

Trinity Plaza

San Francisco, California



Located on the largest undeveloped city block on historic Market Street in San Francisco, the site is across the street from the civic center core.

The project is a phased, master planned development of five large buildings, containing 1,400 apartments, retail and restaurants, which surround a grand central plaza and sit on top of a podium containing retail and parking. The five buildings are comprised of 4 high-rise towers and one mid-rise block.

The exact location and height of each building on the block was strictly regulated by planning and zoning laws that dictated that the buildings could not cast a shadow on any portion of the civic center plaza across Market Street. The resulting plan distributes the four high-rise towers in a “pinwheel” pattern on the rear portion of the site, while the mid-rise block is located along the sidewalk on Market Street. Each of the four high-rise towers is a slightly different height to comply with the zoning and diminish in height toward Market Street. And to allow for maximum light and views between them and into the central plaza.

In order to break down the mass the development, each building in elevation is composed as a collage of smaller volumes that stack, rest and overlap onto each other. Each volume is rendered in a different tone of pre-cast concrete and each building has a different façade composition. The combination of different size buildings with different elevation compositions creates the varied and lively effect of a “skyline” for this singular development. Designed under the direction of Christopher Coe while Managing Director and Director of Design of Arquitectonica Los Angeles.



