

The Drexel Foundation since its existence has made huge Restoration headway to the Vale Hotel (formerly Drexel Hotel) with a installation of a new roof on that building & structural Stabilization. The investment in the previous phases of the Vale Hotel restoration has been incredible. This building has not been occupied since the early 60's. The Drexel Foundation and the owner Mike McLaughlin have saved the building from the wrecking ball and spent over \$200,000.00 in cash & inkind on the structural stabilization, new roof, new windows, and restoration to several rooms. Prior work done to the building included removal of the faulty skylights which leaked and caused structural failure. The North wing main “ failed beam” was removed, steel supports were installed and the slow process of site clean up and jacking the building back into place began. The new beam made the stabilization complete. The roof was removed, trusses repaired & replaced, new decking, materials and new roof installed.. The installation of sash packs exterior windows was performed on the 2nd & 3rd floor interior side of the wings, and numerous sashes & broken windows were painted & repaired. The Drexel Foundation has done this work by having strong commitments for support, from the owner, volunteers, local treasure valley business, individuals from throughout the US, and grants.

The Drexel Foundation President, Sandijeon Fuson, has the ability , passion, and these past 14 years of experience has lead to an acute understanding of “project management” and understanding of codes, and strong relationships with our engineer, contractors & volunteers. The engineers Edwards & Cummings LLC worked with the owner & foundation since the beginning of the work on these buildings. The name of the engineering firm has recently changed to CK3 LLC, . The immensely valuable general contractor overseeing these projects has been. BR Walker with over 35 years construction experience. Without these strong committed individuals and the foresight of Mike McLaughlin to save these buildings Oregon would have lost a valuable treasure for the generations of our future. The Drexel Foundation believes these buildings have statewide significance and provides an important contribution to people of the future understanding our Eastern Oregon cultural & place in history. The outcome sought is to Occupy these empty buildings and to bring life back to Main Street, Vale Oregon.