



MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 2026

Echoes of 250 Years: Let Your Support Carry Our Story Forward



As our nation prepares to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026, the Madison County Historical Society is reflecting on the remarkable stories, national and local, that have shaped who we are today. This milestone offers a powerful moment to honor our shared past and to ensure that the history of Madison County continues to be preserved for generations to come.

Although Madison County has not been around since 1776, our community has played a meaningful role in the American story. Formed in 1806, the county quickly became a center of innovation, reform, and community-building. From the early settlement of the Town of Brookfield to the rise of the

Oneida Depot that transformed local commerce, Madison County has long been a place where national movements took root. Our region contributed to the abolitionist cause, supported the Underground Railroad, and later became home to pioneering agricultural and industrial advancements that helped shape New York State's economy.

As we celebrate America's 250th year, we are committed to honoring these stories, and many more, through exhibitions, educational programs, community events, and ongoing preservation work. But we cannot do this alone.

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Message from the Director

Thank you to everyone who has embraced our new online platforms to make donations. Your generosity is truly touching, and your support enables us to continue our mission, bringing more exhibits, events, and programs to Cottage Lawn for our community to enjoy.

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Your contribution will directly support:

- Preservation of historic artifacts, documents, and photographs that tell Madison County's story
- Educational programming for students, families, and lifelong learners
- Exhibits and events celebrating the county's role in American history
- Maintenance and restoration of our historic 1849 Cottage Lawn estate



Every gift, large or small, helps ensure that the history of Madison County remains accessible, engaging, and protected. As we look toward this once-in-a-generation national celebration, your support allows us to continue our work as stewards of the past and storytellers for the future.

To mark this historic anniversary, we are pleased to offer a special token of appreciation: For every donation of \$50 or more, you are invited to stop by Cottage Lawn to pick up a Semiquincentennial commemorative coin. This keepsake is our way of thanking you for helping preserve the stories that define our community.

We hope you will join us in honoring 250 years of American history by making a tax-deductible donation to the Madison County Historical Society. Together, we can preserve the legacy of our community for the next 250 years.



To make a donation please visit www.mchs1900.org under donate
or scan QR code



Upcoming Events

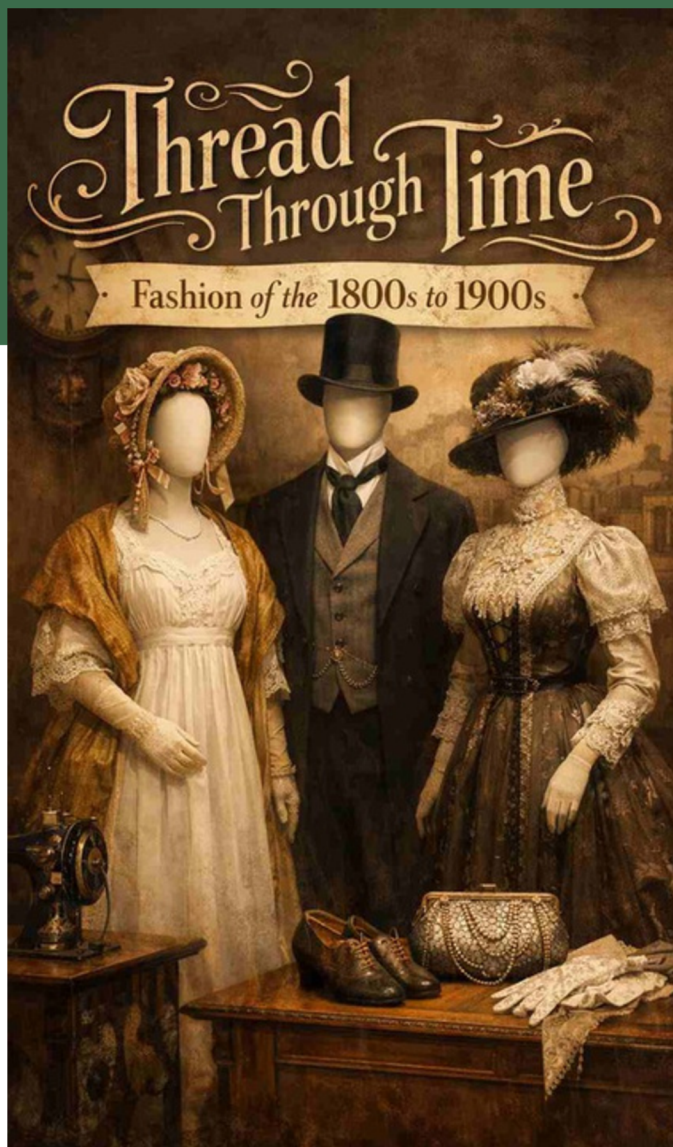
- Open Farm Day July 25
10 am - 3 pm
- Painting On the Lawn Aug 11
10 am- 1pm
- Thread Through Time
Aug 11- Sept 7
- Craft Festival Sept 12 and 13
10 am - 5/4 pm
- NYS Path Through History Ghost
Walk Oct 10, 5 pm
- Pumpkin Carving Oct 11,
10 am - 1 p
- Annual Members Meeting Oct 18

Open Farm Day at the Madison County Historical Society Saturday, July 25 • 10 AM–3 PM

Join us for a special Open Farm Day celebration! Explore our historic Hops Barn Exhibit and enjoy additional displays featuring traditional farming and gardening tools from our collections. Foothill Hops Farm Brewery will be onsite to answer questions about hop growing, harvesting, and processing, and will offer a small tasting opportunity.

Cool off at our lemonade stand, relax on the Cottage Lawn grounds, and take home a free commemorative hops glass (one per adult, while supplies last).

A fun, educational, and family-friendly way to celebrate Madison County's agricultural heritage.



Thread Through Time: Centuries of Style in Madison County

Step into the wardrobes of the past. This special month-long exhibit showcases original garments, accessories, and photographs from the MCHS collection, revealing how fashion was shaped by life in during this time in history. From Victorian silhouettes to mid-century elegance, explore how clothing expressed identity, status, and community.

Join us for a Special Program: *Thread Through Time: Under It All* — August 12 at 12 PM & 2 PM

Step behind the scenes of Victorian fashion and discover what made those iconic silhouettes possible. Under It All is a special hands-on program revealing the essential undergarments that shaped everyday dress in the 19th century.

Explore how structure, style, and practicality came together beneath the gowns—and learn how these hidden layers influenced fashion for generations. This program will be FREE admission and will be available to members and presale tickets of Thread Through Time Exhibit.

Join us for a fascinating look at the foundations of Victorian style!

Admission: \$10 non-members | \$5 for MCHS members Self-guided tours by scheduled entry. Reserve your time at mchs1900.org or call (315) 363-4136.



Purchase your Tickets today for this
fascinating exhibit