



PHOTO BY JAY GRAHAM, PHOTOGRAPHER, SB ARCHITECTS (SANDY BABCOCK), DESIGN ARCHITECT; AND BARRY SWENSON BUILDER, ARCHITECT OF RECORD

# The Difference Is in the Details

## The Plaza, San Jose

Architects: **Barry Swenson Builder, SB Architects** • General Contractor: **Barry Swenson Builder**

**T**he Plaza was developed in conjunction with the San Jose Redevelopment Agency in an effort to redefine and create neighborhoods and communities in downtown San Jose. The 56-unit condominium development is a prime example of the agency's mixed-use program of high-density, low-rise residential.

The three-story building sits on a parking podium and surrounds the heart of the project—a landscaped central courtyard with views to interior units. A number of the larger units are townhouses, with upper levels protruding above the third floor. The two-story-high townhomes create a varied roofline for the development,

differing from traditional loft-style, live/work spaces. The podium-level units open onto the street, with front stoops that create a neighborhood feel. Each unit located on the lower level offers a private entry with individual street access.

High-end finishes and materials were used throughout this handsome community.

Napa Valley Cast Stone cladding was used on the first level, giving a warm

terra cotta hue to the buildings base. Cast stone was also used to wrap around the windows, offering a more detailed exterior. High-end recessed aluminum windows were chosen to increase shadow lines. Eternet's Fiber Cement Roofing (with a slate appearance) adds texture to the rooftop. ■

*"The Plaza is one of our most successful residential developments due to the classic and urban architectural design by SB Architects. It has received much attention in the emerging downtown San Jose market."*

Marianne Bacigalupi, senior vice president of  
Barry Swenson Builder