

Laying Down the Law: A Guide to Legislative Citations in Archaeology and Historic Preservation



This list was compiled as a reference to help you make decisions concerning cultural resource management in Connecticut. Each item includes a Connecticut General Statute (CGS) citation and brief description of the law or agency involved.

Local Historic Districts and Historic Properties

CGS. Sec. 7-147: Enabling statute which provides for establishing local historic districts and historic properties (including archaeological sites) governed by local ordinances and a local historic district commission.

Municipal Historians

CGS. Sec. 7-148(c)(5)(D): authorizes appointment of municipal historians.

State Archaeologist

Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section

10a-112: Establishes Office of State Archaeology at the University of Connecticut's Museum of Natural History to identify, protect and preserve the state's archaeological heritage, in coordination with the Connecticut Historical Commission.

Native American Heritage Advisory Council

CGS Sec. 10-382: Establishes Native American Heritage Advisory Council to provide guidance and recommendations on Native American heritage to the Office of State Archaeology and the Connecticut Historical Commission.

Archaeological Artifacts

CGS Sec. 10-383: Designates the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History as the state repository for all artifacts found on state lands. Directs museum to establish collections policy on acquisitions, preservation, loan and transfer of artifacts.

State Archaeological Preserves

CGS Sec. 10-384: With coordination of Office of State Archaeology, authorizes Connecticut Historical Commission to designate eligible sites as state archaeological preserves following notification, as applicable, to private owner, state agency, and Native American Heritage Advisory Council.

Archaeological Investigations on State Lands

CGS Sec. 10-386: Authorizes permit process for archaeological investigation on state lands or state archaeological preserves; applications are reviewed by Connecticut Historical Commission in coordination with Office of State Archaeology and Native American Heritage Advisory Council.

Archaeological Preservation

CGS Sec. 10-387: Directs state agencies to review their policies and practices for consistency with the preservation of archaeological sites.

Protection of Human Burials

C.G.S. Sec. 10-388 *et seq.*: Provides for *in situ* preservation or archaeological excavation and reburial of human remains encountered during construction, agricultural, archaeological or other ground disturbance. Defines roles and responsibilities of the Medical Examiner, State Archaeologist, Connecticut Historical Commission and Native American Heritage Advisory Council.

Reburial of Human Remains

CGS Sec. 10-389: Regulations establishing procedures for the storage, analysis and reburial of human remains.

Vandalism on State Land

CGS Sec. 10-390: Penalties associated with vandalism and unpermitted excavation on State Land.

Native American Burial Sites

CGS Sec. 10-391: Requirement for an inventory of Native American burial sites in consultation with the State Archaeologist and NAHAC.

Department of Economic and Community Development (DEEP)

10-392 *et seq.* & 32-1s: Requires DEEP to identify and protect state's cultural heritage; establishes DEEP as the State Historic Preservation Office for Connecticut; authorizes State Register and National Register of Historic Places; authorizes Commission to withhold disclosure of

specific site location data in order to preserve archaeological site integrity.

State Historic Preservation Council

CGS Sec. 10-409: Appointment of members, duties and powers of the State Historic Preservation Council.

Historic Assets and Markers

CGS 10-410 *et seq.*: Definitions of state historic assets, grants-in-aid for restoration and preservation, plaques and monuments, Freedom Trail, acquisition of properties by DEEP.

Ancient Burial Ground and Gravestone Preservation

CGS Sec. 19a-315b: Protects ancient burial grounds and gravestones. Requires notification to the SHPO for any gravestone removal or cemetery renovation; SHPO makes recommendation to Connecticut Probate Court on such requests.

Connecticut Environmental Protection Act

CGS Sec. 22a-15 through 22a-19: Creates legal recourse to examine unreasonable destruction of historic resources listed, or under consideration for listing, on the National Register of Historic Place

Connecticut Environmental Policy Act

CGS Sec. 22a-1 *et seq.*: Directs state agencies to consider historic, architectural and archaeological resources are properly considered in the planning and development of state projects.

