

DEMOLITION[®]

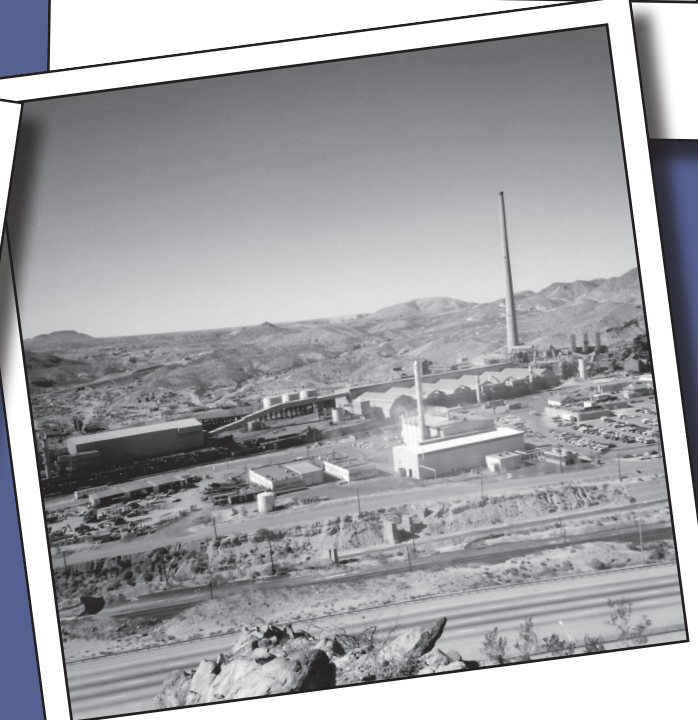
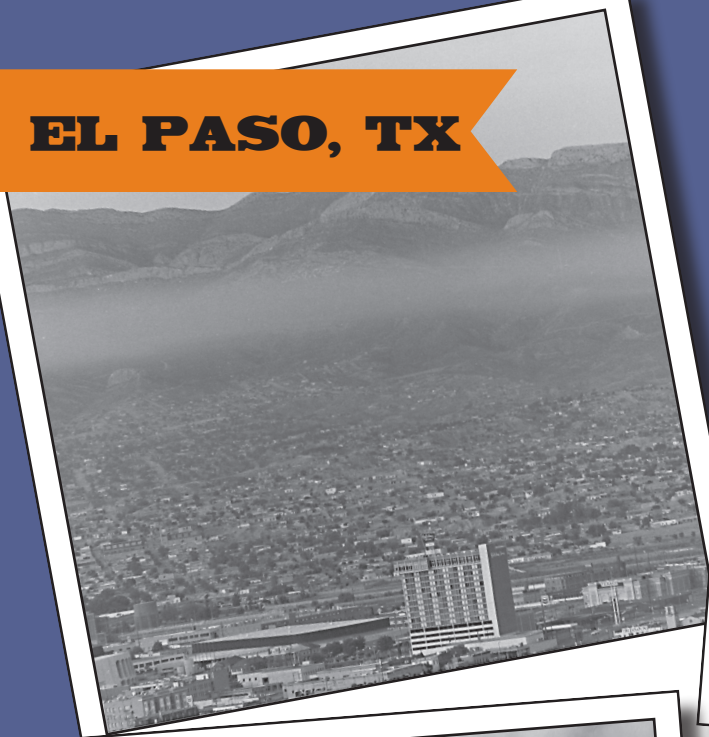
JULY/AUGUST 2013

**Making Way
for the
Future of
El Paso**

GRANT **M**ACKAY
DEMOLITION Co.



EL PASO, TX



Making Way for the Future of El Paso

Grant Mackay Teams with CDI to Implode old El Paso City Hall

In seconds, 263 pounds of dynamite ignited, creating a pressure wave that thundered across the cloudless desert sky. You could hear it and feel it in your chest. The 34-year-old concrete building came down as planned, in its own foot print. It started falling northwest, sequencing to the east, pulling the sheer walls over on top of the rubble. It was visually spectacular. Rising up from the silence of the imploded building were the cheers of hundreds of spectators. This day had been anticipated by the residents of El Paso for weeks and was the topic of everyone's conversations throughout that time. After a few seconds it was over but none were disappointed.

The El Paso City Hall was a 227,000 sq. ft. 11-story building plus penthouse in the heart of El Paso City. The story of this building did not start here however; a local historian recalls city business from when El Paso was first incorporated, until now.

“Our first city hall was kind of an unofficial city hall. But the first mayor was Ben Dowell, and he operated a post office, billiard office and saloon combination in one of the old buildings that was Ponce's Rancho,” said Bernie Sargent, chairman of the El Paso County Historical Commission.

That's where city business was conducted back in the early 1870s, when El Paso was first incorporated.

“They erected their first city hall just a few years later to where it was just a little bit more...let's just say, indicative of a community,” said Sargent.

Then a few years later in 1899, another city hall building took its place. Fast forward to 1979 - where the current city hall building stands.

“It also is part of an area that was considered the city's first official cemetery, right adjacent to the first cemetery in El Paso, Texas,” said Sargent.

The project was orchestrated by then mayor Ray Salazar, on property owned by El Paso refining tycoon Paul Foster. In the last 10 years, the 11-story tower has had its fair share of work done.

“They've had to rewire, re-plumb, and reroute -- they've moved offices around to accommodate





the citizenry, making it easier for us to do our business,” said Sargent. “So I think the strange twist of fate here is, we’ve done so much in the last 10 -15 years to make it easier for the citizens to find what they need to find but we’re moving to three different locations throughout downtown.”

He says in the last 34 years, there have been a lot of mayors, a lot of council members and both good and bad decisions that some people will argue with.

“So we really have to show them a victory. We have to show them why we’re doing this and make them go, ‘Hey, we might not have agreed then but we do now,’” said Sargent.

The El Paso City Hall Building was started in 1977 and was completed in 1979 by Jordan Nobles Construction. It then served as the City of El Paso Municipal Building for 34 years when it was decided to move the city offices to a new location to make way for a new Baseball Stadium: <http://home.elpasotexas.gov/stadium-cam/> <http://home.elpasotexas.gov/ballpark/>



The City of El Paso selected Jordan-Hunt Construction a joint venture to build the new stadium on a very fast track schedule as new baseball team is scheduled to start playing there in the Spring of 2014.

Grant Mackay Company won the demolition contract against a tough Texas market based on past performance, value engineering and assembling a team that included fellow NDA Member Controlled Demolition Inc. (CDI of Phoenix, MD), one of the world’s leading implosion companies, and the ability to complete these types of projects on schedule. Grant MacKay was given two weeks to prepare the building for implosion and a little over three weeks to haul off the debris and concrete foundations. Some said this very aggressive schedule was impossible and wanted nothing to do with the project as it had some very large liquidated damages attached to the contract. Grant MacKay assembled a dream team for this project, led by Wayne Rowley and Nephi Mackay, which was difficult considering how busy the company was with numerous projects commencing nationwide.



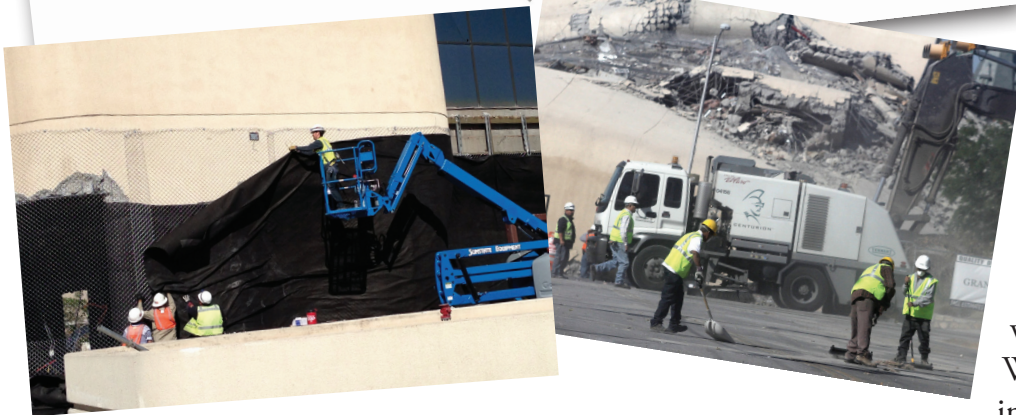
Most people look at an implosion as a very fast and exciting way to bring a building down. In reality there is a lot of engineering and coordination with many entities and also a lot of prep work necessary to successfully pull off a good implosion. Grant Mackay Company and Controlled Demolition Inc. (CDI) worked hand in hand to do the tough work that lead up to that exciting 8 to 12 seconds of fame.

One of the more difficult aspects of this job was its close proximity to several major rail lines (less than 40') and a major Interstate Freeway. Grant MacKay had a very narrow window of time to prepare this building for implosion, just two weeks, and many different public and private entities to coordinate with to make it work. Mark Loizeaux and Ray Zukowski and Grant Mackay Company Project Manager Ron Turner and the Jordan Hunt Team were key in getting all the engineering information to the right people and dispelling their fears and correcting misconceptions with facts and stats that allowed this project to go forward. The full team working together was especially essential in meetings with the Union Pacific Railroad officials and their engineers, answering all of their concerns. When the small window of time to prep the building came available for us, our team or professionals working together with CDI's team made it possible to pull off the impossible and hit our target date of April 14th for the implosion.

The methodology for the implosion was prepared by CDI and approved by El Paso City Engineers. The prep work included soft strip of levels eight, four, one and the basement, dropping and removing elevators and escalators, removing parts of the sheer wall so CDI could drill and shoot them.

Grant Mackay Company removed exterior windows and walls on levels eight and four to create access for small equipment. Using a 100-ton crane and a purpose built loading platform, the company

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placed Bobcat Skid Steers and small excavators with 500 pound hydraulic hammers on these floors. The company used this equipment to remove non load bearing walls, jack hammer shear walls, demolish stair cases and remove debris from floors, while rebar in shear walls and elevator frame rails were cut out with a torch. As Grant MacKay cleared level eight, CDI followed close behind, drilling and setting charges for the implosion.

Post-implosion clean-up was completed in record time. Within 15 minutes after the implosion the freeway was open. Three city street sweepers, twelve

leaf blowers, dozens of brooms, shovels and garbage bags and thirty laborers and one hour later the railroad was open. Within three hours the roads in the exclusion zone were opened back up.

Grant Mackay Company had as many as seven excavators working in unison to sort through the pile of rubble, pulling out the steel, copper, rebar, aluminum and other metals for recycling and loading up to 20 trucks. They hauled over 1,600 loads of concrete, debris, ferrous and non-ferrous material or a total of 64,142,261 pounds of material. The contractor Jordan Hunt and the City Engineer complimented us and commented several times during the process of preparing the building and in sorting and hauling away the debris, saying “They had never seen such a clean and organized demolition job site before.

Grant Mackay Company utilized a full time safety coordinator, who adopted a very comprehensive safety program. He made sure crews had all the training and equipment needed to perform all tasks safely. Developed JSA's for safe working procedures and a hot works program. The firm completed this project several days ahead of schedule with no lost time or injuries.

El Paso City Hall was a high profile job with the media, public and regulatory agencies intently watching and reporting the company's progress. Grant Mackay Company completed this project on schedule, under budget, and most importantly, with no injuries. All agencies involved were not just satisfied but very pleased with our performance

The complete team work of Grant Mackay Company, CDI, Jordan Hunt and the City of El Paso made this demolition job possible and a day of remembrance for the residents of El Paso.

Grant Mackay Company, which is headquartered in Salt Lake City, is a family owned business dating back four generations to 1947. The company has tackled all types of demolition jobs from

complete renovations of historic buildings such as the Utah State Capitol and the Salt Lake City and County Building to complete teardowns of industrial plant closures, stadiums, multi-story office towers, retail stores, bridges and disaster clean up. Grant Mackay Company has completed massive projects such as the demolition of the entire Geneva Steel Plant with over 250,000 tons of steel located in Orem, Utah, which included more than three and a half million square feet of structures and sat on over 1,800 acres of land. This project was followed by the City Creek Project in downtown Salt Lake City which consisted of two and a half city blocks of close to three-million square feet of retail, multi-story office structures, multi-story parking structures and a 20 + story high rise structure that was imploded. On this project Grant MacKay met or exceeded the LEED requirement which was 75% recycled.

The company established an office in Houston Texas and has done major projects in many cities and states though out the country. They also were received calls to assist with disaster locations such as Haiti, Hurricanes Katrina and Ike.

In February of 2011 Grant Mackay was contacted by contractors and the national government of New Zealand because of the massive earthquakes that had caused incredible structural damage to the heart of New Zealand's second largest city, Christchurch. Company President Josh Mackay and Senior Estimator Bryce Christensen went to Christchurch to meet with the local authorities and soon to be business partner, Leighs Construction. Because of the company's specialized equipment like their 135' High Reach Excavator, their skilled operators and experience in floor-by-floor demolition, their services were in high demand. The company moved their 135 ft. High Reach Excavator and several other specialized pieces of equipment from our Texas market to New Zealand and purchased several more pieces while in down there.





Grant Mackay became one of five major contractors that performed the most high-profile large scale projects in Christchurch. Grant Mackay Company (Mackay Leighs) was successful in taking down several severely damaged high rise structures throughout the city while working in some very tight conditions around buildings and roadways that needed to remain unharmed.



It really is a rewarding feeling working around the cities that have had disasters and being a part of assisting in the rebuilding process. Some of the high profile jobs Grant Mackay Company accomplished in New Zealand were the Crowne Plaza Hotel (13 stories), the Copthorne Hotel (12 stories), Gallery Apartments (14 stories), the Branigans Office Tower (10 stories), the Grant Thornton Building (12 stories), the Establishment Apartments (10 stories), the Hallensteins Building (8 stories).

Grant Mackay Company continues to provide demolition services to clients across the country and look for opportunities to serve and challenges to be tackled anywhere the need requires. 