



SAN DIEGO
HOUSING
COMMISSION

News Release

May 23, 2013

**Media Contact: Maria Velasquez, Vice President
Community Relations & Communications
619-578-7560 mariav@sdhc.org**

SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION, PARTNERS HONORED FOR HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OF 99-YEAR-OLD HOTEL SANDFORD, REHABILITATED TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOW-INCOME SENIORS

Save Our Heritage Organisation recognizes efforts of SDHC and partners at 2013 People in Preservation Awards

SAN DIEGO, CA—The rehabilitation of the 99-year-old Hotel Sandford in downtown San Diego, which preserved long-term affordable housing for seniors, earned the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) and its partners an award today from a local historical preservation organization.

At the 31st annual People in Preservation Awards, the Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) recognized SDHC, Civic San Diego and Heritage Architecture & Planning for the exterior and interior rehabilitation of Hotel Sandford.

The awards celebrate “individuals who have made important contributions to their communities through historical preservation.”

“Through collaboration, Hotel Sandford was restored to its original character and look, and we ensured it would remain affordable to senior tenants for the next 99 years,” SDHC President & CEO Richard C. Gentry said. “SDHC is proud to receive this award.”

Hotel Sandford includes 129 affordable units and one manager’s unit. Rents are affordable to low-income seniors who earn up to 60 percent of the San Diego area median income, or \$33,900 a year for one person.

Hotel Sandford required renovation because maintenance had been deferred for years, and its historical character had diminished over time. When SDHC acquired Hotel Sandford in 2010, it had not been renovated since 1989.

SDHC contracted with Heritage Architecture & Planning to oversee the design and construction of the rehabilitation, which was completed on April 19, 2013.

The building rehabilitation included exterior improvements, such as returning the building to its original color scheme and sidewalk replacement. The building’s historic arched wood windows on the fourth floor, festoon lighting, and other original features also were restored.

This is the second historical preservation award SDHC has received for the rehabilitation of Hotel Sandford, which was built in 1914. The City of San Diego Historical Resources Board, which designated Hotel Sandford as a historical landmark on December 2, 1987, presented a [Historic Preservation Award](#) in the category of architectural rehabilitation to SDHC and its partners on May 24, 2012.

SDHC invested \$6.26 million toward the \$12.56 million cost of acquiring and rehabilitating Hotel Sandford. Civic San Diego (formerly Centre City Development Corporation) invested \$6.1 million.

For more information about SDHC's affordable housing programs, visit www.sdhc.org.

###