

# Rockland County Executive's Historic Preservation Merit Awards

The Historical Society of Rockland County  
www.RocklandHistory.org



## APPLICATION

Please provide one original and one photocopy of the following:

a. NARRATIVE (not more than 500 words)  
Briefly explain why the award is deserving. Provide a description and history of the property and its use. Describe the project: conditions before and after, time period, extent and nature of the work, agencies and persons involved and the nature of their involvement (e.g. owner, architects, contractors, and crafts persons). In the case of preservation leadership, describe the contribution of the individual or agency.

b. PHOTOGRAPHY  
Provide at least two photographs showing two views, if possible, and presentative details. Photos will become part of the permanent reference files of the Historical Society Library.

c. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
If available, provide any historical and or architectural information (research, reports, publications, blueprints for rehabilitation, “before” photographs, National Register nomination form, etc.). If requested, these materials will be returned.

Forward all application material to The Historical Society of Rockland County  
20 Zukor Road, New City, New York 10956

If application assistance is needed, please call HSRC at (845)-634-9629

Entries must be postmarked by **March 1, 2026** to be considered for the 2026 awards.  
Nominations received postmarked after March 1, 2026,  
may be considered for the 2027 awards program.

*See Page 2 for  
Explanation and  
Guidelines*

Name of  
Nomination/Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation or Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Category of Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_  
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For Office Use: Received on: \_\_\_\_\_



# Rockland County Executive's Historic Preservation Merit Awards

The Historical Society of Rockland County

The Historical Society of Rockland County is proud to host the annual Rockland County Executive's Historic Preservation Merit Awards. Since 1991, these awards have been presented during National Historic Preservation Month in May to recognize outstanding historic preservation efforts in Rockland County.

We welcome nominations for and from individuals, organizations, businesses, and municipal representatives for achievements that have contributed to the continued preservation of Rockland County's significant historical and cultural heritage. Self-nominations are encouraged. Activities, projects, and phases of projects that have been completed in the past ten years are eligible.

## AWARD CATEGORIES

- **Margaret B. and John R. Zehner Award for Historic Contribution:** For contributions to the county's history, and for underscoring the value of historic preservation to the community (usually nominated by the Historic Preservation Merit Awards Committee members).
- **Preservation Leadership:** For individuals, groups, and government agencies that display outstanding leadership or continuing contribution to the preservation of historic resources in Rockland County.
- **Preservation/Restoration** Preservation is the maintenance of the historic form, appearance and materials of a property. Restoration is accurately recovering the form or details of a property and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by

removing non-historic modifications or replacing or reproducing missing earlier work.

- **Continuing Use:** Suitable for well-preserved commercial, industrial, and civic structures still used for original or similar functions that have retained their architectural integrity due to continued and sensitive maintenance. Possible examples include corner stores, diners, barbershops, restaurants, banks, and homes.
- **Adaptive Use:** For successfully rehabilitating a property to a state of utility through repair or sympathetic alterations that makes an efficient new use possible while preserving those portions or features of the property that are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.
- **Rescue:** For historic sites or structures rescued from possible demolition and being reclaimed for further use.
- **Rehabilitation:** acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.
- **Artisan:** In recognition of those craftsmen, such as tinsmiths, masons, carpenters, and finishers, who use traditional materials and methods in the preservation process.

## GUIDELINES

- Nominations must be submitted to the HSRC with photographs and supporting information.

- Activities and properties must be located within Rockland County and must have historical or architectural significance. However, they do not have to be designated historical in any way (such as being on local, state, or national registers).
- Nominations can include buildings, districts, structures (e.g., bridges, roads, industrial structures, greenhouses, etc.), sites (e.g., archaeological, battlefield, designed gardens, park, landscapes), objects (e.g., monuments, sculptures, boats), or individuals involved in preservation activities.

## EVALUATION

The selection criteria for the awards will include, but will not be limited to,

- Extent to which appropriate preservation standards and techniques have been adhered. This includes the extent to which available historical resources in design and materials have been incorporated, as well as how sensitively historic building materials have been treated.
- The extent of "before" and "after" conditions.
- Degree of positive influence on the community.

## AWARDS PRESENTATION

All winners will be invited to attend the awards ceremony on May 17, 2026. The Historical Society will prepare and distribute publicity material to local media. An edition of the HSRC's quarterly history journal, *South of the Mountains*, will highlight the award winners.

Additional space for details about the nomination: