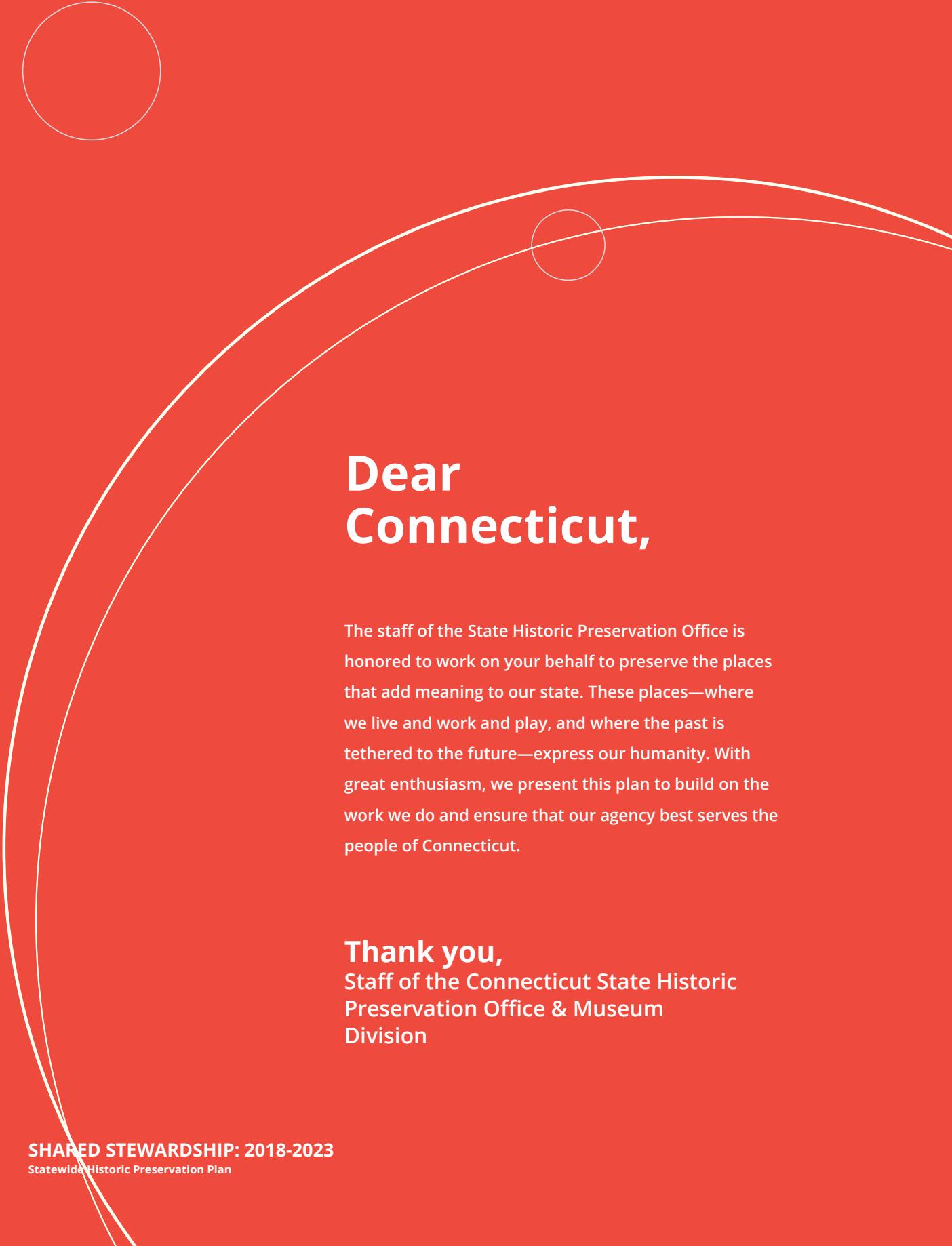


SHARED STEWARDSHIP: 2018-2023

Statewide Historic Preservation Plan



State Historic Preservation Office
Department of Economic & Community Development
450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 5
Hartford, CT 06103



Dear Connecticut,

The staff of the State Historic Preservation Office is honored to work on your behalf to preserve the places that add meaning to our state. These places—where we live and work and play, and where the past is tethered to the future—express our humanity. With great enthusiasm, we present this plan to build on the work we do and ensure that our agency best serves the people of Connecticut.

Thank you,
Staff of the Connecticut State Historic
Preservation Office & Museum
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Thank You

To the partner organizations and the many people who contributed to the creation of this plan: Thank you for your expertise, ideas, and guidance, and thank you for promoting historic preservation in Connecticut.

To the members of the Historic Preservation Council and the State Historic Preservation Review Board: Thank you for your wisdom and expertise, and for volunteering your time to assist the SHPO with its responsibilities.

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the SHPO's first actions was to identify potential uses for Hartford's Colt factory, now part of a National Historic Landmark District.

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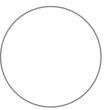
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INTRODUCTION



The theme of this statewide historic preservation plan is Shared Stewardship. The idea behind it: bolster Connecticut's preservationists by enhancing partnerships and engaging new allies, including those who may not define themselves as preservationists but who nevertheless perpetuate a preservation ethic.

Since 1955 the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has identified, protected, and invested in thousands of historic resources. Established 11 years before Congress passed the National Historic Preservation

Act of 1966, the office reflected the emerging preservation movement in the United States. For more than 60 years it has helped preserve historic places across the state. The SHPO continues to build on this vital legacy by committing to strengthen Connecticut's network of preservationists—the people who make preservation happen.

The SHPO is uniquely positioned to advance the state's preservation network. As the administrator of such state and federal programs as the State and National Register of Historic Places, historic tax credits, and grants funded by the National Park Service and the state's Community Investment Act fund, the SHPO is the leader in cultural resource management and the primary resource for constituents on the topic of historic preservation.

Over the next five years the SHPO will pursue this vision by working to enrich and expand partnerships, enhance public education on preservation, diversify audiences and resources, and develop a resiliency strategy for the state's historic resources.

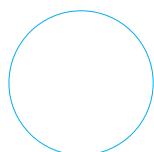


The SHPO's long-term vision is that communities across Connecticut will share in the stewardship of the state's diverse cultural resources.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Connecticut SHPO is one of 59 SHPOs across the country, with one for each state and U.S. territory plus the District of Columbia. Meanwhile, federally recognized Native American tribes have Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs). Connecticut has two, the Mashantucket Pequot THPO and the Mohegan THPO.



SUCCESS STORY

HARTFORD NATIONAL BANK
AND TRUST BUILDING
777 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CT

The Hartford National Bank and Trust building was designed by internationally renowned architect Welton Becket, FAIA. Completed in 1967, this Modernist skyscraper is 26 stories of concrete and steel. The building was listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places in 2014 and is significant as an exceptional example of Modernist architecture. It is also significant for its association with the City of Hartford's urban planning and redevelopment initiative of the 1960s.

The building was underutilized for nearly ten years when a plan was developed to rehabilitate the property into mixed use. Using state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits, much of the historic character of the building was preserved, including the distinctive oval shaped windows, wood paneled and marble walls of the bank hall and elevator lobbies, and the executive penthouse suite.

The project is a huge success in an area of the city that sought much needed housing. Nearly 75% of the building was leased at the time the rehabilitation was complete and new retail tenants including a coffee shop and CVS serve to reactivate this area of Main Street.



State Tax Credit Amount

\$5,000,000.00



Total Qualified Restoration Expenses

\$43,422,335.00



Total Project Costs

\$43,826,914.00



WHY OUR WORK MATTERS

The SHPO promotes the stewardship of historic properties, provides technical advice, empowers local preservation advocates, and helps build partnerships. This work matters because only with strong partners and an active preservation network do we have the best chance of protecting the historic places that define the state's character.

Discovery of previously uncovered stories about Connecticut's past. In 2016 the Barkhamsted Historical Society used a SHPO Partners in Planning grant to prepare an educational booklet about a Native American Soapstone Quarry in Peoples State Forest. Archaeological investigations identified this 3,000-year-old site of human industry that had been lost. *This matters because every place has a past and every past is important.*

Recognition of the historic places that define the state's culture. The SHPO has helped identify, research, and

celebrate more than 52,000 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 63 National Historic Landmarks, and more than 75,000 properties listed on the State Register of Historic Places. *This matters because historic designations communicate the significance of places.*

Protection of historic places from loss. Each year the SHPO reviews more than 3,000 projects from across the state that have the potential to affect historic resources. The SHPO's environmental review specialists devote most of their time assisting project proponents to avoid or minimize harm to historic properties. *This matters because historic resources are finite. When they are lost, they are gone forever.*

Investment in community pride and identity. The SHPO allocates \$3 million a year for historic rehabilitations undertaken by private homeowners. In addition to the



CAPTAIN JOSEPH W. SPENCER HOUSE (WESTBROOK)

Vista Life Innovations, Inc. is a full-service organization supporting individuals with disabilities throughout the various stages of life. Vista's Discover Program, which includes a dormitory and residence hall as well as education and training center, is housed in Westbrook's Captain Joseph W. Spencer House (c. 1850), which is listed on the State Register of Historic Places. The organization was awarded a Historic Restoration Fund grant to rehabilitate the Spencer House with the goal of increasing and

improving housing accommodations for residents; projects included ADA accessibility, fire alarm systems, and bedroom renovations. As a result of the grant, Vista is able to accommodate more residents in a safer and more accessible facility that enriches the overall Discover Program experience.

Vista Life Innovations, Inc. received \$50,000 in Historic Restoration Funds, which leveraged an additional \$90,000.

“The projects have **resulted in improved safety and accessibility** within the bedrooms utilized by individuals with physical and developmental disabilities **while also preserving the historical integrity** of the building.

- Bob Keefe, Vista Life Innovation, Inc.'s Operations Manager

federal funds it administers for Certified Local Governments, it sets aside \$150,000 a year to fund preservation projects in Connecticut towns through the CLG program. *This matters because the preservation of homes, schools, and other community resources is just as important as the preservation of iconic architecture.*

Education about the state's heritage. The SHPO operates four public museums, three of which are National Historic Landmarks. The museums interpret challenging stories that affect our shared national history. The Eric Sloane Museum, Henry Whitfield State Museum, Prudence Crandall Museum, and Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine use history to frame discussions about contemporary topics such as race, immigration, and prison reform. The Connecticut Freedom Trail documents and designates sites that embody the struggle for freedom and human dignity, celebrating the accomplishments of the state's African American community. *This matters because history brings relevance and understanding to the present.*

Economic development in the state. The State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program has created 1,970 units of housing, of which 1,124 are affordable. The SHPO has awarded more than \$94.1 million in state tax credits for projects representing \$372.8 million in qualified rehabilitation expenditures. *This matters because the tax credit program helps create safe, affordable housing and gives back to the state's economy in the form of income and personal property taxes.*

Disaster relief in a time of climate change. Since 2014 the SHPO has awarded some \$2 million in grants to owners of historic properties damaged in Hurricane Sandy. At the same time, it has surveyed more than 4,000 properties; digitized more than 45,000 historic resource inventory forms; verified and geocoded locations associated with the inventories; and provided technical

The Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office works to strengthen communities by identifying and investing in the historic places that define the state's character

assistance on resiliency planning to towns in the coastal counties. *This matters because Connecticut's historic places are increasingly vulnerable to natural hazards and the effects of climate change. Preservation of these places may depend on government's ability to respond to disasters and its ability to plan for resiliency.*

DID YOU KNOW?

All SHPO staff and State Historic Preservation Review Board members exceed the National Park Service's professional qualifications for historic preservation education. Combined, the SHPO and its advisers represent more than 200 years of professional experience.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Success Story: Connecticut's Environmental Protection Act

After learning of the pending demolition of 116 and 130 Bank Street, New London Landmarks contacted SHPO and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. Together, these preservation partners tried to work with the property owner to explore options to demolition, but they were met with resistance. After demonstrated community concern in the form of a petition signed by more than 1500 individuals against the demolition of these structures, the Historic Preservation Council voted to refer the matter to the State Attorney General's Office pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act. To be successful Assistant Attorney General Alan Ponanki had to demonstrate that the buildings are listed and still contributing to the Downtown New London Historic District, that the proposed actions are unreasonable, and that there are prudent and feasible alternatives to demolition. After expert testimony, the judge ruled in favor of the State on March 29, 2018.

With each statewide plan the SHPO aims to expand the resources available for historic preservation and address preservation challenges faced by communities. Since 2011 it has worked to realize the goals identified in previous plans. Recent accomplishments include:

Promotion of an Historic Preservation Ethic

The SHPO promotes preservation through programs and partnerships, through agency coordination, and as a leader for preservation in the state. The office strives to make historic preservation relevant and beneficial to residents while inspiring communities to engage in preservation. Since 2011 it has fostered a preservation ethic in many ways.

In 2017 the SHPO held its first annual statewide historic preservation conference. Under the theme Preservation in a Changing Environment, the SHPO engaged municipal leaders in a conversation about preservation challenges and presented a program filled





with technical information and preservation strategies. In 2018 it held its second conference, titled Shared Stewardship. The program focused on inspiring members of the preservation community to get excited about their work, craft new initiatives, and engage new participants.

Each conference attracted about 250 people with a range of backgrounds and perspectives including municipal employees, elected officials, members of local historic societies, architects, and students. The conferences and the comments collected from attendees, along with the SHPO's interactions with local communities, led the SHPO to a conclusion: The state's preservation network is strong in number but lacks the connectivity needed to advance stewardship in the state.

In addition to conferences, the SHPO staff meet regularly with property owners, advocacy organizations, elected officials and municipal boards and commissions to provide training and technical assistance.

Through the Basic Operational Support Grant, the SHPO has invested almost \$1 million to support the operation of local and regional preservation organizations, which in turn are able to extend their reach into the communities they serve. The SHPO also funds nearly 100% of the Circuit Rider program, which is managed by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. Two circuit riders offer technical assistance and site visits to everyone from private property owners to municipal leaders.

In addition to grants for large bricks-and-mortar projects and grants to preservation partners, the SHPO awards some \$1.5 million a year in smaller grants to nonprofits and municipalities.

Activities include planning and predevelopment for historic properties, rehabilitation and restoration, historic resource inventories, State and National Register nominations, and historic preservation education.

In 2015 the SHPO established a social media presence to share information about preservation activities in Connecticut with a wider audience. Constituents can find the SHPO on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter, and can subscribe to a monthly e-newsletter. Staff members also contribute to other organizations' digital and print media outlets, such as Connecticut Explored and Connecticut Preservation News.

The SHPO encourages young preservationists with internships and an annual fellowship program. Since 2011, more than a dozen interns have worked in the SHPO's Hartford offices, participating in the SHPO's daily activities and learning about preservation issues and projects. In recent years they have contributed to State Register nominations, museum programming, office visioning, social media, and data analysis. In spring 2018 the SHPO awarded two fellowships to emerging professionals, allowing them to gain knowledge that will enhance their work in the state.

Identification of Historic Resources

Recognition and appreciation of these resources is critical in planning for their stewardship. Accomplishments involving resources previously identified as priorities include:

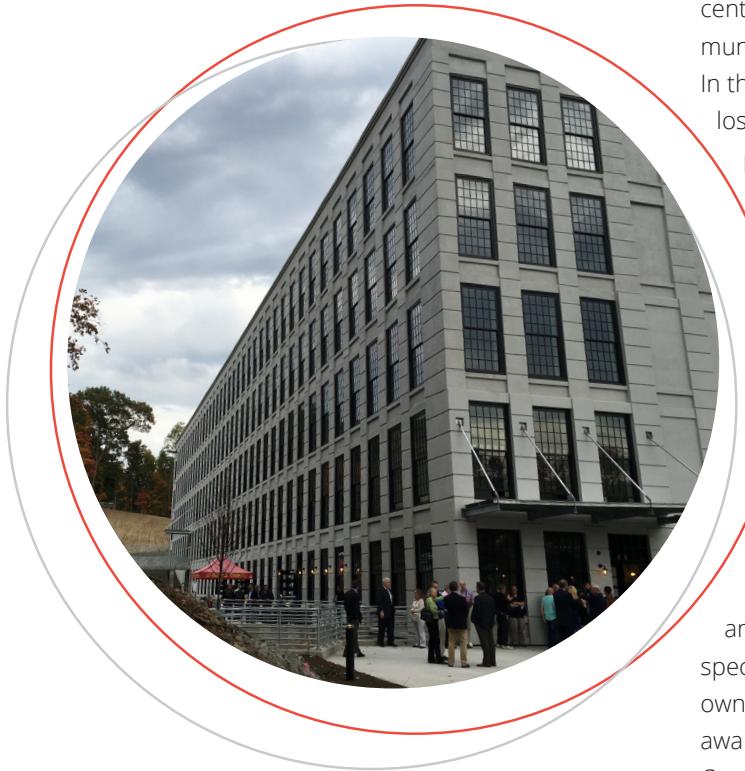
• Social and ethnic history

Connecticut is a small state, but it has a rich, layered history of diverse populations. In recent years the SHPO has strengthened its commitment to documenting social history and recognizing significant historic places associated with a variety of communities.

In 2012 the office started a pilot grant program called Our Places, Our Stories to identify undocumented resources associated with the state's immigrant experience. The program awarded four grants to heritage organizations. The SHPO plans to relaunch the program to document

additional resources of importance to the state's immigrant communities.

In 2016 the SHPO contributed to the designation of two National Historic Landmarks written under the National Park Service's theme studies: the James Merrill House in Stonington (LGBTQ Heritage Initiative Theme Study) and the Steward's House, Foreign Mission School in Cornwall (Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Initiative Theme Study). In 2013 the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Hartford was also designated a National Historic Landmark for its associations with



Stowe, the author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and other works that influenced the abolition movement in 19th century America.

The SHPO has continued to enhance the Connecticut Freedom Trail (CFT), designed to celebrate the achievements of the state's African American community and document the struggle toward freedom. Seven sites have been added to the CFT since 2011, in New Britain, Middlefield, Naugatuck, Bristol, Greenwich, and West Hartford. (There are now 131 sites.)

The SHPO has helped raise the CFT's profile through television and other programming. *Good Morning Connecticut* and WTNH News 8 *Hidden History* segments

featured stories that had been documented by the CFT. Since 2011 the SHPO has supported some 70 events held during Freedom Trail Month (September), including films, lectures, and tours. In addition, the SHPO helped launch Bringing the Connecticut Freedom Trail to Life Through the Arts, which teaches local African American history through art using Common Core standards for grades 3-5 and 8.

• Industrial heritage

Connecticut's industrial complexes tell the story of the state's manufacturing prowess in the 19th and 20th centuries, when it was a leading maker of firearms and munitions, textiles, machine tools, and other products. In the past 10 years many of these resources have been lost to fire, demolition by neglect, and development pressures.

The SHPO has helped raise awareness about these vulnerable resources. In 2012 it invested almost \$1 million in Making Places, a project that produced an historic context, an architectural resources inventory of more than 1,400 properties, and an interactive website intended to assist in the redevelopment of historic industrial properties. The SHPO funded 100 percent of the project, which was carried out by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. A large portion of the funds were used for subgrants, public education, and a technical assistance program in which teams of specialized professionals provide onsite advice to property owners and developers. Making Places recently received awards from the Connecticut Main Street Center and the Connecticut League of History Organizations.

In 2015 the SHPO sponsored and participated in Where There's a Mill...There's a Way!, a statewide symposium about the reuse of industrial buildings. More than 200 participants learned about ways to fund the rehabilitation of industrial properties.

As part of the SHPO's administration of state and federal rehabilitation tax credits, the office contributed to the redevelopment of 18 former industrial properties. Since 2011 the State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program awarded more than \$54.8 million in tax credits for the rehabilitation of industrial properties with qualified rehabilitation costs totaling more than \$210.6 million. This created more than 101,000 square feet of nonresidential space and more than 570 units of housing.

• Mid- to late-20th century resources

Interest in the “recent past” has swelled in the past decade, and Modern and Post-Modern resources will have even greater significance in the next decade. Building on the multiple property National Register nomination for mid-20th century Modern houses completed in 2010, the SHPO has focused on resources dating from as recently as 1979. This includes not only Modern homes but also new resource types through regulatory programs such as Section 106 and the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act. Examples include public housing, a mid-20th century resource type that the SHPO often evaluates for historic significance, and properties associated with urban renewal programs. Twentieth century engineering resources, such as transportation or electrical infrastructure, also are evaluated on a regular basis.



In 2012 the SHPO and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation developed the Creative Places project to document places of inspiration and work spaces associated with artists and writers in the state from 1913 to 1979. The SHPO granted \$280,000 to the Trust for the project. The Trust identified more than 350 sites and produced a statewide context statement. More than 20 properties were listed on the State Register of Historic Places. The SHPO also funded development of the New Haven Preservation Trust’s New Haven Modern Architecture website newhavenmodern.org.

The SHPO has listed many Modern properties on the National Register in the past few years, including the Hotel America and Hartford National Bank and Trust buildings in Hartford. Modern properties such as the Neiditz Building in Hartford and the New Britain Herald building in New Britain were listed on the State Register.

• Agricultural heritage

Development continues to encroach on open space and farmland in Connecticut—places that speak to Connecticut’s agricultural history and rural character. To better understand these resources and their changes over time, the SHPO funded the Historic Barns of Connecticut project, completed by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation in 2011. The project raised awareness about the significance of the state’s agricultural outbuildings. More than 200 agricultural properties have been added to the State Register of Historic Places since the SHPO’s last statewide plan. Owners of these properties have access to the SHPO’s financial incentives for historic preservation rehabilitation work.

• Archaeological resources

Connecticut is one of the few states with a legislatively sanctioned program that protects all types of archaeological sites. Under the State Archaeological Preserve program, 37 properties have been designated as archaeological preserves, six of them since 2011. Most of the newly listed archaeological sites were nominated in collaboration with the Friends of the Office of State Archaeology. They include a pre-contact Soapstone Quarry, ruins of the Gail Borden Milk Factory, and an intact Nike Operations and Missile Launch Site.

The SHPO added to its inventory of underwater archaeological resources, enhancing its understanding of those resources. Using Hurricane Sandy funds, the office completed underwater reconnaissance and evaluation surveys in the tidal waters of Long Island Sound. The results are used by the SHPO and other state and federal agencies to evaluate the effects of projects on these fragile resources. Recently, Connecticut Explored published an article on one of the identified properties, the paddlewheel steamer Isabel.

Also with Hurricane Sandy funds, the SHPO prepared a statewide context for historic dams that includes periods of construction; typologies of dams and associated features, engineering elements, and buildings; and statements of eligibility. In addition, more than 850 dams in the coastal counties were surveyed, resulting in a database and geographic information system with linked data. The context and inventory are valuable tools for hazard mitigation specialists and planners, allowing them to consider the significance of historic dams. (Historic dams are being removed at an alarming rate because many are failing and represent threats to public safety. Without a strong understanding of their historic context, it has been difficult to develop treatment protocols.)

• **Digitization**

Accessible electronic data on historic resources is increasingly important to planners, property owners, government offices, and preservation advocates. In recent years the SHPO has digitized much of its survey and historic designation data. Using Hurricane Sandy funds, it created electronic databases of surveyed and designated properties in the state's coastal counties. These are accompanied by Geographic Information System data compatible with free software such as Google Earth as well as professional GIS programs.

Policy and Heritage Planning in Government

The SHPO strives to integrate historic preservation policies into local and state government programs and policies. It provides guidance on the appropriate treatment of historic properties, contributes to the protection of historic properties through state and federal environmental laws, and offers technical assistance.

• **Local policy**

The SHPO provides local historic district commissions in Connecticut with technical support through regular meetings and training workshops and oversees the Certified Local Government program. Since 2011 it has reviewed 31 studies for proposed municipally designated historic districts and properties and seven applications for Certified Local Government designation.

As part of its Hurricane Sandy activities, the SHPO assisted local governments in the state's coastal counties with resiliency planning for historic resources. The SHPO's team of planning and engineering consultants analyzed plans in 91 towns; held charrettes with five regional Councils of Government; and met with planners and local preservationists in 28 direct-shoreline towns. The SHPO provided towns with technical assistance packages that included maps and data on vulnerable historic resources; individually tailored reports on preservation planning for resiliency; and a best practices guide for planners.

• **State policy**

To maximize public benefits and streamline state processes, the SHPO looks for ways to collaborate with state agencies and divisions. One example: the combined funding opportunities between the SHPO's historic rehabilitation tax credits and the state's brownfields program. By sitting on the brownfields grant review panel, SHPO staff can offer information and ideas about brownfield projects' effects on eligible or listed historic properties.

Through its work under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act, the SHPO has strengthened or fostered relationships with state and federal agencies. These include the state Departments of Energy and Environmental Protection, Housing, and Administrative Services, the Federal Highway Administration, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Increased communication, the execution of agreement documents, and establishment of protocols for best practices have contributed to a greater sense of shared stewardship and collaboration. SHPO staff members also sit on state and local boards and commissions, offering a preservation perspective to other government offices.

• Housing and development pressures

When the SHPO's last statewide plan was adopted, Connecticut was among the few states still recovering from the housing crisis. Housing prices had not risen commensurate with those in other states. Nevertheless, development pressures remained. As a response to community concerns, the SHPO supported litigation under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act—and saved several properties, without litigation, by negotiating with property owners. Examples include the Washington Elementary School in Manchester's Cheney Brothers National Historic Landmark District; the Sanford-Bristol House in Milford, which had been slated for demolition; and the 18th century Olcott House in South Windsor.

Under the current administration, Connecticut has increased funding for affordable housing and brownfields and has expanded the State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. This led to the reuse of vacant properties that might otherwise have stayed abandoned or, worse, might have been demolished. Examples include the Security Building complex in Bridgeport, a group of three historic commercial structures; the Capewell Horse Nail Company industrial complex in Hartford; and the Ponemah Mills industrial complex in Norwich.

• State Museums

The SHPO manages four museums: the Eric Sloane Museum in Kent, the Prudence Crandall Museum in Canterbury, the Henry Whitfield State Museum in Guilford, and the Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine in East Granby. All are State Archaeological Preserves and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Three are National Historic Landmarks. The museums were not well addressed in previous statewide plans and suffered from the loss of staff positions in the past eight years. Recently the SHPO renewed its focus on the museums.

• Repairs and improvements

From 2012 to 2017 the SHPO allocated more than \$6 million for repair and restoration projects at the museums. Rehabilitation at Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine included stabilization and restoration of the Guardhouse and emergency foundation repairs at Viets Tavern. Reroofing, drainage, and painting projects on Viets Tavern and two additional structures are under way.

Some \$850,000 in repairs to the Eric Sloane Museum are expected to begin in winter 2018-19, including structural stabilization, roof repairs, drainage improvements, and ADA-compliant restrooms. Approximately \$1.2 million has been committed to restore the 1805 Prudence Crandall Museum, with work expected to begin in 2019.

• Staffing

The SHPO recently hired a director of museums to ensure that its museums are accessible and well maintained with relevant, engaging programming. It also hired a site manager at Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine. These positions, along with improvements to the site, culminated in the reopening of Old New-Gate on July 14, 2018, after a nine-year closure.

Looking Forward

The office is committed to helping communities achieve their preservation goals in creative ways. Many of the SHPO's special initiatives have addressed resource-specific gaps in documentation or have focused on statewide threats to specific resources. Now, in the spirit of promoting an ethic of shared stewardship, the SHPO is focusing on empowering partners, finding new partners, and strengthening the network of preservationists across the state.

DID YOU KNOW?

SHPO staff serves on the following boards and commissions: Amistad Committee, Connecticut Green Bank, Merritt Parkway Advisory Council, Native American Heritage Advisory Council, State Hazard Mitigation Plan task force, and Resilient Bridgeport Technical Advisory Committee. SHPO staff also regularly attends meetings of Connecticut Preservation Alliance, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, Connecticut Chapter of the American Planners Association, as well as serving on local Historic District Commissions in New Haven, Simsbury, Manchester, and Hamden.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Outreach: June–August 2017

Analysis: September 2017–March 2018

Formulation: April–July 2018

The SHPO's goal at the start of the planning process was to engage diverse audiences around the state in conversations about historic preservation issues and programs. Outreach included:

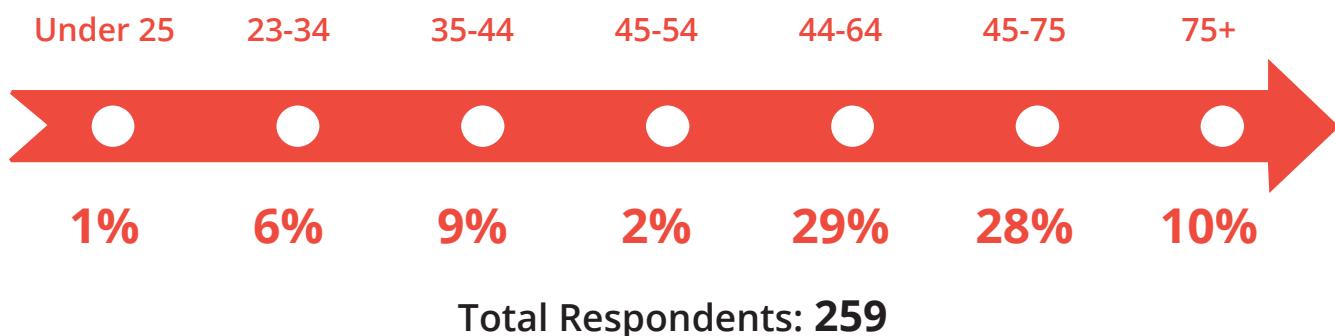
- A paper survey distributed to the 250 attendees of the SHPO's statewide preservation conference in May 2017. The SHPO received 40 responses.
- An online survey posted from June to September 2017 and publicized through email newsletters and social media by the SHPO, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and other local partners. The SHPO received 303 responses.
- A workshop with partners that drew on state and regional organizations. More than 50 people attended.
- Seven community workshops, which drew 184 participants.
- An online survey posted for two weeks after the SHPO's statewide conference on May 16, 2018, in which participants were asked to comment on the SHPO's proposed goals. The SHPO received 80 responses.

Workshops were held in every county in the state. SHPO staff chose communities where interest and participation was expected to be highest. Locations included:

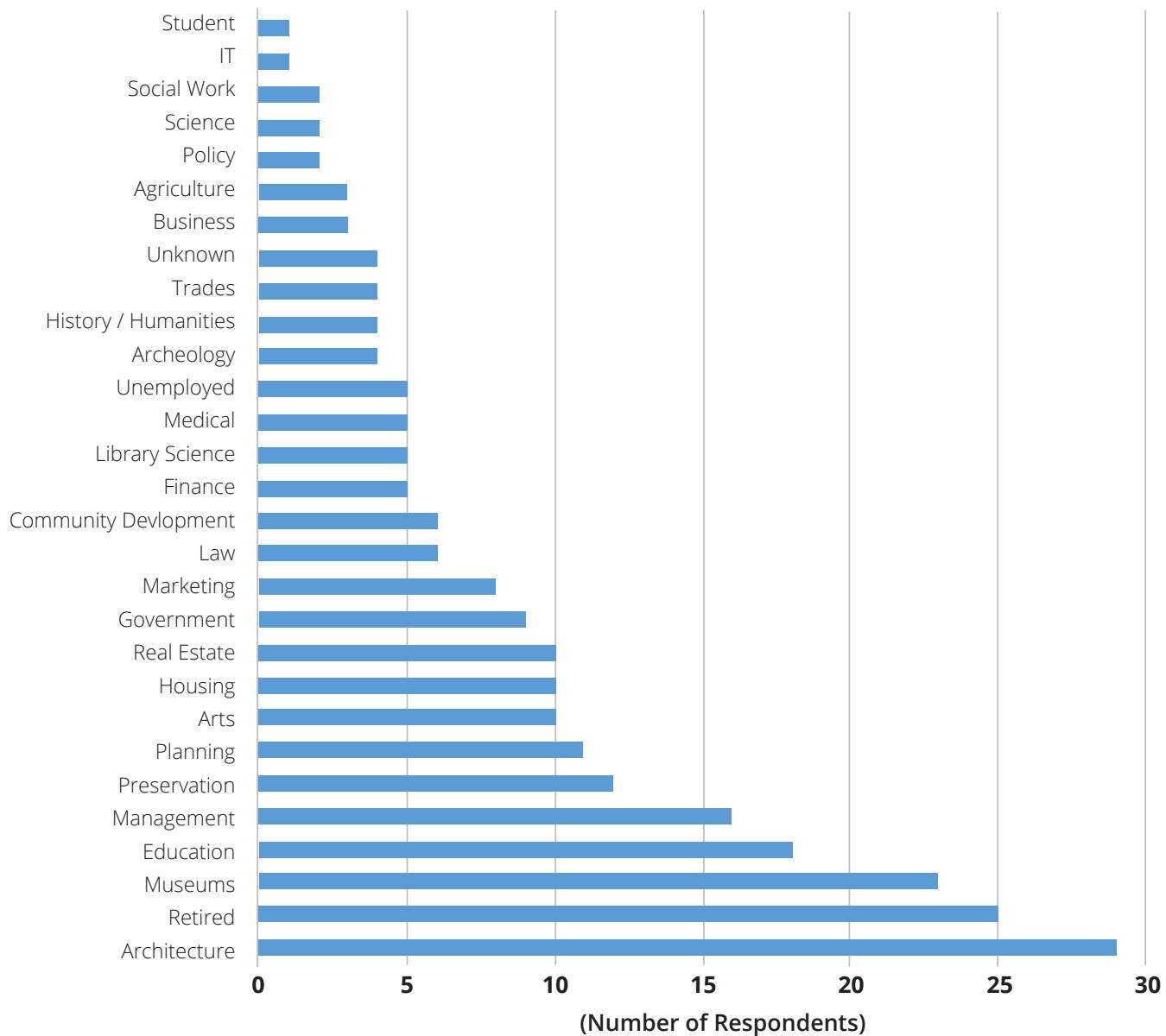
- Wilton (Fairfield County)
- Hartford (Hartford County)
- Hamden (New Haven County)
- Thompson (Windham County)
- Old Saybrook (Middlesex County)
- Torrington (Litchfield County)
- New London (New London County)

Each workshop began with a presentation on the background and approach to the planning process, followed by an extended discussion moderated by a SHPO consultant. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and were encouraged to participate in the discussion. The SHPO also distributed a paper survey to attendees. Later, SHPO staff members discussed what they had learned and used the information to develop an outline for this plan.

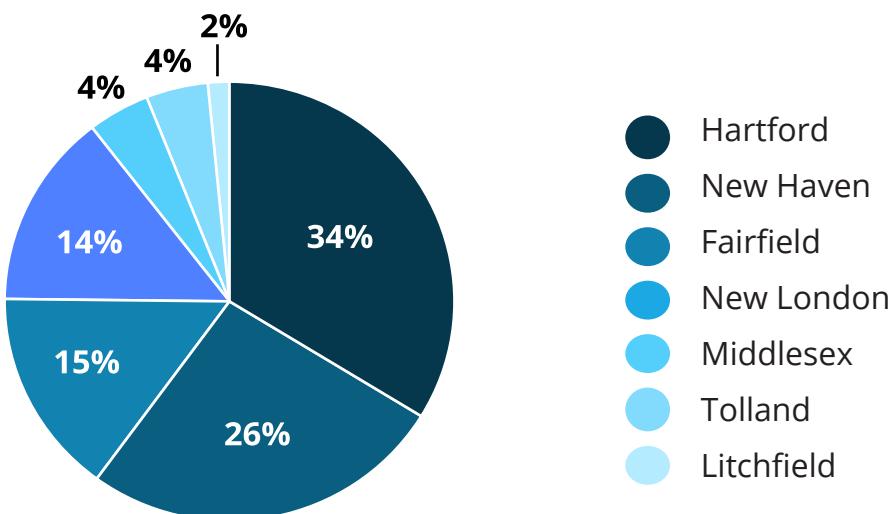
Respondent Age



Respondent Occupation



Respondent Counties



Threats to Resources

What factors contribute to your concern for these resources?



39%
Neglect or
abandonment of older
buildings



33%
Growth and
development pressure



26%
Economic distress



24%
Little understanding
or pride in local
heritage



22%
Negative perceptions
about historic
preservation

Threatened Resources

What types of historic resources are you concerned about losing in your town?



58%
Open space and rural
landscapes



16%
Roads, bridges,
railroads, highways,
etc.



40%
Older residential
neighborhoods



13%
Other



26%
Local parks and public
spaces



12%
Religious properties



25%
Downtown
commercial district



12%
Industrial areas



19%
Archaeological sites



10%
Mid 20th century
residential
developments



17%
Civil buildings



4%
Social clubs and
community centers

DID YOU KNOW?

Historic preservation defies a single definition

Historic preservation is not easily defined. It is about appreciating our history, while understanding how it contributes to our lives. The National Park Service has stated that it is a conversation with the past about the future. The SHPO considers this dialogue to be dynamic because it is simultaneously backward and forward looking while being influenced by current trends.

Historic preservation is about caring for places that are significant to all people and collectively planning for their future. Practicing preservation involves multiple perspectives and a cooperative approach.

Planning for our historic places must be balanced with economic development and environmental protection goals.

Successful Preservation Tools

Which tools and strategies have worked in your town to address issues affecting historic sites and landmarks?



41%

Grants for historic preservation planning and implementation



30%

Creation of local historic districts



23%

Integration of preservation values into community policies, planning, and regulations



22%

Increased preservation advocacy



20%

Continued identification of historic properties



20%

Increased public education and outreach

Which tools and strategies would you like to see used more in your town?



52%

Grants for historic preservation planning and implementation



42%

Integration of preservation values into community policies, planning, and regulations



42%

Increased public education and outreach



40%

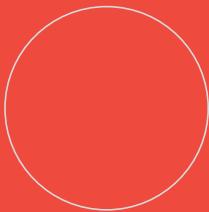
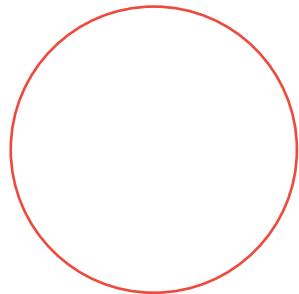
Income tax credits for rehabilitation projects



38%

Increased preservation advocacy





GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1

THE MORE, THE MERRIER!

Goal #1: Enrich and Expand Partnerships

2

EDUCATE. EVALUATE. REPEAT

Goal #2: Enhance Education Efforts

3

YOUR PLACES, YOUR STORIES

Goal #3: Diversify Audience and Resources

4

BE READY, BE RESILIENT

Goal #4: Develop a Resiliency Strategy for Historic Resources

Measuring Success

To ensure that it achieves its goals and communicates with a range of partners, the SHPO will measure progress through:

- Self-Assessment
- Partner Participation
- Data Tracking

THE MORE, THE MERRIER!

GOAL #1: Enrich and Expand Partnerships



The SHPO aims to encourage all preservation organizations to strengthen its partnerships by working with organizations with clear preservation missions as well as nontraditional partners whose work has a preservation component. A more robust network will help move preservation forward in a way that reflects the needs of the state's diverse communities. The SHPO also hopes to empower partners to play a stronger role in the preservation of their communities.

Why is this important?

Preservation works best when it is proactive. That means expanding the network of people who can promote a preservation ethic in their communities.

From the start of the planning process, constituents identified the need for improved communication, collaboration, and support among the state's preservation

organizations to cultivate a stronger and more effective network. This was reinforced in the 2017 online survey. Thirty-four percent of respondents saw a need for better integration of state, community, and citizen preservation efforts to address issues affecting historic sites and landmarks. Public workshop attendees reiterated this sentiment and further specified that the SHPO should initiate such change.

Respondents and workshop participants also identified the importance of partnerships among preservation and non-preservation groups. One recurring theme: the need for better coordination between preservation and municipal planning—specifically, the need to increase capacity at the local level, where preservation often depends on volunteers. There was also a call for more public-private partnerships.

The SHPO also saw gaps in its outreach. For example, there have been no new Certified Local Government (CLG) designations in the past four years. Yet the CLG program, which offers grants and technical assistance for tackling local preservation issues, has proved to be an excellent way for the SHPO to stay in touch with local governments and communities. Similarly, the SHPO can better use

the Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit program to reach local communities. One success story: New Haven, where the SHPO has worked closely with local preservation organizations and has seen an increase in the number of applicants to the program.

Objective 1 Strengthen and nurture existing partnerships

Issue: At times, partners do not feel connected to the SHPO's mission and services.

Actions:

1. Create professional development programming for partners.
2. Align grant funding with the SHPO's strategic plan goals.
3. Promote the sustainability of preservation organizations by encouraging new and creating programming.
4. Advocate for partners when communicating with regional and national preservation organizations.
5. Reinforce the commitment to best preservation practices with partners and the public.

Objective 2 Expand state, local, and nonprofit partnerships

Issue: The preservation community is shrinking.

Actions:

1. Work more closely with state agencies to promote historic preservation.
2. Improve communication through various mediums with statewide and local non-profit preservation organizations, historical societies and municipalities about projects, best practices and technical assistance.
3. Build relationships with consultants and contractors through professional development.
4. Identify and pursue nontraditional partnerships.
5. Institute SHPO "office hours" for existing and potential partners to exchange ideas about how to work together.

Objective 3 Cultivate a preservation network

Issue: The SHPO needs to raise its profile.

Actions:

1. Continue to host an annual statewide preservation conference.
2. Host a charrette with partners to develop a shared vision for the preservation network.
3. Increase attendance and participation in state, local, and regional preservation-related events.
4. Develop additional ways to identify local preservation concerns and potential solutions, such as listening tours and community charrettes.

EDUCATE. EVALUATE. REPEAT

GOAL #2: Enhance Education Efforts



To expand knowledge of and appreciation for historic preservation in Connecticut, the aim is to improve access to information, increase and diversify training and informational workshops, and develop creative ways to foster a preservation ethic. Measuring success and adjusting as needed will be vital to achieving this goal.

Why is this important?

Respondents to the SHPO's online survey identified education as one of the most successful, yet underused, ways to address threats to historic resources. They saw a lack of understanding or pride in local heritage as among the most important issues affecting historic resources in their communities. They also pointed to preservation advocacy, education, and outreach as among the top five tools they wanted to see used more in their communities. Respondents to the snap paper survey shared these sentiments, expressing a desire for educational programs

that focused on how heritage, community character, and quality of life relate to one another.

Public opinion also revealed the need to increase awareness about the SHPO's work. Thirty-eight percent of respondents said they were not aware of SHPO programs available to them and their communities. Almost half said they have not directly worked with the SHPO or have not taken advantage of the SHPO's services. This is surprising, since the survey was primarily disseminated to constituents with a self-identified interest in preservation. (Respondents included subscribers to the SHPO's social media or monthly newsletter, conference attendees, and grant recipients.) Public workshop attendees shared these sentiments and further specified the need to debunk misconceptions about the SHPO's work and make the office's programs more accessible.

Although there was little discussion of audiences for new education programs, some workshop attendees

noted the need to engage young people, including young professionals, as well as local and state leaders.

Since 2011 the SHPO staff has participated in or led 144 public information workshops, conferences, and symposia. During that time the staff conducted more than 1,176 field visits to meet constituents and provide information about SHPO programs and procedures.

Despite these efforts, there are gaps in the SHPO's outreach. Some areas of the state, such as the northeast corner and lower Litchfield County, have not been visited by staff in more than seven years. And the SHPO continues to encounter misconceptions about historic preservation topics and the availability of preservation programs in the state. In the next five years the SHPO will embrace new ways to reach constituents, including greater access to digital information and web-based instructional videos.

Objective 1 Improve delivery of information to the public

Issue: The SHPO is not keeping pace with the ways constituents get information.

Actions:

1. Digitize historic designation and survey data as well as statewide context statements.
2. Work within the DECD framework to improve website navigation, appearance, and content.
3. Update guidance documents on SHPO programs or related programs, bylaws, and procedures, and improve access to them.
4. Allow electronic submissions of environmental compliance documents, State and National Register nominations, grant applications, and tax credit applications.
5. Use the SHPO's museums to disseminate information on historic preservation and the SHPO's programs.

Objective 2 Strengthen outreach and training programs

Issue: Preservation policies and procedures are not clear to all.

Actions:

1. Develop webinars and onsite workshops offering overviews, including best practices, on the Section 106 and CEPA processes for planners, partners, municipal staff, and CLGs.
2. Do more presentations on preservation concepts, programs, and skill development, and do them in more towns.
3. Track and analyze outreach efforts and adjust outreach programs according to the data.
4. Support training for students and young professionals through internship programs, fellowships, and staff participation in college courses or student projects.

Objective 3 Promote a historic preservation ethic in Connecticut

Issue: Communities do not always recognize the value of historic preservation.

Actions:

1. Prepare an updated economic impact study.
2. Collect and disseminate preservation success stories from traditional and nontraditional preservation entities.
3. Create a municipal preservation task force to discuss pressing preservation issues and share solutions.
4. Assist town planners in integrating historic preservation into local decision making.
5. Continue marketing and communication through electronic media.
6. Work with the Department of Education to integrate historic preservation into school curricula.
7. Use the SHPO museums as action labs to promote historic preservation.

YOUR PLACES, YOUR STORIES

GOAL #3: Diversify Audience and Resources



The SHPO aims to dispel the misconception that historic preservation is elitist by diversifying the field's leadership and audience. It also intends to help identify, preserve, and invest in a more diverse range of historic resources.

Why is this important?

An overwhelming majority of respondents to the SHPO's online survey identified as "white (non-Hispanic)" (96 percent) who have lived in Connecticut for 10 or more years (92.3 percent). This is not representative of the state's increasingly diverse population. In 2010, 77.6 percent of Connecticut's population was white and 86.6 percent identified as not Hispanic, a 4 percent decrease from 2000. During this time, Connecticut saw an increase

in African American, black, and Asian residents as well as residents of other races not specified in the census.

The majority of survey respondents were 55 or older (66.8 percent) and lived in just two of Connecticut's eight counties (60 percent): Hartford and New Haven. This, too, is in stark contrast to Connecticut's demographics. In 2010 only 26.7 percent of the state's residents were 55 or older, and the median age was 40. Clearly, the SHPO needs to reach a younger and more diverse audience. (Note: Although not demographically diverse, respondents represented a range of occupations, from students to social workers to lawyers to architects.)

Objective 1 Engage a more diverse audience

Issue: Preservation stakeholders do not represent the diversity of Connecticut's population.

Actions:

1. Identify community organizations than can provide inroads to new audiences.
2. Develop bilingual workshops and materials on historic preservation topics and the SHPO's programs.
3. Diversify the membership of the SHPO's governing bodies, including the State Historic Preservation Review Board and Historic Preservation Council.
4. Assist communities in diversifying historic district commissions and other local preservation-related groups.
5. Develop apprenticeship programs to engage future generations of preservationists.
6. Connect staff, visitors, and volunteers at the SHPO's museums to the historic preservation community.

Objective 2 Identify new or under-documented resources

Issue: Resource types significant to Connecticut's history have not been documented.

Actions:

1. Engage under-represented communities in the identification of cultural resources they deem significant.
2. Work with communities to explore, identify, and document cultural resources.
3. Focus on the identification and documentation of landscapes, sites related to women's history, resources of under-represented communities, works by minority architects, scenic roads, schools, and traditional cultural properties.
4. Evaluate the structure of the Connecticut Freedom Trail and make changes necessary to ensure the Freedom Trail's value for constituents.
5. Use the Freedom Trail as a model to investigate the creation of additional heritage trails.

BE READY, BE RESILIENT

GOAL #4: Develop a Resiliency Strategy for Historic Resources



The SHPO aims to help constituents better understand, plan for, and react to environmental hazards, including the effects of climate change, on the state's historic resources.

Why is this important?

Connecticut's historic resources are vulnerable to natural hazards ranging from snowstorms, droughts, and wildfires to coastal storms such as hurricanes and nor'easters.

Climate change is intensifying the risks from these hazards, even as it presents the stewards of historic properties with new hazards related to rising sea levels and environmental change. These include (but are not limited to):

- Inundation from storm surge and riverine flooding
- Structural stress from high winds
- Erosion from flooding, storm surge, and high winds
- Debris damage related to high winds and flooding
- Structural damage from snow loads
- Freeze-thaw damage related to extreme temperature swings
- Damage to exterior materials due to increased pollution

Although no area is risk-free, coastal and riverine zones are especially vulnerable because of flood risks. Data collected

by the SHPO in Connecticut's four coastal counties show that almost 10 percent of designated historic properties—more than 3,000 historic buildings and districts—are at risk of flooding during coastal storms. They also show that many of these resources will be inundated under median projections for sea level rise.

Integrating historic resource resiliency into state and local government plans is critical, to ensure that preservation values are represented in plans for hazard mitigation, conservation and development, and climate preparedness. Planners should consider historic resources in each of the four key steps—prepare, withstand, recover, and adapt—that inform hazard mitigation plans.

At the same time, it is important to raise awareness among constituents about the effects of climate change on historic properties and the benefits of preservation-friendly resiliency and sustainability measures. The SHPO's online survey showed a lack of awareness about the relationship between historic preservation and the environment. Just 9.6 percent of respondents identified climate change and rising sea levels as threats to historic resources. And only 53.9 percent of respondents "strongly agreed" that historic preservation encourages sustainable activity that benefits the environment.

Objective 1 Increase the SHPO's ability to respond to emergencies' effects on historic resources

Issue: Disaster can strike at any time. The preservation network must be prepared.

Actions:

1. Work with towns and local partners to establish plans for compiling data on damage or threats to resources.
2. Provide information on eligibility and requirements for recovery funding to historic property owners, property managers, and local officials.
3. Engage in professional development related to disaster response, hazard mitigation, resiliency, and historic preservation.
4. Designate a staff point of public contact who is knowledgeable about recovery programs and requirements for historic preservation.

Objective 2 Integrate historic preservation into state and local planning initiatives

Issue: With few exceptions, hazard resiliency plans do not address historic resources adequately.

Actions:

1. Integrate historic preservation into statewide plans, including Hazard Mitigation Plan, Climate Preparedness Plan, State Response Framework, and Disaster Debris Management Plan.
2. Align historic preservation policies with resiliency goals in State Plan of Conservation and Development updates.
3. Integrate historic preservation into regional and municipal resiliency planning, using data and best practices provided to towns under the SHPO's Hurricane Sandy technical assistance program.

Objective 3 Raise awareness about the effects of climate change on historic places

Issue: The risks to historic resources are not widely understood.

Actions:

1. Add resiliency information, resource links, and FAQ sheets to the SHPO's website.
2. Include resiliency as a topic at conferences, symposia, and workshops.
3. Provide additional technical assistance to municipalities and regional councils.
4. Review and synthesize federal policies and technical literature on adaptation as it applies to historic preservation for applicability in Connecticut, and make findings available to local communities.

Objective 4 Promote sustainability solutions for historic properties

Issue: Historic properties must be more energy-efficient (and thus more resilient).

Actions:

1. Promote success stories of preservation and sustainability working in tandem.
2. Promote historic preservation as a sustainability strategy.
3. Promote "green preservation" as an economic development strategy.

MEASURING SUCCESS

Self-Assessment

The SHPO will develop an internal review program and will discuss progress at staff meetings.

Partner participation

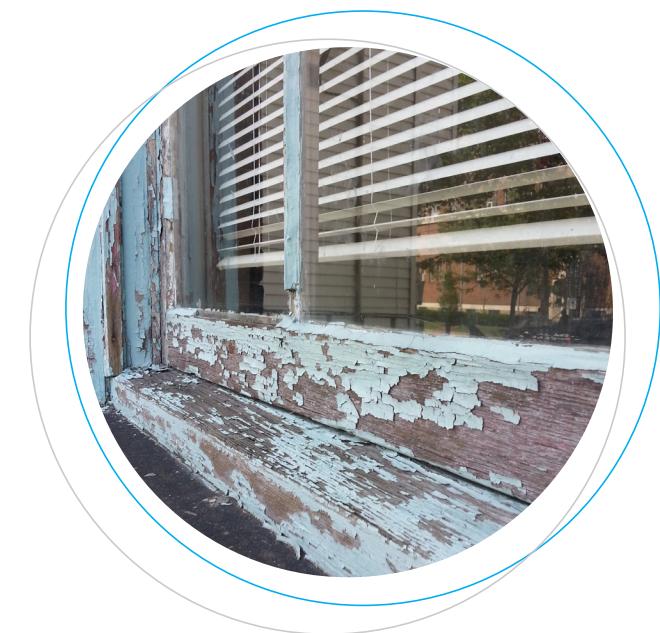
SHPO staff, partners, and local preservationists will meet quarterly to discuss progress and consider adjustments to the plan and its goals. This will make the SHPO's work more transparent and help identify priorities, issues, and potential modifications to the plan.

Data tracking

The SHPO will offer data on program work and actions to local communities. Examples include databases of field visits, outreach, and community meetings; mapping of the geographic distribution of workshops and funding incentives; and collection of attendance data at SHPO-organized or -sponsored events. Data tracking may be used to forecast trends and statewide preservation needs.

Success Story Environmental Review

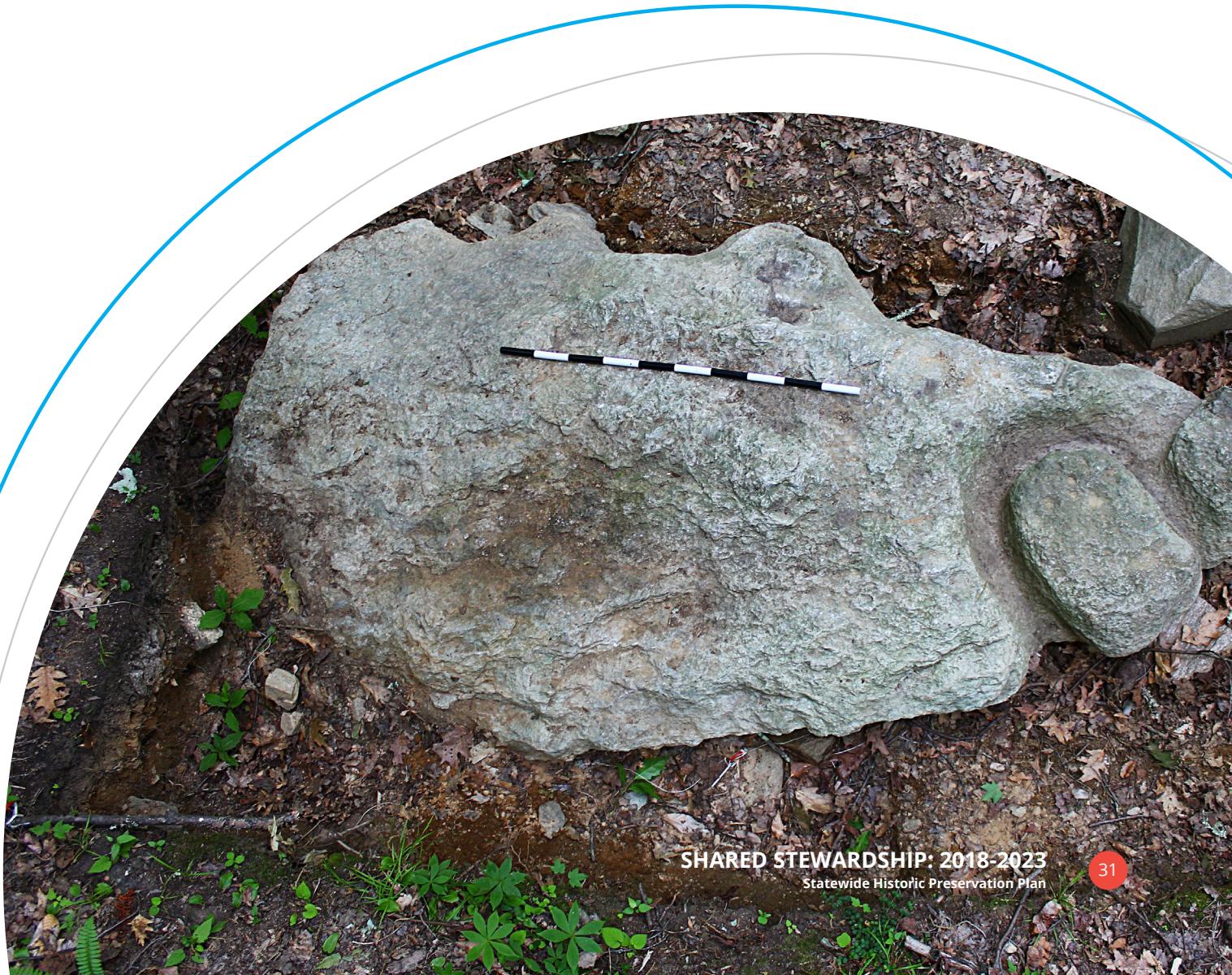
Most people think of historic preservation and environmental protection as two separate activities, but the environmental review process is one of the most valuable, yet little recognized, tools for preserving historic properties. While those properties saved from complete destruction garner publicity, impacts to hundreds of historic properties are reduced or avoided each year. It is the preservation of small amounts of historic fabric, such as clapboards or windows, which collectively retains the character defining features of a neighborhood.



Success Story

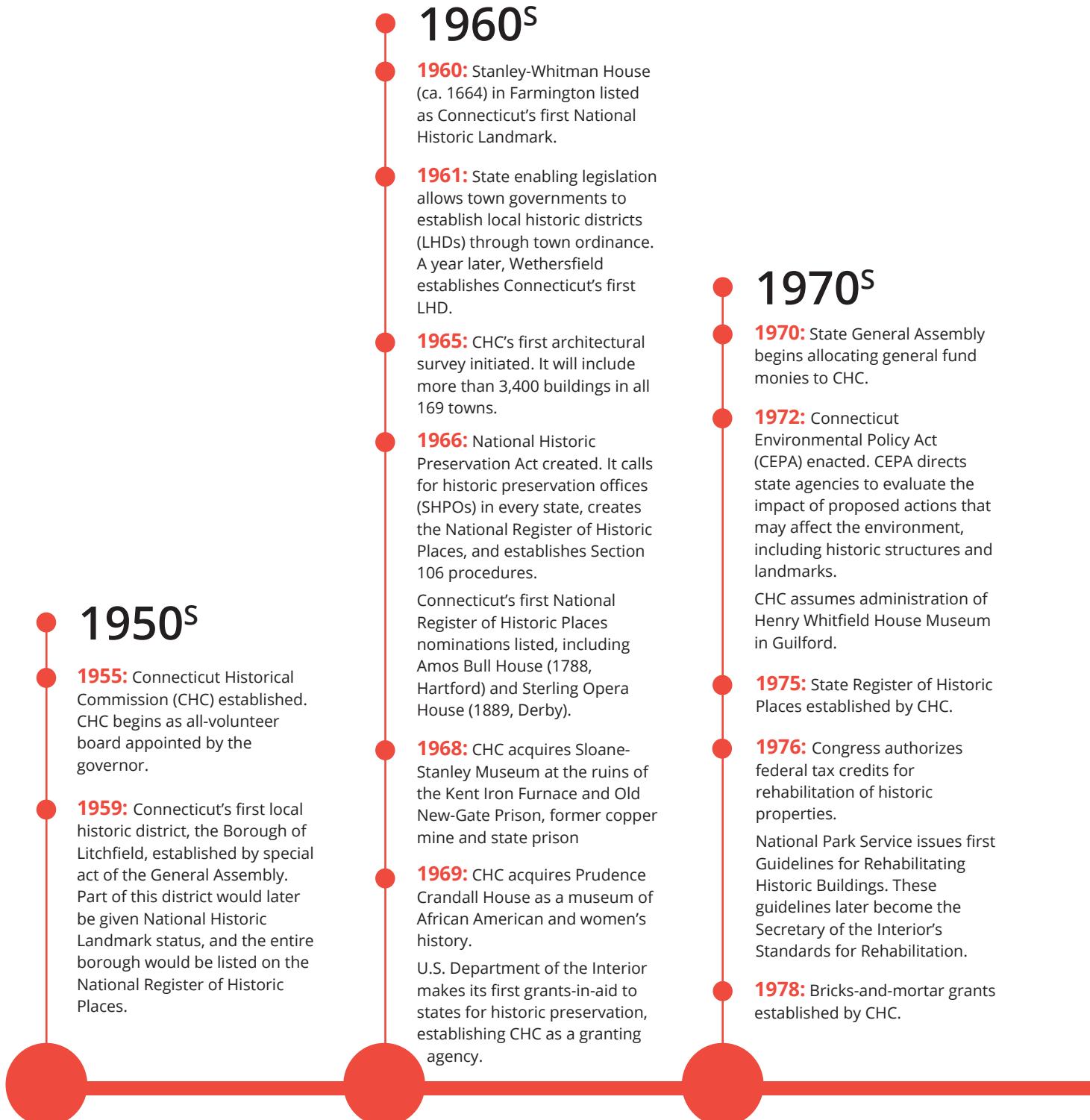
Connecticut State Archaeological Preserves

SHPO administers the State Archaeological Preserve program, Connecticut's flagship program for preserving significant archaeological finds, locations, and regions. From 2001 to 2010 thirty sites were designated as State Archaeological Preserves, but the program languished until 2015 when five new sites were added as State Archaeological Preserves. The sites ranged in time and scale from a Native American quarry to a Cold War military complex. The State Archaeological Preserve program recognizes the educational and cultural value, as well as the fragile nature, of archaeological resources.



TIMELINE

Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, 1955-Present



1980s

1981: Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) amended to include historic and cultural resources. CEPA directs state agencies to evaluate the impact of proposed actions that may affect the natural and cultural environments.

1982: Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) amended to permit legal recourse for the unreasonable destruction of the state's natural resources, including historic structures and landmarks.

1987: Town of Westport becomes Connecticut's first Certified Local Government (CLG).

1988: Native American Heritage Advisory Council established. Council evaluates and makes recommendations on Native American heritage to State Archaeologist and Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

1990s

1990: Weir Farm National Historic Site becomes state's first National Historic Park. Minority and Women's History Advisory Committee established by CHC.

1993: State Archaeological Preserve program established. Connecticut is the only state with a legislatively sanctioned archaeological preserve program that assigns criminal penalties to those who cause unauthorized harm to a designated site.

1995: Connecticut Freedom Trail established by CHC. Trail documents and designates sites that embody the struggle toward freedom and human dignity, celebrates the accomplishments of the state's African American community, and promotes heritage tourism.

1999: State Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit established. Initially available only to private homeowners in targeted areas, it expands statewide in 2013. Connecticut Women's Heritage Trail established by CHC, creating a network of historic sites dedicated to the interpretation of women's history.

2000s

2003: CHC merged with Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film, renamed Historic Preservation and Museum Division.

2004: Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film becomes Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

2005: Community Investment Act (CIA) established. CIA funds predevelopment costs, local preservation organizations, open space purchases, affordable housing, and farmland preservation.

2007: Connecticut's first commercial tax credit established.

2009: Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R) designated National Historic Trail. Trail follows route traveled by French troops in 1781, with more than 120 miles in Connecticut.

2010s

2011: Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism merges with DECD.

2014: State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program was launched

2017: SHPO hosts first annual statewide preservation conference.

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Environmental Protection Agency

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Integrating Historic Property and Cultural Resource Considerations into Hazard Mitigation Planning: State and Local Mitigation How-To Guide. FEMA 386-6. May 2005. www.fema.gov/pdf/fima/386-6_Book.pdf

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Appendices

Appendix I

Historic Preservation Legislation Summary

Appendix II

Preservation Partners

Appendix III

Certified Local Governments

Appendix IV

Historic Resource Resiliency Planning

Appendix V

Programs and Services

APPENDIX I

Historic Preservation Legislation

The following summarizes some important laws that exist at the federal and state levels; they represent the collective importance of historic preservation as a benefit to everyone.

Federal Laws

The **National Historic Preservation Act** of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.) is the nation's primary historic preservation law. This Act moved historic preservation from public activism to a national responsibility. It is what allows SHPO to honor our historic places, fund their preservation, and protect them from undue harm on a national level. It created the SHPO office, the National Register of Historic Places, Certified Local Governments, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and the implementing regulations of Section 106 and Section 110, and authorized grant monies for preservation projects. *National Historic Preservation Act* - <https://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/nhpa1966.htm>

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC 4321 et seq.) requires the Federal Government to carry out its plans and programs in such a way as to preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage because when these resources are lost, they cannot be replaced. *National Environmental Policy Act* - https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/nepa_statute.pdf

Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431-433) *American Antiquities Act of 1906* - <https://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/anti1906.htm>

Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461-467) *Historic Sites Act* - https://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/fhpl_histsites.pdf

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Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives: Tax Reform Act of 1976 (94-455), IRS Tax Reform Act of 1986 (PL 99-514), and Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (PL 115-97) *Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives:* - <https://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/36cfr67.pdf>

State Laws

The **Community Investment Act** (Public Act 05-228), passed in 2005, provides funding for open space, farmland preservation, historic preservation, and affordable housing. A portion of the funds dedicated to historic preservation is allotted to the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. SHPO uses its allocation to fund the Historic Restoration Fund Grant, Supplemental Certified Local Government grants, and to provide Basic Operational Support. *Community Investment Act* (Public Act 05-228 - <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/ACT/Pa/pdf/2005PA-00228-R00SB-00410-PA.pdf>)

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Local Historic Districts and Historic Properties (CGS 7-147) *Local Historic Districts and Historic Properties (CGS § 7-147)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2017/pub/chap_097a.htm

Village District Zoning (CGS 8-2j) *Village District Zoning (CGS § 8-2j)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2017/pub/chap_124.htm#sec_8-2j

Native American Heritage Advisory Council (CGS 10-382) *Native American Heritage Advisory Council (CGS §10-382)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2017/pub/chap_184a.htm#sec_10-382

Designation of site as state archaeological preserve (CGS 10-384) *Designation of site as state archaeological preserve (CGS §10-384)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2017/pub/chap_184a.htm#sec_10-384

Permit for archaeological investigation on state lands (CGS 10-386) *Permit for archaeological investigation on state lands (CGS §10-386)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2017/pub/chap_184a.htm#sec_10-386

Historic Preservation Council (CGS 10-409) *Historic Preservation Council (CGS §10-409)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/pub/chap_184b.htm#sec_10-409

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Tax credits for rehabilitation of historic homes and certified historic structures (CGS 10-416) *Tax credits for rehabilitation of historic homes and certified historic structures (CGS §10-416)* - https://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/pub/chap_184b.htm#sec_10-416

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APPENDIX II

Preservation Partners

Federal Agencies

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
www.nps.gov

Advisory Council on Historic
Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001
www.achp.gov

National Not-for-Profits

Alliance of National Heritage Areas
Hall of the States, Suite 342
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
www.nationalheritageareas.com

National Conference of State Historic
Preservation Officers
Hall of the States, Suite 342
444 N. Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
www.ncshpo.org

National Trust for Historic Preservation
2600 Virginia Avenue NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20037
www.savingplaces.org

Preservation Action
401 F Street, NW, Suite 331
Washington, DC 20001
www.preservationaction.org

Partners for Sacred Places
1700 Sansom Street, 10th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
www.sacredplaces.org

American Association for State and
Local History
2021 21st Ave Street, Suite 320
Nashville, TN 37212
www.aaslh.org

Statewide and Regional Not-for-Profits

Connecticut Landmarks
Amos Bull House
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06106
www.ctlandmarks.org

Connecticut League of History
Organizations
Central Connecticut State University
Department of History
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050
www.clho.org

Connecticut Main Street Center
P.O. Box 270
Hartford, CT 06141
www.ctmainstreet.org

Connecticut Trust for Historic
Preservation
940 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06517-4002
www.cttrust.org

Connecticut Preservation Action
www.ctpreservationaction.org

Fairfield County Preservation Trust
297 Highland Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06854
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The Friends of the Office of State
Archaeology, Inc.
P.O. Box 230351
Hartford, CT 06123
www.fosa-ct.org

The Last Green Valley, Inc.
203B Main Street
P.O. Box 29
Danielson, CT 06239-0029
www.thelastgreenvalley.org

Local Initiatives Support Corporation
(LISC)
75 Charter Oak Avenue, Suite 2-250
Hartford, CT 06106
www.lisc.org

Merritt Parkway Conservancy
P.O. Box 17072
Stamford, CT 06907
www.merrittparkway.org

Local Not-for-Profits

Hartford Preservation Alliance
56 Arbor Street, Suite 406
Hartford, CT 06106
www.hartfordpreservation.org

New Haven Preservation Trust
The New Haven Preservation Trust
922 State Street
P.O. Box 8968
New Haven, CT 06532
www.nhpt.org

New London Landmarks
49 Washington Street
New London, CT 06320
www.newlondonlandmarks.org

Milford Preservation Trust
P.O. Box 5343
Milford, CT 06460
www.milfordpreservationtrust.org

Old Saybrook Historical Society
350 Main Street
Post Office Box 4
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
<http://www.saybrookhistory.org/>

The Thompson Historical Society
P.O. Box 47
Thompson, CT 06277
www.thompsonhistorical.org

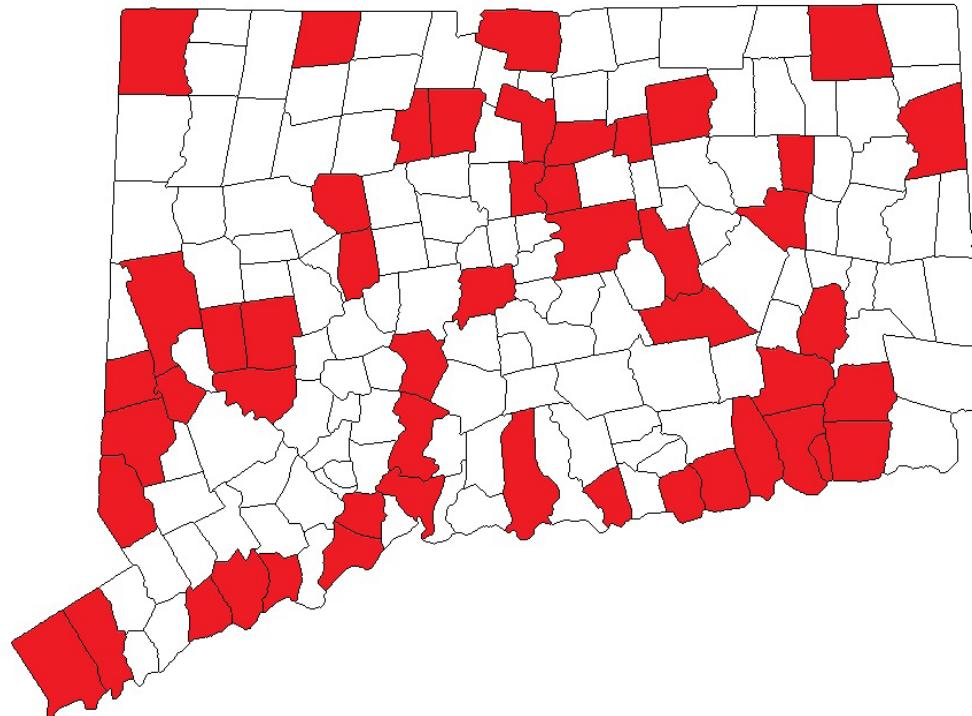
Torrington Historic Preservation Trust
P.O. Box 1243
Torrington CT 06790
www.preservetorrington.org

APPENDIX III

Certified Local Governments

Community certification opens doors to funding, technical assistance, and other preservation successes.

Berlin	Hamden	Ridgefield
Bridgeport	Hartford	Roxbury
Brookfield	Harwinton	Salisbury
Canton	Hebron	Simsbury
Chaplin	Killingly	South Windsor
Cheshire	Ledyard	Southbury
Clinton	Lyme	Stamford
Colchester	Milford	Suffield
Colebrook	New Fairfield	Tolland
Danbury	New Haven	Vernon
East Hartford	New London	Waterford
East Lyme	New Milford	Westport
Fairfield	Norwich	Windham
Glastonbury	Old Lyme	Windsor
Greenwich	Old Saybrook	Woodbury
Groton	Orange	Woodstock
Guilford	Plymouth	



APPENDIX IV

Historic Resource Resiliency Planning

The following was developed by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., as one component of the SHPO's Hurricane Sandy disaster relief program. This work informs the goal, objectives, and action items for resiliency (Goal #4: Develop a Resiliency Strategy for Historic Resources). It is excerpted from a more comprehensive report, titled "Historic Resource Resiliency Planning in Connecticut," that was prepared by Goodwin & Associates in 2018.

Historic Resource Resiliency Planning and the 2018 State Plan

Since the adoption of the last State Plan in 2011, climate change and associated sea level rise have emerged as serious and immediate threats to the preservation of Connecticut's historic properties. As the science of climate change has advanced, with patterns of projected change demonstrated empirically, threats to historic resources have become a focus of public, private, and professional concern. Three distinct but related major categories of impacts to historic properties can be extrapolated from current scientific data and from our current national posture.

Storm Events

The first major threat is the increased number, severity, and frequency of storm events with the potential to result in substantial damage to and/or loss of historic properties. Resiliency planning, emergency operations protocols, disaster recovery protocols, and adaptation responses that do not take into account historic properties and heritage values pose unintended threats to historic resources. Existing programs, such as the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), inadvertently operate as a disincentive to the preservation of historic buildings and structures. Recovery and adaptation measures advanced under such agencies as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) often consider historic properties through post-event consultation on mitigation projects pursuant to federal historic preservation law and implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). While proactive planning for historic resources is encouraged by FEMA through Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs), federal and state agencies may differ on both the definition of significant historic resources and on the range of adaptation strategies appropriate to the long-term preservation of designated historic properties. Elevation, relocation, and abandonment are among these strategies.

Inclusion of historic resources in state and local resiliency plans will require the active involvement and technical assistance of the professional preservation community. While existing resiliency planning efforts generally are undertaken by dedicated planning professionals who are sympathetic to historic preservation, these planners may have limited experience or technical training in the objectives, standards, and guidelines of historic resources management.

Sea Level Rise

The second category of impact is sea level rise, which has the potential to directly threaten nearly 9 percent of the state's coastal historic properties, based on Connecticut's 2016 data for National Register listings. Major threats associated with sea level rise are resource inundation, loss or damage from increased storm surge, loss of access and services related to disruptions to infrastructure including bridges, roads, and services, and loss of resources related to the implementation of abandonment as an adaptation measure.

Opportunities for increasing the resiliency of historic resources are presented in structural adaptation measures, particularly those designed for community protection. Such inclusion requires wide distribution of baseline resource data and its integration with data sets used in decision making. Technical assistance in appropriate preservation planning measures also is required. Resource-specific structural modifications such as elevation and weatherproofing may be effective provided that they do not compromise the integrity of properties. The life expectancy of the improvement should be factored into adaptation decisions.

Prioritizing the cultural value of historic properties is a foreign and uncomfortable concept in preservation practice. However, the state and its municipalities may eventually face decisions on the relative significance of historic properties and about achievable and appropriate levels of treatment for adaptation.

Environmental Change

The third category of threat is associated with the trajectory of environmental change that will impact the physical patterns of response of historic resources as self-contained systems over seasonal cycles. New and unexpected conditions

conducive to historic material deterioration are anticipated to emerge in the state; they will require increased conservation intervention. Threats include but are not limited to increased temperatures resulting in increased thermal movement; changes in expansion and contraction rates associated with altered seasonal cycles; and invasive species, including vegetation, insects, biological, and microbiological agents, that are anticipated to become more common and to pose increasing threats through infestation or decay.

Integration of historic resources within the established framework of hazard and resilience planning on the state and local levels is a logical and achievable goal within the planning cycle for the State Plan. This goal offers the advantages of integrating heritage values within well-developed planning models that interface with federal programs. This goal will achieve consideration of those values in the development of response strategies related to climate change and events as conditions progress. The following goals, objectives, and strategies were developed by analyzing local-level resiliency planning for threatened historic resources in the four coastal counties and 28 municipalities affected by Superstorm Sandy. Those lessons learned have broad applicability to the state as a whole.

Goal: Integrate historic properties and cultural heritage values in Hazard Resiliency Planning on the state and local levels.

The changing character and severity of weather events coupled with projections for sea level rise pose direct and dramatic threats to Connecticut's historic properties and heritage assets. Anticipated hazards to historic properties from weather events and sea level rise include, but are not limited to:

- Inundation from storm surge and riverine flooding;
- Structural stress from high winds;
- Erosion from flooding, storm surge, and high winds;
- Debris damage related to high winds and flooding;
- Structural damage from snow loads; and,
- Freeze-thaw damage related to extreme temperature swings.

These environmental threats mandate meaningful consideration of heritage resources in hazard resiliency planning and disaster recovery planning on the local and state levels. Prevailing hazard mitigation programs operate within a complex and comprehensive framework of federal, state, and local plans and guidelines, many of which determine eligibility for certain types of disaster assistance.

The existing planning structure, however, actually provides important and practical opportunities to integrate historic preservation concerns throughout the four key stages of the resiliency cycle (see fig. 1).

A. Objective: Integrate historic properties and heritage values in the Prepare Stage of the resiliency cycle on the state and local levels.

- Strategy: Formally Integrate Historic Preservation in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The State Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) identifies risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters; it develops strategies for dealing with these risks over a five-year planning horizon. A FEMA-approved HMP is a condition for qualifying for certain types of disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects that may support the preservation of historic properties. For example, building elevation and relocation, as well as other public assistance may be eligible for support in a post-disaster environment. An approved State HMP qualifies Connecticut as eligible for federal funding equal to 15 percent of the total disaster damages in a presidentially declared disaster under the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

The State HMP currently does not discuss historic resources, nor does it have a Historic Resource Annex. These items should be included in the next State Plan Update. It should be noted that all HMGP grant applications include an environmental assessment checklist requiring the consideration of archaeological and built resources through SHPO consultation.

- Strategy: Refine historic preservation policies to reflect resiliency goals in future updates of the State Plan of Conservation and Development.

Connecticut Statutes Sections 16a-25 through 16a-30 require the State of Connecticut to prepare and adopt a plan for conservation and development (POCD) every five years. The existing POCD, which established a set of Conservation and Development Policies, was adopted by the state's Continuing Legislature Committee on Planning and

Development. The recently proposed draft provides general policy statements; it also references other state planning documents, including the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Plan and the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The Draft Plan includes the following state agency policies with potential historic preservation impact:

- Preserve and Protect: Connecticut Heritage Areas, archaeological areas of regional and statewide significance, and natural areas, including habitats of endangered, threatened and special concern species, other critical wildlife habitats, river and stream corridors, aquifers, ridgelines, large forest areas, highland areas, and Long Island Sound.
- Revitalize: rural villages and main streets by promoting the rehabilitation and appropriate reuse of historic facilities, such as former mills, to allow a concentration of higher density or multiple use development where practical and consistent with historic character.
- Minimize: the potential risks and impacts from natural hazards, such as flooding, high winds, and wildfires, when siting infrastructure and developing property. Consider potential impacts of climate change on existing and future development.

• Strategy: Integrate historic preservation resiliency into future revisions of the Connecticut Climate Preparedness Plan. As authorized under Public Act No. 08-98 - An Act Concerning Connecticut Global Warming Solutions, the Adaptation Subcommittee of the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change developed and issued a draft Connecticut Climate Preparedness Plan in early 2011. The subcommittee, which included federal, state, and local officials, academics, nongovernmental organizations, and legislators, was established to "evaluate the projected impacts of climate change on Connecticut agriculture, infrastructure, natural resources and public health," and to develop strategies to lessen those impacts. It is likely that future revisions to this document will be spearheaded by the Connecticut Institute for Resiliency and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) at University of Connecticut's Avery Point, which was established post-Sandy in 2013.

Opportunities for addressing historic preservation concerns are embedded in the five major themes currently included in the Climate Preparedness Plan:

- Intensify efforts to ensure preparedness planning;
 - Integrate climate change adaptation into existing plans;
 - Update existing standards to accommodate change expected during infrastructure design life;
 - Plan for flexibility and monitor change; and
 - Protect natural areas and landscape features that buffer potential impacts from climate change.
- Strategy: Integrate historic preservation values in the Connecticut State Response Framework. Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), maintained by emergency management directors, are designed to direct incident command, to establish communications protocols, and to articulate specific procedures for the different departments that collaborate to address disasters. In EOPs, recovery is focused on life, health, safety, and financial accounting. Historic Preservation values should be among the considerations for execution of this over-arching mission.

• Strategy: Integrate historic preservation values in Connecticut Disaster Debris Management Plan Recognizing historic resources in the state's planning and emergency and disaster response documents will help bring historic preservation to the forefront by emphasizing the role that these resources play in our cultural identity, economic vitality, and in the fabric of our current built environment. It also will promote exposure to the participating agencies of the special needs and requirements of historic properties for resiliency initiatives and post-disaster analysis and recovery efforts following significant hazard events.

• Strategy: Integrate historic preservation values in regional and municipal planning instruments. In Connecticut, planning and land use policies are controlled primarily by local agencies. Many of the state plans are mirrored by local plans as required by state statute, and/or required for funding eligibility through such sources as the HMP. Local planning documents often contain a greater level of specificity, which may include direction for immediate action. Following a disaster, local resources are the first on the ground to perform initial and ongoing emergency management and disaster recovery. In addition, the responsibility for damage assessments and grant processing for local historic resources often rests with Planning and Zoning staff within the local municipality.

After Superstorm Sandy, the Connecticut SHPO undertook a resiliency planning initiative with the support of the NPS in the four coastal counties affected by the storm. The methodology included data collection, charrettes, and municipal

meetings. This initiative resulted in the development of a Best Practices Guide to inform the integration of historic preservation in the following local plans:

- Hazard mitigation plans
- Plans of conservation and development
- Coastal resilience plans
- National Flood Insurance Program ordinances and/or regulations
- Historic preservation ordinances
- Emergency operations plans.

The methodologies and best practices generated under this initiative should be expanded throughout the state.

B. Objective: Integrate historic properties and heritage values in the Withstand Stage of the resiliency cycle on the state and local levels.

- Strategy: Assess the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats associated with implementation of the historic preservation provisions of the above plans, post-event. Revise protocols during the next planning cycle, as appropriate.
- Strategy: Establish regular communication with local preservation communities to compile data on damage or threats to resources to assist SHPO staff in prioritizing post-event action.

C. Objective: Integrate historic properties and heritage values in the Recover Stage of the resiliency cycle on the state and local levels.

- Strategy: Establish protocols with the preservation community and constituency for unified and complementary response to recovery.
- Strategy: Implement aggressive public outreach efforts to target historic property owners, property managers, and local officials on eligibility and requirements for recovery funding, as appropriate.
- Strategy: Designate a staff Point of Public Contact (PPC) who is knowledgeable about recovery programs and requirements related to historic preservation. Prepare a list of contacts for other recovery programs for distribution to the public, as a courtesy.
- Strategy: Develop guidance for local Historic District Commissions for review of projects involving elevation and/or relocation of designated properties.

D. Objective: Integrate historic preservation and heritage values in the Adapt Stage of the resiliency cycle on the state and local levels.

- Strategy: Review and synthesize federal policies and technical literature on adaptation as it applies to historic preservation for applicability to Connecticut.
- Strategy: Establish criteria for assessing resource vulnerability for consideration in prioritizing preservation funding and support.
- Strategy: Initiate discussions with the preservation community on the range of adaptation approaches (resource hardening, elevation, moving, abandonment) and criteria for implementation.
- Strategy: Develop and distribute technical guidance to historic property owners on interim measures to limit or avoid property damage.
- Strategy: Monitor proposals for infrastructure improvement projects for opportunities to maximize resiliency design benefits for historic resources.

APPENDIX V

Programs and Services

The programs administered by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office are designed to conform to federal and state mandates while allowing for the flexibility to respond to current trends or achieve goals, such as those presented in this plan. To support these programs we also provide a large number of services. Together, they connect our office to a wide range of constituents, such as government agencies, Native American tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, developers, architects, homeowners, and professional preservationists. The following list briefly outlines how we engage with this diverse group of partners and for more information about the SHPO's programs and a list of staff contacts visit our website at www.cultureandtourism.org:

Historic Designations

Designating a property communicates the historic significance of a place to the public. In addition to raising public awareness, historic designation is an essential component of the preservation toolkit because it offers additional protections, improves preservation activities, and provides access to incentives. The SHPO does the following:

- Identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties to the National Register of Historic Places through the State Historic Preservation Review Board;
- Identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties to the State Register of Historic Places through the Historic Preservation Council; and
- Lists properties as State Archaeological Preserves through the Historic Preservation Council.

Regulatory Review and Compliance

The purpose of historic preservation environmental review is to take into consideration the potential impacts on significant historic resources. The goal of SHPO consultation is to find ways to avoid harm to historic properties. If impacts cannot be avoided then the SHPO works to minimize or mitigate the adverse effects. In this role, SHPO:

- Cooperates with state and federal agencies for project reviews that may affect historic and archaeological resources pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act;
- Provides guidance for the survey and evaluation of significant historic, architectural, and archaeological resources; and
- Provides consultation for Federal undertakings under the Section 106 provision of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Certified Local Governments

The Certified Local Government (CLG) program is a relationship between SHPO, the National Park Service, and a community that creates a joint commitment to preservation. Any general purpose political subdivision (e.g., city, town, or borough) is eligible for certification as a CLG. SHPO's role in this program is to:

- Work with local governments in the development of local historic preservation programs and help them become Certified Local Governments and
- Administer grants from the Federal Historic Preservation Fund to assist certified CLGs with preservation activities.

Grant Opportunities

SHPO administers funds allocated to historic preservation under the Community Investment Act. These funds are used to support a wide variety of preservation initiatives that includes, but is not limited to, conducting historic resources surveys, preparing preservation planning or historic structures reports, completing architectural plans and specifications, promoting public awareness, supporting preservation partners, and assisting with maintenance and rehabilitation projects. SHPO offers the following grant programs with final approval through the Historic Preservation Commission:

- Survey and Planning Grants,

- Basic Operational Support Grants for Historic Preservation Non-Profits, and
- Historic Restoration Fund Grants.

Tax Credit Programs

Historic tax credit programs are intended to encourage private investment in preserving historic buildings and are considered an economic driver. SHPO administers both federal and state tax credit programs:

- Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive with final approval through the National Park Service,
- State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, and
- State Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit.

Historic Resources Inventories, Surveys, and Other Records

The historic resources inventory and survey program provides a comprehensive approach to identifying and evaluating the state's important cultural resources. SHPO provides technical guidance for research, documentation, survey, and evaluation. It is a basis for informing many of the office's other programs and includes the following services:

- Promoting historic resources surveys to identify and record cultural resources;
- Maintaining an inventory of recorded archaeological sites, submerged resources, bridges, industrial sites, buildings, structures, dams, and designated properties;
- Maintaining a copy of previously completed cultural resources surveys and studies completed through our office for public accessibility;
- Providing historic and archaeological resource information to be incorporated into planning efforts; and
- Assisting researchers with accessing and using the inventories and surveys to inform development considerations.

State Museums

SHPO maintains and operates four state museums that offer the public and opportunity to experience important themes in our state's development. They are the:

- Eric Sloane Museum in Kent,
- Henry Whitfield State Museum in Guilford,
- Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine in East Granby, and
- Prudence Crandall Museum in Canterbury.

Other Activities

In addition to the programs and services described above, SHPO staff routinely performs the following additional responsibilities:

- Advising and assisting Federal, State, and local governments; developers; and property owners in matters of historic preservation;
- Administering variable federal grant programs, such as the Hurricane Sandy Grant;
- Preparing and implementing a statewide historic preservation plan;
- Providing public outreach, education, training, and technical assistance;
- Promoting historic preservation efforts within state and local governments;
- Coordinating with tribal governments on historic preservation matters;
- Holding and monitoring historic preservation easements;
- Supporting Main Street communities and revitalization efforts;
- Managing historic themed trails: Connecticut Freedom Trail, Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, and Minority and Women's History;
- Issuing Archaeological Permits; and
- Coordinating actions pursuant to the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act with the assistance of the State Historic Preservation Review Board, Historic Preservation Council, non-profit partners, and constituents.
- Posting to social media and creating a monthly newsletter to promote historic preservation in Connecticut.



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Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

