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Repurposing History: Rewards and Realities

BY ANTHONY PAPANTONIS

BOSTON — With its rich architectural history, metropolitan Boston is home to a vast array of buildings well-suited to be re-developed while preserving their historical significance. Beginning

REAL IDEAS



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with Old Boston City Hall's conversion into restaurant and office space in 1969 and Faneuil Hall's transformation into a popular tourist/retail destination, there is an extensive list of outdated buildings adapted for new purposes. Lesser known but historically significant buildings also populate the list, such as the 1874 Henry Willis Building at 175 Purchase St. in the Financial District which Nauset Construction recently converted into the new Brazilian consulate for an affiliate of Core Investments Inc. The



Old Boston City Hall, Boston MA

building is expected to be approved by the National Register of Historic Places in 2014. Obsolete mills, factories and schools

with less historical significance but structurally sound have also been re-purposed
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