

# LOCALLY GROWN PROVIDENCE



# LOCALLY GROWN PROVIDENCE

2015 AIA Committee on Design Fall Conference, October 1-4, 2015



# Table of Contents

<b>Remarks</b>	<b>6</b>
Introduction	6
Welcome to Providence	7
Thank You	8

<b>People</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Projects</b>	<b>27</b>

# Introduction

## **The theme for 2015 is 'Locally Grown'.**

*"To make a place, is to make a domain that helps people know where they are, and by extension, know who they are."*

Charles W. Moore FAIA

As a 'progeny' of Charles Moore, I have been intrigued by place-making. I imagine you have similar aspirations: how does one create something that is globally inspiring and locally relevant?

## **Norway – International Conference**

Norway is a country with a small population whose economy historically relied on fishing and farming. Their rural, natural environment has been, and still is, a dominant influence on Norwegians and their architecture. Their recent oil boom has brought unprecedented wealth which has helped fund projects from cultural buildings to housing. We will see how their devotion to nature and recent international attention is fueling Norwegian architects to develop their own distinct version of modern architecture.

## **Providence – National Conference**

Providence, on the other hand, is forging forward on a shoe-string, yet it too provides compelling examples of how locally-inspired architecture, planning, and design can lead the rebirth of a place and help define its spirit.

Jim Childress FAIA

2015 Chair - AIA Committee on Design

Partner - Centerbrook Architects

# Welcome to Providence

We are thrilled to welcome the AIA Committee on Design to Providence, Rhode Island. It is an honor to host your group and we cannot wait to get started! Providence, along with most of the state, has a long history in manufacturing, design and craft and we are proud to show off the ways in which these traditions have continued.

On your tours, you will visit masterful adaptive reuse projects in the heart of downtown Providence, uplifting gathering spaces, and thoughtful retreats outside of town. You will learn about the city's long history and the many influences that have shaped it into the urban center that it is today. You will meet many of the people who have devoted themselves to Providence's most recent transformations. You will learn about the companies that are reimagining Rhode Island's legacy of manufacturing, craft and design. You will experience the magic of Waterfire along the Providence River. In the end, we hope you leave with a deeper understanding of Providence's past and its hopes for the future.

Stephanie Zurek, AIA and Vada Seccareccia, Assoc. AIA

# Thank You

We are indebted to all of the architects, historians, thinkers, planners, artist, and craftspeople included in this guidebook for sharing their ideas and inspiring us. We also appreciate their clients who have allowed us to visit their places.

*I am grateful to the following people who have helped make this conference possible:*

**Jim Barnes** who advised us throughout our planning with his half a century of knowledge about everything creative in Providence. As a RISD professor, who remains a pal to many alumni, he helped kick start us back then, and now.

**Jennifer Zolkos**, Executive Director AIA Rhode Island for her support.

**Most importantly - Vada Seccareccia and Stephanie Zurek of Union Studio** who Chair this conference. They have provided advice throughout, done the leg work, reached out to people, helped coordinate everything and will guide us on our journey. We appreciate them sharing their city with us.

**Derek Hayn**, who many of you know from our conference in Norway, designed and produced this guidebook.

**Susan Parrish** and **Lori Feinman** at AIA National who have provided constant support, keeping us out of trouble, throughout.

Lastly - I could not have fulfilled my responsibilities for this conference without the enormous time commitment and guidance of **Ann K Thompson**, MLS and the COD Communications Chair. Every group needs a librarian!

Jim Childress FAIA  
2015 Chair AIA Committee on Design



**PEOPLE**



**Christopher Bardt** is a founding principal of 3SIXØ Architecture, which was named in 2002 by *Architectural Record* as one of 10 leading vanguard firms worldwide. His extensive experience includes furniture design, residential, commercial and institutional commissions and planning studies. His research on the geometry of sunlight, materials, materiality and tectonics as critical to architectural making and thinking has been widely published and exhibited. Bardt has been a member of the architecture faculty at RISD since 1988. He has been a visiting professor at Cornell University and at the National Academy of Design and Art, Slovakia and currently serves on the Board of Governors of the RISD Museum. Bardt holds a Bachelor's of Architecture from RISD and a Master's of Architecture from Harvard University.



**James Barnes, AIA** received his BArch from RISD in 1969. He completed graduate work at Montana State University where he began his teaching career. He has served as interim dean of the Division of Architecture and head of the Department of Interior Architecture and is a recipient of RISD's John Frazier Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Barnes is a registered architect, certified by NCARB with an active practice in the southern New England region. His professional work has been recognized by the RI AIA, the Providence Preservation Society and RI Monthly magazine. Barnes currently serves on the Board of Directors of the RI AIA, Ace Mentoring RI and the Revolving Fund of the Providence Preservation Society.



**Ann M. Beha, FAIA** leads an architectural firm with a national practice designing for institutions, civic, and private clients, in the arts, academic, and cultural fields. She is a graduate of Wellesley College and MIT, and a Loeb Fellow at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. She has been a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Architecture at the City College of New York, a Trustee and Past President of Historic New England, and served on Visiting Committees at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and at MIT. Ann has been honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the New England Chapter of the Victorian Society in America, an Anniversary Award from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the Alumnae Achievement Award from Wellesley College, and the Women in Design Award of Excellence from the Boston Society of Architects.



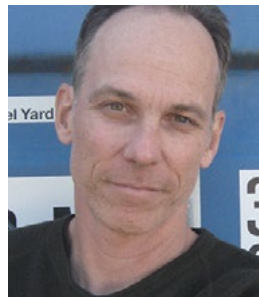
**Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA** is one of the founding principals of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, which began practice as Bohlin and Powell in 1965. The firm's success, and the professional recognition it has attained, are in large measure attributable to his design insights and unflagging dedication to setting the highest standards for all design work produced by the firm. His leadership and inspiration have established a culture of thoughtful, thorough design thinking throughout the practice, and he remains keenly interested in both broad conceptual thinking and detail expression, reviewing the development of design and documentation regularly with project teams. In 2010, the American Institute of Architects awarded Peter with the Gold Medal, the highest honor for an individual in the profession.



**Jan Brodie** was, until recently, the Executive Director of the I-195 Redevelopment District Commission. The Commission is charged with bringing to market 19 acres reclaimed after the relocation of 195 in downtown Providence.

Jan was the Northeast Regional Director at The Community Builders in Boston. While there Jan oversaw one of the largest non-profit housing developers in the country. She was Vice President at The Armory Revival Company in Providence and Vice President at Graham Gund Architects, Inc.

She received her MBA in Finance from The Wharton School, and her Master's in Architecture from the Graduate School of Fine Arts at the University of Pennsylvania. Jan also holds a M.S. in Administration from University Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education and a B.A. from Williams College.



**Peter Gill Case**, the founder of Truth Box, received his Masters in Architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design and his undergraduate degree from Brown University in Urban Studies. Throughout his career, Mr. Case has built an architectural practice around a broad definition of sustainable design. In some instances, this has led to the adaptive re-use of older buildings and large-scale mill buildings. In other instances, this has translated into using alternative building materials and strategies such as straw bale homes, passive solar design, structural insulated panels, and even shipping containers. Mr. Case began sustainable development work in 2004 in order demonstrate to a variety of markets that green, conscientious design enhances the revenue and balance sheet of real estate ventures, without necessarily costing more than conventional building.



**Arthur Chang** has been an architect at NADAAA since 2011 following nearly seven years as a Project Manager at Office dA. Before that, he was a designer at Wallace Floyd Design Group. He received a BARCH from California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo and a Master of Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania.



**Steve Durkee** founded Durkee Brown Architects in 1994. He directed the adaptive reuse of 15 significant historic buildings within the Downtown Providence National Register Historic District. He joined Cornish Associates in 2010 to help with the mission to make Providence one of the great urban places in America. When he's not enjoying life in Downcity, he's helping grow transit in RI as a board member of the RI Public Transit Authority. Steve was the chair of the Providence City Plan Commission for 14 years. Durkee is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design.



**Jim Estes, FAIA**  
Estes/Twoombly Architects

*Professional Experience*  
Estes/Twoombly Architects, Newport, RI  
2000-Present  
Estes & Company Architects, Newport, RI  
1989-2000  
Estes/Burgin Partnership, Providence, RI  
1979-1989  
James Estes, Design/Build, Providence, RI  
1974-1978

*Education*  
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI:  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1970, Bachelor of Architecture, 1971, Recipient AIA Medal for Excellence  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; B.A. English,  
1967



**Barnaby Evans** is an artist who works in many media including site-specific sculpture installations, photography, garden design, architectural projects, film, writing and conceptual works. His original training was in the sciences, but he has been working exclusively as an artist and teacher for thirty years. Barnaby Evans received his Sc.B. degree in biology and environmental science from Brown University in 1975. He was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts by Brown University and an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts by Rhode Island College, both in 2000. WaterFire was honored with the 2003 Rudy S. Bruner Silver Award for Urban Excellence from the Bruner Foundation given to Providence for the renaissance of its downtown. In 2010, Evans was honored with a Distinguished Service to the Arts Award from the National Governors Association.



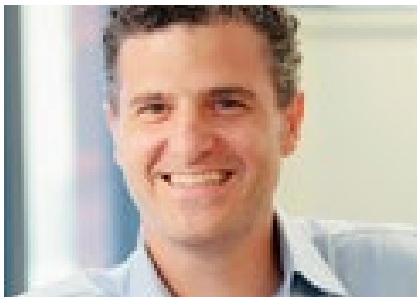
**Dan Gallagher** has had extensive experience in the management, design, development, and construction administration of a wide range of projects in over twenty years practicing architecture. As Principal of NADAA, Mr. Gallagher has led numerous projects including means restriction design at Cornell University, and Seaholm Electrical Substation Wall in Austin, Texas. As Vice President of Office dA, Gallagher oversaw projects such as the Fleet Library at Rhode Island School of Design, Helios House in Los Angeles, and the Hinman Research Building at the Georgia Institute of Technology.



**Steven G. Gerrard AIA** as a Senior Associate at Ann Beha Architects, Steven has worked nationally and internationally on significant cultural and institutional projects. His museum and academic work has been nationally published and honored with awards from the AIA and its Chapters. Steve's projects for the New Britain Museum of American Art and the Shelburne Museum set important standards for design excellence, and his work for The Wheeler School and New England Conservatory of Music establish new identities and services. Steve has served as a Visiting Professor at Roger Williams University and a Visiting Design Critic for the Rhode Island School of Design, the Boston Architectural College, and Northeastern University. He holds a Master of Architecture Degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Lawrence Institute of Technology.



**Benjamin Gilmartin, AIA** has 20 years of experience both independently as a design consultant and as a principal of the New York firm Diller Scofidio + Renfro (DS+R). As Benjamin Gilmartin Architect, he has undertaken selected commissions for Public Space and Public Art, including the St. Louis Public Media Commons. With DS+R, Benjamin led the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts campus project for seven years. In the past, Benjamin has been a designer with the New York firms Polshek Partnership and Perkins & Will. He was a long-time contributor to the journal *Praxis: Journal of Writing + Building* and taught in the Thesis program at the Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning.



**Joe Haskett, AIA** has over 16 years of architectural experience which includes the adaptive re-use of historic buildings, market-rate and affordable multi-family housing, pre-fabricated building design, commercial buildings and private residences. Prior to joining Union Studio in 2012, Joe was the founding principal of *distill studio*, a Providence-based architectural firm with a focus on sustainable building science and integrated design process. Joe is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Interior Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design, a board member of the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA), and an active member of the US Green Building Council (USGBC) and the National Passive House Alliance (PHAUS). He received his Master of Architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design and his Bachelor of Science in Architecture at Ohio State University.



**Kyna Leski** is a principal of 3SIXØ Architecture in Providence, which was founded in 1997. The Rhode Island AIA has bestowed its top honors on 3SIXØ 17 times, and the Boston Society of Architects has awarded 3SIXØ four times.

At RISD, Kyna Leski was chief critic of the European Honors Program from 1993–95 and has taught in the Architecture, Foundation Studies and Industrial Design departments. She authored the first-semester core architecture design curriculum used at RISD for 17 years and a book on this pedagogy, *The Making of Design Principles*, published in 2007. In 1997 the Architectural League of New York selected Leski as one of five winners of its annual Young Architects Competition. She has served as the city architect design decision review advisor to the mayor of Providence.



**Dietrich Neumann**, Professor of the History of Modern Architecture and Urbanism at Brown University. His books include *Film Architecture: Set Design from Metropolis to Blade Runner* (Prestel, 1996), *Richard Neutra's Windshield House* (Harvard, 2001), *Architecture of the Night* (Prestel, 2002), and *"The Structure of Light": Richard Kelly and the Illumination of Modern Architecture* (Yale, 2010).

Neumann studied architecture at the Architectural Association in London and the Technische Universität in Munich. He has held a chair as the first Vincent Scully Visiting Professor at the Yale School of Architecture (2007-2009), and has taught at the Universidade do Porto, Portugal and the Technische Universität Munich. He was a visiting scholar at the Centre Canadien d'Architecture in Montréal, and the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.



**Vada Seccareccia, Assoc. AIA** is an Architectural Designer and Director of Technology at Union Studio Architecture & Community Design in Providence, Rhode Island. Prior to receiving her master of architecture degree, Vada worked in technical marketing at The MathWorks, an organization that builds software for engineers and scientists.

Vada is a past president of the Rhode Island Chapter of the AIA, and during her tenure, she built relationships with many other design organizations in the Rhode Island design community, including ASLA, AIGA, and DESIGNxRI.

Vada earned her Master of Architecture degree from Rhode Island School of Design and her Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Bryn Mawr College.



**Friedrich St. Florian** Friedrich St. Florian received a Master's Degree in Architecture from the Technische Universität in Graz, Austria and a Master of Science Degree in Architecture from Columbia University. His early career is distinguished by landmark theoretical work. The World War II Memorial in Washington, DC is the firm's most visible work to date.

Friedrich St. Florian contributed significantly to the formation of two generations of aspiring architects as Professor of Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design. He served as Dean of Architecture for eight years and Chief Critic of the European Honors Program in Rome for four years. He is a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome. His drawings are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Georges Pompidou Centre in Paris.



**Anthony W. Saby Jr.** joined Diller Scofidio + Renfro in 2006. He was a project manager for the firm's much-praised renovation of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, which included an expansion of the lobbies and public spaces of Alice Tully Hall and an addition for the Juilliard School. The project garnered 29 architectural and community awards. He worked on Brown University's Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, a multidisciplinary facility that features a recital hall, recording studio and art studios.

After graduating from Temple University in 1992, Saby joined Wulff Architects Inc. in Philadelphia. Four years later, he moved to KlingStubbins, where he worked on large corporate projects for SAP, Dow Jones and Merck & Co. and campus projects for Rutgers University and the University of Pennsylvania.



**Nader Tehrani's** research has been focused on the transformation of the building industry, innovative material applications, and the development of new means and methods of construction – as exemplified in his work with digital fabrication. Tehrani is the Dean of the Cooper Union's Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture and former head of the Department of Architecture at the MIT School of Architecture and Planning where he served as the Department Head from 2010-2014.



**Peter Twombly, AIA**  
Estes/Twombly Architects

*Professional Experience*

Estes/Twombly Architects, Newport, RI  
2000-Present

Estes & Company Architects, Newport, RI  
1994-2000

Peter Twombly Architect, Providence, RI  
1989-1994

Hanson Lind Meyer, Iowa City, Iowa 1987-1988

Michael Graves Architect, Princeton, NJ 1982-1986

*Education*

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI:

Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1979, Bachelor of Architecture, 1980 Recipient AIA Henry Adams Medal for Excellence, Teaching Assistant in Design





**Stephanie Zurek, AIA** joined Union Studio in 2005 to apply her training in classical and traditional architecture and urbanism. She currently serves as a Project Manager for the new Tiverton Public Library in Tiverton, RI and the San Juan Passage neighborhood in Anacortes, WA. She is a Vice President of CNU New England, President-Elect of AIA Rhode Island, a Co-Founder of the Providence Chapter of Architecture for Humanity, a volunteer for Big Sisters of Rhode Island, a board member of the Narragansett Boat Club and serves on the Leadership Council of The Amos House.

Stephanie received a LeBrun Travel Grant from the Center for Architecture in New York City, to travel to Indonesia to study urban villages. She received her Bachelor's of Architecture from the University of Notre Dame.



# SCHEDULE



Thursday, October 1

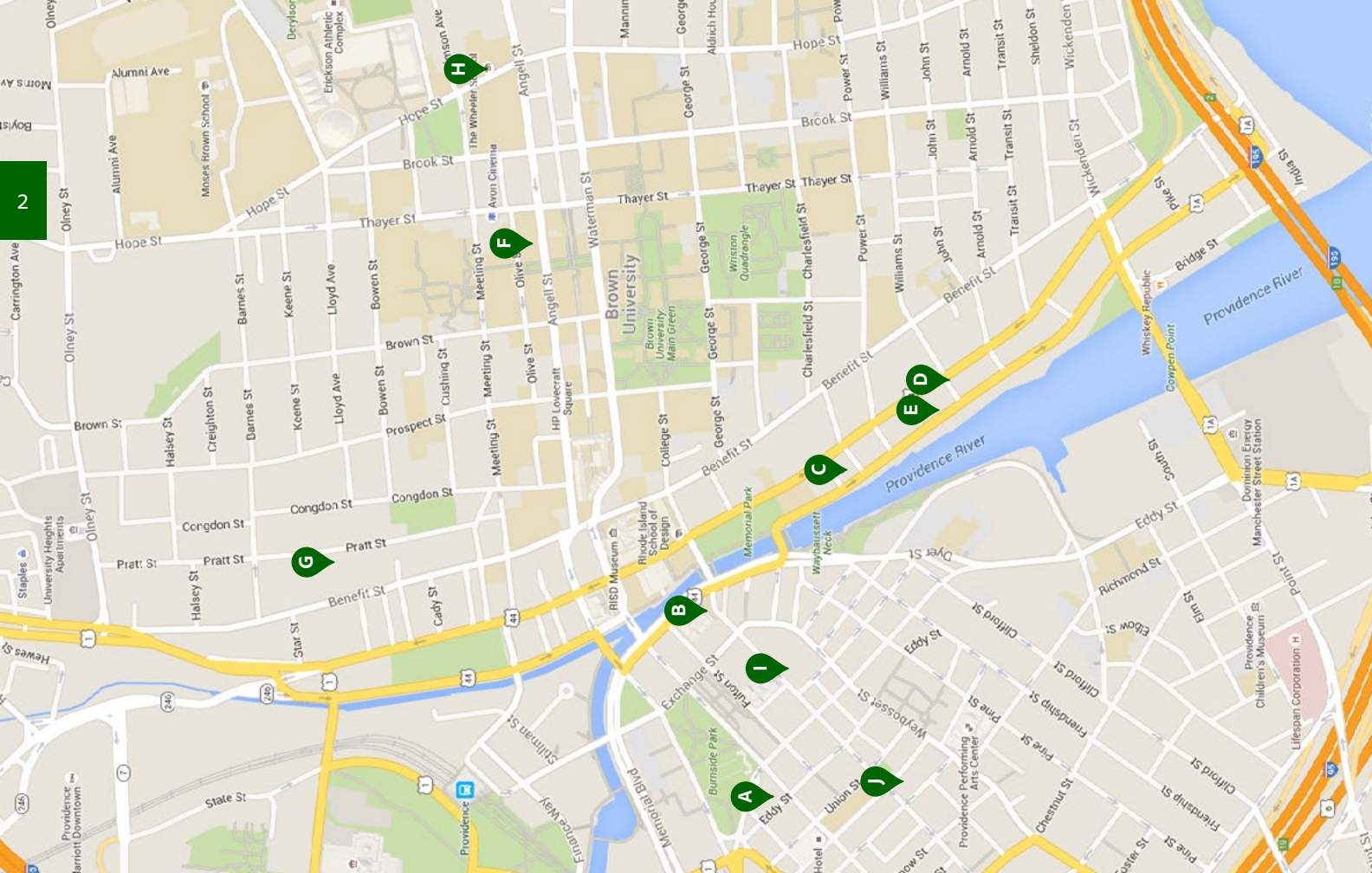
## Day 1, Opening

1:00 Arrival, check-in Biltmore Hotel **(A)**

7:00 Providence Public Library **(B)**  
Welcome by Barnaby Evans  
Dinner and Member Slide Show


9:00

2

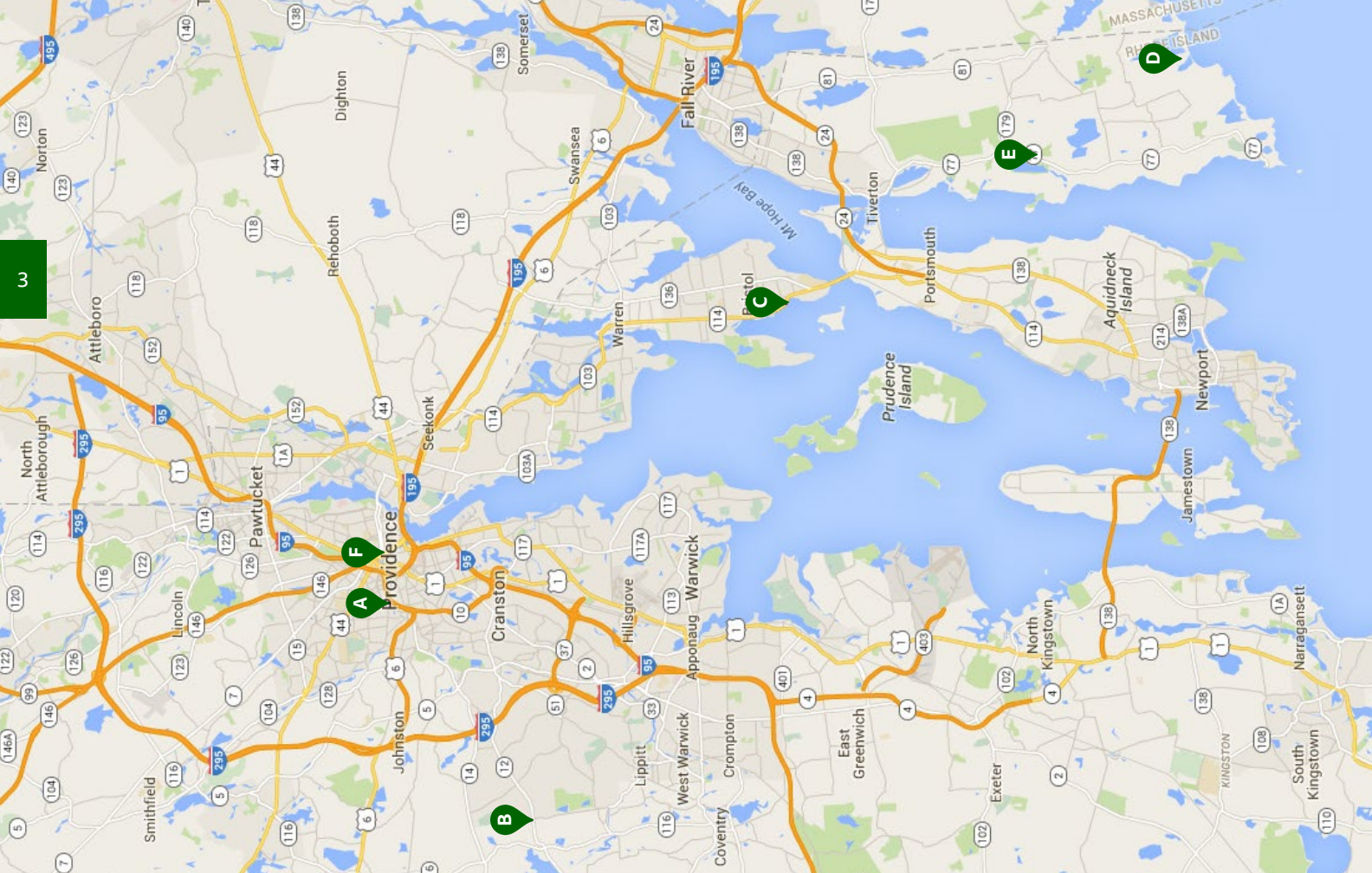


Friday, October 2

## Day 2



8:30	Lectures at Biltmore Hotel <b>(A)</b> Dietrich Neumann – History Jan Brodie – Urban development
9:45	RISD Fleet Library by NADAAA <b>(B)</b>
11:00	RISD ID Building by Jim Barnes <b>(C)</b> Dave's Coffee Shop by 3SIXØ <b>(D)</b>
12:00	Lunch - Bacaro <b>(E)</b>
1:30	Granoff Arts Building by Diller Scofidio Renfro <b>(F)</b> House on College Hill by Friedrich St Florian <b>(G)</b>
3:00	Wheeler School by Ann Beha Architects <b>(H)</b>
4:00	Walk to Downtown
4:30	Arcade and downtown walk with Steve Durkee <b>(I)</b>
5:30	Pecha Kucha Aurora <b>(J)</b> Local architects, artists and craftsman
8:00	Dinner on your own



W

A

F

B

C

E

D



## Saturday, October 3

### Day 3

8:00	Lectures - at Biltmore Hotel <b>(A)</b> Friedrich St Florian - art and local planning Kyna Leski and Chris Bardt 3SIXØ - local Work Peter Bohlin - designing locally
9:30	Bus
10:00	Box Office by Peter Case   Joe Haskett <b>(B)</b>
10:45	Shepherd of the Valley by 3SIXØ <b>(C)</b>
11:15	Bus
12:15	Lunch - Lobster Pot <b>(D)</b>
1:30	Bus
2:00	Goosewing Farm by Peter Bohlin <b>(E)</b>
3:00	Bus
3:30	Field House by Estes Twombly <b>(F)</b>
4:30	Bus
5:30	Time to yourself
7:00-9:00	Closing Dinner at RISD Museum Gallery <b>(G)</b>
8:00-12:00	Water Fire <b>(H)</b>



# PROJECTS



1

# Providence Public Library

*Providence, Rhode Island*

The Library was founded in 1875. The classical Renaissance-style building opened in 1900 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was designed by Stone, Carpenter and Willson of Providence.

The recently completed restoration of the Library included long-deferred and necessary infrastructure improvements, replacement of an out-dated HVAC and installation of a sprinkler system, as well as renovations to enhance the Library's historic Grand Hall, Garden Courtyard, Providence Journal Rhode Island Room and Ship Room for usage for varied events. Funding for the project was made possible when the Library entered a partnership with Russell Morin Hospitality Solutions in a venture designed to raise revenues to support the Library's many free public programs.

[Original Building completed 1900](#)  
[Renovation completed 2014](#)

[Stone, Carpenter and Willson](#)  
[designLAB](#)

[Photos - Providence Public Library](#)





# RISD Fleet Library

*Providence, Rhode Island*

The Fleet Library is located in the main hall of the historic Hospital Trust Bank Building, formally owned by Fleet Bank. It houses an extensive collection of art and design volumes, magazines, and multimedia resources, as well as group study areas, classrooms, and administrative offices. The banking hall, with the 50 foot high barrel vault, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

To fit the new program in the existing square footage two new pavilions to house study spaces, a reading room, and circulation island were positioned within the barrel vaulted main hall. To maximize their use every surface and pocket of space was used - niches below are used for study carrels; on pavilion-top holds the main reading room, and the circulation island edges house the reference desks. The pavilions are conceived as large pieces of furniture framing the central 'living room' for the student dormitories located above the library.

Both pavilions were prefabricated and CNC milled off-site to allow them to be installed (and dismantled if need be in the future) in an efficient manner with minimal disturbance.

Completed 2006  
NADAA

Photos - NADAA







# RISD 161 South Main, Industrial Design

*Providence, Rhode Island*

This is the home of the RISD Industrial Design department since its rehabilitation in 1995. The project continues a RISD tradition of constructing “maker buildings,” on its campus - long before the approach to teaching was so popular. The renovation included new infrastructure, passenger elevator and egress stairs along with new windows and roof where a new faculty office area skylight was installed. Otherwise, the design approach to the project was simply to do as little as possible.

The lower floors of the 45,000 s.f. building house a variety of fully equipped “shops” for working in all manner of materials. Upper floors contain studios. Faculty offices occupy the top floor. The building currently houses about 250 undergraduate and graduate students.

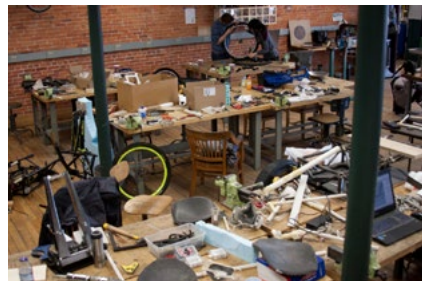
The facility is actually three buildings built at three different times, and is the remainder of a complete block of five connected structures. The oldest is the 6 story northern building constructed in the mid-1850's as a 4 story structure of massive wood beams with cast iron and wood columns. The roof was removed and a complete 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

floor were added in 1912. A story-high sixth floor “framed-truss” rotated the axis of loads of the upper floors and roof so as not to overstress the foundation. The new 5<sup>th</sup> floor was suspended from above; the 6<sup>th</sup> floor was within the truss.

The previous owner was “Roitman’s Furniture.” The owner, Aaron Roitman, specialized in Danish imports. Mr. Roitman maintained close relations with Danish modernism and supported the emerging talent of RISD furniture makers who were studying under Tage Frid, the Danish born furniture maker who ran the RISD Furniture program beginning in 1962. (Current RISD President Roseann Somerson was a student of Prof. Frid.)

Completed 1995  
Jim Barnes, AIA

Photos - Jim Barnes





# Dave's Coffee Shop

*Providence, Rhode Island*

This project recently won an Honor Award from the RI chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Its warm features include reclaimed barn boards and handmade steel countertops. Especially welcoming is the elevated seating area. Coffee is displayed in museum-like niches in the wall with the shop's name playfully painted as though the letters were carved into the wall.

Completed 2010  
3SIXØ

Photos - 3SIXØ





# Granoff Center for the Creative Arts

*Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island*

The Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts provides a space that advances innovative directions for research, teaching, and production across the boundaries of individual art disciplines. The space within the building is assigned exclusively for multidisciplinary work and features a recital hall, recording studio, multi-media lab, and studios. The design of the building facilitates programs and courses to be developed with collaboration among artists, scientists, and humanists to create new art forms, approaches to collaborative work, and to explore, examine, and extend our understanding of the creative process. The building also features a Public Art space designed by Jan and Tim Edler. The space comprises two 14 x 5 foot light boxes that wash the entrance in a range of colors, from white, to rose, blue, mustard, and red.

Sustainable features, such as exterior louvered blinds and a green roof helped it achieve a LEED Gold rating.

Completed 2010

[Diller Scofidio + Renfro](#)

[Photos - Brown University](#)





# House on College Hill

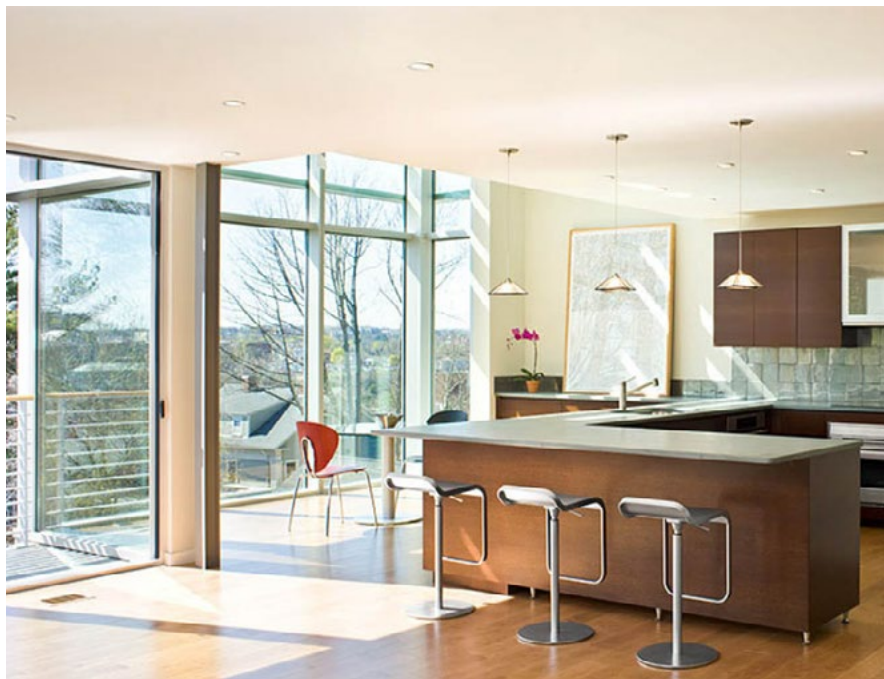
Providence, Rhode Island

The new house resides on the western slope of historic College Hill. It has been called the most modern statement in Providence in recent history. Its spare composition brings design confidence to a neighborhood that struggled to find compatible architectural language.

Sheathed in white cedar and taupe-tinted cement board, the house has two faces, both in a disciplined Modern vocabulary. There is the calm, public face at Pratt Street and a more ebullient fully glazed downhill side facing RI's State House. The heart of the house is a *piano nobile* of living / dining / kitchen space, all sharing the spectacular view of the State House and downtown Providence.

Completed 2009  
Friedrich St. Florian, FAIA

Photography by Warren Jagger  
Text excerpts from Will Morgan







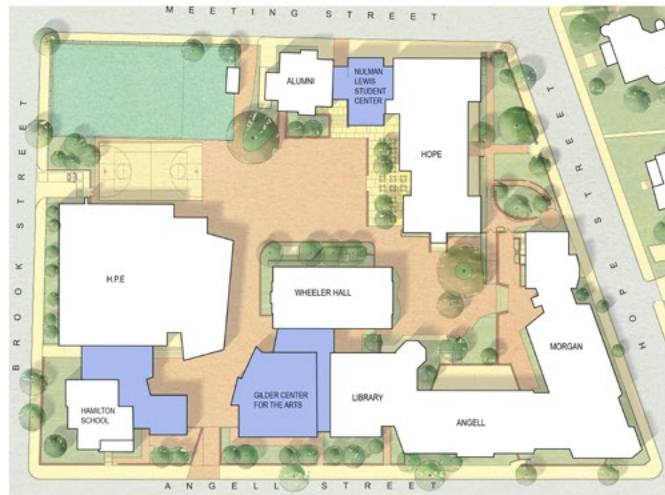
# The Wheeler School, Nulman Lewis Student Center

Providence, RI

The Wheeler School serves a 1,000 student population, grades Pre-K-12. ABA completed a campus Master Plan and design for multiple academic buildings, including the award-winning Nulman Lewis Student Center which serves as the new gateway to the campus and links two historic structures. The Center includes a campus café, classrooms and collaborative spaces for learning and gathering. ABA also designed the School's new Gilder Center for the Arts, accommodating School assemblies, music performances, practice spaces, and classrooms. It is connected to historic Wheeler Hall, which houses a renovated "black box" theatre and fine arts studios.

Completed 2015

Ann Beha Architects



*The Arcade  
Providence,  
R. I.*



# City Walk

*Providence, Rhode Island*

We will tour a few projects in downtown Providence to learn how architects, planners, and developers are helping rejuvenate the historic center of the city. We will meet at the Arcade, an historic shopping center, built in 1828 and restored for retail and office use. Steve Durkee, an architect with Cornish Associates, will lead us on a walk to Kennedy Plaza to talk about the place making that is happening at the new city square.

We will then walk by the Biltmore Garage retail project; that provides a new active front to an existing parking garage. Further on we will visit the AS220 buildings - non-profit community arts center - and the Kinsley Building, now under construction to turn a former retail-office building into retail and workforce housing. We will end at the Peerless building - a former landmark department store renovated into retail and residential units.

[Completed - various dates](#)  
[Steve Durkee - Cornish Associates](#)

[Photos - Ann K Thompson](#)



# Pecha Kucha

*Aurora, Providence, Rhode Island*

Providence has a two century history of making things. At one time it was dubbed the jewelry-capitol-of-the-world. That tradition continues and has begun to thrive in the past couple of decades. We will meet, and hear from, some of the artist, craftspeople, architects, and educators who are helping the rebirth of Providence by making it a creative place to live and work. We will meet:

Kyla Coburn	Founder, Kyla Coburn Designs
Kevin Cunningham	Founder, Spirare Surfboards
Ed Frenette	Senior Vice President, Symmes Maini & McKee
Associates	
LeeAnn Herreid	Founder, Individual Icons
Susan Mocarski	Founder, Cleverhood
Lucie Searle	Development Manager, AS220
Yarrow Thorne	Founder, The Avenue Concept
Martha Werenfels	Principal, Durkee Brown Viveiros Werenfels Architects
Christine West	Principal, Kite Architects
Steve White	Dean, Roger Williams University School of Architecture





460

104

103

# The Box Office

*Providence, Rhode Island*

The Box Office consists of 12 office/studio spaces constructed from 37 recycled shipping containers on an abandoned strip of Providence history - the former Harris Lumber site. The office units range in square footage from 640 to 2,500 square feet.

Among the green features are a well-insulated, super tight exterior with high performance windows and doors, high efficiency air source heat pumps in each unit, and energy recovery ventilators (ERV) to conserve energy and provide fresh air. The windows are strategically located to provide the most daylight with the smallest openings; the result are interiors that are comfortable, well-lit, with superior indoor air quality, even though it is nestled between a highway, a train track and a major urban roadway.

Completed 2010

Joe Haskett | Distill Studio - design

Peter Case | Truth Box, Inc. - developer

Photos - Distill Studio







# Shepherd of the Valley | United Methodist Church

*Hope, Rhode Island*

This multi-purpose pavilion, located as an extension of the existing education wing, serves as a new freestanding children's chapel.

The order for the design of the chapel started with the plan and its perimeter walls. The walls start as a continuation of the existing education wing. The long west wall however, angles inward, to maintain an outdoor gathering space. This overlap of geometry is further enhanced with lines that spiral from floor to wall to ceiling, like a string wrapping the space. The lines of the spiral slowly contract as the geometry moves northward - towards an infinite spot. "Spiral" comes from the Latin, "spirare" or spirit...a figure that is always expanding and contracting like breath and the related words, "respire," "inspire," "expire" and for the chapel, "spire."

The spiraling geometric order is suggested on the exterior as the window widths become narrower as they approach the north end of the building. The chapel is clad in tongue and groove vertical grain western red cedar with the east and west walls canting outward, allowing rain water to fall freely past the building. The jambs of the windows

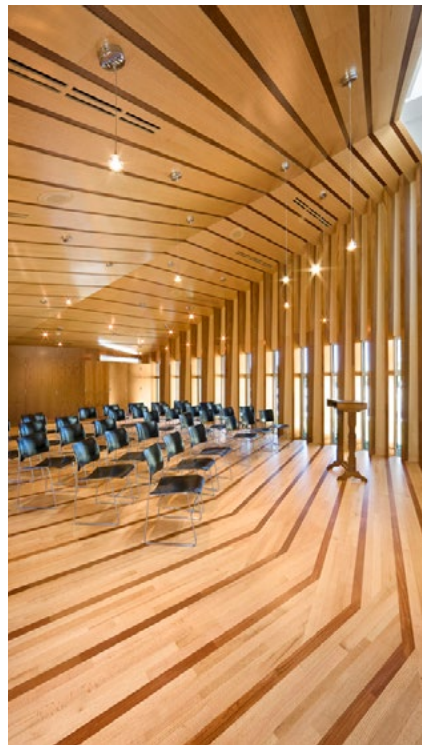
are bracketed by sapele mahogany ribs that hold a true plumb line against the canting wall surface. Critical junctures of the building are articulated with zinc coated copper that extend upward to create rain water diverters, parapet cap flashing, downspouts and transition pieces between canted and plumb walls.

Completed 2009  
3SIXØ

Photos - 3SIXØ



Animation:  
<http://3sixo.com/portfolio-item/shepherd-of-the-valley-animation/>





# Goosewing Farm Head House and Barn

*Little Compton, Rhode Island*

A family's dream of a special place for present and future generations has been realized through an ongoing eighteen-year collaboration. Architectural and landscape interventions have been played like a chess game as view corridors, organizing axes and landforms have been anticipated or placed.

Phase One consisted of the renovation and addition to a nineteenth century cottage that became the family's home and the construction of a caretaker's compound. Phases Two and Three include the addition to an historic Cape and the transformation of a stone barn into a 'great room' for the farm.

The Cape was returned to its original gabled form and function of sitting rooms, bedchambers and hearth. The addition houses a kitchen and bath, allowing the building to serve as guest quarters and as a catering kitchen for events held in the barn.

Completed - eighteen years

Peter Bohlin, FAIA | Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Photos - M. Thomas Architectural Photography





# Field House

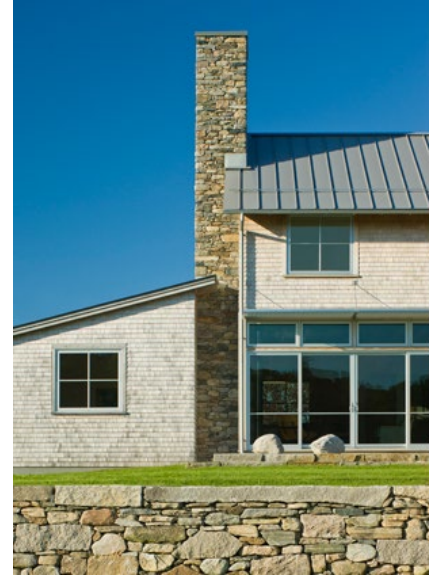
*Sakonnet, Rhode Island*

Field House is comprised of three separate buildings: house, studio and barn that are surrounded by stone walls, hayfields, wetlands and woods. The design balances traditional agrarian forms and modern open spaces while taking full advantage of passive solar heating and cross ventilation. The three structures are sited to provide maximum sun exposure and privacy with minimal disturbance to the landscape.

Completed 2012

Estes/Twombly Architects

Photography - Warren Jagger





3

# The RISD Museum

*Providence, Rhode Island*

The RISD Museum acquires, preserves, exhibits, and interprets works of art and design representing diverse cultures from ancient times to the present. Distinguished by its relationship to the Rhode Island School of Design the Museum educates and inspires artists, designers, students, scholars, and the general public through exhibitions, programs, and publications.

The development of the Rhode Island School of Design and the RISD Museum is tied to Rhode Island's emergence after the Civil War as the most heavily industrialized state in the Union, and to the growing desire for better design in manufacturing. With the region's prosperity based on the production of silverware, jewelry, machine tools, steam engines, files, screws, and textiles, leading manufacturers and civic leaders felt the need for industrial-arts education and exposure to examples of fine art.

[Founded 1877](#)

[Renovations - Philip Johnson, FAIA - 1952](#)

[Entry Addition - Tony Atkin, FAIA - 1992](#)

[Chase Center Addition - Rafael Moneo, Hon. FAIA - 2008](#)

[Photos -](#)







# WaterFire

*Providence, Rhode Island*

WaterFire Providence® is an independent, non-profit arts organization.

WaterFire's over eighty sparkling bonfires, the fragrant scent of aromatic wood smoke, the flickering firelight on the arched bridges, the silhouettes of the firetenders passing by the flames, the torch-lit vessels traveling down the river, and the enchanting music from around the world engage all the senses and emotions of those who stroll the paths of Waterplace Park.

Barnaby Evans created First Fire in 1994 as a commission to celebrate the tenth anniversary of First Night Providence. In 1997, WaterFire Providence expanded to 42 braziers. In response to growing attendance, WaterFire has expanded to 100 braziers with more than thirty sponsors helping host 24 lightings annually from April to December.

Hundreds of volunteers devote thousands of hours and join with the fulltime staff to create WaterFire Providence for your enjoyment. The power of WaterFire to attract millions of visitors is eloquent testimony to the importance of public art and its capacity to restore our urban and social landscape.

['First Fire' -1994](#)

[WaterFire Providence - 1997](#)

[Barnaby Evans](#)

[Photos - Barnaby Evans](#)





Right: Before river and track relocation  
Inside front cover: After river and track relocation





THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS

Committee on Design