

Welsh Civic Societies Local Design Awards

CIVIC SOCIETIES in Wales are invited to take part in our new Local Design Awards scheme. Its aim is to encourage the recognition and celebration of good design in communities throughout Wales.

We are asking civic societies to identify development and conservation projects that successfully respond to local sense of place and which meet the needs of their intended users.

How to enter

The selection of schemes for nomination is a matter for your society. But you should be able to demonstrate that you have measured candidates against the criteria identified below.

Please complete the attached form, which gives you an opportunity briefly to show why you consider schemes to respond successfully to these criteria. The criteria are based on the factors identified as making for good design in the Assembly's Technical Advice Note on Design. You may find it helpful to look at this document, which is available online from the Assembly's web site or can be obtained in bilingual hard copy from the Assembly's Publications Centre.

The form will require you to show that

- The owners/managers of the property entered have agreed to the nomination
- You have notified the design team responsible for the project of the nomination

We would like to invite these to the awards ceremony and identify them in publicity.

In order to assess your nomination we will need some visuals of nominated projects. These should be in the form of 7 x 5 (or larger) colour prints. The number of prints supplied is up to you but they should, given the constraints of the site, enable the external qualities of the project to be understood and related to its context. One or more of these pictures may be used in print and online publicity so it would be helpful for you to ensure that they are well-exposed and composed. **Please do not send colour slides.**

All types and scales of projects could be considered, for example:

- Conservation/re-use of buildings/spaces/parks/gardens
- Shopfront design
- New build business, retail, social, educational, industrial, or residential schemes – large or small scale
- Landscape or floorscape schemes, including the successful introduction of new street furniture, planting or lighting.

We would like you to measure schemes you consider for entry against the following criteria.

You may nominate more than one project.

Please return your completed forms, with photographs, by 30 April 2003 to:

The Civic Trust for Wales, 3rd Floor, Empire House, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff, CF10 5 FN

The successful schemes will be announced at an all-Wales ceremony in the summer of 2003, alongside the Civic Trust Awards for Wales.

Projects nominated will be validated by a panel drawn from professional and civic society representatives on the Trust Board. The panel will seek to identify projects which show special creativity or imagination in the fulfilment of their brief.

Criteria

Please explain why you believe that the scheme nominated responds to the following criteria. Not all of these criteria may be relevant in all cases. Continue on an additional sheet if necessary. However, you will probably find that 750 words or so are more than adequate! Your pictures should be worth a thousand words.

Nominated projects should have been **completed** within the last five years. Some latitude may be possible with this requirement, and you may want advice from the Trust in particular cases.

- Response to **local character and context** – you may want to consider both the immediate setting and the wider context of the community/landscape setting of the project. How far does the project fit successfully into the site and its wider topographic/landscape setting? You might want to consider factors such as: height, scale, appearance, materials, colour.
- Response to opportunities to offer an **innovative design solution** to the brief. As TAN 12 states, "a contextual approach should not necessarily prohibit design in a contemporary idiom".
- Response to opportunities to clarify or improve the relationship between **private and public space**.
- Response to the need to ensure **accessibility** to all – the needs of the those with restricted mobility or other disabilities or circumstances
 - To what extent does the layout of the project contribute to a local environment which local people **enjoy**, and feel **safe and secure** using and moving through it on foot.
 - To what extent does the project respond to the needs or aspirations of its intended **users**?
 - Sustainability and biodiversity

In other words, we would like you to consider the function, as well as the aesthetics of the project, alongside its wider impact/contribution to the local environment and setting. *Remember, a small-scale scheme may be as creative or interesting as a larger project, not least in setting a new standard in terms of design quality or response to sense of place.*

NOMINATION FORM

Return to the Civic Trust for Wales by **30 April 2002**

Your contact information

Civic Society

Responsible officer

Address

Telephone/fax

E-mail

Information about the project you are nominating

(Please complete one form per project)

Project name

Location/street address

Name of owner/manager

Contact details

Project designer

Contact details

Approximate date of completion

Notes

Projects should have been completed within the last five years, i.e. between January 1997 and December 2002. We will exercise latitude in this requirement, especially if there is uncertainty. Do not worry if you do not have or cannot find the contact details for the project designer. We can check this ourselves if we have to!

PLEASE GIVE YOUR **REASONS FOR NOMINATION** IN THE SPACE PROVIDED ON THE REVERSE OF THIS FORM.

Statement

We confirm that, where relevant, we have obtained the consent of the project owner/manager to this nomination.

We confirm that, where relevant, we have notified the lead design practice of this nomination.

We confirm that the Civic Trust for Wales has the copyright in the attached photographs and may make use of these in print and online publicity for the purposes of publicising successful schemes within the context of the Wales Civic Society Local Design Awards.

Signature of nominating officer _____ Date _____

REASONS FOR NOMINATION

Please explain simply in your own words, and with reference to the criteria in the guidance notes where these are helpful, why you think this scheme deserves celebration. Continue on a separate sheet if you have to!

Name of project
