



R. BAKER & Son

OUTRIGGER

Rigging, Dismantling & Demolition News from R. BAKER & SON

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Entrusted with America's Treasures: R. Baker's Return to The Intrepid

R. Baker was once again called upon to return to the Intrepid for our next mission. Nine years ago, we worked closely with Intrepid's renovation teams where we performed the rigging and relocation of several priceless aircrafts slated for restoration. These included the F-11 Tiger, Navy Blue Angel Jet #5, and the A-4F Skyhawk simulator, among others.

This March, we returned for a very special mission: bringing home one of the few remaining WWII FG-1D Corsair fighter-bombers, honoring the legendary aircraft that once flew numerous successful missions from Intrepid's decks.



The FG-1D Corsair, a carrier-based fighter-bomber, was an iconic aircraft used by the United States Navy and Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean War. Renowned for its distinctive inverted gull wings and powerful Pratt & Whitney R-2800 engine, the Corsair excelled in both air superiority and ground attack roles. Its speed, agility, and heavy armament made it a feared adversary in the skies, contributing significantly to U.S. naval operations in the Pacific Theater. The Corsair proved its mettle in various engagements, earning a reputation for its effectiveness against Japanese aircraft and ground targets.



The FG-1D Corsair also served aboard the USS Intrepid, where it participated in numerous missions during the latter part of World War II. Its deployment on the Intrepid exemplified the carrier's role as a key player in naval aviation, allowing the Corsair to launch airstrikes against enemy positions and provide close air support for ground troops. The partnership between the Intrepid and the Corsair was instrumental in achieving air dominance and supporting U.S. forces during critical operations. Today, the Corsair is celebrated not only for its engineering excellence but also for the bravery of the pilots who flew it, many of whom launched from the decks of aircraft carriers like the Intrepid.

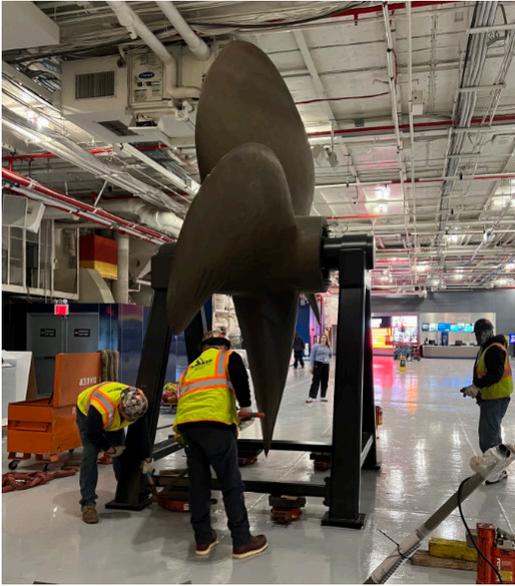
The Intrepid Air and Space Museum offers a full day of exploration with numerous exhibitions, events, virtual reality flight simulators and more. Visitors can see the world's first space shuttle, a nuclear submarine, military aircraft, a supersonic spy plane, and the world's fastest commercial airliner - all displayed around the legendary USS Intrepid aircraft carrier.

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R. Baker & Son holds the distinction of being the oldest and largest Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Rigging, Dismantling & Demolition Contractor in North America





As part of this project, R. Baker also relocated one of Intrepid's giant propellers. Interestingly, Intrepid had 4 propellers total each weighing 27000 pounds, measuring 15 foot, 3 inches tip to tip . The propellers help thrust the carrier to a speed of 32 knots or 37 mph.



A blast from the past: This photo of a Navy Grumman F-11 Tiger was taken during the 2016 Intrepid renovation project. R. Baker was entrusted with the rigging, removing, and care of many of the prized military aircraft and artifacts from the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum

Safety Toolbox Talks: Your Best Investment That Can Pay Huge Dividends

Rigging, demolition and dismantling can pose specific risks that require a heightened safety awareness. Here are R. Baker we believe in the power and value of on site tool box talks and their benefits for everyone involved. They help remind and continuously enforce a safety mind set, and that everyone plays a role in each other's safety. Some refer to it as a huddle meeting much like football, where the specifics of the task at hand are discussed, the risks involved and how each of the team plays a part to achieve a common goal. Here are several reasons why tool box talks can be your best return on investment to keep safety top of mind.



Enhancing Safety Awareness: Toolbox talks raise awareness about specific workplace hazards, making employees more vigilant and knowledgeable. This proactive approach reduces accidents and injuries, saving costs associated with workplace incidents.

Encouraging Open Communication: These discussions promote open communication, allowing employees to voice concerns and share safety insights. This collaboration empowers workers and helps management identify areas for improvement.

Building Team Cohesion: Toolbox talks strengthen team bonds as employees come together to discuss safety, improving teamwork and cooperation essential for a safe working environment.

Cost-Effective Training: They provide ongoing training in a cost-effective manner, integrating safety discussions into daily routines without disrupting productivity.

Mentoring younger workers: Apprentices will often follow what senior techs teach them. Younger workers feel included as part of a team, they respect the effort and develop critical safety skills of their own learning by example. One day, they too will share their knowledge with their younger apprentices.

Investing in safety toolbox talks cultivates a culture of safety, protecting employees and enhancing productivity. The benefits far outweigh the costs, making them one of the best investments for any company and their customers.

Beyond the Wrecking Ball: The Profitable Pursuit of Architectural Salvage

Architectural salvage is the practice of reclaiming and reusing materials and elements from old buildings and structures that are slated to be demolished or dismantled. These items or materials can range from decorative items such as hardware, lighting and plumbing fixtures, perhaps fireplace mantles, windows or structural components, such as beams and columns, old floors, bricks, and so much more. This trend has gained significant momentum in recent years as architects, designers and homeowners recognize the myriad of benefits. Incorporating salvage materials into their projects. It's also kind of neat how something old has a new life and a new story in your home or on your project, it draws your attention and becomes a conversation piece, a tangible piece of history.



Environmental Benefits:

Construction waste accounts for 40% of US waste per EPA. Architectural salvage reduces landfill impact, decreases demand for new resources, and avoids energy-intensive manufacturing. Reusing durable materials like wood beams and stone elements lowers carbon footprints and protects ecosystems by reducing resource extraction.

Economic Benefits:

Salvaged materials cost less than new alternatives while maintaining quality. Distinctive elements increase property value by creating unique selling points. The salvage industry supports local economies, preserves traditional crafts, employs skilled tradespeople, and may offer tax benefits through qualifying donations.

Aesthetic and Cultural Benefits:

Salvaged materials add unique character through authentic patina and craftsmanship. Historic components feature exceptional quality rarely seen today. This practice preserves cultural heritage, reinforces regional architectural identity, and maintains community visual continuity while connecting to local building traditions.

Challenges and Considerations:

Despite its benefits, architectural salvage presents certain challenges:

- **Quality assessment:** Not all salvaged materials are in good condition, requiring careful inspection for safety and suitability.
- **Sourcing difficulties:** Finding specific items can be time-consuming, with availability varying by location.
- **Regulatory concerns:** Some areas have restrictions on removing materials from historic buildings, necessitating awareness of local laws.



Quality Award Winner

Congratulations to Anthony O'Connell this quarter's recipient of the R. Baker & Son Quality Award. This program was established to recognize individuals for their outstanding achievements in safety, project execution, and customer satisfaction, and for their continuing dedication to R. Baker & Son's growth and success.

Thank You, Anthony O'Connell for a job well done!