2011 Livable City Design Awards

JURY REPORT

OCTOBER 26, 2011
Congratulations from City Council

On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, I am pleased to congratulate the winners of the City of Kingston’s 2011 Livable City Design Awards.

The awards program this year attracted 40 nominations in total, which represented a wide range of building types and landscaping projects located throughout the City. It is particularly encouraging to see the number of projects that incorporate a variety of sustainable building technologies and design principles.

The 2011 Livable City Design Awards celebrates the achievements of many dedicated and talented professionals. These professionals contribute to the innovative design practices that have inspired a diverse approach to development in our city. Their continuing dedication to exceptional design and construction is what helps make Kingston a vibrant place to live, work, play, study, and visit.

Good design is important to the ongoing success of our city. The Livable City Design Awards acknowledge and promote design excellence, and in turn, elevate public awareness of the vital role that design plays in city-building.

I would also like to recognize the contributions made by the jury members to this award program. The jury members took on a very difficult task of making their selection from the many outstanding submissions, and I thank them for offering their time and expertise to the decision-making process.

Once again, congratulations to our winners and everyone who submitted designs for consideration in this year’s competition.

Sincerely,

Mark Gerretsen
Mayor
Acknowledgements

Thank you to the various City staff and community members who participated in this event, not limited to the following:

Planning and Development Department

St. Lawrence Valley Society of Architects

Kingston Frontenac Public Library

PrintFusion Inc.

3D Trophies & Engraving

Cody Party Rentals
In celebration of Kingston’s unique character and long tradition of architectural excellence, the City of Kingston is pleased to present the 2011 Livable City Design Awards program. This program recognizes and promotes excellence in design, publicizes the City’s desire for design leadership by example, and assists in improving the overall image of the City.

**AWARDS**

**Award of Excellence**
This award is presented to projects that exemplify, as much as possible, the evaluation criteria and the City’s design objectives and principles.

**Award of Merit**
This award is presented to projects that demonstrate excellence in one or more of the evaluation criteria and are in keeping with the City’s design objectives and principles.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

This year, a total of 40 projects were nominated. These projects were completed from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2010. Each project was assessed according to the following criteria:

- **Significance: City Wide Scale** – Contribution to the City’s design objectives as related to the City’s image, visual identity, vistas, skyline, and streetscapes;

- **Significance: Community Scale** – Contribution to the quality of the environment within a community, the demonstration of regard for the context of the locale, and enhancing a sense of place and personal safety or reinforcing a unique history;

- **Innovation** – The degree of creative response to project requirements and site constraints, and the ability to influence trends;

- **Context** – The relationship or blending of built form and spaces with existing and planned development, and respect for, or enhancement of, the area’s character;

- **Execution** – The quality of construction materials, and the interpretation of the design into reality;

- **Green Design** – Demonstrates an integrated approach to design that supports environmental and sustainable site and building practices; and,

- **Accessibility** – Displays a high standard of Universal Design principles as set out in the City of Kingston Official Plan.
In addition to the general criteria listed above, the following are criteria specific to heritage conservation projects:

The Jury

**Ajay Agarwal**  
B.Arch., M.Tech., M.Pl., Ph.D.

Ajay Agarwal teaches Physical Planning, Community Design, Healthy Communities, and Employment Analysis at the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Queen’s University. Ajay earned his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles where he also taught Urban and Regional Economics, and The Urban Context of Planning. Ajay was born and raised in India where he practiced as a consulting architect for several years before commencing his graduate studies in the United States.

Ajay's primary research interest lies in exploring the determinants of urban spatial structure. Presently he is investigating the role played by public transit investments in changing urban structure.

**Colin Berman**  
B.Arch. Sci., OALA, CSLA

Colin Berman is a licensed Landscape Architect and holds a Bachelor of Architectural Science degree from Ryerson University in Toronto. He is a full member of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, the Manitoba Association of Landscape Architects, and the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects. Colin has considerable experience in a wide range of landscape architectural, urban design and master planning projects throughout Canada and the Middle East.

Colin’s past project experience varies widely in its scope, complexity and budget and includes projects such as municipal and federal parks, institutional, commercial and multi-unit residential landscapes, installation designs, high-end residential gardens, and LEED certified projects that utilize cutting edge sustainable technologies in the landscape.

Some of Colin’s recent projects include Prince Arthur’s Landing Waterfront Master Plan Implementation in Thunder Bay, Cambridge Main Street Urban Design Guidelines, the Carl Hall Road Streetscape at Parc Downsview Park, Aird Street Streetscape Design at the University of Saskatchewan, The School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo, and Helen M. Kippax Garden at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton.

**Jessica Hawes**  
OAA, BES, MArch, MRAIC, RPP, MCIP, LEED AP

Jessica Hawes, an Associate at Brook McIlroy, is an Architect and Urban Designer specializing in the sustainable planning and design of buildings and cities. She has received both a Bachelor of Environmental Studies and a Master in Architecture from the University of Waterloo and is a LEED Accredited Professional.

Jessica has been responsible for the coordination and design of multiple planning and architecture projects, including sustainable community master plans, development studies, urban design guidelines, secondary plans and strategic growth studies. Recently her work has focused on the Kingston Residential Intensification and New Community Design Guidelines, the Williamsville Main Street Study for Kingston, the Downsview Secondary Plan, and the design and construction of Prince Arthur’s Landing in Thunder Bay.

Prior to working at Brook McIlroy, Jessica worked internationally in the United Kingdom, Southern Africa and the United States on such projects as the design and construction of theatres, condominiums, retail centres,
and office/commercial spaces, as well as the development and implementation of long-term strategic plans, growth strategies, and urban design guidelines.

**André Scheinman**

André Scheinman has, for over thirty years, specialized in the planning for, and preservation of historic sites, structures and cultural landscapes. André is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Preservation Consultants (now CAHP), and is a thirty year member of both the Association for Preservation Technology (APT) and the International Committee on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). He was honoured by ICOMOS in 1998 for his contribution to international conservation in reference to his involvement with the international delegation (1988) to the then Soviet Union toward the conservation of the World Heritage Site at Kisi.

Prior to establishing his own firm, André was a consultant to the Ontario Heritage Foundation (OHF), responsible for architectural/historical/technical research, condition assessments and developing construction documents for the restoration of significant OHF properties. He was also a consultant to the (then) Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, responsible for the development, implementation and technical support of the Building Rehabilitation and Improvement Campaign (BRIC) grant programs to assist the owners of designated heritage buildings. André also worked as the manager of heritage preservation projects for Quadrangle Architects in Toronto, with prime responsibility for such projects as the Fort York Architecture and Engineering Study and the restoration of the Queen’s Wharf Lighthouse.

Since establishing *André Scheinman Heritage Preservation Consultant* in Kingston (1988), André has undertaken a wide variety of heritage projects for both private and public sector clients, including many national historic sites (NHS). Recent and/or current projects include the Queen’s University Performing Arts Centre, the Old Sydenham Ward Heritage Conservation District Study, and the Town of Caledon Cultural Heritage Landscape Inventory.

**Jury Statement – 2011 Livable City Design Awards**

The Livable City Design Awards program is important for Kingston as it highlights the excellent design achievement occurring within the City. The range of submissions this year was impressive and the variety in solutions, scale, context, process and methodology was inspiring. A clear theme evident in this year’s submissions is the adoption of sustainable or ‘green’ design technologies. Several projects achieved a measure of excellence in this regard and many submissions demonstrated that sustainability was a key factor in the design process. Another theme always worthy of note in Kingston is a deep respect for heritage character. All of the submissions established that the restoration and reinforcement of heritage elements was of paramount importance. Overall, the high quality of the submissions, clearly demonstrate that Kingston is, in fact, a Livable City.
2011 Nominations

- 270-274 Princess Street
- Frontenac County Court House – Dome Restoration, 21 Court Street
- Phoebe Exhibit Timber Framed Shelter – Pump House Steam Museum, 23 Ontario Street
- Block ‘D’ Development, 85 and 135 Ontario Street, 3 and 5 Gore Street, 7 Earl Street
- Renaissance Event Venue, 285 Queen Street
- Kingston Police Headquarters, 705 Division Street
- Pittsburgh Inn, 236 James Street, Barriefield
- Princess Street Reconstruction – Phase 1, Foot of Princess Street to Kingston Street East, and King Street East from Princess Street to Brock Street
- Battery Park, 3 Gore Street
- Calvin Park Library, 88 Wright Crescent
- Norterra Organics, 2069 Joyceville Road
- 76 Mowat Avenue
- The Grand Theatre, 218 Princess Street
- INVISTA Centre, 1350 Gardiners Road Empire Life Building,
- 261-263 King Street East
- Springer Market Square, 216 Ontario Street
- Prince George Hotel, 200 Ontario Street
- K-Rock Centre, 1 Barrack Street
- Norman Rogers Airport Passenger Terminal, 1114 Len Birchall Way
- Mackenzie Building, Lower Level, Royal Military College of Canada
- Kingston Dry Dock, 55 Ontario Street
- K&P Trail
- Harvesting House, 1422 Crossfield Avenue
- James R. Henderson Public School – Yard Vision Project, 361 Roosevelt Drive
- Barriefield Car Wash, 752 Highway 15
- 20 Maitland Street
- University Avenue Reconstruction, Union Street to Stuart Street
- Tindall Field, Queen’s University, 142 Union Street
- Wellington Street Stables, 300-306 Wellington Street
- City Park Splash Pad, 33 Bagot Street
- Shannon Park Splash Pad, 199 Wilson Street
- Ronald Lavallee Park Splash Pad, 53 Fourth Avenue
- Stone Cottage Restoration, 44 Earl Street
- Sydenham District Tree Planting Program – King Street Project
- La Salle Causeway Bascule Bridge, 386 Ontario Street
- Stonecrest Apartments, 810 Blackburn Mews
- Utilities Kingston Water Conservation Garden, 1211 John Counter Blvd.
- Botterell Hall, Queen’s University, 18 Stuart Street
- Queen’s Centre, Queen’s University, 284 Earl Street, 28 Division Street and 71 Union Street
- Richardson Hall, Queen’s University, 74 University Avenue
Princess Street Reconstruction – Phase 1

The foot of Princess Street to King Street East, and King Street East from Princess Street to Brock Street

Designers: Corush Sunderland Wright Limited and the City of Kingston

Client: City of Kingston

Project Description

In 2010, the City began remaking the history of Princess Street by reconstructing it from Lake Ontario to King Street East, as well as the portion of King Street East from Brock Street to Princess Street. The existing infrastructure under this part of the City is as old as Kingston itself — some of it dating back more than 200 years.

The project included the reconstruction of underground utilities and surface features. The project was undertaken due to the aging infrastructure on Princess Street and also due to the continued build out of the features described in the Downtown Action Plan to enhance the historical downtown area of Kingston.

Jury’s Comments

The first phase of this project has set the bar high in terms of the redevelopment of Downtown Kingston’s main street. The quality of the design of this first phase is something that will benefit the City in the future with the additional phases of the project to come. The use of high quality materials is appropriate for the heritage character of the area, and their durability is a sustainable, long-term choice. It is evident that the design was intended to make the pedestrian the focus of the space, and the wide sidewalks and the quality of the plantings along the street adds to the pedestrian amenity of the area.
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Battery Park
3 Gore Street

Designers: Scott Wentworth Landscape Group Ltd.
Clients: Gillin Engineering and Construction Ltd., Homestead Land Holdings Ltd. and the City of Kingston

Project Description
Battery Park borders the waterfront and provides visual corridors and pedestrian access from William, Earl and Gore Streets. It is one of the few urban areas in Kingston where residents can easily interact with the waterfront and take in a wide panorama of Lake Ontario, including a broad vista of Fort Henry and the Royal Military College grounds. Battery Park offers exceptional passive recreational facilities, with a natural stone sitting wall skirting the generous waterfront walkway, many sitting areas, and new plantings. The central courtyard, configured as a 38 metre wide detailed compass rose, provides a public event venue, with seating along its sloping lawn facing the water. Open lawn areas offer vital space for unstructured play.

Jury’s Comments
Battery Park is a very user-friendly and fully accessible waterfront space. The re-use of this former industrial site is a successful example of a public-private partnership that achieves all of the requirements of the design awards program. It is important that this critical piece of waterfront property has been developed as a significant public space rather than simply a pathway. Retaining some of the mature trees on the property adds to the amenity of the area, and the compass motif developed in the paving is a distinctive feature of the site and appropriate to the location.
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Calvin Park Library
88 Wright Crescent

Designer: Shoalts and Zaback Architects Ltd.
Client: City of Kingston

Project Description
The new Calvin Park Branch Library is a community library with a focus on general recreational reading and children’s services. The building was designed to be a warm inviting “people place”. The design, in part, drew its inspiration from the Crystal Palace which once stood at the site. Public consultation led to several design features including an outdoor courtyard, connections to the transit terminal, and the neighbourhood footpath system.

The new Calvin Park Branch is an attractive, efficient, functional, flexible, barrier-free, public space that acts as a community commons and reflects a patron-first focus using modern merchandising techniques. The functional capacity of the building, combined with the environmentally sustainable design features, has also led to the project being certified as a LEED Gold building. With good marketing and excellent service, the new branch is fast becoming a centre for information and recreation and a source of civic pride.

Jury’s Comments
The Calvin Park Library is an excellent architectural design executed with thoughtful detailing and quality craftsmanship. The elevations are well done and address all sides, which can be a challenge, particularly with two parallel street frontages. The building blends well with its surroundings, and is an elegant and understated addition to the neighbourhood, giving it community significance. The entire building is accessible and the interior organization and light in the space deserve special recognition.
Springs Market Square

216 Ontario Street

Designers: Hughes Downey Architects, in association with Brad Johnson + Associates Ltd.

Client: City of Kingston

Project Description
The market square behind City Hall has been operating as a public market for more than a century. In the early 2000s, discussions were had that planned for a major revamp of the square. As this is part of a Heritage Conservation District, all planning and design had to be very aware of the restrictions and the need to preserve the historic aspects of the square.

The design includes a complete upgrade to all below grade services, a complete resurfacing of the square, an ice rink, a fountain, an amphitheatre, plantings, all new lighting, and services to support special performances and events such as the Limestone City Blues Festival. All steps of the planning process for public spaces were followed and a final design was reached. As construction began, several delays were encountered as there were various archaeological challenges, but each challenge was met and the completion of the new Market Square was achieved.

Jury’s Comments
The redeveloped Springer Market Square exemplifies the ideal public space and community focus. The design and simplicity of the space has resulted in a multi-use site that allows seasonal events of interest and encourages community assembly. The use of high quality materials in the construction are to be applauded for their durability, making them a long-term sustainable choice. The heritage of the area has also been respected, and the Square includes excellent interpretive features regarding its history. Of all of the nominations, this project best exemplifies the criterion of City-wide significance.
Utilities Kingston Water Conservation Garden

1211 John Counter Boulevard

**Designer:** Anne Maxwell, Garden Innovations

**Client:** Utilities Kingston

**Project Description**
With the City of Kingston pledging to become one of Canada’s most sustainable communities, the Utilities Kingston Water Conservation Garden was constructed to demonstrate how to address water and sewer system challenges while encouraging sustainable garden practices. By demonstrating beautiful, low maintenance native species and low water use gardening options, Utilities Kingston hopes to increase awareness and uptake of alternatives to traditional lawn and garden practices that can compromise both the natural environment and the City’s infrastructure. The John Counter Boulevard location was chosen because it is publicly accessible and has a varied environment located next to a road and watercourse.

**Jury’s Comments**
The creation of this water conservation garden has resulted in the best looking piece of property on John Counter Blvd. The garden recovered what was previously marginal space and is an oasis in an otherwise industrial area of the City. There is a diversity of plant life included in the garden, and it is also an important educational space. The signage for the garden has been designed and executed well, and includes thoughtful and useful information. The signs are appropriately scaled to the space, and the detailed labelling of the plants is a very nice addition. It is important that the public know about the alternatives to traditional lawns and the natural means of storm water management; therefore, continued advertising and promotion of the space is encouraged.
AWARD OF MERIT
FOR CONTEXT, INNOVATION & HERITAGE CONSERVATION

270-274 Princess Street

Designer: Colbourne and Kembel, Architects Inc.
Client: Shirmor Properties Ltd.

Project Description
In the past, this building has been home to many businesses. With the changing retail landscape, the second floor retail became extinct, and it became necessary for the landlord to re-purpose the 3,300 sq. ft. second floor for residential use.

A real effort was made to bring back as many original internal surfaces as possible. Items such as exposing brick walls, sandblasting wood rafters, and restoring the original wood floors, all added to the ambiance of each newly created residential unit. The external brick walls were able to be left exposed internally by insulating and installing siding to the rear exterior walls of the building, which then allowed for a full view of the original brick and stone walls from floor to ceiling.

Jury’s Comments
This is an excellent example of the re-use of upper storeys in a downtown setting to create a mixed-use development. The project included the innovative reconfiguring of the entrances for the various buildings and units, and the maintenance and restoration of important heritage features, such as the arched windows. The development is context appropriate, having a good relationship with surrounding buildings and blending well with the neighbourhood. This project sets a precedent for other developments about appropriate intensification and the need for intensification in city centres.
Frontenac County Court House – Dome Restoration

21 Court Street

Designers: McCormick Rankin Corporation and André Scheinman
Client: City of Kingston

Project Description
The City of Kingston, as the owner of the Frontenac County Court House, is responsible for this significant heritage building in the City of Kingston. The dome project addressed several concerns related to the condition and long term preservation of the cupola, lantern, dome, drum and pedestal, and centre block structure.

The project was undertaken to prevent further deterioration of the structure and to preserve the integrity of the building. The design intent and details of the project were geared specifically as a conservation/restoration project, with the key being careful research to understand the historic detailing and evolution of the building.

Jury’s Comments
The dome atop the Frontenac County Court House is an excellent example of the execution of a full heritage restoration project. The dome has been restored sympathetically, including uncovering and restoring earlier details. The work on the dome has both community and City-wide significance given the prominent position of the structure in the community, and the restoration has not altered the visual impact that the Court House has on the surrounding landscape.
Renaissance Event Venue

285 Queen Street

Designer: Alexander Wilson Architect Inc.
Client: Paul Fortier, Jessup Food & Heritage

Project Description
While having served a vital role in the spiritual and social lives of Kingstonians since 1837, the church at 285 Queen Street was in danger in the 2000s. The Scottish Rites Society who owned the property since the 1960’s was no longer able to maintain the structure. Attempts to sell the property were unsuccessful. The designated heritage building remained on the market for almost four years as many acquisition attempts had fallen through. Jessup Food & Heritage saw an opportunity to develop the property to revitalize its use and to breathe new life into a city landmark. Once acquired from the Scottish Rites Society, Jessup worked with City planners and the Kingston Municipal Heritage Committee (LACAC) to develop an approved plan that would transform the property into the City’s premier event venue. Mixing heritage with hospitality is what Jessup has done since 1990. This is how “Renaissance” was born.

Jury’s Comments
This project involves the innovative and adaptive re-use of an important community building. The jury applauds the effort to restore the structure – thereby saving a smaller, modest-sized church – when so many others would have demolished the building instead. The modern addition to the building has been tastefully added in such a way that the original structure and facade remains the prominent feature on the site.
Kingston Police Headquarters

705 Division Street

Designers: Rebanks Pepper Littlewood + Shoalts and Zaback, Architects in Joint Venture

Client: City of Kingston

Project Description
The new police building was constructed on Division Street and was designed to represent the importance of policing in the quality of life in the City. It was also designed to be an open, inviting building with community facilities accessible from the main lobby. The new building is also an exemplary model for the responsible stewardship of the environment.

The Kingston Police Headquarters is a new 212,000 sq. ft. development for the amalgamated City. The three-level facility is a combination of open office areas, private offices, special function areas, and provides a workplace for 240 people. All workstations have access to natural light and views, and the flexible design allows for future organizational change to be easily managed with minimal disruption to ongoing operations.

Jury’s Comments
The design of the new Kingston Police Headquarters is notable for the high level of green design and sustainability that has been achieved. The features of the development, along with achieving LEED Gold certification for the new institutional building, has made it worthy of being named “the greenest police station in Canada”.

AWARD OF MERIT
FOR GREEN DESIGN
Pittsburgh Inn

236 James Street, Barriefield

Designer: Brian Miller of Stone and Pine

Client: Heidi Bergeron

Project Description
The former Pittsburgh Inn, located at 236 James Street, in Barriefield Village, was originally built as a tavern and was operated by James Medley in the early 1840’s. It is located on the north-west corner of James and Main Streets.

The structure had fallen into disrepair and was a two-unit apartment dwelling when purchased in 2006. The plan was to change the structure into a single-family residence, which would retain the original exterior, and to enhance the heritage timber frame and stone interior. This included exposing the limestone on the interior walls, as well as the pole rafters and original roof sheathing and structure.

Jury’s Comments
This was a carefully executed heritage conservation project with great attention given to the details. The addition to the building is subtle, allowing the original building to shine. The project has community significance because of the prominent location of the building in Barriefield Village.
**AWARD OF MERIT**

**FOR CONTEXT & HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

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**Prince George Hotel**

**200 Ontario Street**

**Designer:** Hughes Downey Architects  
**Client:** Kingston Terminal Properties

**Project Description**

The property is recognized for its architectural and heritage value. It is a pre-1850 group of limestone buildings, which were integrated into a unified façade in 1892. The oldest portion was built between 1817 and 1820. One of the buildings is a good example of the work of Kingston architect William Coverdale.

In recent history, the building housed a commercial restaurant and bar on the main level and hotel rooms above. There was a major renovation in the 1970's assisted by government funding, which restored the front porch and tower. In 2003, there was a fire that destroyed the upper floors of the building. This prompted the owner to review how the structure should be restored and redeveloped, and the 26 hotel units on the upper levels were turned into 13 apartments.

**Jury’s Comments**

This is an excellent example of the re-use of upper storeys in a downtown setting to create a mixed-use development that promotes intensification and encourages the creation of residential units in the downtown. The renovation and re-use of the building included the maintenance and restoration of important heritage features, and is appropriate given the context of the building in the surrounding downtown core.
AWARD OF MERIT
FOR CONTEXT, ACCESSIBILITY & COMMUNITY SIGNIFICANCE

University Avenue Reconstruction

Union Street to Stuart Street

Designer: du Toit Allsopp Hillier

Clients: Queen’s University and the City of Kingston

Project Description
Located in the heart of the City of Kingston at Queen’s University, University Avenue has long been a defining feature of the campus. University Avenue was planned in a grand manner as a ceremonial street and central spine of the campus.

One of the key features of the street was its dual role as both campus core and city street. Although University Avenue is embedded within the fabric of the campus, it is a municipal street that is operated, maintained and governed by the City of Kingston. While heavily used by Queen’s students, staff and faculty, it remains a public thoroughfare available for general use by vehicles and pedestrians.

The streetscape improvement project was designed and constructed to achieve a safer, accessible, flexible street and a greener campus that is both durable and long lasting.

Jury’s Comments
The reconstruction of this section of University Avenue has been well-designed and nicely executed, and the redevelopment of the streetscape fits with the surrounding university context. The project has community significance due to its prominence as an active and useable pedestrian space, and the language of the road bed invites increased pedestrian activity. Certain aspects, such as imbedding cobbles in the road bed instead of the sidewalk, are notable for being very accessible design features.
La Salle Causeway Bascule Bridge

386 Ontario Street

**Designer:** McCormick Rankin Corporation

**Client:** Public Works & Government Services Canada

**Project Description**

The La Salle Causeway was constructed between 1916 and 1918 and is a vital link across the Great Cataraqui River within the City of Kingston.

PWGSC undertook the major renovations and coating of the bridge to correct deterioration and protect the structure for years to come. Corrosion, pack rust and loss of section (rusted and missing steel) threatened the capacity and the ability to lift the structure. Good stewardship and preservation of this bridge with heritage value required a careful and respectful rehabilitation of the structure.

The main driving force in the design of the project was to increase the durability of the structure and to maintain and upgrade the strength of the bridge.

**Jury’s Comments**

The La Salle Causeway Bascule Bridge is a prominent feature on the Kingston waterfront, which illustrates its City-wide visual character and importance. The technical aspects of restoring the structure were very well done, both with respect to heritage conservation and safety. The jury particularly commends the level of detail used in executing the project. The restoration of the bridge enhances the sense of place and the skyline along the waterfront.
Richardson Hall Renovation

74 University Avenue

Designer: Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects
Clients: Queen’s University

Project Description
Richardson Hall was the first building to be constructed on this block, which is located on the west side of University Avenue and has a setback consistent with those buildings on the opposite side of the street. The building is linked to Mackintosh-Corry Hall on its upper floor and its west façade forms part of a pleasant quadrangle that was recently landscaped.

The Richardson Hall renovation was completed in December 2008 and was carefully planned to present a positive and welcoming image. The re-design of the offices and public areas allows the building to serve very important public functions, faculty, students, staff and visitors, and responds sensitively to building context and campus character.

Entrances to the building were made more inviting, easy to recognize, and accessible. The walkway to the main entrance incorporated barrier-free access in an integrated way.

Jury’s Comments
The renovation of Richardson Hall has successfully achieved the re-design of a heritage building to accommodate accessible features. The interior renovation was thoughtfully executed and is particularly note-worthy for the use of quality materials on what is an important public building for the University.
Calvin Park Library

88 Wright Crescent

Designer: Shoalts and Zaback Architects Ltd.
Client: City of Kingston