

MINUTES

189th MEETING

**NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

September 8, 2022

**Meeting held by WebEx
Based at Peebles Island
Waterford, New York**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLy3FSDIWal>

The following participated in the WebEx video conferencing remotely because the Open Meetings Law has been suspended due to COVID:

SRB Members

Douglas Perrelli, Chair
Wint Aldrich
Carol Clark
Jay DiLorenzo
Wayne Goodman
Jennifer Lemak
Erika Krieger
Chuck Vandrei

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) staff:

Erik Kulleseid, Commissioner, OPRHP
Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
*Dan McEneny, Director, Division for Historic Preservation
Dan Bagrow
Virginia Bartos
Jennifer Betsworth
Daniel Boggs
Olivia Brazee
James Carter
Erin Czernecki
*Kathy Howe, Board Secretary
Kathleen LaFrank
Linda Mackey
*Chelsea Towers
Jennifer Walkowski

**Participated in the WebEx from Peebles Island*

Guests

Alexis Abernathy
Michael Henry Adams
Michelle Boyd
Luke Boyd
Chris Cirillo
Pablo Davila
Gina DiBella
Michelle Dinsmore
Emily Dominijanni
Jeff Flagg
Shae Hanford
Bette Latham
Michael Lynch
Molly McDonald
Sean McGee
William Morache

Daniel Messing
Paul Naliwajeck
Jessica Phillips
Gregory Pinto
Nelson Schwartzenruber
Liz Waytkus
David Witt

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Douglas Perelli at 10:07 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the 189th meeting being held remotely from the Peebles Island auditorium in Waterford, New York. The open meeting law is still suspended so we have participants at Peebles Island and people participating remotely through WebEx. He extended a special welcome to NYS OPRHP Commissioner Erik Kulleseid and said that we look forward to his remarks.

Roll Call

The roll was called, during which the following responded as present and briefly described their role or function as it relates to their service on this board.

- Doug Perelli: Board Chair, Archaeologist, Clinical Assistant Professor of Anthropology, SUNY Buffalo; President of the New York Archaeological Council
- Wint Aldrich: Historian, former Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
- Carol Clark: former Deputy Commissioner at NYS Parks, Adjunct Professor of Historic Preservation at Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and the NYU School of Professional Studies
- Jay DiLorenzo: President, Preservation League of NYS
- Wayne Goodman: Executive Director, Landmark Society of Western New York
- Erika Krieger: Registered Architect representing the NYS Department of State
- Jennifer Lemak: Chief Curator of History, New York State Museum, State Education Department
- Chuck Vandrei: Archaeologist, Agency Preservation Officer, Department of Environmental Conservation

There being **eight** members participating, a quorum was confirmed.

Doug Perelli reminded all that the voting method for online meetings is that following a motion and second, there will first be a call for any “opposed” or “abstaining” votes. If there are none, the motion is carried by unanimous consent.

Approval of Past Minutes

Kathy Howe, board secretary, noted that there had been no corrections or comments received for the draft minutes for the December 2021, March 2022, and June 2022 meetings circulated before this meeting.

186th Meeting Minutes - December 9, 2021

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0 Opposed: 0

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

187th Meeting Minutes - March 10, 2022

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Wayne Goodman

Abstentions: 0 Opposed: 0

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

188th Meeting Minutes - June 9, 2022

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Jay DiLorenzo

Abstentions: 0 Opposed: 0

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Deputy Commissioner's Report

Daniel Mackay

Daniel reported that staff at the Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) has been quite busy since the June review board meeting. Programs are functioning at a very consistent level with past years for tax credits and there has been an uptick in the number of National Register nominations. Perhaps one of the most notable consultation reviews staff is involved with at the moment is the construction of a new Buffalo Bills stadium in Erie County. We are pleased that our agency, Empire State Development, and the Department of Environmental Conservation are coordinating effectively and efficiently with Tribal representatives who have concerns about potential archaeological impacts at the new stadium site.

Staff continue to split their time working remotely from home and in the office as per current requirements. That said, staff have been at Peebles Island more consistently than at any point in the past two years, allowing for more in-person communication.

Daniel said that the National Park Service Semiquincentennial Grant Program was created by Congress in 2022 to support the preservation of state-owned sites and structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places that commemorate the founding of the nation. This program represents a series of grants that will likely be available over the next ten years. These grants are specifically awarded to state historic preservation offices for capital improvements for historic sites with a connection to the nation's founding. OPRHP was awarded its first award under this grant program. We

received \$500,000 for capital projects at Fort Ontario in Niagara County, matched by agency funds, to undertake masonry restoration at the fort, including the French Castle, the North Redoubt, the South Redoubt, and a section of the fort's casemates. The next application deadline is December 6, 2022. Staff will begin the evaluation of candidate projects in late September. Grant awards are increasing this round to a maximum of \$750,000. We will continue to prepare additional grants under this program over the next several years with the hope that we will bring in even more federal funds for our historic sites that represent the founding of our nation.

Another federal grant program that we are now applying to is the National Park Service National Maritime Heritage Grant Program. Program administration is being shifted from NPS to SHPOs, which must compete for annual funding for regrants within awarded states. This shift caught SHPOs by surprise; as a result, many states with strong applicant pools for the former program appear not to have the staff or program capacity to apply for regrant funds this year. New York State has often led the nation in the number of awarded projects when applicants applied directly to NPS. Under the new way the program is being run, our agency will be applying for these funds and actively developing application materials for a September 20th application deadline. NPS will allow NY SHPO to take an administrative fee and dedicate funding to agency projects. We have identified restoration/rehabilitation of the Barcelona Lighthouse in Westfield, NY, as where agency funding will be directed. This lighthouse was the first natural gas-lit lighthouse in the nation and was constructed in 1829. Forty feet tall, it was in Federal Lighthouse Service until 1859. Since that time, it was privately held until 2008, when acquired by OPRHP. We will be applying for a maximum of \$750,000 in preservation funds and \$75,000 in interpretive project funds. Our Community Engagement Unit at DHP is leading the way in putting together these federal grant applications for our agency.

Daniel also reported on the National Park Service Paul Bruhn Rural Revitalization Grant Program. In 2021 we received \$300,000 from this federal grant program to fund a regrant program to support historic preservation in the rural communities of the Genesee Valley. Local governments, non-profit and commercial property owners, and small businesses in the Genesee Valley applied for regrants ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 to preserve the historic places that make villages in this region unique. Letchworth Gateway Villages (LGV), along with the Landmark Society of Western New York and the Rochester Area Community Foundation, contributed a portion of the matching funds required to secure this opportunity for the region; the program is co-administered by DHP and the Landmarks Society of WNY. The first round of awarded projects was announced in September 2021 and many of those projects are now underway. The second and final round of applications have been reviewed and rated and will be announced this fall.

Also worth noting is that Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) was awarded \$750,000 in NPS Paul Bruhn regrant funds and DHP looks forward to those funds catalyzing preservation projects in the Adirondacks.

Daniel discussed recent promotions and new hires at DHP. Establishment of our new senior staff team created vacancies behind that team at the unit supervisory level. The division is thankful that we've been awarded critical fills in recent months that have allowed us to fill these critical leadership vacancies at the division.

Chelsea Towers has accepted the position of Coordinator for the National Register and Survey Unit. This is a critical role at the division, as the position oversees our largest staffed unit, which is often the first point of contact for many of the SHPO functions. Chelsea has been with the agency for four years and has demonstrated a calm and keen presence in the work of the unit. We look forward to her ability to support and evolve the unit in her new management role. Chelsea has an undergraduate degree from Hobart and William Smith and a Masters in Preservation from Roger Williams College.

Christina Vagvolgyi has accepted the position of leading the Community Engagement Unit. Christina previously served in significant roles in that unit, managing our application and reporting for the Historic Preservation Fund, oversight of the launch of the Historic Business Registry, and developing the homeowner credit program's DocuSign portal. This unit will continue to oversee initiation and administration regarding our federal grants, undertake special projects, and administer the homeowner tax credit program. Christina has an undergraduate degree from Union College and a Masters in Preservation from Columbia.

Oscar Hassell's administrative support role is critical to the success of the tax credit and National Register programs, as he facilitates all paperwork and notifications with NPS, as well as federal and state legislators. Oscar will be supporting the agency's interface with NPS as the Park Service moves to digital submissions for the federal tax credit program.

Though previously announced as new hires at our June meeting, Paige Schmidt, Conservator of Wooden Objects and Furniture, and Lauren Ross, Conservator of Frames and Gilded Objects, have since officially begun work at Peebles Island. Paige comes to the Bureau of Historic Sites from a position as Assistant Objects Conservator at the Mariners' Museum and Park in Newport News, VA. Paige received her Masters in Conservation from SUNY Buffalo State College. Before working at the Mariners' Museum, she held internships at the Landesarchäologie Aussenstelle Speyer in Germany, the Institute for Aegean Prehistory Study Center for East Crete in Greece, the Frick Collection in New York City, the Alaska State Museum, and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Lauren Ross is a bench-trained Conservator of Frames and Gilded Objects, with twenty-two years of experience at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Ross holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Maryland Institute/College of Art.

She has received specialized training from various recognized training programs, both national and international, including ICCROM's six-week 2008 International Course on Wood Conservation Technology in Oslo, Norway; Gilding for Conservators and Traditional Gilding from the International Preservation Studies Center in Mount Carroll, Ill; Microclimate Technology for Panel Paintings at SRAL in Maastricht, Netherlands; Chemistry for Conservators through International Academic Projects, U.K., and Modular Cleaning Program at the Pratt Institute among many other seminars and workshops. Ross delivered a paper at the international frames conference at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney in 2019. We're very pleased that Lauren has filled one of our longest vacant Conservation positions and both of these staff have relocated to New York State to take these positions, which says something important about our work product and our reputation in the field.

One final new hire at DHP is Aine Leader-Nagy, who is working in the Community Preservation Bureau in the title of Historic Preservation Communications Specialist. Aine will revamp the division's public and internal media presence, for our SHPO, Bureau, and Historic Site functions. This will be the first time that we have had a dedicated staff member to steer our public affairs messaging. Aine joins us from the Albany Institute of History & Art, where she served as Director of Community Engagement, covering a wide range of public relations and marketing responsibilities for one of Upstate's most influential cultural institutions.

Daniel noted that we have also had a few staff departures and retirements. James Finelli, with NR/Survey and CLG responsibilities, left for an opportunity in the private sector. Mary Bettlejeski retired as BHS painting conservator, after thirty-one years of service. Travel is in her immediate and long-range plans. Jim Stickle, Registration Technician in the Collections Management Unit, transferred to a position with the NYS Division of Budget. We are working on filling these vacancies along with some additional restaffing priorities.

Daniel closed his report with some updates on three of our historic sites. He stated that Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, which has been closed since June 2021, is scheduled to reopen in October 2022. Located in downtown Yonkers, Philipse Manor Hall received a fifteen million dollar plus exterior and interior restoration and the installation of a 2,800-square-foot permanent exhibit. The exhibit reflects the agency's *Our Whole History* initiative and tells a much more inclusive and expansive story about the Native Americans, the enslaved Africans, and the tenant farmers who were all interacting with the Philipse family as that family arrived from the Netherlands and established its economic status in the lower Hudson Valley. Daniel said that this eighteen-to twenty-month effort at the site is a stunning achievement for the agency and its dedicated staff and that we can be very proud of what this represents in terms of a new age of interpretation and commitment to the state Historic Site system. The previews by some agency staff of these very moving exhibits have been very positive.

He also suggested that the board consider having one of its upcoming board meetings at the renovated community space at Philipse Manor Hall.

He also mentioned that Clermont State Historic Site in Germantown has received an exhibit overall that is just waiting for a few electronic items to arrive after supply chain issues. This exhibit also meets *Our Whole History* requirements. Clermont is also finishing up a master planning process that will leave the site in very good standing for the next fifteen to twenty years.

We are also launching a new master planning process at John Brown Farm State Historic Site in Lake Placid in the Adirondacks. That critical effort is being closely coordinated with DEC and the Friends Group at the site and it will put all of us on the same page and with the same understanding about some of the regulatory challenges within Adirondack Park.

Commissioner's Report

Erik Kulleseid

Commissioner Kulleseid thanked the board members for their service, stating that the work that they do is vitally important, especially related to the connection between economic development and historic preservation. Erik congratulated the board on the robust agenda of nominations. In terms of highlights at the agency, we are doing well with hiring. We are looking ahead to the next few years regarding proposals and sharing those with gubernatorial leadership. The historic preservation tax credit needs to be renewed during the next legislative session. Whoever is elected as governor in the upcoming election will be serving during the nation's semiquincentennial. The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the formation of the U.S., so there is an opportunity for us to celebrate this event at many of our historic sites.

He said that it has been an extraordinary summer across our parks system. We have noticed that the waters of New York Harbor are getting cleaner thanks to the Clean Water Act. The state has planted reefs and, as a result, bait fish, whales, and porpoises are returning to the harbor and along the Long Island coast. We had more beach closings this summer than ever because of increased shark sightings; the sharks were drawn to these waters due to the large number of bait fish. While this may be a sign of Mother Nature recovering, at the same time we've had an unprecedented number of lake beach closings due to harmful algal blooms. Lake Welch, which is our most visited downstate beach at Harriman State Park, was hit very hard and had to be closed for the entire summer. This situation may have been something of our own making due to fifty years of neglect in terms of a lack of investment in a treatment plant there. This summer, our parks and historic sites staff worked harder than ever as we had very few rain days, resulting in high visitation numbers. It was a great season for us but we also suffered from forest fires in Minnewaska State Park Preserve and many spot fires

across Harriman State Park and the Palisades Region parks. Thanks to the hard work of parks staff we had a very successful summer season despite some of the challenges. Erik stated that it continues to be a privilege and honor to work with staff, including everyone at Peebles Island ,who are very committed and mission-centered people.

Nomination Reviews

Kathy Howe, Director of the Community Preservation Services Bureau, welcomed the property owners and sponsors of the nominations being presented at the meeting. She noted that the twenty-seven nominations being brought forth collectively include roughly 1,400 properties when you add the buildings within the proposed districts plus the individual nominations. Ten of the twenty-seven nominations are for commercial tax credit rehabilitation projects. She thanked Kathleen LaFrank for reviewing the nominations this quarter and Virginia Bartos for preparing the slide presentation.

Nomination 1: Crosman Terrace Historic District, Rochester, Monroe County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: Virginia thanked the Crosman Terrace Historic Steering Committee for their exemplary outreach efforts and introduced committee member Shea Hanford. Shea said that the committee did not receive any grant funds for the preparation of the nomination but that they were able to pay their consultants, Gina DiBella and Saralinda Hooker, by raising funds from the homeowners. The committee members reached out to every household for a donation of \$500 to fund the nomination. She thanked Virginia for her encouragement throughout the entire nomination process. Shea said that the project has been truly transformative for the neighborhood. The committee members put together the messaging emails and had lots of face-to-face visits with homeowners to seek support for the effort. They had to figure out in these conversations the particular aspect of the program that would appeal to that homeowner or, in many cases, had to dispel misguided fears about the so-called risks of becoming a historic district. It was through this process that the neighbors truly bonded as a group, which was very visible this summer with all the activity out on front porches with people having breakfasts and dinners on their front porches and people stopping to talk.

Doug commented that it is a wonderful district with a nice story of community engagement and cohesion.

Motion to approve: Jennifer Lemak

Second: Wayne Goodman

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 2: Martin and Andrew Sperbeck House, Fairport, Monroe County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: none

Motion to approve: Doug Perrelli

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 3: Isaac Shipley House, Williamson, Wayne County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: Virginia introduced Paul Naliwajeck, the owner of the house and author of the nomination.

Wint Aldrich said that he was amazed how Shipley could have traded with the enemy during the Civil War without the small community knowing about it or, if they did have knowledge of his activity with the enemy, how he escaped with his life. Virginia responded that Shipley's brothers were very much aware of their brother's activity and it caused a rift in the family.

Doug Perelli asked if the house may have been shipped across Lake Ontario in pieces and then built here. Virginia responded that the bricks may have been produced in Canada and shipped here. Doug asked for clarification regarding some of the built resources that were omitted from the nomination boundaries rather than being included as non-contributing. Virginia said that the house next door was not included as part of this nomination. She said that it was originally built as a caretaker's property but it was sold not too long ago and was completely rebuilt, losing its feeling and association with the historic property. The land was also divided from the historic property. When you look at it today it reads as a 2010 house and it has a 2012 garage at the back so these buildings are considered non-historic.

Erika Krieger suggested that it would be a good idea to let the local fire department know that the fire hydrant on the property is non-functional.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Wayne Goodman

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 4: Bristol Methodist Episcopal Church, Bristol Center, Ontario County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: none

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 5: Naples Viniculture Historic District, Naples, Ontario County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: Wint said the prisoners of war housed here may have been detailed from Old Fort Niagara, where there was a large number of prisoners who were kept for the last year or so of World War II. It is interesting that they would have been sent from our property in Fort Niagara. Virginia added that Italian and German POWs were also sent to other agricultural areas.

Doug commented that the methodology section of the nomination was particularly useful.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Doug Perrelli

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 6: The Huntington Building, Seneca Falls, Seneca County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: Carol said that she was glad that an image of the National Yeast Company cookbook cover was included in the presentation. She found it fascinating that this factory was producing twelve tons of yeast daily and that it was being distributed widely, even to the Midwest. Wayne said that this building was on the Landmark Society's Five to Revive list as it was in fairly imminent danger of demolition a few years ago. He gives a lot of credit to the community and to the owner, who was very receptive to preserving the building.

Motion to approve: Wayne Goodman

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 7: Perry Village Hall, Perry, Wyoming County

Presented by: Virginia Bartos

Discussion: Virginia noted that the Perry Village Hall has applied for a New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) matching grant for historic preservation. She pointed out that to be eligible to apply for an EPF historic preservation grant, a building must be State Register listed or in the process of being listed and that the building must be owned by a municipality or a not-for-profit organization. The building was not originally included in the previously listed village historic district as it was discontinuous to the district so it is now being proposed for individual listing.

Erika asked if research provided any information on the mural scene at the interior of the building. Virginia replied that the local historical society had no information on the mural and no one knew if the landscape scene showing palm trees was of an actual place or if it was an artistic impression of a faraway place.

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Doug Perrelli

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 8: Graves Mansion, Au Sable Forks, Essex County

Presented by: Dan Bagrow

Discussion: Wint commented on the beautiful Aesthetic movement details in the interior of the house and hoped that the present owners can restore and celebrate the achievement of such fine craftsmanship.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 9: Corey Cottage, Saranac Lake, Franklin County

Presented by: Dan Bagrow

Discussion: Dan noted that owners Mike Kenneth and Pablo Davila are pursuing National Register listing to gain access to the rehabilitation tax credit. Pablo Davila said that it was fun trying to find information on the history of the cottage. They intend to restore it to its potential and thanked the board for the opportunity to do this presentation.

Doug asked if the porch was added to the existing structure specifically as a cure porch. Dan responded that it was unclear if the porch was a later modification or if the house was built with it. Either way, the porch is a character-defining feature of the house.

Motion to approve: Wayne Goodman

Second: Chuck Vandrei

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 10: Three Squares Historic District (Boundary Expansion and Boundary Decrease), Glens Falls, Warren County

Presented by: Dan Bagrow

Discussion: Dan stated that the city intends to incorporate this building into ongoing revitalization plans. Dan introduced Jeff Flagg, Director of the Glens Falls Economic Development Office. Jeff thanked Dan for his assistance in preparing the nomination. Jeff said that 36 Elm Street is an interesting building that is at the heart of the block on South Street that is undergoing significant revitalization. He added that the City of Glens Falls was one of the first recipients of the first round of the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), a \$10 million series of grants that are designed to help revitalize downtown cores. Glens Falls is looking at both rehabilitating existing buildings and constructing some new structures along the South Street commercial corridor. Jeff said that the building is ironically and locally referred to as the incubator building, based on plans that were submitted about a decade ago to turn it into a sort of startup business incubator. He said ironically because it was never put into use for that purpose. He stated that the building is currently owned by the LDC and we are under contract to sell it along with the two adjacent buildings (41 and 45 South Street) that are both in the historic district. All three are being sold together and renovated. Jeff added that the plans for 36 Elm Street call for a community market on the ground floor. In the space behind the building, where some later buildings had been torn down, will be a community event center. He said that some loft apartments will be built upstairs. Jeff thanked everyone involved in the process for considering the nomination and said that it is good to know that corrections and refinements can be made to existing historic district boundaries based on new information and the passage of time.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Jennifer Lemak

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 11: Martinsburg Common School District #4, Martinsburg, Lewis County

Presented by: Dan Bagrow

Discussion: Dan stated that this is an honorific nomination and was researched and written by Betty Lakin of the Martinsburg Historical Society. Betty thanked Dan and said that she learned a lot going through old school reports and school board meetings as part of her research. She said that they have great community support, noting that luckily, once the school closed its doors, it had not been altered in any way as it was largely used for storage. The historical society bought the building at a minimal cost and the restoration work was primarily all volunteer. She said that they have former students who come every year for an open house and the owner of the farm that surrounds the school is also a volunteer and a former student. It is a wonderful example of a one-room schoolhouse and depicts what education was like back in the day.

Motion to approve: Wayne Goodman

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 12: Lithuanian Alliance of America, New York, New York County

Presented by: Linda Mackey

Discussion: Linda noted that she received letters of support from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Ambassador of Lithuania to the United States, and the Lithuanian American Community Organization. She also stated that though the listing would be honorary, the building is located within the boundaries of the area of potential effect for the proposed Empire Station development project (the area around Penn Station) so it would receive a measure of protection.

She said that the nomination was prepared by Michelle Boyd, Director of Preservation Services, at Building Conservation Associates (BCA).

Wint said that there must have been a lot of excitement in this building in 1989, when Lithuania achieved its independence, and major concerns when Russia recently invaded nearby Ukraine. He asked if the purpose and function of the alliance has changed as a result of these events.

Carol commented that the nomination made a compelling case for the significance of the property under the NR criteria by discussing in fascinating detail the establishment and development of this influential benevolent organization.

Consultant Michelle Boyd said that she worked with a deeply dedicated team at the Lithuanian Alliance in preparing the nomination and thanked Linda for her assistance. She said that she cannot speak to the 1989 achievement of Lithuania winning independence from Russia, but I do know that there is a lot of emotion and concern regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The alliance members have deeply advocated for the Ukrainians at this time.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Erika Kreiger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 13: Richmond Town Historic District, Staten Island, Richmond County

Presented by: Linda Mackey

Discussion: Linda stated that we received a letter of support from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and no letters of objection. She noted that this district has a small number of owners that include city agencies, Historic Richmond Town, and two churches. She introduced Molly McDonald with ARKF, who prepared the nomination, and Jessica Phillips, Chief Executive Officer with Historic Richmond Town.

Jessica said that the historic district has been over twenty-five years in the making and that Historic Richmond Town is very excited about the proposed listing.

Carol commented that from a city-wide perspective the fact that so few early vernacular buildings survive elsewhere in Staten Island or even anywhere else in the five boroughs makes this a worthy nomination. She was curious as to how Historic Richmond Town compares to other folk museums that are listed on the State or National Registers. She asked if we knew of other examples or if we could find that out, as it would provide some context for a better understanding of these types of resources.

Doug said that this is an interesting question and cited Genesee Country Museum in Mumford as another example, though it is more recent and not listed. He said that Genesee Country Museum in Mumford is different in that some of the buildings have been moved to the site from quite a distance so that it is more of an artificial village setting, whereas, at Historic Richmond Town, the buildings that were moved here were just from Staten Island so that it is a more local context and there were existing buildings here so there is better cohesion and context. He feels that there appears to be a qualitative difference between the National Register eligibility of this district and something like the Genesee Country Museum.

Wint said that he agreed with Doug's assessment and noted that many years ago the National Park Service was quite opposed to listing museum villages. He said that

maybe they will make an exception now because, in this case, there's a substantial amount of historic fabric in place at Historic Richmond Town and there are buildings that have been moved here from nearby. But, he said he can remember, in the past, that with Old Bethpage, the Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown, and Eastfield Village that there was resistance to listing these types of resources. He noted that at Eastfield Village the founder brought together people to learn and demonstrate traditional trades like tinsmithing and shingle making. Wint asked if the National Park Service has changed its policy.

Kathy Howe mentioned that Historic Richmond Town was presented to the State Review Board many years ago but the nomination at that time was not approved. She said that we now have the benefit of the passage of time so that this particular museum village has gained significance since its founding, which was based on a plan and mission. She added that we have listed other museum villages in New York State and can add that information to the nomination.

Kath LaFrank added that when we nominated the Glimmerglass Historic District, we were about to list the Farmers' Museum independently, the idea being that it was old enough that it could be listed as an early example of preservation itself. She said that both Linda, in her presentation, and Molly, in the draft nomination, said that Historic Richmond Town is eligible as a way of looking at the past in the early days. As you know, this was the 40s and 50s and this was the way they looked at the past and now that very attitude is 50 years old; the other thing is, this is so interesting because rather than create what they used to call a preservation zoo by creating an artificial village, in this case, they mostly filled in lots that were already in their village with other houses from Staten Island. That is a very interesting approach and they had a whole plan for doing so. She added that a third thing to be considered, as Carol brought up, is the rarity and significance of those individual early houses. A moved building can be significant individually if it's a rare example of its type and so we also considered those individually eligible because they are rare examples of eighteenth and early nineteenth century architecture on Staten Island. We analyzed the significance of Historic Richmond Town in these three different ways. Kath added that we listed a recreated museum village in Suffolk County and the Genesee Country Museum has been determined eligible. She has read nominations for museum villages from other states so now they are evaluated as a way of looking at the past if they're old enough and they're eligible on that basis.

Kathy added that there are multiple layers of history at Historic Richmond Town, including the archaeological potential.

Kath said that she liked the way that Molly described it as having two identities that are melded and that was an excellent way of looking at the village.

Molly stated that this is one of the few open-air museums in NYS that would be listed as a historic district. She thinks that this is, in part, because it is an early example of a museum village that came together starting in the 1930s with William T. Davis who is a legendary figure in Staten Island history, and then coming to fruition with the help of Robert Moses. The formation of the museum village itself and the conception of it is a really interesting chapter in the history of Staten Island and in the history of open air museums.

Wint said that this discussion has been very informative and that he is entirely in support of the nomination.

Doug asked about the use of Criterion D in the nomination, as one of the two archaeologists on the board. As he was reading the form, on Section 7/page 8, there's a reference to no archaeology done, no evaluation, and no significance established. Section 8/page 12-13 covers archaeology and he agrees that there's archaeological potential here, but he is curious as to if there was any actual testing. He asked if anyone actually put a shovel into the dirt and found artifacts in any particular locations or are we just talking about the archaeological potential based on Phase 1A background research.

Linda said that she communicated with the National Park Service on this issue as well and internally worked with a couple staff members in the archaeology unit because some Phase 1A work was done and there had been some testing. But, the exact location of sites and dimensions were not clear so we could not definitively say whether or not an archaeological site was contributing, so we felt it was best to leave the door open for archaeological potential. She added that if, in the future, there are Phase 2 excavations that clearly delineate an archaeological site, we can certainly do an update to the nomination at that time.

Molly added that in the 1980s there was a comprehensive city-funded assessment of the greater Richmond Town area done by Shireen Bauer and Ed Lenick that was a unique overview study at a Phase 1A level that assessed the overall archaeological potential of Richmond Town. Since that time there have been some field studies here and there. We decided to come down on the side of archaeological potential due to the relative lack of actual inground testing.

Kath noted that research questions, which are required under Criterion D, are included in the nomination. Doug added that Phase 2 level archaeology is the level at which one makes a determination of National Register eligibility for specific below-ground resources.

Carol stated that all of this discussion has been clarifying.

Doug then asked if any of the archaeological reports for Historic Richmond Town are included in the bibliography of the nomination. Linda and Molly both responded that these reports are in the bibliography.

Kath said that we can go back and look a bit more carefully on our Criterion D argument to make sure that everything is clear.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 14: West Harlem Historic District, New York, New York County

Presented by: Linda Mackey

Discussion: Linda said that we have received a letter of support from one of the property owners. She noted that the New York City Landmark Preservation Commission's (LPC) comment letter did not say whether the proposed district met the National Register criteria. She added that, at the time the CLG draft was sent to LPC, we did not yet have a map showing the non-contributing resources. LPC had also wanted us to include side-by-side historic images and current-day images for every building in the district so they could further assess integrity. As this is not a National Register requirement, we do not ask consultants to provide this level of documentation. We have since provided to LPC the district map indicating the contributing and non-contributing resources so if they feel that they wish to provide an updated letter to us, they can. We received nine letters of objection from property owners, which is a very small percentage of the total number of owners in the district. In general, the owners who objected just don't want to be in a historic district or they may not understand the difference between National Register listing versus local landmarking. While the proposed district listing is honorific, it is important to note that it is within a qualifying census tract so that owners of contributing buildings are eligible for both the state homeowner and the state and federal commercial tax credit programs. Linda added that we have already received some inquiries about tax credit programs. The nomination was funded, in part, by the Preservation League of New York State, Ascendant Neighborhood Development, Harlem One Stop, Inc., and the West Harlem Community Preservation Organization.

Linda thanked consultant Bill Morache for his work on this huge undertaking. She noted that Yuien Chin, Executive Director of the West Harlem Community Preservation Organization is joining today's meeting.

Doug asked Linda if the possibility of being eligible for the tax credit programs will drive a lot of adaptive reuse and economic redevelopment throughout the district. Linda

hopes that the historic state tax credits will help owners to maintain their buildings, noting that there a lot of apartment buildings and co-ops.

Carol said that this is a remarkably intact district and the nomination is exceptionally researched and well-written by Bill.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Jay DiLorenzo

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 15: Fort Plain Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation, Fort Plain, Montgomery County

Presented by: Erin Czernecki

Discussion: Erin said that the nomination is sponsored by the village and the Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank to open up more opportunities for homeowners and business owners to utilize the tax credit programs. We have not received any letters of objection.

Daniel said that the 2012 listing of the initial Fort Plain Historic District was League-funded by a Preserve New York grant. He gave credit to League for that initial investment ten years ago and noted, in this instance, that the impetus for the boundary increase is coming from the local players. He hoped that this demonstrates that the value of that initial investment from the League has really been embraced by local government and other entities in Montgomery County.

Motion to approve: Wayne Goodman

Second: Jennifer Lemak

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 16: Red Rock Schoolhouse, Red Rock, Columbia County

Presented by: Jennifer Betsworth

Discussion: none

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Doug Perrelli

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 17: Muldor-Miller House, Claverack, Columbia County

Presented by: Jennifer Betsworth

Discussion: Jennifer said that the nomination draft was written by Claverack historian Jeane LaPorta and by the new owners, Alessandra and Danny Messing. The new owners first became interested and learned about listing through the homeowner tax credit program, for which they have already filed the first part of that application.

Doug asked if any consideration had been given to making the orchard, koi pond and garden contributing features of the nomination. Jennifer said that the pond and garden are very recent landscape features so they were not counted. She mentioned that the last owner was a bit of a carpenter and he did a few things on his own but those seem to be late twentieth century things. The orchard on the property is but a tiny remnant of something that was much larger so she decided to just leave it in the description of the landscape.

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 18: Cameo Theatre, Binghamton, Broome County

Presented by: James Carter

Discussion: James noted that the Cameo Theatre is currently in the early stages of rehabilitation and the property owner is hoping to apply for 2022 CFA funding to support the building's rehabilitation. Letters of support were received from the City of Binghamton's Commission on Architecture and Urban Design and the Mayor of Binghamton, Jared M. Kraham.

Doug asked how the loss of the seats impacts the interior integrity. James said that the interior still clearly "reads" as a theater, as the lobby/concessions area and auditorium spaces remain. Though the project room remains, the actual equipment has been removed.

Motion to approve: Erika Krieger

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 19: Sheltered Workshop for the Disabled, Binghamton, Broome County

Presented by: James Carter

Discussion: James noted that this property was certified last month by the National Park Service through the Part 1 PDIL process in advance of an anticipated tax credit rehabilitation. The nomination has received letters of support from the City of Binghamton's Commission on Architecture and Urban Design and the Mayor of Binghamton, Jared M. Kraham.

Wint commented that this is a wonderful program that he has never heard of before and it appears to have been prompted by the need for an enhanced workforce on the home front during World War II. He said that it really speaks well for the Binghamton community's philanthropy and its great industrial organizations to initiate this and to keep it going for so many years. Wint added that one can only worry about the disappearance of organizations like this and the people who benefited from their programs.

Doug said that he noticed a reference to Indian limestone on page seven in the description part of the nomination. James said that this is an error and should be Indiana limestone.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Doug Perrelli

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 20: Buildings at 500 and 506 Erie Boulevard East, Syracuse, Onondaga County

Presented by: James Carter

Discussion: James stated that these buildings were adaptively reused for commercial residential purposes as part of a tax credit project. The nomination received a letter of support from the Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Wayne Goodman

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 21: Syracuse Bread Company, Syracuse, Onondaga County

Presented by: James Carter

Discussion: James Carter said that the Syracuse Bread Company is being nominated as part of commercial tax credit process with a Part 1 PDIL previously approved in October 2021. The nomination has received a letter of support from the Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board.

Doug said that he liked the social history presented in the nomination, with the documentation showing the shift between household-level production and industrial-scale production - what it took to get people to sort of accept that. One of those tactics was uninvited inspection by housewives, which he thought was an interesting quote. Also interesting is that the popularity of white bread was taken over by wheat bread in the 1960s.

Motion to approve: Jennifer Lemak

Second: Carol Clark

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 22: Elmer Avenue School, Schenectady, Schenectady County

Presented by: James Carter

Discussion: James noted that the Elmer Avenue School is being nominated as a commercial tax credit project with the Part 1 PDIL approved in May 2021 and the Part 2 approved in September 2021. The nomination has received letters of support from the City of Schenectady's Historic District Commission as well as from the Mayor of Schenectady, Gary R. McCarthy.

Motion to approve: Jay DiLorenzo

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 23: Brisbane Building, Buffalo, Erie County

Presented by: Jennifer Walkowski

Discussion: none.

Motion to approve: Doug Perrelli

Second: Wint Aldrich

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 24: J.W. Ruger Company & Deck Bros. Building, Buffalo, Erie County

Presented by: Jennifer Walkowski

Discussion: Doug asked what the adaptive reuse plan is for the building. Jennifer did not know for sure but guessed that would be for apartments.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 25: Buffalo Public School #75 (PS 75), Buffalo, Erie County

Presented by: Jennifer Walkowski

Discussion: Jennifer introduced Emily Dominijanni, the consultant who prepared the nomination. Emily said that this rehabilitation tax credit project will provide 47 units of affordable veterans' housing. She added that many of the classroom doors, built-in closets, and chalkboards will be retained, as will the auditorium space, and its that's a great project a nice adaptive reuse.

Erika had a building code question concerning the classroom doors, which had glazing. Emily responded that the doors will be modified to meet code.

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Wayne Goodman

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 26: Residence at 475 Loudon Road, Colonie, Albany County

Presented by: Kathleen LaFrank

Discussion: Wint said that one of the recent owners, according to the nomination, was Professor Hans Toch of the State University at Albany. He suspects that Professor Toch's wife may have been the very eminent Ruth Kessler Toch who, for twenty years was Solicitor General of the State of New York. Michelle, the owner, responded that her father was, indeed, Professor Hans Toch. Michelle grew up in this house. But her mother was actually Lisa Toch, who passed away about ten years ago, and not Ruth Kessler Toch. Her father, who was a world-renowned criminologist, just passed last year at ninety-one. Hans Toch was a holocaust survivor.

Erika asked if there were any plans to reconstruct that side porch. Michelle said that that is something that she is considering. Some of the octagonal columns were found in the garage.

Motion to approve: Wint Aldrich

Second: Jennifer Lemak

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

Nomination 27: Beattie Machine Works, Cohoes, Albany County

Presented by: Kathleen LaFrank

Discussion: none

Motion to approve: Carol Clark

Second: Erika Krieger

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Recommended 8 in favor, 0 opposed

New Business

Kathy reminded everyone that the Statewide Preservation Conference is coming up on September 22nd to the 24th at the historic Marriott Hotel in downtown Syracuse. She encouraged board members to attend. She added the Landmark Society of Western New York coordinates the conference working with DHP and local preservation partners.

Wayne said that everyone is delighted to finally be able to participate in an in-person conference.

Kathy noted that the next State Review Board meeting is Thursday, December 8. We are expecting that the meeting will be held in person either at Peebles Island or in Albany. The actual location is to be determined. On that same day, following the board meeting, we will also hold our annual Historic Preservation Awards ceremony.

Kathy said that at the December meeting we will establish the review board meeting dates for 2023 so people should start looking at their calendars now to see what days are best for them.

Doug announced that Wednesday, September 14th in Niagara Falls State Park there's a small section of that park that's currently known as Heritage Park that has a nice gazebo and it's across the street from the Red Coach Inn. That small heritage park on

Wednesday is going to be renamed and rededicated as the Cataract House Hotel Park in recognition of the former cataract house, which burned in the 1940s and is not readable on the landscape today but which occupied that entire city block and was really one of the most important and most prominent stops on the Underground Railroad in the city of Niagara Falls. The free Black wait staff worked with surgical precision to assist enslaved people get from Niagara Falls, New York, to Canada using that as a base of operations. Doug said that he has been involved in archaeology work at that park for many years and the book that we're going to write about that has served for some of the impetus for the renaming of that park. He is proud of that and that it is within our state park.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was requested by Doug. Carol moved and Wint seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent and the meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.