

PLACES TO SEE IN TOWN

So much to see and do:

Whether you enjoy strolling along the river, walking or biking on trails outside of town, shopping in the local boutiques, or sitting at a brew pub, Northfield has it all for you.

Below are some of our favorite places to see and things to do:

Things to do in nature: The Cowling Arboretum on the Carleton College campus; called "The Arb", is 800 acres of woods, trails and water. Mill Towns State Trail: can be accessed one block from us and runs along the Cannon River. Walking and biking. The Riverfront along the Cannon River is a great place to walk.

Boutiques to shop in: All of these shops are on Division Street and are locally owned. Thats the one that runs in front of our building. Places to stop into: The Rare Pair; Been here for 35 years. Great shoes and apparel. The Paper Petalum; Fun gifts and home things. The Kitchen store. Content; a great book store. Monarch; great gifts and jewelry. The Goat; vintage

items and art. Northfield Yarn; yarn and darning kits and supplies. Friday and Saturday mornings bike or drive out to Dundas (3 miles away) and get one of Sweet Martha's baked goods. People come from all over to get one of her scones or croissants! Basically every shop downtown is fantastic!

Restaurants and Breweries: Reunion; a great spot right across the street! Imminent Brewery: one block away with great beer and kombucha. Cafe Shawn; an occasional cafe located in the Armory Square. Find her on instagram at @cafeshawn. Tanzenwald Brewing Company; 3 blocks away, German style beer. The Hideaway Cafe and wine bar; 1/2 block away. Goodbye Blue Monday; excellent old school coffee shop. Little Joy; coffee house. Also we have a Natural Food Grocery Store called "Just Food", one block away.

Other fun stuff to do: The Riverwalk Market Fair is held Saturdays from May to October.



The renovation Its recent and distant past:

This building was built in the late 1800's. Since the beginning it was called the Holland Building. Over the years it was used as a meeting place and gymnasium for the Odd Fellows, which was an organization that ran an orphanage located a few blocks from here. The kids who lived there would come to the 3rd floor gymnasium to play basketball. The tall ceilings in the upper floor of the building worked well for that.

The street level floor housed a grocery store for over 50 years. There was also a hardware store and an appliance store in that space.

The lower level was mainly used for storage for the grocery store. A delivery truck would pull up to the 5th street side of the building and a gang plank would bridge the back entrance of the building to the delivery truck. Teenage boys would unload the truck of the goods and bring most of them in the street level. Some of those items were brought to the lower level for longer term storage.

In the later part of the last century, the lower level was used mainly for storage.

In the late 1990's, the building was in poor shape. Two local businessmen, both interested in restoring buildings and reinvigorating the downtown, invested in a renovation project and overhauled the whole building. They finished the lower level to be used half as offices or a dance studio and the other half as a residential condo, which housed local college students.

In 2006, Amy bought the entire lower level and renovated it to be two yoga studio spaces and a lobby and back offices. The lobby and back office space, which is now the Snug, was used until early 2020. When the pandemic started, and the yoga studio was shut down to in-person classes, We decided now was the time to renovate the lobby and offices back into a residential condo. It had been our 5 year plan for nearly 15 years!

Amy loves doing design and renovation. She spent nearly a year between the Spring of 2020 to early Summer 2021 gutting the space and completing the work. It was the most fun project she has ever done. Dave and Amy are so happy to share this space with others who come to visit Northfield.

A work of love

When the lower level had been renovated in the late 90's, most of the buildings character was covered up by sheetrock, affordable tile, and fiberglass inserts. Amy, who used to be an architectural designer, always wanted to tear out the sheet rocked walls to reveal the hefty original beams and limestone walls that had been covered up. She waited nearly 15 years for the time to be right.

When the time came to finally get her hands dirty, she couldn't wait to get going. She gutted the bathroom, bedroom area (formerly offices), and kitchen/living room area (former lobby).

She employed her brother to completely rebuild the limestone wall behind the couch in the living space. When the drywall was removed, it revealed a wall that was in very rough shape. He painstakingly rebuilt the wall over the course of two months. It turned out beautifully.

The brick, shiplap, and raised paneled walls in all the rooms were added, as was new flooring and light fixtures. The bathroom was gutted to the studs and a custom shower was put in. Paneling was added, and the wooden post was found hidden under sheetrock. Amy worked nearly every day for a year to complete this renovation.

The built in cabinet that lines the back wall of the bedroom came from a 1890's home on the east side of town. Some re-working of it had to be done (it was two levels of cabinets that needed to be cut apart and added onto in order to fit the entire length of the wall. The granite was reused from the former yoga studios check-in desk. The coffee/tea station cabinet in the kitchen was originally the lower part of the cabinets that were built into the bedroom.

The wooden beam in the kitchen/living area was taken from a 1840's barn outside of Northfield in Castle Rock.

The kitchen table's base was made from a shop table that spent the last 100 years in the Northfield Foundry and Machine Company, a family company owned by our family. Amy's dad and a friend made the table top and added wheels to the base.

The Snug decorated with local artists work as well as local vintage items.

With the completion of this project, we are excited to share it with our family and with others, like you. We hope you can feel the love that was put into this space. We enjoy it so much and are happy to have you staying here to enjoy it too!

CHECKOUT INSTRUCTIONS

Checkout is 11am

Please note the following steps upon checkout:

- leave the keys on the hook on the side of the refrigerator.
- leave the sheets on the bed and the towels hung up in the bathroom. Please do not leave towels on the bathroom floor.
- Please take with you, or toss, any groceries you brought in.
- load dishwasher and start it before leaving. Dish detergent in the cabinet to the left of the dish washer.
- turn off all lights.
- as you leave, press in the lock button on the handle of the exit door and pull shut behind you. Check to be sure the door won't open once you are outside and the door is closed.

