

Apartments and retail coming to Staples Pake Building in Downtown Mobile

Posted: May 12, 2016 5:22 PM CDT Updated: May 12, 2016 5:22 PM CDT

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The Staples Pake Building in Downtown Mobile is getting a renovation, on the inside and out.

FOX10 News has told you about new residential developments coming to Water Street in Downtown Mobile. Now, one block over on Royal Street, the Staples Pake Building is getting a facelift and soon, you will be able to live and shop there. In about a year, it will be a new residential and commercial space for you to enjoy.

"We're sticking to all of the historical nature of the building. This building is about 150 years old," said Dan Craven of NOLA Revival in New Orleans. He said more than a dozen one and two bedroom apartments will be added on the second and third floors. On the street levels, retail space will be added.

"It's a significant investment in the City of Mobile and we had a lot of help from the beginning until now. We have been working on it for about a year," said Craven.

While the building is on the National Register of Historic Places, there is one place in the building that is not so much historic, but rather a modern establishment: The Royal Street Cafe. It opened in 1999. Now, after 17 years, it is closing its doors, but not for long.

"It's not the last day ever," said Keven McCabe, owner of the Cafe. "They're saying it's going to be about five months. It's a great building. It's got a lot of history. It's in need...dire need of getting repaired."

McCabe said he plans to return to the building once renovations are complete. His restaurant is expected to get new ac, electrical, and plumbing, improvements he said will only enhance business...and the overall spirit of Downtown Mobile.

"It can only do good things for Downtown, being renovated," he said. "I've seen these other buildings around getting renovated and what it's done for businesses around here and it can only be good for business, for us."

McCabe said some of his six employees will be out of work for the next several months but he plans to hire them back when renovations are complete.

Read more: <http://www.fox10tv.com/story/31961852/apartments-and-retail-coming-to-staples-pake-building-in-downtown-mobile#ixzz48x6qDcMy>