

DA YU MAUSOLEUM SCENIC AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE II

(including Da Yu Memorial Hall,
Da Yu Cultural Institute, Botanical Garden and Birds Land)

PROJECT STATEMENT

Da Yu is the founder of the Xia Dynasty– the first dynasty in Chinese history, and the Tamer of the Flood. He has been commemorated for his human-centered spirit and contribution to leading his people to a happy life. The project is located in the Da Yu Mausoleum Scenic Area in Shaoxing City, south of the Da Yu River and north of the Kuaiji Mountain. With respect to the natural setting and in line with the mountain terrain, the design recreates the quaint landscape of Kuaiji Mountain through reorganizing the mountain and water networks on the site. The landscape design scheme retains the existing arbors, rearranges green spaces, and corresponds with the architectural forms and functions. Taking water as a mirror, heaven as a curtain, and carrying the light and shadow between heaven and earth, the design conveys the harmony between man and nature – a core idea of Chinese philosophy. By adding cultural elements related to Da Yu into the landscape and conceiving a humanistic environment, it creates a scenic area that carries the spirit of Da Yu and rich cultural heritage, and also a ceremonial, ecological and cultural tourist attraction that promotes the spirit of Da Yu.

PROJECT NARRATIVE AND CONTENTS

◎ SITE CONDITIONS

The project is located in the Da Yu Mausoleum Scenic Area in Shaoxing City, south of the Da Yu River and north of the Kuaiji Mountain. It occupies a total land area of 148,596.5 square meters, including the Da Yu Memorial Hall, Da Yu Cultural Institute and the Botanical Garden.

◎ DESIGN PRINCIPLES

With respect to the natural setting, the design rearranges and recombines green spaces in line with the mountain terrain as well as the architectural forms and functions. By establishing a humanistic environment, it intends to create a scenic area that conveys the spirit of Da Yu and rich cultural heritage.

◎ DESIGN BASIS

• **INHERIT TRADITIONAL CULTURE, AND PAY ATTENTION TO THE CULTURAL DEPOSITS OF DA YU MAUSOLEUM.**

The design pays attention to conveying landscape culture and regional culture, expressing different meanings in orderly spaces, defining the cultural characteristics of the Memorial Hall, and carrying forward the spirit of Da Yu and related culture.

• **KEEP PACE WITH THE TIMES, AND HIGHLIGHT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN CIVILIZATION.**

The landscape design responds to the thinking mode and aesthetic taste of modern people, whilst also reconsidering and re-defining the relationship between man and nature.

• **PRIORITIZE A GREEN ENVIRONMENT AND RAISE ECOLOGICAL AWARENESS.**

Guided by eco-consciousness, the landscape design creates an ecological space that harmonizes nature with human and architecture, and combines arbors, shrubs and ground-cover plants in a reasonable manner.

• **ADOPT PEOPLE-ORIENTED PRINCIPLE TO MEET PUBLIC DEMANDS.**

While highlighting the solemnity of the Memorial Hall, the landscape design also actively responds to the various needs of tourists. It creates humanized sightseeing and resting spaces, to maximize the sense of affinity. Three interweaving tour routes, including one for electricity-powered sightseeing cars, one walking tour route, and one water tour route, connect various scenic spots and create an experience that integrates sightseeing and resting with high accessibility. The design turns the scenic area into a public space that truly embodies the people-centered principle and the idea of the "coexistence between man and nature".

◎ DESIGN STRATEGIES

• **THE DESIGN SCHEME REORGANIZES THE MOUNTAIN AND WATER NETWORKS AT THE DA YU MAUSOLEUM SCENIC AREA, TO RECREATE THE QUAIN T LANDSCAPE OF THE KUIJI MOUNTAIN.**

1) Mountain: The landscape of the scenic area is connected to the Kuaiji Mountain, to integrate architecture with the mountain setting.

2) Water : The water networks within the scenic area are linked together, to interweave and refresh waterfront landscapes.

3) Plants: Lush pines are brought to the site, which reminds people of the wooden beam that sprouted in the ancient Da Yu Temple at Kuaiji Mountain.

4) Routes: A route for sightseeing vehicles is planned, which is connected with the water tour route.

◎ DESIGN CONCEPT

• **MASTER PLAN**

1) Adapting to the site conditions, the design reorganizes the mountain and water landscape networks on the site. A south-north axis starts from the Jiulong Altar, passes through embankments and bridges, follows steps upwards and reaches the Memorial Hall, which looks majestic and sacred against the backdrop of Kuaiji Mountain. The square of the Memorial Hall incorporates clean water surfaces, open lawn, sloping cultural landscape walls, grassy slopes and dotted pine trees, to highlight a sense of solemnity and majesty. Meanwhile, it applies cultural elements related to Da Yu to pavements, feature walls and small landscape ornaments, which blend in with the cultural context and physical environment of the site whilst echoing with the Da Yu Memorial Square across the river. By dealing with the height difference at the back mountain, the existing water networks formed by catchment areas are integrated to create mountain stream landscape. While retaining the existing large arbors, the design also introduces color-leaved spices and adopts traditional Chinese garden techniques which place pavilions,

corridors, bridges and cascading fall in line with the terrain. Therefore, an area with scattered landscapes and colorful scenery in four seasons is formed. Through a series of landscape strategies, the Da Yu Memorial Hall is turned into a ceremonial, ecological and cultural tourist attraction that promotes the spirit of Da Yu.

2) Da Yu Cultural Institute is designed with a water courtyard by reorganizing and recombining the existing water network, making use of the site's elevation differences and coordinating with the encircling buildings. Corridors, pathways and stone bridges connect the whole area, and form a pleasant courtyard-style garden landscape with the mix and match of dotted and clustered plants.

3) The design of the Botanical Garden skillfully deals with the site's favorable and unfavorable conditions by protecting the existing arbors while combining ground-cover plants and small arbors. The design integrates planted spaces, preserves the diversity of plant species, and creates characteristic plant zones. Plant species relating to the stories of Da Yu are cultivated, such as pines, prunus mume and Chinese herbs including Maidong and Tufuling, to create a unique botanical garden in the Great Yu Mausoleum.

• **PAVEMENT DESIGN**

Pavements are built with high-quality Zhangqiu black granite, water-jet black granite, flamed-finish sesame-grey granite, old stone slabs, natural stone blocks and gravel as the main materials, matching the overall architectural color palette. The combination of materials and the treatment of surface courses brings subtle changes while achieving comprehensive coordination and unity. These variations also mark the shift of different scenes and enrich the landscape effect in a limited space.

• **WATERSCAPE DESIGN**

The waterscape at the centre of the Memorial Hall utilizes smooth black granite. It is designed with a slope under the water and an no-boundary mirrored water surface, which is calm and neat. Water pumps are set in the pool to allow for the recycling of water. The natural water system diverts water into the Yuling River through grassy slopes, and landscape stones are set according to the height difference between banks.

• **GREENING DESIGN**

The design retains the existing large arbors on the site, and reorganizes ground cover spaces. Based on the principle of putting the right trees in the right places and maintaining nature, it combines arbors, shrubs and ground-cover plants, evergreen and deciduous species, and fast-growing and slow-growing plants collectively, to establish a stable ecological community. This can also reduce dust and noise, purify the air and beautify the environment. Through the match of varied species like black pine, Chinese hackberry, Chinese tallow tree, camphor, Chinese flame tree, osmanthus, wintersweet and prunus mume, the design delivers different spatial feelings.

REORGANIZING THE MOUNTAIN AND WATER NETWORKS AT THE DA YU MAUSOLEUM SCENIC AREA, TO RECREATE THE QUAINT LANDSCAPE OF THE KUAIJI MOUNTAIN



HIGH MOUNTAINS, SOLEMN BLACK PINES



△ Bottom view of the Memorial Hall above the upward steps



△ Black pines along the pathway, which create a sense of solemnity and majesty

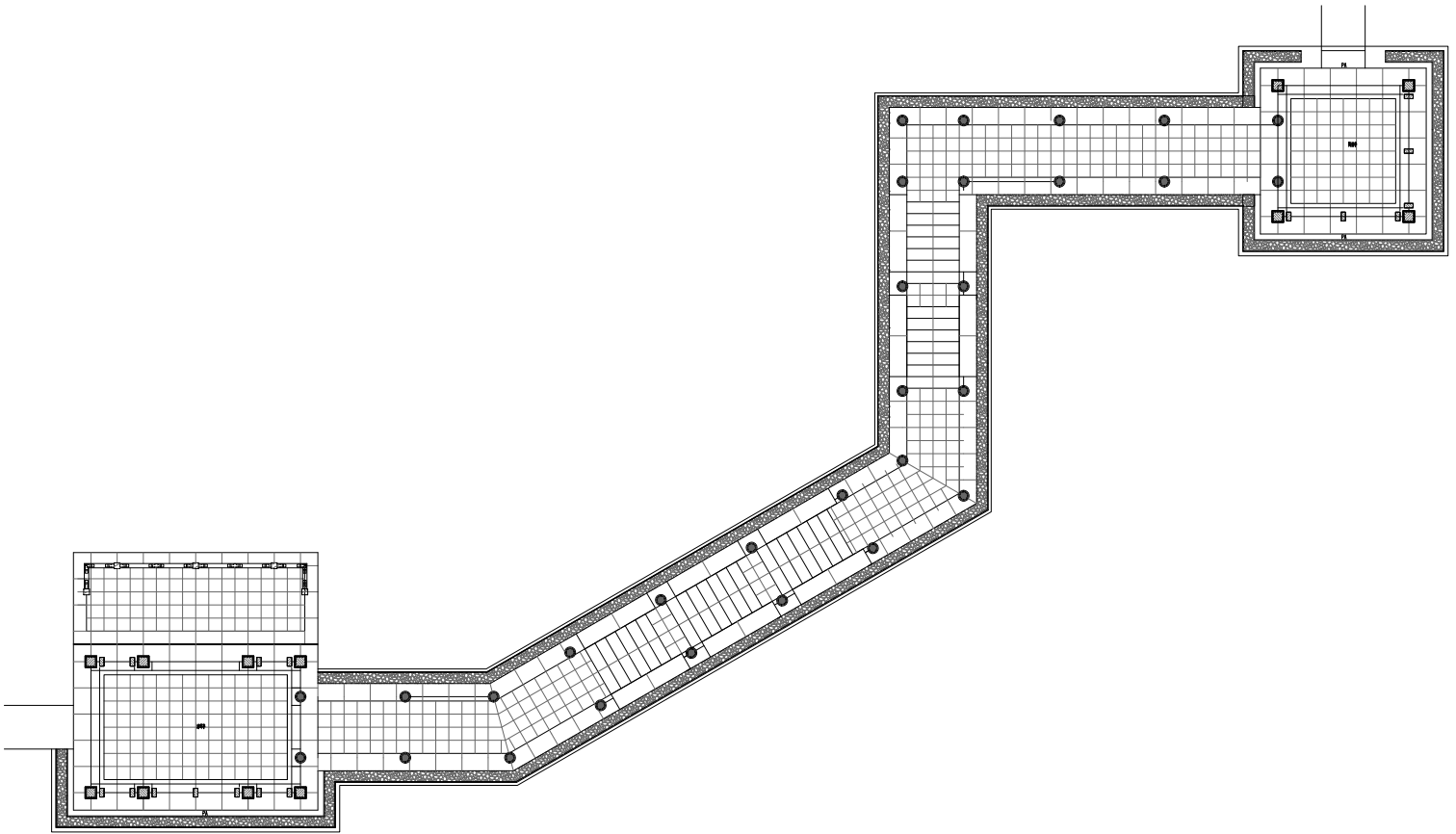


△ Undulating hills and black pines

CREATING LANDSCAPE IN LINE WITH THE MOUNTAIN TERRAIN, BUILDING CORRIDORS, BRIDGES AND CASCADING FALL



△ Taking advantage of the elevation difference to create an intriguing landscape experience



△ Pavilion Gallery Bottom Plan



△ Kuaiji Mountain and DaYu Statue incorporated into the scene

REARRANGING THE MOUNTAIN AND WATER LANDSCAPE NETWORKS, WEIGHING THE CONTEMPORARY AGE BY INVESTIGATING THE PAST

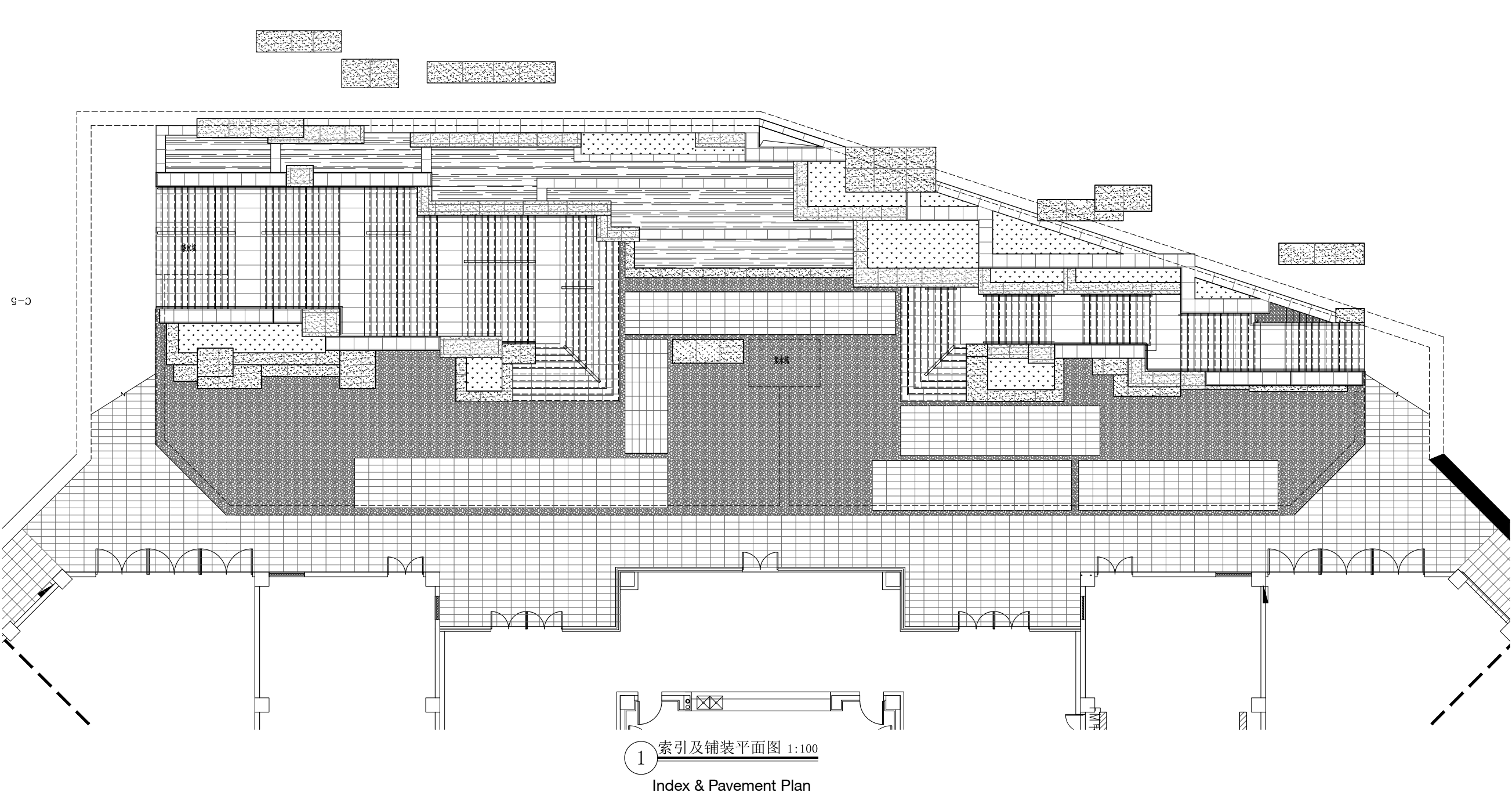


△ Pine and stone landscape in the sunken courtyard

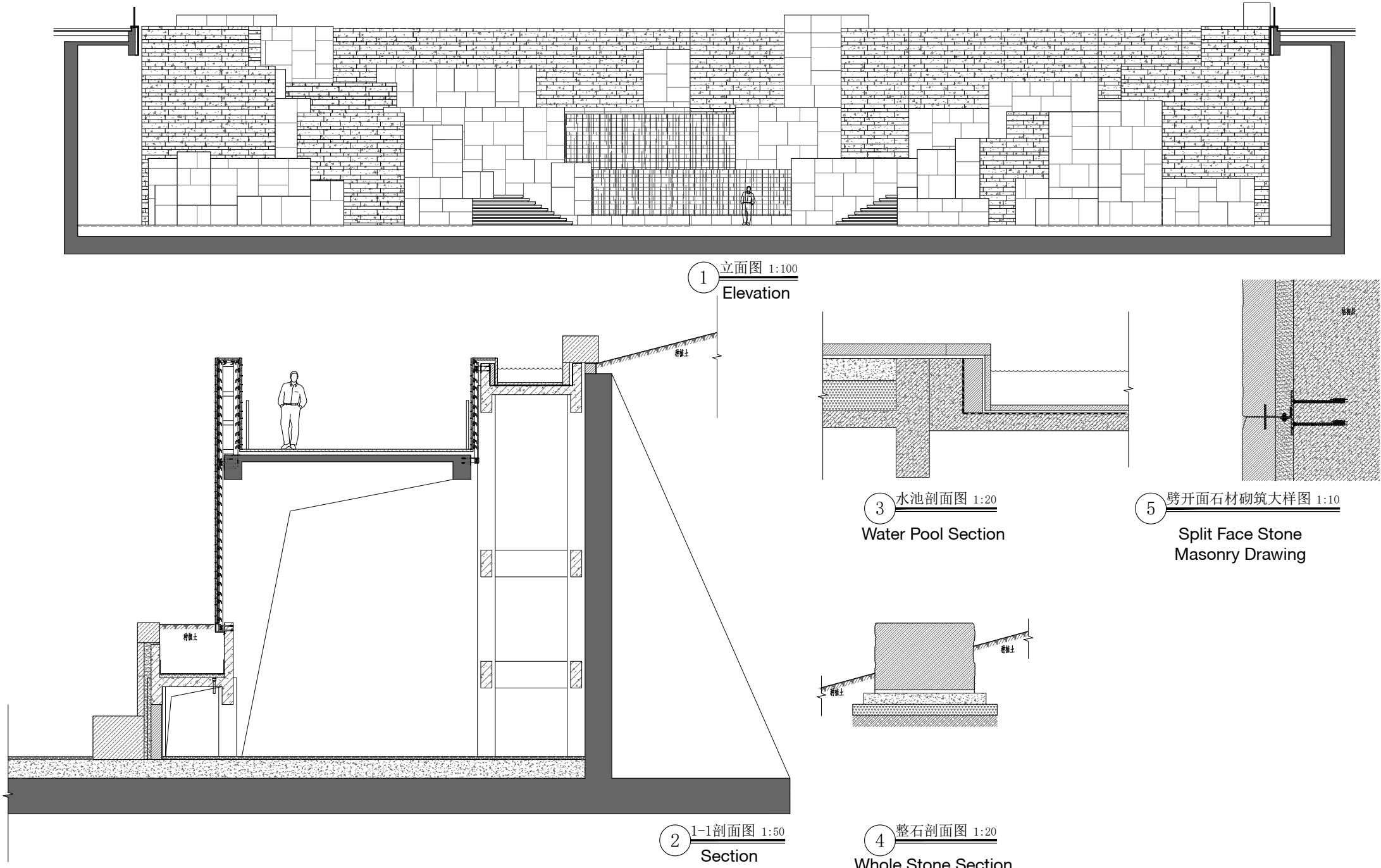


△ Sunken courtyard

CONNECTING THE KUAIJI MOUNTAIN TO INTEGRATE ARCHITECTURE WITH THE MOUNTAIN SETTING



△ Plan of Sunken Courtyard



△ Elevation & Section of Sunken Courtyard

LUSH PINES STANDING TALL AND UPRIGHT, FORMING A GREEN UNDULATION



△ Meandering pathway connecting different spaces

GREEN MOUNTAIN HIDING THE CIVILIZATION, ANCIENT WORDS MATCHING THE FRESH FLOWER



△ Shaded trail connecting the Memorial Hall and the Botanical Garden



△ Forest landscape



△ The preserved trees and a new pavilion in the Botanical Garden

WITH A WELL-ORGANIZED LAYOUT, BORROWING LANDSCAPE INTO THE PAINTING



△ The entrance of the Da Yu Cultural Institute



△ Black pine as the centerpiece of the "framed scenery"



△ The central courtyard in the Da Yu Cultural Institute