So our past has a future.
MISSION

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 all across the state.

New York will mark the bicentennial of the iconic Erie Canal from 2017-2025. This period represents the span of construction, from the groundbreaking in Rome in 1817 to the fabled “Wedding of the Waters” in New York Harbor in 1825.

To help celebrate this anniversary, we’re highlighting some of the work we’ve done in the Erie Canal corridor—in places like St. Johnsville, Seneca Falls, Cohoes, Albion—and in many other communities large and small across New York State.

Visit our website at www.preservenys.org/eriecanal for more information.

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St. Johnsville was founded by Palatine Germans in the 1720s at the base of a steep hill and along the Mohawk River in what is now Montgomery County. The Mohawk River, Mohawk Turnpike, Erie Canal and New York Central Railroad each contributed to the town’s growth.

Preservation advocates and historians in St. Johnsville first reached out to the Preservation League in 2013 and shared their concerns for the village’s architectural heritage. Many buildings had been lost and others were neglected.

League staff has made several visits to St. Johnsville and the surrounding communities to support efforts to identify and preserve the area’s historic resources.

Through its signature Preserve New York (PNY) and Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) programs, the League has funded several studies and surveys, with a goal of extending the benefits of New York State and Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits to property owners in this canalside community, including:

**TAG 2014**—$3,500—Nellis Tavern Stencil Conservation Study

**PNY 2014**—$7,300—Reconnaissance Survey of the Village of St. Johnsville

**PNY 2015**—$10,000—Cultural Resource Survey of rural resources in St. Johnsville, Root, Minden, Mohawk and Palatine

**PNY 2016**—$9,000—National Register Nomination for the Village of St. Johnsville

According to Montgomery County Executive Matthew L. Ossenfort, “Identifying and maintaining these historical buildings not only safeguards our traditions and our history, but enhances the benefits of heritage tourism, which can be an important economic driver for the county and the region.”

The League looks forward to continuing our work in St. Johnsville and throughout the state, promoting the latest in preservation technology, sustainability and economic development, as we have since 1974.
Message From the Chair

2017 marks the 200th anniversary of the groundbreaking of the Erie Canal, an event that transformed New York State and the nation. More on that from Jay.

2017 is also the anniversary of another transformative moment—the creation of the Preservation Colleagues program by the Preservation League twenty years ago. This is a network of over 30 professionally staffed local and regional historic preservation nonprofits scattered across New York State. The goal twenty years ago was to strengthen and support the work of preservationists across the State by bringing the staff of these organizations together a couple of times a year to get specialized training, learn from each other and build a formidable, united voice for preservation. The program was launched with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, and that agency remains a supporter of the program to this day.

The Colleagues program is a good example of the League’s skill at thinking strategically. Twenty years ago the League asked, how can we, the statewide group, most effectively catalyze and support preservation efforts at the local level across the state? How can we collectively promote a shared statewide preservation agenda? One of the answers lay in the simple fact that New York State has the highest number of professionally staffed historic preservation nonprofits in the country. Taken together, their service areas covered then and now about half of the state. Setting up a network with and amongst these groups would inevitably strengthen the field.

Building connections to and among those groups has many benefits. What may seem to be a unique problem in Elmira may not be when shared with colleagues in Brooklyn or Keeseville. Sharing solutions and best practices builds the movement. Similarly, when a statewide issue like the reauthorization and enhancement of the NYS Rehabilitation Tax Credit comes up, there’s an army of well-informed preservationists ready to jump into action.

Historic preservation is about saving and reusing our wonderful landmarks, historic neighborhoods, rural landscapes and commercial centers for future use. It is also about people and building an ethic and shared vision of how this state can be a great place to live and work. Even in these times of deep, digital connectivity, the League still believes that there’s real value in sitting around a table with coffee and donuts to build strong, mutually supportive relationships to move our shared agenda forward.

The League has successfully done that with our partners in the Preservation Colleagues network over the last twenty years, and that’s well worth celebrating. May it thrive for decades to come.

Anne H. Van Ingen
Two centuries ago, New Yorkers pulled together to create the Erie Canal, developing a vital corridor for goods and ideas that transformed New York State and the nation. Much of this transformation took place in the cities and towns along the canal, and much of this architecture remains - giving us not only a perspective on the past, but a platform for revitalization and reuse.

While many things have changed in 200 years, the Preservation League still knows the value of people working together. Through our partnerships from Montauk to Buffalo, we are protecting and preserving historic buildings and neighborhoods along the Erie Canal and across the state.

Together with longtime funders like the New York State Council on the Arts, and more recently with supporters like the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, we have been able to direct more grant funds than ever into grassroots preservation projects that are creating new historic districts, revitalizing theaters and cultural spaces and restoring key downtown buildings.

On the federal level, we’re working with colleague organizations like Adirondack Architectural Heritage, the Rural Ulster Preservation Company, Preservation Buffalo Niagara, the National Trust, Preservation Action and others to protect the federal rehabilitation tax credit program that has spurred $3 billion worth of restoration projects in New York State since 2013.

Through collaboration with groups like the Hudson River Valley Greenway, Greater Hudson Heritage Network, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, Landmark Society of Western New York, The Municipal Art Society of New York and others, we’re holding workshops and conferences that teach New Yorkers about our architectural heritage, how to use tax credits, where to find project funding and even how to build the capacity of their local preservation efforts.

Partnerships have also proven essential in addressing the threats faced by New York’s most endangered historic places on the League’s Seven to Save list. Working closely with the Rapp Road Historical Association in Albany, Schenectady Heritage Foundation, Bronx Community College and many others, we’ve helped to protect a historically African-American enclave facing development pressure, a historic neighborhood threatened by river flooding, and a landmark library in the Bronx.

Just like those industrious New Yorkers who built their lives along the Erie Canal, we need to pull together to support the transformative preservation projects that will help our communities succeed. Many thanks for your partnership over the past year, and here’s to more successes to come.

Jay DiLorenzo
The boom years also left their mark in other solid, handsome buildings and downtowns: opera houses, schools, churches and Main Streets. But canal and railroad traffic waned and the New York State Thruway bypassed canal communities, manufacturing abandoned upstate New York, and massive industrial buildings were left vacant. Communities lost jobs, then residents, and finally their Main Streets went dark.

Now, interest in the Erie Canal as an engine for recreation and tourism is on the upswing, and the Preservation League is helping communities in the Erie Canal Corridor address their unique preservation challenges. Through grants, loans, technical services, workshops, awards and our Industrial Heritage Reuse Project, we’ve helped individuals, not-for-profits and municipalities revitalize their canalside assets.

The League forged a strategic relationship with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor starting with the Industrial Heritage Reuse Project in 2014. The League piloted a program to create development and rehabilitation plans for selected buildings in the Canal Corridor, to illustrate the potential of the sites and to celebrate their host communities’ history. The project was supported by the J.M. Kaplan Fund with additional assistance from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

The Heritage Corridor also worked to facilitate reinvestment in historic buildings and infrastructure by providing additional financial support to the Technical Assistance Grant Program, a partnership program of the New York State Council on the Arts and the League (see page 14).

The Preservation League looks forward to continuing to play a role in fostering, enhancing and celebrating New York’s historic resources along the Erie Canal. We hope that as you join us in marking its bicentennial, you’ll take note of the nearby towns and villages that grew, declined and are being reborn alongside the Canal. With your support, the League will continue our work in cities, towns, and rural communities—along the Erie Canal, and across the Empire State—so our past has a future.

In July 1817, workers broke ground for the Erie Canal in Rome. From the opening of the Canal through the mid-20th century, companies constructed headquarters, warehouses, mills, manufacturing and utility buildings to support leading industries. Worker housing and stately homes for business owners followed—as the song says—from Albany to Buffalo.
In 2013, the Cobblestone Historical Society in Albion secured a $3,000 Technical Assistance Grant to support the cost of a building conditions survey of the 1836 Ward House.

In 2006, Phase 1 of the Lofts at Harmony Mills in Cohoes won an Excellence in Historic Preservation Award for the restoration of Harmony Mills #3.

In 2015, the Seneca Falls Historical Society secured a $3,000 Technical Assistance Grant to support the cost of a condition survey of the 1855 Mynderse/Partridge/Becker House.

Over the past 15 years, the Preservation League has supported more than 70 preservation efforts along the Erie Canal corridor with advocacy, education, grants, and loans. Learn more about how we’re helping to protect the Erie Canal’s legacy at www.preservenys.org/eriecanal.
Endangered Properties Intervention Program

Established in 2007, the Endangered Properties Intervention Program, EPIP, makes it possible for the preservation community to take direct action when an important historic resource is threatened with disinvestment, neglect or demolition.

EPIP provides loan funds to those working to acquire, stabilize and restore historic properties. To date, the program has focused on making loans, but EPIP also allows the League to accept donations of property and contract to buy or sell a property.

As of June 2017, preservation loans totaling more than $2 million dollars have been made and have leveraged more than $4.4 million in other public and private investments.

A NEW LOOK FOR ALBANY’S OLDEST HOUSE

Historic Albany Foundation secured a $200,000 EPIP loan to help support stabilization and weatherproofing at the National Register-listed Van Ostrande-Radliff House at 48 Hudson Avenue in downtown Albany.

48 Hudson Avenue was built by Johannes van Ostrande in 1728 just outside the city’s stockade walls. The building retains many features not often preserved in other buildings from its time, including a molded anchor beam, the outline of a jambless fireplace, wide pine exterior siding, wide floorboards, steeply pitched roof beams, and original brick walls. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2008 and prior to that had been a contributing property to the Downtown Albany Historic District.

The Van Ostrande-Radliff House provides a rare and authentic connection to Albany’s early history, as well as the settlement and urbanization of New York State. This unassuming building, now adrift in a sea of parking lots, is the earlier of only two buildings that remain in the city of Albany from its culturally Dutch period. Since Historic Albany Foundation took ownership in 2013, they have made great strides to secure this rare resource, and the League is delighted to provide support for the next phase of the restoration.

Historic Albany Foundation has already demonstrated success in fundraising for 48 Hudson, securing some $60,000 for the first round of emergency stabilization, and recently launched a partnership with Dutch Culture USA to highlight the significance of the building. Dutch Culture USA, which promotes arts and culture from the Netherlands in the United States, provided a grant to install a graphic fabric scrim on 48 Hudson’s north facade. Working together, preservation architects, historians, and artists designed the scrim to depict the building’s facade in trompe l’oeil, as it likely appeared when it was constructed, nearly 300 years ago.
Federal Advocacy
At the same time, the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program continued to face the very real threat of elimination during tax reform efforts in Congress—a move that would hamstring ongoing revitalization projects throughout New York State.

In this difficult policy environment, the League redoubled our efforts to connect with members of our congressional delegation and reinforce the important role that historic preservation plays in revitalizing communities, creating local jobs, stimulating private investment, and saving our historic places.

We sought support for two key pieces of federal legislation: a bill to reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund, the source of funding for each state’s Historic Preservation Office and programs; and the Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act, a bill to enhance the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, particularly for projects under $3.75 million in rehabilitation costs. The companion bill in the Senate has Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand as an original co-sponsor.

As part of Preservation Lobby Days in Washington D.C., the League advocated for preservation funding and the protection of tax credits and met with staff from 24 of New York’s 27 congressional offices and both Senate offices.

In addition, League staff participated in a Heritage Roundtable organized by Rep. Paul Tonko (D-Albany), pictured below, to discuss the practical needs and policy concerns of heritage groups. We also signed on to a joint letter to Congress that urged federal funding to address the backlog of deferred maintenance at national parks, and funding for historic structures.

State Advocacy
As we lay the groundwork for the enhancement and reauthorization of the New York State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program which is set to sunset in December 2019, the League participated in a news announcement in Troy organized by the office of Governor Andrew Cuomo. Officials noted that since 2013, historic tax credits have incentivized $3 billion worth of investment in New York State. In 2016 alone, staff at the State Historic Preservation Office completed reviews of nearly $750 million worth of tax credit projects, more than any other state in the nation. New York continues to consistently outperform most other states in the utilization of state and federal rehabilitation tax credits.

The League signed on to joint letters to Governor Cuomo in support of continued full funding of the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), an important source of grants for historic preservation, as well as continued funding to address infrastructure shortcomings and deferred maintenance in state parks through the NY Parks 2020 initiative.

In May, the Preservation League commented on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s (DEC) proposed amendments to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). SEQRA is an important preservation tool that requires state and local governments to consider a project’s impact on historic resources as part of the project approval process. SEQRA also plays a significant role in public notification and comment on projects seeking local or state funding or approval.

The Preservation League organized and led a coalition of ten preservation organizations from across the state to sign a letter to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), urging them to maintain SEQRA’s inclusion of small projects that threaten historic resources, citing the proliferation of Stewarts and Dollar General chains in small towns and villages. In that letter, we also applauded DEC’s inclusion of buildings eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a Type I action.

Historic preservation faced a challenging environment in Washington as cuts were proposed to a number of programs that are central to our work including the Historic Preservation Fund, Save America’s Treasures, and funding for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices.
Seven to Save

Since 1999, the Preservation League has focused statewide attention on New York’s most important and at-risk historic places through our Seven to Save list of endangered places.

Working with local stakeholders, the League has been able to avert demolition, develop plans for reuse, secure landmark designation, and foster greater public awareness of the value of New York’s unique and irreplaceable historic resources.

We have worked with our 2016-17 Seven to Save sites since announcing the list in March, 2016.

RAPP ROAD COMMUNITY HISTORIC DISTRICT
Albany, Albany County
The Rapp Road Historical Association and Preservation League worked together on community outreach and bringing more attention to this important historic district. We led a successful application to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for a historic roadside marker in the Rapp Road National Register Historic District, calling attention to this neighborhood as a rare intact example of a community formed in the Great Migration of African-American families moving north in the first half of the 20th century.

GOULD MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Bronx, Bronx County
The Preservation League worked with the Bronx Community College to raise awareness of the Gould Memorial Library, hosting a tour of this Stanford White-designed National Historic Landmark. We supported the college’s successful application to the NYS Environmental Protection Fund for restoration of the library’s dome and continue to provide technical services to the college.

WILDROOT
Buffalo, Erie County
Wildroot, a National Register-eligible industrial complex on Bailey Avenue in Buffalo, remains in ownership limbo. Local advocates from Buffalo’s Young Preservationists and Preservation Buffalo Niagara are working with the Preservation League to demonstrate the multiple possibilities for reuse that this 100,000+ square foot complex offers. The three organizations hosted a neighborhood block party, bringing over 40 members of Wildroot’s immediate community together to brainstorm potential adaptive uses.

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**ADIRONDACK SCENIC RAILROAD**
*Several Municipalities, Essex and Franklin Counties*

The Adirondack Scenic Railroad did not operate in the tri-lakes region (Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake) of the Adirondacks in 2017. The NYS-owned railroad tracks from Lake Placid to Tupper Lake, a contributing feature of the New York Central Railroad, Adirondack worked together to commission an engineering assessment of the Dutch Reformed Church interior. Engineering firm Ryan Biggs | Clark Davis, with help from Vertical Access, assessed the roof truss system and remaining plaster ceiling inside the sanctuary. As the report neared completion, the city issued a Request for Proposals seeking a developer for the Dutch Reformed Church, City Club, and nearby vacant land.

**STOCKADE HISTORIC DISTRICT**
*Schenectady, Schenectady County*

The Preservation League worked with the city of Schenectady, Stockade Association, and Schenectady Heritage Foundation on a design guidelines steering committee, following the city’s receipt of a NYS grant for design guidelines within the Stockade Historic District. The city contracted with Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker to create design guidelines within the historic district to help guide the Schenectady Historic District Commission as property owners seek to mitigate future flood damage. The district was heavily flooded in Tropical Storms Irene and Lee in 2011, and because of its proximity to the Mohawk River, the Stockade is particularly susceptible to flooding from storms or snow/ice melt and dams.

**DENNIS NEWTON HOUSE**
*Ithaca, Tompkins County*

Following the Preservation League’s Seven to Save designation of the Dennis Newton House, the city of Ithaca and Historic Ithaca, one of our preservation colleagues, worked with the property owner to correct the house’s code violations. Since 2016, the owner has stabilized and repaired this historic house, the birthplace of the nation’s first black fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha. The front porch, window glazing, gutters and downspouts, and clapboard have all been repaired or replaced in kind.

Division National Register Historic District, are scheduled for demolition. A ruling issued by the NYS Supreme Court in September 2017 has delayed track demolition. The Preservation League continues to advocate for preservation of the historic district, urging a rails with trails compromise solution.

**DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH**
*Newburgh, Orange County*

In 2016, the city of Newburgh and Preservation League The city sought a developer who would commit to preservation and adaptive use of the Dutch Reformed Church and City Club. The Preservation League, along with several other stakeholders from the preservation community and city of Newburgh, participated in reviewing the developer proposals and provided technical assistance throughout the process.
Preservation Colleagues
The Preservation Colleagues met in March at the Tech Valley Center of Gravity in Troy. As always, the meeting began and ended with roundtable discussions of preservation issues and organizational challenges and strengths from across the state. Colleagues from Long Island to the Adirondacks and Western New York were represented. Wade Beltramo, General Counsel at the New York Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials, gave a presentation on best practices of municipal zoning, which is often the front line of historic preservation and an often-overlooked process among citizen advocates.

Regional Outreach
The Preservation League began two regional initiatives in the Southern Tier and on Long Island.

With the support of the Corning Foundation and Community Foundation of Elmira Corning and the Finger Lakes, we hired Kati Smith as our Southern Tier Field Services Consultant. Kati worked out of Corning in space generously donated by Johnson-Schmidt and Associates, Architects, and provided enhanced technical services in the greater Southern Tier region, approximately Broome to Allegany Counties. This outreach helped lead to a possible new use for the Maxwell Place Fire Station in Elmira, one of our 2014-15 Seven to Save. Working with the city of Elmira, Historic Elmira, and Johnson-Schmidt and Associates, Architects, the League helped to develop strategies for reuse of this historic fire house. In June 2017, the Elmira Fire Fighters Local 709 Union approved a motion to seek grants to make the Maxwell Place Fire Station No. 4 their Union Hall.

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation has generously partnered with the Preservation League and New York State Council on the Arts to support the Preserve New York program and technical support for nonprofits undertaking a capital repair or restoration project. In early 2017, the Preservation League held three grant outreach workshops on Long Island, in Stony Brook, Sag Harbor, and Bethpage.
Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards

A building that, like its namesake, rose from the ashes. A maritime vessel introducing new artisans to long-lost trades. A small-town opera house, restored to its rightful role as a vibrant regional center for culture and music. These are just a few of the Award-winning projects honored by the Preservation League on May 10, 2017. Full descriptions of each of the Awards may be found on our website.

The Preservation League’s awards celebrate the completion of outstanding restoration projects; validate the work of organizations; encourage advocates to continue their pursuits; and elevate the visibility of projects that serve as inspiration to others.

Preservation and reuse of historic buildings is key to the economic revitalization of New York’s cities, towns, and villages. Many of the 2017 award winners took advantage of New York State and Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits to ensure the success of their projects. Tax credits have been instrumental in attracting investment to long-vacant historic properties, from schools to mills and factories. That’s why the League is already ramping up advocacy efforts to enhance and extend the New York State Rehabilitation Tax Credits beyond their scheduled sunset date of December, 2019.

We were happy to welcome a new presenting sponsor for the 2017 Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards, Uberto Construction of New York City.

2017 EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Phoenix Brewery Apartments
Buffalo

Beekman Hotel and Residences/
Temple Court, New York City

A. Philip Randolph Houses
Phase One, New York City

South Street Seaport Museum:
The 1885 Sailing Ship Wavertree
New York City

Rouge Tomate Chelsea
New York City

Marriott Syracuse Downtown
(formerly Hotel Syracuse)

Pickens Hall & Opera House
Heuvelton

Argos Inn, Ithaca

Ruth Pierpont, former Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation and the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Signature Grant Programs

Since its founding in 1974, the Preservation League has built a reputation for action and effectiveness. Our goal has been to preserve historic buildings, districts, and landscapes in order to build a better New York, one community at a time.

Through the Preserve New York, Technical Assistance, and Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund grant programs, the League has strategically invested in the rehabilitation of historic places, leveraged significant additional resources, and protected properties at the local, state and national levels through landmark designations. In addition to these tangible results, grant recipients often speak of the legitimacy that grant awards offer local preservation efforts. Whether the funds are early investments or support for a project that’s already underway, Preservation League grants are an important catalyst for realizing community preservation goals.

PRESERVE NEW YORK
A Grant Program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and the Preservation League of New York State

At its 2016 meeting, the Preserve New York grant panel selected 26 applicants in 18 counties to receive support totaling $202,000. Many of these grants will lead to historic district designation or expansion, allowing property owners to take advantage of New York State and Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits. With the announcement of the 2016 awards, the total support provided by Preserve New York since its launch in 1993 is $2.2 million to 346 projects statewide.

ALBANY COUNTY
Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, Inc., Albany—$4,000
Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence Building Condition Report

BRONX COUNTY
Woodlawn Conservancy, Bronx—$6,000
Olmsted-Designed Cemetery Plots Historic Landscape Report

ERIE COUNTY
Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Buffalo
$7,000—Fruit Belt Neighborhood Reconnaissance Level Survey
Preservation Buffalo Niagara, Buffalo
$7,000—Broadway-Fillmore Neighborhood Intensive Level Survey
Roycroft Campus Corporation, East Aurora
$12,000—Roycroft Print Shop Historic Structure Report
Village of Hamburg—$5,000—West Side Neighborhood Intensive Level Survey
Village of Springville—$7,000—Main Street Historic District State and National Register Nomination

FRANKLIN COUNTY
Historic Saranac Lake, Saranac Lake—$2,000
Berkeley Square Historic District Expansion
Village of Saranac Lake—$8,500
Paul Smith’s Electric Light & Power and Railroad Company Building Condition Report

HAMILTON COUNTY
Adirondack Historical Association/Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake—$9,000—Log Hotel and Cottages Building Condition Report

MADISON COUNTY
Oneida Community Mansion House, Oneida—$8,000—Oneida Community Mansion House Building Condition Report

Since 1993, Preserve New York has provided $2.2 million to 346 projects statewide.

2016 Grants leveraged $163,568 in additional funding.

Nearly 3,160 properties were surveyed for potential inclusion in National Register Districts.
The Preserve New York and the Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) programs are a partnership between the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and the Preservation League of New York State. These programs are made possible with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

MADISON COUNTY continued
Stone Quarry Hill Art Park, Inc., Cazenovia—$7,000—Dorothy Riester Home Building Condition Report

MONROE COUNTY
Greece Historical Society, Greece—$13,000 Cultural Resource Survey of the Architectural Works of James H. Johnson
David Hochstein Memorial Music School, Inc., Rochester—$15,000—Hochstein School Building Condition Report

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Village of Fultonville—$4,500
Village of Fultonville State and National Register Nomination
Village of St. Johnsville—$9,000
Village of St. Johnsville State and National Register Nomination

NEW YORK COUNTY
CIVITAS Citizens, Inc., Manhattan—$10,000
East Harlem/Pleasant Avenue Neighborhood Cultural Resource Survey

ONTARIO COUNTY
Ontario County Historical Society, Canandaigua—$9,000—Ontario County Historical Society Museum Building Condition Report

ORANGE COUNTY
Village of Warwick—$9,000—Madison Lewis Woodland Cultural Landscape Report

RENSELAER COUNTY
Village of Valley Falls—$5,500
Village of Valley Falls State and National Register Nomination

SCHENECTADY COUNTY
Vale Cemetery Preservation, Inc., Schenectady—$10,000—Vale Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report, Phase III

SUFFOLK COUNTY
Sylvester Manor Educational Farm, Shelter Island—$9,000—Sylvester Manor Historic Outbuildings Building Condition Report

TIoga COUNTY
Village of Owego—$5,000—Owego Central Fire Station Building Condition Report

WASHINGTON COUNTY
Hubbard Hall Center for the Arts & Education, Inc., Cambridge—$12,000—Hubbard Hall Historic Structure Report

WAYNE COUNTY
Town of Lyons—$9,500—Town of Lyons State and National Register Nomination

WESTCHESTER COUNTY
Village of Tarrytown—$4,000—Warner Library Building Condition Report
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS
A Grant Program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and the Preservation League of New York State with additional support from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

The Preservation League of New York State offered the 2016 Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program to strong statewide demand. Eligible groups compete for funds for technical studies carried out by preservation and design professionals including building condition surveys, engineering/structural analyses, feasibility/reuse studies, and specialized building conservation studies. Each successful applicant provides a $500 match.

The Spring 2016 grant round awarded $28,600 to ten projects in ten counties, and the Fall grant round awarded $24,000 to eight projects in seven counties.

### Spring

**DELAWARE COUNTY**
Roxbury Arts Group, Inc.—$3,000
Building Condition Survey

**ERIE COUNTY**
Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village—$3,000
Specialized Conservation Study

**MONROE COUNTY**
Rochester Arts Center d/b/a Genesee Center for the Arts & Education—$3,000
Condition Survey

**ONEIDA COUNTY**
Brothertown Association—$3,000
Feasibility Reuse Study

**ONTARIO COUNTY**
Naples Historical Society—$3,000
Engineering/Structural Analysis

**ORANGE COUNTY**
National Temple Hill Association—$3,000
Building Condition Survey

**RENSSLEAER COUNTY**
Sand Lake Center for the Arts—$2,100
Building Condition Survey

### Fall

**DUTCHESS COUNTY**
Dutchess County Art Association, d/b/a Barrett Art Center—$3,000
Building Condition Survey (Roof)

**LEWIS COUNTY**
Village of Lyons Falls—$3,000
Engineering/Structural Analysis

**QUEENS COUNTY**
Voelker Orth Museum, Bird Sanctuary & Victorian Garden—$3,000
Building Condition Survey

**ROCKLAND COUNTY**
John Green Preservation Coalition—$3,000
Engineering/Structural Analysis

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY**
Klinkart Hall Arts Center, Inc.—$3,000
Building Condition Survey

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY**
Schoharie Free Library Association—$3,000
Building Condition Survey

**SULLIVAN COUNTY**
Delaware Valley Arts Alliance—$3,000
Feasibility Reuse Study

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY**
Caramoor Center for Music & Arts, Inc.—$3,000
Specialized Conservation Study

“The news of this grant is terrific. The Preserve New York award will help us better preserve the hotel complex and prepare it for a new interpretive exhibition. It’s time the Log Hotel took center stage on our museum campus.”

Laura Rice, Chief Curator, Adirondack Museum (PNY 2016)

“In our earnest efforts to protect this Revolutionary War Headquarters, this grant and the building condition survey will go a long way toward preserving our museum for future generations...”

Gregory Biasotti, Secretary, the National Temple Hill Association (TAG Spring 2016)

“This grant will allow us to, at last, address a real need in trying to preserve the best of what is left of the changing neighborhood.”

Jim Serafin, Board President, Historic East Side Neighborhood Initiative (PNY 2016)
The Preservation League of New York State made an $8,900 grant to the City of Amsterdam at the Mohasco Power House to support the cost of an analysis of the structure, also known as the McCleary, Wallin and Crouse Power House. Built in 1903, it is one of the few buildings to survive from the city's once-flourishing carpet manufacturing industry.

Since 1836 when William K. Greene opened his first Amsterdam carpet mill, names like Stephen Sanford and Sons, McCleary Wallin & Crouse, and the Shuttleworth Brothers Company were synonymous with high-quality woven carpets. These mills used the North Chuctanunda Creek to power their machinery. In 1920, a merger led to the creation of Mohawk Carpet Mills, and three decades later, Mohasco Industries was formed. By the late 1960s, however, the company had moved to Georgia, and the power house sat vacant for many decades. It is now owned by the city of Amsterdam.

The city of Amsterdam sought grant funding as part of an effort to establish a walking trail along the North Chuctanunda Creek celebrating Amsterdam's industrial history and natural beauty. A previous grant from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor produced wayside signage connecting the North Chuctanunda Creek Trail with the Mohawk Valley Pedestrian Bridge and Erie Canalway Trail.

Before they could integrate the power house with the walking trail, the city would need to fund a conditions assessment and code analysis of the power house, prioritize a list of recommended repairs to the bridge and power house exterior, and determine a preliminary construction cost. Such a study would allow the city to determine the best use for the power house and offer guidance on staging the stabilization and restoration.

With an $8,900 grant from the League’s Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund, the city has retained Lacey Thaler Reilly Wilson Architecture and Preservation LLP of Albany to complete the analysis, including the bridge, rooms between the south entrance and bridge entrance, and the condition of the power house's southern and eastern exterior walls. The city of Amsterdam will provide a $500 retainer for Lacey Thaler Reilly Wilson.

“We are thrilled to receive this funding and appreciate the support from the Preservation League as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the Chuctanunda Creek Trail and our city’s rich history,” said Amsterdam Mayor Michael Villa. “This powerhouse building, more than a century old, reminds us of the workers that built Amsterdam. If we are fortunate enough to restore this historic piece of property, it will provide a significant point of interest and a look back to the city’s manufacturing and industrial heritage.”

The grant is the sixth made from the Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund of the Preservation League of New York State, established in 2010 and funded through a permanently endowed charitable contribution from Thomas J. Schwarz.

The primary goals of the Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund are to fund professional services for important preservation projects that: illustrate the benefits of the New York State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, leverage other public and private investments, and enable the League to react quickly to preservation opportunities with financial resources.

Previous recipients include the Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center in Buffalo; CiviCure in Hoosick Falls; Friends of Fort Plain in Montgomery County; Adirondack Architectural Heritage in Keeseville, Clinton and Essex Counties; and GARNER Arts Center in Rockland County.

As a metal fabricator in Long Island City, Donald Stephen Gratz worked with modern architects, industrial designers, sculptors and furniture designers from Mies Van der Rohe to I.M.Pei to Barnett Newman and Bill Katavalos. But he always had a soft spot for historic preservation and enthusiastically supported the work of his wife, Roberta Brandes Gratz, a long-time Preservation League Trustee. He loved attending League events.

Thomas J. Schwarz, who endowed the fund, is a member of the Preservation League’s Trustees Council. He serves as President of Purchase College, SUNY, and is a board member and alumnus of Hamilton College with great affection for upstate New York.
Pillar of New York Awards Gala
November 16, 2016

From a grand palace to an ancient dwelling, the tangible aspects of our history and culture can be lost in the blink of an eye. Unfortunately, we are powerless to prevent natural disasters, and the horrors of war are visited swiftly and without mercy.

We can, however, act to preserve our historic treasures from development and other pressures, inspire future generations of professionals and stewards, and ensure that our cultural institutions enjoy an enduring legacy.

The women we honored at the 2016 Pillar of New York Awards Gala have dedicated decades to safeguarding the authenticity and permanence of our shared heritage from local to global.


They have made immeasurable contributions to local, national and international preservation. Their collective history aligns perfectly with the League’s 25-year tradition of honoring individuals who have taken extraordinary action to protect, preserve and promote New York’s—and the world’s—artistic and architectural heritage.
Watchful Eyes
Preservation League members go behind the scenes in NYC

In June, the League celebrated historic spaces and history-making art at the restored reception and company rooms of the Park Avenue Armory. Guests experienced an exclusive viewing of Hansel & Gretel—a new commission that is both object and environment—just days after it opened.

Hansel & Gretel was entertaining, perplexing and thought-provoking, and spurred guests to consider how public space and privacy intersect.

We were delighted to host this event at the Armory, a structure that has seen its share of serious threats over the years. In many ways, the Armory exemplifies the goal of the work the Preservation League does every day across New York State — championing and supporting our most threatened historic sites, so our past has a future.
The Preservation League of New York State ended June 30, 2017 with Total Assets of $5.6M.

These assets include three endowment funds maintained by the League totaling $2.7M:

General Endowment Fund
Lionel Goldfrank III Fund for Public Policy. *Annual transfer per Investment Policy is used to support the League’s Public Policy Program.*
Donald Stephen Gratz Preservation Services Fund. *Annual transfer per Investment Policy is used to provide grants to jump start preservation projects.*

The League’s Board of Trustees approved $125K in spending from the Endowment for the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2017, per approved investment policy.

League Total Assets also include $1.8M for the Endangered Properties Intervention Program (“EPIP”), currently structured as a revolving loan program. EPIP provides loans to those seeking to acquire, stabilize, and restore New York’s most endangered historic properties.

For the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2017, the Preservation League had $1.2M in operating revenues and $1.2M in expenses. Investment income, primarily led by gains in the endowment accounts totaled $386,371.
Our Supporters
Fortifying the League’s Work

The Preservation League of New York State gratefully acknowledges the many individuals, organizations, foundations, corporations and government agencies that supported our work during the past fiscal year. Annual contributions and membership ensure the League’s ability to continue to advance our shared preservation goals.

The following list reflects the total giving by members and contributors who donated $100 or more between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Excelsior Society members (bold type) are individuals and foundations who made an unrestricted gift of $1,000 or more as a League member or to the Annual Fund. Professional Giving Circle members (bold and italic type) are companies which have made the same unrestricted gift as a member or to the Annual Fund.

$50,000 AND ABOVE
Arthur F. and Alice E. Adams
Charitable Foundation
New York State Council on the Arts
The Peggy N. & Roger G. Gerry
Charitable Trust
The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation Inc.

$25,000 - $49,999
The Arthur Loeb Foundation
Illdiko and Gilbert Butler
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Gilbert & Illdiko Butler Family Foundation, Inc.
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Janet C. Ross
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American Express Company
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York Capital Management
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Jody and John Arnhold
Arnhold Foundation
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Foundation
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Mr. James B. Ayers
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Vanguard Charitable
Mr. and Mrs. Mark W. Warren Esq.
William E. Weiss Foundation, Inc.

$1,000 - $2,499
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Foundation
Johnson-Schmidt & Associates, Architects

Support for the Preservation League of New York State is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.
Empire Legacy Circle

How to give to the Preservation League’s Empire Legacy Circle and create a lasting legacy of your own.

The Preservation League of New York State has established the Empire Legacy Circle to recognize those supporters who have included the League in their estate plans. If your estate plans include a bequest to the Preservation League, a designation of the Preservation League to receive your IRA, or a charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust that benefits the Preservation League, we invite you to consider joining this singular group.

Bequests and other types of planned gifts are a cornerstone of the Preservation League’s preservation efforts and education programs across New York State and are essential to the present and the future of the League. They help ensure our ability to respond to future challenges while enabling us to expand our vision for historic preservation in New York State. Planning a gift to the Preservation League through your estate is a powerful declaration of your support.

For more information on ways to include the Preservation League in your estate plans please contact Jay DiLorenzo, President at jdilorenzo@preservenys.org or (518) 462-5658 x15.