Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Awards 2016: Commemorating Urban Habitats

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he Urban Habitat Award acknowledges that the impact of a tall building is far wider than just the building itself, and recognises significant contributions to the urban realm in connection with tall buildings. Awardees range from brilliantly executed master plans that have led to quality urban environments, down to the scale of a single site, where the interface between a tall building and the urban realm is exemplary. These projects demonstrate a positive contribution to the surrounding environment, add to the social sustainability of both their immediate and wider settings, and represent design influenced by context, both environmentally and culturally.

Urban Habitat Award

Wuhan Tiandi Site A Winner

Award Recipient Shui On Land Limited, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP, BenWood Studio, Palmer & Turner International, WAA, Design Land Collaborative (DLC), AECOM, China Construction Third Engineering Bureau Co., Ltd., China Construction Eighth Engineering Division Co., Ltd., Atkins Location Wuhan Completion Date 2013

Wuhan Tiandi Site A is an exemplary urban regeneration master plan that has transformed an underutilised dilapidated district into a true metropolitan community. Located in the Wuhan core area, its ethos is to establish a compact, sustainable, transit-oriented, pedestrian friendly community with walkable blocks and courtyard housing, elements rarely seen in new developments throughout China. The urban form integrates buildings of different heights to create spatial and visual interest. Towers are placed in strategic locations within the community, capitalizing on views of the Yangzi River, and creating valuable settings for landmark towers. The remaining site area is dedicated to an elaborate connective tissue comprising low- and mid-rise blocks, public spaces, and landscaping.

1. Wuhan Tiandi Site A. (Image: Shui On Land).



One Shenzhen Bay (Phase I) Finalist

Award Recipient Parkland Real Estate Development Co., Ltd, Shenzhen Planning Bureau, Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, AUBE, AECOM, China State Construction Engineering Corporation Location Shenzhen Completion Date 2014

One Shenzhen Bay incorporates an assemblage of ground planes and terraces that brings greenery and a sense of integration to higher levels. Water features and seating areas create tranquil outdoor spaces for informal social encounters and private respite.



SkyVille @ Dawson Finalist



SkyHabitat Finalist

Award Recipient CapitaLand Residential Singapore, Safdie Architects, DCA Architects Pte Ltd, Coen + Partners, Coen Design International, Pte Ltd. Singapore, RSP Architects Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd, Squire Mech Pte Ltd (design), Shimizu Corporation/Mitsubishi Location Singapore Completion Date 2015

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SkyHabitat advances the concept of urban habitat with two stepping towers that are linked by three bridging sky gardens, creating a series of interconnected streets, gardens, and terraces in the air, with a variety of areas for common recreation and congregation. Award Recipient Housing & Development Board, WOHA Architects Pte. Ltd., LBW Consultants, Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner (SE Asia) Pte. Ltd., Hor Kew Private Limited Location Singapore Completion Date 2015

SkyVille @ Dawson's central innovation is the public, external, shared spaces interwoven through the cluster of towers from the ground to the roof. Each home is part of a "Sky Village" comprising 80 homes that share a sheltered community garden terrace.

Toranomon Hills Finalist

Award Recipient Mori Building Co., Ltd., Mori Building Co., Ltd., Nikon Sekkei, Nikon Sekkei, Obayashi Corporation Location Tokyo Completion Date 2014

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Toranomon Hills is pioneering for how it resolves the high-rise condition with an arterial road running through the site. It does this by layering tiers of urban activity into the complex, with a large green space above the road and a primary thoroughfare below.



 2. One Shenzhen Bay. (Photo: Yanyun Feng).
3. Sky Habitat. (Photo: Edward Hendricks).
4. Skyville @ Dawson. (Photo: Patrick Bingham-Hall).
5. Toranomon Hills. (Image: SS Tokyo).