

PRESERVING PENNSYLVANIA

The Newsletter Dedicated to Preserving Pennsylvania's Historic Places

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2020



2020 PENNSYLVANIA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
AWARDS



www.preservationpa.org



2020 PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

OCTOBER 14, 2020

Online for the first time ever!



AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

Thank you to these individuals for their service on this year's judging panel:

- Claudia Albertin**
- Johnette Davies**
- David Kimmerly**
- Holly Komoncz**
- Melinda Meyer**

The Honor Award recipients are selected by Preservation Pennsylvania's Board of Directors.

Preservation Pennsylvania gratefully acknowledges our generous individual and corporate sponsors of the 2020 Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards.

(This list reflects individual and corporate support received as of the publishing date.)

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SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD

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MISSION

Preservation Pennsylvania – through creative partnerships, targeted educational and advocacy programs, advisory assistance, and special projects – assists Pennsylvania communities to protect and utilize the historic resources they want to preserve for the future.

ABOUT

Preservation Pennsylvania is the commonwealth's only statewide, private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant properties. The organization was created in 1982 as the Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania to operate a revolving fund that would assist in the acquisition and rehabilitation of historic properties. Since its incorporation, the organization has evolved and now organizes the Statewide Conference on Heritage, hosts the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards, and publishes an annual list of endangered properties in *Pennsylvania At Risk* in addition to managing a revolving fund and intervention fund. Preservation Pennsylvania also participates in educational programs and advocacy initiatives, conducts special projects, and offers on-site assistance to people throughout the commonwealth.

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Cover: *MuseumLab's Grable Gallery, "OverView" art installation by FreelandBuck. Photo courtesy of Eric Staudenmaier.*

Inside Cover: *View of the completed Penn Street Bridge at dusk. Photo courtesy of Gannett Fleming, Inc.*



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



What has not changed is the great work that has been accomplished by our award recipients. This is a celebration of people and projects that are an inspiration to all of us.

The 2020 Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards look a little different this year as we take them virtual for the first time. We're all learning how to adapt to our changing world and the need for more technology. What has not changed is the great work that has been accomplished by our award recipients. This is a celebration of people and projects that are an inspiration to all of us.

Our 24 awards represent 11 counties, with Northampton and Allegheny counties tied with five awards each. The 2020 honorees include all types of projects led by individuals, nonprofits, municipalities and developers using private funds, grant dollars, and historic tax credits.

This year has been a challenge for all of us, but Preservation Pennsylvania has been working harder than ever to engage with new audiences and tell new stories. We've discovered that Zoom meetings allow us to reach all over the state quickly. We can't wait to visit these places in person again in the future, but in the meantime, we are making it work in new ways.

Connecting with Brenda Barrett, this year's F. Otto Haas recipient, via Zoom reminded me that I don't see her often enough, and as we talked, I shared some memories of her perseverance and mad skills of negotiation that inspired me when I was just starting in preservation. She is so very deserving of this honor, and I welcome her to the ranks of the many amazing and talented Haas honorees.

Until we can meet again in person, I wish you the best as you carry on your preservation work. In the meantime, enjoy reading these inspiring stories – a reminder that so often successful preservation is all about perseverance and taking the long view.

Mindy G. Crawford, Executive Director

WE CONGRATULATE THE 2020 RECIPIENTS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS!

— F. OTTO HAAS AWARD —
for outstanding individual achievements
in historic preservation

BRENDA BARRETT
(DAUPHIN COUNTY)

HONOR AWARDS

— HENRY A. JORDAN AWARD —
for outstanding historic preservation
efforts at the local level

**HISTORIC GETTYSBURG
ADAMS COUNTY BARN
PRESERVATION PROJECT**
(ADAMS COUNTY)

— CHAIRMAN'S AWARD —
for demonstrated leadership in
historic preservation

JOHN B. HAINES IV
(MONTGOMERY COUNTY)



SPECIAL FOCUS AWARDS

— RALPH MODJESKI AWARD —
for excellence in transportation design,
preservation and archaeology

**PENN STREET BRIDGE
REHABILITATION**
(BERKS COUNTY)

— PRESERVATION PLANNING —

**ALLEGHENY COMMONS
NORTHEAST FOUNTAIN**
(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

**JAMES BUCHANAN'S
WHEATLAND**
(LANCASTER COUNTY)

— PUBLIC IMPACT —
for excellence in using a historic building
as a catalyst to enrich a community

**CALVARY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

**THIRD STREET ALLIANCE FOR
WOMEN & CHILDREN**
(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARDS – RESIDENTIAL/ SMALL PROJECT REHABILITATION

116 EAST MAIN STREET, BATH
(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

THE CATHARINE BARGE TAVERN
(LANCASTER COUNTY)

THE ELECTRIC SHOP
(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HENRY F. SCHELL HOUSE
(SOMERSET COUNTY)

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARDS – REHABILITATION

BRINKER LOFTS
(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

DISTRIKT HOTEL
(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HISTORIC LAZARETTO
(DELAWARE COUNTY)

**MUSEUMLAB, CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH**
(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

**RICHARDS MEDICAL
RESEARCH LABORATORIES**
(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

SIMON SILK MILL
(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARDS – RESTORATION

**CENTRE COUNTY SOLDIERS &
SAILORS MEMORIAL & CURTIN
MONUMENT**
(CENTRE COUNTY)

**GEORGE SPANGLER
FARM & FIELD HOSPITAL**
(ADAMS COUNTY)

INITIATIVE AWARDS

— COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT —

**GOVERNOR WOLF
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

— EDUCATION —

**EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY,
AL CAPONE'S CELL**
(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

— STEWARDSHIP —

THE CIVIC CLUB (OVERLOOK)
(DAUPHIN COUNTY)

— SUSTAINABILITY IN HISTORIC
PRESERVATION —

**PHIPPS CONSERVATORY
EXHIBIT STAGING CENTER**
(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)



F. OTTO HAAS AWARD

for outstanding individual achievements in historic preservation

HONOR AWARD



BRENDA BARRETT

(DAUPHIN COUNTY)



Brenda Barrett has dedicated 40+ years to the field of historic preservation, conservation, and cultural resources.

Brenda Barrett has dedicated 40+ years to the field of historic preservation, conservation, and cultural resources. She is a nationally recognized leader in historic preservation, heritage, and landscape conservation. Her belief that preserving the tangible in our history helps to create a healthy society is at the core of her determination.

With the creation of the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Act in 1978, Brenda was responsible for the creation of the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in 1979, and the subsequent formation of the Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP) within the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Her leadership skills and knowledge of state and federal laws, particularly Section 106, strengthened the BHP's role on a statewide level. During her tenure at the BHP, she was instrumental in the creation of Pennsylvania's Heritage Areas.

After 22 years at the BHP, Brenda became the National Coordinator for Heritage Areas at the National Park Service in 2001. It was under her guidance that National Heritage Areas were able to take a multi-jurisdictional approach that created partnerships with different disciplines across local, regional and state boundaries.

Brenda returned to the Commonwealth in 2007 as Director of Recreation and Conservation at the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). During her tenure, she was instrumental in the creation of the Conservation Landscape Initiative.

Since her retirement in 2011, she has remained active in conservation and cultural resources as the editor of the Living Landscape Observer, a website that offers commentary and information on the emerging field of large landscape conservation. Brenda is also a member of the US ICOMOS executive committee.

Brenda is a graduate of the University of Colorado Boulder in Anthropology (1971). She received her Master of Science degree in Archaeology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1974) and her Doctor of Law degree from The Dickinson School of Law, Pennsylvania State University (1977). She started her preservation career as a field archaeologist at the Cahokia Site in East St. Louis, Illinois in the late 1960s. This archaeology experience brought her to Pennsbury Manor in Bucks County and led to her outstanding work in Pennsylvania and beyond.

TOP: Color photo courtesy of Daniel Stern

TOP LEFT: Brenda Barrett at a historic mill site in York County.

BOTTOM: Brenda Barrett was in attendance when Governor Thornburgh signed the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Act in 1978. She was responsible for the creation of the state's first Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO), and the subsequent formation of the Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP) within the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission.

Archival photos courtesy of Brenda Barrett



HENRY A. JORDAN AWARD

for outstanding historic preservation efforts at the local level

HONOR AWARD



HISTORIC GETTYSBURG ADAMS COUNTY BARN PRESERVATION PROJECT

(ADAMS COUNTY)



HGAC, founded in 1975, fosters the preservation, interpretation and welfare of the historic and cultural resources of Adams County.

Historic Gettysburg Adams County's (HGAC) Barn Preservation Project is a volunteer-led grassroots program that recognizes and celebrates the importance of rural history in the county, offering education, financial assistance, research, and preservation techniques to encourage and support the preservation of historic barns.

HGAC created the Adams County Barn Registry through a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) in 2005. Currently, 356 barns are listed out of an estimated 1,500 historic barns in the 500-square-mile county. After each survey is completed, the data is entered into a database and the information, including captioned photos and maps, is provided to the barn owner. They address the unique aspects of the barn and provide recommendations for dealing with threats to the barn such as failing foundations, leaking roofs, and other structural issues.

In 2013, HGAC began providing matching grants up to \$2,500 to barn owners

to undertake essential preservation work. HGAC has provided 17 grants to barn owners totaling \$26,585 and along with matching funds represents over \$100,000 of work completed. Funding for the grants comes from HGAC fundraising activities such as the annual Barn Art Show & Sale, Civil War era Barn Dances, special film screenings, and the historic barn tours.

Another achievement of the project has been the growth in partnerships with groups including the PHMC, the Historic Barn & Farm Foundation of Pennsylvania, the National Barn Alliance, the Gettysburg Foundation, and the National Park Service, which resulted in legislation declaring 2015 "The Year of the Pennsylvania Barn."

HGAC, founded in 1975, fosters the preservation, interpretation and welfare of the historic and cultural resources of Adams County. This group clearly stands out as a leader in preservation, and their dedication to their local community demonstrates the spirit of the Henry Jordan award.

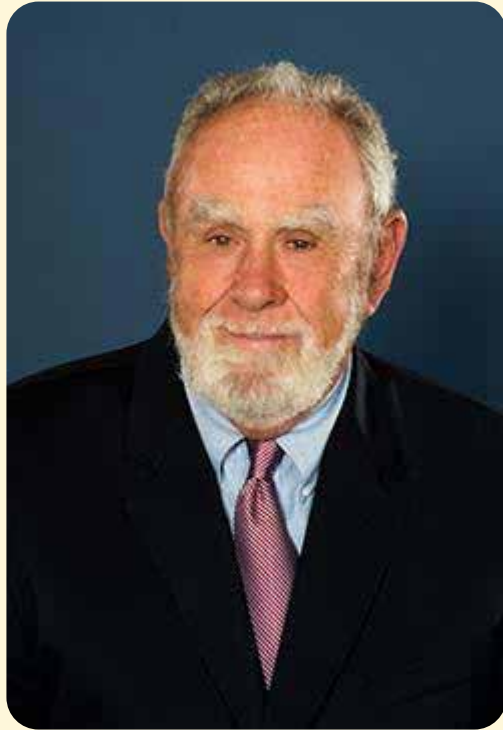
TOP: HGAC's Barn Grant Program provides matching grants to barn owners to undertake necessary maintenance, rehabilitation and preservation projects.

BOTTOM: To inventory, track, study and recognize the historic barns within Adams County, HGAC created the Adams County Barn Registry, and volunteers surveyed hundreds of barns. Photos courtesy of HGAC



CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

for demonstrated leadership in historic preservation
HONOR AWARD



JOHN B. HAINES IV

(MONTGOMERY COUNTY)

John B. Haines IV's love of history began as a boy watching his father fixing up old houses. "When he began to restore the home we lived in, I watched what he did and became a purist ... I'm a stickler for the right molding, the right hardware, right down to the right nails," said John.

In 1957, John established a small excavating company in Montgomery County. His business ran out of his family's farm, a quintessential Pennsylvania farmstead with a bank barn and two historic farmhouses. The barn housed a growing fleet of excavating equipment. The farmstead would play a pivotal role not just in his company's trajectory to become one of the nation's foremost civil engineering and construction firms, but in John's path as a preservationist.

Following in his father's footsteps, John restored his first farm in Schwenksville, then acquired the farm he currently calls home near

Pennsburg. The house was owned by Colonel Andrew Reid, an important leader in Washington's Army. Its restoration, as well as that of the other historic properties John has restored along Geryville Pike, were monumental undertakings. Today, they present a breathtaking sight for motorists and thousands of visitors who come from far and wide to experience John's other preservation passion: historic equipment and vehicles.

Situated on 24 acres of beautifully manicured grounds, the Haines Estate contains 19,000 square feet of museum space filled with the mid-Atlantic region's finest collection of trucks, vehicles and equipment as well as the restored Reid House and a 1740 tannery. In 2019, the Haines Historical Foundation was established as a nonprofit to preserve and protect the collections and historic grounds.

Situated on 24 acres of beautifully manicured grounds, the Haines Estate contains 19,000 square feet of museum space filled with the mid-Atlantic region's finest collection of trucks, vehicles and equipment as well as the restored Reid House and a 1740 tannery.

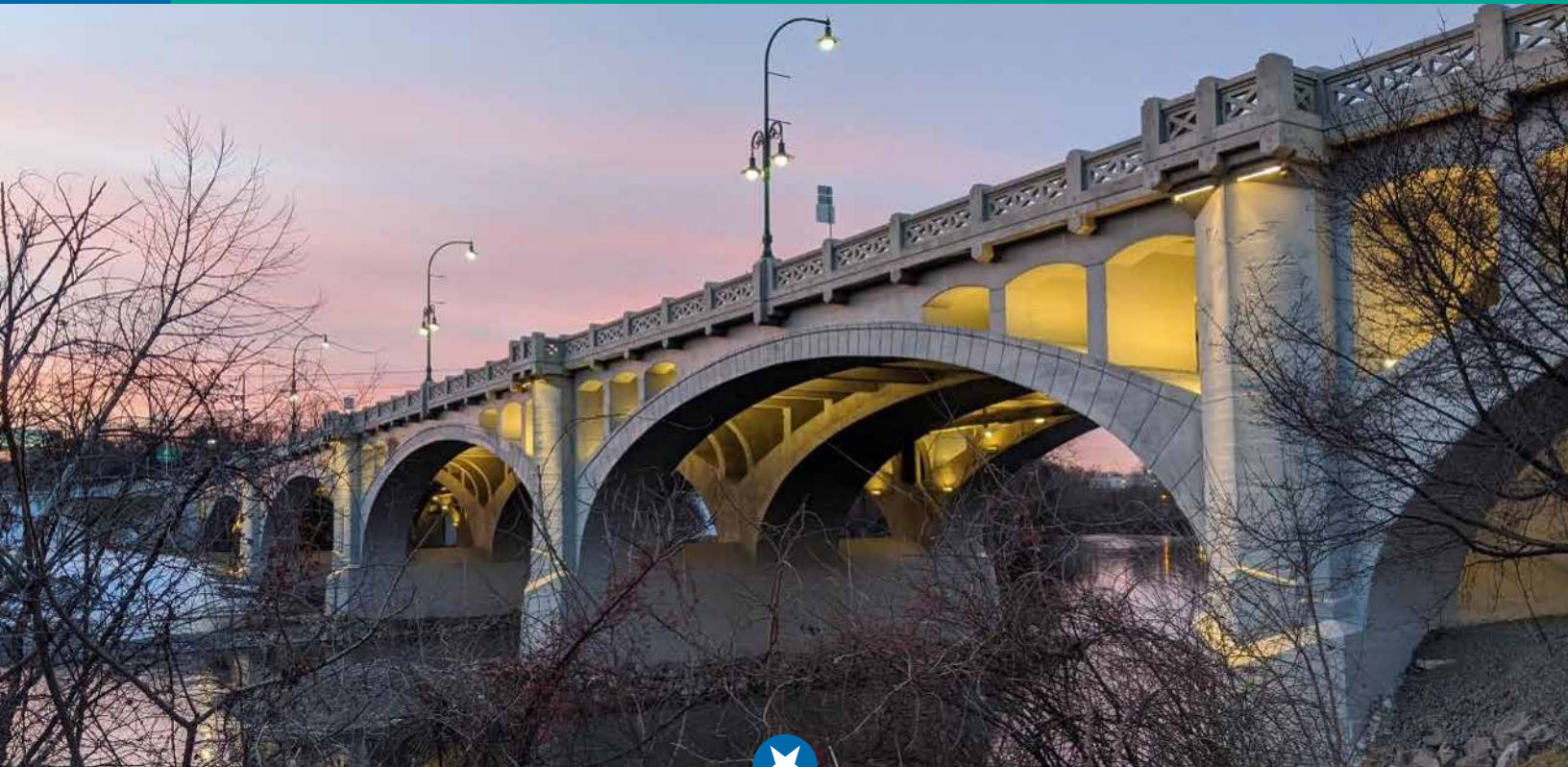
TOP: John B. Haines IV



RALPH MODJESKI AWARD

for excellence in transportation design, preservation and archaeology

SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD



PENN STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION

(BERKS COUNTY)

HONORING

PennDOT Engineering District 5 / Gannett Fleming, Inc. / J. D. Eckman, Inc

Constructed in 1913, the 14-span **Penn Street Bridge** is a “Gateway to Reading,” serving as a vital link from western Berks County, crossing the Schuylkill River, and carrying 22,000 daily commuters.

The iconic concrete arch bridge is an excellent example of the “City Beautiful Movement,” which encouraged urban planners to consider the aesthetic design of civic architecture. Open-spandrel bridges were common because of their graceful but imposing design and inherent beauty. These types of bridges were economical because less material was used to construct the bridge.

The project goal was to rehabilitate and extend the life of the more than 100-year-old bridge, ensuring that it met modern safety standards while still preserving its historic integrity.

The reconstruction of reticulated balustrades and outlooks, which had been closed in the 1950s because of deterioration, restored the bridge’s historical appearance and aesthetic appeal. A combination of precast and cast-in-place concrete elements were used to accommodate modern lighting fixtures and ensured

that the complex balustrade geometry was constructed to meet modern standards.

To showcase the open-spandrel arches and architectural detailing, new energy-efficient LED lighting was installed beneath the bridge. Lighting the inside of the arch spans emphasizes the arches through “negative space” while downlighting highlighted the pier faces — creating a dramatic visual effect at night without compromising the bridge’s historical character.

Rehabilitation of the Penn Street Bridge was completed four weeks ahead of schedule and within 2% of the original bid.

Safer for motorists and pedestrians, structurally sound, and designed to extend service life, the rehabilitated landmark offers inspiration for the continued revitalization of the Reading community.

The Reading Eagle described the new bridge as a “metaphor for what’s possible” for the city. “A few short years ago,” the newspaper noted, “the span over the Schuylkill River was a crumbling embarrassment. Now it’s an impressive gateway to the city. The next step is to make sure the rest of the city lives up to its grand entrance.”



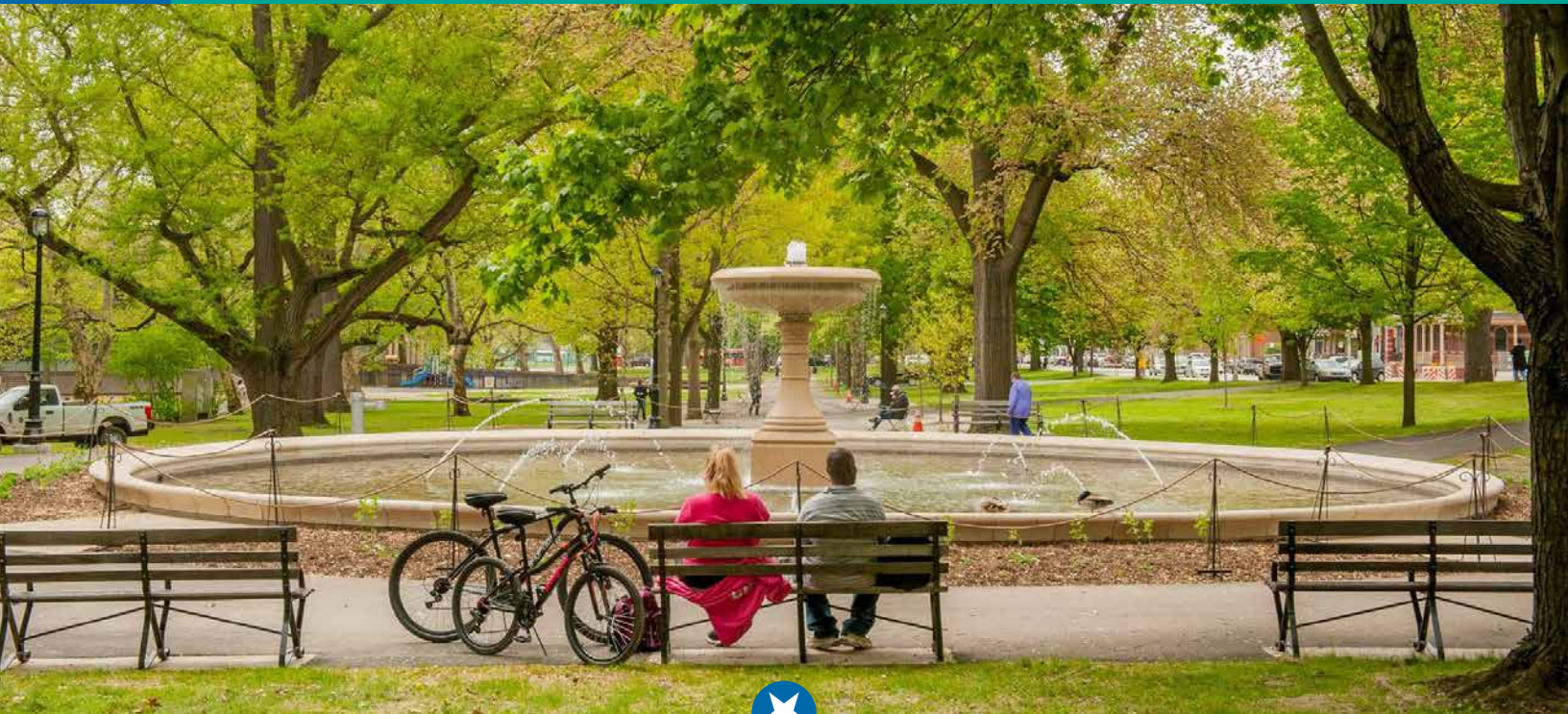
TOP: The rehabilitated Penn Street Bridge is an impressive gateway to the city. Photo courtesy of Gannett Fleming, Inc.

INSET: Ribbon cutting in December 2019 to celebrate the completion of the rehabilitated Penn Street Bridge. Photo courtesy of PennDOT Engineering District 5



PRESERVATION PLANNING

SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD



ALLEGHENY COMMONS NORTHEAST FOUNTAIN

(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HONORING

PITTSBURGH PARKS CONSERVANCY / PASHEK + MTR / GARVIN BOWARD BEITKO ENGINEERING, INC.
KEYSTONE STRUCTURAL SOLUTIONS / ALLEGHENY COMMONS INITIATIVE
NORTHSIDE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH
FRANK J. ZOTTOLA CONSTRUCTION, INC. / R.A. SMITH NATIONAL / TOWER ENGINEERING
HYDRO DRAMATICS / D.C. KERCKHOFF COMPANY

“What a delight. It seems the beating heart has returned to this corner of the Commons,” said one neighbor, referring to the reconstructed Northeast Fountain in Allegheny Commons.

Established in 1867, Allegheny Commons is Pittsburgh’s oldest park, originally designed with elaborate strolling paths, accented by fountains and monuments at key focal points. While some of the path system was streamlined in the 1930s, the Promenade still provided park visitors a lovely place to walk, socialize and rest. The park originally contained five ornamental fountains, but all were removed over time.

The Northeast Fountain, the first fountain built in the Commons, was a 50-foot circular stone basin, with a large rim of heavy cut stone. The centerpiece was a six-foot-high, six-foot-diameter Grecian urn with a plume of water that could reach 70 feet. Sixteen smaller jets around the basin were aimed at the urn. It was a focal point of the park until it was decommissioned after World War II.

The Allegheny Commons Initiative (ACI), a citizens advocacy group formed in 1999, produced the Allegheny Commons Master Plan

in 2002. Designed to serve as a guiding document for the Historic Review Commission, it outlined a prioritized work plan for this National Register listed site. From 2005-2009, the ACI restored the East Common’s central Promenade using historically based design standards but at its terminal focal point, the Northeast Fountain was missing.

The ACI enlisted the help of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy to complete the reconstruction of the Northeast Fountain. The project closely followed the 1935 drawings of the park that had simplified the Victorian design. Completed in 2019, the fountain matched the original in size and scale although the water jets were reduced for energy savings. The park is the front yard for many of Pittsburgh’s most socioeconomically and racially diverse neighborhoods, and it has become a source of pride and social interactions for all.

The dedication of a concerned citizens group combined with the work of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy is a testament to what can be accomplished with a good plan and perseverance.

TOP: The restored fountain provides a quiet place for many in the middle of a busy city. Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy



PRESERVATION PLANNING

SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD



JAMES BUCHANAN'S WHEATLAND

(LANCASTER COUNTY)

HONORING

HERITAGE DESIGN COLLABORATIVE / WILLIAM COOK ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING
BENCHMARK CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. / GSM ROOFING / THE WITMER GROUP
AMMON STOLTZFUS CONSTRUCTION / MARCUS MOORE RESTORATION

James Buchanan, 15th president of the United States, purchased a Federal-style house and its 22 acres of land near Lancaster in 1848. Known as Wheatland, today the house operates as a historic house museum that shares important stories about Antebellum and Civil War America and the American political process.

Buchanan, a gifted debater and well versed in the law, was elected five times to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite three prior unsuccessful bids for the presidency, his reputation for the ability to compromise made him an acceptable Democratic candidate in 1856, with the hope that he would be able to avoid war.

Wheatland became the symbol of his “front porch” campaign, a low-key effort for which candidates remain close to home. He served as president from 1857 to 1861, directly prior to the American Civil War. He returned to Wheatland and died there in 1868.

The last private owners of Wheatland bequeathed one-half of the property to the Lancaster County Historical Society, and in 1936, the Junior League of Lancaster purchased the remainder of the property. It is now owned and operated by LancasterHistory (formerly known as the Lancaster County Historical Society).

Due to the abundance of period illustrations during Buchanan’s residency, especially during the campaigns he ran from his home, and the attention paid to that documentation in the several restoration campaigns, Wheatland is arguably the most faithful representation of its period of significance of any presidential residence or site.

LancasterHistory has been an excellent steward, conducting regular assessments and carefully guiding preservation efforts to maintain the building. A CAP (Collections Assessment for Preservation) in 2006 and a Preservation Plan in 2015 identified the slate roof as a high priority item. After assessing the existing conditions, the design team decided that it would be more cost-effective and greatly increase the longevity of the new slate roof to expand the project scope to include rebuilding and repointing the masonry chimneys and gable walls that were accessible only from the roof; replacing all metal flashing and copings; replacing all chimney caps; replacing and rerouting the lightning protection cabling; installing roof ventilation; and restoring and painting the millwork and windows of the dormers.

LancasterHistory demonstrates that careful planning and patience are the keys to the care and preservation of this National Historic Landmark.

LEFT: James Buchanan's Wheatland – Aerial view of the completed project. RIGHT: Detail of restored dormer on Wheatland. Photos courtesy of LancasterHistory



CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING

**FEMENELLA & ASSOCIATES, INC. / WALDEN'S MASONRY & PLASTERING
THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION / OLIVE WHITEHEAD**

From 1905-1907, New York architects Brown, Gillespie and Carrell oversaw construction of the granite Calvary United Methodist Church in the Cedar Park neighborhood of Philadelphia. The 110-foot tower rising from the structure and the church's location at the junction of a five-point crossing are quite breathtaking.

The prominent location combined with the morning or afternoon sun draw the eye of any passerby to the multi-panel arched pair of Louis Comfort Tiffany-designed windows, Ascension facing Baltimore Avenue and its companion, Resurrection, on 48th Street.

Using Keystone Historic Preservation Grant funds and a private bequest, the Resurrection window was removed, repaired, conserved and reinstalled. Its companion, Ascension, has been repaired and stabilized until future funding can be secured. These are the two largest signed Tiffany windows in the Delaware River Valley.

The care and preservation of the Tiffany windows only tells a portion of the story of Calvary UMC. A separate nonprofit organization created by the congregation in 2000, the Calvary Center for Culture and Community (CCCC), provides space for and partners with a wide array of community organizations and religious congregations in service to the surrounding neighborhoods and beyond. It shines like a beacon of hope and faith, providing a home to four faith congregations, a professional community theater, a meeting place for people in recovery, the University City Historical Society, and Cedar Park Neighbors.

Preservation of the historic building leads to preservation of the community. As the spread of gentrification follows up from the Center

City, CCCC offers Calvary UMC as a space for cultivating and maintaining community ties across generations, ethnic and social groups, and labels of identity.

In December 2019, a worship service united the West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship, Calvary UMC, Kol Tzedek Reconstructionist Synagogue, and other faith communities in recognizing the convergence of the faith calendars and the power of showing a strong light in the darkness.

The granite stones of Calvary UMC and the light of its windows are more than symbols or structures. They support the community's preservation of human dignity and structural integrity, and provide a firm foundation for future generations.



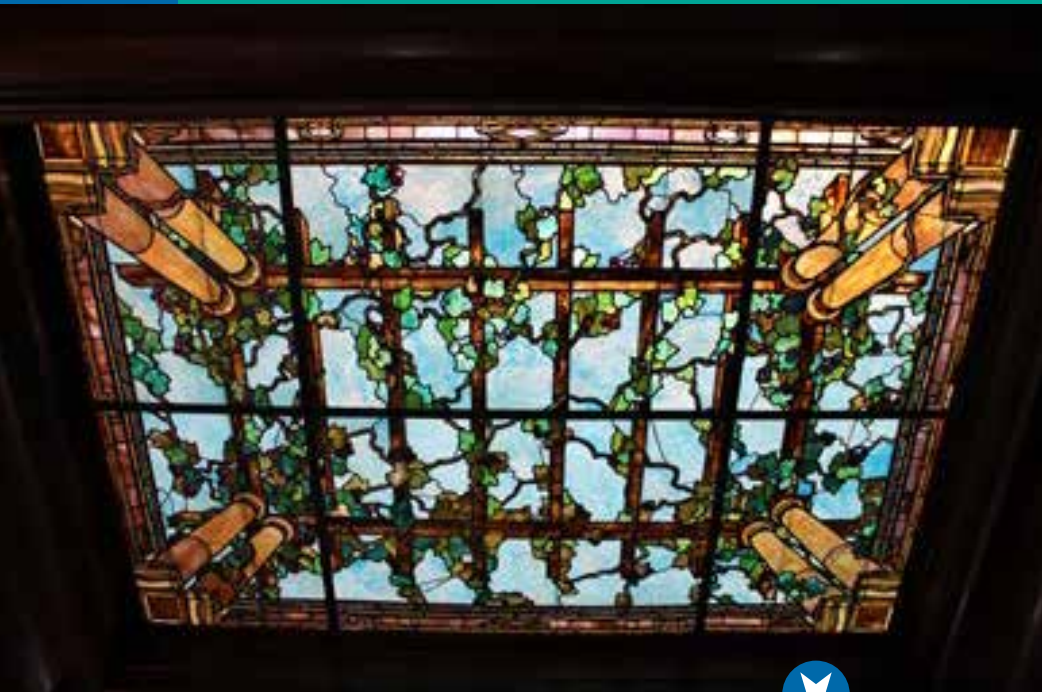
TOP: "Resurrected Christ" by Louis Comfort Tiffany, 1906. Photo courtesy of William Marr

INSET: Three Tambor girl jam provide music and inspiration at one of the many events at Calvary United Methodist Church. Photo courtesy of Calvary UMC



PUBLIC IMPACT

SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD – SPONSORED BY GANNETT FLEMING



THIRD STREET ALLIANCE FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING

ECLECTIC ARCHITECTURE / D'HUY ENGINEERING, INC.
JERSEY ART STAINED GLASS STUDIO / SIMPLY BUILDING, INC.

Third Street Alliance for Women & Children, housed in the Simon Mansion (1902) and the adjoining Bixler Ward House (1923) in Easton, is a treasure to those it serves. With a mission to inspire and equip women, children and families to live, learn and thrive, it provides the community with 21st-century STEM education and broad supportive services for women and children who need shelter.

The Simon mansion was built for Herman and Elizabeth Simon, owners of the R & H Simon Silk Manufacturing complex. (The mill complex will be featured in our next e-news.) The Bixler Mansion was built for Grace Simon Bixler Ward (Elizabeth Simon's daughter).

In 1929, the properties were sold to the YWCA, the beginning of the "Mansion with a Mission" effort that grew into the Third Street Alliance.

A 2016 building assessment identified several issues that needed to be addressed. The first task was the reconstruction and reopening of the front entry of the Bixler House, complete structural reinforcement, and exterior masonry restoration.

The Simon Mansion is filled with stained glass windows; the most impressive of these is the large laylight assembly hovering above the main stair hall depicting columns supporting a vine-covered trellis by Nicola D'Ascenzo of Philadelphia.

Originally designed to transmit daylight from a skylight above to the grand stair hall below, the natural light was cut off when a new floor was added. Artificial fluorescent lighting was installed between the new floor and the laylight to mimic the original effect and illuminate the stained glass.

Substantial issues with the laylight assembly identified that the wood-framed support structure had been compromised due to floor alterations and the lead came matrix was failing.

A complicated task was to maintain the previously added playroom for children above the priceless laylight. The floor structure above was rebuilt, framing was reinforced, cooler LED lighting was introduced, and the laylight panels were restored and reset.

While providing the residents with a safe and nurturing environment, Third Street Alliance shares the spectacular and historically significant areas of the building with the public. Their commitment to serving the community and sharing their home shines as proof that beauty and history are things that everyone needs.

LEFT: Laylight restoration completed, this beautiful building provides a safe place for women and children, truly a "Mansion with a Mission."
RIGHT: Music class in session, one of the many programs and services offered by Third Street Alliance. Photos courtesy of Third Street Alliance for Women & Children



RESIDENTIAL/ SMALL PROJECT REHABILITATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



116 EAST MAIN STREET, BATH

(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING ALLEN AND JENNIFER GEORGE, OWNERS

Allen and Jennifer George moved out of the suburbs and onto East Main Street, Bath, to establish their home, start a business, and raise a family. Their family urged them to reconsider. They chose an 1850 brick house attached to an old hardware store with a large original storefront. But the building was in disrepair. Thick green paint covered the brick, and plywood covered the hole where a store window had once been. The building had been owned by a doctor, became a jewelry shop, and then a hardware store.

The Georges cleaned the brick façade to its original red, restored and painted trim, and installed in the bay window wooden windows with curved tops matching the originals. Inside, they restored the etched glass on the entry doors, the fireplace in the dining room, and missing hardware throughout. The hardware

store became Daily Grind with an exposed brick wall and glowing pine floors.

This past year, Daily Grind, their coffee and sandwich shop, was awarded “one of the top 10 coffee shops in the Lehigh Valley,” “one of the top ten places to grab a burger,” and “#1 place to visit in Bath” by Lehigh Valley Live. Since the Georges have done most of the restoration work themselves, they have been an inspiration to other homeowners rehabilitating their buildings. The Georges were among the first families in the Bath Historic District to do an accurate restoration.

Because of the Georges, others have chosen to rehabilitate rather than remodel. In addition, pride in Historic Bath architecture and respect for the business community in Bath have both grown.

LEFT: Allen and Jennifer George, owners, offering the best brew in Bath. RIGHT: The fireplace in the dining room has a slate mantel and surrounds and was converted to a working gas fireplace.



THE CATHARINE BARGE TAVERN

(LANCASTER COUNTY)

HONORING

BETH AND VERNON GUNNION, OWNERS / MUSEUM QUALITY BUILDING RESTORATION
MATTHEW J. MOSCA – HISTORIC PAINT FINISHES CONSULTANT

Two words that come to mind in the rehabilitation of The Catharine Barge Tavern are perseverance and creativity. The two-story central chimney log house and tavern was built c. 1787 by innkeeper Catharine Barge after the death of her husband, George. She operated the tavern until her death in 1807. Changes over the years included covering the logs and replacing the original windows. Only the subtle asymmetrical placement of the door and windows on the facade gave a clue of what might be hidden beneath the cement asbestos shingles.

When retired schoolteacher Beth Gunnion purchased the property located in the Strasburg Historic District, she spent the first two years removing asbestos siding, wallpaper, carpet, linoleum, acoustical tiles, and later layers of plaster. Every day brought new discoveries, some very exciting and some pretty discouraging. Additional baseboard and chair rail moldings were found in every room, and clear evidence was found for the size, configuration and placement of the walk-

in fireplace and original staircase. Early painted decorations were discovered on the walls of most rooms.

Completed in two phases, the first was to restore the original structure as faithfully as possible, while preserving all salvageable material. From start to finish, this phase of the project took seven years. During that time, in addition to completing the project, Beth weathered major health issues and

got married! Vernon, her new husband, brought to the marriage a love for Beth, for antiques, for old houses, and one thing Beth never dreamed she would have, a collection suitable to furnish the masterpiece she had created. Having achieved the first goal, the second phase reconstructed the missing 1 ½-story ell, giving them the space they needed to enjoy the fruits of their labor despite health and mobility issues. They have created a comfortable home while faithfully preserving its historic integrity.



TOP: Beth and Vernon Gunnion have returned the former log tavern and house to its former historic appearance while creating a comfortable home for themselves.

INSET: West gable showing new facing on sill log, replacement corner post, and windowsill level restored to original height on the Catharine Barge Tavern. Photos courtesy of Tom and Chris Lainhoff



RESIDENTIAL/ SMALL PROJECT REHABILITATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



THE ELECTRIC SHOP

(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HONORING

GREGORY KOBULNICKY, OWNER / STUDIO FOR SPATIAL PRACTICE
SUHRIE ENGINEERING LLC / OPLINGER RENOVATIONS

The small, rear-alley structure at 908 Beech Avenue in Pittsburgh was on the brink of collapse. Known as the Electric Shop, it is one of several rear-parcel buildings located in Pittsburgh's historic Allegheny West Neighborhood. Alley shops often served as laundries, carriage shops, trades, and storage sheds at the turn of the 19th century. Many have been lost to the need for on-site parking.

William and Margaret Price purchased the property in 1895 and built the two-story brick building for electrical contractors William and his son, George. The 1906 Sanborn maps note the building as "electric shop."

When the property was purchased in 2017, vines covered the brick, it had been damaged by fire and the roof had collapsed into the four walls. Structurally unsound from exposure to the

elements, the project team needed to secure a stabilization permit, and temporary bracing was added to the interior and exterior walls. Together, the owner, designer and engineer were determined to maintain the historic integrity of the building. They were able to restore the exterior brick and mortar, as well as the original double-hung windows. With no original interior walls intact, it was fully remodeled and brought into compliance with current building and energy codes.

The Electric Shop is a cozy and charming rental, within easy walking distance to downtown Pittsburgh. It is a valuable neighborhood resource and an important part of Allegheny West's history of the back-alley services once located there. There are many urban areas with abandoned structures, and this project shows the power of vision and creative reuse.

LEFT: The Electric Shop converted a former alley business into a comfortable apartment. RIGHT: The second floor of The Electric Shop features a cozy light-filled bedroom. Photos courtesy of Studio for Spatial Practice



RESIDENTIAL/ SMALL PROJECT REHABILITATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



HENRY F. SCHELL HOUSE

(SOMERSET COUNTY)

HONORING

LANDMARKS SGA, LLC / TERRY A. NECCIAI, RA, HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSULTING

When Somerset Inc. (the Main Street Program) was formed in late 1993, the newly elected chair was G. Henry Cook, President and CEO of the Somerset Trust Company, Somerset’s main local bank. The bank has not only grown over the years, but their commitment to historic preservation is a central focus. The 1872 Henry F. Schell House, an important building on Main Street and the gateway into the Uptown Somerset Historic District, operated as a nursing home for many years.

In 1993, the home erected a large building behind the historic house, quadrupling the size of the facility. When the nursing home ceased operations in 2010, Somerset Trust stepped in to occupy the larger rear structure as their operations center. With no obvious use identified for the 1872 Schell house, Somerset Bank recognized its importance on Main Street and began rehabilitation, using federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits.

Rehabilitation was challenging because of the many inappropriate modifications made over the years. Porches had been altered, the brick had been sandblasted and painted, and the interior room configuration had created bedrooms, bathrooms and hallways for nursing home use. Gradually, the history of the house was revealed. The porch was restored, parquet floors were uncovered, and original stairs and railings and a few 1872 doors with original faux-grained finishes were discovered in the attic.

The rehabilitated Henry F. Schell House, now used as bank offices, was christened the “G. Henry Cook Enrichment Center” in honor of Mr. Cook’s commitment to Somerset Inc. and the historic district. This \$1.2 million project has increased the interest in and value placed on historic buildings in the historic district. It has also reinforced Somerset Trust’s longtime vision for caring deeply about the history, community values, and reinvestment in the downtown area.

LEFT: The Henry F. Schell House façade after rehabilitation. RIGHT: The rehabilitated west parlor of the Henry F. Schell House. Photos courtesy of the G. Henry Cook Enrichment Center



REHABILITATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD – SPONSORED BY CORNERSTONE CONSULTING



BRINKER LOFTS

(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING

BETHLEHEM-ADAMS, LP / HEMMLER + CAMAYD ARCHITECTS
CORNERSTONE CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTURAL INC.
KEAST & HOOD STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS / POWERS & COMPANY, INC.
JEFFERSON-WERNER, LLC / ONDRA-HUYETT ASSOCIATES, INC.

In 1893, Adam Brinker founded The Lehigh Valley Cold Storage Company in Bethlehem. The company produced 40 tons of ice daily, and the storage building could store the ice and 60,000 cases of eggs. It remained a cold storage facility until the 1950s.

Designed in the Romanesque Revival style, the storage building is a five-story structure inside with the appearance of a three-story structure outside. The original architect wanted the building to blend into the heavily residential neighborhood.

Reuse of a windowless building into 30 apartments while respecting the historic appearance and obtaining historic tax credits presented a challenge. The “windows” in this building are recessed blind openings wherein the “window” portion is set back one full brick wythe and appears to accommodate a window. While



at first glance it appears the brick was a later infill of a prior window opening, it is not. Removing the brick, or opening the “window” and installing functioning windows was not an option and would not meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards.

The solution lay on the inside. The elevations along 4th and Adams Streets were left intact. The units were designed perpendicular to 4th Street with 67 new windows facing east into a courtyard.

The ground floor offers retail space, and the courtyard hosts a cafe and restaurant that is open to the public. Much of the industrial charm was retained, including original wooden beams and rustic brick walls. Brinker Lofts is simply a really “cool” place to live.

TOP: Brinker Lofts offers a “cool” new place to live after converting this former ice storage facility into 30 apartments. INSET: Window installation at Brinker Lofts. Photos courtesy of Brinker Lofts



REHABILITATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



DISTRIKT HOTEL

(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HONORING

**GREENWAY HOLDINGS, OWNER / STRADA ARCHITECTURE, LLC
CONTINENTAL BUILDING COMPANY / ALLEN & SHARIFF ENGINEERING, LLC
ELK AIR CONDITIONING, INC. / PRECISION ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.
RYCO INC / SCHNEIDER ENGINEERING**

In the heart of Pittsburgh's downtown center, the Distrikt Hotel was once a residence for young women, owned by the Salvation Army. Designed by architect Thomas Pringle, it was constructed in 1924 with a large 1930 addition. The Gothic Revival style building features limestone blocks, stained-glass windows, ornate vaulted beams, and hardwood accents.

Originally a charitable social service institution, it provided vital services to the poor, marginalized and underserved members of the community. The section known as the Evangeline Residence was unique to the Salvation Army because it provided a safe, clean, comprehensive living facility for professional women, rather than just women in need. Named after the first female General, Evangeline Booth, it consisted of 229 sleeping rooms and a dining room that was operated exclusively for the residents of the building and the officers of the Salvation Army. The building also featured a lounge, auditorium, swimming pool, basketball court, theater, and chapel.

The Salvation Army sold the building in 2004 and relocated its administrative center. Five years later, the lovely building was transformed into the Distrikt Hotel Pittsburgh. What was once the 800-seat, two-story chapel and stage located in the original 1924 tower is now an expansive lobby for the hotel. The former gymnasium has been converted into a restaurant and makes use of the running track as a mezzanine that connects the entry to street level. The original scoreboard from the gymnasium is displayed in the fitness center on the lower level.

The greatest challenge of the rehabilitation was uniting the two buildings. The solution was the addition of new elevators and stairs at the center as a connecting bridge. Today, the Distrikt Hotel offers coveted views of downtown and the Monongahela River, providing 185 rooms and fine dining with architectural details that are a reminder of its history of service as a charitable organization.

*LEFT: The Distrikt Hotel façade with the seamless transition of the two buildings accomplished with a connector.
RIGHT: The original 800-seat chapel has been transformed into The Distrikt Hotel lobby.
Photos courtesy of Strada Architecture, LLC*



HISTORIC LAZARETTO

(DELAWARE COUNTY)

HONORING

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS / VITETTA ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS
HERBERT E. MACCOMBIE, JR., PE CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS, INC.
MACINTOSH ENGINEERING / DEDC ENGINEERING

Built between 1799 and 1891, this impressive Georgian-style brick building served as Philadelphia's second quarantine station as the city managed the yellow fever epidemic that killed 5 percent of the population in 1793 and many more over the next several years.

Constructed along the Delaware River, each vessel scheduled to deliver goods or passengers to Philadelphia was required to stop so the passengers could be examined for yellow fever and other illnesses. Anyone found with symptoms was quarantined until they either recovered or passed away. The building continued to serve as the city's quarantine station for nearly 100 years.

In 1895, the building was sold and transformed into a leisure and recreation center for the Athletic Club of Philadelphia. In 1923, it became the Essington School of Flying and served that function until it was sold in 2000.

The Lazaretto was added to Preservation Pennsylvania's *At Risk* list because of continuing development pressure including

a threat in 2005 to demolish the building for airport satellite parking. Tincicum Township purchased the building in 2005, and University of Pennsylvania architecture students researched the property and developed ideas for its reuse.

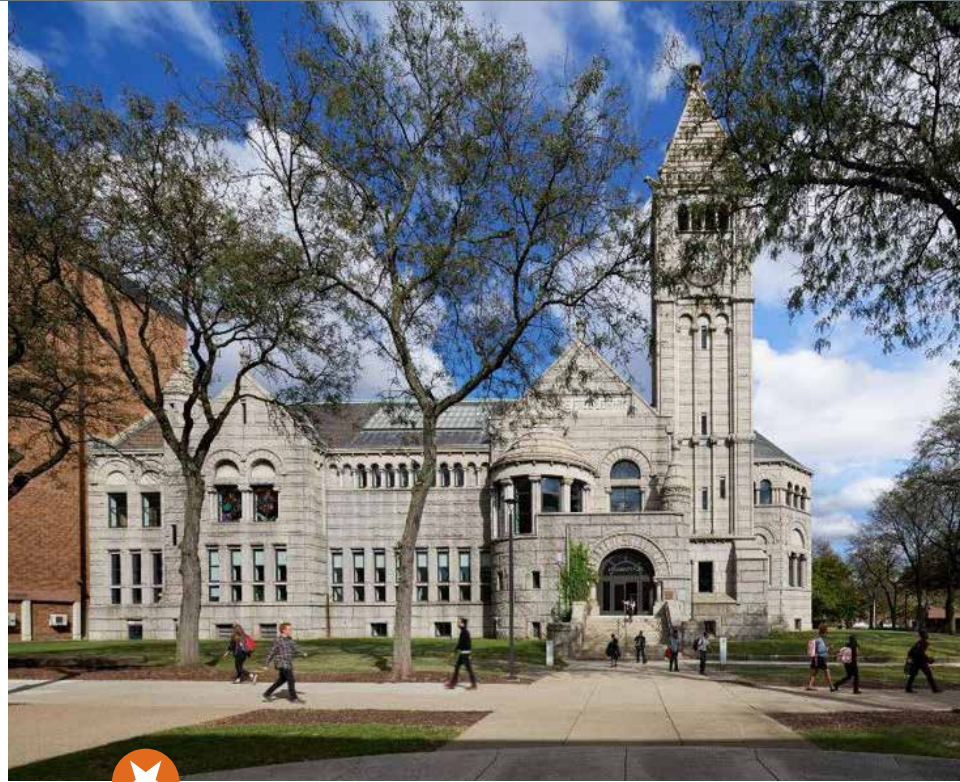
In 2012, the Township began the process to rehabilitate the building including the reconstruction of the porch and rehabilitation of the interior to accommodate the Township offices and a future museum to interpret the history of the Lazaretto. (The word "lazaretto" comes from 16th century Italian and means "an isolation hospital for people with infectious diseases, especially leprosy or plague.")

Saving the Historic Lazaretto from demolition was important to Tincicum Township and to historians and preservationists across Pennsylvania and beyond. The history and importance of the building will now be celebrated. We applaud Tincicum Township for saving the building and the site for the future.

LEFT: The Historic Lazaretto, a former quarantine station, has been rehabilitated into the Tincicum Township offices.

RIGHT: Work underway to restore the cupola and weathervane of the Historic Lazaretto.

Photos courtesy of VITETTA Architects and Engineers



MUSEUMLAB, CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HONORING

KONING EIZENBERG ARCHITECTURE / MASCARO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LP
PERFIDO WEISKOPF WAGSTAFF + GOETTEL ARCHITECTS

When lightning struck the clock tower of the 1890 Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny in 2006, causing a 3-ton piece of granite to crash through the roof, the library closed, and the building sat vacant. Across the street, the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh saw potential in what they called a "beautiful ruin." They created a learning space for older children while uncovering original archways, columns, and mosaic floors. The result is a magical space known as the MuseumLab.

As the design team peeled away the library's 1970s renovation, elements of original construction were revealed, stabilized and preserved. Other aspects of the building could be showcased as a lesson in how things were made. Providing open-ended, visitor-led opportunities for discovery into the layered history of the building became a method of bridging the mission for rehabilitation and the educational mission of MuseumLab.

Some aspects of the renovation were challenging. A section of the library's stacks were structural and could not be efficiently removed. Instead, the team worked together to design a way to reuse shelving from the stacks in other parts of the Museum while making space for a three-story immersive climbing structure in the stacks space.

MuseumLab is partnering with Manchester Academic Charter School to integrate the daily school schedule with the MuseumLab classes. The project is the embodiment of their vision to "honor the history of the space, its importance to the community, and the significance of the period in Pittsburgh's history in which it was built." Just as libraries created a new space for people to learn, MuseumLab reinvents how we understand education, and is a place where kids 10+ can have cutting-edge experiences in art, tech and making. It's just the thing for their inquiring minds, increasing skills and independent inclinations.

LEFT: The MuseumLab's Grable Gallery. "OverView" art installation by FreelandBuck.

RIGHT: The 130-year-old Carnegie Library of North Side, now the MuseumLab, creates magic for older children by combining curiosity, investigation and discovery. Photos courtesy of Eric Staudenmaier



RICHARDS MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES

(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA / ATKIN OLSHIN SCHADE ARCHITECTS
EYP ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING**

Considered one of architect Louis Kahn's most important works of the mid-20th century, the Richards Medical Research Laboratories on the University of Pennsylvania campus in Philadelphia brought him broad international recognition. Constructed between 1957 and 1963, the complex is a series of three eight-story towers attached in pinwheel formation to a central fourth tower that houses mechanical systems, stairs and elevators. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2009.

The building's large floor plates, outdated and inefficient systems, and oversized windows made it difficult to meet current program needs. The structural integrity of the building was threatened, the window frames had weakened, there was too much sun exposure for wet lab use, and entry to the building was difficult due to the exhaust ducts in the service tower.

The rehabilitation involved removing the wet bench science lab and replacing it with a dry lab and computational space. The team also came up with a "kit of parts" that included a steel frame with panels of wood and glass. The research space could then be tailored to fit various group needs. High-performance glass windows replaced the old glass. It looked identical but improved the properties of light and energy performance. The terrazzo and exposed concrete were cleaned and conserved. The windowless service tower was repurposed for use as testing and conference space. The removal of the obsolete ductwork allowed for an elevator to be installed to improve access.

The Richards Medical Research Laboratories building is once again as functional as it is beautiful. Faculty and staff can work in a space that meets their needs and is filled with light, form and beauty.

LEFT: Office space in the Richards Medical Research Laboratories offer beautiful views and abundant light. RIGHT: The Kahn-designed Richards Medical Research Laboratories is once again as functional as it is beautiful. Faculty and staff can work in a space that meets their needs and is filled with light, form and beauty. Photos courtesy of Atkin Olshin Schade Architects



REHABILITATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



SIMON SILK MILL

(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING

VM DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC / ARTEFACT, INC.

VAN CLEEF ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, LLC

BUILDING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING GROUP / BENESCH GROUP

After decades of neglect and a loss of one of its buildings to fire, years of concerted efforts between public and private entities have ushered the Simon Silk Mill into a new era.

The mill, located in Easton, is a diverse live/work community born out of the rehabilitation of the former R. & H. Simon Silk Mill, once a world leader in silk manufacturing. Established along the picturesque Bushkill Creek in the early 1880s, this historic 13-acre complex features approximately 300,000 square feet of building space.

The end of 2019 marked the completion of the mill's multi-year transformation; it now hosts 150 apartments, 30-plus small businesses, and event space, and has a direct pedestrian connection across the creek to the neighboring Karl Stirner Arts Trail. What once was a dilapidated eyesore along a gateway entry to the City of Easton is now a bustling hub of residents, diners, shoppers, and outdoor



enthusiasts, breathing new life into a long-ignored section of the city. The mill adds a unique element to the city's comprehensive planning strategy of establishing creative and enduring environments that benefit all residents, and plays a significant role in the improvement of one of its largest, but admittedly struggling, neighborhoods, known as the West Ward.

The mill's rehabilitation has allowed for a substantial piece of historic architecture to come back into use, avoiding unnecessary

contributions to landfills, and has provided new opportunities in employment, housing and recreation, all while highlighting the beauty and resilience of its remarkable design.

Using historic tax credits and an approach that keeps the feel of its industrial history intact, the charm of the old brick, large windows and courtyards create a welcoming space to live and work.

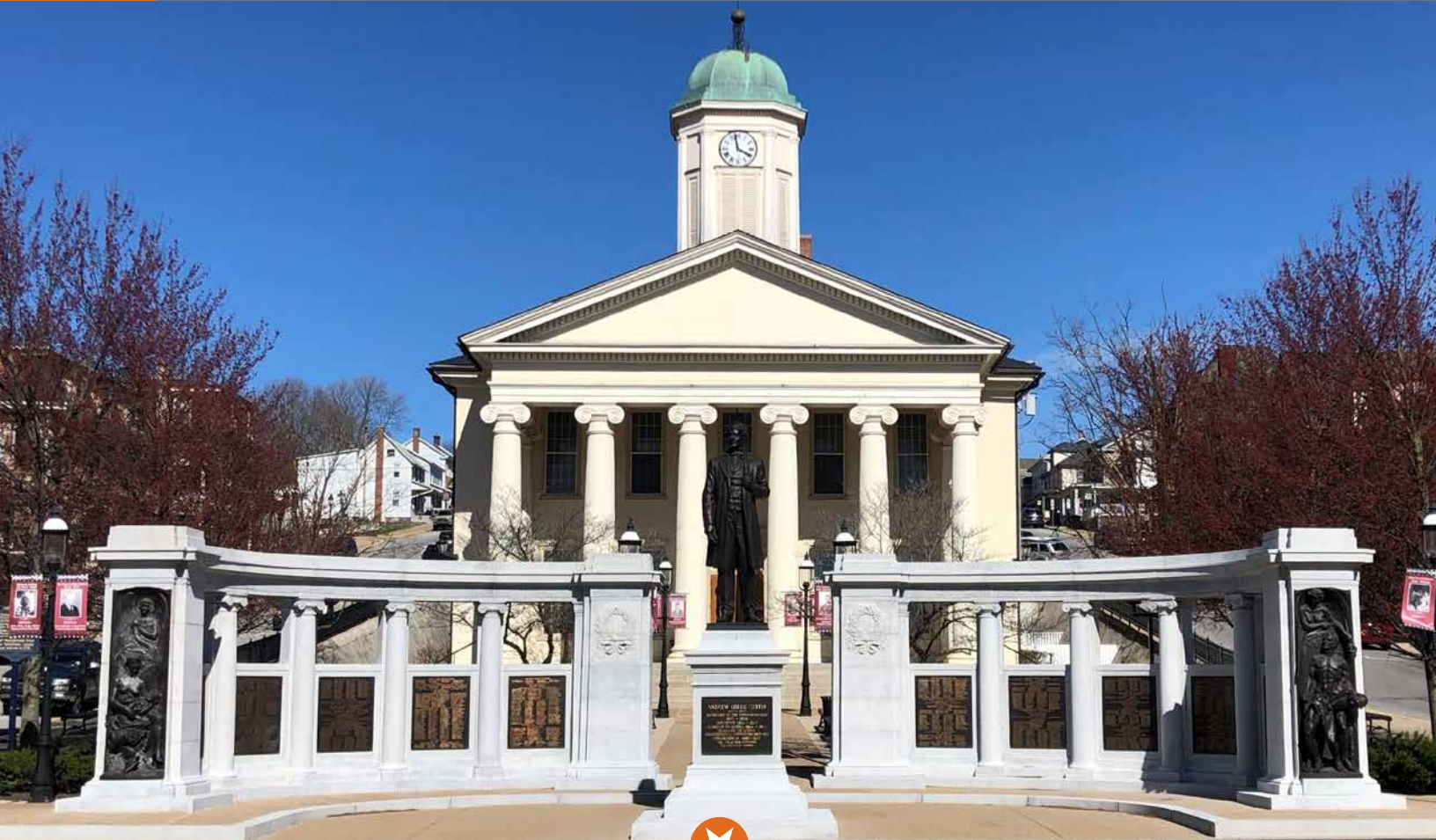
TOP INSET: Late 19th-century postcard shows the successful Simon Silk Mill on the edge of the Bushkill Creek in Easton. Herman and Robert Simon created innovations in weaving technology that allowed them to create top-quality products and employ over 1,000 workers at their peak. TOP: The Simon Silk Mill is now a lively mixed-use development with 150 apartments plus commercial ventures ranging from a bridal salon and restaurants to small agencies and fitness studios.

INSET: The Simon Silk Mill's apartments feature the best of the historic fabric combined with modern amenities. Color photos courtesy of Artefact, Inc.



RESTORATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



CENTRE COUNTY SOLDIERS & SAILORS MEMORIAL & CURTIN MONUMENT

(CENTRE COUNTY)

HONORING

APARCHITECTS, LLC: ALAN POPOVICH, AIA

NOLA ART FACTORY: LUIS ALBERTO ROMERO, M.A. AND ALEC ROMERO

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

MICHAEL PIPE, Chair, MARK HIGGINS, Vice-Chair, STEVEN G. DERSHEM, Commissioner

Situated in front of the Centre County Courthouse in Bellefonte, the Centre County Soldiers & Sailors Memorial and Curtin Monument were dedicated in 1906 to honor the sacrifices of the many local men and women who have served in the U.S. military. The monument's inscription reads "To those who died to keep the nation whole, this memorial is dedicated in grateful appreciation." The memorial was designed by Joseph M. Huston, the same person who designed the Capitol in Harrisburg. It includes a monument of Andrew Curtin who was born in Bellefonte and was the governor of Pennsylvania during the Civil War.

Over time, the granite, bronze, and cast iron deteriorated from exposure to the elements and poor repairs made in the 1970s. With the help of a Keystone Historic Preservation Grant through the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, the granite was cleaned, blistered granite surfaces were removed to stop further deterioration, and the inscription was recut. The bronze plaques and sculptures were cleaned and detailed to replace the loss of patina.

The monument remained open during the conservation process so that the community could watch the progress. A perpetual maintenance program was developed to guide annual inspections and care for this symbol of patriotism and heritage.

TOP: The restored Centre County Soldiers & Sailors Memorial will continue to be a source of pride thanks to the perpetual maintenance campaign, ensuring annual inspections and care. Photo courtesy of APArchitects



RESTORATION

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD



GEORGE SPANGLER FARM & FIELD HOSPITAL

(ADAMS COUNTY)

HONORING

GETTYSBURG FOUNDATION / WAREHAUS

In early July 1863, the Spangler family farm was overtaken and converted by Union troops into a field hospital for more than 1,900 wounded soldiers from both sides. The George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital survives as one of the best examples of a corps-level field hospital used during the Battle of Gettysburg. Located within the Gettysburg National Military Park, the farm is now open to visitors after 10 years of research and the careful restoration of the house, barn, smokehouse, and summer kitchen.

The Gettysburg Foundation acquired the farmstead in 2008 and worked with the design team to restore the farm to its 1863 condition. The summer kitchen was highly significant due to its association with the death of Confederate General Lewis Armistead, who was injured during Pickett's Charge. Masonry restoration, installation of a shake roof, repairs to the wood frame addition, and repairs to the historic wood frame windows and doors completed the work.



First-hand accounts describe the Pennsylvania bank barn being used as a field hospital, with operations performed on the upper level and the wounded lying in the stalls on the ground level. The barn was in poor condition, and emergency

stabilization was needed. All timbers were inspected, and those with rot were replaced. The barn is the focal point of this magnificent living history museum.

The smokehouse was a working part of the farm in 1863. It was taken apart and reassembled using salvaged and new materials.

Visitors can walk the grounds, hear about the first-hand accounts of the battle, and watch living history demonstrations about life on the farm and at the field hospital in 1863. The George Spangler Farm & Field Hospital illustrates the severity of the war and its devastating impact on the community that lived there.

TOP: Aerial view of the completed George Spangler Farm, which served as a Union Corps Hospital during the Battle of Gettysburg. INSET: Tipton photograph of the George Spangler Farm (c. 1890) used to create lost details of the farmstead. Photos courtesy of Warehaus



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

INITIATIVE AWARDS



GOVERNOR WOLF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING

BENJAMIN L. WALBERT ARCHITECTS

Community involvement has been key to the Governor Wolf Historical Society's success since 1979 when it formed by joining three smaller historical societies. Located in Bath, the Society and its volunteers play a big part in community involvement and preservation. They encourage community interaction, community respect for each other and their history, and pride for local heritage and architecture.

In addition to their mission of research, collections and preservation, the initial project of the new society was the 1785 stone Wolf Academy. The rehabilitated building has a curved plaster ceiling with crown molding, appropriate 12-over-12 wood windows glazed with old glass, chair rail, baseboard, plank pine floorboards, candlelit chandelier, wooden shutters, handwrought iron hardware, and a slate roof. George Wolf, the seventh governor of Pennsylvania, attended classes and later taught in this building. In 1981, the adjacent Ralston-McKeen House was purchased. The stone, center-hall building was

constructed in 1795 by James Ralston, the surveyor who laid out the town of Bath. The house has six corner fireplaces and one newly-restored-on-the-original-foundation walk-in fireplace in the north wing.

Since 1979, the volunteers have raised \$650,000 which has been used to restore the 18th- and 19th-century buildings. The properties include the Academy, the Ralston-McKeen House, and the 1967 Monocacy School. The Society regularly offers free and low-cost events. For example, in 2019 the Society held 11 meetings, 10 Summer Institute of Colonial Arts classes, 10 open museum Saturdays, and seven tavern nights with artisans, food trucks, and antique dealers.

Their energy and dedication can be felt like ripples, encouraging others to become involved while creating local pride in history and architecture. The Governor Wolf Historical Society's involvement continues to strengthen the community and gives residents a sense of place and heritage.

LEFT: Encampment during Family Day at the Ralston-McKeen House, one of three properties owned by the Governor Wolf Historical Society. RIGHT: Working with students from East Stroudsburg University, the Governor Wolf Historical Society held an archaeological training for local youth. Photos courtesy of Governor Wolf Historical Society



EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY, AL CAPONE'S CELL

(PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING
EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY HISTORIC SITE, INC.
MATERIALS CONSERVATION CO., LLC

For 20 years, visitors from around the world have come to see the famous mobster Al Capone's cell at Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site (ESPHS) in Philadelphia. Considered the world's first true penitentiary, an architectural marvel designed to inspire penitence in the hearts of its inhabitants, the prison was in use from 1829 to 1971, then abandoned for over 20 years, before becoming a museum and historic site in the early 1990s. Today, Eastern State draws more than 275,000 yearly visitors from around the world to experience the site in a predominantly unrestored condition.

The research for Al Capone's cell was based on a newspaper article written during his seven-month stay (1929-1930) that documented his "luxurious cell" including "a powerful cabinet radio receiver of handsome design" and "tasteful paintings." Based on this article, appropriate pieces of furniture were installed in 2000 amid the peeling paint and plaster. Two years ago, the museum began a project that would restore the

architectural finishes to match the present and more unified interpretation of Al Capone's cell.

During the first week, an unexpected discovery led to extensive research that revealed four major paint campaigns of the cell, disproving the assumption that all the walls were white. Three murals were also discovered, one dating to the period of the cell's construction.

Additionally, this research uncovered that the wrong cell was being restored as Al Capone's and that he had a cellmate. ESPHS changed the scope of work. The exposed paint layers were left to tell the story of prison's paint history. The original replastering scope was completed in the cell next door with the appropriate lime wash and furnishings including an additional bed to represent Al Capone's cellmate.

This project demonstrates Eastern State's commitment to correctly telling the complicated history of the site and interpreting the legacy of criminal justice reform.

*TOP: Research and physical evidence guided the restoration of Al Capone's cell, uncovering that he had a roommate while incarcerated there. Photo courtesy of Darryl Moran
INSET: The evidence of a painted wall mural at the back of the cell thought to be Al Capone's led to the conclusion that his cell had been incorrectly identified. When the mural image was overlaid on the exposed wall, it clearly aligned with the painted border. Photo courtesy of Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Inc.*



STEWARDSHIP

INITIATIVE AWARDS



THE CIVIC CLUB (OVERLOOK)

(DAUPHIN COUNTY)

Called a pillar of the city, the Civic Club has been dedicated to the improvement of Harrisburg since 1898, continually working toward a beautiful and safe city. Founder Myra Lloyd Dock was instrumental in the City Beautiful Movement, a planning philosophy dedicated to enhancing the aesthetics and function of cities. At the time, most cities lacked proper sanitation and green spaces. As a result, modern sanitation and parks were created in Harrisburg. The Civic Club was instrumental in establishing the first kindergartens. During WWI, their club, Overlook, was used by the Red Cross to roll bandages, and as a USO location. Today, members are actively engaged in civic work throughout the city.

Bequeathed to the Civic Club, Overlook is a 1903 Tudor-style residence. The interior features include a grand staircase, cove ceiling, and intricate woodwork. The second floor's grand ballroom features floor-to-ceiling leaded-glass windows that offer views of the river.

Maintaining Overlook is challenging, but since 1914, the members remain committed to its preservation, seeking craftsmen who specialize in historic preservation. The most recent repairs have included an electrical upgrade to the entire building, extensive restoration after a water pipe burst in 2017, installation of copper downspouts, and a rebuilt scupper to accommodate the flooding rains. All the work is done with care and respect to the historic value of the property.

The Civic Club and Overlook host many weddings, events, and nonprofit meetings, and the club participates in the annual events held in Harrisburg along Riverfront Park.

The Civic Club is to be applauded for its hard work in the community and for being faithful stewards to Overlook. Their gate is open, so stop by and view their beautiful gardens, an oasis in the middle of the city.

LEFT: Overlook, the home of the Civic Club of Harrisburg, sits along the Susquehanna River with a garden that offers a peaceful oasis in the city.

RIGHT: The second-floor ballroom of the Civic Club overlooking the Susquehanna River

Photos courtesy of Civic Club of Harrisburg



SUSTAINABILITY IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

INITIATIVE AWARDS



PHIPPS CONSERVATORY EXHIBIT STAGING CENTER

(ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

HONORING

FORTYEIGHTY ARCHITECTURE / COMMON GROUND

IAMS CONSULTING, LLC / STUDIO PHIPPS: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN GROUP

The Phipps Conservatory's Exhibit Staging Center in Pittsburgh proves that the greenest buildings are the ones that already exist. The transformation of the windowless brick building is truly amazing! The former Public Works building sat abandoned at one end of Phipps Conservatory's lush and vibrant campus. Instead of tearing the building down, the project team decided to take on the challenge to create a space that would be a safe and healthy environment for people, plants and animals.

With a proven track record of sustainable projects including the self-generation of energy and water treatment on-site, the team was equipped to approach the maintenance facility project with the same goal of sustainability and creation of a healthy workplace.

The Exhibit Staging Center contains a workshop, storage and office space, a yoga studio, meditation room, and a fitness center for garden staff use. Natural materials were used in the

construction with black locust chosen for the deck and interior wall instead of pressure-treated material. Locally sourced sandstone was used in the yoga room. Walls can be opened to increase airflow and natural light. Windows include a sensor

that detects the inside and outside air quality with a dashboard that will automatically open the windows. A living vegetable wall and green roof manage the rainwater. Solar panels produce needed power and store the excess in batteries to use on overcast and cloudy days.

The exterior is made from corten steel as a tribute to Pittsburgh's past. The beautiful lagoon on the site is used to store rainwater and is home

to frogs and fish, creating natural filtration. Visitors can get a peek behind the sustainable scenes by entering a vestibule in the building and watching facilities staff construct props for seasonal flower shows in real-time. The Phipps inspires others to embrace sustainability with the creation of another extraordinary space.



TOP: The Yoga Court outside the Yoga Studio, as well as a meditation room and fitness center are available to Phipps employees.

INSET: The Phipps Conservatory's Exhibit Staging Center provides tourists an opportunity to watch as exhibits are created within a building that was transformed into a beautiful eco-friendly space.

Photos courtesy of Paul g. Wiegman



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HANDMADE HISTORY



Each year, our Honor Awards are handcrafted at the Moravian Pottery & Tile Works in Doylestown, a National Historic Landmark. You can visit and tour the Tile Works and adjacent Fonthill, the home of Henry Chapman Mercer, an American archaeologist, artifact collector, tile maker and designer of three distinctive poured-concrete structures: his home, Fonthill, the Moravian Pottery & Tile Works, and the Mercer Museum.