

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

LUNCH BAR

A VARIETY OF DELECTABLE HOMESTYLE DISHES PREPARED DAILY. CONSIDER THE ARRAY OF SALAD GREENS WITH AMPLE CHOICE OF TOPPINGS TO ACCOMPANY YOUR MEAL AND MAKE FOR GOOD HEALTH!

FULL LUNCH BAR

(dessert included)

ADULT	\$10
SENIOR (65+)	\$9
YOUTH (6-12)	\$7
KIDS (UNDER 6)	\$PAY THEIR AGE

LIGHT LUNCH BAR

(salad greens, soup, and sourdough bread)

ADULT	\$7
SENIOR	\$6
YOUTH (6-12)	\$5
KIDS (UNDER 6)	\$PAY THEIR AGE

ORDER FROM SERVER

ENTREES

BUFFALO STEW WITH SOURDOUGH BREAD	\$9
GRILLED CHEESE PLATTER WITH POTATO CHIPS AND CARROT STICKS	\$5
JUMBO HOTDOG PLATTER WITH POTATO CHIPS AND CARROT STICKS	\$5

DESSERTS

A SLICE OF PIE (PLEASE ASK SERVER FOR SELECTIONS)	\$4
ADD A SCOOP OF ICE CREAM	\$1
LUNCH BAR DESSERTS	\$3

BEVERAGES

NON-ALCOHOLIC

COFFEE TEA HOT CHOCOLATE

MILK BOTTLED WATER

SODA POP

(PEPSI, DIET PEPSI, 7UP,
ORANGE CRUSH, ROOT BEER)

\$2

ALCOHOLIC

HOUSE WINE

GLASS	\$5
1/2 LITRE CARAFE	\$13
1 LITRE CARAFE	\$24

BEER

DOMESTIC BOTTLE	\$5
IMPORTED BOTTLE	\$6

(PLEASE ASK SERVER FOR SELECTIONS)

ALL PRICES ARE IN CANADIAN FUNDS. APPLICABLE TAXES AND GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS . . .

THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL RESTAURANT AT FORT STEELE HERITAGE TOWN IS A RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL INTERNATIONAL HOTEL THAT WAS BUILT ON THE SAME SITE DURING FORT STEELE'S BUILDING BOOM OF 1897.

BY JUNE 26 OF THAT YEAR, THE HOTEL WAS OPEN FOR BUSINESS UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF R. G. SHIER. IT WAS A LARGE TWO STOREY BUILDING, 30' BY 60', CONTAINING SOME TWENTY NICELY FURNISHED AND DECORATED ROOMS. INTENDED TO BE A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL IN EVERY RESPECT, THE COST OF COMPLETING CONSTRUCTION WAS THE LARGE SUM FOR THE DAY OF \$1,500. IN DECEMBER 1897, SHIER ADDED A TWO STOREY THIRTY FOOT EXTENSION TO THE REAR OF THE HOTEL.

ONE CAN ASSUME THAT THE VENTURE WAS IMMINENTLY SUCCESSFUL. IN FEBRUARY 1898, A BOUNDER BY THE NAME OF GEORGE PULLION WAS CAUGHT TRYING TO TAP THE TILL AT THE INTERNATIONAL AND RECEIVED THIRTY DAYS OF HARD LABOUR IN THE DISTRICT JAIL FROM STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE ARMSTRONG .

IN THE SPRING OF 1899, SHIER PURCHASED THE VENOSTA HOTEL NEXT DOOR. HE JOINED THE TWO BUILDINGS AND REMODELED THEM INTO THE "LARGEST AND MOST MODERN HOTEL IN THE SOUTH EAST KOOTENAY". ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE FORT STEELE PROSPECTOR NEWSPAPER DESCRIBED THE NEW INTERNATIONAL AS "A LARGE AND ATTRACTIVE HOTEL OF QUIET ELEGANCE IN ALL ITS APPOINTMENTS WITH A CUISINE OF SUPERIOR EXCELLENCE". ONE OF THE FIRST GUESTS AT THE REMODELED HOTEL WAS PAULINE JOHNSON, NOTED CANADIAN POET AND PERFORMER.

AT ABOUT 9AM ON AUGUST 30, 1899 SMOKE WAS SEEN ISSUING FROM THE UPPER FLOOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL.

WITHIN AN HOUR THE HOTEL AND THREE OTHER BUSINESSES HAD BEEN DESTROYED. SHIER'S LOSS EXCEEDED \$8,000 AND WAS INSURED FOR ONLY \$3,000.

ON JULY 4, 1890 THE NEW AND IMPRESSIVE HOTEL IMPERIAL WAS FORMALLY OPENED ON THE FORMER SITE OF THE INTERNATIONAL.

THE EXTERIOR OF THE MODERN DAY INTERNATIONAL WAS RECONSTRUCTED FROM HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS. SINCE NO PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE ORIGINAL INTERIOR HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED, THE INTERIOR DECORATING IS BASED ON THAT OF THE HOTEL IMPERIAL, FOR WHICH PHOTOGRAPHS DO EXIST. SUCH RESEARCH HAS ENABLED THE DÉCOR SEEN TODAY TO REFLECT THIS HISTORIC PART OF FORT STEELE'S PAST, INCLUDING THE UNIQUE FIVE -LEGGED , SOLID OAK TABLES WITH FLUTED LEGS THAT WERE CUSTOM BUILT BASED ON DRAWINGS TAKEN FROM TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY MAIL ORDER CATALOGUES.

TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY DINING . . .

EVEN IN THE ISOLATED MINING BOOMTOWN OF FORT STEELE, RESTAURANT DINING WAS SURPRISINGLY ELEGANT. IN 1897, THE VENOSTA HOTEL DINNER BILL OF FARE BOASTED THE FOLLOWING SELECTIONS FOR 50 CENTS EACH: MOCK TURTLE SOUP, MOUNTAIN TROUT WITH SHRIMP SAUCE, HAM WITH CHAMPAGNE SAUCE, PRIME RIBS OF BEEF AU JUS, CANVASBACK DUCK WITH CURRANT JELLY, AND ROAST SPRING CHICKEN WITH OYSTER DRESSING.

SEAFOOD WAS COMMON AND WOULD HAVE BEEN CANNED PRIOR TO SHIPPING. POULTRY WAS ALSO COMMON SINCE CHICKENS AND DUCKS WERE EASY TO RAISE LOCALLY. CATTLE AND SHEEP, ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE OFTEN DRIVEN TO FORT STEELE IN LARGE HERDS. A GOOD SELECTION OF VEGETABLES WAS GROWN IN IRRIGATED CHINESE MARKET GARDENS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN.