

UNIQUE IDENTITY IN DISTRICT OF ICONIC BUILDINGS

With a lot of recent buildings in the Sandton area being imposing glass-and-steel structures presenting a hard skyline, Paragon Architects say they wanted to ensure that 1 Park Lane for developer Alchemy Properties had a unique identity.

📷 Infrastructure Photos

Designing one of the tallest buildings in Sandton posed a challenge not only in interacting with the street level, but the surrounding area as well, including certain iconic corporate headquarter buildings.

The distinctive facade of the 20-storey 1 Park Lane was effectively ‘softened’ by incorporating planting in the facade design, Paragon Architects Project Lead Dhiraj Ramsaroop explains. “As we ran through the different facade iterations, we quickly realised it was becoming quite a hard physical mass.”

The architects envisaged a glass-covered building with aluminium fins on the east and west side. In order to soften the facade

treatment, it was decided to incorporate planting. Another striking feature of 1 Park Lane is that, while the nine parking levels with 1 000 parking bays are treated as a separate element, they are nevertheless integrated seamlessly with the 11 office floors above in the taller tower.

With the building aiming for a 4-Star Green Star rating, a certain percentage of the east and west facade was blocked out to reduce the heat load on the interior, which in turn improved the efficiency of the HVAC system. Hence, the building envelope consists of a mixture of A2-rated aluminium composite panels (ACP) and unitised glazing in a single energy-efficient system. T



1 Park Lane, Sandton