

# hospitalitydesign

## hd boutique issue

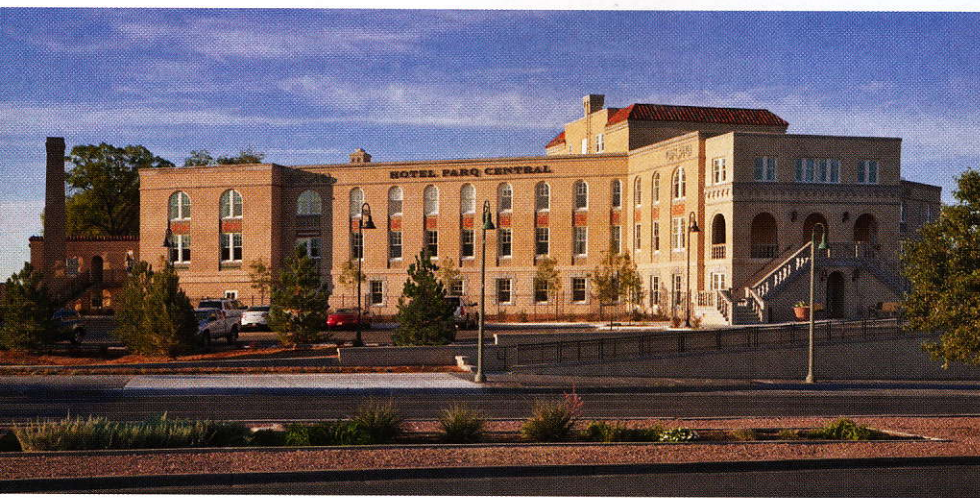
wave of the future, then and now

tony chi up close

Présenter of

**HD Boutique**  
a hospitalitydesign event





# intensive care

An historic hospital is reborn as a hotel

By David Kaufman

Photography by Robert Reck, Lucian Niemeyer, and Sergio Salvador

**Looking at its elegant neo-Italianate** façade and luxe, leather-filled interiors, it's hard to imagine that Albuquerque's year-old Hotel Parq Central began life as a hospital for the mentally ill. But indeed, back in 1926, the stucco-clad structure first debuted as the AT&SF Railroad Hospital, notoriously serving local patients for over one-half century. Thanks to a meticulous, historically sensitive restoration overseen by Santa Fe-based HVL Interiors, the 74-room hotel now hosts a very different kind of clientele.

"We kept as much of the building's existing elements as possible, while adding a carefully edited combination of texture, colors, and a teaspoon of humor," explains HVL founding principal Heather Van Luchene, who oversaw the project along with principal partner Steffany Hollingsworth.

All three of these elements are amply evident throughout the hotel, which prominently features materials such as reddish sandstone and elaborate tile mosaics that evoke the traditional New Mexico vernacular. A range of multi-hued sandstone found in key public spaces like the lobby and corridors anchors the entire project's aesthetic. Contrasting with the earthy sandstone are hefty concrete columns clad in those colorful tiles to soften their form without compromising their function. "The tiles helped turn a design challenge into an artistic feature," says Hollingsworth. "The columns

*Above, inset:* Originally constructed in 1926, the Hotel Parq Central started life as a mental hospital. *Right:* The conservatory features sandstone floors and furnishings with earthy hues that reflect its New Mexico context.





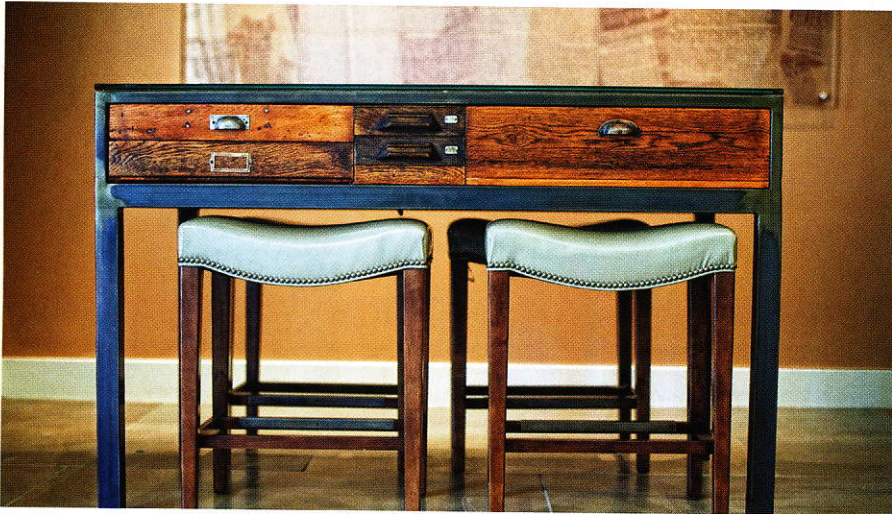




had to remain structurally, so the idea was to embrace them.”

Within the guestrooms, HVL chose to evoke the building’s past, complementing a cool, tan color palette with framed oversized postcards of the original hospital along with antique-inspired furnishings such as vintage coat hooks and unique Depression-era glass plates. Most dramatic, however, is the series of nine unique wall niches along the guestroom corridors—“little pockets” of space, Van Luchene calls them, resulting from the building’s original layout. Rather than struggle to incorporate the niches into the guestrooms, the HVL team converted them into unlikely display spaces, filling them with a carefully edited selection of period artifacts, including vintage hatboxes, train maps, and a doctor’s bag. “The items weren’t necessarily found in the building,” Hollingsworth says. “But they reference its history and time period.”

Still, the most conspicuously “referential” part of the Hotel Parq Central has to be the Apothecary Lounge, a rooftop leisure space that pays direct homage to the building’s medicinal heritage. With its original apothecary counter bar, walls decorated with antique bottle labels, and a table crafted from a 1920s coffin, Apothecary more







than lives up to its name—and provenance. “We wanted it to remain true to the building,” Van Luchene says. “So we gave it a playful vibe, much like it might have had back during the Prohibition.” **hd**  
[www.hvlininteriors.com](http://www.hvlininteriors.com); [hotelparqcentral.com](http://hotelparqcentral.com)

*This and opposite page, clockwise from top left:*  
 Antique-inspired furnishings reference the building's past in the mailroom; a traditional king guestroom; VIP seating at Apothecary Lounge; materials like leather and wood define the drawing room; and a suite's sitting area, a mix of old and new.



## Hotel Parq Central

Albuquerque

**Owner** Memorial Ventures, LLC

**Architecture Firm** Studio Southwest Architects, Inc., Albuquerque

**Architecture Project Team** Robert Gerald Heiser, principal architect; Robert Brumfield, project architect; and Daniel Solares, project manager

**Interior Design/Purchasing Firm** HVL Interiors, Santa Fe, New Mexico

**Interior Design Project Team** Heather Van Luchene, Steffany Hollingsworth, Mark Haynes, and Karen Lankford

**Contractor** Klinger Constructors, LLC

**Lighting** AEDI

**Structural Engineer** Walla Engineering

**Mechanical/Plumbing Engineer** AEG

### DRAWING ROOM

**Chairs** Century Furniture

**Chair Leather** Moore & Giles

**Chair Headrest Fabric** Pollack

**Rug** Robin Gray Designs

**Coffee Table** The Old Wood Company

**Game Table** Peter Sandback

**Ottoman** Southfield Furniture; fabric by Silver State Textiles

**Pillow Fabric** Perennials

**Scones** Visual Comfort

### CONSERVATORY

**Lighting** Visual Comfort

**Planter** Napa Home

**Chaise Lounge** European Upholstery; frame fabric by Brentano; cushion fabric by Silverstate Textiles

**Pillow Fabrics** Nomi and Duralee

**Round Table** Allen Copley Designs

**Louis XIV Side Chair** David Sutherland; seat back fabric by Design Legacy; seat fabric by Silver State Textiles

**Steel Benches** Iron By Aaron; cushion fabric by Duralee

**Side Chairs** Lane Venture; fabric by Perennials

**Concrete Side Tables** Bevara Design House

**Ceiling Medallions** Design Legacy

### APOTHECARY LOUNGE

**Lighting** Design Workshop

**Ottomans** Southfield Furniture; fabric by ArcCom and Pollack

**Custom Steel Rod** Iron By Aaron; back cushions by Pollack

**Benches** Two Zero Six; fabric by ArcCom and Robert Allen Contract

**Wallcovering** Chilwich

**Flooring** Centiva

### TRADITIONAL KING GUESTROOM

**Chair and Ottoman** Southfield Furniture; fabrics by DesignTex and ArcCom

**Secretary/Bedside Table** Hickory Chair

**Lighting** Visual Comfort

**Headboard** Chair Choice; fabric by Joseph Noble

**Artwork** Natural Curiosities

**Drapery/Cornice** Hunter Douglas Hospitality; fabrics by Donghia, Pollack, and Fabricut

**Credenza** D'Style

**Flooring** Shaw Hospitality

**Bedskirt** Hunter Douglas Hospitality; fabric by Pollack