



Preserve Rhode Island is the statewide non-profit for historic preservation. We are protecting Rhode Island's historic structures and unique places for present and future generations. We carry out our mission in two major ways. Stewardship: we are ourselves stewards of historic properties; and Preservation Services: we help others throughout the state to be great stewards.

Learn more about what we do on page 15 and at www.preserveri.org.



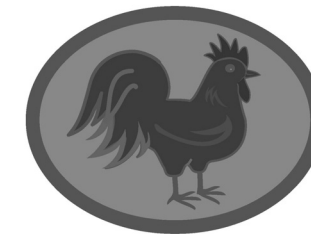
RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
www.preservation.ri.gov

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission is the state agency for historical preservation and heritage programs. The Commission operates a statewide historical preservation program that identifies and protects historic buildings, districts, structures, and archaeological sites. The Commission also develops and carries out programs to document and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Rhode Island's people.

Learn more about what we do at www.preservation.ri.gov

RHODE ISLAND PRESERVATION CELEBRATION

FEATURING
THE RHODY AWARDS



2009

PRESENTED BY:
PRESERVE RHODE ISLAND

AND THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Learn more about Hope Artiste Village and the artists, businesses, restaurant and activities going on there at www.hopeartistevillage.com



Welcome!!

This year Preserve Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission kick off a new partnership to present the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Awards. These awards, newly named *The Rhody Awards*, honor individuals, organizations, and projects for their contributions to the preservation of Rhode Island's historic resources. And what better way to recognize great achievements in preservation than to throw a statewide Preservation Celebration! At this new annual event all Rhode Islanders - preservation and conservation professionals, historic homeowners, local business owners, and community leaders - can come together to celebrate the enormous positive impact preservation has on Rhode Island's communities.

Introducing *The Rhody Awards*

Tonight we recognize many people for their outstanding work in stewardship, home restoration, historic tax credit projects, public works projects, and preservation projects. Four Rhody Awards pay tribute to individuals who exemplify Rhode Island's commitment to historic preservation. They are the highest honors we bestow. The Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Service Award honors Rhode Island's founding Commission Chairman. The Frederick C. Williamson Professional Leadership Award honors our long-term State Historic Preservation Officer. The John H. Chafee Public Service Award honors Rhode Island governor, United States Senator, and friend of historic preservation and the natural environment. The Stephen J. Tyson, Sr. Artisan Award honors a master preservation carpenter who carefully restored hundreds of Rhode Island's historic landmarks.

Cheers to each Rhody Award winner for their dedication and passion to preserve our heritage, enhance our communities, and care for the historic structures that make us feel at home. So let's mingle, applaud and have a great time! America's smallest state has a lot to cheer for!

Greetings from Mayor Doyle

Mayor James E. Doyle is dedicated to preserving Pawtucket's historic places and rich heritage. In 2008, Pawtucket hosted the 23rd Annual Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, where attendees experienced the revitalization of the downtown and the city's efforts to nurture its growing arts and culture community. Mayor Doyle welcomes us again and will recognize the Pawtucket Historic District Commission for their 20 years of service protecting the city's historic resources.

Hope Artiste Village

Welcome to Hope Artiste Village, a creative community with an eclectic mix of artists and entrepreneurs in one of the largest mill restoration projects in Rhode Island. The project brings fine arts and independent small businesses together under one roof. Hope Artiste Village hosts a collection of art studios, live/work lofts, retail shops, workshop studios, and professional office suites, as well as restaurants and performance spaces.

Built between 1889 and 1913, the Hope Webbing Company was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in May 2006. The complex of structures manufactured webbed fabric and is a significant example of Pawtucket's industrial and architectural history.

Thank you to Urban Smart Growth and Hope Artiste Village for donating this space for the first Rhode Island Preservation Celebration. Special thanks to Mike Gazdacko, Director of Development for helping make this a great event!

A Special Thank You to

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Preserve Rhode Island is guided by the mission to protect Rhode Island's historic structures and unique places for present and future generations. Working from Burrillville to Block Island, Preserve Rhode Island has set priorities to focus on:

Guiding community leaders towards solutions that will protect community character; **Building** capacity levels of local organizations and grassroots preservation efforts; **Providing** property owners with resources to care for their historic properties; **Connecting** the public to preservation related news, events, and educational workshops with the *Around the Block* eNewsletter; **Highlighting** the economic benefits of preserving Rhode Island's historic buildings, heritage and unique sense of place; and **Acting** as exemplary stewards of their three historic properties.

Preserve Rhode Island is a membership organization with newly refreshed benefits.

Are YOU a member? If not, you may be missing out on thought-provoking, hands-on homeowner's workshops, networking and collaborative opportunities for preservation volunteers and professionals, the ease of having Preserve Rhode Island as your personal resource for RI preservation needs and concerns, and a whole lot more!

Become a member tonight by stopping by the check-in table and become an active participant in the efforts to preserve and celebrate Rhode Island, the *beautiful, historic, one-of-a-kind* place where you live, work and play!

Preservation Project

Chapel of St. Gregory the Great, Portsmouth

The centerpiece of the Portsmouth Abbey campus, the Chapel of St. Gregory the Great symbolizes the Benedictine brothers' cultivation of learning and liturgy. Renowned modernist architect Pietro Belluschi (1899-1994) designed this masterpiece in 1960-61 as part of the campus plan. Inside the chapel, fine artwork includes sculpture by Richard Lippold, known for his Abstract Expressionist wire art; stained glass designed by Belluschi and fabricated by the glass studio of Henry Lee Willett; and woodwork by George Nakashima, a leader of the American Craft Movement.

Over the years, it was realized that the building lacked the stability to withstand the site's harsh coastal climate. Chronic leaking and creaking necessitated a dramatic \$4 million restoration. Under the direction of Newport Collaborative Architects and Advanced Building Concepts, the project included reinforcing the structure and rebuilding the 26-foot-high redwood frames in the octagonal clerestory. The arts conservation firm of Newman's Ltd. delicately reworked of Lippold's *Trinity* sculpture, replacing more than four miles of gold wire. Artigiano Stained Glass labeled, removed, cleaned, and reinstalled almost 4224 pieces of the stained glass windows.

The excellent restoration of one of Rhode Island's finest 20th-century buildings returns it to its original glory and enables the building to function for many more years.



Photo by Aaron Usher

Preservation Project

Almy-Cory House, Portsmouth

From the end of the 18th century to the middle of the 20th, the Almy-Cory House (c. 1797-1802) was the heart of a farm that once stretched from Portsmouth's East Main Road to the Sakonnet River. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence acquired the property for the construction of St. Barnabas Church in 1962, and the house served as a rectory until 2003. When the old farmhouse was threatened with demolition, the Newport Restoration Foundation (NRF) developed a plan to move it to the Prescott Farm on West Main Road.

NRF engaged the specialists at Architectural Preservation Group to take the building apart, label every piece, and move it for reassembly. After thorough research and analysis, the painstaking disassembly and relocation was completed in the summer of 2004. The process of reassembling, restoring, and refurbishing spanned more than four years. Board by board, the house returned to form, providing invaluable opportunities to perfect NRF restoration practices and to provide innovative programming for the public.

Newport Restoration Foundation's careful move and reconstruction of the Almy-Cory House represents the highest level of historic restoration, preservation training, and public education.



Tonight's Raffle to Benefit

Around the Block: Rhode Island Preservation eNewsletter

We hear from many of you about how much you LOVE receiving *Around the Block*. Support this comprehensive news source for Preserve Rhode Island and statewide preservation news by purchasing tickets for this great Rhode Island raffle!

Window Repair Services by Peter C. Paltrineri Company

Two Tickets to Five Newport Mansions

Spring or Fall Cleanup by Cryan Landscape Contractors

Pen & Ink House Drawing by Mack Woodward

Two Tickets to the Gamm Theatre in Pawtucket

One Year of Coffee from New Harvest Coffee Roasters

WowGreen Cleaning Supplies Basket

Weeknight Stay at Pelham Court Hotel in Newport

"The Hut on Aquidneck Park, Newport" watercolor by John Grosvenor

Two Tickets for the Blackstone Valley Explorer

Greenvale Vineyards Wine Basket

"Rhode Test" Rhode Island Trivia Game and Two Books by Roberta Mudge-Humble

Rag & Bone Bindery Albums

Two Tickets to the 2010 RI Statewide Historic Preservation Conference and Two RIHPHC Books

Two Hours Architectural Consultation from Cornelis J. de Boer of Haynes/de Boer Architects

"Sparrow on Blue" acrylic & ink by Lauren Scotto

Consultation/Restoration Services from Heritage Restoration, Inc.

"Dinghies" watercolor by Val Talmage

\$25 Gift Card from Pot au Feu in Providence

Thank you to all our raffle donors!!

Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Service Award

Frederick R. Love

Instrumental in the creation of historic district zoning in Pawtucket in 1989 and chair of the Historic District Commission for 20 years, Frederick R. Love generously volunteers his expertise and personal skills to promote historic preservation.

Fred has led Pawtucket's efforts to inform citizens about protecting historic resources. He volunteered to organize the citywide public-information campaign to introduce historic district zoning and helped to establish Pawtucket's district of 220 properties in 1989. He also initiated an annual HDC public event which led to the creation of a new incentive - property tax break in 2001.

As HDC chair, Fred brings a thorough knowledge of construction and historic preservation to deliberations. His professional background as an architect and his understanding of the challenges of working with historic properties prove invaluable to homeowners, architects, and contractors in reaching compatible and innovative solutions.

Thanks to Fred's influence, the City of Pawtucket has been held to high standards for its most important public places. In 2004-06, he tirelessly led the HDC review of the high-profile restoration of City Hall (1933-36). Fred and the HDC safeguard the historic character of Slater Park by reviewing the development of new features and the restoration of historic structures.

Frederick R. Love's continuing effectiveness for more than 20 years distinguishes preservation in Pawtucket and sets a high standard for volunteer service throughout the state.



Frederick C. Williamson Professional Leadership Award

John B. Brown III

John B. Brown III works to preserve and protect places that are important in the history and living traditions of the Narragansett Indian Tribe.

For nearly 30 years, John has been the Tribe's primary liaison to the archaeological community, and he became one of the country's first Tribal Historic Preservation Officers in 1986. His work with the RIHPHC began in 1982 with the study of RI 1000, a 17th-century Narragansett Indian burial ground. This project and John's efforts resulted in a 1992 statute to provide regulatory protection of Indian and non-Indian cemeteries.

John worked with public agencies well before regulations required consultation with Indian tribes. During the planning of a highway across Jamestown in 1991, John persuaded the Federal Highway Administration to undertake a complete archaeological investigation of a key site within the project area.

John is a strong advocate for public understanding and appreciation of Narragansett Indian history and culture. He ensured that the Revolutionary War monument in Portsmouth commemorated the Narragansett people who fought alongside African-Americans.

Until the early 1980s, Native American people had been largely left out of historic preservation. Thanks to the hard work and exacting standards of John B. Brown III, the Tribe's role in preserving significant places has become an integral part of historic preservation programs in Rhode Island and across the country.




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Historic Rehab Tax Credit Projects

Four recent rehabilitation projects represent the positive impact of the Historic Preservation Investment Tax Credit program on Rhode Island's economic development.

Rumford Center, East Providence

Established in 1856, Rumford Chemical Works put its neighborhood on the map. A century and a half later, PK Rumford and Prellwitz Chilinski Associates completed a \$50 million housing and commercial redevelopment project. Rumford Center renews the important role of the complex in its neighborhood and city.

Aquidneck Mill, Newport

One of the earliest industrial facilities on the Newport waterfront, Aquidneck Mill (1831) had fallen into neglect. The International Yacht Restoration School acquired the mill and worked with Newport Collaborative Architects and Farrar & Associates on a \$9.4 million project to restore it for program areas, library, and commercial space.

Greystone Lofts, North Providence

North Providence's Greystone Mill produced textiles from the 1910s to the 1970s. Developer Urban Smart Growth (USG), architects from Annino Incorporated, and Metric Construction created 150 residential units in the facility at a total cost of \$40 million. The completed project demonstrates the versatility and enduring quality of historic mill buildings.

Hampton Inn and Suites, Providence

Providence's Old Colony Bank building projected tradition and confidence when it opened in 1927. Developer First Bristol spent \$20 million to convert the building into a 110-room Hampton Inn and Suites. Newport Collaborative and Stonestreet Construction preserved significant interior spaces and created a compatible addition for a challenging downtown site.



Greystone Lofts

Photo by Frank Mullin

Preservation Project

Star Diner, East Providence

In less than sixty years, this storied diner has lived three lives. In 1951, the Keenan family placed an order with the DeRaffele Diner Manufacturing Company of New Rochelle, New York. Installed on suburban Newport Avenue, Keenan's Diner became a favorite haunt of jockeys and horse trainers from the nearby Narragansett Park racetrack. In 1964, the Keenans sold the diner to the Chin family, who served Chinese fare here at the China Star until 2000. When a potential sale—for the land only—fell through, the Sanford family stepped in to save the building.

Quentin and Beatrice Sanford Sr. and their children Quentin Sanford Jr. and Bethany Smith carefully refurbished the diner inside and out. They removed a new metal awning from the front, changed out the tinted interior lighting, and undertook a major cleaning. Then the owners restored the diner's finer details, including the existing metal Venetian blinds, porcelain enamel surfaces, and stainless steel "sunburst" panels. From the basement they salvaged original booths, tables, and chairs; those missing were replicated by the original manufacturer.

The Star Diner became an immediate success upon its reopening in February 2009. Serving up traditional diner fare from meatloaf to milkshakes in an authentic 1950s setting, the meticulously restored Star Diner is a well-preserved icon of the American roadside.



Photos by Denise J.R. Bass

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John H. Chafee Public Service Award

Gas Meter Initiative

In summer 2008, when National Grid began to install gas meters on the façades of buildings in the Broadway-Armory Historic District, concerned citizens rallied to oppose this threat to the visual integrity of historic properties. Activist and homeowner Jessica Jennings devoted her time and considerable energy to organizing neighbors. Her efforts were embraced and supported by the experienced advocates of the West Broadway Neighborhood Association (WBNA).

The outcry of neighbors attracted the attention of local and state legislators. Councilman John J. Lombardi convened meetings for residents and sponsored a city ordinance (passed in December 2008) to protect property owners' rights and the character of Providence neighborhoods whenever a utility company undertakes a large project.

State Senator Paul V. Jabour and Representative Steven M. Costantino drafted legislation to require that natural gas companies consult with homeowners about utility upgrades and placement of new equipment. On houses in historic districts, the legislation prohibits the installation of gas meters or regulators on the exterior altogether unless the property owner and local historic district commission consent.

With overwhelming public concern, City and State elected officials enacted legal protection for the rights of historic property owners. This neighborhood-based, grass-roots activism struck a blow for protecting the visual character of Rhode Island's historic districts and offers a model to the nation.



Stephen J. Tyson, Sr. Artisan Award

Robert E. O'Donnell

Established in 1900, E.F. O'Donnell & Sons is one of the premier painting and restoration contractors in the state, thanks in large part to the expertise and common sense of Robert E. O'Donnell.

The firm's work includes both interior and exterior commissions of the highest caliber. Noting that paint is the first line of defense for a building's exterior, Robert works with the most accomplished professionals and the best quality materials to ensure both protection and beauty. E.F. O'Donnell & Sons' long resume counts several Rhode Island landmarks among its restoration projects: Trinity Church in Newport, Kingston Free Library, and the First Baptist Church and John Brown House in Providence.



The accomplished craftspeople of E.F. O'Donnell & Sons recognize that painting plays a signal role in defining and elaborating interior space. Their expertise enhanced the strength and severity of the painted interiors of McKim, Mead & White's Rhode Island State House and the highly elaborated surfaces of Heins & La Farge's Blessed Sacrament Church in Providence.

The fourth generation to lead the family firm, Robert E. O'Donnell deftly achieves both artisanship of the highest caliber and confidence-inspiring personal service.



State Room ceiling

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Stewardship Award

Protecting the Past—Rhode Island

Rhode Island has a rich array of cultural institutions that are stewards to collections of historic resources, including books, original documents, maps, photographs, decorative arts, and artifacts. Natural and manmade disasters—such as fires, floods, or hurricanes—pose serious threats to these collections, which, once lost, cannot be replaced. Fortunately, much damage can be mitigated or prevented through well conceived disaster plans. Each collection, however, requires an individualized strategy for protection.



Office of Library & Information Services

In 2008, the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services received a competitive grant to implement **Protecting the Past—RI**, a statewide disaster planning effort to safeguard heritage collections. The program's steering committee convened diversely talented professionals that represented a variety of institutions—libraries, museums, historical and preservation societies, town halls, and other collections. The committee coordinated free workshops, and provided training to 151 individuals representing 104 sites and institutions from across the state. Each of the local organizations adapted a customized version of **dPlan™**, an online disaster planning template for the specific needs of Rhode Island's cultural heritage institutions.

Protecting the Past—RI has established a high standard for creating strong awareness for disaster preparedness and encouraged many cultural institutions to formulate lasting and realistic plans to protect the state's priceless cultural heritage.



Preservation Project

State Farm Cemetery Study, Removal, and Reburial, Cranston

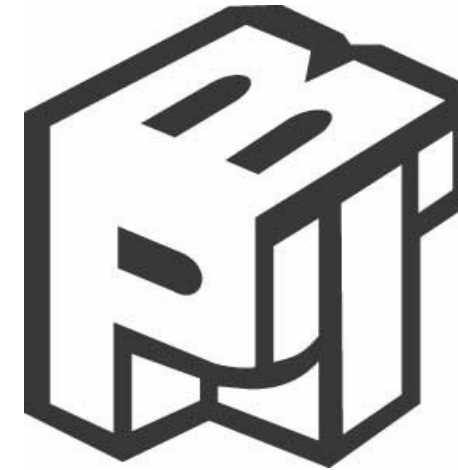
In June 2006, heavy rains washed out numerous human remains from the northern embankment of Cranston's Route 37 near the Howard Complex of state institutions. Over the next several days, state investigators and Cranston Senior Planner Lynn Furney learned that the remains were interred between 1873 and 1918 within part of the old State Farm Cemetery, which contained the graves of nearly 3200 individuals who had lived in the institutions. Fill from the construction of Route 37 had covered this forgotten section.

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), led by archaeologist Michael Hébert, quickly assumed responsibility by engaging the Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) to study the site. Lynn expedited the two city permits necessary for the project, and after removing the remains, RIDOT corrected the drainage problem. Over the next three years, Mike and PAL archaeologist Jay Waller completed a comprehensive archaeological, genealogical, and historical study of the remains. PAL exhumed the remains of 71 individuals, documented their identities and information about their lives, and made connections with descendants.

The project culminated with reburial at State Institution Cemetery Number 2 on the Cranston-Warwick line in June 2008, installation of granite markers at each new gravesite, and a memorial service held in July 2009. Together, RIDOT, PAL, and Cranston's Planning Department achieved a thorough and thoughtful solution for this sensitive project.



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Homeowner Projects

Rhode Island has a wealth of historic houses and a growing number of homeowners who dedicate time, energy, and resources to their preservation. Two outstanding projects illustrate the commitment of local residents to preserving their historic homes.

Seven Oaks, Bristol

Bristol's Seven Oaks (1873) is one of the state's finest Gothic Revival houses, designed by architect James Renwick. In the 1980s, the building was largely gutted for an unfinished condominium conversion. In 2006, the Deininger family acquired the property and undertook an extensive restoration project. Under the guidance of JHL Tecture Architects and Architectural Preservation Group, Seven Oaks was refurbished from slate roof to stone foundation, and missing interior treatments were carefully replaced. The result is a handsome and inviting family home that reclaims its prominent place overlooking Bristol Harbor.



Joseph Cooke House, Providence

Providence's Joseph Cooke House (1819) is an ample Federal house that has undergone a series of changes over the years. These included relocation, Colonial Revival alterations, and division into apartments. In 2005, new owners Nick Oldenburg and Paul Carter engaged Clifford M. Renshaw Architects, Heritage Restoration Inc., and Site Specific LLC to restore the house inside and out. Refurbishing historic interiors and renewing the distinctive roof and trim details, the team returned this fine Federal house to its position as one of Providence's most impressive early 19th-century architectural statements.



Public Works Projects

The City of Providence is steward of many historic schools. Erected as emblems of civic responsibility, these buildings are workhorses that adapt to serve changing populations and needs. Two recent projects demonstrate the City's commitment to providing enduring, high-quality facilities.

Fox Point Bath House, Providence

One of the city's few remaining public bath houses, the Fox Point Bath House (1926) was abandoned, deteriorating, and a neighborhood nuisance. School and neighborhood leaders, the Providence School Department, Providence Historic District Commission, and Councilmen David Segal and Seth Yurdin led the effort to turn a historic eyesore into a community resource. Studio JAED, The S/L/A/M Collaborative and Gilbane Building Company oversaw the exterior restoration and created spaces for a school library and community gatherings inside. All cleaned up, the Fox Point Bath House makes its urban neighborhood shine.



Nathan Bishop Middle School, Providence

In 2007, Providence released a School Facility Master Plan that proposed to demolish and replace many city schools. With Nathan Bishop Middle School on the chopping block, Providence Preservation Society and Councilman Cliff Wood organized education advocates and neighborhood residents to rally for the building's reuse. Rehabilitated and reopened in September 2009 by Architecture Involvement and Gilbane Building Company, this neighborhood landmark features handsomely restored spaces, especially the auditorium and front entrance, as well as well-designed new ones. Classrooms to corridors, Nathan Bishop Middle School embodies how historic school buildings can make state-of-the-art, green learning environments.



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