

## **ANNEX C: THE AHA SCHEME**

### **THE AWARDS**

The URA AHA were introduced in 1995 to accord recognition to monuments and buildings with preservation and conservation status in Singapore which are judged to have been well-restored. In so doing, it is intended that the awards, which are given out annually, will:

- 1 Serve as an incentive to owners, professionals and contractors to pay particular attention to quality restoration; and
- 2 Provide a way through which competition for quality restoration may be enhanced.

The Awards are differentiated into three categories:

#### **Award for Restoration**

This is for projects which demonstrate exemplary restoration of gazetted heritage buildings and they stand out for adherence to the three 'R' principles of maximum retention, sensitive restoration and careful repair, as well as the 'top-down' approach.

#### **Award for Restoration and Innovation**

This is for integrated 'old' and 'new' developments which demonstrate exemplary restoration of gazetted heritage buildings, innovation and architectural excellence of the new developments and how the 'new' draws inspiration from and enhance the 'old'.

#### **Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts**

This is for outstanding new architecture and design projects within a gazetted conservation site or area that is well-integrated with its historic context; and which serves to enrich, and enhance the appreciation of its heritage setting.

#### **Special Mention**

Since 2016, the 'Special Mention' has been formalised. At the discretion of the Assessment Committee, a project may be given 'Special Mention' for commendable efforts in certain aspect of the restoration work. A certificate will be given in recognition of this effort.

### **WHO QUALIFIES**

The URA Architectural Heritage Awards 2018 were opened to owners of gazetted National Monuments and conserved buildings completed and/or scheduled to be completed with Temporary Occupation Permit (TOP) obtained by the date of submission.

The Awards are conferred on the building Owner, Architect, Engineer (C&S), Principal Contractor and Conservation Specialist (if applicable) for the project

### **THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

The Awards are judged by a 12-member Assessment Committee appointed by the Authority. The Assessment Committee, chaired by URA Chairman, comprises senior representatives from government agencies, professional institutions and academia.

The members are:

1	Mr Peter Ho (Assessment Committee Chairman)	Chairman, URA Senior Advisor, Centre for Strategic Futures Senior Fellow, Civil Service College
2	Ms Hwang Yu-Ning	Deputy Chief Executive Officer & Chief Planner, URA
3	Professor Laurence Loh	Executive Director, Arkitek LLA Sdn Bhd (Malaysia)
4	Mr Michael Ma	Executive Director, Urban Renewal Authority (Hong Kong)
5	Professor Brenda Yeoh	Director, Humanities & Social Science Research, Office of Deputy President (Research & Technology), National University of Singapore
6	Ms Angelene Chan	Chief Executive Officer, DP Architects Pte Ltd
7	Professor Ho Puay Peng	Head, Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore
8	Dr Yeo Kang Shua	Assistant Professor, Architecture and Sustainable Design, Singapore University of Technology and Design
9	Dr Tan Guan	Senior Principal, Director of Building Structures, T. Y. Lin International Pte Ltd
10	Mr Tan Kay Ngee	Principal Architect, Kay Ngee Tan Architects
11	Mr Ignatius Low	Chief Marketing Officer, Singapore Press Holdings Ltd
12	Mr Yeo Kirk Siang	Director, Heritage Research and Assessment, National Heritage Board

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

### **For 'Award for Restoration' and 'Award for Restoration and Innovation' Categories**

#### **a. Research & Design Approach**

- i. Evidence documented to show research carried out on the social history, building typology, architecture, structure, building techniques, materials and existing condition of the building.
- ii. Design approach respects and enhances the inherent historic, physical, spatial and environmental qualities such as natural lighting and ventilation, open-to-sky courtyard etc.

**b. Restoration Process**

- i. Adhered to the "3R" principle of maximum Retention, sensitive Restoration and careful Repair.
- ii. Applied "Top-Down" approach, i.e. works should start from the roof and then work downwards to ensure structural integrity and to minimise weather damage.
- iii. Used protective measures to maintain structural integrity of important elements of the buildings.
- iv. Kept to original materials, appropriate paints, colour schemes and finishes.

**c. Finished Product**

- i. Retains the inherent and essential qualities of the building.
- ii. Sensitively and innovatively adapted to current use, including barrier-free accessibility provisions.
- iii. Incorporates interpretive elements to present the history of the site and tell the story of the building.
- iv. Contributes to the surrounding environment and as a transformative effect on the neighbourhood.
- v. Serves as a good reference for future projects in terms of its features, ideas and methods used.

**d. Integration of 'New' and 'Old' (Additional Criteria for Award for Restoration & Innovation)**

- i. Design intention clearly defines and demonstrates the integration of the "new" with the "old" and how they enhance each other's character and qualities.
- ii. Design, material, construction detailing and ambience of the "new" should draw inspiration from the "old".
- iii. Finished product should be an outstanding example in terms of conservation, innovation and architectural excellence.

**For 'Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts'**

**a. Research & Design Approach**

- i. Evidence documented to show research carried out on the social history, building typology, architecture, structure, building techniques, materials of its surrounding heritage buildings;
- ii. Design approach respects and enhances the inherent historic, physical, spatial and environmental qualities of the heritage context;
- iii. Design, material, construction detailing and ambience of the "new" should draw inspiration from the "old".

**b. Finished Product**

- i. Enhances the inherent and essential qualities of the heritage building/area.
- ii. Contributes to the surrounding environment and as a transformative effect on the neighbourhood.
- iii. Well integrated into the heritage context.
- iv. Building should be put into good use that is compatible and appropriate to the heritage area.
- v. Finished product should be an outstanding example in terms of innovation and architectural excellence.

The Awards Assessment Committee assessed the submitted projects based on all criteria and decides on the appropriate Awards category for the winning project.