

2008 “Excellence in Downtown Revitalization” Award Winner

Pantorium Building in Downtown Walla Walla Returns to its 1922 Charm



Before



After

Project Overview

The Pantorium Building, located at a key entrance to downtown Walla Walla, had suffered through a fire, misguided modernization, choppy remodeling, and years of neglect. The building also created an eyesore and a visual barrier to the historic commercial core.

Property owners Jim and Brenda Harold recognized this highly visible structure had great potential. Determined to take the building back to its 1922 charm and sophistication, the owners brought new life to a previously disheveled corner. The Harold's discovered some of the original wheat and red colored brickwork intact during the removal of the 1950's slipcover façade. They also uncovered the original wood floors and window openings when the interior remodeling work began. These historic discoveries served as a reference and inspiration for the renovation.

Funding

\$1.4 million was invested in extensive interior and exterior renovation along with additional construction.

The Result

The entry into downtown from Highway 12 changed remarkably. Instead of a dated, shabby, nondescript row of shops, visitors are greeted by the Marcus Whitman Hotel on one side of 2nd Avenue and the charming Pantorium Building on the other. A tasting room, salumi, and new art gallery are thriving in their newly renovated spaces.

Contact the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation at 509-529-8755 for more information.