

# THE GRANT GRILL

The Grant Grill originally opened in 1951. At that time, THE US GRANT's dining establishments also included The US Grant Coffee Shop, The Rendezvous Café and La Cantina Restaurant.

From the moment it opened its doors, the Grant Grill was a hit. It wasn't just the mock turtle soup (allegedly prepared with a generous two fingers of sherry) that kept the plush mahogany booths full. In the 1950s and '60s, the Grant Grill was the place to power lunch. Lawyers, bankers and newspaper editors frequented the sanctified room, which was guaranteed to be

"men only" until 3:00 p.m. In 1969, this strict policy finally changed when a group of local female attorneys notoriously, and successfully, staged a "sit-in." Waving a New York gender discrimination case in hand, the women were seated at a table and proceeded to return several times over the span of a year until the sign was finally removed. Today, "the Grant Grill invasion" is still applauded as a turning point in San Diego's history, and a brass plaque commemorating their feat is on display outside the Grant Grill's lobby entry.



During the 1970's the room ambiance gained momentum as a private club style establishment and service features included the delivery of private phones to each booth so guests could converse with other diners. The most elite patrons were honored with brass plaques placed above their favorite booths as a symbol of prestige and exclusivity.

Following the hotel's \$80+ million dollar retrofit in the 1980's, the Grant Grill re-opened with a new design palate and eventually became a three meal restaurant, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Another grand scale renovation in 2006 restored the hotel to its original grandeur, including infusing the historic features of the Grant Grill with an Art Deco inspired setting, weaving contemporary touches like sophisticated cream linens and fleur de lis banquettes with the classic wood paneling.

In 2009, the adjoining Lounge was yet again re-designed to bring modern, urban energy into the space with Mooi crystal chandeliers, sleek granite topped tables, brilliant mosaics and metallic fixtures.

Today, the Grant Grill remains a pillar of fine dining, while the Lounge has evolved into a haven of accessible elegance, classic cuisine and modern mixology.

