

New Hillside village wins design award

The Pasadena Beautiful Foundation has awarded Hillside Home for Children, an institution of the Diocese of Los Angeles, the Crown City Award for contextual and sensitive contemporary design in its construction of the Children's Village, which includes the Children's Resource Center and two residential cottages for abused children.

Accepting the award was Hillside's executive director John Hitchcock and architect Fred Wesley.

"This award was particularly meaningful to us because we believe that beautiful buildings and grounds reflect the quality care we provide to our children," Hitchcock said.

In keeping with Hillside's direction and its previous architectural design, Wesley wanted the new buildings to be emotionally warm, non-threatening and safe, and give children the comfortable feeling of a home.

In both residential cottages, Wesley introduced large skylights in the main-

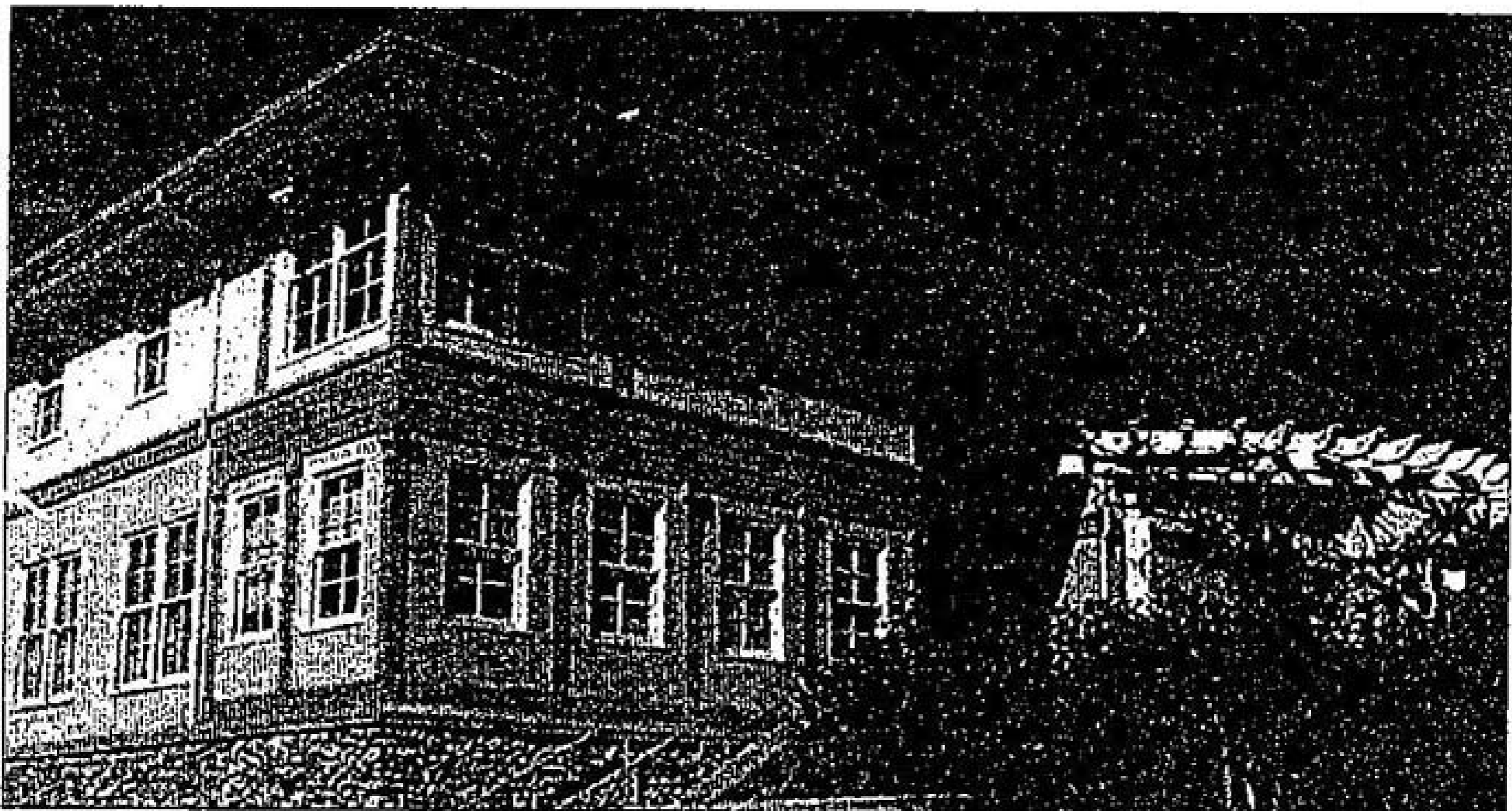
room to connect to the outside and decrease the need for artificial lighting during the day. The colorful carpeting, furniture, wood flooring and even tiles depicting water and stone evoke feelings of warmth and comfort.

The Children's Resource Center consists of four classrooms, the Children's Library, Health Center, Crisis Intervention Center, and a community meeting area.

The Center is decorated with children's artwork and bright cheerful colors in the floor patterns and furniture.

"As architects," said Wesley, "it is our hope and belief that the sense of identity you feel when you step onto the campus will contribute to the children's growth in such a way that will help them get past their traumatic experiences." He was careful, he said, to maintain a cohesive blending between the buildings built in the late 1910s and those designed in the 21st century, including the cottages.

To learn about Hillside's programs and services, visit www.hillside.org ■



New resource center at Hillside Home for Children is part of Children's Village, a new project that recently won Pasadena's Crown City Award.