

David Chipperfield Architects

ZiKaWei Library
Shanghai, China

The Grand Residential Building
Nieuwpoort, Belgium

徐家匯書院
ZIKANEI LIBRARY



Landmarks featuring **AALBORG WHITE**®

DAVID CHIPPERFIELD
ARCHITECTS

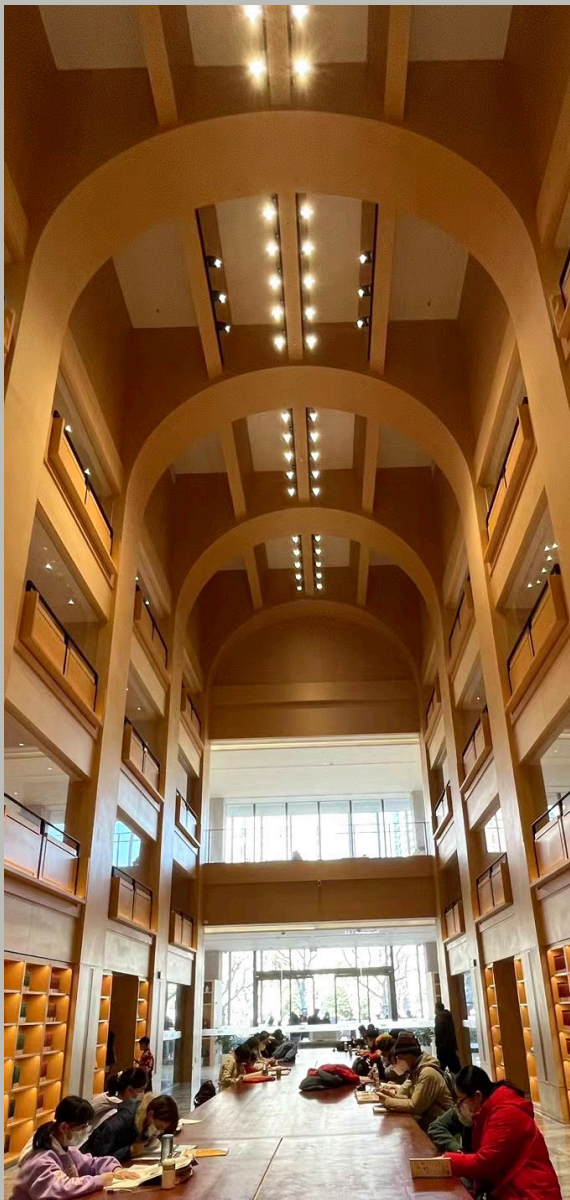


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SHANGHAI ZIKAWEI LIBRARY

查家匯書院
ZIKAWEI LIBRARY

Situated in the southwest of Shanghai, the Zikawei Library shares its site with the historic St. Ignatius Cathedral, a landmark built by Jesuit missionaries in the early 1900s.



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徐家匯書院
ZIKAWAI LIBRARY



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Spanning 18,650 square meters, the library comprises three above-ground levels and two underground floors, offering nearly 800 reading seats. Designed by David Chipperfield together with Wutopia Lab, the project demonstrates a refined integration of architecture, materiality, and landscape. The architects set out to create an exterior that would stand the test of time. Informed by a thorough study of local building traditions, they selected precast concrete with blended stone aggregates for the columns and façade.





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The building envelope is defined by a continuous system of slender vertical elements extending from ground to roof, wrapping the volume in a unified architectural expression. Both the façade system and the vertical slats are produced in GRC, finished with a washed stone texture, and were prefabricated by Hui Liao Group using Aalborg White cement.

The light beige tone of the façade creates a subtle yet striking dialogue with the cathedral's red brick, while the ground-floor colonnade and upper-level loggias frame views towards the surrounding square and historic context.



Project Information:

Year: 2021

Location: Shanghai, China

AALBORG WHITE® cement Application: GRC facades and slats

Precaster: Hui Liao Group

Architects: David Chipperfield and Wutopia Lab

THE GRAND RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

The Grand, designed by David Chipperfield Architects with Bureau Bouwtechniek, transforms the 1924 Grand Hotel in Nieuwpoort through restoration and extension. Historic façades, towers, and domes are preserved, with four new floors adding residential apartments and ground-floor commercial spaces.

A key challenge was the complex geometry, highlighted by a 7,000 kg curved precast concrete window element. Produced by Enjoy Concrete using advanced 3D modelling and CNC moulds, it achieved high precision and surface quality.

[D-Carb Lower Carbon White Cement](#) ensured a perfect colour match with the original structure, delivered durability for coastal conditions, and reduced CO₂ emissions by 15% compared with Aalborg White CEM I, supporting a sustainable restoration of this landmark.

Click to explore more about the [project](#).

Project Information:

Year: 2026

Location: Nieuwpoort, Belgium

D-Carb White Cement (Aalborg White Family) Application:
Precast concrete elements

Precaster: Enjoy concrete

Architects: David Chipperfield and Bureau Bouwtechniek