



the **OUTRIGGER**

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R. Baker & Son Magazine
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Demolition @ Moynihan Train Hall in Penn Station Expansion Project

R. Baker & Son performed the selective demolition on the project to transform New York City's historic Farley Post Office Building into the Moynihan Train Hall, an extension of the adjacent Pennsylvania Station, as part of a \$3 billion transportation complex redevelopment project. The bold design will add much-needed capacity to the city's transportation system while preserving much of the building's original 1913 Beaux-Arts architecture and grandeur including marble walls, gold-leafed ceilings, arched windows, and massive colonnades.

Moynihan Train Hall will include a 255,000 square-foot concourse with a soaring 92-foot high skylight spanning the entire hall for Amtrak and LIRR passengers, as well as 700,000 square feet of new office, retail and dining space. Eleven escalators will lead to nine train platforms and seventeen tracks spanning across Eighth Ave., connecting Moynihan to Penn Station. The train hall is named after Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who in 1993 championed a plan to repurpose Farley into a world-class transportation hub.

The R. Baker & Son dismantling team opened up the space for the expansive train hall atrium by removing a 30,00 sq. ft. area of concrete and steel that once served as Farley's vast mail sorting room floor. Working seven days a week in twelve-hour shifts, Baker team members utilized skid steers, mini-excavators, remote-controlled demolition robotic breakers and shears, and mini-cranes limited to a maximum 6-ton weight to remove the foot-thick concrete slab, 24" I-beams, and steel support columns. During demolition the street-level floor below the mail room was covered with crane mats to protect the active subway tracks running beneath it. R. Baker & Son also removed multiple elevators, staircases, and huge double-doored mail vaults.

Moynihan Train Hall is slated for completion in early 2021.



Exposed steel beams where the concrete floor has been removed. A second layer of concrete sits ready for demolition.



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Shafts of sunlight pour through the skylight, illuminating stacked steel beams destined for recycling



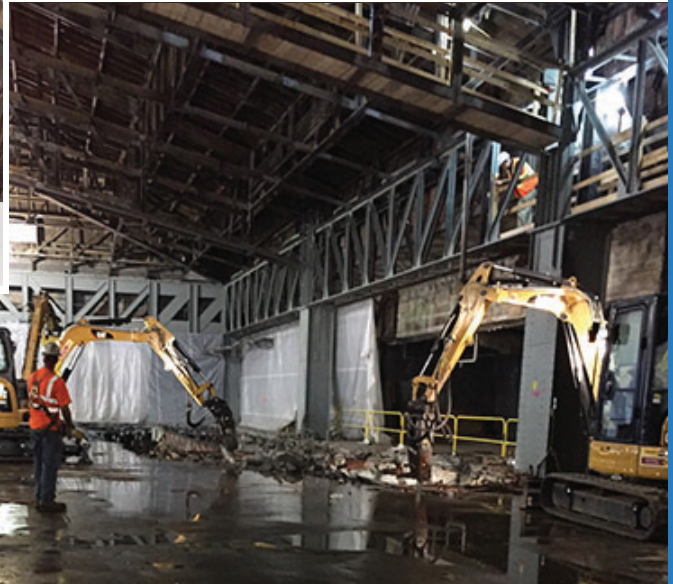
Sparks fly as a Baker crew member cuts a steel beam while a fire guard looks on.

Right & Bottom Right:

Mini-excavators begin the task of breaking through the concrete floor of the original mail sorting room.



A skid steer loader removes concrete debris from the future main concourse.



Qualified Riggers vs. Certified Riggers: What's the Difference?

The terms “qualified” and “certified” are often used interchangeably in reference to riggers, but many construction professionals don't know the difference. OSHA standards require that qualified riggers must be used during hoisting activities for assembly and disassembly work, or when workers are within the fall zone and hooking, unhooking, or guiding a load, or connecting a load to a component or structure. OSHA does not require that riggers be certified.

Qualified Rigger

OSHA only loosely specifies who meets the criteria of a qualified rigger, leaving the final determination largely up to the employer. A qualified rigger “possesses a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, has successfully demonstrated the ability to solve/resolve problems related to rigging”. Under these criteria, a rigger with extensive hands-on experience, but no formal training or certifications, may be considered a qualified rigger.

Certified Rigger

A certified rigger is a person who has passed stringent written and practical exams related to rigging. While OSHA does not require that riggers be certified, rigger certification is a means of assessing or classifying a rigger's level of qualification. Accredited organizations such as NCCCO offer certification testing, as do many crane and rigging training schools. Most programs offer basic, intermediate, and advanced certifications. Advanced-certified riggers generally have substantial rigging experience and have completed master rigger courses and training. NCCCO Certified Level II riggers can estimate load weight and center of gravity; identify lift points; determine and select rigging based on loading; perform pre-use inspection of rigging and lift points; have knowledge of hitch configurations and load angle factors, rigging capacities, and load integrity; and understand load dynamics and associated hazards.



R. Baker & Son All Industrial Services has been offering rigging and demolition services since 1935. Our in-house team of rigging professionals is comprised of highly-experienced, qualified and intermediate-to-advanced-certified riggers, master riggers, and engineers, and our rigging equipment is state-of-the-art. R. Baker & Son can handle rigging projects of nearly any size and complexity.

MAGNI RTH ROTATING TELESCOPIC HANDLER

One of the most versatile pieces of equipment in R. Baker & Son's arsenal is the Magni RTH rotating telescopic handler. This multipurpose vehicle is several machines in one: a crane, a forklift, and an aerial work platform. The Magni RTH comes in a variety of models ranging from 57 ft. to 150 ft. in lift height, and weight capacity ranges from 8,800 lbs. to 17,600 lbs. They are compact – about 8'3" wide – making them ideal for tight work sites with limited space or in city settings. Their flexibility and full range of attachments including forks, jibs, winches, clamps, buckets, hooks and safety platforms eliminates the need for multiple vehicles on a jobsite. With the ability to rotate continuously 360 degrees in either direction, the Magni RTH can accomplish tasks without repositioning.

R. Baker & Son utilized a Magni RTH for various purposes on a recent project, in some cases providing services for other contractors working onsite. The fork attachment was used to remove demolition debris from all eight floors of the building, lift supplies like drywall and ductwork, and remove heavy equipment from inside tractor trailers. The crane function was used to rig and set process equipment and tanks as well as air handlers, heat exchangers and cooling towers.

