



Richter Brewery, Escanaba



Swanee Inc. and Barry Polzin Architects for the rehabilitation of the Richter Brewery, Escanaba

Matt and Beth Sviland bought the Richter Brewery in 2008 intent on preserving an anchor building at the westernmost entrance to downtown Escanaba. Using Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Brownfield Tax Credits, New Market Tax Credits, and Urban Development Action Grants, they rehabilitated the building and converted the vast open brewery space into fifteen loft apartments. The most transformative exterior change was the removal of baby blue cement-like coating from the storefronts.

The Richter Brewery rehabilitation represents a direct investment of \$4 million. As Escanaba City Manager James O’Toole told Second Wave media, “The rehabilitation and repurposing of this property is a huge step forward in Escanaba and Escanaba’s downtown because it has taken an obsolete building and repurposed it for a better use, which will be a benefit not only to downtown but to all of Escanaba.”