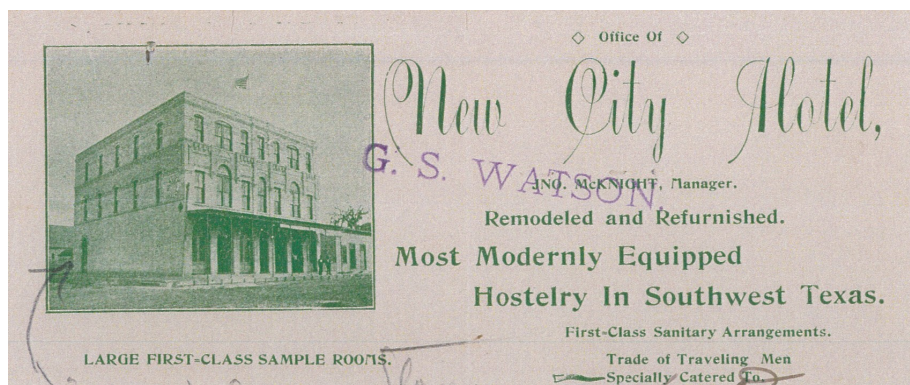




Hallettsville Brick Hotel Part II

By Brenda Lincke Fisseler

In April 1900, G.S. Watson of Eagle Lake became the manager of the City Hotel succeeding Jack McKnight. Later that month, a long-distance telephone booth was installed in the City Hotel for the convenience of guests.



Sometime in 1901, the City Hotel building was no longer serving as a hotel. The first floor was being used by Hill & Son as a hardware store, but the upper two floors remained vacant. It was suggested in the local newspaper that the top two floors be converted into a department house for rent.

In October 1902, it was announced that the City Hotel, which had been tenantless for nearly a year, would be opened again as a hostelry by or before the 15th of the month.

Mrs. Ben F. Arnim, who had experience in the hotel business, was to be in charge. The hotel was being renovated, repaired and refitted throughout. The Hallettsville Herald noted that the building, convenient to both the depot and town, with 32 excellent rooms, would score the success it deserved under the new management. One improvement was the New City Hotel would have its own bus in operation to the train depot.

“Great minds are related to the brief span of time during which they live as great buildings are to a little square in which they stand...”

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Hallettsville Brick Hotel

In December 1902 and January 1903, T.A Hill & Son purchased the interest in the property held by Friench Simpson and M.A. and J.F. McKnight. Hill notified the local newspaper that the hotel would continue and that Hill would occupy part of the building for his hardware annex.

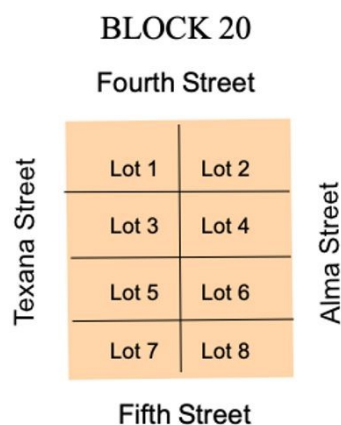
In 1905, the New City Hotel underwent considerable improvements under the supervision of Louis Mohrmann. Double parlors were prepared upstairs and the office, hall and many bedrooms newly papered.

Hill & Son began moving their hardware stock from the New City Hotel to their new corner building in July 1906.

In February 1909, T.A Hill & Son sold the New City Hotel to Mrs. Mattie Veal Dew. Along with the property, this sale included the three story brick hotel the sewer system that connected with the County Sewer system and all household goods and furnishing. In exchange, Hill received the Veal farm located six miles west of Hallettsville valued at \$12,000.00.

From 1909 until 1911, the hotel was named the New Park Hotel. Mrs. B.F. Arnim leased the hotel and was again in charge of the daily operations. In May and June 1911, it was announced in the local newspaper that the hotel building was to undergo remodeling.

Dr. H.S. Dew and his wife Mattie, who were residents of Dewalt, Texas, informed the local newspaper about the proposed hotel improvements. The improvements include converting rooms into private rooms with baths, a parlor with a ladies entrance into the dining room and a vacant storeroom will become an office and lobby.



Note:

As requested by my readers: the location of the three story hotel is currently occupied by a convenience store and a parking lot for Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Next:

Hallettsville Brick Hotel Part III