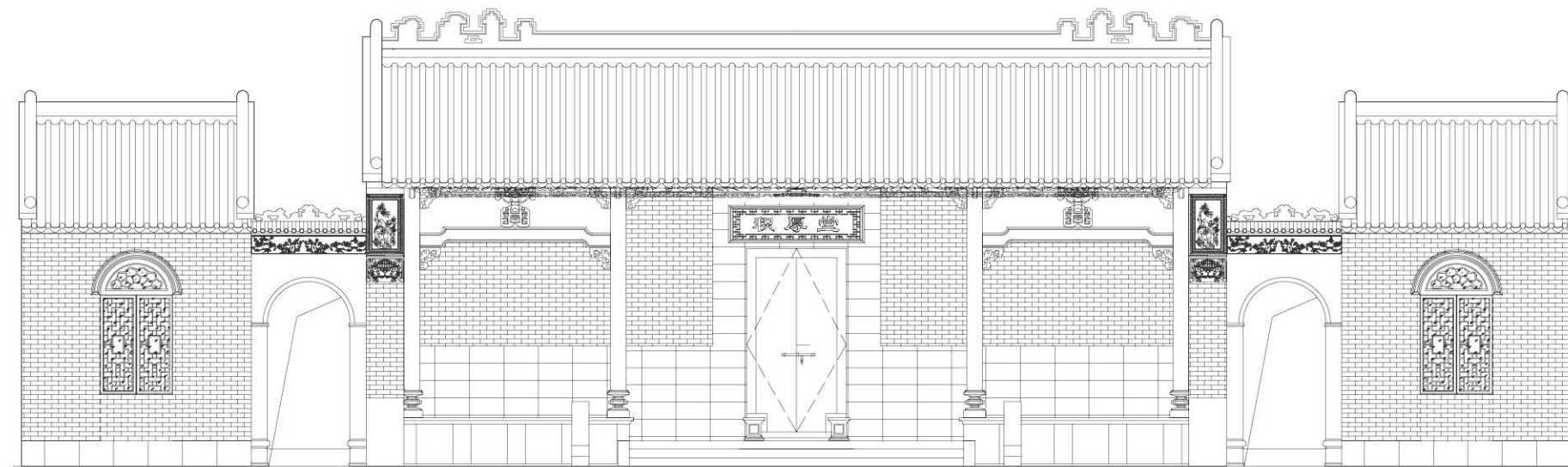


Environmental Reconstruction of Stack-up Historical Information

- Landscape Design of "Zhihe Garden" in Zhongshan



▪ PROJECT STATEMENT

"Zhihe Garden" located in Yongmo Village, Zhongshan, Guangdong, China, was constructed in Oct.2022, on a site of approximately 9,000 square meters in front of Zheng Guanying's former residence, who was the first to systematically establish the modern Chinese "reform" ideological system in late Qing Dynasty.

The research indicates about two historical periods of the site: "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall" from late Qing Dynasty to 1980, and "Yongmo Primary School" from 1981 to 2021. The core design concepts of "Authenticity Convery Based Renovation" and "Endowing Old with New" is followed——on the basis of respecting history, through the pattern of stacking historical information, like the “Amber” .

In general design, "Zhihe Garden" is divided into two gardens, South Garden and North Garden, by Yongmo Downstreet. In front of South Garden, "Historical gleam" grassland responds to the spatial intention of the nearby "Yongmo River" with sparkling waves yesterday; the rear "Ji Hou Garden" overlaps with "Ancestral Hall" and partially preserved primary school buildings to form a new garden in space. In North Garden, under the old looking, new materials and construction techniques were used carefully but clearly. This approach was implemented in a clear manner to avoid any confusion with the "historical authenticity" information.

▪ PROJECT NARRATIVE

Context of the Project:

2021 marked the 100th anniversary of the passing of Zheng Guanying, a renowned Enlightenment thinker in late Qing Dynasty China, known by his pen name "Zhihe" hermit. He authored the book Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age, who was the first to systematically establish the modern Chinese "reform" ideological system. His profound intellectual influence extended to Chinese politicians such as Kang Youwei, Liang Qichao, Sun Yat-sen, and Mao Zedong, earning him the title of the first person in modern China to "open one's eyes and see the world". His former residence is located in Yongmo Ancient Village, Zhongshan City, Guangdong Province, China. To commemorate Zheng Guanying, a "Zhihe Garden" was constructed on a site of approximately 8,215 square meters in front of Zheng Guanying's former residence.

The surrounding environment of Zheng Guanying's former residence has undergone tremendous changes in the vicissitudes of a century: According to historical pictures, the largest "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall" among the ancestral halls in Yongmo Village, located in the south of the site, has been demolished (late Qing Dynasty-1980). There was a pond near the former residence on the north side, which also disappeared. And the Yongmo River near the south side of the ancestral hall has moved away due to hydraulic engineering. Only 16 big trees, "Yongmo Primary School" built on the original site of the ancestral hall in 1981 (formerly known as "Dongshan Primary School" and later "Yongmo Kindergarten") and other modern buildings with different styles are still on the site. The research indicates that "Zhihe Garden" primarily contains main information about the construction of two historical periods on the site: "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall" from late Qing Dynasty to 1980, and "Yongmo Primary School" from 1981 to 2021. In comparison to "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall," "Yongmo Primary School" holds a greater amount of childhood memories for the villagers.

In October 2021, just before the site was about to be demolished, we discovered four important historical materials: historical photos of the facade of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall, aerial photos of the base in the 1960s and 1970s, ancient bricks and cyan stones used for the construction of the original ancestral hall (cyan ashlar) and Plaque with donation information of Dongshan Primary School.

Concept:

Zheng Guanying was the first person who had the idea of "reformation" in modern China. The garden of his former residence "Zhihe Garden" is based on the core design concepts of "Authenticity Convey Based Renovation" and "Endowing Old with New".——on the basis of respecting history, through the pattern of stacking historical information, the spirit of the "Reformation" is revitalized with originality while remaining authenticity. As the core of the village cultural exhibition area, "Zhihe Garden" adopts the traditional Lingnan garden (a pattern of local gardening in south China) paradigm for construction, striving to restore the authentic historical information of different age on the site, and achieve a harmonious and progressive effect. The project restores the former ancestral hall, moreover reproduces the historical changes in rear garden from Jihoutang Ancestral Hall to Yongmo Kindergarten in the same way as "Amber", reintegrates the memory of the former campus into the park, and preserves the collective memory of the villagers.

The project shows respect for the local environment and ecological conditions of the site. It preserves large trees and incorporates native plants, and through its Water Sensitive Design, it makes use of rainwater and groundwater infiltration to address the low-maintenance requirements of water features and ensure sustainable development. The project strives to become a paragon of public space for rural vitalization with characteristics of culture, history, life and ecology.

General Planning:

▪ "Zhihe Garden" is the center of the ancient village's cultural and public space in the entire rural renewal planning (by Tongji University team).

▪ "Zhihe Garden" is divided into two gardens, South Garden and North Garden, by Yongmo Downstreet.

The South Garden is an open garden. South Garden : With "JihouTang Ancestral Hall" as the core, in the front which "Historical gleam" grassland responds to the spatial intention of the nearby "Yongmo River" with sparkling waves yesterday; the rear "Ji Hou Garden" overlaps with "Ancestral Hall" and partially preserved primary school buildings to form a new garden in space. The design is underpinned by two key considerations. Firstly, given the absence of any historical documentation supporting the restoration of the two buildings situated behind the ancestral hall, it was deemed inadvisable to be reconstructed. Secondly, the primary school building is regarded as an indispensable component of the collective memory of the local villagers. Therefore, a decision was made to preserve it partly in an appropriate way.

The North Garden: It is a closed garden, half surrounds the former residence. According to the village texture of Zheng Guanying's former residence, three courtyards are formed: The western side of the former residence has undergone restoration to bring back the original pond. Similarly, the open green space that was present in front of the residence during the 1960s has been reinstated on the southern side to preserve the original ecological environment comprising of big trees. Moreover, through the use of micro-terrain shaping and corridor design, the flow leading to the former residence has been lengthened, thereby enhancing the spatial scale illusion of the direct space exposed by the former residence, which is otherwise comparatively small in size. This has resulted in the formation of a distinctive "mound yard" that is characteristic of traditional "Lingnan gardens". On the other hand, the eastern courtyard, which is separated by a landscape wall, now serves as a local botanical garden that is combined with the "Yongmo Hall of Fame" - the "bamboo garden" following the traditional "Lingnan gardens" method as well.

▪ Flow Design

Following the texture of the rural streets and alleys, while retaining the original flow of villagers' daily lives, provide rich and multi-dimensional sightseeing experiences for tourists in the route from the South Garden to the North Garden.

Water Sensitive Design

Collect site rainwater and formation seepage. The Historical gleam Grassland features a sponge-like sunken lawn that collects water for reuse in the rear pond through a circulation system. In times of excess water, an underground pipeline drains it into the river.

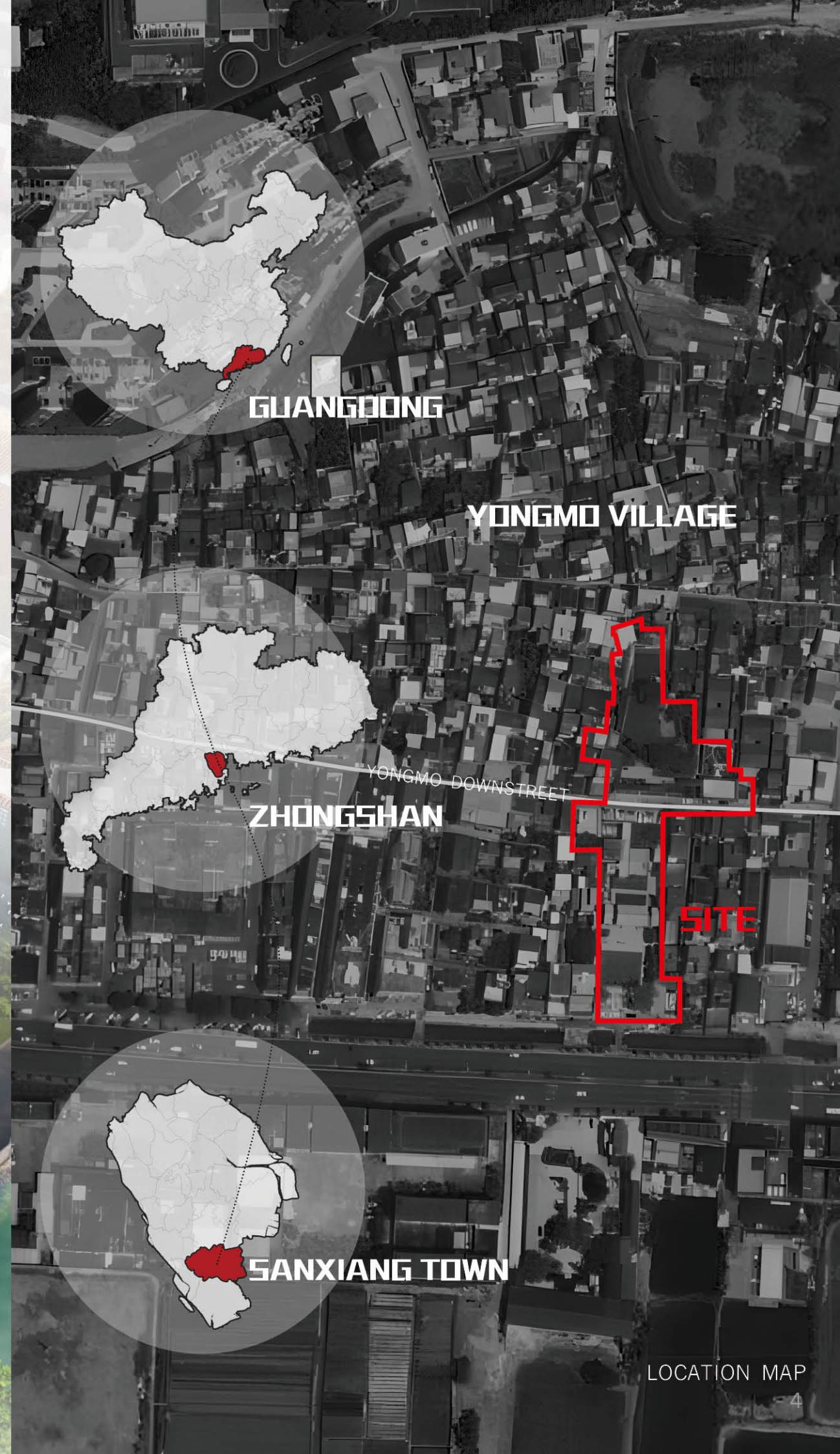
Post-Occupancy Evaluation:

After the project's completion, Zhihe Garden has become a hotspot for community construction, leisure tourism, public events, and historical education of villagers, tourists, government and students. It is widespread in various media and social media platforms. The project is spurring the development of commercial and cultural activities around, like homestays, local specialty and Cultural tourism, providing additional income and sustainable development opportunities for the rural residents. It is contributing social and economic benefits continuously.

• CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT



AERIAL VIEW OF PROJECT



GUANGDONG

YONGMO VILLAGE

ZHONGSHAN

YONGMO DOWNSTREET

SITE

SANXIANG TOWN

LOCATION MAP

CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

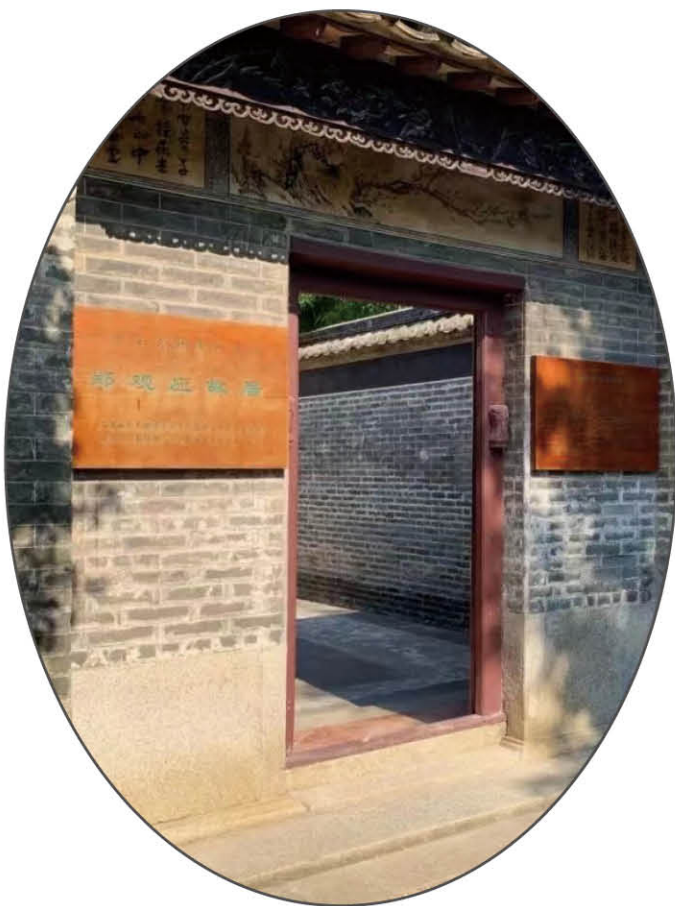
First Thinker of "Reform" Ideological System in Modern China

2021 marked the 100th anniversary of the passing of Zheng Guanying, a renowned Enlightenment thinker in late Qing Dynasty China, known by his pen name "Zhihe" hermit. He authored the book Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age, who was the first to systematically establish the modern Chinese "reform" ideological system. His profound intellectual influence extended to Chinese politicians such as Kang Youwei, Liang Qichao, Sun Yat-sen, and Mao Zedong, earning him the title of the first person in modern China to "open one's eyes and see the world".

His former residence is located in Yongmo Ancient Village, Zhongshan City, Guangdong Province. To commemorate Zheng Guanying, a "Zhihe Garden" was constructed on a site of approximately 8,215 square meters in front of Zheng Guanying's former residence.



Zheng Guanying
(1842-1922)



Historically Protected Building:
Former Residence of Zheng Guanying



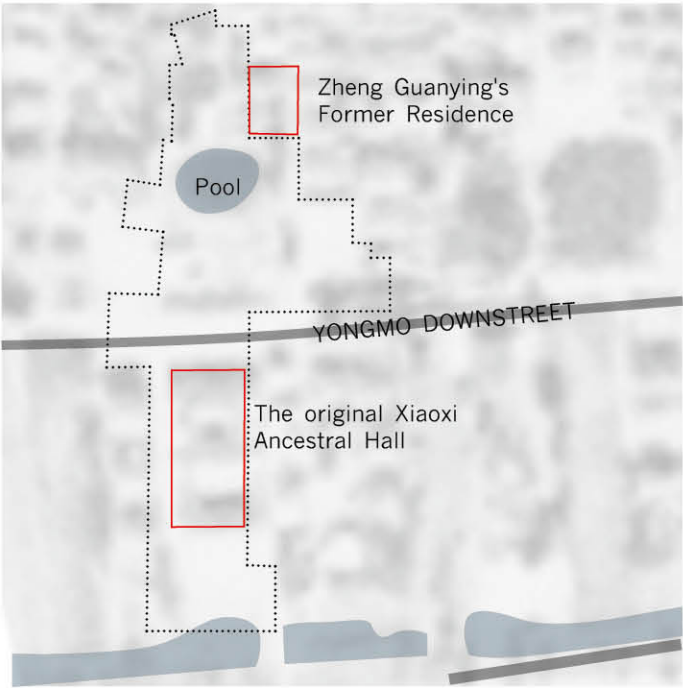
Site in August 2021



• CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Changes around Former Residence (1842-2021)

The surrounding environment of Zheng Guanying' s former residence has undergone tremendous changes in the vicissitudes of a century: According to historical pictures, the largest "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall" among the ancestral halls in Yongmo Village, located in the south of the site, has been demolished (late Qing Dynasty-1980). There was a pond near the former residence on the north side, which also disappeared. And the Yongmo River near the south side of the ancestral hall has moved away due to hydraulic engineering.



Aerial view of the site in the 1960s



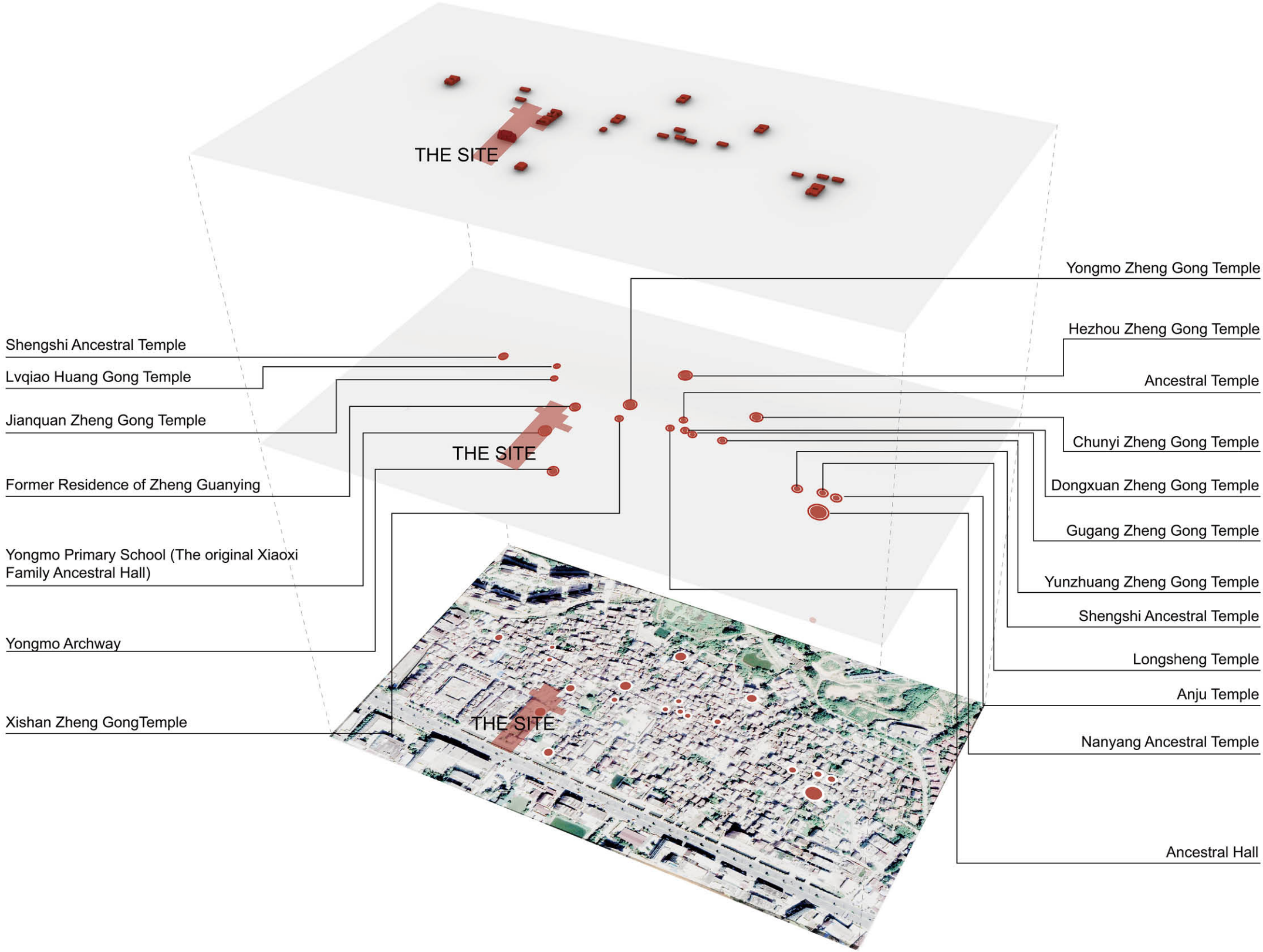
Aerial view of the site in the 1970s



Aerial view of the site in the 2022



Aerial view of the site in 2021



Site and Ancestral Hall Cluster of Yongmo

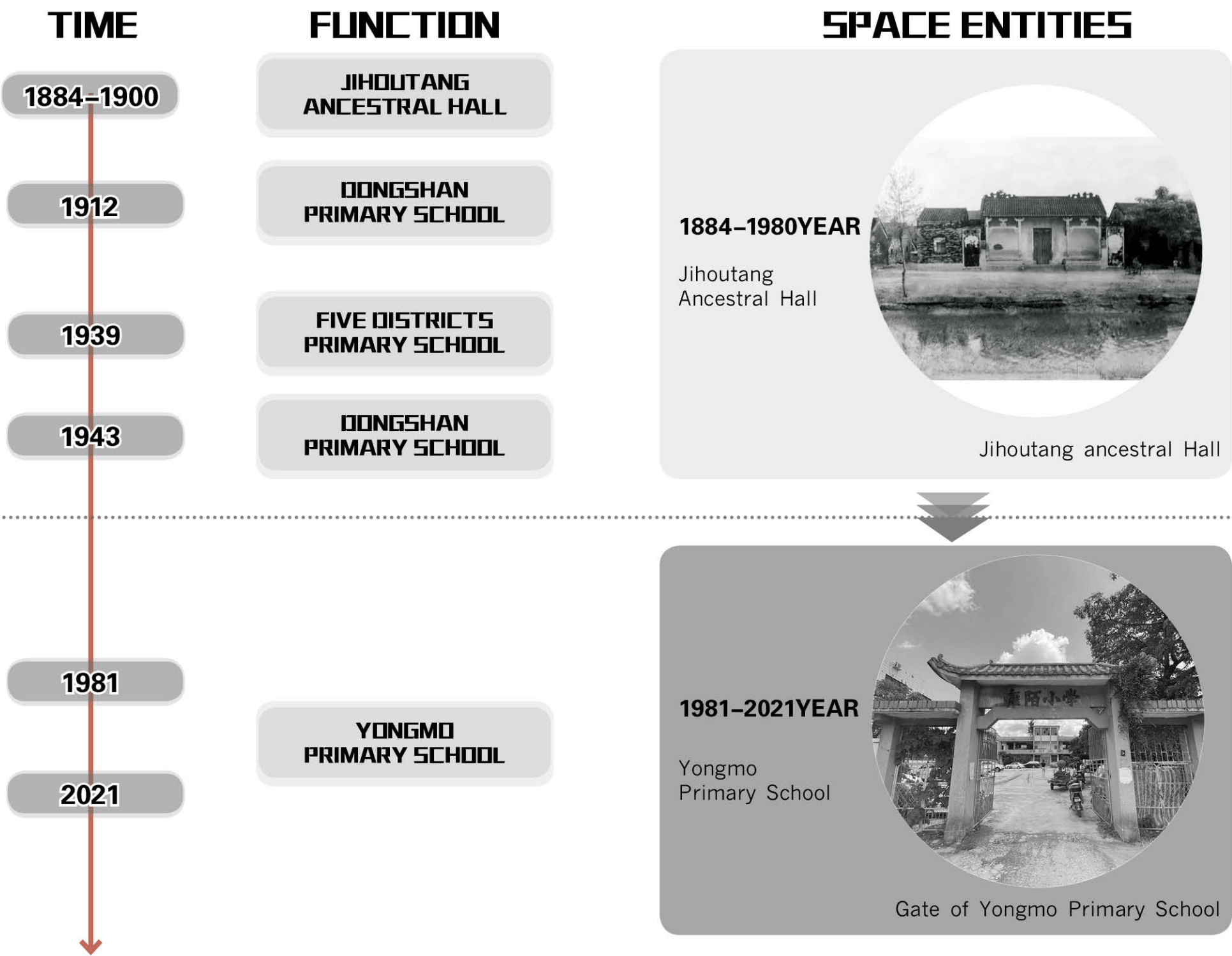


• CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

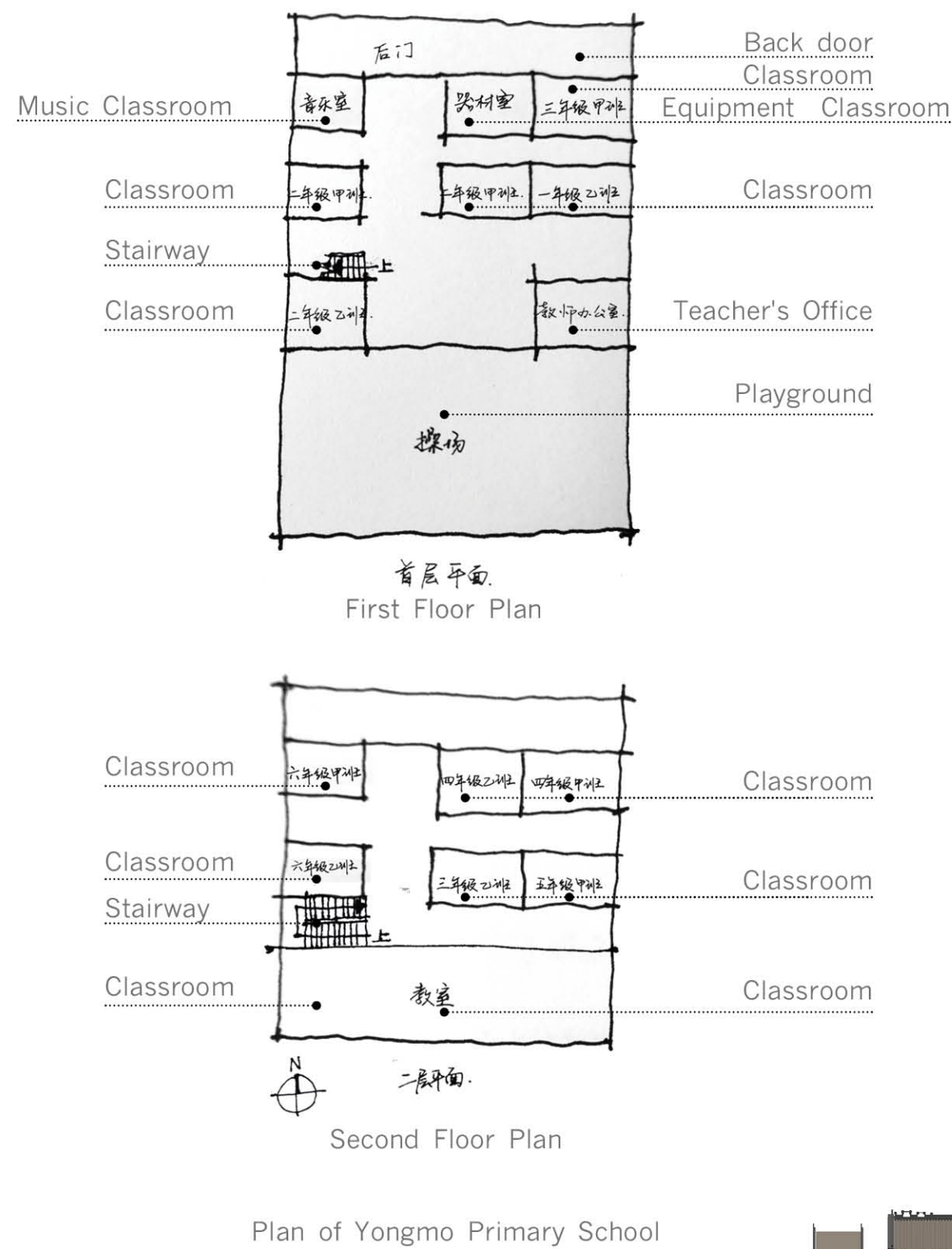
Two Historical Periods

Only 16 big trees, "Yongmo Primary School" built on the original site of the ancestral hall in 1981 (formerly known as "Dongshan Primary School" and later "Yongmo Kindergarten") and other modern buildings with different styles are still on the site.

The research indicates that "Zhihe Garden" primarily contains main information about the construction of two historical periods on the site: "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall" from late Qing Dynasty to 1980, and "Yongmo Primary School" from 1981 to 2021.



In comparison to "Jihoutang Ancestral Hall," "Yongmo Primary School" holds a greater amount of childhood memories for the villagers. According to the villagers' on-site identification, the "Yongmo Primary School" floor plan was sketched.



• CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Four Historical Materials

In October 2021, just before the site was about to be demolished, we discovered four important historical materials:

Historical photos of the facade of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall, aerial photos of the base in the 1960s and 1970s, ancient bricks and cyan stones used for the construction of the original ancestral hall (cyan ashlar) and plaque with donation information of Dongshan Primary School.



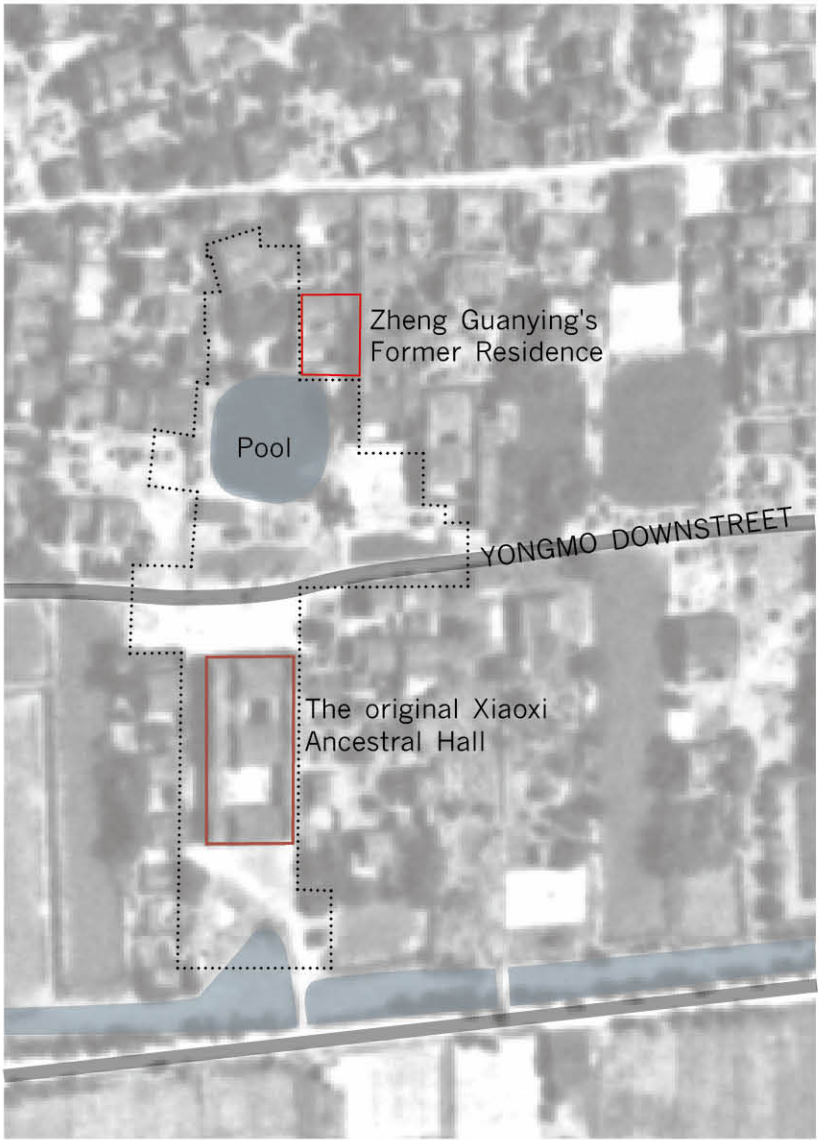
Historical Photos of the Facade of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



Plaque with Donation Information of Dongshan Primary School



Ancient Bricks Propaganda Ceramic Tile Paintings



Aerial Photos of the Site in the 1970s



Cyan Stones



Wall of Yongmo Primary School

Ancient Bricks and Cyan Stones used for the Construction of the Original Ancestral Hall



• **CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT**

Environmental Reconstruction of Stack-up Historical Information

The design team halted the implementation of the initial plan, devised a new strategy of "Environmental Reconstruction of Stack-up Historical Information" and ultimately executed it.



Executed Plan——Environmental Reconstruction of Stack-up Historical Information



Initial Plan



Pictures of the design team investigating on site



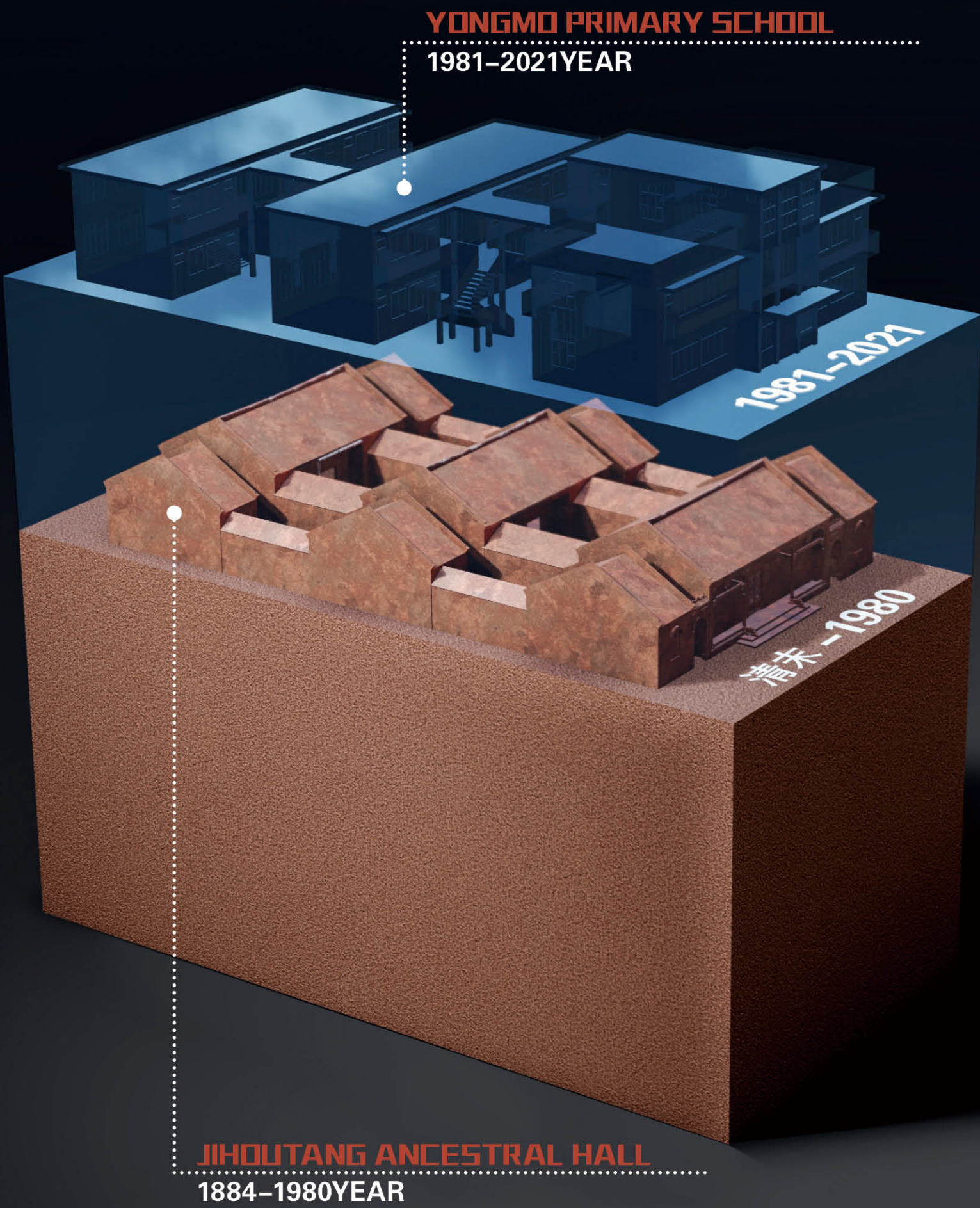
• **CONCEPT**

Stack-up Historical Information

Zheng Guanying was the first person who had the idea of "reformation" in modern China. The garden of his former residence "Zhihe Garden" is based on the core design concepts of "Authenticity Convery Based Renovation" and "Endowing Old with New". On the basis of respecting history, through the pattern of stacking historical information, the spirit of the "Reformation" is revitalized with originality while remaining authenticity.



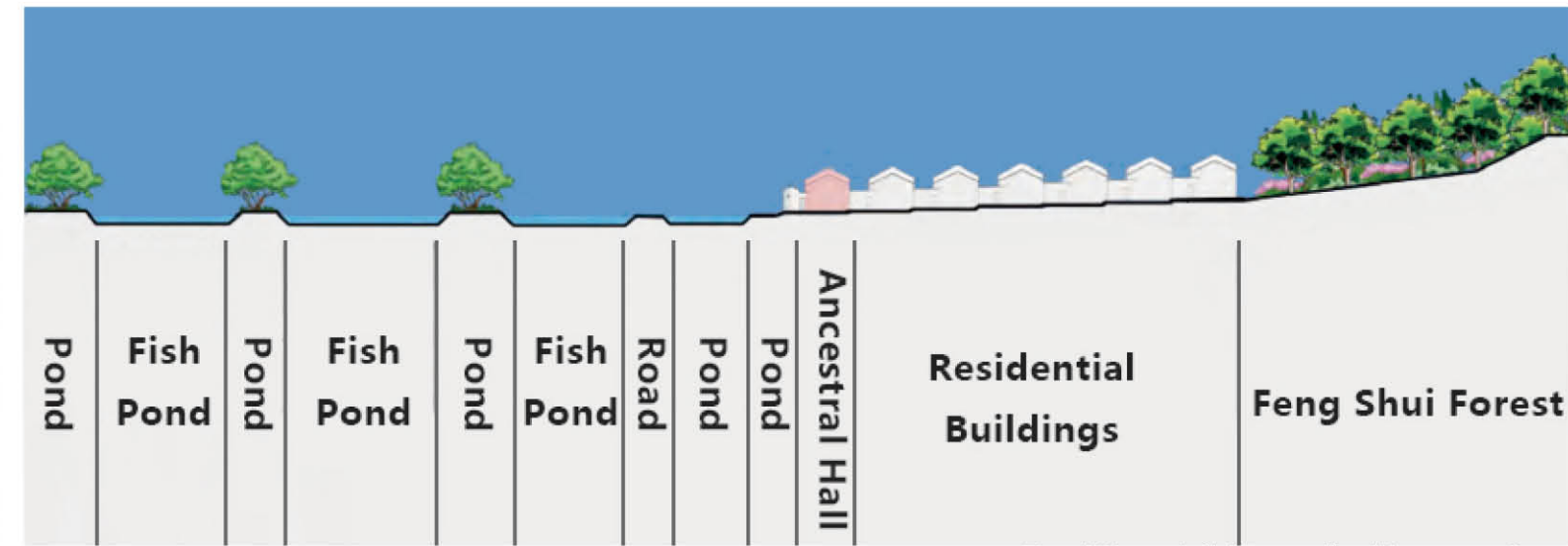
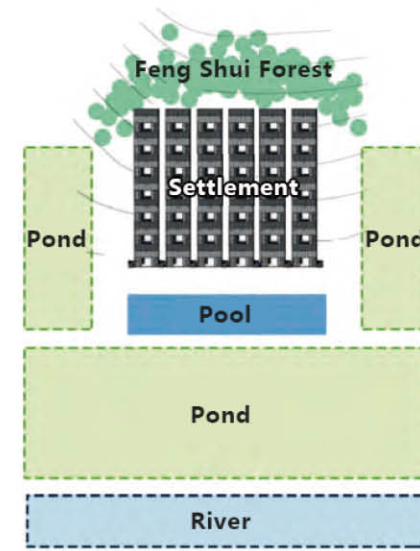
"Time Amber" Sculture



CONCEPT

Endowing Old with New

As the core of the village cultural exhibition area, "Zhihe Garden" adopts the traditional Lingnan Garden(a pattern of local gardening in south China) paradigm for construction, striving to restore the authentic historical information of different age on the site, and achieve a harmonious and progressive effect.



Traditional "Lingnan" village pattern

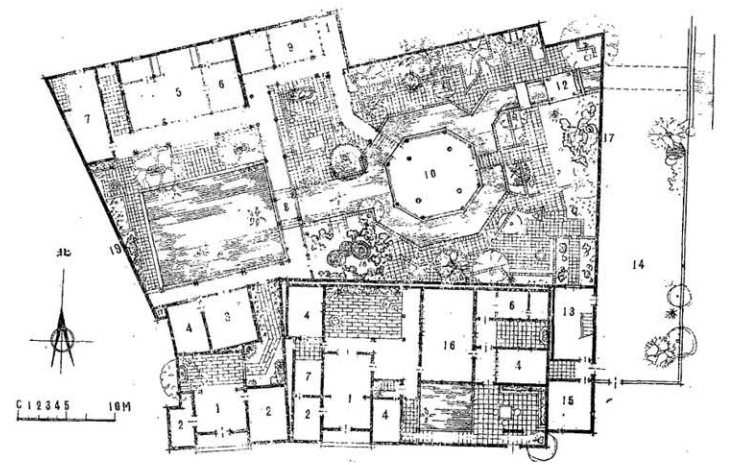
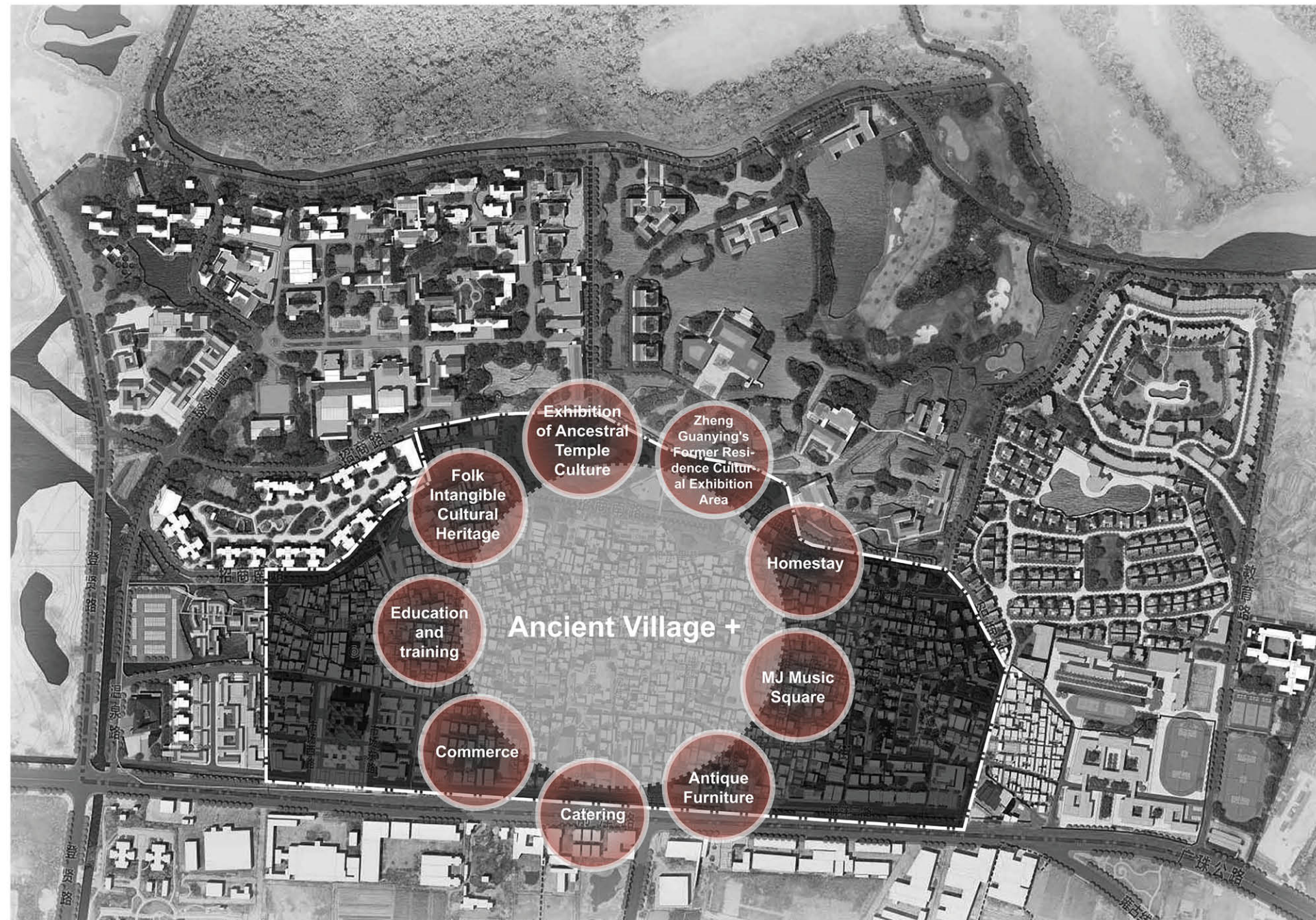


图1 余前山房平面图
1.入口门厅 2.门房 3.临池别馆 4.廊房 5.深静堂 6.书房 7.厨房 8.画桥 9.听雨轩(观棋厅) 10.吟波水榭 11.前廊亭 12.孔雀亭 13.杨柳楼台 14.花园 15.更房 16.后廊 17.卧山 18.后山 19.童子拜观音山

Reference Lingnan Garden



The Village Cultural Exhibition Area



Historical Gleam Grassland



Koi Pond



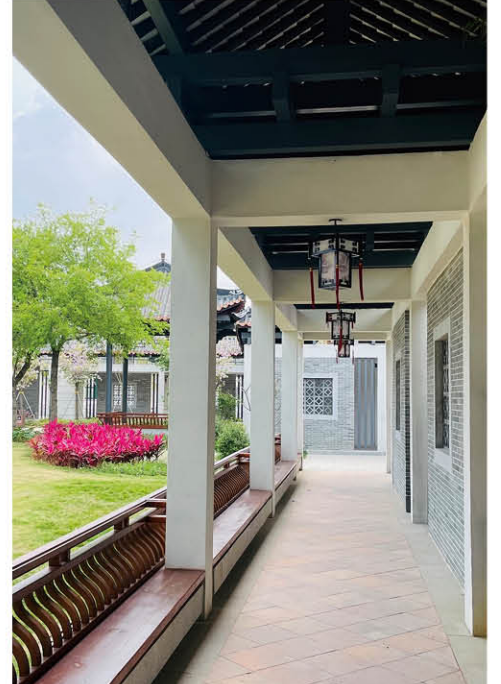
Memorial Pavilion



Cloud Wall



Moon Gate



The North Garden Porch



• CONCEPT

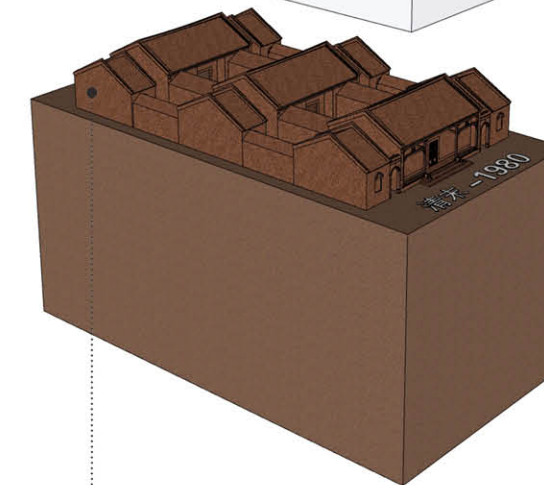
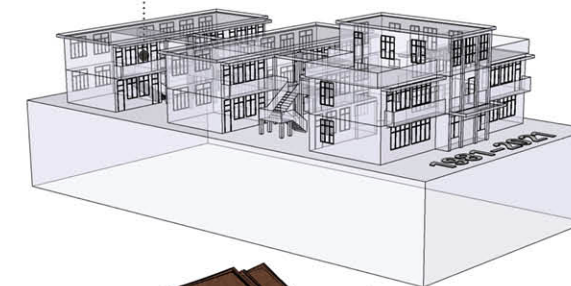
Amber of Campus Commemoration Gallery

The project restores the former ancestral hall, moreover reproduces the historical changes in rear garden from Jihoutang Ancestral Hall to Yongmo Kindergarten in the same way as "Amber", reintegrates the memory of the former campus into the park, and preserves the collective memory of the villagers.



Stack-up Historical Spaces Sculpture

YONGMO PRIMARY SCHOOL 1981-2021YEAR



JIHOUTANG ANCESTRAL HALL 1884-1980YEAR



Restore the Original Classroom



• **CONCEPT**

Water Sensitive Design

The project shows respect for the local environment and ecological conditions of the site. It preserves large trees and incorporates native plants, and through its Water Sensitive Design, it makes use of rainwater and groundwater infiltration to address the low-maintenance requirements of water features and ensure sustainable development.



Wenqu Pond



Ji Hou Garden



Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



Mound yard and Preserved Big Trees



" Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age " Inscription wall



• CONCEPT

Paragon of Public Rural Space

The project strives to become a paragon of public space for rural vitalization with characteristics of culture, history, life and ecology.



Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



Group Activity



Research Activities



GENERAL PLANNING

Cultural and Public Center of the Ancient Village

"Zhihe Garden" is the center of the ancient village's cultural and public space in the entire rural renewal planning.



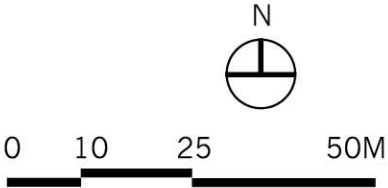
The Overall Planning Structure of Yongmo Ancient Village



GENERAL PLANNING

Master Plan

"Zhihe Garden" is divided into two gardens, South Garden and North Garden, by Yongmo Downstreet.



GENERAL PLANNING

The Outdoor Scene of Zhihe Garden



Koi pond

Zheng Guanying's former residence

Memorial Pavilion

Multimedia Exhibition Room

Campus commemoration Gallery

Stack-up Historical Spaces Sculpture

Jihoutang Ancestral Hall

Historical Gleam grassland

Parking



The "yard" of Lingnan Garden mentioned:

- 1) Flat yard which is flat in topography, having low balustrades, terraces, dotted rockeries and plants;
- 2) Water yard which is dominated by water area;
- 3) Water and rockery yard which has great ups and downs;
- 4) Mound yard which is located at cliffs or mountain slopes.

▪ GENERAL PLANNING

South Garden

The South Garden is an open garden. With "JihouTang Ancestral Hall" as the core, in the front which, "Historical gleam" grassland responds to the spatial intention of the nearby "Yongmo River" with sparkling waves yesterday; the rear "Ji Hou Garden" overlaps with "Ancestral Hall" and partially preserved primary school buildings to form a new garden in space.



Retained Classroom Walls, Stairs, Corridors



The Day Scene of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



Historical Gleam Grassland



The design is underpinned by two key considerations. Firstly, given the absence of any historical documentation supporting the restoration of the two buildings situated behind the ancestral hall, it was deemed inadvisable to be reconstructed.

Stocking of Historical Spaces



Secondly, the primary school building is regarded as an indispensable component of the collective memory of the local villagers. Therefore, a decision was made to preserve it partly in an appropriate way.

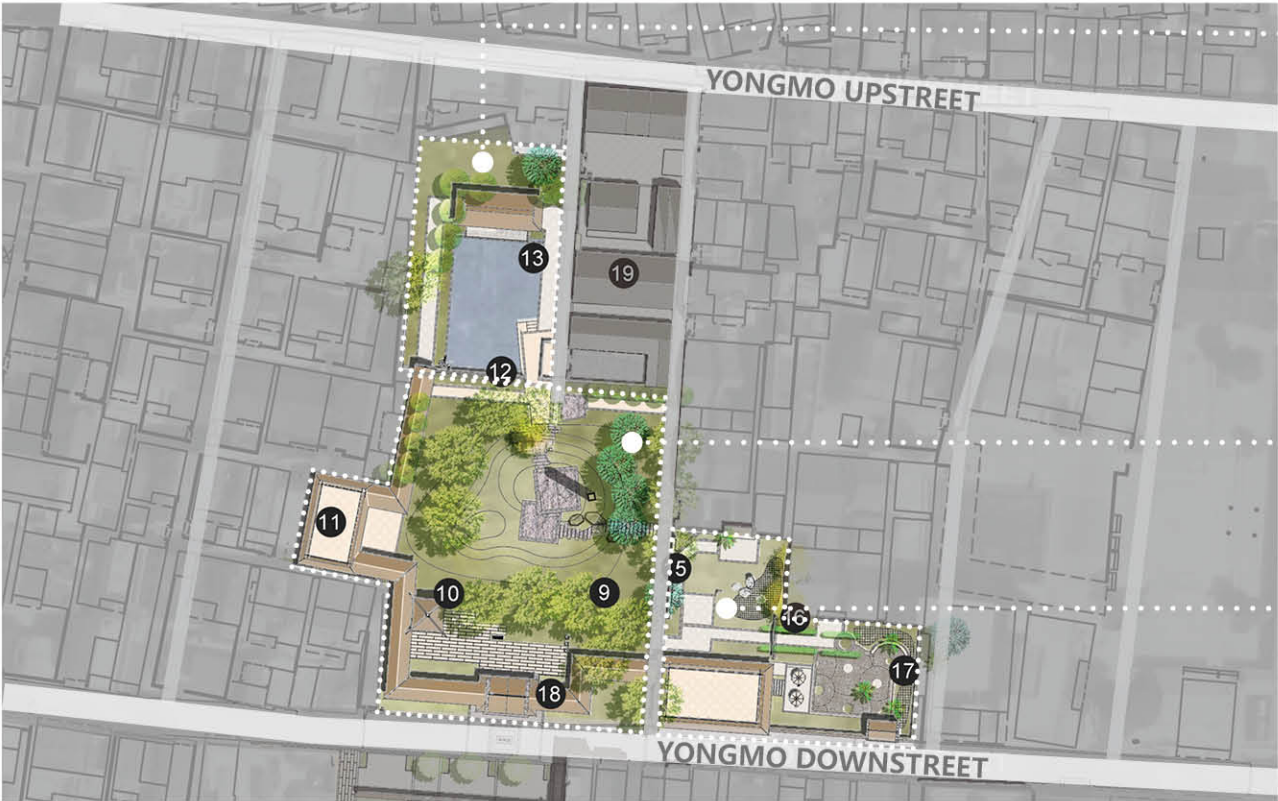
▪ GENERAL PLANNING

North Garden

North Garden: It is a closed garden, half surrounds the former residence.

According to the village texture of Zheng Guanying's former residence, three courtyards are formed:

The western side of the former residence has undergone restoration to bring back the original pond. Similarly, the open green space that was present in front of the residence during the 1960s has been reinstated on the southern side to preserve the original ecological environment comprising of big trees. Moreover, through the use of micro-terrain shaping and corridor design, the flow leading to the former residence has been lengthened, thereby enhancing the spatial scale illusion of the direct space exposed by the former residence, which is otherwise comparatively small in size. This has resulted in the formation of a distinctive "mound yard" that is characteristic of traditional "Lingnan gardens". On the other hand, the eastern courtyard, which is separated by a landscape wall, now serves as a local botanical garden that is combined with the "Yongmo Hall of Fame" - the "bamboo garden" following the traditional "Lingnan gardens" method as well.



Village Fabric of Yongmo



The Day Scene of the North Garden



Koi Pond And Ship Pavilion



The Day Scene of Mound yard

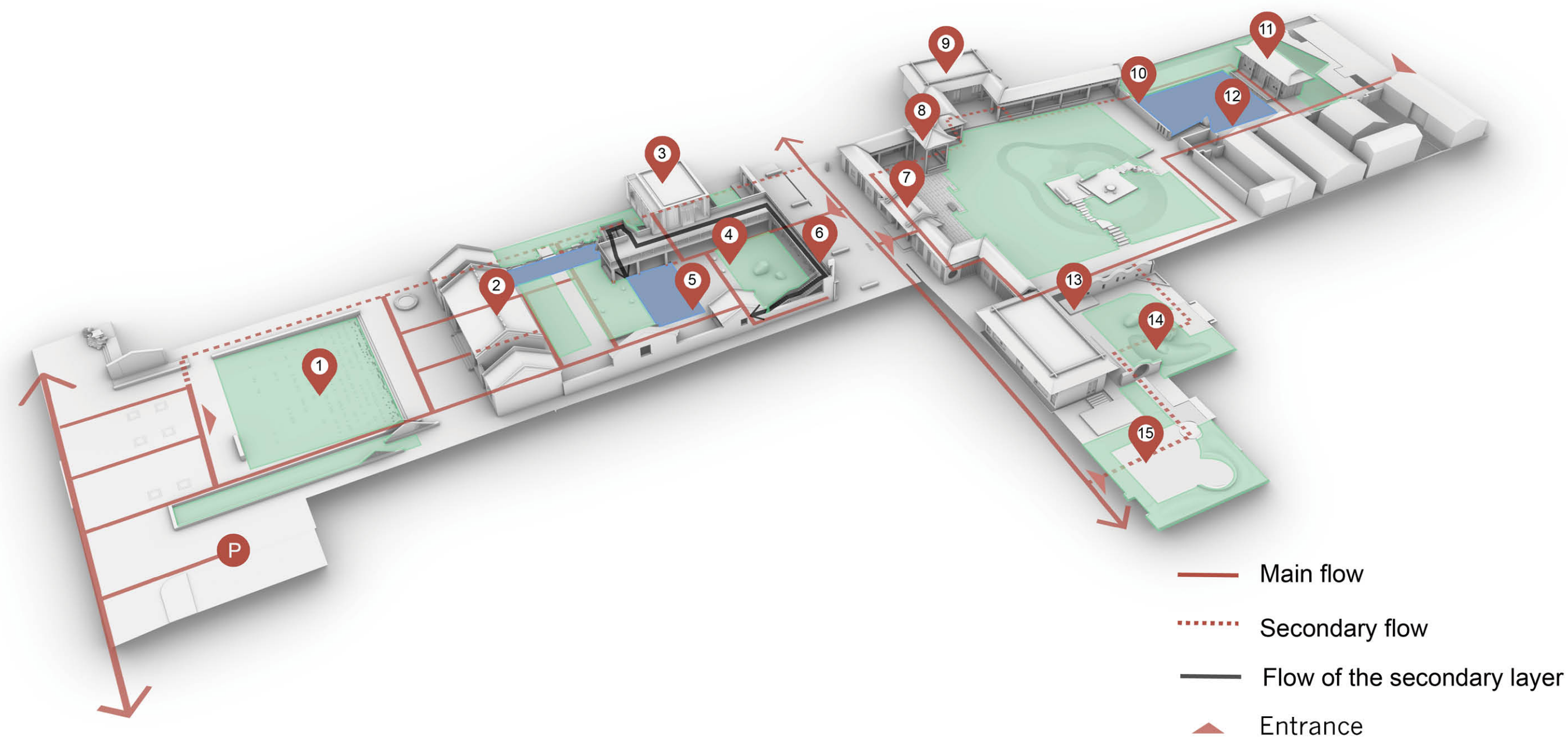




▪ GENERAL PLANNING

Flow Design

Following the texture of the rural streets and alleys, while retaining the original flow of villagers' daily lives, provide rich and multi-dimensional sightseeing experiences for tourists in the route from the South Garden to the North Garden.



- 1 History Glean Grrassland
- 2 Jihoutang Ancestral Hall
- 3 Campus Commemoration Gallery
- 4 Donation Stones
- 5 Stack-up Historical Spaces Sculpture
- 6 2nd Floor Corridor
- 7 The North Garden Porch
- 8 Memorial Pavilion
- 9 Multimedia Exhibition Room
- 10 " Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age " Inscription wall
- 11 Ship Pavilion
- 12 Koi Pond
- 13 Cloud Wall
- 14 Moon Gate
- 15 Banana Garden

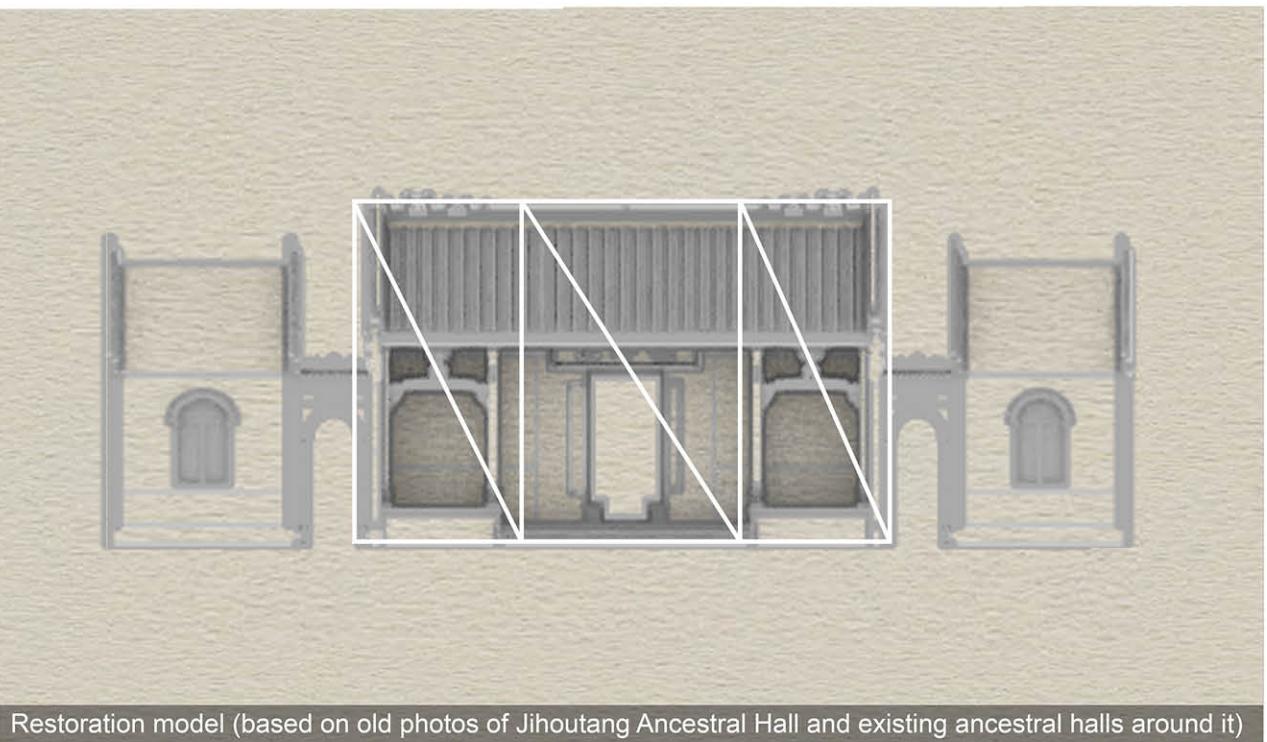
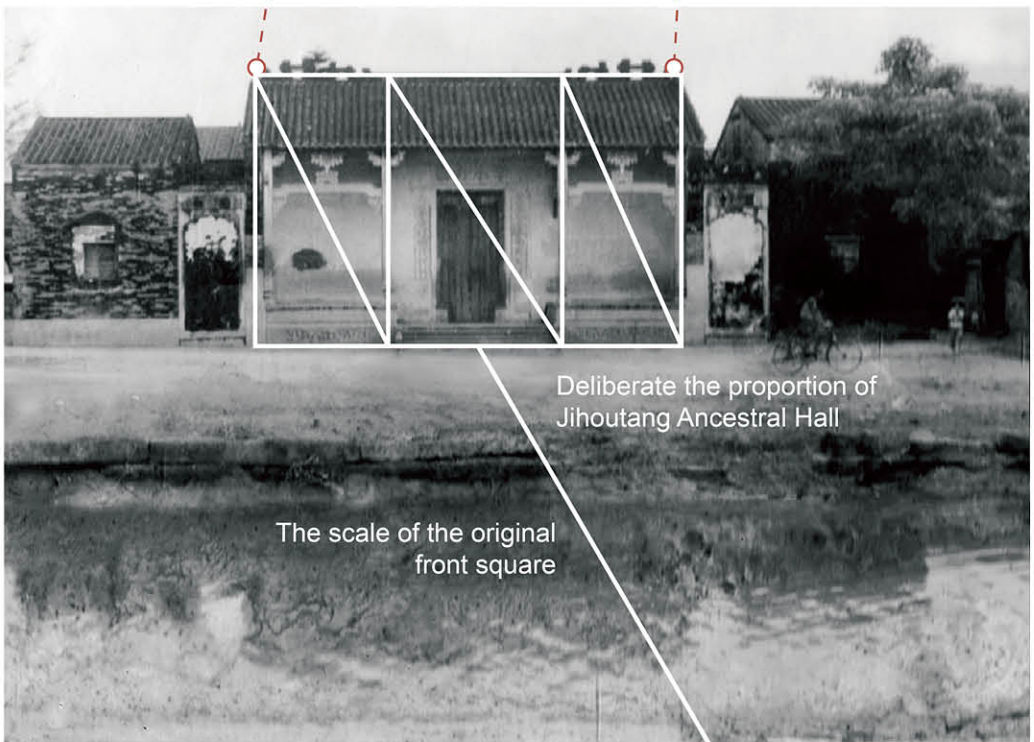
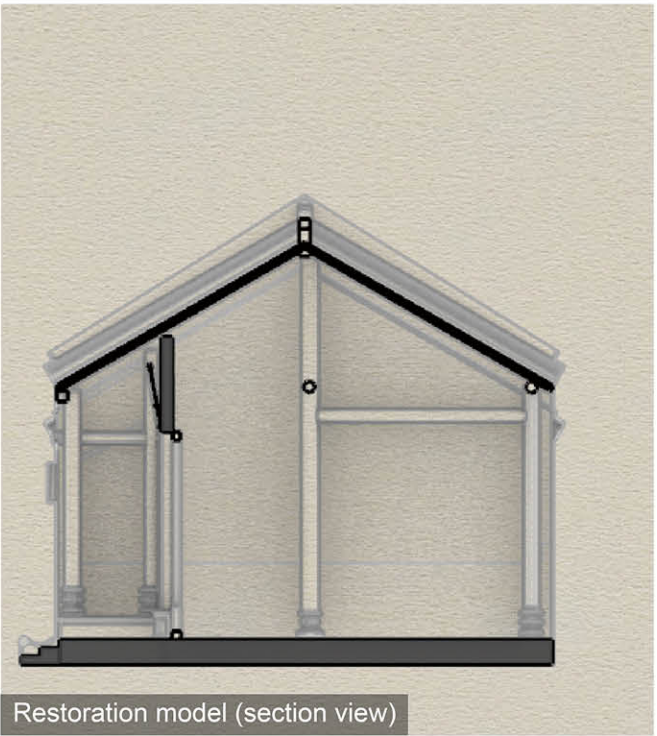
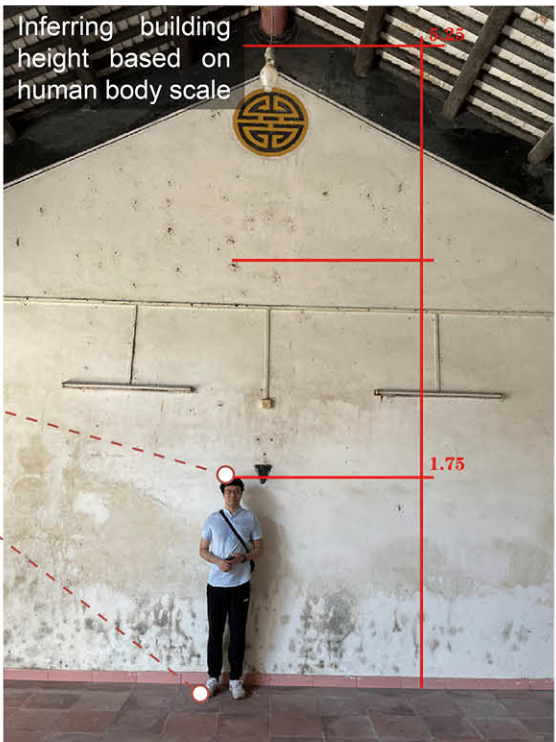
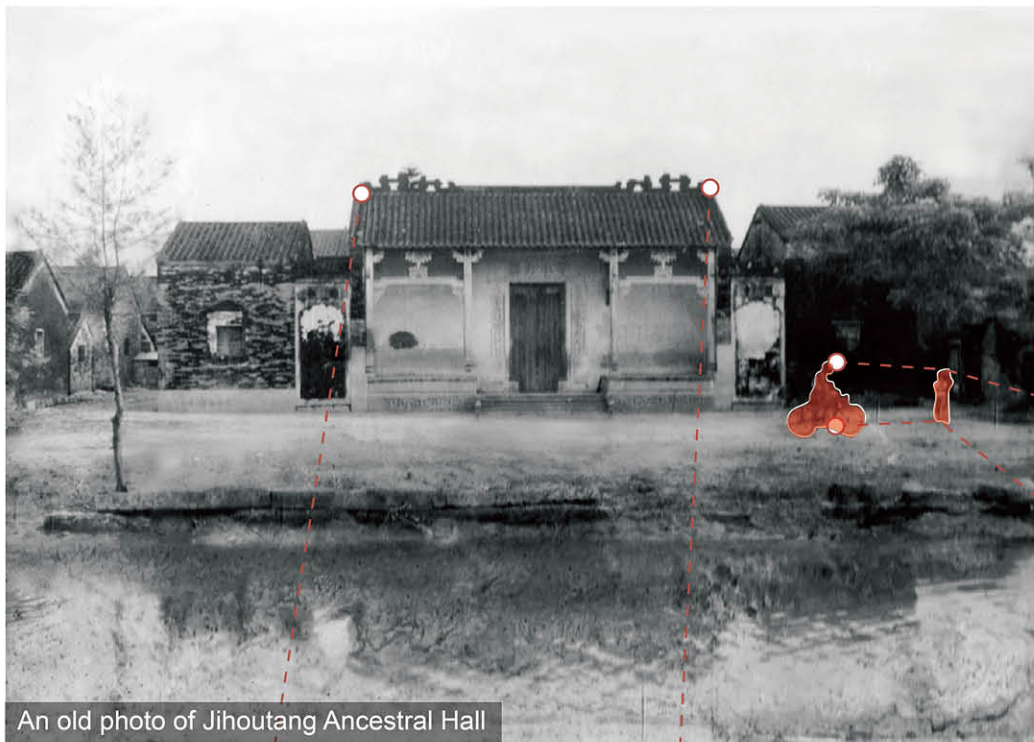
Flow of Zhihe Garden



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Scale Research

For Jihoutang Ancestral Hall , we conducts scale research based on historical photos and existing contemporary old ancestral halls, so as to establish the basic dimensions consistent with historical buildings.



Research and Analysis on the Scale of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall

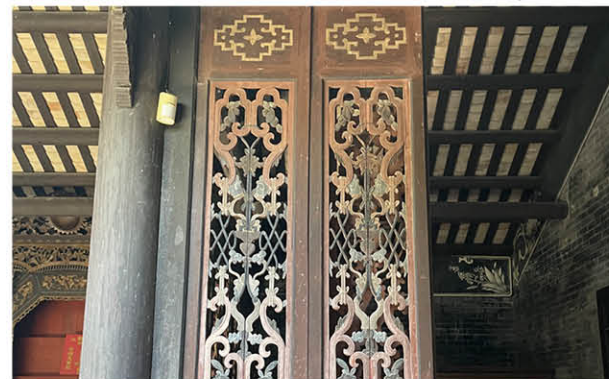
Existing Contemporary Old Ancestral Hall Nearby



▪ ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Selection Of Materials

This building adopts the design principle of "repairing the old as the old", and reuses the preserved cyan bricks and cyan stones of the original ancestral hall in the construction.



Window Decorations



Ancient Bricks



Traditional Roofing



Original Granitic Stones



Cyan Stones



Stone Decoration



▪ ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Repairing the Old As the Old



Doorway



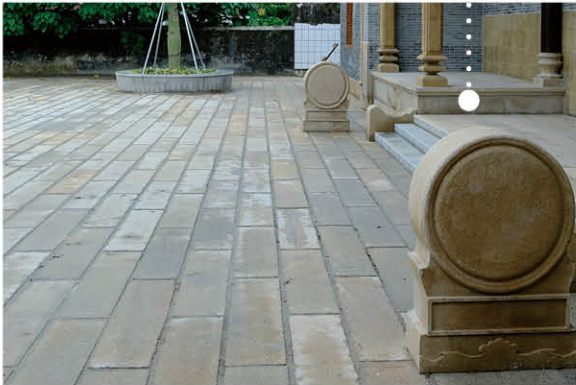
Window Decoration



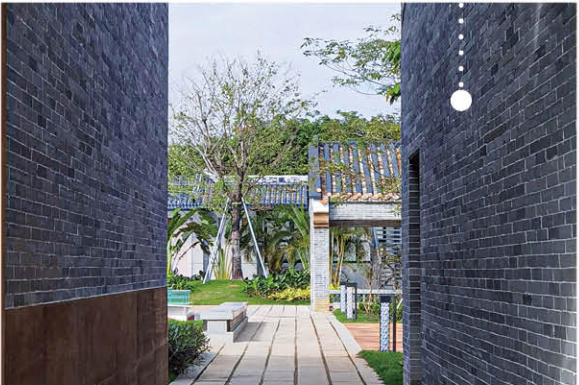
Roof Tile



Door



Floor tile



Brick wall



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Selection of Materials

The " Campus commemoration Gallery " is built on the basis of the preserved two classrooms, corridors, and the south wall of the old classroom in Yongmo Primary School.



The Day Scene of the Campus commemoration Gallery



Protectively Demolish the Section of the Building



▪ ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Retained Part

The retained part of the original building shall be restored to its original appearance as much as possible (original granitic stones, facing bricks, corridor stones pavements, etc.).



Newly Constructed Part

The newly constructed part is differentiated by modern materials, with the "amber-like" glass curtain wall appearing to freeze time.



· ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN



Intention to Restore the Pattern of Old Ancestral Hall



Stack-up Historical Spaces Sculpture



• ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Second Floor Corridor



A more natural way to translate the same sentence would be: steel 2nd-floor corridor casts its shadows onto the preserved classroom's southern wall, which includes the original shaped doors, windows, and classroom nameplates, creating a reminiscent atmosphere of old campus.



• ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Endowing Old With New

Near the former residence, buildings such as the "Hall of Fame" , "Multimedia Exhibition Room" , "Ship Pavilion", "Corridor" and the North Garden Porch are new constructs in original historical site. Therefore, the "Endowing Old with New" approach has been taken to preserve their historical significance.



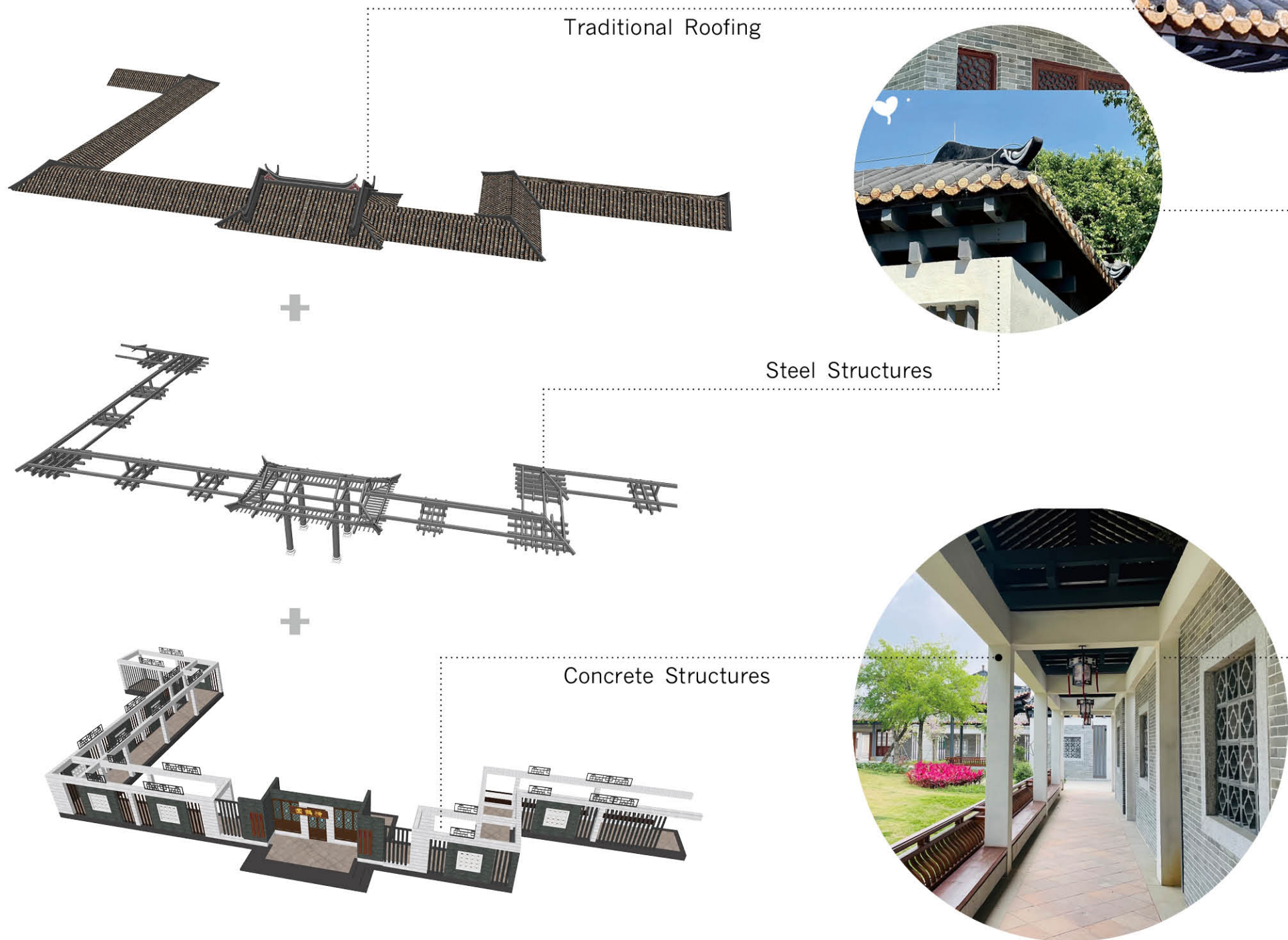
The Day Scene of the Mound yard.



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

To Respect the Overall Historical Environment

To respect the overall historical environment of the former residence (following the all codes of Historical Buildings protection document), the design combined traditional roofing, steel structures, reinforced concrete structures and details. New materials and new construction techniques were used carefully but clearly. This approach was implemented in a clear manner to avoid any confusion with the "historical authenticity" information.



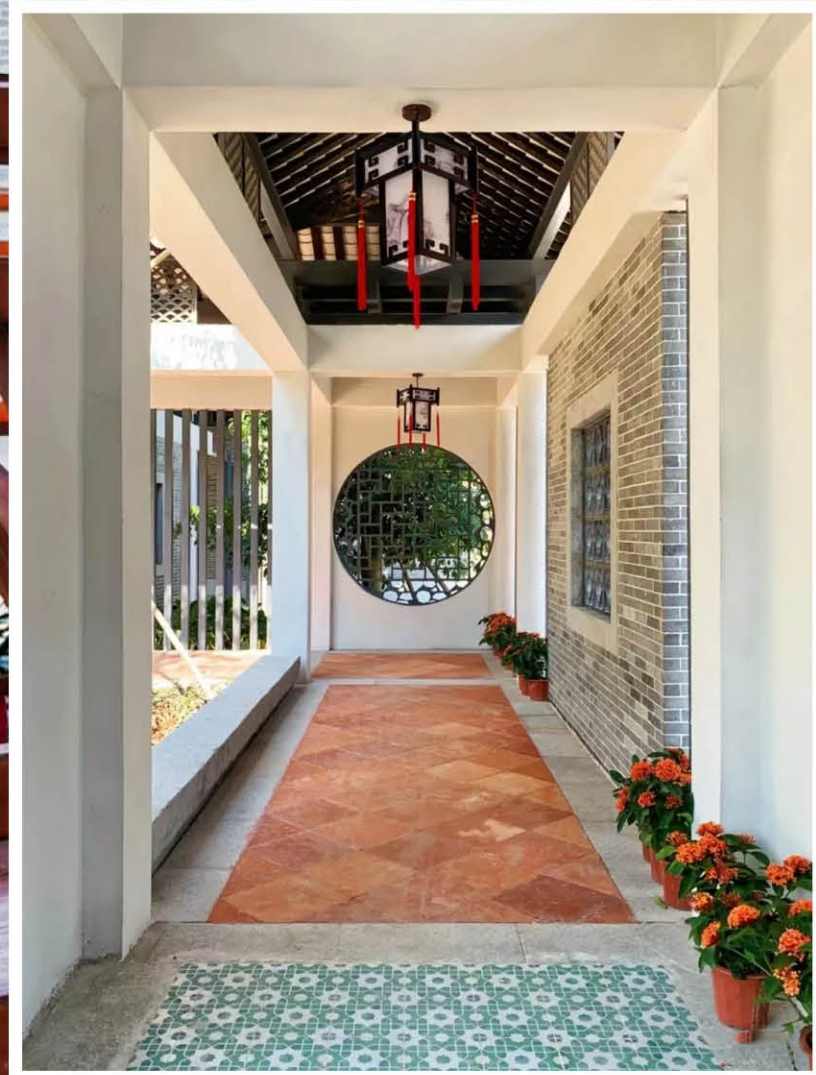
The North Garden Porch



The Outdoor Scene of the North Garden Porch



Endowing Old with New



The Corridor around Mound yard

▪ DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



Rebuild the Ancestral Hall.



Traditional Cyan Stone Paving in Front of the Ancestral Hall.



▪ DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



The Landscape Wall And the Pavilion Intention to Restore the Rear 2 Western Wing Buildings of the Old Ancestral Hall.

South Garden



The Ground Pavement Intention to Restore the Pattern of Old Ancestral Hall, The Courtyard Stone Lamp-holder Intention to Restore the Columns of Old Building As Well.



DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



Reconstruction of the age imprint of "Yongmo Primary School," including the school's Propaganda ceramic tile paintings and window decorations.



• DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE

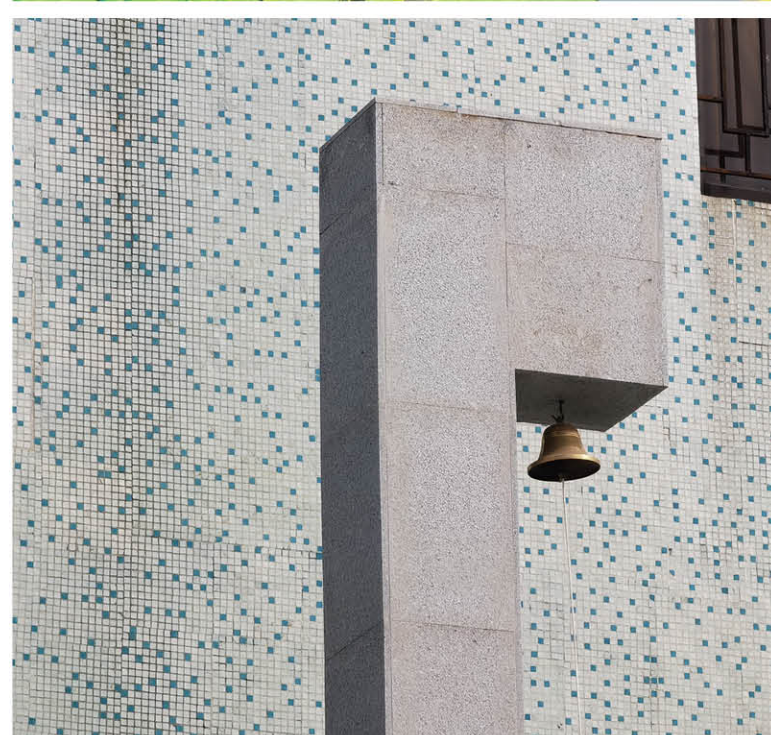


Reconstruction of the donation stones at classroom doors, "Yongmo Primary School."





The preserved "amber-like" Gallery viewed from the window of ancestral hall.



Reconstruction of the school bell at "Yongmo Primary School" rebuilt with corridor and staircase.



• DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



Reconstruction of the traditional "Cloud Wall" and "Moon Gate".



• DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



Modern craftsmanship creates traditional gardens



• DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE

Selection of local and indigenous plant species.



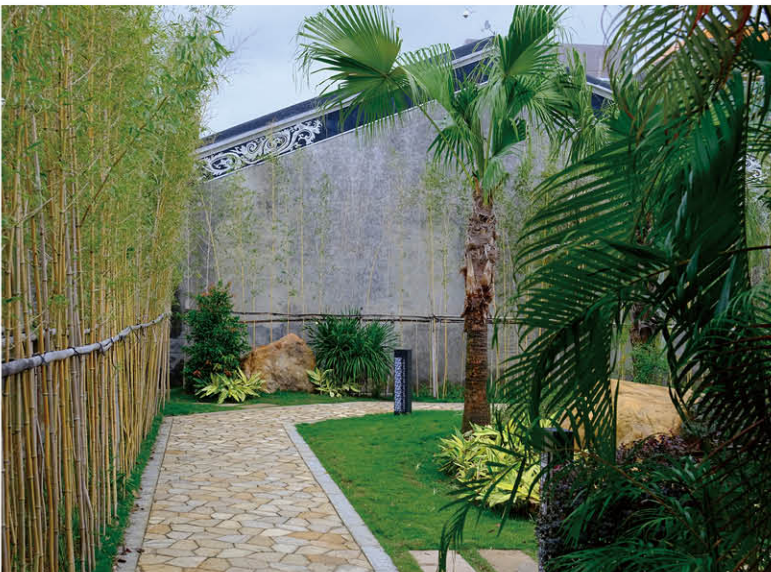
Preserved Big Trees



Local Bamboos



Lawn and Ground Cover Plants



▪ DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



The introduction of " Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age " on the wall near the pool.

" Words of Warning to a Prosperous Age "

▪ DETAILS IN LANDSCAPE



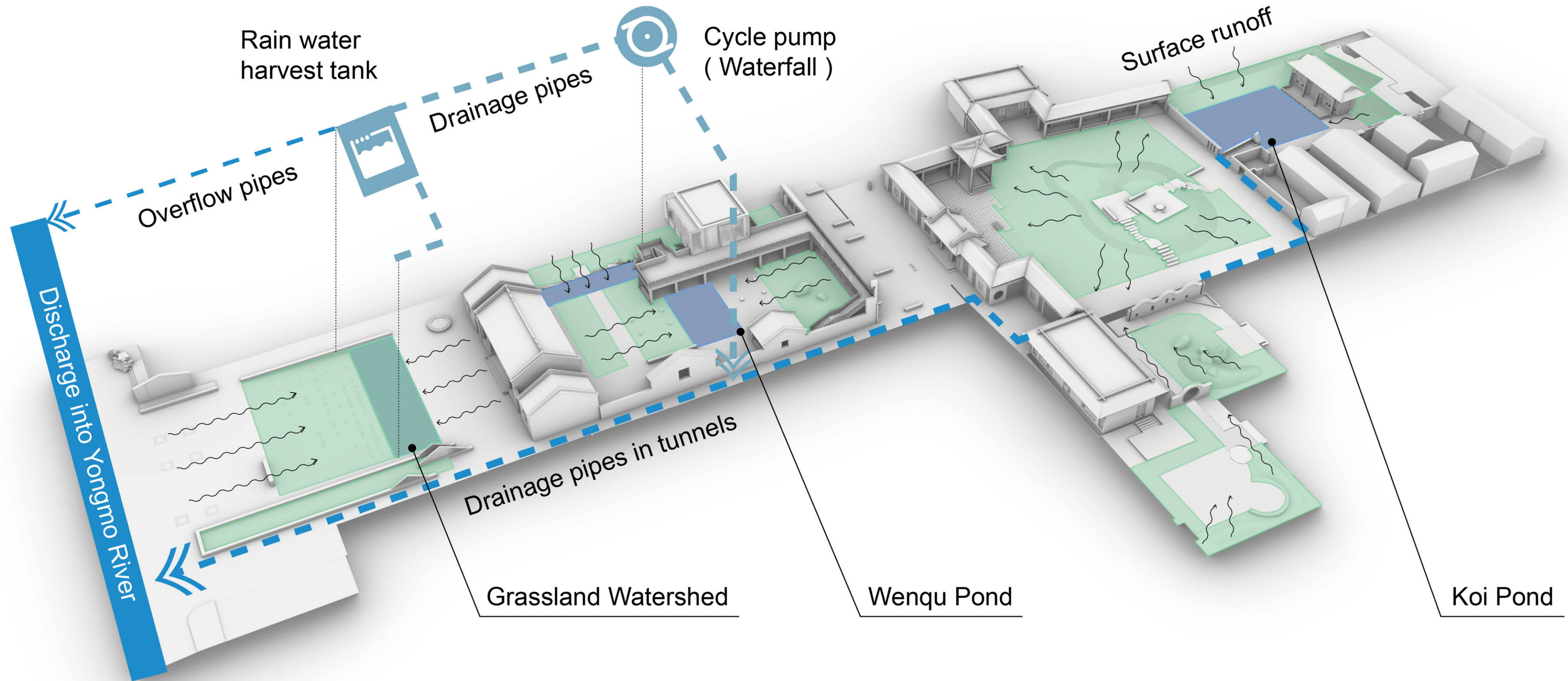
Night view of "Zhihe Garden".



• WATER SENSITIVE DESIGN

Drainage Analysis

Collect site rainwater and formation seepage. The Historical gleam Grassland features a sponge-like sunken lawn that collects water for reuse in the rear pond through a circulation system. In times of excess water, an underground pipeline drains it into the river.

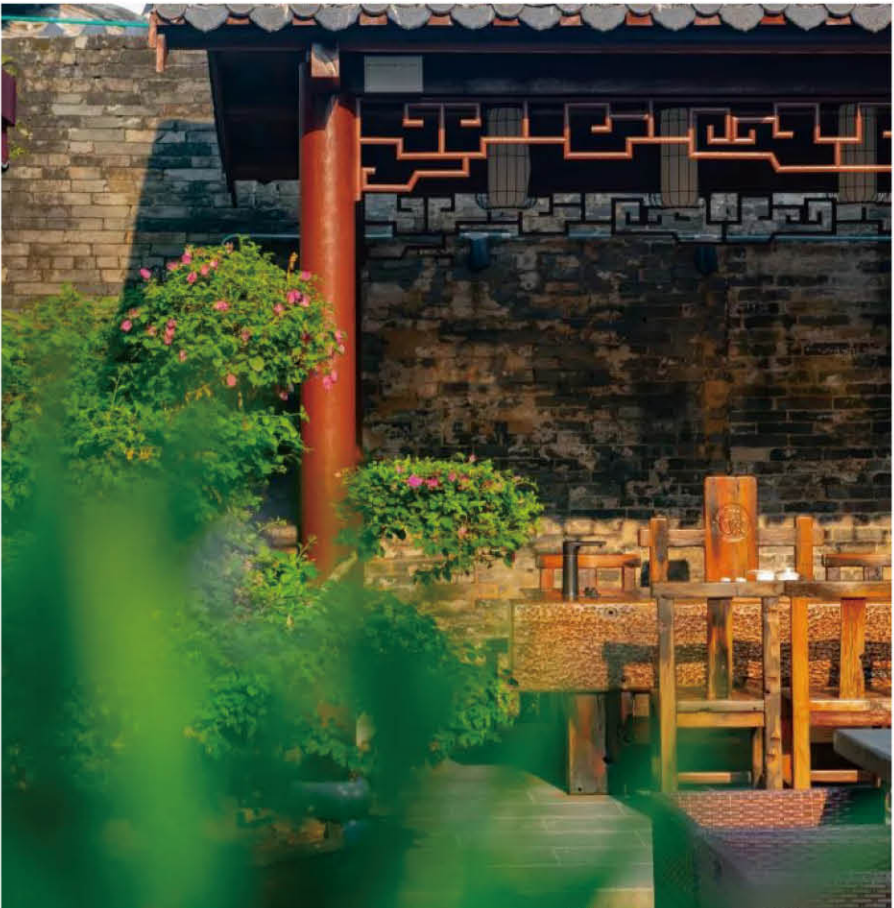


Water sensitive design of South Garden.

• POST-OCCUPANCY EVALUATION

After the project's completion, Zhihe Garden has become a hotspot for community construction, leisure tourism, public events, and historical education of villagers, tourists, government and students. It is widespread in various media and social media platforms.

The project is spurring the development of commercial and cultural activities around, like homestays, local specialty and Cultural tourism, providing additional income and sustainable development opportunities for the rural residents. It is contributing social and economic benefits continuously.



News Report

Sightseeing

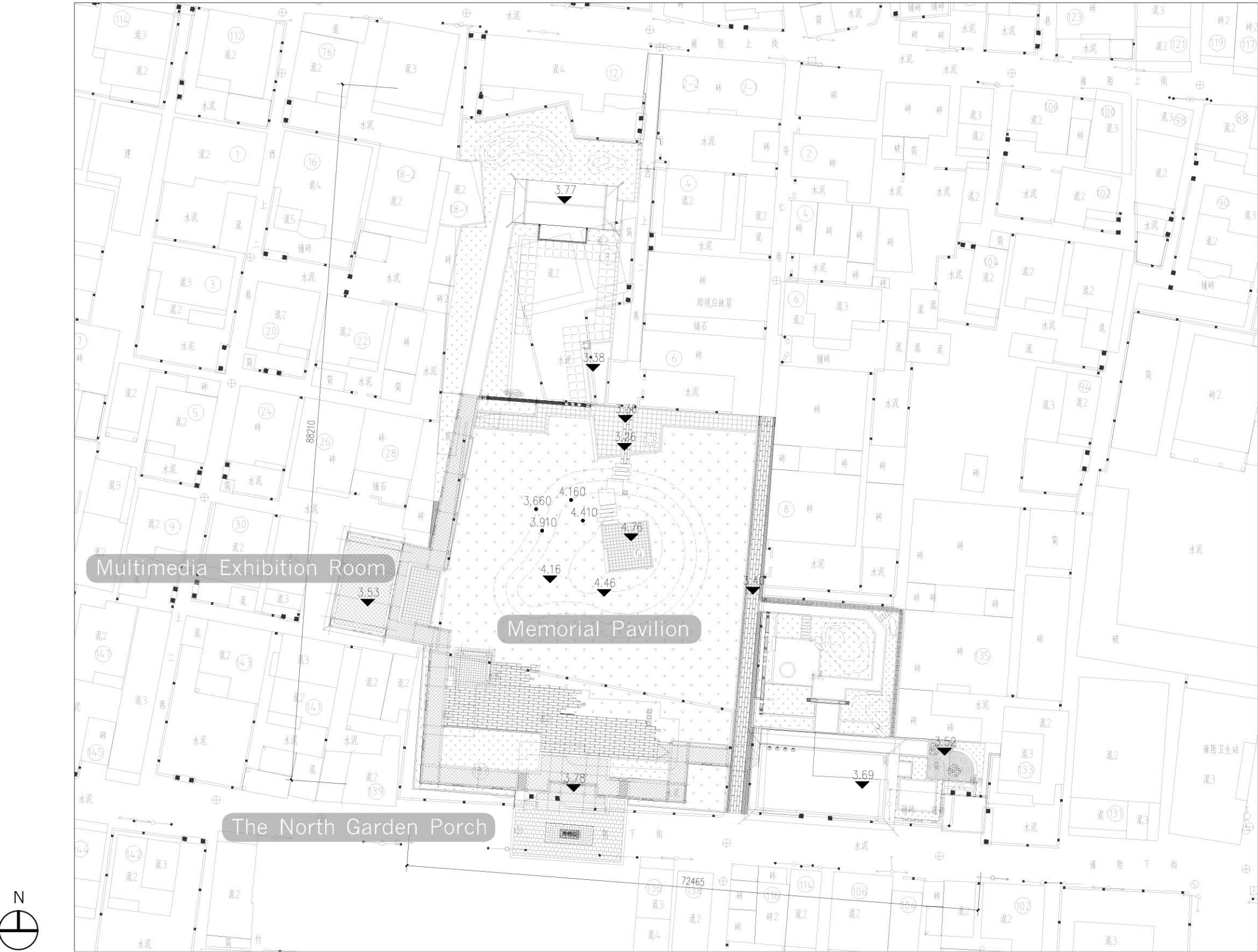
Public Use

Economic Benefits

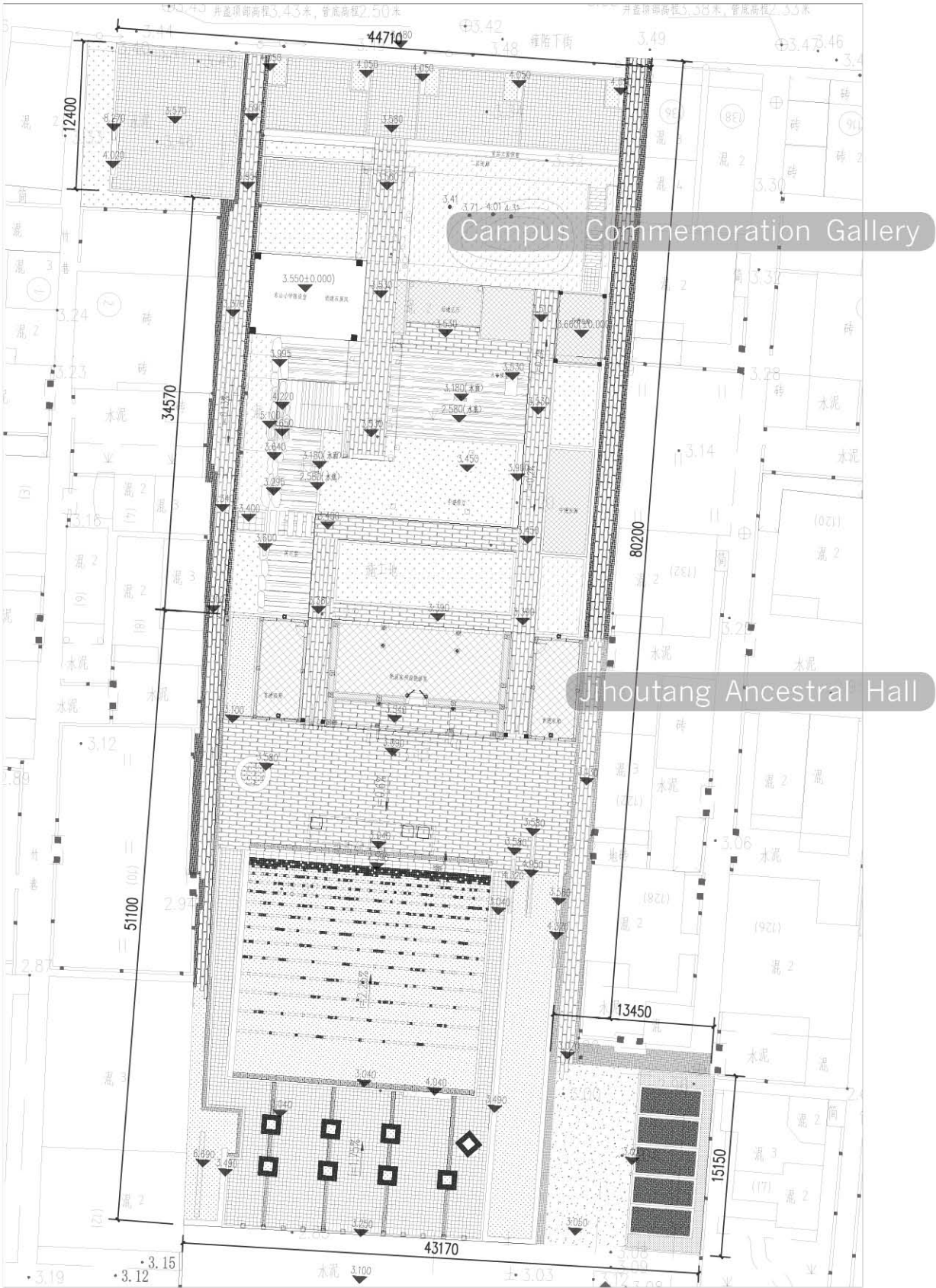


• PART OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWING

Construction Drawing Plan



Plan of the North Garden

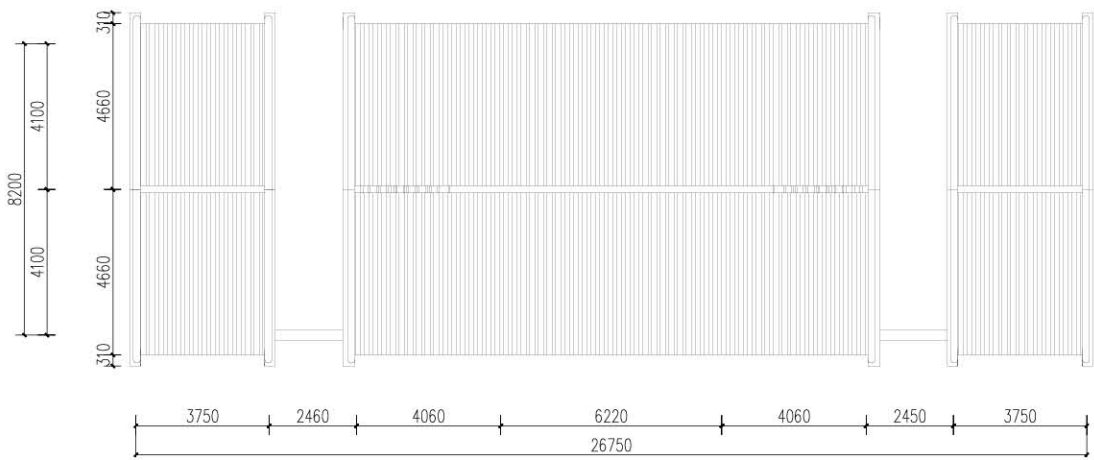


Plan of the South Garden

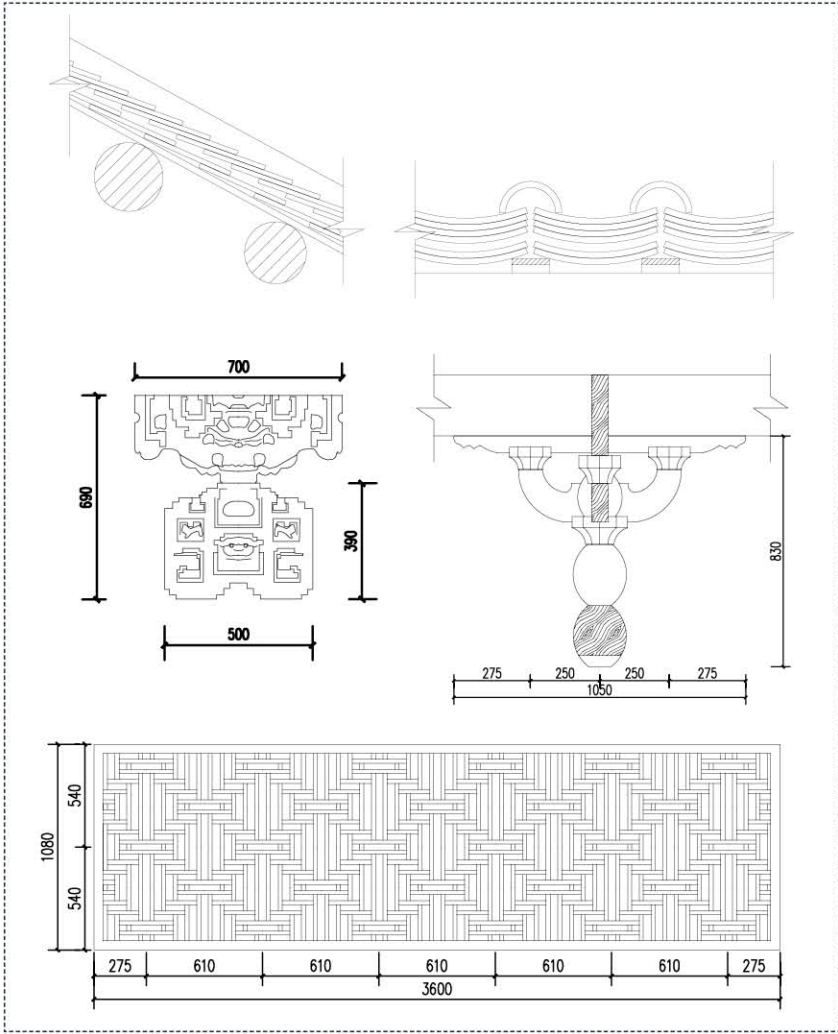


• PART OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWING

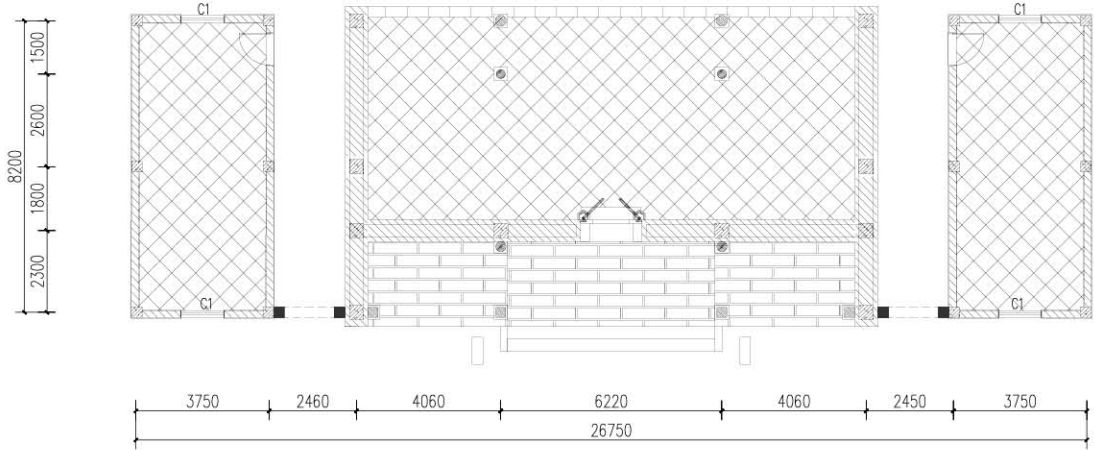
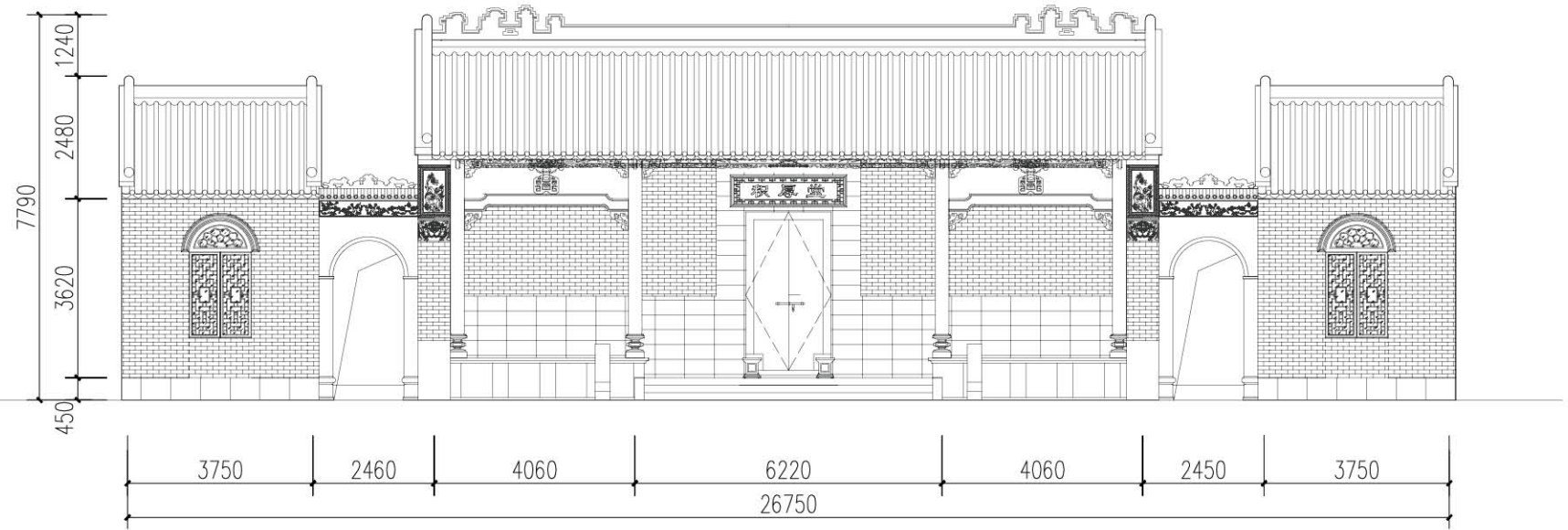
Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



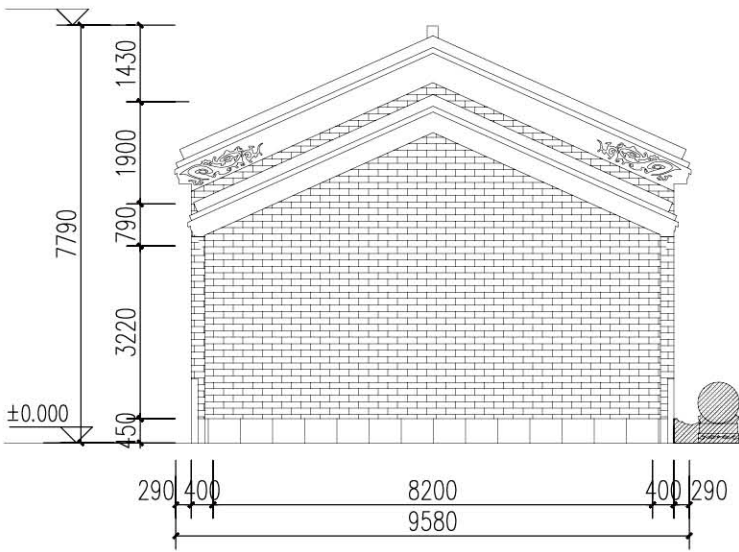
Top Plan of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



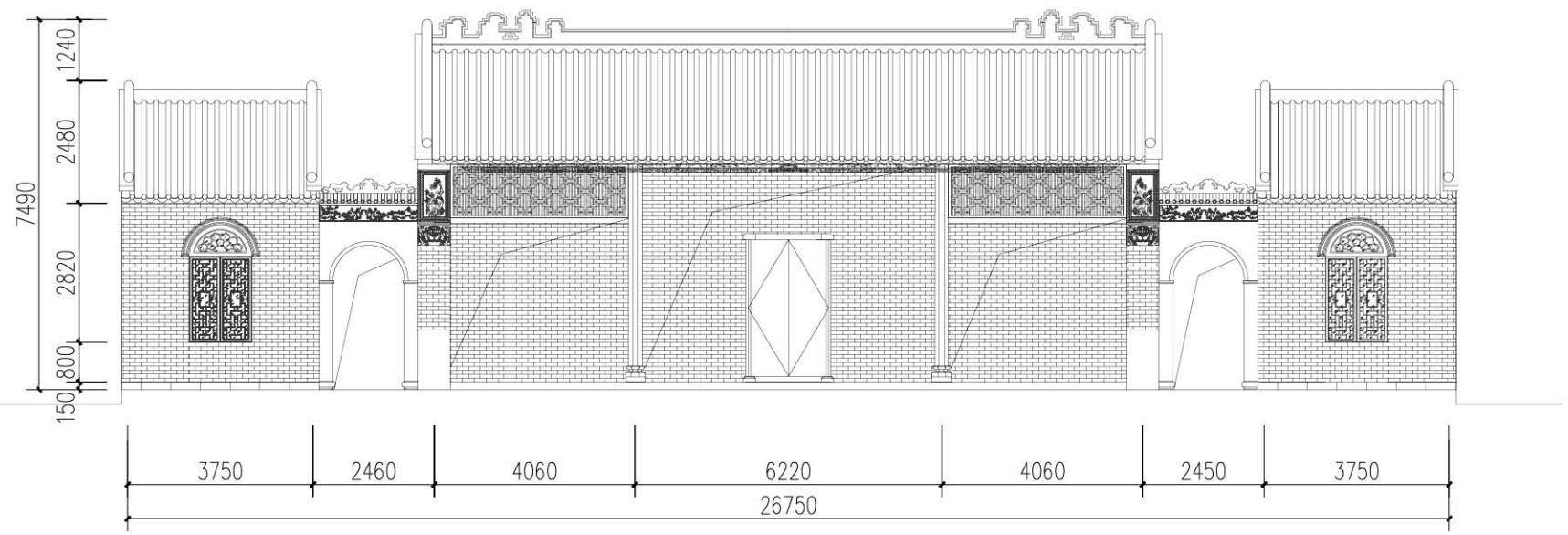
Architectural Details of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



Ground Plan of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall

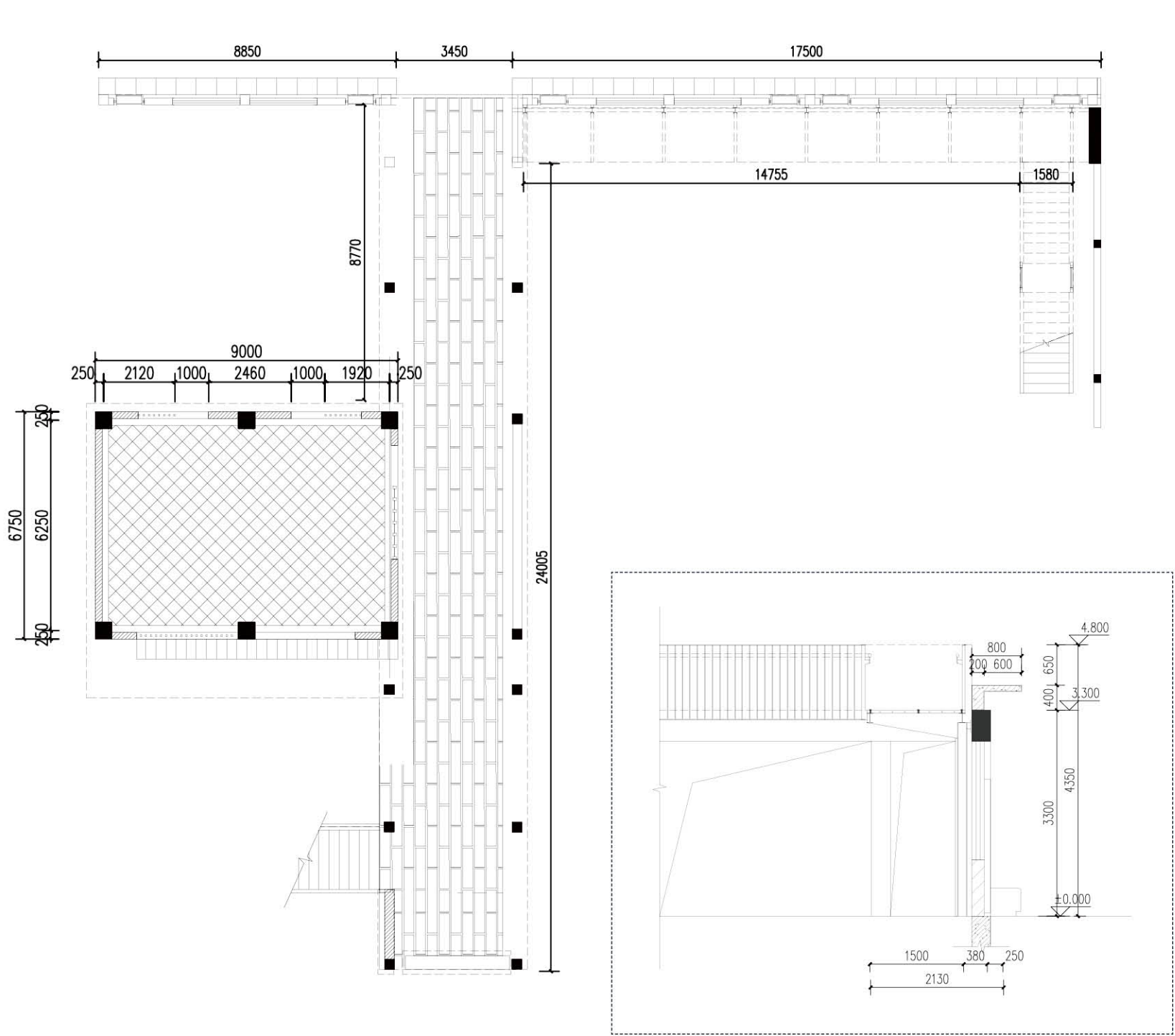


Elevation and Section of Jihoutang Ancestral Hall



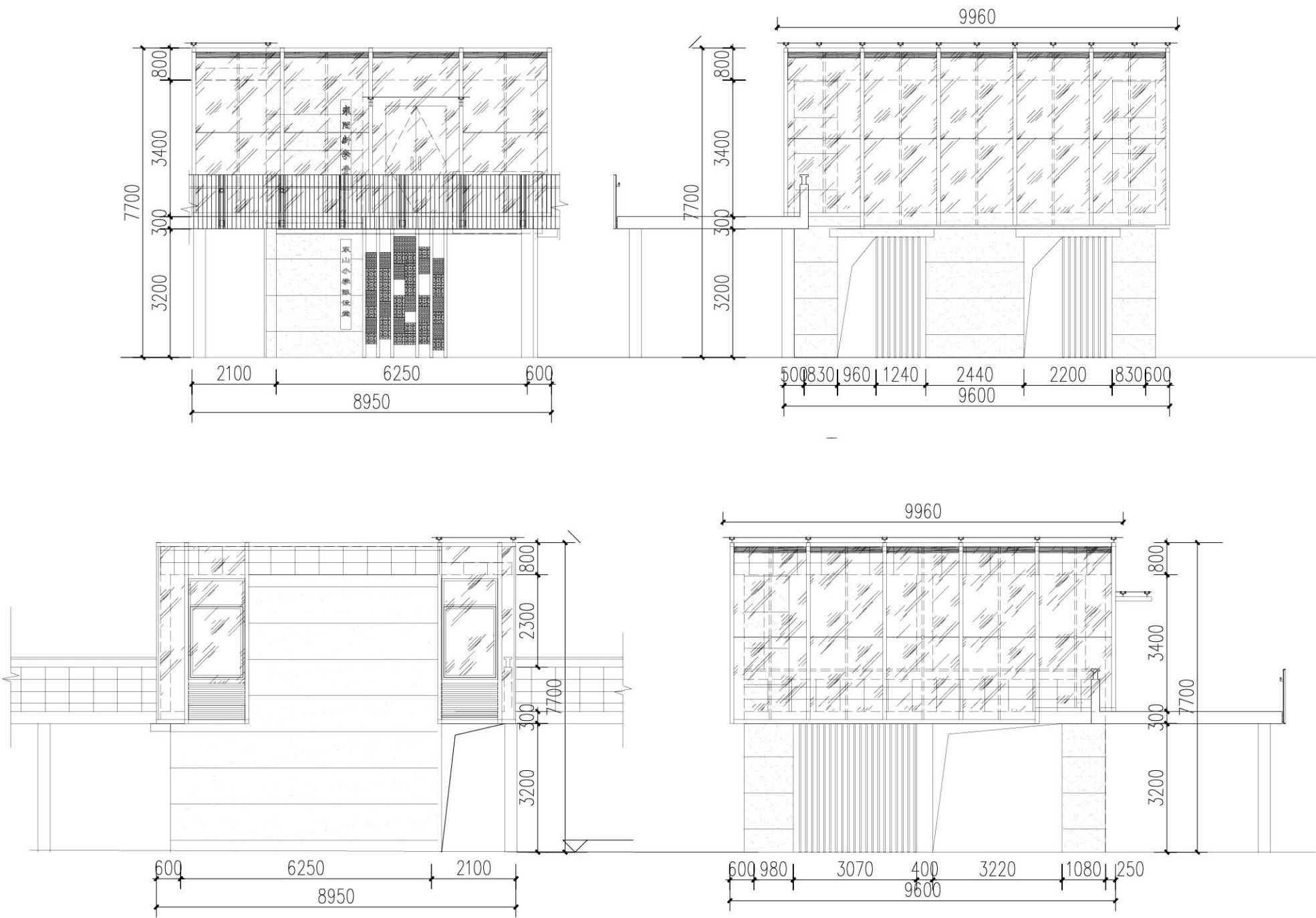
• PART OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWING

Campus Commemoration Gallery



Plan of Campus Commemoration Gallery

Architectural Details of Campus Commemoration Gallery



Elevation and Section of Campus Commemoration Gallery

