



Fortina signs eatery lease at Boyce Thompson in Yonkers

By John Golden

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Fortina, an Italian restaurant with three locations in Westchester and Fairfield counties, has signed a lease at the Boyce Thompson Center, a \$35-million mixed-use redevelopment of a long-vacant landmark property in northwest Yonkers.

The restaurant will lease 5,605 square feet of space in the 85,000-square-foot main building being restored on the roughly seven-acre site of the former Boyce Thompson Institute at 1086 N. Broadway. The deal was announced by Boyce Thompson's owner and developer, Simone Development Cos. in the Bronx.

"Fortina will bring a new level of energy to the local dining scene and be an important dimension of our mixed-use community center," said Joseph Simone, president and CEO of Simone Development Cos.

Christian Petroni, chef and co-owner of Fortina, called Simone's redevelopment of the former plant research institute an "awesome project. From the first time we walked the grounds and saw the building, we were blown away. Can't wait to bring that space back to life."

Simone Development last spring announced that St. John's Riverside Hospital will fully lease a new 15,000-square-foot glass and aluminum building also under construction on the Boyce Thompson property.

The mixed-use center is scheduled to open in 2016.

Known for its pizza, Fortina also has restaurants in downtown Armonk, Rye Ridge Shopping Center, and Stamford.