

The Brown Palace



History:

Built in 1983 by the same architect as the Oxford Hotel.



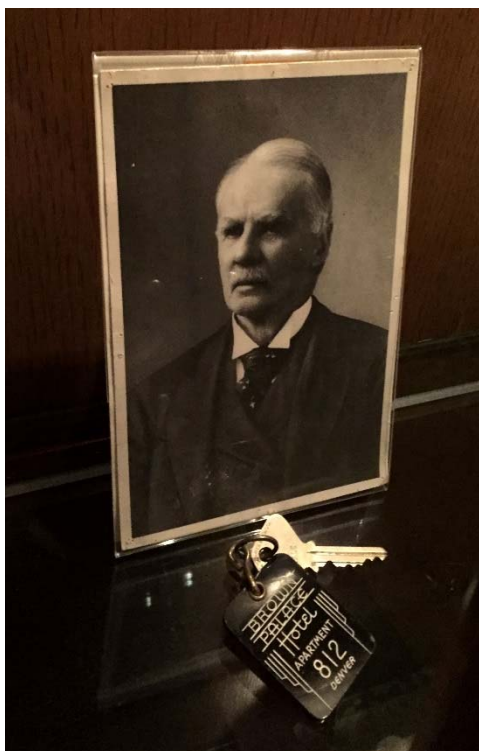
A view of the Atrium in the early 1900's

Henry C. Brown was the man who funded and originally owned the Hotel.

Construction of the Hotel cost one million dollars

The Brown Palace is the oldest operating Hotel in the City of Denver. The Oxford Hotel was opened in 1892, however it has closed several times for renovations so technically the Brown Palace has operated longer.

When the building was under construction it was featured as a cover article for Popular Science because of its massive atrium structure.



Mr. Henry C. Brown

The Hotel is located above a natural 720 foot deep artesian well. This allowed for fresh water to the building and in combination with the solid stone and steel construction, allowed the building to be one of the first in the country certified as "fire proof".



The Artesian Well

When the Brown was opened the price of rooms ranged from \$1.50 -\$3.00.

During the great depression the eighth floor was converted into two floors of apartments. The rent helped the Hotel stay in business when many others were forced to close.

One of the many famous guest of the Brown was Mrs. Louise Crawford Hill.

Mrs. Crawford Hill took up residence in the Brown after a torrid affair while married. She lived in room 904 for the last 10 years of her life.



Louise Crawford Hill

Louise Crawford Hill was also convicted of smuggling:

“New York, June 24 – Mrs. Crawford Hill, a Denver society leader en route home, yesterday appeared before the Federal court at Newark and was fined \$300 for smuggling French gowns, when she arrived on the liner Imperator. The customs inspectors alleged that the French labels have been removed and American labels substituted:”

Another infamous guest of the Brown was Molly Brown.

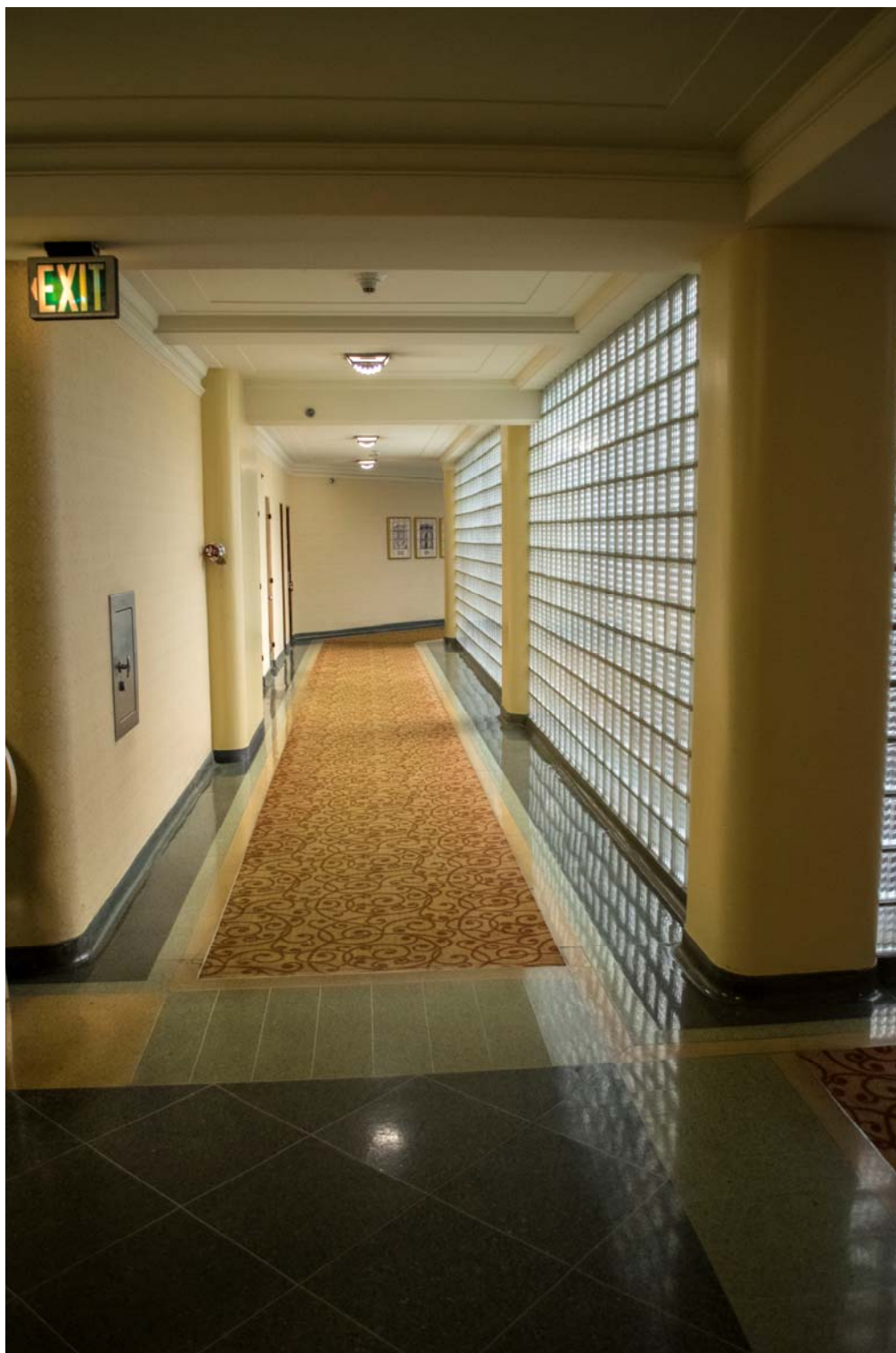
Molly was a regular visitor to the Hotel and was known for her hosting of fundraisers. She was also a regular guest of the Hotel, she always insisted on room 629 when she was staying overnight.



There have been two high profile murders in the Ship Tavern (the bar at the time).

The first is when Mr. Tony Von Phul hit three, and killed two during an argument over a woman.

The second was When Ronald P. Smith shot and killed a man during a “blackout”.



The hallway leading to Louise Crawford Hill's room

Ghost Stories and Legends:

In the early 2000's the history tour of the Hotel was featuring the room that Mrs. Crawford Hill died in. During the tours they mentioned the affair and her demise in the Hotel. The room was not featured in the tour for several months due to the remodeling of the room. During the time of the remodel, employees at the front desk reported that they were receiving call from her old room (904) that would just hang up without saying anything. The only issue was that during the renovation, the phone had been removed from the room. This was found out by the tour guide who thought that it may have been upsetting to discuss the affair that Mrs. Crawford Hill had been in, so she stopped telling that story and the calls to the front desk ceased.



The bar in the "Club room"

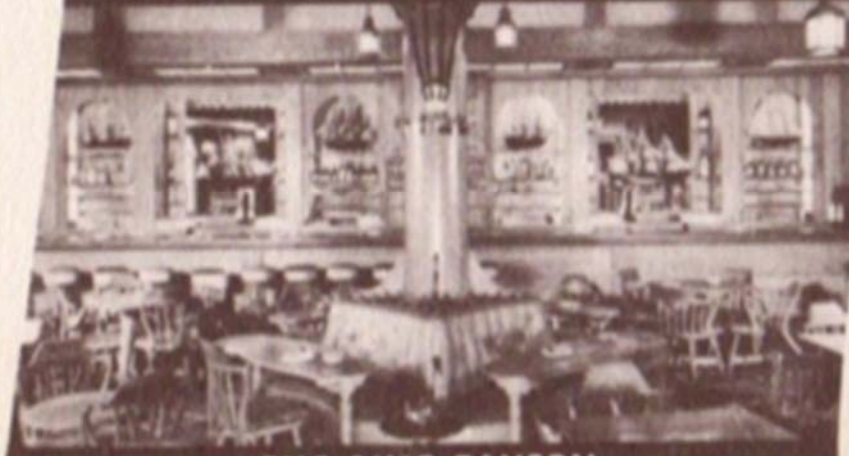


The Crawford Hill room

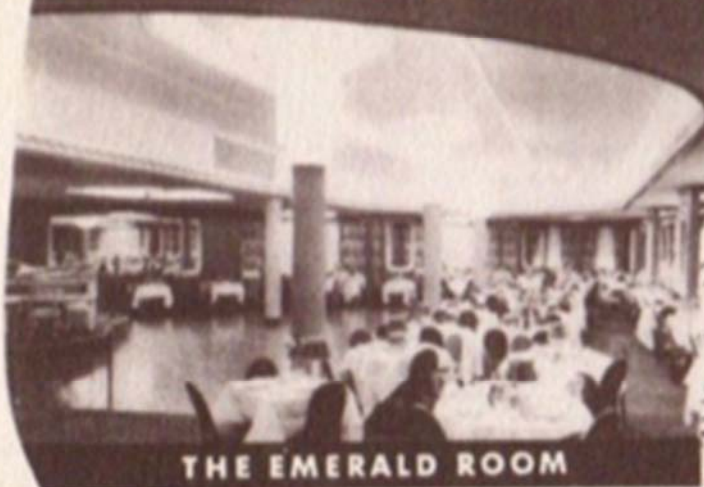
At the turn of the century (1900) there was an odd trend, people who were looking to end their lives would check into a grand hotel and commit suicide. It was most likely that they would not have to leave the burden of dealing with the suicide and it would be left to the unknown Hotel staff. The Brown was not immune to this activity. Just after the turn of the century, there was a woman who had apparently decided that it was her time to die. She checked into the Hotel and during her stay, went to the landing of the main staircase on the second floor and threw herself down the stairs. This act ended by breaking her neck and killing her.



AIR-CONDITIONED ROOMS AND APARTMENTS



THE SHIP TAVERN



THE EMERALD ROOM



THE BROWN *Palace*

"The Address of the West"

HOTEL

"Where the World Registers"

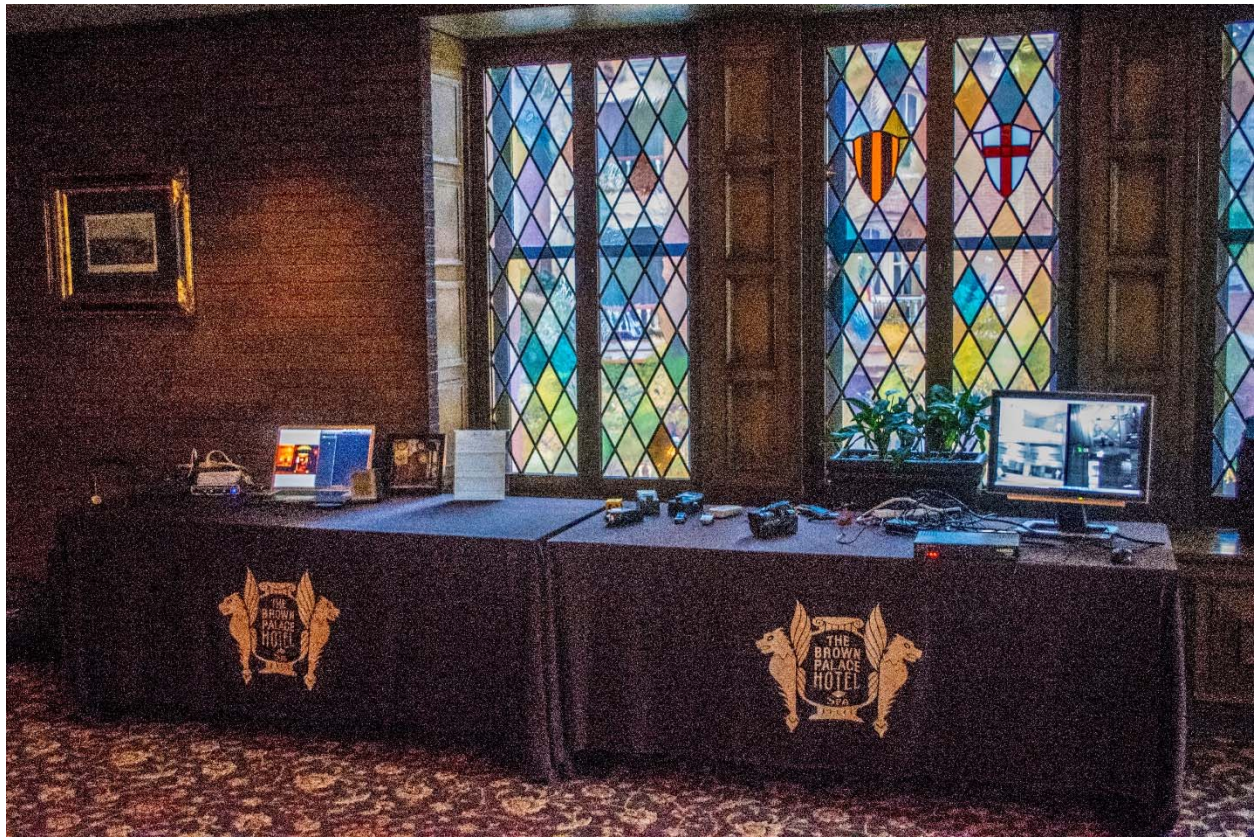


The stories are that Employees and patrons of the Hotel have witnessed the suicide played out repeatedly. The story is usually related as a guest of the hotel running to the lobby desk saying that they have just witnessed a person killing themselves and someone needs to contact the Police. The person at the front desk is then reported to say "don't worry it's just the ghost" and then go back to their normal routine.

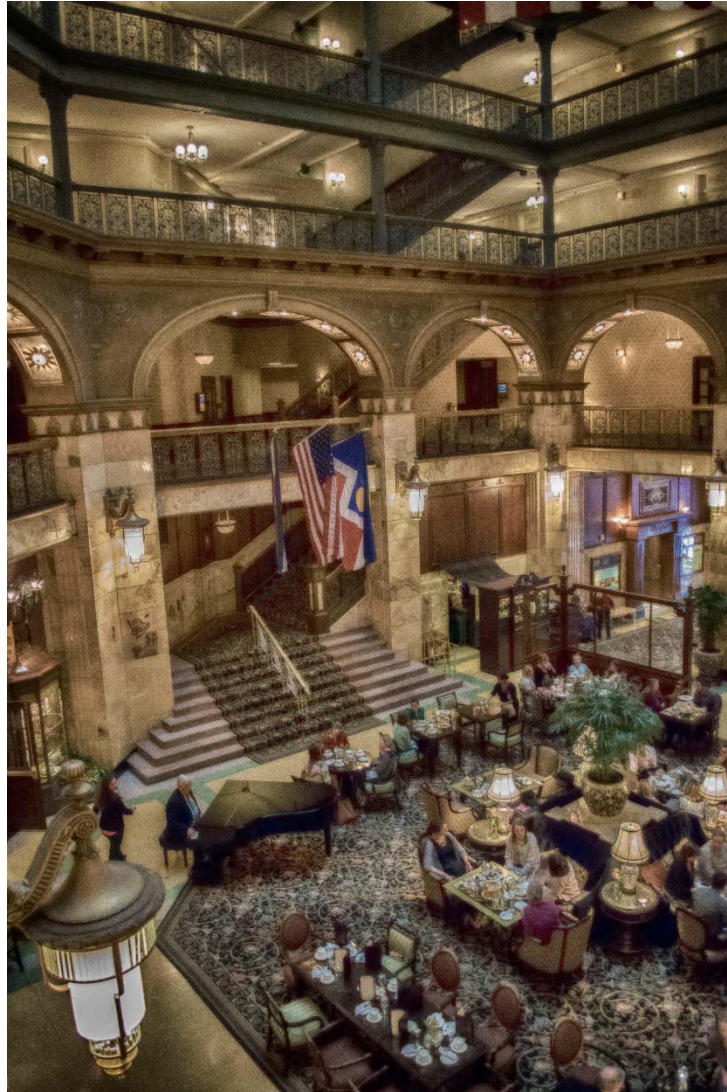


The" Club room"

Another suicide took place in the mid 2000's. An employee of the Hotel (Maid) went to one of the top floors, wrapped herself in a set of sheets, walked to the atrium and jumped from one of the upper floors to her death.



In the late 1990's an employee of the hotel was cleaning the lobby late at night (3:00 a.m.) when he heard the sound of music coming from the restaurant/bar (Ellington's). When he went to investigate, the sound continued and he discovered a quartet playing in the room. When he asked them who they were, one of them said "We live here" and as the employee left the room the music stopped and when he looked back the musicians were gone.



In the 1980's a large room was converted to the "Club Room" this was a private "Gentlemen's" club that was a bar that was available by membership. This was a very popular spot until the late 1980's. The room was eventually converted to a rental room to be used for Parties, Wedding receptions, Business meetings, etc... Several times employees and guests have reported seeing people in the room when there should not have been anyone in the room. A past manager related a story of a time when he went to the room to make sure that no homeless people had entered the room (this is a regular occurrence). When he examined the room he found a man behind the bar that was dressed as a bartender behind the bar. He was across the room from the bar when he addressed the man and claims that when he asked what he was doing the man "just walked through the wall"

There was another occasion that a florist was setting up the room and said that they saw a person standing in the corner of the room (not dressed in modern attire) who walked across from the women's room to the opposite wall and just kept walking even though there was a wall blocking the area.

Another guest reported seeing the reflection of a person behind them in the glass of the bookshelf, when he turned around to see who was there, there was nobody in the room with them.

A woman who was examining the room for a wedding went to the women's room and when she entered she heard the water running. She claims that as she approached the sink, she saw the handle on the faucet move by itself and turn off.

Investigation:

We spent several days examining the Club room and room 904. During the investigations we monitored with 8 video cameras, 3 microphones, 2 seismometers, still cameras, Natural and AC EMF meters.

We did not find any unusual readings or witness any unusual happenings.