

BEFORE





AFTER

Downtown Culinary Arts Facility

550 South Saginaw Street, Flint

COMPLETED 2019

Project overview

The project rehabilitated the vacant and functionally obsolete building into the new and expanded Mott Community College (MCC) Culinary Arts Institute. Located at the corner of Second and Saginaw streets along Flint's downtown corridor, the former, two-story F.W. Woolworth building was constructed in the 1920s and housed a variety of retail selections until the 1970s. It has been vacant for several years and contrasted with the other rehabilitated structures downtown.

The project renovated the building into a collegiate culinary arts facility. The renovated 36,000-square-foot structure houses two culinary arts teaching kitchens, two bakery teaching kitchens, a meat fabrication teaching laboratory, a fine dining student-staffed restaurant connected to a baked goods café, and a large dividable meeting space to teach all aspects of the food service industry to students attending MCC. Relocation of the MCC program to the Woolworth building allows for doubling of teaching and kitchen space, as well as expansions in curriculum due to dedicated space for meat fabrication and temperature-controlled spaces for chocolates and wine. The project promotes walkable communities by filling in long-vacant space, and driving additional foot-traffic to the area. The building is zero-lot line developed, offers large retail windows on the first floor and is fronted by large, walkable sidewalks.

MEDC investment: \$1,500,000 Michigan Community
Revitalization Program Funding

Local investment: \$750,000 Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act
Tax Abatement