

New England HOME CT

Plein Air

BREEZY & INVITING



The 2021 AIA Connecticut **ALICE WASHBURN WINNERS**



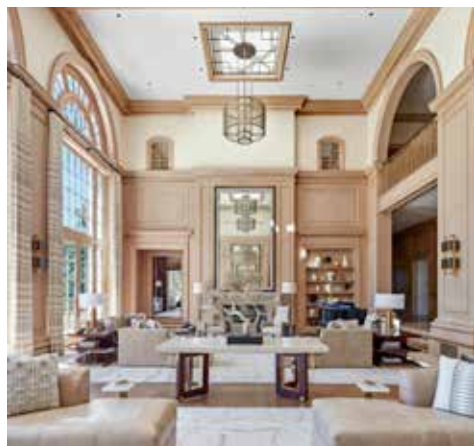
EXCELLENCE: NEW CONSTRUCTION
LAKESIDE GEORGIAN ESTATE

Alice Washburn was a trailblazer in her time. With no formal training, the twentieth-century residential architect and builder left a lasting legacy. The Connecticut Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Connecticut) Alice Washburn Awards honor her contributions to the craft by

celebrating traditional house designs that have been thoughtfully adapted to address contemporary needs. Winners are chosen in three categories: accessory buildings, additions/renovations, and new construction. Here's a look at the 2021 award-winning architects and their exceptional work.



The 2021 AIA Connecticut ALICE WASHBURN WINNERS



EXCELLENCE: NEW CONSTRUCTION



Lakeside Georgian Estate

Architecture: Charles Hilton Architects | Photography: Robert Benson

Grand and gracious, this Georgian estate borrows inspiration from the eighteenth-century British Belton House and David Adler's 1928 Crane Estate in Ipswich, Massachusetts, but Charles Hilton Architects has gloriously put its own stamp on the style, reimagining the estate for contemporary living. Comprising a main house, a tennis pavilion/guest house, a lakeside pavilion, and a poolside pergola, it's nearly impossible to choose a favorite space, but the magnificent living room—with its luxe hotel lobby aesthetic—is certainly a stately contender.



COMMENDATION FOR RESTORATION: ADDITIONS/RENOVATIONS

Sun Tavern

Architecture: David Scott Parker Architects

Photography: Durston Saylor Photography and David Scott Parker Architects

Fairfield's Sun Tavern once hosted the Founding Fathers, and today, thanks to a meticulous restoration by David Scott Parker Architects, the public can visit the landmark building, now a living-history museum. It was no small feat: the architects dealt with shaky foundations, lead paint, leaking roofs, and additions that didn't belong, but the painstakingly rehabbed 1780 structure—a feather in Fairfield's cap—once again stands tall on the Town Green.



MERIT: ADDITIONS/RENOVATIONS

Treetop

Architecture: Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects

Photography: Robert Benson

The sweet summer house built by the current owner's grandparents was rife with happy memories—and character. Hired to make it suitable for year-round living, Albert, Righter & Tittmann Architects gutted and insulated the cottage and tweaked the floor plan, while paying homage to the past by reusing the wood trim, doors, and hardware. A new kitchen and bathrooms, as well as a separate garage/studio, seamlessly retain the circa-1920s cottage's proud sense of place.



EXCELLENCE: ACCESSORY BUILDINGS



Teak Pool Pergola

Architecture: Charles Hilton Architects

Photography: Robert Benson

The aim of this handsome teak accessory building was threefold: it is at once a pool pavilion, a stylistic complement to the Georgian revival main house, and a garden folly. Charles Hilton Architects achieved all this and more with a design that celebrates traditional craftsmanship but embraces modern conveniences. The complexity of the design and the exacting construction cannot be understated—from the columns, lattice, and brackets to the soft curve in the rafters, this bathing beauty's allure is in the details.

Classic Georgian Restoration

Architecture:

Douglas VanderHorn Architects

Photography: Robert Benson

Largely untouched for more than a century, this Georgian estate was ripe for a renovation. From the exterior (repointing brickwork, restoring iron balconies, and reopening the sleeping porches) to the interior (rejiggering the floor plan from ten to seven bedrooms, incorporating a new eat-in kitchen and family room, and updating the bathrooms), Douglas VanderHorn Architects did a masterful job all while preserving the 1915 home's magnificent original character.



Victorian Cottage & Barn

Architecture: David Scott Parker Architects

Photography: Durston Saylor Photography and David Scott Parker Architects

Built in 1888, the Carpenter Gothic-style barn and cottage, now managed by the Fairfield Museum and History Center, had fallen into deep disrepair. A well-timed grant saved the day, enabling David Scott Parker Architects to restore the modest structures—even matching their original red-and-green paint colors—and preserve a piece of history. Today they are home to a hands-on children's exhibit and a display of agrarian artifacts. An architectural victory, of course, but also a big win for the community.