

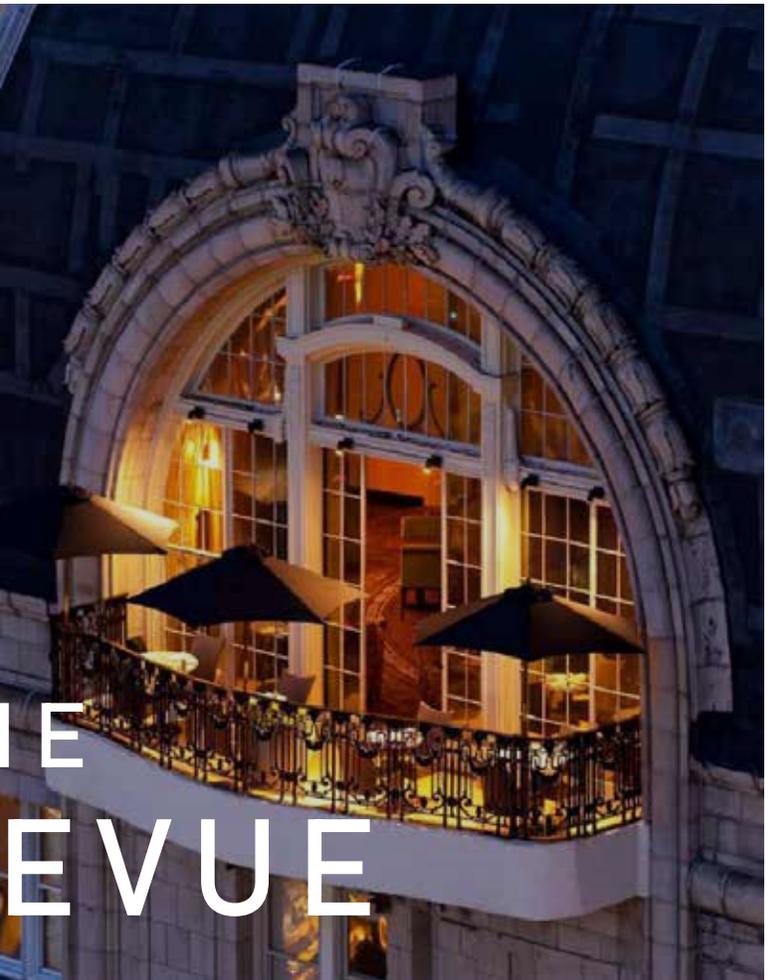
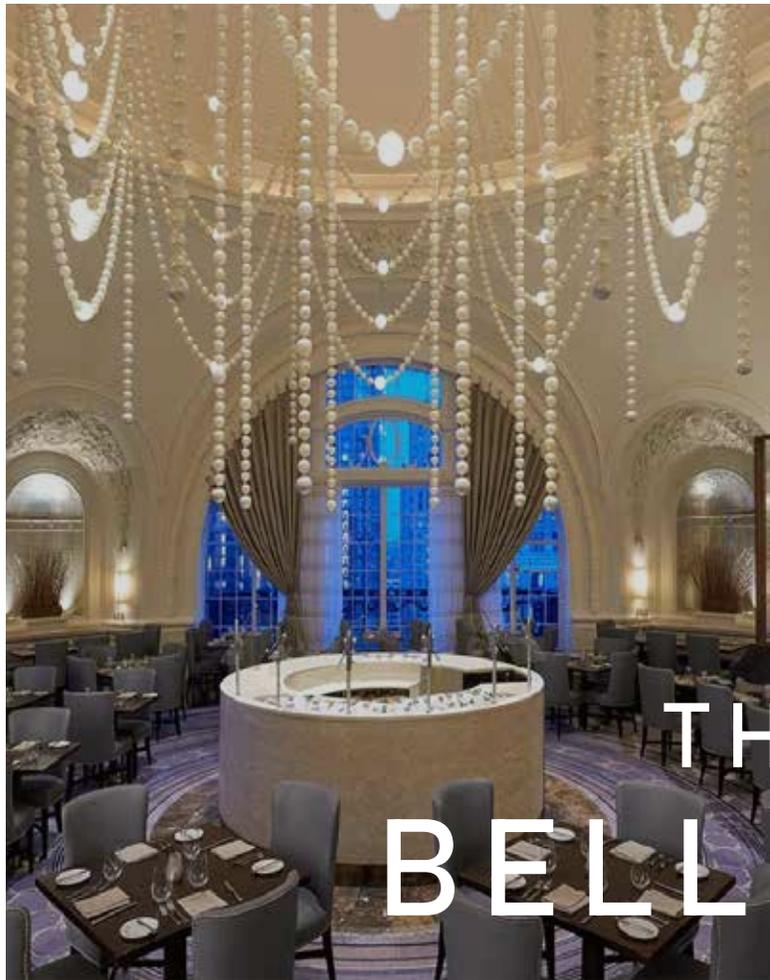


CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF PRESERVATION ACHIEVEMENT

2023 Preservation Achievement Awards

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023





THE BELLEVUE



Congratulates the 2023 Preservation Achievement Award Winners!



Welcome to the 2023 Preservation Achievement Awards

Honoring the individuals, organizations, businesses, and projects throughout Greater Philadelphia that exemplify outstanding achievement in historic preservation.

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CONGRATULATIONS

**2023 PRESERVATION
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
WINNERS!**

We salute your commitment to
the city of Philadelphia —
past, present, and future.

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Congratulations to all of the 2023 Preservation Award Winners!



The Witherspoon Building (left)

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An Art Deco former North Philly grade school converted into housing for homeless veterans. An Art Moderne post office and courthouse transformed into the Philadelphia Passport Agency. And a Frank Furness bank reborn as a boutique hotel. These are just a few examples of this year's Grand Jury Awards that demonstrate the vitality, creativity, and impact of historic preservation in the greater Philadelphia area.

The Preservation Alliance is delighted to welcome you to the 30th annual Preservation Achievement Awards. Our awards program began as a brown bag lunch affair way back in 1994. Each year since (28 times in person and twice virtually), we have celebrated the unique ways that historic preservation helps make our cities and towns more beautiful and distinctive. Restored historic places add a richness of color and depth to our everyday lived experience while contributing mightily to the region's economic vitality and allure as a place to be.

We are grateful to our honorees for their laudable efforts; to our members, sponsors, and supporters whose generosity makes our work possible; and to each and every one of you for your presence here tonight.

We hope you enjoy the show.

Paul Steinke, Executive Director

Proud to support the Preservation Alliance.

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JEFFREY TOTARO

*We congratulate all the Preservation Alliance Award Winners!
John Connors - Mark Merlino*



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Kevin Block, Ph.D., co-chair

Special Recognition Awards Advisory Committee

The Preservation Alliance Board of Directors selects the Special Recognition Award recipients with the assistance of the Special Recognition Advisory Committee



**David Brownlee, Ph.D.,
FSAH, FRSA**

Committee Chair

Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Professor Emeritus
of 19th Century European Art



Emily T. Cooperman, Ph.D.

Senior Architectural Historian,
Cultural Resources, PS&S



Sara Jane (Sally) Elk

President and CEO,
Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site



Dominique Hawkins, FAIA

Founder and Principal,
Preservation Design Partnership



A. Robert Jaeger

President, Partners for Sacred Places



Janet Klein

2014 James Biddle Award honoree



JAMES BIDDLE AWARD
FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Theodore Nickles, President Jack Abgott, Vice-President

Ted Nickles and Jack Abgott, together and separately, have quietly made outstanding and longstanding contributions to the advancement of historic preservation – not only as contractors and craftsmen, but as educators and volunteers who actively promote preservation awareness and values.

Ted studied architectural history and design on his way to a BA in Fine Arts at Penn State. He worked with his father's construction company before opening his own restoration business in 1970.

Jack earned a B.Arch. from Syracuse and a Master's in Architectural History and Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia. He established his own restoration firm in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he worked on many of that very old city's very old buildings. He also helped to write the Charlottesville Historic Preservation Guide.

Ted and Jack's excellent adventure began in 1996, when Jack moved to the Delaware Valley and joined Nickles

Contracting. This 27-year partnership has restored and maintained 385 historically certified buildings in the Philadelphia region, including buildings by Paul Cret, Louis Kahn, Frank Lloyd Wright, John McArthur, T.U. Walter, Benjamin Latrobe, Carrere & Hastings, Gustav Stickley, and Theophilus P. Chandler.

Ted and Jack have both taught college level courses in restoration and historic preservation. They have both presented at national and international preservation conferences, chaired historic district commissions, and served in the Association of Preservation Technology.

It is the synergy of their partnership, friendship, perspectives, and skills that makes their co-nomination necessary and appropriate. Ted and Jack have worked together -- collaboratively and respectfully -- with a shared sense that it is important to treat historic, and even non-historic, buildings that comprise our built environment with a high level of thoughtfulness and care.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD
FOR EXCEPTIONAL STEWARDSHIP OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Association for Public Art

The Fairmount Park Art Association was founded in 1872. It is the country's first private, nonprofit civic organization dedicated to integrating public art and urban design. Now known as the Association for Public Art, the aPA commissions, preserves, promotes, and interprets public art in Philadelphia.

Penny Balkin Bach served as executive director of aPA for 40 years before retiring last year. She is the author of the book *Public Art in Philadelphia*, and produced the free, award-winning *Museum Without Walls* audio guide to Philadelphia's public art featuring voices of over 160 people.

Philadelphia's magnificent collection of outdoor sculpture includes works by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Alexander Stirling Calder, Frederic Remington, Daniel Chester French, Robert Indiana, Jody Pinto, Isamu Noguchi, Louise Nevelson, Jacques Lipchitz, and more. All are maintained by aPA.

Vandalism, weather, and time are a perpetual threat to these irreplaceable artistic and cultural assets. The Association has played an exceptional role in the stewardship, preservation, and maintenance of Philadelphia's great public art. aPA also maintains and makes publicly available an extensive archive of over 150 years of public art through state-of-the-art digitized records.



RHODA AND PERMAR RICHARDS AWARD
FOR SERVICE TO THE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

Mary Werner DeNadai, FAIA

What hasn't Mary Werner DeNadai done for the Alliance? Starting with her involvement in the founding of the organization in 1996, to her leadership as board chair from 2014-2022, Mary has assisted with advocacy, fundraising, easements, board development, financial support, and leveraging her international preservation and design network on behalf of the Preservation Alliance.

We would be giving her the James Biddle Award for Lifetime Achievement, except that she took home that bowl in 2007. Little did we know that she had not quite finished achieving.

As a Trustee Emerita of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Mary now leads National Trust Tours down the Rhine and to Spain, Portugal, France, Iceland, Peru, Eastern Europe, Cuba, Egypt, the Canary Islands, and Morocco. We are still waiting for our Bilbao snow globe, by the way.

Mary is always happy to answer questions, make connections, and think through challenging preservation issues. She has been an indispensable part of the growth, success, and credibility of the Preservation Alliance over the organization's quarter century of existence.



ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD
FOR PRESERVATION THAT BENEFITS ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

The Witherspoon Building

Designed by Joseph M. Huston in 1896 as an office and education building for the Presbyterian Church, this beautiful ecclesiastical structure has been adapted into a 186-unit apartment hotel. The historic building now provides furnished rooms and hotel-like service to visitors seeking short-term stays. Left vacant after Wells Fargo rode the last stagecoach out of the building, the Witherspoon has been restored to a central role in the Midtown Village economy, bringing new life to the block in the form of 24 x7 pedestrian traffic supporting local businesses.

Retail space on the ground floor further bolsters activity on the streets surrounding the Witherspoon, with the project activating entrances that were previously not in use. Construction of loft units and careful use of space throughout the 11-story building allowed for the preservation of Huston's dramatic window design. The restoration of sculptor Alexander Milne Calder's original carvings and medallions highlight the awe-inspiring façade, despite the renovation and complete makeover of the interior. This project is an excellent example of preservation that spurs economic growth.



PRESERVATION EDUCATION AWARD
FOR PUBLIC ADVANCEMENT OF PRESERVATION KNOWLEDGE

Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities

Known as MARCH, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers-Camden was founded in 1999 and is a hotbed of programs and initiatives in preservation education.

Learning from Cooper Street is among the most popular programs, as students explore the social and building history of this downtown Camden historic district by discovering the stories of people and structures from sources such as city directories, property deeds, and old newspapers. The research has been used by Camden residents to advocate successfully for preservation in several cases of proposed demolition.

Adult learners can enroll in the Continuing Education Program in Historic Preservation, offered in partnership with the New Jersey Historic Trust. Enrichment courses include American Architectural History, Materials and Techniques of Preservation, Preservation and Planning, and hands-on practical instruction workshops.

MARCH has also contributed to foundational regional knowledge about historic preservation through essays published in the Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia. Topics include historic districts, building types, and the National Register of Historic Places. Both undergrads and graduate students serve as fact-checkers and page builders for the website.



PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
FOR PRESERVATION IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Scott Doyle

Scott Doyle has dedicated his life to historic preservation and to public service. You may know him as the longtime manager of preservation incentives for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, where he certified over 600 historic tax credit projects resulting in \$4.4 billion in rehabilitation expenditures over his 19-year tenure. Scott has reviewed projects for Keystone Preservation Grants, patiently walked homeowners through the tax credit application process, and drafted legislation to enhance the inclusivity of the tax credit program.

When he was younger, he won HABS and Historical Society prizes for his preservation work on Henry Mercer buildings; structures on the Monocacy Battlefield in Frederick, Maryland; a farmhouse in Manassas, Virginia; and a late Victorian home in Lambertville, New Jersey. Now he volunteers on the Bucks County Community College Historic Preservation Advisory Board to give out their preservation awards.

Heritage Consulting Group, which Scott joined earlier this year, will greatly benefit from Scott's background and experience. As the bicycle lead for the Harrisburg YMCA Marathon for the past 11 years, Scott knows how to stay ahead of the curve.



PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
FOR PRESERVATION IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

David Kelso

Many of us spent the pandemic binge-watching Schitt's Creek. Dave Kelso spent it serving Delaware County. Equal parts army police sergeant and preservation desperado, Dave ran into the smoking remains of the fire-gutted, 1895 Third Presbyterian Church in Chester to rescue artifacts. Preserving and maintaining a 170-year-old, one-room schoolhouse in Aston Township has been Dave's responsibility and joy for decades, and he has photographed and documented countless historic structures for preservation groups.

When the dilapidated Halkett Mansion in Ridley Park was purchased last year, Dave made sure that the renovation would be done right. Designed by William L. Price, the stunning 1908 Arts & Crafts structure has stained glass by D'Ascenzo Studios and a Moravian tile fireplace. Dave is working with the owner to research the original construction, document existing conditions, and obtain tax credits to help with the renovation.

Dave also has a bit of Professor Harold Hill in him. First held in 1881, the Rockdale Memorial Day Parade is the oldest continuously-held parade in Delaware County. When Dave discovered that the parade was in jeopardy, he got the blessing of the VFW Commander, created a Board, raised funds, established a nonprofit, printed t-shirts, and mobilized the Penncrest Marching Band. Dave saved the parade, with a capital P.



JOHN ANDREW GALLERY COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD
FOR ACHIEVEMENT BY A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Central Roxborough Civic Association

Constructed in 1880 for eminent physician Ross Bunting, the beautiful and prominent Second Empire house on Girard Avenue is now the site of a drive-through Wendy's. The demolition of the Bunting House was the last straw in a series of painful, irreparable losses for Roxborough residents.

With the help of Councilmember Curtis Jones, Historical Commission staff, and the Preservation Alliance, a small but mighty group of citizens worked tirelessly through the pandemic to research and document the 19th and early 20th century structures within Central Roxborough.

Their hard work resulted in the successful designation of the Victorian Roxborough Historic District, protecting 343 properties from destruction, significant alteration, or fast-foodization. The Central Roxborough Civic Association is a vibrant organization that reflects the energy and enthusiasm of its members. They are committed to maintaining the historic qualities of the neighborhood that are an important part of living in Roxborough.



JOHN ANDREW GALLERY COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD
FOR ACHIEVEMENT BY A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Powelton Village Civic Association

Leafy Powelton Village used to be one of Philadelphia's best kept secrets. Home to creatives and academics, Powelton's colorful businesses and proximity to Drexel and Penn have put the neighborhood in the crosshairs of redevelopment fervor.

Without sufficient protection, a number of Victorian homes have been lost to demolition or unseemly alteration. The consensus for a neighborhood historic designation grew among residents, until at last in 2020, the Civic Association committed to a detailed study of 900 properties within the boundaries of a proposed local historic district. The study involved extensive historic research, documentation, and an extraordinary, online, interactive history map of the neighborhood.

In November 2022, Powelton Village Historic District became the largest historic district added to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places in at least 20 years, thanks to the tenacity of the Powelton Village Civic Association. With Powelton, Victorian Roxborough, and Christian Street, the Historical Commission now lists 41 historic districts in the City, 25 of which have been enacted since 2017.



JOHN ANDREW GALLERY COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD
FOR ACHIEVEMENT BY A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

South of South Neighborhood Association

The South of South Neighborhood Association (SOSNA) has been unrelenting in its efforts to protect the cultural history and historic fabric of its community. The association's 2021 Action Plan was a call to educate, support, and preserve historic sites and streetscapes through policy changes and financial programs for lower income households. In late 2020, a midblock demolition of an intact 1890s rowhouse on the 1500 block of Christian Street highlighted the tremendous development pressure bearing down on the neighborhood and galvanized the neighborhood to take action in partnership with the Preservation Alliance. In support of the 2021 Action Plan, City Councilmember Kenyetta Johnson enacted a one-year demolition moratorium for any property on Christian Street from Broad to 20th Streets. In July 2022, just as the moratorium bill expired, the Philadelphia Historical Commission voted unanimously to create the Christian Street Black Doctors Row Historic District. It is the first historic district in Philadelphia based primarily on Black history. Consisting of 154 properties, the Christian Street Black Doctors Row historic district recognizes a thriving corridor of Black professionals that emerged over the first half of the twentieth century, including physicians, educators, clergymen, lawyers, politicians, businesspeople, and noted architect Julian Abele, lived there until his death in 1950.



YOUNG FRIENDS OF THE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE
AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATEST GENERATION OF
PRESERVATION ACHIEVEMENT

Christopher Rogers, Ph.D.

Henry Ossawa Tanner, who the Smithsonian called, "the most distinguished African American artist of the 19th century," committed himself to painting as a young boy while living at 2908 West Diamond Street in the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood. Christopher Rogers, who earned his doctorate in education from Penn last month, has committed himself to saving the Henry O. Tanner house.

At the launch of a crowdfunding site to Save the Henry O. Tanner House, Christopher told the Inquirer, "Whether it's Church of the Advocate, the Paul Robeson House, or Hakim's Book Store...there's so much we can do in the present to shape the future and sustain the life, culture," and history of Black neighborhoods.

Christopher served as the director of public programs for the Paul Robeson House & Museum until this spring; he is on the National Steering Committee for Black Lives Matter at School, a coalition for racial justice in K-16 education; and he is a research fellow at the Penn-based Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites. In addition to his recently earned doctorate, Christopher holds degrees from Villanova and Cheyney Universities.

Christopher exemplifies preservation leadership in his holistic approach to history, community organizing, and active, relevant scholarship.



AIA PHILADELPHIA

HENRY MAGAZINER AWARD

RECOGNIZING AN INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION THAT HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND FOR WHOM BUILDING PRESERVATION IS NOT A PRIMARY MISSION

Aaron Wunsch, Ph.D.

This year’s recipient is Aaron Wunsch, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania Weitzman School of Design.

Aaron is an architectural historian with degrees from Haverford College, University of Virginia, and University of California, Berkeley. He teaches multiple courses in Penn’s graduate historic preservation program, and he is deeply involved with the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites. His book *Palazzos of Power* explored and documented Philadelphia’s early 20th century power stations, garnering coverage in *The Guardian*, *Fast Company Design*, and other major outlets. In 2018, he helped to found RePoint Philadelphia, the area’s first preservation-oriented, political action committee.

Aaron is being recognized with the Magaziner Award for his impact on countless preservation professionals through his role as an educator at Penn; for consistent and impassioned advocacy for endangered or overlooked buildings; and for his continued dedication to promoting a community-based approach to preservation.



AIA PHILADELPHIA

LANDMARK BUILDING AWARD

RECOGNIZING STRUCTURES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Germantown Town Hall

The AIA Historic Preservation Committee is pleased to designate Germantown Town Hall as the recipient of this year’s Landmark Building Award.

Located at Germantown Avenue & West Haines Street, the Town Hall was designed by John P.B. Sinkler and dedicated in 1925. Sinkler was Philadelphia’s City Architect during a time in which all public structures went through his office. His design bears a modest resemblance to William Strickland’s Merchant’s Exchange building in Old City, with its curved rotunda and tower above. The bell in the tower was made in the same shop as the Liberty Bell, and the clock was designed by Isaiah Lukens, a notable local scientist and inventor.

It was listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places in 1993, vacant by 1998, and declared “endangered” by the Preservation Alliance in 2003.

Today, the building is owned by PIDC, but faces an uncertain future. The Germantown community is also addressing the closure of the high school and ongoing challenges with the YWCA redevelopment. We hope that any plan that emerges for the building respects and enhances the Town Hall’s historic stature on the Germantown skyline.

Grand Jury Members

Thank you to the members of our Grand Jury:



Rachel Crutchfield

Executive Assistant, Preservation Maryland



Barbara Fisher

Capital Grant Administrator,
Maryland Historical Trust



Christopher Miller

Principal, John Milner Architects, Preservation
Alliance Board Representative



Katie Parks

Vice President,
Preservation Maryland



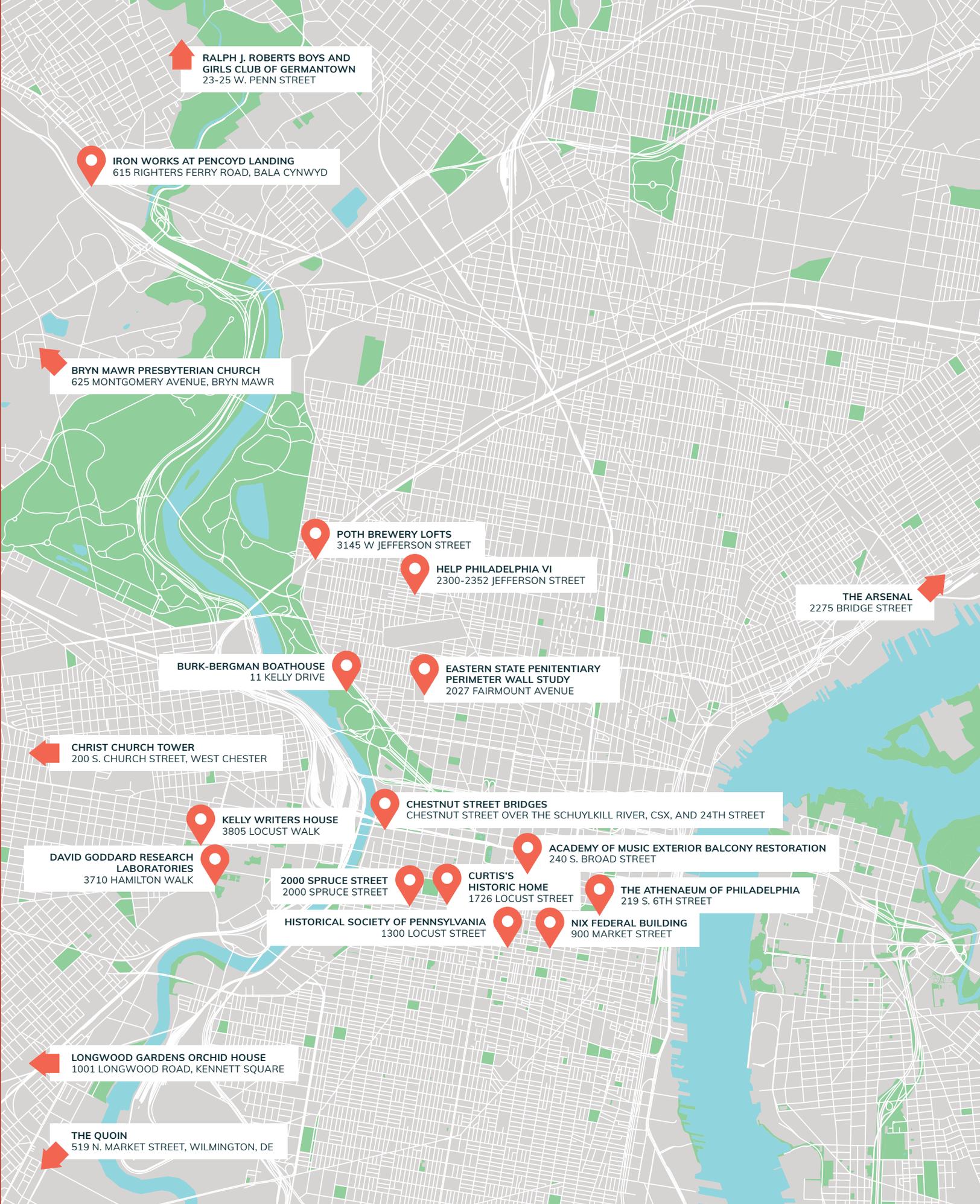
Ann Powell

Principal,
Ziger|Snead Architects



Lisa Sasser

Principal,
Quid Tum Historic Structures Consulting



RALPH J. ROBERTS BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF GERMANTOWN
23-25 W. PENN STREET

IRON WORKS AT PENCOYD LANDING
615 RIGHTERS FERRY ROAD, BALA CYNWYD

BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
625 MONTGOMERY AVENUE, BRYN MAWR

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EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY PERIMETER WALL STUDY
2027 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE

CHRIST CHURCH TOWER
200 S. CHURCH STREET, WEST CHESTER

CHESTNUT STREET BRIDGES
CHESTNUT STREET OVER THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER, CSX, AND 24TH STREET

KELLY WRITERS HOUSE
3805 LOCUST WALK

DAVID GODDARD RESEARCH LABORATORIES
3710 HAMILTON WALK

2000 SPRUCE STREET
2000 SPRUCE STREET

CURTIS'S HISTORIC HOME
1726 LOCUST STREET

ACADEMY OF MUSIC EXTERIOR BALCONY RESTORATION
240 S. BROAD STREET

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA
1300 LOCUST STREET

THE ATHENAEUM OF PHILADELPHIA
219 S. 6TH STREET

NIX FEDERAL BUILDING
900 MARKET STREET

LONGWOOD GARDENS ORCHID HOUSE
1001 LONGWOOD ROAD, KENNETT SQUARE

THE QUOIN
519 N. MARKET STREET, WILMINGTON, DE



2000 SPRUCE STREET, PHILADELPHIA

2000 Spruce Street

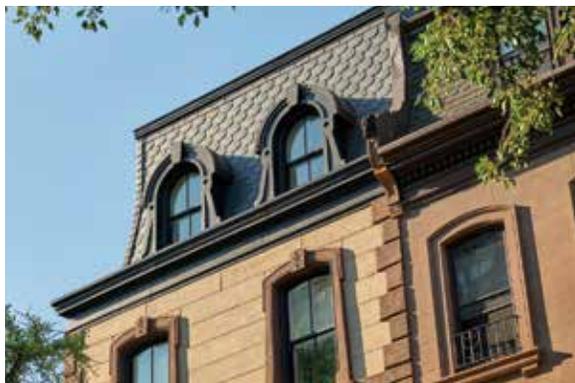
CITY LIVING PHILLY

COSCIAMOOS ARCHITECTURE; POWERS & COMPANY; REED STREET BUILDERS; LIMWORKS

The Civil War was a boon for Will Struthers. He and his father carved out a highly successful niche in the big-ticket tombstone market, topping out many of the interred wealthy at Laurel Hill Cemetery. Shrewdly profiting from the living and the dead, Will expanded his monumental business to include luxury home building. Later, he would provide the marble for City Hall, the Public Ledger building, and a host of other major structures.

In 1869, he built this striking Second Empire-style house, which was later owned by a series of affluent families, including the John Wanamakers. In this exquisite restoration, the sandstone and brownstone were cleaned and patched; delicate leaf and vine ornamentation, quoins, and belt courses were meticulously repaired or built anew; and windows were replicated with energy-efficient double panes. Most significantly, the 4th floor mansard that had been lost in a 1917 fire was recreated using historic photos and modern ingenuity.

This masterful rehabilitation project has made 2000 Spruce once again a visual anchor on the block and one of Rittenhouse Square's most successful preservation projects.





240 S. BROAD STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Academy of Music Exterior Balcony Restoration

KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS

ATKIN OLSHIN SCHADE ARCHITECTS; KEAST & HOOD; BUILDING CONSERVATION ASSOCIATES; HLB LIGHTING;
VANDERWEIL ENGINEERS; BECKER & FRONDORF; PULLMAN SST; HAVERSTICK-BORTHWICK

The best of the best have performed at the Academy of Music. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Marian Anderson, Artur Rubinstejn, Edith Piaf, Enrico Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti, Paw Patrol. In the last century, patrons were allowed to walk onto exterior balconies for a cigarette during intermission. Those narrow balconies, about 5 x 30', are part of the original 1857 construction before structural steel was used. They overhang Broad and Locust Streets and have been closed to the public – both smoking and nonsmoking – for many years. Foremost a public safety project, this work involved the restoration and replacement of the original balcony brackets and cornice, the installation of a new cast stone balustrade, a waterproof membrane coating, and new lighting to illuminate the decoration and sculpture of the balconies. Surprisingly, the previous repairs of the 1950s and 60s were of poor quality. And not surprisingly, the team had no original drawings. Ironically, the details had been hidden under layers of waterproof paint that trapped moisture and enhanced delamination. Each step presented an opportunity for discovery – some wonderful, others a serious pain in the baton. By combining traditional construction practices with new material technology, the team was able to restore an iconic and beautiful detail of the Academy's façade.





2275 BRIDGE STREET, PHILADELPHIA

The Arsenal

ALLIANCE HP

DIGSAU; POWERS & COMPANY; D2 GROUPS

Frankford Arsenal has been a place of American innovation for generations. While it manufactured arms for every conflict from the Civil War to the Vietnam War, the Arsenal is also credited with pioneering production techniques that buoyed American industry and helped make Philadelphia known as the Workshop of the World. Lined up like machine gun ammo, these historic buildings are one of Philadelphia's largest recent adaptive reuse projects, totaling 210,000 square feet of floor space. Restorative work included cleaning and repairing with conservation-grade products and repointing with lime-based mortar mixes. Windows were replaced with custom aluminum units with insulated glass, significantly upgrading the energy efficiency of the large structures. Interior work included cleaning and polishing concrete floors, repairing and painting columns and ceilings, and repairing exposed brick walls. All new HVAC, electrical, and plumbing services were installed. This impressive rehabilitation has sensitively transformed five 200-year-old factories into attractive and functional spaces for start-ups and established companies in robotics, healthcare, industrial design, sustainability, and food and beverage products, among others.





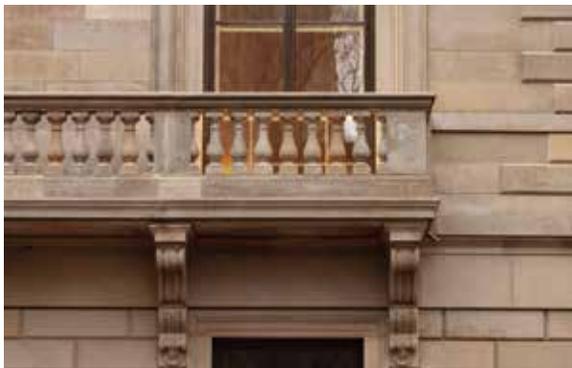
219 S. 6TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA

The Athenaeum of Philadelphia

THE ATHENAEUM OF PHILADELPHIA

KREILICK CONSERVATION; KEAST & HOOD; KEYSTONE PRESERVATION GROUP;
PREMIER BUILDING RESTORATION; 18TH CENTURY RESTORATIONS; SUN PRECAST CO.;
SUPERIOR SCAFFOLD SERVICES

The man who introduced America to the Italian Renaissance Revival was the Scottish-born architect John Notman, whose first commission and final resting place was Laurel Hill Cemetery—where he reposes under a large tombstone, likely crafted by Struthers & Son of 2000 Spruce Street fame. When Notman’s Athenaeum was completed in 1847, it was immediately hailed as a masterpiece. The stately structure, embellished with carved ornament, a decorative iron piazza, rusticated masonry, and boldly projecting cornice made Philadelphians actually want to read a book. Building it of brownstone was a bold, even cheeky decision that started a runaway architectural trend in Philadelphia and other cities. Notman went on to design glorious churches and stately mansions for industrialists. The restoration of the Athenaeum exterior required meticulous planning and execution. The team had to disassemble and repair window sills, the west balcony, and portions of the cornice; secure the foundation; replace the roof; and clean, patch, and point all the stone and stucco. The theft of the brass railings in 2018 made it clear that lighting the front of the building would also be a good idea—both practically and esthetically. The Athenaeum is an elegant and poised architectural citizen of Philadelphia, demanding recognition as an irreplaceable treasure.





625 MONTGOMERY AVENUE, BRYN MAWR

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VOITH & MACTAVISH ARCHITECTS; SITE ENGINEERING CONCEPTS; ROBINSON ANDERSON SUMMERS; KEAST & HOOD; DIMITRI J. VERVERELLI, INC.; O'DONOHUE LIGHTING; W.S. CUMBY CONSTRUCTION; WATCHDOG PROJECT MANAGEMENT; MARA RESTORATION; ARCHITECTURAL WINDOW RESTORATION; SCINTILLA STAINED GLASS; W.H. LAIRD ROOFING

Beginning in 1873, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church's first pastor preached to railroad moguls and coal shovelers alike for 33 years. The second pastor, coming from Scotland, arrived a week late because he missed his boarding time on the Titanic. Throughout its 150-year history, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church has rarely had a problem staying afloat. The church constructed six buildings on its six-acre Main Line campus between 1911 and 1990. An embarrassment of architectural riches, the Gothic Revival stone structures and Tiffany windows bring great pride to the congregation, prompting it to engage in big-picture planning and a series of improvements to make the most of what they have. The most impactful of these is a new link between two main buildings. It is a simple glass cube with an extruded cast stone entry. It extends the limestone trim used throughout campus and the angled skylight bathes the interior in sunlight. Other prominent undertakings included accessible entrances, new elevators, a porch for children's playtime, a reflection garden, and the restoration of the "Resurrection" stained glass window in the Sanctuary. Combining restoration, new construction, renovation, and rehabilitation, these improvements have built on the church's distinguished history to set the stage for a strong and sustainable future.





11 KELLY DRIVE, PHILADELPHIA

Burk-Bergman Boathouse

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

EWINGCOLE; KEAST & HOOD; SBK + PARTNERS; PENNONI; TARGET BUILDING CONSTRUCTION;
CDP CONSTRUCTION; DEPARTMENT OF RECREATIONAL & INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS, UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA; FRES, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Previously known as the Madeira Shell House, the College Boat Club, and #11 of the 15 structures on Boathouse Row, the Penn Boathouse is a heavily used center of recreation and competition. It was built in 1874 as a mix of Victorian and Gothic Revival styles. Penn's goals for this project were to remediate deterioration and preserve an historic landmark; balance space allocations for men's and women's programs; increase functionality and accessibility; bolster recruitment by showcasing the sport; and provide space for special events and drinking a "highball at nightfall." Facing a hodgepodge of later renovations, the team chose to lean in to the 1874 Victorian / Gothic style. From old photographs, they reconstructed balconies on the river and Kelly Drive façades. They rebuilt the 1930 east bay that was structurally compromised and inserted helical piles and grade beams under the Boathouse to provide proper bearing capacity. In the new second story space, they inserted a dramatic structural intervention: inverted queen post trusses to replace the rotting king post trusses of the roof -- a subtle nod to the equal number of female members who now row for the red and blue.





CHESTNUT STREET OVER THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER, CSX, AND 24TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Chestnut Street Bridges

PENNDOT DISTRICT 6-0

BENESCH; MATERIALS CONSERVATION CO.; BUCKLEY & COMPANY

Dating to the Civil War, the bridges that carry Chestnut Street across train tracks and the Schuylkill River have brownstone ashlar spandrel walls, granite arch rings, and brick masonry arch. A tough challenge of this rehabilitation was coordinating schedules with the CSX freight line. But PennDOT knows a thing or two about building bridges. To halt the deterioration of the 19th century bridges, the team removed the existing bridge deck and earth-fill and replaced it with lightweight concrete fill; dismantled arch sections and rebuilt them with salvaged and new stone; cleaned and repaired historic railings; and replaced the brick of the sidewalk arch openings. For the safety of cyclists, PennDOT moved the bike lane to the north side of the bridge and enhanced the connection to the Schuylkill River Trail. The Chestnut Street bridges are remnants of a larger brick arch viaduct that was constructed in 1864. Four years later, on this site, Frank Furness's B&O Railroad station was ready for passengers. The Furness station was demolished in 1963. But a hidden staircase built for access to the station from 24th Street was discovered and stabilized during this rehab. Alongside the eastern downstroke of the restored bridge, the long-lost station is memorialized by Richard Haas's tromp l'oeil mural on the wall of the 2300 Chestnut building.





200 S. CHURCH STREET, WEST CHESTER

Christ Church Tower

CHRIST CHURCH

CULBERTSON RESTORATION; JOSEPH B. CALLAGHAN, INC.; SUN PRECAST CO.

Christ Church West Chester (formerly Westminster Presbyterian Church) was founded by 63 congregants who felt that they should be allowed to sit anywhere in the sanctuary, and that God's grace should not cost so much. They left the First Presbyterian Church, whose tithes were sky-high, and, in 1893, spent liberally to construct their own church. The Gothic Revival structure was built of local Avondale stone quarried just down the road. The original building, and an addition built in 1900, are part of the borough's expanded National Register historic district. Five years ago, it was discovered that the structural integrity of the bell tower was compromised by the devilish root system of a nearby tree. A careful examination of the damage revealed that the northeast spire would have to be reconstructed. Nine pieces of figurines were removed and reconstituted by hand. A strap anchor system was used to tie the new cast stone pieces together and rebuild the spire. To stabilize the other three terracotta spires, a new steel angle was run vertically through, with connections back to the main tower structure. Barring lightning strikes, we can hope that the tower will remain for another 130 years.





1726 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Curtis's Historic Home

CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

ELLIOTT-LEWIS CORPORATION; IEI GROUP; INTECH CONSTRUCTION; VITETTA ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS

When Leonard Bernstein graduated from Curtis in 1941, the grand limestone hearth was still framed by two ornate, charming wooden pilasters. Later, one of them was lost. For this extensive restoration, artisans replicated the lost pilaster, making it a mirror image of the remaining original. The project team members, in their role as treasure hunters, uncovered and restored an overmantel mirror, plaster ceiling decorations, and an elaborately tiled floor by Frank Furness, from when 1726 Locust was the residence of Mary Louise Curtis Bok, founder of the school. Throughout the interior and across the exterior, historic ironwork - by master blacksmith and ornamental metal artist Samuel Yellin - was refurbished. This project remedied safety and accessibility concerns in addition to restoring historical features of the original mansion on Rittenhouse Square. New systems transformed the campus, allowing Curtis to welcome guests and train exceptionally gifted musicians in inspiring spaces.





3710 HAMILTON WALK, PHILADELPHIA

David Goddard Research Laboratories

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CVM ENGINEERS; KNAPP MASONRY; UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION; UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

In the early 1960s, Penn provost and biology professor David Goddard supported students who protested the US military's biological research on campus. The price of his principled stance is that he had to do most of the fundraising for this building himself. Designed by Louis Kahn and engineered by August Komendant, the Goddard and Richards labs were the first of Kahn's work to be designated a National Historic Landmark. The labs are open floor areas supported by corner towers used as stairwells or exhaust shafts, in Kahn's quintessential "served" and "servant" spaces. This restoration addressed damage to the building façade. In Goddard's brick and terracotta cavity wall system, portions of the brick masonry are supported by steel shelf angles. Damage occurred as a result of movement of the concrete frame, expansion of the masonry, and long-term weather exposure. That is, the steel corroded, the concrete crept, the terracotta cracked, and the brick bulged. The team removed multiple courses of masonry, replaced damaged steel with galvanized steel, installed lead-coated copper flashing, and allowed for differential movement between the façade and building frame. At the upper two floors, the failing veneer was completely replaced. Bolstering this historic landmark was staged over a period of five years.





2027 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA

Eastern State Penitentiary Perimeter Wall Study

EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY HISTORIC SITE

J&M PRESERVATION STUDIO; SCHNABEL CONSERVATION; DAVID CORNELIUS AIA;
ATKINSON-NOLAND & ASSOCIATES; PULLMAN SST; PENN STATE UNIVERSITY; INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS

Eastern State Penitentiary is known for its massive perimeter wall. Half a mile long and roughly 30 feet tall, the walls are six feet thick at grade, and extend at least 20 feet below grade at some locations. No prisoner ever escaped through the wall. Nearly 200 years after it was constructed, Eastern State is engaged in a full-on assault to prevent those walls from tumbling down. Failing mortar and stone loss was a warning shot, causing leadership to undertake a high-tech, holistic assessment. Experts left no stone unturned. Archival research determined the original materials and construction techniques. High-resolution orthorectified images of wall surfaces were captured to record existing conditions and repair history. Moisture meters pinpointed future problems, radar identified anchors and voids, and infrared thermography cameras determined surface temperatures to infer dampness. After a thorough review of all expert reports, J&M Preservation Studio prepared a prioritized list of repairs and next steps. They also included a cost estimate prepared by an outside consultant that is phased over time and adjusted with inflation to illustrate the budgets required when the repair work is done incrementally over time. Water is the culprit. Water is always the culprit. But now Eastern State has an essential tool for managing the long-term preservation of the walls.





2300-2352 W. JEFFERSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA

HELP Philadelphia VI

HELP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HERITAGE CONSULTING GROUP; KRAMER + MARKS ARCHITECTS; DOMUS; DCI+MACINTOSH ENGINEERS;
MCHUGH ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

The adaptive reuse of vacant school buildings is a perennial favorite of Preservation Alliance Grand Juries. This year's lesson in class is an Art Deco elementary school in the Sharswood neighborhood of North Philly, designed in 1926 by the School District's go-to architect, Irwin T. Catharine. Decommissioned in 2013, the former General John F. Reynolds School has returned to active duty as 55 apartments for homeless and low-income veterans, seniors, and people with disabilities. Accessibility was a primary focus of this public / private venture. A new main entrance and the insertion of elevators in place of a stairwell were necessary, but the building has good bones and the classrooms, corridors, offices, and auditorium were well-suited for conversion to residential use. The team, led by HELP USA, which has opened six affordable housing projects in Philadelphia, was committed to restoring the fluted columns, classical entablature, limestone parapet, and terracotta ornamentation of the original entrance and many interior features. Historically appropriate windows were inserted throughout, and existing interior storefront windows were retained and fire-rated on the classroom side, as were existing transoms. Now called the Brigadier General Hazel Johnson Brown Veterans Center, after the first African American female general in the U.S. Army, the project is a five-star part of the revitalization of the Sharswood Blumberg neighborhood.





1300 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Historical Society of Pennsylvania

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH B. CALLAGHAN, INC.; WINDOW REPAIRS AND RESTORATION; BRUCE E. BROOKS & ASSOCIATES;
THE LIGHTING PRACTICE; SAW RESTORATION; PALMAN ELECTRIC; ARENA MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania was once nomadic, and even crashed on the Athenaeum's couch for a time. But in the 1880s it was able to purchase its own historic building. The mansion at 13th and Locust had been designed by William Strickland some 50 years before. Rebuilt in 1883 by Addison Hutton, the design added an assembly hall for the Historical Society and fireproof storage for millions of historic documents, letters, and treaties. Taking care to respect Strickland's Greek revival style, Hutton reclad the main structure in brick and stone, retaining the ionic columns and marble entry hall. This renovation restored the beauty of the façade. Mortar was replaced and repointed to make the brickwork uniform, durable, and watertight. The steel exterior windows, some interior windows, the entire cornice, the front gates, and the front window gratings were scraped and repainted. The front window gratings feature an emblem of a knight, whose original gold and silver highlights were delicately restored. New accent lights were placed at key points around the façade to highlight the historic beauty of the building. The lighting design was developed with these goals: create focal points at entrances, spotlight interesting architectural features, and enhance the nighttime appearance both for safety and to attract visitors to events. As the Historical Society approaches its 200th anniversary in 2024, the building is a sparkling example of dedication to preservation.





615 RIGHTERS FERRY ROAD, BALA CYNWYD

Iron Works at Pencoyd Landing

PENN REAL ESTATE GROUP

COSCIAMOOS ARCHITECTURE; DAVID RUBIN LAND COLLECTIVE; SITE ENGINEERING CONCEPTS;
DCI+MACINTOSH ENGINEERS; O'DONNELL & NACCARATO STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

What do the Niagara Falls Bridge, the Philadelphia Centennial's Main Building, and the Chicago "L" have in common? Their steel was produced at the Pencoyd Iron Works in Bala Cynwyd. The iron works at Pencoyd – a Welsh word meaning “head of the woods” – once employed 10,000 people before Andrew Carnegie acquired it for US Steel in 1902. It shut down after World War II. The warehouses, factories and other structures still standing proved to be a treasure trove for the project, with site materials strategically and extensively reused. The new hotel is clad with steel beams, Roman brick, fiber cement panels, Corten steel, and galvanized metal panels that were reclaimed from the site. The patios and riverwalk, as well as the hotel entrance, are framed by steel trusses repurposed from the original factory structure. The elegant rooftop restaurant and ground floor café by Top Chef Nick Elmi contribute mightily to making the Ironworks a destination, but importantly for Philadelphia, the site is very much a public recreation space. The project links the site to the larger Schuylkill River Trail network, connecting pedestrians and cyclists to Manayunk over the restored Pencoyd Bridge, and forges a celebration of the area's rich industrial heritage.





3805 LOCUST WALK, PHILADELPHIA

Kelly Writers House

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

TRUSTEES OF UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA; UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA FACILITIES;
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF PROVOST; DIGSAU; ARUP; LANGAN ENGINEERING;
TREFZ ENGINEERING; STUDIO BRYAN HANES; KEAST & HOOD; MURPHY QUIGLEY COMPANY;
ROBERT J. HOTES AIA; VINCENT FELDMAN; KELLY WRITERS HOUSE

While Penn's appetite for building big carries on, a most satisfying amuse-bouche of a project has been completed. An 1851 Gothic cottage designed by Samuel Sloan – one of the oldest buildings on campus -- has been renovated with respect and deference. Founded by the extraordinary and tireless Al Filreis and the late, great visionary Bob Lucid, Kelly Writers House is a haven for authors of all kinds. Writers House hosts hundreds of readings, workshops, podcasts, film screenings, lectures, art exhibits, and musical performances each year in this jewel box. Because it was too often overflowing with a plethora of poets, the main gathering space, known as the Arts Café, needed to be expanded and AV systems upgraded. The architects' creative solution was to enclose the porch, insert energy-efficient, mechanical electrical systems inside built-in wooden benches, and raise the sound, light, and recording equipment to the caliber of a TV studio production. To make the building accessible, the team moved the primary entry to the side, with a subtle ramp and a view of the upgraded courtyard. While this was a project of modest scale, it has significantly enhanced an historic space and is a gift to the greater university community.





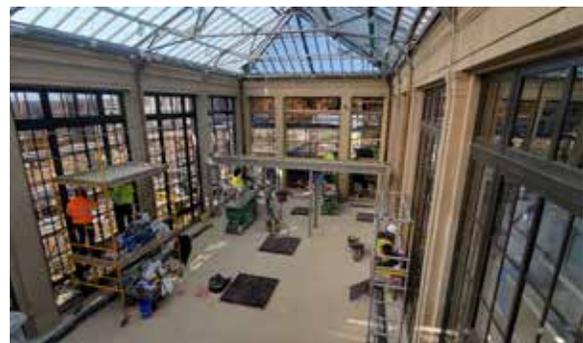
1001 LONGWOOD ROAD, KENNETT SQUARE

Longwood Gardens Orchid House

LONGWOOD GARDENS

BANCROFT CONSTRUCTION; JOHN MILNER ARCHITECTS; BAKER, INGRAM & ASSOCIATES;
BRUCE E. BROOKS & ASSOCIATES; MATERIALS CONSERVATION CO.; PULLMAN SST;
THE ARMBRUSTER COMPANY; HOLZMAN IRON STUDIO

What is now the Orchid House originally displayed a variety of flora, including bananas. In the early 1900s, Alice du Pont – wife of Longwood Gardens founder, Pierre S. du Pont – received an orchid as a gift. A passion for orchids bloomed, naturally. Longwood Garden’s orchid collection now consists of 6,000 species that the du Ponts purchased from American growers, as well as orchids from India, Thailand, England, France, Belgium, and the Caribbean. Completed in 1921, the Orchid House is a rectilinear structure with a pyramid-shaped glass roof surrounded by a precast balustrade. The walls are tall bronze windows framed with decorative concrete piers. The building is among the first designed by John Joseph Earley, a pioneer in creative precast construction known as “Mosaic Concrete.” Restoration of the structural and decorative concrete was a critical component of this project, as was reconfiguring the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems; reglazing the roof; patinating bronze surfaces; installing trench drains; and repairing the tunnel walls beneath the building. A supplemental perimeter heating system now conditions the exterior glazing to maintain a consistent temperature for the orchids during the winter. Automatic door operators were carefully integrated to make the entrance accessible to all. The restoration enhances Longwood as a botanical garden of beauty and distinction, while expanding its role as a center for education, training, and conservation.





900 MARKET STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Nix Federal Building

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

MILLS + SCHNOERING ARCHITECTS; US DEPARTMENT OF STATE; THE BEDWELL COMPANY; KEAST & HOOD;
HENRY ADAMS; JENSEN HUGHES; K2 AUDIO; THE LIGHTING PRACTICE; AFG GROUP; LVCK DESIGN;
BECKER & FRONDORF

Mentored by Paul Cret at Penn, Harry Sternfeld also studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. When, in 1936, the WPA called on him to design a new post office and courthouse at 9th & Market, he teamed up with Walter Ballinger, founder of the Ballinger Company. Together they designed a chic, Art Moderne-style structure, clad in Indiana limestone with a pink granite base, now known as the Nix Building. Its colossal presence is softened by sculptural reliefs depicting classic Greek embodiments of Justice, Law, and mail delivery. The building functioned as a courthouse, office building, and post office until the USPS moved out in 2017. This project involved renovating the historic post office to accommodate the US Passport Agency. Restoration of the magnificent lobby involved cleaning and repairing rose-colored marble walls, three-toned terrazzo floors, and prismatic glass windows; refinishing bronze entry doors, windows, ceiling pendants, and fixtures; and making the building accessible, safe, and comfortable for visitors and staff. The team sensitively preserved the historic elements and created an efficient, attractive, and professional public space in the heart of Philadelphia.





3145 W. JEFFERSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Poth Brewery Lofts

MMPARTNERS

MARSHALL SABATINI ARCHITECTURE; AXIS CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT; HERITAGE CONSULTING GROUP; CITIZENS BANK; PNC REAL ESTATE; PIDC; DCI+MACINTOSH ENGINEERS

Prohibition had the Frederick Poth Brewery over a barrel. Before it was forced to close, the business frothed with success, occupying one of the largest brewing facilities in Philadelphia and spilling over a large part of the Brewerytown landscape. The buildings featured the signature Rundbogenstil, or round-arch style, favored by the foremost brewery architect of the day, Otto Wolf. This project rehabilitated the two buildings remaining from the complex: the primary brew house and stables for 140 delivery horses. Ravaged by time, vandals, speculators, and remodelers, the buildings were a dangerous eyesore and an impediment to neighborhood revitalization. The team preserved much of the expressive arches, brickwork, and accent details on the exterior, while reinforcing the structural integrity of the massive walls. They highlighted the original Phoenix columns, barrel vaulted arches, iron, steel, and stone features. The exposed concrete floors throughout most of the complex were ground, polished, and left to tell their story - presumably with a pilsner. Now reborn as Poth Brewery Lofts, the project is an iconic centerpiece of the Brewerytown National Historic District, a catalyst for further development in the community, and a living testament to a neighborhood's hoppy industrial past.





519 N. MARKET STREET, WILMINGTON, DE

The Quoin

BUCCINI/POLLIN GROUP

METHOD HOSPITALITY; STOKES ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN; BPGS CONSTRUCTION; POWERS & COMPANY; DEDC; CHRISTINA RIVER EXCHANGE; BEAM

Frank Furness designed hundreds of buildings, many of which were, “insane short stories of a castle on a city street,” as Bob Venturi said. Befitting a bank in America’s first state, the 1885 Security Trust & Safe Deposit Company building wasn’t insane, but still glowed with Furness audacity. In 1908, John T. Windrim respectfully doubled Furness’s composition, enhancing its “monumentality” and creating a boldly reimagined commercial landmark in downtown Wilmington. This conversion of the bank into a boutique hotel is one of many adaptive reuse projects in the ongoing revitalization of the Wilmington central business district. The namesake quoins were repointed, arched windows restored, and the stucco fill was removed from two ground-floor windows. The 1920s-era brass revolving door and travertine floors were refinished. The new first floor features a 100-seat restaurant. The basement speakeasy is called Simmer Down. The rooftop bar overlooks the gardens of the Delaware Historical Society. The bar is recessed behind the mansard roof so that it can’t be seen from the street, as required for National Register buildings. The 2nd and 3rd floors house 24 guestrooms with oak herringbone flooring, custom furniture, and many preserved historic details. The Quoin is 3 blocks away from its big brother, Wilmington Station, perhaps the grandest remaining of the many train stations that Furness designed.





23-25 W. PENN STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Ralph J. Roberts Boys and Girls Club of Germantown

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF PHILADELPHIA

HECKENDORN SHILES ARCHITECTS; O'DONNELL & NACCARATO STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS;
WICK FISHER WHITE ENGINEERS; DANIEL J. KEATING COMPANY; PENNONI ASSOCIATES;
JOSEPH B. CALLAGHAN, INC.; CORSI ASSOCIATES

In 1898, the 4-story, split-level Germantown Club on West Penn Street in Germantown opened and became a popular place for local boys to play and learn. The Great Depression changed all that. The neighborhood's population dramatically increased, while the Club's funding dwindled. Deferred maintenance and failing systems threatened to shutter the club, and its owners decided to demolish the handsome clubhouse. A determined and vocal effort by neighbors and preservation advocates eventually convinced them to repurpose and restore the historic club instead. The clubhouse became part of the "Bold Change for Kids" capital campaign and underwent the most extensive renovation that this network of Philadelphia clubs have seen in decades. The building required a full exterior restoration and full interior renovation, with new mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems; room reconfigurations; accessibility insertions; and the rehabilitation of two gyms. The new floor plan features a literacy center, learning center, STEM class, technology center, and music room, as well as the rejuvenated cafeteria and game room. This summer, the revitalized club will serve 300 neighborhood children each day. The building is bright, energy-efficient, and packed with potential. The Club is named for the late Ralph Roberts. It is the only project that Roberts agreed to help fund and put his full name on. Roberts' family moved to Germantown in 1936, after the death of his father. At age 16, Roberts joined the Germantown Club; in 1963, he launched Comcast. The rest is history.



In Memoriam



Tom Crane

1940 – 2023

Ralph Thompson Crane III, of Bryn Mawr, became interested in architectural photography while serving in the Peace Corps after college. Using a simple Kodak, he photographed buildings along the floodplains in Nigeria. This portfolio of work earned him an apprenticeship with Ezra Stoller and later a job with Hans Namuth in New York. By the 1980s, he had opened his own studio in a Bryn Mawr barn that he refurbished himself.

Tom's work was published widely in magazines like *Architectural Digest*, *Architectural Record* and in many architecture firms' monographs. He collaborated with Roger Moss, emeritus director of the Athenaeum, on three highly praised books, *Historic Houses of Philadelphia* (1998), *Historic Places of Philadelphia* (2004), and *Historic Landmarks of Philadelphia* (2008).

A board member of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Institute of Classic Architecture and Art, Tom was honored for lifetime achievement at the 2022 Trumbauer Award gala. He welcomed students into his studio, embraced the new digital technology, lectured widely and held workshops over the years on the use of light, shadow and contrast in photography.

Born in Montclair, New Jersey, Tom attended Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts and graduated from George Washington University in 1965.



Joel Fry

1957 – 2023

Joel T. Fry was known far and wide for his horticultural expertise, dry wit, and limitless curiosity. As the curator at Bartram's Garden for more than 30 years, Joel dedicated himself to scholarship, mentorship, and the *Franklinia alatamaha*, a large summer blooming shrub that would be extinct except for seeds brought back from Georgia by John Bartram himself and cultivated ever since at the Garden. Joel catalogued more than 2,000 plant species, some dating back to 1783, and kept Bartram's voluminous historical records updated.

Joel wrote and lectured extensively on botanical, historical, and geological subjects. He led tours for international tourists, garden clubs, and museum groups through the National Historic Landmark in southwest Philadelphia, and through nearby historic sites like the Woodlands and Eden Cemetery. He had close professional relationships with fellow scholars throughout the world and could talk for hours with historians, archaeologists, scientists, and horticulturalists on any subject.

In the 2010s, Joel and historian Sharece Blakney expanded Bartram's research into the neighborhood's African American horticultural history, incorporating traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous practices into the management of the Garden's ecosystem.

Joel grew up in Berwyn, graduated from Conestoga High and earned a BA in anthropology and an MA in American civilization and historical archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania.

In Memoriam



Robert Geddes, FAIA

1923 – 2023

Bob Geddes was born Robert Leon Goldberg in Philadelphia. He enrolled at Berkeley but transferred to Yale after the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, which occurred on his 18th birthday. He served in the Air Force during World War II, later earning a master's in architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design under Walter Gropius.

Upon graduating, Bob worked briefly for Hugh Stubbins, Jr. in Cambridge, and Vincent Kling in Philadelphia before forming a partnership with Harvard classmate Mel Brecher in 1953. The two were among the first faculty to be recruited by G. Holmes Perkins in his remaking of architectural education at Penn. Geddes & Brecher later invited fellow faculty George Qualls and Warren Cunningham to the partnership, forming the firm that became known as GBQC Architects.

The firm's first AIA National Honor Award and first AIA Philadelphia Gold Medal were won in 1958 for the Harold Pender Labs of the Moore School of Electrical Engineering at Penn (demolished in 2003). This is considered the first building on Penn's campus by a member of the influential, midcentury group of architects that became known as The Philadelphia School. In 1963, the firm won an AIA Philadelphia Gold Medal for their design for the Philadelphia Police Headquarters. The building, commonly known as The Roundhouse, was featured alongside Fallingwater in *Modern Architecture, USA*, an exhibition at MoMA in 1965.

Bob taught architecture at Penn for 15 years, alongside Philadelphia School colleagues Louis Kahn, Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, Ehrman Mitchell, Romaldo Giurgola, and John Bower. In 1965, Princeton named him Dean of the new School of Architecture and Urban Planning. In the years he was there, he designed award-winning buildings for the Institute for Advanced Study, and the Urban Design Plan for Center City Philadelphia. He taught architecture and urbanism well into his 90s.



Hyman Myers, FAIA

1941 – 2022

In a career spanning nearly half a century, Hy Myers took part in more than 350 renovations of historic sites and buildings throughout the US, including 60 National Historic Landmarks and one World Heritage site.

Of his work to preserve City Hall he told the Philadelphia Daily News in 1988, "In the name of progress, listen to history. Restore that elegance and supplement that original majesty with new and grand ideas that will make her once again the focus and symbol of Philadelphia's dream for the 21st century."

Hy grew up in West Oak Lane, graduated from Central High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in architectural engineering and a master's degree in architecture at Penn. He joined the Peace Corps after graduate school and was hired by Vitetta in 1973. He developed long-term relationships with clients responsible for the stewardship of the Academy of Music, the National Gallery of Art, the Capitol Building in Harrisburg, and many others, notably Philadelphia City Hall.

Hy taught historic preservation at Penn and lectured often at national preservation conferences. Affable and accomplished, he appeared in the documentary series *Philadelphia: The Great Experiment* (2008) by Sam Katz's History Making Productions and played a leading role in the popular WHY-TV program, *A Walk Up Broad Street With Bill Webber & Hy Myers* (2000).

In addition to numerous awards for preservation projects, Hy received three noteworthy Lifetime Achievement Awards: the F. Otto Haas Award from Preservation Pennsylvania in 1992; the James Biddle Award from the Preservation Alliance in 2009; and the John Harbeson Award from AIA Philadelphia in 2013.

In Memoriam



Philip Price, Jr.

1934 – 2023

Philip Price's ancestors included President Zachary Taylor and Major General George Meade. His great grandfather helped secure the land for Fairmount Park and his grandfather helped finance construction of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Phil used that silver spoon to champion numerous non-profit organizations.

A graduate of St. Paul's School, Harvard College, and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Phil started at Dechert, Price and Rhoads (his father's firm) but quickly switched to the public defender's office. For many years he was executive director of the Allegheny West Foundation, a community development organization dedicated to economic growth in the North Philadelphia neighborhood once known as Swampoodle. He championed projects that increased affordable housing, employment, business development, and educational opportunities.

Phil also served as a tireless Fairmount Park Commissioner dedicated to the preservation of Belmont Plateau, Lemon Hill, Strawberry Mansion, the Glendinning Rock Garden, and the East Park Reservoir. In an editorial in 2005 he wrote, "Fairmount Park is an irreplaceable urban treasure. The very first property named Fairmount Park was created by an ordinance charging City Council to maintain 'open public places for the health and enjoyment of the people forever!'"

More recently, Phil was a trustee of the Association for Public Art, formerly the Fairmount Park Art Association. In 2018, he funded the restoration and recasting of Billy, the beloved goat sculpture in Rittenhouse Square that his grandfather had donated to the City.



James B. Straw

1946 – 2022

Jim Straw was the Renaissance man's Renaissance man. He sang baritone and played the flute, clarinet, saxophone, and guitar. He was a gourmet cook, wine connoisseur, and delegate to the Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin in Burgundy. He sailed regularly, once from Nova Scotia to Ireland. He entered his orchids in the Philadelphia Flower Show. He also cared deeply about historic preservation. Born in Teaneck, New Jersey, Jim earned bachelor's degrees in building sciences and architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a master's degree in urban design from Columbia University.

As a preservation architect at Kise, Straw & Kolodner, Jim worked on national award-winning projects including the adaptive reuse of the historic Ridgway Library into the High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, the renovation of Fairmount Park's Memorial Hall into the Please Touch Museum, and the restoration of the historic Johnson House Underground Railroad site in Germantown.

In 2017, Mayor Kenney said, "Without Jim Straw, there would be no such public memorial to O.V. Catto in Philadelphia today." As co-chair of the Catto Memorial Fund, Jim's efforts resulted in the statue that graces the southwest apron of Philadelphia's City Hall.

In 2009, the Philadelphia Art Alliance honored Jim with the Wister Award for dedication and devotion to arts and culture. In the 48 years he lived in Philadelphia, he served as chair of the board for many organizations including Partners for Sacred Places, Opera Philadelphia, and the Union League's Abraham Lincoln Foundation. He was member of the Fairmount Park Commission, and president of the Union League, Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble, and the Orpheus Club.

Having no descendants, he referred to himself as The Last Straw.

In Memoriam



Ralph Thomas Unkefer, Jr.

1931 – 2022

Tom Unkefer grew up in Wayne and graduated from Radnor High School. At Dartmouth he received bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering, before joining the US Navy Construction Battalion. He earned an MBA at Harvard Business School on the GI Bill and became president of Unkefer Brothers Construction Company after his father's passing.

The company's projects included award-winning restorations of historically significant structures like the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Erdman Hall at Bryn Mawr College, Arch Street Friends Meeting House, multiple Fairmount Park historic mansions, the John Bartram House, Smith Memorial Playhouse, as well as College Hall, Logan Hall, and Irvine Auditorium at Penn. In 2011, Unkefer Brothers Construction received the Preservation Alliance's Board of Directors Award for exceptional stewardship of historic properties.

A practicing Quaker, Tom remained committed to helping others throughout his life. He volunteered with numerous non-profit organizations, including serving as board president for Youth Services Inc.; treasurer and chair of the building, nominating, and finance committees for Associated Services for the Blind; and board member for Friends Select School, Library Company of Philadelphia, Carpenters' Company, and Arch Street Friends Meeting, where he was a member until his passing.



The University of Pennsylvania would like to congratulate the Preservation Alliance's 2023 Achievement Awardees for Greater Philadelphia — including project teams for the Burk-Bergman Boathouse, Kelly Writers House, and Goddard Laboratories — for their dedication to honoring the past while looking toward the future.



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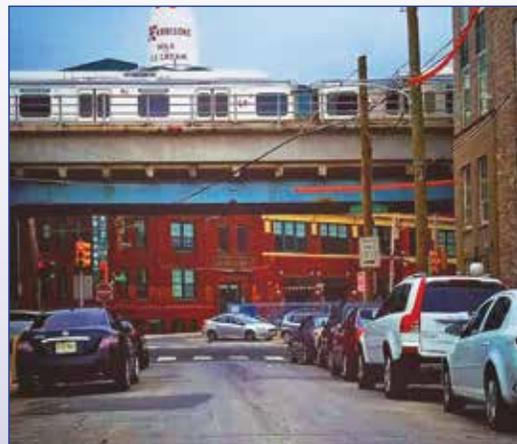
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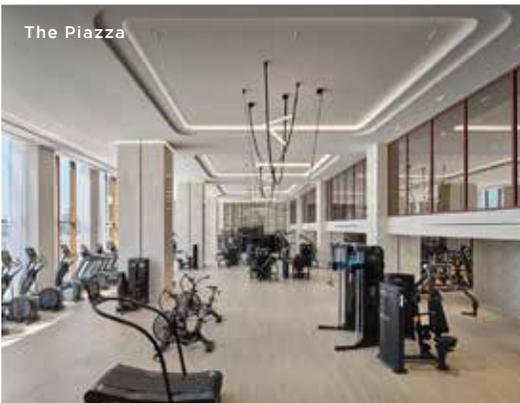
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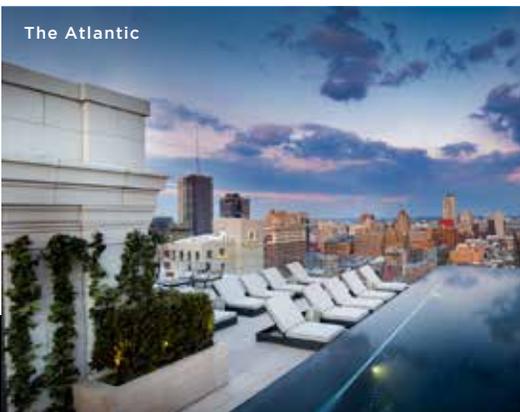
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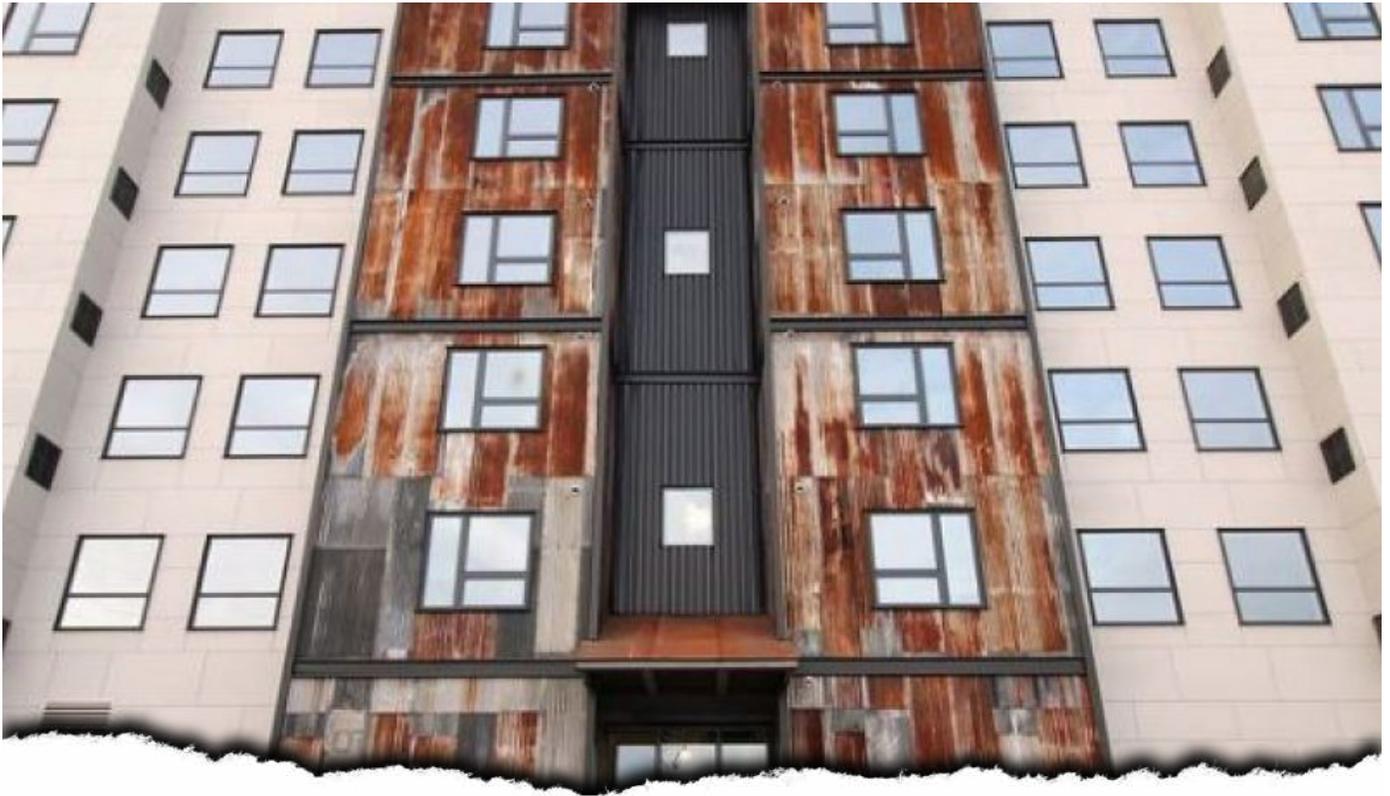
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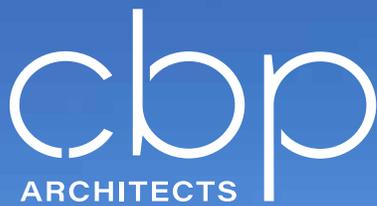


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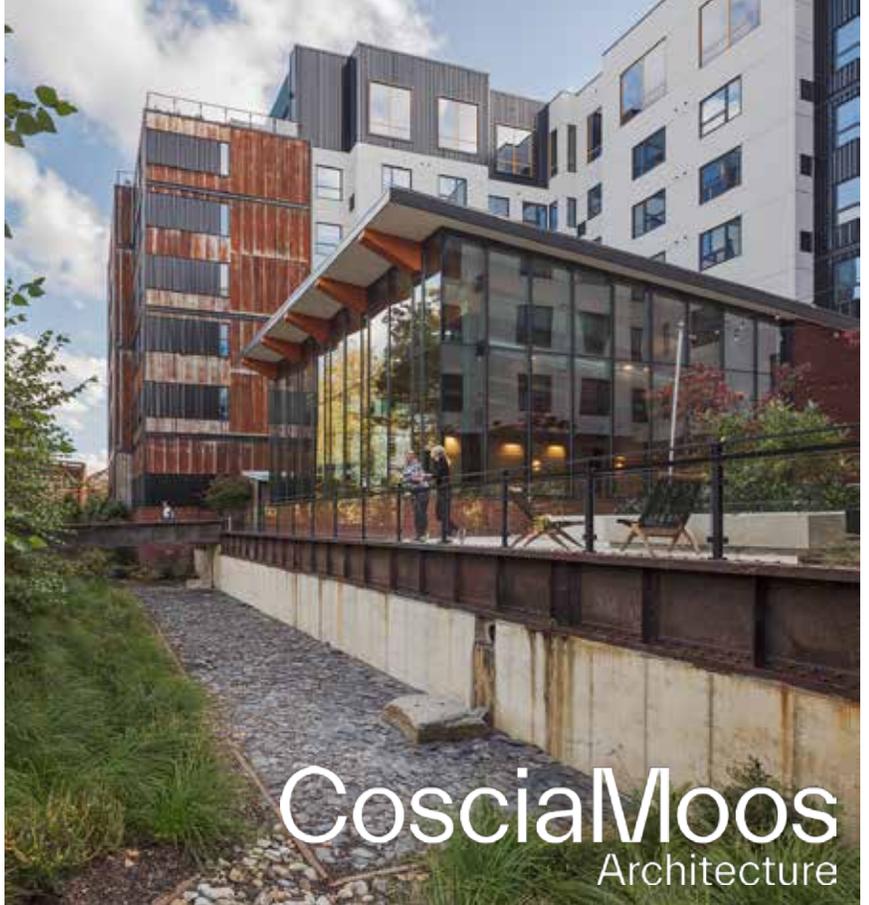
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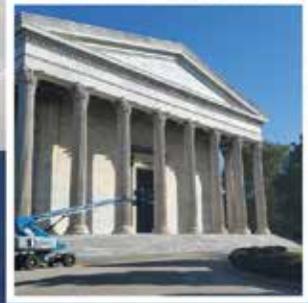


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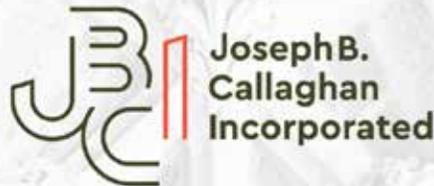
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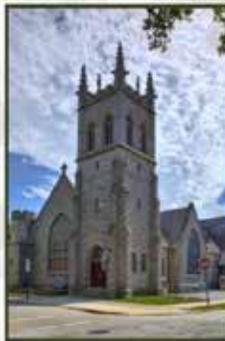
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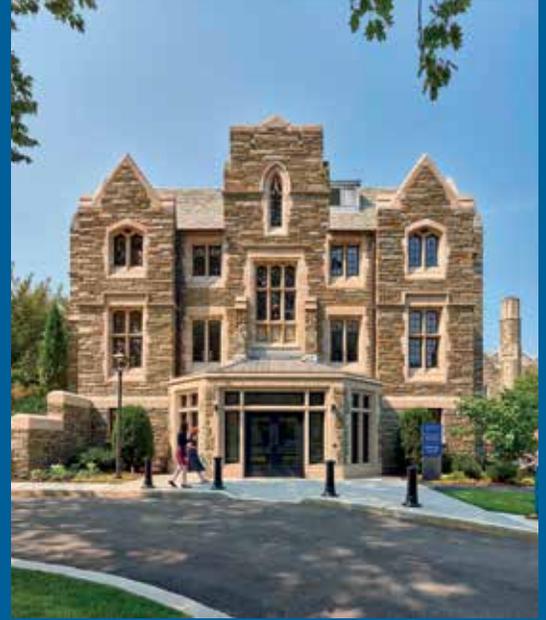
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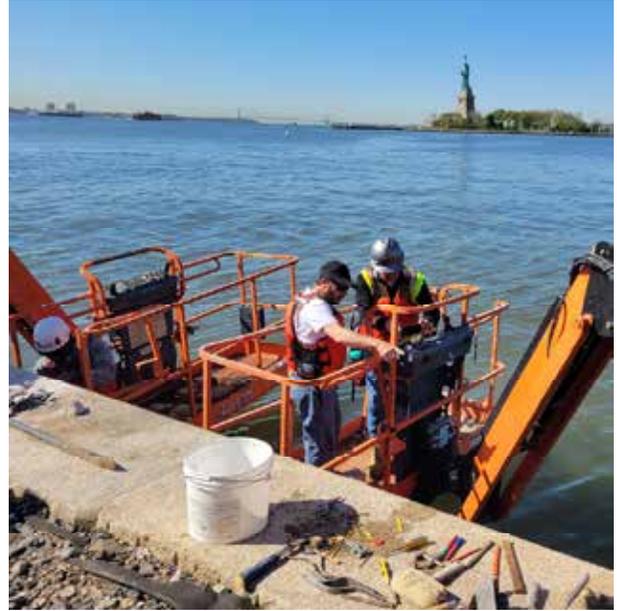
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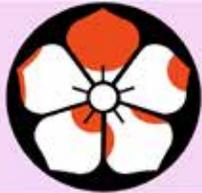
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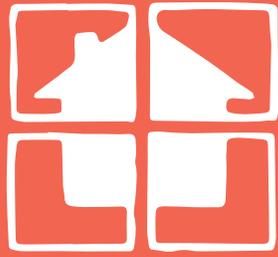


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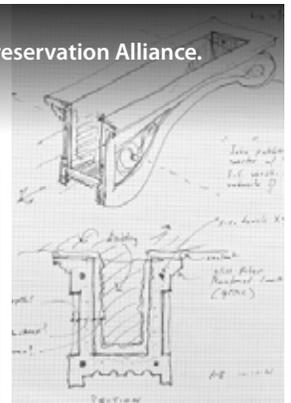


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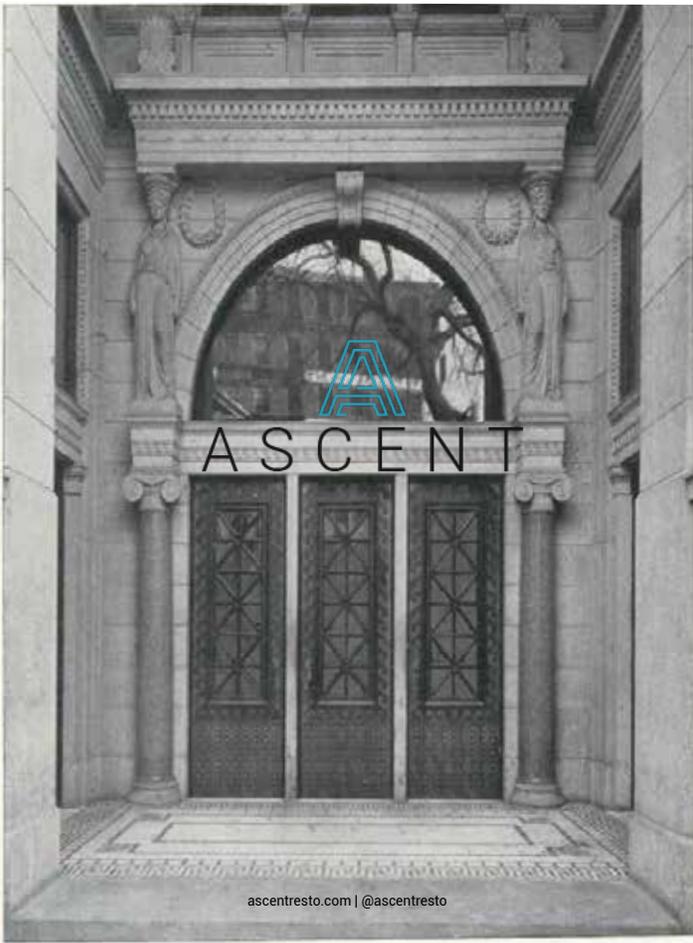
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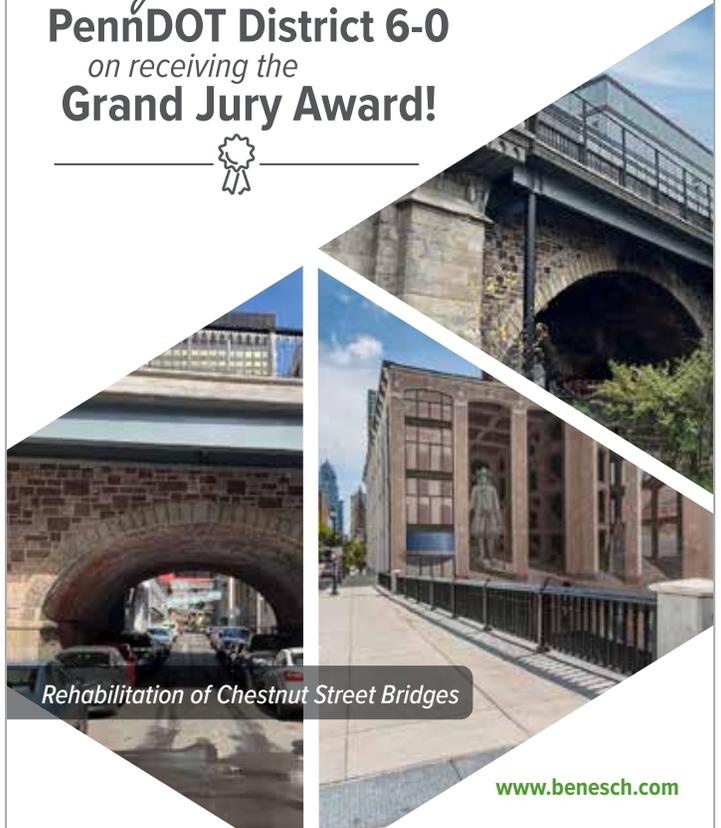
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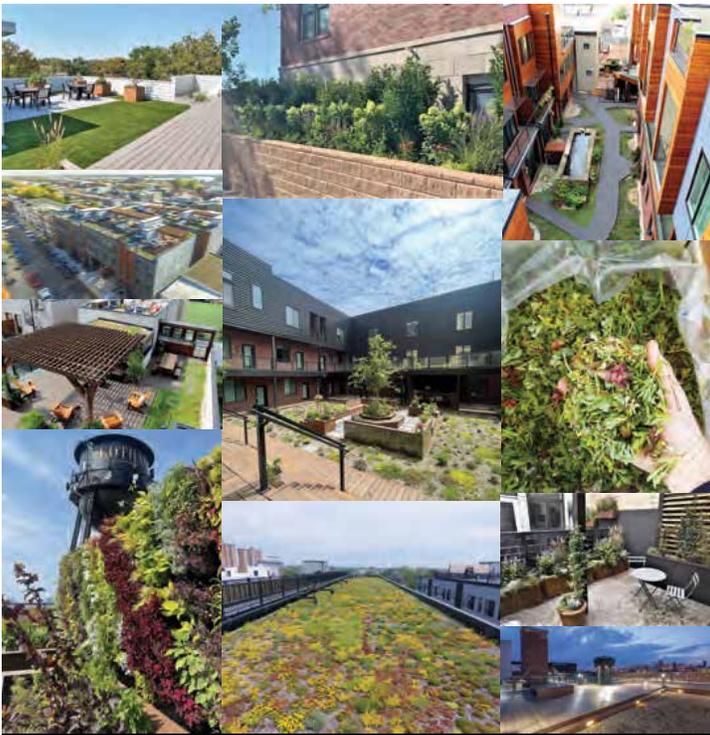
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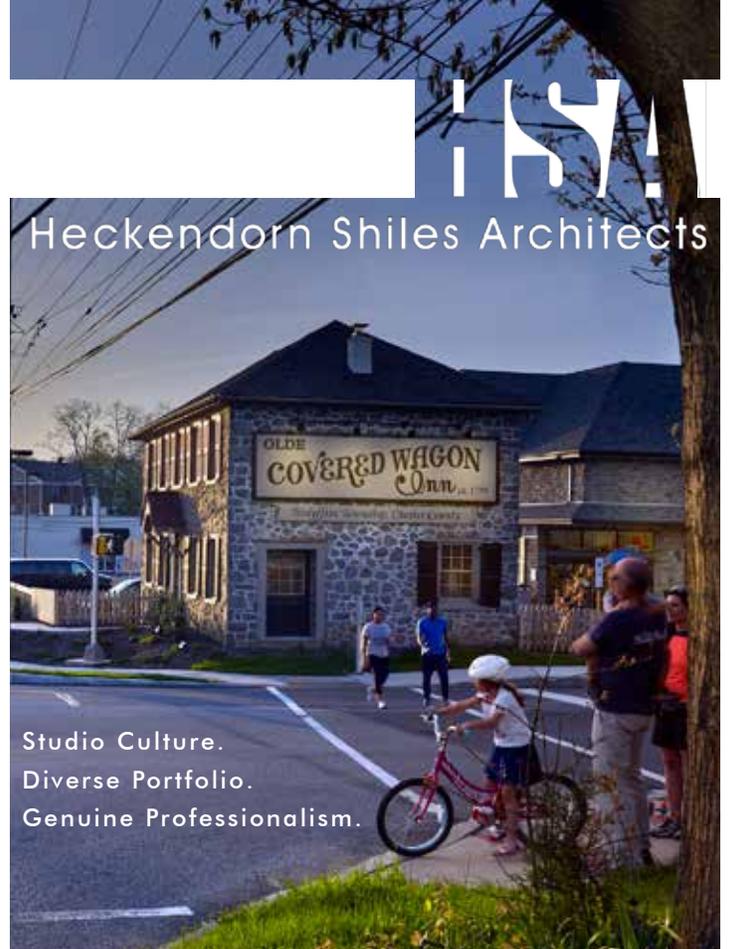


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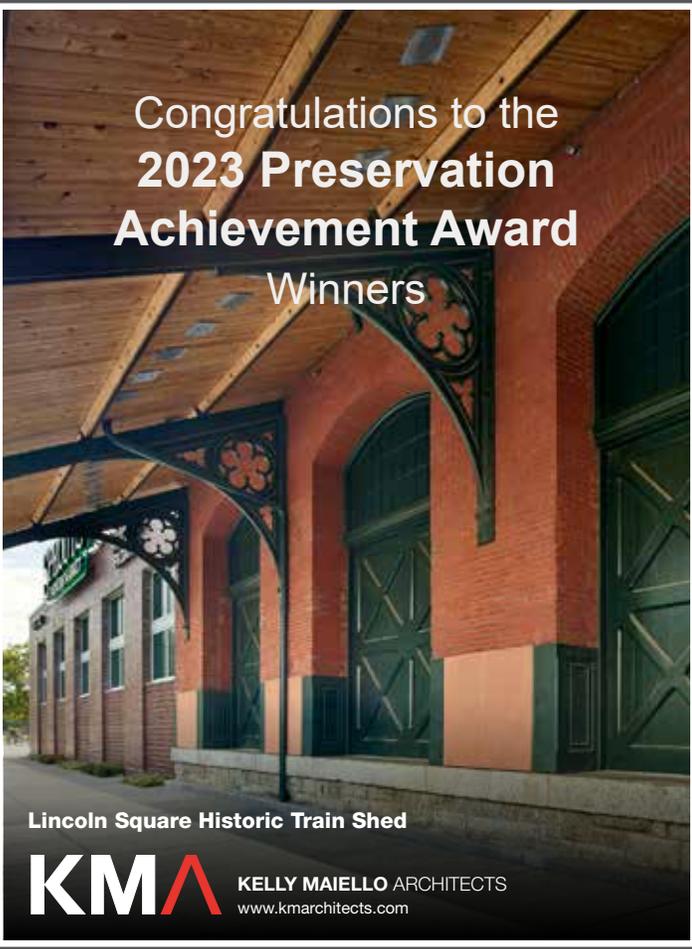
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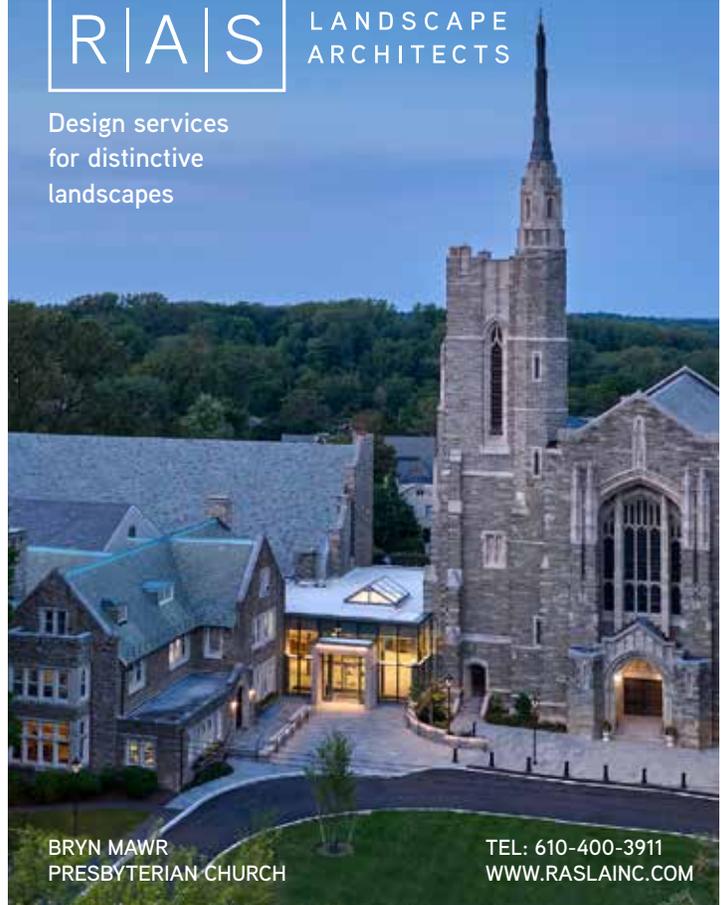
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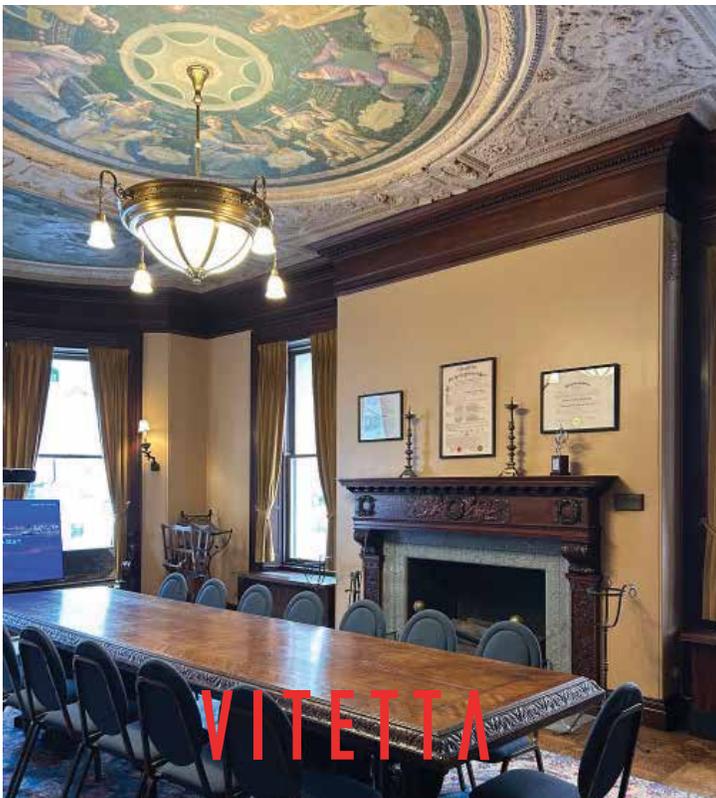
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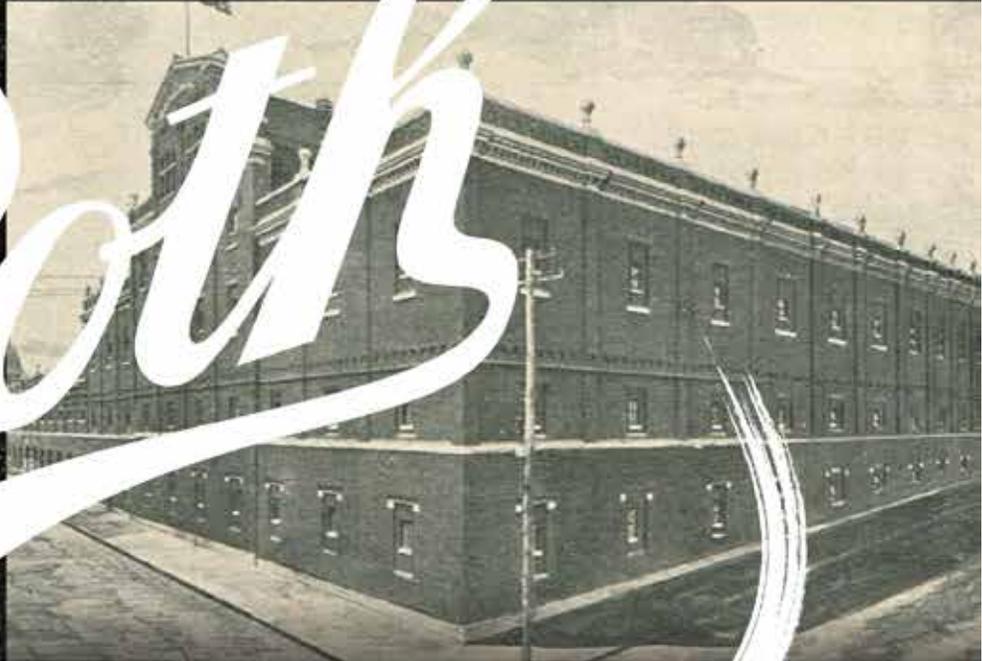
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