

*Excellence in Historic  
Preservation Awards*

ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

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EXCELLENCE IN  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

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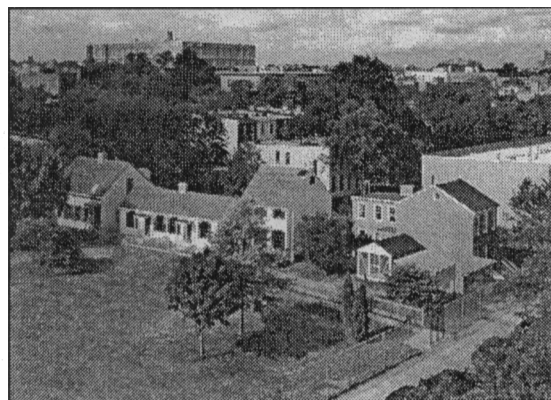
## WEEKSVILLE HERITAGE CENTER

BROOKLYN, KINGS COUNTY

This project is a celebration of both African-American heritage and Brooklyn's vernacular architecture. It took a sensitive approach to historic preservation in light of the changes required for public access, provided the opportunity to interpret the buildings and landscape in an exciting and informative context, and has bolstered pride in the local community.

The Hunterfly Road Houses are the only surviving remnants of Weeksville, a free African-American community in Brooklyn. The buildings restorations represent several periods from the 1860s to 1930, and are being interpreted as African-American house museums. Constructed shortly after the Civil War, the group of four wood-frame houses (one of which is a reconstruction) is located in the Crown Heights neighborhood.

"Three of the houses face mid-block, and show the location of a no-longer extant native-American path, subsequently a Dutch route known as Hunterfly Road," said Pamela Jerome of Wank Adams Slavin Associates LLP (WASA), who prepared the project's master plan. "The siting, massing and materials of these buildings are rare examples of their type and age in New York City, as most such structures have been demolished in New York's never-ending redevelopment of itself."



According to Pamela Green, Executive Director of the Weeksville Heritage Center, "The restoration of the Hunterfly Road Houses was envisioned for years by the Society for the Preservation of Weeksville and Bedford Stuyvesant History. We are so pleased that the Preservation League's award will further promote this rediscovered remnant of a once-thriving community of free blacks."

*Key Participants:*

- David Burney, NYC Department of Design & Construction
- Susan Chin, FAIA, City of New York Dept. of Cultural Affairs
- Joan Geismar, Ph.D.
- Pamela Green, Executive Director; Robin Cloud, Director of Preservation; Penny Fujiko-Willgerodt, President, Board of Directors; Weeksville Heritage Center
- Pamela Jerome, AIA, Wank Adams Slavin Associates
- Leith ter Meulen, LandAir
- Gretchen Sorin, SUNY Oneonta, Cooperstown Graduate Program