

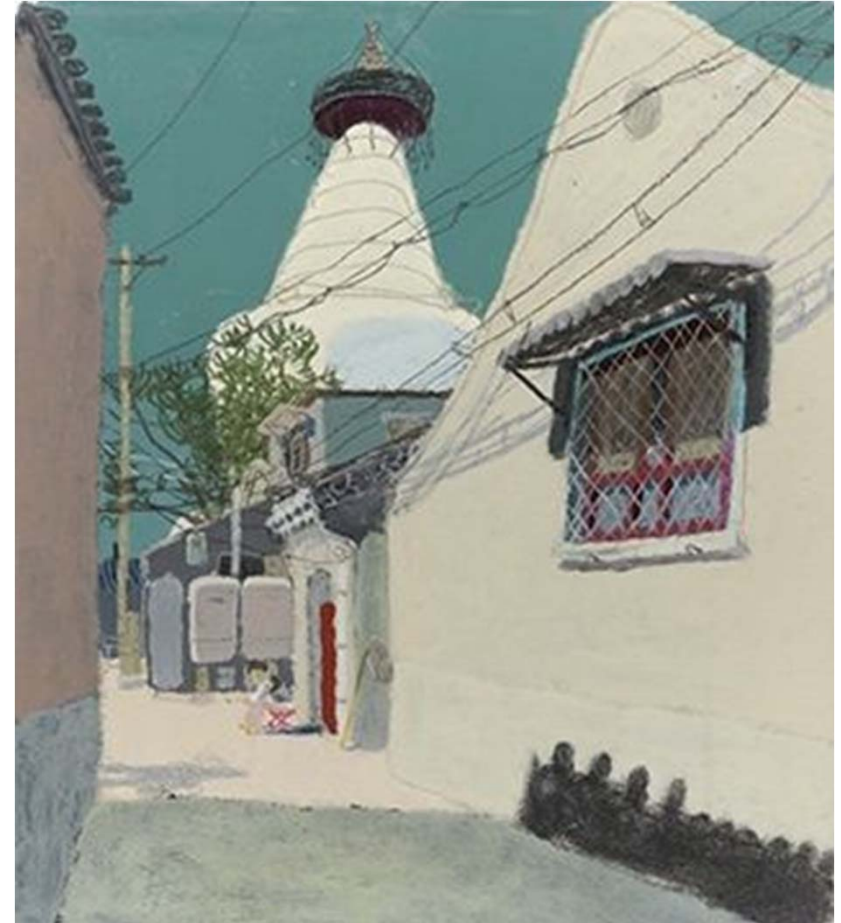
**CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY:**  
**URBAN REGENERATION THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**



PREPARED BY: Sandra Tan (nus), Shi Tianxing, Wang Kailin, Li Yu

# CONTENTS

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Research Methods & key findings
- 3 Generic hutong gate redesign
- 4 Specific hutong gate redesign
- 5 conclusion





# INTRODUCTION

## **Community partner**

xinjiekou

## **Location**

baitasi area, Beijing

## **Background issue**

hutong cultural decay

## **Proposed solution**

refurbishment of hutong gates through  
community engagement

01 | INTRODUCTION

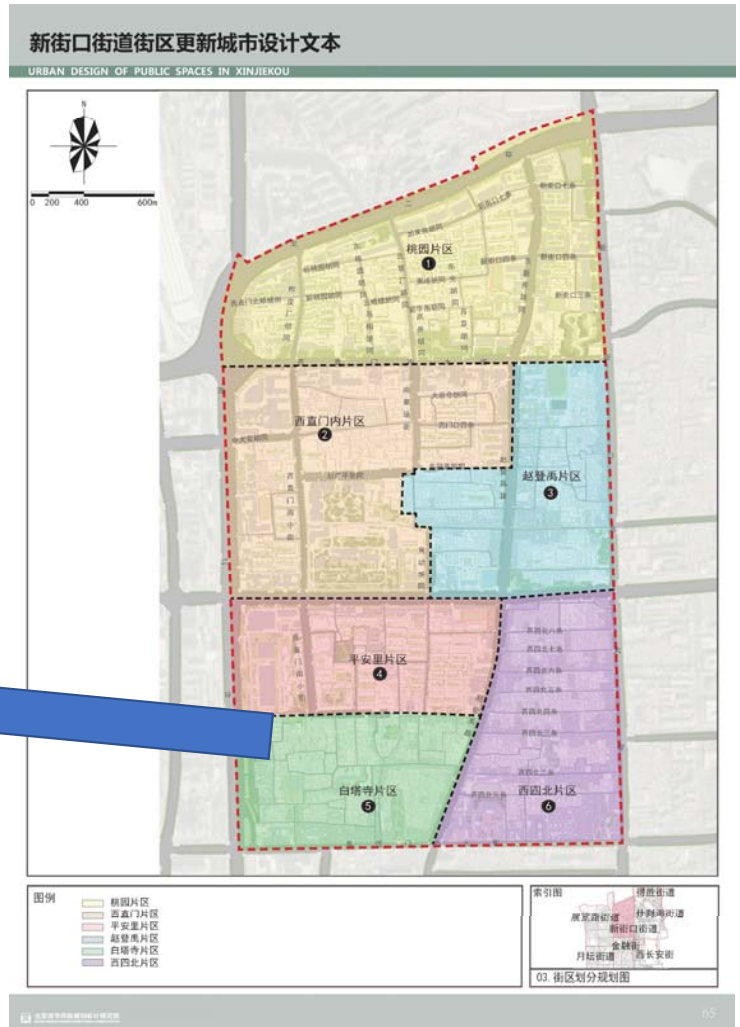
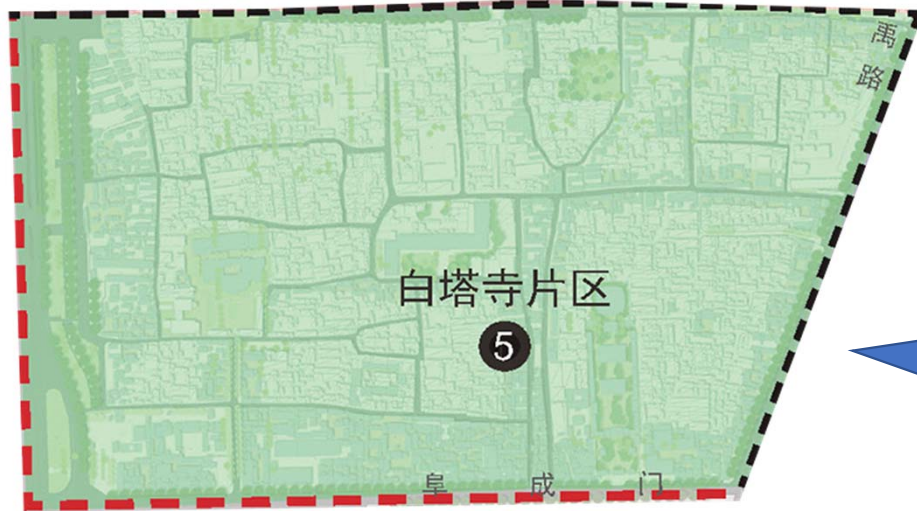
# Community partner: xinjiekou 新街口



Info about xinjiekou  
Refurbishment of local traditional gate

# 01 | INTRODUCTION

## location: Baitasi area, xinjiiekou, beijing



01 | INTRODUCTION

# location: Baitasi area Xinjiekou beijing

Built in Yuan Dynasty  
(Around 1279-1368 A.D.)

Courtyard Well protected : 20%

Mix-live Courtyard : 70%

Many hutongs



## 01 | INTRODUCTION

# Background issue: Cultural decay

- i. COMMUNITY problems due to its long history  
→ lack of community management and inflow of foreign population during recent years
- ii. poor living conditions, vanishing hutong culture



01 | INTRODUCTION

# Proposed solution: Refurbishment of hutong gates Through community engagement

TOGETHER WITH THE XINJIEKOU COMMUNITY, WE DECIDED TO  
FOCUS ON REFURBISHING THE HUTONG GATE BECAUSE:

## 1 CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Unique Chinese-style beauty
- Symbol of a family's social status





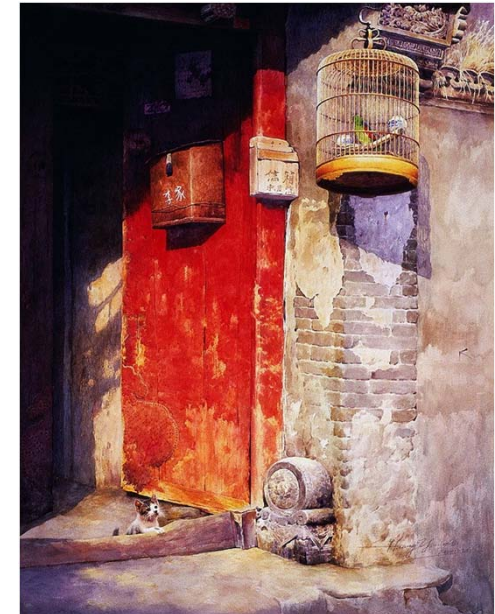
## 01 | INTRODUCTION

# Proposed solution: Refurbishment of hutong gates Through community engagement

TOGETHER WITH THE XINJIEKOU COMMUNITY, WE DECIDED TO FOCUS ON REFURBISHING THE HUTONG GATE BECAUSE:

## 2 Existing issues

- THE GATE HAS MULTIPLE USES, NOT JUST FOR ENTRY
- MESSY: A REFURBISHMENT CAN IMPROVE THE OVERALL NEIGHBOURHOOD APPEARANCE



02

## Research Methods & Key findings



**Site VISIT observations**

**Data collection  
& analysis**

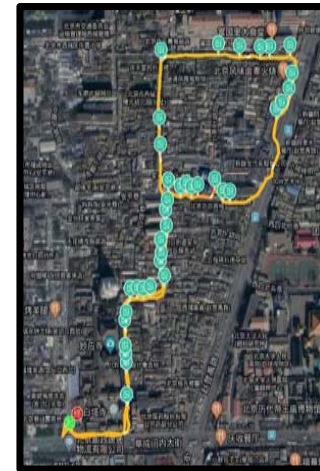
**Interviews**

**brainstorming**

O2 | RESEARCH METHODS & KEY FINDINGS

# SITE VISIT OBSERVATIONS & DATA COLLECTION (HUTONG GATE RATINGS)

Baitasi Dongjiadao 白塔寺东夹道						
No.	Unit No.	Current Condition	Traditional Features	Modern Features	Overall	Photographs
1	No. 2	4	1	4	3	
2	No. 4	4	3	4	4	
3	No. 6	4	3	4	4	



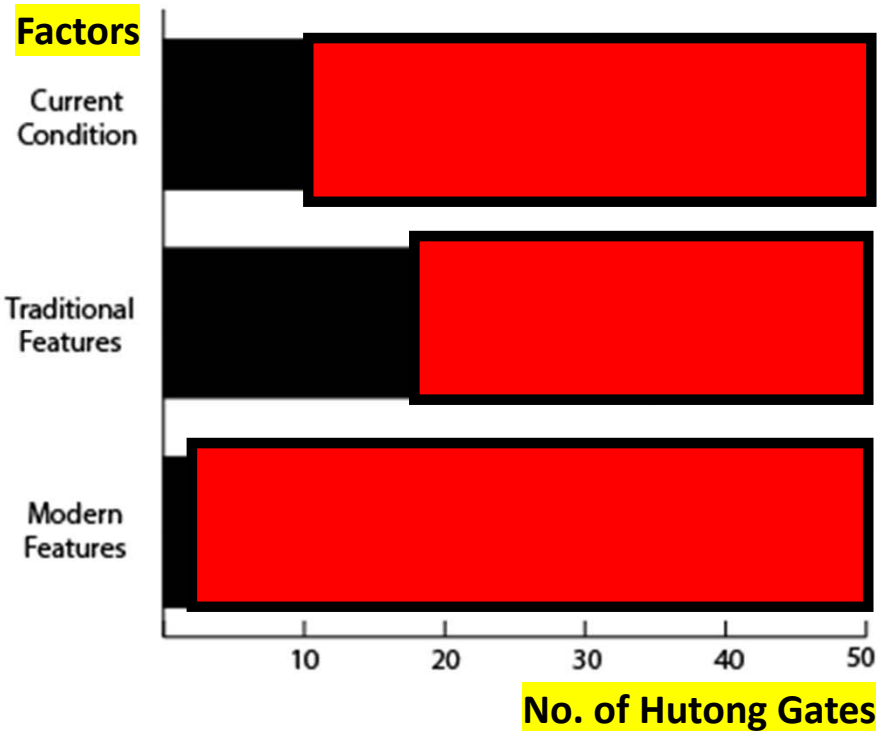
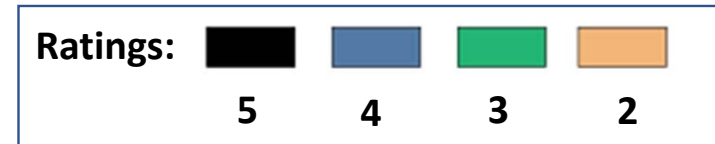
Rated on a scale of 1-5 the current condition, traditional features, modern features and then concluded with an overall score

## PURPOSE

Awareness and knowledge of the different types of existing hutong gates in the area



## Site visit observations & analysis (HUTONG GATE RATINGS)



Most of the gates are old



Most of the gates have some forms of traditional features but require repairs



Most of the gates also lack necessary modern features

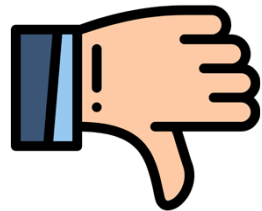
## O2 | RESEARCH METHODS & KEY FINDINGS



**70%**  
of the hutong gates  
require refurbishment

✕✓ INTERVIEWS & KEY FINDINGS

1. Dissatisfaction with current gate conditions



65%

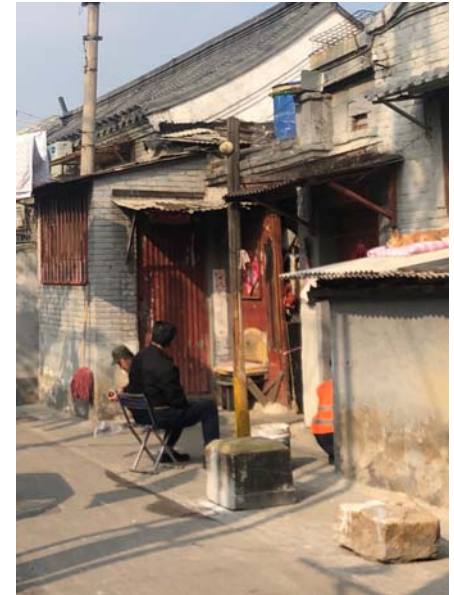
Of the residents interviewed were **unsatisfied** with their current gates

2. Importance of social space outside their gate



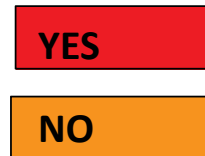
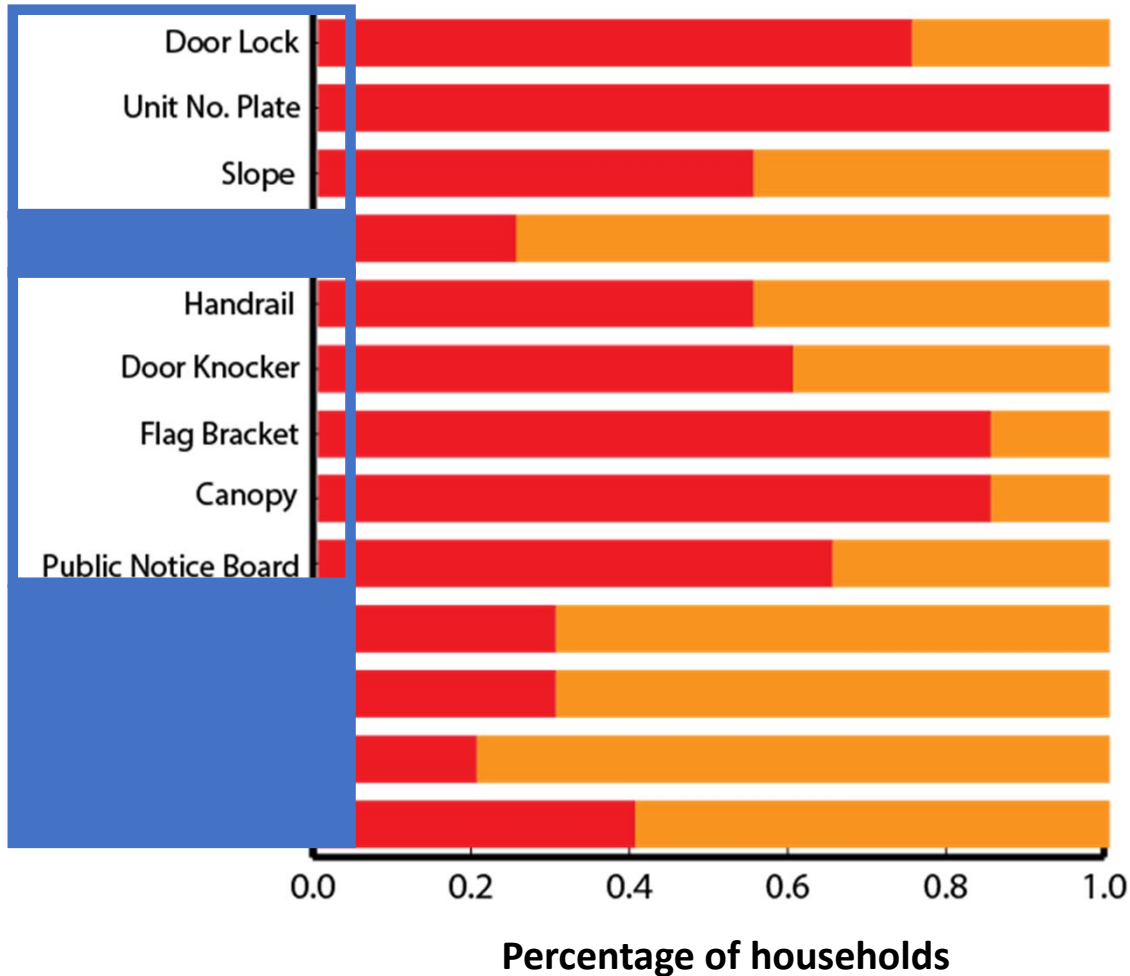
70%

Of the residents sees the need for a **social space outside their gate** as they interact with their neighbours on a daily basis



### 3a. Household Preferences: Physical gate components

#### Existing gate components



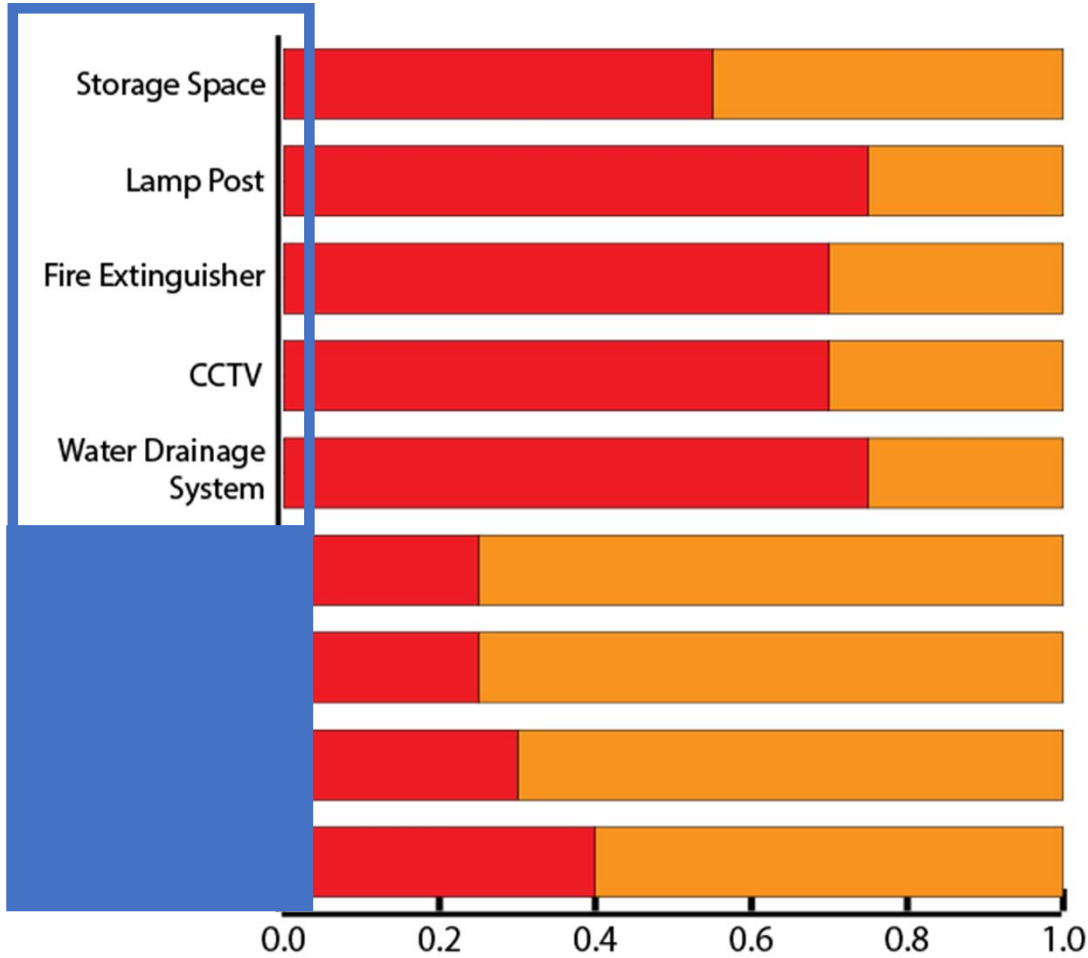
**Physical gate components that residents would hope to have on their gates:**

- Essentials: Door Lock, Unit No. Plate, Door Knocker, Flag Bracket
- Convenience for elderly: Slope/Ramp, Handrail
- Rain: Canopy
- Neighbourhood Updates: Public Notice Board

**Do not want:**

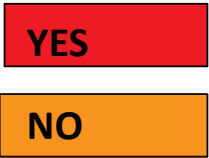
- Threshold: inconvenient for elderly
- Mailbox, Milkbox, Letterbox: irrelevant

### 3b. Household Preferences: Other Components



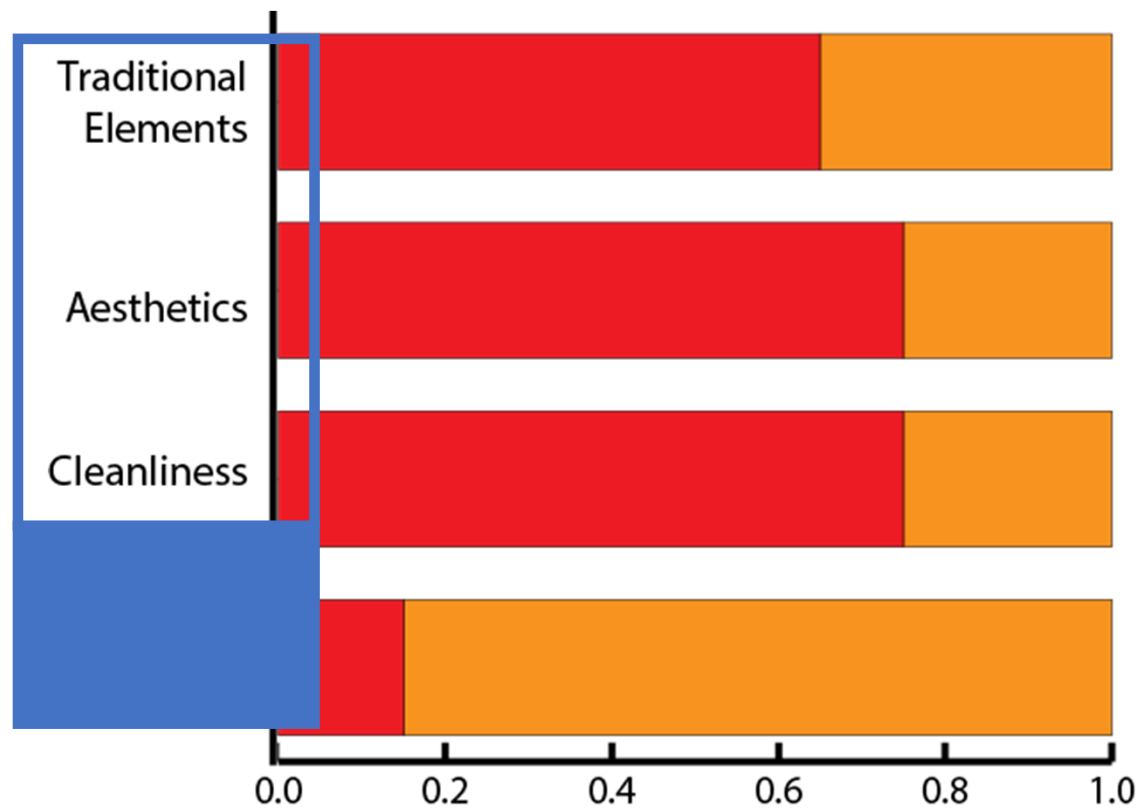
**Other components that residents would hope to have on their gates:**

- Storage Space: messy clutter
- Safety and Security: fire extinguisher system, CCTV, lamp post
- Proper Drainage System: Issue of front gate flooding due to uneven land





### 3c. Household Preferences: Gate Features



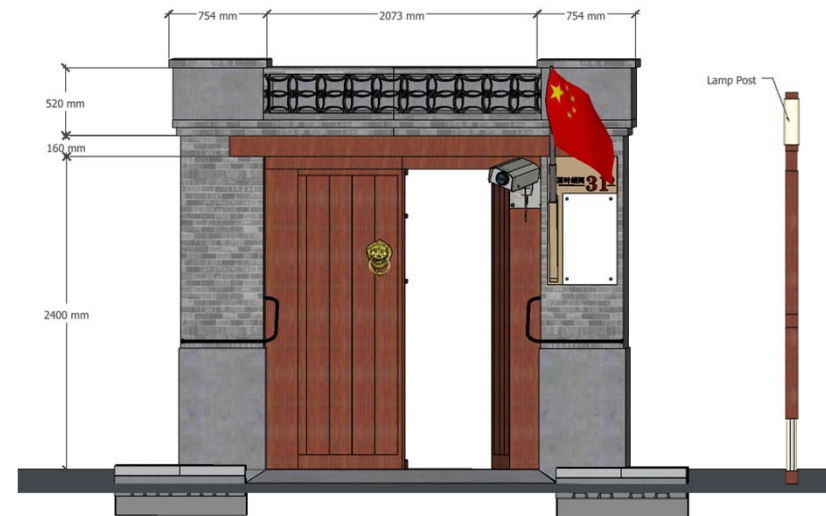
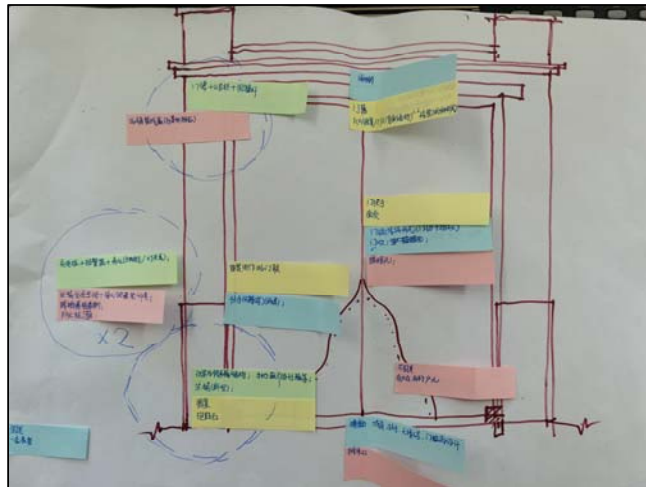
## brainstorming

### I. **GENERIC** HUTONG GATE REDESIGN

- Applicable to as many hutongs possible

### Ii. **specific** HUTONG GATE REDESIGN

- To promote gate refurbishment in other neighbourhoods



03



**GENERIC**  
**HUTONG GATE**  
**REDESIGN**

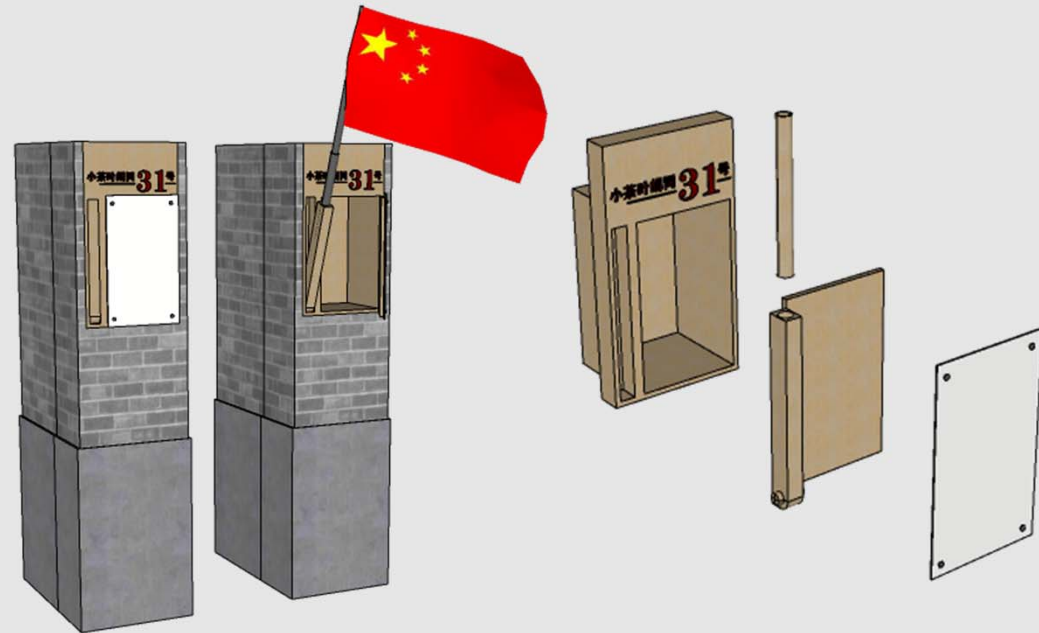
**INTEGRATIVE FUNCTION**

**SECURITY ADDITION**

**BARRIER-FREE FEATURES**

**TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS**

# 1 Integrative function



- AN INTEGRATION OF
- (I) UNIT NO. PLATE
  - (II) RETRACTABLE FLAG BRACKET
  - (III) PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD
  - (IV) STORAGE SPACE

Designed together with 董庆鑫 & 贺顺畅 from Capital Normal University

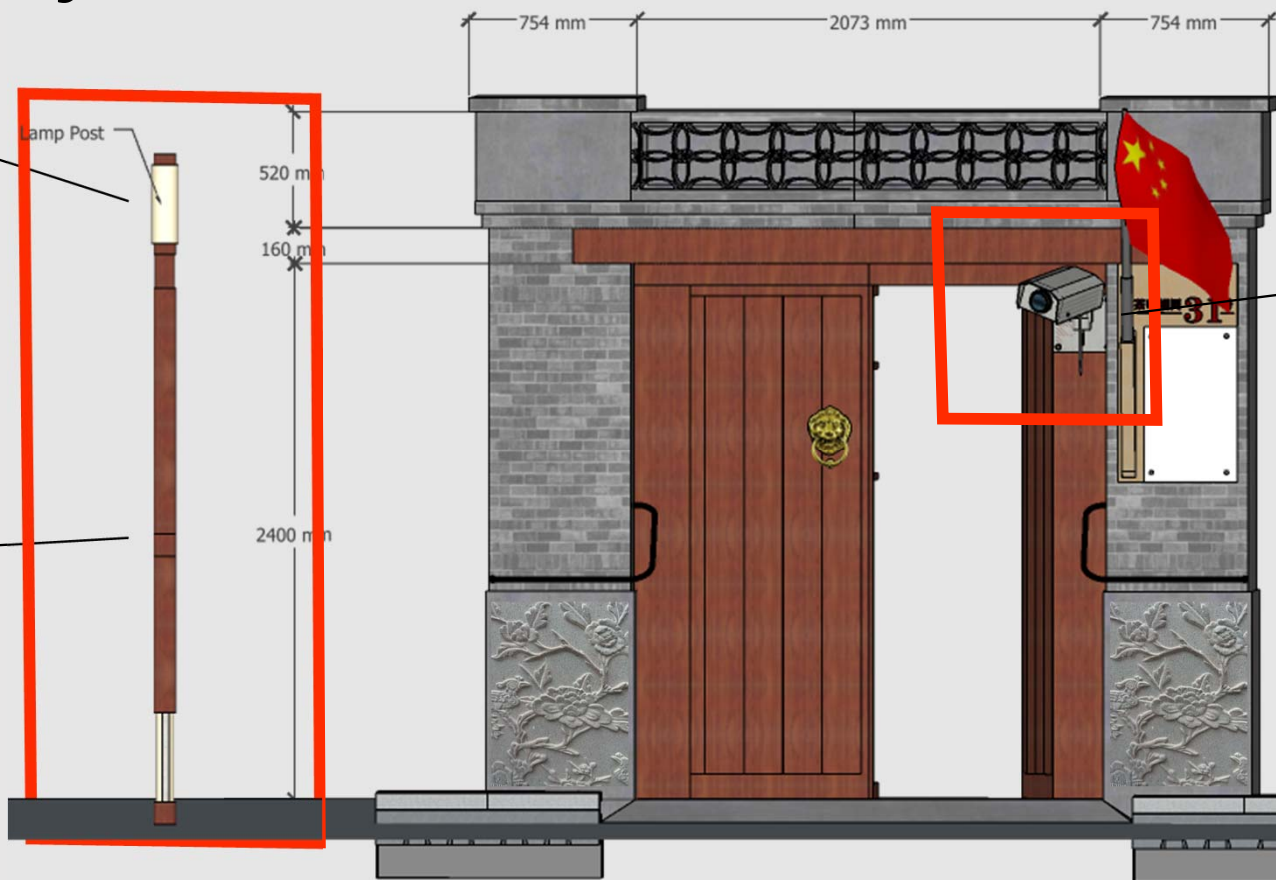
## 2 Security addition

### Lamp Post

- Safety: an essential addition as the alleys get too dark at night
- Voice-activated induction

### Alarm Device

- One-click alarm activation
- Location-tagged for the police



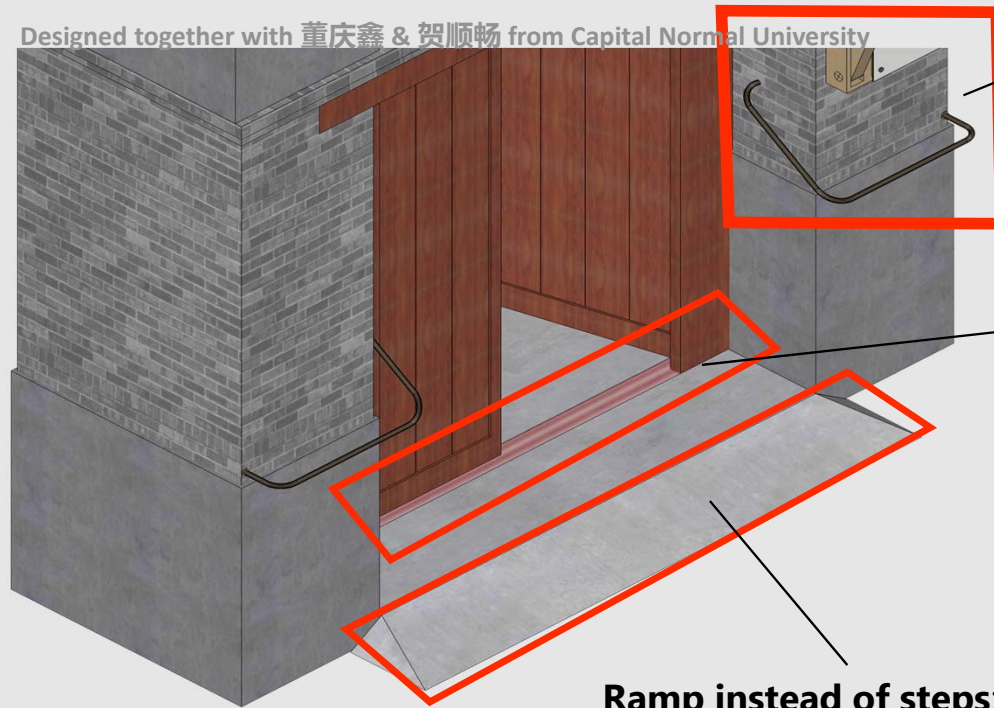
### CCTV

- Most residents do not have the habit of locking their gates
- Installing cameras will enhance a sense of security

Designed together with 董庆鑫 & 贺顺畅 from Capital Normal University

### 3 Barrier-free features

Designed together with 董庆鑫 & 贺顺畅 from Capital Normal University



**Handrail:** physical support for the elderly and disabled

**Threshold:** Height of the threshold removed for safety and convenience, but a strip is painted on the ground to imitate a threshold design

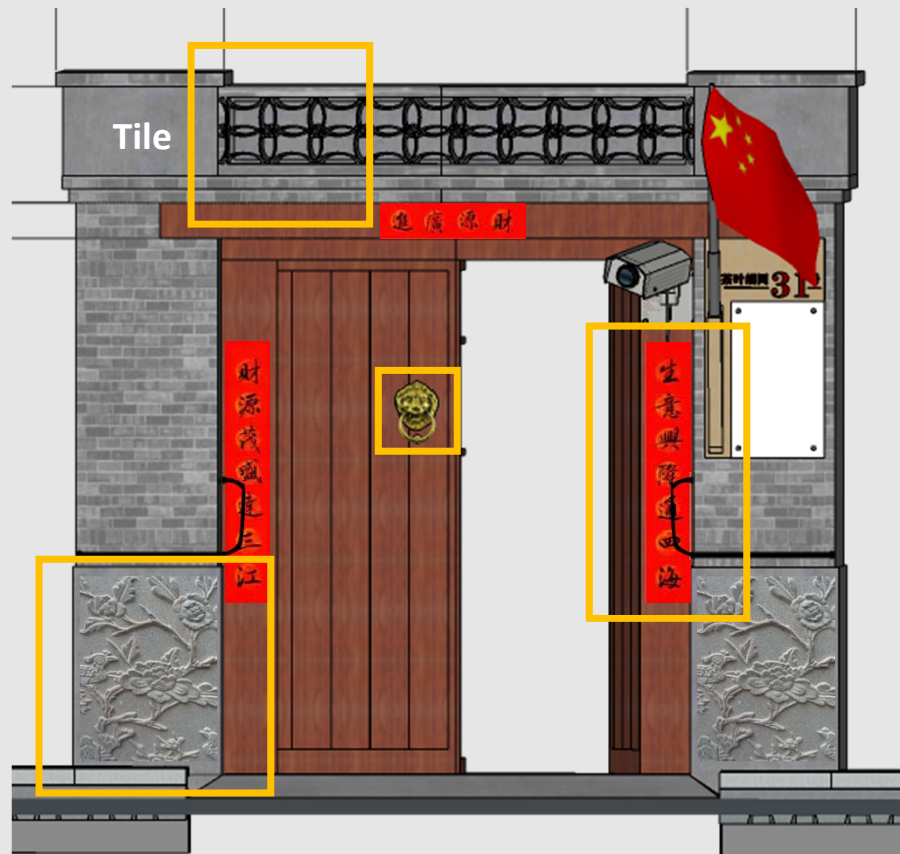
**Ramp instead of steps:** user-friendly

## 4 Traditional elements

### TILED PATTERN



### WALL COLUMN CARVINGS



### Lion door knocker



### CHINESE COUPLETS



designed with 董庆鑫&贺顺畅 from capital normal university

04



**SPECIFIC**  
**HUTONG GATE**  
**REDESIGN**

**XIAOCHAYE HUTONG**  
**UNIT NO.31**

**ROOFTOP SPACE**

**WALL SPACE**

**GATE FLAP FUNCTION (I)**

**GATE FLAP FUNCTION (II)**



XIAOCHAYE HUTONG UNIT NO. 31

## Why did we choose this gate?



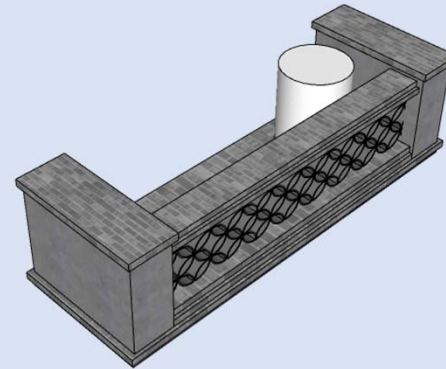
- The oldest gate in the Baitasi Temple community
- The residents here were very receptive to the idea of gate refurbishment, and also open to giving their feedback and suggestions
- Warm and friendly atmosphere: portrays a positive image of a cohesive traditional hutong
- Can effectively help to promote the idea of gate refurbishment in other neighbourhoods

**Adapt and Modify Strategy:** we will integrate our generic hutong gate redesign with the specific needs of Xiaochaye Hutong Unit No. 31 residents

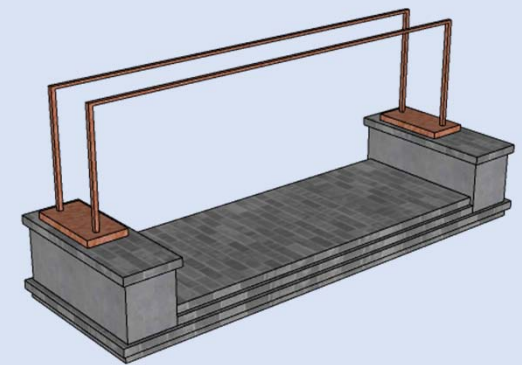
# 1 XIAOCHAYE HUTONG UNIT NO. 31 Rooftop space



BEFORE



AFTER



- Buckets and messy clutter
- No space to dry their clothes in their yard so they hang their clothes on electrical cables

**Efficient use of space:**  
we proposed a clothes rack on the gate roof

## 2 XIAOCHAYE HUTONG UNIT NO. 31 WALL space

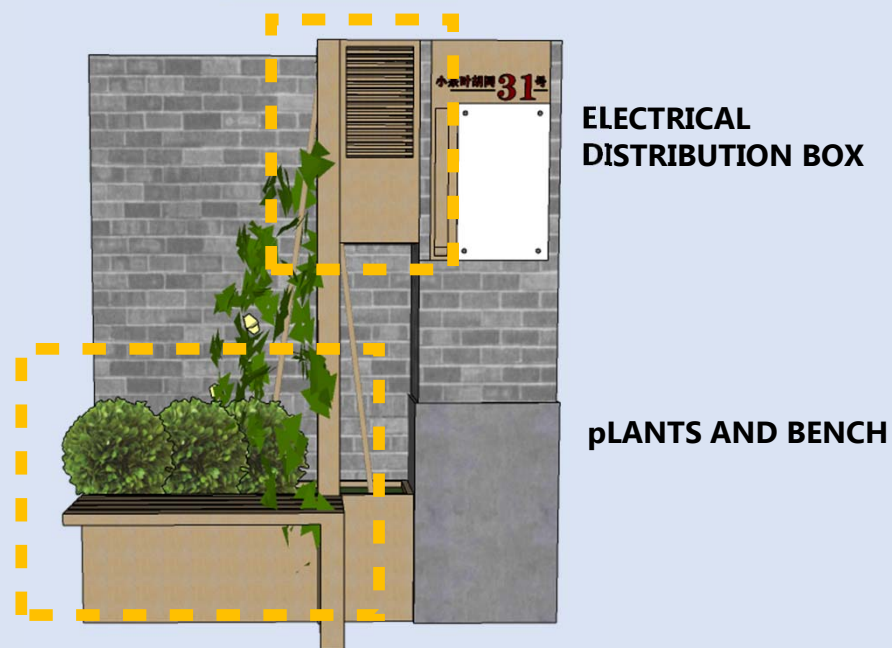
BEFORE



Empty space



AFTER



A combination of :

- (i) **A bench:** considering that residents would like a socializing space outside their gate
- (ii) **Plants:** green features
- (iii) **ElectricAL DISTRIBUTION BOX**

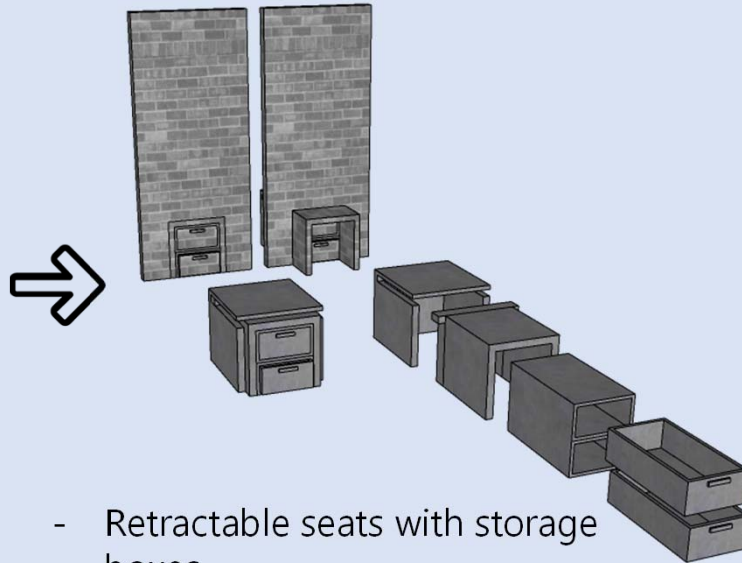
### 3 XIAOCHAYE HUTONG UNIT NO. 31 GATE FLAP FUNCTION (I)

BEFORE

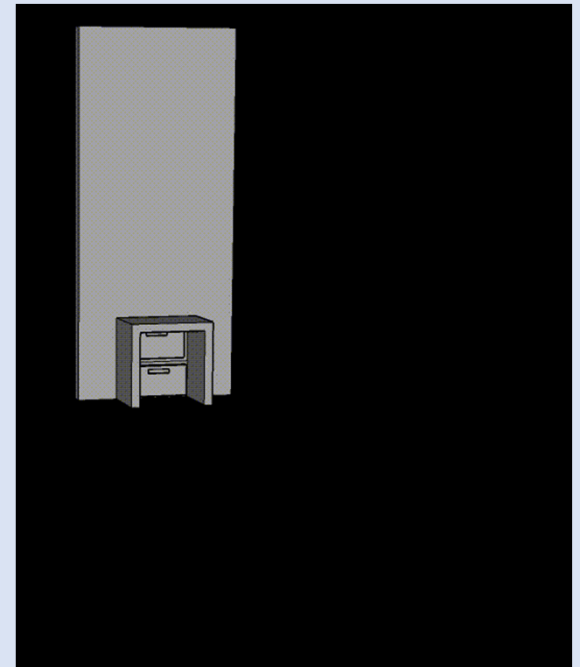


AN OLD wooden seat attached to a door

AFTER



- Retractable seats with storage boxes
- Maximises storage space



# 4 XIAOCHAYE HUTONG UNIT NO. 31 GATE FLAP FUNCTION (II)

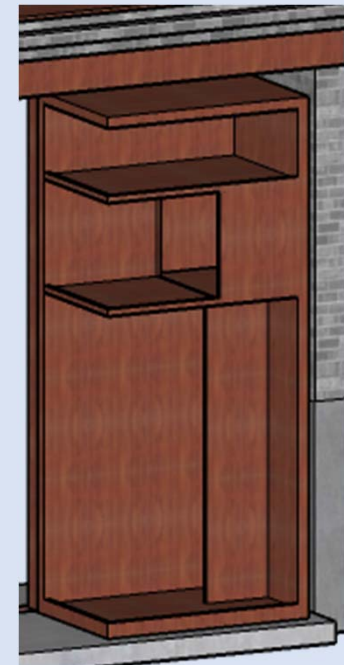
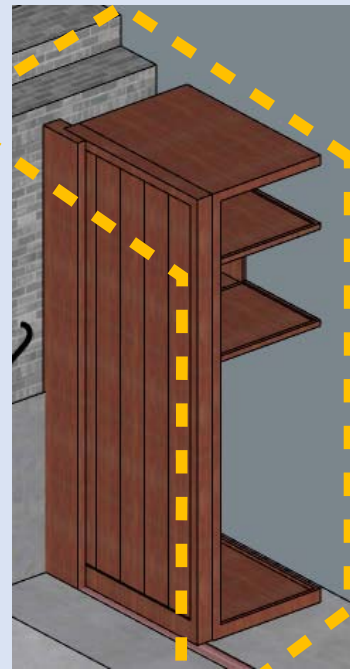
BEFORE



Messy clutter stored behind the door



AFTER



Built-in shelf attached to the door flap

05

# Conclusion

FUTURE STEPS



# Credits & acknowledgements

- Xinjiekou
- Mentors
- Friends from CNU
- Filmers
- Watercolour artworks by huangyouwei