

# ARCHITECT and INTERIORS INDIA

Inspiration and insight for architects and interior designers

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## Designs

- MuseLAB
- Spaces & Design
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## The Pioneer OF Green

Architect G Shankar's journey is a testament to the transformative power of architecture and the importance of sustainable design practices





# A Raw Aesthetic

Exploring the Innovative Design and Commitment to Eco-Friendliness at Orbit Group's office designed by Spaces & Design.



In the dynamic realm of architecture, achieving the perfect equilibrium between form and function is akin to a carefully choreographed dance. It demands a profound understanding of space, materials, and aesthetics, all while meeting the unique needs of clients. In the spotlight of this intricate dance, Orbit Group's sales gallery and office seamlessly marries architectural innovation with sustainability.

Join us as we delve into the design brilliance and unwavering eco-consciousness that sets this project apart, all while embracing the raw aesthetics of a construction site.

The client's directive was twofold: to create a space that caters to the promoter's requirements for an upcoming construction site, while also conveying the rugged essence of such a site while maintaining a transient yet enduring ambience.

### BOLD AND RAW

The project employs a unified design philosophy that integrates both architectural and interior aspects. Two sloping roofs, with their inverted orientation, converge along a central spine, crafting a visually captivating structure. This architectural feature not only adds a touch of intrigue but also serves a practical function by housing the A/C duct system, ensuring efficient temperature control throughout the space.

1. The project employs a unified design philosophy that integrates both architectural and interior aspects.

3. Two sloping roofs, with their inverted orientation, converge along a central spine, crafting a visually captivating structure.

2&4. What truly sets this project apart is its deliberate embrace of the raw aesthetic.





**FACT FILE**

**Urban Park Office** by Spaces & Design  
**Designer/architect name & designation:** Pooja Bihani, Founder & Principal Architect  
**Location:** Kolkata  
**Area:** 300 sqm with 500 sqm outdoor area  
**Month & year of completion:** March 2023  
**Principal Architect:** Pooja Bihani, Spaces & Design  
**Design Team:** Pooja Bihani, Samrat Roy, Subhasis Sau  
**Photo credits:** Suryananddang

What truly sets this project apart is its deliberate embrace of the raw aesthetic. Unpainted, unplastered, unpanelled, and uncladded walls evoke the essence of a construction site, while the interior design mirrors this theme, capturing its ephemeral nature while emphasizing sustainability. Strategic incorporation of bold colours infuses vibrancy into these raw elements.

**GREEN LANDSCAPE**

Upon entering, visitors are greeted by a breathtaking sight—a large-scale model of the entire project. This centrepiece underscores the project’s significance while igniting curiosity and engagement. Adjacent to the model lies an interactive zone featuring a reception area and facilities for engagement and information exchange. The layout encompasses a café, self-help pantry, utilities, restrooms, sales cubicles, an audiovisual room, a conference room, and a director’s chamber to cater to diverse business needs. Throughout the space, round tables provide comfort for visitors during discussions and moments of relaxation.

Additionally, the project prioritises landscaping, impeccably integrating nature into its design. The site entrance aligns strategically with the overall project’s entrance, setting the stage for a striking landscape design. Thoughtful landscaping follows contour blocks, with each block designated for specific plantations, resulting in a visually appealing and sustainable landscape. This thoughtful approach considers views from the sales gallery, offering glimpses of greenery and providing a refreshing visual respite. Commitment to sustainability extends to the efficient use of raw materials, waste minimisation, and a reduced environmental footprint. Actual plants are meticulously placed indoors and on the ground level, creating a biophilic environment that forms a tranquil oasis within the bustling space, enhancing the overall atmosphere.

**ECO-FRIENDLY, COST-EFFECTIVE & DYNAMIC**

The interior design of the sales gallery underscores Orbit Group’s unwavering commitment to sustainability. While embracing the raw aesthetics of a construction site, the project gives precedence to eco-friendly materials and future dismantling. This approach ensures that the project doesn’t entail excessive expenditure, only to be dismantled in a few years, rendering it a sustainable and cost-effective solution.

The project’s material palette deliberately echoes the construction site’s aesthetics, embracing its raw and industrial character. Sustainability takes centre stage, with a meticulous selection of materials designed for future dismantling and repurposing. Bricks, purposefully minimally clad, have been chosen for easy reuse once the anticipated five-year project lifespan concludes. Functional partitions, constructed using paver blocks, serve a dual purpose by offering separation within the space and housing pockets of greenery. These living

5. Artificial cladding was avoided, and bricks, paver blocks, and easily removable ceiling panels were chosen for their affordability and potential for repurposing.

6&8. Strategic incorporation of bold colours infuses vibrancy into these raw elements.

7. Functional partitions, constructed using paver blocks, serve a dual purpose by offering separation within the space and housing pockets of greenery.







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10



PHOTOGRAPH: AANUSHI LODHA

Pooja Bihani, Principal, Spaces & Design

9. The project prioritises landscaping, impeccably integrating nature into its design.

10. The Orbit Group's sales gallery and office project stands as a testimony to the art of architecture.

elements not only contribute to temperature regulation but also provide visual relief.

**OVERCOMING CHALLENGES**

The project faced the challenge of adhering to a tight budget and a 75-day timeline from inception to completion. So, the design team focused on utilising cost-effective yet sustainable materials. Artificial cladding was avoided, and bricks, paver blocks, and easily

removable ceiling panels were chosen for their affordability and potential for repurposing. The team's dedication to a cohesive design approach enabled them to successfully meet the project's objectives.

The Orbit Group's sales gallery and office project stands as a testimony to the art of architecture. With its innovative design, commitment to sustainability and practicality, it serves as an example of how a space can embrace its raw origins while providing an environment that inspires and engages visitors. As we step out of this architectural marvel, we depart with a sense of wonder and appreciation for the exceptional balance achieved between aesthetics and purpose. **2x2**