



Marble Arch

Marble Arch is a housing development located in Chandigarh on a 5.4-acre site along the periphery of the city. The project's objective is to develop a new prototype for housing in Chandigarh as an entity to address issues of liveability, spatial configuration, environmental and social issues, while shifting away from the archetypal morphology of high specification residential modules and equipment crammed into an undersized apartment.

The clients brief called for the generation of maximum built-up area for residential accommodation within the imposed controls and yet construct a favorable communal environment. The spatial planning is generated by creating a pedestrian field for the apartments in the centre of the site by isolating all vehicular movement to the periphery. The pedestrian field is then laid out with strips of defined functions of residential facilities, services, and recreation areas flowing from the east to the west, which allows all apartments to be developed in alignment with optimum north-south orientation to allow for natural daylight and ventilation. The built volumes of the residential strips are sculpted with a play of volumes to provide terraces/open areas at all levels and generate an interface with the open areas. The service areas of all apartments are kept along the service strip which gets broken up into service courtyards. As per the development control norms, Basement Parking is contained within the building periphery, dictating the configuration of the development in the form of linear strips.

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