



Olson Lewis Dioli & Doktor
Architects & Planners Incorporated

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TIES TO HOME:

Local North Shore Architectural Firm Officially Opens Second Office in Ipswich, MA

January 11, Ipswich, MA: Established almost 30 years ago, this North Shore firm has a practice that reaches from local neighborhoods to exotic locales around the world. So what brings Olson Lewis Dioli & Doktor Architects (OLD&D) to Ipswich?

Actually, OLD&D's partners and staff have lived and practiced in Ipswich for decades, working closely with local business and civic leaders. They have been instrumental in helping to shape the town's landscape. Opening a second office on South Main Street is a natural extension of this commitment.

A significant part of OLD&D's regional practice is already based in town. Being on-site in Ipswich just makes sense. The firm has designed or renovated several private residences, as well as such notable spaces and structures as Ipswich's YMCA, Zumi's, The Clubhouse, Mansion and numerous private homes at Turner Hill, Ipswich Inn and the Oak Hill's annexation of the Memorial Building. Many commercial projects and private homes, visible around town, are the ongoing work of OLD&D.

Notably, two of the firm's four partners—Art Dioli and Christopher Doktor—live with their families in historic homes in Ipswich. They reside in their respective Second Period homes. Dioli's residence has undergone extensive restoration, and Doktor's home has seen significant interior work, and has also been recognized with a Mary Conley Historic Preservation citation for work on a prior home. Two staff members also live in town.

OLD&D's partner, Chris Doktor was instrumental in launching and working on the town's recent 375th Anniversary 'Community Building Community' project. Alongside other design and construction industry professionals and volunteers, its staff helped to conceive and raise two timber-frame structures (17th- and 21st-century) on Ipswich's Memorial Green near the Visitor

Center. A few weeks ago, these structures were moved to their permanent educational home as part of the sustainable campus of Cuvilly Earth & Arts Center on Jeffreys Neck Road.

Along with their established practice as architects and planners, OLD&D is also expanding their interior design services from just commercial to include a newly-launched residential interiors team. The interior designers work out of both their Manchester and Ipswich offices. They have already completed many residential and commercial projects on the North Shore. The firm offers interiors design as an independent service, or as a complementary facet of its architectural work with clients.

Locating an office in Ipswich is also a vote of confidence about Ipswich's future. Among North Shore communities, the firm believes that Ipswich is already showing itself as a place of renewed vitality. Returning economic health is certain to restore business confidence, nurture new residential projects and encourage commercial growth and opportunity. Although OLD&D has been a long-time practitioner in town, it chooses to 'come home' and be on-site to help meet the town's emerging needs.

In fact, partners Dioli and Doktor and other staff members have already supported the town through past economic recoveries. Ipswich has recuperated from even tougher economic challenges, when the downtown was largely vacant and town leaders were trying to retain anchor retail and commercial presences. During the same era, citizens and government struggled with decisions about preserving open space, passing significant bylaws, investing in the library and town hall and construction of a new middle school/high school campus. Both Dioli and Doktor stepped up to these civic challenges, taking on active community roles at that time. They served respectively on the School Building Committee, Historical Commission, Masterplan Commission, Growth Management Steering Committee, and the Ipswich Partnership's public-private initiative to revitalize the downtown.

As OLD&D officially opens for business in its new South Main Street office, watch for a corresponding exhibit of their work at Wavepaint Gallery: January 16 through Feb 26, 2010. The public will also be invited to attend the first in a cultural lecture series hosted by Wavepaint Gallery; a presentation entitled 'Structures' will be offered by Chris Doktor of OLD&D, on Saturday, February 6th from 4:00pm-5:00pm, following with an exhibit reception. Visit www.wavepaint.com for gallery information and decorations.

Ipswich residents and business owners are also welcome to an open house at the firm's new office on **Wednesday, January 27, 2010 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm** at 55 South Main Street. For more information about OLD&D's Open House, please email architect@oldarch.com.

Founded in 1980, Olson Lewis Dioli & Doktor Architects originated in centuries-old Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA. OLD&D is a full service, multi-discipline architectural firm whose design process is a collaborative one. For 30 years, their award-winning work has been notable throughout New England and other regions of the United States, as well as international locales. Responding to each project's location and setting, the firm is known for creating culturally and ecologically sensitive design solutions. Their in-house teams focus on specific market sectors: biotechnology, commercial, hospitality, education, and residential. Visit www.oldarch.com for more information about the firm's design philosophy and portfolio.

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