

Architect John Pearson and Andover Community Trust Receive Award for Affordable Home Design

Margulies Perruzzi Architects congratulates Pearson for design excellence



BOSTON, Mass. – May 26, 2009 – Margulies Perruzzi Architects (formerly Margulies & Associates), one of Boston’s most innovative architectural and interior design firms, is proud to announce that an affordable home designed by architect John Pearson, AIA, a senior associate of the firm and president of Andover Community Trust (ACT), has received an historic preservation award. The award was presented to ACT, a non-profit organization based in Andover, Mass.

Corresponding with National Preservation Week, the Andover Historical Society on May 19th presented Andover Community Trust with an historic preservation award for “contextual design and construction in an established neighborhood” for its fourth and most recent permanently affordable home at 94 Cheever Circle. John Pearson designed the home, and it was built by Kevin Smith of Smith Construction.

For the past 19 years, the Town of Andover’s Preservation Commission, the Andover Historical Society and the Ballardvale Historic District Commission have collaborated to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to preserving the historic and scenic character of the Andover community. Solicited nominations are evaluated using standards set by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Massachusetts Historic Commission.

A member of the Andover Community Trust board since 2002, John is currently serving his second term as president, overseeing all aspects of the organization including policy, planning, fundraising and promotion, and applying his architectural expertise in the design and construction of ACT homes. John designed the renovations to the River Road house, and designed and managed the new construction of the Heather Drive and Cheever Circle houses. In 2006, John was one of six people in Andover recognized by the Andover Rotary as a “Citizen Who Cares,” primarily for his involvement in Andover Community Trust.

“ACT’s mission is to add to the affordable housing supply, one home at a time, and maintain the economic diversity of the families in our community,” said Susan Stott, executive director of

Andover Community Trust. "We are honored to receive this award and recognize John's leadership and vision in making this home a reality for an Andover family."

Based on a strong belief that economic diversity is an important contributor to vital and livable communities, Andover Community Trust advocates for and develops permanently affordable homes in Andover. ACT builds modest, three-bedroom homes to meet the needs of eligible households whose income is between 60 and 80 percent of the area median income. Through generous contributions from individuals, banks, foundations and landowners, as well as donations of pro bono professional services from local attorneys, architects and civil engineers, ACT is able to develop and sell an affordable home for \$170,000 or less. ACT gives preference to households with school-age children and an Andover connection.

ACT's newest home at 94 Cheever Circle in Andover is a three bedroom, single family home offering 1,700 square feet of living space. Sitting on a 10,000 square foot lot close to the town center, the house was designed to blend into its aesthetically appealing neighborhood and features an overhanging roof, front porch and "arts & crafts" style. Establishing a new precedent for the organization, the acquisition of Cheever Circle is the first time ACT has purchased a lot for one of its homes. Its first three properties were donated by their owners. The home was completed in June 2008 and sold for \$161,200.

"We are proud of John's achievements with the Andover Community Trust, as well as his commitment to providing affordable housing in his own community of Andover," said Marc Margulies, AIA, principal of Margulies Perruzzi Architects. "This award duly recognizes John's design skill, expertise, and vision – qualities we see everyday while working with him."

About Margulies Perruzzi Architects

Now in its 20th year of operation, Margulies Perruzzi Architects is a Boston design firm providing architecture and interior design services to the corporate, professional services, healthcare, research and development, and real estate communities. Consistently ranked as one of Boston's top architectural and interior design firms, the firm's clients include Manulife/John Hancock, Nuvera Fuel Cells, Covidien, Partners Healthcare, Massachusetts General Hospital, Hobbs Brook Management and Forrester Research. For more information, please visit www.mp-architects.com.

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