

WOODEN IT BE LOVELY

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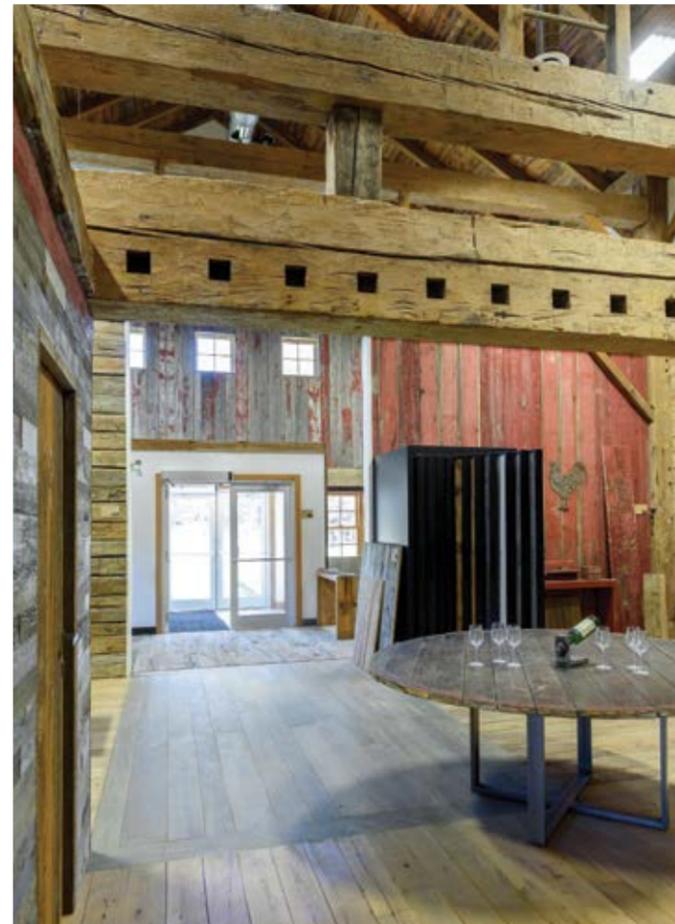


Atmosphère & Bois's Reclaimed Division Manager Arnaud Mockel, Commercial Supervisor Margaux Auboyneau and Sales Associate JD Wienecke.

THE COMPANY: If you miss **Atmosphère & Bois's** location on Mitch Owens Road and accidentally drive past, it's only because you stared too long at the beautifully weathered planks that sheath its structure. Housed in a century-old barn that was numbered and dismantled in southern Ontario before being reconstructed in Manotick Station, the company specializes in reclaimed wood salvaged in Canada and Europe. Inside, under the biggest, thickest beam imaginable – just how big was that tree? – that spans the width of the building, the interior is divided into a showroom filled with furniture and accessories for sale, as well as specimens of salvaged boards, beams and timbers for purchase. Call it a dream room, because this is where you'll most likely draw your inspiration. To the other side is the warehouse, where clients select individual boards in a variety of woods, including live-edge, distressed boxcar flooring, beams or thick slabs of oak, perfect for a rustic mantel.

WHY YOU WOULD: If you're already reusing and recycling, you'll love this: using salvage boards gives a second life to the wood. "You didn't cut down a tree to make lumber, you're using lumber from a tree that was cut down 100 years ago,"

Reclaimed Division Manager Arnaud Mockel says. This is in addition to the product's other characteristics, such as the fact it won't shrink or expand because, as Mockel points out, it's been outside weathering the elements for a century. And did we mention character that comes from living history? That weathered board came from a barn that ensured a farm family's survival by sheltering livestock or harvest. Those nail holes in the boxcar flooring conjure up images of the deep forests and endless steppes of Europe. And broad beams raise your imagination to a sky once punctured by branches from the tree that produced it.



GET ON BOARD: While contractors, architects and designers use Atmosphère & Bois's reclaimed wood in stores, restaurants and other commercial applications, the do-it-yourselfer, hobbyist or crafter is welcome to peruse the selection for a single board. There is no minimum purchase. But because the store's focus is on supply, they will recommend contractors for your larger project, say, if you're planning an accent wall in barn-red cladding.

NOT LIMITED: The only limit to how reclaimed wood can be used is your imagination, Mockel says, and points out the vignettes set up in the showroom. Because it's an organic material, the wood suits any style of décor and can be used in any number of creative ways – as flooring, wall cladding, furniture, accessories, accent pieces and artwork.

GET THERE:
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