272 Hedges Avenue Pedestal Residential Building

History of the project

Rising 44 storeys above its beachside setting, 272 Hedges Avenue presents an unfolding experience of architectural elegance and unparalleled amenity, with the design of the pedestal inspired by the natural forces of the project's coastal location. Australian property developer Sunland Group appointed Contreras Earl Architecture to design the two-storey pedestal base for the Mermaid Beach tower, including the interior and communal areas. Inspired by patterns of wind and water on rocks and sand, the exquisite design brings a human scale to the ground plane of the tower and creates an engaging, sculptural connection with the streetscape and parklands. It marks the transition between the coast and urban edge, and the seamless progression from outside to inside offers a unique spatial experience for residents and visitors.

The organic design acknowledges the most extraordinary natural sculptors of all: the wind and ocean. The sculpted curves of the exterior resemble the windswept crests and erosion of sand, while the sweeping voids and vaults of the interior evoke a

272 Hedges Avenue Pedestal Residential Building. Pictures © John Gollings

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How did stainless steel contribute to the sustainability of the structure?

- Stainless steel can be recycled infinite times without any reduction in quality
- Prefabricated and pre-assembled in factory. Time to put it together on site was minimum. Efficient

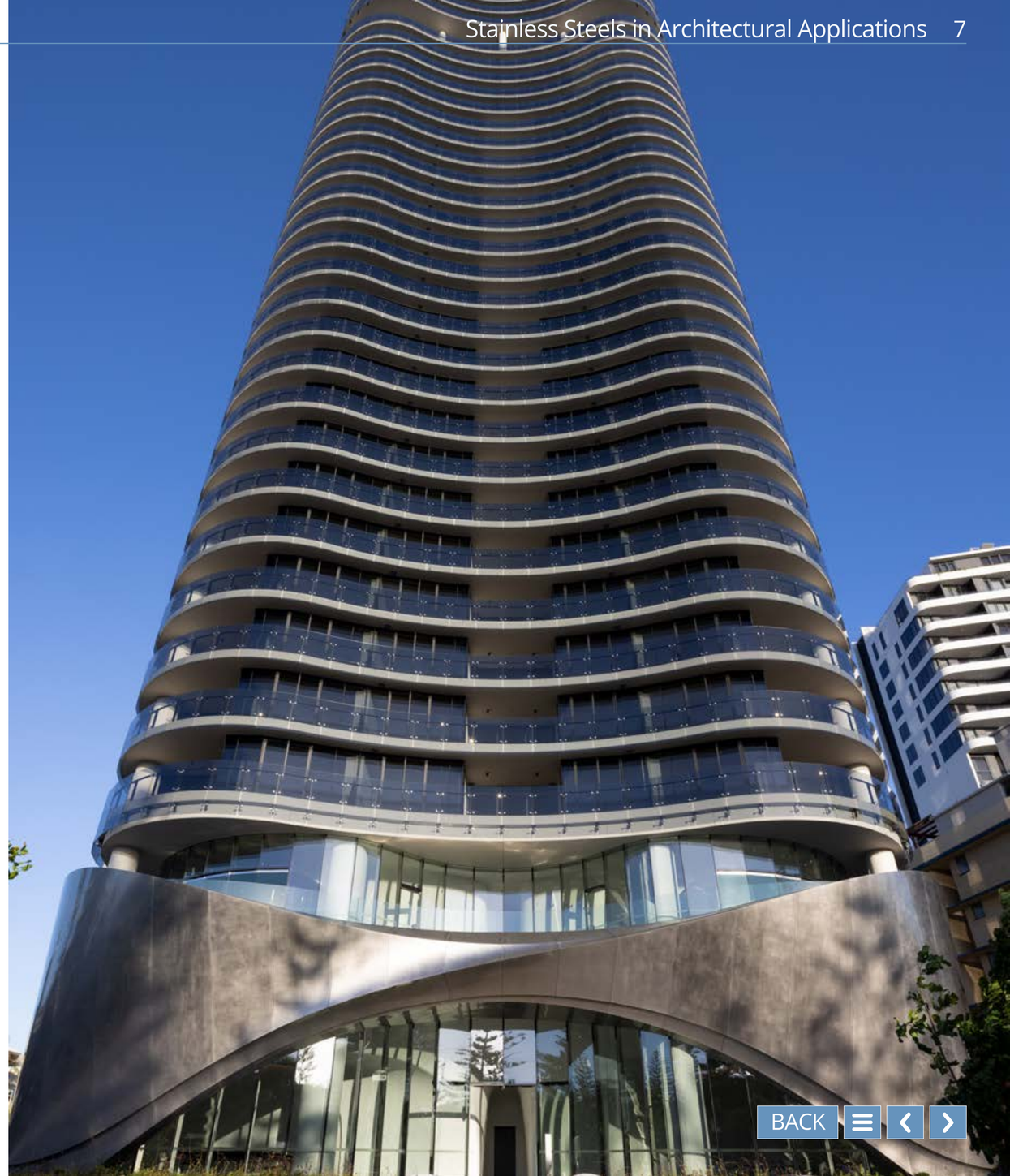
Category:	Residence	**Material thickness:**	6 mm
Location:	Mermaid Waters, Gold Coast , Australia	**Material quantity:**	appr. 900 m²
Environment:	urban	**Architect:**	Contreras Earl Architecture
Use:	Façade – monocoque structure	**Manufacturer & fabricator:**	CIG – Netherlands
Material:	High grade stainless steel in non directional grinding finish	**Photographs:**	John Gollings and Peter Sexty
		More information:	contrerasearl.com

rock cave naturally eroded by the ocean. The nature of the materials heightens this effect, with a distinctive semi-reflective stainless-steel façade that subtly reflects the streetscape and surroundings, and a concrete finish to the grand foyer, which is cave-like and elemental. The transition from outside to inside is fluid and inviting, and artistic lighting subtly follows the ridgelines to enhance the flow from one space to another. Refined sculptural detailing throughout the architectural and interior details reinforces the experiential quality of the pedestal, foyer and communal areas. This includes the stainless-steel concierge desk in the foyer as well as the lift lobby – a privately enclosed space within the suspended arches.

Why was stainless steel chosen?

because Contreras Earl Architecture wanted to achieve a special materiality, monolithic

- High grade stainless steel is strong and is good for the beachfront location
- Embracing prefabrication
- Using monocoque structure was a real benefit. To achieve light weight and very strong panels
- No need for an extra structure
- The special materiality Contreras Earl Architecture wanted to achieve certain level of reflectivity to reflect the dynamic surroundings.
- Chosen to use different technology than conventional buildings



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