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HONORS & AWARDS

Alice Washburn Awards

alice WASHBURN AWARDS

The Alice Washburn Award is named for the distinguished Connecticut designer and builder of the 1920's, largely self-taught, whose work is known for her thoughtful stylistic and programmatic invention.

Focusing on style: the program acknowledges excellence in traditional house design through the thoughtful adaptation of tradition to address 21st-century needs.

Works are to be located in Connecticut and designed in a style broadly considered as "traditional".

2021 Alice Washburn Jury



Daniel Johnson, AIA
Watershed Studio Architecture



Douglas Kallfelz, AIA, LEED AP, CNU
Union Studio Architecture & Community Design



Andrea T. Baranyk, AIA, LEED
Northeast Collaborative Architects

2021 Alice Washburn Award Winners

New Construction

Excellence

Lakeside Georgian Estate | Charles Hilton Architects

Photo Credit: Robert Benson Photography



This extensive new lakeside estate, in Greenwich, Connecticut's coveted Mid-Country area, blends classic Georgian charm with a sleek, cleaner interior that many of today's families are seeking. Inspired by the notable 18th-century British estate, the 'Belton House,' and using David Adler's 1928 'Crane Estate' in Ipswich, Massachusetts as a point of departure, the house does not seek to replicate the past, but is instead an imaginative rethinking and adaptation of the time-tested Georgian aesthetic, transforming historic planning concepts and details into new archetypes to serve contemporary, 21st-century lifestyles.

Traveling through the pair of bronze entry gates, down a winding drive through the property's 13-acres of manicured landscape, the arrival court and stately front façade of the house come into view. Memorable compositions, carefully planned proportions and scale, and a rich palette of expertly crafted, timeless materials resulted in this one-of-a-kind modern Georgian estate.

Jury Comments: *This is a stand-out, exceptional project with incredible craft. The modern feel blends well with the traditional character. The architecture, site planning, landscape, and attention to detail are exemplary. Interior details and spaces clearly and beautifully adapt modern needs into classically proportioned spaces with touches of modern materials and details.*

Additions/Renovations

Merit

Classic Georgian Restoration | Douglas VanderHorn Architects

Photo Credit: Robert Benson Photography



On a main thoroughfare between country houses and downtown Greenwich, CT, drivers' attention are caught by a strikingly restored 1915 brick Georgian estate. The design process followed the client's respect for history and artifacts. Every aspect down to antique radio plugs and call buttons was meticulously documented. With 8,900 square feet, the original 10-bedroom mansion is renovated to 7 bedrooms to better suit a modern family. The classic brick Georgian exterior is painstakingly restored and ready to continue aging gracefully, with some modern help fighting the elements.

Jury Comments: *The integration of the modern features and the nice level of the detail enlivened the building and brought it to where it should be.*

Treetop | Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects, Inc. Photo Credit: Robert Benson Photography

The client wanted to transform her family's beloved but deteriorating rustic summer retreat, built by her grandparents in the mid-1920's, into a house that would be livable year-round. It had served the family well but needed to be renewed for the decades to come without losing its flavor and patina. All the wood trim was retained and reused, as were all old doors and hardware. The idea was to make the house energy-efficient while preserving most of the original fabric. Changes to the original design were as seamless as possible, compatible with and enhancing the old character.

Jury Comments: *A clever, honest, understated restoration that brings a classic cottage into the 21st century. The minimal adjustments to the plan reveals how well the building was designed to begin with as well as the reserved hand of the architect to honor the original.*



Victorian Cottage & Barn | David Scott Parker Architects Photo Credit: Durston Saylor Photography

The survival, preservation, and adaptive use of these Victorian dependencies at the heart of Fairfield are a tribute to the determined efforts of diligent concerned citizens. Originally built in 1888, saved from demolition in 1988, and finally completed in 2017, the revitalization of the Victorian Cottage took a generation for its ultimate purpose to be realized and appreciated. Fairfield's Victorian Cottage now functions as a Children's History Center – breathing new life and purpose into the once dilapidated structure while instilling an interest in the past to future generations of Fairfield's citizens.

Jury Comments: *A diligent restoration and repair effort that required patience, commitment, and thoughtful attention to the spirit and craftsmanship of the original structures. Kudos for finding the opportunity to enliven the building with some contemporary use/programming.*

Citation

Citation for Restoration

Sun Tavern | David Scott Parker Architects

Photo Credit: Durston Saylor Photography

Located immediately adjacent to Fairfield County's original courthouse, the Sun Tavern witnessed some of the most important moments in the region's early history. Now restored, this important structure again functions as a portal, welcoming guests and interpreting Fairfield's storied past. The restoration of Fairfield's Sun Tavern is more than simply another house museum, it is an interactive place for students and adults to become immersed in the past and continue the legacy of a centuries-old tradition.

Jury Comments: *Wonderfully done restoration that brought the building back to what it was.*



Accessory Buildings

Excellence

Teak Pool Pergola | Charles Hilton Architects

Photo Credit: Robert Benson Photography




Paired with the backdrop of verdant hornbeam hedges, the pool pavilion appears to be not only a part of the pool terrace, but a garden feature as well. Whether admiring from across the lawn or from within, it's clear the pool pavilion is well planned at any scale.

Jury Comments: *The character of the roof and columns complements the character of the main building. A beautifully done simple structure with very clean craftsmanship and thoughtful, well-executed detail.*

An eye-catching backyard feature in the famed, Olmstead designed Khakum Wood neighborhood, this new teak pool pavilion is a fitting folly amongst the gardens at the edge of a pool terrace. Designed to complement an English Georgian house, the vernacular simplicity of the pergola by no means disguises the craft and complexity of its construction. Inspired by both traditional Japanese pavilions and the work of Sir Edwin Lutyens, the teak timber framing and roof structure were carefully designed and meticulously constructed to fit snugly together to minimize the appearance of joints. Designed to be seen from above and below, the graduated cedar shingle roof hides individual strips of waterproofing membrane between each course to conceal modern performance within a traditionally clad structure.




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