



UNESCO
Asia-Pacific Awards for

*Cultural Heritage
Conservation*

With the support of

thinkCITY

2008 Award of Distinction
Fujian Earth Buildings,
Fujian Province, China

About the Awards

“It’s not a definition of
outstanding heritage,
it’s not an award for
the best heritage,
it’s an award for
the best conservation
practice.”

Tim Curtis

Chief of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Section
Former Chair of Jury Members

Throughout the Asia and the Pacific, cultural heritage sites are under threat.

Recognizing the crucial role of private individuals and institutions in protecting these vulnerable sites, UNESCO seeks to encourage private sector involvement and public-private collaboration in conserving the region’s cultural heritage for the benefit of current and future generations.

Since 2000, **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation** have been honouring excellent achievement in successfully conserving heritage buildings and properties in the region by the private sector or by public-private initiatives.

In 2005, UNESCO launched the Jury Commendation for Innovation, now known as **the Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts**. This award recognizes newly built structures that demonstrate outstanding design well-integrated into historic contexts.



For more information about the Awards,
please visit our official website:
bangkok.unesco.org/theme/asia-pacific-heritage-awards

2017 Award of Excellence:
Blue House Cluster, HK SAR, China



The Award winners span a wide range of conservation projects from private residences to palace complexes. Over the years, the projects illustrate the increasing momentum and level of conservation in Asia and the Pacific.

The Awards set technical and social benchmarks for cultural heritage conservation in the region. Award-winning projects serve as catalysts and a source of inspiration for private individuals and institutions in conserving cultural heritage throughout the region.

“We are trying to mobilize the private sector and civil society to get involved in conservation practice. There are so many historic properties that are in private ownership.”

Richard Engelhardt
Former UNESCO Regional Advisor
for Culture in Asia and the Pacific
Jury Member



2017 Honourable Mention: Haveli Dharampura, Delhi, India



Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation

The winners are selected on the basis of the extent to which the projects reflected a clear understanding and application of various criteria, such as the articulation of the spirit of place, technical achievement, appropriate use or adaption, and the project's contribution to the surrounding environment as well as the local community's cultural and historical continuity.

“The Awards are able to give people sense of pride and sense of ownership through their own heritage”

Johannes Widodo
Deputy Head, Department of Architecture,
National University of Singapore
Jury Member



I Understanding the Place

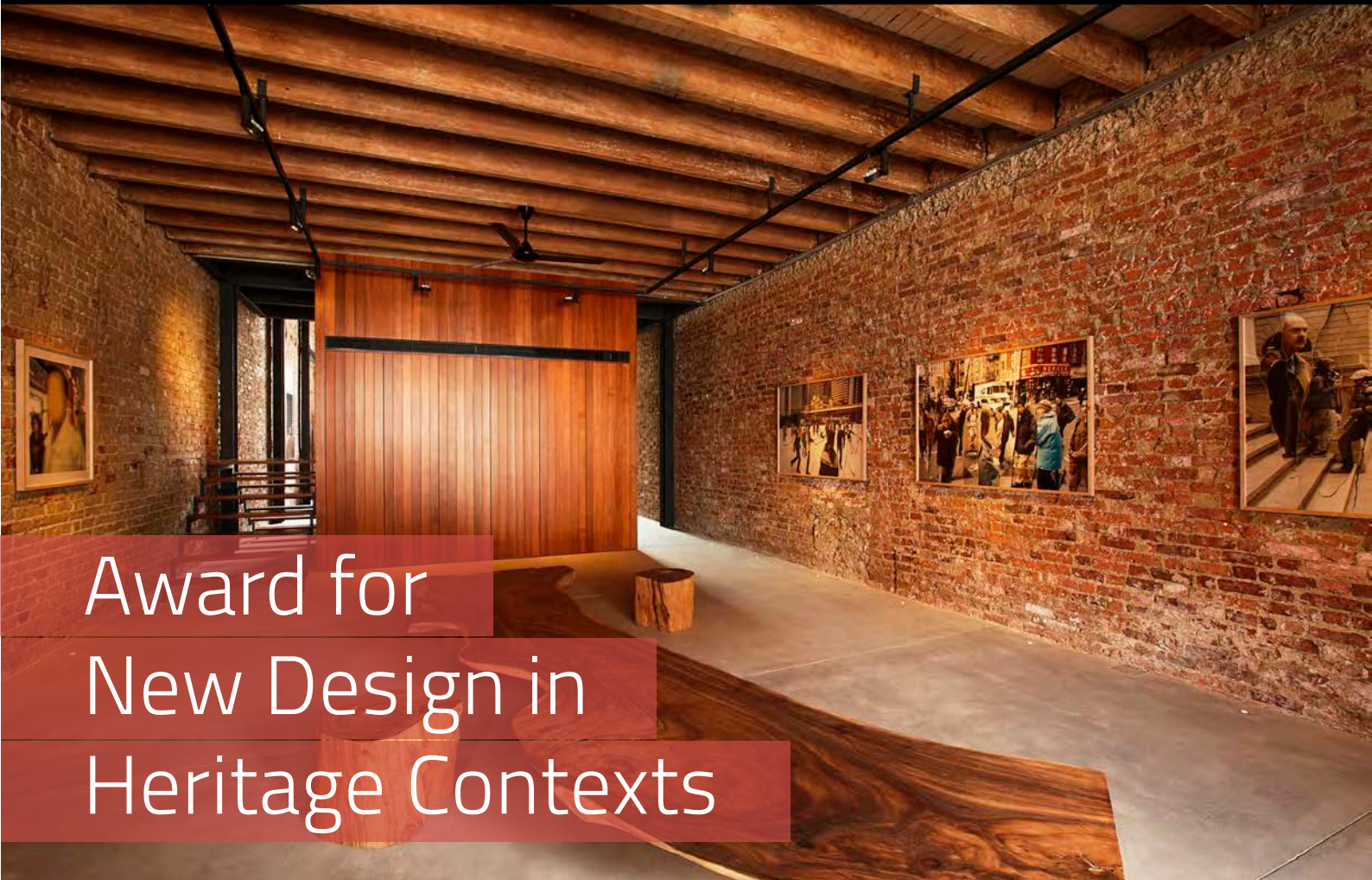
- a. Does your conservation work understand, articulate and enhance the spirit of place of the heritage property?
- b. How well are the property's cultural, social, historical and architectural values interpreted in the conservation work?
- c. Is the property in appropriate use? How does the current use respect the cultural significance?

II Technical Achievement

- d. How does your project tackle issues in interpreting the heritage property's significance?
- e. How did your project ensure the use and quality control of appropriate building, artisan and conservation techniques?
- f. Did your project use appropriate materials?
- g. How well does any added element or creative solution respect the character and inherent spatial quality of the property?

III Social and Policy Impact

- h. What is the overall complexity, sensitivity and technical consistency of your project?
- i. Is your project socio-economically and environmentally viable? Does it have provision for its future use and maintenance?
- j. How does your project contribute to the surrounding environment? How does it support the cultural and historical continuum of the local community?
- k. Did your project have any influence on the conservation practice and policy locally, nationally, regionally or internationally?



Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts

Established in 2005, a special Award is given in addition to the conservation award categories. The Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts (previously known as the Jury Commendation for Innovation), recognizes newly built structures that demonstrate outstanding design well-integrated into historic contexts. The Award encourages submissions of completed new architecture and design projects that enrich the existing heritage setting.

The recipients of the Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts will have conclusively demonstrated excellence in the following areas:

- a. What is the outstanding design concept of your project? Does it demonstrate critical thinking in articulating an innovative response to the specific historic context?
- b. How well does the new structure help to reveal the qualities of the place, including historical, architectural, cultural and social significance?
- c. How does the new structure's function respond to its immediate and surrounding neighbourhood?
- d. How well does your new structure integrate with the existing built and natural contexts?
- e. How does the materials and building techniques used respond to the historic context?
- f. How does the new structure contribute to the surrounding environment? How does it support the cultural and historical continuum of the local community?
- g. Has your project had any influence on the conservation practice and policy locally, nationally, regionally or internationally?

Submit Your Project

The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation **opens for new entries on 1 November and closes on 30 April** every year.

Each entry must be submitted with the following documentation in full (see Awards website for details and forms):

- Official entry form
- Project description (using the provided official format)
- Occupant's comments
- Owner consent
- Rights authorization form
- Drawings, A4 or A3 format
- Photographs
- Additional materials (articles, videos, etc.) may be provided, as per guidelines on the Awards website
- CD/DVD (including entry dossier in PDF format, drawings and photographs).

Official forms and regulations are available for download vis UNESCO Bangkok official website.

bangkok.unesco.org/theme/asia-pacific-heritage-awards

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