CONTENTS

A Letter from our Board Chair & President 2
By the Numbers 4
Seven to Save 5
Signature Grant Programs 6
Policy & Advocacy 8

Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards 9
Public Programs & Outreach 12
Pillars of New York 13
Financial Statements 15
Members & Supporters 19

Cover: The League visited and worked with local stakeholders in Syracuse to advocate for the historic entry buildings in Oakwood Cemetery. Surrounded by overgrown vegetation and just visible in this photo, a once distinguished entrance is now abandoned and decaying in a little-used corner of the cemetery. Construction of I-81 in the 1960s blocked off access to the gate. The recent plans to reconfigure I-81 could have restored access — something local advocates called for and the League endorsed. A co-signed letter to the editor was published by the Syracuse Post-Standard in August 2021. Above: Willard State Hospital has defined the physical landscape and cultural environment of its rural corner of the Finger Lakes region for nearly 175 years. The hospital complex was the largest of its kind in the 1870s, with dozens of buildings, open space, and working farms. Once comprising over 1,000 acres, its current size is about 400 acres including a mile of Seneca Lake shoreline and an institutional cemetery containing approximately 6,000 burials. Photos of the League's 22-23 Seven to Save list are featured throughout this document.
WHAT DOES PRESERVATION DO?

From grassroots to grand scale, we believe everyone can use preservation to improve their communities, protect our shared heritage, and build a more just and sustainable future.

The League has been a leader in New York State for nearly half a century. And in that time we have been fortunate to support, and be supported by, preservationists across the state. Municipalities, nonprofits large and small, and individuals who care deeply for their communities, have all become part of the League’s extended network. Their work inspires us; and we strive to be a strong ally to the people with boots on the ground. Through our technical services, advocacy, grants, and other core programming, the League strives to make preservation essential for the future of New York.

Photos included in this report provided by: Adirondack Architectural Heritage; Molly Cagwin; Cheap Old Houses; Katie Eggers Comeau; Jeremy Dennis; David Holowka; Rowa Lee; Richard Margolis; Julie Nucci; Katy Peace; Matt Peters; Preservation Buffalo Niagara; Jordan Rathkopf; SUNY Broome; Village Preservation; Walter B. Melvin Architects; Craig Williams; and others with permission.
The past year has been a bittersweet one. We said goodbye to several longtime colleagues, some to retirement and others as they moved on to the next stage of their careers (and we are so proud of them!). And we welcomed two new team members: our Office Manager Mary Lucas, often the first point of contact for anyone reaching out to us; and Katie Eggers Comeau, who took the reins as our Vice President for Policy & Preservation at the end of 2021.

Periods of transition are also periods of opportunity, and we are embracing that with open arms. We are thinking about how we can best serve our statewide audience, how our current programs can be improved, and what gaps we might want to fill. The last several years have been a time of constant pivoting – figuring out how to work within the confines of the pandemic and respond as pressing issues sprang up. As we wrapped up the 21-22 fiscal year, the timing was right to look back on what the last few years have taught us and think strategically about how we move forward.

We want our work to resonate with professional preservationists and grassroots community activists alike. Preservation should not feel exclusionary, and we want our work to reflect this. Our field intersects with everything from art and architecture to social and environmental justice. We have been lucky to collaborate with individuals and organizations across the state and beyond to tackle wide-ranging issues through our programs and advocacy. From formal resiliency trainings to panel discussions focused on telling a fuller story – we are always trying to engage with our audience in ways that are meaningful to them. Which issues are most important right now? And how can we help build bridges to connect people to the resources they need most?

Our baseline has always been, and will continue to be, protecting our heritage from loss – saving historic buildings, landscapes, and neighborhoods. Our core programs, including our Excellence Awards, Seven to Save, and our signature NYS Council on the Arts regrant partnerships, make up the bedrock of what the League does. On top of this strong foundation, we can build momentum to engage on issues that are most meaningful for our future. For example, championing preservation’s role in combating the effects of climate change and focusing on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA) issues in the field are two areas of focus we intend to continue exploring in earnest.

On a final note, we want to recognize the passing of our dear friend and Trustee Lori Zabar. The warmth, enthusiasm, and generosity of spirit that Lori brought to the League will be sorely missed by board and staff alike. Her commitment to nurturing the next generation of preservationists lives on through the League’s Zabar Family Scholarship program – extending her legacy and supporting preservation’s future.

Historic preservation really is about the future as much as it is about the past. And we truly believe preservation will help ensure a more just and sustainable future for us all.

Frank Emile Sanchis III
Chair, Board of Trustees

Jay DiLorenzo
President
Downtown Oneonta Historic District, Otsego County | The Downtown Oneonta Historic District remains largely intact, and contains an architecturally significant collection of commercial, converted residential, and civic buildings. Investing in their historic fabric could bring renewed interest to the area, alleviating vacancy and deterioration. Historic preservation can serve as an economic life raft for small cities like Oneonta, but the public perception of preservation is a challenge for community buy-in. The League is eager to work with the City of Oneonta to provide outreach that engages a broad audience to help clarify the benefits of preservation and their historic downtown.
PRESERVATION LEAGUE FY21-22
BY THE NUMBERS

48 YEARS
of championing historic preservation in NYS

37
virtual + in-person presentations and webinars attended by approximately
2,550
people

200
technical assistance phone calls fielded

2,694
pages read in Preservation Book Club

9
Behind-the-scenes features viewed by approximately
4,000
people

$298,873
awarded through Preserve New York & TAG, our NYSCA regrant partnership programs, benefiting
39
projects

$9,600
awarded to the Kirkland Art Center through the Donald Gratz Preservation Services Fund

44
meetings with state and federal legislators

3
Preservation students supported through the Zabar Family Scholarship Program
Since 1999, the Preservation League has highlighted New York's most endangered historic sites through its Seven to Save program. The League works closely with local advocates over the course of the two-year listing and beyond, raising visibility, assisting with advocacy, and providing extensive technical services.

“The individual sites included on this year’s Seven to Save list embody key preservation issues affecting places across New York State,” said Preservation League President Jay DiLorenzo. “From the negative environmental impact of senseless demolition to bringing little-known, but important, histories to light, the League is excited to work alongside on-the-ground advocates to save each of these seven at-risk places.”

The 2022-2023 Sites

- Thomas Memorial AME Zion Church, Watertown, Jefferson County
- Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, Monroe County
- Proposed South of Union Square Historic District, Manhattan, New York County
- Penn Station Neighborhood, Manhattan, New York County
- Downtown Oneonta Historic District, Oneonta, Otsego County
- Willard State Hospital, Romulus/Ovid, Seneca County
- James Brooks / Charlotte Park Home & Studios, East Hampton, Suffolk County
# Our Signature Grant Programs

## Preserve New York (PNY) & Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)

Support economic development related to our state's arts and cultural heritage. Many of these grants will lead to historic district designation or expansion, telling the stories of communities throughout the state and allowing property owners to take advantage of the NYS and Federal Historic Tax Credits. The reports and surveys these grants fund help grantees steward their historic sites into the future.

PNY and TAG are regrant partnership programs between the New York State Council on the Arts and the Preservation League of NYS. These programs are made possible with the support of the office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature.

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation provided additional funding for both PNY and TAG to support projects in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area provided additional funding to support TAG projects within the Heritage Area.

### 2022 Preserve New York & 2021 Technical Assistance Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>Heledeberg Workshop</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Albany County Historical Association</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>Friends of Cuba Architecture</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattaraugus</td>
<td>Gowanda’s Historic Hollywood Theater, Ltd.</td>
<td>$8,440</td>
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<td>Chautauqua</td>
<td>The Village of Lakewood</td>
<td>$18,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>County of Clinton</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Town of Schuyler Falls</td>
<td>$4,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>Philmont Beautification, Inc.</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cortland</td>
<td>YWCA Cortland</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutchess</td>
<td>Cumnun-Hackett Arts Center</td>
<td>$18,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Town of Clinton Historical Society</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erie</td>
<td>Buffalo Lighthouse Association</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Locust Street</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neighborhood Art Classes, Inc.</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>Greene Land Trust</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herkimer</td>
<td>Village of West Winfield</td>
<td>$19,375</td>
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<td>Kings</td>
<td>Prospect Lefferts Gardens Heritage Council</td>
<td>$7,423</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
<td>Stone Quarry Hill Art Park</td>
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<td>Monroe</td>
<td>Landmark Society of Western New York</td>
<td>$9,560</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Town of Amsterdam</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nassau</td>
<td>Town of North</td>
<td>$9,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Old Westbury Gardens</td>
<td>$3,960</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Village of Sea Cliff</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Science Museum of Long Island</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Ascendant Neighborhood Development Corp.</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Landmark West!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Onondaga</td>
<td>Erie Canal Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>Naples Historical Society</td>
<td>$2,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Town of Monroe</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE IMPACT OF LEAGUE GRANTS

When Governor Kathy Hochul announced the Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) initiative Round XI grant recipients at the end of 2021, we dug into the numbers. Among the 488 projects funded, we noted 15 — which together received state grants totaling over $6.7 million — that had previously received direct support from the League through advocacy, grants, and/or loans. Those League-backed projects received $510,984 from us to fund things like feasibility studies and building condition reports that were then used to inform their REDC grants. These projects were able to leverage our funding, and all told received roughly $18 from NYS for every $1 from the League.

Because so much of our statewide work is behind the scenes, providing advocacy, technical services, and grants that jumpstart the very beginning of preservation efforts, it can be hard to pin down just how far-reaching the League’s work can be. This grant cycle has provided a concrete example of how the work we do can have a meaningful impact months and years into the future.

In addition to being one of our 2020-2021 Seven to Save sites, the League awarded the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society (HALPS) a Technical Assistance Grant to fund a Structural Analysis in 2020, followed by a Preserve New York Grant to fund a Building Condition Report in 2021. The $500,000 Environmental Protection Fund grant HALPS received from the state will help to restore and repair the iconic 1874 Hudson River lighthouse. The goals are to protect the building in anticipation of further restoration work, increase visitor safety and access, and restore the historic water system to enhance interpretive tours. The reports completed thanks to League grants helped lay the foundation for the actual repairs their EPF grant will cover.
POLICY SPOTLIGHT: HISTORIC TAX CREDITS

At the end of the 2021 legislative session, we celebrated two major tax credit victories: the passage of the Historic Barn Rehabilitation Tax Credit, with repair of historic barns now qualifying for a 25% credit; and the increase of the NYS Historic Tax Credit from 20% to 30% for small projects under $2.5 million.

The League celebrated the passage of the Barn Rehabilitation Tax Credit alongside bill sponsors Senator Michelle Hinchey and Assemblymember Didi Barrett at a press conference in July (pictured below). Though it passed in 2021, the Barn Tax Credit did not go into effect until May 2022. The League team has worked closely with our colleagues at the State Historic Preservation Office to spread the word far and wide — questions about historic barns are some of the most common inquiries fielded by our technical services team.

During the 2022 legislative session, we celebrated the increase of the Historic Tax Credit while further advocating for its codified extension. The NYS Rehabilitation Tax Credit Programs (residential/income producing) are authorized until December 31, 2024 — a date that is quickly approaching. The League worked with our colleagues to request the reauthorization of the programs through December 31, 2029. The budget proposal from the NYS Assembly included a recommendation to extend the programs through December 31, 2031, but that proposal did not make into the final budget agreement. As we look forward to the 2023 legislative session, inclusion of the HTC in the 2024 budget will remain a top priority. We hope you will join us in this important advocacy work!
Excellence in Historic Preservation Awards

The 10 projects honored in 2021 represent the very best of what the League stands for and supports in historic preservation. It’s not every year that the Awards jury selects winners in every category. But the 2021 Awards celebrated projects, organizations, an individual, and a publication — all of which have profoundly impacted their local communities and are truly deserving of this statewide recognition.

Since 1984, our statewide awards program has recognized the people who are using historic preservation to build stronger neighborhoods, create local jobs, provide affordable housing, open our eyes to overlooked history, and save the places that are special to all of us.

The 2021 Excellence Awards were made possible by the Arthur F. & Alice E. Adams Charitable Foundation.

The 2021 Award Winners

- Clinton Avenue Historic Apartments, Albany, Albany County
- Proctors Collaborative: Capital Repertory Theatre & Universal Preservation Hall, Albany + Saratoga Counties
- SUNY Broome Culinary & Event Center, Binghamton, Broome County
- Arbor Gerard Block & Carroll Street Warehouse Rehabilitation, Elmira, Chemung County
- Steven Engelhart, Keeseville, Clinton County
- Preservation Buffalo Niagara, Buffalo, Erie County
- Whitcomb’s Garage Adaptive Reuse, Whallonsburg, Essex County
- Green-Wood’s Historic Chapel, Brooklyn, Kings County
- Central Presbyterian Church Restoration, Manhattan, New York County
- @syracusehistory (Instagram by David Haas), Syracuse, Onondaga County
CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

“The adaptive reuse of Whitcomb’s Garage shows that preservation, revitalization, and community involvement are intertwined. It is an example for rural New York and beyond.”
- Andrew Buchanan, Vice President of Whallonsburg Grange Hall

The adaptive reuse of Whitcomb’s Garage was entirely volunteer-driven. The former garage and service station is now a neighborhood anchor providing artist workshops, storefronts, and spaces for community events.

Arbor’s Gerard Block, the Gerity Pharmacy and the Carroll Street Warehouse Rehabilitation Project in downtown Elmira utilized Historic Tax Credits to transform vacant buildings into artist work studios, artist housing, and affordable living space.
"Preservation has been a key tool in Buffalo and Western New York in retaining high quality jobs and building places that attract pride and investment. We are grateful to the Preservation League for all of the support they have given Western New York over the years, and accept this recognition on behalf of all of our members and the neighborhoods that we work with."

- Jessie Fisher, Executive Director of Preservation Buffalo Niagara
Public Programs & Outreach

"You are doing a wonderful job—and such a needed and important one for these times!" - webinar attendee

Over the last few years, the League’s virtual programming has expanded greatly. As a result, we have been able to reach far more people than we ever could with in-person events alone. The virtual format has also given us the opportunity to explore many more topics, with trainings geared toward professional preservationists and panel discussions that appeal to a more general audience. Here are a few examples from the last fiscal year.

Pictured, top to bottom: Julie Nucci’s historic house (pictured) was the first National Register-listed home in NYS to be elevated. She presented during our Preservation, Resiliency & Sustainability: Planning for New York’s Future series, presented in partnership with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions. A September 2021 webinar focused on the issue of workforce development in preservation. Ann Cuss of World Monuments Fund presented about the Bridge to Crafts Careers program at Woodlawn Cemetery (pictured). Ma’s House & BIPOC Art Studio on the Shinnecock Indian Reservation is a perfect example of preservation of place supporting an organization with a social justice mission. Ma’s House founder Jeremy Dennis (pictured) was part of a panel on this topic in May 2022.
The stories of preservation are big and small. Tiny projects and epic journeys. And always about the people who save the places we love. The 2022 Pillar Awards highlighted the stories of five extraordinary preservationists: Otis & Nancy Pearsall, A’Lelia Bundles, and Elizabeth & Ethan Finkelstein. Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2022 Pillar Awards one of our most inspirational yet. On April 5, we were joined by over 200 friends, supporters, activists, and donors. It was the first in-person Awards ceremony since 2019, and the admiration and support was truly palpable.

The 2022 Pillar Awards raised over $350,000 to further the League’s mission of promoting historic preservation as one of the best ways to build thriving neighborhoods, promote economic development and sustainable growth, and provide a bulwark against climate change.
Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, Monroe County | There is a stretch of mature woodland that provides an intentional buffer between the park and the busy city beyond its border. This woodland is integral to the historic design of the park — a design by the “father of landscape architecture” Frederick Law Olmsted. Unfortunately, this stretch is owned by its neighbor, the University of Rochester. And until the University commits to preserving the parkland into perpetuity, it remains at risk. This Olmsted bicentennial year provides an opportunity to articulate a preservation ethic regarding under-valued historic landscapes, and the League will work with local stakeholders to advocate for proper stewardship of this important piece of Rochester’s historic park system.
The Preservation League of NYS ended June 30, 2022 with total assets of $6.8M.

Support & Revenue

- Special Events: 15%
- Interest on EPIP Loans: 1%
- Government: 10%
- Individual: 10%
- Corporations & Foundations: 14%
- Assets Released from Restrictions: 50%

Expenses

- Fundraising: 15%
- Mgmt. & General: 20%
- Program Services: 65%

These assets include three endowment funds and earnings totaling $3.4M:
- **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 Steven 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 $175K in spending from the Endowment for the year ended June 30, 2022, per approved investment policy.

League Total Assets also include $1.6M for the Endangered Properties Intervention Program (EPIP), currently structured as a revolving loan program.

For the year ending June 30, 2022, the Preservation League had $1.4M in operating revenues and $1.4M in operating expenses. A $462K investment loss is due primarily to the Endowment account which is not included in operations.
INCOME STATEMENT & BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 2022

Income Statement

Operating Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporation &amp; Foundation</td>
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<td>Individual/Organizations</td>
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<td>Government Grants</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>(Less Direct Costs)</td>
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<td>Interest on EPIP Loans</td>
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<td>Assets Released from</td>
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<td>Restrictions</td>
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Operating Expenses

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<td>Mgmt &amp; General</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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Change in Net Assets from Operations

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Investment Income/(Loss)

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<td>Loss on Sale of Asset</td>
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<td><strong>Total Investment Income/(Loss)</strong></td>
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Change in Net Assets from Operations

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Balance Sheet

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
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<td>Assets Restricted &amp;</td>
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<td>Designated for Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment, Net</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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<thead>
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<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<td>Other Current Liabilities</td>
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<td>Non-Current Liabilities</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td><strong>$6,843,101</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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*June 30, 2022, Audit Pending*
OUR DONOR COMMUNITY

The people who make preservation possible

Penn Station Neighborhood, Manhattan | Empire State Development Corp’s proposed Pennsylvania Station Civic and Land Use Project would demolish multiple blocks of historic buildings in the vicinity of Penn Station. Thousands of people will be displaced, and the negative environmental impact of such senseless demolition would be astronomical. Empire Station Coalition, a group of concerned community organizations, banded together in 2020 to fight the proposed Plan. The League officially joined them in 2022. Pictured: St. John the Baptist rectory and church, two of the many landmark-eligible buildings that will be demolished if current plans move forward.
A NOTE FROM OUR EXCELSIOR SOCIETY CO-CHAIRS

Many preservation battles are fought locally, led by individuals and grassroots coalitions. The immediacy of such struggles makes these groups worthy beneficiaries of preservation-minded givers. The statewide work of the Preservation League takes a broader view, but it incorporates every corner of New York State:

- The League promotes and sustains the legislative framework that has made historic preservation so dramatically successful in the Empire State.
- The League provides technical services and financial support that regional groups rely on.
- The League does not compete with local preservation organizations, but rather seeks to amplify and support their work.

The League relies on the generosity of members and supporters to fund this work. Donations make up 65% of the League’s annual budget. Further, 30% of total individual giving comes from members of the Excelsior Society. With an annual gift of $1,000 or more, members of this leadership giving group enable the League to be there when our state’s irreplaceable historic treasures need us most.

In return, members of the Excelsior Society are invited to exclusive events that offer unique access to historic sites and the people who have led these landmark projects. This is one way that the League expresses appreciation for the generosity of major donors who further our statewide mission.

After a pandemic-induced pause, we are now planning the Excelsior Society’s fabulous Camps of the Adirondacks tour for September 2023. The tour will be led by former League Chairperson Anne Van Ingen. It will include a scholarly lecture series curated by Wes Haynes, who was recently honored for his commitment to preservation in the Adirondacks by our colleagues at Adirondack Architectural Heritage. Participants will enjoy accommodations at the famous Ausable Club and the Adirondack League Club, and private tours of Great Camps Sagamore and Uncas. The Excelsior Society is planning other exclusive events and activities that will provide enlightening good times for our members.

If you are not already a member of the Excelsior Society, join us! You’ll be in very good company, we promise.

With our best wishes,

Margaret Doyle & Andrew Capitman
Excelsior Society Co-Chairs
Every year, hundreds of caring people across NYS do their part to protect and preserve historic sites and cultural assets by making generous donations to the League. If you are one of them, thank you! If you have yet to join us in this work, please do so.

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 memberships 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, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Gifts made after that date will be reflected in the FY 22-23 Annual Report. Thank you!

**Excelsior Society members, in bold,** are individuals and foundations who made an unrestricted gift of $1,000 or more.

"The Preservation League is the primary steward of our cultural heritage in New York State. Therefore, it is important to support the League so that we can emerge ready to operate in a changed post-pandemic world!"

-Excelsior Society Member
THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS & DONORS

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NYS Through a Preservation Lens

In 2021, we launched a Preservationist Tour Guide blog series where we share day and weekend tour guides for your exploring pleasure, all with a preservationist angle. We are fortunate that our work allows us to have meaningful connections to people and places across our (very large!) state — and we want to encourage everyone to experience what New York has to offer.

Is there a place in New York you think we should highlight?

Let us know: info@preservenys.org
Pictured is a segment of the proposed South of Union Square Historic District. While the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission has cited the architectural and cultural variety of the area as a reason why the neighborhood shouldn’t be landmarked, this variety and vibrancy are precisely what make the proposed Historic District such a vital resource. Our colleagues at Village Preservation have designed and led the campaign for landmark designation and the League has joined them by including the neighborhood on our 22-23 Seven to Save list.

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