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The Block 1F



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Height: Occupied
152.1 m / 499 ft

Height: To Tip
159.7 m / 524 ft

Height: Architectural
159.7 m / 524 ft

Floors Above Ground
50

Floors Below Ground
1

of Elevators
5



Facts

Official Name	The Block 1F
Name of Complex	The
Structure Type	Building
Status	COM
Country	Singapore
City	Singapore
Street Address & Map	1A Cantonment Road
Postal Code	0853101
Building Function	residential
Structural Material	concrete
Proposed	2002
Construction Start	2003
Completion	2009

Rankings

National Ranking	#70 Tallest in Singapore
City Ranking	#70 Tallest in Singapore

Click arrows to view the next taller/shorter buildings



Companies Involved

Owner/Developer	Housing & Development Board
Architect	
• Design	ARC Studio Architecture & Urbanism
• Architect of Record	RSP Architects Planners & Engineers
Structural Engineer	
• Design	Surbana International Consultants
MEP Engineer	
• Design	SIPM Consultants PTE Ltd
Main Contractor	Chip Eng Seng PTE Ltd
Other Consultant	
• Stormwater Management	Fast Flow Systems Pte Ltd

About The Block 1F

The Pinnacle @ Duxton defines super-density housing with 1,848 apartment units built on a plot of only 2.5 hectares (6 acres)—only slightly larger than two football fields. Public housing as an architectural typology is inherently complex. It marries housing—the most private of programs—with public space. The public housing project addresses pragmatic, financial, social and even political issues. Add to that an irregular west facing site in the heart of Singapore's congested central business district, trees to be conserved and required connections to the neighboring park and community center, and the brief is incredibly complex.

The Pinnacle @ Duxton resolves these issues in an elegant manner and in the process creates a totally new aesthetic for public housing and typology for tall buildings. It boldly demonstrates a sustainable urban high-rise, high-density living and initiates an innovative typology of public communal spaces that are metaphorically reclaimed from the air. Seven tower blocks are placed in the most open and porous way, creating urban windows that frame the city skyline. With this maneuver, the layout eliminates overlooking between units; optimizes views, connection, air and light flow; minimizes western exposure to reduce solar heat gain; and includes the conservation of historical trees. A large forecourt for the towers was created, maintaining visual connectivity with the existing Tanjong Pagar Community Club, which is a major community node for this neighborhood.

Within the development, residents enjoy the convenience of shops, a food court, an education center, a childcare center, and two residents' committee centers. Beyond the development, residents are served by two train stations which link them to the island-wide mass rapid transit system and bus stops at the development's doorstep with a bus interchange depot. Exploiting the inherent sustainability of the high-density, high-rise housing model, The Pinnacle @ Duxton creates a walkable and diverse community, and provides a connected, convenient and

compact model of sustainable urbanism.

On the ground, a new architectural surface warps, peels and flows over the carpark and services, efficiently organizing vehicular and pedestrian circulation. The linear block layout allows for a direct services network in the car park; a double-volume carriageway running under the blocks accommodates the fire engines and waste disposal. The peripheral arrangement of service cores allows for the car park to be efficiently and clearly laid out. The new architectural surface is a lush environmental deck that connects strategically with the existing urban network while forming a green lung for the city. Landscape elements comprising pavilion, benches, and exercise nodes are plug-ins to this extended park network and function as location markers as well as vibrant community nodes.

Layers of tree screens border the site and pathways to provide varying degrees of opacity and privacy, softening the massiveness of the towers to create a human scale. Integrated within this landscape is an outdoor gallery, "Traces," which captures the historical significance of this site by tracing the outlines of the original two public housing blocks which were built in the 60s.

Continuous Sky Gardens on the 26th and 50th floors weave through the seven tower blocks, forming a simple yet powerful sculptural skyline that creates a strong identity for the project. Twelve Sky Gardens are conceptualized as displaced landscapes like a Sky Gym, Hillock, Crater, Meadows, Lounge, and Beach. They function as an extension of the living environment for residents, forming almost 1 hectare (2.5 acres) of new land. Designed with children playgrounds, an outdoor fitness gym for the elderly, landscape furniture resembling beach deck chairs and outdoor sofa sets; they provide diverse, creative and unusual spaces for community interaction. They also function as areas of refuge in case of emergencies and allow the sustainable sharing of mechanical services, reducing seven sets to just three. The seamless connection created by the linking sky bridges allow for the entire development to be serviced by a single Building Maintenance Unit.

The individual apartment unit is designed with growth of the occupants in mind—from newly-weds to homes with kids, then teenagers and later grandchildren. The pre-cast flat slab system and structural column zoning allowed the flexibility of wall placement in lightweight concrete, which extends 400mm (15.7in) on either side of the grid—thus rooms can contract or expand to suit the occupants.

Efficiently constructed off-site, the pre-fabricated concrete building components were delivered and put together on-site. Residents were given an unprecedented choice of exterior façade treatments—planter boxes, bays, bay windows, windows, and balconies. The façade is atomized into modular panels strung together to form seven sets. Composed by simple rules, the layered sets form a complex façade. The pre-fabricated panels incorporate both structure and services—including columns, beams and service ducts. With a simple and affordable application of paint finish, a highly differentiated façade is created from an undifferentiated fabrication process—creating visual interest and reducing the perceived building mass.

The Block 1F

CTBUH Initiatives

The Pinnacle @ Duxton Chosen as Featured Building

Jul 2011 – Featured Tall Building

Singapore Visit

12-14 Aug 2009 – Tour Report

Videos

Best Tall Building Asia & Australasia: Pinnacle @ Duxton: Superdensity – Reimagining high-rise housing

21 Oct 2010 – Lawrence Pak, Singapore Housing and Development Board

CTBUH 9th Annual Awards Dinner

21 Oct 2010 – Dinner 2010

Research Papers

A Tale of Two Singapore Sky Gardens

8 Aug 2017 – CTBUH Journal, 2017 Issue III

21st Century Vertical Lifestyles - Intergenerational, Integrated Communities

17 Oct 2016 – Cities to Megacities: Shaping Dense Vertical Urbanism

Replacing Corridors with Sky-Courts to Create Affordable and Socially Desirable High-Rise Housing

17 Oct 2016 – Cities to Megacities: Shaping Dense Vertical Urbanism

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