



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

2020

Local History & Historic Preservation Conference

@ Home

Oct. 21-23



56

CONFERENCE
SPEAKERS



32

LEARNING
SESSIONS



2

NETWORKING
EVENTS

For more information visit
wisconsinhistory.org/conference or email
lhpcconference@wisconsinhistory.org.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Turkiya Lowe, PhD

Turkiya Lowe, PhD, was named Chief Historian of the National Park Service (NPS) in 2017. Dr. Lowe is the first woman and first African American to hold this position. She has 20 years of experience working at the NPS, most recently serving as Southeast Region Chief Historian and Chief for the Southeast Region's Cultural Resource Research and Science Branch. Her extensive experience at the NPS includes providing assistance to state and local governments, private organizations, and individuals to identify, protect and preserve important places through the National Historic Landmarks Program, the National Register of Historic Places, the Historic Surplus Property Program and other NPS community partnership programs.



Aaron Bird Bear

Aaron Bird Bear (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Diné, enrolled Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Indian Reservation) was appointed as the inaugural Tribal Relations Director at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2019. Bird Bear joined UW-Madison in 2000 to support the retention and graduation of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students at the university. In 2009, Bird Bear began supporting historically underrepresented students in the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education, and in 2012, Bird Bear began supporting the School's efforts to integrate First Nations Studies into public PK-16 education. Bird Bear is an alumnus of the Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis MS program at UW-Madison.

The 2020 Local History and Historical Preservation Conference is presented in partnership with the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board, the Wisconsin Council for Local History, and the Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions.



WISCONSIN
COUNCIL FOR
Local History



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration Information

The \$50 conference registration fee includes access to all plenary events, sessions, and networking events. Members of the Wisconsin Historical Society are eligible for a 10% discount. If you are not yet a member, you may join at [wisconsinhistory.org/membership](https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/membership). Attendees will receive access to recordings of the sessions and plenary events after the conference, providing an opportunity to watch the recordings of those offerings that could not be attended live or that you wish to revisit later.

Register Online

Register online now at [whslocalhistory.com](https://www.whslocalhistory.com). Registration will remain open until October 19, 2020. All registered attendees will receive an immediate email confirmation. A separate email with a receipt confirming payment will also be sent shortly after registration. The full program with links to each online session will be emailed to all attendees on October 20, 2020, as well as contact information for online support throughout the conference.

For any questions, please contact lhpcconference@wisconsinhistory.org.

Pictured above:

A secretary in the pathology department at St. Joseph's Hospital working at a new computer. WHI IMAGE ID 12067

CONFERENCE SESSION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

| | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Noon - 12:15 pm | Online Conference Orientation | | | |
| 1:00 - 2:00 pm | Welcome from Christian Øverland, Ruth and Hartley Barker Director and CEO and “2020: Challenges and Opportunities” Directors’ Roundtable | | | |
| 2:15 - 2:45 pm | WHS Press Author Spotlight with Jerry Apps, <i>When the White Pine Was King</i> | | | |
| 3:00 - 4:00 pm | Mothballing Historic Buildings | Historic Preservation Advocacy | Digital Storytelling: Engaging Next-Gen Audiences | Developing a Collections Management Policy: Start Yours Here! |
| 4:30 - 5:30 pm | Networking Happy Hours for Affinity Groups | | | |

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

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|-------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| 9:00 - 10:00 am | Doing Fieldwork in Underrepresented Communities | Why Old is Green: Sustainability in Older Homes | Successful Fundraising Strategies for Uncertain Times | Collection Development Basics |
| 10:30 - 11:30 am | Mounds, Markers, and Monuments in Wisconsin’s Landscape | Decision Making Processes for Historic Preservation Commissions | Historical Trauma in Native American Communities | Strengthen Your Membership Program |
| Noon - 12:45 pm | Keynote: Dr. Turkiya Lowe, Chief Historian, National Park Service | | | |
| 1:30 - 2:30 pm | The Legacy of 150 Years of Logging and Its Effect on Wild Rice | Grants Available from the National Park Service | Clio: Bringing Local History Home | Making Sense of Archival Collections |
| 3:00 - 4:00 pm | Researching the Social History of Historic Places | Financing Rehabilitation Projects | Creativity: An Essential Human Need | 45 th Anniversary of the Hmong Diaspora |

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 8:00 - 8:45 am | Coffee and Conversation | | | |
| 9:00 - 10:00 am | Uncovering Relevant Stories for Modern Audiences | Additions to Public Buildings | The Lands We Share Traveling Exhibition and Community Conversation Tour | 21 st Century Artifact Collecting |
| 10:30 - 11:30 am | The Legacy of the Public Works Era in Wisconsin | A Public-Private Partnership: Nominating Shaw Point to the National Register | Unvarnished: Restoring the Erased History of Exclusion | Maximizing Mission Effectiveness Through Strategic Partnerships |
| Noon - 1:00 pm | Keynote: Aaron Bird Bear, Tribal Relations Director, University of Wisconsin-Madison | | | |
| | Wisconsin Historical Society’s 2020 Board of Curators Awards and closing remarks | | | |

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

AGENDA

Online Conference Orientation (Optional)

Noon-12:15 pm

Join this optional session if you want to learn the tools and tips for attending the plenary events, sessions, and networking opportunities.



Opening Plenary & Panel Discussion 1:00-2:00 pm

Welcome message from Christian Øverland, The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO, Wisconsin Historical Society

2020: Challenges and Opportunities

Join us for the opening session of the 2020 online conference as we reflect on a year of challenges and opportunities for history organizations across the United States. Museums and cultural organizations responded to a global pandemic and the resulting public health crisis and unprecedented financial challenges. At the same time, our nation and institutions are facing a reckoning with racial and social injustice and our responsibility to address systemic racism in our organizations. Christian Øverland, the Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO of the Wisconsin Historical Society, will moderate a discussion with Steve Murray, Director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History and Jennifer Kilmer, Director of the Washington State Historical Society.



Jennifer Kilmer,
Director of the
Washington
State Historical
Society



Steve Murray,
Director of
the Alabama
Department of
Archives and
History



Author Spotlight with Jerry Apps 2:15 - 2:45 pm


Jerry Apps will read from and share a few highlights from his most recent Wisconsin Historical Society Press book, [*When the White Pine Was King: A History of Lumberjacks, Log Drives, and Sawdust Cities in Wisconsin*](#).

When the White Pine Was King tells the stories of the heyday of logging, of lumberjacks and camp cooks, of river drives and deadly log jams, of sawmills and lumber towns and the echo of the ax ringing through the Northwoods as yet another white pine crashed to the ground. He explores the aftermath of the logging era, including efforts to farm the cutover (most of them doomed to fail), successful reforestation work, and the legacy of the lumber and wood products industries.



Jerry Apps was born and raised on a central Wisconsin farm. He is a former county extension agent and professor emeritus for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Today he works as a rural historian, full-time writer, and creative writing instructor.

Pictured left: *When the White Pine Was King: A History of Lumberjacks, Log Drives, and Sawdust Cities in Wisconsin*

 **Sessions**
3:00-4:00 pm



**Digital Storytelling:
Engaging Next-Gen Audiences**

Angela Titus, Assistant
Deputy Director and Chief
Program Officer, Wisconsin
Historical Society



Alana White, Giant Spoon, leads global
strategy and media for this full-service
advertising agency with offices in New York
and Los Angeles



Angela Carone, Director of Podcasts at Turner
Classic Movies (TCM) leads a team of reporters
and producers who make documentary podcasts
about classic Hollywood



Freedom Bradley-Ballentine, The Old Globe
Theatre, serves a dual role as Associate Artistic
Director and Director, Arts Engagement for The
Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, California



Justin Weber, Sr. Manager for Communications,
Membership, and Annual Giving with San
Diego Zoo Global, manages what is the largest
membership of any zoo or aquarium worldwide

Is your organization ready to cultivate new audiences? Museums and cultural organizations are increasingly employing digital platforms to engage with next-generation audiences. Join Angela Titus, Assistant Deputy Director and Chief Program Officer, Wisconsin Historical Society, for a panel discussion highlighting creative engagement through digital storytelling.

Mothballing Historic Buildings: Continuing Constant Maintenance on Unoccupied Buildings

Daniel Stephans, AIA, Architect / DJ Stephans AIA Architect
Arlan Kay, FAIA, Architect

In the current economic climate, a historic building owner may not have a productive use or the funds available to preserve the building or prevent demolition by neglect. Mothballing is a process that protects the building from sudden loss, weather, and vandalism while planning for the future or raising money. If a vacant property has been declared unsafe, stabilization and mothballing may be the only way to protect it from demolition. Mothballing is simply maintenance but the many possible solutions make the decision-making process and documentation very important. In the planning process, complete and systematic records must be kept and appropriate funds allocated to ensure the property will be in stable condition for future preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration.

Historic Preservation Advocacy

Renee Kuhlman, Senior Director of Outreach and Support,
National Trust for Historic Preservation

Advocacy is at the heart of what we do as preservationists. Whether it's legislative or local advocacy, being proactive is important. Renee Kuhlman, senior director of outreach and support at the National Trust for Historic Preservation will share insights into this critical skill that we need to successfully revitalize the older parts of our neighborhoods and towns. As a veteran of dozens of advocacy campaigns, Renee will share the sometimes hilarious and sometimes heartbreaking lessons learned. Hear what common factors the successful campaigns share and how these advocacy lessons can be replicated.

Developing a Collections Management Policy: Start Yours Here!

Danielle Benden, Owner, Driftless Pathways LLC

Does the museum or historical society for which you volunteer or work have a collections management policy? If not, or if yours is outdated, this workshop is for you. Come learn about the “what, why, and how” of collections management policies—what they are, why they're important, and how they are developed—and then create one for your institution. In this session, participants will be guided through the process of establishing a policy. A list of resources, including a collections management policy template, will be provided to each participant.



Networking Happy Hours for Affinity Groups

4:30-5:30 pm

Join an affinity group meeting of your colleagues for networking and conversation.

THURSDAY, OCT. 22

AGENDA



Sessions

9:00 - 10:00 am

Doing Fieldwork in Underrepresented Communities

Arijit Sen, Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

This session examines effective strategies for conducting fieldwork, doing local research, and producing surveys in underrepresented communities. Using lessons learned from successful fieldwork done at the Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures Field School in Milwaukee, the topics covered will include challenges faced by an architectural fieldworker while engaging marginalized communities of color and data collection and methods of interpreting information in ways that acknowledge the history and heritage of communities of color. The session will include small group discussions that invite those attending to exchange their experiences around inclusive methods of doing fieldwork and research.

Why Old is Green: Sustainability in Older Homes

Natalie Heneghan, Education Manager, Rethos: Places Reimagined

Beyond the buzzwords, this session breaks down the how and why of sustainability in homes. We will talk about sustainability as it relates to materials, community, and quality of life. You'll learn how old homes can adapt to change and reduce cost of living, and you'll get a thorough introduction to traditional building materials, good design, and energy efficiency.

Successful Fundraising Strategies for Uncertain Times

Kristin Borst, Development Director, Wisconsin Historical Foundation

Sean Lynch, Strategic Partnership Officer, Wisconsin Historical Foundation

How do successful nonprofit organizations adapt, innovate, and seek new opportunities for funding in difficult times? Learn how to help your organization adapt traditional fundraising fundamentals and strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will discuss a variety of strategies and tools you can use, including major gifts fundraising, grants, and virtual gatherings, to connect with donors in this new environment and inspire giving. Donors want to help their favorite organizations continue to do important work and serve their constituencies. We will discuss how nonprofit staff and volunteers can reach out, share impact, and create meaningful opportunities for donors to help.

Collection Development Basics: How to Responsibly Build a Historical Archive

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board

Simone Munson, Collection Development Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society

One man's junk is another man's treasure. So the saying goes, but how do historical institutions decide which collections to take? What are the factors to consider when donors offer an archival collection? During this session, we will cover the basics of identifying a collection scope, audience, preservation needs, legal rights and restrictions, and other considerations when acquiring an archival collection.



Sessions

10:30-11:30 am

Mounds, Markers, and Monuments in Wisconsin's Landscape

Amy Rosebrough, PhD, Archaeologist, Wisconsin Historical Society
Daina Penkiunas, PhD, State Historic Preservation Officer,
Wisconsin Historical Society
Fitzie Heimdahl, State Historical Markers Program Coordinator,
Wisconsin Historical Society

Explore the history and interpretation of the many types of mounds, monuments, and markers in Wisconsin's landscape and how the Wisconsin Historical Society works with communities to preserve or interpret these places and stories. Staff will discuss the state regulations that protect mounds as well as their importance in our landscape. They will explain the role of the State and National Registers of Historic Places and how the programs recognize the significance of many different types of historic places. Staff will also share plans for a re-envisioning of the state historical markers program.

Strengthen Your Membership Program

Hannah Hankins, Annual Giving Manager, Wisconsin Historical Foundation

Learn about the basic components of a successful membership program, including new member acquisition, current member retention, and the membership renewal process. This session will cover some of the same information from "Membership 101" while exploring new ways to keep your members happy and ideas for how to attract new members to your organization.

Decision Making Processes for Historic Preservation Commissions

Heather Bailey, Ph.D., Preservation Planner, City of Madison
Tim Acklin, AICP, Senior Planner, City of La Crosse

Heather Bailey and Tim Acklin will share their local processes for designating local landmarks and reviewing Certificates of Appropriateness. They will discuss the types of information needed from property owners, common issues found in applications and reviews, and the roles played by commission and staff in the process.

Historical Trauma in Native American Communities

Liz Arbuckle Wabindato, PhD, (Bad River Chippewa)
Education Outreach Specialist, Wisconsin Historical Society

This session will discuss significant points in history that have contributed to the creations of historical trauma for Native American communities. It will also briefly explore the devastating, inter-generational effects it has had on today's tribal communities.



**Plenary: Dr. Turkiya Lowe,
Chief Historian,
National Park Service**

Noon - 12:45 pm

Women's Voting at 100 Years: A Historical Perspective Amidst Today's Challenges and Opportunities

A presentation on how gender, race, and class have structured Women's voting rights struggles from the very beginnings of the United States' founding to the present. Learn more about the National Park Service's efforts to research and interpret the history of women's suffrage, the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, and the far-reaching legacies that impact women's equality today.

Turkiya Lowe, PhD, was named Chief Historian of the National Park Service (NPS) in 2017. Dr. Lowe is the first woman and first African American to hold this position. She has 20 years of experience working at the NPS, most recently serving as Southeast Region Chief Historian and Chief for the Southeast Region's Cultural Resource Research and Science Branch. Her extensive experience at the NPS includes providing assistance to state and local governments, private organizations, and individuals to identify, protect and preserve important places through the National Historic Landmarks Program, the National Register of Historic Places, the Historic Surplus Property Program and other NPS community partnership programs.



Sessions

1:30-2:30 pm

The Legacy of 150 Years of Logging and Its Effect on Wild Rice

Cindi Stiles, Archaeologist and Historic Preservation Consultant

Joe Graveen, Wild Rice Technician, Wild Rice Cultural Enhancement Program Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Greg "Biskakone" Johnson, Teacher, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Wild rice is the dietary staple and sacred food of the Ojibwe. It has long been known that logging the northern Wisconsin forests changed the landscape, with devastating effects on climate, temperature, and natural resources. Wild rice once flourished in the lakes and streams of the Northwoods until massive clearing and damming destroyed many of the beds. This panel will discuss the uniqueness and value of wild rice, and the ongoing studies to save the remaining beds.

Grants Available from the National Park Service

Megan Brown, Chief State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants, National Park Service

Join the National Park Service to learn about the programs and funding available through the Historic Preservation Fund. Understand how to tap into incentives to preserve local community resources through: African American Civil Rights, Certified Local Government, History of Equal Rights, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization, Save America's Treasures, Tribal Heritage Grants, and Underrepresented Communities.

Clio: Bringing Local History Home

Catherine Arnott Smith, Professor, The Information School, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Clio is both a website and a mobile app designed to teach users about the U.S. history all around them. Nonprofit in nature and absolutely free to use, Clio is also an excellent educational tool to build community around local history. In this session, Professor Arnott Smith will explain how she uses Clio in her teaching, cover the basics of Clio, and demonstrate how local historical societies and history buffs can help contribute to the large knowledgebase of Clio!

Making Sense of Archival Collections

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board

Emil Hoelter, Processing Archivist, Wisconsin Historical Society

Are you beginning to manage archival collections for your institution, but you aren't sure where to start? This session will provide a brief overview of the theory and practice of managing archival collections, from acquiring them to organizing and describing them, and providing access to them. Bring your questions, meet colleagues, and leave feeling more confident in tackling your archival projects.

Pictured above:

Francis Mike (Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe) uses rice knockers to harvest manoomin, the Ojibwe word for wild rice, in a boat on Totogatic Lake in Bayfield County. Known as "the food that grows on water," manoomin is central to Ojibwe culture in the Western Great Lakes, both historically and among the six contemporary Ojibwe nations that occupy what is now present-day Wisconsin.

(Photo date unknown) WHI IMAGE ID 24509



Sessions

3:00-4:00 pm

Researching the Social History of Historic Properties

Neil Prendergast, PhD, Associate Professor of History, UW-Stevens Point

Sometimes a building is important for reasons beyond its architectural expression. Learn how researching the social history of a historic building may uncover a more complete history.

Financing Rehabilitation Projects

Bob Klebba, Historic Building Owner

Tom Landgraf of Tom Landgraf Consulting, LLC and Dimension Development, LLC

Often the biggest challenge for a building rehabilitation project is how to pay for it. This session will offer two perspectives. Bob Klebba is a property owner who will provide a case study describing how he went from financing novice to an old hand and share his tips for navigating finance options for small projects for the non-professional. Tom Landgraf is Principal at Dimension Development and will discuss funding opportunities he has used in his tenure in project development.

Creativity: An Essential Human Need

Mike Hollander, Museum Deputy Director, Wisconsin Historical Museum

Nicholas Hoffman, Administrator of Historic Sites and Museums, Wisconsin Historical Society

Creativity is as important for humans as food, water, and shelter and essential for our health and well-being. Museums, historical societies, and historic sites are perfectly positioned to foster creativity. There is a myth that “creative people” have a monopoly on creativity. That the only people who are creative are people like artists or musicians or designers. This is not true. Everyone is creative. Some people practice more than others. Some people had a roadblock placed in their way that discouraged them. This session will help you bring creativity into your role and organization. By building our creative skills, we can help encourage creativity in our visitors.

Hmong in Wisconsin: 45th Anniversary of the Hmong Diaspora

Mai Zong Vue, Author and Advocate

Join [Hmong in Wisconsin](#) author and advocate Mai Zong Vue for a reflection on the 45th anniversary of the Hmong Diaspora. Unknown to many Americans at the time, the Hmong helped the US government fight Communists in Laos during the Secret War of the 1960s and 1970s, a parallel conflict to the Vietnam War. When Saigon fell and allies withdrew, the surviving Hmong fled for their lives, spending years in Thai refugee camps before being relocated to the United States and other countries. Many of these families found homes in Wisconsin, which now has the third largest Hmong population in the country, following California and Minnesota.

Pictured above:

Zer Yang and her granddaughter Xay Her, watched other performers in the Cultural Exchange Program open house at the Guadalupe Center, 239 W. Washington St. WHI IMAGE ID 130057

FRIDAY, OCT. 23

AGENDA



Coffee and Conversation

8:00-8:45 am

Group discussions hosted by a panel of experts on historic preservation and local history topics.



Sessions

9:00-10:00 am

Uncovering Relevant Stories for Modern Audiences

Bethany Brander, Southwest Sites Program Manager
Susan Caya-Slusser, Southwest Sites Regional Director

In 2017, Pendarvis Historic Site in Mineral Point started a site re-interpretation project that totally altered the site's historic period focus by almost 100 years. This project led to the current work at the Wisconsin Historical Society's three other southwest sites to ensure fresh and accurate history is presented that aligns with our institution's vision of "enriching and transforming lives." Is your organization looking to include other voices in your story or looking for new ways to connect to contemporary audiences? We will discuss why and when we made a major change in our storytelling to tell a modern story that connects with modern visitors.

Additions to Public Buildings: It's Not What You Do But How You Do It!

Jen Davel, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer,
Wisconsin Historical Society

The process of designing a sensitive addition for a historic public building is important so that it can continue to serve the community. Here you will learn a few tricks to ensure the historic building continues to be the star of the show!

The Lands We Share Traveling Exhibition and Community Conversation Tour: A Panel Discussion About Community Collaboration Successes and Challenges

James Levy, Director, Lands We Share Project / Associate Professor,
Department of History, UW-Whitewater
Stephen Kercher, Co-Director, Lands We Share / Professor, Department of History, UW-Oshkosh

The Lands We Share Traveling Exhibition and Community Conversation initiative toured Wisconsin between October 2018 and May 2019, visiting over a dozen localities and hosting six farm-to-table public discussions. The exhibit explored the rich historical intersections between race, ethnicity, land, and farming through five diverse farm sites, from sacred white corn growers in the Oneida Nation to urban gardeners in an African American neighborhood in Milwaukee to dairy farmers of German descent in Jefferson County who employ seasonal workers from Mexico and Central America. The project was part of the Wisconsin Farms Oral History Project, founded at UW-Whitewater in 2012 and was a collaboration among campuses at Oshkosh, Madison, Milwaukee, and Eau Claire that has collected over 400 interviews to date.

21st Century Artifact Collecting



Estella Chung,
Chief Curator,
Wisconsin
Historical Society

Joe Kapler, Lead Curator, Wisconsin Historical Society
Dave Driscoll, Curator of Economic History,
Wisconsin Historical Society
Tamara Funk, Curator, Wisconsin Historical Society
Alan Hanson, Curatorial Assistant,
Wisconsin Historical Society

As a staff person, or a dedicated volunteer, think about the legacy you leave for your successors 100 years from now. Are you collecting artifacts that represent the 21st Century? How will your successors tell the stories of your communities of the early 21st Century? Join this session with the Curatorial Section of the Wisconsin Historical Society, to learn about our considerations and findings as we actively collect our contemporary experiences, and history as it is happening today.



Sessions

10:30-11:30 am

The Legacy of the Public Works Era in Wisconsin

Dr. Daina Penkiunas, State Historic Preservation Officer, Wisconsin Historical Society

The Federal Government created the “Alphabet Soup” New Deal agencies to address the dire economic impact of the Great Depression. Programs such as the WPA, PWA and the CCC increased employment through investment in public works projects. The presentation will provide an overview of New Deal agencies and their built legacy in Wisconsin.

A Public-Private Partnership: Nominating Shaw Point to the National Register of Historic Places

Charlene Roise, Historian, Hess, Roise and Company, Inc.
David J. Cooper, Archeologist, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

The Shaw Point Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a collection of three neighboring properties on Sand Island, part of the National Park Service’s (NPS) Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The district’s features reflect the interconnected commercial, agricultural, recreational, and seasonal residential development of the islands from 1870-1970. Private development was generally halted in 1970 with the creation of the national lakeshore. While the federal government acquired much of the area, several longtime residents—including those at Shaw Point—established life estates allowing them continued use of their property. Historian Charlene Roise will discuss the process of preparing the nomination and NPS archaeologist David Cooper will describe that agency’s perspective on the designation and managing this unique cultural resource.

Unvarnished: Restoring the Erased History of Exclusion



Sabrina W. Robins, PhD, Board Member, African Heritage, Inc.



Donna K. Sack, Vice President and Chief Program Officer, Naper Settlement



Nicholas Hoffman, Administrator of Museums and Historic Sites, Wisconsin Historical Society

Many museums and organizations are working to share a complete, inclusive history. Often that means sharing histories that have been erased from the consciousness of all except those who were marginalized. This panel will talk about their experiences collaborating with six organizations across the northern and western U.S. to tell stories of exclusion through real estate practices like restrictive real estate covenants and Sundown Towns.

Maximizing Mission Effectiveness Through Strategic Partnerships



Wes Mosman Block, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer, Wisconsin Historical Society



Mame McCully, President and Executive Director, Milwaukee County Historical Society

For the last four years, Wisconsin’s State History organization and Milwaukee’s County History organization have worked to better partner in areas where their missions overlapped. Wisconsin Historical Society Deputy Director and COO Wes Mosman Block and Milwaukee County Historical Society President and Executive Director Mame McCully will discuss joint fundraising, programming, and business initiatives that leveraged resources to grow their mission. Through this case study, the session will explore successes, challenges, and lessons learned through strategic partnership efforts and provide ideas for the identification and development of successful partners and joint initiatives.



Closing Keynote
Noon-12:45 pm

Keynote Speaker:
Settler Colonialism and the Objects Around Us
Aaron Bird Bear, Tribal Relations Director,
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Twelve American Indian nations speaking six languages from three language families reside within Wisconsin's borders, making Wisconsin the most culturally and linguistically diverse state east of the Mississippi River—yet many of the historical narratives we share begin with European or European American settlement. Join Aaron Bird Bear, Tribal Relations Director at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for a discussion of how the monuments, markers, and other objects in the landscape only tell a fraction of the more than 12,000-year human story of the place we now call Wisconsin.

Aaron Bird Bear (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Diné, enrolled Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Indian Reservation) was appointed as the inaugural Tribal Relations Director at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2019. Bird Bear joined UW-Madison in 2000 to support the retention and graduation of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students at the university. In 2009, Bird Bear began supporting historically underrepresented students in the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education, and in 2012, Bird Bear began supporting the School's efforts to integrate First Nations Studies into public PK-16 education. Bird Bear is an alumnus of the Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis MS program at UW-Madison.



Awards and Acknowledgments
12:45-1:00 pm

Wisconsin Historical Society's 2020 Board of Curator Awards
Christian Øverland, The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO,
Wisconsin Historical Society

Join us in celebrating the outstanding achievements of the organizations and individuals recognized for excellence in sharing Wisconsin's stories and preserving historic places.

Conference Adjourns

Save the date for future conferences!

October 22-23, 2021

Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley
Appleton, Wisconsin

October 13-15, 2022

Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center
Rothschild, Wisconsin

October 19-21, 2023

La Crosse Center
La Crosse, Wisconsin