



VOLUME 42.6

The professional's flooring guide

40
YEARS
SINCE 1983

5 stars
for Canal Walk

ARTIFICIAL GRASS:
7 steps to success

Wood flooring
material options,
common issues
and top tips



Project name: #Oxford Hive
Architect: Boogertman + Partners
Lead architect name: Dewar van Antwerpen
Architect country: South Africa
Project city: Johannesburg, South Africa
Category: WAF Future Project: Residential
Image credits: Boogertman + Partners

The Hive concept, born out of a design session fuelled by the imaginative use of Lego blocks, marks a novel approach to residential architecture. Its 41 distinct unit typologies seamlessly integrate like pieces of a puzzle. The facade of the building reflects the individual affordability and character of its inhabitants, creating a heterogeneous tapestry of community identity.

Efficiency was paramount in the design process, leading to a Tetris-inspired exploration that optimised space utilisation and minimised common areas.

A distinctive "Hive DNA" permeates the design philosophy, elevating the project from a mere high-rise apartment building to a unique brand of its own. The #Oxford Hive serves as a precedent for future Hives, offering prospective investors the opportunity to buy into a brand that prioritises innovation, community and individuality.



Project name: Upper Albert
Architect: SAOTA
Lead architect name: Philip Olmesdahl
Architect country: South Africa
Project city: Cape Town, South Africa
Category: WAF Completed Buildings: Housing
Image credits: Adam Letch

A large, steep corner plot at the upper edge of the Cape Town city centre was subdivided, and the resulting properties were redeveloped to create a five-bedroom family home on the upper two levels, with two residential apartment units below.

The building is conceived as a two-storey "podium" for the apartments, above which the family home is expressed as a landscaped pavilion. Above the podium, the building is wrapped in precast pigmented concrete screens. These limit direct solar heat gain from the western sun and provide privacy from the street, while still permitting views of the prominent mountain behind the property.

The form and colouration of the screens were inspired by the terracotta breeze-block walls of the previous house on the property, which were also reused on the facade.

Full acknowledgement and thanks go to <https://www.worldarchitecturefestival.com/> for the information in this editorial. ■