

2023 Preservation Award Winners

by Susan Barlow; photos by Starr McLean, commissioners

Three Manchester houses recently received recognition for historic maintenance and renovation “in a manner that preserves historic values and character.” The awards were presented at a May 18 reception at Northwest Park by the Cheney Brothers National Historic Landmark District Commission, an advisory commission appointed by the town to promote, encourage, and secure the preservation and rehabilitation of the District. May is National Preservation Month, and the Commission has presented local awards since 2001. The awards were presented by Starr McLean, chairperson of the Commission’s awards committee, and Mayor Jay Moran.

1. **A Dutch colonial house, built in 1957** for Dr. and Mrs. Lundberg, 264 Boulder Road, owned by Ryan & Christina Lauzon, who have been renovating the house with help from her father, builder John Parla, who, with his wife, Janice, won a 2011 preservation award for their Porter Street house. Ryan and Christina bought the house in 2019 and noted that during the Covid epidemic and working from home they were able to do all the painting themselves. The nine-room house, set on a wooded property, has wooden clapboards. The house was re-roofed with traditional cedar shingles in the fall of 2020. Homeowners are pictured in the center with their children, with, left, Mayor Moran and, right, Starr McLean.



2. **A unique chalet-style house, built in 1967**, at 263 Blue Ridge Drive, owned by Dana and Rachel Schnabel, since 2019. The eight-room house sits on a wooded hill, and has natural accents, such as the river-rock chimney, wooden siding and balcony, and a hip-style gable, creating an unusual roofline. The homeowners said they liked the house immediately when they saw it, “after looking at about fifty other houses.”



3. **A craftsman-style bungalow, c. 1916, at 78 Lyness Street**, owned by Jeffrey and Mary Matheny since 1985. They are pictured here with, left to right, Mayor Moran, their son Andrew, who has been instrumental in restoring the house, Mary and Jeffrey, and Starr McLean. The six-room house sits on a corner lot, and has tan-painted clapboards with cream and burgundy trim, Craftsmen-style columns with natural stone bases framing the entrance, a glassed-in porch, and manicured gardens. Mary mentioned that one of their children gave them a subscription to *American Bungalow*, a magazine dedicated to “preserving and restoring the modest 20th-century home, the bungalow.” In the early 1900s, “...bungalows took America by storm. These small houses...helped fulfill many Americans’ wishes for their own home...The mania for bungalows marked a rare occasion in which serious architecture was found outside the realm of the rich.” -- Americanbungalow.com

