

Bayview Hotel in Aptos changes hands

The 119-year-old Bayview Hotel in Aptos has been purchased by an investment group headed by two Capitola attorneys, who plan to renovate the building and grounds and operate a restaurant and bed and breakfast inn.

Edward Newman and Howard Marcus and their investment partners bought the property earlier this month from sisters Gail Costello and Pat Thompson. The sisters inherited the hotel from their parents, Fred and Elma Toney, who bought it in 1945.

The purchase price, according to county records, is approximately \$750,000.

Marcus acknowledged that the hotel "has been decaying," and said he and Newman "are anxious about restoring it to good condition."

"We want to make it a place that the community is proud of," he said.

The first-floor restaurant, which has been closed for the last couple of weeks, will be leased to a new operator who will make it a high-quality restaurant, Marcus said. Even if a new operator is found right away, Marcus said, it will be at least three months before the

restaurant is reopened.

A bed and breakfast inn will open in about a month on the second floor, Marcus said. The second floor has been operating as a bed and breakfast, but without much promotion, he said.

The third floor, which has been vacant, will be renovated and used for either hotel rooms or apartments, Marcus said. It will be at least a year before that work is done.

The Bayview was built in 1870 by Joseph Arano and housed

the post office and general store in Aptos.

Ron Hirsch and Robert Deacon, of Hirsch and Associates in Capitola, who handled the sale for the sellers, said they were glad to have been able to sell to local buyers.



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The old hotel on Soquel Drive will be renovated.