

ROSEWOOD
MANSION ON TURTLE CREEK®

HISTORY

1908

SHEPPARD W. KING AND WIFE BUILD THE ORIGINAL ESTATE

Mr. King and his wife Bertha Wilcox migrated to the area in the late 1800s. King earned his fortune in cotton and later became involved in oil. The Turtle Creek neighborhood was experiencing a first wave of migration when the manor was constructed and it was the third palatial estate in the area.

1923

FIRE IRREPARABLY DESTROYS THE KING'S FIRST HOME

The family decides to travel through Europe with architect J. Allen Boyle to scout architectural features and design elements as they build their new estate. Along the way, they procure 19th-century Spanish cathedral doors, ornate carved columns and fine Italian marble.

1923 to 1925

KING ESTATE IS REBUILT IN EXTRAVAGANT STYLE

Fashioned after a 16th-century Italian Renaissance-style structure, the estate includes:

- Nine-foot-deep basement serving as a fur and silver vault.
- Cantilevered stairway, considered an engineering feat of its time.
- Oak-paneled library with stained-glass windows bearing the coats of arms of the barons who witnessed the signing of the Magna Carta and a fireplace ornamented with a 16th-century German stone mantel. Swiss artist Peter Mansbendel carves woodwork. The ceiling, paneling and fireplace provide a reproduction of the parlor of an estate in England's Bromley-by-Bow near London.
- The original dining room is a creation of French architect M. Jacques Caree, with an inlaid ceiling composed of 2,400 separate pieces of wood that takes six carpenters three weeks to install.

1925

10,000-SQUARE-FOOT SHEPPARD KING ESTATE IS COMPLETED

The King estate is one of the finest homes in Dallas, known for lavish parties and social events. The estate has eight rooms downstairs, five bedrooms, four bathrooms and four staff rooms upstairs.

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1935

KING FAMILY FALLS ON HARD TIMES

The King family loses their fortune and the estate is sold to Freeman Burford and wife Carolyn Skelly, notable names in the oil industry. The Burford family adds ornate ceiling carvings to the living room, now the main dining room of The Mansion Restaurant.

1936

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT AND THE FIRST LADY VISIT DALLAS

The first of many dignitaries to stay at the mansion, the president visits in honor of the centennial anniversary of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Mrs. Burford had one month to prepare for the president's visit and rushed to convert a bedroom closet into a bathroom to accommodate him.

1940s

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS VISITS & THE MANSION CHANGES HANDS

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tennessee Williams writes *Summer and Smoke* while a guest at the mansion. The play later makes its debut in Dallas. At the end of the decade, oilman Toddie Lee Wynne and his American Liberty Oil Company purchase the estate, which becomes the company's headquarters. American Liberty Oil Company adds a large staff dining room, later a ballroom.

1979

CAROLINE ROSE HUNT PURCHASES AND TRANSFORMS THE ESTATE INTO A WORLD-CLASS RESTAURANT

Dallas-based Rosewood Property Company restores the home to its original grandeur. The two-year, \$21 million transformation includes the following architectural updates:

- The Veranda is enclosed in glass. Filled with natural light, it becomes part of the restaurant.
- The original library and living room are transformed into the restaurant's main dining areas.
- In the home's Garden Room, the old Spanish tile floor with insets depicting the travels of Don Quixote is restored, and the room is converted into a dining area.
- The family's spacious fur and silver vault is transformed into a private wine cellar.
- The King estate's dining room is converted into Mansion Bar.
- Second floor bedrooms are transformed into stunning private event spaces.

1980

THE MANSION RESTAURANT DEBUTS TO CRITICAL ACCLAIM

Managed by the famous 21 Club in New York, The Mansion Restaurant opens on August 6, 1980 to rave reviews. The Tortilla Soup quickly becomes the restaurant's signature dish and remains so today. Instantly, The Mansion Restaurant is the place to see and be seen in Dallas. High-profile

stars, prominent celebrities, global leaders, business moguls, musicians, the society set and political power players become regular patrons.

1981

LUXURY HOTEL OPENS IN GRAND STYLE

Built to complement the original estate, 143 hotel guestrooms are designed with a residential sense. Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek® receives the Keystone Award by the Historic Preservation League of Dallas. The hotel hosts a soft opening in April for the USA Film Festival; stars in attendance include Judith Crist, Alan Alda and David Carradine. In May, funds raised at the grand opening gala are donated to the local arts community.

1989 to 2000s

FIVE STARS AND FIVE DIAMONDS

In 1989, *Mobil Travel Guide*, now *Forbes Travel Guide*, recognizes the property with its ultimate honor, the five-star distinction. In 1991, The American Automobile Association (AAA) honors Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek with five diamonds, and it becomes the only five-star, five-diamond hotel in Texas. The property garners numerous prestigious awards and accolades.

2007 to 2011

MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR ENHANCEMENT

An innovative project brings modern design elements to a Texas classic while preserving its historic and architectural details. With décor inspired by Mrs. Caroline Rose Hunt's, the restyling of the guestrooms, suites and special event spaces reflect sophisticated residential sensibilities. A delightfully re-imagined Mansion Restaurant, Mansion Bar and Terrace debut.

2016

A NEW MANSION: 35TH BIRTHDAY

Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek celebrates the anniversary of its grand opening. As the original luxury property in the Rosewood Hotels & Resorts® portfolio, the hotel receives the highest accolades including Best Hotel in Texas by *Travel+Leisure Magazine*. Guests experience intuitive Southern hospitality in an unforgettable setting that blends a special heritage with all the modern comforts one might desire.