

PARIS IMPRESSION

Suzhou



Paris Impression Shanghai



*« Adapt an architectural style to
the local culture »*

Crédits

Project :

Housing district

Location:

Suzhou, China

Status :

Delivered in 2007

Awards:

Winning Prize for Protection of
Architecture Design, Suzhou
Creek District

Surface Area :

200 000 m²

Client:

Shanghai Nanshan Real Estate
Co.LTD



The project

This urban project for the development of luxury residences in the new Suzhou urban area to the east of Jinji Lake is inspired by a contemporary French architectural style that has been adapted to respect the culture underlying Chinese housing. Much like the avenues to be found in Parisian districts, two rows of plane trees planted along the main axis from the entrance on the north-west side lead through to a rounded town square dominated by a work of art onto which is engraved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Urbanism Principle:

The Urbanism Principle generating the Master plan took the following points into consideration:

The general city planning regulations of Suzhou, the north-south orientation, the arrival to the site from the city centre, the vehicle access and the pedestrian access.

The area to be considered was treated like three zones, where the typologies to be occupied are in growing order from South to North. Thus allowing the creation of a varied skyline, and uniform from the volumetric point of view, and also to get the best sunning for the South facades and the best views towards the west and southeast.

The south zone of collective houses is a low density area; the central zone with medium density with 5 or 6 storey buildings, and the north zone with high density and 8 to 12 storey buildings.

The Round commercial area: or the principal commercial area of the whole placed on the north side of the plot near the pedestrian access of the whole. Here the predominant features are the external terraces of the shops similar to the French brasseries with their tables and white parasols; the roof gardens and water-fountains as protection from summer heats; and the covered galleries which provide outdoor enjoyment in winter as well as in summer.



The Central Park: or green longitudinal area north-south, about 20 mts. width by 300 mts. length with a winding river all along this park. The Mineral plaza , were we find the square space, plenty of trees , landscape treatment like water ponds, vegetal and mineral

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The Forest: this is the area where the collective houses are placed.

spaces and those filled with volumes.

The empty spaces resulting from the balconies and terraces on the south side of the buildings are due to the need of protection from the summer sun thus creating important shade areas.

The project is formed by several types of buildings: low, medium and high density buildings.

Low Density:

It results in the creation of collective houses adjoining each other by their lateral walls. They have any type of surface. These have 3 levels and a semi-basement. The living rooms, master bedrooms and balconies terraces are exposed to the south and largely glazed.

Medium Density:

It is treated by the creation of three blocks of buildings of 5 and 6 floors located in the central area of the enclosure. Served by stairs on either side of the central block. Again, the same criteria are adopted on all floors and large living rooms-dining rooms are south facing with a balcony whose minimum width is 1.3 m.

The secondary bedrooms, the kitchen and the second bathroom are oriented North and West.

High Density: The 8 to 12 storey building typology are placed in the northern zone of the site. In this typology are the shops on the ground floor surrounding the area of the oval square and Club area The oval garden is surrounded by terraces and water-fountains and crossed underground by the access street

On the 2nd floor and 3rd floor are the

The residential complex:

In this way the residential compound is formed by a number of squares integrating buildings, accesses, compound public circulations, the landscape project and semi public spaces, as well as the technical building of each square, the guests' parking, arcades in commercial area, pedestrian passages for bikes and the temporary vehicles stops: for instance delivery, urgencies etc.

The general architecture of the whole presents a characteristic with predominance of the volume worked as from a Pure block. The necessary operations of digging under it and insertions have been made to this block in order to dismember and enlighten it from the bottom to the top of the buildings.

In this way we achieve a good settling of the volumes to the ground, the root and the formal support of the compound. .

The solidity is shown by the choice of the material used, the thickness of its walls and the balance between the empty

three bedrooms apartments. As from the 4th floor the two bedrooms apartments are situated. On the last two floors are the duplex with the best view to the lake. As in the cases of the 5 and 6 storey buildings typologies, the living rooms and main bedrooms are SOUTH oriented with either terraces or balcony.







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BLOCK







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