Brashears Center

1400-1440 N. Harbor Boulevard 1968

New Formalism

Status: Unrecognized Significant Property



These two buildings were part of a large, master-planned 10-acre center that was intended to provide business executives with a complete set of facilities, that upon completion would include a hotel, restaurants, and recreational uses in addition to several high-rise office buildings. As Phase I of the center, the 7-story building at 1400 N. Harbor Boulevard was completed in 1968, providing 107,000 sq. ft. of column-free office space. The building features precast and poured-in-place architectural exterior columns that are 92 feet in height and exposed aggregate and white cement throughout the exterior façade. The Phase II building at 1440 N. Harbor Boulevard, completed in 1975, is a 9-story office building, similar in construction to the 7-story building with post tension construction. Total leasable area for that building was 112,300 sq. ft. of column-free space.

The center was conceived by William Brashears, a retired dentist turned developer; he successfully acquired 12 individual properties from 12 separate owners to create a 10-acre site at the "Y" intersection of Harbor and Brea Boulevards in the mid-1960s. Brashears hired the notable master plan and architectural firm of Flatow, Moore, Bryan & Fairburn to design what he called a "complete self-contained business complex." Only the first two phases of the master plan were completed; when Brashears encountered lawsuits over other developments in the 1970s, he sold the property to a consortium of Dutch pension fund investors in 1978. The Center was renamed Fullerton Towers, and it now consists of the two towers, a concrete walkway between the buildings, a 3-story parking structure at the north end of the property, and surface parking around the three structures.