

KEVIN RATHBUN STEAK

About the building:

The original building was constructed as a cotton warehouse in the heyday of Atlanta's mercantile boom in the mid-1890s. At the same time, the surrounding area was being developed by Joel Hurt as Atlanta's first planned community and one of the nation's first garden suburbs, Inman Park.

In the early 1940s, the building caught fire, leaving little more standing than the solid brick exterior walls. The scorched wooden interior was eventually replaced with a modern steel frame. In 1941, the Clorox Company acquired the building to house its fourth production facility in the United States and its first in the South. Thirty years later, when Clorox moved to a larger location, the building was again transformed – this time into “The Black Box,” a widely respected rehearsal hall for Atlanta's musicians. The 70 individual music studios frequently echoed thunderous music into the wee hours of the morning in this quasi-industrial/residential neighborhood.