



# THE IVEY'S HOTEL

*In a city where* so much of history has been torn down, The Ivey's Hotel is a breath of fresh air. Formerly the J.B. Ivey & Company department store, which dates back to the 1920s, the building has undergone a rebirth with the renovation and addition of this boutique 42-room hotel. Truly a team effort, the interiors were designed by Brett Krueger, principal at the MRK Hotel Collection and owners of the hotel, and Miami-based designer Nick Alain. (MRK Hotel Collection is also behind the stunning Windsor Hotel in Asheville.) The coupling of an hotelier's love for interior design with an interior design pro resulted in an ultimate combination of Art Deco-meets-mid-century-modern with a steam punk vibe in a pre-War historic building.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### *The floors*

An avid traveler, Krueger found 500-year-old oak beams from a vineyard in France that his gut told him to buy. "I knew I'd use them for a project at some point down the road," he says. But having them cut into hardwood flooring proved difficult, as mill after mill turned down Krueger's request for fear the beams would fall apart during the cutting process. Finally, a mill out of Atlanta agreed, and now those stunning French oak floors can be found throughout the entire Ivey's Hotel.

### *Vintage everywhere*

Krueger's love for collecting during his travels proved to be a great source for the hotel's interior design. Throughout The Ivey's Hotel, you'll find vintage clock faces (Krueger collected more than 10,000 from his travels) framed in a shadow box, early 20th century French magazine ads along

the guest room hallways, and a framed 100-year-old map of France.

### *Exposed brick*

Though much of the historic architectural detailing of the building was wiped out during a renovation in 1995, the original brick columns from the building remain in the lobby. A nod to the Ivey's original facade, Krueger and Alain brought the outside in by adding exposed brick walls to the guest rooms resulting in a rustic elegance to every space.

### *Framed history*

Krueger and his team hung photos from the Ivey family throughout the Tulip Room, the hotel's meeting space. Family photos from Thanksgiving and Christmas at the department store are hung alongside a smattering of photos of the family throughout the 1920s and beyond.