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## **CONNECTICUT PRESERVATION AWARDS 2021**

Preservation Connecticut is proud to announce its Connecticut Preservation Awards for 2021. Despite the coronavirus pandemic that has upended so much of our day-to-day life, the work of caring for and enhancing our communities has continued. Lockdowns have awakened new appreciation for places we once took for granted. Social distancing measures have forced us to reconsider how we use the buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes that surround us. Revelations of social inequities have accentuated the need to assist and affirm vulnerable or neglected members of our society. And constantly changing guidelines for living have sparked a craving for surroundings that can provide a sense of rootedness and security.

We are honored to recognize individual projects, long-term contributions, and professional achievements that demonstrate the many ways historic places contribute to the life and vitality of Connecticut communities. The awards will be presented at a virtual awards ceremony on May 5. For information, visit [PreservationCT.org](http://PreservationCT.org).

### **Harlan H. Griswold Award for Historic Preservation NEW LONDON LANDMARKS**

Presented jointly by Preservation Connecticut and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the Harlan Griswold Award honors outstanding contributions to the preservation and revitalization of Connecticut's historic places. Since 1976, New London Landmarks has been at the forefront of preservation activity in New London. Born amidst the fight to save H.H. Richardson's Union Station, the organization has advocated for historic buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes; it has renovated buildings, carried out surveys and planning studies, provided advice and information to city officials, and increased appreciation for a wide array of important places in the city. In this pandemic year, NLL has documented residents' experiences through an oral history program, "New London Speaks" and carried on with its renovation of the home of local NAACP leader Linwood Bland, Jr.

### **Janet Jainschigg Award for Preservation Professionals JOHN CANNING & COMPANY, CHESHIRE**

From the dazzlingly stenciled Connecticut's State Capitol to landmarks like the Mark Twain house, the halls of Yale, countless museums and churches, and the star-spangled ceiling of Grand Central, historic places gain color, excitement, and meaning from decorative finishes. Since 1976, John Canning and Company has conserved, restored or re-created historic painting, stenciling, gilding and plasterwork in Connecticut and around the country. Founded by John Canning, a Scottish immigrant trained in art history and the decorative trades, the company is nationally known for its dedication to exemplary craftsmanship, sound preservation practice, and ongoing research and education.

### **Mimi Findlay Award for Young Preservationists: NINA CARUSO**

Nina Caruso has shown an unrivaled enthusiasm for historic structures and places along with a passionate dedication to preserving the built environment. As Director of Historic Preservation at Crosskey Architects, she prepares National Register nominations and documentation for historic rehabilitation tax credits for the preservation projects that form a significant portion of the firm's work. Beyond that, she is an effective advocate for preservation work and an active volunteer for preservation, history, and housing organizations.

### **AWARDS OF MERIT**

Preservation Connecticut's merit awards for 2020 recognize the grit, sweat, brains, and investment behind the rescue, re-use, or recycling of historic Connecticut places. We are honored to recognize these efforts and celebrate the results: volunteers empowered, jobs and homes created, justice delivered, and communities strengthened.

#### **The Tyler (East Haven High School), East Haven**

WinnCompanies transformed a vacant former school built in 1936 into 70 mixed-income apartments for seniors, fourteen of them set aside for people formerly homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Tyler is the first multifamily project in the nation to utilize historic rehabilitation tax credits and also meet stringent Passive House standards. It proves, once and for all, that a high level of sustainability can be attained when preserving historic buildings.

*Project team:* WinnDevelopment; WinnResidential; The Architectural Team; Keith Construction, Inc.; MacRostie Historic Advisors, LLC; Steven Winter Associates, Inc.; Connecticut Department of Housing; Connecticut Housing Finance Authority; Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office; Mayor Joseph Carfora; Representative Joseph H. Zullo.

#### **ImmaCare (Church of the Immaculate Conception), Hartford**

Beginning in a church basement in 1981, ImmaCare eventually became an independent organization and remained in the building even after the church closed in 2000, evolving from dealing with symptoms of homelessness to providing solutions through supportive housing. Extensive and creative renovation of the former church, built in 1894, equipped it with modernized spaces, improved accessibility, and new facilities to allow for expanded services.

*Project team:* ImmaCare Inc.; Paul B. Bailey Architect, LLC; To Design, LLC; Morrissey Engineering, LLC; Acorn Consulting Engineering, Inc.; Montagno Construction, Inc.; Connecticut Department of Housing.

#### **Neiditz Building, Hartford**

A pioneering example of mid-twentieth-century Modern design in downtown Hartford, the Neiditz Building marked the beginning of recovery after years of depression and war when it opened in 1946. Newly renovated with a mix of commercial and residential spaces, the building is once again a catalyst for investment.

*Project team:* SPECTRA 111, LLC; Crosskey Architects LLC; Long Consulting, LLC; James K. Grant Associates; Freeman Companies, LLC; Wonder Works Construction; Girona Ventures; Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office; National Park Service; Capital Region Development Authority; Capital for Change; Peoples United Bank; Eversource Energy; CohnReznick; PNC Bank.

#### **Parkville Market, Hartford**

Parkville Market, the first food hall in Connecticut, represents the diverse ethnic backgrounds of Hartford. Sustainable considerations in architecture and construction were used in

converting the first of three former lumberyard buildings. The materials were selected with respect to the existing structure, and much of the wood that was removed has been repurposed. Even during the pandemic, Parkville Market hums with life.

*Project team:* Parkville Market, LLC; BETA Group, Inc.; Lifecare Design Inc.; The ArtFitters, LLC

### **Courtland Arms, New Britain**

This project was a long-overdue restoration of a prominent urban building constructed in 1915. It is exemplary as a rare historic rehabilitation project that retains its precise original use and many original features while providing important updates to serve modern needs. And, memorably, it does so for a population that is often overlooked—twenty families with modest incomes and four formerly homeless veterans who now have beautiful homes within.

*Project team:* Chrysalis Center, Inc.; Housing Enterprises Inc.; Paul B. Bailey Architect, LLC; PAC Group, LLC; Civil 1, Inc.; To Design, LLC; Morrissey Engineering, LLC; Aztech Engineers, Inc.; MaGrann Associates; James Sexton, Ph.D.

### **The Lodges, South Norwalk**

The Loyal Order of Moose Lodge (1932) and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows building (1923) had been vacant or underused for decades. All commercial existing spaces were rehabilitated, and five apartments were added to the upper floors of the IOOF building. The Moose Lodge now has five offices and three apartments. These buildings provide housing for diverse tenants as well as jobs in eleven minority-owned small businesses, some of which remained in place during renovation, achieving revitalization without displacement.

*Project team:* Sonoson LLC; Sono Lodges; Heritage Resources; Gill & Gill Architects, LLC; GNCB Consulting Engineers, P.C.; Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP; Michael Ganino, CPA, CFE.

### **Bryan-Andrew house, Orange**

The Orange Historical Society undertook the complete restoration this eighteenth-century homestead with care for accuracy and ongoing fundraising. The Bryan-Andrew house is open to the public as a testimony to the endurance of colonial North Milford (Orange). It's also a testimony to the persistence of a small volunteer organization, committed to celebrating their own community's history in a gradual effort over some twenty years.

*Project team:* Orange Historical Society; Ashford Restoration; Jason Byun; Miles O'Sullivan; Mitch Goldblatt; David Briggs; Joe Carney; Town of Orange.

### **Thompson: William Mason house**

For more than twenty years, the William Mason house, built in 1845 for a local mill owner and one of Connecticut's best examples of the Gothic Revival period, was abandoned, a blight on the classic town common. It sustained serious water damage from frozen pipes that burst because the house was left unheated, as well as other damage from weather and neglect. Now being restored as a country inn and wedding venue, the house once again is a local showplace.

*Project team:* Kenneth Loiselle and Kelly Jones; Orchard Products; Sunset Nurseries; Custom Curved Moldings; Hancock Forest Products; Tim's Carpentry; Northeast Newsreel; Frank Racette Antiquity; Rayla Hardscape Design; Trudeau Electric; Silva's Fine Painting; RAMPCO Construction; Faux Real Decorative Painting; Shawn Morgan Painting and Wallcovering; Joshua Edwards Masonry; Jarrid Falke Plumbing and Heating; The Airbrush Shack; Country

Sheet Metal; Desmaris Excavation; Brian Fournier; Elana Cabot; Joanna Sullivan; Steve Ayers; Dave Laabs.

**Westport: 70 Turkey Hill Road South**

Rayhul Ghai and Priyanka Singh chose to invest in the restoration and preservation of this 1892 house when they could have demolished it and constructed a bigger new house on the lot—an all-too-common occurrence in the town sometimes called Connecticut’s teardown capital. Westport zoning regulations helped make this possible, thanks to regulations that grant relief to certain zoning restraints if owners agree to preserve an historic structure.

*Project team:* Rahul Ghai and Priyanka Singh; Christopher Pagliaro Architects; Fletcher Development LLC; Town of Westport; Westport Museum for History and Culture.

**Volunteer award: Michael Carroll and Rediscovering History**

Michael Carroll founded “Rediscovering History,” a team of dedicated volunteers who address an often overlooked area of historic preservation: neglected and overgrown historic cemeteries. To date he and his helpers have cleaned up, restored, and rehabilitated myriad historic burial sites. Making cemeteries more visible and appreciated, they get people face-to-face with history.

*Project team:* Michael Carroll; Rediscovering History volunteers.

*Established by special act of the Connecticut General Assembly in 1975, **Preservation Connecticut** works with local preservation groups and individuals as well as statewide organizations to preserve, protect, and promote the buildings, sites, and landscapes that contribute to the heritage and vitality of Connecticut communities.*

*For more information, visit **PreservationCT.org** or contact Christopher Wigren at 203.562.6312 or [cwigren@preservationct.org](mailto:cwigren@preservationct.org)*

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