



## POLICY STATEMENT – STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD

### **Subject: Native American Heritage Advisory Council (NAHAC) Review of National Register of Historic Places nominations**

Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*, formerly 16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*), and E.O. 11593, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is responsible for processing requests for the recognition of historic cultural resources in Connecticut through listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is a program of the National Park Service intended to encourage stewardship through the identification of historic properties and communication of their importance through the National Register nomination form.

The State Historic Preservation Review Board (SRB) reviews National Register nomination proposals, participates in appeals, and provides opinions on the National Register eligibility and status of historic properties. The SRB was established under 36 CFR 61.4 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*, formerly 16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*) and Chapter 177b, Section 10-321q of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), to provide expert judgements about the significance of historic cultural resources in Connecticut.

*The purpose of this policy statement is to establish a formal process for input from Connecticut's Indigenous community any time a National Register nomination is presented to the State Historic Preservation Office that includes interpretation of indigenous history or assigns indigenous cultural value to a place.*

SHPO and the SRB invite the Connecticut Native American Heritage Advisory Council (NAHAC) to engage in review of relevant National Register nominations. NAHAC was established in 2005 (Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 184a, Section 10-382) to make recommendations on Native American heritage to the State Archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Economic and Community Development. NAHAC includes representation from The Schaghticoke, the Paucatuck Eastern Pequot, the Mashantucket Pequot, the Mohegan, and the Golden Hill Paugussett tribes.

SHPO and the SRB will seek advice from NAHAC as follows:

- SHPO will notify NAHAC when a draft National Register nomination of potential interest to Connecticut's Indigenous community is scheduled for a meeting of the State Historic Preservation Review Board at least 30 days before the meeting.

State Historic Preservation Office

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- These nominations may encompass specific resources or properties of interest, involve a history narrative for which a Native American perspective is critical, or include an assignment of indigenous cultural value to a place.
- When indigenous cultural value is assigned to a place, SHPO and the SRB will actively seek the input of tribes with current or ancestral interest in the geographic area, including those outside the state that are not members of Connecticut NAHAC.
- When NAHAC chooses to participate in review of a nomination, SHPO requests that comments or notification of any substantive issues be provided before or at the SRB meeting. NAHAC may share advice or comments in any format. Any formal letters received are part of the public record and will be archived with the final nomination form.
- A final round of editing of a National Register nomination occurs after the SRB meeting. SHPO and the SRB reserve the right to request that a nomination author incorporate any suggestions expressed by NAHAC into the final document.
- SHPO and the SRB may seek advice on terminology, place names, cultural affiliation, and historical accounts from NAHAC during the National Register nomination process.

This policy was approved by the Native American Heritage Advisory Council on March 3, 2022.

Signed: Brenda Geer Date: 6-6-22  
Brenda Geer, Chair, Connecticut Native American Heritage Advisory Council

This policy was approved by the State Historic Preservation Review Board on March 25, 2022.

Signed: Jared I. Edwards Date: 7 MAY 2022  
Jared I. Edwards, Chair, State Historic Preservation Review Board

As State Historic Preservation Officer, this policy is effective as of the date of my signature.

Signed: Jonathan Kinney Date: 6/10/22  
Jonathan Kinney, State Historic Preservation Officer

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