

Buffalo Rising

Construction Watch: Allentown Lofts

June 18, 2009 9:11 AM

Work continues at the Allentown Lofts conversion project on Virginia Street between Elmwood and Delaware avenues. Ten live-work units are planned—eight units will be single-level and two will be duplexes. The one and two-bedroom units will average 2,000 sq.ft. and include approximately 1,300 sq.ft. of open and flexible live/work space. Live-work units provide work and housing space, ideal for the needs of small businesses and artists. Rent will start at \$1,400/month. With the building located in the NYS Empire Zone, tenants can benefit from operating their business from home.

Kissling Interests purchased the 22,000 sq.ft., four-story Allentown property in October 2006. The circa-1924 building at one time housed the National Casket Company.

Exterior improvements include a new steel and glass entryway on the east elevation, replacement of existing windows with aluminum-clad wood windows, and new and larger window openings in the basement. A rooftop terrace and enclosed parking will be available. Silvestri Architects PC is the architect and Peyton Barlow is overseeing construction.

Kissling purchased its first local building in May 1999 and has been buying historic apartment buildings primarily located on or near Delaware Avenue since. The firm now has twenty residential properties with nearly 1,000 units in Buffalo, owns three commercial buildings, and has a similar work/live project planned in North Tonawanda. The company has been in the real estate business since its inception, purchasing and operating property in and around Manhattan for over 130 years.

Allentown Lofts will be open during the Downtown Housing Tour on Saturday June 27th from noon until 3 pm.

Get Connected: Kissling, 716.853.2787