YANWEIZHOU PARK

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In the urban heart of Jinhua, a city with a population of over one million, one last piece of natural riparian wetland of more than 64.acres (26 ha) remains undeveloped. Located where the Wuyi River and Yiwu River converge to form Jinhua River, this wetland is called Yanweizhou, literally meaning "the sparrow tail". Beyond this tail, riparian wetlands have already been eliminated by the construction of an organically shaped opera house.

Before the Yanweizhu Park project was implemented, the three rivers, each of which is over 100 meters wide, divided the densely populated communities in the region. As a result of this inaccessibility, the cultural facilities, including the opera house and the green spaces adjacent to the Yanweizhou were underutilized. The remaining 50-acre (20 ha) riparian wetland was fragmented or destroyed by sand quarries. Due to its monsoon climate, Jinhua suffers from annual flooding. For a long time, the strategy

to control flooding was to build stronger and taller concrete floodwalls to yield cheap land for urban development .The project of Yanweizhou Park is itself a resilient landscape multipurpose strategy, designed with minimum interventions to make full use of the existing riparian sand quarries. The biodiversity of the area was adapted and enhanced through the addition of native wetland species. Water resilient terrain and plantings are designed to adapt to the monsoon floods; a resilient bridge and paths system are designed to adapt to the dynamic water currents and people flows, connecting the city with nature and the past to the future. Resilient spaces are created to fulfill the need for temporary, intensive use by the audience from the opera house, yet are adaptable for daily use by people seeking intimate and shaded spaces. The project has given the city a new identity and is now acclaimed as its most poetic landscape.