

Sunset Review Commission
The Honorable Sen. Kristina Roegner, Chairwoman
Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board
Amanda Terrell, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
June 10, 2020

Chairwoman Roegner and members of the Sunset Review Commission:

My name is Amanda Terrell and I have served as the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer at the Ohio History Connection since 2014. Thank you for this opportunity to testify with regard to the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

The duties and responsibilities of the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board are outlined in Section 149.301 of the Ohio Revised Code and include:

- Assisting the Ohio History Connection in its site preservation program and the promotion of historic preservation in the State of Ohio, including suggesting legislation necessary to carry out the state's historic preservation program.
- Recommending to the State Historic Preservation Officer properties and sites which are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Advising the State Historic Preservation Officer in developing a State Historic Preservation Plan for the State of Ohio, conducting a statewide survey of historic properties, and carrying out other duties.

The advisory board meets four times a year. As described in both State and Federal statute and/or regulation (ORC Section 149.301; 16 USC 470a(b)(1)(A); 36 CFR 61), the board includes a majority of professionals such as architects, historians, planners, architectural historians, and archaeologists, and public members from around the state who have expertise in Ohio history, architecture, and archaeology. Board members must also demonstrate knowledge of and interest in historic preservation.

In order for Ohio to qualify to receive its annual Historic Preservation Fund matching grant from the Department of the Interior for operating a State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio's program must provide for a historic preservation review board pursuant

to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Section 149.301 of the ORC establishes that review board for Ohio, the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

The board provides valuable service in helping to list properties on the National Register of Historic Places. Ohio currently ranks third among the states in the number of listings in the National Register of Historic Places with over 4,000 listings that include more than 50,000 significant buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Listing properties in the National Register is often the first step in the successful preservation of properties significant in Ohio's history. It is also an important part of economic development in communities, particularly with respect to federal and state historic tax credits for rehabilitating historic properties. These properties must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places in order to qualify for rehabilitation tax credits. The National Register program in Ohio is a valuable tool for heritage tourism, reinvestment in historic neighborhoods, and revitalization of traditional downtowns. The National Register builds stronger awareness and appreciation of Ohio's history through its historic places.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions you have of me.

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