

By [Hema Easley](#)

April 02, 2016 5:51PM

Historic lab now home to team focused on Tuxedo revival

TUXEDO PARK – On any given day, Michael Bruno can be found in the central wood-paneled dining room of the Loomis Laboratory, overseeing the team he has put together to run Tuxedo Hudson Company.

Bruno purchased the Loomis Lab in September 2015 for \$2.5 million from Aubrey DeBordenave, whose family had owned the property for decades.

Many of his 20-member team live and work in the building, which long ago was converted into apartments. Teams of twos and threes occupy different common areas of the building, working on projects related to the restaurants, antique stores or the real-estate company Bruno has created.

This is the same building where a team of talented scientists gathered 80 years ago to develop the science for both the atomic bomb and radar.

Sitting atop a hill, the building on Crows Nest Road is the former home of Alfred Lee Loomis, the wealthy financier, philanthropist and physicist who bankrolled some of the most pioneering scientific research of the time. He built a state-of-the art laboratory in the basement of the building; hence the name Loomis Lab.

His story, and the history of the Loomis Laboratory, have been told by Jennet Conant in the New York Times bestseller, “Tuxedo Park: A Wall Street Tycoon and the Secret Palace of Science That Changed the Course of World War II.”

The book recounts how Loomis gathered the most visionary scientific minds of the twentieth century - Albert Einstein, Werner Heisenberg, Niels Bohr, Enrico Fermi, and others – at the laboratory in Tuxedo Park in the late 1930s, and helped change the course of World War II.

“The energy in that building is still there. You pick up on it,” said Bruno. “Having it as an office has been an honor ... Everyone feels privileged working there.”



Michael Bruno talks with his staff in his Tuxedo Hudson Company office at the former Loomis Laboratory in Tuxedo Park. This is the same building where a team of talented scientists gathered 80 years ago to develop the science for both the atomic bomb and radar. KELLY MARSH/For the Times Herald-Record