



Old Market
“Commercial Adaptive Reuse”
424 5th Street
Brian & Jael Thorpe

Congratulations to Brian and Jael Thorpe for being selected for a **Mayor’s Award for Historic Preservation** in the category of “Commercial Adaptive Reuse” for all the work completed at the Old Market Restaurant.

Brian and Jael were drawn to the iconic building location downtown and the stylistic Southern-Colonial charm. Purchasing the First Bank & Trust (FBT) building was a unique opportunity to adapt the building to a new use while maintaining the many distinct historic features such as exterior red brick, large white columns and fascia, and large divided-lite windows and interior ornate chandeliers, terrazzo flooring, and aesthetically rich woodwork. First Bank & Trust occupied the building from 1958 to 2006, until they constructed a new bank building at the location of 5th Avenue and 6th Street. Though Verasun Corporation rented the building for a short period of time; for the most part it was vacant until Brian and Jael purchased it in 2010.



Brian and Jael began developing the old market restaurant concept in 2010, with fine tuning and starting of operations taking place in the fall of 2011 with partner, Katie Knutson. From the large historic divided-lite windows to the coffered ceilings and open floor plan, Brian and Jael carefully and creatively considered every detail; the former bank drive-thru became outdoor dining experience, the teller line became a bar, the bank lobby became an open retail environment and the 1200 pound vault door became an interior conversation piece with young and old alike. The building has become a place of bustling activity, and a destination location for visitors from all over the region. Impromptu tours are often provided to former bank employees or patrons who have heard about the building's renewed life. With so many people from Brookings having been influenced by the historic nostalgia of the building over the past 60 years, it seems fitting that this building of the past has been adapted into a new use that will create new memories well into the future.



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St. Paul's Episcopal Church "Historically Sensitive Addition" 726 6th Street

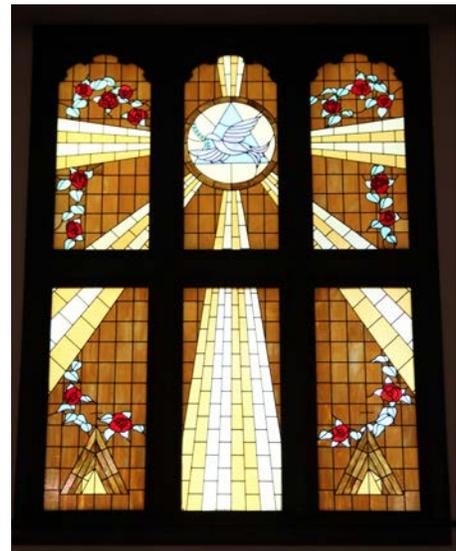


Well Worth a Visit: St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brookings, SD

Along with receiving an award from the accessibility committee, St. Paul's Church won this year's award for Historic Preservation. As befitting an Episcopal church, the building is reminiscent of the Tudor style, with largely brick exteriors, long arched stained glass windows above the nave, and a peaked roof. Located at 726 Sixth

Street in Brookings, St. Paul's not only provides an appropriately sacred setting for parishioners, it also adds to the architectural diversity and visual appeal of the surrounding community.

Prior to construction of the church, meetings of the local congregation occurred in a more secular building. Beginning in 1893, parishioners gathered for services in the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) Hall, named in honor of Union Army veterans of the Civil War. The building, a small, multipurpose, clapboard structure located on Fifth Street, was merely functional, and so church leaders eventually planned to find a more appropriate setting for services. Begun amid America's entry into World War One, the church appeared distinctive from the outset of its construction. Ralph Adam Cram accepted the project, though it proved to be one of the smallest structures he ever designed. Famous for his work on noteworthy academic buildings at Sweet Briar College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and the United States Military Academy, Cram also contrived important religious edifices, such as the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, the Church of St. John the Evangelist in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the First Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Though less munificent than many of these other structures, construction of the church proceeded so rapidly that religious services began less than a year later.



Today, St. Paul's is an appealing reminder of the diverse religious character of Brookings. The current entrance of the church now stands in the rear of the building, away from the street, but much of this portion of the original entry remains, as authentic windows found in the basement now cover the area where the front doors originally appeared. The interior contains vaulted ceilings with well executed wood trim, and stained glass windows containing a mélange of Episcopal and Sioux religious imagery.



A recent addition to the church is a used, but fully refurbished, pipe organ, which church leaders bought, and relocated to the back of the structure. Though not a fixed portion of the building itself, an added treasure is a lectern of carved wood by Johannes Kirchmayer, a German-trained artist who traveled widely in the United States.

At a time when some sacred structures assume a more austere, even ascetic, appearance, St. Paul's remains a reminder that more traditional forms of religious architecture hold special value. Father Ryan Hall, the current pastor, notes that the grandeur of churches offer worshippers continual reminders of the religious purpose of the space they occupy, but these traditional forms may also inspire pedestrians and visitors to the church as well, who come to admire a historically-significant, architecturally-distinctive memento of Brookings' growth and development since the early twentieth century.



The Brownstone Restaurant & Lounge
“Interior Restoration”
313 Main Avenue
Lori & Brennen Sullivan

The Brownstone Restaurant & Lounge located at 313 Main Avenue, owned by Lori and Brennen Sullivan, has received a 2012 Mayor's Award for interior restoration of a commercial property.

This downtown commercial structure was built in 1895. According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, a clothing, boot, and shoe store occupied this site from 1898 to 1916. From 1901-1902, Mathew E. Wimsey was listed as a clothier at this address and is likely the original resident of the building. From 1910-1913, Wimsey General Store was located at 315 Main Avenue. The building appears on later Sanborn Maps as a store with a second story lodge meeting space, where the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) and later Knights of Columbus met. It is believed that many of the interior features now rediscovered and restored by Lori and Brennen Sullivan come from the original clothing store. Over the years occupants of the building had extensively altered the facade and interior features. The 313 Main Avenue address has been the home to E.C Olson Clothing store (1909-1952) and an expanded Coast to Coast (1962-1999).



After purchasing the building in January 2011, the Sullivan's completely renovated the interior. In this process, they found the original flooring and an intact tin ceiling. They also determined the building needed to be completely rewired. Their major restoration effort was directed toward renovating the beautiful oak flooring, which now is a premier asset to their restaurant space. It took four months to remove the wooden floors, refinish the wood, and put them back down. An interesting sidelight is the floors had been laid in the opposite direction then when they were originally put down. Framed historic photos of Brookings and mirrors line the walls. The frames are made from pieces of tin ceiling from Sully's Irish Pub at 421 Main Avenue, an establishment also owned by the Sullivans.

Another interesting interior feature is the exposed brick wall in front of the restaurant. They intend to set this area up as a gallery to display works of local artists.

The Brownstone Restaurant and Lounge opened for business in December 2011, a welcomed addition to the Brookings community.

