2019 Preservation Award Winners

The Pavilion at Grace, 300 Westminster—Excellent addition by Centerbrook Architects and Planners to Grace Episcopal Church, which was designed by Richard Upjohn and built in 1845. The Pavilion creates a social space visually open to the community with support rooms and an outdoor garden, terrace, and stone maze. The jury found the elegant copper-clad addition to be appropriately deferential in its tone and texture to the Gothic revival brownstone church.

60 King, 60 King Street—Mixed-income residential adaptive reuse of a vacant mill building (c. 1923), formerly Rochambeau Worsted Company and Imperial Knife Company. This Olneyville project was a collaboration by two non-profit organizations, SWAP, Inc. and ONE Neighborhood Builders. The jury lauded 60 King as a good example of a cooperative effort to achieve mixed income housing through historic tax credits, affordable housing loans, and brownfield remediation.

The Winslow Building, 225 Weybosset Street—Complete renovation and exterior restoration of a c. 1912 commercial building downtown that had served as a music hall, piano shop, and drug store. This is the latest collaboration between ASH NYC and KITE Architects and successfully re-activates a prominent corner. The jury noted that the project enhances the pedestrian environment, makes a nice statement on the corner (serving as the new home to Ellie’s at street level), and is overall a well-scaled and handsome restoration.

Bomes Theatre, 1017 Broad Street—Rehabilitation of a vacant and abandoned structure facing condemnation. A five-time PPS Most Endangered Property, the Beaux Arts-style theater in Elmwood dates from 1921 and later served as a furniture store. The jury applauded the effort by RGB Architects and local developer Tavares LLC to recreate the threatened property into an event venue with a modern interior plus a café and offices in an under-served neighborhood.
**A.T. Cross Building, 53 Warren Street**—Restoration of an abandoned and unique timber-framed manufacturing building in the West End erected by the Cross Pen Company in 1880. Architect Jack Ryan paid particular attention to the windows, a distinctive feature to provide natural light. The jury commented that this project preserves a building that easily could have been lost to neglect and respects its original use and design.

**Almy Street School, 14 Meader Street**—Conversion of an 1894 school building in Federal Hill into ten residential units. The restoration of the property by project architect Monika Kraemer and development partners the Providence Revolving Fund and B.J. Dupre of Armory Revival Company included the removal of asphalt for a new garden and orchard. The jury was particularly impressed by the return of color with the Victorian paint palate and the thoughtful interior treatment to this rare wood-framed former school built for late 19th century immigrant children.

**WaterFire Arts Center, 475 Valley Street**—Revitalization of a c. 1930 industrial building, originally part of the U.S. Rubber Co. complex, into the new headquarters of a dynamic local cultural arts organization. DBVW Architects and TRAC Builders worked with WaterFire Providence to create a performance, exhibition, and event venue in addition to administrative offices, production space, a gift shop, and storage. The jury appreciated the light-touch preservation approach that successfully retained the raw and industrial interior and historic patina.

**Providence River Pedestrian Bridge**—Imaginative repurposing of existing foundations, piers, and abutments of the former Interstate 195 location across the Providence River into a public amenity and landmark. The idea for this creative adaptive reuse into a pedestrian bridge was sparked by a RISD student in 1999 and finally completed in 2019 under the leadership of Governor Gina Raimondo and the RI Department of Transportation. The jury complimented the project’s use of historic foundations, the material choices, and the bridge’s ability to stitch the two sides of the river together.