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WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# CAPITOL CONNECTIONS



## SOCIETY BREAKS GROUND ON WISCONSIN HISTORY CENTER

Elected leaders, Tribal partners, private donors and community champions gathered on Capitol Square last week to celebrate a milestone moment for the state—the groundbreaking for the future [Wisconsin History Center](#)! The event underscored the incredible State support and private gifts that made this landmark project possible for the people of Wisconsin.

Check out [this short video](#) capturing some of the highlights of the day and excitement in the air as we ushered in a new world-class history center that celebrates the stories of our state, across all 72 counties!

**Looking for images from the groundbreaking ceremony to share with your constituents?** Visit our [online image gallery](#) for photos available for download.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Society's historic sites and museums are opening for the spring season with a lineup of special events and brand-new experiences.

**Here's one you won't want to miss:** Old World Wisconsin is gearing up to unveil Wittnebel's Tavern, a meticulously restored 1930s post-prohibition bar, adding to the site's growing beer and brewing experience. Mark your calendar for the Grand Opening Weekend festivities on May 17 and 18!

### OPENING DAY AT THE HISTORIC SITES:

**Open now:** Circus World (Baraboo)

**May 3:** Black Point Estate & Gardens (Lake Geneva), Old World Wisconsin (Eagle)

**May 21:** Villa Louis (Prairie du Chien)

**May 24:** First Capitol (Belmont), H.H. Bennett Studio (Wisconsin Dells), Madeline Island Museum (La Pointe), Reed School (Neillsville), Wade House (Greenbush)

**May 29:** Pendarvis (Mineral Point)

**May 31:** Stonefield (Cassville)

[Click here](#) for a complete list of upcoming events.

## HISTORY ADVOCACY DAY IN WISCONSIN



*Special thanks to those of you who met with passionate, history-loving constituents as part of the Society's History Advocacy Day last month. This annual event spotlights the importance of collecting, preserving and sharing history across Wisconsin's 72 counties.*

## IN THE NEWS

- **Wisconsin Public Radio:** [Construction underway for Wisconsin History Center](#)
- **Milwaukee Magazine:** [Old World Wisconsin Wins Top Attraction in 'Best of the Burbs'](#)
- **Isthmus:** ['Wisconsin Idols' commemorates the known and the lesser known state stars](#)
- **NBC 15:** ['History Makers Tour' stopping in all 72 Wisconsin counties before 2027](#)
- **WisBusiness:** [Society Welcomes Leo Landis, Director of Public History](#)
- **CBS 58:** [Historic circus wagons make triumphant return to Circus World in Baraboo](#)
- **WUWM:** [Why are there so many shipwrecks in Lake Michigan?](#)

## RECENT LISTINGS

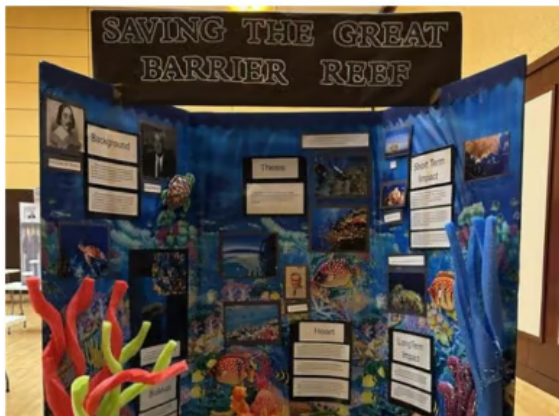
### Recent Additions to the State Register of Historic Places:

- [St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church](#) (Marquette County)
- [New Glarus Hotel](#) (Green County)
- [Margaret A. Muir Shipwreck](#) (Kewaunee County)
- [Gay Building](#) (Dane County)

- [Root River Parks](#) (Racine County)

## Recent Additions to the National Register of Historic Places:

- [Freeman House](#) (Pierce County)
- [Janesville Elementary Schools](#) (Rock County)



## DID YOU KNOW?

Students from across the state competed in National History Day regional contests with a theme of "Rights & Responsibilities in History" for 2025. **Join us in wishing good luck to the students moving on to the state contest in Madison on May 3!**

