

# Alberni by Kengo Kuma

## 1550 Alberni St. (Under Construction)

Another architectural gem proposed for the Georgia Street corridor in downtown Vancouver's West End neighbourhood could help shake off Vancouver's reputation of having an urban jungle of bland architecture.

Renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma has designed a slender 40-storey residential tower for the site, which was purchased by Westbank in 2016 at a cost of \$47 million.

'Carved deductions' are one of the tower's most prominent proposed architectural features, with the building's sections sculpted and hollowed out on the lower half of the northeast corner and upper half of the southwest corner.

The facade of the tower will be just as striking with the use of a combination of glass and polished anodized aluminum that will provide the structure with an almost chequered appearance.

A total of 188 residential units are proposed for the building, with many units within the carved deductions possessing substantially sized patios or what project proponents have termed as 'open gardens'. Interior materials will include the heavy use of wood and bamboo.

Retail space and a restaurant will be located at the tower's foot, along with a highly unique public amenity – a ground-level Japanese moss garden within a hollowed section of the building, with water and natural features built along the face of an amphitheatre-like, cascading plateau.

This building is currently under construction at the corner of Cardero and Alberni St.



