



SEVEN TO SAVE

RAISING THE VISIBILITY OF LOCAL PRESERVATION CHALLENGES



In 2009, the Preservation League of New York State is using its annual listing of endangered places, Seven to Save, to support and enhance the year-long commemoration of the voyages of Henry Hudson, Robert Fulton and Samuel de Champlain. The 2009 Seven to Save List gives voice to seven disparate sites which illustrate the heroic saga of the exploration and settlement of the Hudson and Champlain valleys.



Magdalen Island

LOCATION:

Red Hook, in Tivoli Bays, Dutchess County

PERIOD OF

SIGNIFICANCE:

Late Archaic, 6,000-3,000 years ago, through post-contact period

LANDMARK STATUS:

State and National Register, Hudson River National Historic Landmark District

THREAT:

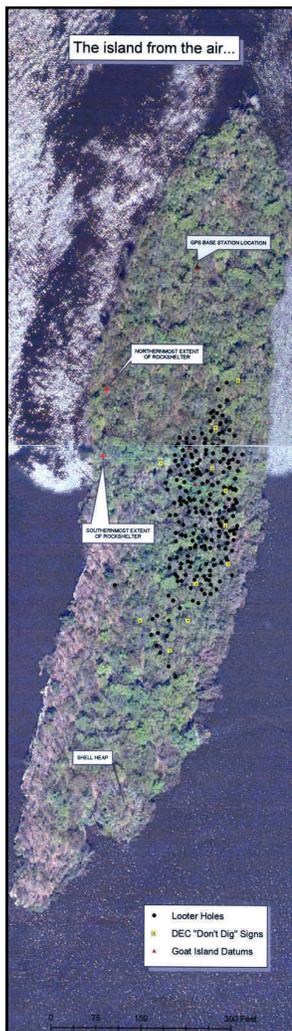
Consistent looting over many years, monitoring challenges due to its location.

HISTORY AND QUADRICENTENNIAL CONNECTION:

Studies of Magdalen Island have shown that from the Late Archaic (6,000-3,000 years ago) through the post-European contact period, this site has been in use as a seasonal home. The Hudson River provided food for surrounding communities and the site was used as a workshop for tool-making. The site remains important for its teaching potential, as well as the additional archeological information the site could yield, according to small field tests.

HOW THE LEAGUE IS HELPING:

Unlike many archeological sites, this site and the associated looting has been well-publicized through the efforts of its chief advocate, Mary Burns. Burns has found that the site is so well-known locally, that only through publicity and obvious marking of looter pits, has the looting subsided. Burns seeks to systematize the monitoring of the site and engage DEC in looter pit marking, video surveillance, and site visitation. Site advocates hope that pending regulations accompanying a new, stronger anti-looting law will bring clarification to the penalties associated with archeological scavenging. The Preservation League will bring attention to the need for archeological site protection through this *Seven to Save* listing, and bolster efforts to seek legal protections with the assistance of Public Policy staff.



The Preservation League is a statewide not-for-profit organization based in Albany.
For more information, please visit www.preservenys.org