



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

#348-22

Telephone
(617) 796-1100
Fax
(617) 796-1113
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
Email
rfuller@newtonma.gov

June 1, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

To the Honorable City Councilors:

I am pleased to appoint Scott Aquilina, 1253 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton as a regular member of the Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission. His term of office shall expire on July 1, 2023, and his appointment is subject to your confirmation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruthanne Fuller".

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

RECEIVED
2022 JUN - 1 AM 11:30
CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02459

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

The historic commissions in Newton need more qualified architects. I have been a practicing architect for 33 years and have demonstrated a commitment to historic resources. My local restoration portfolio includes Boston Symphony Hall, Cambridge Public Library and the Charles Street Jail (Liberty Hotel). I was also the principal architect of the Durant Kenrick Homestead restoration for the Newton Historical Society from 2007-2010. My experience provides the expertise as well as broad perspective that is required to be an effective commissioner. There is also the issue of commitment to and knowledge of the local community. As a resident of Newton since 1992, I have been involved locally in both a volunteer and professional capacity. I am an active member of Grace Episcopal Church where I serve on the Property Committee as well as the project manager for the current belltower restoration. During the Durant Kenrick project, my team met with the Board of Aldermen, the CPC and the Newton Historical Commission as part of a successful approvals process. My experience with the local preservation community and city agencies began then but grew through my advocacy in the more recent, successful and unprecedented application for CPA funding for the Grace Church tower. For past 18 months, I have served on the Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission. It's been a challenging time in that district, but I have tried to serve to the best of my ability. As an outsider to the neighborhood, I believe I have brought an unbiased perspective and have made a concerted effort to advocate for homeowners who are making good faith efforts to improve their properties and assure their livability on behalf of their families. At the same time, I have tried to help my fellow commissioners appreciate the difference between a modest renovation and a wholesale rethinking of an historic property. I have tried to help the board calibrate conversations accordingly and I have attempted, and I think succeeded, in helping property owners understand what will be required for a successful outcome upfront in order to avoid potentially catastrophic mistakes along the way. During my time on the NUFHDC and as a leader in the Grace Church CPA campaign, my advocacy for the protection of local historic buildings was evident. My neighbor and friend Peter Dimond, chair of the NHC, has been encouraging me to remain active. I am ready to submit this application to the Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission as I believe my talents will serve that board, especially given my concurrent experience in Upper Falls and my interests regarding preservation across the City with its unavoidable touch points with zoning, development, neighborhood scale, affordability and other considerations. It would be my honor to serve on the Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission. Sincerely
Scott B. Aquilina, AIA 1253 Commonwealth Ave. Newton 02465

[Aquilina Resume 2019-2020-h.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Scott Aquilina, AIA, NCARB

1253 Commonwealth Avenue
 Newton, Massachusetts
 [REDACTED]

Professional Summary

A practicing architect for over 25 years, Scott Aquilina provides strategic planning and design leadership for new, revitalized and expanded buildings for educational and cultural institutions with a concentration in historic preservation.

As a principal with Bruner/Cott Architects, Scott was the principal-in-charge for renovations at the First Church of Christ, Scientist and the Huntington Theatre in Boston and the restoration and expansion of the historic Hamilton Chapel at Belmont Hill School. Before joining Bruner/Cott, he was a Senior Associate with Ann Beha Architects where he led multi-disciplinary teams through planning, design and construction for a wide variety of clients, including Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New England Conservatory, and the Currier Museum of Art. He was the principal architect for the Durant Kenrick Homestead restoration and expansion project in Newton. He fosters broad, collaborative team leadership to deliver projects which successfully meet program needs and budget targets while achieving design of the highest standard. His projects have been recognized for design excellence from national and state chapters of the AIA, the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Society for College and University Planning.

Scott is currently self-employed as a consultant providing integrated advisory services and project management to non-profit and other institutional owners of heritage properties in support of sustainable stewardship. The goal is to combine holistic planning, technical services, innovative programming, and advocacy for external funding to allow communities to succeed while maintaining and adapting their historic properties.

Professional Experience

Sustianable Heritage Consultants, Newton, MA 2019
 Bruner/Cott Architects, Boston, MA 2015-2019
 Ann Beha Architects, Boston, MA 2001-2015
 Solomon + Bauer Architects, Watertown, MA, 1996-2001
 The Ritchie Organization, Newton, MA, 1992-1996
 Cesar Pelli and Associates, New Haven, CT 1989-1992

Projects***Springfield Technical Community College, Springfield, MA***

Completion: Summer 2018. This 100,000 square foot DCAMM project repurposed an 1860's munitions warehouse on the site of the Springfield Armory to provide a new library, student center and one-stop administrative student support service. Role: Senior Associate leading design, project management and client communication from master planning through schematic design.

New England Conservatory, Boston, MA

Completion: Fall 2017. The Student Life and Performance Building is a 150,000 square foot, ten-story building which provides a residence for 250 students, dining facility, library, rehearsal rooms and Opera Studio Theatre. Role: Senior Associate leading design, project management and client communication from schematic design through permitting.

Scott Aquilina, AIA, NCARB

1253 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, Massachusetts

Symphony Hall, Boston, MA

Renovations: 2003-2015. As a senior associate with Ann Beha Architects, Scott Aquilina implemented a master plan which established strategies for renewal of the Hall and its expansion on adjacent properties. Over ten years of renovation and renewal, the Hall and its renowned acoustics have been preserved, while significant improvements were made to the interior, including a new stage, lighting and restored seating as well as a new, accessible lobby and box office, back of house facilities and social gathering spaces. Various options for additions to the Hall were considered including a companion hall for concerts and events. The plan and ongoing renovations celebrate the Symphony's distinguished tradition and its important role in the cultural landscape of the city, while accommodating the needs 21st century musicians and audiences.

Cornell Law School Expansion, Ithaca, NY

Completion: Spring 2014. Phase 1 of a multi-phased expansion to the law school, this project focuses on a 20,000 square foot below grade addition which provides two case study classrooms, a 200-seat auditorium, student-faculty lounge, new services and access to a reconceived courtyard landscape. The project was the first LEED Platinum certified project at Cornell. *Role:* Senior Associate leading design, project management and client communication from conceptual design through construction. This project was initiated in a campus wide master plan completed in 2011.

Chapin Hall, Williams College, Williamstown, MA.

Completion: Spring 2012, Fall 2015, Fall 2017. The 2012 project upgraded this 1911 Ralph Adams Cram landmark with all new mechanical and fire protection systems, universal access and lighting while setting the stage for a second phase providing new seating and staging configurations to support musical rehearsal and performance completed in the Fall of 2015. A final phase, completed in 2017, provided custom acoustical upgrades and a new audio-visual system. *Role:* Senior Associate/Principal leading design, project management and client communication from conceptual design through construction.

Diana Chapman Walsh Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA.

Completion: Spring 2010. Alumnae Hall is a 1922 Ralph Adams Cram landmark on the Wellesley campus which provides a gathering place for large events as well as the home of the college's drama program. This project achieved a complete interior renovation focusing on the restoration of historic decoration and the installation of all new systems, seating, and theatre equipment for two theatres, rehearsal space, classrooms and multipurpose gathering spaces. The project achieved a LEED Gold certification, the first on the Wellesley Campus. *Role:* Senior Associate leading design, project management and client communication from schematic design through construction.

Carl A. Fields Center, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

Completion: Fall 2009. Following a master plan in which multiple locations were evaluated, this campus landmark was selected for the new Center of Equality and Cultural Understanding. The 1890 stucco and stone building had been altered over the years and poorly maintained. The exterior was restored to its original design while meeting rigid university standards for energy conservation. The interior required a complete reconstruction to support new program needs and to accommodate the installation of all new mechanical and electrical systems. A new wing was added to provide an event space for academic and community programs. The project was designed to meet criteria for LEED Silver certification. *Role:* Associate responsible for leading design and project management from master planning, conceptual design through construction.

Scott Aquilina, AIA, NCARB

1253 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, Massachusetts

Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, MA

Completion: Spring 2009. In collaboration with William Rawn Associates, this project achieved the restoration, renovation, and expansion of an historic public library. Ann Beha Architects was responsible for all aspects of the 1879 structure, including the restoration of exterior masonry, historic windows and slate roofs. Extensive interior work included the integration of all new mechanical and electrical systems and the restoration of historic wall murals and furniture. ABA was also responsible for the FFE fit out of both the new and existing wings of the library. The project achieved a LEED Gold certification. *Role:* Project Manager for the ABA team from Conceptual Design through Design Development.

Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH

Completion: Fall 2007. Following an extensive master planning process, this 1929 landmark building and later additions were renovated, and a new wing was constructed to provide special exhibition galleries, curatorial offices, classrooms, and auditorium as well as a new entry lobby and Winter Garden, the primary gathering and event space for the museum. *Role:* Project Manager responsible for leading design and project management from the conceptual design phase through construction.

Awards***Academic Center, Cornell Law School***

2016 Boston Society of Architects Design Award
2015 National Design Award, Society of College and University Planning

Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College

2011 Massachusetts Historical Commission Award
2011 Preservation Massachusetts Tsongas Award

Carl A. Fields Center, Princeton University

2010 AIA New Jersey Honor Award
2010 BSA Honor Award

Currier Museum of Art

2009 AIA New England Honor Award
2009 AIA New Hampshire Honor Award

Cambridge Public Library

2009 Massachusetts Historical Commission Award

Albany Institute of History & Art

2001 Preservation League of New York State
Mark of Excellence Award

Scott Aquilina, AIA, NCARB

1253 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, Massachusetts

Professional Registration

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State of New York
N.C.A.R.B. Certified

Education

Master of Architecture, Princeton University
Bachelor of Arts, Princeton University, summa cum laude in Architectural History

Professional Affiliations

Boston Society of Architects
Association for Preservation Technology
Boston Preservation Alliance
Society for College and University Planning
International Council of Fine Arts Deans

Personal

Scott lives in Newton, MA along the Boston Marathon route with his wife and two children. For twenty-five years, he has been an active member of Grace Episcopal Church in Newton Corner, where he serves on the Property Committee, overseeing care of the 1873 landmark sanctuary and support buildings. Scott also volunteers as an adult mentor on the Diocesan Youth Council, a youth group which provides leadership training and faith-based retreats at its camp in Southern New Hampshire. Scott is an enthusiastic fisherman and can be found fishing for bass in Crystal Lake with son Patrick from their two-man canoe on summer evenings.