

Xixi Wetland Estate

Hangzhou, China 2007–2015

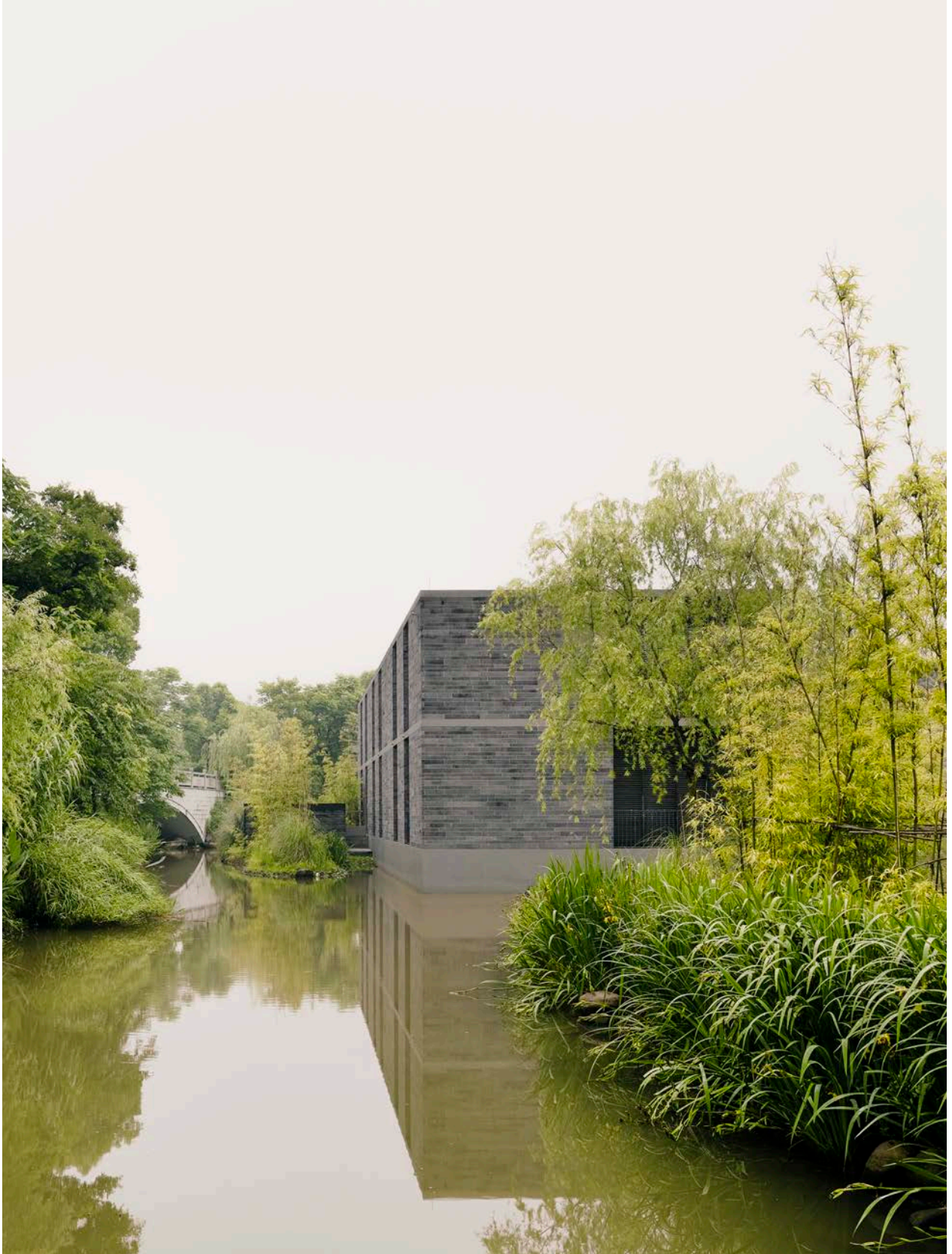
Xixi, a national wetland park located on the outskirts of Hangzhou, is a built landscape and an area of nature, which has been shaped by man for over a thousand years. The omnipresent relationship between water, landscape, and architecture is key to the atmosphere in Xixi. This context has been integrated into a new development of apartment buildings.

The buildings are surrounded by a water garden, which, as a reference to the wetland park, is a mostly wild landscape. In contrast to these green surroundings, the buildings appear as dark stone volumes embedded in the water garden. They are, as is typical for villages in Xixi, placed on a stone plinth that sits in the water. This plinth forms the base of a village group with various levels, walls, and balustrades creating a sequence of exterior spaces, which enable access to the buildings. The interiors are characterised by floating spaces. Room height windows allow for natural light and views over the water garden.

Project start	2007
Completion	2015
Gross floor area	11,800 m ²
Client	Hangzhou Westbrook Investment Co. Ltd.
Architect	David Chipperfield Architects Berlin & Shanghai



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Partners	David Chipperfield, Libin Chen, Mark Randel (Design lead)
Project architects	Ilona Priwitzer (Preparation and brief to Developed design), Manh Kinh Tran (Developed design, Technical design), Sascha Jung (Technical design), Samson Adjei (Technical design, Site design supervision)
Project team	Mirjam von Busch, Maoxue Li, Jiacong Yang <i>In collaboration with</i>
Local design institute	ECADI– East China Architecture and Design Institute, Shanghai (Technical design to Construction supervision)
Lighting consultant	Proteus Lighting, Shanghai
Landscape architect	Belt & Collins, Singapur