

## 4.5 Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

5 – 45 Points

### Objective

Determine the long-term viability of your community's historic resources and prioritize preservation efforts.

Complementary action:

- [Assess Climate Vulnerability](#)

### What to Do

Best practices for historic places can be found within the Secretary of the Interior's [Standards for the Treatment of Historic Places](#).

*The more you do, the more points you earn.*

1. **Inventory Resources (5 points).** Identify priority historic assets within your community, and actions required to sustain their long-term viability. Please include a short description of each location, and note if the location is privately or municipally owned. Assets may include:

- Historic buildings,
- Parks,
- Natural resources,
- View-sheds,
- Public spaces,
- Stone walls,
- Other

**Submit:** The list of priority historic resources and the list of actions required to sustain their long-term viability. The [State Historic Preservation Office](#) can help pay for such services.

2. **Assess Viability of Assets (10 points per asset, max 3 assets or 30 points).** For a historic asset included in your priority list, assess its viability and long-term health. Include in the assessment the sustainability of each building present, possibility of energy retrofits, vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change, etc.

**Submit:** You may submit the conditions assessment, feasibility study, or long-term maintenance plan that uses the Secretary of the Interior's [Standards for the Treatment of Historic Places](#) for each historic resource listed in your inventory. The [State Historic Preservation Office](#) can help pay for such services.

3. **Education (5 points).** Sponsor or host an educational workshop or program to educate owners of historic homes on how to manage their historic building(s) sustainably (for example, through energy audits or energy efficiency upgrades). You may partner with neighboring communities to offer the workshop.

**Submit:** A description of outreach (5 sentences maximum); and documentation of education programming at least one example from among materials disseminated; and number of historic buildings in municipality; and estimated number of property owners reached through education

program.

4. **Achieve Recognition (5 points).** Achieve "Certified Local Government" status. See the [Certified Local Government Program](#) of the CT Department of Economic and Community Development website for additional information on how to work towards your certification.

**Submit:** Proof of recognition from the National Park Service regarding attainment of *Certified Local Government* status.

## Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Staff from the planning and zoning, parks and recreation, public works, and economic development departments could be helpful in implementing this action. Your historic preservation commission, planning and zoning commission, energy commission, local historic society, local art league, CT Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Culture and Tourism could help implement this action.

## Funding

Below are potential funding sources specific to this Action. For a complete listing of potential funding opportunities to assist with implementing Sustainable CT Actions, please visit the [Sustainable CT Grants Portal](#), which is searchable by Action. Please also visit the [Sustainable CT Resources for Certification](#) page for opportunities for technical assistance and other supports.

*Funding outlined below may be beneficial to creating the historic inventory and/or implementing action items listed in your inventory.*

- [Historic Restoration Fund Grant](#)
- [Survey and Planning Grants for Historic Inventories](#)
- [Planning and Pre-Development Grants](#)
- [Partners in Preservation Grant](#)

*Funding available to communities with Certified Local Government status:*

- [Historic Preservation Enhancement Grants \(HPEG\)](#)
- [Supplemental Certified Local Government Grants](#)

## Resources

*Toolkits, Calculators, Guidance Documents*

- CT Trust for Historic Preservation, ["Inventory of Local Historic Districts and Local Historic Properties, Connecticut"](#)
- National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, ["Sustainability"](#)
- National Park Service, ["NPS-28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline"](#)
- National Preservation Institute, ["What are 'Cultural Resources'?"](#)
- [GSA](#)
- Certified Local Governments: [CT Department of Economic and Community Development](#)
- [National Park Service](#)
- National Park Service, ["The Treatment of Historic Properties"](#)
- [Energize CT](#)
- [Sample Preservation Restriction/Easement](#)
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, ["Climate and Culture"](#)
- National Park Service, ["National Park Service Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy"](#)
- New London Fire Department Headquarters Building, [Conditions Assessment Report](#)
- The First Church of Christ Congregational East Haddam, [Connecticut Conditions Assessment Report](#)

*Organizations and Relevant Programs*

- [CT Main Street](#)
- CT Department of Community and Economic Development, [Office of Culture and Tourism](#)
- CT Department of Community and Economic Development, [State Historic Preservation Office](#)
- [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation](#)
- [American Alliance of Museums](#)
- [National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers](#)
- [National Park Service](#)
- [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#)
- [National Endowment for the Humanities](#)

## Why This Matters

Historic resources can be buildings, monuments, art installations, traditional community practices, archaeological sites, public spaces, stonewalls, etc.

## Benefits

Historic resources perform a vital function in a community by:

- Contributing to local community character,
- Instilling attachment to place,
- Attracting a talented workforce, and
- Encouraging tourism.

By protecting local historic resources from a host of threats, (for instance, climate change), you ensure that present and future generations can enjoy these sites.

## CT Success Stories

- Westport, CT: [Historic District Commission](#)

## Credit for Past Action

- Your list of priority historic assets does not expire. Assessments must have been completed within the past 10 years, with proof of update prior to application submission.
- Educational workshops must have occurred within the most recent complete year prior to application submission.
- *Certified Local Government* status may be included each time certification is sought.