



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.



Plumb-Bronson House

LOCATION:

Hudson,
Columbia County

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:

1811, 1838, 1849

LANDMARK STATUS:

National Historic
Landmark, National
Register

THREAT:

Many years of unchecked
deterioration

HISTORY AND QUADRICENTENNIAL CONNECTION:

Samuel Plumb, owner and operator of a fleet of tow boats on the Hudson River, purchased this property and built his home here in 1811. In 1838, when Dr. Oliver Bronson purchased the house from Plumb, Bronson retained the services of Alexander Jackson Davis to embellish the house, to which Davis returned in 1849 in order to reorient the house to the Hudson River, with an Italianate-style addition. In addition to serving as the first superintendent of the Hudson City School System and as a stockholder in the newly-formed Hudson Gas Company, Bronson invested in commerce along the Hudson River.

HOW THE LEAGUE IS HELPING:

Preservation Colleague organization Historic Hudson has secured a 30-year lease on this long-neglected site on the grounds of the Hudson Correctional Facility and owned by the NYS Office of General Services. Now, Historic Hudson needs to determine a new use and plans for site stewardship. The Preservation League is providing assistance to Historic Hudson through its technical and grant programs. In September, 2009, Historic Hudson was awarded a Preserve New York grant toward the preparation of an Historic Structure Report. Publicity for this effort as well as a June tour for League members highlight Historic Hudson's ongoing fundraising efforts on behalf of this building.



The Preservation League is a statewide not-for-profit organization based in Albany.

For more information, please visit www.preservenys.org