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November 29, 2017

Christine Drown, Regent  
Margery Sullivan Chapter, NSDAR  
41 Victoria Drive  
Epping, NH 03042

**Re: Letter of support for MacLennans for preservation awards**

Dear Ms. Drown,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Durham Historic District/Heritage Commission to support the nomination of Douglas and Susan MacLennan, owners of the General John Sullivan House, for two New Hampshire awards – The Historic Preservation Medal and The Historic Preservation Recognition Award. The commission voted unanimously and enthusiastically to support this nomination at its meeting on November 2.

The General Sullivan House is the only National Historic Landmark in Durham and one of only a handful of such esteemed National Historic Landmarks in New Hampshire. We are most fortunate that this highly significant property has been owned, maintained, and lovingly preserved by Douglas and Susan MacLennan for many years. The Heritage Commission has a program of its own to recognize outstanding preservation projects. Our inaugural award in 2016 was, of course, to Douglas and Susan MacLennan. We were delighted to honor them for their work.

The magnificent Georgian-style General Sullivan House was built in 1740 on a bluff overlooking the Oyster River. At one point, the property included a law office, library, dairy, and stables. General Sullivan was a hero of the Revolution and was later elected governor of his newly-formed state. I have personally toured the home and the MacLennans have done a wonderful job in restoring both the exterior and the interior.

I included photographs on the next page of the exterior, interior, the Heritage Commission's award presentation, and a painting of George Washington that we were very pleased to learn about: *The Passage of the Delaware*. General Sullivan is shown on the right with a plume in his hat.

Sincerely,

Michael Behrendt  
Durham Town Planner

