



Lawn Square in front of Chamber of Commerce Building

Designed on the motif of the historic waterborne transportation hub of people and goods, the place signifies a renewed bustle blended with riverside nature.



Lawn Square in front of Chamber of Commerce Building

The spacious lawn harmonizes the restored building and the municipal land, creating a new urban space with depth and continuity.

KEYWORD OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN

LEGACY

SEQUENCE

This project consists of construction of a hotel and residential / commercial / office buildings and restoration of historic architecture in a section of a 50ha development zone in the downstream of Suzhou Creek, an estuary of Huangpu River flowing through the center of Shanghai, China. The landscape design integrates buildings with different purposes, scales, and historical contexts with an attempt to create continuity of "time" from the era of international settlement against the backdrop of Shanghai's unique and prosperous history.



Location map



Bvlgari Hotel Shanghai

Address: No. 33 North Henan Road, Shanghai, China  
 Principal uses: hotel, residence, restaurant, commerce, office  
 Developer: OCT Shanghai Land  
 Architectural design: Foster Associates;  
 Modern Urban Architectural Design Institute  
 Landscape design: Landscape Design Inc.  
 Interior design: Antonio Citterio Patricia Viel  
 Construction: Zhongxin Construction Group  
 Design area: approx. 15,000m<sup>2</sup>  
 Structures: 46 stories above ground and 3 stories underground;  
 5-story tower building  
 Max. height: approx. 150 meters



Pavement Pattern in front of Chamber of Commerce Building

Gradual transition from pavement to lawn.



Lawn Square in front of Chamber of Commerce Building

Large-diameter trees forming a backdrop to the lawn square.

A Square Reflecting the History of International Settlement

The highlight of this project is a public-private partnership (PPP), under which it was agreed that the historic Chamber of Commerce (COC) building originally constructed in 1916 and later abandoned would be restored by OCT, a private developer, based on architectural historical analysis and be operated and used by Bvlgari Hotel as a ballroom and restaurant as part of the hotel. Within this PPP framework, we tried to create a space where the historic architecture would blend with the rest of the project area without borders between public and private sections. The Lawn Square with a water feature reflecting the COC building has become a new public space, adding to the enrichment of urban life along Suzhou Creek.



Seven Gardens & 2-Story Gate

Gardens created under 7 different themes, including Water, Edible (fruits), Sound, Fragrance, and Shade.

### Hotel Gardens Symbolizing the Heritage of Time

How can we preserve Shanghai's unique heritage and its glorious history as an international settlement in emerging China where architects from all over the world are competing with new and iconic designs to differentiate themselves? Taking this as an important challenge for the project, we used the restored COC building, 2-Story Gate, and border walls as a context for designing the new hotel gardens, attempting to depict the continuity of "time" by selecting large-trunk tree species that were popular during the international settlement era and planting them in front of the COC building.



Top: Water Garden Bottom: Shade Garden



Restored 2-Story Gate



Suzhou Creek around 1940



Whole View of  
Development Area

Suzhou Creek's downstream area had been left behind from development and turned partially into a slum until Shanghai City designated it as an urban renewal area. A local developer OCT made investment to initiate the area's development, the leading project for which was Bvlgaria Hotel Shanghai.



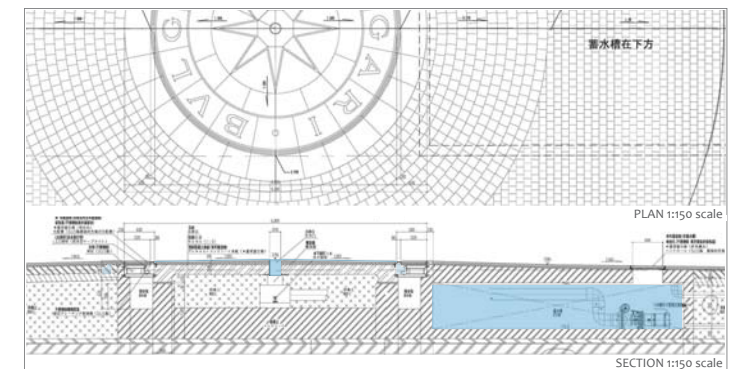
Masterplan

The landscape design integrates buildings of varying purposes under a single hotel brand.



Hotel Entrance

Water feature reflecting the night view of COC building.



Waterscape  
Cross Section Detail

Water springing out of the center flows over the surface with 5mm thickness.

### “Water” as a Bridge over Time and Space

The project area along Suzhou Creek was a thriving transportation hub during the era of international settlement. This project is expected to revitalize the waterfront area by enhancing its charm and values under a brand-new plan. We envisioned a coherent landscape infused with a motif of rippling, sparkling water as a unified theme and a symbol of Shanghai's glory and kept working on details until the exact textures and patterns were found. Also, zoning, circulation planning, and space configuration were carefully thought out to harmonize the preserved low-rise architecture, high-rise Bvlgari Hotel and Residences, and the adjacent commercial/office buildings of varying shapes and functions with high precision befitting of the hotel brand.