

Wisconsin Historical Society

Services for Local Historical Societies

The Wisconsin Historical Society offers a variety of services to local historical societies. Our experienced staff can provide advice on subjects ranging from care of museum objects to preservation of historic buildings, often through the Society's website at www.wisconsinhistory.org. Below are staff contacts.

General Assistance and Affiliations

The Society operates field services offices in Madison and Eau Claire to assist local historical organizations.

Contacts

Rick Bernstein, 264-6583
Southern Wisconsin, Madison
rick.bernstein@wisconsinhistory.org
Janet Seymour, 715-836-2250
Northern Wisconsin, Eau Claire
janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org

Museum Collections

Curators from the Museum are available for consultation on the care of collections, identification, documentation and collection management.

Contacts

Paul Bourcier, 264-6573
paul.bourcier@wisconsinhistory.org
Ann Koski, 261-9359
ann.koski@wisconsinhistory.org

Museum Expertise

Museum staff provides information on exhibit design and fabrication, legal administration issues, education and interpretation programs and volunteer programs.

Contacts

Ann Koski
ann.koski@wisconsinhistory.org
Jennifer Kolb
jennifer.kolb@wisconsinhistory.org

Exhibit Primer

This basic guide provides guidance on producing small exhibits and information on exhibit cases, lighting, artifact mounts and labels.

Contact

Doug Griffin, 264-6561
douglas.griffin@wisconsinhistory.org

Youth Program Development

Beth Lemke from the Museum can provide ideas and share success stories in developing educational elementary school programs in adherence with DPI Standards.

Contact

Beth Lemke, 264-6567
beth.lemke@wisconsinhistory.org

Teaching Kits

The Museum has developed teaching kits that provide hands-on activities and instruction guides primarily used in classrooms but also applicable to museums and historical societies.

Contacts

Denise Wiggins, 261-2461
denise.wiggins@wisconsinhistory.org
Beth Lemke, 264-6567
beth.lemke@wisconsinhistory.org

Elementary and Middle School Student Programs

Bobbie Malone from the Historic Preservation-Public History Division can provide ideas and advice on ways to work with local elementary and middle school teachers to involve schoolchildren in local history.

Contact

Bobbie Malone, 264-6547
bobbie.malone@wisconsinhistory.org

Middle and High School Student Programs

Sarah Clement from the Historic Preservation-Public History Division can assist in involving middle school and high school students in local history through the National History Day program.

Contact

Sarah Clement, 264-6487
sarah.clement@wisconsinhistory.org

Building Restoration and Techniques

Jim Sewell can answer questions regarding how to properly restore or rehabilitate your historic building.

Contact

Jim Sewell, 264-6490
jim.sewell@wisconsinhistory.org

Applying for Tax Credits for Rehabilitation of Historic Homes

Let your members know how they can apply for tax credits when they restore their historic homes.

Contact

Andrew Fielding, 264-6491
andrew.fielding@wisconsinhistory.org

Burial Sites Preservation

State Archaeologist John Broihahn answers questions about protecting burial sites.

Contact

John Broihahn, 264-6496
john.broihahn@wisconsinhistory.org

Archaeological Sites Protection

State Archaeologist John Broihahn answers questions on identifying and protecting archaeological sites.

Contact

John Broihahn, 264-6496
john.broihahn@wisconsinhistory.org

Maritime Preservation and Archaeology Programs

Underwater archaeologist Keith Meverden can help answer questions regarding historic maritime resources, including lighthouses and shipwrecks.

Contact

Keith Meverden, 221-5909
keith.meverden@wisconsinhistory.org

Applying for National Register of Historic Places Status

Daina Penkiunas can help answer questions on nominating a building, site or district to the Register.

Contact

Daina Penkiunas, 264-6501
daina.penkiunas@wisconsinhistory.org

Researching Historic Buildings or Districts

Joe DeRose helps answer questions on how to research historic properties.

Contact

Joe De Rose, 264-6512
joe.deroserose@wisconsinhistory.org

Working with Government Agencies to Protect Historic Resources

Chip Brown can provide information about working with agencies to ensure that government projects do not have a negative impact on historic resources.

Contact

Chip Brown, 264-6508
chip.brown@wisconsinhistory.org

Landmarks Commissions

If you represent a local historic preservation landmarks commission and would like to inquire about technical assistance or training.

Contact

Rick Bernstein, 264-6583
Southern Wisconsin, Madison
rick.bernstein@wisconsinhistory.org
Janet Seymour, 715-836-2250
Northern Wisconsin, Eau Claire
janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org

Historic Preservation Assistance to Nonprofits

If you represent a nonprofit organization and want technical assistance or training regarding historic preservation planning projects.

Contact

Jim Draeger, 264-6511
jim.draeger@wisconsinhistory.org

Historic Photographs

Visual Materials Curator Andy Kraushaar answers questions on the care and preservation of iconographic materials and photographs.

Contact

Andy Kraushaar, 264-6481
andy.kraushaar@wisconsinhistory.org

Paper Conservation

Conservator Robin Carlson offers advice on the care and handling of paper artifacts, including books, manuscripts and visual materials.

Contact

Robin Carlson, 264-6476
robin.carlson@wisconsinhistory.org

Maps

Map Curator Gerry Strey can assist with questions about maps, atlases and cartographic materials.

Contact

Gerry Strey, 264-6458 or -6535
gerry.strey@wisconsinhistory.org

Questions on Wisconsin or American History Facts

Library staff will answer factual questions about Wisconsin or American history.

Contact

The reference staff, 264-6535
asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org

Wisconsin Archives Mentoring Service

Local historical societies can get advice on how to care for their archival collections through the services of volunteer professional archivists by phone, email and, in some cases, on-site visits.

Contact

www.uwosh.edu/archives/wams

Genealogy Questions

- **Via Website**

Refer genealogists directly to the Society's website for a wealth of information about researching their family history.

www.wisconsinhistory.org/genealogy

- **Via Genealogical Specialist**

If you need to speak with a genealogical specialist, a reference librarian trained in genealogy is available during library hours. Call the Society library at 264-6535.

- **Via Area Research Centers**

You may also advise genealogists that they can find research resources at their local Area Research Center, available online.

www.wisconsinhistory.org/archives/arcnet

Fundraising

The Wisconsin Historical Foundation provides assistance to local historical societies by answering questions related to fundraising.

Contact

Jeanne Engle, 264-6580

jeanne.Engle@wisconsinhistory.org