

Preserving Connecticut's Built Environment:

*An Introduction to SHPO and Local Tools for
Historic Preservation*

*Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Land Use Commissioner Training
Ansonia, CT
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Your Presenters

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Department of Economic and Community Development
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



Meet the SHPO Staff

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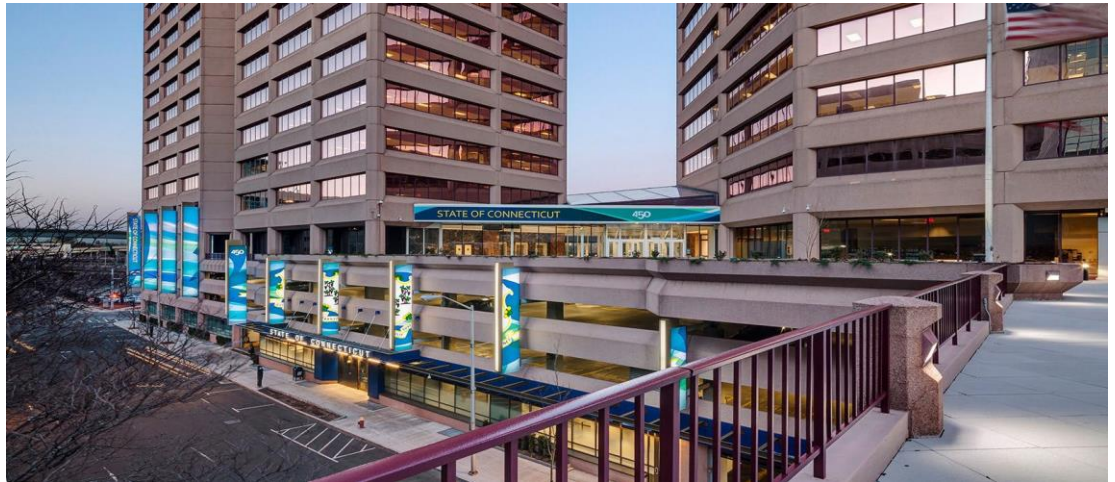
State Register of Historic Places Coordinator
Environmental Review



What does SHPO do?

- ❑ The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is responsible for overseeing the governmental program of historic preservation for Connecticut's citizens.
- ❑ SHPO administers a range of federal and state programs that identify, register and protect the buildings, sites, structures, districts and objects that comprise Connecticut's cultural heritage.

CT SHPO is 68 in 2023! Originally established as the CT Historical Commission in 1955, SHPO is now located within the Department of Economic & Community Development.



SHPO Programs & Services

Federal

- Historic Resources Inventory
- National Register
- Statewide Historic Preservation Plan
- Administer federal funding for historic preservation
- Ensure historic properties are taken into consideration at all levels of planning and development
- Provide public information, education and training, and technical assistance
- Certified Local Government program

State

- Promoting historic preservation efforts within state government
- Coordinating with tribal governments on historic preservation matters
- Maintaining and managing historic house museums and historic sites
- Coordinating state heritage tourism efforts
- Holding and enforcing historic preservation easements
- State Rehabilitation Tax Credit program
- State historic preservation grant programs
- Supporting Main Street communities and revitalization efforts
- Providing consultation for State undertakings, similar to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

SHPO Incentive Programs

- Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit
- Connecticut Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit
- Historic Homes Rehabilitation Tax Credit

- Certified Local Government Grants
- Good to Great Grants
- Historic Restoration Fund Grants
- Survey and Planning Grants
- Institutional Support for Capacity Building Grants

SHPO by the Numbers:



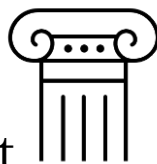
Environmental Review:
Approximately 3,000
projects reviewed annually.



Since the Community Investment Act (CIA) was passed in 2005, the SHPO has awarded almost \$27 million in CIA funds.



In Fiscal Year 2022, SHPO approved \$27,307,237 in rehabilitation tax credits to projects representing almost \$93 million of private investment in historic properties.

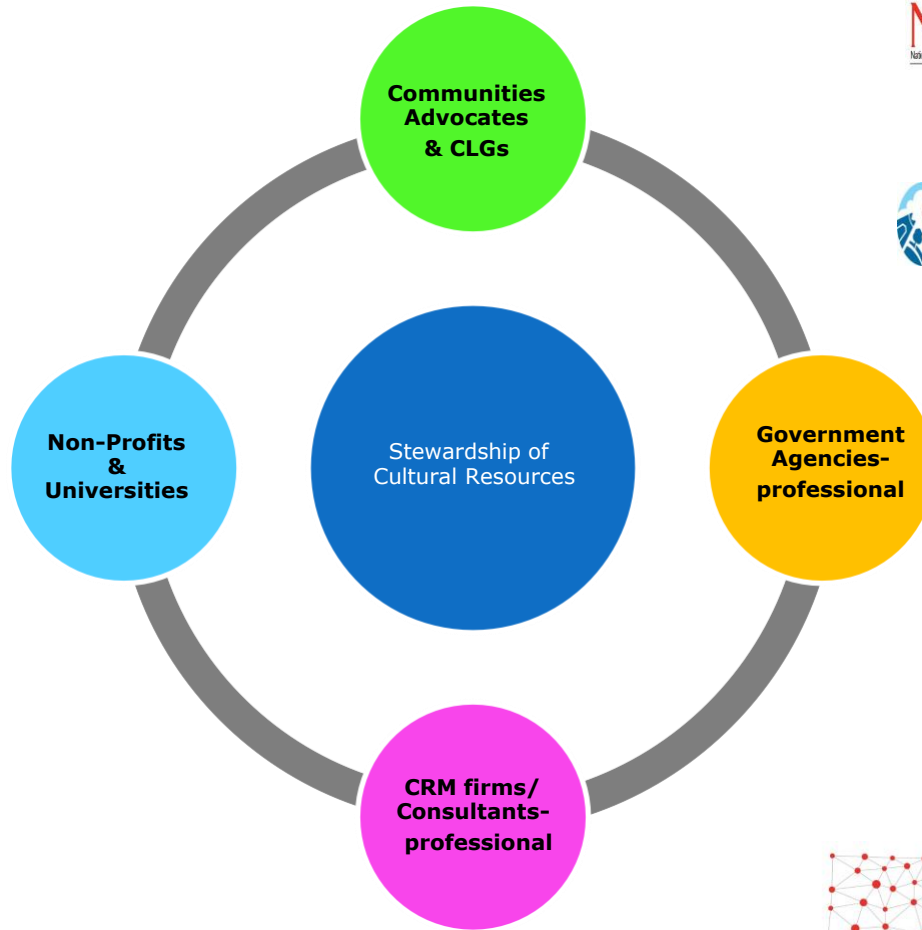


Connecticut has 65 National Historical Landmarks, more than 51,000 properties listed on the National Register, more than 75,000 properties listed on the State Register, and over 125 historic districts and 8,000 buildings designated at the local level.

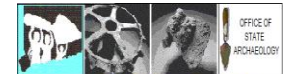


In Fiscal Year 2022, SHPO awarded \$2,519,512 to 68 applicants across the State.

Preservation Partners

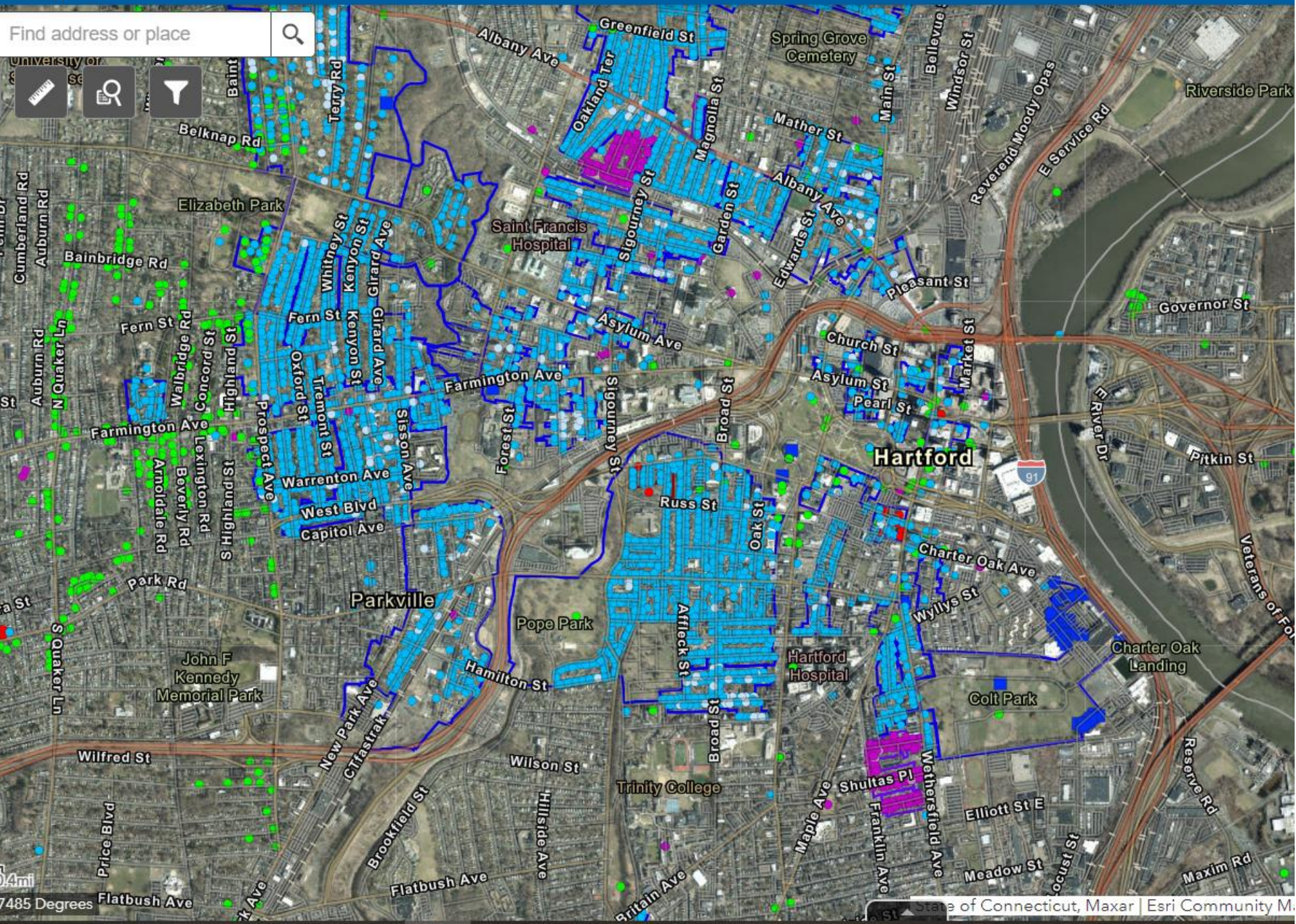


The Preservation Community's Unified Voice at the State Capital since 1980



*Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.
~ Connecticut ~*





There is a Difference!

- **National Register of Historic Places**

Honor/Recognition

No Restrictions on Property

Some protection under CEPA

Certain properties eligible for Federal tax credit and grants

- **State Register of Historic Places**

Honor/Recognition

No Restrictions on Property

CEPA does not apply

Certain properties eligible for state tax credits and grants

- **Local Historic District**

Identification of Local Resources

Certain Changes Regulated by Local Ordinance

Automatic listing on State Register of Historic Places

Local Historic District Commissions

- An arm of local government
- Established under state enabling legislation
- Initiated by Chief Elected Official
- Reviewed by Planning and Zoning
- Voted on by property owners
- Ordinance enacted by the local legislative body

Local Historic District Commissions

- Responsible for issuing Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA)



- Building and demolition permits require a CoA



NVCOG Towns with LHDs

- Ansonia
- Prospect
- Bethlehem
- Bristol
- Cheshire
- Plymouth
- Southbury
- Watertown
- Woodbury

Import Local Partnerships

- Building Department
 - ConnCRIS
- Planning and Zoning
 - Zoning Enforcement Officer
- Community Development

Certified Local Governments: A Preservation Partnership



What is a Certified Local Government?

- ***A municipality or recognized political subdivision (such as a borough) that has entered into an agreement with the National Park Service and the State Historic Preservation Office to take a more intentional role in preservation planning in its community***
- Provided for in § 101 (c) (1) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Direct way for local governments to participate in the Federal Historic Preservation program (over 2,000 currently in the US)
- Builds a strong partnership between CLGs, SHPOs, and NPS
- Provide technical and financial assistance from the Federal and State level for local communities

Connecticut CLGS

- Berlin
- Bridgeport
- Brookfield
- Canton
- Chaplin
- **Cheshire**
- Clinton
- Colchester
- Colebrook
- Danbury
- East Hartford
- East Lyme
- Enfield
- Fairfield
- Glastonbury
- Groton
- Greenwich
- Guilford
- Hamden
- Hartford
- Harwinton
- Hebron
- Killingly
- Ledyard
- Lyme
- Madison (2/18/21)
- Milford
- New Fairfield
- New Haven
- New London
- New Milford
- Norwich
- Old Lyme
- Old Saybrook
- Orange
- **Plymouth**
- Ridgefield
- Roxbury
- Torrington
- Salisbury
- Simsbury
- **Southbury**
- South Windsor
- Stamford
- Suffield
- Tolland
- Vernon
- Waterford
- Westport
- Wilton
- Windham
- Windsor
- **Woodbury**
- Woodstock

What Are the Benefits?

- *Education and training in historic preservation*
- *A stronger preservation influence in the community*
- *Eligible for Grants*



Funding Opportunities For Certified Local Governments (CLG)

- *Historic Preservation Enhancement Grants*
- *Supplemental CLG Grants*

Historic Preservation Enhancement Grants (HPEG)

- *Non-matching **Federal** (HPF) Funds*
- *Reimbursable*
- *Up To \$20,000*

Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant (SCLG)

- *Up to \$30,000*
- *Reimbursable*
- *Funded by **Community Investment Act***
- *Requires non-state matching funds...*
- *Except for survey work*

Non-CLG State Funding for Historic Preservation

- Survey and Planning Grants
- Partners In Preservation Grants
- Historic Restoration Fund



Next Steps

- Build partnerships between town bodies
- Continue to identify historic resources
- Take advantage of financial incentives from the State Historic Preservation Office

Thank you!

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CT State Historic Preservation Office

Visit us at www.ct.gov/historic-preservation



For More Information and Assistance

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QUESTIONS?