



The Port Hope Pier

Examples of Industrial Adaptive Reuse

Lowell



Lowell, Mass.

This Historic Industrial town was one of the first experiments in industrial adaptive reuse. Considering their historic mills as opportunities, they created spaces for a wide range of business, while preserving heritage buildings. The success of this approach not only saved the buildings but revitalized the town centre. Uses include; offices, galleries, performance spaces, restaurants and so on.

The Distillery District



The Distillery District, Toronto

Formerly the G&W Distillery, this extensive industrial site has become a nexus of cultural-creative activity in an old industrial area of Toronto. The site is privately owned and developed. All heritage buildings have been saved and some of the open space used for new housing. Uses here include; art galleries, retail, restaurants and pubs, arts and crafts studios, theatre and housing.

Don Valley Brickworks



Don Valley Brickworks

An active brickwork production facility from the 1890's to the mid 1980s. It was purchased by the City for public uses. Phase one included environmental cleanup, park development and building restoration. Recently acquired by Evergreen (tenant) it will become an attraction for green education and participation. Buildings will be adaptively reused as both heritage and "green" facilities. No building is greener than a recycled one!

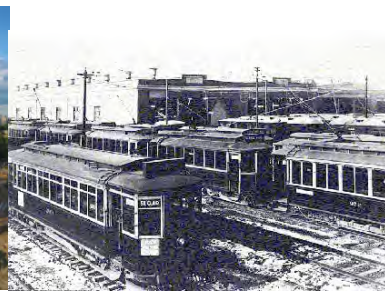
North Toronto Station



North Toronto Station, Toronto

This historic railway station was last opened to rail in 1939. Following the war it was partially used as an LCBO. The station was purchased from CP as part of a larger land deal by a private developer. Recently it has been restored and renovated as a full line flagship LCBO (tenant). The use of all station areas and new additions prepared the building for its renewed use. The adjacent site was developed as a public square through a public art competition

Wychwood Car Barns



Wychwood Car Barns, Toronto

Developed to serve the north Toronto streetcar system these redundant maintenance barns were scheduled for demolition as part of a park plan. Studies revealed that these interesting heritage buildings could be reworked as an exciting public project which included a mix of park facilities, community resources and arts uses. Artscape a Toronto NGO is the private developer of the project in concert with Toronto Parks.

Button Factory Waterloo



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Eco-Arts Discovery Camp and Eco-Performing Arts Camp have been made possible thanks to the generous support of our many sponsors.



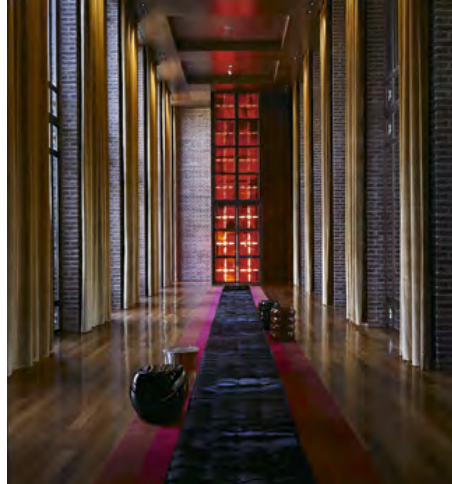
Button Factory, Waterloo

A redundant manufacturing building had come into the inventory of the City of Waterloo. An accommodation study revealed that this building was ideal as a new home for the Waterloo Community Arts Center, a local NGO. Following a period of fundraising and capacity building the project was successfully developed as a vibrant public facility.



Fall 2008

Canada Malting Silos



Canada Malting Silos, Toronto

These redundant industrial Silos have been a landmark feature of the Toronto waterfront for nearly a century. Hesitant to lose them a public charrette was held to consider possible adaptive reuse. A scan of world wide approaches to similar structures revealed great potential for the buildings and site. Currently they are being considered as a home for a major Toronto cultural facility.

World Piers



Property Search:

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North Pier, Blackpool

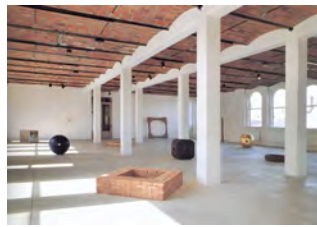
Designed by Eugenius Birch and commissioned by the Blackpool Pier Company, work commenced on the first of Blackpool's piers in 1862. The North Pier was opened on 21st May 1863 by Mr F Preston, Chairman of the Pier Company, amid much pomp and ceremony. In effect it formed a seaward extension of the Talbot Road, which had recently become host to the town's first railway station. The railway was to prove significant for Blackpool because not only did it allow some 20,000 visitors to witness the spectacle of the North Pier opening, but it provided the means by which Blackpool became the great playground of the north-west.



A landing jetty was added to the main structure in 1864, and extended three years later, bringing the overall length of Blackpool North Pier to 1,650ft (500m). Two pleasure steamers, the 'Queen of the Bay' and the 'Clifton', were also purchased by the Pier Company offering excursions to the Lake District, Isle of Man, Llandudno, Southport and Liverpool.

The North Pier head was enlarged in 1874 to facilitate the building of a fine 'Indian' pavilion, a bandstand, a restaurant and some shops. The Indian pavilion soon acquired a reputation for its quality of music, the first eminent conductor of the pier orchestra being Edward de Jong, a distinguished flautist. Later Simon Speelman, who went on to achieve fame with the Manchester Halle Orchestra, performed on the North Pier. Probably the best remembered conductor though was 'Toni', a conductor easily recognisable by his shocking head of hair. Such was his reputation that advertising was quite unnecessary, and everybody knew his orchestra could be found playing in the sun lounge (which had replaced the original bandstand in 1932) of the Blackpool North Pier.

As Blackpool's popularity grew so did the North Pier. The pier head was further extended in 1875 and 1877 with the addition of north and south wings, electric lighting was installed, and in 1896 the neck was widened, almost doubling it in size. Expansion of the structure continued into the new century: 1903 saw the construction of a new theatre, and the redevelopment of the



Stroll Around the Pier

Join us for a stroll around the pier and take in the glorious views over the Solent to the Isle of Wight.

- Bowling bowling alley, air hockey and pool tables
- Over 18's All Cash Area
- Video games including Dancing Stage, Sega Rally, Route 66 Truck Driver, Time Crisis 3, Prop Cycle, Crisis Zone and Star Wars
- Pirates Cove Shooting Gallery
- Family favourites such as 2p and 10p coin pushers, soft toy cranes and fruit machines

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[Sunday Market Located in the West Passage](#)
[Lake of the Pier](#)
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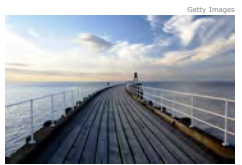
To the left of the arcade is Pips Ices, a traditional ice-cream shop where you can buy soft ice, candy floss, peppermint rock, sugar lollipops and a multitude of other seaside goodies including buckets and spades, inflatable, sweets and novelties.

To the right of the arcade is P&P News, newsagent and sweet shop selling daily papers and magazines, general groceries and ice-creams plus a wide range of crested souvenirs and traditional confectionary such as honeycombe, coconut ice, fudge, humbugs, sugar dummies and peppermint rock.

Walking down the left hand side of the pier you will then come to the pier's fishing shop. From here you can arrange

The poignancy of piers
The end of the pier
Dec 19th 2007 | ATLANTIC CITY, BRIGHTON, CONEY ISLAND, SOUTHEND AND SOUTHWOLD
From *The Economist* print edition

Musings on a favourite memento mori



"A COLD night," Cubbitt said. The old gentleman swivelled his eyes on him like opera glasses and went on coughing: hack, hack, hack: the vocal chords dry as straw. Somewhere out at sea a violin began to play: it was like a sea beast mourning and stretching towards the shore."

The book is Graham Greene's "Brighton Rock", the violin is playing, unseen through sea mist, in the concert hall on the West Pier. Both Brighton's piers have starring roles in the story: they are the stages where killings are discussed, threats made, fortunes told. Savage gang warfare is intercut with candy floss and penny-in-the-slot machines. Laughter keeps pace with horror. Life is at its lawless and most reckless, but death lurks everywhere. This is the essence of piers.

No construction is more appealing, or more redolent of mortality, than a jetty that sticks out from the shore. It tells men they can walk on water, and suggests they can stroll as far towards infinity as their engineering can take them. Piers symbolise escape from the everyday, from the shore, from work, from life itself. For that purpose, they are more reassuring than a ship: though planked and decked like one, and originally manned with pier-masters in cryo-naval uniforms, most are attached to solid rock. It can come as a sudden, giddying surprise, amid the fairground tat of piers, to see the sea crawling darkly under your feet as you sip your cup of tea, or a seagull flying below you. Early piers were modelled as "disappointed bridges", fixed at one end but, at the other, yearning towards the void. A man on a pier never quite lets go of the land. But,

World Piers

Worldwide there is a well established interest in preserving industrial heritage "artifacts", buildings and structures as part of public waterfront projects (or not). These structures animate, fascinate and interpret our culture in ways otherwise not possible. They are adaptable, culturally enriching and demand creative responses. Reuse of heritage buildings is inherently "green" in addition to retaining touchstones to our social history and provide unexpected economic development opportunities. Preservation and reuse is a responsible approach.