

adjacent to the famous roadway. Since the early 1990s, the Bund has lost many of its trees and, with the rapid development of the city, the boulevard has become a congested traffic artery.

The main stream of Shanghai, named by foreigners as Suzhou Creek and historically called the Woosung River, flows down into the Huangpu River from Tai Lake, the third largest lake in China. Within Shanghai itself, the Creek runs through the very heart of the city. The Creek serves as flood release, water drainage, navigation channel, and provides irrigation as well as being a fishery. The banks of the Creek historically consisted of factories and warehouses. Not surprisingly, it has therefore suffered from a significant pollution problem. Untreated effluent from the factories turned the water of Suzhou Creek black. At the confluence of the two rivers, the black water contrasted markedly with the waters of the Huangpu. With recent efforts to improve the water quality of the Creek this phenomenon has been reduced.

Suzhou Creek divides Puxi into two parts. The northern part was the former Chinese territory, and a small part in the east end was the American Settlement, established in 1848. The southern part was the former British Settlement, established in 1846. Suzhou Creek became the contact point between the Chinese City and the International Settlements. This condition explains some of the traffic problems now present in this part of the city. Movement east and west is relatively easy; however, movement north and south (that is, across the Creek) is difficult (Shiling, 1998). The reason for this is that the Creek was historically the back-side for both the Chinese City and the British Concession. This fact also explains the random nature of the street organization in the area and the reason that the districts around the Creek were crowded and disorganized. Indeed, the character of the Creek was always one of pollution, noise and crime.

In 1997, as part of a wider remaking of the image of the city, a renewal project for Suzhou Creek started. As part of this, a one and a half mile green belt was constructed and a grand project is now underway to create a park around the Creek. The project includes the preservation of historic buildings, the reorganization of the traffic system, the creation of parks, the establishment of water platforms and the reconstruction of the riverbank. With the improvement of the water quality in the Creek, the famously black and odorous waters will become an aspect of the past.

The regeneration of the Huangpu River is the larger waterfront development and will significantly change the nature of the city. The Shanghai P&K Development Company joined the Shanghai Port Authority to create the development framework for investment, marketing and coordination of the Huangpu waterfront. In collaboration with the Shanghai Urban Planning and Urban Research Institute, Skidmore Owings and Merrill International Ltd. prepared the redevelopment scheme. With the opening of the Pudong, the Huangpu shifted from being the eastern edge of the city to becoming the center of the city. It now exists as the join between Puxi and Pudong, the old and new Shanghai. The scheme focuses on the redevelopment of port properties now that major port functions have shifted to the Yangtze River. Currently only a small section of the waterfront on the Huangpu is accessible and the primary motive of the plan was to extend this accessibility to make the waterfront an asset for all. The