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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **PRESERVATION LEAGUE AWARDS PRESERVE NEW YORK GRANT** **Village of Fort Plain Secures \$6,500**

ALBANY, NY – 11/19/09 – The Preservation League of New York State will present a **\$6,500 grant** to the **Village of Fort Plain** on **Friday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Fort Plain Library, 19 Willett Street in Fort Plain. The grant will be used toward a reconnaissance-level cultural resources survey of the village.

Fort Plain development as a trading hub and small industrial center was aided by its location on the historic Erie Canal and the growth of the West Shore Railroad. Numerous mills, dwellings for their workers and owners, commercial blocks, and several large churches reflect the area's prosperity at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The survey will be completed by Jessie Ravage of Cooperstown, and will help prioritize planning efforts, creation of historic districts, and rehabilitation of buildings that are threatened by unsympathetic development. This is the first Preserve New York grant to be made in Montgomery County.

The Preserve New York Grant Program is a partnership program of the Preservation League and the New York State Council on the Arts. "Preserve New York has a strong track record of bolstering local preservation efforts and delivering a strong return on investment," said Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League. "In its 17-year history, Preserve New York has provided over \$1.4 million to 233 projects across the state, leveraging over \$20 million in additional project support and over \$500,000 in donated labor, services and materials."

"The Village of Fort Plain is pleased to have received the grant of \$6,500 from the Preserve New York Grant Program for the reconnaissance-level cultural resources survey," said

Mayor Guy Barton. “It is with this grant that the Village of Fort Plain can begin the process of preserving the many historic buildings that reflect the rich history here.”

“At its August, 2009 meeting, the Preserve New York grant program panel selected 16 projects in 15 counties around the state to share \$96,400 in funding,” said Erin Tobin, the League’s Regional Director of Technical and Grant Programs in eastern New York. “As always, the competition for these funds was intense. The Preservation League is delighted to help advance the historic preservation efforts of the Village of Fort Plain with this grant.”

According to Anne Van Ingen, Director of the Architecture, Planning and Design Program and Capital Projects at the New York State Council on the Arts, “Preserve New York grants have proven to be an effective catalyst for realizing community preservation goals and saving some of the Empire State’s most significant places. We are gratified that state funds made available for strategic grants through Preserve New York continue to leverage private investment, revitalize our historic neighborhoods and downtowns, and celebrate New York’s incomparable architectural legacy.”

Organizations and municipalities receiving grant awards in 2009 are: **Albany County:** Historic Albany Foundation; **Broome County:** Village of Whitney Point; **Cattaraugus County:** Village of Franklinville; **Chautauqua County:** Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC), Mayville; **Chemung County:** Historic Elmira; **Chenango County:** Guilford Historical Society, Guilford; **Columbia County:** Historic Hudson, Hudson; **Erie County:** Local Initiatives Support Corporation-Buffalo (Buffalo LISC); **Montgomery County:** Village of Fort Plain; **New York County:** Carnegie Hill Neighbors, New York City; **Otsego County:** Otsego 2000, Cooperstown; **Rockland County:** Town of Ramapo; **Saratoga County (2):** Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation and Village of Round Lake; **Steuben County:** Market Street Restoration Agency, (MSRA); **Ulster County:** Town of Rochester.

For more information on the Preserve New York Grant Program, please call 518-462-5658 or visit the League’s website at [www.preservenys.org](http://www.preservenys.org).