

## **2001 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. On May 4, 2001, the following projects, individuals, and organizations were recognized at the seventh annual South Carolina Historic Preservation Awards ceremony at the Archives and History Center.

### **Honor Awards**

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

#### **Dillon County Courthouse, Dillon** *Dillon County Council*

Designed by William Augustus Edwards and built in 1911 at a cost of \$100,000, the Dillon County Courthouse has remained in use since its construction. The building, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, had few improvements before the recent renovations. In 1996, the Dillon County Council appointed a committee to oversee the renovations, which totaled \$2,000,000. Renovations included bringing the building up to code, making it ADA compliant, and adding spaces such as a law library, a passageway behind the second floor courtroom and a second courtroom in the basement.

#### **Florence Railroad Station, Florence** *McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee, Inc.*

The Florence Railroad Station was purchased and renovated by McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee in 1997. The building remains in its original location next to the railroad tracks. The original clay roofing tile was identified and the original manufacturer located. The company still manufactures roofing tile in the shape used on the railroad station, and a matching color was produced by special order. To meet current building code requirements, an elevator and an additional exit stair were installed. To improve energy efficiency, a new heating and cooling system was installed, and insulation was added to the walls and ceilings.

**Pine Street Elementary School, Spartanburg**  
*McMillan, Smith & Partners Architects*

Pine Street Elementary School, built ca. 1929, is the oldest continually operating school in Spartanburg County. It is located on an eight-acre site in the downtown area, in the heart of a historic residential neighborhood. The school was designed in the Beaux-Arts style by prominent South Carolina architect Charles Coker Wilson. The recent renovation retained existing wood trim, reused original brass lighting fixtures, and restored the original terrazzo floors and glazed brick wainscoting. A new addition compliments the historic details of the original on the exterior and interior. The exterior of the addition incorporates brick, precast stone, and mortar tinted to match that of the original building. Similarly, the interior incorporates details and materials characteristic of the original building.

**The Rose Hotel, York**  
*City of York*  
*Landmark Asset Services, Inc.*  
*H.W. Close, Jr.*

The 1852 grand Rose Hotel reopened in January 2001, housing fifteen apartments. Three of the apartments are accessible for persons with disabilities, and all are available for persons of moderate income. There are two office/retail spaces on the property, one on the ground floor of the hotel building and one in an adjacent wood frame structure that was also restored. In the renovation, care was taken to retain as much of the original fabric and character of the building as possible. Most of the original window trim was saved along with many windows, the faux graining on the three front doors was restored, and the verandah was recreated from historic photographs.

**St. Helena's Episcopal Church, Beaufort**  
*Vestry of St. Helena's Church*  
*Col. James Williams*  
*David C. Fischetti, P.E.*

St. Helena's Episcopal Church, originally constructed in 1770, underwent a three million-dollar restoration that was completed in January 2000. The side walls of St. Helena's nave had bulged outward almost four inches. A contractor was hired to raise the roof and pull the walls in. The side balconies had to be dismantled to allow for the walls to move and provide access to a ten-by-ten-foot timber that ran along the back of both balconies. The deterioration of this timber had caused a "hinge" to form in the exterior walls allowing them to bulge outward. Other repairs included replacing part of the bottom chord of one queen post truss, reinforcing the roof, rebuilding the gable end wall, installing

bracing in the attic, rebuilding the floor of the narthex, and providing lateral bracing between trusses.

### **Wentworth Mansion, Charleston**

*Lowcountry Hospitality*

*Richard T. Widman*

Built in 1886, the Francis S. Rogers Mansion was designed by Daniel G. Waynes in the Second French Empire Style. The 13,883 square feet of living space includes twenty-one bedrooms, entertainment parlors, a music room, library, billiard room, and an expansive dining room. The conversion of the Mansion into a twenty-one-room luxury inn involved the removal of earlier inappropriate renovations. The original interior finishes such as the mahogany and oak-raised panel wainscot, multi-wood parquet wood floors, carved mantelpieces, Tiffany style glass work, and original electrified crystal chandeliers were restored.

### **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.*

### **Historic Brattonsville, York County**

Historic Brattonsville is a 720-acre living history museum, Revolutionary War battlefield, and National Register of Historic Places property. The York County Culture and Heritage Commission (CHC) operates Historic Brattonsville and two other sites under a mandate to promote awareness of and visitation to its sites in order to enhance the economic development of York County. Because Historic Brattonsville had been traditionally under-marketed, the staff decided to capitalize on the site's association with the filming of the Revolutionary War epic, *The Patriot*. Historic Brattonsville hosted a press conference, received media coverage leading up to the event, held a premiere of the film, and benefited from continued media coverage, including the filming of *History or Hollywood—The Patriot*, an A & E production that included footage of Historic Brattonsville and commentary by the Curator of History, Sam Thomas. This local, statewide, and national attention resulted in the perception of Historic Brattonsville as a Charlotte regional attraction and ultimately increased attendance. Visitation has increased 132% since 1998 and museum store sales have increased more than 150%. Increased interest in the site has resulted in the addition of programs and extended visitation hours. Fees from the location and increased sales are being used to restore buildings on the site and enhance the visitor experience.

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## **Governor's Award**

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

### **Robert T. Lyles**

Robert T. Lyles, AIA, of Columbia is Chairman of the Board of Stevens & Wilkinson. Since establishing the South Carolina office in 1978, Mr. Lyles has broadened the scope of the original two-man architectural firm in South Carolina to include more than fifty professionals who practice in the areas of architecture, engineering, and interior design. He served as president of the South Carolina and Georgia offices from 1990 until 1999. Notable projects completed under his leadership included the South Carolina State House rehabilitation; the State Museum's adaptive reuse of the Mt. Vernon Mill; the renovation of the South Carolina Court of Appeals/Calhoun Building; the California Dreaming adaptive reuse of Union Station; the South Carolina Supreme Court renovation; and the McMaster College renovation. In addition, Lyles has been involved in a variety of groups that promote historic preservation. He chaired the Governor's Task Force on Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism and the Richland County Historic Preservation Commission. He has also been involved with the development of the Vista and the South Carolina Downtown Development Association.