

# THE MERGER

50 YEARS AGO TODAY VOTE UNITED GREEN BAY WITH PREBLE AND CREATED CITY'S EAST SIDE

tell 'em **NO!**

**Vote No** X  
ON CONSOLIDATION WITH

**GREEN BAY**



OFFICIAL  
REFERENDUM  
BALLOT

For the purpose of consolidation, the Town of Preble and the City of Green Bay are hereby placed on the ballot as a single unit. The voters are asked to mark the ballot as follows: For consolidation, mark the box marked "FOR CONSOLIDATION". For no consolidation, mark the box marked "AGAINST CONSOLIDATION".

Under the terms of consolidation, the Town of Preble and the City of Green Bay, according to the terms of the Consolidation Ordinance adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Preble, Brown County, Wisconsin and the City Council of the City of Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin.

FOR CONSOLIDATION ..... ☐

AGAINST CONSOLIDATION ..... ☐



SCOTT COOPER WILLIAMS/PRESS-GAZETTE MEDIA

The town of Preble and city of Green Bay are shown on this map as they appeared side by side before the merger.

## GREEN BAY AND PREBLE, CIRCA 1964, BY THE NUMBERS

	Green Bay	Preble
Status	City	Town
Established	1854	1859
Population	66,000	15,000
Size	22 square miles	18 square miles
Tax base	\$378 million	\$63 million

» See MERGER, A2



RESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON

## Green Bay, Preble Vote Merger by Big Margin

ANOTHER STORY ON PAGE 1 change in municipal boundaries  
By DAVE DEVENPORT

### Preble at the Crossroads

PORT TO PREBLE CITIZENS

By Scott Cooper Williams | Press-Gazette Media

**R**esidents in the town of Preble had it all: their own restaurants, stores, parks — everything. And Green Bay wanted it all. After a long struggle over Green Bay's efforts to annex Preble, the two municipalities asked voters 50 years ago today to decide a ballot measure that would change the region forever.

On the same day Lyndon Johnson was elected president in 1964, voters in Green Bay and Preble settled a long-running feud by agreeing to combine their neighboring municipalities into one.

The merger nearly doubled Green Bay's size geographically, and it vaulted the city from Wisconsin's sixth-largest to fourth-largest in population, jumping overnight from 66,000 people to 81,000.

Green Bay also gained control of vast undeveloped acreage along such key future corridors as Mason Street and Deckner Avenue.