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Best Full-Service Architecture Firm 2017 - New England

PATRICK AHEARN
 ——— ARCHITECT ———

Patrick Ahearn, a master of New England vernacular architecture styles, is celebrated for preserving and enhancing top storied destinations, developing his schemes based on decades of careful study and extensive knowledge of historic and regional context.

Celebrated as one of America's top classical architects, Patrick Ahearn FAIA began his career with ambitious adaptive-reuse public projects, and for the past 25 years has focused primarily on historically motivated, site-sensitive private residences in New England. His firm, Patrick Ahearn Architect LLC, consists of 12 designers working in studios in Boston's Back Bay and in Edgartown, on Martha's Vineyard. Patrick and has designed more than 500 signature private residences, including the HGTV Dream Home 2015, and has been featured in numerous magazines and newspapers.

Patrick adapts and applies philosophy's "greater good theory" to serve as a guiding principle for all his work. The idea of the greater good encapsulates his profound belief that architecture has the power to improve lives, to increase happiness, and to encourage friendly and familiar interactions. To achieve these goals, Ahearn designs buildings that are human-scaled and sensitively sited, paying as much attention to the spaces between structures as to the structures themselves. He has a vision for the creation of an active village at the intersection of modern function and timeless form.

His work on The Boathouse, a restaurant in Edgartown, on Martha's Vineyard is an example of a project driven by the overriding urban design goal to create a catalyst for the revitalization of Main Street, the harbour, and the Edgartown Village commercial district. The Boathouse achieved these goals and in doing so has become an anchor at the harbour's edge for the village's revival. The lively public restaurant "Atlantic" on the first floor, widening of the brick sidewalks, newly planted trees, street furniture, new public access to the water front and docks, and a significant amount of outdoor dining at the water's edge has added life to the village experience. With the success of The Boathouse architecturally and from an urban design perspective, many other shops and restaurants have seen a renaissance and revitalization.

Patrick and the firm create a storyline for every home they restore, renovates or builds. He then uses rich materials, artisanal craftsmanship and

pitch-perfect period details to create buildings that look just right in their locations, as if they could have been built three centuries ago or last year.

Whether restoring landmarked century-old townhouses in Boston's Back Bay or creating new homes that reinterpret the local vernacular of Martha's Vineyard, Ahearn demonstrates an unparalleled ability to combine the romantic aesthetic of traditional architecture with the philosophical ideals of modernism.

