Tideline

Project Statement:

Tideline, a redevelopment project situated in Xiamen's central residential area, also known as Egret Island, aimed to create a park that caters to both humans and egrets' lifestyles, while prioritizing sustainability, ecology, and animal protection. By increasing the tidal prism by 50%, we have improved the ecosystem, resulting in clearer water in Yundang Lake. Our design also incorporated land art techniques and the site's historical characteristics, creating an open and inviting space for locals to socialize in a post-pandemic world. Tideline has since become a popular destination for reconnecting with nature and each other, with locals enjoying the park's amenities and offerings.

Project Overview

Located at the east entrance of Yundang Lake and adjacent to a residential area, this park offers a unique scene where egrets and fish are brought in by the tidal inlet. However, the insufficient tidal prism has led to cleanliness issues in the water system.

Additionally, the park lacked space for social activities and its landscaping was disorganized, primarily consisting of trees. The bird-watching area required design improvements, while the entrance and exit were not easily accessible due to damaged railings and bamboo bushes.

The overarching goal was to create a framework for various activities, establish a sustainable ecosystem, provide a public space for residents, promote ecological awareness, and showcase the city's urban transformation history.

To achieve these goals, we preserved the ancient banyan trees and ecosystem, and constructed a bird-observation corridor complete with peepholes. We also added more infrastructure, taking into consideration the diverse needs of the neighborhood. The design for the Tideline was influenced by the area's history and ecosystem, when it was once part of the sea before the 1980s.

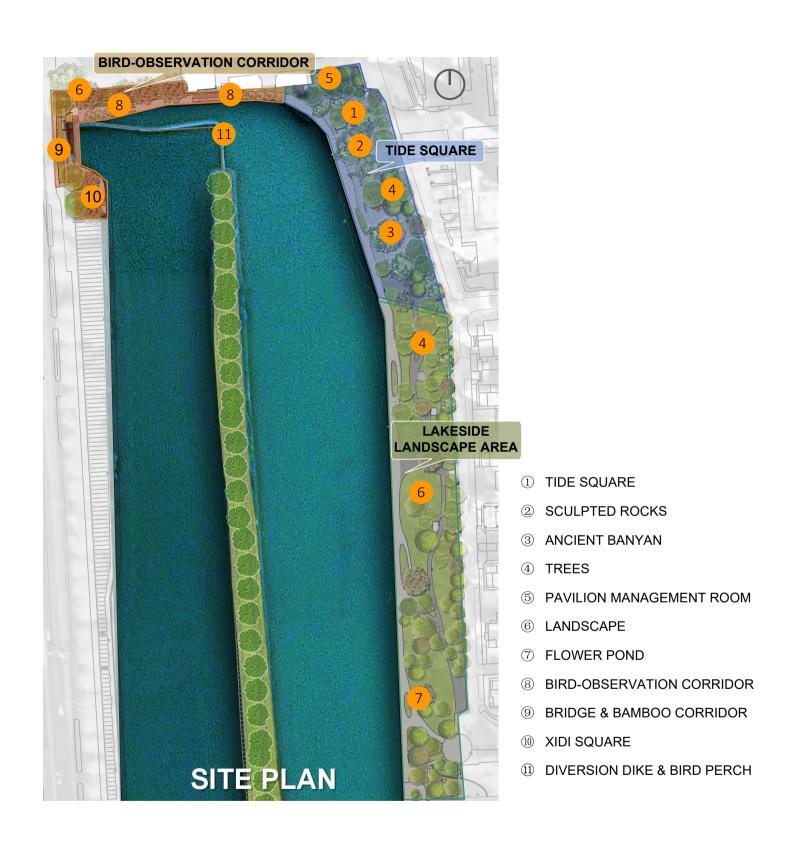
The design incorporated tidal elements like traces, reefs, and waves to reflect the natural evolution. The Tideline consists of three sections: Bird-Observation Corridor, Tide Square, and Lakeside Landscape Area.

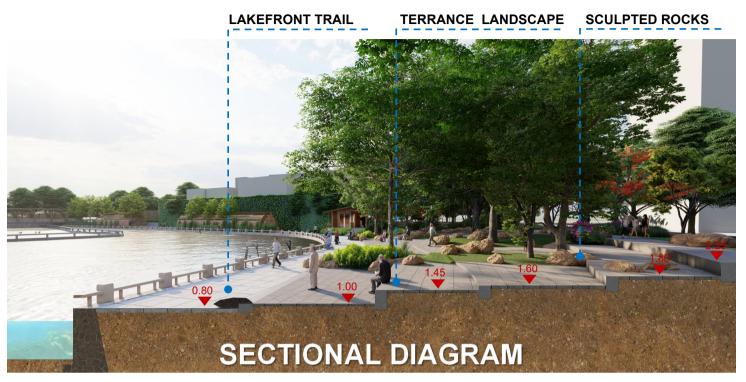
The Bird-Observation Corridor design was inspired by the experience of walking in natural surroundings like mountains and rivers. It aims to provide a space where egrets can live in their natural form while enveloping humans. The design allows people to observe egrets' dynamics from a distance while being unable to touch them. The corridor is constructed using timber-textured bamboo, an environmentally friendly material, and it separates human and wildlife in their own space. The bird-watching "peepholes" on one side of the promenade facing the lake come in different heights, shapes, and positions to accommodate different viewers. This creates a space where humans and egrets can meet and interact.

Tide Square is a wavy multi-functional public space that showcases the historical geographical characteristics of the site. The "tidal traces" and "reefs" were designed based on the local terrain, creating a well-arranged, multifunctional space for activities. This area also features an outdoor art museum of stone sculptures, formed by five collections of sculptures using over 100 pieces of Southern Fujian volcanic stones.

The sculptures are carefully curated and displayed to highlight their unique beauty and craftsmanship, exhibiting the Southern Fujian ocean culture. In combination with the Lakeside Landscape Area, this museum forms an ecological art space that celebrates both art and nature, while educating visitors about the importance of preserving natural habitats and our impact on the environment.

In May 2022, Tideline was unveiled to the public, and upon its completion, it increased the tidal prism by 50%. This resulted in clearer water, more fish to Yundang Lake, and providing a better habitat for egrets to nest. Local residents and scholars warmly received Tideline, as it improved both the social space and ecosystem. The organized and open park space allows for more social activities and conversations to take place. It is important to note that no photos have been manipulated in any way to reflect the true condition of the project site after completion.







The objectives were to create a framework for a self-sustaining environment, a communal area for inhabitants, promote environmental consciousness, and exhibit the municipality's history of urban revitalization.



Tideline is a redevelopment project located in the central residential area of Xiamen.

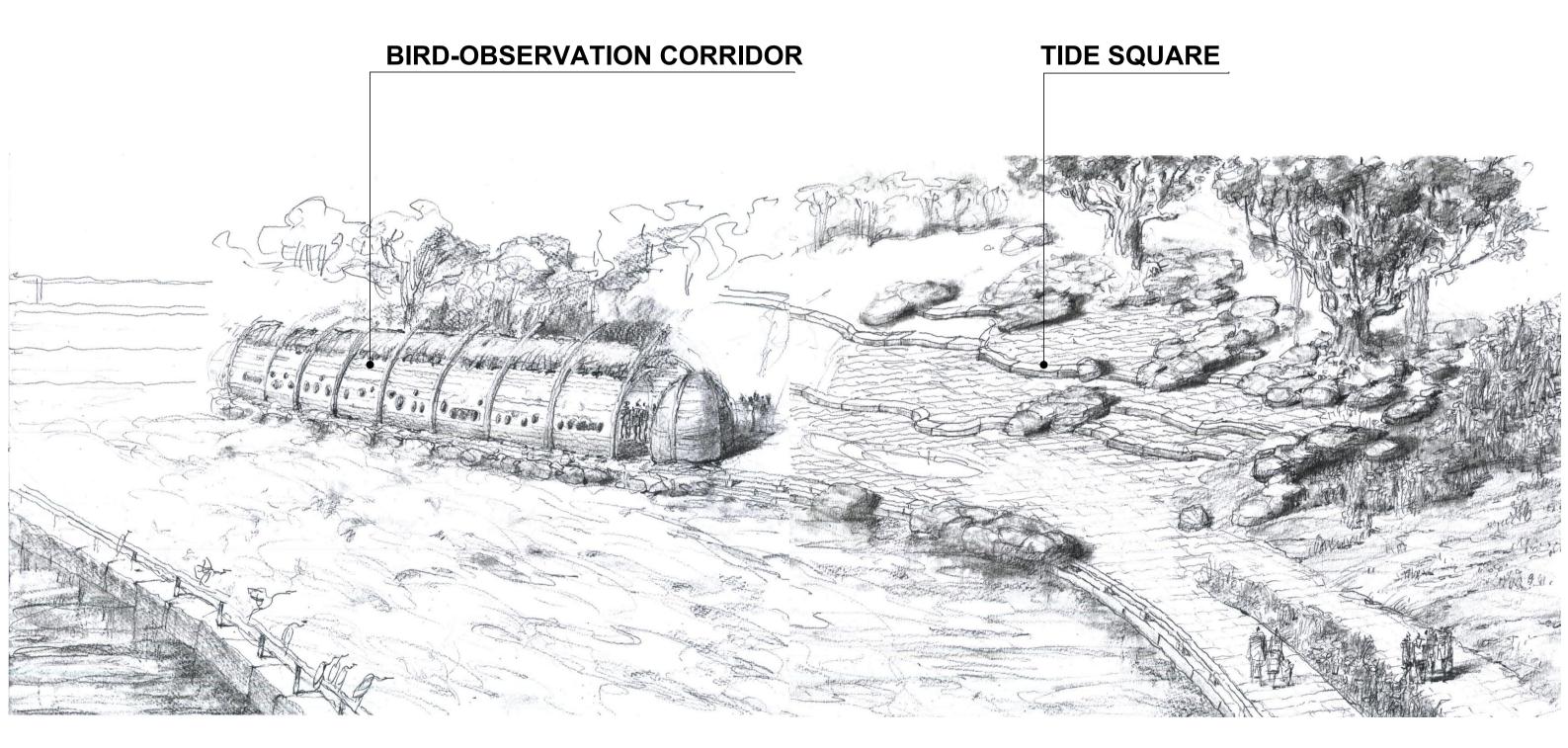








The landscaping was haphazard, consisting mostly of trees. The entrance and exit had poor accessibility due to damaged railings and bamboo bushes.



Tideline's design draws inspiration from the history it embodies and the ecosystem it contains.



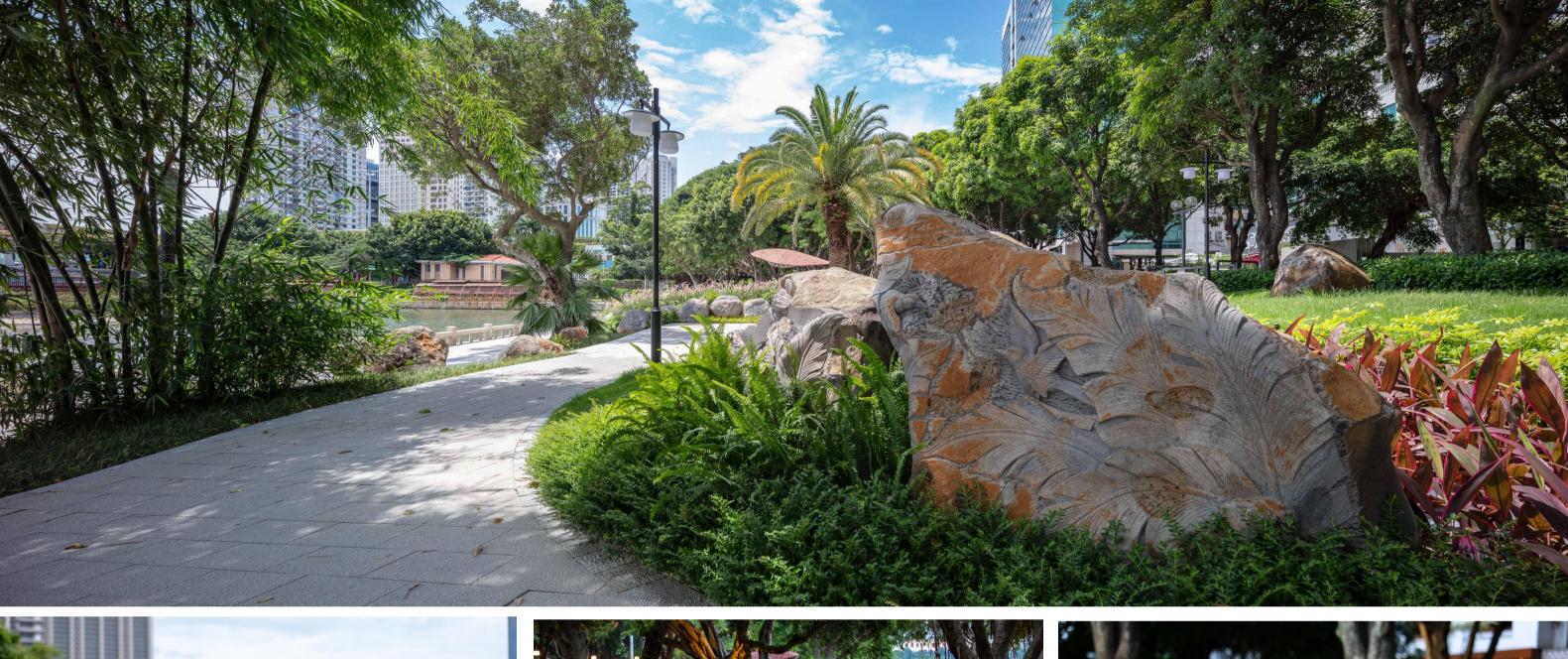
The design allows individuals to observe the behaviour of egrets from afar without physical interaction. This creates a space where humans and egrets can meet and interact.



The bird-watching "peepholes" on one side of the corridor overlooking the lake have varying heights, shapes, and placements to cater to diverse observers.



By taking inspiration from the surrounding landscape, the "tidal traces" and "reefs" were created to produce a functional and organized area suitable for a variety of activities.

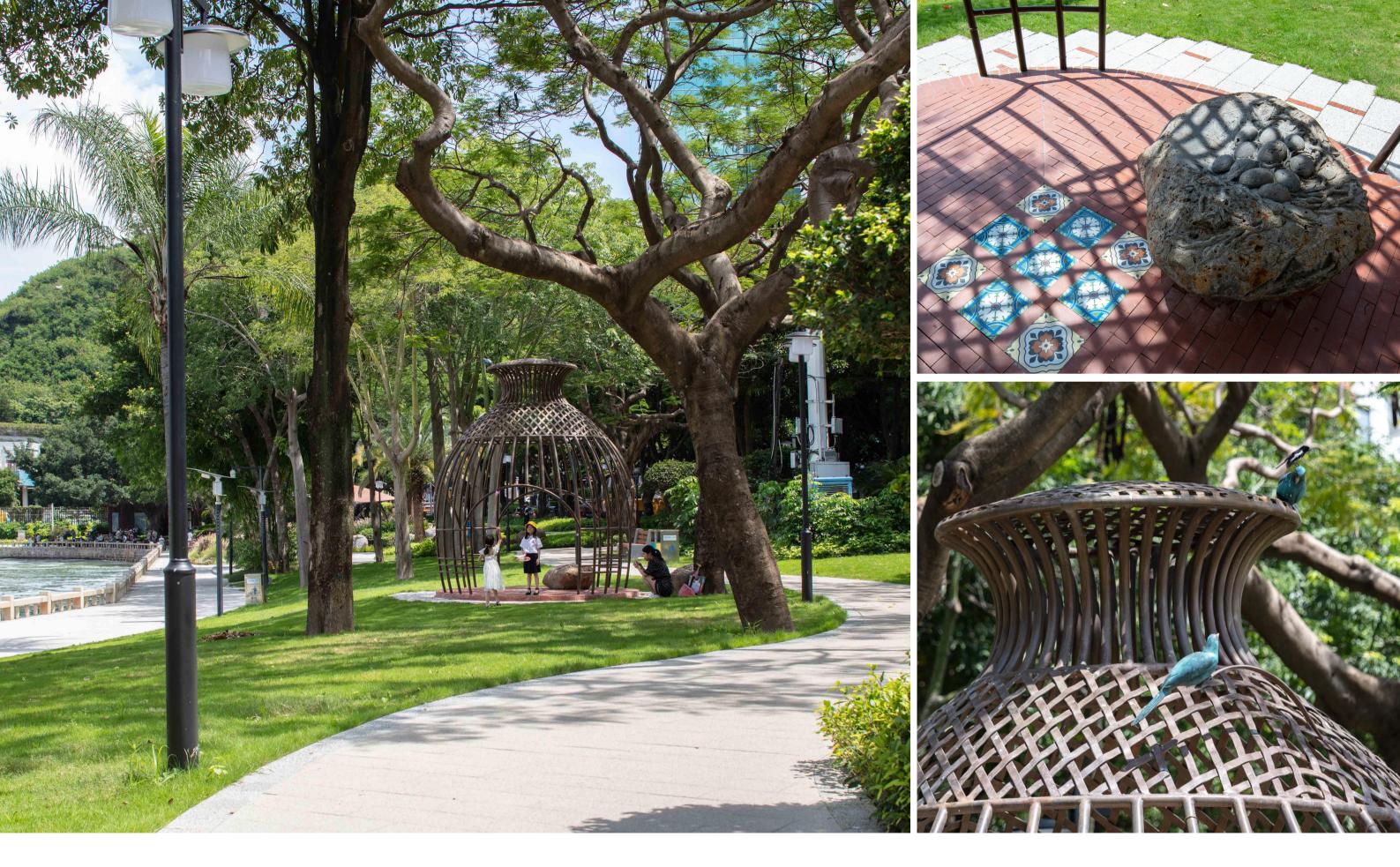








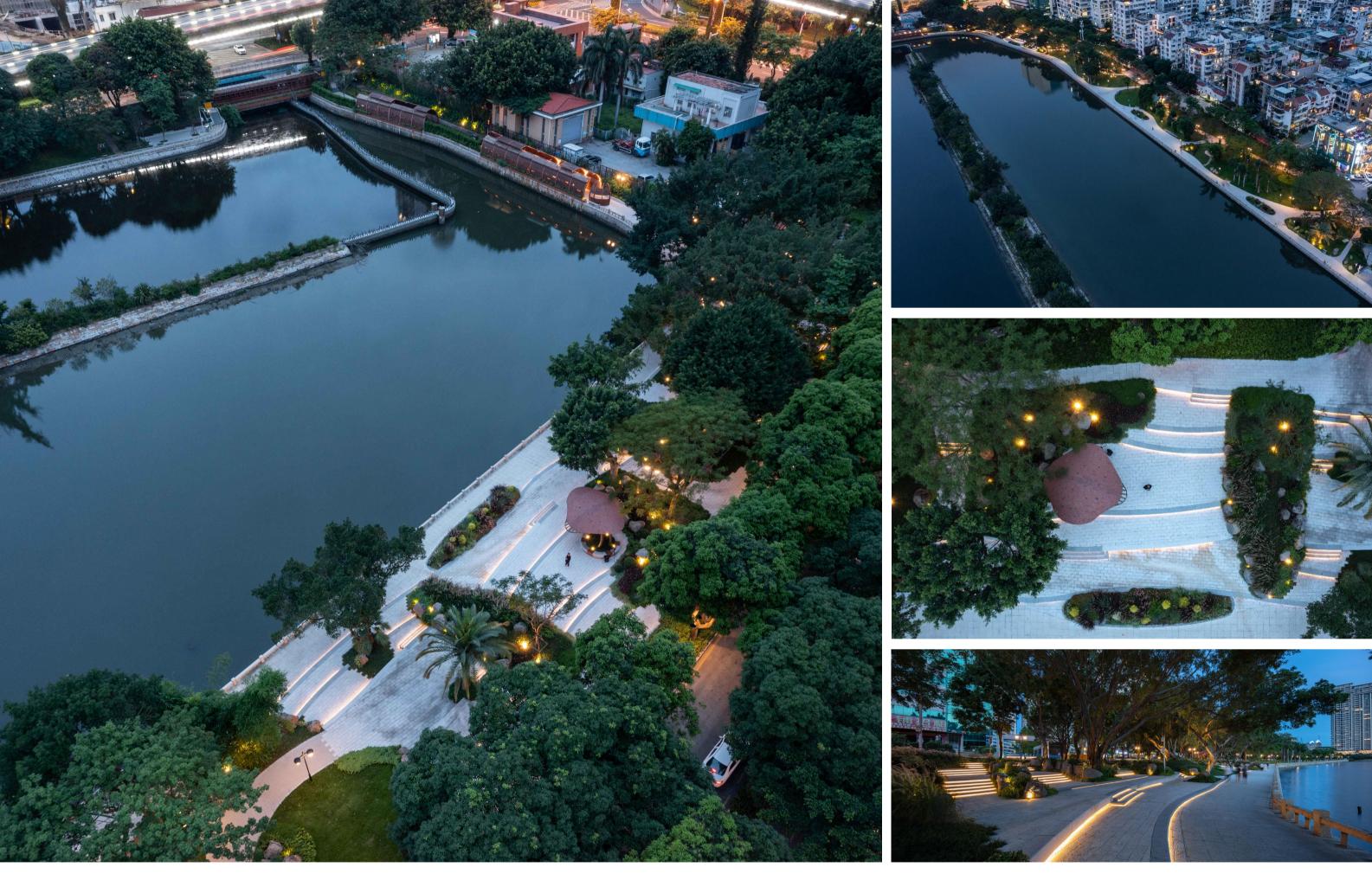
Tide square also features an outdoor art museum of stone sculptures, comprising five sculpture collections made up of over 100 pieces of Southern Fujian volcanic stones.



It celebrates the significance of conserving natural habitats and our environmental footprint, through a combination of artistic and natural elements that educate and engage visitors



The landscape pavilion mimics that of a swimming ray in the water. A space for relaxation that showcases the unique features of the local ocean.



The well-planned and welcoming park space provides ample opportunities for socializing and engaging in conversations, both during the day and night.