

## THE PARAMOUNT

*San Francisco, California*

*Client: The Related Companies of California*



### AWARDS

PRECAST CONSTRUCTION INSTITUTE  
ADVANCEMENT AWARD  
HARRY H. EDWARDS INDUSTRY, 2002

Elkus Manfredi Architects was the master planner and design architect for The Paramount, San Francisco's tallest-ever luxury rental tower. Occupying a landmark site overlooking Yerba Buena Gardens, the 43-story tower offers unmatched panoramic views of the city, the Bay, and surrounding mountains.

The residential component consists of 486 apartment units, a mixture of predominantly market-rate luxury units with a portion of affordable units consistent with San Francisco's affordable housing goals. In addition to the residential use, The Paramount includes 44,000 square feet of commercial retail on the first two levels; 16,000 square feet of office, gallery, and archival storage space for the California Historical Society; a pool and athletic club, as well as a business center for the residential tenants; and a 355-car parking structure. The design — endorsed by local preservationists — incorporates the historic Jesse Hotel façade and massing at the base of the tower.

The Paramount is the tallest precast concrete building in a high seismic zone in the United States, and is the first significant application of the Precast Hybrid Moment Resistant Frame System. This highly innovative system provides a well-defined joint location to accommodate structure movement, significantly minimizing structural damage during an earthquake. Additionally, precast frame components serve as both the structure and visible face of the building, reducing cost and schedule duration. Kwan Henmi Architects served as the Architect of Record.

Photography: Bernard Andre





