Finished Basements Add Living Space and Resale Value, Data Shows

July 01, 2026

QUINCY, MA - July 01, 2026 -
South Shore Basement Finishing Company points Holbrook homeowners to basement remodeling as an alternative to moving.

Finishing a basement remains one of the more reliable ways for a household to add living space, and recent industry data shows the work recovers most of its cost at resale. South Shore Basement Finishing Company, a Quincy, Massachusetts contractor that serves Holbrook, points to those findings as a reason more homeowners are converting unfinished basements rather than moving or building additions. The 2025 Cost vs. Value Report from Zonda put the national return on a mid-range basement remodel at about 71 percent of its cost.

Now in its 38th year, the report found that basement remodels return a similar share of their cost across regions of the country, unlike many projects whose payback swings widely by location. Industry analyses of the same data point to the features that most affect that return ? among them code-compliant egress windows, proper permits, and moisture control ? the same technical requirements that govern basement work in Holbrook. South Shore Basement Finishing Company says addressing those items is what separates a

finished basement that holds its value from one that does not.

"A basement is often the most overlooked room in a Holbrook home, and it is usually the one with the most untapped potential," said Susan Snow, Owner of South Shore Basement Finishing Company. "Homeowners hear the resale numbers, but the part that actually protects those numbers is unglamorous ? getting the moisture, the framing, and the permits right so the space lasts. That is the work we want Holbrook homeowners to be able to count on."

Finishing a basement is also generally regarded as a lower-cost route to additional living space than building an addition or moving to a larger home. South Shore Basement Finishing Company designs basements for uses that include family rooms, home offices, guest bedrooms, home theaters, and in-law suites.

Among those requirements, an egress window tends to matter most. Appraisers and real-estate agents generally will not count a below-grade room as a legal bedroom unless it has a code-compliant escape window, which means a finished basement bedroom adds documented value only when it is built to that standard. For Holbrook homeowners, that detail often decides whether a basement bedroom or in-law suite counts toward a home's marketable living space.

For Holbrook residents, the work is part of a larger regional operation. South Shore Basement Finishing Company operates across more than two dozen communities on the South Shore from its base in Quincy, with Holbrook among the towns it serves. The company applies the same design standards and building-code requirements across that service area, regardless of project size.

The work generally follows a consultation-first sequence: a review of the existing space, recommendations on layout and materials, and a plan that accounts for permits and local building codes. From there, basement design decisions such as flooring, lighting, walls, and ceilings are finalized before installation begins. The contractor manages each project through to completion, with the stated aim of giving homeowners a single point of contact from start to finish.

"Most of the calls we get from Holbrook start with a problem ? a damp corner, a room the family has outgrown, a layout that never worked," said Snow. "People focus on the resale figure, but the real measure for us is whether the basement is still dry and still being used a year later. That is what we build toward."

Homeowners in Holbrook and across the South Shore can learn more about the company's services, or request a free estimate, by visiting https://www.southshorebasementfinishing.com or by calling 781-217-3411.

###

For more information about South Shore Basement Finishing Company, contact the company here:South Shore Basement Finishing CompanySusan Snow+17812173411info@southshorebasementfinishing.comQuincy, MA

South Shore Basement Finishing Company

South Shore Basement Finishing is a Quincy, MA-based contractor specializing in basement finishing, remodeling, renovation, waterproofing, and custom design for homeowners across Massachusetts' South Shore. Visit southshorebasementfinishing.com

Website: https://www.southshorebasementfinishing.com/

Email: info@southshorebasementfinishing.com

Phone: +17812173411