



Our Philosophy

Today the Melvin Mark Companies manage and lease nearly three million square feet of Portland's finest office and retail space, with some of the highest occupancy rates in these properties in the metropolitan area. Our skill in developing positive long-term relationships is our special trademark. Whether we are working with investors, tenants, lenders, or members of the Portland community, we strive to create an atmosphere of trust and cooperation that results in many successful projects over many years.



MELVIN MARK
COMPANIES

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Some people come to Portland for the scenery. Others come for the way of life. When New York-based Melvin Mark, Sr. first visited the area in the mid 1940s, it was nothing more than a quick visit to look at property investment opportunities. Liking what he saw, he sent his son, Pete Mark to take care of business. Taking care, he did, loving the area so much he decided to make Portland his home. With that, the Melvin Mark Companies was founded in 1945.

Before long, Melvin Mark, Sr. made the first of many acquisitions — an investment in historic downtown buildings that remained a cornerstone of the company for more than five decades. That same year, he also handed the day-to-day management reins of the new company to his son. For more than 35 years, this second-generation Mark led the company from historic buildings to modern high-rises to complete complexes. Names like Crown Plaza, Columbia Square and Robert Duncan Plaza became synonymous with Melvin Mark — and the Portland skyline.

As Melvin Mark's footprint began to expand, so too did their services. Creating separate companies for brokerage, construction and development — all under a single umbrella company — allowed them to manage the quality of all facets of commercial real estate services in-house, rather than outsourcing to others. It was during this time that Pete Mark, the innovator responsible for the "melvinizing" touch, began decades worth of downtown revitalization, ultimately energizing others to join the cause.

In 2001, the company's leadership was turned over to Pete's son, Jim Mark, with Pete Mark assuming the role of chairman of the board. While times have changed, this family-owned company's commitment to Portland's downtown and surrounding communities is as strong today as it was in 1945.

Today, the Melvin Mark Companies have been named one of Oregon's Most Admired Companies by other Oregon CEOs, they've received awards for their work in sustainable real estate practices and they've been honored as one of the area's leading corporate philanthropists. Jim Mark has carried on his father's commitment to development and growth by, among other things, founding Greenlight Greater Portland — a four-county regional effort to expand economic development opportunity throughout the region.

Now 50 employees strong with more than 2.8 million square feet of commercial space under ownership or management, the Melvin Mark Companies are uniquely qualified to provide a catalyst for growth — livable, sustainable, quality growth — into the generations to come. And, as always, we are proud to have a continuing voice in shaping the city we call home.

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