



## Lucy G. Moses Preservation Awards

THE NEW YORK  
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# Park Avenue Armory, Board of Officers Room

643 Park Avenue, New York



The Board of Officers Room is the most recently restored interior within the National Historic Landmark Armory. The 1861 Armory was built by the National Guard's Seventh Regiment. Called the "Silk Stocking" regiment, it included prominent New York families such as the Vanderbilts, Van Rensselaers, Roosevelts, Livingstons and Harrimans. Built as both a military facility and a social club, the Armory's reception rooms were designed by well-known designers and artists, including Louis Comfort Tiffany, Stanford White, and the Herter Brothers.

After a long period of neglect and decay, the Park Avenue Armory Conservancy began to revitalize the building in 2006, securing and restoring the red-brick facade, and re-imagining the space as a cultural and performance venue. The Herter Brothers Board of Officers Room had suffered extensive water damage, with altered woodwork, inoperable doors and windows, and beautiful decoration obscured beneath layers of paint and unsympathetic repairs.

Now the rich colors and exquisite woodwork shimmer again, but the room does not replicate the original. Deferring to a history steeped in alterations, layers of change were carefully considered, and some retained. Delicate wall and ceiling finishes have subtle markers showing where original fabric meets rehabilitated elements, while later lighting fixtures have been refitted with new glass globes. Upgraded systems—lighting, acoustics, A.V. and theatrical installations—were carefully installed within the prized Aesthetic Movement interiors. The result is an intervention that balances the long-term preservation of the room and its vibrant reuse.

Park Avenue Armory  
*Rebecca Robertson*

AKF Group  
*Chris McHugh*

Akustiks, LLC  
*Paul Scarbrough*

Fisher Dachs and Associates  
*Peter Rosenbaum*

Fisher Marantz Stone  
*Paul Marantz*

Herzog & de Meuron  
*Ascan Mergenthaler*

JAM Consultants  
*Robert Anderson*

Platt Byard Dovell White Architects  
*Charles Platt*

Robert Silman Associates  
*Eytan Solomon*

Steven Winter Associates  
*Andy Zumwalt-Hathaway*

Battery Park City Authority  
*Gwen Dawson, Shari Hyman*

New York City  
Economic Development Corporation

ACS System Associates - *Ray Padron*

AKF - *Michael Sammut*

ASHNU International - *Nayan Parikh*

Building Conservation Associates, Inc.  
*Dean Koga*

Carter Ledyard - *Christine Fazio*

CH2M Hill - *Kirk Riden*

Crana Electric - *Jay McKel*

D'Onofrio General Contractors  
*Shea Thorvaldsen*

Design Constructs - *Doug McKean*

Robert Donohue

DSM Engineering Associates PC  
*James Armstrong*

Envar Services - *Sidney Johnson*

Enviroscience Consultants  
*Glen Neuschwander*

GB Geotechnics - *Alan White*

Genesys Engineering - *Steve Joern*

H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture  
*Camille Cazon, John Fontillas, James Sines, Iva Zoretic*

HDR - *Kevin Keane*

Jacobs Civil Consultants - *Toby Kizner*

KM Associates - *Joe Ganci*

KS Engineers P.C. - *Harry Baker*

Langan Engineering - *Timothy M. Lavin*

LiRo Program & Construction Management, P.C.  
*Chris Carter, Frank Franco, Jairo H. Maraj*

McLaren Engineering Group  
*William J. McCarthy III*

MFM Contracting Corporation - *Seth Cantor*

Olympic Plumbing & Heating Services - *Al Rocco*

Ove Arup & Partners - *Cliff McMillan*

Stalco Construction - *Joe Serpe*

Van Deusen & Associates - *Hesham Halim*

Viridian Energy & Environmental, LLC - *Geoff Hurst*

Weidlinger Associates, Inc.  
*Michael Astrella, Tod Rittenhouse*

William Vitacco Associates LTD - *Levi Reznicek*

WJE Engineers & Architects - *Matthew Haberling*

Wood Advisory Services  
*Albert Debonis*

## Pier A

Battery Park, New York



Pier A was a bastion of New York's bustling 19th century harbor that is now fit for 21st century uses. The former fireboat station was built in 1886 to serve the Department of Docks and Harbor Police. From the northern edge of historic Battery Park, overlooking the Hudson River, it provided a key vantage point to oversee development along shoreline and chaotic traffic in the harbor. Unoccupied since the departure of the FDNY Marine Division in 1970, Pier A became an eyesore that frustrated developers and residents, who saw the underutilized potential of this picturesque waterfront resource.

This comprehensive restoration has stabilized the building's internal structure, rehabilitated its exterior envelope, and installed all new systems. Historical elements, including wood stair railings, iron structural brackets, doors and door hardware, and ornamental metal sheeting were salvaged for re-use, as were materials left from a failed restoration campaign in the 1990s. Pier A's spaces have been modernized throughout with improved egress that allows for public assembly on all levels, respecting the original interior wall layouts. A new restaurant is expected to open in 2014.

The project has benefits beyond the building itself: it has created better pedestrian access to the water, established a sense of place connecting adjacent parkland, and maximized potential of the southern end of Battery Park City. The stunning result will return this charming building to active use, engaging New Yorkers and tourists along the Hudson shore.