

牌楼 (Pai Lou: Gateway)

A Pai Lou is the first and most prominent building feature leading to a special area such as a garden or a formal court.

This Pai Lou has classical Chinese design character with an even number of columns creating a dominant centre passage and two side passages. The centre passage forms the axis that leads to the next feature of the Chang Lai Yuan (Chang Lai Garden).

The structure is based on centuries old construction method of post and beam supporting the Dou-gong (cluster of multiple interlocking timber brackets) and tiled roof.

The roof form is glazed tiles on upturned corner eaves which became popular in the 14th century Ming Dynasty.

七孔石桥 (Qi Kong Shi Qiao: Seven Arch Stone Bridge)

A stone bridge together with water is an essential feature in a Chinese garden design.

The form of the circular arches is a strong classical element, designed in the court style, that is both structural and functional.

The bridge forms a link between the different sections of the landscape and provides a platform where reflections of moonlight can be observed.

The parapets are constructed in stone with carvings undertaken by master stonemasons from China based on the style of the Imperial Court.

光岳亭 (Guang Yue Ting: Light Mountain Pavilion)

Often located at the water's edge a Ting is a building for shelter from rain or sun, to contemplate the scenery, to feed the fish or simply to rest.

Historically it is a place where scholars studied and practised poetry, painting and calligraphy while enjoying their cups of wine.

The architectural design of this Ting is hexagonal in plan form which allows the various axes to be aligned with different elements of the Garden:

- the gateway, the stone bridge and the Gazebo on the knoll. This hexagonal pavilion is named after an iconic structure in Liaocheng built during the seventh year of Minghongwu (A.D.1374).

As the design of a Ting has no walls the decorations are in the lattice work and the colourful painting works. The 12 pieces of Su-Style colourful paintings under the exterior eaves are inspired from the stories and characters of one of China's four great classical novels "The Water Margin" which have significant relevance to Liaocheng.

沁泉廊 (Qin Quan Lang: Waterfall Gazebo)

It is characteristic in classical Chinese garden design for a building to be strategically located on top of a knoll as a dominant feature of the surrounding garden.

The Lang's roof form is curved without a ridge so as to be in harmony in the overall landscape, in contrast to a pavilion which stands out from its setting.

This type of building has traditionally been used for family celebrations, family ceremonies, formal receptions, banquets and for celebrating festivals.

The traditional Chinese construction of timber frame; duo-gong; eaves & roof form; and timber lattice work can easily be observed in this Lang. The 16 pieces of Su-Style colourful paintings under the exterior eaves are inspired from the stories and characters of one of China's four great classical novels "The Three Kingdoms".

Blacktown Visitor Information & Heritage Centre

Civic Plaza, Flushcombe Road, Blacktown
NSW 2148

T 1300 302 858

E visitor@blacktown.nsw.gov.au

W www.visitblacktown.com



Chang Lai Yuan Chinese Gardens

Blacktown



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Chang Lai Yuan Chinese Gardens

Located within Nurragingy Reserve
Knox Road, Doonside

Nurragingy Reserve Open/Close Hours

Dec-Jan	7am-7pm
Feb-May	7am-6.30pm
Jun-Aug	7am-5pm
Sep-Nov	7am-6.30pm

There are two vehicular entranceways to Nurragingy Reserve. The main entrance is off Knox Rd, Doonside at the traffic lights intersection with Cross Rd. The second entrance is via Woodstock Ave, Rooty Hill.

The Chinese Gardens are found within the International Formal Gardens section, around the southern lake.

昌莱园 (Chang Lai Yuan: Chang Lai Garden)

Blacktown City Council and the Liaocheng Municipal Government have been sister cities since 2003. This garden has been co-operatively designed and constructed symbolising the friendship between the two cities.

The garden has been named the Chang Lai Yuan. This name has been derived by adopting one character from each of the names Dongchang, which is the former name of Liaocheng in ancient times and Blacktown, when translated from Chinese (Bu Lai Ke Cheng). While Yuan is the Chinese translation for "garden".

These characters are homophones in the Chinese language which mean, "keep in constant touch" implying "everlasting friendship" between the two cities.

The architectural style of the structures within the garden is based on the Ming Dynasty and Qing Dynasty in China.

Chang Lai Yuan
Chinese Gardens

