

Study on the Artistic Techniques of Bamboo Landscaping in Gardens—Taking Canglang-Pavilion as an Example

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Abstract: *The Canglang Pavilion, a Suzhou classical garden, is well-known for its distinctive gardening methods and appropriate subject interpretation. Stepping inside the garden's rich bamboo arrangement and suitable architectural space can lead people to identify the phenomena with diligence, moral rectitude, and other admirable traits. There are many bamboo landscape gardens in Suzhou. This study summarizes the use of bamboo in garden landscaping and provides an analysis of the Canglang Pavilion landscape node space plant design.*

Keywords: *Canglang Pavilion; Bamboo; Landscaping*

1. Introduction

The proverb "bamboo is not vulgar," "no garden is not bamboo," and other similar sayings refer to the use of bamboo, according to its growth form, to convey the character of a high style since ancient times. They also clarify that bamboo is found in gardens based on plant configuration. Bamboo is a common subject throughout Suzhou's several gardens, each of which is a unique landscape masterpiece. For instance, the "Bamboo Garden" promenade in the Garden of Excelsior aims to convey a refreshing feeling, while the bamboo jungle that forms the Lion's Grove is meant to convey a Zen meditation.

With several bamboo species serving as the primary feature of the landscape and other grasses and trees serving as a backdrop, Canglang Pavilion occupies half of the park's landscape nodes. There are around 20 different varieties of bamboo in Canglang Pavilion. They range in shape and color from low bamboo to high straight bamboo, with light green filial piety bamboo to bright yellow culm. The "virtues of the gentleman," "quiet understanding of the heart," "honesty and integrity" [1], and other traits are expressed through *Phyllostachys iridescens* on the transition changes to the suitable water system, asphalt, and buildings bordering the bamboo landscape.

2. Bamboo in Canglang Pavilion

2.1. Connotation of Bamboo

In Chinese culture, bamboo is a common plant with deep symbolic importance. Bamboo is a perennial herb that is a member of the grass family. Its primary stem is cylindrical, usually hollow, and has distinct linkages, each of which bears a tumor nodule. Bamboo is sturdy and upright, growing to a height of several meters or even tens of meters. Bamboo has elongated or arrowhead-shaped leaves that are translucent and soft green like jade. Bamboo has a well-developed root system that can both preserve water and successfully mend the soil.

People are drawn to bamboo's clean, straight, and spiritual appearance. Its erect, straight body represents the qualities of tenacity and unwavering determination. Bamboo nodes stand for experience and accumulation of growth, as well as diligence and perseverance[2]. People get a sense of hope and vitality from the freshness and greenness of bamboo leaves, which symbolize the beauty and prosperity of life.

Chinese culture is rich with symbolism related to bamboo. To begin with, bamboo is considered one of the Four Gentlemen of China, representing the virtues of morality and stability. In ancient poetry,


bamboo is frequently employed to highlight the honorable disposition and disposition of scholars. Second, bamboo's durability, adaptability, and "gentleman's demeanor" have made it a source of inspiration for Chinese writers and literati. Bamboo's disposition of overcoming adversity highlights people's quest of excellence and tenacity. Furthermore, bamboo represents grace, tidiness, and flawlessness, suggesting a morally upright character.

Additionally, bamboo has a deep metaphorical importance. Its construction is such that it can support everything, signifying wisdom and tolerance to survive the wind and rain of the severe climate. It can also grow lushly, suggesting tenacity, unwavering vitality, and strong will^[2]. Bamboo also possesses the attributes of moderation and modesty; its knotty tumors represent the traits of humility and self-control.

In general, bamboo's shape and symbolism represent the best traits and spiritual aspirations of the Chinese people. One of the most significant symbols in Chinese traditional culture, it stands for the virtues of tenacity, cleanliness, modesty, and tolerance. I wish for all of us to be like the bamboo: to be strong yet flexible, to pursue greatness, and to persevere with oneself.

2.2. Types of Bamboo in Canglang Pavilion

Table 1: Types of Bamboo

Omei mountain bamboo		Shrubby clumping bamboo with densely growing, green rods. Branches clustered in one section with dark green foliage.
Sasa fortunei		Ornamental ground cover bamboo, dwarf clumps, green with white stripes in new field, later turning yellow striped.
Indocalamus tessellatus		The height of the pole can reach 2m, the leaf blade is large, can be used as dumping leaves, clumped densely, belongs to the foliage plants.
Shibataea chinensis		Leaf blades ovate, shaped like quills, bamboo culms dwarf.
Sasa pygmaea		Dwarf bamboo species with small, biseriate leaves, bright green.
Phyllostachys iridescens		Bamboo shoots, poles to 12 m tall, young poles whitewashed, bamboo shoots red, culms green.
Phyllostachys aurea		The adult bamboo is 3-5m tall, with bright green leaves, straight culms, and a special shape.
Bambusa multiplex cv. Fernleaf		The plant is short and clumped, with dashing bright green leaves that resemble a cockatrice.
Hibanobambusa tranquillans f. shiroshima H.Okamura		Culms 3-5m tall, abaxially mostly veined, rare colorful ornamental groundcover.
Phyllostachys vivaxcv.aureocaulis		The rods are up to 15m tall, sulphur yellow and brightly colored.

No bamboo, no garden. Suzhou garden bamboo is extensively used in landscaping. The "sycamore and bamboo secluded residence" is a broad planting of sycamore and bamboo in the Humble Administrator's Garden, situated on the pavilion side. According Chinese legend, "the phoenix does not eat bamboo, nor does it perch on the wutong." Wutongs are located on top, and "Feng Mei Sen Sen, Long Yin Yin" is written in the bamboo underneath. The setting is serene and comfortable because it is so open and private. In the Liouyuan Garden, the bamboo walk that runs between "Yibuer" and "Zuyunan" uses the technique of growing bamboo forests on one side in order to create a straight road that gives the impression of deep landscape and spatial extension. There are about twenty distinct varieties of bamboo in the Canglang Pavilion Garden, which is dispersed across the entire building.

There are many different kinds of bamboo in gardens, but the following are the most common varieties used in aquascaping. As shown in table 1.

3. Canglang Pavilion Bamboo Landscape

3.1. Pavilion Space Sequence at Canglang

The Canglang Pavilion is situated in the Gusu District on Canglang Pavilion Street, across from Ke Garden Corner. The rivers that flow through Suzhou are one of the most significant modes of transit in the water town of Jiangnan. As a result, all of Suzhou's gardens, no matter how big or tiny, are surrounded by rivers, and the streets leading up to the gardens are riverbank. The entrance area of the Canglang Pavilion, on the other hand, is distinct from the Ke Yuan's since they are joined by a stone bridge. The pavilion is like a gentleman who is free from the world, and the entire park is like an island standing on the corner, with water and bamboo walls dividing it from the outer world. The emotional tone is set uncommonly well from the start.

After crossing two stone bridges, one arrives at the site's entrance. The first feature that draws the eye is the rockery behind the darker foyer, which is illuminated by the early morning sun. People are naturally drawn forward by the visual focus and the brief view of the garden's scenery. The choice of darker-colored wood contributed to the ticket receiving area's gloom, and the space's low ceiling and dark interior starkly contrast with the outside area's openness to create a sense of direction. To get to the garden, which has a jagged rockery, repeat a few steps. The stones of Taihu Lake have various shapes, and occasionally the landscape's hollow area containing plants may be made out in the distance. This area uses leakage and barrier landscape approaches. There are two lines in the garden that run from the stone on the left to the right. The right side is where you should begin since, despite the corridor on the left, you can hear a stream bubbling up from the right side, accompanied by the Taihu Lake stones intended to create a "mountain" that provides the appearance of a hidden mountain and a peach garden outside. After passing around a corner, realizing that the sound of running water came from the Liuyu Lake. Unlike other pools, there are few fish and no waterfowl inside to naturally express a relaxed and secluded environment. The "birth" of bamboo began here. The pool's edge is home to a shrub class of *Hibanobambusa tranguillans* f. *shiroshima* H. Okamura. The shimmering pool water and white-striped bamboo are near the echoes of the pink wall's uneven heights, and the landscape's extension adds interest and life to the smaller space's hidden mystery. Furthermore, it symbolizes the reconciliation of yin and yang, with water representing yin and bamboo leaves inviting yang^[3]. Furthermore, Canglang Pavilion bears the name of Canglang; yet, the garden's water system is quite small because the gravel pavement outside the compound corridor suggests that the area is dry^[4].

From start to finish, the purposefully planned path running parallel to the promenade follows the tourist as if it were water. The wall is still manicured as you stroll along the bulkhead near the shore. The narrower route, which is accessible through a gourd-shaped gateway, is split in half by stone steps; the lower portion is paved with dead stones for pedestrian use, and the upper portion is planted. A tall pine tree stands in the center of the row, its shadow cast against the mottled wall by its needles. There is a green bamboo at the end of the courtyard, growing in the corner of the wall without interfering with other plants. Together, the two friends—pine and bamboo—create the courtyard's theme, which is excellence, steadfastness, and proud bones. To get to another landscape node, go from the courtyard outside through the intricate corridor and into the garden. A cluster of filial piety bamboo is situated at the corner of the wall, forming an outdoor transition space of green space nature, where the corridor is partially and purposefully designed to avoid the building. There is a medium-height light green bamboo forest between CuiLingLong and behind the Ancestral Hall of Five Hundred Sages. Bamboo height is essentially the same as the building; CuiLingLong is hidden inside it. From the Yangzhi Pavilion of the corridor on the right, there is a side window that acts as a scene leak; through the hole, you can see another section of

tall bamboo forests, which is greener in color and formal taller than the preceding one. At the road's fork, which leads to Mingdao Hall on the left, there is bright yellow bamboo ahead, and to the left is the semicircular bamboo fence that leads to the garden's depths. Bamboo has completely changed in form and color up to this point: it was bright green at first, then turned bright yellow, then back to bright green. You can see the "high mountains" on the Canglang Pavilion, which is mostly surrounded by shrubs, when you walk out of Mingdao Hall on the left side of the hallway. Among them are low trees that highlight the building and shrubs called Ruo bamboo. It will be to the water's edge at the Xuan from the promenade's right side out. Will emerge from the Xuan and go back to the garden trellis's beginning, which is dispersed across the entire building.

3.2. Canglang Pavilion Bamboo Scene Summary

There are more than 20 different species of bamboo, as was mentioned in the previous discussion of the species in the Canglang Pavilion. There are many variations, but creating the landscape is not complex; it is worthwhile to keep learning. It can be summarized in three ways:

(1) Regarding the morphology:

There are many different types of bamboo in the garden, including shrubs, gardens, sparse to dense, and narrow to broad-leaved plants. It must be set up correctly in accordance with the designer's intent. Take the Canglang Pavilion on the rockery, for instance. The entire rockery serves as the focal point of the pavilion, and the low posture and choice of bamboo over broad-leaved shrubs highlight the building's core while also adding more color to the rockery. For instance, the yin-yang bamboo with narrow leaves near Liuyu Lake. The goal of the entire water node is to create a winding, relaxing atmosphere; if you select a tall bamboo, this will throw off the equilibrium by producing a new visual focus. Choosing the tall red-feeding chicken bamboo is necessary to reflect the open backyard at CuiLingLong, which aims to create an atmosphere of vigor and uprightness.

(2) Regarding hue:

As was previously mentioned, the bamboo's color changes throughout the garden have symbolic meaning. In addition to the form changing from small to tall in only small, I think that color changes from light green to dark green, and then from dark green to bright yellow, also correspond with each other, signifying the progression of each stage of the bamboo from its early years to its twilight, and these bamboo expressions should reflect the intention of the quality. As a result, the plants' overall color expression in the garden's landscape should follow a master plan. There will be garish outcomes if there is no organization.

(3) Regarding the general arrangement:

The general arrangement of garden plants describes how to select and position plants in the garden design in order to accomplish the objectives of enhancing the surroundings, establishing a mood, and fulfilling purposes. And the distinctive bamboo landscaping methods used by Canglang Pavilion can be summed up as follows:

1) Regarding the visual impact:

Select the plant colors and appearance attributes based on the garden design's overall theme and style. For the plant to have a lovely and harmonious visual effect, its shape, texture, leaf color, and other features should all be in harmony with the surroundings. For instance, the previously discussed yin and yang white bamboo needs to blend in with the surroundings. Furthermore, the articulation of the bamboo species must be organic. For instance, the Canglang Pavilion uses the leakage technique to hint at high bamboo while first utilizing the medium height of the bamboo forest.

2) Concerning the functional requirements:

Take into account bamboo's functional requirements in the garden, which include shade, seclusion, and landscape division. Choose bamboo species based on their various functional requirements; for example, tall varieties can offer good shade, and shrub forms can be used for pruning, modeling, and landscape separation.

3) In terms of space:

Many bamboo landscape types are separated by the garden design's spatial arrangement. To create a rich and varied sense of spatial hierarchy, for instance, designating the tall red feeder bamboo as the focal point of the landscape, the middle and high Luo Han bamboo as the transition layer, and the low

Pan bamboo as the bottom layer.

To put it briefly, the general arrangement of garden plants must consider the local climate, design specifications, functional needs, and other elements, and be modified as needed. A lovely and comfortable garden setting can be established by using rational and scientific configuration.

4. Summary

The exquisite bamboo landscape of Canglang Pavilion, a gem in the Suzhou gardens, has made it well-known. People can be captivated by the artistic expression of bamboo landscaping. Garden designers create unique landscapes by combining nature and artifice with skillful use of bamboo. As you stroll down the meandering path, you'll see a thick forest of bamboo. Garden designers pay close attention to the details and arrangement of the bamboo. The bamboo's varying heights create a distinctive sense of hierarchy and space. Bamboos of different varieties and heights are intertwined with each other to form a rich and diverse landscape, giving people the enjoyment of beauty and visual impact. At the same time, the color of the bamboo is also a highlight of the bamboo landscape of Canglang Pavilion. From soft green to deep emerald to bright yellow, from fresh to calm, Creating different bamboo landscapes^[5].

The Canglang Pavilion Bamboo Scene is visually stunning, but it also has deep cultural significance. In Chinese culture, bamboo is deeply symbolic and has deep meaning. It embodies the qualities of modesty, high chastity, and gentlemanly behavior. It also has lofty emotions and philosophical undertones. Canglang Pavilion's bamboo scenery evokes these enigmatic and age-old cultural symbols, which deepen visitors' perceptions and enhance the garden's overall ambiance.

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