

Program Summary:

Renovation of a 1920's concrete frame automobile dealership building. Project included new roof, masonry restoration, windows, core construction, tenant suites, HVAC, Plumbing and Electrical.

Program Statement:

Constructed in 1921, the Geo T. Bishop Building is a stoutly erected historic structure in downtown Shreveport whose original purpose and design was as an automobile dealership with fabrication shop. The physical presence of this historic structure and the distinctive details to its showroom's elegance speaks to a bygone time when purchasing the "family car" was still a novelty confined to upper echelons of society. The approach to rehabilitation incorporated renovating the historic spaces to their original beauty while using modern elements for the new office areas and support spaces. The restored historic lobby and showroom now serve as event space for special activities like weddings, cultural events, and company gatherings. What once served as the maintenance shop and concrete car ramp has been converted into an open work place design for an architecture firm with offices stair stepping up the old car ramp. Other features include a parking garage below the main street level, a new elevator to serve the occupants, and a rooftop structure that offers potential for future development. The renovated design places modern day, sleek finishes cast against the rustic concrete, masonry, plaster, and wood finishes of the past. The resulting composition is a rich tapestry of old and new that highlights the significance of each. Similar to its original purpose, today's use of the Bishop Building as the location for Class A office suites and space for community events reflects the original intent as a place of commercial activity and innovative spirit as a showplace.

Building Area (sf)

24,000 sf – Main Level

24,000 sf – Parking Level

Cost per Square Foot

\$104/sf

Construction Cost

\$2.5 Million

Date of Completion

December 18, 2012



Existing condition of the main exterior façade.



Rehabilitated exterior façade.



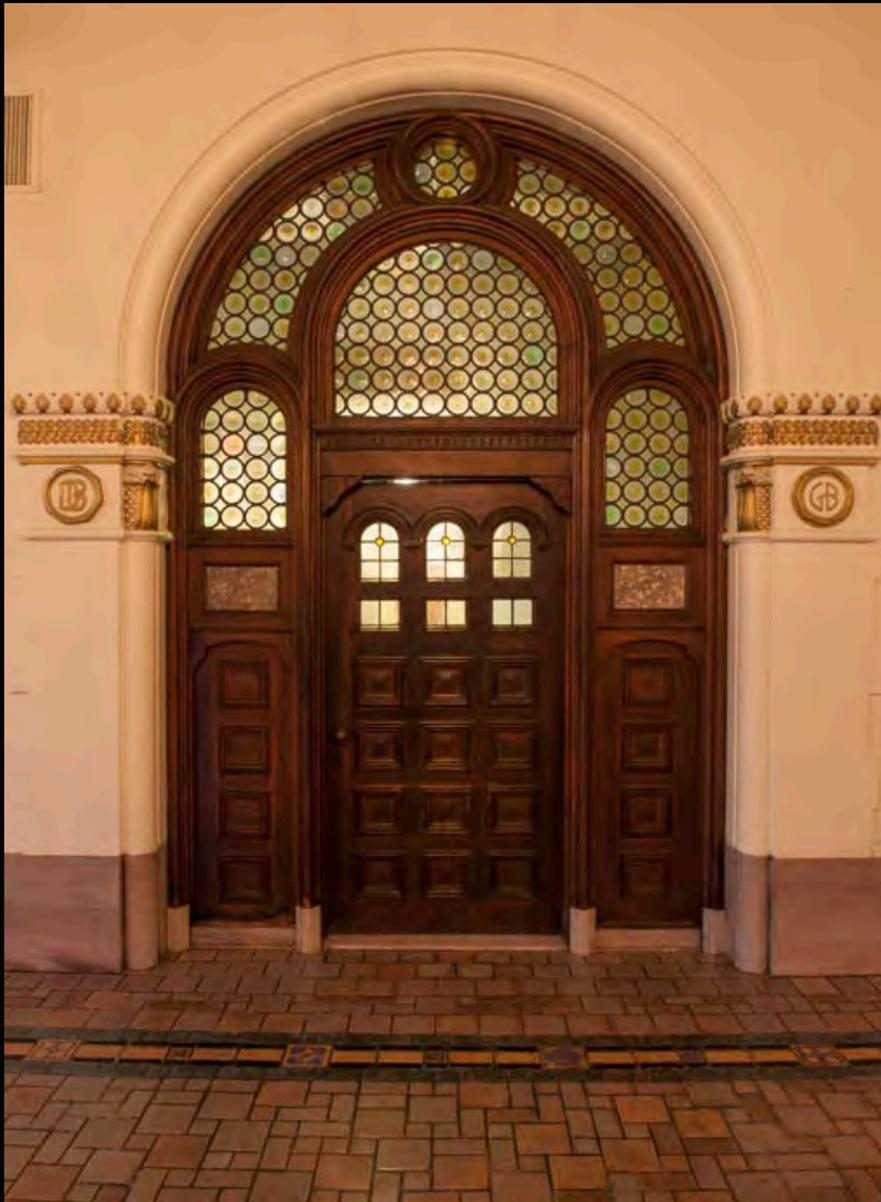
Existing condition of the exterior façade at the main entry.



Rehabilitated exterior façade at the main entry.



Historic Grand Showroom cleaned as required to restore back to original condition.



Left: Original ornate hand-carved solid walnut cathedral-style door with rondel glass cleaned and preserved.

Detail in brickwork cleaned with mild detergent. Some selective repointing of mortar was required and done so to match the original in composition, color, texture, and tooling.



Existing concrete cornice cleaned with mild detergent.



Original door track from accordion door preserved.



Existing condition of open space.



New elevator lobby, gathering space, and entry to one of the new tenant spaces.



The design aesthetic mixes modern elements, highlights regional materials like reclaimed wood, and exposes the structural elements of the historic building. Historic elements of the building were repurposed during the renovation and contribute to the distinctive nature of the space. The overall design creates a dynamic work environment for the staff, highlights gallery space for project display, and provides specialty spaces for client meetings and inner office brainstorming sessions.



Existing condition of open space.



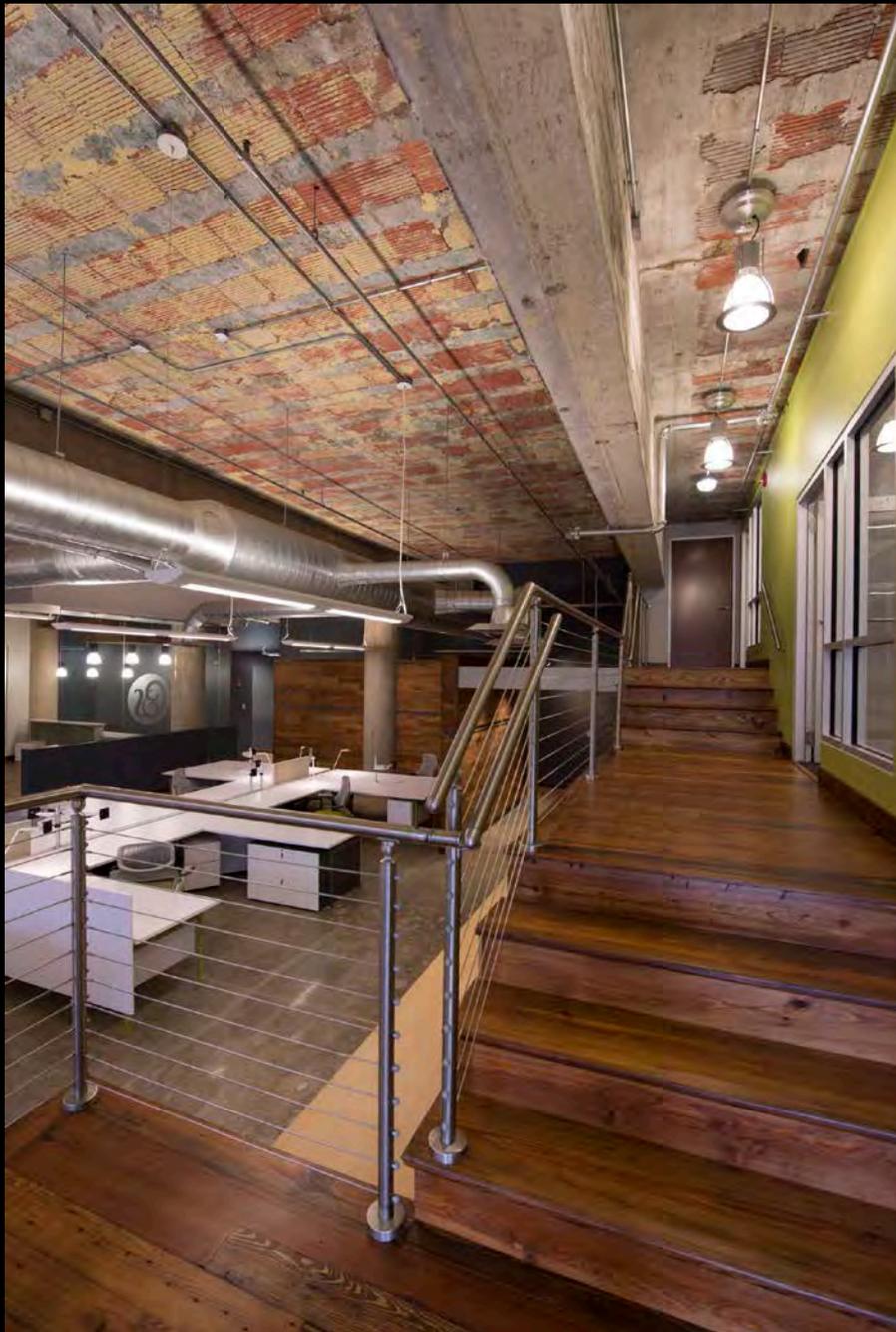
New open office space for tenant.



Existing condition of open space at ramp.



The old concrete car ramp to the roof has been converted into individual offices using platforms that stair step up the ramp.



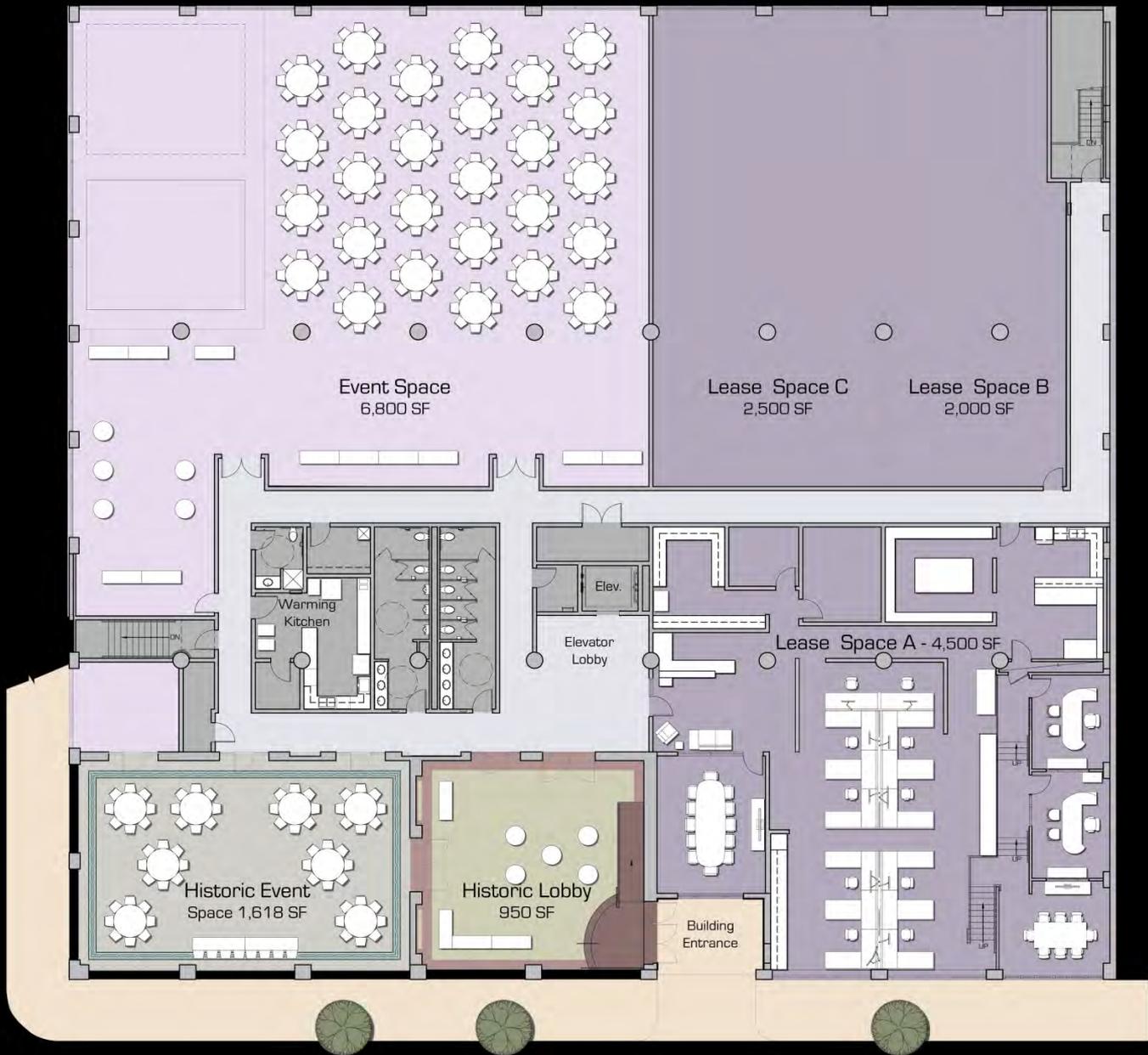
The reclaimed wood stair with stainless steel cable railing connects the offices on the ramp to the lower level and is open onto the staff area below.



Existing deteriorated wood accordion door condition.



A prominent fixed wood door uses the proportions of the deteriorated wood accordion door it replaces and allows natural light in while maintaining the historic nature of the exterior.



Main level floor plan.



Project Name:
Geo T. Bishop Downtown Historic Building

Project Location:
Shreveport, Louisiana

Owner/Client:
Car Museum Property, LLC.

Architect(s) of Record:
(names and addresses)
Prevot Design Services, APAC
Lori D. Arnold, AIA
601 Spring Street | Suite A
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

Project Team:
Mark W. Prevot, AIA, NCARB
Lori D. Arnold, AIA
Ashley LaBauve, AIA, NCARB
Sarah Delphin, ASID
Caitlin Lamothe, Allied ASID
Ronnie Duvall
Paula Prevot

Landscape Architect:
N/A

Consultants:
Purtle + Associates, LC

General Contractor:
LoBue Reeves, LLC

Photographer(s):
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Neil Johnson

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