

# Birmingham City Parkgate



The project is conceived as a sequence of stepped 'fingers' maximising views over a landscaped park



Place/Date  
**Birmingham, England 2003**

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Client  
**Countryside Commercial plc**

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Area  
**65,000 m<sup>2</sup>**

Architect  
**Richard Rogers Partnership**

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Structural Engineer  
**Arup**

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Services Engineer  
**Arup**

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Quantity Surveyor  
**Gleeds**

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Transport Consultant  
**Buchanan Consulting Engineers**



RRP designed a 65,000m<sup>2</sup> mixed use scheme for this prime site in the centre of Birmingham, immediately adjacent to the proposed Birmingham Library, also designed by the practice. The project is conceived as a sequence of stepped 'fingers' maximising views over a landscaped park. RRP's aspiration is to create an environmentally responsible scheme with good BREEAM rating – typical facade treatments feature fully-opening windows and external timber brise soleil for all living/bedroom areas, so as to maximise natural ventilation and control solar gain.

The scheme includes 525 apartments, 42,000m<sup>2</sup> of accommodation arranged as studios, 1 and 2 bedroom flats, with a proportion available as affordable housing. 11,500m<sup>2</sup> has been designated for retail/leisure use, comprising food stores, small retail units, cafés, a nursery/crèche and a community health centre. These facilities are accessed via a glazed galleria called the 'northern gateway'.

In addition, the scheme allows for 11,500m<sup>2</sup> of office space, but the flexible nature of the design means that residential and office accommodation are interchangeable, depending on demand.

