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The Architectural Team's redesign of "Fruit of the Loom" mill honored with Rhode Island historic preservation award

Chelsea, MA, April 28, 2008 – The Architectural Team (TAT) has received a Project Award from the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission for its design of Royal Mills at Riverpoint, a mixed-use complex in West Warwick, RI. The award was presented during the 23rd Annual Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Conference on April 12. Completed in December 2007, TAT designed the historic conversion of the former Royal Mills for Struever Bros., Eccles & Rouse.

Situated on 14 acres along the Pawtuxet River, Royal Mills at Riverpoint features 256 apartments and commercial spaces, a historical center dubbed "Turbine Hall," and a public riverside deck. The 500,000 square foot development includes a landscaped extension to the West Warwick Riverwalk, and bike path connections to the Washington Secondary Rail Trail. The mill's rehabilitated state-of-the-art hydropower system provides power to the management office, public areas, and exterior lighting.

"We are thrilled to have had the opportunity to work with Struever Brothers, Eccles and Rouse and the Town of West Warwick in restoring Royal mills to its original grandeur," said Michael Binette, Principal and Vice President of The Architectural Team. "The restoration of this mill complex has brought together a community by not only creating a vibrant new mixed-use development, but also by rejuvenating public access along the riverfront that has served as a catalyst for continued reinvestment and redevelopment of the surrounding neighborhood."

Built between 1889 and 1890 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Royal Mills complex was home to the B.B. and R. Knight Company, one of the largest textile manufacturers in the world, and creator of the "Fruit of the Loom" brand. The site was the epicenter of the textile strike of 1922, which spread throughout New England and was credited for drawing Rhode Island's immigrant population into the political mainstream.

Founded in 1971, The Architectural Team, Inc. (TAT) is a 50-person architectural firm that has successfully grown through its design excellence and commitment to responsive and collaborative client relationships. TAT has developed a portfolio of distinctive design solutions, which includes a broad range of building types and programs, and has earned the firm more than 60 awards for design excellence. These include the new construction of large urban mixed-use developments, residential, commercial, hospitality, recreational, and academic facilities, as well as a national reputation in the area of historic preservation and adaptive reuse. Located on the water on Admiral's Hill in Chelsea, Massachusetts, The Architectural Team's office occupies the restored historic Commandant's House originally built in the 1840s, on the grounds of the former Chelsea Naval Hospital site. For more information please go to www.architecturalteam.com.

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