

IFLA ASIA-PAC LA Awards2023
Award Categories-Parks and Open space
(Built Projects)

PROJECT BINDER
ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION AND CULTURAL REVIVAL OF A CENTURY-OLD VILLAGE
NENGQIN PARK LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT IN XIBIAN VILLAGE
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Main Title: Ecological Restoration and Cultural Revival of A Century-old Village

Project Subtitle: Nengqin Park Landscape Enhancement Project in Xibian Village

Project Location: Jinjiang Town, Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, China

Award Categories: Parks and Open space

Project Area: 17445 m²

Years of Completion: Built in 2019

Project Statement:

The Creekside Nengqin Park project, with County Road 325 and the Xibian Reservoir to the southwest of the base and agricultural land to the south-west, has a relatively flat topography. Previously, the village was plagued by dilapidated houses, impassable roads, rubbish everywhere and a lack of leisure activities for the villagers, but now it has been transformed into a new look. The planning of Xibian Village has been fully considered, with the ecology of the fields and the culture of the clan as the two axes, linking together the Ecological Garden, the Sword & Guts Garden, the Reed Learning Garden and the Qinxin Garden, closely following the ecological environment and the regional culture of Jinjiang city, outlining a civilised and ecologically livable landscape of Xibian.

Project Narrative:

We collate site issues, absorb the green base and propose sensible ecological restoration and cultural revival strategies to strengthen spatial functions and form a spirit of place.

Design Goals:

With the objective of "revitalising the countryside and retaining nostalgia", we aim to create a humanistic-themed rural ecological park with "one core, two axes, three gardens and five themes", which will serve as a reference case for new rural construction. The park will create a harmonious environment with blue skies, green land, clear water, human habitation and a happy life. The park will allow travellers to experience the memories of the countryside when they return to their hometowns and seeks to inject more vitality into the old villages.

Design Challenges:

- (1) The deepening of urbanization has led to the destruction of the overall imagery of the vernacular landscape.
- (2) With the development of the times, the regional cultural characteristics of the vernacular landscape are gradually dying out, and the construction of the villagers' spiritual civilisation is neglected.
- (3) The quality of the vernacular landscape needs to be improved, and the ecological environment needs urgent treatment.

Design Strategies:

(1) Restoring the overall imagery of the vernacular landscape:

Based on local characteristics and historical cultural lineage, as much local humanistic resources as possible are explored to create a spatial environment with regional characteristics and reflect the spirit of the times.

(2) Regional cultural revival:

Focus on the discovery and extension of local culture, taking into account regional history and culture, folk culture, living habits and religious beliefs. Based on the local characteristics and historical culture, the park focuses on reflecting the spirit of the times, through the extraction of traditional material elements and the application of new techniques in construction, so that the Minnan elements can be used throughout the park. Combined with cultural buildings such as the Xu Ancestral Hall and the Gongma Hall, the park forms a cultural axis for the clan and unites the clan culture development of the internal and external clans.

(3) Ecological restoration:

Establish a native plant system and reshape the rural ecological environment. Respect the spirit of the site, fully combine the existing topography, vegetation, water system and other natural resources, organically connect ecological corridors, ecological isolation green space and farmland woodland, and build a regional ecological pattern.

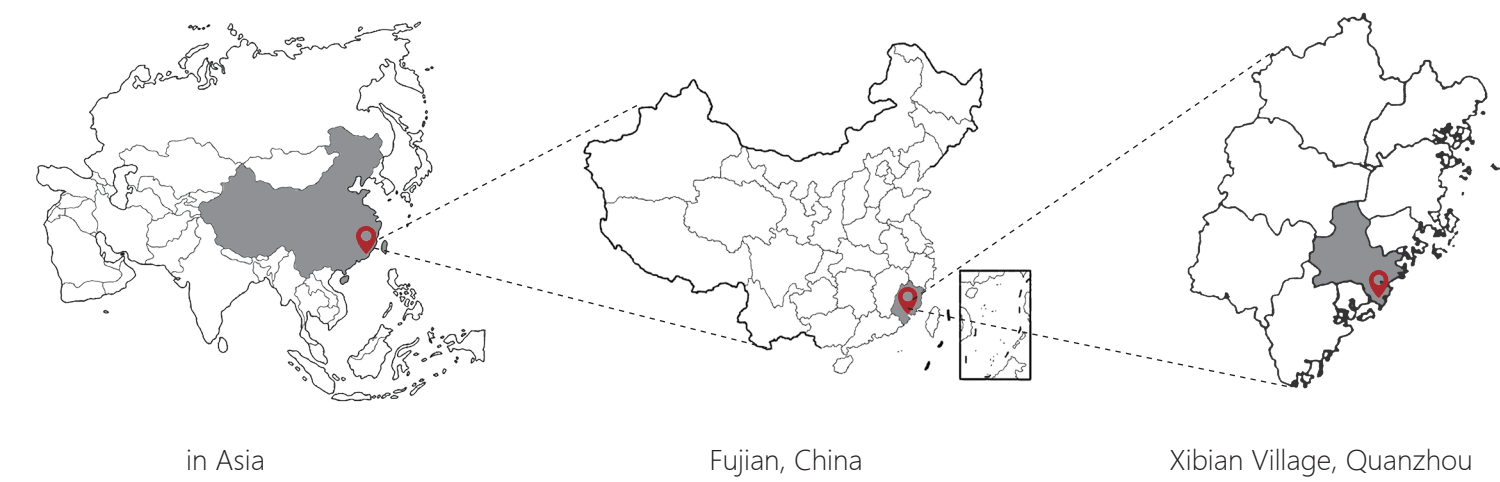
In order to protect the wetland landscape, natural and wild plants are used as the main planting in the buffer area at the periphery of the wetland; from a healthy ecosystem, intact and healthy plant communities are established to bring into play the ecological benefits of the park landscape; a healthy plant community is constructed to increase the richness of the existing vegetation community and create plant diversity; in the selection of plants, native plants of the Jinjiang region are used as the main planting, giving full play to local characteristics.

Social Benefits:

The project combines the current situation of the site and the planned roads in the park, avoiding excavation as far as possible, making intensive use of land and reducing construction costs. It forms a green carrier with healthy living as the premise and a livable village as the goal, advocating public participation and green living.

Nowadays, Xibian Village has a new village appearance, and the parallel development of village construction, industrial development and culture and education has achieved sustainable development on the basis of ecological livability, creating a Xibian model of rural revitalisation. Up to now, Xibian has built 45 villagers' detached houses, the Shuzanglou Art Museum, Nengqin Park, Xibian Park and a number of other projects for the benefit of the people, creating farming and leisure tourism, a rural union post and other projects, creating a new model and a new example of common prosperity and rural revitalisation.

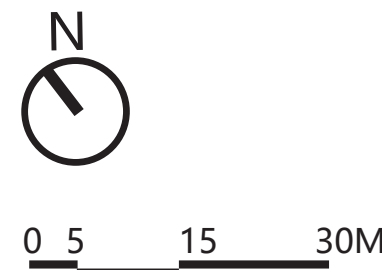
01 Location Analysis



The project is located on the southwest side of Xibian Village, Jinjiang Anhui Town, Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, China. The southeast side of the site is 325 County Road and Xibian Reservoir, and the northeast side is adjacent to Xibian Village. The southwest side of the design site is agricultural land, and the terrain is relatively flat.



02 Master Plan



- Legend:
- 01.Main Entrance
 - 02.Tree Array Leisure Plaza
 - 03.Basketball Court
 - 04.Culture Stone
 - 05.Sword & Guts Garden
 - 06.Ancestral Hall Square
 - 07.Reed Learning Garden
 - 08.Old Stone Walk
 - 09.Reading Corner
 - 10.Scroll Seat
 - 11.Gongma Hall Square
 - 12.QinXin Garden
 - 13.Hexagonal Pavilion
 - 14.Second Entrance
 - 15.Old Stuff Exhibition Wall
 - 16.Lotus Pavilion
 - 17.Waterfront Plaza
 - 18.Lotus Pond
 - 19.Scenic Bridge
 - 20.Xuantian Temple Square
 - 21.Disabled Ramp
 - 22.Leisure platform

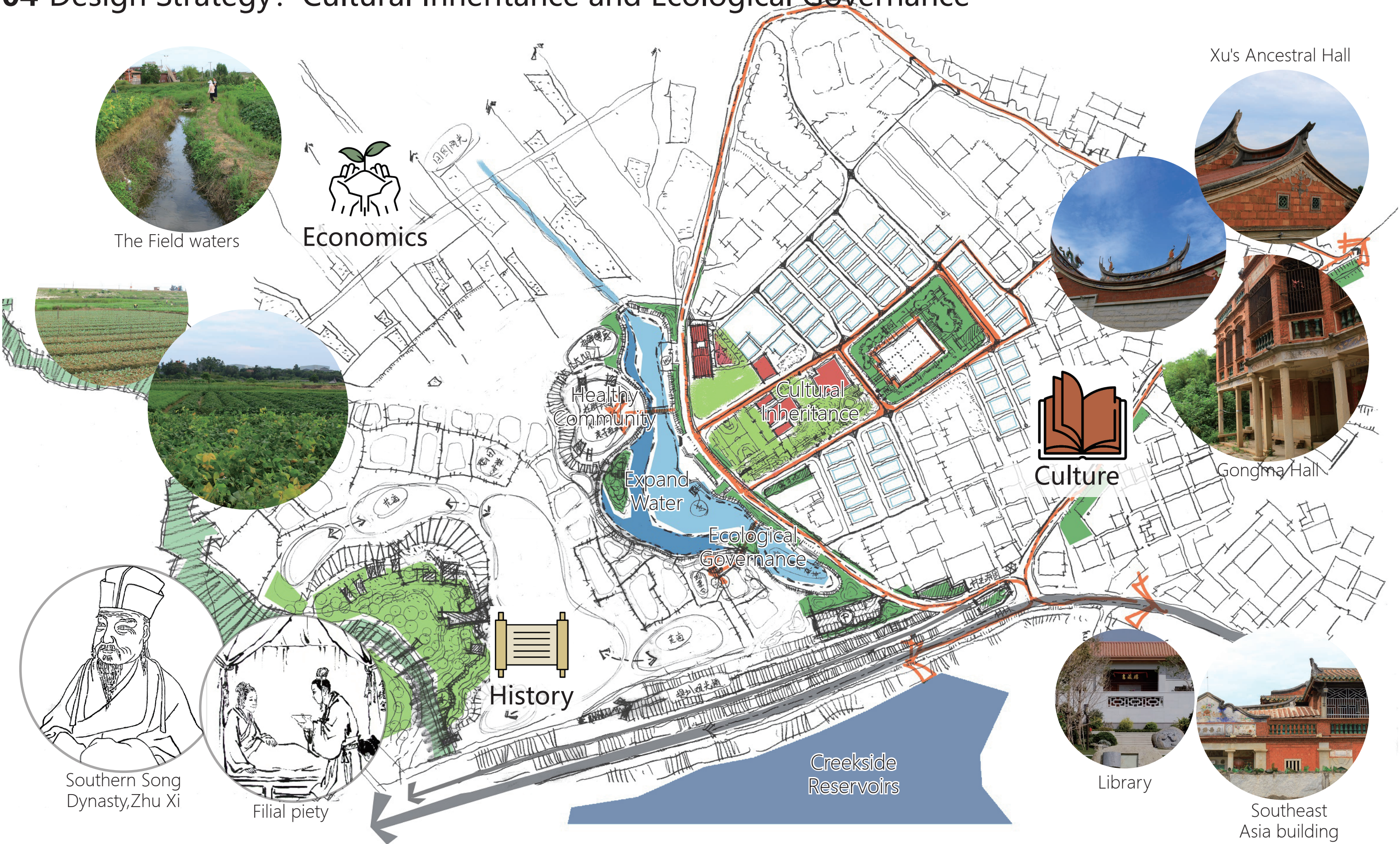
03 Site Status Analysis and Evaluation



Site Status

- (1) The deepening of urbanization leads to the destruction of the overall image of the rural landscape;
- (2) With the development of the times, the regional characteristics of the rural landscape are gradually disappearing, and the spiritual civilization construction of the villagers is ignored;
- (3) The quality of the rural landscape needs to be improved, and the ecological environment needs to be improved urgently.

04 Design Strategy: Cultural Inheritance and Ecological Governance



Culture: The style and features of the villages of ancient architectural complexes in southern Fujian.

History: The regional spirit of daring to challenge, perseverance and dedication. Promote the filial piety culture in traditional Chinese culture.

Economy: Projects such as farming leisure tourism and village alliance post stations will drive wealth.

Ecology: Establish a native plant system and reshape the rural ecological environment.

05 Comparison of Scheme and Completion Effetc



Night Aerial View



Qinxin Garden



Main Entrance



Sword & Guts Garden

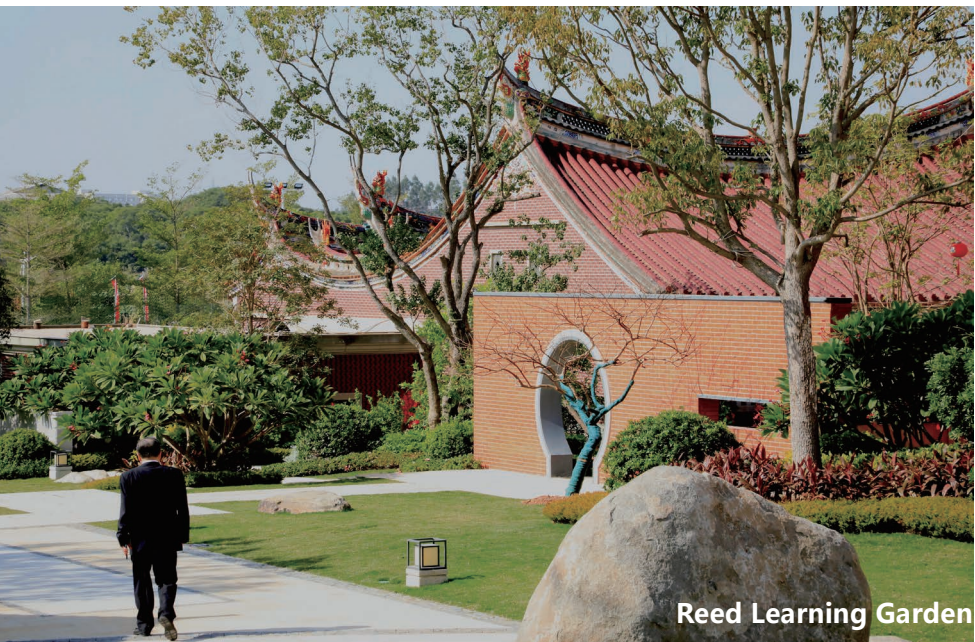


Main Entrance of Reed Learning Garden

06 Present Photos of the Site



Grass Lawn of Reed Learning Garden



Reed Learning Garden



Grass Lawn of Reed Learning Garden



Moon Cave door frame view



Waterfront Plaza of Ecological Garden



Creekside of Ecological Garden

07 The Reappearance of Regional Features in Southern Fujian: Materials | Craftsmanship



Site culture tracing



Site survey and design guidance



Timely optimization of draft schemes



Site construction



Construction process verification effect



Overcoming difficulties in the construction process



Selection and utilization of local materials



Aerial View

Based on local characteristics and historical context, emphasizing the spirit of the times, through the extraction of traditional material elements and the application of new construction methods, the elements of southern Fujian run through the park.



Granite



Slate



Stone brick



Tile



Old stone




Gravel


08 Establish Native Plant Systems and Restore Aquatic Ecosystems

Arbor


Cluster hackberry




Lagerstroemia indica




Big leaf banyan




String willow




Melaleuca




Chrysanthemum Suzuki



Sapium




Maple




Naturalization Principles:
In order to protect the wetland landscape, natural wild plants are mainly planted in the buffer area around the wetland;

Ecological principles:
In order to exert the ecological benefits of the park landscape and establish a sound and healthy plant community;


Pittosporum




Rubrum Yieh




Red leaf heather




Golden Banyan




False forsythia mosaic



Golden Leaf False Forsythia




Yamasuga




Shrubs

Aquatic Plants


Lotus




Mosaic Reed Bamboo




Yellow Calamus




Yellow Canna




Cat-tail



Thalia



Purple Pennisetum

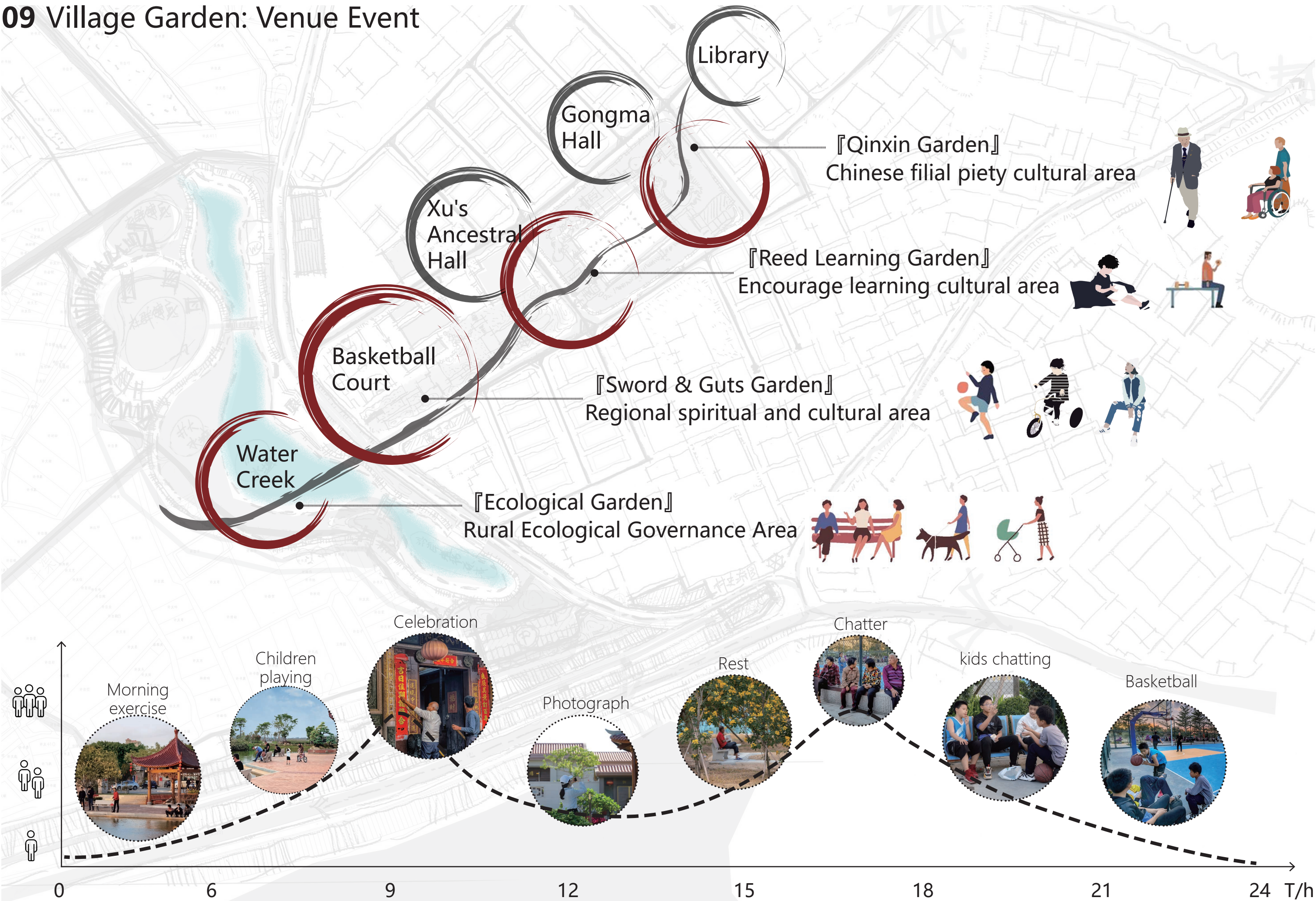


Diversity principle:
Build a healthy plant community, increase the richness of the existing vegetation community, and create biodiversity;

local principles:
In terms of plant selection, Jinjiang native plants are the main ones, giving full play to local characteristics.




09 Village Garden: Venue Event




10 Social Benefits Enhance the environment—Cultural Tracing—Land value increment—The people's happiness


Today's Xibian Village has a completely new look, with rural construction, industrial development, and cultural education developing in parallel. On the basis of ecological livability, it has achieved sustainable development and created a Xibian model for rural revitalization.




Original Square in front of the Original Gongma hall




Original Reed Learning Garden




Original Basketball Court




Original Street Square




Original Ecological Garden




Present Qinxin Garden




Present Reed Learning Garden



Present Basketball Court and Street Square



Present Sword & Guts Garden



Present Ecological Garden