



AIA Connecticut 2009 Alice Washburn Awards

Jurors:

John Morris Dixon, FAIA, Old Greenwich, Connecticut; Michael Crosbie, AIA, Dean, Department of Architecture, University of Hartford, Bloomfield, Connecticut; Jared Edwards, FAIA, Smith Edwards Architects, Hartford, Connecticut

House in Connecticut

Paulo C. Vicente, AIA, Vicente-Burin Architects, Fairfield, CT



Photographer: Robert Grant

Jury comment: Built in four phases, this complex of structures forms a picturesque cluster, sited on the edge of a two-acre meadow. Backing up to the woods, the siting is magical. Each one of the pieces responds to an element in the site-- the clearing in the woods, the pond, the stone wall—like actors on a stage, taking cues from what is on the site. The outside spaces are given careful consideration. The project used local stone from the site and recycled old wood from an old barn. The jury liked the simple vernacular style and the way the materials were allowed to weather naturally.



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Honorable Mention

Beside the Point

Charles G. Mueller, AIA, Centerbrook Architects and Planners, Centerbrook, CT



Photographer: Robert Benson Photography

Jury Comments: The jury was impressed with the innovative way the house relates to the river and the way a series of short flights of steps creates higher spaces. There is an innovative sequencing of the scale of the building, with unusual stairs and placement of the fenestration. The house takes the language of tradition and modernizes it. The jury also liked the way the new barn was used to create a courtyard, carving out the courtyard from the ledges of the rocky site. It is an excellent complement to the rest of the structure. The front façade of the new building is mindful of its place within the historic context on the Connecticut River.



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Accessory Building Winner

Artist's Studio
Newick Architects, New Haven, CT



Photographer: Robert Benson Photography

Jury Comments: This is a deceptively simple building. The jury liked the varying treatment of the wood facing on the siding, with its themes and variations. The design module is treated differently, depending on the orientation. The jury liked the treatment of the entry as a simple shelter under the gable. The building is complex but made of simple elements. It takes the New England building tradition and treats it as an armature for inventive detail. There is a nice relationship of this building to the existing building and ingenuity in the variation of the forms of the exterior openings.



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Accessory Building Honorable Mention

Pool House
Saniee Architects LLC, Greenwich, CT



Photographer: Elliott Kaufman

Jury Comments: A contemporary, hybridized expression of an Indian pavilion, consistent in its regularity of structural elements. There is a wonderful relationship to the pool. Its spaces are well proportioned. The jury liked the way the sunlight on the open end is filtered, and the pavilion is lifted up. There is ingenuity in the way the pavilion is partly covered and partly shaded.