



BEFORE



AFTER



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2019 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Mitchell Cobbs Building LLC and the City of Cadillac

Rehabilitation of the Cobbs and Mitchell Building, Cadillac

The Cobbs and Mitchell Building, completed in 1907, was designed by George D. Mason as the showplace and office for nationally-known lumber company Cobbs and Mitchell, Incorporated. In 1939 the building was acquired by the State Highway Department and used as a regional office for more than seventy years. When the State Highway Department's successor, MDOT, moved to new facilities, this important building in downtown Cadillac sat vacant.

Developer Robb Munger purchased the building from the city in 2017 with the intent to breathe new life into this part of downtown. With strong support from the city of Cadillac and other community organizations, Munger set out to rehabilitate the space in part with financial support from Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits. Special attention was given to the building's unique interior features, including the preservation of wallpaper, decorative plaster and tile floors. Nine species of native Michigan woodwork, original to the Cobbs and Mitchell era, were carefully refinished. The materials used in the rehabilitation work were locally sourced and local contractors were used as much as possible.

Today, the Cobbs and Mitchell building is once again a point of pride in downtown Cadillac, offering revitalized space for offices and economic activity in northern Michigan.