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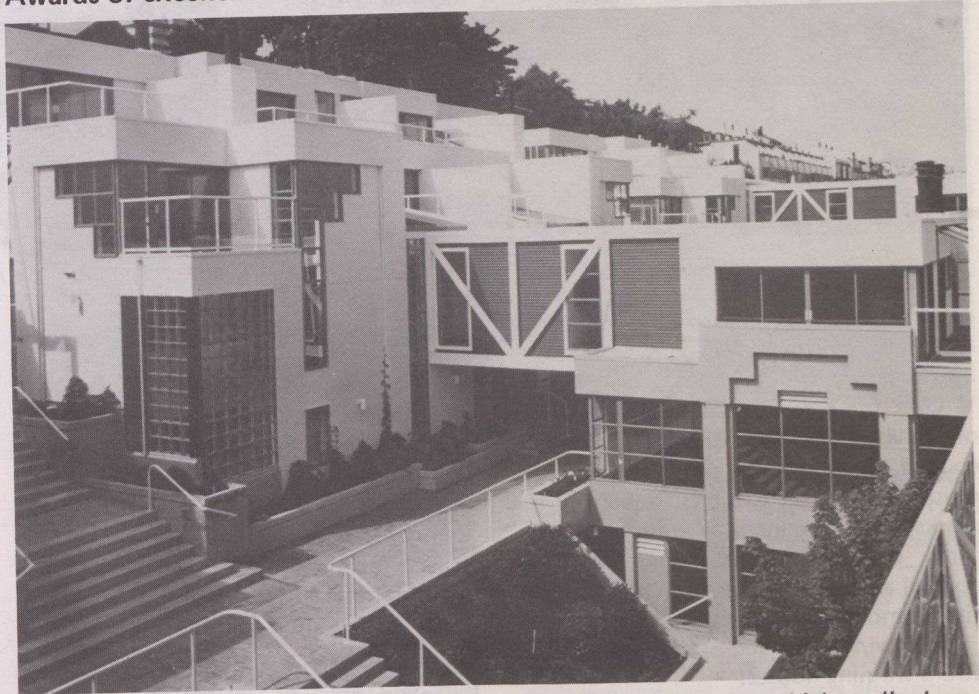
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Awards of excellence for Canadian housing design



The Sixth Estate in Vancouver, British Columbia. The design for these high-quality housing units built from derelict warehouse buildings is one of 17 prize-winning submissions.

Awards for excellence in Canadian housing design were presented by Governor General Edward Schreyer at a special ceremony recently in Toronto.

Sponsored by the Canadian Housing Design Council (CHDC), a 30-member organization set up to promote quality residential design, the awards were given to 17 projects. These included warehouse conversions, a thermal home, a co-operative, non-profit and luxury housing, maritime, cottage and San Francisco-style housing built across the country within the past five years.

Another 20 entries were judged worthy of honourable mention by the council's national awards jury.

Michael Geller of Vancouver, British Columbia, chairman of the national jury, noted that regional and/or national jurors visited all projects submitted for awards and spoke with the residents. The council wants to ensure that consumers ultimately benefited from "the industry's interest in receiving design awards".

Henry Sears, past chairman of the council, said the award competitions were "a means of recognizing the considerable efforts necessary to produce well designed housing. It is particularly the case today in this most difficult economic climate. The competitions are serious and rigorous...based on projects which have been built rather than simply designs which need not necessarily meet the practicalities of budgets and marketplaces. Also, this is one of the few competitions in which all finalists are visited by the jury to ensure that the winners are selected as good examples of housing rather than of photography".

This is the council's fourteenth residential housing design awards program since the 30-member volunteer organization was established in 1956 to foster excellence of housing design in Canada. It was created by a group of free-thinking professionals concerned about all the elements that improve housing design in Canada, develop sound community plan-



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