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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCELLENCE IN PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Dr. Robert B. MacKay of Cold Spring Harbor to be honored

ALBANY, NY – May 4, 2009 – The Preservation League of New York State has selected the **Dr. Robert B. MacKay** of Cold Spring Harbor, Suffolk County, to receive a Preservation League award for individual *Excellence in Historic Preservation*.

The League's statewide awards program honors notable achievements in retaining, promoting and reusing New York State's irreplaceable architectural heritage.

"Dr. MacKay is rightly acknowledged throughout Long Island for his preservation advocacy and generous advice to municipalities, communities, individual homeowners, and museums, and he had worked creatively and effectively for the region's cultural heritage," said Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League. "The Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities has grown and prospered under Bob's leadership, he has fostered the publication of numerous important books and studies, and his Chairmanship of the New York State Board for Historic Preservation continues to have a lasting impact on the direction and policy of the State Historic Preservation Office."

"Long Island abounds with landmarks worth saving," said Dr. MacKay. "Suffolk County is second only to New York County in the state for the number of National Register-designated sites, and I'm delighted to have played a role in championing their significance."

The award will be presented at the Preservation League's Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in New York City at 6:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 13th** at the historic **New York Yacht Club, 37 West 44th Street**.

The complete list of award winners is: Astor Courts in Rhinebeck, Dutchess County; Christ Episcopal Church in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County; Asbury Delaware Church – "Babeville," in Buffalo, Erie County; The Emerson in Manhattan, New York County; The

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Guggenheim Museum in Manhattan, New York County; the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building in Mineola, Nassau County; and The Chapel of the Sisters in Prospect Cemetery, Jamaica, Queens County. The Fred L. Emerson Foundation and Foundation Historical Society in Cayuga County will be honored for organizational excellence, and Dr. Robert B. MacKay of Cold Spring Harbor, Suffolk County, will be honored for individual excellence. ***The Olmsted City – The Buffalo Olmsted Park System: Plan for the 21st Century*** (University at Buffalo, 2008) will be honored as an outstanding publication.

“Excellence in Preservation Awards are our principal means of honoring the preservation community and educating the public about the important contribution that historic preservation makes to our quality of life throughout New York State,” said DiLorenzo. “Each year, we are impressed by the number and variety of laudable nominations, and this year was no exception. We are delighted to give Bob MacKay the statewide recognition he deserves.”

The Preservation League’s Excellence in Historic Preservation awards program is funded by a generous grant from the Arthur F. and Alice E. Adams Foundation of Miami, Florida.

By leading a statewide preservation movement, sharing information and expertise and raising a unified voice, the Preservation League of New York State promotes historic preservation as a tool to revitalize our neighborhoods and communities, honor our heritage and enrich our lives.

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