Cannon Award

Cannon Award

by T. Harry Gatton, 2006

Adelaide Lisetta Fries, winner of a 1948 Cannon Award. Image from Digital Forsythe. The Ruth Coltrane Cannon Award, North Carolina's most prestigious award for historic preservation achievement, was established by Ruth Coltrane Cannon and her husband Charles A. Cannon, in 1948. The North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities originally administered the award, and for many years playwright Paul Green made the formal presentation on behalf of the society. Recipients' names are engraved on a silver bowl prominently displayed in the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh, and engraved silver replicas of a Revolutionary War camp cup are given to winners.

In 1974 the North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities changed its name to the Historic Preservation Society of North Carolina, Inc. A restructuring in 1984 prompted another name change to the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. Popularly known as Preservation North Carolina, the organization continues to administer the Cannon Awards. From 1948 to 1982, a total of 161 awards were given to individuals and organizations, but since 1982 only a single Cannon Award is given each year.


Reference:

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**From:**

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1 January 2006 | Gatton, T. Harry

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