



# Preserving Our Heritage:

## Certified Local Government Program

Since 1997 the City of New London has been designated as a Certified Local Government (CLG). The Connecticut CLG program helps to promote the preservation of historic resources by creating a partnership among the National Park Service, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and local governments. This partnership between local governments and the Connecticut Historical Commission provides municipalities with technical assistance and matching grants. It also allows communities to participate more formally in federal and state historic preservation programs.

In order to maintain certification, local governments must meet the following standards, outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980:

1. Enforce appropriate state/local legislation for the designation and protection of historic properties.
2. Establish an adequate and qualified historic preservation review commission by state/local legislation.
3. Maintain a system for the survey and inventory of historic properties.
4. Provide for adequate public participation in the local historic preservation program, including the process of recommending properties to the National Register.
5. Satisfactorily perform the responsibilities delegated to it under the National Historic Preservation Acts Amendments of the 1980 and those specifically designated to it by the SHPO.

By participating in the CLG program, local governments gain control in the preservation of local resources; can participate formally in the National Register nomination process; contribute to the establishment of regional and statewide preservation goals. The CLG program also allows local governments to apply for CLG grants that can help put these ideas and objectives into action.

Each year, a minimum of 10 percent of the State's federal appropriation for historic preservation is reserved for CLG programs. Through the CLG program, grants are given to projects that help to identify, evaluate, and protect a community's historic resources. They may be used to produce cultural resource surveys, assessments of properties to determine their eligibility for designation on local and National Registers of Historic Places, adaptive reuse and feasibility studies, design guidelines, ordinances and publications to educate the public about the benefits of historic preservation.



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