

Hastings Pier, winner of the RIBA Stirling Prize 2017

As we congratulate Hastings Pier on winning the RIBA Stirling Prize 2017, we reflect on how National Lottery funding can bring heritage and cutting-edge architecture together.

The RIBA Stirling Prize has celebrated the best of contemporary architecture since 1996, and HLF-supported buildings have frequently been singled out for praise.

Three HLF-supported buildings featured in this year's shortlist, and we're delighted to congratulate Hastings Pier on its victory.

In a strong year for heritage, we're looking at how these innovative buildings are keeping heritage at their heart.

Hastings Pier - winner, 2017

A collaborative effort to restore a piece of community heritage gave Hastings Pier the edge over the British Museum's new World Conservation and Exhibitions Centre and a bold redevelopment at Chatham Historic Dockyard.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of a local charity, Hastings Pier has been reborn as a multi-purpose space for the entire community to enjoy. A heritage centre sits at the heart of the redevelopment, fittingly clad with materials salvaged from the original pier.

The American Air Museum, IWM Duxford - winner, 1998

Home to the finest public display of American aircraft outside of the USA, this purpose built museum has heritage firmly in mind.

The sleek, open nature of the building allows for a spectacular display of incredible machines. It's even large enough to take in the enormous wingspan of a B-52 Bomber.

Astley Castle, Warwickshire - winner, 2013

A bold and original restoration scheme, led by the Landmark Trust, gave Astley Castle a new lease of life as an unusual place to stay.

Sensitive contemporary architecture blends with ancient stonework, providing a unique experience for guests and an imaginative way to preserve, enhance and secure the future of this beautiful building.

The Giant’s Causeway Visitor Centre, County Antrim - shortlisted, 2013

With its tall black columns and careful placement, the Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre is a fitting tribute to its iconic natural backdrop.

Invisible from the causeway, this thoughtful piece of architecture complements its surroundings and opens up this spectacular natural heritage to wider audiences.

The Whitworth, Manchester - shortlisted, 2015

A 21st-century extension and redevelopment celebrated the Whitworth’s heritage as the first English art gallery in a park.

The construction of two new wings opened the gallery to its surroundings, encircling a new art garden and providing views of the surrounding landscape. The extension also doubled the gallery’s public space, allowing art fans from Manchester and beyond to enjoy more of its internationally important collection.

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