experience and the highest manifestation of rituals and mystical experience (Behnam 930).

A time not so long ago, most of the Iranian cities not only were surrounded by the gardens, despite the gardens and courtyards, while providing the likelihood of uninterrupted human and nature interaction, in their specific region provided the context of artificial environment purifying and a relaxing and happy atmosphere for the community. With the growth of urbanization and the dominance of machinery and mercantilism thinking and changing the attitude toward the land as a commodity and not as a homeland and relaxation place, the land has been used in the material form maximally and not only the open and green spaces of the city but the gardens and farms around the cities were destroyed and turned into buildings. Over time and emerging the environmental deleterious consequences caused by the diminution of gardens and green spaces in this phase, physiological benefits of green space have been taken into consideration.

The current research tries to investigate the role and importance of nature in the daily life of the people of that time and its current state in Iran. Based on this fact, the traditional houses of the northern regions of Iran can be divided into two categories of rural and urban houses. The outstanding feature of the rural houses of this region, many of which have reserved their conditions up to now, is having large yards that are more like fruit gardens than the house yard, and in these houses, poultry keeping and breeding has been considered as an inseparable part, but in urban homes, we see smaller yards than rural houses that in the center of these courtyards, there is a Howz with different shapes and a garden full of flowers. The common ground of all these houses is the placement of fruit trees experimentally, and the main aim planting thaws trees is meeting the family's need for fruit and the spiritual need for the presence of green space in the home as well as the formation of shadows.

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In this paper, at first the northern indigenous architecture of Iran and, in particular, the Mazandaran province with the approach of the climatic effects factors was studied and after distinguishing the geographical location of the province and the region, the value of vegetation, by introducing species as a landscaping agents will be analyzed, and we will give some solutions in this regard.

Introducing the Mazandaran Province

Mazandaran province with an area of 24.91 square kilometers is one of the northern provinces of Iran's Plateau and is located on the south coast of Caspian Sea. Mazandaran is the agricultural pole and its lands have substantial potential for cultivating a variety of products such as rice, wheat, legumes, cotton, citrus, and vegetables. Numerous rivers flow into the Mazandaran Sea from the Alborz Mountain Range. The center of the province is Sari. The topographic state of the region is categorized into plain and mountainous. This region has a special climate that is generally affected by the following factors:

- The Alborz Mountains in the south and along the east-west direction
- The height of this region from sea level
- Natural vegetation and forests
- Proximity to the Caspian Sea coast
- Position and latitude

Table 1- Major climatic features of temperate and humid regions

Climatic Features	Description
Solar radiation	The cloudy weather decreases the intensity of the sunlight; thus, reduces the air temperature control
Temperature	The low difference between night and day temperature. The temperature during summer is usually between 25 ° C and 30 ° C and during the nights it is between 20 ° C and 35 ° C and in winter it is usually above zero.
Humidity	Successive rains, high humidity and a little difference in the degree of annual heat.
Rainfall	High rainfall in all seasons, especially in autumn and winter. The rainfall in this area is 6,525 mm per year. The rainiest season is autumn. The maximum rainfall is in the autumn and at least in summer.
Sky	Due to the high rainfall in this area, its sky is cloudy in autumn and winter, but in the spring there are fewer clouds, and in the summer the sky is completely sunny.
Wind	Western winds: rainy, continuous and slight winds on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea Northwestern winds: causing showers in the autumn and spring Northern and northeastern winds: these winds are inherently cold and dry and, by encountering west winds, cause heavy snow and rapid rainfall. Coastal winds: It is a part of the local wind and throughout the day it flows from the sea to the beaches and at night from the beach to the sea.
Vegetation	The intensity of autumn rainfall and moderate temperature, cause enormous vegetable cover and cultivation of crops such as rice and citrus

Source: Author

Nature and Architecture action in Mazandaran

Architecture belongs to culture, and it makes sense only in the background of native history, beliefs, rituals, and traditions. Without distinguishing these backgrounds, climate, and natural conditions, the architecture's internal logic cannot be recognizable, and architecture lacks any identity. One of the most effective factors with regard to the architecture of the southern coast of the Caspian Sea and an inseparable part of the architecture is nature. In the Mazandaran traditional architecture, there is no clear boundary between the inside and the outside, and the translucent layers of the house call the outer space inside. The light and shadow in the transparent outer layers make the space meaningful to the deepest core of the house. This association with nature gives the architecture the live and dynamic feature. A house that summons nature to the inside space is more suitable for humans. Light and sun, with rain, affect the senses and diversify the life, so that, architecture is the mediator between man and nature, the yard that is the part of the architectural body of the temperate and humid climate of northern Iran, as part of nature, strengthens this connection by means of its changeable nature.

In fact, recognizing Mazandaran architecture is the recognition of people who have spent their lives in the form of human and cultural criteria in the buildings with their surroundings honesty and simplicity; nevertheless, for some reasons, the historical course of this factor has witnessed numerous modifications up to now. Honesty is mentioned due to this fact that the external and interior spaces of the home have been integrated with the delicate effects of nature and emotional and human senses and creates a serenity sense in humans, and simplicity is due to this fact that applying materials and tools, and even using happy colors, is in perfect harmony with the lush nature, forest and sea. In fact, this form of architecture has appreciated features that result from the man and nature action and interaction and also gives a distinct richness to the climate.

Table 2- The architectural features of temperate and humid climate

Title	Description
Building orientation	The elongation of the buildings is in eastern-western direction, in order to have the lowest contact surface with climatic disturbing factors and the highest contact surface in order to get proper light in the south.
Materials	<p>Brick: It is used in the building and also for decorating</p> <p>Plaster: To decorate the interior surfaces of the buildings, writing inscriptions, decorating the altar, under the domes and porches.</p> <p>Tile: It is used in single-color tiling, seven-color tiling, mosaic tiles, and the combination of bricks and tiles was common during the Seljuk, Ilkhani, Timurid and Safavid periods in the building decorating and has continued until the era.</p> <p>Stone: It is used in foundation, body, pavement floor, and building decorating, and to make an inscription, various stones such as black stone, marble were used in the carved state</p> <p>Wood: Using cottonwood, poplar, plane trees, pine, and walnut tree for the construction of doors, windows, Shrine boxes, pillars, and frame</p> <p>Glass: Using colorful glasses to provide lighting and decorate the door and window and the domes and bedchamber</p>
Building plan	<p>Their extensive and open plan and physical form are geometric shapes, long and narrow.</p> <p>The presence of a porch or an ambulatory around the building</p> <p>Extroverted building</p> <p>The lack of a basement</p> <p>A ground floor higher than the normal surface of the ground</p>
Urban texture	<p>The urban and rural texture is wide open and comparatively large urban space</p> <p>Yards with short walls and relatively wide alleys</p> <p>Buildings apart from each other in connected urban centers</p>
Roof form	The roofs of the building are sloping up to the front door of the ambulatory
Levels	<p>Maximum contact with the northern and southern fronts in order to use suitable winds and appropriate south light</p> <p>Lack of surfaces color importance</p>
Openings	The openings are mostly used let wind easily flow inside the building.
Natural ventilation	The possibility of air conditioning due to moisture.
Yard	<p>Large courtyards in rural houses are similar to fruit gardens</p> <p>Smaller yards in urban houses</p> <p>The Common ground of all these houses, the placement of fruit trees experimentally, and the main purpose of meeting the family's need for its fruit was to meet the spiritual need for the presence of greenery in the home, as well as creating shades.</p>

Source: Author

Typology of region houses

House is one of the important subjects in architecture. The term "house", which is now commonly used, in the past, it was referred to a room, and the private rooms were called "vestash" or "vesag". Due to the climatic conditions and to respond to the most desirable conditions of human comfort, traditional Mazandaran buildings were designed. The rectangular plan of the building with eastern-western elongation provides the opportunity to take advantage of optimal summer wind currents because the most significant principle to reach the comfort settings in this area is desired ventilation and wind flow. The body of the first transparent layer of the building, which has a row of pillars and a verandah which are repeated in the floors, in addition to the height of the building Korsis, maximizes the airflow in the building. The dominant orientation and elongation of the houses in this region are in eastern-western direction. Open bodies such as porch and the hall

(second-floor porch) were the living place for family in the summer, and activities such as cooking, eating, sleeping, and living was done there. In the winter, these activities are transmitted to closed spaces with the lowest opening (rooms). The thickness of the wall, its material such as soil and wood or layer of bricks, has helped maintain heat inside the spaces.

Table 3. General principles of climate design of exterior spaces

Design Principles	Description
Separating the building from the ground level	Constructing the building on bases of rock and mud to protect the building from moisture
Creating wide and covered balconies	In order to protect the rooms from rain and using them for working and rest and the maintenance of agricultural products
Using materials with a minimum thermal capacity	In the case of using heavy materials, their thickness is considered to be minimal
Elongated and extensive plan	Using wind flow natural ventilation, wide and open plan with longitudinal geometric shapes
Sloping Roof	Due to the high rainfall in these areas, the slope of the roofs is steep.

Source: Author

The role of landscaping factors in Mazandaran’s traditional houses architecture

Water resources in the region's climate are the reasons for the moderate temperatures during the day, water inside the building can reduce the temperature fluctuation. In this climate, the relative humidity of the air is more than comfort limit, by means of the air flow and air conditioning inside the building, settling in humid weather in residential areas should be prevented. Trees are also useful in controlling and reducing the wind intensity. This issue is very effective in areas where the wind is badly flowing from a particular side.

Table 4. The effects and applications of plants, in line with fighting against air, water, soil, and pollution their purification and stylization

Fighting with air chemical pollution	Plants absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen and prevent air pollution. With the oxygen production, it is possible to dilute the pollutants
Absorption of air pollutants	Trees due to the surface of leaves, layer or stratum, densities and the place of planting, and the thickness of their leaves absorb suspended particles in the air on the surface of their leaves and then return to the ground after each rainfall. Due to the density, they stop the movement of soil and sand (due to wind) on the surface of the earth and have an indirect effect in line with air purification. is the leaves are denser, thicker, larger and downier, this property increases.
Air stylizing	Plants and green space by leaves intensify the evaporation of the field and cool the surrounding air and thus stylize the air
Cleaning polluted waters	In proportion to the type, species, and rate of their root activity
Preventing noise pollution and improving its effects	Effective in absorbing air pollutants and sound vibrations and reducing its intensity. Trees with thicker, larger and downier leave attract more sound pollutants.
Soil-water Action and interactions of plants	By performing physical and chemical activities, plants continually change soil properties and make it rich and fertile.

Source: Author

In the houses of this region, a fascinating simplicity can be witnessed; the decorations in the traditional houses of Mazandaran do not end alone with working with wood. The rooms are decorated with mud fretwork that looks very attractive and varied. The rooms include modeling with plaster from the flower, plant, and bird, Muqarnas and design of cedar, as well as semicircular arches and colored glasses of the tree of creation, which are a symbol of the birth and fertility of the region. In the external body of the building, the rows of columns and even arches create rhythms, and the columns that end in columns that are under the load of the main beam, and the decorative element and complexity, and the various forms in the decoration of the fences are very obvious.

Water as a source of life has a great importance in the global views, cultures, and mythology, and its role beyond the functional role has been taken into account as a symbol of purity, birth, and beauty. In ancient Persia, the water was considered as the messenger of brightness and purity, and it was of great value. Due to regional and native features, Iranian architecture has always wanted to utilize the environment and water facilities, which were one of the most important ones and Howz was a reason for the presence of water in the building, in addition

to the beauty, it created harmony with the outside, trees, and gardens around. At all times, the Iranian architecture designs the living environment of a human being as a paradise with existing facilities. Fountains and Howzes are among these factors. The light beams that enter into space act as human interaction factors with the periphery space of the building. Another outstanding element is Howz that in addition to aesthetics and function, increases the purity and comfort of space and water is an integral part of the nature of this region.

Definition and peculiarities of Iran's Northern Gardens

The garden can be briefly considered as a collection of plants, and especially trees that have planted by humans in a particular area and kept for numerous objectives. One of the main goals is the economic utilization of the garden trees wood and other purpose is having the place for recreation and leisure, and a high-quality space for living. An important point is the geometric and artistic rules governing gardening that has a different characteristic in the different cultures and societies. As a result, throughout history, different manifestations and patterns and schools have featured the gardening procedure. For instance, Chinese and Japanese gardens and various European and Iranian schools, and even the assignment of gardens of a civilization to different periods can be mentioned. Although the material fundamentals of these gardens have been plants and water movement, what has been their identity factor are the ordering geometry and different proportions of plants and occurrence spaces and their relationship with other natural elements and elements of mankind. One of the most significant sorts of gardens is the fruit gardens that in terms of climate and nature exist in most cities of Iran. These gardens, which currently, in addition to their economic benefits in solving environmental problems, stylizing the urban automotive space, irigidity and violence of artificial environment and relaxing the human being, face a number of problems that threaten their survival and endurance (Naghizadeh, 2001).

The role and state of plants in the gardens and courtyards of the traditional houses of northern Iran

Since the northern parts of Iran due to the environmental conditions and placement among the forests have been distant from the enemies of Iran, many tourists have traveled to this region. Tourists such as Italian Pietro Della Valle, Thomas Herbert from England, Russian scientist Gregorij Mel'gunov, Jacques de Morgan from French, James George Frazer, Lord Curzon, and many others. By studying their explanations, we found valuable results on how and why these plants were used. Also, many Iranian poets, most notably Rumi, in their poems pointed to interesting facts. Below is a summary of the most important points extracted from the mentioned sources related to the planting various plants in the northern part of the country:

- On both sides of the middle gardens and in front of the waterway and passageway, one deciduous and one evergreen tree will be planted in between, and yellow flowers, roses, etc. are planted at their feet.
- The eastern side of the courtyard, which is to the west sunlight, is for grape trees, and pepper will be planted in front of them, so as to avoid the onset of bees.
- Between the fruit trees, those trees that their fruits are edible sooner will be more important
- Among other vegetation, Alfalfa can be mentioned. *Medicago sativa* (alfalfa) has some of the most interesting features that have been considered in the Iranian garden. It has properties such as ease of planting and keeping, reaping for several times and fragrant aromas, keeping away insects like mosquitoes and flies from the garden, beautiful flowers, bees can feed nectar of its flowers, and after harvesting it can be used as winter fodder.
- Among those trees that their fruits are edible too late, peach trees will be implanted.
- On the sidewalk, the paper mulberry and various types of pears are planted (the paper mulberry is a succulent and refreshing tree that is not large and fruitless and, as its name suggests, its leaf is important. The leaves of this tree are used to feed the worm silk).
- Planting the magnificent tree of *Platanus* is very popular among the Iranians, especially the inhabitants of this region. This tree has a massive shadow and, according to an old belief, it is said that the *Platanus* prevents the spread of infectious diseases and the fever that their microbes are found in the air (also as it was indicated, the *Platanus* pattern Indicates sustainability, can be found in the façade of houses of this region abundantly).
- The Peach tree in general, interferes with other trees, if this tree must be planted, it would be planted in a separate terrace.
- In urban gardens, evergreen trees mainly pine and oak.

Plants used in temperate and humid climate

At the end, according to what was mentioned in the present research, and with regard to photographs of the traditional buildings of the region, poems, travelogues, historical books and photos of family albums of past generations, also with the introduction of the region climatic characteristics those plants that grow under such climatic conditions and the main plants that are known in residential buildings in the Mazandaran province are listed in the table below. But at first, it should be noted that the classification of these plants is based on the table number, where the characteristics of each are articulated separately.

Table 5. Classification of the plants dimension composition

Trees	Woody plants with a single trunk, and specified crown and a trunk	Small trees	Height 4/5 to 9 meters
		Medium trees	Height 9 to 18 meters
		Large trees	Height above 18 meters
Shrubs	Woody plants with unidentified trunk	Small shrub	Maximum height is 150 cm
		Medium shrub	Height 150 to 300 cm
		Large shrubs	Height 300 to 600 cm
Bush plants	Including shrubs, ornamental, bulbs and climbing plants		

Source: Author

Table 6. Major plants known in old urban and rural houses of Mazandaran

Plant name	Latin name-local term	Plant type - leaf type - fruit type	The most probable place for growth	Application in the past
Alukak	Prunus Avitum	Tree	In the houses of forest areas	As a fruit and lavashak preparing
	Siyah heli	Oval leaves, coarse and sharp with a crack on the back side of the leaf with the length of 15 cm		
		The fruit is round and edible and sweet and red		
Common medlar	Mespllus Germanica	Tree	At all Mazandaran highlands from the beaches to high altitudes	Build a handle of sickle and shovels from its wood
	Kunus Kandes	Elongated leaves, dark color and matte surface and under the leaf is light, the leaves are 6 to 12 cm		
		Fruit is round and yellow, flowers are white		
Maple	Acer	Tree	Forest areas	In the past, its wood was used for the preparation of beam. Due to the beauty of its fruit in large gardens
	Afra	In two types of smooth or cracked. Grass green and jade green.		
		The dry fruits are beautiful		
Pomegranate	Punica Granatum	Shrub	Both in the sand of the coastal areas of the region and in the forest areas	The pomegranate skin is used for tanning leather and its fruit is edible.
	Nar, Anar	Leaves are dark red, the leaves are simple, complete		
		Fiery flowers. Its fruit has leathery skin and spherical shape with plenty of cores		
Fig	Ficus Carica	Tree	Most in the plain areas of the region	Jam is used from its fruit
	Anjil	Its fruit is very sweet and tasty		
Parrotia	Parrotia Persica	Tree	Mostly in low altitude regions	because of its hardwood, it is used to provide charcoal and building a cottage
	Anjili	Leaves in red and purple. Oval-shaped leaves		
Grapes	Vitis Silivestris	Curved shape	Both in gardens and in plain and foothill areas	
	Moo, Tak, Raz, Ghoreh, Maal			
Quince	Cydonla Oblogna	Tree	In the forests of Mazandaran	Its seeds are exported
	Beh shal	Yellow		
Willow	Sallx	Tree	It can grow everywhere	

	Fik, Fek			
Raspberries	Rubus	Climbing bush	Most in forest areas	Food productions
	Lam, Temish duneh, Temesh	First, it is green, then it is red, and when it is ripe, it is black		
Berries	Morus	Tree	Everywhere in the area	To train silkworms and feed animals, its wood is used to build a store in warehouses
	Tut	Light green		
		Both white and black		
Persimmons	Diospyros	Tree	Mostly in the forest areas of the region	Since its wood is hard is used to make textile bobbins. To cover buildings and houses
	Kharmandi	Brown will be used to produce jam and the orange will be eaten.		
Olive	Olea Europaea	Tree	Mainly in forest areas where there are many similar trees.	Several types of food products
		Long and spear and leaf width at the end of it. The tip is not sharp and has a sophisticated margin.		
Apple	Malus Pumila	Tree	At high altitudes from the shores of the sea up to the upper parts of forests	
	Se, Alma	Its white flowers blossom in the early spring and its fruits are ripe in the middle of the spring.		
Buxus	Buxus Hyracans	Tree	Mainly in low altitude areas of northern forests	It has a hard and industrial wood and has been used for manufacturing textile bobbins. In rural use to produce various types of tools, such as comb, spoon, and fork. According to the old people, using comb made of Buxus will strengthen and removes the hair corruption and hair loss
	Shishar	Interconnected, durable, oval, ogival leathery and green.		
		Besides the leaves, there its flowers in the form of male and female in greenish yellow		
Spruce	Populus	Tree	All regions	The wood of this tree is lightweight and used for the preparation of commercial works and beam, plywood and matchmaking, paper making, also it is used for the construction of windbreaker in the northern gardens.
Walnut	Juglans Regia	Tree	All regions	Due to its wood and grain, it was considered by those who were in the past
	Aguz, Guz, Gerdakan, Juz, chahar magz			

Source: Author

A brief look at the current state, the reasons for its occurrence and its results

Environmental experts and public health specialists believe that in the current era, the development of urban green spaces is not a luxury issue anymore, and it has a unique and direct role in improving the community health. The pressure triggered by the population growth and the growing need for land and its rising prices have completely destroyed many gardens and urban green spaces. On the one hand, the outcome of such a situation is associated with problems such as an increase in hydrocarbons and atmospheric aerosol particles, air dryness dust, noise, air pollution, dry and lifeless urban environment. On the other hand, the monotony of residential environments in cities will cause nervous fatigue and mental confusion.

Nowadays people think that there are sources of problems which are the historic cultural breakdown in the modern world, the weak economy, the era and time of dominating the cities by villagers interested in the modern way of living in an apartment etc. but they are unaware that we and especially the professional community and designers and architects are responsible! In this, we have not only paid little attention to the true values of our architecture and our heritage but by neglecting and passing wrong rules and policies for construction in cities, we let others and profiteers ruin and destroy.

Result

As mentioned in the introduction section, according to a general category, the Mazandaran province traditional houses can be divided into two main categories:

1. Those houses that have courtyards which are mainly seen in cities and include a courtyard tilled with mosaics with gardens surrounding it and its Howz.
2. Larger houses which have been located in the gardens mostly are found in rural areas with larger lands, which are indoor buildings in the heart of a huge, woody garden.

Generally, in the current research, we discussed the general circumstances of the province, and it was indicated that how was the reflection of these factors in the traditional monuments of the region, and the people of that period considered important issues in order to provide better conditions for themselves and their families that the summary of these issues is offered in the table.

Table 7- Reflection of climatic factors in Mazandaran province traditional buildings

Type of climate	Kind of materials	Plan type	Roof type	Orientation	The way of connecting buildings with the ground	The use of natural ventilation	The complex texture	The color and the type of the facade
Temperate (mild)	Low heat capacity	Wide	Sloping	East to west	On wooden bases or a row of bricks	High	Scattered	Free

Source: Author

According to the evidence, historical books, travelogues, poems and the observation of existing old houses, the following results are obtained:

The indigenous architecture of the region is completely matched with the region's climate and there has been no clear border between its inside and outside, so, the permanent changes of nature, continually alter the architectural space. Generally, people in this region used architecture as a mediator between themselves and nature.

- Courtyards played the most important role in the traditional houses of that era in the temperate and humid climate of the. Due to this fact, a strong connection was made between the interior space and the house courtyard.
- The area of each person's yard has been based on factors such as financial capability, social status, and the house location (village or city).
- The way of using the house courtyards by any person has been based on family needs and no general rule can be considered for it. The most important uses of the courtyard were: the place for keeping poultry and pets, a furnace cooking in seasons with good weather, planting plants and exploiting them, storage of forage and other equipment
- The main elements of the gardens and yards were: vegetation, water pond (Howz), 4-side open Gazebos.
- Based on the travelogues, the plants that had a historical background were orange, lemon, grape, berry, buxus, elm, plane trees, cypress, olive, pomegranates, sour orange, oaks, and vegetables such as chicory, spear thistle, and viper's-buglosses.
- The most common usage was related to the productive plants, in order to use their fruits, along with this fact there are other factors such as using their shadow, the need for healthy weather, using positive psychological effects caused by the presence of plants.
- In the proximity of the main building, shadowy trees were planted like hazelnuts, red, willow, elm, and maple.
- If the courtyard is large enough the larger pieces will be considered for planting the fruit gardens.

Generally, the largest amount of plants, whether in the courtyards and gardens, were the fruit trees. There are other trees such as shadowy trees and decorative plants, but much less. If there is no howz in front of the residential building, there is Golestan (a place full of flowers), and naturally that there are always flowers in the Golestan and house inhabitants will enjoy them. Likewise, the flowers and the bushes were always pruned, not to make a visual barrier in front of the kiosks, and the inhabitants of kiosks could see more landscapes from the

garden. Geraniums were really important in this vast area, and besides arranging the diamond-shaped bricks on the edge of the gardens, makes the gardens beautiful.

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Fig. 1. A part of Kolbadi house related to the Qajar era in Sari city (source: Author)