

2010 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

Please note: The following descriptions are based on the award nominations submitted by project supporters.

GOVERNOR'S AWARD: The Governor's Award is presented to an individual in recognition of lifetime achievements in the support of historic preservation in South Carolina.

Martin Meek, AIA

The 2010 recipient of the Governor's Award is Martin Meek, AIA, principal and owner of the architectural firm, Campbell, Meek, and Associates in Spartanburg. A graduate of Clemson University, Mr. Meek has over 37 years architectural experience, much of it related to historic preservation. He has served as the City of Spartanburg's Historic Preservation Architect since 1984, and served two terms on the South Carolina State Review Board for the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Martin has worked on dozens of projects, including previous Honor Award winners.

- Color and signage guidelines for Spartanburg's downtown National Register listed Historic District, and over two dozen façade restorations in this District
- Restoration of Mountain Shoals Plantation (c. 1838) and its 19th-century garden
- Magnolia Street Depot in Spartanburg
- Freemont School in Spartanburg (2003 Honor Award recipient)
- Inn on Main in Spartanburg (2004 Honor Award recipient)
- Poinsett Hotel (1925) in Greenville (2005 Honor Award recipient)
- Highland Park Mill in Rock Hill (2007 Honor Award recipient)
- Arcadia Mill#2/Mayfair-Baily Mill, Spartanburg (2008 Honor Award recipient)
- Darlington Downtown Revitalization (2009 Honor Award recipient)
- Winnie Davis Hall at Limestone College (2010 Honor Award recipient)
- National Register of Historic Places nomination for Pacolet Mills Historic District (listed 2007)
- Rehabilitation projects in Mullins, Bennettsville, Newberry, Union, Great Falls, Clinton, Spartanburg, York, Laurens, and Central

HERITAGE TOURISM AWARD: The Heritage Tourism Award recognizes those who best use South Carolina's cultural and historic resources in the promotion and development of tourism or use tourism to directly benefit the preservation of our heritage.

"From Slavery to Freedom: The Magnolia Cabin Project"

Magnolia Plantation and Gardens

For over 300 years, Charleston's Magnolia Plantation and Gardens has been home to members of the Drayton family. However, scores of Africans and their descendants have also lived and labored there in the rice fields and gardens for just as many years,

with many stories to tell us about their own American experience. As a result of the need to tell this untold history, the Magnolia Cabin Project was begun in March 2009. This project presents a genuine and compelling narrative about these overlooked people. Though not the first Southern plantation to offer such a program, the Magnolia Cabin Project offers a fresh perspective, illuminating a history that begins in West Africa and traces the experiences of millions of those enslaved as they endured the Middle Passage, the many trials of bondage in the New World and the challenges of their quest for freedom and civil rights.

The Magnolia Cabin Project has restored and now interprets four original slave quarters and early twentieth-century cabin as a method of telling this previously untold history. The "street" of former slave cabins, occupied well into the 20th century, documents the full arc of African-American life at Magnolia Plantation. Each cabin reflects a different period of the African experience; from slavery to Reconstruction, through the 1920s, and on to the civil rights era of the 1960s. An estimated 15,000 visitors toured the cabins in the first ten months they were open.

HONOR AWARDS: The Honor Awards celebrate successful and exemplary historic preservation projects in South Carolina.

Hightower Hall Restoration, Historic Brattonsville

York County Cultural and Heritage Museums

DP3 Architects

Huss Construction

Hightower Hall is an Italianate Villa style plantation in Historic Brattonsville, York County, South Carolina. This Honor Award celebrates the restoration and renovation of four buildings associated with Hightower Hall – the original house, kitchen, smokehouse and a two-door dependency. All four buildings were originally constructed between 1854 and 1856 as part of an Upstate South Carolina working plantation.

The actual physical restoration work of Hightower Hall included: lead-based paint abatement; stabilization and repair of the brick foundations; archaeological study around the perimeter of the house; installation of new mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; window repairs (original windows were repaired and reinstalled in their original locations); and, paint analysis to reveal the original interior and exterior colors. Of particular note, much of the interior woodwork (baseboards, door and window trim) had faux finishes that were carefully restored. Visitor accessibility was improved through the installation of a wheelchair lift along with a rampway. The Hightower Hall Restoration is York County's and the York County Cultural and Heritage Museums' first building to qualify for the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification. In achieving this design standard at Hightower Hall, the new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems were installed and concealed within the building, without disturbing or removing any of the original interior character-defining features.

The three outbuildings were also restored to complete the original appearance of the yard at the rear of the main house. This work involved relocating the two-door dependency to its original location behind the main house. All three outbuildings had new roofs installed to complement the main house.

Federal Building, Greenwood, SC

Arts Council of Greenwood County

City of Greenwood, SC

Self Family Foundation

The Federal Building has been part of uptown Greenwood since 1911. It served as a post office until the mid 1970's when it became the Social Security Office. A Federal Courtroom and other government offices were added in the 1930's. In 2001, the Federal Government decommissioned the building. The Arts Council led the effort to establish an arts center in the Federal Building. The 25,000 square foot Arts Center at the Federal Building opened in February 2006.

The \$2,500,000 renovation of the Federal Building was led by the Arts Council of Greenwood County and preceded other revitalization efforts in the uptown. As planning for the Arts Center proceeded, a new master plan was developed which described a cultural district surrounding the Federal Building. Funding and support from the Self Family Foundation and The City of Greenwood were crucial in making this project a reality. The project transformed the former post office work room to gallery space, and the former courtroom into a reception hall with original cornice work. Original terrazzo floors and marble wainscoting are part of the grand entry hall, while offices in the basement level are now used for art classes and as artists' studios.

The new Arts Center at the Federal Building has made a significant impact in revitalizing the community. Since opening, over 65,000 people have used the building for events, receptions, meetings and presentations. The adjacent Theatre has undergone a \$1,300,000 renovation, and the Museum has completed a \$1,200,000 renovation. The City of Greenwood passed a hospitality tax two years ago and has been able to support these projects with \$1,000,000. Over \$10,000,000 has been invested in the cultural district to date, and that figure will grow.

Ware Shoals Inn

Vision Ware Shoals, LLC

Perkins Eastman Architects

James B. Jones Construction Company, Inc.

The Ware Shoals Inn has always held a prominent place in the community of Ware Shoals since its construction in 1923 by the Ware Shoals Manufacturing Company. The Inn was a public establishment that served as a center of activity in the community, with public dining rooms, small meeting rooms, and 52 hotel rooms, each with a private bathroom and an electric kitchen. The building incorporated many elements of the Arts and Crafts movement and the Colonial Revival.

Restored to its original condition, the Ware Shoals Inn now serves as multi-family, affordable senior housing. The Inn was rededicated to the Ware Shoals community on June 12, 2009, the 30th anniversary of the Inn's closing. Funding for the project was provided through programs administered by the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority, Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, Federal Historic Tax Credits, State of SC Historic Tax Credits and SC Textile Tax Credits.

Westminster Train Depot Restoration

City of Westminster

DP3 Architects

Trehel Corporation

The Westminster Southern Railway Passenger Depot opened in July 1911 and provided passenger service until 1969. Since then, it has served as a community center, a local garden club meeting room, library, fitness center, city storage, and the Westminster Chamber of Commerce. A fire in 2006 set by an arsonist caused considerable damage to the Depot.

Despite the fire damage, over 80% of the original wood floors were salvaged, and 75% of exterior wall materials were reused, and original construction details were preserved and protected. Interior finishes on historical walls were restored. Modifications made in the 1960's and the 1970's were removed, such as windows, kitchen additions and exterior doors. The roof was restored to flat clay tiles matching recovered samples of the original in size and color. The cargo doors were restored and can now be opened and closed.

The restored Passenger Depot now provides Chamber of Commerce office space, public and city meeting rooms, with a warming kitchen, increased access to downtown amenities, and a focal point for the Westminster Apple Festival. The Depot could also again serve as a passenger waiting area for rail travel on current rail lines, or as part of the proposed high speed rail.

Winnie Davis School of History

Limestone College

Campbell Meek and Associates Architects, Inc.

McDaniel Construction, Inc.

Built ca. 1904, Winnie Davis Hall, an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style, was designed by William Augustus Edwards, a Columbia, SC architect who specialized in school architecture. The building is on the campus of Limestone College in Gaffney, SC. The building, proposed in 1899, was named in honor of Jefferson Davis' daughter, Winnie Davis, and was designed as a repository for records related to the Civil War. It was also to serve as a center for the promotion of the study of southern history and literature.

A late 1970's stabilization project helped slow interior deterioration, but leaks persisted, and further damage occurred. In October 2006 the Limestone College Board of Trustees launched a fundraising campaign with a goal of \$4,000,000 to restore the building. A private foundation issued a challenge to raise an additional \$800,000 to create an endowment for maintenance and upkeep on the building. By June 2008, gifts and pledges totaling \$4,836,000 had been raised.

The project included the restoration of the open tower and its handrails, the double stair, interior wainscoting, ceiling and wall plastering, wooden windows, roofing work, exterior basement stucco work, and exterior front stair repairs. A new fire sprinkler system, lighting and electrical system, mechanical system and plumbing systems were added to the building. A 3,000 square foot addition to the original 12,600 square foot building was located to the north (rear) of the Winnie Davis School of History building. The addition houses a new ADA and code compliant egress stair, elevator and restroom facilities, and a new entrance lobby. The new addition is compatible to the original in scale, massing and materials, with slight differences distinguishing old from new.

No awards were given in 2010 in the following categories:

CORPORATE STEWARDSHIP AWARD: The Corporate Stewardship Award is presented to a corporation in recognition of significant achievements or landmark efforts in the support of historic preservation in South Carolina.

ELECTED OFFICIAL HONOR AWARD: The Elected Official Honor Award is presented to an individual elected official in recognition of significant achievements or landmark efforts in the support of historic preservation in South Carolina.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD: The Archaeological Stewardship Award is presented in recognition of significant achievements or landmark efforts in the support of South Carolina's archaeological heritage.