

196 Penobscot Avenue Millinocket, Maine

In 2023, the Northern Forest Center purchased 196 Penobscot Avenue to increase the number of quality apartments accessible to full-time Millinocket residents. The nearly 6,900-square-foot, 125-year-old building now features four one-bedroom apartments, one two-bedroom apartment, and two commercial spaces.

The Center worked with RH Lax Contracting to revitalize the building and brighten downtown Millinocket. Honoring the region's history in wood products manufacturing, the Center prioritized the use of local wood products for its many benefits – both environmental and economic.

Strengthening the forest economy

Rather than building completely new, the Center reduced demolition waste and extended the life of carbon stored in existing wood products by reclaiming existing wood floors and 25% of the building's existing wood framing. When reclamation was not possible, the procurement of local wood products over foreign or fossil-fuel-based materials reduced the building's carbon footprint while also:



Directly supported 9 businesses through the purchase of local wood products

while also



Supporting forest landowners, enabling them to keep their forests as forests, out of development

- ✓ **keeping dollars circulating within the regional economy;**
- ✓ **supporting markets for existing and emerging wood products;**
- ✓ **filtering dollars back to forest landowners enabling them to keep forests as forests, out of development;**
- ✓ **training contractors on local wood product sourcing and the use of new marketplace materials such as wood fiber insulation.**

SCAN ME!



**learn more about
our wood-first
efforts**



» Carbon benefits from the ground up

130,400 lbs +
of carbon dioxide equivalent
stored in long-lived wood products

119,800 lbs +
of carbon dioxide equivalent (and counting!)
avoided by opting for
wood products instead of fossil-
fuel-based materials

Insulation

4,000 sq. ft. of wood fiber batt and 8,200 cubic ft. of loose fill wood fiber insulation were installed from Maine-based TimberHP, located 100 miles away.

“TimberHP has made major advancements in their insulation product. It was wonderful to use on this project and I am continuing to use it in my other work.” - Rick Lax, Owner RH Lax Contracting



Siding

5,800 sq. ft. of pine siding procured from Robbins Lumber was installed, restoring the building's New England charm.



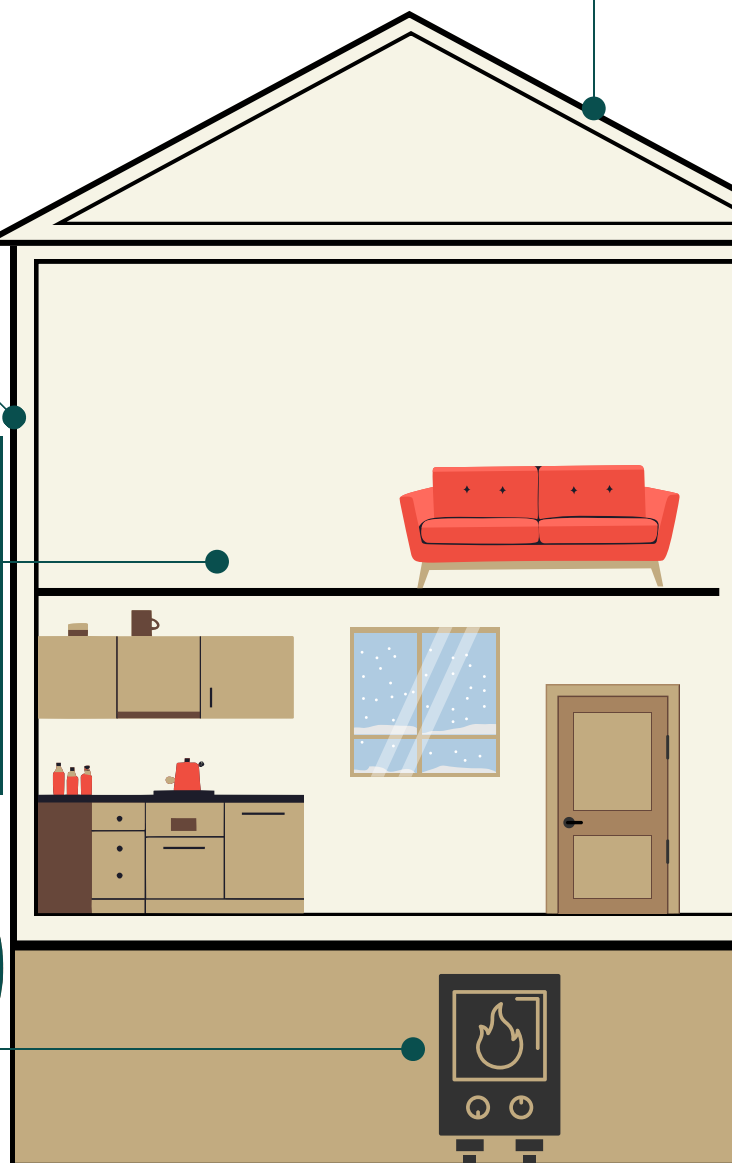
Floors

2,500 sq. ft. of existing maple floors were reclaimed - reducing waste and emissions. Nearly 1,800 sq. ft. of new birch floors were purchased from Maine manufacturers - Hammond Lumber and Maine Traditions.



Heating

A wood pellet boiler is reducing heating emissions by 54% over oil. For its first year online, 9,600 lbs of CO2 emissions were avoided by making the switch.



Northern
Forest
Center



For more information on 196 Penobscot, reach out to Kendall Gray at kgray@northernforest.org



For more information on the Northern Forest Center, go to northernforest.org