

THE RHODE ISLAND  
PRESERVATION  
CELEBRATION

FEATURING

THE RHODY AWARDS



2011

PRESENTED BY

PRESERVE RHODE ISLAND

AND

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

## **Welcome!**

Preserve Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission welcome you to the third annual Rhode Island Preservation Celebration featuring the 2011 Rhody Awards for Historic Preservation. 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! Tonight, Rhode Island's preservationists join together to celebrate the enormous positive impact preservation has throughout the state.

## **The Rhody Awards**

Tonight we recognize many people for their outstanding work in home restoration, stewardship, education, landscape preservation, and several historic tax credit and preservation projects. Two Rhody Awards pay tribute to individuals who exemplify Rhode Island's commitment to historic preservation. They will be recognized with the highest honors we bestow. The Frederick C. Williamson Professional Leadership Award honors the longest serving State Historic Preservation Officer in the nation, and the Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Service Award honors Rhode Island's founding Commission Chair.

Cheers to each of our seventeen Rhody Award winners 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!

## **Welcoming Remarks**

Valerie Talmage, Executive Director of Preserve Rhode Island

Edward Sanderson, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

Governor Lincoln Chafee

## **Special Announcement**

Mayor Leo Fontaine of the City of Woonsocket

## **To Order a Rhody Award**

If you played a supporting role to one of tonight's award winners and would like to purchase a copy of an award for \$50 please visit the Rhody Award Orders table after the presentation or contact Connie O'Connor at [coconnor@preserveri.org](mailto:coconnor@preserveri.org) or (401) 272-5101 x205.

## **Special Thanks**

Thank you to Frank Anzevino, Deb White, John Conti, Tony Aristy and Ed Butler of the Rhode Island State House for coordinating the use of the State House Rotunda and the House Chambers. Thank you to our event photographer Monica Vacca who has volunteered her time to capture this evening's special moments - so please be sure to smile for the camera! Thank you to our Celebration volunteers from the Roger Williams University Historic Preservation Society as well as Emily Hesse, for helping the event run smoothly. And of course thank you to the House and Senate and Governor Chafee for welcoming us this evening!

## **2011 Rhody Awards for Historic Preservation**

### **ANTOINETTE F. DOWNING VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD**

CECILIA A. ST. JEAN OF WEST WARWICK

### **FREDERICK C. WILLIAMSON PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS**

PATRICK M. MALONE OF BARRINGTON  
MARILYN H. & JAMES R. WINOKER OF CRANSTON

### **STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE RESTORATION SOCIETY

### **EDUCATION AWARD**

BARRINGTON PRESERVATION SOCIETY FOR THE BARRINGTON BIKE PATH HISTORICAL SIGNS

### **HOMEOWNER PROJECT AWARDS**

M. ADELE ANTHONY FOR THE PETER GREENE HOUSE, WARWICK  
Highland Construction | Casa Buena Builders

TOM SILVIA AND SHANNON CHANDLEY FOR WICKFORD HOUSE, NORTH KINGSTOWN  
Architectural Preservation Group, Inc.

### **LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION AWARD**

THE STEEL YARD, PROVIDENCE  
Morris Beacon Design | Catalano Construction | EA Engineering, Science & Technology  
Groundwork Providence | Klopfer Martin Design Group | MON Landscaping Inc. | Structures Workshop, Inc.

### **PRESERVATION PROJECT AWARDS**

THE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF NEWPORT COUNTY FOR CHÂTEAU-SUR-MER, NEWPORT  
Crocker Architectural Sheet Metal Co. | Severud Associates | WASA/Studio A

PETTAQUAMSCUTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR HALE HOUSE, SOUTH KINGSTOWN

Martone Painting Company | Clifford M. Renshaw Architects | P. Schurman Contractors  
John Stedman & Son | Youngken Associates

AS220 FOR MERCANTILE BLOCK, PROVIDENCE

AHA Engineers | Commonwealth Engineers & Consultants, Inc. | Durkee, Brown, Viveiros & Werenfels Architects Pezzuco Construction, Inc. |  
Providence Revolving Fund | Barbara Sokoloff & Associates | Yoder + Tidwell

TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM FOR NORTH LIGHT

Abcore Restoration | Campbell Construction | Donald Demers | Georgetown Ironworks | Robert Gilpin  
Walter Sedovic Architects | Tammy Tyler | Mark Vaillancourt | William Vallee | ZMA

TAI-O FOR PAWTUCKET HAIR CLOTH MILL, CENTRAL FALLS

Jim Mellors | PAL | Schwegler & Sons Plumbing & Heating

EVERETT AMARAL FOR RHODE ISLAND TOOL COMPANY, PROVIDENCE

Amaral Revite | PAL

THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE AND NEIGHBORWORKS BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY FOR STILLWATER MILL

Durkee, Brown, Viveiros & Werenfels Architects | Nation Wide Construction | Rhode Island Housing  
SFM Engineering | Wozny Barbar & Associates | Yoder + Tidwell

SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH, NARRAGANSETT

Mill City Construction | Roofing Concepts | Paul B. St. Amand Designers & Builders | Yoder + Tidwell

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

PAUL A. ROBINSON, RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

WENDY NICHOLAS, NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION NORTHEAST OFFICE

## Stewardship Award

### Rhode Island State House Restoration Society

Established by Governor Bruce G. Sundlun in 1992, the Rhode Island State House Restoration Society is advocate, advisor, and fundraiser for the preservation of our historic capitol. The Society is a public-private partnership that focuses on the fine and decorative arts that make the State House one of the most loved and most visited in the country. One of their early projects was the book *Most Admirable: The Rhode Island State House* (2002) with photographs by Warren Jagger and text by Mack Woodward and Janet Jagger.

The Society's next project was restoring the furnishings in the Louis XIV-style State Reception Room. Project team members Robert O'Donnell, R. Randall Soule, Carol Sanderson, and Diane Welebit completed research, repaired the historic furniture, and reproduced the original drapes and upholstery, from the crimson cut velvet fabric to the bullion fringe and trims. A new carpet was designed to echo the decorated ceiling and incorporate the state seal. The Society is currently restoring dozens of portraits of governors and legislators that line the walls of the State House's public rooms and corridors. For the last two years, William Vareika has organized the art conservation project, and the SHRS has already provided funds to restore twenty-six paintings.

Under the energetic and effective leadership of its chair, Betty Capozzi, the Rhode Island State House Restoration Society is a most admirable example of citizen volunteers working to preserve our state's most prominent landmark building.



## Education Award

### Barrington Bike Path Historical Signs

Rhode Island's popular East Bay Bike Path serves more than one million people each year. It connects five communities along the former route of the Providence, Warren & Bristol Railroad, which was put into service in 1855. For the Barrington Preservation Society, the bike path offered a prime opportunity to educate local children and bike path users by connecting historical events with places along the route.

As chair of the society's Education Committee, Sydney Monstream-Quas galvanized a group to create interpretive signage along the heavily traveled route. Over 80 volunteers



dedicated more than 700 hours to carry out archival research and oral history interviews and to coordinate design and installation. Funds for the project came from private donors and public grants, including a Preservation Is Local grant from the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission.

Installed in 2010, the eight Barrington signs include historic area photographs, maps, and first-person remembrances. The sites include Bay Spring, Brickyard Pond, Drownville, Haines Park, Little Echo, Town Center, New Meadow Neck, and (not far off the path) the Civic Center Historic District. The signs are graphically compelling and serve bike path users of all ages. By seizing the opportunity to tell the story of Barrington's historic places, Barrington Preservation Society sets the standard for historical interpretation along recreational routes across the state.



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## Homeowner Project Award

### M. Adele Anthony of Warwick

Abandoned and falling off its foundation, but retaining most of its original fabric, the ca. 1750 Peter Greene House in Warwick's Conimicut Village was considered a tear-down by the bank holding it in foreclosure. When Revolutionary War buff M. Adele Anthony toured the house with a realtor in June 2008, she was "immediately hooked on saving this home." She purchased the house and launched a two-year restoration project.

Almost every component of the house required attention.

Extensive repair and reconstruction of sills, floor-joists, and flooring was overseen by Highland Construction. At the same time, Adele worked on stripping paint from interior surfaces and preparing interior walls. In November 2009 she moved into the unheated, not-yet-completed house and camped there for the winter—using new electrical service to power the heat, hot-plate, toaster, mini-fridge, coffee, and computers.



In May 2010, Casa Buena Builders began restoration of planking, siding, windows, and gutters, while Adele continued the hands-on interior restoration. With every floorboard in place and new mechanical systems up and running by the fall of 2010, it was complete. When she hosted an open house, a throng of neighbors and Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian showed up to visit and admire the restoration.

The highly visible Greene House demonstrates how a stunning transformation can fulfill its motivated owner and engage an entire community.



## Homeowner Project Award

### Tom Silvia & Shannon Chandley of North Kingstown

With a significant history as an inn for more than 150 years and a prominent location on Main Street, Wickford House (1769) had deteriorated almost past the point of repair when Tom Silvia and Shannon Chandley bought it in 2008. The foundation was visibly crumbling, and hidden from view behind walls and floors were rotting sills, broken girts, disengaged joists, and a large center chimney that had been cut off at the roofline. In addition to significant structural work, exterior and interior finishes, windows, and doors all required extensive restoration or replication.

Taking apart the house for these extensive repairs offered the opportunity to replace old systems with new, including state-of-the-art geothermal heating. The scope of the project was large and included not only the house but a large carriage house and barn at the property's north end. Tom and Shannon engaged the Architectural Preservation Group of Warwick to accomplish this extensive undertaking, which

required three years, reaching completion in the spring of 2011. The final touch to the project was the restoration of the historic "WICKFORD HOUSE" sign, discovered in the shop of a local sign-maker.



The restoration was challenging for both owner and contractor, but their shared preservation philosophy was to leave as much original material as possible to allow the house to tell its own story.



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## Preservation Project Award

### Pawtucket Hair Cloth Mill, Central Falls

Pawtucket Hair Cloth Mill in Central Falls held a virtual monopoly on the manufacture of fabric made from hair in horse tails and used for furniture upholstery and undergarment linings in the 19th century. Designed by architect William R. Walker and completed in 1864, the building is more sophisticated and detailed than most mills of its era, with its corbelled cornice, two four-story belltowers, and chair-rails and moldings on the interior walls. Fortunately, it survived remarkably intact for the century and a half since its construction on the west bank of the Blackstone River.

Rehabilitation of the building occurred through the efforts of two developers. Blackstone River Realty initiated the project in 2005 by undertaking the exterior restoration, repairing original wood sash windows, and stripping layers of paint off interior beams and brick walls. After Louis Yip and Sunny Ng of Tai-O acquired the property in 2008, rehabilitation continued to convert the mill into



33 dwelling units as a preservation tax credit project completed with the assistance of PAL. Extensive landscaping work has provided residents with a promenade, sitting areas, and a boat launch. The project was completed by

the end of 2010 and marketed as M Residential.

As completed, the Pawtucket Hair Cloth Mill sets a high standard for rehabilitation both inside and out. Particularly noteworthy is the gentle treatment of interior walls and woodwork in a way that emphasizes their historic character.



## Preservation Project Award

### Rhode Island Tool Company, Providence

Active on this site for 150 years, Rhode Island Tool Company was a major component of the state's industrial base. Hardware and precision machine tools were manufactured here, and the company's munitions production was critical to the Union Army in the Civil War. When the plant was closed in 2003, the interconnected collection of historic buildings (1853-1954) became a prime candidate for redevelopment with the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Investment Tax Credit (HPITC).

Engineer and developer Everett Amaral recognized the complex's potential. Working closely with consultants from PAL, Amaral Revite Company converted the mill into first-class office and



technical space. Work on the exterior envelope included cleaning of masonry, installation of new windows based on the design of a single surviving original, and restoration of loading dock doors and other wood elements. Today, the building is rented to a mix of medical, state, and other office tenants, and the former Forge Shop (1900-21) has been attractively converted into the West River Café - a welcome amenity for workers and neighbors.

As one of the factories that made Providence "The Beehive of Industry" in the 19th century, the redeveloped Rhode Island Tool (now West River Center) provides high-quality office and technical spaces for businesses. Rhode Island Tool is a building that works for Rhode Island.





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## Preservation Project Award

### Stillwater Mill, Burrillville

The three-story Stillwater Mill was hailed as the largest reinforced concrete structure ever built when it opened in 1911. The technologically advanced structure was remarkable for its strength, its ability to admit an abundance of light through a large window wall, and its fireproof quality. Textile manufacturing thrived here until 1963. Over the next 40 years, the underused building became a blight on the village of Harrisville, and its windows were removed and blocked up.

The Town of Burrillville purchased the property and created a comprehensive redevelopment plan. The town found a partner in NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley to transform the complex into 47 rental units, 36 of them affordable, in a part of the state with few available. Durkee, Brown, Viveiros & Werenfels Architects worked with Nation Wide Construction to restore the mill, including the giant windows that dominate its principal elevations. The apartments incorporate sustainable features such as low-consumption plumbing fixtures, recycled flooring materials, and geothermal heating and cooling. The project was assisted by State and Federal preservation tax credits. The riverfront site also includes a new town library, landscaping, pedestrian and bike paths, and community space.

As completed, Stillwater Mill is an outstanding combination of historic preservation, economic development, environmental remediation, affordable housing, and civic commitment to the concept of a sustainable community.



## Landscape Preservation Award

### The Steel Yard, Providence

Even the most enlightened and enthusiastic preservationists don't usually think of the space between industrial buildings as a landscape. But the people of The Steel Yard think outside the box. In 2001, Nick Bauta and Clay Rockefeller purchased the historic Providence Steel & Iron Company (1902), which manufactured structural steel and ornamental iron in a complex of brick buildings connected by steel gantries and cranes and a narrow gauge rail. A new non-profit organization called The Steel Yard was established to convert the contaminated site into a place to teach blacksmithing, welding, ceramics, and industrial arts.

In 2009-10, The Steel Yard completed the remediation and landscaping of the property. Comprehensive planning ensured that the work would serve organizational goals, meet environmental and historical requirements, and stay on schedule and on budget. Landscape architects Klopfer Martin Design Group engaged a project team to create a central gathering space surrounded by secondary workspaces and utility areas. Inspired by the Steel Yard's scrappy style, the reclaimed landscape preserves the steel gantries and cranes and uses recycled metal materials for retaining walls and other site elements. At the same time, a portion of the historic complex on Sims Street was rehabilitated using State and Federal preservation tax credits.

Reclaimed, recycled, and remade—the Steel Yard landscape both represents the place's history and offers a modern gathering space that complements the complex's continuing industrial use.



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## Preservation Project Award

### Mercantile Block, Providence

AS220 continues its artistic revitalization of Downtown Providence with the rehabilitation of the Mercantile Block (1901) on Washington Street. The organization set its course with the renovation of its flagship building on Empire Street as a mixed-use arts complex in 1993 and expanded its commitment to the arts community and downtown's renewal by restoring the Dreyfus Hotel in 2007.

Completed in 2011, the Mercantile Block now houses restaurants, non-profits and businesses, a public-access printshop and creative lab, and 22 affordable and market-rate units for artists. Durkee, Brown, Viveiros & Werenfels Architects oversaw the rehabilitation which incorporates many sustainable elements, including low-

consumption plumbing, insulated windows, reflective roofing, and recycled materials. Historic hardwood floors and decorative metal ceilings were restored and recreated, but the most dramatic improvement was

the restoration of the storefronts along the primary façade on Washington Street and along the back of the building on Martha Street. Renamed "Lucie Way" for AS220's indefatigable in-house development manager Lucie Searle, this underused alley was transformed into a vibrant space and pedestrian route. The project was assisted by State and Federal preservation tax credits.

Beyond merely preserving an historic building, AS220 enhances the downtown with new living, working, and commercial space—and animates the streetscape from front to back. The Mercantile Block exemplifies how historic preservation is a vital tool for both community and economic development.



## Preservation Project Award

### Château-sur-Mer, Newport

The first of the grand summer cottages to line Newport's Bellevue Avenue, Château-sur-Mer expresses all the exuberance of the last half of the 19th century. Built by Seth Bradford in 1851-52 and expanded by Richard Morris Hunt in 1873-80, it is significant inside and out for its Second Empire-style architecture and period furniture, wallpapers, and stenciling. While the building's multiple corners and roof intersections are picturesque, they are not easy to maintain. Water finds its way into any crevice, and the Château-on-the-Ocean offered every opportunity.

As steward of the property, the Preservation Society of Newport County initiated a six-year restoration project in 2004. The architectural firm of WASA/Studio A completed a thorough investigation of the Château

and oversaw construction work in partnership with Severud Associates and Crocker Architectural Sheet Metal Co. Masonry repairs included cleaning, repointing, and selective dismantling and rebuilding of deteriorated sections. On the roof and dormers, slates were removed, ice-and-water shield installed, and slates and copper flashing installed. Metal roofs were replaced, and the roof drainage system was redesigned to prevent water penetration. Repair and replication of wood trim and ornamental metalwork rounded out the project.

Thorough analysis and state-of-the-art techniques toward solving moisture penetration ensure that this National Historic Landmark building and its significant decorative arts collection are preserved for many more years of exhibition and interpretation.



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The Sea Breeze 



## Preservation Project Award

### Hale House, South Kingstown

The Hale family spent 37 summers in the Matunuck house built for famed author and clergyman Edward Everett Hale in 1873. When the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society (PHS) acquired Hale House in 2006, the accumulated years of deferred maintenance required careful attention.

The Society began the project by hiring Youngken Associates to research the Hale family and the Matunuck summer colony. Clifford M. Renshaw Architects and Paul Schurman Contractors oversaw the exterior construction that included installing a wood shingle roof, repairing original clapboards, painting the exterior according its ca. 1890 color scheme, providing ADA access, and restoring the expansive porches. PHS Executive Director Lori Urso coordinated the interior work which required upgrading electrical service, installing new systems, returning the kitchen to its original configuration, reinforcing the structure, restoring decorative finishes, and furnishing the house. John Stedman and Son returned the landscape to its original circulation patterns and period plantings, and numerous other consultants provided expert work. Funding for the project came from several sources, including the Woodcock Charitable Trust and a State Preservation Grant from the R.I. Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission.

Today Hale House welcomes visitors to experience a notable example of Rhode Island's historic resort architecture, and it restores the sense of place that so inspired this distinguished family of artists and writers.



## Preservation Project Award

### Saint Thomas More Church, Narragansett

“Remember, Restore, Renew” became the bywords for this Roman Catholic parish for three years. The picturesque shingle-style St. Thomas More Church in Narragansett (1910) was deteriorating—its condition hidden by a coat of bright white paint. Character-defining features, like the copper crosses on the bell tower and the east end of the nave’s ridgeline, had been removed.

To realize the restoration, overseen by parishioner Paul St. Amand with engineer Wil Yoder, the parish researched written and photographic documentation to assure the project’s fidelity to the building’s historic appearance. Mill City Construction and Roofing Concepts completed the exterior work that included applying red cedar shingles, a red asphalt roof, and wrought-iron railings to match the original design; restoring and replacing exterior decorative elements; and

removing incompatible alterations. Inside, the parish commissioned a new altar to match the original woodwork and marble, returned the original crucifix to its position over the altar, and restored the pulpit and presider’s chair. The parish’s preservation work continues with a new project to convert the historic carriage house into a residence for their priests.



Financed through the parish’s own fund-raising efforts, restoration of the century-old building was an ambitious project that demonstrates the parish’s commitment to their church and its place in historic Narragansett Pier.



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## Preservation Project Award

### North Light, Block Island

Built in 1867, North Light is the fourth light at its vulnerable location on Block Island's north shore. Constructed of the sturdiest available materials—local granite and cast iron—the building has endured constant exposure to salt-laden wind and rain. The wood trim, the iron lantern, and the Fresnel lens were seriously deteriorated after almost 150 years of exposure.

The Town of New Shoreham engaged Walter Sedovic Architects to plan the restoration of North Light. Corrosion and instability of the cast-iron lantern's drum, gallery, and roof required a complete disassembly to determine which components could be restored and which ones had to be replicated. Those requiring replacement were melted down for recasting as new components, which retained the building's original "DNA." Lime putty was used as a cushioning gasket and dynamic weather seal in the cast iron reassembly. Other work included repairing the timber framing, installing a new slate roof, and introducing an array of wind and solar energy systems to take full advantage of the site's exposure. The project was supported in part by a State Preservation Grant from the R.I. Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and federal Transportation Enhancement funds.

Relit in a ceremony in the fall of 2010, the restored North Light is a model project that prioritizes materials conservation, environmental stewardship, and community involvement in historic preservation practice.



## Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Service Award

### Cecilia A. St. Jean, West Warwick

For the past two decades, West Warwick native Cecilia St. Jean has been at the center of preservation activity in the historic Pawtuxet Valley. Since she joined the Pawtuxet Valley Preservation and Historical Society (PVPHS) in the early 1990s, St. Jean has played almost every role in that organization, from gardener to president.

When the historic Crompton Free Library (1876) became redundant in 1992, St. Jean and others undertook research and fundraising to secure the building as the society's headquarters as well as a reference and research



center for genealogy and local history. Week after week, she maintains the society's growing collections and assists a constant stream of researchers, genealogists, realtors, and other researchers.

For the past eight years, St. Jean has edited and contributed to the society's newsletter, *The Pawtuxet Valley Historian*, which reaches 250 readers nationwide ten times a year. Walking and driving tours she helped to develop now exist for West Warwick (2000), the Villages of West Warwick (2008), and Anthony (2011). The society's fiscal stability, moreover, owes a great deal to her talent as cultivator and investor of endowment funds, including one large recent bequest.

Cecilia St. Jean's multifaceted talents and commitment to her community and the PVPHS continue to raise awareness and ensure the preservation of the remarkable architectural and historical legacy of the Pawtuxet Valley.





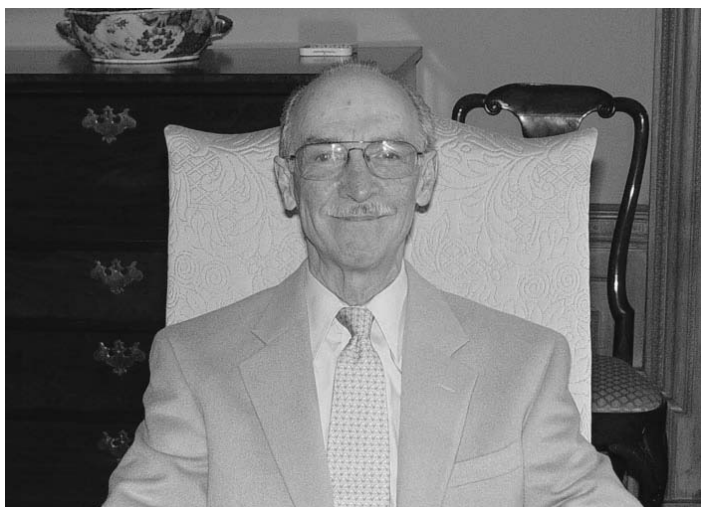
## Frederick C. Williamson Professional Service Awards

### Patrick M. Malone, Barrington

As scholar, teacher, curator, author, and activist, Patrick M. Malone is one of the country's leading industrial archaeologists. In 1971, Pat was a founding member and president of the Society for Industrial Archeology. The following year he developed the first college course in the field at the University of Pennsylvania, and made it a mainstay at Brown University where he taught for thirty years.

Pat has published and consulted widely on the urban built environment, industrial communities, and manufacturing. His book, *The Texture of Industry: An Archaeological View of the Industrialization of North America*, co-authored with Robert B. Gordon, won the AIA International Book Award. An expert in the history of waterpower engineering, he helped lay the groundwork for the creation of Lowell National Park and consulted on interpretation of Valley Falls Mill Park and Woonsocket's Market Square. As Executive Director at Pawtucket's Old Slater Mill, he oversaw the restoration of water power and reconstruction of the Wilkinson Mill water wheel. Pat participated in surveys of Rhode Island's historic engineering sites and highway bridges, and he was the historical advisor for David Macaulay's book *Mill*. He was an early advocate for creating the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. For fourteen years, Pat has served as a member of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission.

Thanks largely to Pat Malone, industrial archaeology has moved from the millstream to the mainstream.



### Marilyn H. & James R. Winoker of Cranston

Jim Winoker's interest in old buildings began more than half a century ago, as he walked from his boyhood home in South Providence to Classical High School, passing through Providence's Jewelry District. As manufacturers abandoned the area, Jim and his wife Marilyn Winoker acquired and renovated their first building, 222 Richmond Street, in 1977, years before the area became a historic district.

In 1982, they established Belvoir Properties to complete their first historic rehabilitation project, the Dyerville Mill, a Greek Revival mill built in Providence in 1835. Several important projects in the Downtown Providence Historic District followed: rehabilitations of Cherry & Webb (1984) and the Biltmore Hotel (1989-90) and the redevelopment of the Union Station complex which reconstructed the long-missing easternmost building (1990). Belvoir Properties' restoration of the Art Moderne Rosedale Apartments in Cranston won a Rhode Island State Historic Preservation Award in 2008. Most recently, the Winokers completed the rehabilitation of six 1920s manufacturing buildings, known as Manu Center (2008-11) near Allens Avenue.



In addition to developing historic properties, both Marilyn and Jim have brought their professional expertise to local non-profit organizations, serving in leadership positions in the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Providence Preservation Society, Grow Smart Rhode Island, and Preserve Rhode Island. In the private and public realms, the Winokers are dedicated to preserving Rhode Island's built heritage.



## Special Recognition

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### **Paul A. Robinson, Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission**

Archaeologist Paul A. Robinson has changed the ways that archaeological resources are understood and protected in Rhode Island. He served the State of Rhode Island for 32 years before retiring from the Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission in August 2011.

Paul made many contributions to the field of archaeology in Rhode Island and the Northeast. By integrating field research with the broader thematic study of archaeological history, he developed a critical understanding of our state's archaeological record and the culture of the peoples who made it. He wrote a comprehensive set of archaeological reports for the state and co-authored *Native American Archaeology in Rhode Island*, published in 2002. Paul oversaw the expansion of the state's archaeological survey to include more than 2,000 significant archaeological sites, and he was personally involved in the process of identifying and preserving many of them from coastal salt ponds, to ancient settlements in the heart of Providence, to the hills of northern Rhode Island.

Most recently he led efforts to save a 900-year-old Narragansett Indian village from destruction, and he initiated the Nipsachuck project to document and preserve two battlefields dating from King Phillip's War, 1675-1676. In his work, Paul has consistently emphasized consultation and cooperation. Archaeology in Rhode Island has benefitted from his close working relationships with Narragansett Tribal Historic Preservation Officer John Brown and with professional and academic colleagues.



## Special Recognition

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### **Wendy Nicholas, National Trust for Historic Preservation Northeast Office**

Wendy Nicholas has been a commanding force in Rhode Island historic preservation for most of her professional career, and we have all benefited mightily by her concerns for the people and places that make our state so special.

From Louisville, Kentucky, Wendy joined the Providence Preservation Society as its executive director in 1981. She swiftly became the face of preservation in Providence believing in the importance of historic resources across the entire city, and empowering Providence's neighborhood groups to organize for effective advocacy.

Thirteen years after arriving in Providence, in 1994 Wendy was lured to Boston by the National Trust for Historic Preservation who hired her to direct the organization's Northeast Office. With ten states, including Rhode Island, looking to her for services, lots of money to raise, and a lean staff to deploy strategically, she leveraged resources across the region to advance the cause of historic preservation.

Wendy is indefatigable in pursuing the preservation values we share, knows how to get access to those who can make good things happen, and is the rare individual who actually makes meetings fun. Now, after more than 17 years with the National Trust, Wendy is moving on to tackle new challenges.

We in Rhode Island owe Wendy enormous thanks for countless jobs well done as our partner in preservation. Muchas gracias, merci, danke, mahalo, grazie, and tusen takk, Wendy.



# About the Preservation Celebration Hosts



RI Historical Preservation  
& Heritage Commission

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 at  
[www.preserveri.org](http://www.preserveri.org).

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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](http://www.preservation.ri.gov)

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THANKS FOR PROTECTING  
RHODE ISLAND'S SPECIAL PLACES !



*Sunset Rhode Island Red Rooster*  
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