

# LANDMARKS

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## 2010 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Historic Preservation Office honored twelve individuals and projects at its annual Historic Preservation Awards, held November 4 at the beautiful Carnegie Institute of Science.

Over 400 attendees were welcomed by John Bellingham, President of DC Preservation League's Board of Directors and Harriet Tregoning, Director of the Office of Planning. An array of sweets and savory snacks followed the awards while guests mingled under the Carnegie's magnificent dome.

This year's Award for **Excellence in Design for Restoration or Rehabilitation** went to **Eastern Market**, which was undergoing rehabilitation when a tragic fire struck. With active community involvement, the DC Department of Real Estate Services undertook the massive redevelopment of this landmark building, bringing the building up to code for the Americans with Disabilities Act and installing all new systems including air conditioning and a modern sprinkler system, all while keeping the market vendors in business in a temporary site. Eastern Market is once again open and functioning to the benefit of



residents and visitors alike. Department of Real Estate Services Construction Division; Quinn Evans Architects; Minkoff Company, Inc.; Forney Enterprises, Inc.; The Craftsmen Group, Inc.

Other **Excellence in Design** winners were: **Carbon Neutral Rowhouse, 19 4th Street NE**

This quaint antebellum frame house was remodeled with a state-of-the-art building envelope and a geothermal heating and cooling system. The project incorporated LEED design guidelines that included recycled floor- continued on page 2

## EASTERN MARKET HONORED AT NATIONAL TRUST CONFERENCE

This year's National Trust Conference took place in Austin, Texas Oct. 27-30. In addition to the many seminars, training sessions, tours, and events was the Annual Preservation Honor Awards ceremony held at the historic

Paramount Theater. Among the recipients of these prestigious national awards was the restoration of the beloved landmark, Eastern Market in Capitol Hill.

The Honor Award was presented by National Trust advisors for the District, Dreck Wilson and Kathy Smith. On hand to accept the award were project architect Baird Smith of Quinn Evans Architects and the HPO reviewer for the project, Anne Brockett. Although no comments were given by the continued on page 3

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### 2010 HP Awards from page 1

ing, a recycled metal roof, permeable paving, and energy efficient appliances and fixtures. Cunningham | Quill Architects; GreenSpur, Inc.

### CITTA 50 Condominiums, 1450 Church Street NW

Located within the Greater 14th Street Historic District, this 27-unit residential project was built beside and behind a historic coal distribution facility designed by John A. Lankford, the first African American registered architect in the District of Columbia. The new construction is articulated as a series of complimentary brick planes that establish a lively architectural composition, while paying homage to the restored historic structure. Bonstra | Harsign Architects; DC Hampton LLC; EHT Tracerics, Inc; Holland & Knight, LLP; Camden Build/Design LLC.

### Washington National Cathedral Visitor Gateway, 3101 Wisconsin Avenue NW

This project replaced a surface parking lot with an underground parking garage, in keeping with the intent of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., who designed the Cathedral Close landscape in 1924. SmithGroup; Protestant Episcopal

Cathedral Foundation; Michael Vergason Landscape Architects; Advanced Project Management; James G. Davis Construction Corporation; Tadjer Cohen Edelson.

### The Woodward Building, 733 15th Street NW

This 1911 office building has been tastefully rehabilitated into apartments using federal rehabilitation tax credits. The exterior, lobby, and arcade shops were restored, while the upper floors were converted to residential use. Amenities include a health club, parking garage and common roof area. Martinez + Johnson Architecture; PC; SJG Properties; James G. Davis Construction Corporation; Betty Bird & Associates; Smislova, Kehnemui & Associates PC; Nixon Peabody LLP.

### Langston Terrace Dwellings, 2101 G Street NE

Langston Terrace Dwellings represents a seminal development in the Nation's housing history as the second publicly-funded residential project in the United States – and the first in the District. After numerous incompatible window replacements over the years, a comprehensive project replaced all windows with historically appropriate units that mimic the original windows that were

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## 2010 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION GALA

Photo Credit: Beckha Drake



## 2010 HP Awards from page 2

important to architect Hilyard Robinson's design. District of Columbia Housing Authority; Supreme Aluminum Products; Universal Window and Door.

### School Without Walls, 2130 G Street NW

Through a dramatic modernization and addition, the deteriorated, historic 1882 Grant School in Foggy Bottom has become a model for modern urban learning. The addition is deferential to the historic landmark, offering appropriate scale and massing that blends well with the historic streetscape. Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn Architects; District of Columbia Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization; The School Without Walls of Washington, DC.

**Honorable Mentions** for Excellence in Design went to Ginkgo Gardens owner Mark Holler for the rehabilitation of 907 11th Street SE. Bell Architects received an award for the reuse of 1228 9th Street NW as the firm's offices. Madame Tussauds Museum took over the former Rich's Shoe Store at 1001 F Street NW using Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits. The Buddhist Cultural Center was designed to be compatible with the landmarked Babcock-Macomb House on Massachusetts Avenue and responds to its neighbors on Embassy Row.

The panel awarded two **Stewardship** prizes this year, one to the late **Audrey Schwartz** and



**Diane Tamayo** for their dedication to the upkeep, recognition, and landmarking of the Methodist Cemetery in Tenleytown. The other stewardship award went to **Cornelia R. Stokes** for her role in protecting the records and collections of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the city's first independent black Episcopal congregation.

**Judith Capen** received the award for **Excellence in Public Education** for devoting the better part of her architectural career to advocating for the proper care of historic properties. She has taught classes and seminars, produced a monthly column in the *Hill Rag*, and written seven Capitol Hill Historic District Guidelines for the Capitol Hill Restoration Society.

The **Excellence in Community Advocacy Award** went to **Rick Busch**, who worked at DCPL and Cultural Tourism DC before heading the Dupont Circle Conservancy, representing the organization before the Historic Preservation Review Board, Board of Zoning Adjustment, and City Council.

This year's **State Historic Preservation Officer's Award** went to the **American Pharmacists Association** at 2215 Constitution Avenue NW, which recently completed a significant addition on the rear of this Alexander Pope-designed landmark. The addition is separated from the original block by a one-story hyphen and features green components such as a high efficiency HVAC system, irrigation system for the 50% of the site, and a comprehensive recycling program using 10% recycled and 10% local materials for construction. Hartman-Cox Architects, LLP; JBG Companies; American Pharmacists Association; Thornton Tomasetti Group LLC; TOLK; Tishman Construction Corporation; Holland & Knight, LLP.

The **Lifetime Achievement** award went to **Kathryn Schneider Smith**, a long-time proponent of Washington's history, preservation and interpretation. Among her numerous accomplishments are creating a history curriculum for DC public schools, collecting oral histories and photographs for the "Remembering U Street" outdoor exhibit, founding the DC Heritage Tourism Coalition (now Cultural Tourism DC) and, most recently, publishing a revised edition of her much heralded 1988 classic *Washington at Home*, a 500-page illustrated volume on Washington's neighborhoods, released earlier this year.

The last honoree of the evening was **Tersh Boasberg**, recipient of the **HPRB Chair's Award For Excellence in Law and Public Policy**. Among Boasberg's numerous accomplishments in the cause of historic preservation in the city are his service as chair of the Committee of 100 of the Federal City, founder and general counsel of Preservation Action, president of the National Center for Preservation Law, trustee of the National Building Museum, president and founder of the Cleveland Park Historical Society, chairman

of the DC Zoning Commission, and chairman of the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board. Through his leadership activities, the city of Washington has benefited tremendously from his foresight, hindsight, and insight. ❖

## Eastern Market Honored from page 1

recipients, HPO would have expressed its heartfelt thanks to the National Trust for recognizing this superior restoration project as a success story of collaboration among the city's Department of Real Estate Services, Historic Preservation Office, Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee, the architects, and the Capitol Hill community. ❖



Photo Credit: HPO

From L to R: Stephanie Meeks, President of the National Trust; Kathryn Smith, DC Trustee; Anne Brockett, HPO Architectural Historian; Baird Smith, Quinn Evans architect; Milford Wayne Donaldson, Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and Dreck Wilson, DC Trustee.

## ROADS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

The 2010 biennial *Preserving the Historic Road Conference* was held at the Metro Center Marriott on September 9-12. Co-sponsored by the Historic Preservation Office, the conference brought together historians, engineers, and planners for four days of road-oriented educational sessions, field workshops, tours and special events. Sunday's free public sessions featured an illustrated overview of the parkways of the National Capital Region, Fort Drive -The Proposed Scenic Drive of the Civil War Defenses of Washington, the Highway Plan of 1893, and the Good Roads movement. HPO's own Kim Williams gave a paper entitled "Avenue of the Presidents: Mrs. Henderson and the Making of 16th Street in Washington, D.C." while Steve Callcott, Tim Dennee, and Anne Brockett led tours. ❖

## NEW TENLEYTOWN TRAIL

On November 13, Cultural Tourism DC unveiled its newest heritage trail – *Top of the Town* – featuring sites in the Tenleytown neighborhood in Northwest. The 19-sign trail tells the story of Tenleytown, founded as a crossroads village for goods and people making their way from the Maryland countryside to the ports at Georgetown and Alexandria. The



Photo Credit: Diane Tamayo, Methodist Cemetery Association

*Top of the Town* is the latest in the organization's series of neighborhood heritage trails, which also includes *Brightwood*, *Barracks Row*, *Adams Morgan*, *Southwest DC*, *Shaw*, and *Deanwood*.

trail tells the history of the African American community of Reno City; the Grant Road Historic District; Point Reno, the highest point in DC, where Civil War Union soldiers kept a look out for Confederate advances; and Mount Vernon Ladies Seminary, which became the U.S. Navy's cryptanalysis facility during WWII and where the Japanese code was broken. ❖

## DIG IT? FALL ARCHAEOLOGY UPDATE

The late summer and fall were the busy season for archaeology at HPO! Federal stimulus funds have kicked in, creating a boom of small archaeological projects, each requiring HPO review. In addition, some major projects are still in the works, including:

- Completion of the archaeological investigations for the 11th Street Bridges. Six sites were identified, including four prehistoric Native American sites east of the Anacostia River and two historic sites near the Navy Yard.
- Continued investigations at St. Elizabeths Hospital, with several prehistoric and historic sites identified so far.

- HUD-funded development in the Fort Lincoln New Town area in northeast DC, which resulted in the identification of a site related to the National Training School for Boys. This model reform school, which started after the Civil War and operated into the 1960s, included a farm and instruction in various trades. Domestic and institutional artifacts were found in an ash layer denoting the school's main building, which burned in 1905. These artifacts help tell the story of everyday life at the school for students and the staff.

- The Kalorama Park Archaeological Site, which was designated a landmark in the District's Inventory of Historic Sites. The site contains the remains of the John Little house and farm built after 1839, where the Little family and some 17 enslaved African American servants lived. The site is already part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom because of property's association with the attempted escape in 1861 of Hortense Prout, one of Little's slaves.

In addition to these many projects, the City Archaeologist Dr. Ruth Troccoli and her team found time to make several presentations to professional and public audiences, including:

- A presentation on the use of GIS to manage the city's archaeological data and one on mapping prehistoric sites by time period at the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference.
- A poster presentation at the national meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in St. Louis on using GIS together with geoarchaeological survey.
- A six-paper session on the archaeology in the District at the DC Preservation League's Citywide Preservation Conference, including a discussion of significant archaeological sites located in DC city parks, HPO's project to organize and inventory the city's archaeological collections (over 715 archival boxes with more



Cobble drain features discovered at St. Elizabeths near the Center Building during investigations in July 2010.

Photo Credit: General Services Administration

coming in every year!), and the results of a summer intern project to create a GIS data layer of historic cemeteries throughout the city. ❖

## HUMANITIES COUNCIL AWARD GOES TO HPO

On September 21, the Humanities Council of Washington DC honored the Historic Preservation Office with a Service Award at its 30th anniversary showcase at the historic Summer School. The HPO was cited for its commitment to "maintaining a careful balance between economic development and the preservation of valuable cultural resources." Associate Director David Maloney and Community Outreach Coordinator Patsy Fletcher were on hand to accept the award for the continued support of the D.C. Community Heritage Project, a partnership with the Humanities Council.



Photo Credit: HPO

The Humanities Council also gave Grantee Awards to Kia Chatmon of the Deanwood History Project, Beverly Johnson of the National Hand Dance Association, and Aviva Kempner, who was given the Outstanding Grantee Award in recognition of her contributions as a prolific grant project director. Martin Klimke of the German Historical Institute, Teri Wright of Reading is Fundamental, and Dr. Elizabeth Primas received Partner Awards, while Bob Bremner received the Angel Award. The Washingtonian Division of the D.C. Public Library received a Service Award for the resources it provides the Humanities Council's D.C. Community Heritage Project grantees and individuals conducting research on their historic homes. ❖

