



OUR FIRM (Est. February 1977)

THE PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP

Architecture & Design
Town Halls & Offices
Public Libraries
Police & Safety
Elderly Facilities
Accessibility Design
Facility Assessments
Feasibility Studies
Historic Preservation
Building Conservation
Preservation Planning
Historic Interiors

Maximilian L. Ferro FAIA
James M. Murray RIBA

New Bedford, MA

134 Quaker Street
Weare, NH 03281

Tel: (508) 996-3383
(603) 529 3584

Fax: (508) 990-8891
(603) 529 3604

<greatcom@comcast.net>

Although quite old and distinguished, with hundreds of projects to its credit, our Firm is small, never exceeding a staff of seven, so that we can continue to use our principals' time in design rather than administration. There are two principals, Maximilian L. Ferro, FAIA, RIBA, the founder, and James Murray, RIBA, our former Principal Associate. The firm works principally in the New England area and sometimes in the U. K., where it is known as Accessibility Design. In 25 years of practice, The Preservation Partnership has been consistently successful, profitable and a leader in historic preservation and municipal design.

The Firm was founded in 1977, in Natick, MA, when Max Ferro left his position as Resident Architect of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities to enter the private sector. While Historic Williamsburgh was the first to have a Resident Architect, Max's position at the SPNEA was the first full-time non-government historic preservation post in New England, and The Preservation Partnership was the first firm in this region to offer a full range of historic preservation services, from historical architecture to preservation planning, preservation science and even historic archaeology.

After establishing his firm, Max established the first New England graduate curricula in building conservation as part of the graduate Historic Preservation programs at Boston University and the University of Vermont. As Adjunct Professor at both universities for fifteen years, Max helped to train most professionals now working in this field, and many served as interns at the Preservation Partnership.

From the very first year of operations, the Firm found that cities and towns possessed many of New England's most beautiful historic buildings, and the restoration, rehabilitation and enlargement of Town Halls, Public Libraries, Community Centers, and all kinds of civic buildings has remained the focus of our practice. Gradually, the creation of new facilities that complement historic Town Greens and urban environments has become an increasing proportion of our work, so that such unhistorical building types as public safety, police and fire stations are now a large part of our work.

In our constant effort to save fine historic landmarks, we have found countless ways to modify historic buildings to serve new purposes, and we have converted every kind of facility to serve other needs whenever a better 'fit' presented itself. In several Towns, we saved millions by proposing a fancy version of 'musical chairs' whereby an empty building started a sequence of reuse, ending with all town facilities fully modernized but in different locations.