

NH FORUM

For those who shape the built environment

AIANH Presents the AIA New England Design Awards

Results Announced at the Annual AIANE Awards Banquet

As you read this, the 2009 AIA New England Regional Conference, an event AIANH has been planning for over a year, has come and gone! As we go to press, however, it is still a week in the future. We'll print photos from the various events in the November issue.

For now, we will cover the results of the Awards Program, which were announced at the October 3 Awards Banquet at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel.

Submissions for this program began arriving at the AIANH office toward the end of July for the July 31 deadline. All 271 of them! They pretty much took up all available table and floor space, and it took a couple of weeks to unpack and process them: separating the binders from the supporting data, numbering them, and packing into boxes for the Jury.

On August 21 AIANH President Bruce Hamilton AIA picked them up and drove them

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with the Granite State
Landscape Architects

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Honor Award: SF Residence, 44 PL, Greenwich, CT
Joeb + Partners, Architects, LLC, Greenwich, CT Photo: David Sundberg/Esto



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The editors of the NH Forum seek to encourage a lively discussion of design and other topics of concern to designers. Opinions and proposals presented in the newsletter are those of the writers to whom they are attributed and are not a statement of official policy by AIANH, unless so stated.

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NH Forum

Perspective

Point of view from the president of AIANH



Bruce Hamilton AIA
President 2009

Last year I attended a study tour of sacred spaces in Rome, Italy, sponsored by Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture (IFRAA), which is a professional interest area of AIA. Guided by Donald Bruggink, attendees were able to absorb timeless lessons in the making of sacred spaces that remain as valid today as for our predecessors in ancient times. Across the span of some two thousand years we have observed how architecture reflects the impact of revolutionary changes in the conception of our place in the universe. We have traversed from the triumph of Christianity exemplified in the Baroque genius of Bernini and Michelangelo; to the existential search of the meaning of Meier and others in our own time. Throughout time we have seen in the architecture of the sacred a yearning for the divine, which recognizes the timeless power of space, art, and the raw materials of architecture, to link us to that which, despite the power of science and technology, remains the transcendent mystery at the core of our existence.

An extraordinary example of Baroque

architecture, St. Peter's Square located in the Vatican City, owes its glory to Gian Lorenzo Bernini. He laid out an elliptical colonnade in the space in front of St. Peter's, divided into two hemicycles that radiate out from the façade of the St. Peter's Basilica. Bernini created a spectacular setting, a symbol of the church in the Baroque era. Starting from the colonnade, whose open shape creates an urbanistic and symbolic link between the building and the city, the faithful are led into the basilica and conducted toward the high altar, emphasized by the baldachin and finally to the throne of St. Peter in the apse, the climax of an imaginary mystical-symbolic route. The end result obtained in St. Peter's Square is that of a well-proportioned and harmonious whole, a total work of art, a "theatrical production" rich in special effects.

Works of art are a way of communicating with the transcendent. Nowhere is this illuminating, liberating thought more sublimely expressed or more variously explored than in the Vatican. With its many different museums, its richly furnished and decorated rooms, and the glories of the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's itself, the Vatican is the world's greatest single repository of art. On the ceiling of the Sistine

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St. Peter's Square

Young Architects Forum: LEED Update

by Michael McKeown Assoc. AIA



LEED Rolls Out Credentialing Maintenance Program (CMP)

So, here I go again with more about what the USGBC is doing. For those of you who have had enough, my sincerest apologies – the pain will end very soon, you have my word. For those of you who appreciate the updates, here is one you are sure to find interesting.. ..especially if you just recently beat the deadline to attain your Accredited status before everything became terribly more difficult and expensive.

Yes, I do agree that the changes the USGBC keeps making bear a striking resemblance to a bad daytime soap opera...and are about as enjoyable to get through. However, I think we are nearing the end of the major changes, the USGBC and GBCI have for us. Hopefully...

As many of you probably know, the USGBC has just wrapped up a major overhaul of its LEED rating system and professional status categories. The process has been in the

works for a while and has culminated with the recent issue of the new LEED Version 3.0 rating system with accompanying Reference Guide and the roll out of the new Credentialing Maintenance Program (CMP for short). Now I'm sure you are asking yourself why after all the long nights sleeping face down in your reference guide you would want to participate in a "Maintenance Program." Well, the USGBC has a simple answer.

The intent of developing the program is to "...ensure that LEED professionals have the latest knowledge and understanding of green building practices and that they are recognized for their distinction."

"A LEED credential provides employers, policymakers, and other stakeholders with assurances of an individual's current level of competence and is the mark of the most qualified, educated, and influential green building professionals in the marketplace."

Basically by enrolling in the program you will be recognized (credentialed) as a professional whose knowledge of green practices is current and of a much more specific tract.

The process appears simple and very similar to that of the AIA and its requirement for CEU's. If you are currently a LEED AP the process is pretty simple. You sign up for the program (at the GBCI website, I believe) and have two years to maintain the required 30 units necessary to retain your status. You will be given a credential that is most closely related to the test track that you completed: NC will become B D & C (Building Design and Construction), CI will become I D & C

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NH Accessibility Resource

A good new resource is available from the Governor's Commission on Disabilities for use in NH. Particularly with the passage of HB 530, which will require new certification of accessibility compliance both at the design and the construction phases, this information will be helpful. (Go to: www.nh.gov/disability/information/architectural/documents/ab-checklist1.9.09.pdf).

Although the legislation states the local code officials can do the certification, the initial reaction from them is they do not believe this is their responsibility, so it will be incumbent upon architects to either self-certify for their projects or hire a third party.

The code officials will continue to do the plan reviews at permitting and standard construction inspections, but probably not the new certification. It is a bit unclear exactly when this will be effective; the NHBOA is seeking clarification from the AG office, but might be as early as January 1, 2010.

Here is a link to the legislation: www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/bill_status.aspx?lsr=257&sy=2009&sortoption=&txtsessionyear=2009&txtbillnumber=hb530&q=1

Information from Jerry Tepe FAIA

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AIANE Design Awards continued from page 1

over to Troy, NY, in the pouring rain, for the weekend jury at RPI.

We had three remarkable jurors who were up to the task of reviewing each submission, and who supplied us with detailed comments for each of the 21 winning projects.

The three jurors were: **Brett Balzer AIA**, Saratoga Springs, NY; **Mark Mistur AIA**, Associate Professor of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy NY; and Jury chair, **Patrick J. Quinn FAIA**, Professor of Architecture, Emeritus, RPI, Loudonville, NY.

Below are their comments. We thought we'd print them in total, as they address issues on which they had some controversy as well as issues that arise in many AIA members' practices. Their remarks give incite into the critiquing process, the things observed and missing in the submissions, and both positive and the negative aspects of the projects. Reading through might help as you prepare submissions for other awards program, and also get you thinking about your own design solutions. They provide some interesting commentary on contemporary design.

We've included photos of the Honor awards and Merit Awards. Photos of all projects (and the People's Choice Award results) can be viewed at www.aianewengland.org.

Jurors' Summary

The overall quality of the work entered was significantly good, indicating a return to

the importance of well thought out schemes. There was almost no evidence of the gratuitous whimsicality and self-indulgent fantasy which seemed to have become de rigueur in the late 20th century.

Yet it was clear from this selection that that very whimsicality has engendered new ways of dealing with modern exigencies. It seemed also that the issue of sustainability, including energy conservation, orientation, site preservation and prudent use of materials has energized a maturity of spatial and formal investigation in imaginative and livable buildings, many of which can endure.

The result is that the Jury was challenged to a marathon session of examination, discussion, review and judgment which, while exhausting, was very rewarding.

Honor Awards went to two dramatically different private houses and two utterly contrasting public buildings of some complexity.

• **Tanglewood 2 House, The Berkshires, MA by Schwartz/Silver Architects, Boston, MA**

Two jurors were highly enthusiastic about this striking project, one was less so. Nevertheless all felt it to be worthy of an honor award.

Cited were: the dramatic impact on the hillside site, the daring character of the structure, the integration of structure and spatial concepts, the roof terrace, and the pool.

The tight organization of spaces within such a restrictive and elongated geometry was carried out with such conviction, cohesion, and



Honor Award: Tanglewood 2 House, The Berkshires, MA

Schwartz/Silver Architects, Boston, MA Photo: Alan Karchmar



Honor Award: Kroon Hall, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University
Hopkins Architects, London, UK/Centerbrook Architects, Centerbrook, CT Photo: Peter Aaron/

élan that the design integrity shines through. There is no compromise here in the realization of the strong vision.

In the Jury's discussion, references were made to Simon Unger's Tee-House, Libera's

Casa Malaparte, etc. as other, singular interventions in the landscape. For this house is nothing if not singular. It appears to have been designed for a very special and indeed courageous client.

The lightsome interiors, the stepped interior descent onto the long, calm, cantilevered living area, and the dramatic views of the house at night are all worthy of close attention.

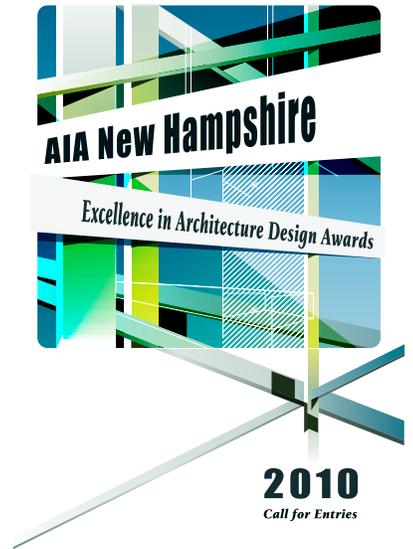
Although the views from within are spectacular, there is a strong implication of being "on display" as well. The domesticity of the living spaces as photographed seem in some conflict with the industrial character of the north façade, especially.

Philosophically the house seems to manifest ideological modernism at its most assertive.

• **Kroon Hall, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT; Hopkins Architects, London/Centerbrook Architects, Centerbrook, CT**

That such a project should lead the way in campus sustainability goes almost without saying, and the architect places the issue front and center both in design philosophy and in presentation. The result is a powerful combination of the strange and the familiar...the strange in the soft roof geometry, evoking barns, mansards, etc. among a context of angular gables and steeply pitched slate surfaces ...the familiar in the deeply recessed openings in strong masonry walls...the strange in the

Continued on page 8



Last Call! AIANH Design Awards Submissions Due October 16

The deadline for submissions to the 2010 AIANH Excellence in Architecture Design Awards Program is October 16.

Finish up your submissions and send them soon!

For complete information go to the AIANH website: www.aianh.org/design_awards.asp

Intern/Young Architects Design Competition

The AIANH Intern/Young Architect Design Competition is an opportunity for interns and young architects to strengthen their design skills, gain recognition, and assist a community with their design challenges. The 2010 design competition is open to all New Hampshire architectural interns and architects within five years of registration. More information at: www.aianh.org/competition.asp

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Changing Owner/Developer Perception of the Importance of Landscape Design

by Anne Crooker

I grew up in Manchester and although I no longer reside in the city I continue to spend my days working in one of the historic mills downtown. A few weeks back I passed the old Hampshire Plaza now known as the Sullivan Plaza at 1000 Elm Street. I have memories as a kid of the old plaza courtyard that was nothing more than cement with bright orange circles on brown poles, looking like giant lollypops, dotting the building entrance. I was overjoyed and overwhelmed to see the newly renovated courtyard, or should I say park, that now exists on that once barren concrete. A lush garden with colorful plantings, native perennials, brick walkways, grassy areas, and wrought iron fencing, all integrated around large shapely boulders.

The thing that surprised me the most about this renovation wasn't so much the specifics of the design, it is elegant yet sublime, but the semblance that this part of the City had changed not just in its appearance but in its attitude. The garden invites you in like a sanctuary and makes you want to linger on its paths, the chaos of the

City seems to quiet and the perceptions of being part of an urban neighborhood overtake the grit of the rest of the City.

This project shows it is possible to change the owner/developer perception of landscape design. In the present economy, designers and suppliers are being cut out of new projects because they are viewed as an extra expense. If design services are included they are the last part of a project that gets downsized when the budget gets tight. Getting clients to see that landscape design can enhance the overall aesthetics of a site and can make not only an emotional connection between people, architecture, and nature but also significantly increase a project's value. This message has been the goal of the GSLA, NHLA, and other organizations for years, but especially in this economy, it seems to fall on deaf ears. Until now, that is.

I was able to speak to the project designer Tim Sheldon, Director of Design for Brady Sullivan Properties, about the project. Tim told me the

Continued next page



**Sullivan
Square**

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Aerial View of Sullivan Square

project was a collaboration of a design idea for the building and some beneficial working relationships with vendors and suppliers around the state. “Brady Sullivan Properties purchased the building nearly three years

ago and we pride ourselves on repositioning buildings in the regional marketplace. We completely renovated the interior concourse and other public areas in the first two years. With that completed, it was time to finish up the public image of the building. I designed it to bring a class “A” presence to the building. If an owner cares about a building’s public persona...then prospective tenants will feel more comfortable coming into the project. You need to have a first class image in and outside the project you are trying to market. The buzz has been incredible...and we have already seen an uptick in leasing activity.”

Tim worked with Susan Remski from Country Brook Farms in Hudson, NH; Northern Nurseries, and Steve Faulkner at Faulkner’s Landscaping and Nursery in Hooksett, NH, to achieve a lush garden landscape at 1000 Elm Street, changing the once barren concrete courtyard into a pocket sanctuary. The Brady Sullivan design team succeeded in raising the bar of aesthetics at Sullivan Plaza, with a small investment in landscape design. ■

Local News

By Anne Crooker

- In September, the Boston Landmarks Orchestra performed a commissioned narrator-and-orchestra piece with music written by Thomas Oboe Lee and text by Nancy Stevenson called “The Story of Frederick Law Olmsted.” The performance was introduced by Olmsted scholar Charles Beveridge and narrated by former Governor Michael Dukakis. Gov. Dukakis’s administration was responsible for the restoration of Olmsted’s Emerald Necklace. The performance was held on the Esplanade and was conducted by Beatrice Affron.

- New revisions in State law that went into effect in September will help developers, timberland owners, and other landowners. One law will allow timberland owners to apply for a waiver to cut down trees near or in a wetland if DES determines there is no significant wetland loss. No determination of how much the waiver will cost has been made yet. Another law set to take effect states that regional planning commissions will have to put into writing their guidelines to assist local land use boards in determining whether development has potential for regional impact. This was brought about because some developers complained that past decisions have been arbitrary.

- The McDonnell Farm in Stratham is currently being considered for a Farm and Ranch Land Protection grant. The grant would go towards the cost of a conservation easement to protect the farm. ■

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Details...

William Jean of Fulcrum Associates in Amherst, NH, received the 2009 New Hampshire Commercial Investment Board of REALTORS® Affiliate of the Year award.

Bill is the co-Chairman of the Affiliates Committee for NH CIBOR. His dedication and hard work for NH CIBOR has been recognized and rewarded by his peers. Bill has worked on bringing another successful year of the 12 step Green Series to NH CIBOR and is also credited with bringing together education seminars to benefit his fellow peers and NH CIBOR members.

2009 NH CIBOR President, Arthur Slattery and 2008 Affiliate of the Year, Heather Rowan, Presented Bill with this award.

David Lefebvre, Commercial Division Manager of Shanley Realtors® in Portsmouth, NH, was named the 2009 Realtor of the Year. The REALTOR® of the Year is selected by his/her peers based on contributions to the real estate industry, clients, and the REALTOR® community, as well as outstanding qualities, and other factors that set the individual apart in the award year.

NH CIBOR is the Voice for Commercial Real Estate in NH, representing several hundred Commercial REALTORS® and real estate professionals.

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Honor Award: Meditech Payette, Boston, MA Warren Jagger Photography

dramatic articulation of photovoltaic panels by bright aluminium rib-like pipes...the familiar in what appears to be more conventional metal roofing on the north side. The Jury was struck by the ingenuity and subtlety of the landscape design, which offers a traditional grassy quad placed over an extensive service node and connected to a well shaded cortile at first floor level, resulting in a beautiful indoor-outdoor relationship. The site planning in general indicates design maturity and restraint which is admirable.

No less powerful are the interiors which not only offer comfortable consistency in material details but also introduce visual drama in the soaring contrast of the upper level spaces and the effective modulation of the central corridors.

One juror felt that the protruding semi-cylinders housing the stairs, however, strike a non-harmonious note both geometrically and

proportionally and that this weakens somewhat the contrast between the severe fenestration of the longitudinal walls and the more exotic wood and glass screens of the east and west ends.

The conscious effort at relentless “greening” and adaptation to the traditional context shows how far campus architecture has come since the overt self-consciousness of the nearby Ingalls hockey rink and the adjacent Biology Tower.

The jurors noted that this presentation was a model of clarity and graphic accessibility.

• **Meditech - Medical Information Technology Computer Science Building, Fall River, MA, by Payette, Boston, MA.**

Almost the antithesis of the previous entry in architectural character, this work appealed to the jurors for its excellent site organization, capitalizing on great views, and the purity of its form. Located near 19th Century mill structures, the public entrance façade with its modest mimicry of the former’s window openings, forms a screen and closed-in gateway to the surprising landscape which opens up in beautiful views from the relative privacy of the offices on the north side. The midpoint break in the south façade, where major circulation, cafeteria, and public spaces meet, and the smoothly curvilinear glass façade of the south combine beautifully to articulate a long structure which might otherwise be merely monotonous. As with the other three honor awards the drawings, diagrams, photographs, and particularly the use of jargon-free, unpretentious language reveal the complexity of thought underlying a readable work of architecture.

• **SF Residence, 44 PL, Greenwich, CT, by Joeb + Partners, Architects, Greenwich, CT**

A unanimous choice for an honor award, this project was a pleasure to examine in detail after the first delightful impact had registered upon us. (Photo on front page.)

The entire site organization quietly makes

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one aware that the disciplined order of the interior continues subtly throughout the whole. Water is integral but unobtrusive.

The “second skin” of cedar screens on the upper storey is a strong yet gentle modifier, consistent with the almost relentless geometric order of subtly detailed concrete walls below. Particularly lightsome is the swath of light, water and circulation which cuts through between the intersecting wings and emphasizes the reaching out into the landscape. Light, both natural and artificial is carefully shaped to allow for subtle shifts in the spatial experience throughout the day and through the seasons.

The landscape design is a serene complement to the house. One is tempted to cite Kahn, Wright, Barragan, even Sverre Fehn but, suffice it to say that the presentation, from text to plans to model to photographs is lucid, serene and beautiful, just like the house itself.



Merit Award: Stone Industrial Storage Barn
Gray Organschi Architecture, New Haven, CT
 Photo: Gray Organschi Architecture

Eleven **Merit Awards** were given as follows:

- **Stone Industrial Storage Structure, Washington, CT by Gray Organschi Architecture, New Haven, CT**

Seldom does one encounter such an inventive, ingenious design solution for a mere utility building. Traditionally characterized by messy yards and structures, the storage of stone and sand is seldom thought of as a worthy design challenge. This architect has not only risen to the challenge but imaginatively incorporated equipment storage, energy efficiency and geothermal as well as solar power. The readily accessible masonry palettes present a constantly changing wall and thus a visual delight. Behind them is a well considered second wall of translucent light controlling panels.

The jury members all smiled with pleasure at this unique and beautiful work.

- **Renovation and Expansion, Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH, by Ann Beha Architects, Boston, MA**

The Jury felt that this was a sophisticated addition to a neo-classical building of strength resulting in both an excellent arrangement of site spaces and welcome clarity between the new and the old. Especially attractive is the good use of light, both natural and artificial. The proportions, too, of the new work harmonize with the existing in a way that makes for easy transitions.

- **Weekend house in Kent, CT, Halper Owens Architects LLC, Washington Depot, CT**

The sheer airiness and lofty spatiality of this complex building make for a wonderful family place, both inside and out. This is made possible by two strong gestures.

Continued on page 12

Details...

In a dedication ceremony on September 12, the new Windham High School received high accolades from state and local officials, students, faculty, and the Windham community. The new 193,000 square foot building is designed to support 1,000 students with state-of-the-art learning spaces and technology. **Lavallee Brensinger Architects** of Manchester, NH was the architect of record. Despite many challenges inherited when the project began and an aggressive, fast-track schedule, the school was ultimately delivered under budget and ahead of schedule by Lavallee Brensinger and **Harvey Construction**.

The school includes six science labs, technology labs, a television studio, large media studio, family and consumer science labs, chorus practice room, art studios, a large gymnasium with seating for 1,600, an auditorium with seating for 600, and a lecture hall. The overall building design reflects the school’s cutting edge curriculum while balancing the use of traditional materials and comfortable scale.

In an effort to engage the community and better understand the school’s driving forces about space utilization, the Lavallee Brensinger design team organized focus groups to plan specific areas of the building, such as the Media Center, classroom pods, and other student-centric spaces. As a result, the original overall size of the school was reduced by nearly 33 percent, a more appropriate and right-sized building to meet the District’s needs.

“Lavallee Brensinger created a design for our high school that is exactly reflective of the spirit, culture and tenor we were striving for,” said Beth Valentine, Windham School Board Member. “People say that buildings are only brick and mortar, but our building has an energy, a life to it - you WANT to strive for greatness when you are in it. Our students are very fortunate.”

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Returning on October 13: AIA Documents on Demand

On October 13, AIA will publically release AIA Documents on Demand, a web-based service that allows users to purchase and download individual forms and agreements in PDF format which they can fill out electronically. The documents available include 16 of the most popular selections from the AIA Contract Document library. This service is ideal for MAC users or those that only use a few contracts per year. Information will be available on the AIANH website: www.aianh.org.

HAMILTON Cont'd from page 2

Chapel, Michelangelo depicted the most primal elements of human history as recounted in the Bible, integrating them both aesthetically and in terms of art. What we have is a continuous visual narrative of individual scenes being linked by a complex system of painted plasters, capitals, entablatures and thrones, all of which is an endless variety of human figures (differentiated as much in composition as in symbolic significance).

Four years have passed since the opening of the Dives in Misericordia (Jubilee Church), designed by Richard Meier and Partners. This church, desired by Pope John Paul II in memory of the Jubilee of 2000, was to present the "ship of the church" that plows the seas of the third millennium and, to shift the metaphor, that "ship of the local church" the plows the district. The form of the altar takes up the image of a ship and is placed to the west, unlike what the structure of the presbytery generally envisions in the classical church. The main façade is marked by

the succession of curved concrete sails. Sizable windows jet amid white concrete walls which permit natural light to penetrate in total and



Ceiling in the Sistine Chapel

absolute fusion, to literally flow to the interior and be "poured" onto those present.

At the largest of the windows, the one lying between the largest sail and the central septum that separates the nave from the parish rooms, the entrance canopy stretches forward toward the courtyard, almost as if to receive all of humanity. The interior, extensive and admirably lighted, develops between the highest of the

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West Façade of Dives in Misericordia

sails and the septum, clad by a boiserie, that separates from the parish halls and is surmounted by an inclined glazing from which the light enters absolutely, totally, almost surprisingly. In architecture as in any other creative expression, light has always been a source of ecstasy and of inspiration.

At the center, the volume of the apse is projected on the one hand toward the outside by the extensive glazing that limits the nave behind the altar and on the other hand towards the interior and in particular toward the altar and the pews. Greatly evocative is the shelf, projecting from the altar and placed in front of the pyramidal niche, curved from the volume of the apse.

The simplicity is the main feature of the Dives in Misericordiose. The enormous sails offer shelter and protection, a work of art in the Roman suburbs which represents an architectural revelation for the city on the entire outlying area, leaving a mark not only to visitors but also for the people who live there. ■



Interior view looking from the altar to the rear of the church, Dives in Misericordia

Photos by Bruce Hamilton AIA

MCKEOWN: LEED UPDATE

continued from page 3

(Interior Design and Construction), and EB will become O & M (Operations and Maintenance). Signing up is free at first but, after each two year period expires there is a \$50 maintenance fee to retain your credentials and be listed in the online directory of USGBC professionals.

If you do not choose to enroll you will not be credentialed and will remain a LEED AP.

There are differing thoughts as to whether you will remain listed in the online directory.

If you have not attained your LEED AP status yet, please visit the USGBC and GBCI websites as there are a couple of steps necessary to attaining your LEED credentials. ■

Feel free to comment: michael.mckeown@lbpa.com.

The EPA and Lead Paint

Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, which can be harmful to adults and children.

To protect against this risk, on April 22, 2008, the EPA issued a rule requiring the use of lead-safe practices and other actions aimed at preventing lead poisoning. Under the rule, beginning in April 2010, contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

For more information visit www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm

Join AIA's Facebook Young Designers Challenge!

AIA is hosting its first ever design competition on Facebook – the AIA Facebook Young Designers Challenge. AIA is asking emerging professionals to submit new, unbuilt building projects that address America's most pressing design needs for the 21st century. This can include, but is not limited to: sustainability, public infrastructure, affordable housing, retrofitting suburbs and other resource-intensive built environments, urban farming, and rehabilitating dilapidated urban cores. This requirement is intentionally flexible. The most important factor is that each design offers an innovative solution to a concrete and unsolved problem.

Submissions are due December 11, 2009 and public voting will close January 4, 2010. The winning designer will be announced in *AIArchitect* with a feature article in January. To learn more, visit the Facebook event page, www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=171304305336



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**Merit Award: Weekend house,
Halper Owens Architects LLC,
Washington Depot, CT**

Photo: Michael Moran Photography, Inc.

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AIANE Design Awards continued from page 9

1: In adapting the materials of a relocated cow barn the architects have created an interesting integration of rusticity and modernity. This is noticeable especially in the strong clarity and openness of the kitchen and related spaces, in the tamed brutality of the masonry fireplaces & chimney breasts, in the contrast between the generous bright stairwell and the weathered underside of the roof timbers.

2: In carefully considering all aspects of site planning, ... approach, plain character, location of courtyard and pool...the architects have made an interesting and serene landscape. The facades shift from quiet planarity at North and East to a complex west side worthy of a multi-storey Athonite monastery. Yet this same façade, viewed from the pool presents an almost classical, formal elegance.

• **Fred and Fay Haas Memorial Interfaith Chapel at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, AZ, by Kane Architecture, East Hardwick, VT**

Some controversy over this project greatly enlivened the Jury. As elemental in program as Anshen & Allen's dramatic 1956 Chapel of the Holy Cross in Sedona, AZ, or Lloyd Wright's 1951 Wayfarer's Chapel in Palos Verdes, CA, and with an almost equally spectacular site, the work modestly conveys the notion that the building should take second place to the landscape while yet calling attention to the latter's great beauty.

The resulting project has a diagrammatic clarity and simplicity of expression. A long gently sloping roof is the organizing element whose broad overhang extends the interior, connecting it to the sweeping valley, yet shades and cosily shelters the occupants.

The winding approach along the hillside enters to form a clear divider/connector be-



Merit Award: Fred and Fay Haas Memorial Interfaith Chapel; Kane Architecture, East Hardwick, VT Photo: Anderson Creative Productions

tween the private (meditation, office, etc.) and the expansive, open sanctuary.

Controversy arose concerning the seemingly rigid interior arrangement, which pointed to a conventional "liturgical" order rather than the interactive and less formal possibilities of interfaith dialogue and/or services. Disputed also was the articulation of the great view window by horizontal and diagonal structural members, which of course were necessary to withstand strong wind forces but yet seemed to counter the architect's intention of simple clarity.

Nevertheless the project was thought of as refreshingly modest yet powerful.

• **UMASS Integrated Sciences Building, Amherst, MA, by Payette, Boston, MA**

A crystal cathedral of learning with additional sectional facades of brick and interior articulation by boxy wooden containers, this complex offers highly skillful consistency of detailing throughout, although the entrance facade was considered "problematic." The generous atrium and circulation were considered very good for interaction, a goal of the pro-



**Merit Award: Currier Museum of Art
Ann Beha Architects, Boston, MA**

Photo: Jonathan Hillyer



Merit Award: UMASS Integrated Sciences Building; Payette, Boston, MA

Photo: Warren Jagger Photography



Carl J. Shapiro Science Center, Brandeis University; Payette, Boston, MA

Photo: Warren Jagger Photography

gram. The site planning makes much sense, giving closure to an otherwise fragmented route through the campus. The completion of the planned future phase will strengthen the newly created outdoor gathering space even further.

• *Carl J. Shapiro Science Center, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, by Payette, Boston, MA*

The Jury liked this successful organization of a very large and complex building into a comprehensive and articulated sequence of places, spaces and forms.

The plan configuration in particular allows for circulation which, while fostering



New Research Building, Harvard Medical School; ARC/Architectural Resources Cambridge, Cambridge, MA

Photo: Jeff Goldberg/Esto

continuous movement, also provides spatial surprises and places to pause. The building recognizes the existing campus structure, changes it dramatically and makes for a new and exciting order. This is nicely and sensibly planned in logical phases and it is thus from the overall concept down to the details of the cladding and rainscreen.

• *New Research Building, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, by ARC/Architectural Resources Cambridge, Cambridge, MA*

A difficult problem of trying to make a 730,000 sq. foot complex of offices, labs, lecture theatre, cafeteria, parking garage,

etc., maintain the scale and character of an existing urban context without submitting to its dull character, is here solved urbanistically and architecturally. The Jury was impressed by the manner in which the stepped and juxtaposed masses created urban spaces appropriate to the locality and enhance the approach to an existing private medical School. Nevertheless it was felt that the interior spaces including the auditorium, verged on tackiness and were not as successful. The lighting seems overdone, resulted in a somewhat dated character.



Water Sheds

Roger Ferris + Partners, Westport, CT

Photo: Michael Biondo

• *Water Sheds, SF Residence, Coastal, RI, by Roger Ferris + Partners, Westport, CT*

Almost platonic in its simple massing and elegant detailing, this unique project employs a material palette consistent with its geometric clarity. The architects take pains to point out how consistently the building addresses sustainability issues. The location of the mechanical room above the kitchen/pantry/laundry complex however raises some questions as the drawings reveal no means of access or egress. Presumably access might easily be from the guest-wing stairs and upper deck but since no door is shown it remains a mystery.

• *Penn Lofts, multi-family housing, Quincy, MA, by Merge Architects, Inc., Boston, MA*

Disciplined imagination is the driving force behind this six-unit urban living complex.

Conventional space allocation presented problems so the architects invented a scheme of interlocking volumes that balance nicely the issues of privacy and public presence. This gives life both to the interiors and to the street façade which is

Continued next page



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AIANE Design Awards continued from page 13

cleverly modulated.

The Jury expressed some concern for just how the units would be furnished and occupied, since the presentation is almost devoid of furniture and shows the occasional ghostly figure swiftly passing through empty, if elegant space.

• **High Rise Residential condominium building 45 Province St., Boston, MA, by Bruner/Cott & Assoc., Cambridge, MA**

The Jury liked the clever modulation of this tall slender urban structure and was impressed by the good scalar relationships at street level. Fascinating, too was the balanced composition of well-proportioned vertical and horizontal elements. One juror found an uncanny echo of the renowned and beautifully proportioned PSFS building (by Howe & Lescaze) in Philadelphia, even though there is no actual resemblance. The handling of the parking problem was noted as “impressive,” as also was the intelligent use of materials, masonry “green” walls, and glass.

• **Rethinking an Historic Campus Building: Pierce Hall, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, by GUND Partnership, Boston, MA**

A 1929 dining hall and commons subjected to many changes over the years has been subjected to subtraction, renovation, addition and restoration in this lively project. The addition, both adopting and challenging the existing neo-gothic language, is a superbly lit setting for the new servery which is beautifully detailed inside and out. The atrium, linking the new space with the Great Hall, is well conceived but the tubular steel trusses seem too low to do justice to the graceful spacing of old and new. Restoration of the wood and stone in the Great



Merit Award: Penn Lofts, multi-family housing; Merge Architects, Inc., Boston, MA. Photo: John Horner



Merit Award: 45 Province St., Residential Condominiums; Bruner/Cott & Assoc., Cambridge, MA

Photo: Richard Mandelkorn

hall is sensitive. The daring, even “funky”, light fixtures throughout offer a whimsical contrast within this dignified ambience. The whole has a refreshing spirit.

Six projects were considered deserving of **Special Mention Awards**.

• **Cottage, Guilford, CT, by Gray Organ-schi Architecture, New Haven, CT**

The Jury praised the interesting experiments with space, the élan of the general concept, the fine relationship to the site, the response to restrictive conditions, and the gentle serenity of the whole.

• **Student Recreation and Fitness Center, University of Maine, Orono, ME, by Cannon Design, Boston, MA**

This competently planned building, LEED Silver certified, was noted for its thoughtful sectional arrangement, the light and openness of both the gymnasium and natatorium, and its rational use of materials.

• **Blue Rock House, Austerlitz, NY, by Anmahian Winton Architects, Cambridge, MA**

Beautifully readable drawings echo the deceptive simplicity of this composition of three small buildings on a rural site. Sustainability was a keynote not only in designing the buildings but in relating them integrally to the restoration and planning of the site. The consistency of character, cool and unpretentious, carries from exterior to interior and back again.

• **A Single Family House on Casco Bay, ME, by Elliott Elliott Norelius Architecture, Blue Hill, ME**

As the Blue Rock House seemed to fit well in the countryside of Austerlitz, so too does this project in its Coastal setting. The traditional forms, the open plan and covered atrium offer a clever twist on the New England vernacular.

• **House on Penobscot Bay, ME, by Elliott Elliott Norelius Architecture, Blue Hill, ME**

Yet another, well designed house, this one is uncompromising in its modernism. It is a built essay on light and site. The creative use of daylight throughout is most attractive and the recognition of the power of the rugged coastline is clear in orientation. Shades of Neutra and Breuer, who worked on different coasts seem to energise the clarity of circulation and geometry.

• **Research, Center for Life Science, Boston, MA, by Tsoi/Kobus & Associates, Cambridge, MA**

More echoes of the past, but, as with the others, all good. This time there is a hint of constructivist geometry in the sophisticated planar interplay of large volumes and materials which might otherwise be ditchwater dull. The introductory sketches, too, are conceptually strong and convincing. The single interior photograph is insufficient to convince us that the rest is worth exploring but the wonderful play of mass and light at night gives some indication of experiential variety within. ■



Merit Award: Pierce Hall, Kenyon College; GUND Partnership, Boston, MA Photo: David Lamb Photography

Construction Summary

Project: Synagogue (Ahavas Achim)
Location: Keene NH
Owner: Congregation Ahavas Achim
Architect: Katz Architects
Engineers: TF Moran, WV Engineers, GV Engineering
Gen. Cont.: MacMillin Company

Project: ReRoofing (Ossipee Central School)
Cost: \$217,800
Location: Ossipee NH
Owner: SAU 49
Agent: CMK Architects
Contractor: Progressive Roofing Inc

Project: Golf Course Clubhouse Facility & Event Center (Pease International Tradeport) (Design/Build)
Cost: (Base Bid) \$1,418,000
Location: Portsmouth NH
Owner: Pease Development Authority
Architect: HL Turner Group
Design/Build Contractor: Pine Brook Corp

Project: Recreational Building, Windham School
Cost: \$139,000
Location: Windham NH
Architect: Barker Architects PLLC
Gen. Cont.: Hutter Construction Corp.

Project: Morrison Nursing Home Addition & Renovations
Cost: \$1,072,882
Location: Whitefield NH
Owner: Morrison Nursing Home
Architect: Samyn D'Elia Architects
Engineers: Lee Carroll, Yeaton Associates, Stewart Structural Engineering
Gen. Cont.: James J Welch Co.

Project: Marshall Street Apartments
Location: Nashua NH (Hillsborough Co)
Owner: 22 Marshall Street LLC
Architect: David White Architect
Engineers: Zade Co., JSN Associates
Gen. Cont.: AW Rose Construction LLC

Project: Dairy Queen
Location: Laconia NH
Owner: Michael & Michelle Merrill
Architect: Stewart Associates
Engineers: Steven Smith & Associates, CBP & Associates
Gen. Cont.: CCI Inc

Project: Community Center
Location: Claremont NH
Owner: City Of Claremont
Architect: Warrenstreet Architects
Engineers: Nobis Engineering, Longchamps Electric, Johnson & Jordan, TF Moran
Gen. Cont.: Hutter Construction Corp

Project: Window Replacement
Cost: \$297,698
Location: Nashua NH
Owner: Nashua Housing Authority
Architect: Warrenstreet Architects
Contractor: Engelwood Construction

Project: Dalianis House Veterans Housing (Convert Former Furniture Store)
Location: Nashua NH
Owner: Harbor Homes Inc
Architect: George Hickey
Engineers: WV Engineers, Labombard Engineering
Const. Mgr.: North Branch Construction-76 Old Turnpike Road-Concord NH 03301 (603/224-3233) (Fax 225-7165) Garrick Raczek(in chg)

Project: Marriott Courtyard Hotel (Railroad Square) (100 Rooms)
Location: Keene NH
Owner: RRS Keene LLC
Architect: PCI Architecture
Engineers: Clough Harbour & Associates, PCI Architecture
Const. Mgr.: Pro Con Construction Inc.

Construction Summary is provided by Construction Summary of NH, Inc. 734 Chestnut St., Manchester, NH 03104

Details...

Samyn-D'Elia Architects of Ashland recently completed a roofing project on the community of Monroe's school. The natural slate roof on the 75 year-old main building needed extensive repairs, and the roof on a 20-year-old entryway addition required a redesign to resolve ice buildup and leaking problems. The townspeople wanted to keep the slate roof if possible, and the entire project had to be completed over the summer.

The architects recommended replacing the natural slate with a new artificial slate roof. This material retains the historic appearance while offering excellent durability and significantly lowering roof load.

The cost for artificial slate is less than a quarter of the cost for natural slate.

Samyn-D'Elia redesigned the entryway roof for better water runoff, eliminating several problem areas. A built-in drainage system using thermostatically-controlled heating elements connected to existing storm-water drains. The new design also allowed for a raised interior ceiling and a large skylight.

Source: Laconia Citizen



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Calendar of Events

Oct 8 GIS on Pennies a Day, 9am-12noon; Making Maps the Google Way, 1-4pm; GRANIT Data Mapper, 6-8pm; all at NH Fish and Game Conference Room, Hazen Drive, Concord, NH; UNH Coop. Ext., Sharon Hughes, 862-1029

Oct 14 Building Information Modeling (BIM) Seminar, presented by NH Chapter CSI in conjunction with AIANH, 8 am-4 pm, The Yard, Manchester, NH. 6 AIA HSW/SD CEUs; www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Oct 17 NH Office of Energy and Planning Fall Planning and Zoning Conference; Mountain Club on Loon, Lincoln, NH, 603-271-2155

Oct 20 Introduction to LEED and High Performance Buildings and Preparation for the Green Associate Exam, presented by The Jordan Institute and AIANH, 8 am-4 pm, with practice exam on November 2, 3-5 pm, Audubon Center, Concord. 9 AIA HSW/SD CEUs total for both sessions; www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Oct 20-22 Home Builders and Remodelers Association of NH (HBRANH) Fall Education Conference and Green Symposium, The Highlander Inn, Manchester NH, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. AIA CEUs, 603-228-0351, www.hbranh.com/index/education.

Oct 22 Art in Bloom, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; 8:30am-3pm; Charles Nardozzi and Julie Moir Messervy, lecturers, http://hoodmuseum.dartmouth.edu/about/

Oct 24 OEP Annual Fall Planning and Zoning Conference; www.nh.gov/oep/events/necapa_fall_conference.htm

Oct 27 LEED AP ID+C Commercial Interiors + Design Training, 2-Part Course, October 27 and November 3, presented by The Jordan Institute and AIANH, 8 am-12:39 pm each day, Audubon Center, Concord. 8 AIA HSW/SD CEUs total for both sessions; www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Oct 29 - Nov 1 Rail Volution Conference 2009, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA, www.railvolution.com/program.asp

Nov 12 AIANH Chapter Meeting at the NH Technical Institute, Concord. Tours of The Bistro (Dignard Architectural Service), The Nursing Building (DC Designs), The Student Center (CN Carley Associates), and The Library (CMK Architects), followed by dinner and a panel discussion on Campus Architecture. AIA CEUs; www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Nov 18-20 Build Boston 2009, Seaport World Trade Center, www.boston-hotel.seaportboston.com/home.asp

Nov 18-20 NH Local Government Center's 68th Annual Conference, 603-224-7447, www.nhlgc.org/LGCWebSite/Calendar/annualconference.htm

Nov 20-21 2009 Watershed Conference, Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH. More information will be posted as it becomes available; 603-271-2155.

Nov 21 NHSEA's Third Annual Home Energy Conference, Plymouth State University, www.nhsea.org/hecc/

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