

SUBMISSIONS | TALL BUILDINGS IN CONTEXT

Project Title

Spire

Address

33 Lombard Street

Project Team

architectsAlliance

Developer

Context Developments



2009

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In the shadow of Toronto's Cathedral Church of St. James, this residential project sets a new precedent for urban renewal. On an L-shaped site that faces the grounds of the Cathedral, the architects found an imaginative way to balance the developer's need for density with the City's urban design criteria for this historic precinct. A slender point block tower [named for its virtuous neighbour] provides the density required by the client's business plan, while a four-storey pavilion helps to define the street edge, in form and materials that harmonize with the existing 19th century commercial streetscape. A through-corridor between the pavilion and tower, together with paved laneways through the new landscaped square, create a new network of interior and exterior mid-block connections into the surrounding network of 19th century Toronto streets. The Spire development complements the restoration of St. James Parish Hall, also being executed by the same architect on behalf of the Archdiocese of Toronto.

2009

 TORONTO Urban Design Awards