

'Fried hicken' store makes way for Trinity Bluff

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The famed 'fried hicken' convenience store at the intersection of East Bluff and Belknap streets in north downtown Fort Worth was demolished this week to clear a grand opening for the Trinity Bluff mixed-use development that is currently under way.

The area referred to as Fort Worth's Uptown is a 30-acre plot of land along the Trinity River. In the northeast portion of Uptown is an area called Trinity Bluff, which is the planned site of an elaborate urban community.

Trinity Bluff Ltd. is heading up the project, spearheaded by Fort Worth developers Tom Struhs and Rudy Renda. The bluff area's \$350 million master plan will include 10 mixed-use projects with residential and 30,000 square feet of retail space.

The recently demolished store, which once read 'Fried Chicken,' lost a letter several years ago and Struhs said locals have referred to it as 'fried hicken' since.

"We worked on this deal for eight years," Struhs said. "It will be the entrance to the Trinity Bluff development and we're excited we have reached this point."

Currently under construction in the mixed-use development is Struhs' Villa de Leon, a posh 23-unit condominium project along Samuels Avenue that joins two completed upscale apartment and condo projects.