



Creating a Dynamic Community within a Historic Framework

Notre Dame Plaza is the adaptive re-use of the historic 1907 Notre Dame High School into 66 units of HUD 202 affordable senior housing. The transformation of the Notre Dame building called for modifying the existing structure and grounds while respecting the historical overlay district and diverse community. The resulting project is a light filled, active environment for the new residents that takes advantage of generous ceiling heights and tall windows. Existing buildings and grounds were preserved along with the new construction of courtyards, accessways, a new lobby, community room, gardens, reading areas, a two story skylighted aviary and installation of new building systems. All historic elements were preserved while maximizing the amount of units that could fit comfortably into the existing building.

Design Features

- Restoration of building facade
- Installation of new building systems
- Creation of new accessible entry for residents
- Restore and enhance public spaces
- Utilization of generous ceiling heights and tall windows

Client: Catholic Charities
(now, [Mercy Housing California](#))

Building Size/Acres: 53,000 sq.ft.

Density: 66 units

Completion: August 1997

Construction est.: \$6.3M

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