

# Group Seven Bombay

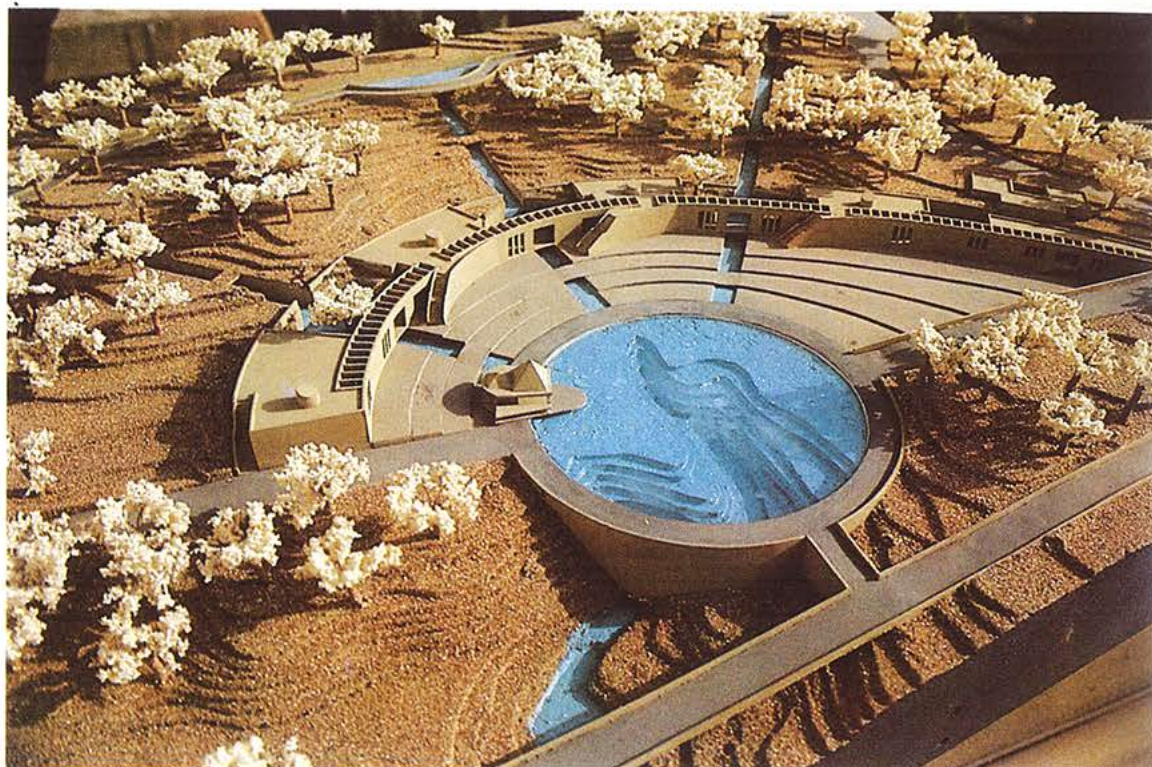
Vol X No 3 1993



Hemu Upadhyay

Nitin Killawala

Avinash Joshi



Group Seven was originally a team of final year students who concentrated their talents to win competitions. Over the years various members have gone their different ways leaving only Nitin Killawala, Hemu Upadhyay and Avinash Joshi as part of the old firm.

Unabashedly Modernist (“We are comfortable with straight lines, grids, etc. We are happy with Modern Architecture sensibly done.”), the Group is, however, clear in that a generation of the concept

of localism or regionalism is essential for the emergence of a relevant architecture. But it is the client who is most important. There is no point going into the intricacies of using local materials and skills if they do not fit in with the client’s aspirations.

Based in Bombay, a large part of the practice is interior related. This led to an interesting development of style — an overlap of interior design with architecture — for the Group does not believe

that it is possible to compartmentalize the two allied activities of interior and architectural design. As Hemu Upadhyay put it, “Interior design is highly subjective and personalized but we believe that interior spaces without ‘interior’ elements should be equally effective as with them . . . Thus ‘inside-out’ or ‘outside-in’ is the combination of a hierarchy of spaces, each complementing the other”.

*Photographs courtesy the architects*



*Above Model, Phalke Memorial, Nasik (on going).  
Right Padamavilas Enclave, Pune.  
Private residence, Jaipur (on going).  
Far right Model, Killawala’s resort house, Panvel (on going).*