Former casino in Tahoe demolished for health care facility

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A former casino in <u>Tahoe</u> is being demolished to make way for a new health care facility, <u>the Tahoe Daily Tribune reports</u>

. While some buildings on the site had already been demolished, the main structure for the Lakeside Inn and Casino is coming down as of Monday.

Located near Highway 50 in Stateline, Nevada, Lakeside Inn and Casino closed in April 2020, an early casualty of the pandemic after a statewide lockdown order. Considered a smaller gaming establishment, the locally owned casino was initially denied a Paycheck Protection Program loan as such operators were not eligible, Casino.org reported. While the federal government later shifted its position on allowing gaming establishments to become eligible for PPP loans, it was too late to save the Lakeside.

The site that is slated to become a health care facility has had a long history as a casino. It first began as Caesars Inn, which opened in 1969. Harvey Gross, the owner of Harvey's in Stateline, then bought the inn in 1972.

The current incarnation of the casino, which is now being demolished, first opened in 1985.

After the 2020 closure, Barton Health, which offers health care services for Lake Tahoe's South Shore, purchased the site for \$13.3 million to expand its existing offerings. At the time of the purchase, Barton had an urgent care facility directly across the street from the shuttered casino.

"The former Lakeside Inn and Casino closed for business in 2020 and is located adjacent to Barton's Stateline Medical Center campus, where building development opportunities are limited," the hospital/said/in/a statement, when it announced the purchase. "Expanding the medical campus in Nevada allows Barton to offer many more services including lower cost outpatient services due to the lessened regulatory environment offered by the state of Nevada."

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