

From Cellar to Roof Trenton's \$1,800,000 Stacy-Trent Hotel Is Place of Charm and Dignity

By Elma Lawson Johnston, *Trenton Times*, September 18, 1921



The building, even from the outside, has an inviting aspect which is so essential in a hotel. It is indeed one of the handsomest structures in Trenton, and is an admirable addition to the neighborhood where are located the State Capitol, the School of Industrial Arts, Hildebrecht's Restaurant and some fine old residences. The architecture of the building is excellent, thoroughly in keeping with modern hotel requirements, while the materials from which it is constructed are pleasing to the eye.

"Well, it was worth waiting all these year for, wasn't it?"

That is the general comment of Trentonians who have viewed the interior of the new Stacy-Trent Hotel, which is now practically completed and which will be formally opened Wednesday evening with a dinner and ball.

The Stacy-Trent was indeed worth waiting for. The handsome structure which stands forth so gracefully on its West State Street site, almost at the entrance to Mahlon Stacy-Trent Park, is all that is to desired in a city's leading hotel.

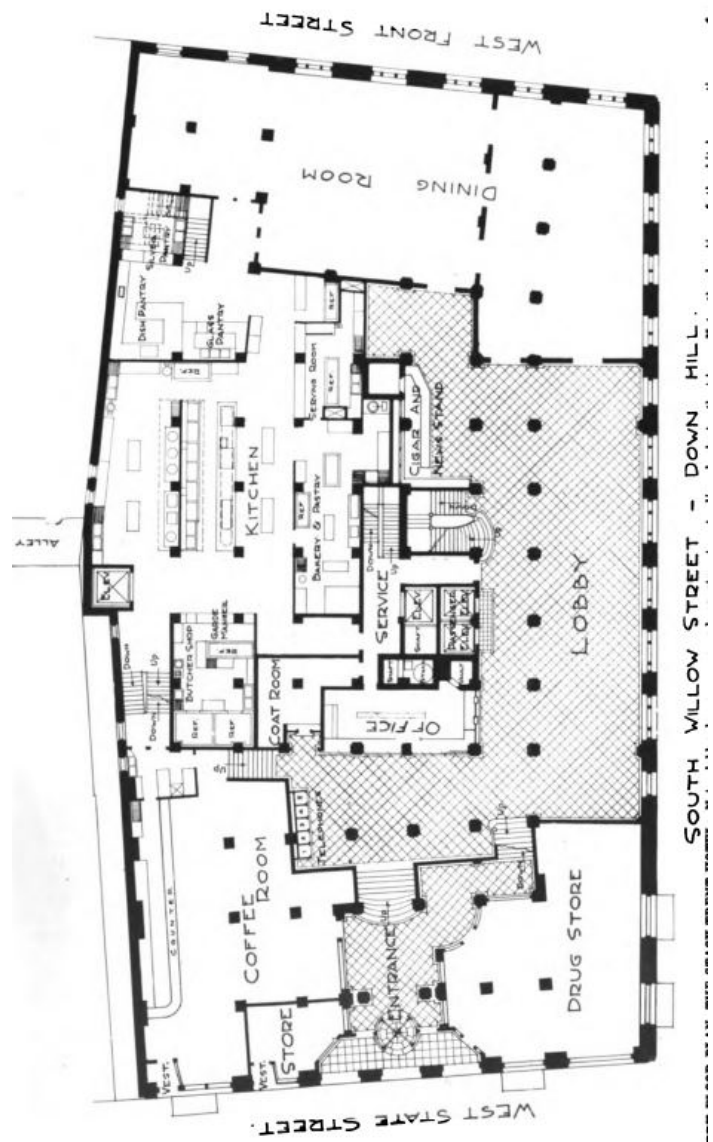




Photo by Turner.

LOBBY, THE STACY-TRENT, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY.

The two entrances, one on West State Street, and one on Willow Street, are gracefully designed. The Willow Street entrance is especially for motorists. It opens into a handsome sweeping staircase leading to the hotel lobby.

The State Street entrance is semi-circular and of soft light gray stone. Above the doorways are ornamental friezes, giving a beautiful aspect to the passage way. To the right of the entrance is the fine store to be occupied by John A. Schultz, druggist, while to the left is the store which is being held by the hotel company as an addition to the coffee room.

Passing by the store, one ascends a flight of broad stairs, flanked on either side by handsome balustrades of wrought iron in graceful designs. At the head of the staircase, facing the visitor, is the hotel desk. The telephone operators are a little to the left. Telephone booths are arranged along the felt wall. In this section of the main floor is located a check room.

Turning to the right of the hotel desk, one comes into a full view of the Willow Street side of the main floor. Here a long vista is revealed. The building is so designed as to be graceful throughout, but in no place perhaps is the beauty of architecture so well revealed as in this section. A few tall columns give a sense of proportion and security to the large lounge. The pilasters which top the columns have the same beautiful design as those appearing in the ball room, reception room the main dining room and the entrance corridor.

ELEVATORS

In this section are the two big guest elevators, with a little farther along another elevator for service, scarcely visible to guests. Coming up from just beyond these is the staircase from the motor entrance. This entrance has been made wonderful attractive, and the stairway, with its graceful curves and beautifully wrought iron railings, gives a most pleasing effect.



On the main floor, as throughout the building, a particularly beautiful color scheme has been used. The woodwork is all of soft old ivory, with the walls in the same shade. The wall sconces and all the lighting fixtures in the lobby and the other public rooms are in ol gold, which blends admirably with the ivory of the walls and woodwork.

The floor of the lobby is tiled in a pleasing design, and in a color scheme of olive gray and white. Thrown about the floor are fine Oriental rugs.

The hangings are a delight to the visitor who as an eye for the artistic in interior decorating.

They are of a rich mulberry velour and silver and hang in graceful folds from the tall cherry windows on the Willow Street side. The chairs, of antique mahogany, with overstuffed upholstering, harmonize will with the hangings, the whole giving a rich and inviting appearance.

In the lounge on the main floor the lighting is especially noteworthy. This has been installed above the ceiling and the rays of the bulbs are diffused through softly colored glass which has been set in a grill. No fixtures are visible, giving a fine appearance to the ceiling.

Just in front of the elevators, where the ceiling is somewhat lower to make room for the balcony on the second floor, are three fine looking lights.

The two main dining rooms of the hotel are located on the Front Street side of the lobby. The rooms are well proportioned, and the wall and woodwork are done in French gray. Here the antique mahogany, which is used throughout the house from the lobby to the last bed room, give a dignified appearance to the room. The same rich mulberry and silver hangings are used. In the corner dining room only floor lamps are utilized for lighting purposes, giving a cozy and comfortable appearance.

The floors are tiled in olive gay and white, covered with rugs in rich dark colors.

BEAUTIFUL VIEW

From the dining rooms one has a view of great beauty, the scene including the Old Barracks, the State House grounds, Stacy Park and the winding Delaware River and the Pennsylvania shore.

Just off the dining rooms are the kitchens. These, although not generally seen by the hotel patrons, are an important and admirably arranged part of the house. They are so designed that no time nor energy is lost and are equipped with the most modern appliances.

One feature of the kitchen which is likely to catch the eye of those visitors who do have an opportunity of seeing them is the ventilating system. Intakes of huge ventilating pipes are placed



Air Conditioned Delaware Room

over each stove and gas range to draw up the hot air and cooking odors. This ventilating system is not by any means confined to the kitchen, but has been made one of the most important features of the entire building. For the preservation of meats and other foods, great refrigerators have been placed off the kitchen and on the basement floors. There is also a refrigerating plant where garbage is kept until removed from the building.

Among the many mechanical devices which make work easier in the kitchens are potato parers, and electrical dish washers.

Just above the main floor is what is known as the half mezzanine floor, where the office of

Charles F. Wicks, the resident manager, and the offices of the hotel auditors are located. These offices may be reached either by elevator or by a flight of graceful steps.

It is on this floor that the ladies' lounge is situated. The entire State and Willow Street corner is devoted to the lounge, which is comfortably furnished with easy overstuffed antique mahogany chairs, beautiful tables and lamps. The hangings in the room are in the mulberry and silver used in the lobby.

The outlook from this room is very fine, an unobstructed view of West State Street and of a section of Stacy Park being visible from the windows.

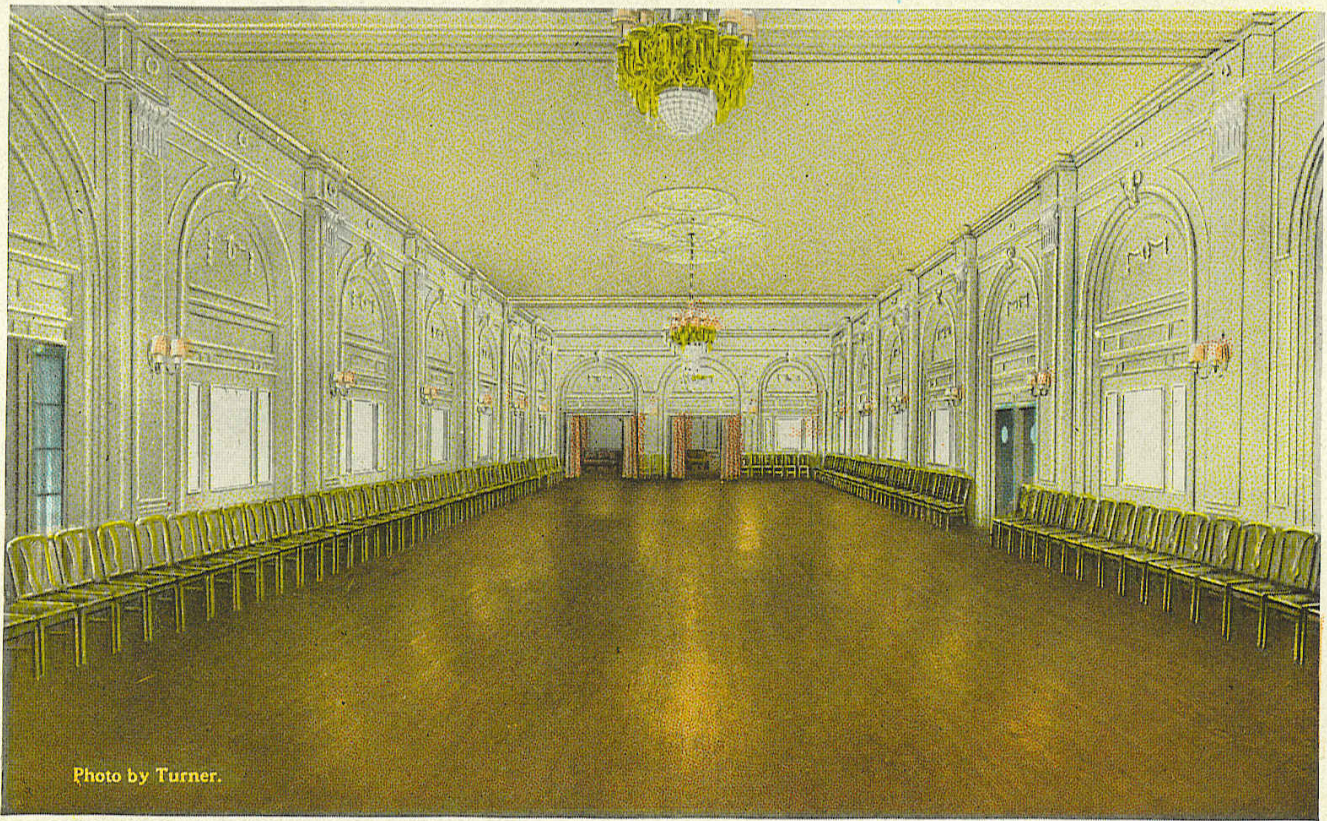


Photo by Turner.

BALL ROOM, THE STACY-TRENT, TRENTON, N. J.

BEAUTIFUL BALLROOM

It is only natural that the second floor, on which are located the ball room, reception room and two private dining rooms should be a centre of interest. The ball room is un-questionably the most beautiful in the entire house. It is 36 feet wide and 100 feet long.

This fine effect of the dimension of the ball room is enhanced by the tall pillars ranged along the wall, capped with carved pilasters. One handsome chandelier hangs from the ceiling, while on either side of this, lights are concealed within the handsome grill portions of the ventilating system. On the two long sides of the room far above the heads of guests are inconspicuously placed ornamental grills containing more ventilating apparatus.

Electrically driven fans will keep a continuous flow of fresh air passing into the ballroom. These fans will be automatically arranged to run for ten minutes to pass fresh air into the room, and then for ten minutes drawing out the impure air. These same fans will draw up the hot air from the kitch-

ens, and carry off odors of cooking.

Toward the State Street side of the ballroom is the reception room which lends itself admirably to banquet uses. Pillars give added attractiveness to this room, and when the folding doors between the two rooms are open, they form a graceful whole. It is possible by the installation of the folding doors to have the ballroom and the reception room in use at the same time by different groups of guests.

The ball room, reception room and private dining rooms open into a wide balcony from which the guests may look down into the main lobby. Off this is the roof garden, from which there is a pleasing view of Stacy Park. In the summer, garden tables and chairs, shaded with brilliant garden umbrellas will give a festive appearance to this. The floor is a soft red tile, which harmonizes well with the exterior of the building.

Conventional gold chairs will be placed in the ball room, while the reception room will, unless being used, remain unfurnished except for a few hand-

some tables, high backed chairs and lamps.

The two private dining rooms on this floor have been attractively furnished, the old mahogany suites, soft carpets and papers of neutral tints being used. Around the wall of one room will be a Princeton frieze and around the other a Lawrenceville frieze.

There are three special bedrooms on this floor, which are entirely different in furnishing from any of the other of the bedrooms. Very modern furniture in brilliant colors are used in these, and the walls have been papered in plain harmonizing shades.

The bedroom floors begin with the third. Here there are only ten rooms, each of them large and designed for use by traveling men as sample rooms. From the fourth floor to the tenth floor inclusive are bedrooms. These floors are alike in general plan.

On the northwest corner of the hotel, that is the West State and Willow Street corner, on every floor, suites of rooms have been arranged. These consist of a living room, two bedrooms and bath. These rooms may be used individually however.

All the bedrooms are furnished alike. The walls have been papered in pleasing flowered or scrolled papers in delicate shades. The floors are covered with neutral toned carpets. The furniture in each room is of old mahogany, and consists of single beds, dresser, writing table, telephone stand and chairs. The baths are, of course, modernly equipped.

The rear rooms in the hotel are in many ways the most desirable, giving a charming outlook across Stacy Park, the river and Pennsylvania. From the rooms on the upper floors a wonderful view of the city may be had.

On each of the bedroom floors are large linen closets where the supplies for the 250 bedrooms are kept. The quantity of linen is amazing to the average person, consisting as it does of a double supply for each room.

Throughout the building the plumbing is in a special compartment about two feet wide and extending the width of the hotel. Here all parts of the system can be reached by repair men without disturbing the guests. Each floor is waterproof, so that leaks cannot filter down to the floors below.

The doors of each guest room are equipped with indicators. These show the maids whether or not the guests are in their rooms, and will eliminate any inconvenience or disturbance to the guests.

Every effort has been made to provide the utmost comfort for the hotel patrons. Mail shutles have been installed and extend from the top to the main floor. There are two large guest elevators in addition to a large lift for baggage and similar service. Other elevators are located in the service section of the house.

The coffee room on the first floor of the hotel on the State Street side, gives promise of being one of the most popular features of the Stacy-Trent. This room is designed for the serving of luncheons for busy people, and is equipped with the most approved services. It has its own equipment and is entirely separated from the main dining rooms. In fact, its only connection with the rest of the establishment is the cooking, which is done in the kitchen, with the exception of a few rush orders.

The room is done in French gray, and will have eight or ten small tables, as well as a low counter where meals will be served.

The hotel management has already decided to enlarge this room, and for this reason has not rented the store adjoining.

Inside fire escapes throughout the hotel afford adequate protection for the guests. The hotel from the cellar to roof is designed with an eye to fire protection, steel and concrete being used almost exclusively. The fire escapes, which are almost in the center of the building, and extend from the first floor to the top, are of steel and concrete, and are of the most approved design.