

HED: Wild About Harry's

DEK: A Wall Street ~~institution~~Institution ~~Re~~opens ~~Its~~ Ddoors

~~F. Scott Fitzgerald~~F. SCOTT FITZGERALD — once famously observed that ~~there~~re are no second acts in American lives. To our eyes — currently gazing at the newly reopened Harry's of Hanover Square just ~~s~~South of Wall Street — ~~Zelda's~~Zelda's crazy husband was wrong.

Any Manhattan trader of a certain age will recall many evenings spent at Harry's, the legendary downtown haunt where for ~~three~~3 decades dealmakers convened post-close to discuss market moves, plot hostile takeovers, and tuck into thick steaks.

Harry's opened in 1972 and quickly became a Wall Street institution, ~~and~~The restaurant even played a major supporting role in Tom Wolfe's *The Bonfire of The Vanities*. But in 2003, after the death of his wife, Adrienne, founder Harry Poulakakos shut the doors and considered abandoning the place for good. Harry eventually sold to the one man he knew he could trust: ~~h~~His only son, Peter. "It was a last-~~minute~~minute decision," Peter says. "He stayed closed for a year before entertaining offers."

Peter — whose June, 1976 birth made the front page of the *Wall Street Journal* — upgraded the interior with an eye to both the original's storied ambience and the Financial District's new status as a hot residential neighborhood. Two distinct spaces emerged: Harry's Café is in front, with a a large bar, comfortable booths, and such (relatively) casual noshes as a lobster club and Kobe hot dog. In back, Harry's Steak caters to the old-school — battle-scarred pit titans, who prefer porterhouse and pinot to burgers and Budweiser.

Comment [A1]: Contradiction words. Choice either major or supporting

Among the ~~principle-principal~~ charms of the old joint, of course, was the ubiquitous presence of the avuncular Harry himself — and that’s one experience today’s traders can share with the grizzled vets of yore. Still spry at ~~-68sixty-eight~~, Harry scoffs at the idea that there’s no ~~2nd-second~~ act in *his* American life. “I am,” he notes, “going to be their best customer.”