

**URA ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AWARDS 2017
CITATIONS FOR THE 2 WINNING PROJECTS & 1 SPECIAL MENTION**

**‘A’ Queen Street, Cathedral of the Good Shepherd
2017 Award for Restoration**

As the oldest Catholic Church in Singapore, this 170-year-old national monument has been faithfully restored to its original dignity, through the concerted efforts and dedication of the community.

Informed by solid in-depth research into the building’s history, many of the Cathedral’s original architectural elements have been successfully reinstated and given a new lease of life. Among them are the chequerboard light and dark colour floor tiles, the multi-coloured stained glass, the unusual green glass louvered windows and the distinctive reverberant pipe organ. Through careful examination of the multiple layers of paint coating, the Cathedral adopted a lighter colour scheme that took reference from the original. The nearby Rectory also stands out as a restored building with the largest number of original intact encaustic floor tiles.

With a conservation specialist on board, best practices were adopted in the project to restore the inherent heritage value. Onsite excavation works and analysis of unearthed artefacts were also carried out under the guidance of an archaeologist to reveal the rich stories in the centuries-old site.

Beyond the physical restoration, the Cathedral reaches out to the general public to share about the heritage of the building and its surroundings, through its heritage gallery, onsite storyboards, publications and a docent programme.

With its grounds open to visitors from all faiths, this exemplary project has brought back the glow to the ‘Mother Church’ and firmly anchored its presence in the heart of our city.

**320 Havelock Road, The Warehouse Hotel
2017 Award for Restoration & Innovation**

The former oil mill along the Singapore River has undergone thoughtful restoration and is beautifully adapted into a boutique hotel. It manages to retain hints of its past that are masterfully balanced with new elements.

Careful research resulted in the uncovering and restoration of eroded elements, such as the plaster mouldings on the pediment and the Chinese characters on the façade that bore the name of the oil mill. Even the original vertical security bars of the original windows were repaired and kept, but with an innovative touch to the frames so that they double up as fire escape.

Also evident are efforts to connect with the site’s history through sensitive design interventions that enhanced the interiors and reminisced its past. New discreet

structural portal frames were inserted alongside the original roof trusses to meet new loading requirements while keeping the original double-volume spatial quality in the lobby. Jack roofs, a typical feature in warehouses, were retained and corrugated skylight panels were introduced to bring natural light into the interior.

Every room and space was carefully detailed to give a sense of nostalgia in the industrial heritage building. From the raw finishing of surfaces to the collapsible gates and pulleys, their design using solid metallic materials took cues from the building's industrial past. Commendable effort was taken to retell the industrial story in the hotel collaterals, website, and storyboards to enthrall in-house guests as well as visitors.

75 East Coast Road, The Red House 2017 Special Mention

Despite other commercial options available, the owners of the iconic red building made a deliberate decision to revive the social memory of a community landmark by bringing back its use as a local café. As a modern update of the old Katong Bakery, the current café has resurrected an important social space fondly remembered by many familiar with the Katong icon. The special effort by the owners to sustain the bakery's intangible cultural heritage as a way of 'giving back' to the community, is commendable.

The project also recaptures the site's social legacy of philanthropy as the *wakaf* property of Sheriffa Zain Alsharoff Bte Syed Mohamed Alsagoff. Through on-site storyboards, the legend of the Red House as a community landmark and an endowment property is kept alive for all to enjoy.