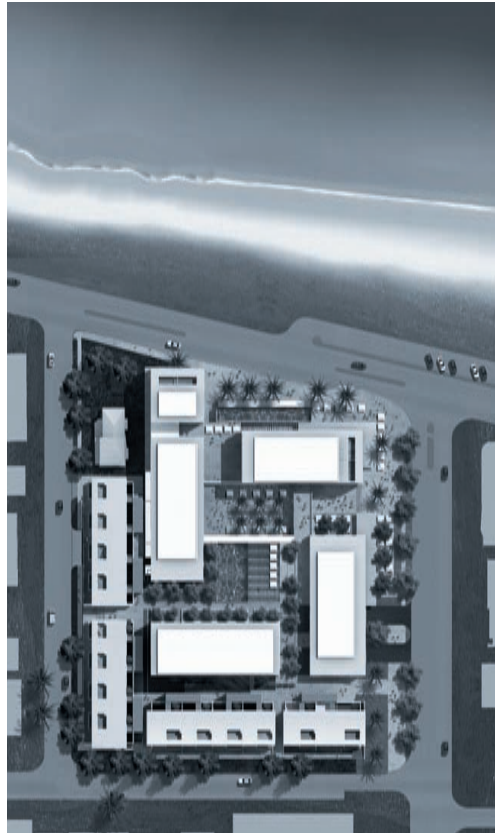




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Nº1,2 The competition-winning mixed-use and residential development scheme, by Kerry Hill Architects in association with Architectus, for Cottesloe's Ocean Beach Hotel site.

UNBUILT AUSTRALIA OCEAN BEACH

Geoffrey London recalls Perth's proposed Ocean Beach Hotel site development, by Kerry Hill Architects with Architectus.

This mixed-use development by Kerry Hill Architects in association with Architectus, designed for the Ocean Beach Hotel site in Cottesloe, was the outcome of winning a limited international architectural competition offered by Multiplex and the owner of the site. The project proposed a new beachside destination for this Perth coastal suburb with a series of public facilities to Marine Parade, the busy street flanking the beach. A bar, restaurant and specialist retail outlets are planned around a series of connected public spaces which cut back into the site, establishing a new pedestrian precinct for locals and beachgoers.

Above the public ground level of Marine Parade is a separated private realm for the high-quality apartments. A large open space with trees and a swimming pool is located in the centre, allowing views to the Indian Ocean

from deep within the site and forming a "private oasis" for the residents.

Low-rise unit blocks establish a new edge to the quieter residential streets that flank two sides of the site, while the bulkier and higher building volumes of the project are located on the busier streets or sit well within the site. Appropriate in a beachside location, the well-considered unit designs enable finetuning of the exterior skin through the use of screens, allowing for the modulation of both climate and privacy.

It is a very classy development which, if built, would set a new benchmark for coastal development in Perth.

Geoffrey London is professor of architecture at the University of Western Australia and WA Government Architect.

The AA Prize for Unbuilt Work – an opportunity to recognize the unbuilt gems of today. See p 56 for entry details.