

# Sudden violent twist to gangs in Tenderloin

Patrols stepped up after 3 wounded in Turk St. shooting

BY TOM CARTER

ON the seedy first block of Turk Street, where murder is no stranger, more than two dozen bystanders were holding down the sidewalk on Dec. 29 about 9 p.m. when two gunmen came after a man running in the street east from Taylor.

People ducked and dived into doorways as the gunmen fired 21 shots, five hitting DeAngelo Redd, 23, of San Francisco. The 6-foot-2 Redd collapsed in the street in front of the Aranda Residence at 64 Turk. He survived and told police he had never before seen the shooters. They escaped in a silver car, either a Cadillac or Buick, according to witnesses quoted in the police report.

What makes this violent incident unusual is that police say it was gang-related. Not that there are no gangs here, but the Tenderloin is no turf-strict Mission, Bayview or Western Addition.

Two others besides Redd were hit. One was a homeless man who walked into the Tenderloin Police Station five hours later claiming he hadn't realized he was wounded.

The cops thought he might be drunk and making it up, until they took a look.

"They pulled up his shirt and saw he had a bullet hole in him," said Capt. Gary Jimenez, Tenderloin commander.

Redd and the homeless man, whose name police withheld, were hospitalized at S.F. General. A third

man checked into Oakland's Summit Hospital that night with a gunshot wound to his right ankle that he said he got on Turk Street. Police say he was uncooperative in an interview.

The sidewalk in front of the Aranda Residence, under Tenderloin Health, is known as a place shiftless men and women mill about day and night. Crack dealing is rampant, according to Brian Quinn, Tenderloin Health's Housing Services director, who oversaw the Aranda's yearlong renovation in 2005. Quinn tells of beatings, stabbings and shootings there. He considers that sidewalk the most dangerous spot in the TL.

In fact, Turk and Taylor gets the nod for most crime-ridden intersection in the Tenderloin. On the northeast corner in December 2005, about 2:30 a.m., a man was shot to death outside the 21 Club. The intersection got three of the city's new surveillance cameras; they went up Feb. 21.

But the Aranda's outside camera caught some of the year-end action featuring Redd fleeing the hail of gunfire.

"It's on tape, a man running down the middle of the street (Turk from Taylor toward Mason) and another one chasing him with a gun

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## CONDO BOOM IN TENDERLOIN

Market-rate housing suddenly hot

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# CENTRAL CITY



SAN FRANCISCO

## \$258,000 STUDIOS



PHOTOS BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Dan Paris, Book Concern Building project manager, shows off a first-floor condo studio. "We liked the idea of saving the old building, but we definitely are modernists," he says.

# First micro-condos

Teensy units for young and hip or a pied-à-terre

BY ANNE MARIE JORDAN  
URBAN LIVING REPORTER

SOMETIMES a building is not what it seems. For example, on the fringe of the Tenderloin, in the very first block of McAllister Street, at 83 McAllister, is a terra cotta-and-brick façade the color of dry wheat and wet sand.

Decorative features on the building's face are simple, subdued. The only glimmer comes from a single horizontal band of deep purple opaque glass.

The lower left corner of this five-story edifice is engraved with "1908," the year of its dedication. Near the roofline, the letters "M" "B" "C" are carved in stone, a perpetual reminder of the building's origin as the Methodist Book Concern.

Once inside, our story changes. This is the first market-rate condo project in the Tenderloin since the Hamilton Condos on O'Farrell Street that opened in 1962. And, though studios start at \$258,000, it's touted as affordable.

In a \$15 million renovation that started in 2005, the interior of the Book Concern Building — or BCB, as it is now called — has been transformed into something thoroughly modern — maybe even edgy.

This former church book depository now features 60 new condominiums expressing futurism, not traditionalism. The 3,500-square-foot ground floor has been renovated for one or two businesses, a trendy wi-fi café perhaps.

Among the amenities are a rooftop garden, gym, multipurpose room and a laundry room. No garage, but a bike rack in the basement. Some units are handicapped-accessible.

With Hastings College of the Law only a block away, some units will be used as rentals, maybe 18, the developers estimated. Most of the condominiums, according to Eric Pascual of the sales office, have already been sold or are presently in escrow. Still available are two one-bedroom units and 10 studios.



The stylistically simple façade of the 1908 building gives little hint of inside innovations.

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