



MARC S. ALESSI  
Member of Assembly  
1<sup>st</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIR  
Subcommittee on  
Emerging Workforce  
COMMITTEES  
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Local Governments  
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Subcommittee on  
Renewable Energy

August 28, 2009

Carol Ash  
Commissioner  
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation  
Empire State Plaza  
Agency Building 1  
Albany, NY 12238

Dear Commissioner Ash:

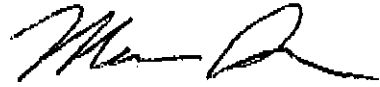
I am writing today in support of the application by the Town of Shelter Island for funding under the Environmental Protection Act of 1993's Historic Property Preservation and Planning Program. Such funding will support the repair and restoration of the Smith-Taylor Cabin.

Built in 1900, the Smith-Taylor Cabin is located on Taylor's Island. The historic structure is the only remaining structure in its original location built by Francis Marion Smith, a California business magnate known as the "Borax King." Unfortunately, years of neglect and exposure to the elements have resulted in serious damage to the roof, windows, exterior siding, and its trademark tower and catwalk.

Funding under the Historic Property Preservation Grant Program will enable the Town of Shelter Island to make important repairs to the Smith-Taylor Cabin, including repairing the roof, restoring the siding, repairing deteriorated wood window frames, repairing the tower and catwalk, re-pointing the fireplace, and repairing the chimney. It is vital that historic sites like this Smith-Taylor cabin are protected and preserved, as they offer tremendous benefits to the community. I applaud the Town of Island for its foresight and hope its application for funding meets with your approval.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention regarding this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact my district office should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Respectfully,



Marc. S. Alessi  
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY

MSA:shv