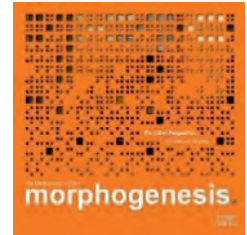


MARBLE ARCH



Project Name	:	Marble Arch
Typology	:	Residential
location	:	Chandigarh
Completion year	:	2010
Client	:	Uppal Group Housing
Built-Up Area	:	4,30,000 sq ft
Site Area	:	5.4 Acre
Climate	:	Composite
Cost	:	Undisclosed



Ar. Mani And Sonali Rastogi

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 livability, 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.

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.

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



The development has been configured as a set of 9 blocks of 5 storeys each with 4 apartments to a level with service courtyards straddled as buffers within- 168 units which are a combination of 3/ 4 bedroom apartments, and penthouses on the top floors. Along with these dwelling units, ancillary facilities like a health club, gymnasium, amphitheatre, swimming pool, tot lots, basketball court, and social activity spaces are provided within the development.

Each block within the development has an atrium lobby to provide a sense of community. Given the fact that this is a low-rise development, the opportunity to provide terraces on each level to be able to establish a relationship with the ground level has been fully utilized. A unique Scale is achieved with regards to contemporary housing in Chandigarh which establishes a crucial relationship between heights, the distance between any 2 blocks and the landscape.

The outward expression of the housing relies on a varied use of materials which are carefully chosen to enhance the individuality of the spaces within. The design employs the use of grids being superimposed on the entire scheme both in the case of buildings, where it gets subdivided to generate spaces within the apartments as well as onto the landscape by way of pedestrian linkages and green areas.

