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PRESS RELEASE

Burckhardt+Partner to Redevelop the Listed Hotel Metropole

Burckhardt+Partner are redeveloping – in cooperation with the heritage conservation authorities – the current Hotel Metropole in Bern’s historic center on behalf of PSP Swiss Property. Redevelopment work on the historic building situated on Waisenhausplatz began in January. The project paves the way for the launch of a hotel concept new to the city of Bern, as well as for extended restaurant usage, while also making a valuable contribution to preserving the city’s historic architectural landscape.

Burckhardt+Partner have begun carefully redeveloping the property on Waisenhausplatz. The historic building was meticulously measured and recreated as a digital 3D model to provide a basis for project planning. This means the work on the sensitive building structure can now be carried out with great precision. The corner building, which is already being used as a hotel, was constructed around 1880 and is connected to a neighboring building from the 1970s.

The interior fit-out of the 19th century building is being carried out in close cooperation with the heritage conservation authorities. This will ensure historical features, such as the wall paneling and old door frames in the rooms, are preserved. The historic staircase will be significantly enhanced through careful restoration work and extended to the exclusive roof terrace for hotel guests. The building’s exterior appearance is also being treated with great care and its once distinctive design features, such as the oculi lucarnes, will be restored. “The redevelopment means the building will regain its original status in the urban landscape on one of the main squares in Bern’s historic center, making a major contribution to UNESCO world cultural heritage,” explained Markus Mathys, project manager and member of Burckhardt+Partner AG’s site management team in Bern.

PSP Swiss Property and the tenant SV Group AG will create a hotel concept new to Bern, in a prime location in the building whose redevelopment is scheduled for completion by summer 2022. A streamline operating model with self check-in will provide temporary accommodation that meets the quality standards of a boutique hotel. The scheme will also benefit nearby businesses and restaurants: “Our project aims to foster a vibrant blend of different types of use and innovative concepts, as well as contribute towards enhancing Bern’s historic center to make it an even more attractive location,” said Christoph Sättler, Director Asset Management at the developer PSP Swiss Property.

The existing ‘Luce’ restaurant will remain open on the ground floor as a traditional Italian restaurant with an extended overall usage plan which includes a wine lounge, a new function room and a take-away service.

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Available Thursday 28/01/2021, 10am to 12pm

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About Burckhardt+Partner AG

Burckhardt+Partner are an internationally distinguished and technologically prominent architectural company. It was founded in 1951 in Basel and has continued to develop ever since. Over the past 70 years, Burckhardt+Partner have not only had a major influence on architecture in Switzerland, but have also been able to compete on the international stage. Burckhardt+Partner currently run five branches in Switzerland and three in Germany.

About PSP Swiss Property

The owner and developer of the building is PSP Swiss Property, Zurich. PSP is one of Switzerland's leading real estate companies. Its property portfolio worth around CHF 8.5 billion is made up exclusively of commercial properties in Switzerland, most of which occupy prime locations.