

Program Summary:

A layered hospitality destination, the project moves from the warmth of a street-facing French bistro to the intimate escape of an upstairs cocktail lounge.

Program Statement:

Conceived as two complementary hospitality experiences within a new mixed-use building in downtown Covington, the project creates a layered sequence of dining, gathering, and retreat. Rather than separating the ground-floor restaurant and upper-level cocktail lounge into distinct identities, the interior design choreographs a gradual shift in atmosphere: open, bright, and convivial at street level, then richer, darker, and more immersive above.

The ground-floor bistro serves as an active social anchor, visually connected to the street through large windows and window-side seating. A mix of banquettes, bistro tables, intimate booths, bar seating, and private dining areas supports a range of guest experiences, from everyday meals to lingering dinners and small events. The design draws on rustic and refined French influences without becoming overly themed. Patterned tile, antique mirrors, wood flooring, reclaimed wood, brass accents, soft fabrics, perforated tin ceilings, and collected décor create a warm, familiar, and carefully layered environment.

Upstairs, the cocktail lounge offers a more intimate sense of escape. Inspired by botanical conservatories and curated collections, the space uses rich earth and jewel tones, layered patterns, indirect lighting, decorative fixtures, warm woods, and displayed artifacts to create a mood of discovery. Shared material details, including perforated tin ceilings and antique mirror elements, provide continuity between the two venues while allowing each to maintain its own character.

Together, the interiors transform a single building into a connected hospitality destination, moving guests from the energy of a street-facing bistro to the intimacy of an upstairs lounge through shifts in color, texture, scale, and light.

IA-195.01

Building Area: (sf)
12,650 SF

Cost per Square Foot:
\$308/SF

Construction Cost
\$3.9M

Date of Completion:
2026



IA-195.02

The two spaces in this project were conceived as complementary destinations within a new mixed-use building in downtown Covington.

Rather than treating the ground-floor restaurant and upper-level lounge as separate venues, the design creates a choreographed shift in atmosphere: bright, social, and street-facing below, then darker, richer, and more transportive above.



IA-195.03

At street level, the restaurant anchors the building as an approachable French bistro, welcoming guests into an active dining room designed for everyday meals, lingering dinners, bar seating, private events, and informal gathering. Above, the upstairs space extends the experience into a more intimate cocktail lounge, offering a slower-paced setting for cocktails, small groups, and evening use.



IA-195.04

The restaurant's dining room is organized to support flexibility and varied modes of gathering, with a mix of banquettes, loose tables, bar seating, and more intimate booth areas.

Large windows and window-side seating visually connect the interior to the street, reinforcing the restaurant's role as a social anchor within downtown. Bistro curtains, antique mirror elements, and wood flooring soften the space while subtly referencing historic interior techniques used to expand light and perceived scale.



IA-195.05

The restaurant's interior is defined by a whimsical, airy, and rustic aesthetic, using textured surfaces, collected décor, and a balanced palette of neutrals and pastels to establish a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere.



IA-195.06

The bar anchors the main dining room and immediately immerses guests in the energy of the restaurant. Brass detailing, decorative tile, antique mirror backslashes, and wood millwork bring richness to the space, while perforated tin ceilings and fabric-wrapped panels add visual texture and support acoustic comfort in an active dining environment.



IA-195.07

Feminine detailing, patterned tile, soft fabric accents, and reclaimed wood elements are layered throughout the restaurant, creating a setting that feels relaxed and familiar while remaining carefully composed and durable for daily use.



IA-195.08

Set just beyond the main dining room, near the shared entry vestibule and stair to the upstairs lounge, the private dining room offers a quieter and more intimate experience within the larger hospitality sequence.

Its placement allows it to feel slightly removed from the energy of the restaurant while remaining closely connected to the kitchen, entry, and upper-level lounge.



IA-195.09

The project's design concept is rooted in movement between two complementary moods. The downstairs is open, convivial, and visually tied to downtown Covington's street life. The upstairs lounge, by contrast, offers a sense of retreat and discovery.

The transition between the two is not abrupt; it unfolds through a shared entry sequence, stair, material continuity, and subtle changes in scale, color, texture, and light.



IA-195.10

In contrast, the lounge upstairs offers a more layered and immersive environment. Inspired by botanical conservatories and curated collections, the lounge uses rich earth and jewel tones, luxurious fabrics, and carefully displayed artifacts to create a sensory atmosphere centered on discovery and intimacy.

Layered patterns, warm wood tones, indirect lighting, and decorative mood lighting establish a space that feels equally suited to daytime gathering and evening use, allowing the lounge to shift in character throughout the day.



IA-195.11

The bar itself serves as the focal point of the lounge, featuring a marble backsplash flanked by antique mirrors that add visual depth and movement.

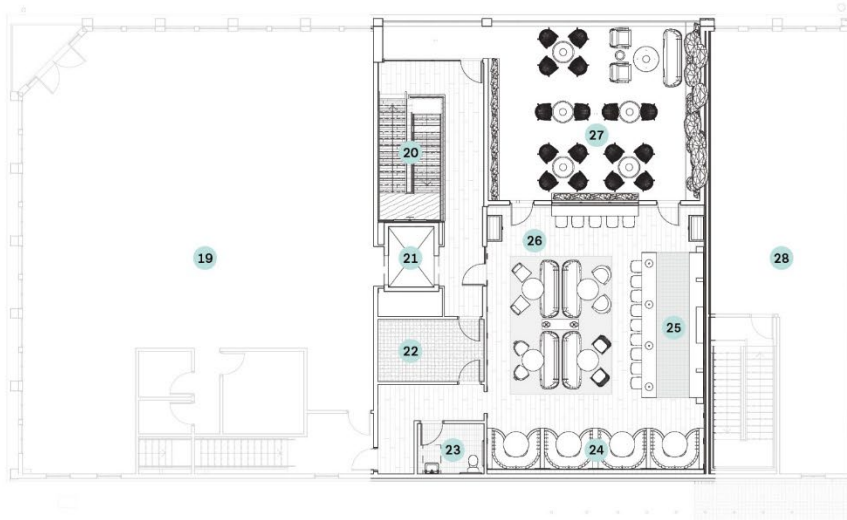
Perforated tin ceilings shared with the restaurant below provide continuity between the two spaces while supporting acoustic performance.

IA-195.12

The second-floor terrace at the cocktail lounge creates a sensory atmosphere centered on discovery and intimacy, while overlooking downtown.



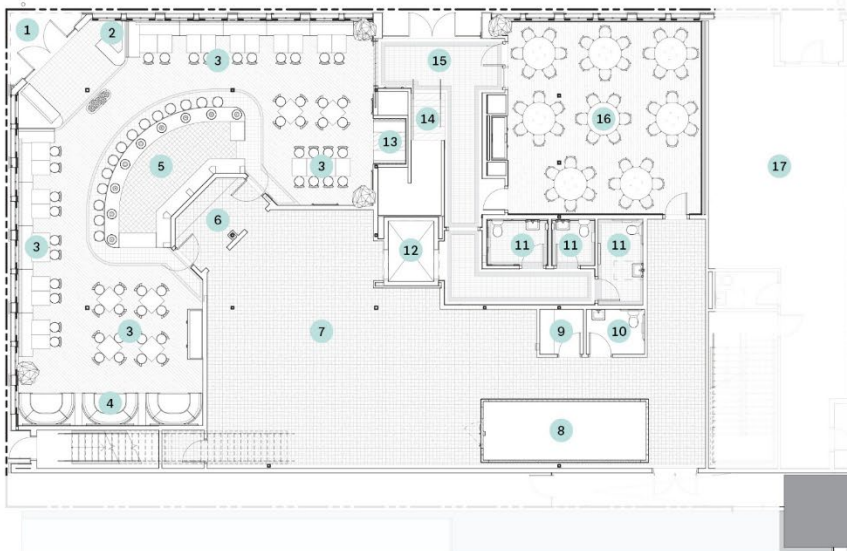
Street-level view, showing shared entry vestibule and second-floor outdoor terrace at the upstairs lounge.



Level 02 - Cocktail Lounge

- 19 Mixed-Use - Office A
- 20 Stair
- 21 Elevator
- 22 Storage / Pantry
- 23 Restrooms
- 24 Booth Seating
- 25 Bar
- 26 Lounge
- 27 Terrace
- 28 Mixed-Use - Office B

GIBSON ST



Level 01 - Restaurant

- 1 Entry
- 2 Host
- 3 Dining Tables
- 4 Booth Seating
- 5 Bar
- 6 POS & Drink Station
- 7 Kitchen
- 8 Walk-In
- 9 Chef's Office
- 10 Staff Restroom
- 11 Staff Restroom
- 12 Elevator
- 13 Private Booth
- 14 Stair
- 15 Entry Vestibule
- 16 Private Dining Room
- 17 Mixed-Use - Condo
- 18 Trash

NEW HAMPSHIRE ST