

Boott Mill apartments are nearly full

Project is latest success of downtown real-estate boom

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LOWELL — Was it possible, a few years ago, to imagine residents living a tony life in downtown Lowell? The redevelopment of the East Mill building at the historic Boott complex, and the influx of residents flocking to claim its units, has proven that day has come. Even with rents ranging from \$600 to \$1,900 per month, Winn Development (which owns the building and spearheaded its redevelopment) has managed to lease 98 percent of the 154 apartments in the four months since any apartment became available. "I think this is part of a broad

trend of folks becoming enamored with moving back to an urban environment," said **Chris Starr**, senior vice president at Boston-based Winn.

Starr emphasized that Winn was "just a catalyst" in the redevelopment, and that "ventures like this don't come together without broad partnership efforts."

He cited the city of Lowell, MassHousing, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, the Massachusetts Historic Commission, the Lowell Development and Financial Corp., the National Park Service and Enterprise Bank and Trust as all contributing to the pro-

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A look at the central living area of an apartment in the East Mill of the Boott Mill complex, just off downtown Lowell. Winn Development of Boston redeveloped the space to include 154 one- and two-bedroom apartments, nearly all of which have been claimed. SUN/MEGHAN JONES

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