

CREATIVE DOWNTOWN

A long, brightly lit hallway with large windows on both sides and a curved ceiling with exposed pipes and colorful lighting. The hallway is empty, and the light from the windows creates a strong sense of depth and perspective. The ceiling features a series of colorful, glowing pipes that curve along the length of the hallway, adding a modern and artistic touch to the architecture.

MONROE WARD



◀ TWO BUILDINGS, SIX LUXURY APARTMENTS

The buildings located at 8 and 10 East Main Street have been combined and redeveloped into six apartments, one furnished one-bedroom apartment and five two-bedrooms units. Developers John and Mark Kittrell maintained all of the original architectural detail including crown molding and mantles, adding designer cabinets and finishes. Two of these luxury apartments have gardens, and there are three covered parking spaces. The building was completed in December 2002.



▲ REAL WOOD, REAL CLASS.

Richmond Free Press was awarded ACORN's Golden Hammer Award for "Best Commercial Renovation" for 2002 for the adaptive reuse of the Imperial Tobacco Company Building at Fifth and Franklin street

FIRST CLASS ALL THE WAY ▶

Leigh Battle has renovated 318 W. Broad Street into two gorgeous "living above the store" apartment units with her company, Regal Realty, relocating to the first floor commercial space in August 2002. The apartments have splendid detailed woodwork, fireplaces and more.



CELEBRITY HANDBAGS, SHOES & HATS ▶

The first Poesis boutique opened in the recently renovated building at 20 E. Main Street, in August 2002. Poesis' funky and colorful handbags, shoes, and hats are sold in 90+ boutiques across the nation and online. Poesis handbags and shoes have been in episodes of Sex in the City, Friends, Becker, and Lizzie McGuire. A number of Hollywood stars carry Poesis bags.



◀ ▲ FOR SALE NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Looking across Belvidere Street to Monroe Ward's next door neighbor, Oregon Hill, we find the first example of "for sale, newly constructed" townhouses. In 2001, developer Robin Miller completed the renovation of the Samuel Parsons House, located at 601 Spring Street, into eight apartment units. That same year he began building the Parson Row Townhouses. Phase 1 included ten townhouses, ranging from \$145,000 to \$220,000; they sold immediately. Phase 2, which will be completed in 2003, will add 11 more townhouses with a starting price of \$260,000.



STEEPLE OF SPLENDOR ▶

Second Presbyterian Church is undergoing a structural and ornamental restoration with new brownstone from Germany and decorative parapet tops from India. The work on this 19th century Gothic Revival church will be completed Spring 2003. Located on Fifth Street between Main and Franklin streets.

