

PRESERVATION GRANT FUNDING INFORMATION  
Provided by the East Lyme Historic Properties Commission  
2015

## OVERVIEW

There are two basic categories related to funding for properties preservation projects: technical assistance and capital projects.

Such grants are available from specific departments and or government agencies at the State and Federal levels. Many times Federal funds enter the State through a specific related State office or department. Under grant requirements or conditions, municipalities, non-profits, private owners and businesses can become potential recipients

Non-profits and businesses with specific interests in historic preservation, land preservation, the protection of cultural assets, community enhancement, and historic education are also sources for funding. Private philanthropic foundations can also be sources. These are not detailed in this document.

In all cases, its is important to know who you are so that your mission and project match the goals, mission, and objectives of the funding source. Those sources want to know your financial status, past preservation history, your governing structure, details of your request and actions to be taken, and what tangible result you will provide at the end of the funding period.

Many funding sources require you to be an IRS, 501c3 organization for one or two years and with at least two years experience. Many sources require a match to their funds. This can be as a percentage, donations from other sources, or sometimes, an in-kind match of the volunteered services to be provided as cited in the application. While specific job figures could be considered, there are sometimes an annual recognized dollar figure grant allowance for in-kind matches. Most grants are reimbursable funding when the project is completed. Some grants will provide 1/3 of the funds up-front with another partial payment in mid-project.

The sources identified in this document have their own annual goals, opportunities, and priorities which change on occasion. This includes the amounts available. Each individual department or organization needs to be accessed for current information about their funding. We have provided you with a basic overview of the projects most often funded by these organizations; please visit the websites for the most up-to-date information. Links are provided for that purpose.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

These funds are often used to prepare your project for future submissions for other grants. They can be used to investigate, document, and/or plan. Some funds can be used to strengthen an organization, such as hiring a consultant, or hosting a board retreat to develop a long-range plan. The usual technical assistance grants include such efforts as historic identity, condition assessment, feasibility or the development of specifications for sites, structures, or landscapes. It is often wise to include who your partners will be in the accomplishment of your project.

## CAPITAL GRANTS

These funds are usually available for preservation, repair, restoration or rehabilitation resources. Depending on the granting organization's requirement, the resources can be owned by municipalities, historical/preservation non-profits, managed by non-profits, or organizations providing similar preservation plans through special funding programs to private citizens or businesses.

## PROGRAMMING/EDUCATION GRANTS

This type of funding is often through local connections with social services, cultural organizations, educational institutions, or businesses. Some private and non-profit organizations, such as CTHumanities, also provide funds for these outreach activities. Often, regional efforts are given special attention.

## FUNDING RESOURCES

### STATE

#### I. Connecticut Historic Preservation Office, Offices of Culture and Tourism, Department of Economic and Community Development (SHPO)

1. Historic Restoration Fund. \$5,00-\$200,000. Restoration, acquisition, preservation of State or National Register Historic property. Equal match. Municipality or non-profit.
2. Survey and Planning Grants. Up to \$20,000. Equal match or negotiated.
3. Endangered Property Fund. National Register property threatened by imminent loss or destruction. For municipalities or non-profits.
4. Certified Local Government Grants (East Lyme Historic Properties Commission is eligible to apply for municipal grants) Enhancement \$5,000 no match. Supplemental up to \$30,000.
5. Historic Preservation Tax Incentive. Must be a Certified Historic Structure. Conversion of qualified historic properties to mixed residential and non-residential use or non-residential use.

6. Historic Preservation Tax Credit. Financial assistance to private homeowner or non-profit Community Housing Development Corporation in selected communities.
7. Historic Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program. Must be a Certified Historic Structure. Qualified expenditures for conversion of historic properties into residential units.
8. Good to Great. Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Arts and Historic Preservation. A 2014 pilot program to fund improvements that will significantly enhance cultural and historic sites and the way people enjoy them. It will target smaller and mid-sized 501(c)3 cultural organizations that have received limited state funding in the past. Municipalities are not eligible. Funding ranges from \$50,000 to \$125,000 and can be used for a variety of activities including construction, exhibit designing and installation, planning and marketing. Goals should look beyond basic facilities repair or expansion towards new means of telling the stories of CT cultural sites. There is a 25% cash match requirement, must be non-state funds. In-kind match is not allowed. Project must be completed in two years.

Websites:

- CT Historic Preservation Office:  
<http://www.ct.gov/cct/cwp/view.asp?a=3948&q=293806>
- Office of Culture and Tourism:  
<http://www.cultureandtourism.org/cct/site/default.asp>
- Department of Economic and Community Development:  
<http://www.ct.gov/ecd/site/default.asp>

II. Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM)

Small Town Economic Assistant Program (STEAP)

Funds capital projects for economic development, community conservation and quality of life. These include pilot historic preservation and redevelopment programs that leverage private funds. Up to \$500,000.

Website:

<http://www.ct.gov/opm/site/default.asp>

III. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment (DEEP)

Open space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program. Must be valuable to enhanced and conservation of water quality; preserving local agricultural heritage. Not to exceed 40-60% of market value. Municipalities or non-profit land conservation organization.

Website:

<http://www.ct.gov/deep/site/default.asp>

IV. Connecticut Department of Agriculture

1. Farm Viability Grant Program

Municipalities and 501c3 agriculture non-profit. Capital projects; planning or initiative to support agriculture. 40% match. Can be in-kind services. Up to \$49,999

Website:

<http://www.ct.gov/doag/site/default.asp>

## FEDERAL

National Park Service (Department of Interior)

National Register of Historic Buildings/Places Process. The State HPO Office is a link to this, also.)

Website:

<http://www.nps.gov/index.htm>

## PRIVATE NON-PROFIT

### I. Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, Middletown CT

- A. Technical Assistance and Preservation Planning: \$2,500-\$20,000 Equal match. Reimbursed.
- B. Making Places: Preserving and reuse of historical industrial places. No match. \$2,500- \$50,000.
- C. Maintenance and Repair: Must be on State Register. Up to \$15,000 Municipalities and non-profits. For historical museums, heritage centers, libraries and cemeteries.

Website:

- <http://cttrust.org/>

### II. CTHumanities

- A. Public Presentation Grant Planning Phase. \$1500-\$25,000  
One year as a 501c3 or municipality  
Dollar for dollar match. In-kind, applicants cash, donors.  
Significant humanities content. To develop exhibitions, public programs, and interpretive digital media. Priorities: to reach a broad audience, address social issues, collaborate among organizations, encourage heritage tourism
- B. Public Presentation Implementation Phase Grant
- C. Quick grants. Up to \$1500. A simplified process.  
One year as a 501c3 or municipality. Dollar match. 50% must be for honoraria and fees.  
Interpretive and connected to the humanities. Free or low cost to attend, reach broad audiences, address social issues. Inspire community dialogue and discussion. Lectures, panel discussions, community events such as exhibitions or performances.

Website:

- <http://cthumanities.org/>

### III. 1772 Foundation

Annually, specific preservation projects of an historic resource of a 501c3 organization. Matched grant up to \$15,000.

Website:

- <http://www.1772foundation.org/>

### IV. Historic New England

Annual \$1000 grants for various projects, including restoration, collections preservation, events, etc. Review their past funded grants.

Website:

- <http://www.historicnewengland.org/>

## OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING, INFORMATION, TO EXPLORE

- I. CT Community Investment Act through the Department of Economic and Community Development: <http://www.communityinvestmentact.org/>
- II. CT Council for Philanthropy: <https://www.ctphilanthropy.org/>
- III. CT Farm Energy Program: <http://www.ctfarmenergy.org/>
- IV. CT Farmland Trust: <http://ctfarmland.org/>
- V. CT Landmarks: <http://www.ctlandmarks.org/>
- VI. Private Foundations in New London County CT
- VII. Loomis Palmer Fund (The Day: funds New London County only): <https://www.bankofamerica.com/philanthropic/foundation.go?fnId=57>
- VIII. Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR): <http://www.dar.org/>
- IX. National Center for Charitable Statistics: <http://nccs.urban.org/>
- X. Local banks, service clubs, businesses

## CONTENT RESOURCES

- I. Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, U of Conn., Storrs, CT: <http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/>
- II. Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford: <http://chs.org/>
- III. Connecticut State Library, Hartford: <http://ctstatelibrary.org/>

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