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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCELLENCE IN PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

***Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City's Landmarks
by Anthony C. Wood will receive special citation***

ALBANY, NY – May 1, 2008 – The Preservation League of New York State will present a special citation honoring ***Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City's Landmarks*** (Routledge 2007) by Anthony C. Wood to receive at its Excellence in Historic Preservation Award ceremony. The League's statewide awards program recognizes individuals and organizations for demonstrating an outstanding commitment to the preservation of New York State's irreplaceable architectural heritage.

"This publication makes an important contribution to our understanding of preservation history in New York City in general by focusing on one compelling story – the establishment of the local landmark law," said Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League. "It is easy to imagine this book becoming required reading for preservation degree programs across the country. Despite presenting a chronicle of losses, *Preserving New York* makes the reader proud of the city's achievements and hopeful for preservation's future."

This publication tells the previously untold story of the people and places, the buildings and battles, and the politics and policies that led to New York City's landmarks law, passed in 1965. *Preserving New York* represents the culmination of a two-year project of the New York Preservation Archive Project, a non-profit organization with a unique focus: preserving, documenting and celebrating the history of the historic preservation movement.

"Tony Wood has created a carefully researched and beautifully written book that is filling a large gap in our understanding of the historic preservation profession," said Anne H. Van Ingen, director of the Architecture, Planning & Design and Capital Projects for the New York

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State Council on the Arts. “We all owe Tony a large debt of gratitude for doing such an extraordinary job – this is a book that needed to be written.”

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 **Thursday, May 15th** at the historic **Park Avenue Armory**, 643 Park Avenue.

The complete list of award winners is: Webb Lofts in Buffalo, Erie County; MacNaughton House Stabilization in Newcomb, Essex County; U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, Cadman Plaza, Brooklyn, Kings County; Downtown Revitalization Program, Canajoharie, Montgomery County; Eldridge Street Synagogue, Lower East Side, New York County; Proctors, Schenectady, Schenectady County; Hotel Kirkland, Kingston, Ulster County; Model Development Block, New Rochelle, Westchester County. The Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Society of Home Inspectors will be honored for organizational excellence, and Trude Brown Fitelson of Rochester will be honored for individual excellence. *Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City’s Landmarks* by Anthony C. Wood (Routledge, 2007) will also receive a special citation.

“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 this year was no exception. With this special citation, we are delighted to give *Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City’s Landmarks* 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.

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