



Update on SHPO Operations

The SHPO remains closed while the staff work from home fulltime. So, just a reminder that the following programs and services are operating under different protocols.

- Historic rehabilitation tax credit applications, grant applications, and environmental review requests must be submitted electronically through email, Dropbox or other file sharing service. **Please do not send mail or hand deliver anything to the office until further notice.**
- The SHPO is **closed to researchers**. We understand the inconvenience this will cause; however, SHPO staff will have access to digital files and can provide information to researchers as available.
- **All site visits and in-person meetings are on hold until further notice.**
- If you are a current grant recipient and you need additional time to complete projects because of restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the SHPO can **extend your contract deadline**. Please contact Mary Dunne at mary.dunne@ct.gov or 860-500-2356.
- All inquiries concerning the **Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program** must be directed to hometaxcredits@ct.gov.

Any questions concerning the SHPO's programs and procedures should be directed to the relevant staff person. A list of SHPO contacts can be found [here](#).

Thanks to all our constituents for your patience and cooperation during this time. Be safe and healthy!

Funding Opportunities for Certified Local Governments

The SHPO is accepting applications for non-matching funds from municipalities that have Certified Local Government (CLG) designation by the National Park Service. Funds are provided by the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund. Grant awards range from \$1,500 to \$20,000. The SHPO anticipates awarding approximately \$100,000 this fiscal year. Please visit our website to see the full [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF), a public-private partnership between OEHP and the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative, has published a [COVID-19 Resource Hub](#), a web portal to an array of resources that can help the cultural heritage and creative communities respond to and recover from the pandemic. The page is updated frequently as new information is made available. Resources have been grouped under the following categories:

- Federal and Global Guidance
- Dashboards for Situational Awareness
- Guidance on Funding Your Organization's Recovery
- Funder Support of the Heritage Community
- Collections Care During a Pandemic
- Resources for Museums
- Resources for Archives
- Resources for Libraries
- Resources for Artists and Arts Organizations
- Resources for Historic Properties, Sites, and Organizations
- Resources for Indian Country
- Resources for Emergency Managers
- Resources for Extension Educators
- Preparing for the Next Pandemic

Historic Preservation Podcasts

Podcasts aren't just for long commutes anymore. They are a great way to pass the time while you stay home and stay healthy! The National Trust for Historic Preservation released a list of 11 podcasts for preservationists. Check them out [here](#).



News from the Museums



Our state museums are closed for the season, but you can still catch up on all the latest news on our website and the museums' social media pages.

Henry Whitfield State Museum

While the museum is temporarily closed, you can still:

- 1) [Follow the museum on Facebook](#) for fun and educational content, including the weekly posts GUILFORD GOES GLOBAL (virtual travelogue) and WHITFIELD WEDNESDAYS (collection spotlight with activity suggestions for young and old).
 - 2) [Take a virtual tour](#) through Connecticut's oldest house!
 - 3) Search for museum treasures in [Connecticut Collections](#) – more items from the Henry Whitfield State Museum are being added weekly.
 - 4) Visit the museum grounds – see the historic buildings in person, enjoy over 8 acres of lawns featuring stone walls and a short spur of the [New England Trail](#), have a picnic, play catch, draw, paint, take photographs, or dance. Of course, please practice social distancing and avoid others visiting the museum grounds.
 - 5) Print out a coloring page or create your own Whitfield House-inspired artwork. [Email](#) it to the museum when you're done, and they'll post it on their [Facebook](#) page.
- [Whitfield House coloring page for kids](#)
 - [Whitfield House coloring page for adults](#)



Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine

Old New-Gate is still closed for the season, but you can still "visit" with this [virtual tour](#) of the copper mine. We know you can't beat the real thing, but exploring virtually will allow you to experience the mine without getting wet, being cold, or bumping your head, and you can even venture into some tunnels not usually open to the public!

If you are looking for some entertaining history, check out a new segment called [Old News from New-Gate](#), where Site Manager Morgan Bengel brings you breaking news from 300 years ago.

Department of Economic and
Community Development
State Historic Preservation Office

