

# The Preservationist

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

VOLUME 5/NO. 1

SPRING 2001

## Celebrating The Past - Shaping Our Future May 17 Preservation and Revitalization Summit

This special edition of *The Preservationist* highlights two recent and exciting preservation initiatives. First, it showcases the more than fifty properties that have just been listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places as part of our millennium celebration. To honor the new century, we invited communities across New York State to nominate especially significant properties for this prestigious recognition. As you will see, the response was incredibly diverse and very positive. Inside, you will find a remarkable array of places – each one recalling a unique aspect of New York State's heritage.

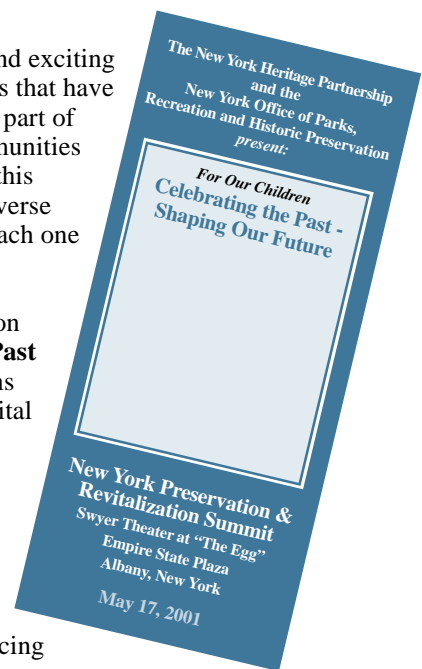
Second, I am pleased to announce our upcoming historic preservation and revitalization summit, called **For Our Children: Celebrating the Past – Shaping Our Future**. We hope to attract individuals and organizations from around the State who are interested in making New York's past a vital part of its future.

As Governor, I have had the opportunity to visit nearly every community in every corner of our great state, and I have found each one to have its own unique and special character. I firmly believe that the rehabilitation and preservation of our historic resources is central to our continuing revitalization efforts. I also believe that strengthening partnerships and developing new alliances are key components in advancing these goals.

The Preservation Summit promises to examine opportunities to build upon our successes and develop new strategies to integrate our rich heritage into local, regional and statewide renewal activities. I hope that you, your friends, neighbors and local representatives will be able to attend the May 17 summit.

Thanks to your help, we continue to make important progress on the historic preservation front that will benefit generations to come.

**George E. Pataki, Governor**



**TO REGISTER  
FOR THE SUMMIT  
SEE BACK PAGE**

# From Millennium to Summit - Please Join Us!

NEW YORK STATE

The **Preservationist**

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION  
AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza  
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*The New York State Commission on the Restoration of the Capitol generously donated its logo for use on this newsletter.*

# New York State & National Registers of Historic Places

## LONG ISLAND

### Nassau County

#### *Jericho: Jericho Friends Meeting House*

The **Jericho Friends Meeting House** reflects Long Island's late 18<sup>th</sup> century building traditions and the Quaker ideals of simplicity in manner and form. The building presents a simple yet elegant design in its planar exterior walls and gable roof without eave, gable overhang or other architectural detail. The interior is functionally arranged with wood furnishings carefully joined and crafted using hand tools. This important regional landmark continues to serve as the Jericho Friends Meeting House and retains an extraordinarily high level of integrity. It is also significant as the home meeting for Elias Hicks, a prominent spokesperson for the Religious Society of Friends and an outspoken opponent of slavery. His extensive travels and publication of an anti-slavery tract in 1811 brought him considerable notoriety during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.



### Suffolk County

#### *Cutchogue: Joshua Wells House*

Built ca. 1680 by the son of Cutchogue's first landholder and remodeled ca. 1815, the **Joshua Wells House** is one of the earliest extant buildings in the town of Southold. The timber-framed, gambrel roof house, also known as the "Old Place," the "1680 House" or the Fleet-Goldsmith-Kendrick House, illustrates eastern Long Island's late 17<sup>th</sup> century construction practices. It also retains significant Federal period details in its early 19<sup>th</sup> century interior and exterior alterations. Associated with some of Southold's most prominent settlement period families, the Joshua Wells House remains an important link with the area's early development and growth.



#### *Islip: Bayshore Hook and Ladder Company No. 1*

Located in the center of the community, the **Bayshore Hook and Ladder Company No. 1** is a largely intact and representative example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century firehouse on Long Island. Built during the late 1880s in response to a devastating local fire, the building displays many of the distinctive design characteristics of the Victorian character of the Victorian period Stick Style, including a variety of decorative exterior sheathings, exposed roof rafter ends and paneled equipment doors. The not-for-profit South Shore Restoration Group has rescued and recently restored this prominent local landmark for use as a gallery and artist residence. The firehouse is an important reminder of the community's late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century history and its rehabilitation represents a key component of local revitalization efforts.



## Bronx County

### Casa Amadeo

During the 1940s, the South Bronx became a “hotbed of Latin music.” Hundreds of Latino musicians grew up in this area or moved here from East Harlem or directly from Puerto Rico. Dance halls, social halls, theaters and record shops flourished. Record stores were places where new migrants flocked in order to hear and buy the sounds of home. Formerly Casa Hernández, **Casa Amadeo** is located in the neo-Renaissance style Manhasset Building and is the oldest surviving Latin music store in New York City. It is exceptionally significant for embodying the history of Latin music in New York City and for its role in the Puerto Rican migration experience. Casa Amadeo has housed a record store since 1941 and continues to be an important gathering place for musicians. Its history is a microcosm of the Puerto Rican experience in New York. \*



*Detail of Record Store*

## Kings County

### Brooklyn: Cuyler Presbyterian Church

**Cuyler Presbyterian Church** is significant for its association with Native American ethnic heritage. Dedicated in 1892 and designed by architect Edward A. Sargent, the building is also a representative example of High Victorian ecclesiastical architecture in New York City. The church played a unique role in the history of a 20<sup>th</sup> century Native American community in North Gowanus (now called Boerum Hill).

Affectionately dubbed “downtown Caughnawaga” by its members, this was the largest modern Native American community established in New York City. It was largely a



community of ironworkers and their families, predominantly Mohawk men whose mastery of “high steel” helped to build the modern cityscape. From 1930 to the 1950s, the church served as a cornerstone of the Mohawk community in Brooklyn. It is also significant for its association with the Reverend David Munroe Cory (1903-1996), former pastor of Cuyler Church, who was an important religious and activist figure in New York City. He learned the Mohawk language and translated

religious readings into Mohawk. Cuyler Church is the only 20<sup>th</sup> century site in New York State associated with Mohawk Indian history to be listed on the registers. \*

# NEW YORK CITY

## New York County

### *John J. Harvey Fireboat*

Built in 1931, the **John J. Harvey** is a highly intact and representative example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century American fireboat. The vessel played an important role in fire protection in New York Harbor during its halcyon years as the nation's premier port. Located at Pier 63 and owned by *John J. Harvey Limited*, the fireboat is still afloat, operational and is in the midst of a long-term restoration program. The boat participated in Operation Sail 2000, is famous for its highly visible water displays and is also used for other educational and ceremonial purposes.



*John J. Harvey's Fire Fighting Equipment in Operation*

*John J. Harvey at Pier 63 – Drawing by Mark Peckham*

## Queens County

### *Astoria: Bohemian Hall and Park*

Since its construction in 1910 by the Bohemian Citizens Benevolent Society, **Bohemian Hall and Park** has been home to several local *Sokol* (traditional European gymnastics) clubs, a Czech language school, Slavic drama and choral groups, and a beer garden. Bohemian Hall is closely linked with the social history and heritage of the city's Czech immigrants. Its European style beer garden is the last of its type in the area and recalls a time when many such informal gathering places existed, where whole families could go for the pleasures of good company, laughter and lively conversation. While the Czech community of Astoria has dwindled over the years, Bohemian Hall remains an active center for Czech culture. Its annual events draw hundreds of local residents, as well as new immigrants and other Slavic citizens of the city. Carved in stone over the building's entrance is the phrase "Česky Domov," meaning "Czech Home." Bohemian Hall continues to be a home for Czech people, offering a link to Czech and Czech-American traditions, and continues to provide a place to participate actively in those traditions. \*



*Annual Czech and Slovak Festival at Bohemian Hall and Park, 1980s.*

## Richmond County

### *Staten Island: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Grotto*

In 1937, a group of Italian immigrant men, members of the Society of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Rosebank, constructed a large grotto. **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Grotto** is a tangible expression of Staten Island's Italian-American community. Its role in sustaining this community's traditions is reflected in its setting, design and use – both as a pilgrimage for Catholics throughout New York City and as a prominent presence in the daily life of the local community. It continues to be used as the setting for religious practices and as a social gathering place. The grotto, an extraordinarily vivid example of Italian-American folk art design, is a concrete and stone structure laid out in serpentine fashion with a central chapel and two flanking wings. The shrine represents a continuation of a deep-seated tradition of religious activity surrounding natural and man-made grottos in Christian Europe and, in particular, Italy.



*\* These nomination were prepared by Place Matters, a citywide advocate for New York's places of history, story and tradition sponsored by the Municipal Art Society of New York and City Lore; nomination photos by Martha Cooper.*

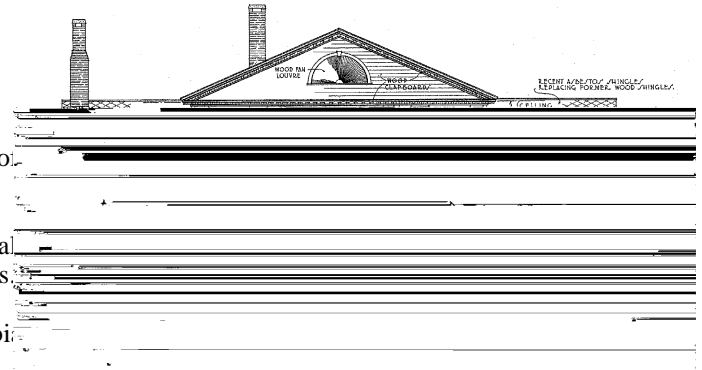


# HUDSON VALLEY REGION

## Columbia County

### Greenport: Turtle House

The **Turtle House** is an outstanding and unusual example of Federal period architecture in the state. Built ca. 1815 as a country house for Hudson businessman Joab Center, the house has a distinctive lozenge-shaped main block with highly unusual double semi-circular porticos and symmetrical secondary wings. Located on the high point of a 100-acre property, the house commanded magnificent views east toward the hills of Columbia County and west toward the Hudson River and the Catskill Mountains. Designed by a talented architect or architect-builder whose identity is unknown, the house's design blends French and English elements into a truly American architectural statement. Long recognized by architectural historians as an important house, it suffered a long period of neglect and perhaps the ultimate disgrace, being surrounded by a subdivision in the 1950s. Listing on the registers will now bestow the long overdue recognition that the house deserves.



1936 Drawing, *Historic American Building Survey, Library of Congress*

*Portico Detail*

## Dutchess County

### Poughkeepsie (Town): Maple Grove



Located in the famous South Road neighborhood near the historic Springside and Locust Grove estates, **Maple Grove** is a classic Hudson Valley country seat in the tradition of prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century designers Downing and Davis. Built in the 1850s, the main house is brick and has Gothic Revival and Italianate features, with an elaborate wood porch across the front and unusual circular windows in the flanking wings. A number of support buildings survive on the property, including barns and a superintendent's cottage. A few years ago, Maple Grove was donated to a local charity and it was feared the property would be destroyed for an apartment project. The preservation community prevailed, with the new housing sited sensitively and the main house and outbuildings preserved. Although the house is unused, listing on the registers will provide recognition and possible sources of funding for its rehabilitation.

## Orange County

### Balmville: Bloomer-Dailey House and Balmville Tree

The **Bloomer-Dailey House and Balmville Tree** are significant for their association with the early settlement of Balmville. The house is a rare surviving example of 18<sup>th</sup> century residential architecture in the community, incorporating distinguished early 20<sup>th</sup> century Colonial Revival style details. Its proximity to the legendary Balmville tree further enhances the significance of this property. The tree, which is well known and cherished in the community and the surrounding area, shares more than two centuries of association with the house and its setting. This rare surviving pair of historic and natural resources are significant reminders of the hamlet's early settlement and growth.



# HUDSON VALLEY REGION

## Orange County

### Warwick: General John Hathorn House

The **Hathorn House** is a notable example of settlement period residential stone architecture in the mid-Hudson Valley and derives additional significance through its association with General John Hathorn, who served

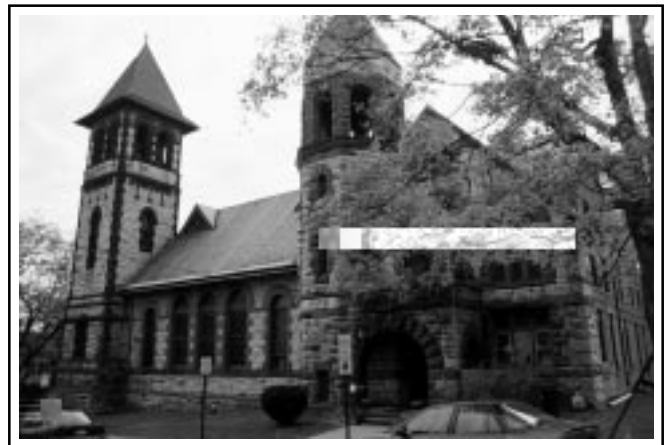


on the Revolutionary War Committee of Safety and Observation. In 1777, Hathorn was appointed as a member of the first session of the New York State Assembly at Kingston and Poughkeepsie. After the war, he served as a member of the New York State Assembly for several years, as well as its speaker in 1783 and 1784. He served as New York State Senator for two terms (1786-1790 and 1799-1803) and was elected to the Continental Congress in 1788 (although no sessions were held). He was also elected to the first United States Congress (March 4, 1789-March 3, 1791) and, although he failed in his next two elections, Hathorn was re-elected as a Republican to the fourth Congress (March 4, 1795-March 3, 1797). General Hathorn's largely intact residence remains an important link with his impressive legacy of public service.

## Rockland County

### South Nyack: St. Paul's Methodist Church

Built in the 1890s, **St. Paul's United Methodist Church** is an outstanding regional example of Richardsonian Romanesque style ecclesiastical architecture in the Nyack area. Designed by the local architectural firm of Marshall & Henry Emery, the church incorporates many of the hallmarks of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, including an asymmetrical plan, massive stone walls, round arch openings and distinctive red sandstone trim. St. Paul's is a well-recognized local landmark and recalls the village's late 19<sup>th</sup> century development and growth.



## Westchester County

### Bedford: Caramoor

Designed and built between 1929 and 1939, **Caramoor** was conceived by financier, patron of the arts and collector Walter Rosen and his wife Lucie. The 90-acre property has as its centerpiece a remarkable Mediterranean-inspired house planned by Rosen, in conjunction with architect Christian Rosborg and other designers, that is a veritable museum of European architectural elements and decorative arts from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Although reminiscent of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century villas in Spain and Italy, with its stuccoed exterior walls, red-tile roofs and central courtyard, it is a thoroughly modern 1930s house. It has an up-to-date kitchen, numerous bathrooms, basement level garage, several secondary buildings that relate stylistically to the main house, formal landscape features such as a sunken garden and ornamental 18<sup>th</sup> century gate, and other estate support buildings. The house was designed with a commodious music room that was open for public performances in the 1940s. The Rosens donated the estate to a private foundation and in 1957 the



Caramoor Courtyard

Courtyard Arcade

Venetian Theater was built on the property. The theater has become an important regional summer music venue. The main house remains virtually intact since its construction and has been open for public tours since 1970.





# CATSKILL REGION





# CATSKILL REGION

## Sullivan County

*Monticello: Rialto Theater*  
*South Fallsburg: Rivoli Theater*  
*Woodbourne: Center Theater*

These three theaters represent one of the most important aspects of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century resort culture in the western Catskills. During the 1920s and 30s, enjoying a movie or a live performance in a village setting was one of the most popular recreational activities for summer visitors. These theaters, which accommodated both vaudeville shows and movies, drew large crowds six days a week. Emil Motel, a Monticello architect, designed both the **Rialto** (1921) and the **Rivoli** (1923). Their similar exterior designs are characteristic of early 20<sup>th</sup> century theaters. The Rivoli, which was enlarged in the 1930s, is also distinguished by an entrance and new interior finishes in the Art Deco style, also the work of Motel. The **Center Theater** (1938) embodies a streamlined Art Deco mode popular for small movie houses in this period. Its designer, Abraham Okun, is credited with the designs of numerous distinguished buildings throughout the county. The Center also provides a link to Sullivan County's significance in a more contemporary cultural context; its lobby is decorated with the Woodstock Peace Painting, a large mural painted in the 1970s in the aftermath of the music festival.



*Historic View of Rivoli*



*Center Theater*

With the decline of the resort industry, many of county's villages and hamlets are struggling to find new economic bases, some seeking to capitalize on the large number of underused resort era resources. With the assistance of the Sullivan County Planning Department and other sources,

each of these three theaters is the subject of a restoration and reuse project to return it to use as a public arts related facility. Not only will these projects booster economic development in their communities, but they will also increase cultural awareness of this important aspect of regional history.

## Ulster County

*Saugerties: Augusta Savage*  
**Home and Studio**

The **Augusta Savage House and Studio** is the most significant surviving site associated with the productive life of this renowned sculptor. Closely associated with the emergence of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s, Savage's work was notable for its realism and its portrayal of the African-American experience in America. Augusta Savage was the first African-American to be elected to the National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors. In 1937, she was also named as the first director of the Harlem Community Art Center. In 1945, Savage left Harlem and purchased a small farmhouse in Saugerties. During the last seventeen years of her life, she executed several works from this location. In 1988, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture mounted a major exhibition of her work in a show titled *Augusta Savage and The Art Schools of Harlem*. The retrospective brought together for the first time an exceptional collection of Savage's work and established her as a pivotal figure in the development of 20<sup>th</sup> century African-American art.



*Saugerties: OPUS 40*

**Opus 40** is an important example of large-scale outdoor art in New York State. Executed by artist and creator Harvey Fite between 1939 and 1976, the massive masonry construction covers several acres of land and rises to a height of nearly three stories. First begun as a setting for art, the work slowly evolved into its own highly original work of art. With spectacular views of the Catskill Mountains as its backdrop, the completed work is the result of the artist's imaginative combination of landscape, sculpture and open space into a highly unusual and harmonious built environment. Its exceptionally fine craftsmanship, massive scale, organic form, dramatic setting and the artistic tension created by the use of millions of small stones precisely fitted to create a seamless form makes *Opus 40* one of New York State's most striking examples of "environmental" art.



## Albany County

### Albany: Hook & Ladder No. 4

Built in 1912, the **Hook & Ladder No. 4** firehouse is a rare and exceptionally distinguished example of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Dutch Revival style civic architecture in the city of Albany. With distinctive twin stepped gables on its main facade, decorative stone and



Hook & Ladder No. 4



Facade Detail with Image of Architect Marcus Reynolds

brickwork, and stepped gable dormers, the building reflects the architectural eclecticism of the new century and the city's fascination with its early Dutch heritage.

Marcus Reynolds, one of Albany's preeminent 20<sup>th</sup> century architects, designed this prominent local landmark.

### Albany: Lil's Diner

Erected in 1941, **Lil's Diner** (also known as the Miss Albany Diner) is a remarkably intact and distinctive example of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century American roadside architecture.



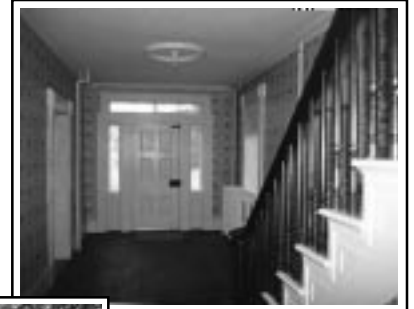
It recalls the streamlined metal railroad dining car that inspired its design, which was intended to evoke, at once, the ideas of travel, food, cleanliness and modern efficiency. The diner is also a

representative example of a Silk City Diner, a highly popular prefabricated dining car line manufactured by the Patterson Vehicle Company of Patterson, New Jersey from the 1920s to the 1950s.



### Coeymans: Fletcher Blaisdell Farm Complex

The **Fletcher Blaisdell Farm Complex** is one of the region's most intact and well-preserved historic agricultural properties. Of particular note are the distinguished 1837 Greek Revival style Blaisdell family home and the massive 1878 hay barn. Today these two significant buildings, along with a complement of other



Main Entrance Hall – Blaisdell House



Blaisdell Farmstead

period farm support buildings and an intact rural setting, remain important and highly visible agrarian landmarks in the town of Coeymans and Albany County.

## Rensselaer County

### Sand Lake: Fox House

The **Fox House**, built in 1847 for the Albert R. Fox family, is one of the finest Greek Revival style residences in Rensselaer County. Fox was the proprietor of a nearby glass



works, which he inherited from his father, and the house reflects his abilities in the glass business and in other pursuits. The two-story frame house has all the hallmarks of the Greek Revival style, including two-story pilasters framing all five bays on the facade and a stylish one-story porch with Ionic columns supporting a heavy entablature that extends across the front onto symmetrical one-story flanking wings. In addition to his business acumen, Fox was a state senator and an abolitionist, purportedly involved in the Underground Railroad. The Fox House has been meticulously maintained and is the first property in the town of Sand Lake to be nominated to the registers.

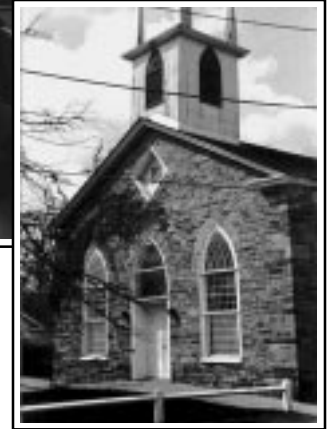
## Clinton County

### Peru Community Church

Built in 1833, the **Peru Community Church** (also known as the Peru Congregational Church) has been used continuously as a house of worship for almost 170 years, first as the Peru Congregational Church and, since 1947, as the Peru Community Church. It provides a remarkable record of the social history of a small town during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was the first federated Protestant church in Clinton County and the only extant Protestant church in Peru. Additionally, the church building retains a high degree of integrity and is an excellent example of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Gothic Revival style ecclesiastical architecture in northern New York.



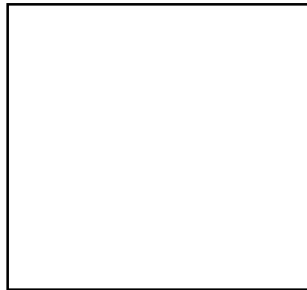
*Interior of Peru Community Church*



## Jefferson County:

### Clayton: Swarthout Site

The **Swarthout Site** (also known as the Wetterhahn/Warneck Site) is the archeological remains of an Iroquoian village and burial ground. It is one of a large number of Iroquoian sites in the Clayton area that represent a cultural group that had disappeared by the time of European contact, today known only as the Jefferson County Iroquoians. The



*Pottery fragments recovered from the site.*

site was saved from destruction by mining activities by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and has recently been acquired by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) in order to ensure its long-term protection and preservation. It is the first archeological site acquired by OPRHP for protection purposes since the acquisition of the Ganondagan State Historic Site in 1970. This preservation project recognizes the role that responsible land-managing agencies can play in protecting the state's important archeological heritage through site acquisition. This nomination is also the first for a Jefferson County Iroquois site since the Talcott Falls site was listed in 1973.

## Lewis County:

### Martinsburgh Town Hall

Built in 1812, the **Martinsburgh Town Hall** (also known as First Lewis County Courthouse) is the county's oldest public building. For almost 200 years, it has played an important role in local and regional governmental affair; first as the Lewis County Courthouse (1812-1864) and then as the Martinsburgh Town Hall (1890s-present). It is also significant for its association with General Walter Martin, an early settler, founder of Martinsburgh and influential figure in Lewis County history. The building is a distinguished example of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century classically inspired civic building with later Victorian period modifications. Additionally, it is a superb and relatively unaltered example of a large-scale early 19<sup>th</sup> century timber frame building with finely detailed timber joinery, trusses and framing system.



## CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION

### Chenango County

#### Pitcher Baptist Church and First Congregational Church of Pitcher

The Pitcher Baptist Church and the First Congregational Church of Pitcher are distinguished examples of Federal period houses of worship that are closely associated with the early settlement and growth of

Pitcher in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. By 1810, both Baptist and Congregationalists had formed congregations in the community. In 1829, local builder Amos Hall was hired to construct a new church for each congregation. Located on NY Route 26 from each other, the churches are architecturally similar. Both are wood-frame structures with stone foundations, broad gabled roofs, and simple facades. Surviving elements of the churches are identical, including the steeply pitched roofs, towers. It is believed that the churches were modeled in the late 10<sup>th</sup>

# CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION

## Herkimer County

### *Middleville vicinity:* **Route 29 Stone Arch Bridge**

Erected ca. 1870 on the road linking Middleville and Fairfield, the **Route 29 Stone Arch Bridge** is a rare and substantially intact example of vernacular stone bridge design and construction in rural Herkimer County. The 35-foot long single-span stone-arch bridge was designed and built by local craftspeople using native materials. Incorporating a single stone arch of limestone voussoirs, the bridge is one of only four extant examples of its type and method of construction in the town of Fairfield. Originally built as a wagon bridge, it was subsequently bypassed and abandoned when the present state highway was constructed during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge is a rare and important vernacular engineering structure associated with the history of transportation and land use in this upland foothills region.



## Madison County



### *Bouckville:* **Coolidge Stores Building**

Completed in 1851, the Coolidge Stores Building is an outstanding example of cobbleshed construction in central New York and is associated with the development of Bouckville as an important center of hops culture in Madison County. Distinguished by its unconventional wrap-around façade and hexagonal cupola, the building's design reflects elements of the Octagon style and is detailed with elements derived from both the Greek and Gothic Revival styles. Built during the initial boom in central New York's hops culture by the family credited with introducing the crop to the area, the Coolidge Stores Building expresses Bouckville's mid-19<sup>th</sup> century prosperity as a focal point for the export of hops by turnpike and canal. The building is now known as the Landmark Tavern, a popular inn and restaurant.

## Montgomery County

### **Amsterdam City Hall**

Originally built as the home of the locally prominent Sanford family, the **Amsterdam City Hall** is a distinguished example of stylish residential architecture associated with the historical development of the city throughout its greatest period of economic prosperity. Constructed in 1869 as a Second Empire style house, the imposing brick mansion was extensively remodeled to its present Classical Revival appearance in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. From 1869 to 1932, the property was the home of the Sanford family, Amsterdam's leading carpet mill owners and manufacturers. The fashionable mansion and outbuildings on landscaped grounds remained the showplace of Amsterdam through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Deeded to the city of Amsterdam for use as municipal offices upon the death of John Sanford in 1932,



the building remains largely unchanged and retains numerous period details attesting to the wealth and taste of the Sanford family. As the seat of local government for almost seventy years, the city hall recalls an important era in the community's prosperous industrial heritage.

# CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION

## Montgomery County

### *Salt Springville:* Windfall Dutch Barn

Believed to date ca. 1790, the **Windfall Dutch Barn** is a rare and substantially intact example of New World Dutch Barn design and construction in rural New York. The barn represents a structural form unique to the areas settled by the Holland Dutch and Palatine Germans from the late 17<sup>th</sup> to the early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, chiefly the Hudson, Schoharie and Mohawk Valleys of New York and northern New Jersey. Distinctive construction characteristics include their heavy timber “H-shaped” framing system; broad, steeply pitched roofs; gable-end wagon entrances; and plank threshing floors. Although little historical information exists regarding the origin of this barn, it nevertheless evokes an important period in the building and agricultural history of the region. Restored during the 1970s after decades of neglect, the Windfall Dutch Barn has been returned to regular use for public gatherings and exhibitions.



## Oswego County



*Oswego County Courthouse*

### Oswego County Courthouse

Built between 1859 and 1860, the Oswego County Courthouse in Oswego is closely associated with the development of government in the county during the 1800s and is an outstanding example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Renaissance Revival style municipal architecture. Designed by the noted Syracuse architect Horatio Nelson White, the stylish and expensively built courthouse reflects a period of extended prosperity in the county based in great measure upon the commercial success of the Oswego Canal and the port of Oswego. Joining several other distinguished public buildings of the period including, the Market House (1836), the United States Customs House (1858) and the Gerrit Smith Library (1855), the courthouse reflects Oswego’s mid-19<sup>th</sup> century stature as an important center of shipping and commerce.

### Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse

Built in 1934, the West Pierhead Lighthouse in Oswego is an exceptionally intact example of 20<sup>th</sup> century lighthouse engineering and design. Built to replace and improve upon an earlier harbor light, the lighthouse has a long and historic association with ship navigation in Lake Ontario and the Port of Oswego. It remains a highly visible and cherished landmark, symbolically connecting the city of Oswego with its maritime heritage.



*Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse*

## Otsego County

### West Burlington Memorial Church

The **West Burlington Memorial Church** exemplifies the Gothic Revival style model established by Richard Upjohn for small country parish churches. Like others of this type, the church is characterized by a vertical form, board and batten cladding, segmental-arched windows and an exposed scissor truss framing system. While the small building is a simple interpretation of the type, it is especially distinguished by its delicate stained-glass window glazing, incorporating oak leaves and acorns, stylized lilies and abstracted pine trees. An Episcopal mission was established in this small industrial hamlet as early as 1813; however, a parish was not formed



From *Landmarks of Otsego County*

until 1841. Construction of the church in 1868 was made possible by the generosity of local citizens, including Ellen Maria Taylor, whose brother, prominent Connecticut architect Robert Wakeman Hill, contributed the plans. The West Burlington church is being restored by private owners, who hope to provide a much-needed community

meeting place for local residents. This is one of few properties in western Otsego County listed on the registers.

## CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION

### Central New York Freedom Trail Multiple Property Registers Initiative

#### Oswego County

##### *Volney:* Bristol Hill Church

The **Bristol Hill Church** (more formally known as the First Congregational Church and Society of Volney) is the first nomination proposed under the Central New York Freedom Trail Multiple Property State and National Registers nomination. This recent 22-county research project produced an historical context and overview of abolitionism and the Underground Railroad in central New York. Built in 1832-35, the Bristol Hill Church is a largely intact frame meeting house that served a racially integrated congregation active in the Abolition Movement. In



1839, a free African-American member of the church was arrested in New Orleans and later rescued as a result of a statewide lobbying effort coordinated by New York abolitionists. The church building retains a particu-

larly high degree of integrity and stands as a powerful symbol of an involved anti-slavery community in the region. The Central New York Freedom Trail registers project promises to help identify, evaluate and recognize those properties that are most significantly associated with this important episode in New York State's history.

#### Otsego County

##### *Oneonta:* Wilbur Mansion

The **George I. Wilber Residence** is associated with one of Oneonta's most prominent citizens. Born in 1845, George Wilber began his career as a hops farmer before turning to the family banking business. Best known for his long association with the Wilber National Bank in Oneonta, Wilber was also influential in the development of several other important local industries, including the municipal water system and the railroad. Describing himself as a banker and a farmer, Wilber was involved in business, social and civic concerns throughout his life, while continuing to operate his own farm in nearby Milford. As built in 1875, the house was a typical example of Italianate style design. However, in ca. 1890, the building was substantially remodeled in the Queen Anne style, adding a cross-gable roof, corner tower, wrap-around porch and elaborate ornamentation, while preserving the form and character of the original house. The residence occupies a prominent site adjacent to city's central business district. It is currently being restored by the Upper Catskill Community Council of the Arts for use as community cultural center.



#### Schoharie County

##### *Middleburgh:* Dr. Christopher S. Best House and Office

Built in 1884 and expanded in several stages, the **Dr. Christopher S. Best House and Office** is a highly intact example of a late Victorian period residence and professional office in the local community. It served as the family home and medical office for two generations of local physicians, whose careers spanned the period 1884-1986. A notable example of vernacular Italianate style residential architecture in a village setting, the Best House and its outbuildings reflect the tastes and daily life of this upper middle income family during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. This remarkably intact property contains an extensive collection of household and medical items used by the Best family during the historic period. Of particular importance is the complete physician's office of Doctors Christopher and Duncan Best, which preserves an extraordinary collection of medical furnishings, equipment and pharmaceutical items associated with the Best family medical practice. Operated as a local museum, the property is a rare surviving "time capsule" that evokes the history of period domestic life and medical practice in Middleburgh.



## Allegany County

### Belfast: Rail & Titsworth Canal Warehouse

The **Rail and Titsworth Canal Warehouse** has remained a part of the town of Belfast's landscape for close to 150 years. Recalling the age of the Genesee Valley Canal and the Genesee Valley Canal Railroad, the wood-frame, board-and-batten warehouse is the oldest extant building remaining on the route of the canal. The warehouse is a significant reminder of New York's canal age, initiated with the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, which brought seemingly unlimited expansion and prosperity to areas removed from the turnpike network. Following the closing of the Genesee Valley Canal in 1878, the warehouse remained in use in association with the railroad until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, first as a hotel and later as a barn. Built in 1853, the building is a modest vernacular interpretation of the Greek Revival style, reflecting its utilitarian function. In 1991, the Belfast Lions Club purchased the property and is in the process of transferring it to Greater Allegany Preservation Inc. Stabilization and rehabilitation efforts that will help ensure its long-term protection are currently underway.



## Broome County

### Endicott and Johnson City Square Deal Arches

The Endicott-Johnson (EJ) Company had an enormous effect on the lives of Broome County residents for more than a century. Today, hundreds of company-related resources survive throughout the Binghamton area that document EJ's personal and wide-ranging involvement in industrial development and Progressive Era social reform programs. Two resources that have a strong literal and symbolic association with the EJ manufacturing and workers community are the "welcome arches" erected in the villages of Endicott and Johnson City in 1920, when the company had become the largest manufacturer of its type in the world. These two Neoclassical structures were financed and constructed by company workers to honor George F. Johnson, their employer and benefactor, after his recent introduction of a profit-sharing plan. Designed by Arthur T. Lacey, the nearly identical stone structures exemplify the welcome arch, an early 20<sup>th</sup> century feature common in small towns throughout America. Like others of its type, the Endicott and Johnson City arches were intended as expressions of civic pride. They span prominent streets at village boundaries, serving as formal and symbolic gateways to their villages and affirming the local population's specific experience of community life. The arches were dedicated on September 6, 1920, in ceremonies just two hours apart. In Johnson City, "George F." expressed the gratitude and pride he felt for his workers, while in Endicott he reiterated his "Square Deal" philosophy for those critical of his paternalistic role in workers' lives. Johnson stressed the positive effects of kindness, consideration, respect for others, loyalty and confidence in achieving a balanced relationship between management and labor.



*Historic view of the Endicott Arch*

## Cattaraugus County

### Leon: Leon United Methodist Church

The nomination of the **Leon United Methodist Church** highlights the successful outreach of the millennium initiative to areas largely under represented in the registers program. Constructed in 1836 as a traditional meeting house in the Greek Revival idiom and modified in 1858 to reflect the influence of the Gothic Revival style, the Leon church is a distinctive example of vernacular architecture in this predominately rural region. The church reflects the shifting tastes in ecclesiastical architecture at the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, from the restrained rational doctrine of Neoclassicism to the increasingly emotional forms of the Gothic Revival. Leon, a small crossroads hamlet set amidst rolling hills and farmland in western Cattaraugus County, was first settled in 1818. The church, constructed with a hand-hewn timber frame, was among the first religious buildings in the county and remains today much as it did well over 140 years ago. Listing of the building on the registers has opened up much-needed avenues for funding that will help ensure that the church remains a conspicuous reminder of the hamlet's past.





## SOUTHERN TIER

### Tioga County

#### *Candor: John W. McCarty House*

Built ca. 1850, the **John W. McCarty House** is the first registers nomination in the village of Candor and a distinctive example of early picturesque design in Tioga County. This nomination was completed with the help of the Tioga County historian, who donated research and documentation to the project while gaining the support of the house's owner. The two-story red brick house is significant as an early example of Italianate style domestic architecture, with an interior



largely Greek Revival in character with a later overlay of Victorian details. Also included in the nomination is its board-and-batten carriage barn. The McCarty House recalls the growing influence of the Picturesque movement in American domestic architecture, popularized through the efforts of designers Andrew Jackson Downing and Alexander Jackson Davis during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. This listing promises to increase local awareness in the registers program and stimulate additional nominations.

## WESTERN NEW YORK

### Erie County

#### *Buffalo: Engine House No. 28*

**Engine House No. 28** is a distinguished example of turn-of-the-century firehouse architecture in Buffalo. Designed by local architect Frederick Mohr and built ca. 1897 to serve the fire protection needs of the city's 9<sup>th</sup> Ward, it displays an eclectic yet restrained blend of features associated with late 19<sup>th</sup> century civic buildings, including a symmetrical design, regular fenestration and classically inspired decoration. Constructed for horse drawn fire apparatus, the firehouse retains evidence of its original plan and functional divisions as well as many significant interior details, which reflect the intent of creating a "home like" setting for firefighters waiting for their call to duty. The remarkably intact firehouse also recalls the growth and development of the surrounding neighborhood and stands as a reminder of the importance of fire protection in the local community.



### Livingston County



*Detail of Main Entrance*

#### *Caledonia: Caledonia House Hotel*

Constructed in 1831-33, the **Caledonia House Hotel** is an outstanding example of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Federal period architecture in western New York. Prominently located at a bend on the Great Genesee Road, a major east-west highway and route for

westward migration during the 1800s, the building is a rare survivor among the numerous hotels that were built along this important transportation corridor. It is also the largest of several Federal period stone buildings in the surrounding area and retains an elegant, Palladian style main entrance, with semi-circular transom, fluted pilasters, flanking sidelights and molded entablature. Through the years, the building has been adapted to a variety of uses and has served as the local Masonic lodge since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### Monroe County

#### *Rochester: Emmanuel Presbyterian Church*

During the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, central and western New York became important centers for the American Arts and Crafts movement, from the Stickley brothers' furniture shops in Syracuse to Elbert Hubbard and the Roycrofters in East Aurora. This popular aesthetic was also pervasive in the region's architecture. Built in 1914-15 and designed by local architect Oscar Heech, the **Emmanuel Presbyterian Church** is an intact and representative example of Arts and Crafts ecclesiastical architecture in western New York. Influenced by the Romanesque Revival style, the church combines richly textured exterior masonry with simple forms and finishes on the interior, including stucco walls, round-arched windows and oak woodwork. The church remains a distinguished example of Arts and Crafts architecture in Rochester and recalls the city's expansion during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# WESTERN NEW YORK

## Niagara County

### Niagara Falls City Hall



Centrally located on Main Street in the community's business district, the **Niagara Falls City Hall** is a fine example of Neoclassical style civic architecture in western New York. Built in 1924 and designed by local architects Norton Kirkpatrick and Will A. Cannon, the building incorporates many distinguished elements, including a large symmetrically arranged rectangular form with a central projecting pavilion, fluted columns with Ionic capitals and smooth ashlar sandstone walls

with pilasters. This prominent local landmark remains remarkably intact and is a representative example of early 20<sup>th</sup> century municipal architecture in Niagara County. The building is also historically significant as the focus of local government from 1924 to the present and has been the center of the city's administration for more than seventy-five years.

## Schuyler County

### Hector: First Presbyterian Church

Built in 1818, the **First Presbyterian Church** is an outstanding example of early 19<sup>th</sup> century religious architecture in Schuyler County. Designed in the Federal style and reminiscent of New England meeting houses, the building's most striking feature is an imposing center tower with an octagonal belfry and spire. Its main façade features a center entrance with arched fanlight and sidelights, pilasters supporting a full entablature and roofline balustrades. Still used as a house of worship, the building has served the area's Presbyterians for nearly two centuries. The church is the only intact, historic public building in the hamlet of Hector and serves as an important reminder of the area's early settlement and growth. The nomination also includes a largely intact, settlement period burying ground, which contains the graves of some of the community's most prominent citizens.



## Wyoming County

### Java Schoolhouse No. 1

The **Java Schoolhouse No. 1** is a remarkably intact and architecturally significant example of a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, two-room schoolhouse in western New York. Built in a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate style, its

spacious classrooms, high ceilings, large windows, teachers' daises and large expanses of blackboard reflect a building program that embodies the educational reforms initiated by the New York State Legislature in the early 1850s. The Java Schoolhouse No. 1 remains a prominent landmark in the local community and recalls New York's educational trends during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



## Yates County

### Bluff Point: Garrett Memorial Chapel

Designed by New York City architect Mortimer Freehof and consecrated in 1931, the **Garrett Memorial Chapel** is an exceptionally distinguished neo-Gothic church design in rural Yates County. Spectacularly sited

above Keuka Lake, the building combines lavish materials and fine craftsmanship with 20<sup>th</sup> century building technologies. The chapel was built as a family memorial to Charles William Garrett, who died of tuberculosis at age 26. His father, who owned a large vineyard in Bluff Point (as well as other locations in New York and California), supervised its construction. The chapel incorporates many distinctive design elements, including an asymmetrical plan with corner tower, masonry walls with buttresses, pointed arch windows and a steeply pitched, slate shingle gable roof. Its interior also retains original finishes and details, including stucco walls, an exposed king post truss roof framing system (constructed of steel and concrete to resemble oak), pictorial stained glass windows and a lower level family burial chamber. The Garrett Memorial Chapel is a rare example of its type and style in the Finger Lakes region.



*Detail of chapel's buttresses*

## ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### *What are the State and National Registers of Historic Places?*

Administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which is part of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), the registers are the official lists of properties that are significant in history, architecture, engineering, landscape, archeology and culture within local, state and/or national contexts. More than 80,000 historic properties in New York have received this prestigious recognition.

### *What qualifies a property for listing on the registers?*

The registers criteria recognize the value of all aspects of New York's diverse culture. Properties must represent a significant historic theme (agriculture, industry, transportation, etc.) and retain sufficient physical integrity to illustrate their association with that theme — specifically, properties must possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

### *What kinds of properties can be included on the registers?*

Buildings and structures such as residences, commercial buildings and bridges; sites such as cemeteries, landscapes and archaeological sites; districts or groups of buildings, structures or sites that are significant as a whole, such as farmsteads, residential neighborhoods, industrial complexes and cultural landscapes; and objects such as fountains and monuments.

### *What is the process for listing a property on the registers?*

To begin, an application must be submitted to the SHPO staff for evaluation. If the property is determined eligible for listing, the nomination sponsor is responsible for providing documentation that describes the property's setting and physical characteristics, documents its history, conveys its significance in terms of its historic context and demonstrates how it meets the registers criteria. Once complete, the nomination is reviewed by the New York State Board for Historic Preservation. If the board approves the nomination, the Commissioner of OPRHP (who is New York's State Historic Preservation Officer) lists the property on the State Register and forwards it to the National Park Service for review and listing on the National Register.

### *Can an owner object to having his or her property listed on the National Registers?*

Yes. An individual privately owned property may not be listed over the objection of its owner. Properties with more than one owner may not be listed over the objection of a majority of owners.

### *How long does it take to get a property listed?*

In New York, the length of time from initial application to listing is about six to twelve months for an individual

property – historic districts usually take longer. The availability of information and the sponsor's level of involvement in providing and/or preparing the necessary materials are key factors in the nomination timeline.

### *What are the benefits of being listed on the registers?*

- Official recognition often changes the way communities perceive their historic resources and gives credibility to local preservation efforts.
- Income-producing properties may be eligible for a 20% federal income tax credit for certified rehabilitation.
- Properties owned by not-for-profit organizations and municipalities may be eligible for matching state preservation grants. Funding may also be available through other public and private sources.
- Properties receive a measure of protection from federal and state undertakings. State and federal agencies must consult with the SHPO to avoid or mitigate adverse effects to properties listed or determined eligible for listing.

### *Will registers listing restrict the use of a private property?*

Registers listing does not interfere with a private property owner's right to change, manage or dispose of property. Properties listed in historic districts are treated exactly the same as individually listed properties.

### *Does registers listing require an owner to maintain his or her property or open it to the public?*

No. Owners are not required to maintain or open the listed property to the public.

### *Will registers listing, either individually or in an historic district, affect local property taxes or zoning?*

No. Registers listing has no direct bearing on any of these local actions.

### *How does registers listing differ from other landmark designations?*

The registers should not be confused with local landmark designation. Some municipalities across the state have enacted local preservation laws that require review of work for locally designated historic resources. These activities are not connected to the registers program. However, the program goals are similar – to protect and preserve properties important in our past.

### *Where can I find out more about the registers program?*

For information, contact the SHPO at the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau by calling (518) 237-8643 or log on to the OPRHP website at [www.nysparks.state.ny.us](http://www.nysparks.state.ny.us)

# For Our Children: Celebrating The Past - Shaping Our Future

## New York's Preservation and Revitalization Summit

To register for the **SUMMIT** and/or the **WORKSHOPS**, please complete the following form; space is limited (*especially for the workshops*) and will be provided in the order registrations are received.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (*if applicable*): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # (*if applicable*): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (*if applicable*): \_\_\_\_\_

**May 17 Preservation Summit - Registration Fee (*incl. resource binder, lunch, reception*) - \$50 per person\***

9 AM – 7 PM (*incl. state preservation awards program & reception*), The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany

- Lunch Sandwich Preference (*check one*):  Turkey  Italian  Vegetarian
- Limited parking is available on May 17 in the Empire State Plaza's designated underground visitor parking areas. Reserved parking is available in these areas by prepaid reservation at \$8 per vehicle.\* Public parking is also available in public lots around the plaza on Madison Avenue (*near Eagle & Swan Streets*) and next to the Pepsi Arena.

### Optional Activities – Peebles Island Resource Center

**May 18 Preservation Workshops – Registration Fee (*all workshops & lunch*) - \$15 per person \***

9 AM – 1 PM (*incl. lunch*), Peebles Island State Park, Waterford (*12 mi. north of Albany*)

Please choose two of the following workshops:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State & National Registers Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Local Government Program                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Parks Grant Programs         | <input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Preservation Office Archeology Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Preservation Tax Credit    | <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation & Conservation Facilities Tour           |

**May 19 Peebles Island Resource Center Open House – 11 AM – 4 PM – Free/Open to the Public**

**\* Please return the registration form with your check by May 1, 2001.**

Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Summit:	\$ _____
May 17 Parking:	\$ _____
Workshops:	\$ _____
Open House:	\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____

Please mail and make checks payable to:  
**Preservation Summit/Natural Heritage Trust**  
 Agency Building #1- 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Empire State Plaza  
 Albany, NY 12238

**For information, call the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau at (518) 486-1868.**

**New York State Office of Parks,  
 Recreation and Historic Preservation**  
 The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza  
 Agency Building 1  
 Albany, New York 12238

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