

INTO/INTBAU Excellence Award: Citation for the National Trust for Historic Preservation



The National Trust has been involved with the revitalisation of American cities for decades, investing billions of dollars in historic areas.

All across the country, more Americans are being drawn to older and historic neighbourhoods to live and work. In 1999 the population of downtown LA was 18,000. In 2014 it was 50,000 with an astonishing 14,000 new housing units in older buildings. And the Trust promotes the reuse of historic buildings as the default option in American cities.

Using new research, data, tools, and strategies, their commitment to the reuse, reinvestment, and revitalization of cities—which they describe as ReUrbanism—seeks to transform both the perception and practice of preservation, responding to the issues cities face today.

ReUrbanism positions heritage conservation (or preservation as they say in the US) in the larger context of human needs. We all know it's an important element in liveable, vibrant, equitable, and creative communities. Preservation provides character and identity, contributes to sustainability and walkability, fosters a sound economy, and gives people the psychological and sociological sense of stability they need in an ever-changing world.

We congratulate the National Trust for Historic Preservation on their ReUrbanism work and - as it's their own conference in Houston today - I'd like to ask Peter Nasmyth of the newest National Trust (for Georgia) to accept this INTO/INTBAU Special Award on their behalf.

