

Housing Project: Swayam

Project Holder: BUILDAUR architecture; construction & interiors

Architects : DHARMESH JADEJA and DHRUV BHASKER

Structural consultants: prof. ambalavanan, chennai

Electrical consultants: auroville electrical service

Planning, landscaping and gis: auroville GIS

Waste water recycling: hunnarshala foundation, bhuj

Artisans in architecture: buildaur & hunnarshala foundation, bhuj

Renewable energy: aurore/ sunlit future

Art work: aavartan, auroville

Plantations: botanical garden, auroville

Site: Residential Zone Sector 2 (between Prayatna and Progress)



Site Layout

PROJECT BRIEF:

Swayam is a collective housing project in the residential zone of auroville; a project which has been conceptualised to create simple and aesthetic living spaces, keeping in mind the lifestyles of culturally diverse auroville residents. Our approach to design is to create humble living spaces built with sustainable building technologies.

Giving another dimension to the concept of sustainability and reflecting our concerns for inclusion of artisans in contemporary Indian architecture, this project has been designed keeping in mind various applications of local traditions with contemporary lifestyles in the changing world. The building technologies here consciously use the local skills of the artisans in the auroville bioregion as well as south indian traditions; such as lime plaster, achikal bricks, coloured oxides, Attangudi tiles, terracotta, etc.

other features of the project include total water management of the campus by conscious landscape design, waste water recycling, provision for alternative power sources for minimum dependence on the electricity grid, etc. This project hopes to bring together all the available expertise of various fields, especially from auroville & its network, to create a sustainable living environment suitable to an aspiring international community.

The project consists of 20 residences of various sizes, for families, couples and for senior citizens, in two phases, in ground+1 floors; it will also have a mixed use pattern with some office spaces and work studios in the campus, for a creative, lively & interactive living neighbourhood. It will be built as per the guidelines and set parameters by auroville development & planning team;

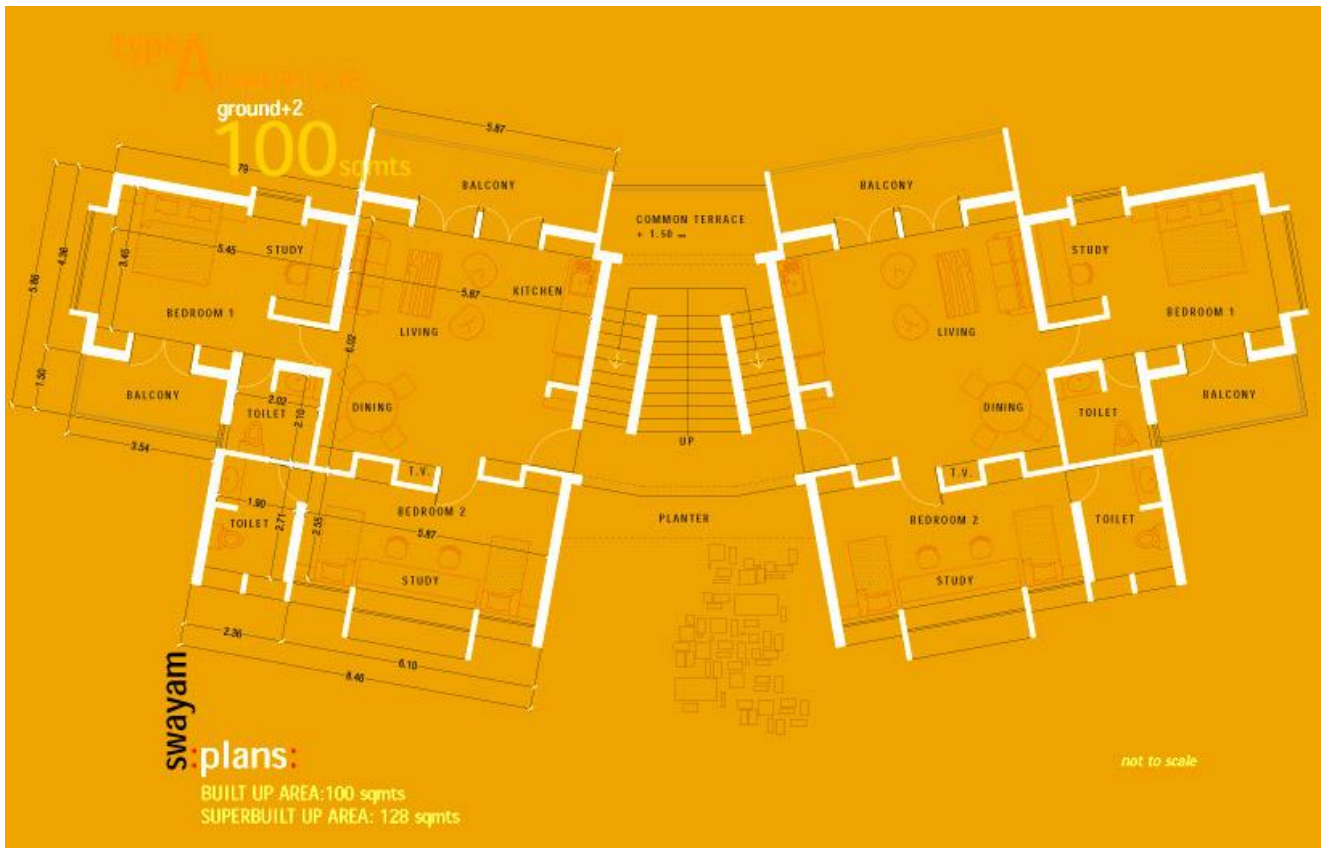


Perspective Rendering

SPECIFICATIONS:

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

- Load bearing structural system
- earthquake resistant features; zone 3
- construction with local, sustainable & less energy intensive materials
- appropriate use of stabilised rammed earth walls & filler slabs
- terracotta roofing elements in appropriate areas
- design & orientation for maximum ventilation, natural day light



FINISHES:

- use of artisans based traditional products like athangudi tiles, ips floors
- natural non slippery stones in public areas & bathrooms
- standard quality kitchen & toilet fittings
- use of lime plaster in appropriate living areas
- stabilised earth plaster, exposed bricks & rammed earth finish in external surfaces
- natural stone & pre cast elements for storage areas
- use of recycled old wood in doors, windows, etc
- grills in appropriate locations
- natural finish ceramic tiles in kitchen & bathroom walls

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- Total water management, saving the existing trees on the site
- Conscious landscaping with indigenous species; water bodies; etc
- Energy planning for alternative & solar for minimum grid dependence
- Waste water recycling and reuse in the landscaped areas
- Hard landscape with pavers blocks in appropriate area
- Special attention to children playing area

Buildaur will collaborate with various units within and outside of auroville to realise this project so as to learn and benefit from all the research, development and experimentation done by others in concerned fields.



Works in Progress ...

