Projects from Dallas win Preservation Texas Honor Awards

Dallas projects cleaned up last month in Austin at the 2016 Preservation Texas Honor Awards! Four projects were recognized and include:

**Heritage Education Award** - This award recognizes outstanding heritage education programs that promote historic preservation and local history. Preservation Dallas received this award for the Architectural Styles of Dallas Exhibit and Booklet.

**Alamo Award** - Not all preservation battles are successful and this award honors a valiant effort on behalf of historic preservation that did not have positive results, but succeeded in securing a commitment to preservation in the community. The Dallas Downtown Historic Preservation Task Force received the award for their work to develop balanced recommendations to better protect historic buildings that would not impede on new development.

**Texas Media Award** - This award recognizes outstanding media coverage of historic preservation issues, projects and local history with the documentary *Restore* winning the award. The film examines three North Texas restoration projects: The Old Dallas Municipal Building; the 169 year old Sharrock Log Cabin, thought to be the oldest standing structure in Dallas County; and Lady Justice, an 11 ft. tall copper statue being...
Arlington Hall - Site of the 2016 Preservation Achievement Awards

restored after a long absence to her rightful place atop the Navarro County Courthouse.

**Reconstruction Award** - The Kiest Park Pergola won this award for the reconstruction of the missing 1934 pergola located at the apex of a beautiful formal garden designed by architect Wynne B. Woodruff.

For more information about the Preservation Texas Honor Awards from across the state click [here](#). To learn more about the projects above just click on the award name in blue.

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**Preservation Month Celebration in May**

This year Preservation Dallas and partners will be celebrating National Preservation Month with a month long series of events and activities. The goal with the activities is to raise awareness about the importance of historic preservation in Dallas and its benefits.

Each week there will be programs and events and for the month of May the *Historic Architectural Styles of Dallas* exhibit will be located in the lobby of City Hall. The two premier events for the month will be the **2016 Preservation Achievement Awards** at Arlington Hall in Lee Park on May 3 and the Spring Architectural Tour on May 21 featuring award winning projects. In addition there will be an Art and Architecture Scavenger Hunt at Fair Park, an exhibit of photography of historic sites in Dallas at St. Matthew's Cathedral Arts, a panel discussion on the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act in partnership with the Dallas Heritage Village, a panel discussion on preserving the cultural heritage in Dallas in partnership with the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, and more. More information about the events and details will be coming soon!

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**Corporate Partner Spotlight:**

**MERRIMAN ASSOCIATES/ARCHITECTS, INC.**

MERRIMAN ASSOCIATES/ARCHITECTS, INC. (maa) is a Dallas based architecture, interior design and planning firm offering programming, urban planning, architectural design, space planning, interior architecture/design, graphic design, LEED®/sustainable design, construction document production, construction observation and 3-D visualization services. Their services cover all 50 states and ten foreign countries.

maa is a diversified practice with experience in a broad range of project types and complexities. From the thumbnail sketch to the 3D computer animation, maa works to meet the individual client's needs, tailoring services to accommodate each corporate,
Jerry Merriman has been in continuous practice in Dallas since 1972, and is the President and Founder of maa, which is in its 29th year of operation. Milton Anderson joined maa as the Principal (Owner) in Charge of Design for all of maa’s operations, in 1996, and shares the primary ownership of the firm with Jerry Merriman. The Dallas staff, of 58 professionals, has a combined 500 years of experience in Architecture, Interior Design, Urban Planning and various support services.

maa has a diversified portfolio and client base, serving many Fortune 500 companies, major hotel brands, several colleges and universities and major distribution centers. Clients include Marriott, Bell Helicopter, University of Oklahoma, DART, FAA, Hyatt, Matthews Southwest, Forest City and Hamilton Properties.

Since Jerry Merriman purchased and renovated the maa offices at 300 North Field Street in downtown Dallas in 2002, maa has been at the forefront of downtown Dallas’ historical restoration and revitalization efforts. maa’s renovation, historical restoration and hi-density urban infill projects vary extensively in size, scope and complexity and include experience with hotels, office buildings, retail/mixed use and hi-density multi-family projects. These projects range in size from 50,000 to 1,500,000 square feet in 3 to 50 story buildings, and include over 20 major projects in downtown Dallas. Outside Dallas, maa has designed several historic/downtown properties in Cleveland, Oklahoma City, St. Louis and Fort Worth. Downtown Dallas projects include the Statler Hilton Hotel and Old Dallas Library, 1401 Elm, Tower Petroleum, Lone Star Gas Lofts, LTV Tower, Dallas High School, the Mosaic and Gulf States Building.

maa has received Preservation Awards for their work on the Continental Building, 500 South Ervay, 1414 Elm, Gulf States, Interurban Building, Mosaic and the Park Harvey Residences in Oklahoma City. This April, maa will celebrate their 30th anniversary and their 14th year in downtown Dallas. Jerry Merriman and his team are grateful to play a role in downtown Dallas’ revitalization and are excited about the direction downtown is headed.
Preservation Issues

**Salvation Army Building** - The building, originally known as the Great National Life Insurance Building, was selected last month by Preservation Texas for their Most Endangered Places list. It was chosen as an example of the threats recent past architecture, including this unique garden office building completed in 1963, are facing. To find out more about other sites on the list click [here](#).

**TCI West End and MKT Depot** - Last year the Texas Supreme Court sent the case against TCI West End for the illegal demolition of the MKT Depot back to the Dallas Court of Appeals for reconsideration. The case was re-briefed to the court of appeals and reargued last October. The court affirmed the earlier trial court’s award of civil penalties in the amount of $750,000 which means that the City of Dallas won its case against the landowner for demolishing the structure without getting a permit to do so from the Dallas Landmark Commission. TCI can still file a motion for rehearing with the court of appeals or they can appeal again to the Texas Supreme Court. Even with that as an option it is still a good day for preservationists and for municipalities in their efforts to enforce historic ordinances. To read more about the case click [here](#) to go an article in the Dallas Morning News. A big thank you goes out to lawyer Mike Northrup of Cowles and Thompson who has been working on this case on behalf of Preservation Dallas!

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**Director's Letter**

*David Preziosi*

Last week I was in DC for meetings at the National Trust for Historic Preservation and for national Preservation Lobby Day. I got to miss all the rain and enjoy the beautiful 70 degree sunny weather in DC! It is always interesting to go to DC for meetings and especially lobbying on Capitol Hill.

Before heading to the Hill I got to spend a couple of days with colleagues from across the country discussing issues relevant to preservation nonprofits and the work we do on the local and state level. Many organizations are facing the same issues we are in Dallas, especially the pressure of new development. My colleagues in Denver, San Francisco, Portland, and Boston all are fighting the demolition of historic buildings for new development. Their struggles are the same we have here where the land is more valuable than the historic buildings on them which are being torn down for denser and taller development. Unfortunately, none of the other cities
had any good tools to help them in their fight, other than their equivalent of Landmarking a building. We also talked about a scary new trend that is popping up, which I hope won't come to Dallas, called facadism or a facadectomy. That is where the front portion of a historic building is saved and the rest torn down with something new built into and behind the historic facade. Dallas has a few examples of that from the 80s to 90s when that occurred across the country. Thankfully that died down for a while but now seems to be back with a vengeance as what some developers believe is a good solution for saving historic fabric and incorporating it into new development to appease communities. The problem that it is rarely done well and often looks bizarre, like a proposed project in Boston where a historic church is to be saved with a new glass tower impaling the sanctuary space and rising several stories above the gable roof and bell tower. We even discussed whether or not it is better to just let the historic building go rather than see an awkward conglomeration of old and new fused together in a bizarre Frankenstein like way. I hope that type of development doesn't get to Dallas and if it does there will certainly be some interesting discussions on whether or not that is a good solution for saving historic fabric.

National Lobby Day is always interesting and I have been to at least fifteen in my preservation career. Preservationists from across the country gather in DC yearly to make the rounds of the legislative offices for each state to advocate for preservation legislation, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Historic Tax Credit. This is our chance to make a pitch on the power of historic preservation and what it means to local communities. Meetings in legislative offices usually last about 15 minutes, which doesn't give you a lot of time to talk about the virtues of preservation and ask for support for legislation. Even though you don't get a lot of time its important to make that face to face visit and to let them know that people in their voting districts care about preservation. This year I went on visits with staff from the Texas Historical Commission and joined them on 8 in person meetings and about 20 visits to offices to drop off materials in the span of a day and a half. We spent a lot of time running around the halls and between the buildings on Capitol Hill! Some office visits were more productive than others, especially if we got to speak with a staffer that was interested or knew a little bit about historic preservation. We hope that in the long run the visits will help when decisions need to be made on legislation affecting preservation and that the offices can feel free to call on us when they have questions about preservation issues.

**Events**

**InTown Outing - 5215 Milam Street**

Wednesday | March 30 | 6 p.m. | 5215 Milam Street, Dallas 75206
This 1939 Charles Dilbeck designed home in the Cochran Heights neighborhood received a 2015 Preservation Achievement Award and you do not want to miss our visit! Great lengths were taken for the restoration of key architectural elements while bringing the house to LEED standards and the outcome is both fun and functional.

Street parking is available on Milam Street.

Admission is free for members, $20 for non-members (includes Cochran Heights Home Tour ticket) and reservations are required. Please RSVP by e-mail here or by calling us at 214-821-3290.

**Cochran Heights Charles Dilbeck Home Tour**

Sunday | April 3 | 2 - 4 p.m. | Cochran Heights Neighborhood

Help celebrate the Texas Historical Commission’s recognition of the Cochran Heights neighborhood as being a significant part of history! On Sunday, April 3, at 1 p.m., there will be a marker unveiling ceremony with speakers David Preziosi and Preservation Dallas Board members Willis Winters and Jann Mackey. Refreshments will follow and there will be a Home Tour highlighting five Charles Dilbeck designed houses from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are only $15 in advance and available online at Cochran Heights' website. Cochran Heights’ homes line four blocks and are the largest collection of contiguous Dilbeck houses (60 of them!) still standing in the city.

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**Endangered Dallas bus tour with Dallas Historical Society**

Saturday | April 2 | 1pm | Hall of State

What does the Statler Hilton, 211 North Ervay, and David Crockett School have in common? They were all on Preservation Dallas’ Most Endangered List and now are being redeveloped for new uses. In 2004, Preservation Dallas developed the Most Endangered list to call attention to the threat or threats many of our most important historic buildings and neighborhoods in Dallas were facing at the time. There are still many buildings on the list where the future is unclear like...
Fort Worth Avenue's Motor Court motels and even the Tenth Street Historic District. Find out more about these sights as you take a bus tour with Preservation Dallas Executive Director David Preziosi as your guide to see properties on previous endangered lists, the current list and hear more about their status and efforts to preserve them. The tour is $30 for Dallas Historical Society members, $40 for the general public. Reserve a spot online here.

Please Welcome Our New Members!

**Benefactor**

Nelson Spencer

**Double**

Elizabeth Cummins  Bill & Mary Mayrath  Tim Stoll
Nick Mayrath  Debbie Smith

**Individual**

Mark Birnbaum  David Kochis  Trela Turnbough

**Young Professionals**

Will Merritt  Elizabeth Sparling

**Urban Armadillos**

Lauren Amos  Suzanne Dissette  Leah Shafer
Ben Bass  Blake Ficke
David Bueckert  Frank Hundley

Thank you to the following members for renewing!

Serra Akboy-Ilk  Andrew J. McRoberts  Chase Stone
Christopher Borton  Robert Meckfessel  Melinda Valentine
**Pat Coble**  Mary & Weldon Nash  Jerry Van Loh
Shannon Foster  Noel Pullam  Eric Wall
Zachary Hilbun  Alan Richards
Mike McCue  Diane Sherman

**Corporate Partners**

DSGN Associates  Quimby McCoy Preservation Architecture
Corporate Partners

[Logos of various companies]

- GSR andrade Architects
- KEITH Beverage Distributors
- DSGN
- Briggs Freeman
- Sotheby’s International Realty
- Downtown Dallas Inc
- Gables Residential
- Virginia Cook Realtors
- Phoenix
- Quimby McCoy Preservation Architecture, LP
- David Griffin & Company Realtors
- Allie Beth Allman & Associates
- Siebler Remodeling & Historic Preservation
- Cowles & Thompson
- Conley Group
- Bonick Landscaping
- Dave Perry-Miller Real Estate
- HRI Properties
- Heritage Consulting Group
- Architexas