

The Baker Hotel

1 PRIORITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



PG. 2

World War II helps fund The Baker Hotel inadvertently.

PG. 3

1 Priority Environmental Services starts plan for The Baker Hotel.

PG. 4

Finished and proud.

WORDS BY: [MARK DESOUZA](#)

HISTORICAL 91 YR OLD BUILDING

FAMOUS WATER BRINGS FAMOUS PEOPLE.

The Baker Hotel, a Texas landmark in Mineral Wells built in 1929 had a unique plan for a water and bath spa as well as the first swimming pool in a Texas hotel. The famous hotel had plans to draw in people from all over the world, which it did. This unique design was created by architect Wyatt C. Hendrick and the mind of T.B. Baker. The city of Mineral Wells, already had growing success in the 1920's being well known for its "ageless mineral water." The Baker begin drawing in many famous people like Glenn Miller, Lawrence Welk, Clark Gable, Judy Garland, former President Lyndon B. Johnson, and the Three Stooges. It is even rumored by local historians that legendary outlaws Bonnie and Clyde spent time at the Baker after it became a famous health spa destination.

1940-1960S

WAR BRINGS FINANCIAL HELP.

After all the Baker's success in the 1930s, during WWII, Fort Wolters a nearby military base with the largest infantry brought soldiers to The Baker. Fort Wolters helped the local success of The Baker Hotel, but that was short lived. After 1945 Fort Wolters shut down, which caused a huge decline at The Baker. During the 1950's the hotel had conventions and hosted other events but never reached the huge success it had the previous twenty years. Earl Baker shut the doors of the legendary building in 1963. Since then, it has sat vacant accruing damage from mother nature and the people who were curious of the buildings allure. Some even explored the building on ghost hunting adventures.



STILL STANDING.

Fast forward to the year 2019. It was announced that local DFW based investors had secured the funding needed for the Baker's remodel. With funding squared away the hard work began on getting this magnificent building back to its former glory, just as T.B. Baker planned almost one hundred years ago. The group had a chore collecting the most qualified companies in Texas for the job to keep the hotels projected reopen date of 2022.



1PES PLAN OF ATTACK!

After 1 Priority Environmental Services was selected to work on this incredible Texas landmark, we met on site and walked the building. Heath Watson and Eric Densmore shared with us their plan to attack this historical project floor by floor. Since 2003, 1 Priority Environmental Services has specialized in abatement projects ranging from multi-family, school, government, military, federal facilities and power plants. This project required the same expertise as all our previous projects but added the uniqueness and complexity of being a 90-year-old historical building. Our seventeen year plus experience was an advantage and was evident in this project.

LET'S GET TO WORK!

We started The Baker Hotel project on October 8, 2019, with a long list of work ahead of us. We planned with multiple supervisors and crews ready to go. Before starting, we held daily safety meeting with an additional weekly safety follow-up meeting conducted by the 1 PES Safety Director, Zach Frye. The basement had been flooded for years and had a lot of debris needing to be cleared before we could truly begin. After clearing the basement level from the flooded water and hazardous debris, we established a safe work zone for on and off-loading debris and materials for the floors above.

The plan was to start on the 11th floor and work down. Floor by floor with each challenge being as complex as the last, the 1 PES Team gained momentum with each supervisor and team working hard. Fast-forward a little bit as the seasons change, and we jump right into the new year. The plan stayed the same and all the hard work paid. 1 Priority's portion of the work was completed in June 2020 on time and within budget.



THE CLOUD ROOM

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY.

1 Priority Environmental Services is proud to be a part of this historical project, not only because of the historical significance, but because of how our team performed. **WE SALUTE ALL THEIR HARD WORK AND EFFORT!**

We are excited for the day when The Baker Hotel doors open again and we get the chance to enjoy The Cloud Room and its restored glory.

