

Amir Center

Designed by David Resnick

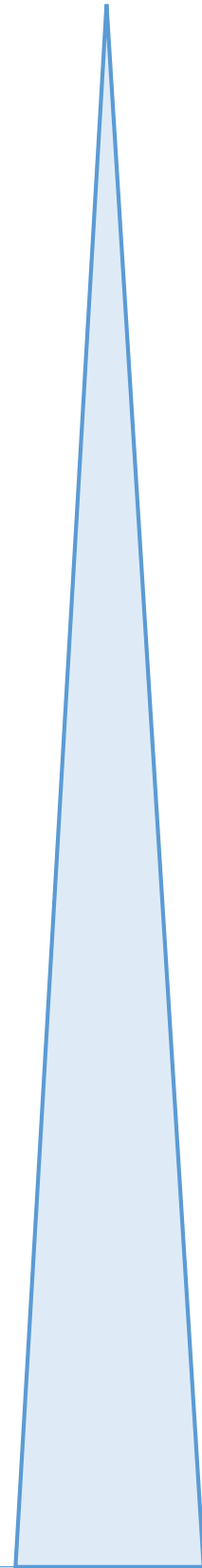




The emphasized horizontal lines of the floors are the most distinct aspect of the building.



These line have been weakened as the tenants have added ac units and made other altercations to the balconies.



The horizontal lines of the floors give the building a feeling of resting and sitting stably on the ground. It provides an attractive contrast with ordinary skyscrapers which emphasize vertical lines.



The Amir Center was designed by Brazilian-Israeli architect David Resnick in 1958. It is located on the corner of King George and Agron streets in the center of Jerusalem.

It was pre-fabricated in 90-centimeter modules and a steel crane was brought in from Sweden. Because of its modern design there was some opposition for the building when it was constructed. "For me, it was very important to have modern construction in Jerusalem, but most of the people opposed my building and said it wasn't in the Jerusalem tradition," Resnick said. (Haaretz) "The building did indeed go up at a very speedy pace, of one floor per day, with the open balconies functioning as scaffolding for pouring the floors above them." (Haaretz)

It could be considered two buildings with the shops as the lower building and the apartments as the higher building - a building on a building.

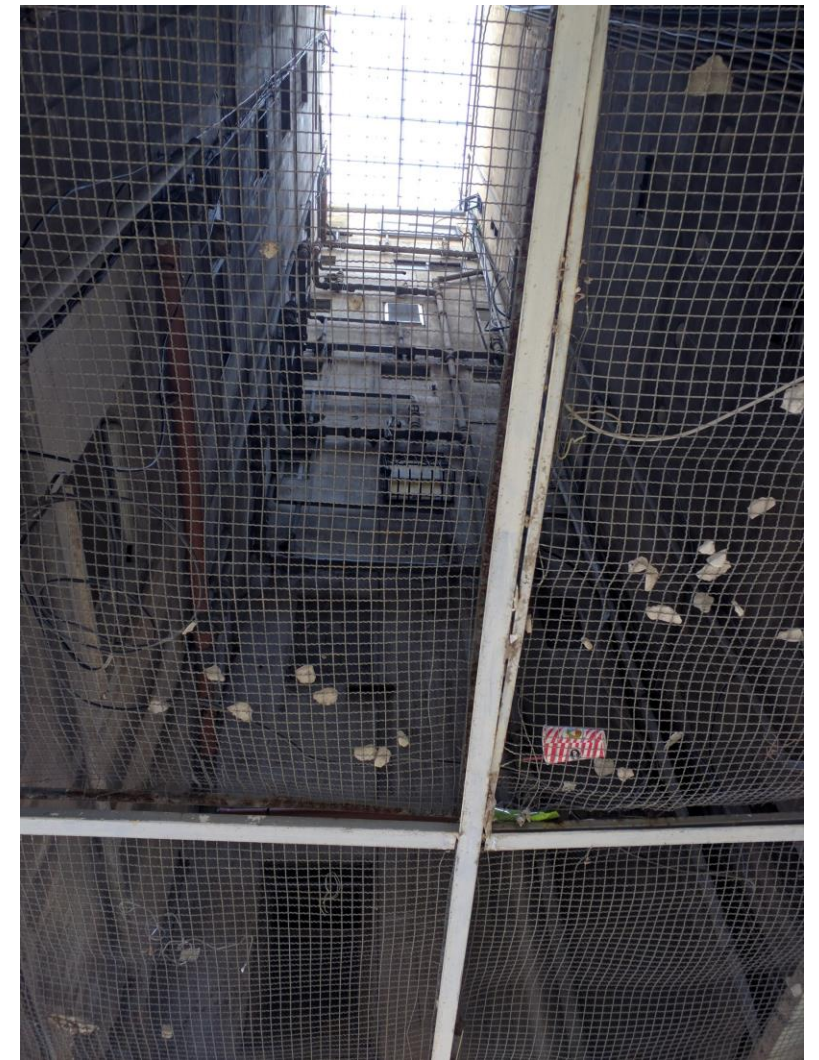
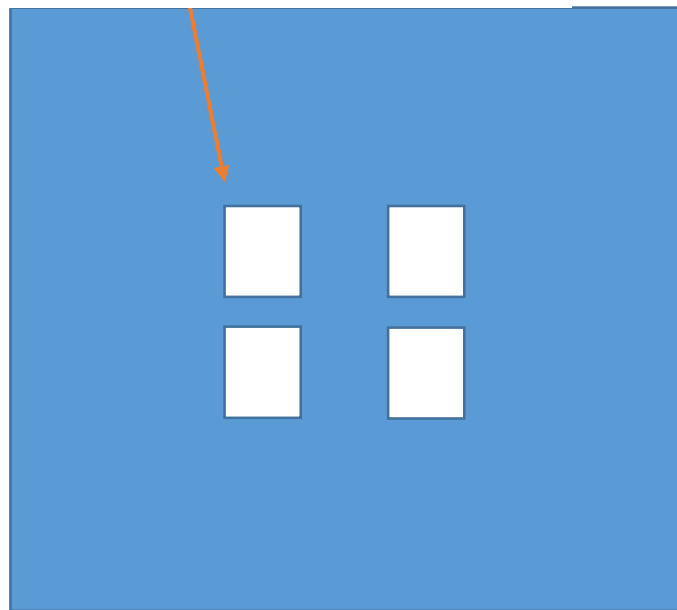
Elevations



Courtyards

Four small inner courtyards or vertical shafts allow air and some light to reach the interior spaces. They also provide space for heating and air-conditioning units.

Plan of the building



Bottom floor



Interior Hallway



There are steps as well as two small elevators



Openings in the wall looking into the courtyards

Additional building by David Resnick



Rabbi Dr. I. Goldstein Synagogue, Hebrew University



Yad Kennedy (John F. Kennedy Memorial), Israel



Resnick was awarded Israel Prize in architecture and the Rechter Prize.

David Resnick worked for Oscar Niemeyer, the most prominent Brazilian architect, and was influenced by his Modern style.



Building designed by Oscar Niemeyer



The Amir Centre has some similarities to this building designed by Oscar Niemeyer

There's a chance the building will be razed to make way for a luxury high-rise. Other building are much more boring than this one and it would be a shame to loose it.

Sources

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