



## The Charles – New Life for an Old Bank Building

**B**uilt in 1900, the Federal Hill bank building has been many things, most recently Mad River Bar and Grille. The same folks who own Barcocina and Bond Street Social in Fells Point took five months to strip the building down to bare bones — brick walls and concrete floors — recreating the space into a modern industrial design with large banquettes both on the first floor and the mezzanine level. The building is visually appealing with its two-storied shelved bar, herringbone ceiling, and flat screen televisions against the whitewashed brick wall as the centerpiece.

The Charles offers a tapas style menu by Executive Chef Cory

Pastor — with a fusion of both American and international flavors like curry gnocchi, cuban stuffed pretzels, and Nashville hot avocado. Two to three plates for each guest, shared, supports the restaurant's brand of sociability. As manager Bryan Subock points out, the purple neon "Where are you now?" sign on the second floor is fun — and an ideal spot for social media snaps.

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### THE CHARLES

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