Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board

Point of Contact Diana Welling, State Historic Preservation C

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board Overview

The duties and responsibilities of the governor-appointed advisory board include:

- Assisting the Ohio History Connection (formerly the Ohio Historical Society) in its site preservation program and the promotion of historic preservation in the State of Ohio, including suggesting legislation necessary to carry out the Society'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 and its primary function is to evaluate nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and to make recommendations on National Register eligibility for listing in the National Register to the State Historic Preservation Officer. Four meetings during the year makes it possible to list properties more quickly on the National Register, a benefit for those seeking to invest in historic buildings and take advantage of both State and Federal historic preservation tax credits. The advisory board meetings are open to the public and the board accepts public comment as part of its responsibility to consider nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

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. Section 149.301 of the ORC establishes Ohio's review board, the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Agency’s past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff

The advisory board's primary function is to evaluate nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and to make recommendations on eligibility for listing to the State Historic Preservation Officer. Meeting four times annually it considers between 30-40 nominations, and a similar workload is anticipated for 2025. The advisory board makes a recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Officer on the annual distribution of competitive federal Historic Preservation Fund matching grants to applicants from among Ohio's 79 Certified Local Governments. Typically, 8 to 12 matching grants are awarded annually from a total grant pool of approximately $145,000, or 10% of Ohio's annual Federal historic preservation grant. Board members volunteer to participate on the State Historic Preservation Office committee to select the annual State Historic Preservation Office Awards. The board has advised the Ohio History Connection on its policies regarding the acquisition and disposition of its sites and State Memorials.

The advisory board has no staff, relying on the staff of the Ohio History Connection's State Historic Preservation Office to schedule meetings and provide support services. Typically, this involves five to eight staff members per regular meeting.

Agency's past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding

The members of the advisory board are not compensated and the board has no budget. Members are reimbursed for their travel with funding for this purpose coming from the federal Historic Preservation Fund under which this is a qualified expense. For SFY 2023, the total expenses were $2,578.93, which included travel and postage. Expenses for SFY 2025 are anticipated to be similar and will be covered with federal funds.

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any

The seventeen member Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board includes architects, historians, planners, archaeologists, and public members from around the state who have expertise in Ohio history, architecture, and archaeology.

Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board Current Members	**Term Ends**
Timothy G. Anderson, Athens, Historian	1/14/2025
Rachel E. Bankowitz, Dayton, Planner	1/14/2027
Stephen C. Gordon, Oxford, Historian	1/14/2027
Paul B. Graham, Worthington, Archaeologist, Chair	1/14/2025
Clyde Henry, Orient, Architect	1/14/2026
Stuart D. Hobbs, Columbus, Historian, Vice Chair	1/14/2027
Stacey L. Hoffman, Cleveland Heights, Planner	1/14/2025
Sandra C. Hull, Wooster, Public Member	1/14/2027
Nathaniel B. Kaelin, Hamilton, Planner	1/14/2027
Amy Kramb, Dublin, Architectural Historian	1/14/2026
Elizabeth Murphy, Akron, Architect	1/14/2027
Elizabeth Johnson, Cincinnati, Architectural Historian	1/14/2026
Daniel Rice, Cuyahoga Falls, Public Member	1/14/2027
Richard Craig Rooney, Chillicothe, Public Member	1/14/2025
Dorren Uhas Sauer, Columbus, Public Member	1/14/2026
Logan York, Cincinnati, Native American	1/14/2027
VACANT	

Additional notes

The Advisory Board will continue to review and advise the State Historic Preservation Officer on the National Register eligibility of historic properties in Ohio. The Board will continue its role in recommending Certified Local Government grants and will advise the Ohio History Connection and State Historic Preservation Office on statewide historic preservation issues as necessary.

The board provides valuable service in helping to list properties on the National Register of Historic Places. Ohio has the third highest number of listings in the nation. Ohio currently ranks third among the states in the number of listings in the National Register of Historic Places with over 4,200 listings that include more than 58,000 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. The National Register program in Ohio is a valuable tool for tourism, reinvestment in historic neighborhoods, and economic development and growth of traditional downtowns. The National Register builds stronger awareness and appreciation of Ohio's history through its historic places.