

## Organization

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**Organization Name** PREBLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**Organization Address**

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**Organization Phone**

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**Organization Website** <https://www.preblecountyhistoricalsociety.com/>

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**Organization EIN Number**

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**Mission of the Sponsoring Organization** The Preble County Historical Society (PCHS) is a non-profit corporation organized in 1971 with the mission to be the resource to preserve and promote the knowledge and history of Preble County for all generations.

Having just recently celebrated our 50th, our organization is dedicated to collecting, preserving, displaying, and maintaining materials/objects of all types that have historical interest and significance to Preble County and Ohio as well as operating a 250-acre Nature Reserve.

PCHS provides the opportunity for individuals of all ages, abilities, and incomes to experience, imagine, learn, create, and welcome the historic and rich cultural heritage of Preble County and Ohio.

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**What is your IRS determination?** 501(c)(3)

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**Project Title** Preble 250 - A historic timeline, plaque program, and history trail

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**Project Summary** The project, Preble 250, will serve as an important component of Ohio's America 250 and will share the important points in history that have taken place locally and had effects on regional, state, and national developments along the way. Production of a printed and digital timeline in harmony with a historic plaque program and resulting history trail will highlight and tell stories important to Preble County, Ohio, and the Nation.

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## Project Director

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**Project Director**

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**Project Director Title** Preble County Historical Society Director of History and Collections

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**Project Director Organization** PREBLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**Q1. What do you want to do in this project that will be carried out with AM250-OH funds?**

1. As a part of the Preble 250 initiative, committee members from the Preble County Historical Society (PCHS), Preble County Conventions and Visitor's Bureau (PCCVB), City of Eaton, and local towns and villages will come together to create a published timeline of important historical events from before 1776 to present time. This timeline will be shared in print and digitally for local students, residents, and history enthusiasts in and beyond Preble County and Ohio. The timeline will be further enhanced by the completion of a Preble County historic plaque program where buildings and sites are recognized for their significance during specific points shared on the Preble 250 timeline. This will result in a "forever" history trail that will tell stories for many to enjoy. Many historic events and their stories will be shared that affected the United States of America and Ohio's development. Many of these are already being identified (Historical figures like Arther St. Clair, Little Turtle, Anthony Wayne, and more) as well as important battles (Forty Foot Pitch and others) in the quest for territory control; along with education expansions, underground railroad stops, and even more recent Preble County innovations that have made global impacts. Through the support provided by this grant, the Preble 250 timeline, historic plaque program, and history trail will be completed by February 1, 2025. Momentum will build through grant-driven efforts to initially share Preble 250 during a "kickoff event" on February 14, 2025, OR on a date that best aligns with the America 250-Ohio Commission expectations as the overall initiative moves forward. The "kickoff event will include local, state, and regional residents and public officials who will be invited to celebrate with a great impact expected for all. During the "kickoff event" participants will not only learn from the published timeline of the many documented and important points in the Preble 250 history, but also participate in the history trail to observe and learn from the posted historical plaques supported by this grant throughout the county! The best attribute of this project is that it will continue to share these important points in our 250-year history and the important stories around them for many generations to come!

2. It has become increasingly important in today's ever-changing, fast-paced society that we must recognize past successes and challenges that have taken place around us. This project will share and be able to connect local residents and those beyond with important points in our national and state history that have taken place in our area.

3. As an overall goal, we know that interest and a desire to learn more about our history and the important impact that events have had ...and currently have on our daily lives ... starts locally in the hearts and minds of residents in our county, state, and eventually our nation.

The success of this project will be measured by the completion of a published timeline that spans 250+ years, the completion of a history plaque program highlighting at least 25 buildings and/or locations with historical significance, and the mapping of a forever "history trail" that will share stories and can be explored by residents and visitors from our state and nation.

## Project Timeline:

March 1, 2024 – notification of the grant award and sharing of project excitement with the general public.

March 15, 2024 – formalized meeting of all Preble 250 committee members representing the city and all towns and villages and/or townships to plan the “kick-off” event date and provide support as needed for the timeline project and historic plaque program. Updates to the general public concerning the project as the work begins and unfolds.

April 1, 2024 – start the collection of historical facts with oversight by subject matter experts.

- 200 hours of Director/Subject Matter Expert to provide direction, oversight, and expertise to the project.
- 300 hours of locally supported interns' work to help with research, documentation, and connections for the timeline/plaques.
- 300 hours of history enthusiast volunteers to help with research, documentation, and connections for the timeline/plaques.

May 1, 2024 – gather bids and specifics necessary that will guide the published media (print and digital) for the Preble 250 timeline and historic plaque trail map.

July 1, 2024 – Mid-check point on the Preble 250 timeline and historic plaques collected along with any remaining needs.

- Start to regularly share project updates and provide social media “teasers” through in-kind efforts of the PCHS Executive Director and locally sponsored interns.

September 1, 2024 – Final checkpoint on the Preble 250 timeline and historic plaques collected along with any remaining needs. Drafting of the history trail map that will reference the timeline.

October 1, 2024 – All collected history and supporting artifacts for the Preble 250 timeline are sent to media experts for publication (print and digital). All collected history and plaque wording are completed and plaques ordered for the history trail.

November 1, 2024 – Review of DRAFT historic plaques. Finalize the history trail map.

December 1, 2024 – Review of DRAFT Preble 250 timeline. Acceptance of completed plaques ready for installation. Acceptance of the final history trail map for publishing.

January 1, 2025 – Preble 250 timeline ready for release and all historic plaques installed on respective buildings or at their locations.

January 30, 2025 – Preble 250 “Kick-off” announced and plans for timeline and historic plaque trail ribbon cutting in combination with America 250-Ohio Commission festivities.

February 15, 2025 – All grant funds expended and reporting completed.

Projected planning time:

- 200 hours of Director/Subject Matter Expert to provide direction, oversight, and expertise to the project.
- 300 hours of locally supported interns' work to help with research, documentation, and connections for the timeline/plaques.
- 300 hours of history enthusiast volunteers to help with research, documentation, and connections for the timeline/plaques.
- 20-30 hours of Bi-monthly America 250 Ohio Commission Project Preble 250 Committee planning and oversight meetings.
- 20 + hours of print and social media postings.
- 40 + hours of “kickoff” event planning and event operation.

**Q2. How does your project align with the goals and objectives of the AM250-OH Commission?**

As mentioned in the prior responses, various individuals and locations have already been identified that share important stories in the quest for territory control, education expansions, underground railroad stops, and more recent Preble County innovations that have made global impacts. This project will allow the collection, verification, and sharing of these stories that tell the significance of Preble County's former and current residents as a part of Ohio's contribution to our United States history and culture.

The Preble 250 project will support several of the America 250-Ohio Commission themes by researching and telling Ohioan's past and present stories through the creation, publishing, and sharing of the 250+ year timeline. The project will further support the Commission themes as it will highlight Preble County Ohio's points of pride and unity; while at the same time engaging youth and lifelong learners as the Preble 250 timeline is shared with local students and lifelong learners in Preble County and beyond. When the Preble 250 timeline is completed, as mentioned earlier, there will be a "kick-off" event to share the timeline, the completed Preble County historic plaque program, and the resulting history trail. We know that this concerted effort will be a signature event that will impact tourism to Ohio and the local area further supporting pride and unity as important stories are shared.

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### Q3. Project Personnel

Key individuals who will contribute to the success of the Preble 250 project are as follows:

1. Project Director – Brittany Corwin; Director of History and Collections for the Preble County Historical Society
2. Project Authorizing Official – Lisa White; Director of Business, Marketing, and Education for the Preble County Historical Society
3. Project Bookkeeper – December Harper; Treasurer for the Preble County Historical Society
4. Project Managers – Jeff Poynter and Jodi Wolf; Board Trustees for the Preble County Historical Society
5. America 250 Ohio Commission Project Preble 250 Committee members will be representatives from the Preble County Conventions and Visitors Bureau; the City of Eaton; and the villages and towns of Camden, College Corner, Eldorado, Gratis, Lewisburg, New Paris, Verona, West Alexandria, West Elkton, and West Manchester. Support has also already been legislated at our Ohio county level through a Preble County Commission resolution. (Resolution #564-23-204 that was approved and adopted on the 30th day of October 2023.)

Experts involved in the project will be the PCHS Directory of History, a Miami University History Major, who will guide and provide oversight as a subject matter expert for the historical significance and accuracy; PCHS Directory of Business, Marketing, and Education holding a business degree who will provide marketing expertise to ensure a successful “kick-off” event; PCHS Board President with a Doctorate in Educational Leadership who will provide the community leadership and guidance of the America 250 Ohio Commission Project Preble 250 Committee. There will also be various private and public officials sharing historical locations and stories representing their communities as an integral part of the timeline and history trail.

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**Q4. Audience and Outreach**

The intended audience for our Preble 250 project will include the over 700 students who attend field trips and camps at the Preble County Historical Society annually, the 7,000+ annual local and regional guests who attend PCHS events, and the expected 500+ who will attend the “kick-off” event and the ribbon cutting of the historic plaque trail. After that event, the historic plaque trail will continue to operate and be open to local, state, and national visitors and highlighted during the year 2026 at the Black Walnut Festival held in Camden, the Preble County Pork Festival, the Preble County Fair, Derby Days Celebration in Lewisburg, West Alexandria's Oktoberfest, the Chicken Barbecues held twice a year in West Manchester, the Apple Fest in New Paris and Eaton's White Christmas.

Outreach to and through all of these aforementioned events will take place using local print media, via their respective websites, and using social media accounts.

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**Q5. Sponsoring Organization**

The sponsoring organization is the Preble County Historical Society, a 501c3 non-profit. The Preble 250 project is in total alignment with the PCHS mission which is to be the resource to preserve and promote the knowledge and history of Preble County for all generations. The Preble 250 grant project will align with the PCHS mission as it will enhance and expand current historical knowledge and its presentation to youth and all adult visitors to Preble County and Ohio. The partners involved in this project will include the Preble County Commission which has already passed a resolution of support for the project. The project will also include partnership efforts from the Preble County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the City of Eaton, and all towns and village leaders who will help with the nomination of buildings and sites of significance for the historic plaque program, the resulting history trail, and the Preble 250 timeline.

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**Financial Information**

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<b>America 250-Ohio Grant Request</b>	9700.00
<b>America 250-Ohio Local Investment / Cost-Share</b>	13675.00

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**Grant Budget**

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**Certification: By submitting this form, the applicant certifies the organization is not presently debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in state or federally funded programs. America 250-Ohio may request proof of nonprofit status at its discretion. Proper evidence includes 501(c)3 letter, IRS 990 form, or a copy of the Agent Notification Form for Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations from Ohio's Secretary of State.**

Yes

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**SubmissionTime**

Nov 09, 2023 01:41 PM

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### **Additional Materials**

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**Attachment1**

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**Attachment2**

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