

1997 South Carolina Historic Preservation Awards

Each year the Office of the Governor, the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History recognize exceptional accomplishments in the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of our architectural and cultural heritage. The following projects, individuals, and organizations were recognized at the third annual South Carolina Historic Preservation Awards ceremony at Brookgreen Gardens.

Honor Awards

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

Stoney Creek Battery, Beaufort County *William C. Olendorf, Jr.*

In the summer of 1991, a highway widening project on U.S. 17/21 in Beaufort County threatened to destroy a significant portion of the Stoney Creek Battery. The Battery was constructed by the Confederate Army under the supervision of General Robert E. Lee to protect a stretch of the Savannah/Charleston Railroad. Local resident William Olendorf recognized the threat and contacted the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation about the possibility of re-routing the proposed lanes. After initial rejection from the highway department, Olendorf rallied local historians and preservationists to take up the cause for preserving the battery. He also alerted the South Carolina Department of Archives and History that federal funds were used to purchase the right-of-way for the project. This meant that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act applied to the project, and SCDAH began consultation with the highway department. Ultimately the project was re-designed to avoid the Stoney Creek Battery. Olendorf went a step further, working with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to have Stoney Creek Battery designated a heritage preserve under the Heritage Trust program.

The Dane Theater, Denmark
Denmark Downtown Development Association

Constructed in 1947, the Art Deco-style Dane Theater had sat vacant in downtown Denmark for more than ten years. In 1995, the City of Denmark and the Denmark Downtown Development Association purchased the movie house and began planning its rehabilitation as a cultural center for the region and as a catalyst for further downtown revitalization for the town of Denmark. In September 1996, the town celebrated the opening of the Dane Cultural Center.

Ferguson-Williams Apartments, Abbeville
DeWayne Anderson
City of Abbeville
Upper Savannah Development Corporation

Ferguson Williams College opened in 1894 as an early African American institution of higher learning. It served in an educational capacity until 1919 when the building was renovated to become the Abbeville Memorial Hospital. The hospital left the building in 1966, and it was later used for various county government offices. The building was vacant for ten years until 1995 when renovation began to turn the historic building into affordable apartments. Using Community Development funds, a HOME grant, assistance from the South Carolina Housing Trust, low-income housing tax credits, historic preservation tax credits, and assistance from the City of Abbeville, construction was completed in 1996. The building was returned to its ca. 1930 appearance in the common areas. The developer also retained some of the features from the old hospital as a reminder of the building's history.

South Mulberry Plantation, Moncks Corner
Glenn Keyes, Architect

South Mulberry Plantation was originally built in the 1830s. The house sat abandoned and neglected for many years. Rehabilitation began in 1992 with detailed attention to preserving original materials where possible and using like materials where replacement was necessary. Original interior woodwork, fireplace mantels, and fixtures were preserved. Where new materials were introduced, they were in keeping with the overall style and period of the house.

South Mulberry Plantation is currently used as a guest house and hunting lodge.

West End Market, Greenville

Tripp Muldrow

Greenville's West End Market contains historic commercial buildings constructed from 1891 into the early twentieth century. The area had fallen into disuse, with many vacant buildings and a growing problem with crime. With the donation of three historic buildings to the City of Greenville, a plan was developed to revitalize the area into a shopping, arts, and entertainment district. The project retained and restored original features at the street level, with additions such as elevator towers and parking facilities made to the backs of the buildings. Covered windows were re-opened, and hidden architectural features were re-exposed. New construction in the area incorporated features that blended well with the historic structures. As a result of the West End Market project, this area is once again a bustling commercial district, a shopping and tourist destination.

Heritage Tourism Award

The Heritage Tourism Award recognizes the use of South Carolina's cultural and historic resources in the promotion and development of tourism.

Hunting Island State Park

Friends of Hunting Island State Park

The Hunting Island Lighthouse was constructed in 1875 and was used by the U.S. Lighthouse Service until 1933. It is now an attraction for visitors to Hunting Island State Park, a 5,000-acre barrier island sixteen miles east of Beaufort. The Friends of Hunting Island State Park is a private non-profit organization formed to assist in the preservation of the park. Through a combination of privately-donated money and materials and state-appropriated funds, the Friends and state employees at the park have mounted a long-range preservation project for the lighthouse and its associated structures.

Governor's Award

The Governor's Award recognizes an individual for lifetime achievements in the support of historic preservation in South Carolina.

Hurley Badders

Hurley Badders is the Executive Director of the Pendleton District Historical, Recreational, and Tourism Commission. As leader of the tri-county Pendleton District Commission since 1968, he has spearheaded efforts to preserve historic sites and has been a pioneer in heritage tourism. Badders's work included nominating the Pendleton Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. He has been involved in many preservation projects, including the restoration of Hagood Mill in Pickens County and the Caldwell-Johnson-Morris House in Anderson. Badders has also been an active member and often leader of organizations that support historic preservation and its role in the study and appreciation of state and local history.