

Originate & EPAcenter

Fifty-four years ago, the 5-garage-door warehouse was constructed for Citizen Auto Stage Company as a freight loading dock.

“Trucks from Mexico brought goods in and then the wares were transferred across the floor to another truck heading out to somewhere in the U.S.,” Originate’s Natasha Winnik explained.

The owner of Citizen Auto Stage told her he “designed and built the building to be like a bunker.

“It is a very solid building - triple wythe brick with concrete hollow beams for the roof and large steel beams.”



Winnik and EPAcenter’s Josephine Thomason purchased it from the state last summer with the goal to “create a community resource center and demonstration site for building with ecologically sound materials and a demonstration site for the use of alternative technologies.”

They chose the district location to be a part of Downtown’s revitalization and for the proximity to “all the activities that are happening now and in the future.

“Josephine and I feel it is extremely important to be surrounded by the energy that exists within the artistic community within the warehouse district.”

Originate and EPAcenter is located at 526 N. 9th Ave., www.Originatenbm.com, www.EPAcenter.org.

— Jamie Manser