

STOP 10 – THE OLD ELEVATOR

The old elevator is no longer in service. The elevator cars ran in open iron channels located in the stairwells. The closure and cars on the east and west sides of the building cost \$8,550 to install in 1899, while the hydraulics cost a whopping \$21,311.

Another innovation of the day was electricity. All the wires that carried the electricity were put into waterproof steel tubes concealed behind the walls so that nothing was showing except the outlets and the junction on boxes.

This astounding system was brand new to Canada, but it had already been adopted in all the big important buildings in the U.S.A. The Canadian Architect and Builder also crowed in its October 1899 edition that this system was "absolutely safe against fire under all conditions."

It said: "At any one of these outlets a fishing wire can be inserted into the conduit and readily pushed through to the next outlet."