

# City Beat

*There are eight million stories in my albums. This is one of them...*

Hotel Paris was completed in 1931. It was designed in the Art Deco architectural style. The building was acquired by Westbrook Partners for US\$85.8 million in 2007. Three years later, in 2010, it was acquired by investor David Bistricher and the Rieder family for US\$72.36 million. They sold it to Crescent Heights for \$123 million in 2013. The company refurbished the apartments. In 2015, Bruce Menin of Crescent Heights sold it to Laurence Gluck of Stellar Management for US\$150 million. There are 175 apartments, a gym and a swimming-pool.

One visitor gave this summary: "Rumor had it that the Hotel Paris was built as some sort of club in which businessmen such as traveling salesmen could stay inexpensively while in the city (much like staying at the YMCA). It had a rooftop solarium and pool, and amazingly small rooms, each with private bath. In the 60s and 70s, the glory days were long past but the pool, solarium and spacious lobby (with mezzanine) remained.

A gentle seediness hung over the place, much like the many other residential hotels typical of the neighborhood. In its last years, the Paris started attracting busloads of tourists on cheap package tours, like a hostel. The prostitutes came next, along with the smell of urine in the elevators. The Paris had become little better than an SRO ("single room occupancy" dwelling) or welfare hotel. By the 80s, it had been closed, renovated and turned into luxury rentals." [ <http://www.nostradamus.net/McCarthy/hotelparis.htm> ]

