

National Hotel Artist Lofts

2221 Market Street | Galveston, TX 77550 | Opened 2001



Photo by Greg Handberg

Restoring Galveston's Cultural Centerpiece

Few buildings have histories as colorful as that of the National Hotel Artist Lofts. Built in 1870 as an opera house, the building enjoyed a glamorous but brief reign as Galveston's cultural centerpiece. In 1895, a new owner substantially rebuilt it as an office building. Five years later, it survived the great hurricane of 1900, which leveled much of Galveston. It subsequently housed a bank, various stores and offices and the National Hotel.

Developed at a cost of \$3.6 million, this important Galveston landmark has now been reborn as the National Hotel Artist Lofts, a 27-unit live/work building that includes both affordable and market-rate housing as well as ground-floor commercial space.

The National Hotel project has played a key role in the continuing renaissance of the Strand, a National Historic Landmark District of mainly Victorian era buildings that has become a major tourist attraction.

“This restoration has saved an historic structure, stimulated several other projects and provided permanent housing for artists. I would call that a win by any standard.”

— Betty Massey, Executive Director, Mary Moody Northen Endowment



DEVELOPMENT COST

\$3.6 million

TOTAL AREA

36,267 sq. ft.

COMMERCIAL AREA

2,850 sq. ft.

LIVE/WORK UNITS

27

ARCHITECT

Michael Gaertner & Associates

FINANCING

Bank of America

City of Galveston

Galveston County

Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund

National Equity Fund

National Trust for Historic Preservation

TCF Bank

FUNDERS

Brown Foundation

City of Galveston

Jack Currie

Fondren Foundation

The Grand 1894 Opera House

Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund

Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron
Foundation

Houston Endowment, Inc.

Knox Foundation

McGovern Fund

Mary Moody Northen Endowment

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Rockwell Fund

RR Family Foundation

Summerlee Foundation

Texas State Historic Preservation Office