



## Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month

Each May, Wisconsin celebrates Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month. This annual event offers many opportunities to celebrate your community's historic places. Throughout Wisconsin, activities are held that remind us of the important historic resources that give meaning and a sense of place to our communities — and focus attention on how critical it is to make sure they are preserved.

### **Find an Event Near You**

Check out our [events calendar](#) for a list of community hosted events and attend one that is close to you.

### **Submit your Local Event to our Calendar**

The Wisconsin Historical Society promotes community events that meet our criteria for promoting historic places during Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month. You may submit your event to our calendar through our [online form](#).

### **Need ideas for planning a community event?**

Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month is an opportunity to celebrate historic places and can help your historical organization increase visibility to membership, constituents, or the community at large.

We have compiled this list of suggestions for your group to consider.

#### **•Awards**

Sponsor an awards program to honor outstanding historic preservation efforts in your community. Invite the media and local officials to attend the awards ceremony.

#### **•Fundraising**

Kick off a fundraising campaign to benefit your community's favorite historic preservation project.

#### **•Historic Building Owner Workshops**

Sponsor a "how to" workshop on rehabilitating older properties. Team up with local and state preservation experts for training and hands-on techniques.

#### **•Historic Markers & Plaques Dedication**

Sponsor a dedication ceremony for a new historic marker or plaque.

#### **•Host a Presentation from the Wisconsin Historical Society**

The Historic Preservation-Public History Division offers a presentation titled “Understanding Historic Preservation” that explains the basics of historic preservation and gives an excellent

**OVER**



# Historic Preservation & Archaeology Month Ideas

overview of how the Wisconsin Historical Society can assist with your local historic preservation efforts. You may contact us to schedule this free, 30-minute program in your

community. All you need to provide is a meeting space and a receptive audience. Staff availability is limited, so please contact Joe DeRose for more information or to request this presentation.

- **House Genealogy**

Organize a workshop to teach people how to research a building's history through available documents and research materials.

- **Lectures/Symposium**

Host a lecture or symposium on a historic or archaeological topic.

- **A Night in a Historic Theater**

Sponsor vintage films in a local historic theater as a fundraiser or to highlight the beauty of a rare historic interior.

- **Open House**

Open your laboratory, historic home, or historic site to the public for a day or weekend.

- **Pass a Historic Preservation Resolution**

Contact a local government official about sponsoring a historic preservation resolution to be adopted by the village board or common council.

- **Preservation/Restoration**

Clean up a local cemetery.

- **Progressive Dinner Party**

Plan a progressive buffet dinner party in historic homes or in appropriate historic sites in your community.

- **Walking Tour**

Create a self-guided walking tour brochure for your community's favorite historic district, mound group or archaeological site.

- **Write an Op-Ed Piece**

"Op-Ed" is a newspaper's abbreviation for "opposite the editorial page," and it is fast becoming a standard feature of newspapers. The page usually carries columns, letters to the editor, cartoons and locally written opinion articles. Check with the page's editor several weeks in advance about writing an article describing the relationship between preservation and the community's "sense of place."