

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 3, 2015

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[Editor's note: High-resolution images and interviews are available upon request.]

White on White: Churches of Rural New England

November 9, 2015, through January 31, 2016

BSA Space presents *White on White: Churches of Rural New England*, an exhibition of 40 images representing early churches of the 18th and 19th centuries by architectural photographer Steve Rosenthal from Historic New England's collection.

These remarkable small-town, white structures were erected by local builders and joiners, and occasionally by itinerant master carpenters. There were no trained architects or even schools of architecture in America at the time. Their inspiration came from traditional designs and from pattern books. In his photographs, Rosenthal traces the evolution of church styles from the early meetinghouse through the changing patterns of Greek and Gothic revivals.

Rosenthal, a well-known architectural photographer who trained as an architect, has traveled throughout the Northeast capturing what remains of these architectural gems. He began photographing New England churches in the mid-1960s. The photographs on display are a personal selection taken over the succeeding decades, including images of evocative survivors in the New England landscape.

"Steve Rosenthal's photographic archive is a tremendous addition to Historic New England's collection, expanding its depth and breadth in countless ways," says Lorna Condon, Historic New England's senior curator.

"This exhibition highlights the importance of preservation in architecture," says 2015 BSA president Tim Love AIA. *"Design excellence is not only about building new, bold structures but preserving our heritage and design legacy."*

Several of these churches were restored by their congregations to their original appearance long before the preservation movement took hold in this country. Many others are now threatened by shrinking congregations and high maintenance costs. Some have been damaged by insensitive additions or inappropriate materials. Others have been decommissioned and converted to other uses.

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BSA Space

BSA Space, Boston's leading cultural institution for architecture and design, is home to the Boston Society of Architects/AIA (BSA) and the BSA Foundation. The BSA is one of the oldest chapters of the American Institute of Architects. The BSA Foundation, a charitable organization, supports activities that illuminate the ways in which design improves the quality of our lives. All exhibitions at BSA Space are supported by the BSA Foundation. Admission to BSA Space is free and open to the public. For more information, visit architects.org/bsaspace.

About Historic New England

Historic New England is the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive regional heritage organization in the nation. It owns and operates 36 historic homes and landscapes spanning five states and shares the region's history through vast collections, publications, programs, museum properties, archives, and stories that document more than 400 years of life in New England. For more details, visit HistoricNewEngland.org.

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