Alexander Macomb Historical Award
Organization

Year Award Given: 2011
Awarded to: Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority
Nominated by: Macomb County Historical Commission
Presented Where: MCHA Annual Meeting – Chesterfield Township
Senior Center, Chesterfield Township, MI – April 30, 2011
Presented By: Macomb County Heritage Alliance

The Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority (HCMA) was honored for its historical re-enactments and work at Wolcott Mill, among other activities.

Wolcott Mill is a historic-grist and feed mill located in Ray Township, Michigan nestled along the beautiful banks of the North Branch of the Clinton River. In 2009, it was honored by being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Constructed in 1847 by a miller named Freeman, the mill was operated as a grist mill and feed mill for many years. Eventually, the mill passed through multiple owners, including John Smith, Norman Crawford, and Frank Ritter, before being purchased by Fred B. Wolcott in 1878. Wolcott rebuilt part of the mill, adding new machinery and another barn to the property. Fred Wolcott operated the mill until at least 1905. The mill closed in 1967 and sat vacant for a number of years.

In 1989, the mill opened as part of the Wolcott Mill Metropark. Today, it continues to flourish and is continually being painstakingly restored and cared for thanks to the efforts of HCMA. It serves as a wonderful living classroom giving visitors a glimpse into history. Over the years, numerous events have, and continue to be, hosted by the HCMA – many of which foster the love of history.

Without the efforts of HCMA, this significant historical asset to Macomb County's history may not have been preserved. We are so grateful for their endeavors in saving this precious piece of history and are so pleased to award them with the honor of being selected as the 2011 Alexander Macomb Historical Award for an organization.

Sources: Advisor-Source Newspaper, May 6, 2011; The Romeo Observer, May 5, 2011; Wikipedia November 30, 2016.