

## Kampung Admiralty

### ARE 320L – Design 2

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The Kampung Admiralty is located on 676 Woodlands Drive 71, Singapore. This multipurpose government facility started construction in 2013 and finished in 2017. It was designed by WOHA, an architecture firm based in Singapore, for the Singapore Housing and Development Board<sup>1</sup>.

The term “Kampung” translates to “village” which makes the site area of 8,981 m<sup>2</sup> and a build-up area of 53,066.49 m<sup>2</sup> very reasonable<sup>2</sup>. Historically, Indonesian tribes pride themselves on the efficiency and presence of their villages. The levels of complexity and diverse functions achieved WOHA’s vision of a village type sense of community. Although there is an obvious cuboid form, there are many porous areas and subtractive sections throughout the eleven-story building which required this project to have a strong infrastructural framework that could accommodate the multipurpose of this structure. To avoid the cold look of a government facility, the use of vegetation ensures thermal comfort as well as helps to buffer noise from the surround, growing city. To maintain such greenery, the landscape design required a tiered water-filtration network that could manage stormwater run-off as well as recycle incoming water. The open sections on the roof and the floors plans of every level not being identical allows rainwater to be harvested and cleaned naturally by the vegetation before reaching the garden at the lowest level<sup>3</sup>.

As open as the building is, Singapore has a tropical climate with strong sunlight and heat. Therefore, it was crucial to have natural ventilation. This is achieved through a façade with single-glazed windows with 750 mm deep precast egg-crate sun-shading in order to filter that harsh tropical sunlight. Additionally, Singapore is prone to monsoons and tropical storms therefore the façade also includes accessible monsoon windows<sup>3</sup>.

It is evident that WOHA was aware of its surroundings and climate and was productive in working around challenges. To increase productivity, the building utilizes a 9 x 9 m structural grid hence the geometric and cubic form. Additionally, pre-cast concrete walls were used to cut down construction time<sup>3</sup>.

The Kampung Admiralty lives up to its name and is an impressive structure that follows the “club sandwich” philosophy to create what architects describe as a “vertical village” hence the name “Kampung.”<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.architectmagazine.com/project-gallery/kampung-admiralty>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.designboom.com/architecture/woha-kampung-admiralty-singapore-10-30-2018/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://architectureau.com/articles/kampung-admiralty/#:~:text=Kampung%20Admiralty%20is%20a%20fine,each%20other%20and%20the%20surroundings>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.dezeen.com/2018/12/07/kampung-admiralty-woha-singapore-world-building-year/>