



**Preservation
League of NYS**

Sag Harbor Hills, Azurest & Ninevah Subdivisions Designated Seven to Save Site

This biennial list from the Preservation League highlights the most at-risk historic places in New York State

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Albany, NY, 02/05/2020 — Since 1999, the Preservation League has highlighted New York’s threatened historic sites through the Seven to Save list, which provides enhanced services from the League to bolster visibility and build support for preservation. Through partnerships with groups and individuals, threats to dozens of at-risk buildings, landscapes, downtowns, and neighborhoods have been reduced, and in many cases, eliminated by the Preservation League’s listing and subsequent actions. Press conferences, tours, grants, and new legislation are among the strategies the Preservation League uses to secure the future of at-risk historic places. The League also collaborates with advocates, elected officials and other stakeholders to craft preservation strategies and put these plans to work.

“These Seven to Save selections bring attention to fascinating diverse aspects of The Empire State’s rich, eclectic built history,” said **Preservation League Seven to Save Committee Chair Caroline Rob Zaleski**. “Each threatened site represents a particular approach to engineering and architecture, as well as specific public purpose and sociology.”

“Our 2020-21 Seven to Save list helps tell the story of the many people who made our state unique,” said **Preservation League President Jay DiLorenzo**. “A sacred burial ground, a vulnerable lighthouse, a reimagined high school, a susceptible beachside enclave, an iconic canal system, a para-architectural installation, an imperiled research center; each site speaks to what makes our state special.”

The Preservation League announces one of our Seven to Save sites is on Long Island:

- **Sag Harbor Hills, Azurest & Ninevah Subdivisions (SANS) | Sag Harbor, Suffolk County**
Threat: Demolition, deterioration, development pressure, lack of public awareness, loss of visual/architectural integrity, vacancy
Sag Harbor Hills, Azurest, and Ninevah Subdivisions (SANS) developed in the mid-20th century as African American vacation communities. The modest, midcentury homes captured the spirit of the American Dream and provided the backdrop for a thriving community knitted together by strong social bonds - famous residents included poet



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Langston Hughes and actress Lena Horne. As SANS families continue to age and move away, developers seeking prime waterfront property are replacing existing homes with luxury residences. A strong group of local advocates is spearheading preservation efforts because despite its National Register status, SANS lacks strong local protection or zoning. This Seven to Save designation will enhance the advocacy work already begun and catalyze protection for this culturally significant area.

The 2020-21 Seven to Save List also includes:

- **New York State Barge Canal System** | Multiple Counties
Threat: Development pressure, lack of public awareness, loss of visual/architectural integrity
- **Hudson-Athens Lighthouse** | Hudson River, Greene County
Threat: Deterioration, lack of public awareness, loss of visual/architectural integrity
- **Richard Lippold's *Orpheus and Apollo*** | New York County
Threat: Development pressure, lack of public awareness
- **Central Technical High School** | Syracuse, Onondaga County
Threat: Deterioration, development pressure, lack of public awareness, loss of visual/architectural integrity, vacancy
- **Parrott Hall** | Geneva, Ontario County
Threat: Demolition, deterioration, loss of visual/architectural integrity, vacancy
- **Elmhurst African American Burial Ground** | Elmhurst, Queens County
Threat: Development pressure, lack of public awareness

More information about these historic sites and the Seven to Save program can be found on our website: <https://www.preservenys.org/seven-to-save>

Interviews with leaders from the Preservation League and Eastville Community Historical Society of Sag Harbor are available by request.

About the Preservation League of New York State

Since its founding in 1974, the Preservation League has built a reputation for action and effectiveness. Our goal has been to preserve our historic buildings, districts and landscapes and to build a better New York, one community at a time. The Preservation League of New York State invests in people and projects that champion the essential role of preservation in community revitalization, sustainable economic growth and the protection of our historic buildings and landscapes. We lead advocacy, economic development, and education programs across the state.

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