

new work:
Shougang Park, Beijing



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In 2025, Allies and Morrison won an international competition to develop a masterplan at Shougang Park in west Beijing. This was followed by a commission for the detailed design for a new exhibition and conference complex at the heart of the site. Our proposals for the former steel manufacturing plant work with the park's industrial heritage, enhancing and adding to its existing structures to develop a clear identity as Beijing's foremost exhibition and convention centre.

Shougang Park is an area of strategic importance earmarked for development on the west of Beijing, a crucial component in the capital's 'one-body-two-wing' urban vision. A former steel production plant for Shougang (Capital Steel), rich in history and full of impressive industrial relics, the park has been undergoing a transformation into a campus for innovation and leisure since 2010, including use as a venue for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. The Yongding River alongside the western edge of the site and the mountains beyond, add to the dramatic setting.

Despite these positives and some new development, Shougang Park's pedestrian experience and connections could be improved, both internally and to its surroundings. Our urban vision connects the city through the site to the river and creates new vistas of the spectacular surrounding landscape, while retaining a strong sense of place and identity. A rust-red armature weaves through the site, linking buildings with a system of circulation routes, marking entrances, and creating places to pause framing views of the park and mountains.

An ensemble of three new exhibition halls and two conference centres will serve as the permanent home for CIFTIS, China's largest Service Industries trade fair. Surrounded and inspired by Shougang Park's spectacular steel-making industrial heritage, these new hangar-scale buildings are robust and expressive, with an architectural language derived from a limited palette of appropriately industrial materials. Their simple footprints are arranged to create a range of characterful open spaces, from grand arrival squares to sunken



courtyards for leisure and informal use. A multi-level central courtyard is at the heart of the exhibition town. The space is large enough to support the crowds attending CIFTIS, and flexible enough to accommodate uses outside of the annual event, such as seasonal markets or an ice rink.

The project is moving at an extraordinary pace. Only 5 months after commencing concept design we were on site in November to view a facade visual mock-up. Completion is scheduled for July 2026 with the exhibition centre hosting CIFTIS in September this year.

Alfredo Caraballo, Partner at Allies and Morrison said *“This will be our first built project in China, and we could not have asked for a more interesting site. The industrial heritage of the former steel factory and its impressive transformation into Shougang Park, will provide a strong and characterful context for the exhibition centre. Our project is intended as a new step into this rich history, providing a contemporary reinterpretation that makes it both site-specific and culturally significant.”*

Billy Choi, Director at Allies and Morrison added *“Between the client’s ambition, the project’s strategic importance, and the site’s spectacular industrial heritage, this is a milestone commission for us. We are excited to bring our contextual approach to Shougang Park.”*

Ruofei Duan, Deputy Head of Urban Renewal, Beijing Shougang Construction Investment Co. Ltd commented *“It is a pleasure to commission excellent international urban renewal design teams to create landmark projects for Beijing’s regeneration. By reimagining the core area of Shougang Park North as the permanent venue for the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), and by introducing exhibition and convention uses to the park, we can strategically activate the entire north area. The architectural design integrates well into the park but also highlights the unique character of its industrial heritage.”*



Location	Beijing, China
Client	Beijing Shougang Construction Investment Co. Ltd
Size	280 ha
Collaborators	Co-architect: CCTN; Landscape: Beilin Landscape Architecture Institute and Shougang Institute; Lighting:Tongyuan (Beijing); Facade: TFC (Beijing) and China State Decoration Group; Wayfinding: Shiyu; Construction Design LDI: Beijing Shougang International Engineering Technology

ABOUT ALLIES AND MORRISON

Allies and Morrison is a practice of architects and urbanists based in London, Cambridge, Manchester, Dublin, Jeddah and Toronto. We design beautiful buildings that have long life and can adapt over the generations. We also shape enduring places, new pieces of city and settlements at any scale. All our projects are concerned with the crafting of detail and an appreciation for the uniqueness of each context.