

# Wisconsin Historical Society Business Overview

## Organization

1. Formed as a membership organization in 1846 and was chartered by the Legislature in 1853
2. Governed by a 36-member Board of Curators, with 24 elected by the membership
3. Organized into five divisions and Director's Office (which includes Information Technology)
  - a. Library-Archives
  - b. Historic Sites
  - c. Museum
  - d. Historic Preservation-Public History
  - e. Administrative Services
4. Wisconsin Historical Foundation — fundraising and membership support
5. Circus World Museum Foundation — operates Circus World
6. Historic Preservation Review Board and the Burial Sites Review Board
7. Friends groups

## Staffing Resources

1. Permanent and project positions — 142.54 full-time equivalent positions
2. Limited-term employees — majority at the historic sites
3. Volunteers — about 250,000 hours annually (i.e. the equivalent of another 120 FTE positions)

## Financial Resources

- |  |                     |                    |               |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Operations Funding                  |                     | <u>2008 – 2009</u> |               |
| a. State tax revenues                  | \$14,742,900        |                    | 64.7%         |
| b. Earned revenues                     | \$3,987,700         |                    | 17.5%         |
| c. Revenues from other agencies        | \$2,438,300         |                    | 10.7%         |
| d. Federal revenues                    | \$1,188,700         |                    | 5.2%          |
| e. Gift revenues                       | \$435,300           |                    | 1.9%          |
|  | <b>\$22,792,900</b> |                    | <b>100.0%</b> |
| 2. Facilities Funding Sources          |                     |                    |               |
| a. Building Commission monies          |                     |                    |               |
| b. Division of State Facilities monies |                     |                    |               |
| c. Gift monies                         |                     |                    |               |

## Facilities

1. The Society owns and operates nine historic sites and owns but does not operate Circus World Museum. It is operated by Circus World Museum Foundation under a lease-management agreement with the Society.

<u>Historic Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
Circus World	Baraboo
Old World Wisconsin	Eagle
Wade House	Greenbush
Madeline Island Museum	La Pointe
Villa Louis	Prairie du Chien
Stonefield	Cassville
H. H. Bennett Studio	Wisconsin Dells
First Capitol	Belmont
Pendarvis	Mineral Point
Reed School	Neillsville

2. The Society owns two major buildings in Madison – the Headquarters Building and Wisconsin Historical Museum — plus 225 additional buildings located at the 10 historic sites:

<u>Historic Site</u>	<u># of Buildings</u>
Circus World	39
Old World Wisconsin	84
Wade House	9
Madeline Island Museum	5
Villa Louis	17
Stonefield	54
H.H. Bennett Studio	1
Reed School	1
First Capitol	5
Pendarvis	<u>10</u>
	225