



Newsletter

November 2023

Make a Year-End Gift!

Celebrating 20 Years of the District of Columbia Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation

Congratulations to the 2023 Awardees!



Celebrating the 2023 awardees and 20 years of the Preservation Awards. Photo by [Jason Hornick | Photography + Motion](#)

On November 14th, the DC Preservation League announced the recipients of the 2023 District of Columbia Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation. More than 200 people were in attendance at [DAR Constitution Hall](#) to celebrate the 2023 awardees and the 20th anniversary year of the Preservation Awards!

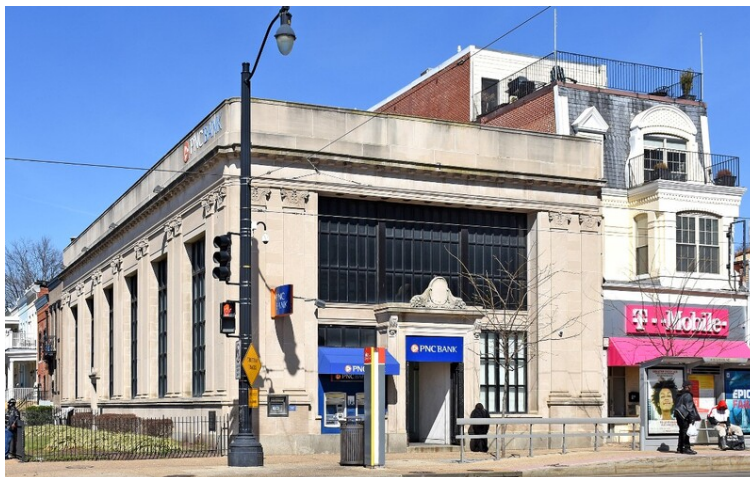
Thank you to the Daughters of the American Revolution for hosting the ceremony and the post-event reception.

Congratulations to all the winners, and thank you for your commitment to preserving, protecting, and enhancing the city of Washington.

For those who were unable to attend the event, below is a list of all the 2023 Awardees, with links to the corresponding videos featured at the event. [Photos from the event can be found here.](#)

- [State Historic Preservation Officer's Award, Lifetime Achievement: Nancy Witherell](#)
- [Community Outreach and Volunteerism: National Mall Kiosk Project](#)
- [Design & Construction: The Washington, DC Metropolitan Police Memorial](#)
- [Design & Construction: Harewood Lodge](#)
- [Design & Construction: Meridian Hill Park - Phases 5 & 6](#)
- [Design & Construction: Rubell Museum DC at the Randall School](#)
- [Historic Preservation Review Board Chair's Award: The Appleton at Spring Flats](#)
- [Celebrating 20 years of Excellence in Historic Preservation](#)

Landmarks Updates: Northeast Savings Bank and Lansburgh Park



The Beaux-Arts style Northeast Savings Bank (1921), which was designated by HPRB this past October. The building was nominated in December 2021 by the DC Preservation League and the Capitol Hill Restoration Society. Photo by D.P. Sefton.

On October 26th, HPRB designated [Northeast Savings Bank](#), a 1921 bank building at 800 H Street NE. Designed by B. Stanley Simmons in the Beaux-Arts style and sitting on a prominent corner, the building has long been an important institution in the H Street commercial district. Northeast Savings Bank is significant in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, and Economics, and was first identified in the [Banks and Financial Institutions of Washington, DC](#) multiple property document. The building continues to

operate as a bank, now as a PNC Bank. The historic landmark nomination was submitted to HPO in December 2021 by the DC Preservation League and the [Capitol Hill Restoration Society](#). Officially added to the DC Inventory of Historic Sites, the nomination will now be considered for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.



The modernist pavilions, constructed in 1964, at the center of Southwest's Lansburgh Park. The park was nominated in December 2021 by the DC Preservation League. Photo by Zachary Burt.

At the same hearing on October 26th, HPRB did not designate [Lansburgh Park](#), a 1960s era green space located along the east side of Delaware Avenue SW, between I and M streets. However, the board said that with some additional history and context the park is eligible for designation. Additionally, the landmark nomination could be incorporated into a future multiple property document focused on the parks of Southwest Washington. The DC Preservation League looks forward to working with HPO on a solution that recognizes both the important social history and modernist landscape design associated with Lansburgh Park.

Lansburgh Park, which was constructed in 1964 during the urban renewal of Southwest Washington, is most notable for its metal-clad paraboloid groin vault pavilions at its center, pictured above, and its layout, which traces the rights-of-way of L'Enfant Plan streets that once traversed its site. The park and its pavilions were designed by LeRoy Skillman, who was then at the National Park Service. Most importantly, Lansburgh Park was DC's first park planned and built during the era of recreational desegregation. Lansburgh Park was nominated by the DC Preservation League in December 2021. The landmark nomination received support from both [ANC 6D](#) and [The Cultural Landscape Foundation](#).

Upcoming: Behind the Scenes @ The Capital Jewish Museum

Tuesday, December 5th | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM EDT
In-Person, Meets at 575 3rd Street NW



View of the Capital Jewish Museum, including the historic Adas Israel Synagogue. Photo by SmithGroup, courtesy of the Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum.

This December, join the [Capital Jewish Museum](#) and the DC Preservation League as we unlock the doors to a cherished piece of Washington, D.C.'s history. This exclusive event will showcase [the historic synagogue](#), offering a behind-the-scenes look at its architectural beauty and cultural significance. For the first hour, you will be able to chat with museum staff stationed at various exhibits. You can also hear from archivists and take a peek at unique archival documents not usually on display to the public. For the second hour, explore on your own in a relaxed and uncrowded setting. Discover the rich heritage and preservation efforts that breathe life into this iconic institution, all while celebrating a shared commitment to honoring D.C.'s diverse cultural tapestry.

This program has a ticket cost of \$20.00 for DCPL members and is open to non-members at the cost of \$35.00. Please register online to participate.

[Register Here](#)

DC Historic Sites Tour: Art Deco in Washington, DC



The Nixon-Mounsey House (1950), an Art Deco style private residence in The Palisades neighborhood. The National Register-listed home was nominated by the DC Preservation League and the homeowners, Mary D. Garrard and Norma Broude. Photo by Justin Scaleria for HABS.

[DC Historic Sites](#) now includes a 32-stop tour dedicated to the popular Art Deco style and the city's rich collection of buildings designed in this style. Art Deco, a term coined in the 1960s, describes a type of architecture that was popular from the mid-1920s through the 1930s and 1940s. When discussing Art Deco, many people think of famous landmarks like the Chrysler Building in New York City, but the style influenced many building types from private homes and apartment buildings to bus terminals, bridges, and movie theaters. Additionally, the style is broad and includes specific examples described as Moderne, Streamline/Art Moderne, Streamlined Deco, and Zig-Zag.

Art Deco includes a variety of motifs, such as zig-zag, chevron, floral patterns, and geometric designs, and the use of materials like chrome and glass. Art Deco embraced technology and new forms of transportation. Whether in the design of a building, train, or even a toaster, Art Deco relied upon the concepts of speed and movement. These motifs and materials, as well as the sense of movement, can be seen in the examples found on this tour, from the [Nixon-Mounsey House](#), pictured above, to the [Greyhound Bus Terminal](#) and the [Atlas Theater and Shops](#).

[Click Here for the Tour](#)

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DC Preservation League | 641 S Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20001

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