



FROM: Preservation League of New York State
44 Central Avenue
Albany NY 12206-3002
www.preservenys.org

CONTACTS: Colleen M. Ryan, Director of Communications
Preservation League of New York State
518-462-5658, ext. 17; cryan@preservenys.org

Ann-Eliza Lewis, Columbia County Historical Society
518-758-9265; director@cchsny.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCELLENCE IN PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

“Looking for Work” to be honored as outstanding publication

ALBANY, NY – April 30, 2010 – The Preservation League of New York State has selected *Looking for Work: Industrial Archeology in Columbia County, New York* by Peter H. Stott (Syracuse University Press, 2007) to receive an award for 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.

“Unfortunately, many of the tangible elements of the industrial history of the Hudson Valley are endangered,” said Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League. “This well-researched publication highlights existing sites and will serve as a resource for League staff, architectural historians, preservationists, and other historians. The photographic and archival documentation of these sites in this volume is exemplary. This publication will foster a greater understanding of these industrial resources, and may ultimately lead to their preservation.”

Contributing to the success of this effort were Columbia County Historical Society, Furthermore grants in publishing (a program of the J.M. Kaplan Fund), and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

The author used a combination of geological, historical, geographical, and architectural research to develop a comprehensive portrait of the county. According to Ann-Eliza Lewis, Executive Director of the Columbia County Historical Society, “*Looking for Work*’s descriptions of industrial sites, from ore roasting ovens to paper mills, from railroad bridges to soap factories, provides a whole new dimension to our understanding of the history of Columbia County, which is usually thought of as a rural agricultural community. We hope the book is used to help decipher industrial landscapes throughout New York and across the country.”

(more)

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 12th** at the historic **New York Yacht Club, 37 West 44th Street**.

The complete list of award winners is: William S. Hackett Middle School, Albany; The Belmont Hotel, Allegany County; Walkway over the Hudson, Poughkeepsie; The Guaranty Building, Buffalo; The American Museum of Natural History, 77th Street Façades, New York; Empire State Building Lobby Restoration, New York; Oswego Public Library, Oswego; West Hall at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy. ***Looking for Work: Industrial Archeology in Columbia County, New York*** by Peter H. Stott (Syracuse University Press, 2007) will be honored as an outstanding publication. Senator David Valesky and Assemblymember Sam Hoyt, Legislative sponsors of the New York State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, will be honored for individual excellence.

“Excellence in Preservation Awards are our principal means of honoring the preservation community and educating the public about the important contribution that historic preservation projects make to our quality of life throughout New York State,” said DiLorenzo. “Each year, we are impressed by the number and variety of laudable projects and publications, and this year was no exception. We are delighted to give ***Looking for Work*** the statewide recognition it 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.

###