

Skyrise Greenery Awards 2017: Towards a Vertical City in a Garden

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Images as credited

Since the beginning of Singapore's greening journey over 50 years ago, the young city-state's landscape has evolved into a vibrant tropical cityscape with iconic green architecture. These verdant buildings demonstrate Singapore's steadfast commitment to create a 'City in a Garden' in an increasingly built-up environment.

To date, Singapore boasts 100 hectares of skyrise greenery, which is equivalent to approximately 100 football fields. This is an impressive milestone and is testament to the increasing popularity and importance of skyrise greenery as an alternative form of greening in a highly urbanised and land-scarce setting like Singapore. The Skyrise Greenery Awards hence seek to highlight and recognise outstanding developments that have contributed to enhancing our City in a Garden with vertical greenery.

This year, the 7th Skyrise Greenery Awards received a record number of 177 entries across diverse development types. With increasing urban density and rising demand for healthcare services and lifestyle amenities, integrated developments that offer multiple services under one roof are becoming more common. Such integrated hubs offer abundant opportunities to incorporate various skyrise greenery typologies whilst meeting the changing needs of the population.

Similar to the previous run, projects are evaluated against other entries in the same building category, with the Outstanding Award accorded to the most eminent project across all categories. The Outstanding Award is a distinguished honour awarded to the project which demonstrates exceptional skyrise greenery execution beyond archetypal skyrise norms, while the Excellence Awards recognise remarkable projects within each building category. In addition, the Skyrise Greenery Awards also accord recognition to projects that

enhance the quality of our built environment in particular areas. This is done through the Special Awards, where projects with specific merits, such as edible gardens, therapeutic gardens, community involvement, and public infrastructure, are identified.

The winners of the Skyrise Greenery Awards 2017 received their awards at the opening ceremony of GreenUrbanScape Asia (GUSA) and International Skyrise Greenery Conference (ISGC) 2017. ISGC 2017 was held alongside GUSA 2017 from 9 to 11 November at the Singapore Expo.

For more info, visit

www.nparks.gov.sg/skyrisegreenery

Outstanding Award

The Outstanding Award was accorded to Kampung Admiralty. Kampung Admiralty also received the Excellence Award in the Community Facility category.



Landscaped terraces create a continuous curtain of greenery that cascades from the top to the bottom of the development. Images by Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl Singapore Pte Ltd



Stacked "club sandwich" approach effectively houses multiple facilities in a small site footprint of 0.9 hectares whilst ensuring green vistas from various vantage points. Image by Patrick Bingham-Hall

KAMPUNG ADMIRALTY

Award Recipient Housing & Development Board / WOHA Architects Pte Ltd / Ronnie & Koh Consultants Pte Ltd / AECOM Singapore Pte Ltd / Davis Langdon KPK (Singapore) Pte Ltd / Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl Singapore Pte Ltd / Lum Chang Building Contractors Pte Ltd **Address** 676 Woodlands Ave 71 Singapore 730676 **Completion** August 2017

As Singapore's first integrated public development, Kampung Admiralty is an exemplary model which showcases pervasive incorporation of greenery in a single mixed-use community facility. The one-stop integrated complex houses a mix of public facilities, healthcare services, and residential dwelling in a compact building that is interspersed with lush landscaping.

Various forms of greenery with different themes are cleverly integrated in different stratum of the development. From a more urban planting palette on the lower levels to a more colourful and diverse one on the upper levels, the landscape is purposefully planted to serve several purposes. For example, species on the ground level help with stormwater filtration whilst those at the community farm attract biodiversity and encourage habitat creation. More importantly, the high visibility and prominence of greenery that pervades the entire development allow residents and visitors at Kampung Admiralty to enjoy the aesthetic and therapeutic effects of being in a greened up environment.

The successful execution of skysrise greenery at Kampung Admiralty has generated visual and environmental value that exceeds landscaping norms at a community facility in Singapore, and is thus a perfect model for integrating greenery in a new community building typology.

Excellence Award

Three Excellence Awards were given out to projects that demonstrate clever incorporation and execution of skysrise greenery within their developments.

OASIA HOTEL DOWNTOWN

Commercial / Industrial

Award Recipient Far East Organization / WOHA Architects Pte Ltd / Sitetectonix Pte Ltd / Studio Patricia Urquiola / Rankine & Hill (S) Pte Ltd / KTP Consultants Pte Ltd / Woh Hup (Private) Ltd / Rider Levett Bucknall
Address 100 Peck Seah Street Singapore 079333
Completion April 2016

Envisaged as a 'tropical tower' in the concrete jungle, Oasia Hotel Downtown incorporates lush greenery on its striking red façade and terraces. With over 50 species of trees, shrubs and creepers used, the tower becomes a giant tree that not only helps to reintroduce biodiversity into the city but also provides respite and visual relief for occupants and neighbours respectively.

The ground is duplicated four times up as Sky Terraces set between alternating L-stacks of offices and rooms make up for the small footprint of the development. At each terrace, the planting bed is sunken with greenery that stretches to the building's perimeter to create a sense of being on the ground. Overall, the tower is a giant mosaic of natural colours and textures that stand out prominently amongst its concrete counterparts.



The sharp contrast of green and red creates an eye-catching structure that stands out from the concrete monotony of the CBD. Image by WOHA Architects Pte Ltd



Free-flowering climbers grown around the building premises help to soften its outlook and create pocket habitats for wildlife. Image by National University of Singapore

NUS VENTUS

Educational Institution

Award Recipient National University of Singapore / MKPL Architect Pte Ltd / ICN Design International Pte Ltd / Consis Engineering Pte Ltd / Toh Chin Leong Construction Pte Ltd **Address** 8 Kent Ridge Drive Singapore 119246 **Completion** January 2015

Ventus weaves itself around natural site elements, using trees as markers for its architectural form. Naturally ventilated vestibules are used as break out areas between the banks of air-conditioned offices, integrating green vistas from the outside. Generous and well-ventilated public seating areas are also enveloped in the lushness of onsite greenery, blurring the boundaries between built and natural environment. The established vertical greenery that envelops the premises is not only designed for safety and ease of maintenance, but also attracts biodiversity by serving as a green pocket within a wider network of greenery in the area.

QUE TWIN PEAKS

Multi-Units Residential

Award Recipient OUE Ltd / Bensley Design Studio
Address 33 Leonie Hill Road Singapore 239187
Completion February 2015

OUE Twin Peaks is a modern residential development located in the heart of Singapore. Designed to emulate a luxurious tropical resort, lush landscaping, green walls, and water features were implemented within the condominium and on its sky terraces. More than 110 native and exotic plant species were selected to create an interesting and vibrant garden design which is complemented by bold and bespoke artwork and murals that intersperse the development. The vertical greenery that welcomes residents creates a relaxing and comfortable environment.



The presence of verdant and mature landscaping helps to create a resort-like oasis that is situated in close proximity to the Orchard Road shopping belt. Image by OUE Ltd

Special Awards

Nine Special Awards were given out to projects with particular areas of merit. These projects echo NParks' efforts to promote liveability in our City in a Garden in four specific areas: Edible Garden, Therapeutic Garden, Community Involvement and Public Infrastructure.

Edible gardening has been on the uptrend as Singaporeans are increasingly aware of healthy living options and prefer more organically grown fresh food. Therapeutic gardens are part of a community-based solution to meet the diverse recreational and wellness needs of the community in the face of a rapidly ageing population. Apart from rejuvenating urban parks and streetscapes, public infrastructure that makes up the cityscape is also critical in making greenery more pervasive island-wide. Last but not least, through the active efforts of gardening groups, communities can be engaged and inspired to help co-create a greener Singapore through a shared love for gardening.

THE FARM AT ONE FARRER

Edible Garden

Award Recipient One Farrer Pte Ltd / One Farrer Hotel & Spa **Address** 1 Farrer Park Station Road Singapore 217562 **Completion** June 2015

The Farm at One Farrer is a central focus of the 'Total Lifestyle Environment' envisioned by the hotel. Spanning 1,031sqm on a platform terrace that overlooks the Lifestyle Podium on the sixth floor, the fully operation farm and orchard provides the hotel and spa with a depth of edible herbs and vegetables as both an attraction and destination for users.



From shrubby herbs to flowering fruit trees, the farm provides a constant supply of fresh harvest for end users to enjoy. Image by National Parks Board



Growing edibles with the self-invented Aqua-Organic System is a safe and sustainable way to obtain fresh and organic produce. Image by Citiponics

TAMAN JURONG ZONE D RC

Edible Garden

Award Recipient Taman Jurong Zone D RC / People's Association / Citiponics **Address** 346A Kang Ching Road Singapore 611346 **Completion** October 2015

The rooftop deck of this multi-story car park was converted to a site for vegetable farming using an Aqua-Organic System (AOS). This intelligent urban growing technology has multiple benefits: it is hygienic, water-saving, space-saving, easy to operate, and anti-mosquito breeding. Such features make the AOS well-suited for growing edibles sustainably and innovatively on rooftops. The produce is harvested and distributed to needy residents living in the neighbourhood.

ECO-COMMUNITY GARDEN AT OUR TAMPINES HUB

Edible Garden

Award Recipient People's Association / DP Architects Pte Ltd / DP Green Pte Ltd / Hexacon Construction Pte Ltd / G.T.H. Engineering & Construction Pte Ltd **Address** 1 Tampines Walk Singapore 528523 **Completion** August 2016

A highlight of the fifth storey of Our Tampines Hub is the Eco-Community Garden that is lushly planted with more than 30 edible species. Entirely managed by volunteers, the garden serves as a platform for community bonding and interaction. This highly visible edible garden also takes into account universal design principles with specially designed planters for the elderly and wheelchair users.



A blooming and fruitful garden is the handiwork of community gardeners who exchange knowledge on growing edibles. Image by National Parks Board



Structures such as wind chimes used in the garden help to stimulate users' sense of hearing. Image by National Parks Board

NTUC HEALTH NURSING HOME (JURONG WEST)

Therapeutic Garden

Award Recipient NTUC Health Co-operative Limited **Address** 50 Jurong West Street 92 Singapore 648967 **Completion** May 2017

Fitted with colourful green walls and densely planted planter beds, this therapeutic garden serves the clients at the home by creating a green space for them to enjoy and recuperate in. As a retrofit project, NTUC Health has successfully established a rooftop garden with therapeutic elements that caters to specific needs of its users.

REN CI @ BUKIT BATOK ST 52

Therapeutic Garden

Award Recipient Ren Ci Hospital **Address** 31 Bukit Batok St 52 Singapore 659251 **Completion** March 2016

This previously underutilised site was retrofitted to include greenery and amenities to help create a positive healing environment for the home. Ren Ci is one of the first nursing homes in Singapore to implement a therapeutic garden-inspired garden for its residents.



A rooftop with natural sunlight and lush landscaping provides an alternative therapeutic respite for users. Image by National Parks Board

BANYAN HOME @ PELANGI VILLAGE

Community Involvement

Award Recipient Chee Hoon Kog Moral Promotion Society **Address** 12 Buangkok Green, Pelangi Village, Singapore 539754 **Completion** June 2015

The rooftop greenery at Banyan Home @ Pelangi Village benefits its clients, staff, and the community. Clients get to enjoy visual relief in a greened up environment whilst staff benefit from the stress-relieving effects of gardening. Produce that is harvested from the garden is sold to the local community with the proceeds from sales going back to the garden for its upkeep.



Staff experiment with growing various types of leafy greens with different methods from time to time. Image by Banyan Home @ Pelangi Village



The dedicated team of staff volunteers with green fingers at SP group prove that work-life balance is possible to achieve. Image by SP Group

SP AGRI FARM

Community Involvement

Award Recipient SP Group **Address** 2 Kallang Sector Singapore 349277 **Completion** June 2017

The SP Agri Farm is a thriving oasis of greenery in the midst of the Kallang industrial estate. Located on level seven of SPgroup's headquarters, the lushly planted up farm is manned entirely by a group of 44 staff volunteers. The farm is a labour of love by the staff volunteers who have come together from various departments to bond over their shared love for gardening.

SHELL TAMPINES AVE 2

Public Infrastructure

Award Recipient FITCH Design Pte Ltd / CBRE GWS Holdings (S) Pte Ltd / Wing Tuck Engineering Pte Ltd **Address** 9 Tampines Avenue 2 Singapore 529731 **Completion** May 2017

Shell at Tampines Avenue 2 is the first petrol service station in Singapore to feature refreshing green walls. Accented with complementary earthy colours and woody tones, the spacious station aims to be an oasis within a bustling town. It also marks the beginning of a transformational journey as Shell keeps pace with its customers' evolving needs and demands for mobility and convenience.



Green walls installed within the petrol station allow drivers to seek a momentary relief from the stresses of the road. Image by Shell Eastern Petroleum Pte Ltd



Green roofs are a simple but effective way to dress up concrete structures and reduce cooling costs. Image by Interconsultants Pte Ltd

BUKIT BATOK WEST SHOPPING CENTRE

Public Infrastructure

Award Recipient Housing & Development Board / Interconsultants Pte Ltd / Fong Consult Pte Ltd / PTP Engineers Pte Ltd / OTN Building Cost Consultants Pte Ltd / CBM Pte Ltd / Uniseal Singapore Pte Ltd **Address** Block 163-158 Bukit Batok St 11 Singapore 650158 **Completion** September 2016

Bukit Batok West Shopping Centre was given a comprehensive makeover for the first time since it was built more than 30 years ago. The NC was rejuvenated through the implementation of a community pavilion fitted with rooftop greenery – the first in a neighbourhood-committee. The self-sustaining green roof offers aesthetic benefits to residents living in the area, as well as environmental ones such lowering ambient temperatures and filtering rainwater.

SENTOSA EXPRESS

Public Infrastructure

Award Recipient Sentosa Development Corporation / Consis Engineering Pte Ltd / TCP Consultants Pte Ltd **Address** 39 Artillery Ave Singapore 099958 **Completion** June 2017

An innovative vertical greenery system was introduced to the pillars of the Sentosa Express train track along Sentosa Gateway. The greenery-clad pillars are designed to be visually appealing for visitors, whilst being safe and easy for workers to maintain. This is done through a colourful planting palette and maintenance features such as an internal ladder and maintenance walkway within the structure, which allows workers to work safely and discreetly from the inside.



The green walls are a testament to Sentosa Development Corporation's commitment to developing a fun, smart, sustainable Sentosa. Image by National Parks Board