

# THE MONTEREY RESTAURANT

Design Architects: Poteet Architects, Wiese Hefty Design Build  
Architect of Record and General Contractor: Wiese Hefty Design Build



The design of a neighborhood restaurant in the shell of an old storefront and gas station clearly reflects its sophisticated and fun approach to food. A mid-century modern aesthetic is warmed with a textual and handcrafted feel, creating an atmosphere that is comfortably retro while clearly of its time and place.

The existing building required much remediation, buttressing of the structure, and electrical, plumbing and mechanical upgrades within a limited budget and timeline. Wiese Hefty addressed the infrastructure and reinvigorated the building's original charms, reorganizing its spatial layout to work as a restaurant. Creating a sense of entry with an expansive courtyard and connecting indoor and outdoor spaces enhanced the sense of shared experience and energy that brings people together. Finishes and fixtures that are both durable and in line with the design sensibilities were carefully selected and complemented by mid-century light fixtures and other pieces from the time. Wiese Hefty collaborated with Greg Mannino to develop the color palette. Teal and red accents, including a red oilcloth ceiling, enrich the interiors with creativity and a sense of joy that spills over to the outdoor spaces and the street beyond.

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“Since we are a small business, we clearly had a limited budget that we needed to stay within. That, and the fact that we were working with such an old building, made us nervous about the potential problems that could surface once construction began. Due to the nature of our building, some problems did arise. Wiese Hefty immediately identified the issue and simultaneously provided us with price-conscious options, keeping our project seamless, on time, and on budget.”

- Chad Carey  
Partner, The Monterey



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“With any rehab project there are always unknowns. Any number of problems can arise and you don’t know about them until you start peeling back the layers. When you are trying to convert a small building into a restaurant, you can compound the rehab problems exponentially. The end result is a super efficient and well-designed space with an incredible amount of wow factor for its size.”

- Erick Schlather  
Partner, The Monterey

