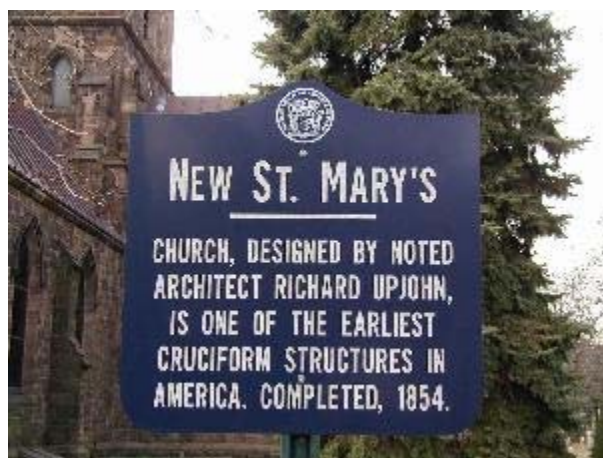


Assessment of State Historical Marker Programs

A Report for the New Jersey Historical Commission



Submitted by *Preservation Partners*

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October 15, 2007

Assessments of State Historical Marker Programs

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Assessment of State Historical Marker Programs

A Report for the New Jersey Historical Commission

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Executive Summary

Preservation Partners was asked by the New Jersey Historical Commission in the summer of 2007 to undertake a project to research and document state historical marker programs throughout the United States, and to recommend parameters for a State Historical Marker program for New Jersey. The research conducted by *Preservation Partners* for this project primarily involved Internet searches, supported by follow-up telephone conversations with historical marker project staff in states having well-thought out, comprehensive programs. Included in report Appendices A and B is the detailed research and findings from each state marker program surveyed as part of this scope of work.

Preservation Partners is pleased to present in this report its recommendations for elements of a New Jersey Historical Marker Program. In summary, major components of the recommended program include:

- A statewide roadside historical marker program administered by a dedicated, full-time staff person within a state history-related agency;
- A simple marker application, guidelines and timetable available on a state historical marker website;
- Clear criteria for establishing significance of proposed marker site, with requirement for verifiable historical documentation;
- An approval process including: staff determination of eligibility, and text composition; review and comment on marker text from panel of New Jersey historians; final approval of marker by state advisory board; and marker dedication ceremony;
- A standardized, free-standing cast aluminum historical marker designed with special state insignia and text;
- Marker manufacturing costs paid by applicant, with state funding of installation, repair and replacement costs;
- Educational curriculum linking historical marker sites to K-12 history lessons, available on state website;
- Links with state and regional tourism agencies to promote historical marker program and sites; and
- State Marker Program official website to include searchable database of state historical markers with interactive GIS map, and a separate statewide inventory of existing roadside historical markers in New Jersey.

Background

Historical markers first became popular along roads in the early 20th century, as the public began touring the country in their automobiles. For purposes of this project, we are defining state historical markers as free-standing signs mounted on posts that have been erected along roads or highways for educational and/or tourism purposes. The markers were originally designed to be read from a moving car, but as automobile speeds increased, many roadside signs were moved to roadside pull-offs or rest areas. Most of the state historical marker programs identified in this project were begun in the first half of the 20th century, with some of the earliest state programs found in Virginia, South Carolina and Pennsylvania. According to our research, it appears that New Jersey has never had an organized state historical marker program, although some roadside historical markers were erected by various levels of government during the 20th century. The state erected bronze roadside historical markers during the 1930s, and also put up a group of blue metal roadside markers in the 1960s to celebrate New Jersey's Tercentennial in 1964. There is no official inventory of these state markers.

On the county level, four New Jersey counties have their own historical highway marker programs: Bergen County (est.1960), Morris County (est.1975), Sussex County (est. 2000) and Middlesex County (est. 2005). Of these county programs, Morris and Sussex County have application information on the Internet. Morris County has a list of all county historical markers on its website, and Morris and Bergen Counties have publications listing the historical markers in the county. The Morris County Historical Marker Program is the most formalized program, with published guidelines including criteria, procedures and an application form. It appears that all of the county programs in New Jersey cover the cost of fabrication, installation and maintenance of their markers. Markers have also been erected over the years by many municipalities and some private organizations, and as with the old state markers, none are included in a state inventory. The website www.waymarking.com, which collects information submitted by the public on historical markers from every state, lists 97 New Jersey historical markers, with photographs and texts for each. (See Appendix E)

Recommendations for Establishing a New Jersey State Historical Marker Program

Mission Statement

Whether created by state enabling legislation or through regulatory means, it is important to have a clear mission statement for a New Jersey Historical Marker Program. The mission statement should first state the purpose of the program, i.e. to increase New Jersey residents' sense of pride of place; to enhance cultural tourism throughout the State; to educate the public about New Jersey's rich and diverse history; to encourage the public to preserve historic resources. The mission statement should also make clear that this

program is intended to be inclusive of all eras and diverse cultural aspects of New Jersey history, as well be geographically representative of the entire State.

Program Administration

It is clear from this research that public, state-level administration of historical marker programs seems to not only be the most common form of administration, but one that works best if the program's goals and activities are to be coordinated with other state-level agencies or departments. The majority of publicly-administered state historical marker programs are run by State Historic Preservation Offices, with the remaining programs being run out of another state history-related agency. *Preservation Partners* recommends that New Jersey's historical marker program should be administered by a State history-related agency with a commitment to the integrity and accuracy of the program. Wherever New Jersey chooses to locate the program, it is critical that the Marker Program staff act in consultation and coordination with the NJSHPO, the New Jersey Department of Tourism and the NJDOT on issues such as verifying significance, establishing special initiatives for topics, signage design, placement and maintenance, and developing an inventory of existing historical marker signs.

Most of the state marker programs surveyed had a historical marker advisory board, comprised of members knowledgeable in the state's history, who give final approval to the marker applications. *Preservation Partners* recommends this type of advisory board to review criteria, set priorities, assess the progress of the program and give final approval to applications. For purposes of this report, this board is called the "Advisory Board". Some states have also established a separate review committee comprised of state history experts to provide an additional level of scrutiny for marker text accuracy. *Preservation Partners* also recommends establishing this type of review committee, and for purposes of this report, this committee is called the "Text Review Committee".

Preservation Partners strongly recommends that a New Jersey Historical Marker Program have at least one staff person devoted full-time to administering the program. Any Marker Program staff person should have a background or expertise in New Jersey history, as well as good writing, research and organizational skills.

Eligibility Criteria and Documentation

Establishing clear eligibility criteria and requiring appropriate historical documentation is critical to maintaining a program with high integrity and accuracy. We recommend that criteria for the New Jersey State Historical Marker Program include the following:

1. The subject of the marker may be events, places and persons or groups significant in New Jersey regional or State history and/or national history;

2. A building or structure may be eligible for a marker if it is associated with persons or events significant in New Jersey history or if it embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master;
3. The marker topics, other than individuals, should date from at least 50 years in the past;
4. A person or group may be a marker subject more than 25 years after his or her death;
5. The following types of resources or topics are not eligible for markers:
 - Individual gravesites;
 - Topics of local significance only;
 - Churches, unless their significance is associated with broader themes in New Jersey history.

The burden of proof will be on the application's sponsor to provide documentary evidence demonstrating the significance of the proposed marker subject. *Preservation Partners* recommends that the sponsor be required to provide both primary and secondary source documentation for each fact presented to establish the significance of the marker subject. It would be useful to develop a form on which the sponsor lists each fact, along with the documentary proof for each – an example of such a form is included in Appendix C.

It is important to address the issue of how properties listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places should be treated in a Historical Marker Program. *Preservation Partners* recommends that the listing of a site on the State or National Register of Historic Places does not make it automatically eligible for a state historical marker; however, the state may want to consider a lesser requirement for documentation of significance, since its significance has already been established for National Register criteria. *Preservation Partners* also recommends that a site's listing on the National or State Register be included in the text of the marker.

New Jersey should consider instituting special initiatives from time to time to encourage marker applications about certain topics or from certain geographic areas that may be underrepresented among state markers. If funding is available, historical marker grants could be given to encourage special initiative marker applications. In the states surveyed for this project, some special initiatives undertaken included: women's history; African American history; conservation; Lewis and Clark; agriculture; community planning; etc.

Application/Approval Process

Preservation Partners recommends that any organization, government entity, or individual should be eligible to submit an application for a New Jersey Historical Marker. It is important to have a simple application form that is available on the State Historical Marker website, along with clear application guidelines (Samples in Appendix C). Many state marker applications ask for maps and photos of the site proposed for the marker, as

well as signed permission forms from private property owners if the marker is to be installed on private property.

Once the application and accompanying documentation is submitted, the State Marker program staff should review the packet to make sure the application is complete and meets the selection criteria. The staff can ask for more documentation, or reject the application if it does not meet the criteria. The staff member will then draft the marker text based on the information provided in the application. A Marker Text Review Committee of historians and others with expertise in New Jersey history should be chosen by the Advisory Board to be available to review marker texts for accuracy. It is important to set a reasonable time limit (2-3 weeks) for review by the Text Review Committee. After receiving comments from the Text Review Committee, the staff will make revisions and present the marker application to the Advisory Board for final approval. When the Advisory Board approves the application, the staff notifies the application's sponsor, orders the marker and schedules the dedication ceremony. *Preservation Partners* recommends that the State accept marker applications either once or twice a year, and approve markers in a timely fashion. The State may want to consider setting a limit for the number of new markers erected each year. Several of the states surveyed for this project set an annual limit of between 10 – 20 new markers, in order to have time to adequately verify the marker text.

Below is the application process sequence for the New Jersey Historical Marker Program in list form:

1. Sponsor submits application materials to Marker staff via internet or mail.
2. Marker staff reviews materials and determines whether application and site meet eligibility criteria.
3. Marker staff conducts additional research if needed, and writes text.
4. Marker staff sends text to Text Review Committee to verify accuracy.
5. Marker staff revises text if needed.
6. Marker staff presents text to Advisory Board for approval.
7. Sponsor is notified of decision.
8. Sponsor sends check for fabrication cost.
9. Marker is ordered by staff and dedication ceremony is planned.
10. Dedication ceremony.

Funding

Cost of marker/application: In the majority state marker programs surveyed, the sponsor pays for the entire cost of the marker, which runs between \$1375 and \$3000. Unless a stable state funding source can be identified, *Preservation Partners* recommends the same arrangement for New Jersey Historical Marker Program. Once a design for the New Jersey State Marker is chosen, a price will be negotiated with the manufacturer and a price can be set for the standard State Marker. A few of the state marker programs studied also charge an application fee of approximately \$100-250; one state uses these

funds to pay for repair of damaged markers, while another used these funds to pay historians to review marker texts for accuracy.

In the states surveyed, the budget for a fully-funded marker program, not including the cost of an administrative staff person, generally ranges from \$45,000 to \$60,000, which includes marker fabrication, installation, maintenance and repair/replacement.

Program administration costs: The state marker programs that seem to work best in terms of quality and accuracy are those that provide for a full-time staff person to administer the program. Some states rely on Transportation Enhancement grants to fund this position. The State should consider funding a full-time Marker Program staff person at \$50,000 to \$75,000 a year, the typical salary range for the administrative staff for these programs. In the first year of the program, there would be additional expenses for costs such as: the design of the marker; the design and production of program and application materials; development of the website; and administrative set-up costs.

Text Writing

A number of states surveyed relied on the sponsor to write the text as part of the application process. It was clear from discussions with several marker program administrators that those states that instead used a partnership approach between the marker program staff and the Marker Text Review Committee experts were better able to control the quality and accuracy of the marker text. Therefore, *Preservation Partners* recommends this collaborative model for text writing. The text writing process should begin with a draft by the Marker staff, with the next step being text review and approval by a member of the Text Review Committee, who has an expertise in the particular area of New Jersey history which is the subject of the marker. A few states use this type of text writing process quite successfully. In North Carolina, Indiana and Pennsylvania, the text is written by the staff, and is then reviewed by an expert or panel of experts in the state's history. In North Carolina, this advisory committee is made up of ten faculty members, who have expertise in North Carolina History, for terms of five-years each. According to the program's administrator, this is a highly effective method. Overall, it is important to have knowledgeable staff working with a group of advisors with expertise in broad and diverse areas of New Jersey history. Once the draft text is written, some states allow it to be reviewed by the sponsor for final, albeit limited, input. *Preservation Partners* recommends that this process of text writing should not take more than 3 months.

Marker Design and Manufacturing

The classic marker of painted cast aluminum with raised lettering has been used by many states since the 1930s and has become iconographic. States have branded their signs with their own color combination and state symbol, making them easily identifiable as state-wide historical markers. *Preservation Partners* found that 26 states purchase their state marker signs from the Sewah Studios, Inc. in Marietta, Ohio, a company that

dates back to 1927. (See information about Sewah Studios, Inc. in Appendix F) Production time for historical marker signs ordered from Sewah Studios is usually 10-12 weeks, and the average cost is between \$1,375 and \$3,000. The sizes of state marker signs vary, but are generally in the 30" high x 42" wide range, with the letters on the signs averaging from 5/8" to 2" high. Markers can have text on one or both sides, and if the text is on both sides, the text can be the same or different. The number of words contained on historical markers is usually around 100 words. Although the typical sign is mounted on a solid post, one state mentioned a new type of honeycombed constructed post that is forgiving in the event of an automobile accident.

Preservation Partners recommends that New Jersey establish a recognizable marker sign with: a standardized State symbol or insignia; marker text describing the significance of the site; the name of the State marker agency; the name of the marker sponsor; the date the marker was dedicated; and an identification number, for inventory purposes. The State should consider using the "classic" marker signs, made of painted cast aluminum with raised lettering, mounted on a free-standing post.

Process for Maintenance/Vandalism/Repair

There are many aspects to consider in the areas of maintenance, repair and the replacement of signs. The New Jersey Marker Program should establish procedures to report signs in disrepair, damaged signs or missing signs. It would be most effective if the reporting procedure called for the general public to notify the Marker staff about missing signs or signs needing repair through a link on the State Marker Website, mailing a form or making a telephone call to the Marker Program office. In the event of marker damage from a car accident, the Marker Program staff should attempt to recover the repair or replacement costs first through a traditional insurance claim through the person who caused the damage. Several states depend on their state Department of Transportation for assistance with the maintenance and repair of historical markers, with the state funding replacement. *Preservation Partners* recommends that New Jersey work with the NJDOT to coordinate the installation, repair and maintenance of historical markers.

Installation and Location

Markers should be placed in a safe location as close to the significant event, place or site as possible. Many states rely on their DOT for installation and placement of signs and *Preservation Partners* would recommend the same for New Jersey, particularly if the signs were being placed on a State or federal right-of-way. *Preservation Partners* would recommend the placement of markers on private property only if it is accessible to the public and with the written permission of the owner. Once installed, markers should be considered property of the State and therefore, stealing a sign becomes a misdemeanor offense.

Education

Although some states recognize the need to link the historical marker program with the K-12 school curriculum, only Pennsylvania has expanded upon this idea with an extensive web component developed through a partnership with a local public television station. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission was approached by WITF television station to launch a comprehensive website on teaching with history. The program uses historical markers as a foundation for learning about Pennsylvania history, and has links to educational resources for teachers about Pennsylvania's history. Much like the national program administered by the National Park Service and the National Trust, "Teaching with Historic Places", this Pennsylvania internet program offers primary source documents and lesson plans to educators to enrich and enliven a specific marker place, person or event. New Jersey should consider creating a similar internet educational program to make the history come alive for New Jersey school children. The Pennsylvania marker program website also provides links to PA tourism and travel websites. (See Appendix G)

Website/Publication

It is imperative that any statewide marker program maintains a website that is easy to navigate and provides the public with clear information about the program as well as the content of the markers themselves. *Preservation Partners* recommends that New Jersey establish a State Historical Marker website that includes: application materials and guidelines; a searchable database with a variety of fields, such as location, theme or name, linked to GIS coordinates and a mapping program; instructions for reporting damaged or missing signs; links to New Jersey county marker programs; links to state and regional tourism agencies; and an educational component for teachers. The goal would be to make the markers program dynamic and innovative.

Many states also sell marker guide publications, with a listing of markers, their locations and their full text. The benefits of a website are greater than a published guide, because it is easier to keep the information current and it reaches a large number of people. There are some advantages to a state marker guidebook over a website, however, such as being able to use the guidebook while driving in a car. A historical marker publication should include location maps and could be arranged in several ways such as by theme, geographically and/or chronologically by date of event marked.

Tourism

Historical markers are tremendously popular with travelers; many people plan their vacations around markers. The website, www.waymarking.com, (See Appendix E) a website that lists historical markers in every state, encourages people to submit photographs, GIS coordinates and transcribed text to the website. *Preservation Partners* feels that if New Jersey establishes a high quality statewide historical marker program, creates a user-friendly website and coordinates it program with the State and regional tourism-related agencies, it will help to attract more tourists to the State. It was clear

from our research that no state had to “sell” historical markers to the public – there was always a high level of interest and participation in the program. New Jersey should consider using new forms of media in the form of personal handheld devices (cell phones, mp3 players, PDAs) to develop additional self-guided public tour opportunities linked to markers.

Dedication Ceremony

Preservation Partners recommends that New Jersey make a Historical Marker dedication ceremony an integral part of a marker program for its intrinsic public relations/public history value. In many states surveyed, the dedication ceremony was underwritten by the application’s sponsor, with state assistance in organizing the event. Often state marker programs use the dedication ceremony as an opportunity to get the information about the program out to the public through newspaper articles and press coverage. The state marker staff, public officials and state historians often attend dedication ceremonies in the states surveyed.

Existing Historical Markers and County Programs

Although New Jersey has never had a state historical marker program, dozens of roadside historical markers were erected by the State over the years. In addition, many county and municipal governments, as well as local organizations and historic sites, have erected their own historical markers. The New Jersey State Historical Marker program should consider making an effort to collect information for an inventory of these existing markers. *Preservation Partners* would suggest beginning this inventory effort as a volunteer program, asking people throughout the State who have an interest in history to notify the State Marker Program, through a link on the website, about markers they have located. Volunteers working on this inventory could include local historical societies and commissions, county cultural and heritage commissions, local organizations and individuals interested in history. This inventory should include a photograph of the marker, marker text, and a map of the location with GIS coordinates. In the previously mentioned website www.waymarking.com, the 97 markers already identified in New Jersey can serve as a starting point for a statewide inventory. This list of existing historical markers, however, should be kept as a separate list from the database of official New Jersey State Historical Markers established in a new program, since it is not possible to verify the authenticity of the information contained in the various markers across the State.

Four New Jersey counties, Bergen, Morris, Sussex and Middlesex, already have their own historical marker programs. *Preservation Partners* recommends that the New Jersey Historical Marker website be used to link to the county programs and their lists of markers, but that the State Historical Marker program be maintained as a separate program. The four county marker programs have each established their own identity, with special signage, criteria and programs, all of which play an important role in promoting their own county history. If a county would like to erect a State Historical

Marker at a site that already has a county marker, *Preservation Partners* suggests that it be given special consideration by the State Marker Program.

Conclusion

Preservation Partners concludes from this extensive survey and assessment of nationwide state historical marker programs that there is value in establishing a State Historical Marker program in New Jersey. Such a program would spread the word about the diverse people, places and events in New Jersey history to communities across the state. These iconographic road signs, which have themselves become a part of the nation's history since the 1930s, can make history come alive. State Historical Markers can help make the very real connections that historians seek between the past, the present and the future, especially if they are effectively linked to K-12 education programs and heritage tourism

APPENDIX A

Statewide Historical Marker Program Internet Survey

- 1. Summary**
- 2. Survey Forms**

Summary of State Historical Marker Survey Forms

How many:

34 states have some kind of state-wide historical marker program.

Of these **34** state programs:

31 programs are administered by public state-level agencies;

24 programs are run by State Historic Preservation Offices (three programs, Colorado, Kansas and Minnesota, are currently on hold due to budget constraints).

7 programs are run by another state level history-related agency;

3 programs are administered by private, non-profit, history-related organizations.

Date established:

Most of the state historical marker programs for which dates were readily available were established during the first half of the 20th century. The earliest program was South Carolina, which was begun in 1905. Some programs were established by a particular private organization or other state agency, and then later taken over by another entity (Georgia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia).

Numbers of Markers in state:

The numbers of markers found in states varies from a low of 44 in Iowa to over 2000 in Georgia, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Many programs limit the number of markers they will erect in a year to between 10 – 15.

Markers cost, size and design:

In the 23 states where information was readily available on-line about how markers were funded, 10 states required the applicant or sponsor to pay for the entire amount, 9 states had a cost/sharing option or grants available and 4 states paid for the markers entirely.

Marker cost seems fairly consistent from state to state – between \$1500-3000, depending on the size and whether a marker has text on one side or both sides. There are a limited number of marker manufacturers in the U.S. – 26 states use Sewah Studios, Inc., a manufacturer of cast aluminum historical markers in Marietta, Ohio. When the production time was given, it was generally 10-12 weeks.

The designs for most markers include: a standard state seal or logo, text describing the significance of the site, the name of the sponsor and the state agency and an inventory number. The size of the cast aluminum markers can vary, but is generally around 30” high x 42” wide. These markers are affixed to free-standing posts.

Installation and maintenance costs are handled in different ways: most states rely on the state Department of Transportation to install the signs, while some states send the marker to the sponsoring organization with installation instructions. When signs are damaged or need repairs, the sponsor often has the responsibility to repair the sign. A few state DOTs do get involved in sign repair; and one state uses Transportation Enhancement money to repair damaged historical marker signs.

Criteria:

The selection criteria for most states included sites representing people, places or events that were significant in the history of the state or nation. Some states used the 50 year cut-off that is used in determining National Register of Historic Places significance for historic resources, while others do not specify a time cut-off. In fact, a few states used selection criteria nearly identical to that used for National Register properties. Some states also allowed markers at sites that were significant to local and regional history, in addition to state and national level significance. Many states also listed types of sites that were not eligible for markers, such as those associated with cemeteries, churches, living people and archaeology. Several states listed special initiatives or heritage trails for which they were encouraging applications, such as women's history, African American history, Lewis and Clark and conservation; many states also considered geographic distribution as part of their criteria, to ensure that all parts of the state were represented.

Application Process:

The application process for most states usually starts with an applicant filling out a form, many of which can be found on-line as a .pdf format that can be down-loaded. Many states include guidelines for the application process, which can be requested from the staff or can be found on their websites. Most forms ask for basic information about the sponsor and the proposed marker site, including a map and photo showing proposed marker location. While some states ask applicants to submit proposed text, many others ask for facts about the site, and the marker program staff, along with advice of experts, writes the text. Nearly all the state programs require supporting documentation for the significance of the site, many requiring supporting primary and secondary documentation for each fact cited in the statement of significance for the proposed marker. While a few states seem to lack a rigorous review of supporting documentation, most states require that the significance of a state be carefully and fully documented before approval. Some states have established deadlines for submitting applications, while others consider them when as they are received. The states with the more organized, comprehensive programs have set either annual or bi-annual application deadlines. A few states require written documentation of community support for a marker. If the marker is to be located on private property, states require the written consent of the property owner.

Approval Process:

Most states surveyed have a structured approval process involving the marker program staff and some kind of marker committee or board that gives final approval to the application. Generally, the staff begins the process by verifying the significance of the proposed marker site by reviewing the submitted documentation – in some states the marker staff can conduct additional research or request further documentation for the significance of the site. After the provided documentation is verified, several state programs then require a review of the facts and/or text by an expert knowledgeable in the topic covered by the marker. Some states have an advisory board to serve in this capacity, while some states call on historians or other experts across the state on an ad hoc basis. Most states have a state-level marker committee that votes to approve each marker, and takes into consideration such issues as geographic distribution and achieving a diversity of topics that adequately reflect the state's history. Some states limit the number of markers they will approve each year, making the process a competitive one, while others approve all those that meet the criteria.

Outreach:

Of the states surveyed, most have incorporated websites and publications into their public outreach component. Most states have websites that include at least basic information about their state marker programs. The quality of the websites varies – the best websites include: application forms, clear guidelines, selection criteria, timetables, cost information, repair information, a user-friendly database of existing state markers with interactive GIS map, and list of related publications and curriculum. A few states allow applications to be made via the internet, but most still require application forms and supporting documentation to be mailed. Examples of clear, comprehensive user-friendly websites are: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

APPENDIX A

Statewide Historical Marker Program Internet Survey

3. Summary

4. Survey Forms

SURVEY QUESTIONS:

STATE NAME:

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: ALABAMA

Administered by: Alabama Historical Association

_public _private

Name and address of contact person:

Norwood A. Kerr
AHA Marker Committee
Alabama Department of Archives and History
PO Box 300300
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

Date Marker program established: 1950

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: \$1660-2100

Funding: paid by applicant

Selection Criteria: Not specifically listed

Application process:

Submit proposed text for Committee's approval – Committee decides on "the site's historical significance and the text's accuracy." Committee also needs "supporting documentation on the text's wording or at least a list of sources used for the information."

Approval process:

Approval entity: Alabama Historical Association's Marker Committee

Text approval: Alabama Historical Association's Marker Committee

Production time: approximately 14 weeks after order is placed

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Location:

How location is determined:

Design: Double-faced, cast aluminum plate with baked enamel finish. Deep blue background, with text in gold; Alabama flag insignia in white, red and gold.

Outreach:

Publication: Published in AHA newsletters.

Web-based:

List of markers only:

Interactive GIS map: No

Application Form: No

Search capability by name/county, etc: Yes

On-line database: Index of markers by counties, with marker text.

Curriculum:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Web address: www.archives.state.al.us/aha/marker

STATE NAME: ALASKA

No state-wide historical marker program. The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has supported efforts by some Certified Local Governments to install markers, but no official state program.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person: Alaska Historic Preservation Office, 907-269-9714

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: ARIZONA

No state historical marker program.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: ARKANSAS

No state historical marker program.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: CALIFORNIA

Checked with State HPO – no highway historical marker program.

916-653-6624

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: COLORADO

Administered by: Colorado Historical Society (HPO)

_x_public _private

Name and address of contact person:

Program on hold due to budget constraints. No contact name or information posted.

Date Marker program established: 1907

Number of markers in the State: 220

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Application form to "suggest" new markers with note that marker program is currently on hold.

Approval process:

Text approval:

Approval entity: Colorado Historical Society

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: On-line form to report vandalism

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form: yes

Interactive GIS map: yes

Search capability by: keyword, name or location

Web address: www.coloradohistory.org/RIPsigns/search.asp

STATE NAME: CONNECTICUT

No state-wide historical marker program. Checked with Connecticut Historic Preservation Office at 860-566-3005.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: DELAWARE

Administered by: Delaware Public Archives

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Thomas Summers

302-744-5047

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State: ? Approximately 30-40 per year during last 18 years; before that, infrequently.

Cost of marker: \$2500 to purchase; \$300 to install

Funding: Legislative appropriation

Selection Criteria: Written criteria exist, but not available online, or by my request.

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Interested constituent approaches state legislator and requests funds for proposed marker.

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process: Delaware Public Archives staff reviews for historic accuracy – sometimes documents are sent in with request, sometimes staff conducts research to verify.

Text Approval: Delaware Public Archives staff works with constituent on wording.

Approval entity: State legislator “approves” and sends constituent to Delaware Public Archives for approval of significance. When approved, Archives office schedules dedication ceremony.

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: works with local sign company when damaged signs reported – state pays.

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined: applicant working with Delaware Public Archives

Installation: by local sign company

Design: standard cast aluminum with state insignia

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: Little information available about program, except location of markers.

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines: no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: yes, Google map available for each location

Search capability by: county and statewide

Web address: <http://archives.delaware.gov/markers>

STATE NAME: FLORIDA

Administered by: Florida Division of Historical Resources (HPO)

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Catherine Clark

State Historical Marker Coordinator, Bureau of Historic Preservation

R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street, Room 422

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

850-245-6333; 800-847-7278

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: \$1840-2110

Funding: Paid by applicant; grants from Florida Historical Commission may be available to match half of costs (yearly grant cycle.)

Selection Criteria: 2 categories:

Florida Heritage Site

Date of significance: 30 years or older

Florida Heritage Landmark

Date of significance: 50 years or older

Type of significance: Regional or statewide

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation

Application process:

Forms: Download from web

Guidelines: Website

Deadlines: Applications reviewed "periodically", via conference call.

Online process available:

Timetable: When marker review is announced, applications must be in two weeks before date of meeting.

Docs required: Attach any documentation, research or record that supports site's historical relevancy.

Approval process:

Approval entity: State Historic Marker Council comprised of 3 preservation experts from around the state.

Production time: 3 months

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): must be placed on site that is accessible to the public, so that visitors may walk up to marker and read information. Sites that are accessible only by car and boat will not be approved.

How location is determined: Proposed by applicant.

Installation: by applicant

Design: Cast aluminum, text area 30" high by 42' wide; Florida Heritage emblem; comes with 7' concrete post with brushed aluminum.

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: Interactive website

Curriculum:

FLORIDA (cont'd)

Website includes: Application guidelines: yes
 Application Form: yes
 Interactive GIS map: yes
 Search capability by name/county, etc: yes
Web address: www.flheritage.com/preservation/markers

STATE NAME: GEORGIA

Administered by: Georgia Historical Society

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Georgia Historical Marker Program
The Georgia Historical Society
501 Whitaker Street
Savannah, GA 31401
912-651-2125 or ghs@georgiahistory.com

Date Marker program established: State erected markers until 1997, GHS assumed responsibility 1998

Number of markers in the State: 2,600 identified in state since 1970s – erected under several programs

Cost of marker: average cost \$2,500

Funding: 50/50 match with state funding; installation costs paid by sponsor; Since 1997, GA General Assembly has appropriated \$75,000 annually to fund historical research, casting, erection and dedication of approximately 20 new markers each year.

Selection Criteria: people, places, events significant in Georgia history

Date of significance: 50 years or older for site; more than 25 years deceased for person and events

Type of significance: state history

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: competitive program tied to state funding available

Forms: application available by contacting GHS Marker Program office; signed form from property owner(s) of land on which marker is proposed; signed agreement from sponsoring organization; slide images of subject of marker and proposed installation site; proposed marker text of approximately 100 words, and a "historical document". Marker applications must be sponsored by at least one entity with a governing body, not by individuals.

Guidelines: on-line;

Deadlines: six month cycle

Online process available:

Timetable: Marker applications reviewed biannually

Docs required: subject must be thoroughly research using primary and secondary sources. Narrative must be documented on a fact-by-fact basis with the use of footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical citation that offers the source of each statement in the historical document presented. Sample historical document provided with application packet.

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity: GHS Marker Review Committee

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget: sponsor accepts maintenance responsibility under current program; for markers erected before 1998, state is responsible for maintenance.

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: If repair or replacement is necessary, GHS required second cost share from sponsor, based on cost.

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: Cast aluminum, 2 sided (same text both sides) with total plate size of 38" x 42" on free-standing aluminum post. Black background with GHS seal and text in silver – lettering 1" in height. GHS seal only decoration on marker. Name of sponsoring organization appears at bottom of marker under GHS.

GEORGIA (cont'd)

Outreach:

Publication: At least 5 books about Georgia historical markers

Internet: yes

Curriculum: Links to U. of Georgia website with classroom materials

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by: date of installation (1999-2006); linked to U. of GA site with listing of individual markers by County.

Web address: www.georgiahistory.com/Markers

STATE NAME: HAWAII

No state highway historical marker program.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: IDAHO

Administered by: Idaho Historical Society (HPO) and Idaho Transportation Department

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Office of Public Affairs

Idaho Transportation Department

3311 W. State Street, P.O. Box 7129

Boise ID 83707-1129

Publicinfo@itd.idaho.gov

Date Marker program established: 1956; revitalized 1986

Number of markers in the State: 244

Cost of marker:

Funding: state funded

Selection Criteria: specific events or localities" significant in Idaho local, regional or state history; many markers form parts of series, ex: explorers, Oregon Trail, etc.

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Idaho Historical Society proposes all sites, prepares text; sometimes sites suggested by other state departments.

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget: Idaho Transportation Department

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: Idaho Transportation Department

Location (public road/private property): Determined by Idaho Transportation Department

How location is determined: Signs are located at roadside turnouts or near other available parking. Road signs announcing the historical markers are typically posted about 1,000 feet in advance of site.

Installation: Idaho Transportation Department

Design: Design information not available on web

Outreach:

Publication: Guide to Historical Marker program available for purchase on website.

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes: Application guidelines: no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: highway number and milepost, with corresponding page of guide where marker is described **Web address:** <http://itd.idaho.gov/hmg/HMGhistry.htm>

STATE NAME: ILLINOIS

Administered by: Illinois State Historical Society

public private

Name and address of contact person:

William Furry

217-525-2781 or wfurry@historyillinois.org

Date Marker program established: 1934

Number of markers in the State: 400+

Cost of marker: \$2000 for 100 word marker; \$3000 for 250 word marker, plus crating and shipping; \$500 non-refundable administrative fee with application

Funding: paid by sponsoring organization

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: statewide and/or national

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Application co-sponsored by local organizations and supporters.

Forms: provided on web

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required: List and attach copies of at least two sources for each of the facts stated in application statement of significance that are not common knowledge. At least one source should be primary or original.

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity: Illinois State Historical Society

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: Marker maintained by sponsoring organization.

Location (public road/private property): Coordinated by Illinois State Historical Society.

How location is determined: Suggested by sponsor and approved by ISHS. Sponsor must attach proof of permission to erect marker on proposed site.

Installation: Responsibility of sponsoring organization.

Design: Cast aluminum. Contains name of sponsoring organization and ISHS.

Outreach:

Publication: no

Internet: yes

Curriculum: no

Website includes: Application guidelines: no

Application Form: yes

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: County or title Web address:

www.historyillinois.org/Markers

STATE NAME: INDIANA

Administered by: Indiana Historical Bureau

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Jeremy Hackard

Indiana Historical Bureau

140 North Senate Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2296

317-232-2535

jhackerd@statelib.lib.in.us

Date Marker program established: 1921

Number of markers in the State: 425+

Cost of marker: \$1700, including post and shipping. Markers for the Underground Railroad cost an additional \$100 because of an art charge for the Indiana Freedom Trails image.

Funding: Paid by sponsoring organization. Sponsoring organization may qualify for a \$1000 grant for marker, depending on topic or other factors, such as geographical distribution. If organization pays for entire amount, it is not in competition with other organizations for funding and does not have to follow geographical distribution criteria.

Selection Criteria: Events, individuals, buildings, sites and other entities.

Date of significance: Individual 20 years after death, 50 years + for events, buildings, sites.

Type of significance: Local and state, regional, national and/or international.

Types not accepted: Local only. Neither restorers nor current owners of an historic structure may be named in

the text. An archaeological site IF a location or text may endanger site.

SR/NR parameters : Inclusion on NR does not automatically qualify for marker; when entity is listed on NR, or NHL, text of marker should include. If a nomination for NR is pending, no action will be taken on marker application until NR action is taken.

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: IHS may establish special initiatives to focus on specific topics. HIS considers geographical distribution during approval process if state funding is involved.

Application process:

Forms: yes

Guidelines: yes, newly adopted (6/07) comprehensive and clear guidelines

Deadlines: Application deadline.

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required: includes statement of significance, list of primary and secondary source documentation with photocopies (explanation of primary vs. secondary sources available on-line), description of proposed marker location with photograph, and a detailed map showing proposed location.

Approval process: Must be approved twice by the Indiana Library and Historical Board; first approval allows application to move forward because it believes that the topic has statewide significance and there are sufficient primary sources to prove significance. Second and final approval comes when the Historical Bureau has verified the significance of the topic through additional research and has written and documented an appropriate text.

Text Approval: Text is written by Historical Bureau.

Approval entity: Indiana Library and Historical Board, on the recommendation of the Indiana Historical Bureau.

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget: : Information on web about how to "restore" marker by painting.

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: When replacement of a marker is requested due to damage or if it contains incorrect information, the request will be considered by the Historical Bureau. Some replacement requests may require full application process.

INDIANA (cont'd)

Location (public road/private property): Locate at most appropriate site related to topic. Other factors include: high visibility, safety and the ability to stop and read marker.

How location is determined:

Installation: Installation is responsibility of applicant. Indiana Historical Bureau sends installation instructions.

Design: Outline of Indiana on top. 47.5' tall and 42.25 inches wide, with a dark blue background, gold lettering and silver-colored border. No other logo or emblem may be included, unless exception is made for compelling reason (ex: if the it is

essential to clarify or enhance the interpretation of a marker. On the recommendation of the Historical Bureau, the Indiana Library and Historical Board may authorize special formats for signage to honor categories of historical entities that enhance citizens' understanding and appreciation of Indiana history and culture. (Ex: historic cemeteries, historic districts, standing Carnegie libraries, etc.)

Outreach:

Publication: guide to historical markers available on website.

Internet: excellent website

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form: yes

Interactive GIS map: yes

Search capability by: county, topic, search database

Web address: www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/iib/markers

STATE NAME: IOWA

Administered by: State Historical Society of Iowa (HPO) and the Iowa Department of Transportation

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Lowell Soike

Historical Markers Program Coordinator

State Historical Society of Iowa

402 Iowa Avenue

Iowa City, Iowa 52240

515-281-3306

Lowell.Soike@iowa.gov

Date Marker program established: 1965

Number of markers in the State: 44

Cost of marker:

Funding: Paid by state?

Selection Criteria: Prioritization of markers based on: degree of statewide significance and level of interest of the topic to the general public.

Date of significance:

Type of significance: People, sites and events of statewide significance.

Types not accepted: Living people.

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: All historical time periods will be represented; controversial topics should not be disqualified as marker topics; geographical distribution of markers throughout state should be representative of the significant events of the state's history.

Application process:

Forms: Forms available from Society.

Guidelines: Basic guidelines

Deadlines:

Online process available: no

Timetable:

Docs required: "documentation" of significance required, no specifics

Approval process: Historical Marker program coordinator reviews for verification of the historical accuracy, location and historical significance; eligible applications are forwarded to the administrator of the society for approval; administrator forwards to Review panel; Review panel creates a prioritized annual plan for historical markers, presented annually at the last meeting of the fiscal year to the board of trustees of the society for approval and for potential funding for the coming year.

Text Approval:

Approval entity: State Historical Society of Iowa's Marker Review Panel; Review Panel consists of one member of the Society's board of Trustees, one member of the Iowa Historical Foundation board, one staff person from the Iowa Department of Transportation, one staff member of the Iowa Department of Economic Development and two history professionals appointed by Society.

Production time:

IOWA (cont'd)

Maintenance responsibility/budget: Applicant must propose financial arrangements for construction and maintenance of marker with application.

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): Markers may be placed on public or private land if appropriate approvals and maintenance agreements are provided.

How location is determined: Applicant proposes location and provides proof of appropriate clearance of site by the landowner, unit of government or the state Department of Transportation.

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: minimal information

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: no

Web address: www.state.ia.us/government/dca/shsi/education/field

STATE NAME: KANSAS

Administered by: Kansas Historical Society (HPO) and Kansas Department of Transportation

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Scott Shields

Kansas Department of Transportation

785-296-0853

Date Marker program established: 1938

Number of markers in the State: 120+

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria: No plans for any new signs at this point – some old signs are going to be updated. Many local jurisdictions put up their own signs.

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: NA

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): Most markers are located in roadside parks and rest areas.

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: Cast metal with distinctive sunflower design at top.

Outreach:

Publication: Free booklet containing complete text of each marker is available from Kansas Historical Society.

Internet: yes

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: yes

Search capability by: county and sign marker number

Web address: www.kshs.org/tourists/markers

STATE NAME: KENTUCKY

Administered by: Kentucky Historical Society in cooperation w/ Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Becky Vittetow

Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program

100 W. Broadway

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

502-564-1792 x4474

becky.vittetow@ky.gov

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State: 2000+

Cost of marker: \$1750 for same text on each side, \$1950 for different text on each side

Funding: paid for by sponsor – suggestions for fundraising included in guidelines.

Selection Criteria: person, place event – sites that local communities have recognized as important to local, regional, state or national history; applicant must secure a “significant degree of community consensus” before application is made. Applicant is encouraged to submit list of supporting organizations to application. Urged to contact “county chairperson” before making application.

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted: living person; purely genealogical or family subject; individual or business if the primary value of the marker is to provide financial benefit; a cemetery, unless someone significant to Kentucky history is buried there or unless a historically significant event is connected with it; a church, unless it meets certain criteria.

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: application includes list of “priority subjects”: Women in Kentucky history, Kentucky African American History, and Lewis and Clark in Kentucky.

Application process:

Forms: 4 page application available on-line

Guidelines: 4 page guidelines available on-line

Deadlines: yes – applications accepted twice a year.

Online process available:

Timetable: April 1 and October 1; timetable on-line listing dates for application, decision of advisory committee, data verification, text editing, payment due, dedication date set, fabrication and installation.

Docs required: Documentation sheet included with application – required to list each significant “fact” on left with accompanying source documentation listed on right. “Include copy of the page from each document that was used.” Clear sample documentation sheet is included in guidelines.

Approval process: After application is submitted, Advisory Committee meets to review applications and make recommendations as to whether they should be accepted, resubmitted, or rejected. Initial acceptance is for subject only. Up to fifteen applications may be accepted in each review process; marker program staff verify all information and check each documented source

KENTUCKY (cont'd)

and may request additional documentation; text is written and submitted to program staff for final editing and returned to applicant for review; staff has final say on text; payment for marker made; dedication date set; order placed; installation and dedication set.

Text Approval: "Historical Committee"

Approval entity: "Advisory Committee"

Production time: 3 months

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): location suggested by applicant – can be public or private. Requests verification that there is space near marker to pull off road and read and that location is acceptable to property owner.

How location is determined: final decision with Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Installation:

Design: No information about design on website – text allowed is one headline, ten lines of text of up to 33 letters and a sponsorship line.

Outreach:

Publication: "Roadside History: A Guide to Kentucky Highway Markers" (2002), available online or at Historical Society headquarters.

Internet: yes – good website and database

Curriculum: yes

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form: yes

Interactive GIS map: yes

Search capability by: county, subject, keyword, marker number

Web address: www.kentucky.gov/kyhs/hmdb

STATE NAME: LOUISIANA

Administered by: Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation (HPO)

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Mike Varnado

Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation

P.O. Box 44247

Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4247225-342-8160

Date Marker program established: 1951

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: between \$1570-2110

Funding: paid by applicant; state used to pay for 10 per year, discontinued funding.

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: lasting significance to stat's history; a historical trail or route; a significant architectural landmark

Types not accepted: any living person

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Sponsor proposed script for text of marker, based on research necessary to substantiate the facts.

Forms: no

Guidelines: yes, minimal

Deadlines: no

Online process available: no

Timetable: no

Docs required: "Adequate" documentation of every statement and fact included in the script. Examples of citations for documents included in guidelines.

Approval process: Division of Historic Preservation reviews text and places order for marker.

Text Approval: by Division of Historic Preservation

Approval entity: Division of Historic Preservation

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation: State Department of Transportation

Design: Aluminum alloy, 30" high by 42" wide with arched crest in which there is a model of a Pelican superimposed on the outline of Louisiana. Tobacco brown background with ivory letter faces. Detailed specifications for marker and post.

Outreach:

Publication: "Why Stop? A Guide to Louisiana's Roadside Historical Markers" by Marael Johnson, Gulf Publishing, 2001.

Internet: minimal

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: At separate website, by Encyclopedia Louisiana, there is a database where you can search by county name – includes text of marker only. **Web address:**

STATE NAME: MAINE

Administered by: Maine Office of Tourism

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

888-624-6345

Any contact information very difficult to find on internet – below information from Historical Marker Program statute found on web.

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State: no more than 10 per year can be erected under program

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters:

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: The Director of the Office of Tourism shall consult with the Maine Historical Preservation Commission and the Department of Transportation on the historical marker program. Before erecting any marker, the director shall secure the Maine Historic Preservation Commission's approval of the marker, the marker's location and the marker's wording. The Maine Historic Preservation Commission shall obtain, or cause to be obtained, as needed, information on the event to be commemorated and on the appropriate location for the marker, including consulting historians and holding public hearings. Local governments may also permit the erection of markers by individuals or societies on public property, and the Historic Preservation Commission may enter into cooperative agreements with municipalities or historical societies to erect a marker on a highway and must include cost sharing and maintenance agreements.

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval: Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: no

Internet: minimal information

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** no

Application Form: no

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: no **Web address:**

STATE NAME: MARYLAND

No state-wide historical marker program. Checked with Massachusetts Historical Commission at 617-727-8470. Boston Landmarks Commission has citywide marker program – 617635-3850.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: MASSACHUSETTS

No state-wide historical marker program. Checked with Massachusetts Historical Commission at 617-727-8470. Boston Landmarks Commission has citywide marker program – 617635-3850.

Administered by:

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes: Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: MICHIGAN

Administered by: Michigan State Historic Preservation Office

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Michigan State Historic Preservation Office

Michigan Historical Center

PO Box 30740

702 W. Kalamazoo Street

Lansing, Michigan 48909-8240

517-373-1630

Date Marker program established: 1955

Number of markers in the State: 1600

Cost of marker: \$1600-2000, plus \$250 administrative fee

Funding: paid by applicant

Selection Criteria: Program closely connected with SR and criteria – if marker is approved, the site is listed on SR

Date of significance: SR

Type of significance: SR

Types not accepted: SR

SR/NR parameters: yes

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: sets priority themes, for example: agriculture, civil rights, community planning and development, conservation, etc.

Application process: Applicant submits application; SHPO staff determines if site qualifies for marker; SHPO staff writes text and sends to applicant for approval; SHPO staff presents text to Michigan Historical Commission for approval; applicant is notified of decision; applicant sends check and marker is ordered.

Forms: 2 separate forms – one for SR properties, one for properties not listed

Guidelines: yes, detailed guidelines available

Deadlines: applications accepted 4x per year

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required: Primary and secondary source documentation for each fact that appears on marker; black and white photographs of interior and exterior of structure; and map showing location of site and main crossroads.

Approval process: SHPO staff approves if marker meets criteria; Michigan Historical Commission approves text.

Text Approval: Michigan Historical Commission

Approval entity: Michigan Historical Commission

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation: applicant responsible for installation and planning dedication ceremony

Design: 3 types of markers: small informational marker (24"x36") with one post; large informational marker (42"x54") with two posts; and wall mounted identification plaques (12"x14").

Outreach:

Publication: yes

Internet: yes

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form: yes

MICHIGAN (cont'd)

and **Interactive GIS map:** on-line map includes SR properties and NR properties with markers
sites with markers alone

Search capability by:

Web address: www.michmarkers.com

STATE NAME: MINNESOTA

No information available on-line. Program is currently dormant due to budget cuts.

Administered by: Minnesota State Historical Society (HPO)

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

651-259-3000, 1800-657-3773

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms:

Guidelines:

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable:

Docs required:

Approval process:

Text Approval:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: "Minnesota History Along the Highways: A Guide to Historic Markers and Sites", by Sarah Rubinstein.

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by:

Web address:

STATE NAME: MISSISSIPPI

Administered by: Mississippi Department of Archives and History (HPO)

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

William Thompson

State Historical Marker Program/Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Historic Preservation Division

PO Box 571

Jackson, MS 39205-0571

601-576-6946

Date Marker program established: 1949

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: \$1570-1660

Funding: privately funded

Selection Criteria: unique historical significance to local community, state or nation.

Date of significance: >50 yrs

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms: State Marker Request form

Guidelines: minimal

Deadlines:

Online process available:

Timetable: approving body meets quarterly each year

Docs required: all available research materials and at least one photo of proposed marker location

Approval process: Sponsor send in application form; marker text is drafted by Department of Archives and History with advice and consent of sponsor; Board of Trustees of MDAH has final approval on text.

Text Approval: MDAH Board

Approval entity: MDAH

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation: Mississippi Department of Transportation

Design: aluminum, silver and green; marker is ordered by MDAH and shipped directly to DOT

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by: title at state website; separate website called, "History Markers of Mississippi" shows photos of each marker, organized by county

Web address: mdah.state.ms.us/hpres/histmarker.html

STATE NAME: MISSOURI

Administered by: no organized marker program statewide but markers exist in the state and are inventoried through waymarking.com . Tourists enter photo and information to a website that collects state info.

Themed program National Lewis and Clark Historic Trail Certification Program through the NPS

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Missouri Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission

PO Box 176 100 Jefferson Street Lohman Building Suite 200

Jefferson City, MO 65102

573-522-9019 tel lewisandclark@dnr.mo.gov

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: MONTANA

Administered by: National Register of Historic Places Sign Program administered by SHPO under the auspices of the Montana Historical Society (private)

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Ellen Baumler, PhD, National Register Sign Coordinator and Interpretive Historian at Montana Historical Society (HPO)

225 North Roberts, PO Box 201201

Helena, Montana 59620-1201

(406)444-1687 (tel) (406) 444-2696 (fax)

Date Marker program established: 1990

Number of markers in the State: "hundreds"

Cost of marker: \$ 645- 400 (brackets option additional \$85)

Funding: Owners or sponsors pay 10% of manufacturing costs; Montana Historical Society pays all other costs including research/writing time . The program is funded entirely through a percentage of allocated portions of Montana's Lodging and Facilities tax. Will accept a donation above the cost.

Selection Criteria: NR

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Those with listed properties may apply. Individuals and district properties receive Type A sign whereas Contributing properties receive Type B or C. Normally a waiting list and processed in order received. When funding is an issue, first based on geographic distribution and application order

Forms yes _____

Guidelines yes _____

Deadlines _____ in order of receipt _____

Online process available app online but mailed _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process: Reviews application (already on NR) and writes text

Approval entity: Montana Historical Society

Production time: 8-10 weeks

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): on or immediately adjacent to NR site

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: Interpretive signage with special logo and brief description of property's historical significance. A smaller matching sign in a choice of styles describes contributing properties within districts. Wall or free standing. Pewter-finished anodized aluminum with dark etched letter.

Outreach:

Publication: *Montana's Historical Highway Markers* , 1989 (maps, illustrations, inventory and location, etc. for tourism and history)

Internet: State of Montana Historical Markers -- listed on website including digital photos of markers (website claims 12 Montana historical markers loaded from 5 localities; 2089 historical markers loaded from 18 states/providences)

MONTANA (cont'd)

http://photos.historical-markers.org/main.php?g2_itemId=3761

Curriculum:

Website includes: Application guidelines:
 Application Form:
 Interactive GIS map:
 Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: NEBRASKA

Administered by: Nebraska State Historical Society

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

John Lindahl

Nebraska State Historical Society (HPO)

PO Box 82554

Lincoln, NE 68501-2554

402-471-4764

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: 5 x 6 feet two-post marker is \$4,700; 42 x 30 single post marker is \$1,510.; tablet style 6 feet x 3 feet \$2,600

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: Events, Personalities, Places Sites, Movements or Traditions of statewide significance; county or community-wide significance; single buildings or localities of national, state, county or community-wide significance and single buildings within a larger context

Types not accepted: individuals, organizations or structures not meeting criteria above

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Proposals are often initiated by local sponsoring organizations or government entities

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process: Topic and specific text are subject to review and approval of the Nebraska State Historical Committee. Proposals are reviewed according to evaluation criteria set by the Society

Approval entity: Legal authority to mark and preserve historical landmarks of Nebraska; determine what events, persons, sites and traditions are marked, justify expenditures for purchasing markers; designate location; preserve present markers; accept gifts; have power of eminent domain; Department of Roads will erect the markers.

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget: local sponsor responsible for financing the marker

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): preferred on public property or a property owned by a non-profit organization operating for public purposes. Rarely approved for private individually owned property

How location is determined: Nebraska State Historical Society has legal authority

Installation: Department of Roads

Design: Cast aluminum, silver letters against a blue background with the state seal with three distinct designs. Sponsors credit line at the bottom (2-post or single post)

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: County, title, location and number mapped on the website

Curriculum:

NEBRASKA (cont'd)

Website includes: Application guidelines:
 Application Form:
 Interactive GIS map:
 Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/markers/index.htm>

STATE NAME: NEVADA

Administered by: Department of Cultural Affairs, State Historic Preservation Office

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Mara Thiessen Jones

State Historic Preservation Office

100 North Stewart Street

Carson City, NV 89701-4285

(775)684-3439 (tel) ; (775)684-3442 (fax)

Date Marker program established: 1967

Number of markers in the State: 266

Cost of marker:

Funding: The Nevada Department of Transportation, which assists in the installation and funding of the markers.

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: sites and buildings listed by 14 HYDROGRAPHIC REGIONS or WATERBASINS

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process: Administered by the SHPO but approval process through the State Historical Society, which reviews the text.

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation: The Nevada Department of Transportation, which assists in the installation and funding of the markers.

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: Interactive electronic map and information access system by using a map or listing of counties; includes marker name, marker number, specific location and the complete text

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:**

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/shpo/markers/>

STATE NAME: NEW HAMPSHIRE

Administered by: New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources and the Department of Transportation

public private

Name and address of contact person:

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources (HPO)

19 Pillsbury Street, 2nd floor, Concord NH 03301-3570

(603)271-3483; (603)271-3433 (fax)

preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: approx. \$1,500 to \$1,800

Funding: Regular program: funded by state Transportation Fund; Cooperative program: paid by the sponsor

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: selection process takes into consideration the distribution of markers by geographic regions, chronological periods and historical themes

Application process: Any municipality, agency, organization or individual may propose a marker to commemorate significant NH places, persons or events. The DHR may also solicit suggestions for markers, text and proposed locations from other agencies, organizations, and the public.

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required ___draft text, supported by footnotes, bibliography and copies of background research, along with a recommendation for the location of the marker; copies of source material; Law requires each request must be accompanied by a petition supporting the marker with 20 or more signatures from state citizens ___

Approval process: Proposed text and research are reviewed by DHR, which has final editorial rights

Once text is approved it is accepted either under a regular program (limited to 10 a year) on state-maintained highway system or cooperative program for highways maintained by municipalities or when 10 has been exceeded.

Currently there is a waiting list for both

Approval entity: NHDHR

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property): Avoid placement at location that is already marked by private or public groups, near historical homes in private ownership not open to the public unless written consent by owner given.

Sponsors propose a location but DOT selects the specific place

How location is determined: by DOT

Installation:

Design: Title line and a text of 11 lines, 33-35 spaces per line or max 14 lines with 43 –45 spaces per line.

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet: Search capability available online by title, description, location, chronology, a-z, region

Curriculum:

NEW HAMPSHIRE (cont'd)

Website includes: Application guidelines:
 Application Form:
 Interactive GIS map:
 Search capability by name/county, etc: yes

Website: <http://www.nh.gov/markers/>

STATE NAME: NEW MEXICO

Administered by: Cultural Properties Review Committee formed in 1981 to review and approve text but now appears to be just a website, not particularly active in seeking new markers

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established: 1935

Number of markers in the State: more than 500

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required__

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: just taken down but all documented in a publication

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation: By March 1999, P& M was responsible for installing historical markers in all six of the state's highway districts and logging and mapping them at each site.

Design: evolving design but in 1980 colors changed from yellow, black, red and green to brown and white except those at NM border which are still original yellow, black red and green. 1981 a contract was awarded to Ojo Caliente Craftsman, through Phil T. Archuletta to redesign and manufacture a new style of markers for the highway department . In 1994 P&M Signs in Mountainair, NM was awarded the first state contract to manufacture historical marker components under the direction of Phil T. Archuletta and Maybel G. Ocana.

Outreach:

Publication: *Traveling New Mexico: A Guide to Historical and State Park Markers* by Phil T. Archuletta and Sharyl S. Holden (Sunstone Press Books); *Roadside New Mexico: A Guide to Historic Markers* (University of NM Press) just published.

Internet: yes, mainly on the Internet, [Historic Markers on the Information Superhighway](#)

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://historicmarkers.newmexico.org/>

STATE NAME: NEW YORK

Administered by: Advisory and database management program maintained by the New York State Museum and organizations wishing to erect new markers are provided with information and procedures and the Division acts as a clearinghouse for proposals to monument local historic sites

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established: 1926-1939; 1960 legislation resulted in large markers only (at rest stops)

Number of markers in the State: 2,800

Cost of marker: \$525 (private foundry idea for using prison labor (\$225) didn't pan out)

Funding: formerly state funded but no longer (state funding ended in 1939); all private for small markers

Selection Criteria: to designate places of historic interest and recognized as an important educational tool. Late 1960s shifted from short term commemorative to long-term educational program

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process: No process if placed on private land; advise to consult with a historian on text. If sign is being erected on land under a state agency there is a formal approval process, by sending text and location map to a designated individual. Once permission from appropriate state agency where sign is to be located is granted, the sign can be ordered from a select list of foundries that produce markers of the "traditional pattern" recognized as State Historic Markers on web.

Approval entity:

Production time: The foundry reports 75-100 a year

Maintenance responsibility/budget: Guidelines for maintenance on the web but individual responsibility

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: Types are on the web; originally cast iron, now cast aluminum

Outreach: 1994 volunteer effort begun to re-inventory all standing markers and to upgrade existing inventory as an electronic database (only 20% complete in the end)

Publication: *Historical Area Markers of New York State*, 1970 , a booklet with full text of rest area markers

Internet: searchable database of original state markers

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc: yes by county only pull down menu

Web address: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/historicmarkers/>

STATE NAME: NORTH CAROLINA

Administered by: Research Branch, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and the Traffic Engineering Branch, Division of Highways, Department of Transportation

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

Research Branch
North Carolina Office of Archives and History (HPO)
4610 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4610
(919)807-7290 (tel)
(919)733-8807 (fax) email: Michael.hill@ncmail.net

Date Marker program established: 1935

Number of markers in the State: 1, 400, at least one in every county

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria: limit proliferation of signs

Date of significance: places or persons of statewide significance only

Type of significance: colleges and universities of historical significance

Types not accepted: local or regional significance only; individuals before 25 yrs after death; no architecturally significant sites, but individual or historic event associated with a site; members of congress unless otherwise significant; churches in the coastal plain unless pre 1776; churches in Piedmont after 1800 and in Mountain region after 1820, cemeteries unless significant group of people buried there; county courthouses, jails, jail sites, post offices and similar sites; stagecoach roads, kings highways, stagecoach stops, plank roads, old brick roads, baggage roads, Indian trails and most bridges and ferries; spots visited by George Washington, The Marquis de Lafayette, Nathanael Greene, Lord Cornwallis, William Sherman, George Stoneman, Francis Asbury, or Griffin Rutherford automatically not marked; if birth site or gravesite already marked, not to mark again; no structure marked just to preserve it and if removed to another location, original location not marked as a general rule; no firsts; no individual marker within a site already marked

SR/NR parameters : no

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: prevent unchecked proliferation

Application process:

Forms downloadable form

Guidelines _____

Deadlines proposal received 6 weeks ahead of committee meeting

Online process available _____

Timetable ___ -

Docs required yes

Approval process: Notification of the action and site selected. Notice and hearing before marker is erected. If a local govt objects to placement, it goes back to the Advisory Committee for resolution

Private markers are fine at own expense, not on fed highways, on private property outside highway right of way, cannot have NC Seal and should differ in design and color

Approval entity: In 1935 enabling legislation established the Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee, the group responsible for the oversight of the program: ten faculty members, experts in one or more aspects of state history. Five-year terms, meet twice a year, and advise the secretary on historical authenticity, relative merit and appropriateness of each subject brought to their attention; edit the inscriptions; establish program criteria.

Text approval process: drafted or approved by the advisory committee with "straightforward undisputed facts"

Production time: Casting and shipping require 6-8 weeks

NORTH CAROLINA (cont'd)

Maintenance responsibility/budget: Requesting parties are responsible for erecting the marker, but Office of Archives and History can help plan the ceremony; regular maintenance such as painting, straightening, or post replacement done by DOT

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: reporting process to OAH

Location (public road/private property): restricted to numbered state and federal highways. Interstates, restricted access routes, city maintained streets and SR's are not eligible; cannot create an unreasonable road hazard

How location is determined: Applicants request, advisory committee determines final location

Installation: Applying entity is responsible

Design: Silver background and black lettering; heading is one or two lines 16 letters or spaces to a line, text five or six lines of approx 23 letters each.

Outreach:

Publication: *A Guide to North Carolina Historical Markers*, (1939 publication, temporarily out of print)

Internet: North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Web Project

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** process and criteria described

Application Form: .pdf format

Interactive GIS map: yes

Search capability by name/county, etc: yes

Web address: <http://www.ncmarkers.com>

STATE NAME: NORTH DAKOTA

Administered by: Presently initiating legislation to establish a formal statewide marker program including developing criteria; Lewis and Clark Historical Marker Program only

public private

Name and address of contact person:

State Historical Society

612 East Boulevard Avenue

Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

(701)328-2666 (tel); (701)328-3710 (fax)

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: *Brevet's North Dakota Historical Markers and Sites*, 1975 by Kaye L. Roehrick and Gail J. Smith

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: OHIO

Administered by: Ohio Historical Society

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Ohio Historical Markers Program Coordinator

Local History Office

Ohio Historical Society (HPO)

1982 Velma Avenue

Columbus, Ohio 43211

614-297-2340 (tel); 1-800-858-6878

ohiomarkers@ohiohistory.org

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State: 1204

Cost of marker: \$1,900 to \$2, 150

Funding: 2006 Ohio Markers Grants Program established to help organizations and communities defray cost of markers by providing \$750.

Selection Criteria: identify, commemorate and honor the important people, places and events that have contributed to Ohio history

Date of significance:

Type of significance: events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of history; associated with persons no longer living who have made significant contributions to patterns of history and culture; Embody distinctive style, type, period, method of construction, architecture or represent the work of a master; Yield info on history or pre-history; be associated with ethnic groups who have make a distinctive and significant contribution to history; embody characteristics of the state representing significant aspects of physical or natural history of earth and its life; represent popular stories or myths that are significant to history and culture

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Work with local partners and sponsors to produce the markers. Partners such as local historical societies choose topics, research historical materials, draft marker text and submit applications. Ohio HS staff helps verify accuracy and editing of text. Accuracy ultimate responsibility of partners and sponsors

Forms application form as .pdf online _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: cast aluminum and copper

Outreach:

Publication:

OHIO (cont'd)

Internet: www.remarkableohio.org EXTENSIVE website for markers program including searching and mapping markers, browsing a list, calendar of events (i.e. dedication ceremonies) propose a marker, participate in submitting photos related to the marker subject and geo-caching, entering GPS coordinates, project sponsors and a place for saving your favorite markers. All with photos and text of markers.

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:**
 Application Form:
 Interactive GIS map:
 Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/oahsm/markers.html>

STATE NAME: OKLAHOMA

Administered by: No formal statewide program found on the internet search, only a publication called A Field Guide to Oklahoma's Historical Markers, on over 400 markers by Bruce Joseph and Bob Burke through the Oklahoma Historical Society website

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Oklahoma Historical Society

Outreach

405-522-5230

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

 Date of significance:

 Type of significance:

 Types not accepted:

 SR/NR parameters :

 Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable_____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

 Publication:

 Internet:

 Curriculum:

Website includes:

 Application guidelines:

 Application Form:

 Interactive GIS map:

 Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: OREGON

Administered by: Travel Information Council is currently restoring the old markers made in the 40s, 50s and 60s out of native Port Orford Cedar and routed by master craftsmen. New markers are colorful mounted on cedar frames and posts.

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Jim Renner, Deputy Director
Travel Information Council
229 Madrona Avenue, SE
Salem, OR 97302

Date Marker program established: 1940s

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria: Persons, Events, Places, or Geologic Features. They should be of statewide or national significance.

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Send application

Forms online .pdf available _____

Guidelines application must include: gen. info, location of proposed marker, marker style and theme, history and significance, research reference materials, visual reference materials, funding partners _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: Heritage Tree and Historical Markers Brochure. This is a listing with map and newsletter although the issue online is from 2003.

Internet: Web has interactive map to locate info about markers across the State.

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: http://www.oregon.com/hisotry/oregon_historical_markers.cfm

STATE NAME: PENNSYLVANIA

Administered by: PA Historical and Museum Commission

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Historical Marker Program

Bureau for Historic Preservation (HPO)

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor

400 North Street

Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053

TEL: 717-705-4266; Fax: 717-772-0920 or email kgalle@state.pa.us

Date Marker program established: 1914-1933 PA Historical Commission pre- PHMC installed bronze plaques to commemorate individuals, events and landmarks; 1945 PHMC developed the modern marker

Number of markers in the State: more than 2000

Cost of marker: \$1,300 (city-type) to \$1,700 (roadside)

Funding: limited funds available for manufacture, no more than half the cost

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: by late 1970s, person, event or site had a meaningful impact on its time and of state or national rather than local significance; governors automatically approved; any historic site or property owned by PHMC is approved

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: in 1987 added significant subjects that have been given less attention are more favorable; greater effort now given to interpret more "fully and fairly the great spectrum of Pennsylvania history"; seeking more peoples and activities rather than buildings and sites

Application process: nominated by person or organization

Forms yes

Guidelines yes

Deadlines Jan 5

Online process available downloads

Timetable Spring

Docs required primary and secondary sources

Approval process: Applications once a year by January 5th and evaluated by independent experts from across the State and reviewed by PHMC commissioners the following spring. Once approved staff works with nominators to approve text, dedication dates and arranged for ceremony, generally within a year of approval

Approval entity: PHMC

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget: PHMC

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: PHMC budget

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: Listed on Marker website a book by theme on PA breweries

Internet: ExplorePAHistory.com is a link to history, tourism and education and includes lesson plans, hotel listings, restaurants, etc.

PENNSYLVANIA (cont'd)

Curriculum: Partnership program with PBS and local station WITF initiated an educational website using markers as a basis for thematic lessons that teachers can access.

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form: .pdf or ms word download

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc: online search of markers database several ways:
by title, county, keywords and categories

Web address: <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/DOH/>

STATE NAME: RHODE ISLAND

Administered by: only information found on website is a few listed through HISTORICMARKERS.COM. In phone inquiry to Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission found no known program.

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: SOUTH CAROLINA

Administered by: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, successor to state agency Historical Commission

public **private**

Name and address of contact person:

J. Tracy Power

Coordinator, South Carolina Historical Marker Program

South Carolina Department of Archives and History (HPO)

8301 Parklane Road

Columbia, SC

(803)896-6182

(803)896-6167 (fax)

email: power@scdah.state.sc.us

Date Marker program established: 1905 originally SC Highway Historical Marker Program, officially established in 1936

Number of markers in the State: more than 1000 since 1936

Cost of marker: \$1,475 city size to country size \$1,725

Funding: private local organizations or institutions – to suggest, document, sponsor, produce and maintain them

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance: sites of significant events, or historic properties (buildings , sites, structures) or other resources significant because of their design, as examples of type or for their association with institutions or individuals significant in local, state or national history; individually listed NR properties; demolished properties; cemeteries in their entirety

Types not accepted: significance date is less than 25 years unless case made; individual gravestones; individual components of a property already marked; duplicate representation across the state

SR/NR parameters : yes

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____yes_____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable ____ 1-3 months _____

Docs required_____no footnotes or endnotes required but copies of relevant primary and secondary sources used_____

Approval process: Reviewed by Marker program coordinator with text style, space and documentation. Ceremony planned

Approval entity: Final approval by Director of SC Department of Archives and History

Production time: 6-12 weeks by Sewah Studios

Maintenance responsibility/budget: sponsors' responsibility Leaflet on how-to provided

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: sponsors' responsibility

Location (public road/private property): at the historic site itself, without restriction to state highways and on other public streets or county roads

How location is determined: close to the site , usually in right of way of state highways or public roads, and determined by the SC DOT (state highways) and chief elected official for county, city or town roads

Installation: DOT will erect it or assist

SOUTH CAROLINA (cont'd)

Design: 1936-1954 gray cast aluminum with raised gray letters or silver with raised black letters with Palmetto tree and "SC in a rounded top; 1954-1990 dark blue with raised silver letters with the state flag; since 1990 silver with raised black letters; can have same text on both sides or different text on two sides.

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/historic.htm>

STATE NAME: SOUTH DAKOTA

Administered by: only information found on the web is through HistoricMarkers.com

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

South Dakota State Historical Society

Chris Nelson 605-773-3103

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: TENNESSEE

Administered by: Tennessee Historical Commission

_public _private

Name and address of contact person:

Tennessee Historical Commission (HPO)

2941 Lebanon Road

Nashville, TN 37243-0442

Linda Wynne, Assistant Director for State Programs (Historic Markers) 615-532-1550 ext 102

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: *Tennessee Historical Markers*, Tennessee Historical Commission (404-page directory of most of the markers in the state for \$3.00)

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: TEXAS

Administered by: Texas Historical Commission

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Bob Brinkman

Texas Historical Commission

(512)463-5853

Date Marker program established: 1936; current program 1962

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker: application fee; \$1,000-1,500.

Funding: Individual or group sponsor shares cost with THC, who pays for development and oversight, product design and inscriptions, quality review and procedural matters. Sponsors help defray cost of manufacturing

Selection Criteria: subject markers and landmark markers

Date of significance: most topics date 50 years, but events may be 30 yrs and individuals dead after 10 yrs (subject markers); RHTL (Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks) RHTL is a legal designation and allows the marker to go up. Properties historically and architecturally significant at least 50 years old associated with an event, an individual or other significance to the community (Landmark markers); HTC (Historic Texas Cemetery) markers for burial grounds already approved as part of HTC.

Type of significance: local history of local significance; and with landmarks, its architectural integrity and significance through design, materials, structure or construction method and broader context, including geography.

Types not accepted: buildings that have been moved in the past 50 years or has artificial siding or in disrepair; cemeteries are not longer eligible for subject markers

SR/NR parameters : yes, considered

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation: seek diverse topics

Subject markers are solely educational and mark local history important to community and region (church congregations, schools, communities, businesses, events and individuals; RHTL program for Landmark markers; cemeteries marked through Historic Texas Cemetery program;

Application process:

Forms yes

Guidelines yes (including font and pt size)

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required Narrative history, footnotes, primary and secondary resources, maps, LANDMARKS: plus site plan, floor plans, photographs _____

Approval process: THC staff and commissioners review applications to determine eligibility, size and type of marker for each topic and priorities for work schedule on approved applications; in cooperation with an appointed CHC markers chair.

Approval entity: THC on design, eligibility, content, manufacturing, placement, replacement and compliance oversight; CHC is sole liaison with THC for all matters related to the process

Production time: THC manages this process, sends to vendor, proofs the sign and final is shipped to CHC

Text approval process: THC determines content, wording, punctuation, phrasing, etc

Maintenance responsibility/budget: Individual or group sponsor shares cost with THC, who pays for development and oversight, product design and inscriptions, quality review and procedural matters. Sponsors help defray cost of manufacturing

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

TEXAS (cont'd)

Location (public road/private property): THC determines based on max accessibility (public) and protection of historic resources; must be at the site it is commemorating; try to put on a post; subject markers cannot be on non-historic buildings;

CHS or sponsors are responsible for physical placement unless it is a state maintained highway right-of-way, in which case the Texas DOT will be responsible for putting it up in consultation with CHC

How location is determined: see above

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: *Remembering Texas*, a resource locator guide

Internet: Texas Historic Sites Atlas, online inventory of marker information and inscriptions; original files at THC library

Curriculum:

Website includes:

- Application guidelines:** yes
- Application Form:** yes
- Interactive GIS map:** not available
- Search capability by name/county, etc:** yes

Web address: <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigns/madmark.html>

STATE NAME: UTAH

Administered by: Markers and Monuments Inventory, a searchable database project of the Utah State Historical Society

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Linda Thatcher

Markers and Monuments Inventory

Utah State Historical Society

300 Rio Grande

Salt Lake City, UT 84101

This program is the result of a survey and includes information on location, physical structures and the organizations and groups responsible for the markers and monuments. It also includes the full text of the inscription. The information came principally from local historical societies, including Daughters of Utah Pioneer camps or companies. These local organizations surveyed their communities or counties to locate the markers and carefully record them. The information was converted to be web-searchable in 1999. Continue to add information when it is available.

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc: Web address:

STATE NAME: VERMONT

Administered by: Division for Historic Preservation. Information on the web links you to a listing of historical markers with inscription. One can search by county, theme, or type (houses, bridges, etc) No evidence of active marker program here

___public ___private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines_____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required_____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: www.historicvermont.org

STATE NAME: VIRGINIA

Administered by: In 1966 Virginia Landmarks Commission took over the administration of the markers, the predecessor of the Department of Historic Resources, the administrator today. Today, the Virginia Department of Transportation retains primary responsibility for installing new markers and maintaining existing ones

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources (HPO)

Randall Jones 504-568-8175

Francine Archer 804-367-2323 ext 120

Date Marker program established: 1927

Number of markers in the State: approx. 2,200

Cost of marker: \$1,350 including shipping and tax

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance: at least 50 year ago

Type of significance: people, places or events of regional, statewide or national significance

Types not accepted: no living person; church markers related to building more than congregation

SR/NR parameters : yes, if state or national significance, not automatic; cemeteries on SR or NR are eligible for markers or someone of state or national significance, or in the military

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: the proposed marker text is submitted to the DHR and will be edited by them in consultation with an outside advisory and editorial committee and, together with the sponsor, come to a mutually agreed upon text. The goal of this process is to have a concise, polished and historically accurate marker. After this phase is completed, DHR staff must present the proposed marker to the Board of Historic Resources, which is authorized to approve state historical highway markers.

Forms_____ .pdf to download _____

Guidelines_____yes_____

Deadlines___ 3 months in advance of quarterly board meetings_____

Online process available ___as download_____

Timetable ___Board meets quarterly_____

Docs required___application form, map___including 100-word text and suggest a location___

Approval process: public meeting when presented to the Board

Approval entity: Board of Historic Resources, DHR

Production time: unveiling ceremony

Maintenance responsibility/budget: VA DOT or local public works department

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: call to report

Location (public road/private property): safe, public right of way, close to commemorative site and visible to traveling public

How location is determined: DOT with the sponsor suggestion in application

Installation: VDOT

Design: 42 x 40inched painted silver cast aluminum with black lettering on both sides , seal of the Commonwealth, on bottom a credit line say DHR and year created; in 1930s pull-off areas were created so motorists could read the signs; now on sign, the seal of Virginia, an id code, title, text, name of DHR and year.

Outreach:

Publication: *A Guidebook to Virginia's Historical Markers* compiled by Scott Arnold January 2007 (UVA Press in association with DHR \$19.95)

Internet: New , sophisticated search engine for identifying markers throughout the state by key words, theme, roads, county, city or town.

VIRGINIA (cont'd)

Curriculum:

Website includes: Application guidelines: FAQs and info for Sponsors; list of recently approved
Application Form: yes
Interactive GIS map: yes using a map and photographs of each marker
Search capability by name/county, etc: yes, see above

Web address: http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/hiway_markers/hwmarker_info.htm

STATE NAME: WASHINGTON

Administered by: no information regarding a statewide Historical Markers program evident on the web. Called the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Washington State and they said there is no known centralized (statewide) historical marker program.

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Date Marker program established:

Number of markers in the State:

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication:

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

STATE NAME: WEST VIRGINIA

Administered by: West Virginia State Archives

x **public** _private

Name and address of contact person:

Frederick H. Armstrong, Director

Archives and History (HPO)

The Cultural Center

1900 Kanawha Blvd. E Bldg 9

Charleston, WV 25305-0300

fharmstrong@wvculture.org

Date Marker program established: established in 1937 to encourage tourism; WVA Historic Commission took over the program in 1963; since the late 1960s the program has been managed by the West Virginia State Archives (today part of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History)

Number of markers in the State: approx. 1000 but 30% in trouble or gone

Cost of marker: \$1,350 same on both sides to \$1,425 different on each side with \$75 transport and installation

Funding: up until 1985 the State funded the program, since then private groups or individuals

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance: event 25 years or more; individuals must be deceased;

Type of significance: site, property, district or community honored must have significance to state or local prehistory, history, natural history, architecture or cultural life

Types not accepted: prehistory site marker that would endanger the site (greater than 2 miles away)

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms__application with text_____

Guidelines_____

Deadlines__application must be submitted one meeting prior to approval meeting_____

Online process available _____

Timetable __Commission meets 3 x year_____

Docs required__resources used to make case for significance (non specific on web)_____

Approval process: the Archives and History staff review all applications. Exceptions to criteria require 2/3 vote by Commission.

Approval entity: Presented to the Archives and History Commission for consideration and action.

Production time: 6-9 months

Maintenance responsibility/budget: no state budget for repair or replacement; sponsors sometime assume cost of refurbishing

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: report to State Archives

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design: State seal

Outreach:

Publication: The information from all these markers is available in one handy volume. With locations and complete inscriptions arranged by county, over 100 photographs, and a brief history of West Virginia's marker program, *Marking Our Past* is the most comprehensive collection to date of these popular reminders of the state's rich history. The price for mail orders, including tax (for in-state residents), postage and handling (for delivery in the United States only), is \$15 per book.

WEST VIRGINIA (cont'd)

Internet: State Archives maintains files on each of the markers, which is out of date. In 1996 an ISTE grant given to the Division of Culture and History to survey the state's highway markers and an updated markers guidebook is now available

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:** yes

Application Form: downloadable .pdf

Interactive GIS map: no

Search capability by name/county, etc: *West Virginia Memory Project* -- Highway

Markers are searchable by County and title

Web address: <http://www.wvculture.org/hiStory/markers.html>

STATE NAME: WISCONSIN

Administered by: Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation

public **private** a state agency and private membership organization

Name and address of contact person:

Wisconsin Historical Society (HPO)

816 State Street

Madison, WI 53706-1482

Richard Bernstein, Field Services Representative

608-264-6583; 608-264-6486

Date Marker program established: 1951

Number of markers in the State: approximately 470

Cost of marker: small plaque is \$250 to larger marker \$3,900 with shipping

Funding: nominee pays for marker

Selection Criteria: sites, individuals, buildings or events of local, state or national significance

Date of significance:

Type of significance: history, architecture, culture, archaeology, ethnic associations, geology, natural history or legends

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters: not automatic, must apply

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process: Application form and price list online. Not overly active program.

Forms **yes**

Guidelines

Deadlines

Online process available

Timetable

Docs required **well-researched**

Approval process: WHS staff approves and orders the marker from the foundry. Draft of text is submitted to the staff and goes through an extensive process of fact checking, re-writing and final edit, which takes 6 months or more because it is not a high priority program. Five to ten approved a year on a first-come, first-served basis.

Approval entity: WHS

Production time: 10-12 weeks

Maintenance responsibility/budget: applicant, but this becomes a problem to keep up

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing: call and provide title and location; according to phone interview nearly 10% of existing signs are either missing or damaged

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined: applicant gets permission from landowner

Installation: according to a phone interview, DOT becoming less supportive than originally

Design: Cast aluminum, raised cream-colored letters on brown background and available in four sizes. They have a badge and state symbol of Wisconsin embossed at the top. Manufactured by Sewah Studios

Outreach:

Publication: *History Just Ahead: A Guide to Wisconsin's Historical Markers* (1999), edited by Sarah Davis McBride, illustrated with marker texts, historic and current photographs and arranged by geographic region

Internet: online database available for current information on markers

Curriculum:

Website includes: **Application guidelines:**

Application Form:

WISCONSIN (cont'd)

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/markers/>

STATE NAME: WYOMING

Administered by: no statewide marker program in evidence on web but they do have a program. Presently revising their manual and process. There is no legislative funding, so the sponsor will have to pay for the marker. By mid-2008, their goal is to have a website and link to their database of information. A few publications related to markers, see below

public private

Name and address of contact person:

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
Matt Bennett, Historic Review and Federal Consultation
307-777-6179

Date Marker program established: c. 1930

Number of markers in the State: 400

Cost of marker:

Funding:

Selection Criteria:

Date of significance:

Type of significance:

Types not accepted:

SR/NR parameters :

Seeking broad historical/geographic representation:

Application process:

Forms _____

Guidelines _____

Deadlines _____

Online process available _____

Timetable _____

Docs required _____

Approval process:

Approval entity:

Production time:

Maintenance responsibility/budget:

Plans for damage/vandalism or missing:

Location (public road/private property):

How location is determined:

Installation:

Design:

Outreach:

Publication: *Wyoming Historical Markers at 55 MPH: A guide to historical markers and monuments on Wyoming highways* by Susan Carlson (1994). Cheyenne, WY: Beartooth Corral. ISBN: 0963024825; and *A Few Interested Residents: Wyoming Historical Marks & Monuments* (1992) by Mike Jording

Internet:

Curriculum:

Website includes:

Application guidelines:

Application Form:

Interactive GIS map:

Search capability by name/county, etc:

Web address:

APPENDIX B

Statewide Historical Marker Program Telephone Surveys

5. Summary

6. Survey Forms

Summary of Statewide Marker Program Telephone Surveys

After reviewing state marker programs on the Internet through a website search, it became apparent that some states had particularly well-organized, well-established programs. *Preservation Partners* selected nine such states to conduct in-depth phone interviews on the “nuts and bolts” of establishing a program, and on some of the issues and concerns of running a statewide program regarding selection, maintenance and vandalism. Although there is no standard for how marker programs are administered across the country, there are certain threads that tie these programs together, and the interview process was a valuable one. In fact, it may be worth considering establishing a national network of program administrators who could exchange ideas and information by Internet or, holding a session on the topic at a yearly statewide history

Conference. It seemed evident from the states interviewed that the Statewide Marker programs are a vibrant part of public history, popular amongst travelers to the state as well as a source of community pride. The States interviewed are as follows: Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Inventory of existing markers, approve new markers or both?

All states interviewed, except for Indiana, have some form of inventory, ranging from a list in a published guidebook to a searchable online database. Most of the States interviewed approve new markers, and several states, including North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Tennessee approve markers in partnership with an advisory committee or, in the case of Pennsylvania an independent panel.

Publicity

Five of the nine states interviewed cited the dedication ceremony as an important public relations opportunity for the marker program. Georgia and Kentucky said publicity was not needed and other states suggested they use press releases for newspapers, radio stations to publicize the program as well as the website and publications.

Coordination with other state agencies

Five out of the nine interviews stated DOT as the one state agency with which to coordinate efforts with and they generally help with location, installation and maintenance/repair. Georgia was the only state interviewed that coordinates efforts with the Department of Tourism and Texas relies heavily on their network of County Commissions.

Signage Design/Is it coordinated with other state/county/local signage

Georgia is the only state of nine that is beginning to coordinate markers with tourism signs. Atlanta, in particular, has a program that coordinates tourism and historical markers. Local organizations in Michigan can work with DOT to have way finding signs installed to alert drivers of an upcoming historical marker. All other states interviewed have a cast aluminum sign and do not coordinate design with other state/county or local signage.

Number of signs/Limit per year

Georgia has 2600/20 per year; Indiana has 500; Kentucky has 2000+/30 per year; Michigan has 1600/no limit per year; North Carolina has 1400 and is only limited by work load for the staff; Pennsylvania has 2000+/40 per year; Tennessee has 1600/20 per year; Texas has 13,000 which is highly unusual because they tend to count all markers, free-standing, plaques, medallions, etc in that number; Virginia has 2,200.

Funding

There is no clear trend regarding the funding source of state marker programs interviewed. Three (3) require a match from the sponsoring individual or organization; two (2) are applicant funded entirely two (2) are state funded entirely and two (2) are applicant funded and have an application fee (\$100 and \$250).

Vandalism

Of the nine states interviewed, five of them do allot some kind of funding to deal with vandalized signs, although several will first try to work through insurance companies if the sign has been damaged by a car; Indiana works with DOT and Kentucky uses Transportation Enhancement Funds to pay for the cost of replacing markers that have been vandalized. Michigan allocates the funds it collects from application fees for this purpose and Texas has no real plan at this time.

Coordination effort with local/county programs

None of the program administrators interviewed claimed to coordinate efforts with marker programs on the local or county level. Texas relies heavily on their County Commissions to process the statewide marker nominations.

Method for disseminating information

The foremost method for disseminating information about the marker program is the Internet, through the website. Publications, that is, guidebooks are also a popular method. Pennsylvania's partnership program with public television and their website to create the curriculum connection is unique and extraordinary; Virginia made a strong case for the value of the dedication ceremony in creating goodwill for the program and pride in the community in addition to educating the public about history.

Approval process effectiveness

There was a general feeling of satisfaction amongst the nine states interviewed. Virginia would like to have more staff and Georgia is in the process of revising their process, but the other states were generally pleased with the process.

Greatest strength

Georgia was pleased to have a program that reflects its rich, diverse history and a strong advisory committee. Indiana liked to have staff control of the process and was advocating for having special initiatives to fill in gaps and be inclusive. Kentucky was pleased to have allocated research funds to make sure signage text was accurate and they also felt they had a good geographic distribution of signage. Michigan was pleased with the longevity of the program and its geographic distribution. North Carolina

advocated for the ability to search the web and locate a site using googlemaps. Pennsylvania was particular pleased with what they feel is a vibrant program reflecting accurately the state's diverse history as well as its ability to offer curriculum connections. Texas commented on how much the move to a completely online application process helped mitigate and overworked office and cut down on paper. Virginia was also proud of its long-standing program (since the 1920s) and its important role in public history awareness.

Changes

Georgia would like to improve their website; Georgia would like to update old marker and make better use of the expertise of historians throughout the state. Kentucky and North Carolina would not make any changes. Michigan has three separate applications based on the kind of nomination being made and they would change this to one application only. – having three is confusing to the public. They also felt there was too much input from the sponsor on the text. This should be more of a staff function and therefore any program should have at least one full-time dedicated staff. Pennsylvania made significant changes in the 1990s, in part a reflecting of the changes regarding how we interpret history, and has been please at how their program has evolved. Texas would like to be more inclusive in their marker selection whereas Virginia is pleased at how inclusive their program is and would make no changes.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Georgia
Charlie Snyder
Georgia Historical Society

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Both.

How do you publicize existence of program?

It's not necessary to publicize program. The last three application cycles have produced the largest pools of applicants in history of the program.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

Funding for program comes through the Department of Tourism. Office is working with Tourism to get a complete listing of signs throughout state.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

Starting to coordinate signage with Tourism – Atlanta has a program to begin to coordinate tourism and historical marker signage.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

Approximately 2600 signs in state. State approves approximately 20/year.

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

State uses a 50/50 match between sponsor and state. If sponsor wants to use own money, GHS discourages and suggests that sponsor re-submit application.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

Sponsor signs agreement to manage and maintain signs after erected. If a sign is damaged or removed, sponsor often lets GHS know and they will help to put it back up.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

Organizations such as DAR and counties have erected their own markers, but do not include the GA state seal and are not included in state database.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

Brochures at GHS events, on the internet and in press releases for new markers.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

GA is currently updating its review and approval process. They have been getting too many proposals for markers at sites of local and county significance, and too many cemeteries and churches. Currently updating significance to require state and national significance for markers.

What is your program's greatest strength?

Rich diverse history in Georgia and strong advisory committee. Have not used special initiatives yet, but may do that in future because they want to seek out markers with "non-traditional" subject. Recently entered into partnership with Walmart to put up more African American markers.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Improve website – make marker information more accessible.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Indiana
Jeremy Hackard
317-232-2535

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

They are currently beginning to look at old markers that were erected before current program began (before 1947); a previous program was started in 1921. They are putting the information from the marker into their files, and reviewing the information on them to make sure they are accurate. They have not yet decided whether to take down old markers that are inaccurate – a decision will be made in the future.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Press releases for dedication ceremonies of new markers include information about program. Staff tries to work with newspapers and radio stations on including this information in stories.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

Works with DOT to get advice on location, to install signs and to repair damaged signs. Consults with HPO on markers for significant buildings, architectural significance. Tourism has control over 13 historic sites around the state, but is not involved in marker program.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

Sign designed in 1947; design was "tweaked" in 1990s to make the shape of the sign more accurately reflect the shape of Indiana.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

Approximately 500 signs.

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

Applicants eligible for \$1000 grant from state, and have to cover remainder. Funding is appropriated by legislature every two years, so they keep an eye on the money to make sure they have enough for both years. Some applicants pay for their own, so they do not have to compete in pool for money—they are held to same standards.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

Some signs are struck by cars in accidents. They work with DOT to get repairs done. Some member of the public take signs, bring them home and call state to get repaired.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

Some DAR markers, but program not active. Some counties have put up markers, but only state markers are in their database because they cannot confirm accuracy of other markers.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

Website.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

More effective after recent changes – used to get approval by advisory committee before the Indiana Historical Bureau and Indiana Library and Historical Board would also approve. The advisory committee was gubernatorial appointments and not necessarily people knowledgeable about history. The approval by the advisory committee eliminated.

The staff takes up to 7 weeks to review the facts presented in the application for each marker and the staff writes the text and has it reviewed by outside historians knowledgeable about topic -- they give the historians 2 weeks to review text.

What is your program's greatest strength?

Staff conducts research on every application to verify accuracy. The staff is very knowledgeable about history – director has MA in US History. Also, they have begun to institute special initiatives and work with local groups to get them to propose markers for certain subjects, ex: Bicentennial of Lincoln moving to Indiana.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Recent revisions have strengthened it – they use a pool of historians around the state who are experts in certain topics and they review the text for accuracy. They have begun to look at older markers and recruiting community groups to repaint the ones that have been damaged or are in disrepair.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Kentucky
Becky Vittetow
502-564-1792 x4474

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Approve new – marker program has been in existence since 1949.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Don't have to publicize – well-known program. The Kentucky Historical Society includes information on the program in its PR brochures, etc. Press release for new markers and dedication ceremonies includes information on program.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

Coordinates with DOT on installation in state's 11 highway "districts". District DOT personnel also help with removal and refurbishing of damaged signs. Does not work at all with Tourism.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

Signs designed in 1950 – manufactured by Seewah. No coordination with other signage.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

2000+ signs. Signs are approved in 2 cycles per year, with 15 signs approved in each cycle, so 30 signs/year.

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

All costs paid for my sponsor. A small portion of costs for sign covers any additional research that has to be done to verify information.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

Some problems with vandalism. Uses DOT transportation enhancement funds to pay for refurbishing damaged signs.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

No other markers in state, to her knowledge.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

On website and through booklets on markers (latest 2004). Books about markers are out of date so quickly, that they now rely on website almost exclusively. A curriculum based on markers was developed by a college in Kentucky on its own, and did not consult with state. State is happy to have the information used this way.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

Very happy with approval process – would not make any changes.

What is your program's greatest strength?

The staff tries to check the facts very carefully – they have a list of researchers in the state they use routinely to verify information. Funds are built into the cost of markers to be able to pay these researchers a small fee for

their work. Also, there are markers across the entire state – not just big cities, but in many small towns, too, so that all citizens can see that their history is important, too.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Nothing.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Michigan
Laura Ashlee,
Michigan HPO
517-373-1630

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Approve new markers. Program has been around since 1955, so they have inventory.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Website, press releases for new markers. Used to have workshops about how to apply, but had to stop due to budget cuts.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

No – signs are generally on private property, so there is no need to get DOT to consult on location or install. Private property owner has to give permission for sign.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism “way-finding” signs?

No, state does not coordinate. At the local level, a local organization can coordinate with DOT to purchase a state sign alerting traffic that an historical marker is coming up. Uses Sewah sign manufacturer.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

Approximately 1600 signs -- do not limit number of signs.

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

All costs paid by applicant, plus \$250 administrative fee.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

Some problems with damage or vandalism – some signs stolen for scrap value. If repairs need to be made, money comes from “historical marker fund”, which is funded by \$250 administrative fees paid by applicant. New legislation in 2002 made it a misdemeanor to steal an historical marker, and states that marker is property of the state (private property owners would sometimes move and take the marker with them – this law prohibits that.)

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

There are some county and/or local programs. State will not put up marker at a location if there is already a county marker there. The state does not include in marker database because they cannot verify information on marker.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

Website, publications.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

Even though the process would be more efficient if the staff could handle the approval process without having to go to the gubernatorially appointed advisory board, the advisory board gives it a certain cache it might not have otherwise and can serve as a buffer if there is a controversial marker approved.

What is your program's greatest strength?

Its longevity – most of the public knows about the existence of the markers. All but 2 of the 84 counties in the state have state historical markers.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

They made several changes recently and updated the website – would not make many changes. Michigan used three separate applications (new sites, sites listed on Registers and archaeological sites) – she thinks it's too confusing and would recommend using only one application form.

Notes: Laura said as a cautionary note that she spends too much time negotiating the marker text with a sponsor. Even though the advisory committee has final say on the text, the sponsor is paying for the marker and often wants to have more input on the wording of the text. She recommended setting strict rules at the beginning about how much input to allow a sponsor on the text; for example, tell them you will write text and send to them to review facts for accuracy only, not wording.

Also, do not start program unless state is willing to commit resources of at least one full-time staff member to administer program.

State: North Carolina

Michael Hill

North Carolina Office of Archives and History (NCOAH)

919-807-7290

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Statewide markers are now listed on the website with mapping interface; markers are approved by an advisory committee – ten faculty members, experts on one or more aspects of state history. They have five-year terms, meet twice a year and advise the secretary on the authenticity, relative merit and appropriateness of each subject brought to NCOAH. They edit the text and define the program criteria.

How do you publicize existence of program?

The website is one form of pr as well as the markers themselves, particularly the publicity generated from a dedication ceremony.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

DOT is responsible for maintenance; if a marker is damaged, every attempt is made to get insurance to fund the repair; if a replacement is needed, the state pays for it. What is needed is a field force.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism “way-finding” signs?

North Carolina uses their own designed “classic” cast aluminum sign since 1947 and they are made by Sewah foundry; the design is not made available to local independent efforts.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

1400 signs in the state, the number per year is limited only by the advisory committee’s work load

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

The program is state funded and Mike highly recommends this approach to create a level playing field. In his opinion, private funding opens the program and selection up to local politics. \$60,000 budget covers 10-12 new signs and 10-12 replacement signs per year

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

Forced to assume cost of replacement signs but tries to go through insurance claim for damaged ones.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

Signs are restricted to numbered state and federal highways, interstates, restricted access routes, city maintained streets and cannot create an unreasonable road hazard. They have tried “brand” their state markers and separate them from local efforts.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

They have a published guidebook, a website and consider the dedication ceremonies as great generators of publicity for the program as well as some staff initiatives to fill in the gaps of history.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

He is pleased with the process and the dynamics of the independent commission is quite a rewarding an experience.

What is your program's greatest strength?

He is proud of the website and the GIS component, which people have come to expect; the publication sells; he would encourage having state funded program for the best quality.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Seemed overall was pleased (and proud) of the program.

State: Pennsylvania

Bob Weible

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)

717-783-9867

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

The program is administered by PHMC and website has searchable online database. In the early 1990s the program was overhauled from what was described as a state-run bureaucracy to more of a partnership approach. The approval process was shifted to an independent panel but still controlled by PHMC standards. This independent panel of five is on a rotating membership basis and every attempt is made at geographic, racial, academic and cultural diversity, which brings broad and new insights into the process.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Pennsylvania's is a grassroots program with PHMC control. In the last ten years they made the move away from marking all dead white males to reflect a more complete view of history. They sought a new base in order to accomplish this and find these sites.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

No, except for dedication ceremonies.

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

1945 PHMC developed the new marker cast aluminum design.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

More than 2000 in the state; about \$20,000 in the grant fund pays for about 40 markers (per year).

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

PHMC funds about 50% of the cost of the marker and maintenance or reinstallation if stolen.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

PHMC funds maintenance or vandalism. Often the counties or PennDOT notifies PHMC if something has been damaged or stolen.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

Not addressed

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

PHMC has a wide network in which they work to partner with counties and local level and the independent panel all works in concert toward the success of what they consider a vibrant program. PHMC also has an active website. In addition, they have a unique partnership with the local PBS station WITF who agreed to launch another website *ExplorePAHistory.com* based on the markers but broadly developed as an educational tool for school-based and general education (\$6 million project).

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

Extremely pleased with the independent panel of experts to support a marker program that seeks to keep history alive for a diverse constituency.

What is your program's greatest strength?

The PBS website and the network of historians and cultural resource professionals that make up their independent review panel.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Feels the changes made in the early 1990s really created a much more vibrant program that brings history alive for people across the state and is a great asset.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Tennessee
Linda Wynn
Tennessee Historical Commission
615-532-1550 ext 102

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Proposed texts are submitted to the office of the THC. They are reviewed by staff and forwarded to the commission member in the county closest to where the proposed marker will be erected for his/her comments. All proposed markers are sent to the Monuments and Markers Committee with the commission member's comments. The Monuments and Markers Committee meets and review all texts and comments, and documentation and make a determination of approval, rejection, or deferral. The Committee's recommendations are taken under consideration by the full commission at one of its respective meetings, where it votes as a body on the committee's recommendations. The program has been around since 1955. There is a published directory of all markers in the state of about 1600.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Through the two marker publications *Tennessee Historical Markers* (1996) and *Journey to Our Past: A Guide to African American Markers in Tennessee* (1999) and their newsletter, *The Courier*.

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

DOT is in charge of placing the signs; private property with permission

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

Cast aluminum copyrighted design manufactured by Sewah Studios. Local level operates independently.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

About 1600 in the inventory. About 20 per year and funding is limited; sponsor may pay for a sign if funding has run out, but it still has to go through the approval process.

The commission has three methods of funding. They are: 100% by THC, 100% by persons or organizations proposing the marker and 50% by THC and 50% by person(s) or organization.

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

The manufacturing is completely funded by the Commission but limited. If a sponsor wants to fund their own marker they still need to have it approved.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

There is a \$45,000 budget, \$35,000 is for repair and replacement.

The commission is notified and then they work through the list for maintenance and replacement

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

They do not coordinate with local programs.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

There is a master guidebook and tours generate around the markers.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

N/A

What is your program's greatest strength?

N/A

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

N/A

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Texas

Bob Brinkman

Texas Historical Commission

512-463-5853

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

The Texas Historical Commission has been administering the marker program since 1953, but it has gone through many changes. Early on there was not one standard marker design but many kinds of markers, such as pink granite, metal, cast aluminum, circular medallions and one that looked like an unraveled scroll. They count all of these when they total over 13,000 state markers. In 2000, there was a grant through the Highway Department to create a database with mapping and location information. Last year, they upgraded to a completely online application process and are pleased with this effort to streamline the process and cut down on paper load. Applications are sponsored locally and pass through the County Historical Commissions for review. The Chairs of most of these CHCs help the process locally first.

How do you publicize existence of program?

N/A

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

Coordinates with the County Historical Commissions

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

The design in Texas has evolved through the years

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

Texas has over 13,000 signs. They found that instituting an application fee it was a good idea (see below).

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

The signs are paid for by the sponsor, but Texas just implemented a non-refundable application fee of \$100 which then goes into a fund (the Undertold Story Fund) for new markers to fill in gaps in the program. Since this was just started, they are still working on the method for how to allocate this money. No other funding is available, only a match of THC staff time, educational outreach about the program and staff maintenance of the Texas Atlas on the web.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

No real plan for this.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

It appears the counties work with the state.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

The Texas Atlas on the web is very important as tool for preservationists on building condition, research and Section 106 compliance.

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

Only as effective as the county historical commissions.

What is your program's greatest strength?

Bob was pleased about the recent decision to go completely online with the application process; it streamlines the process and cuts down on paper. Makes more information accessible to more people, more quickly.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

Need to fill in the gaps of history represented by markers. Needs more staff/resources.

Questions for Telephone Survey of State Historical Marker Programs

State: Virginia

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
Randall Jones, 504-568-8175
Francine Archer, 804-367-2323 ext. 120

Does program inventory existing marker locations, approve new markers, or both?

Virginia has an inventory and tries to be as accurate as they can. They have one full-time staff person and some part-time staff and college intern assistance. There is an internal editorial committee and they vet the submitted text for accuracy, and work with the sponsor to write the final copy.

How do you publicize existence of program?

Dedication ceremonies are great pr opportunities

Do you coordinate your activities with other state agencies, such as DOT, HPO, Tourism, etc.?

VDOT handles the installation and maintenance

How was signage designed? Is signage coordinated with other state/county/local tourism "way-finding" signs?

They have a distinct state design of cast aluminum, silver with black lettering and they try to protect it from being used by private interests.

How many signs do you have? Do you limit the # of signs?

Approximately 2,200 signs in the state and believed dating back to 1927, the start of the program

Funding issues: how is your funding method working? How would you improve it?

Since 1976 markers were privately funded and the nomination process was grassroots driven. VDOT handles installation and maintenance; One marker costs \$1,360. The program is not part of the general assembly but an ISTEA grant helped support a manager. It continues to be a grant-funded program.

Do you have problems with vandalism? How is it reported? What do you do to repair signs? Who pays for it?

When a sign is damaged, every effort is made to get insurance to pay for damaged signs but if stolen, the state tries to fund replacement.

Are there county or local historical marker programs in your state? Do you coordinate your program with theirs?

Markers have to be at least regionally significant. The State program seems to be community-based. Local markers have to distinguish themselves with a different design.

How do you disseminate information about your program (educational and tourism-related)?

Dedication ceremonies are great public relations' moments for the program; seems to be popular in its own right without too much need for targeted outreach

How effective do you think your review/approval process is? What changes would you make?

It seems that more staff would be helpful.

What is your program's greatest strength?

Program has been around 60-80 years and is Mr. Jones felt that Markers are one of the best programs of its kind for public history. People often plan their vacations around markers. Even though there is no enabling legislation there seems to be an allegiance and loyalty to the program in the general assembly. He also feels that the website and link to *google* maps is great, even the guidebook, although limiting, is nice to read in the car or at home at leisure.

What would you change about your program to make it stronger and/or easier to use?

No real comments here because he spoke with tremendous pride about the program and its public role in learning about history, the good, and the "ugly."

APPENDIX C

Sample Historical Marker Applications and Procedures

- 1. Indiana**
- 2. Kentucky**
- 3. Michigan**
- 4. Texas**

Application Information

Indiana Historical Marker Program, Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana

Deadline for submitting Application: September 21, 2007

Please read the Marker Program Guidelines posted at www.IN.gov/history.

Congratulations on your decision to apply for a state format historical marker. If at anytime during the process you have questions or need assistance, please contact Jeremy Hackerd, 317-232-2537 or email jhackerd@statelib.lib.in.us.

You may submit your Application for the deadline listed above, or contact the Historical Bureau for the next appropriate deadline.

The application process for an Indiana state format historical marker is rigorous to ensure that,

- marker texts are accurate and provide historical context (background),
- markers are installed at appropriate sites,
- necessary permissions have been obtained.

Historical Bureau staff will perform much of the research required for your application; however, your willingness to provide locally available materials in a timely fashion is crucial.

It is important to remember that the significance of your topic is expressed in two ways:

- 1. Marker text**, which is a short introduction to your topic for the casual visitor or student, will hopefully entice the reader to find out more—from the Historical Bureau, from local libraries, or other resources. We encourage applicants to create their own brochure or website to provide more details and interpretation of the topic for visitors.
- 2. Marker annotated text**, which includes citations to the material used to substantiate the marker facts, will appear in the Historical Bureau's Marker Database available to all at www.IN.gov/history. The searchable database also contains the title, text, county, credit line, and location of the marker.

Submitting the Application: Your Checklist

- I have read the Marker Program Guidelines posted at www.IN.gov/history.
- I have included the
 - Completed Application (State Form 45937)
 - Statement of Significance (Section 3)
 - List of sources/documentation (Section 4)
 - Photocopies of locally available primary source materials (Section 4)
 - Items for proposed location (Section 6)
 - List of other plaques in vicinity (Section 7).
- I have retained photocopies of all materials submitted.

After the Application is submitted

You will be sent an acknowledgement of the receipt of your Application.

NOTE: Special materials are available from the Indiana Historical Bureau for Underground Railroad topics or Cemetery Heritage signs.

Indiana Historical Bureau
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2296

TELEPHONE 317-232-2535

FAX 317-232-3728

TDD 317-232-7763

INTERNET www.IN.gov/history

E-MAIL jhackerd@statelib.lib.in.us

A Note about Sources

Primary sources are essential to your research and the research done by the Indiana Historical Bureau. Every fact that appears in the marker text must be supported by at least one reliable primary source. Secondary works may prove valuable in leading to other sources of information, including primary sources. They can also provide historical context to help in establishing the significance of the topic. Primary sources are generally considered to be more reliable, but all sources should be verified to assure their accuracy.

What Is a Primary Source?

The most basic definition of a primary source is one that is written or produced in the time period under investigation. Primary sources are materials directly related to a topic by time and/or participation. These materials include letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles from the time, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, artifacts, government documents, or anything else that provides first-hand accounts about a person or event. Virtually every source is subjective in one way or another; therefore each source needs to be carefully evaluated. This definition also applies to primary sources found on the Internet.

A letter written by President Lincoln in 1862 is a primary source when researching about the Civil War era. A newspaper article written about the battle of Gettysburg by a contemporary in July 1863 would be a primary source; but an article about the battle written in June 2001 probably was not written by an eyewitness or participant and would not be a primary source. The memories of a person who took part in the battle also can serve as a primary source; he or she was an eyewitness to and a participant in this historical event at the time. However, an interview with an expert (a professor of Civil War history, for example) is not a primary source UNLESS that expert actually lived through and has first-hand knowledge of the events being described (Highly unlikely for a Civil War historian!).

What Is a Secondary Work?

Secondary works are usually published books or articles by authors who were not eyewitnesses to or participants in the historical event or period and who base their interpretation on primary sources, research, and study. In your evaluation, consider how much of the publication is based on primary sources. These secondary works provide context for an historical event. For example high school history textbooks and other history books about a particular topic are secondary works. Biographies, newspaper retrospectives, and reference books such as encyclopedias are also secondary works. This definition also applies to secondary works found on the Internet.

Secondary works may include, among other things, textbooks, interviews, newspaper articles not from the time period, reminiscences, biographies, local histories, etc. In particular, the researcher should evaluate secondary works on how they use primary sources. Information from secondary works generally needs to be corroborated with primary sources.

Adapted from "Research Roadmap" on the National History Day Web site at <www.nationalhistoryday.org>; and William Kelleher Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996).



Application for an Historical Marker

Indiana Historical Marker Program
Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana
State Form 45937 (R6/6-07)

File # assigned — for office use

Please read the Guidelines (dated 06/07) before completing this Application.

Please see Application Information.
This form is applicable for the
September 21, 2007 deadline only.

Submission of an application does not guarantee that a marker will be approved.

AUTHORITY: According to IC 4-23-7.2-11, the Indiana Historical Bureau is in charge of a historical marker program for the state. State format historical markers must be approved and ordered by the Indiana Historical Bureau.

Section 1. PROPOSED MARKER INFORMATION

Suggested Marker Topic _____

Installation location: County _____ City / Town _____

Indiana House District _____ Indiana Senate District _____ Congressional District _____

Section 2. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant organization _____

Contact name _____ Daytime telephone ____/____

E-mail _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____

Section 3. SIGNIFICANCE OF PROPOSED MARKER TOPIC

I have submitted the Statement of Significance of 250-500 words on a separate sheet of paper and provided endnotes.

This section is crucial in the evaluation process. Please review Guidelines 6, 7, 10, 11, and 12. Be sure to provide enough information so that reviewers can clearly grasp the significance and meaning of the topic that you are proposing. Include major points in this statement that you believe are critical to the understanding and interpretation of your topic. Topics of only local significance are not eligible for state format markers.

Section 4. SOURCES/DOCUMENTATION

Please review Guidelines 4, 6, 8, and 9 and "A Note about Sources" in the Application Information.

Do not send copies of secondary sources, such as county histories or other general histories.

I have submitted a list of sources/documentation on a separate sheet of paper.

I have submitted photocopies of locally available primary source materials (copies of original documents) that are crucial to support my Statement of Significance.

Section 5. FUNDING

For questions regarding the possibility of partial state funding, please consult Guideline 17. Markers are approved for not-for-profit or for-profit groups and individual applicants; private funds or combinations of public and private funds may be used to pay for approved markers. Grants of Indiana Historical Bureau state funding for this Application deadline relate to the biennial budget July 1, 2007-June 30, 2009.

- I am pledging to pay the full cost of the marker.
- I am requesting up to \$1,000 in state funds for the marker and pledging funding for the remainder of the cost of the marker.

Please provide names of those individuals or groups who may provide funding if the marker is approved.

Section 6. PROPOSED MARKER LOCATION

Please review Guidelines 1.b.4), 13 and 14.

- I have provided the description, photograph(s), map(s) as required by Guideline 1.b.4).
- I understand that a change of location could be required for approval of the application.
- If necessary, we/I can recommend an alternate location for the marker.

Preferred Location (*Provide exact address or directions*): _____

- Public/State Property Private Property/ Owner Name _____

Indicate relevance of location to topic: _____

Indicate business or personal connection between location and applicant organization, if applicable: _____

Describe why this is a good location—safe and accessible—for the public to read the marker:

Section 7. OTHER PLAQUES/MARKERS ON THIS TOPIC

Using a separate sheet of paper, list—and provide the text for—any existing plaques or markers that are related to this subject and are in the general vicinity of your proposed marker locations. Please provide the name of the person/organization who/which installed the plaque/marker if that is not included in the text provided.

**Indiana Historical Bureau
Indiana Historical Marker Program
Program Guidelines**

(6/07 revision)

Adopted by the Indiana Library and Historical Board, June 1, 2007

[NOTE: Applicants are encouraged to visit the Indiana Historical Bureau website at www.in.gov/history to “Applying for a Marker,” “Examples of Marker Annotated Text” under Historical Markers and examine types of primary sources used to document information in a variety of marker texts.]

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- 1. Application procedures.**
- a. Applicants for a state format historical marker must first complete and submit an official Application form by the published deadline. Information for ALL sections and blanks must be provided.
 - 1) No applicant may submit more than one Application for any deadline.
 - 2) Only one marker may be requested on an Application.
 - 3) Application “Section 3. Significance of proposed marker topic” and “Section 4. Sources/Documentation” are crucial in the evaluation process. Enough

information must be provided so that reviewers can clearly understand the significance of the topic that is being proposed as well as what resources are available—especially locally—to prove that significance. The applicant should review the section of Application Information titled “A Note about Sources.”

- b. The applicant must include the following items with the completed marker Application. Failure to send materials with the Application, or by the stated deadline as requested by the Historical Bureau, may result in termination of the Application process.
 - 1) The Statement of Significance required in Section 3.
 - 2) The list of Sources/Documentation required in Section 4.
 - 3) Photocopies of locally available primary source material required in Section 4.
 - 4) Provide an adequate description of the proposed marker location as required in Section 6, along with the following items:
 - a) at least one color photograph of the proposed marker location in order to demonstrate the appropriateness of the location for public access and safety considerations.
 - 1) If the proposed location is not an original or authentic location, in addition, enclose a photograph of the original or authentic location.
 - 2) If a structure is being marked, photographs showing all sides of the complete structure must be provided.
 - b) at least one detailed map clearly locating the proposed marker location, including compass and directional indications. If the proposed location is not the original or authentic location, enclose another map showing the spatial relationship between the original or authentic location and the proposed alternative location, indicating distance and direction.
- c. The Historical Bureau may solicit and/or submit Applications to fulfill annual or long term goals of the marker program in collaboration with individuals and/or organizations from relevant locations.

2. The Approval Process

Before a marker can be installed, it must be approved twice by the Indiana Library and Historical Board, on the recommendation of the Historical Bureau.

- a. The first approval allows the marker Application to move forward in the process. See Guideline 3. In addition to other factors, when an Application is recommended to move forward, the Historical Bureau, from its initial review, believes that the topic has statewide significance and that there are/will be sufficient primary sources to prove that statewide significance.
- b. The second, and final, approval allows the ordering and installation of the marker. Recommendation for this approval comes after the Historical Bureau has verified the significance of the topic through its additional research and has written and documented an appropriate text for the marker. See Guideline 4.
- c. In making its recommendations to the Board for approval, the Historical Bureau may limit the number of applications that move forward based on compliance with guidelines and program goals as well as an adequate number of agency staff to carry out required research for the markers recommended.

3. Step 1: Procedures for initial review of Applications

After receipt of an Application, the Historical Bureau will conduct preliminary research on the proposed topic.

- a. The Application will be reviewed by the Historical Bureau and its advisers for
 - 1) historical significance,
 - 2) availability of primary source documentation,
 - 3) inclusion of all enclosures require by Guideline 1.b, and
 - 4) compliance with Program Guidelines and any other relevant evaluation factors, policies, informational publications, and instructions.
- b. After this initial review, the Historical Bureau and its advisers will recommend whether or not the Application may move forward in the Application process.
- c. The recommendations will be acted upon at a meeting of the Indiana Library and Historical Board, after which the Historical Bureau will notify applicants of the decision. See Guideline 2.

4. Step 2: Procedures for Applications approved to move forward.

- a. After approval of the Application to move forward under Guideline 3. the Historical Bureau will send a report outlining the next steps in the research process to the applicant.
- b. Throughout the research process, the Historical Bureau may ask the applicant to supply additional primary source documentation necessary to prove historical facts for the marker text and annotation. The applicant is expected to provide by the deadline given any additional documentation, photographs, maps or other information requested by the Historical Bureau. Failure to return materials by the stated deadline may result in termination of the Application.
- c. The applicant should also review Guidelines 8 (The marker text), 9 (Relative importance of documentation), and 22 (Compliance with guidelines).

5. Requirements for ordering an approved marker.

The following items are required before an approved marker can be ordered. Failure to send items by the stated deadline as requested by the Historical Bureau may result in termination of the Application process.

- a. Provide the completed “Ownership and Permission” form. This form will be mailed to the applicant after the Application has been approved for ordering and installation by the Indiana Library and Historical Board. See Guidelines 2.b. and 4.
 - 1) The Historical Bureau will obtain permits for markers approved for installation on state rights-of-way. All other permits/permissions must be obtained by applicants. State format markers are the property of the State of Indiana. See Guideline 18.
 - 2) The Historical Bureau may require a change in location from the one proposed by the applicant before a marker is approved.
 - 3) Approval of all markers will be contingent upon receipt of permissions from location owners.
 - 4) For more information regarding the appropriate placement of markers see

Guideline 14.

- b. Provide the completed "Applicant Acceptance of Recommended Text" form. This form will be mailed to the applicant after the Application has been approved for ordering and installation by the Indiana Library and Historical Board. See Guideline 2.b.
- c. Provide the applicant's share of the money to purchase the marker.

6. Appropriate topics and significance.

- a. Marker topics may be events, individuals, buildings, sites, and other entities that have local and state significance; regional, national, and/or international significance will be recognized as well. Topics with only local significance are not eligible for a state format historical marker. A topic must have inherent significance over and above the matter of popular appeal.
- b. The mere fact of existence of an entity generally will not constitute significance. Rather, the role or contributions of that entity must have had an effect deserving of commemoration with a state format marker.
- c. The significance of a topic must be concisely described in Section 3 of the Application form.
- d. On the recommendation of the Historical Bureau, the Indiana Library and Historical Board may establish special initiatives to focus on specific topics for commemoration, alone or in collaboration with other entities. As needed, additional guidelines and/or formats may be approved for such special initiatives.

7. Restrictions on topics.

- a. No individual may be the topic of a marker until twenty years after his or her death, unless the Indiana Library and Historical Board makes an exception for a deceased person of state, national, or international significance.
- b. Marker topics, other than individuals, generally should date from at least fifty years in the past.
- c. Neither restorers nor current owners of a historic structure may be named in the text of a state format marker awarded to the structure.
- d. Topics with only local significance are not eligible for a state format marker.
- e. Topics/categories approved by the Board for special sign formats generally would not be approved for a state format marker. See Guideline 12.b.

8. The marker text.

The Historical Bureau, working with its advisers, has final authority for the text of a state format marker. The Historical Bureau shall write the marker text, which must conform to Historical Bureau research standards and format standards, including space limitations.

- a. The Historical Bureau will not include information in a marker text unless the Historical Bureau has been able to verify that information with appropriate documentation located by the Historical Bureau or provided by the applicant. The Historical Bureau will carry out a reasonable amount of research in an attempt to verify information from an applicant for use in writing the text of the marker.
- b. If a topic or subject purports to be unique (one of a kind, the largest, smallest,

oldest, first, etc.), there must be documentation—from unbiased and authoritative sources—which validates the claim.

- c. The Historical Bureau, working with its advisers, will recommend the marker and its text to the Indiana Library and Historical Board as part of the final approval process. Decisions of the Board shall be based upon the research, sources, and interpretation of the topic provided by the Historical Bureau working with its advisers and the applicant.
- d. If the Historical Bureau makes any changes to the marker text after Board approval, the final text of the marker will be entered in the permanent record of the Board.
- e. The applicant must accept the final text, via the "Applicant Acceptance of Text" form, before the marker can be ordered; failure to return the signed form by the stated deadline may result in termination of the Application or failure to receive state funding. If the applicant is not willing to accept the final text provided by the Historical Bureau, the Application may be terminated.

9. Relative importance of documentation.

In determining the accuracy of facts or statements, generally,

- a. primary source documentation takes precedence over secondary source documentation in the evaluation and interpretation of information;
- b. legal documents take precedence over private papers, such as letters or journals;
- c. testimony from disinterested and authoritative sources takes precedence over testimony from interested individuals.

10. National Register sites.

- a. Inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) does not automatically qualify an entity for a state format historical marker.
- b. When an entity listed in the NRHP or designated a National Historic Landmark is marked with a state format historical marker, the text of the marker shall include that fact.
- c. If an entity has a pending nomination for the NRHP, an Application for a state format historical marker will not be approved to move forward or processed until the pending nomination has been acted on by the Keeper of the NRHP.

11. Archaeological sites.

- a. A state format historical marker will not be allowed if its location and/or text might endanger an unprotected archaeological site.
- b. The Historical Bureau may work with the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, IDNR, and other appropriate parties to make determinations regarding applications that might fall under this guideline.
- c. The current version of "Society for American Archaeology Principles of Archaeological Ethics," will also be used to help make such determinations.

12. Official state historical marker and sign formats.

- a. The official state format historical marker design is distinguished by the Indiana outline at the top. Markers are 47.5 inches tall and 42.25 inches wide, with a dark

- blue background, gold lettering, and silver-colored border mounted on a silver-colored post supplied with the marker. Unauthorized use of this format/design is prohibited in IC 4-23-7.2-11(a).
- 1) State format historical markers are fabricated to the specifications of the Indiana Historical Bureau.
 - 2) No other logo or emblem may be included on a state format historical marker unless an exception is made by the Indiana Library and Historical Board, on the recommendation of the Historical Bureau for compelling reasons.
 - 3) Inclusion of artwork or a map on a marker may be approved only if the Indiana Library and Historical Board, on the recommendation of the Historical Bureau, judges that it is essential to clarify or enhance the interpretation of a marker topic. Extra costs for such non-standard markers must be paid by the marker applicant.
 - 4) Markers will carry a credit line as follows: “Installed [year] Indiana Historical Bureau and [name(s) of local funder(s)].”
 - 5) Markers will have different text about the topic on each side of the marker.
- b. On the recommendation of the Historical Bureau, the Indiana Library and Historical Board may authorize special formats for signage to honor categories of historical entities that enhance citizens’ understanding and appreciation of Indiana history and culture.
- 1) Special sign formats may be developed for topics/categories, such as historic cemeteries, standing historic county courthouses, standing Carnegie library buildings, historic districts or neighborhoods, historic bridges, and other topics/categories represented in multiple counties.
 - 2) As needed, specific guidelines may be approved for these special sign formats.
 - 3) Topics/categories approved for these special sign formats generally would not be approved for a state format marker.

13. State format historical marker sites.

- a. The location of a state format historical marker should be called the “site of a historical marker” or “a historical marker site.” The location should NOT be called “a state historic site.”
- b. The original or authentic location is the preferred location for a marker. If the original or authentic location for a marker is not accessible—or might be endangered—the marker may be placed in an appropriate alternate location nearby.
- c. If an alternate location is chosen, photographs and maps of the original or authentic location also are required by Guideline 1.b.4).

14. Installation of state format historical markers.

- a. State format historical markers should be installed in conspicuous places accessible to the public. Desirable locations are public highways, parks, and city streets where persons can stop safely and read the text for its educational value.
- b. If a marker is deliberately or accidentally installed in an unapproved location by the applicant and/or another entity, and if reinstallation at the approved location is

- required by the Historical Bureau, the applicant and/or the other entity will be responsible for all costs associated with the reinstallation at the approved location.
- c. Instructions for proper installation of markers will be provided to the applicant and/or another entity by the Historical Bureau.
 - d. Applicants must notify the Historical Bureau when markers have been installed.

15. Photographic documentation of state format historical markers.

- Photographic documentation of state format historical markers is a very important part of the program since images of markers are placed on the Historical Bureau website and used in the marker repair and maintenance database to monitor condition of markers. It is important for applicants/citizens to provide to the Historical Bureau photographic documentation of the installed marker in the approved location if,
- a. the Historical Bureau is not represented at a marker dedication/installation, or
 - b. a marker is damaged and in need of repair, or
 - c. a marker has been repaired, reinstalled, or changed in any way.

16. Dedication of state format historical markers.

- a. The Historical Bureau encourages applicants to hold a public dedication ceremony for a state format historical marker after it has been installed so that communities can celebrate or commemorate the topic of the marker and installation of the marker. The Historical Bureau will provide suggestions for the publicity, program, and ceremony.
- b. The following credit line must be included on any printed materials and in verbal presentations: "This marker is made possible through the Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana."
- c. A representative of the Historical Bureau will participate in as many dedication programs as possible.

17. Funding for state format historical markers.

- State format historical markers shall be purchased by the Historical Bureau from the approved state vendor using any type of funding available for that purpose. Current prices of markers will be provided to all applicants.
- a. Applicants may request— but are not guaranteed—a maximum grant of \$1,000 in state funds for a state format historical marker. Granted funds are not given to the applicant but expended by the Historical Bureau for the marker purchase. The applicant's required cost share is the balance of the marker cost at the time the marker is ordered.
 - b. A local cost share is required for any state format historical marker installed with a grant of state funds. Local cost share monies help to fund a statewide repair and maintenance program for existing state markers.
 - c. Applicants may pay the full cost of a marker, which qualifies under the guidelines, and is approved through the normal process. Such markers are still property of the State of Indiana. See Guideline 18. Advantages to fully funding a marker include,
 - markers completely paid for without using Historical Bureau funds are not in funding competition with Applications requesting a grant of state funds, and

- they do not fall under the distribution criteria in Guideline 17.d. Because state funds are limited, applicants who are able to fund the full cost of the markers—or request fewer state funds—are encouraged to do so.
- d. Because one goal of the program is to have markers in all counties, the following distribution criteria apply to Applications requesting a grant of state funds, which are appropriated to the Historical Bureau every two years in the State of Indiana's biennial budget.
 - 1) Applications from counties with no or few state format historical markers will take precedence over Applications from counties with many state format markers;
 - 2) When more than one Application is submitted from a county during a biennial funding cycle, generally only one Application will be approved for installation with a grant of state funds;
 - 3) In the second year of a biennial budget, if there are not enough qualified Applications from underserved counties to expend the appropriated funds, a county may receive a second grant of state funds for a state format historical marker.

The preceding criteria do not apply to applications for markers that will be completely paid for with funds from other sources.
- e. The Indiana Library and Historical Board will not approve more than one marker to honor the same subject in the immediate vicinity, unless there is a compelling reason to do so.
- f. A grant of state funds for a marker will be valid only during the state biennium in which the marker was approved.

18. Ownership and maintenance of state format historical markers.

- a. All state format historical markers, and markers on state highway rights-of-way, are the property of the State of Indiana. The state encourages cooperative relationships for day-to-day site maintenance with local governments and private entities on whose land a state format marker is installed.
- b. Any state format historical marker needing repairs must be reported to the Historical Bureau. Marker repairs must conform to the official state format as described in Guideline 12.a. and Historical Bureau repair instructions. The Historical Bureau will work with local entities to maintain or repair existing state format historical markers using funds available for that purpose.
- c. Local site maintenance help for state format markers is desirable, but is not required for the approval of a marker.

19. Relocation, removal, or replacement of state format historical markers.

- a. State format historical markers may be relocated or removed only with the written permission of the Historical Bureau. All costs associated with moving the marker must be paid by the party desiring the relocation. Markers may be relocated,
 - because of persistent vandalism,
 - if a hazard to viewers may be reduced or eliminated,
 - if a more accurate location has been determined,
 - if a change in land use has occurred putting the marker in danger, or

- because of temporary construction work.
- b. State format historical markers containing incorrect information may be removed by the Historical Bureau.
- c. When replacement of a state format historical marker is requested because it has been damaged or stolen, or because the text contains errors, the marker shall be reviewed by the Historical Bureau according to marker guidelines in effect at the time replacement is requested. Some replacement markers will require the full Application process.

20. Authority.

The Indiana Historical Marker Program has been established under the authority of Indiana Code 4-23-7.2-11. Guidelines related to the Indiana Historical Marker Program are determined by the Indiana Library and Historical Board, as indicated in these Program Guidelines.

21. Approval of state format historical markers.

Approval of state format historical markers is determined solely by the Indiana Library and Historical Board upon recommendation of the Historical Bureau.

22. Compliance with guidelines.

- a. Applicants for state format historical markers and special sign formats must comply with the guidelines, any other relevant evaluation factors, policies, informational publications, and instructions of the Indiana Historical Marker Program.
- b. Failure to respond to a written request from the Historical Bureau within the designated time frame regarding any part of the state format marker or special sign application processes can result in postponement, termination of the process, and/or loss of state funding.

23. Access to archival files.

- a. All materials submitted by applicants for state format historical markers—or created by the Historical Bureau as part of its research for markers and signs—are the property of the Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana and become a part of its archival files.
- b. Following installation of markers or special signs, those files are open for public inspection according to state access to public records laws.

24. Approval of non-state format markers.

According to IC 4-23-7.2-11(d), “No historical marker may be erected on a highway of the state highway system without the approval of the historical bureau as to its historical accuracy. This provision is in addition to any other requirement of law.” Anyone seeking installation of such a marker shall provide appropriate materials requested by the Historical Bureau in order to carry out this duty by the deadline date established. The Historical Bureau cannot be responsible for delays resulting from the failure of the requester to return materials by the deadline date established by the Historical Bureau.

Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program

Kentucky Historical Society

Rebecca Vittetow, Program Coordinator
100 W. Broadway, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: 502-564-1792; E-mail: becky.vittetow@ky.gov

Deadline for Applications: April 1 and October 1, 2007

The Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program, administered by the Kentucky Historical Society in cooperation with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, commemorates historic sites, events, and personalities throughout the commonwealth. The goal is to connect events, people, and sites to bring the past to life, and to increase the public's awareness of Kentucky history. The subjects of the more than 2,000 markers vary widely, but all mark sites that local communities have recognized as important to local, regional, state, or national history.

Through the program, the wealth of Kentucky history is made accessible along the state's highways. The markers are on-the-spot history lessons that add drama and interest to travel for both native Kentuckians and out-of-state visitors.

How to Submit an Application for a Historical Highway Marker

Taking a subject from an idea to a finished marker takes time, thought, and the work of many people. Marker applications are accepted twice a year: by April 1 and by October 1. After each deadline, an advisory committee meets to review applications and make recommendations as to whether they should be accepted, resubmitted, or rejected. Up to fifteen applications may be accepted in each review process.

Steps to completing a Marker Application:

1. Request a Highway Marker Application Package from the Kentucky Historical Society.

You can also download an application package from the KHS Web site at history.ky.gov.

2. Notify your county chairperson that you are preparing an application. The chairperson can assist you with the application. (Contact the Kentucky Historical Highway Program for the name and phone number of your county chairperson.)

3. Complete the application package

Application must include:

- a. Application cover sheet.
- b. Information about proposed marker
- c. Text Page
- d. Documentation Sheet
- e. Funding sources
- f. Copies of the pages from each reference that document marker text.
- g. List of local organizations, including contact information, supporting your marker.

4. Submit the complete application plus FOUR COPIES by the appropriate deadline.

5. Community consensus. Kentucky Historical Highway Markers become highly visible, permanent features of the local sites where they are placed. It is, therefore, important for applicants to secure a significant degree of community consensus, preferably even before the formal application is made. Unanimity is difficult to achieve, but clearly the significant local groups should be supportive. The identity of these groups may vary from place to place but should typically include local historical organizations,

local government, patriotic societies, veterans' groups, and organizations involved in historic preservation. It would be helpful for a list of the supporting organizations to accompany the application itself.

Cost of a Kentucky Historical Highway Marker

Once a marker subject is approved, the organization or individual who submitted the application is responsible for obtaining the funds to pay for the fabrication of the marker. The cost for fabrication is:

- \$1,750.00 if the text is the same on both sides of the marker.
- \$1,950.00 if the text is different.

The funds for fabricating the marker must be received by the Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program office before the order can be placed.. Some suggestions for raising funds in your community include:

- A. Ask a business, corporation, or civic organization in your community to contribute funds. (We can include the name of one sponsoring organization on each side of the marker.)
- B. Ask members of your community to contribute.
- C. If the marker is about a specific person, ask descendants of that person to contribute.
- D. Hold a special fund-raising event to raise money.
- E. Apply to a foundation or other granting source for funds. The Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program office may be able to suggest foundations that have been receptive to funding marker projects.

Guidelines for Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program

1. Applications for markers will be reviewed twice a year by a historical advisory committee.
2. Up to fifteen markers can be approved at each review meeting.
3. The initial acceptance is for the subject only. Once the subject has been accepted, the text of the marker and its accompanying documentation are thoroughly checked by the Kentucky Historical Highway Marker staff to ensure that they meet the required standards for historical accuracy.
4. Markers cannot be approved for:
 - A living person
 - A purely genealogical or family subject
 - An individual or business if the primary value of the marker is to provide financial benefit to that person or business;
 - A cemetery, unless someone significant to Kentucky history is buried there or unless a historically significant event is connected with it;
 - A church, unless it meets one of the following criteria:
 - The church is connected with a significant historical event or person
 - The church congregation has existed, uninterrupted, for at least 150 years;
 - The church building itself was constructed over 100 years ago and has been used continuously by the same congregation; or
 - The building has historically significant architectural features.
5. Marker *locations* will not be approved for places where they will create traffic hazards or where they are not acceptable to the property owner or the governmental agency having jurisdiction. The final decision for placement of a marker on public highways rests with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.
6. Marker *texts* will not be approved unless they accurately present verifiable historical information. The documentation supporting the marker texts should be based on reliable, original sources whenever possible. The texts should also conform to the limitations on the number and length of lines (see page 8).

Timetable for Marker Applications

Application Deadlines	April 1	October 1
Decision of advisory committee: (Yes, No, or Resubmit)	June 1	December 1
Data Verification Process: Program staff verify all information and check each documented source. Staff may be in touch with the applicant if additional documentation is needed or if inconsistencies are found.	June 1-August 31	December 1-February 28
Text Editing Process: Text is written and submitted to Program staff for final editing; This edited text is then returned to the applicant for review.	September 1-30	March 1-31
Payment Due: Payment must be made in full by this date so that the order for fabrication can be placed.	October 1	April 1
Date Set for Dedication (Subject to Approval of Final Text): The date for the marker dedication should be set by this date in order to allow enough time for publicity and planning.	October 1	April 1
Fabrication: Order for marker is placed; marker is fabricated and returned to appropriate district highway office of Kentucky Department of Highways for installation.	October 1-December 31	April 1-June 30
Mark Installation and Dedication Program	January 1-June 30	July 1-December 31

SAMPLE—Documentation Sheet

Use this as a guide on how to submit documentation (see page 4 of application).

<p>Marker Subject:</p> <p>Lt. Presley N. O'Bannon, USMC</p>	<p>Name and phone number of person completing documentation:</p> <p>Joe Smith, 502-555-1234</p>
<p><u>FACTS</u> List each important fact that is relevant to this marker subject. All places, dates, sites, names of people involved, etc. must be documented.</p>	<p><u>SOURCES</u> Each fact must be verified with notation of the source material. Include a copy of the page from each document that was used.</p>
<p>First American to raise U.S. flag on foreign soil.</p>	<p>Acts of Kentucky, 1920, p. 734.</p>
<p>At Battle of Derne on shores of Tripoli, April 27, 1805.</p>	<p><i>The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society</i>, vol. 18, no. 52, pp. 73-76 and vol. 54, pp. 21-23.</p>
<p>Led attack that overcame Barbary Coast pirates who were holding American seamen for ransom.</p>	<p><i>The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society</i>, vol. 18, no. 54, p. 21-23.</p>
<p>O'Bannon came to Logan Co. in 1807.</p>	<p><i>The Story of Logan County</i> by Edward Coffman, p. 113. <i>Finley's History Of Russellville & Logan County</i>, p. 29.</p>
<p>Served in state legislature 1812, 1817, 1820-21,</p>	<p><i>The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society</i>, vol. 18, no. 52, p. 480, 776. <i>The Story of Logan County</i> by Edward Coffman, p. 113.</p>
<p>and Senate 1824-26.</p>	<p><i>Collins's Historical Sketches of Kentucky</i>, p. 480.</p>
<p>Died in 1850.</p>	<p>Information on gravestone in Frankfort Cemetery.</p>

Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program

Kentucky Historical Society

Application Form

Cover Sheet—Required For All Applications

This application is submitted for:

- April 1 deadline:**
If approved, marker will be ready to dedicate between January and June of next year
- October 1 deadline:**
If approved, marker will be ready to dedicate between July and December of next year

Information about applicant:

Name of organization or individual submitting application:		
Address:		
Name and address of contact person for this application (if different from above):		
Daytime phone number:	Fax number:	E-mail address:
Signature of person submitting application:		
Name and Address of Local Newspaper:	State Representative Dist.: State Senate District: U. S. Congressional District:	
Signature of County Marker Chairman:		

For office use only:

Application number:	Date application received:
<input type="checkbox"/> Application submitted to advisory committee <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation verified <input type="checkbox"/> Text written and edited <input type="checkbox"/> Text approved by historical committee <input type="checkbox"/> Funds received to pay for marker fabrication <input type="checkbox"/> Marker text submitted to manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Marker received by highway department <input type="checkbox"/> Marker installed and ready for dedication	County Chairman:
	District Highway Office:
	Proposed date for dedication:
	Decision of Advisory Committee: YES NO RESUBMIT

Application Form

Page 2—Information About Proposed Marker

Subject of proposed marker: 		Will this marker have: <input type="checkbox"/> Text the same on both sides <input type="checkbox"/> Text different on each side
This marker will feature: <input type="checkbox"/> A historic person <input type="checkbox"/> A building or historic site <input type="checkbox"/> A historic event <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Will this marker address any of the following 2005 priority subjects? <input type="checkbox"/> Women in Kentucky History <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky African American History <input type="checkbox"/> Lewis and Clark in Kentucky	
Briefly, why is this subject significant to Kentucky history? 		
Suggested location: <input type="checkbox"/> On street/road/highway <input type="checkbox"/> On public grounds <input type="checkbox"/> On private grounds—provide name of owner:		Address and description of suggested location:
County:	Nearest city or town:	Distance and direction from city/town:
Is there space near the proposed site to pull off the road and read the marker inscription? 	Is there a proposed date for the dedication of the marker? Is this date an anniversary or other special date appropriate for this marker dedication? (Please do not announce the dedication date for this marker until you are notified by the Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program Office that the marker has been approved and that it will be ready in time for your proposed date.) Please note also that you are responsible for the marker dedication program. The Kentucky Historical Highway Marker Program office will print the copies of the program for you when you send the final text.	
How will your organization find funds for the cost of manufacturing the marker? 		

Application Form

Page 3—Text Page

Please submit your proposed text. Providing us with the facts that you think are most important will help us with the process. Remember that each side of the marker is limited to only one headline, ten lines of text of up to 33 letters/spaces, and a sponsorship line. You do not have to put the text in final form. The Program office will do that after verifying the documentation.

Marker Side One:

Marker Side Two (if two-sided):

Application Form

Page 4—Documentation Sheet

Please copy this page as many times as necessary to include all important facts.

Marker Subject:	Name and phone number of person completing documentation:
<u>FACTS</u> List each important fact that is relevant to this marker subject. All places, dates, sites, names of people involved, etc. must be documented.	<u>SOURCES</u> Each fact must be verified with notation of the source material. Include a copy of the page from each document that was used.

State Historic Preservation Office
 Michigan Historical Center ~ Michigan Historical Commission
 Department of History, Arts and Libraries
**MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MARKER APPLICATION FOR
 REGISTERED HISTORIC SITES**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
SR DESIGNATION	DATE LISTED: _____
SR NUMBER: _____	
NR DESIGNATION	
LISTED _____	DET ELIG _____

Historic Name of Site:		
Common Name of Site:		
Address of site (including cross streets, i.e., 520 Pine Street, between Ottawa and Ionia):		City:
Local governmental unit:	MI	County:
Date listed in the State Register of Historic Sites:	Date listed in the National Register of Historic Places: (if applicable):	
Have physical changes been made to the resource since it was listed in the State Register? If yes, please explain.		
Where will the marker be placed on the site? NOTE: Marker must be accessible to the public.		
Site owner:		
Owner mailing address:		City:
State:	Zip code:	Daytime telephone:
I recognize that the historical marker is the property of the State of Michigan and that the historical marker must remain at the historic site. When making alterations to the exterior of the resource, I agree to consult with the State Historic Preservation Office and follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. I agree to the placement of a historical marker on my property and make no claim to the ownership of the marker.		
Site Owner's Signature: _____		Date: _____
Sponsoring Individual or Organization:		
Contact Person:		
Mailing Address:		City:
State:	Zip Code:	Email:
Daytime Phone No.	Fax No.	
I agree to donate money to the State of Michigan for the manufacture of a historical marker for the above-named site. I recognize that the marker is owned by the State of Michigan and make no claim to ownership of the marker.		
Sponsor's Signature: _____		Date: _____

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE

Please indicate marker size preference. NOTE: A size and style other than your stated preference may be recommended.

Small Informational Marker, 24" x 36" with one post wall-mounted

Large Informational Marker, 42" x 54" with two posts wall-mounted

Identification Plaque, 12" x 14" wall-mounted

If you chose a post-mounted marker, do you want the **same text** or **different text** on each side?

◆ List the items that you feel are important to include on the marker. You must attach supporting historical materials and a bibliography (including page and column numbers) to document the facts that you wish to have included in the marker text. Primary sources (historic newspaper clippings, tax records, blueprints, deeds) are required; secondary sources may be submitted as supplemental documentation. *This statement will not serve as the marker text.* The text is prepared by the State Historic Preservation Office staff and approved by the Michigan Historical Commission, which makes the final determination of the text. **Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

◆ Provide current **black and white** photographs of the resource. **All photographs must be taken with black and white film and printed with black and white processing.** Digital images or color photographs are not acceptable.

Provide a **business address** where the marker may be delivered between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays. **Residential addresses are unacceptable.** Please note that someone must be on hand to accept delivery and assist in unloading the marker and posts, which may weigh in excess of 200 pounds.

Name			
Street Address			
City	MI	Zip Code	Telephone

Mail the completed application, photographs, documentation, and application fee to: Michigan Historical Marker Program, PO Box 30740, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48909-8240.

◆ **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MARKER PROCESS TAKES BETWEEN 10 AND 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE. PRICES ARE OFFICIALLY DETERMINED AT THE TIME THE MARKER IS ORDERED FROM THE MANUFACTURER AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

PURPOSE, CRITERIA, AND GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

Historical markers inform the public about buildings, structures, and sites of interest to the public. Through the Michigan Historical Marker Program, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Michigan Historical Commission seek to identify and mark sites and subjects having historic significance. Historical markers:

- Educate the public about significant people, places, and things in Michigan history and thereby develop the public's knowledge of the importance of Michigan history and inspire them to learn more.
- Foster people's ability to make connections between extant resources and the past.
- Encourage the public to preserve historic resources indicative of Michigan history and to develop a sense of identity as Michiganders.
- Enhance cultural tourism in this state by encouraging residents and visitors to investigate Michigan history and the state's historic sites.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for a marker is determined by historic significance at the local, state, or national level, and in the case of historic resources, integrity. Integrity means that the building, structure, object, or district retains its historic character. In particular the materials and location are the same as when it was built. The following may be eligible for a Michigan Historical Marker and subsequent listing in the State Register of Historic Sites:

- a historically significant building or structure,
- a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places,
- an object (i.e. vessel, shipwreck, railroad),
- a site (i.e. cemetery, archaeological site),
- a location without historic resources associated with an important historical figure, organization, or event.

CRITERIA

The burden of proof is on the applicant to provide documentary evidence that demonstrates and substantiates that the resource or subject:

- a. is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- b. is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- c. embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- d. has yielded or is likely to yield information important to history or prehistory.

Typically structures that have been moved from their original location, properties primarily commemorative in intent, and properties that have achieved significance within the past fifty years shall not be considered eligible for a Michigan Historical Marker unless they fall within the following categories:

- a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- a property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- a property achieving significance within the past fifty years if it is of exceptional importance.

GUIDELINES

- Properties associated with demolished buildings will not be considered until at least ten years after the demolition.
- Markers will not be erected on archaeological sites that retain research potential, in order to protect the integrity of those sites.
- In order to allow time for historical assessment, typically markers will not be considered for persons until at least twenty years after their death.
- Markers will not be considered for events until at least twenty years after they occur.

Applicants should have a commitment to preserving the historic resource that is being marked and will be expected to follow the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, for any modifications that must be made, in accordance with the *Michigan Historical Markers Act of 2002*. The State Historic Preservation Office is available for consultation.

Properties that no longer meet the criteria for designation due to alteration inconsistent with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, demolition, or removal from their original site will be removed from the State Register of Historic Sites and the marker will be returned to the State Historic Preservation Office.

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS

The Michigan Historical Marker Program relies heavily on the applicants. Applicants must make the case through their application and the documentation they acquire through historical research that the historic resource or topic is worthy of a Michigan Historical Marker. Applicants also raise the funds to pay for their marker.

Marker applications that deal with the selected themes will receive priority attention.

Priority Themes

Agriculture (e.g. farm complexes and buildings related to Michigan's agricultural industry)

Civil Rights

Community Planning and Development (e.g. planned communities)

Conservation (e.g. sites related to the ecology movement)

Industry (e.g. lumber camp sites and factories)

Landscape Architecture (e.g. parks, designed cemeteries, and golf courses)

Maritime History (e.g. lighthouses, ship building sites, piers, ports, and vessels)

Resort Architecture and Tourism (e.g. summer cottage complexes and resorts, tourist cabins, early motels, restaurants, drive-ins, and attractions)

Resistance to Slavery and the Underground Railroad

In addition, certain time periods will be given priority.

Depression Era

Post World War II

Exceptional Recent Past Architecture

TIME LINE

The State Historic Preservation Office will begin accepting applications June 1, 2006.

Applications will be due at the beginning of each quarter thereafter. To be processed during a quarter, all required materials must be submitted. Feel free to contact the State Historic Preservation Office if you have questions about any aspect of the requirements. **Complete** applications received by the due date will be evaluated and drafted during the quarter, with presentation to the Michigan Historical Commission at the earliest possible meeting.

The deadlines for 2006 –2007 will be:

July 3, 2006

October 2, 2006

January 2, 2007

April 2, 2007

July 2, 2007

October 1, 2007

To be processed during the quarter, complete applications must be received by the deadline. If more complete applications come in than can be processed in one quarter, lower priority applications will be carried to the next quarter. They will then become the top priority in the next quarter.

Please note the following:

- **Incomplete** applications will be **returned** to the applicant. An incomplete application is one for which information is missing from the form itself, or for which any of the additional required items are missing. **Be sure to read the application carefully for requirements.**
- SHPO staff will write the marker text and send it to the applicant for review. Once the applicant approves the text, it will be presented to the Michigan Historical Commission for its consideration. The Michigan Historical Commission makes the final determination of the text.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Sponsor/applicant submits application materials
2. SHPO staff reviews materials and determines whether site qualifies for a marker
3. SHPO staff write a text and send it to applicant for review and approval
4. SHPO staff presents text to the Michigan Historical Commission
5. Commission approves, tables, or denies the request
6. Applicant is notified of decision
7. Applicant sends check
8. Marker is ordered

Photographic Documentation for Michigan Historical Marker Program
Michigan State Historic Preservation Office
7/1/2007

The SHPO's photographic documentation requirements are founded in the national register's requirements as set forth in the National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Survey Photo Policy Expansion (March 2005).

WHAT VIEWS AND HOW MANY?

The number of views required will depend on the complexity of the property and what is considered significant about it. The views should provide an adequate overall impression of the property's character. For smaller individual buildings such as houses, two to four views will generally be appropriate. Including copies of historic views are helpful, but not required.

NOTE: The SHPO requires both black and white photographic prints and color electronic images.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Provide a clear and descriptive black and white photograph of each view. The photographs must be crisply focused in all areas, correctly exposed, and free of any substantial perspective distortion.

Photographs must be:

- High in quality in relation to composition, clarity, and exposure.
- 3 1/2" x 5" up to 8" by 10" in size.
- Properly labeled (SEE NEXT PAGE).
- UNMOUNTED. Do not glue or otherwise attach photographs to another surface. Mounted photographs are not accepted.

Border:

Photographs printed on papers which will not accept pencil marks should have a white border at least 1/4" wide for labeling. If fiber-based paper is used, no border is necessary.

Photographs may be provided in EITHER of the following formats:

Black and white photographs from standard photography

OR

Black and white photographs made from electronic images

Requirements for black and white prints from standard photography. They must be:

- Printed from 35 mm or larger **black and white** negatives. Black and white prints made from color negatives will not be accepted. We recommend using only Kodak Plus-X 125, Kodak T-Max 100 or 400, or Kodak Tri-X 320 or 400 black and white film, as they are specifically made for processing and printing true black and white images. These types of film can generally be found only at specialty camera shops.
- Printed using a chemical process designed **only** for black and white film. This can usually be done only by a specialty camera shop or photographic studio. Photos processed with chromogenic processing (C-41) **are not acceptable**.
- Printed **only** on paper intended for black and white printing. Photographs printed on paper designed for color printing **will not be accepted**. Fiber-based or resin-coated papers that have been professionally processed in trays are preferred. Resin-coated papers that have been automatically processed are acceptable only if they contain no evidence of residual chemicals, fading, or yellowing. Use double- or medium-weight paper having a standard finish (matte, glossy, satin). The proper printing paper generally cannot be obtained through photo processes other than those used by a professional printer/camera shop.
- Properly processed and thoroughly washed; see directly above.

Photo labeling for black and white prints from standard photography:

ADHESIVE LABELS OF ANY KIND AND INK LABELING EXTENDING ACROSS THE BACK OF THE PRINT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE AND PRINTS SO LABELED WILL BE REJECTED.

The preferred way to label photographs is to print lightly in pencil in the upper left corner of the back of each photograph the following information:

1. Historic name of property, or, for districts, the name of the building or street address followed by the name of the district.
2. Township or municipal unit, county, and state where the property is located.
3. Name of photographer.
4. Date of photograph.
5. Brief description of view indicating façade(s), side of street, etc. shown (“North and east façades” or “200 block of S. Washington, east side”).
6. Photograph number.

An alternate labeling method is to provide a separate sheet with the application. To do this, label the photos by name of property, town, county, state, and photograph number (items 1, 2, and 7). List the remaining information (items 3-6) on the spare sheet, identifying each photograph by number. Information common to all photographs, such as the photographer’s name, may be listed at the top of the page.

To label photographs printed on paper that will not accept pencil marks, print with a permanent audio-visual marking pen or pencil the name and location of the property and number of photograph in the lower front border, being careful to avoid marking the

printed surface. If there is no border, this information may be printed—as small as possible—in the lower right on the back of the photo.

Requirements for black and white prints made from electronic images.

Electronic Image Standard:

The size of each image must be 1600 X 1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Images that do not meet that standard will not be accepted. It is recommended that digital images be saved in 8-bit (or larger) color format, which provides maximum detail even when printed in black-and-white format.

Provide the following:

- One set of black and white prints printed using ultraviolet pigmented inks and printed on paper designed for UV pigmented inks. The photos may be 3 ½ X 5” up to 8 X 10” in size. See the attached list of specific ink and paper combinations meeting the SHPO’s requirements. If you do not use the listed inks and papers, you will need to provide the SHPO with documentation from some acceptable source outside of the products’ manufacturers that the ink and paper meets the required standard. The SHPO **will not accept** photographs unless it is clear that they meet the national register standard. Use the alternate method of labeling the photographs set forth above under black and white prints from standard photography (see below).
- A CD-R containing electronic images for the views used. **The electronic images must be saved as uncompressed .TIF files or .jpg files on CD-R media.** Name the images for the property, county, and state and number them (i.e. MI_Marquette_Vista01.tif, MI_Marquette_Vista02.tif for views of the Vista Theater in Negaunee, Marquette County).
- Identification list of the photo images on the CD-R. When submitting photographs made from electronic images, use a separate sheet of paper to provide a photo list. List the name of the photographer and the date when the views were shot. Then list the specifics – obtained from your processor – as to the processing system, inks, and paper used for printing the photos (for example, “Epson 7600 with Epson Ultra Chrome inks and Epson Premium Gloss Paper”). Follow this with a list of the photos that includes, for each view, a brief description of the view indicating façade(s), side of street, etc., shown (“North and east façades” or “200 block of S. Washington, east side”) and the image file designation.

COLOR ELECTRONIC IMAGES (Slides and/or prints are not accepted):

Provide four to six color images of the resource. Follow the same guidelines for taking the photo as were outlined for black and white images. **The size of each image must be 1600 X 1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Images that do not meet that standard will not be accepted. Use uncompressed .TIF or .jpeg format.** Name the images for the property and number them (i.e. Vista01.tif, Vista02.tif for views of the Vista Theater). Label the CD-R with the name of the property. For a district or other property for which one or more maps are being provided as part of the nomination, provide one image of each map on the CD-R, to be used as

part of the presentation to the review board. These images should follow the instructions above as to format and naming and, because they will be shown first in the review board presentation, should be designated with the lowest numbers.

RIGHTS TO PHOTOGRAPHS AND ELECTRONIC IMAGES

The final, accepted versions of photographs and images provided for national register nominations become the property of the Michigan Historical Center and will not be returned. The Michigan Historical Center accepts all photographs and images only on the condition that the center has full right to use such accepted photographs and images for reports, presentations, or other purposes as it sees fit.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

CONTACT: Laura Ashlee or Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock
State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan Historical Center
Department of History, Arts & Libraries
702 W. Kalamazoo St., P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909-8240
Phone: 517/335-2725 or 517/335-2722
E-mail: ashleel@michigan.gov or grevstadt@michigan.gov

Acceptable Ink and Paper Combinations For Digital Images

The non-comprehensive list below includes products that meet the NR-NHL permanence standard. Specific printers are not identified, as the longevity of a print is dependent on the ink and paper combinations used to produce it, rather than on the printer.

Epson UltraChrome pigmented inks	Epson Premium Glossy Paper Epson Premium Semigloss Photo Paper Epson Premium Luster Photo Paper Epson Premium Semimatte Photo Paper Epson UltraSmooth Fine Art Paper Somerset Velvet for Epson Epson Velvet Fine Art Paper Epson Textured Fine Art Paper Epson Enhanced Matte Paper
Epson Picture Mate inks	Epson PictureMate Photo Paper
Hewlett-Packard (HP) 84/85 dye-based inkset	HP Premium Plus Photo and Proofing Gloss HP Premium Plus High Gloss Photo Paper HP Premium Plus Soft Gloss Photo Paper HP Premium Photo Paper, Gloss HP Premium Photo Paper, Soft Gloss
Hewlett-Packard 59 gray photo cartridge	HP Premium Plus and HP Premium Photo Papers (high gloss, glossy, and soft gloss)
Hewlett-Packard 100 gray photo cartridge	HP Premium Plus and HP Premium Photo Papers (high gloss, glossy, and soft gloss)
Hewlett-Packard Vivera inks (95 and 97 tri-color cartridges)	HP Premium Plus and HP Premium Photo Papers (high gloss, glossy, and soft gloss)

OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER PROCEDURES

Adopted by the Texas Historical Commission July 28, 2006

Official Texas Historical Markers are those markers and plaques the Texas Historical Commission (THC) awards, approves or administers. They include centennial markers the State of Texas awarded in the 1930s; Civil War Centennial markers from the 1960s; and medallions and markers awarded by the THC's predecessor, the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

Historical marker application means a current version of the THC's *Official Texas Historical Marker Application Form* and all required supporting documentation as required in the Application Requirements (see below).

TYPES OF HISTORICAL MARKERS

A. Subject Markers

Definition: Subject markers are educational in nature and reveal aspects of local history that are important to a community or region. These markers honor topics such as church congregations, schools, communities, businesses, events and individuals. Subject markers are placed at sites that have a historical association with the topic, but no legal restriction is placed on the use of the property or site, although the THC must be notified if the marker is ever to be relocated.

Criteria:

1. **Age:** Most topics marked with *subject markers* must date back at least 50 years, although historic events may be marked after 30 years, and individuals may be marked, or may be mentioned in a historical marker text, after they have been deceased for 10 years. The THC may waive the age requirements for topics of overwhelming state or national importance, although these exceptions are rarely granted and the burden of proof for all claims and documentation is the responsibility of the author of the narrative history.
2. **Historical significance:** A topic is considered to have historical significance if it had influence, effect or impact on the course of history or cultural development; age alone does not determine significance. Topics do not necessarily have to be of statewide or national significance; many historical markers deal with local history and a local level of significance. Age alone is not sufficient for marker eligibility.

B. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Markers

Definition: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) markers are awarded to structures deemed worthy of preservation for their historical associations and architectural significance. RTHL is a legal designation and comes with a measure of protection; it is the highest honor the state can bestow on a historic structure, and the designation is required for this type of marker. The RTHL designation becomes effective upon approval by the THC. Official Texas Historical Markers signify the RTHL designation; designation comes only through application to and approval by the THC and must include public display of an Official Texas Historical Marker.

Owners of RTHL-designated structures must give the THC 60 days written notice before any alterations are made to the exterior of the structure. RTHL status is a permanent designation and is not to be removed from the property in the event of a transfer of ownership. Only the THC can remove the designation or recall the marker. The marker must remain with the structure and may not be removed or displayed elsewhere until or unless the THC gives express approval in writing for such action. Once designated as RTHL, properties are subject to provisions of Texas Government Code, Section 442.006(f).

Criteria:

1. **Age:** Structures eligible for the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation and marker must be at least 50 years old.
2. **Historical significance:** Architectural significance alone is not enough to qualify a structure for the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation. It must have an equally significant historical association, and that association can come through an event that occurred at the site, through individuals who owned or lived on the property, or, in the case of bridges, industrial plants, schoolhouses, and other non-residential properties, through documented significance to the larger community.
3. **Architectural significance:** Structures deemed architecturally significant are outstanding examples of architectural history, either through design, materials, structural type or construction methods. In all cases, eligible architectural properties must display integrity, i.e., the structure should be in a good state of repair, maintain its appearance from its period of significance and be considered an exemplary model of preservation. Architectural significance is often best determined by the relevance of the property to broader contexts, including geography. Any changes over the years should be compatible with original design and reflect compliance with accepted preservation practices, e.g., the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
4. **Good state of repair:** Structures not considered by the THC to be in a good state of repair — i.e. restored — are not eligible for RTHL designation. The THC reserves the sole right to make that determination relative to eligibility for RTHL markers.

Special considerations for RTHL marker applications: If a structure is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under either Criterion A or B **and** Criterion C (architecture), the historical text compiled as part of the National Register process may be submitted as part of the marker process, provided it includes the required reference notes and other documentation. Acceptance of the National Register information for the purposes of the marker process will be the sole determination of the THC. Listing in the NRHP does not guarantee approval for an RTHL marker.

C. Historic Texas Cemetery Markers

Definition: Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) markers are only for burial grounds previously approved for HTC designation. These markers recognize the historical significance of a cemetery and, with the use of interpretive plaques, provide background on associated communities, families, events and customs. HTC markers must be placed at the cemetery, but since cemeteries are protected under other existing laws, they convey no restrictions on the property.

Criteria:

1. **HTC designation:** All steps of the HTC designation process must be completed by the time of application for the HTC marker.

2. **Historical/cultural significance:** Completion of the HTC designation does not ensure approval for an HTC marker; it is only a prerequisite. The application for an HTC marker with an interpretive plaque must include the same type of detailed history required for other markers. In addition to the context, overview and significance sections, it must also include a section that provides a detailed physical description of the site that includes mention of the cemetery setting, and descriptions of significant landscape features or noteworthy burial markers and funereal practices.

Special considerations for HTC markers:

- HTC medallions can be ordered separately, but only for placement with a previously awarded THC subject marker or other plaque that provides interpretation for the cemetery. **NOTE: Under current rules, cemeteries are no longer eligible for subject markers.**
- HTC medallions and interpretive plaques (including name and date plaques) must be displayed together.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Only complete marker application packets that contain all the required elements can be accepted or processed. Incomplete applications will automatically be rejected. Any individual, group or county historical commission may apply to the THC for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

The application shall include:

1. A completed application form duly reviewed and approved by the county historical commission (CHC) in the county in which the marker will be placed.
2. Application and text must be in the form of Word or Word-compatible documents.
3. Required font style and type size are a Times variant and 12 point.
4. Narrative histories must be typed in a double-spaced format and include separate sections on context, overview and significance.
5. The narrative history must include documentation in the form of reference notes, which can be either footnotes or endnotes. Documentation associated with applications should be broad-based and demonstrate a survey of all available resources, both primary and secondary.
6. Applications for subject markers and RTHL markers must include a current city or county map through an online map service (MapQuest.com; TopoZone.com; etc.) that clearly denotes the proposed marker location. (Maps are not required for Historic Texas Cemetery markers, as they are filed as part of the HTC designation process.)
7. Immediately upon notification of the successful preliminary review of required elements by the THC, a non-refundable application fee of \$100 is required. The fee can be submitted to the THC within ten working days of application receipt notification.

Additional requirements for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers:

8. Legal description of the property.
9. A detailed floor plan for each floor of the structure, if a residence or building. The floor plan must include notations on the use of the room (bedroom, parlor, etc.) and on where changes have been made over the years (i.e. back porch added 1924). Floor plans can be sent separately to the THC, provided they are on letter-size paper and include the required notations. Incomplete floor plans will not be accepted.
10. A detailed site plan of the property, showing all major features, such as outbuildings, sidewalks, driveways, significant landscape features, etc.
11. At least one historic photograph of the structure.

12. One current photograph of each elevation of the structure.

Additional requirements for Historic Texas Cemetery markers:

13. Prior approval by the THC for the Historic Texas Cemetery designation is required. Note that the designation process must be complete by the time the marker application is submitted to the CHC and that the HTC designation does not guarantee approval for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

1. Potential sponsor checks the THC web site for current basic information on the Official Texas Historical Marker Program.
2. Sponsor contacts the CHC to obtain marker application form, to review basic program requirements and to discuss county's review process and procedures, which differs from county to county. The THC does not mandate a specific review process at the county level, so the sponsor will need to work closely with the CHC to be sure all local concerns and procedures are addressed properly. The CHCs cannot send the application forward until they can certify that the history and the application have been adequately reviewed.
3. CHC reviews the marker application for accuracy and significance, and either approves the application or works with the sponsor to develop additional information as necessary.
4. CHC-approved applications are forwarded online as a Word document to the History Programs Division of the THC. Once the application is received by the THC, additional notifications and correspondence will be between the CHC contact and the THC staff contact only, unless otherwise noted.
5. THC staff makes a preliminary assessment to determine if the topic is eligible for review and if all required elements are included. Upon notification the application has been accepted for review, a \$100 application fee is due within ten days.
6. Eligible applications receive further review, and additional information may be requested via email. Failure to provide all requested materials as instructed in 45 days, unless special conditions are approved by the THC, will result in cancellation of the application.
7. THC staff and commissioners review applications and determine:
 - a. Eligibility for approval
 - b. Size and type of marker for each topic
 - c. Priorities for work schedule on the approved applications
8. CHC and sponsor notified via email of approval and provided payment form; payment must be received in THC offices within 45 days or the application will be cancelled.
9. Inscriptions written, with one review copy provided via email to the CHC contact only for local distribution as needed. Inscription review is for accuracy of content only; the THC determines the content, wording, punctuation, phrasing, etc.
10. Upon receipt of the inscription, the CHC contact provides additional copies as necessary for committee, commission or sponsor review and conveys a single response to the THC.
 - a. Upon receipt of emailed approval by the CHC, the THC proceeds with the order.
 - b. If warranted changes recommended by the CHC are approved by the THC, staff will send a revised copy for content review. Because inscription reviews are for content only, only two reviews should be necessary to complete this step of the process. Additional requests for revisions are subject to approval by the THC, which will be the sole determinant of warranted requests for changes. Excessive requests for change, or delays in response, may, in the determination of the THC, result in cancellation of the order.

- c. Only the authorized CHC contact — chair or marker chair — can make the final approval of inscriptions at the county level. Final approval will be construed by the THC to mean concurrence with any interested parties, including the sponsor.
- 11. The order is sent to marker supplier for manufacturing. Subject to the terms of the THC vendor contract, only authorized THC staff may contact the manufacturer relative to any aspect of Official Texas Historical Markers, including those in process or previously approved.
- 12. THC staff reviews galley proofs of markers. With THC approval, manufacturing process proceeds. Manufacturer inspects, crates and ships completed markers and notifies THC, which in turn notifies CHC contact.
- 13. With shipment notice, planning can begin on marker dedication ceremony, as needed, in conjunction with CHC, sponsors and other interested parties.
 - a. Information on planning and conducting marker ceremonies is provided by the THC through its web site.
 - b. Once the planning is complete, the CHC posts the information to the THC web site calendar.
- 14. THC staff enters marker information into the Texas Historic Sites Atlas (atlas.thc.state.tx.us), an online inventory of marker information and inscriptions.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. **Markers as THC property:** Official Texas Historical Markers are the property of the Texas Historical Commission, which is the final determinant of all matters related to design, eligibility, content, manufacturing, placement or replacement, and compliance oversight. The markers may, at the sole discretion of the THC, be recalled for any reason it so determines, including inaccuracies or non-compliance with rules and policies.
2. **Marker sponsor:** The sponsor of an Official Texas Historical Marker is the individual or group that pays for a portion of the marker process in partnership with the THC. In general, the THC funds the costs associated with statewide program development and oversight, product design and inscriptions, quality review and all procedural matters. Sponsors, in turn, help defray the cost of manufacturing through their associated fees.
3. **Role of the CHC:** The CHC is the sole liaison to the THC for all matters related to the marker application process. The appropriate contact person is either the chair or marker chair, but the latter must be duly appointed by the CHC chair and authorized to act in that capacity for purposes of marker applications. It is the duty of the CHC chair to properly notify the THC History Programs Division of the marker chair's name and contact information.
4. **Marker disputes:** In the event the placement or content of an Official Texas Historical Marker is contested, the THC, after consultation with interested parties, has the sole authority to make the final decision related to retention, replacement or removal.
5. **Pre-application review:** If there are any questions about the potential eligibility of proposed marker topics, including structures, the CHC may provide basic information online to the THC staff for the purpose of a pre-application review of eligibility. Such reviews are only for the purpose of topic eligibility, and they do not replace the full review required of the regular application process. The informal inquiries can be made at any time of the year, although ample time should be given the staff if a decision is needed prior to the application deadline.
6. **Marker inscriptions:** The wording of the state marker inscriptions is the sole responsibility of the THC. Suggested inscriptions will not be accepted as part of the application, nor can they be incorporated as part of the text preparation.

7. **Local dedication deadlines:** The THC marker process is determined by a number of variable factors, including work load, other agency projects and shipping or manufacturing delays. As a result, the THC staff cannot be responsible for meeting local deadlines for any planned dedication events. Planning for such events should be finalized only after the marker is received.
8. **County or municipal funding concerns:** The THC marker process is not subject to county or municipal funding restrictions or fiscal year requirements, and the THC is not responsible for such deadlines. If county or municipal policies or procedures are a factor in planning for marker applications, it is the responsibility of the CHC to meet those requirements or to work out other considerations for the encumbrance of funds.
9. **Appeals of CHC action or inaction:** CHC approval must be obtained for all Official Texas Historical Markers. If a CHC rejects or fails to act on application within 90 days, the sponsor may appeal directly to the THC for redress. At that point, the CHC will be required to submit a written statement relative to its action or inaction on the application. If the CHC has determined the application is not eligible for an Official Texas Historical Marker, it has the responsibility to provide the THC with a detailed report explaining reasons why and how it made that determination.
10. **Appeals of THC action:** The decision of the THC on all marker applications as submitted is final and can only be appealed for review by the THC if additional information not previously made available to or reviewed by the agency is submitted. Any such information must comply with documentation standards of the program. Once received, the THC will determine if an appeal is warranted and, if so, will act on the appeal and render a final determination. Appeals may not necessarily correspond with annual application deadlines, and appeals directed to the THC must allow ample time for review prior to those deadlines. All details of appeals, including timing and participating parties, will be directed by the THC.
11. **Payment due upon approval:** The THC cannot accept partial payment for markers, nor can it hold funds in abeyance as other funds are collected. Payment for all markers is due in full within 45 days of the notice of approval. Delayed payments will result in cancellation of applications.
12. **Marker placement:** The placement of historical markers should be carefully considered to ensure maximum accessibility and protection of historic resources. Whenever possible, a marker for a historic structure receiving the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation should be placed on a post rather than on the structure to avoid damaging the historic fabric of the structure. To avoid confusion regarding historical designation, subject markers may not be attached to non-historic buildings. Sponsors or CHCs are responsible for the physical placement of a historical marker, unless the site is on a state-maintained highway right-of-way, in which case the Texas Department of Transportation will be responsible for erecting the marker in consultation with the CHC.
13. **Accessibility:** Markers must be accessible to the public.
14. **Site considerations:** RTHL and HTC markers must be placed at the actual sites being commemorated.
15. **Applications as state records:** All applications, correspondence and support materials become the property of the THC and are subject to rules governing open records. Information from the records may be utilized by the CHCs and its researchers provided any citations of the information properly include mention of the THC and its marker file holdings.
16. **Official policies:** Official policies regarding the Official Texas Historical Marker program, Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation and Historic Texas Cemetery designation are codified in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 21.

17. **Texas Historic Sites Atlas:** Through its Historic Sites Atlas, the THC provides online access to marker inscriptions and locational information. The THC maintains the database and adds, deletes or changes information as necessary and as staff time permits. Every effort is made to keep the information updated, but a variety of factors may cause delays in the process. The Atlas serves as the primary tool for researchers and others interested in the Official Texas Historical Marker program, and information can be downloaded as needed.
18. **Requests for file information:** The THC maintains marker files as public records and makes them available for researchers at the agency library.

**SUBJECT MARKERS:
2008 Official Texas Historical Marker
Sponsorship Application Form**

Valid November 1, 2007 to January 15, 2008 only

This form constitutes a public request for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to consider approval of an Official Texas Historical Marker for the topic noted in this application. The THC will review the request and make its determination based on rules and procedures of the program. Filing of the application for sponsorship is for the purpose of providing basic information to be used in the evaluation process. The final determination of eligibility and therefore approval for a state marker will be made by the THC. This form is to be used for subject marker requests only. Please see separate forms for either Historic Texas Cemeteries or Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks.

Proposed marker topic (Official title will be determined by the THC):

County:

Town (nearest county town on current state highway map):

Street address of marker site or directions from town noted above:

Will the marker be placed at the actual site of the topic being marked? Yes No

If the answer is no, provide the distance and directions to the actual location from the marker (i.e. 100 yards east).

Subject marker definition

Subject markers are educational in nature and reveal aspects of local history important to a community or region. These markers honor topics such as church congregations, schools, communities, businesses, events and individuals. Subject markers are placed at sites that have historical associations with the topics, but no legal restriction is placed on the use of the property or site, although the THC must be notified if the marker is ever to be relocated.

Criteria

1. **Age:** Most topics marked with subject markers must date back at least 50 years, although historic events may be marked after 30 years, and historic individuals may be marked, or may be mentioned in a historical marker text, after they have been deceased 10 years. The THC may waive age requirements for topics of overwhelming state or national importance, although exceptions are rarely granted and the burden of proof for all claims and documentation is the responsibility of the narrative author.
2. **Historical significance:** A topic is considered to have historical significance if it had influence, effect or impact on the course of history or cultural development; age alone does not determine significance. Topics do not necessarily have to be of statewide or national significance; many historical markers deal with local history and a local level of significance.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any individual, group or county historical commission (CHC) may apply to the THC to request an Official Texas Historical Marker for what it deems a worthy topic. Only complete marker applications that contain all the required elements and are received via email, as required, can be accepted or

processed by the THC. For subject markers, the required elements are: sponsorship application form, narrative history, documentation and online map (see further details below). No photograph is required.

- Completed applications must be duly reviewed, verified and approved by the CHC in the county in which the marker will be placed. Paper copies of applications, whether mailed, emailed or delivered in person, cannot be accepted in lieu of the electronic version.
- The sponsorship application form, narrative history and documentation must be in the form of Microsoft Word or Word-compatible documents and submitted via email attachments to the THC no later than January 15, 2008.
- Required font style and type size are a Times variant and 12-point.
- Narrative histories must be typed in a double-spaced (or 1.5-spaced) format and include separate sections on context, overview, significance and documentation.
- The narrative history must include documentation in the form of reference notes, which can be either footnotes or endnotes. Documentation associated with applications should be broad-based and demonstrate a survey of available resources, both primary and secondary.
- Applications for subject markers must include a current city or county map through TopoZone.com that clearly denotes the proposed marker location. Instructions for using TopoZone.com are available on the THC web site.
- Upon notification of the successful preliminary review of required elements by the THC, a non-refundable application fee of \$100 is required. The fee shall be submitted to the THC within 10 working days of application receipt notification.

APPROVAL BY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The duly appointed marker representative (chair or marker chair) noted below for the county historical commission will be the sole contact with the THC for this marker application. To ensure accuracy, consistency and efficiency, all information from and to the THC relative to the application—and throughout the review and productions processes—will be via direct communication with the CHC representative. All other inquiries (calls, emails, letters) to the THC will be referred to the CHC representative for response. By filling out the information below and filing the application with the THC, the CHC representative is providing the THC with notice that the application and documentation have been reviewed and verified by the CHC and that the material meets all current requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker program.

As chair or duly appointed marker chair, I certify the following:

- Representatives of the CHC have met or talked with the potential marker sponsor and discussed the marker program policies as outlined on the THC web site. CHC members have reviewed the history and documentation for accuracy and made corrections or notes as necessary. It is the determination of the CHC that the topic, history and documentation meet criteria for eligibility.

CHC comments or concerns about this application, if any:

Name of CHC contact (chair or marker chair):

Mailing address: **City, Zip:**

Daytime phone (with area code): **Email address** (required):

PERMISSION OF PROPERTY OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT

Will the marker be placed on right-of-way maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)? Yes No

If the answer is yes, the THC will secure the necessary permission from TxDOT, and no other information is required. If the answer is no, please provide the following information for the person or group who owns the property.

Property owner:

Address: **City, State, Zip:**

Phone: **Email address:**

NOTE: The property owner will not receive copies of correspondence from the THC. [All correspondence—notice of receipt, request for additional information, payment notice, inscription, shipping notice, etc.—will be sent via email to the CHC representative, who is encouraged to share the information with all interested parties as necessary.] Given the large volume of applications processed annually and the need for centralized communication, all inquiries about applications in process will be referred to the CHC for response. The CHC is the sole liaison to the THC on all marker application matters.

SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT INFORMATION

Prospective sponsors please note payment must be received in full within 45 days of the official approval notice and be accompanied by the THC payment form. The THC is unable to process partial payments or to delay payment due to processing procedures of the sponsor. Applications not paid in the time frame required may, at the sole discretion of the THC, be cancelled or postponed.

- Payment does not constitute ownership of a marker; Official Texas Historical Markers are the property of the State of Texas.
- If, at any time during the marker process, sponsorship is withdrawn, a refund can be processed, but the THC will retain the application fee of \$100.
- The Official Texas Historical Marker Program provides no means of recognizing sponsors through marker text, incising or supplemental plaques.

Marker sponsor (may be individual or organization):

Contact person (if applicable):

Mailing address: **City, State, Zip:**

Phone: **Email address** (required):

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

If the proposed marker site is on TxDOT right-of-way, the marker will be shipped directly to the district highway engineer for placement, with consultation from the CHC. If the marker will go on property other than TxDOT right-of-way, provide full information in the space below. In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. To avoid additional shipping charges or delays, use a business street address (open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Name:

Street address: City, zip:

Daytime phone (required): Email (required):

TYPE AND SIZE OF SUBJECT MARKER

As part of its review process, the THC will determine the appropriate size of the marker and provide options, if any, for the approved topic based on its own review criteria, including, but not exclusive of, historical significance, replication of information in other THC markers, relevance to the Statewide Preservation Plan and the amount of available documented information provided in the application narrative. In making its determination, however, the THC will also take into account the preference of the CHC, as noted below.

The sponsor/CHC prefers the following size marker:

- 27” x 42” subject marker with post (\$1,500)
- 27” x 42” subject marker without post*(\$1,500)
- 18” x 28” subject marker with post (\$1,000)
- 18” x 28” subject marker without post* (\$1,000)

*For markers without posts, the CHC must receive prior approval from the THC for the planned placement. Such prior approval is based on the following:

- Submittal of a detailed plan for where the marker will be mounted, including the surface to which it will be placed (masonry, metal, wood); and
- A statement of why a marker with a post is not feasible or preferred.

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION (via email required)

When the CHC has determined the application is complete, the history has been verified and the topic meets the requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, the materials should be forwarded to the THC via email at the following address: markerapplication@thc.state.tx.us.

- The CHC or marker chair should send an email containing the following attachments (see attachment function under file menu or toolbox on your computer):
 - This application form
 - A TopoZone.com map of the proposed marker location
 - The subject history (including documentation)

RECORDS RETENTION BY CHC:

The CHC must retain hard copies of the application, as well as an online version, at least for the duration of the marker process. The THC is not responsible for lost applications, incomplete applications or applications not properly filed according to the program requirements. For additional information about any aspect of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, visit the Markers page on the THC web site (<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigns/madmark.html>).

Texas Historical Commission
History Programs Division
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276
Phone 512/463-5853 Fax 512/475-3122
Email history@thc.state.tx.us
www.thc.state.tx.us



**TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

APPENDIX D

Historical Marker Website Examples

- 1. Indiana**
- 2. North Carolina**
- 3. Pennsylvania**

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Historical Markers

Historical Marker Dedication Announcements for October 2007:

Sheriff's Residence and Jail marker will be dedicated in Vanderburgh County on November 13, 2007 at 11AM (central time) [MAP](#)

Potter's Covered Bridge marker was dedicated in Hamilton County on October 6, 2007

[PHOTOS](#) [MAP](#)

[About the Marker Program](#)

[Marker Guidelines and Application](#)

[Marker Repairs](#)

New book published about Indiana State Historical Markers! Read more about it in the [IHB Book Shop](#)



[History of the Marker Program](#)

[Cemetery Initiative](#)

[Underground Railroad Initiative](#)

[Examples of Annotated Marker Text](#)

[FAQs](#)



[Marker Guidelines](#)

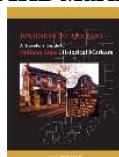
All marker applications have been received for the 2007 deadline. We will be taking applications again in the fall of 2008.



[Marker Repair Program](#)

[Instructions for Repainting Markers](#)

Check out the new book on IHB Markers



Alan McPherson recently published a guide to Indiana State Historical Markers! This 295 page book has marker texts and locations--a great resource to keep in your car!

Read more about it in the [IHB Book Shop](#)

Find a Marker



[Find Markers by County](#)

[Browse by Marker Topic](#)

[Search Marker Database](#)

[Distribution of Markers by County](#)

Dedications & Celebrations



[Markers Approved for Dedication, 2007](#)

Previous Marker Dedications: [2006](#), [2005](#), [2004](#)

[Previous Marker Dedications by County](#)

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Indiana Historical Marker Program History



The Culbertson Mansion marker (22.1996.2) is located in New Albany, Floyd County in front of the mansion.

Courtesy David C. Barksdale

Marking Indiana's History

by Judy A. Rippel

Coordinator, Indiana Historical Marker Program
October 2004

In order to give the history of historical markers in Indiana, one must first give a brief history of the Indiana Historical Bureau, the state agency mandated to provide the official Indiana Historical Marker Program.

The predecessor of the Indiana Historical Bureau was the [Indiana Historical Commission](#), established by the Indiana General Assembly in 1915 to prepare and execute plans for the Centennial celebration in 1916 of Indiana's admission to statehood.

No appropriated state funds were available for the installation of markers or memorials when the Commission was created. It was noted by the Commission, however, that "It would thus be strange and a source of some inquietude, had the year 1916 seen no Centennial markers and memorials placed here and there throughout Indiana." With the encouragement of the Commission many historic sites, including historic highways and trails across the state were marked with monuments, plaques, tablets, and memorials. They were installed by cities, counties, individuals, groups, and historical organizations.

In 1921, the Indiana General Assembly specifically authorized the Indiana Historical Commission to cooperate with and advise local historical societies, clubs, and other organizations interested in locating and marking historical sites. There were no funds made available to the Commission for the purchase of historical markers.

In order to determine the status of marking historical sites in Indiana, the Commission in a 1921 *Indiana History Bulletin* issued a preliminary list of markers by county; an updated survey was published in February 1922. More than 150 signs, plaques, and memorials were installed in 1923 through the cooperative effort led by

the Commission. A follow-up survey was published in the April 1924 *Indiana History Bulletin*.

When the members of the Indiana Historical Commission met in April 1925, the meeting marked the end of the Commission. Their activities became the mandate of the Indiana Historical Bureau, a part of the Indiana Library and Historical Department, created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1925.

The Historical Bureau continued with the listing of historical markers, plaques, and public memorials. In 1934, the Historical Bureau raised the question of state government becoming involved in the placing of historical markers. The reasons put forth were that markers could be made uniform throughout the state, it would increase the number of markers, and perhaps a better selection of historical sites and subjects would be marked.

Works Progress Administration Historical Markers Project

Not until 1936, however, did a state government program for marking sites become a reality; the Works Progress Administration (WPA) project of marking historical sites was approved with funding. The program was authorized twice—January 9, 1936-June 30, 1937 and January 26, 1938-January 31, 1942—as a jobs program for Hoosiers. In the first phase, the WPA furnished the material for the signs and the labor for making and painting them. The signs were three feet wide and two feet high and were made of thin sheet metal framed in angle iron. They were painted white, and the inscriptions (text) were hand-painted in black capital letters. The posts and braces (mounting) for the markers were uniform and made under contract for the state, but the cost of ninety cents each was to be paid with private funds.

The location of each sign and the text was to be approved by the Historical Bureau. The work and expense of installing the signs was provided by the Indiana State Highway Commission. The Historical Bureau requested that county historical societies send locations of sites that should be marked and text suggestions for each sign. In 1939, there were improvements in the signs. They were made of rolled steel, the painting was improved with lower-case lettering—making the signs easier to read—and a small sketch of the subject commemorated appeared next to the text. The cost of these signs was \$2.50 payable by the applicant. The labor of making the signs was still provided by the WPA.



From 1936 to 1942, the Indiana Historical Bureau administered the Historical Markers Project of the Works Progress Administration. More than 2,200 signs, similar to this one, were made by WPA workers. It is not known how many of these signs are still in existence.

Courtesy Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana

These WPA signs were considered temporary because of the type of material used; it was expected that they would be illegible and rusty in a few years. They served, however, to call the attention of citizens

and travelers to persons and places of historical interest in Indiana.

Under the project, more than 2,200 signs were installed from 1936 to 1942. Most of the signs became shabby with age. In 1942, the State Highway Commission made plans to remove all unsightly WPA signs and collect the metal, which could be utilized as scrap iron during the war.

A New Historical Markers Program

In 1947, a search was begun for a more permanent type of marker. It was decided that the markers should be made of cast aluminum, with raised gold letters against a blue enamel background, and mounted on a post. This is the same format that is used today. The Historical Bureau squeezed \$1,000 from the agency's operating budget and purchased a dozen of these new permanent historical markers to replace some of the nearly illegible WPA signs on sites of statewide interest. The Historical Bureau requested a special appropriation from the Indiana General Assembly to purchase additional markers, but the request for funds was denied.

Since funds were not approved to purchase markers, the Historical Bureau tried to interest local historical societies, patriotic societies, luncheon clubs, chambers of commerce, and other organizations in purchasing markers. The Bureau offered the markers at a cost of about \$85.00 each. By the year 1951, forty of these markers had been installed using private funds.



The Battle of Mississinewa marker (27.1947.1) is located on SR 15 in Marion, Grant County. Only three of these 1947 markers remain today. Courtesy Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana

In 1957, a concerted effort was made by the Historical Bureau and the historic sites committees of the [Society of Indiana Pioneers](#) and the [Indiana Historical Society](#) to revive the marker program in the state. Between the years 1957 and 1965, approximately twenty markers were installed using private donations.

Civil War Centennial Commission Historical Markers

In September 1959, the Indiana Civil War Centennial Commission was authorized by the Indiana General Assembly to plan and conduct the commemoration of the centennial of the Civil War from 1961 to 1965. One purpose of the Commission was to identify, locate, and mark those places historically significant to Indiana's Civil War effort.

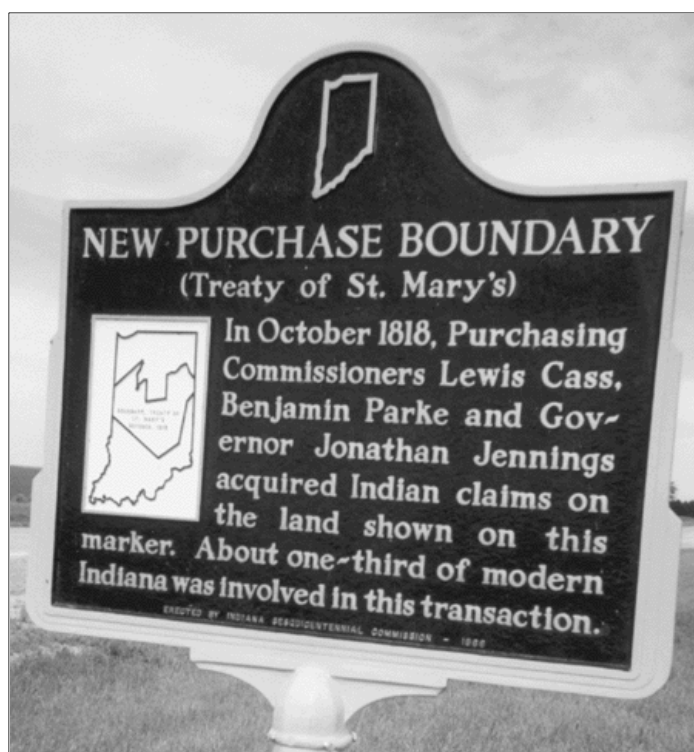
Working with the Indiana Historical Bureau, the Commission installed thirty-nine permanent historical markers relating to Indiana's involvement in the Civil War.

Indiana Sesquicentennial Commission Historical Markers

The Indiana Sesquicentennial Commission was created by the 1957 Indiana General Assembly to celebrate Indiana's 150th birthday as a state in 1966. Installation of permanent state historical markers was one of the activities suggested to celebrate the sesquicentennial of statehood. Several hundred proposals resulted from a promotional mailing. The markers ranged in price from \$150.00 to \$195.00.

Sixty-five markers were purchased by the Commission. In almost every instance the markers were dedicated with a proper ceremony attended by prominent national, state, and local citizens and interested groups. An attempt was made not to call any particular site the "first," "only," or "most important" unless sufficient proof existed to do so. It was the hope of the Commission that its marker program would stimulate others to pursue the installation of historical markers.

Something new in the state historical marker program was added when maps were incorporated with the texts. Since the text was limited to about thirty-five words, it was felt that the diagrams would provide considerably more information.



The New Purchase Boundary (Treaty of St. Mary's) marker (4.1966.1) is located west of Fowler on SR 18 in Benton County. It was installed by the Indiana Sesquicentennial Commission in 1966 and restored in 2000 by volunteers. Courtesy Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana

The Indiana Historical Bureau prepared a new listing of historical markers of the state in the Indiana Sesquicentennial year, the first since 1929. It was published in the April 1966 *Indiana History Bulletin* and updated in the July 1967 issue.

A New Era for Historical Markers

Although for decades the Indiana Historical Bureau had administered the purchase of historical markers in a state format, the Bureau was not given statutory authority to carry out this function until 1978. As a result, the Bureau began a county-by-county survey of markers, plaques, and memorials in Indiana to provide a comprehensive and

orderly central repository of marker information. Volunteers across the state completed survey forms, and the results—although incomplete—were published in 1978 and 1979 issues of the *Indiana History Bulletin*.

In 1989, there was a dramatic change to the Indiana Historical Marker Program. For the first time since the 1966 Sesquicentennial Commission Marker Program, the Indiana General Assembly appropriated funds to the Indiana Historical Bureau to purchase markers. Thirty-eight markers were installed, using these state funds and local donations.

In 1993, continuing appropriations from the Indiana General Assembly to purchase markers began. From 1947 to 1988, a period of forty-one years, a little over 200 markers were installed. As a result of the infusion of state funds, in the fifteen year period from 1989 to 2004, over 225 markers have been installed using state and private funds.

What about the future? Since historical markers are cast in aluminum, are fixed solidly in place, and are not amenable to revision, marker texts are being thoroughly documented with primary source material.

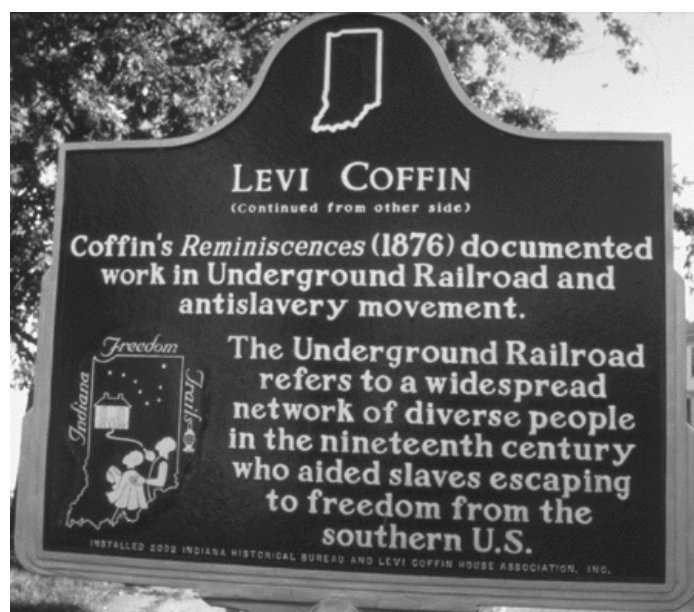
With historically accurate texts, markers can serve the purpose of communicating history to the general public in capsule form. The markers may be used as educational tools for teachers, students, and others who wish to learn more about the state's history.

By 1998, a searchable database containing all Indiana state historical markers was made available on the Historical Bureau Web site; it is regularly updated. The database contains the marker county, title, text, credit line, and location and is searchable in all of those fields. In

2003, the Historical Bureau began adding texts with footnotes for current and future markers to provide additional learning opportunities.

A goal of the program is to increase the diversity of marker topics so that persons reading Indiana state markers can realize that Indiana is like a tapestry, an overall image made up of countless single strands, each with its own unique history worth celebrating. Markers should reflect the rich political, social, cultural, economic, intellectual, and scientific history of the state.

In 2001, the opportunity came to collaborate with the [Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology](#), Indiana Department of Natural Resources, on an Underground Railroad Initiative, which will help document this important facet of Indiana history. The numbers of markers about women, American Indians, and ethnic groups are also increasing.



The Levi Coffin marker (89.2002.1) is located in Fountain City, Wayne County. This is an Underground Railroad Initiative marker with the Indiana Freedom Trails logo. Courtesy Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana

The past, present, and continued success of the Indiana Historical Marker Program has been—and will be—dependent on the many volunteers across the state who have given—and will give—of their time, energy, and money to see that markers are installed which present, preserve, and celebrate the history of Indiana. To those people who have worked on the program, thank you! To those of you who have not yet become involved with the program, please join the effort to continue marking Indiana's history for future generations!

For more information about the Indiana Historical Marker Program, including how to apply for a historical marker, call 317-232-2537.

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Marker Repair



We have many older Indiana format historical markers across the state that are in need of refurbishing. The Historical Bureau is looking for volunteers who would be willing to supply the materials and labor to repaint these markers in their communities!

[Marker repair instructions and contact information](#)

Volunteers can make a difference! Click on a marker to learn more about its repair

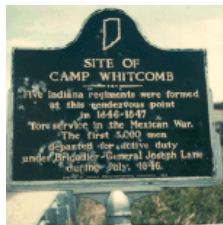
Forks of Wabash Marker Huntington County



Indiana Territorial Line Marker St. Joseph County



Site of Camp Whitcomb Marker Floyd County



Berry's Trace Marker Ripley County



Indianapolis Times Marker Marion County



Chinworth Bridge Marker Floyd County



New Purchase Boundary Marker Carroll County



If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Historical Bureau:
Phone 317-232-2537 or e-mail jhackerd@statelib.lib.in.us
We would like to acknowledge any individuals, groups, or organizations on our
Web site who volunteer to restore a historical marker. We would appreciate
information about the volunteers and if possible, a before and after photograph
of the marker.

[Searchable marker database](#)

[Find a marker by county](#)

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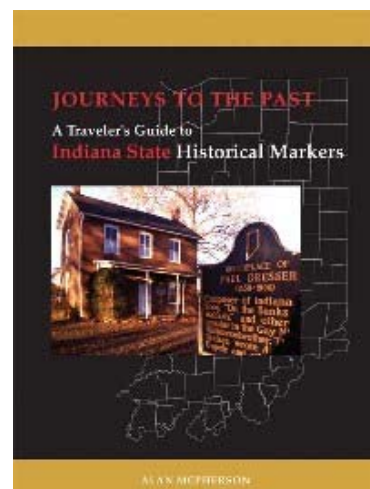
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General Indiana History

Journeys to the Past: A Traveler's Guide to Indiana State Historical Markers

Alan McPherson



Inside this guide, intrepid explorers will discover the text to nearly 500 roadside markers that have been installed and maintained by the Indiana Historical Bureau. The easy-to-follow highway directions will guide excursionists to each marker's location.

paper 295 pp./2007/ISBN 978-1-4343-1644-8/\$23.99

Order No. 2658

The Great Indiana State Fair at 150: A Pictorial Celebration

Stephen H. Baker



Amid the tall buildings and busy streets of Indianapolis sits a quiet, beautifully wooded area now known as Military Park. In the 1820's it became the first city park and was the site of the little settlement's first 4th of July celebration.

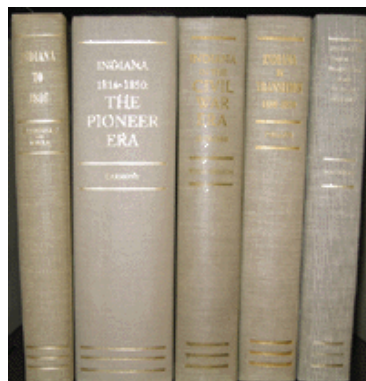
In the 1860s, it was a mustering ground where Hoosier farm boys came to join the Union Army. They marched out as soldiers and turned south towards their destinies.

During a warm two weeks in October 1852, this was the site of Indiana's first State Fair. Thousands of people came to the city to visit the fair's sights and sounds. Just like today, folks gawked at midway curiosities. They marveled their way through pens and stalls that held the very best "modern" husbandry had to offer. As they passed through the "Manufacturers Building," "new-fangled" devices such as the "sewing machine" astonished them! They cheered winners of the "best" pie, cake, and pickle relish.

Stephen H. Baker's new book, *The Great Indiana State Fair at 150*, captures the human experience of the Fair throughout its history. With each turn of the page, the reader recalls his or her own memories of going to the fair.

paper 110 pp./2006/ISBN 0-74820-08312-3/ \$14.95
Order No. 2066

[History of Indiana series](#)



This series was begun in 1965 in honor of the sesquicentennial of Indiana's statehood. The series has been a joint venture

between the Indiana Historical Bureau and the [Indiana Historical Society](#).

Marshal Foch Day, Official Record of the Celebration Given in Honor of Marshal Ferdinand L. Foch, Indianapolis, November 4, 1921

Includes dedication of the American Legion headquarters in Indianapolis.

cloth 103 pp./\$19.95
Order No. 4059

Creating a Hoosier Self-Portrait; the Federal Writers' Project in Indiana

George T. Blakey



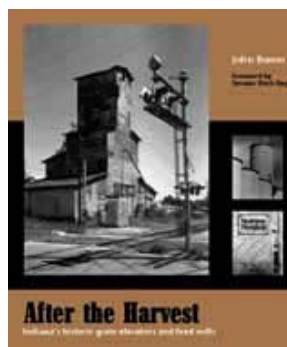
The story of the New Deal program that produced the first guide to Indiana.

From 1935 to 1942, the Indiana office of the Federal Writers' Program hired unemployed writers as "field workers" to create a portrait in words of the land, the people, and the culture of the Hoosier state. This book tells the story of the project and its valuable legacy. Beginning work under the guidance of Ross Lockridge, whose son would later burst onto the American literary scene with his novel *Raintree County*, the group would eventually produce *Indiana: A Guide to the Hoosier State*, *Hoosier Tall Stories*, and other publications. Though many projects were never brought to completion, the Program's work remains a useful and rarely tapped storehouse of information on the history and culture of the state.

cloth 248 pp. 2005/ISBN 0-253-34569-3/\$29.95
Order No. 2579

After the Harvest: Indiana's historic grain elevators and feed mills

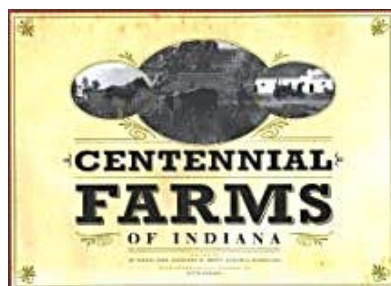
John Bower



paper 144 pp. 2007/ISBN 978-0-9745186-3-3/\$22.00
Order No. 2642

Centennial Farms of Indiana

M. Teresa Baer and Kathleen M. Breen (eds)



A history of Hoosier farming and a genealogical treasure trove of information about local farm families dating back to the early 19th century.

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Order No. 2384

Progress after Statehood: A Book of Readings

Pamela J. Bennett and Shirley McCord, comp.

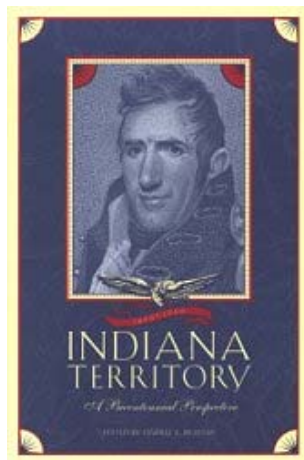
Essays of and about Indiana. Resources available: newspapers, government documents, state agency reports, and publications.

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Order No. 4070

paper 570 pp. 1974/ISBN 1-885323-27-1/\$4.95
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Indiana Territory 1800-2000: A Bicentennial Perspective

Darrel E. Bigham (ed)



A compilation of five essays and two related papers from a conference on midwestern history in June, 2000, offering a vivid picture of life in the Indiana Territory.

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Order No. 2152

The Old Northwest: Pioneer Period 1815-1840

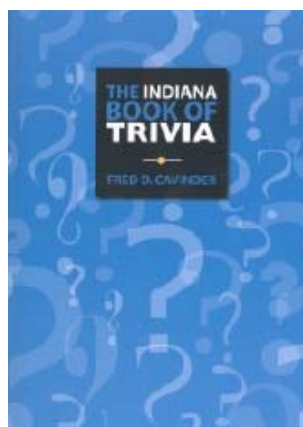
R. Carlyle Buley

History of the region northwest of the Ohio River from the beginning of the "Great Migration" to the end of the pioneer period.

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The Indiana Book of Trivia

Fred D. Cavinder



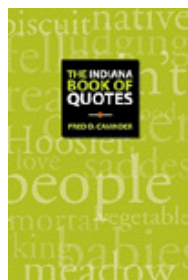
Compiled by former Indiana newspaper reporter and author Fred D. Cavinder, this book resists repeating commonly known Hoosier trivia such as Cole Porter was from Indiana or that Don Larsen pitched the only perfect game in World Series history, in favor of listing odder, less historic facts about the Hoosier state and its inhabitants.

paper 220 pp. 2007/ISBN978-087195-252-3/\$14.95

Order No. 2639

The Indiana Book of Quotes

Fred D. Cavinder



From humorist and writer George Ade to professional golfer Fuzzy Zoeller, the numerous funny, sad, heartbreaking, and wise statements made by and about Hoosiers and the nineteenth state are featured in *The Indiana Book of Quotes*. Compiled by former Indiana newspaper reporter and author Fred D. Cavinder, the book includes quotes from longtime Hoosiers and those who had only a passing acquaintance with the state. Although Ambrose Bierce grew up in Indiana and fought for it during the Civil War, this noted wit and pundit, author of the hilarious *Devil's Dictionary*, left the state never to return. On the opposite end of the scale is Frank McKinney "Kin" Hubbard, creator of crackle-barrel philosopher Abe Martin of Brown County. Born in Ohio, Hubbard worked with the *Indianapolis News* for years and filled book after book with the witty sayings of his creation Martin. Famous historic quotes fill the book, including some not so previously known as coming from the Hoosier state. Although he served two terms as vice president under Woodrow Wilson, Thomas Marshall is still best known today for his offhand comment during a long-winded U.S. Senate debate on the needs of America: "What this country really needs is a good five-cent cigar." It was John B. L. Soule, editor of the *Terre Haute Express*, who produced in an editorial the famous advice of "Go West, young man and grow up with the country." Unfortunately for Soule, noted New York editor Horace Greeley gets mistakenly credit for this sage advice.♂

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Indiana's Believe It or Not

Fred D. Cavinder

Findings and stories, freaky and fascinating, kooky and strange, some historical oddities and fascinations, all told with humor.

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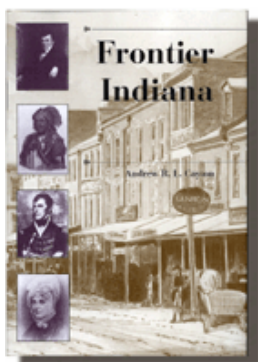


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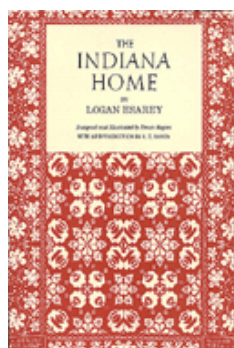
Cedric C. Cummins

Information garnered mainly from Indiana newspapers; how Hoosiers felt about America's participation in World War I.

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The Indiana Home

Logan Esarey



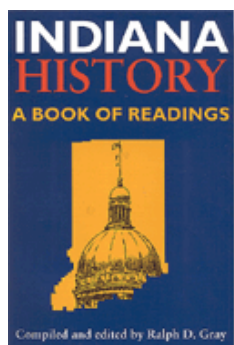
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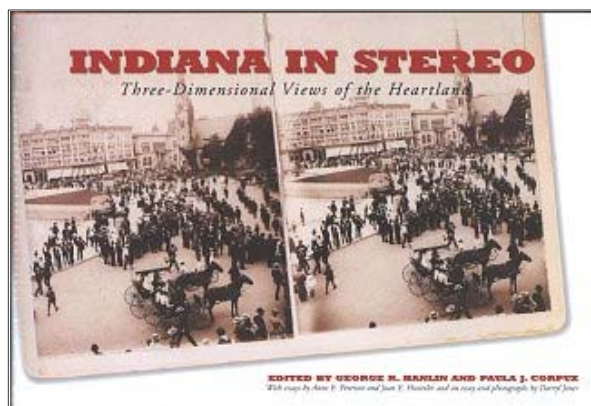
Ralph D. Gray, ed.



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George Hanlin and Paula J. Corpuz, eds.



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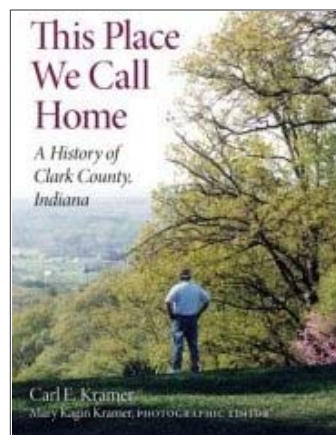
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Mary Kagin Kramer, photographic editor



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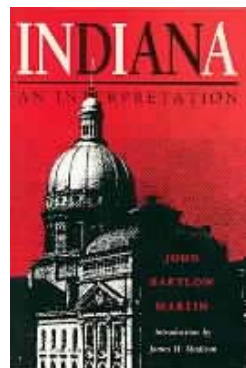
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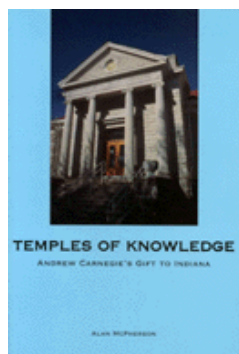


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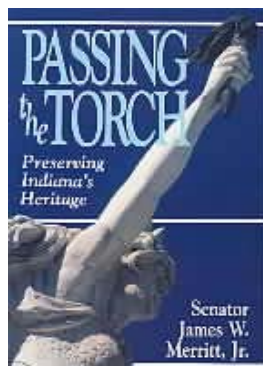


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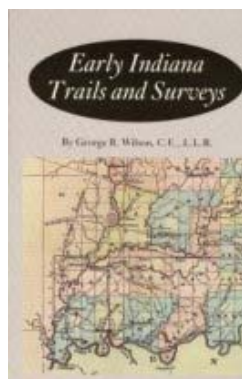
Gayle Thornbrough and Dorothy L. Riker (comp.)

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George R. Wilson

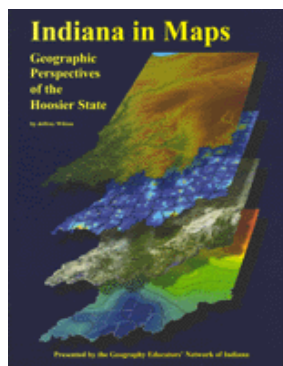


This 114-page book by George R. Wilson, features invaluable information for those researching early Indiana paths and settlements.

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Jeffery Wilson, compiler



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Dani B. Pfaff

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The Resource Guide provides introductions to the period and the subjects covered, including document introductions, activities, maps, timelines, reference materials, various finding aids to help match subject areas with the documents, and two supplemental related documents for each of the twenty-five packet documents.

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Resource Guide/3 hole punched 424 pp. 1987

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Nineteen gold stars on a blue background, the state banner adapted on this button was the winning design in a competition commemorating the centennial of statehood in 1916. The banner was adopted by the 1917 General Assembly

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Buttons are \$.50 each.

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Tote bag



Sturdy canvas duck material in a natural shade, with navy blue shoulder sling double handles. Front is a reproduction of the state flag of Indiana in navy blue and gold.

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Indiana State Flag

3 feet x 5 feet nylon flag with two side grommets for hanging

\$23.00



Flag Deskset

Small plastic holder with U. S. flag and Indiana State Flag

\$4.00



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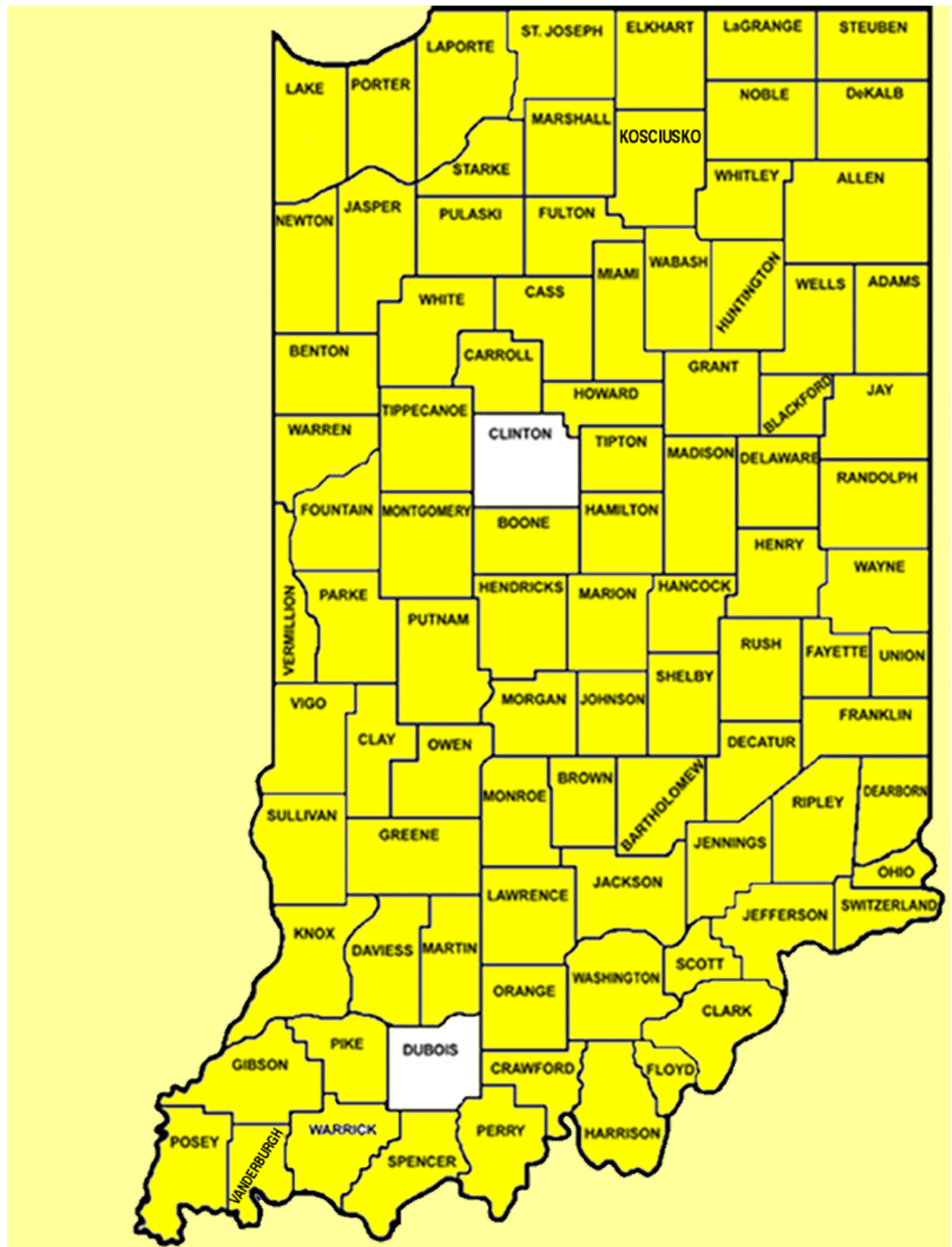
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Map of Indiana Historical Markers

Map of Indiana Historical Markers

Click on a county to see markers in a particular county





Indiana Counties

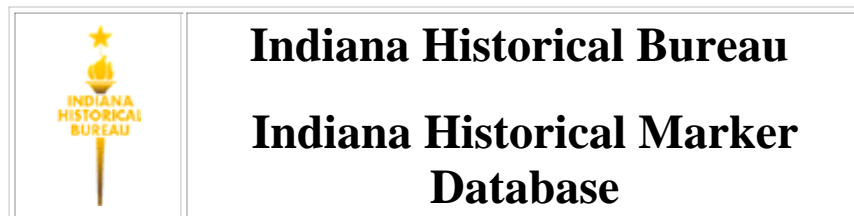
Adams	Elkhart	Jefferson	Ohio	Sullivan
Allen	Fayette	Jennings	Orange	Switzerland
Bartholomew	Floyd	Johnson	Owen	Tippecanoe
Benton	Fountain	Knox	Parke	Tipton
Blackford	Franklin	Kosciusko	Perry	Union
Boone	Fulton	La Grange	Pike	Vanderburgh
Brown	Gibson	Lake	Porter	Vermillion
Carroll	Grant	La Porte	Posey	Vigo
Cass	Greene	Lawrence	Pulaski	Wabash
Clark	Hamilton	Madison	Putnam	Warren
Clay	Hancock	Marion	Randolph	Warrick
Clinton	Harrison	Marshall	Ripley	Washington

Crawford	Hendricks	Martin	Rush	Wayne
Daviss	Henry	Miami	St. Joseph	Wells
Dearborn	Howard	Monroe	Scott	White
Decatur	Huntington	Montgomery	Shelby	Whitley
De Kalb	Jackson	Morgan	Spencer	
Delaware	Jasper	Newton	Starke	Kentucky
Dubois	Jay	Noble	Steuben	

[Searchable marker database](#)

[Historical marker celebrations](#)

[Information on researching and obtaining a historical marker](#)



You have the option to search by one or more fields. Simply enter the search criteria into the appropriate box and click the "Start Field Search" button. Or you can search the entire database by entering text into the Keyword Search box and click the "Start Keyword Search" button. NOTE: Keyword searches may take more time and may return too many results. It's best to try and use the field search if possible.

For a successful search DO NOT include an apostrophe.

ID#:
County:
Title:
Marker Text:
Directions:
Credit Line:

Keyword Search:

About the Database

1. Information about the markers can be searched by identification number (assigned by the Bureau), county, and/or by words in the marker inscription, mtext, and marker locations fields. Use the "keyword search" field to search for any term in ANY FIELD!
2. The database is not case sensitive. For example, in the county field, you could search for Warren, warren, or WARREN. For your information: La Porte (2 words) County and Lagrange (one word) county are spelled this way in the database.
3. You may search in more than one field at a time. For example, put "marion" in the County field and "civil war" in the keyword search field to find all of the markers in Marion County that mention Civil War.
4. You may search for a U.S., state, or county road number, such as 70 or 421, in the "Directions" field. Just put in the number. There is no need for you to include the prefixes to the routes, such as I- or US-. In fact, unless you use the exact abbreviations that you see in the database, your search will be hindered by including those prefixes.
5. To obtain a complete list of Indiana Historical Markers in county order, leave all search fields blank and click "Start Field Search."

As the dates of markers indicate, the achievement of state funding in 1992 spurred interest which has continued to grow. It also spurred increased private funding for markers throughout the state. Help us keep the momentum!

Known state historical markers in 90 of the 92 counties in Indiana total 450, according to the extant records. The list includes state format markers (with the outline of the state in the hump on top) and Civil War Centennial Commission markers (with a straight top and no state outline).

Questions should be directed to the marker program manager, Stephen Berrey (sberrey@statelib.lib.in.us) at the Historical Bureau, or call 317-232-2537, or fax 317-232-3728.

The key to the identification number applied to each marker is:

* County Number (first two digits)

* Year of Marker (third, fourth, fifth, and sixth digits)

* Sequence of Markers Installed in the County that Year (seventh and eighth digits)

For example, marker with Identification number 49.1996.02 is in Marion County (county 49), was installed in 1996, and was the second marker to be installed in Marion County that year.

[Indiana Historical Bureau Home](#)

[Indiana Historical Markers](#)

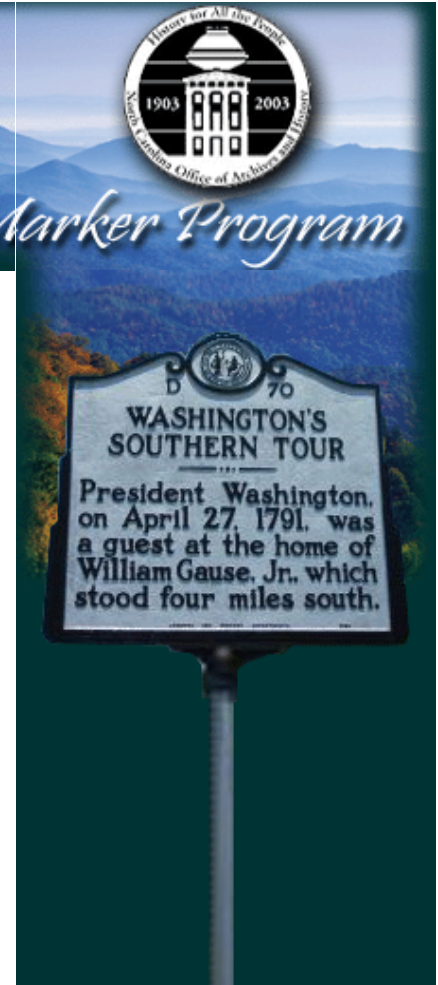


Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Welcome to the **North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program** ... one of the oldest such programs in continuous operation in the United States.

Use the menu at left to learn more about the program, to [search](#) our database for information about individual markers or to view a state map of marker locations.

The Highway Historical Marker Program is administered by the [Office of Archives and History](#), [North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources](#).



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Tuesday, October 23, 2007

About the Program ...

In 1935 the General Assembly authorized the establishment of the North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program (Public Laws, Chapter 197). From that time forward, the program has been administered as a cooperative venture among state agencies. It is presently the joint responsibility of the Research Branch, Office of Archives and History, Department of Cultural Resources, and the Traffic Engineering Branch, Division of Highways, Department of Transportation. The North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program is one of the oldest such programs in continuous operation in the United States.

Prior to 1935 the North Carolina Historical Commission (established in 1903) and private organizations (such as the Daughters of the American Revolution) sponsored a small number of historical markers and plaques. The state program, modeled after one begun in Virginia in 1926, was an effort to standardize the practice of marking sites of statewide historical significance. The silver and black markers have become a familiar part of the state's landscape since the first one was put in place in Granville County on January 10, 1936. To date over 1,400 state markers have been erected. At least one stands in every county.

For young people the markers may spark a curiosity that leads to further study of and appreciation for the historical development of the region. For visitors the signs may be their only exposure to the history of the Tar Heel State. For native North Carolinians the presence of a state marker in their community can be a source of pride, a signal that an event of historical significance took place close to home. The Department of Cultural Resources and the Department of Transportation remain committed to the program in its second half-century.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee ...

Established by the 1935 enabling legislation was the **Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee**, the group responsible for oversight of the program. The committee is composed of ten faculty members from four-year colleges and universities who are experts in one or more aspects of the state's history. Over the years many of this century's leading scholars of North Carolina history have served on the committee.

Members are appointed by the secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources and serve five-year terms. The committee generally meets twice a year, in the spring and fall. Their specific charge is to advise the secretary on the historical authenticity, relative merit, and appropriateness of each subject brought to their attention; to approve or disapprove each proposal; to fix the wording of the inscriptions; and to establish criteria for carrying out the program.

North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee — 2006

DR. LENWOOD G. DAVIS
3730 Danube Drive
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
27110
(Winston-Salem State University)
Term expires: 2007

DR. RICHARD D. STARNES
Department of History
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, North Carolina 28723
Term expires: 2007

DR. DANIEL S. PIERCE
Department of History
119 Carmichael Hall, CPO # 1610
University of North Carolina at
Asheville
Asheville, North Carolina 28804-8505
Term expires: 2008

DR. RORIN M. PLATT
2021 Travianna Court
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609
(Campbell University)
Term expires: 2008

DR. DAVID C. DENNARD
Department of History
Brewster A220
East Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina 27858
Term expires: 2009

DR. TIMOTHY W. VANDERBURG
Department of Social Sciences
Gardner-Webb University
P.O. Box 7343
Boiling Springs, North Carolina
28017
Term expires: 2009

DR. TIMOTHY H. SILVER
Department of History
246 Whitener Hall
Appalachian State University
Boone, North Carolina 28608
Term expires: 2010

DR. CAROLE TROXLER
2748 Amick Road
Elon, North Carolina 27244
(Elon University)
Term expires: 2010



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)

DR. JEFF BROADWATER
Department of History
Barton College
P.O. Box 5000
Wilson, North Carolina 27893
Term expires: 2011

DR. SHEPHERD MCKINLEY
Department of History
Garringer 229, UNC-Charlotte
9201 University City Boulevard
Charlotte, North Carolina 28223
Term expires: 2011



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Criteria ...

The state marker program cannot mark all historic places in North Carolina. To do so would be impractical and beyond the scope of the program. Aside from the cost involved, an unchecked proliferation of historical markers would create an obstruction to traffic flow and lessen the distinction of those signs designating deserving sites. Subjects of primarily local or regional, as opposed to statewide, significance are not eligible for state markers. An individual cannot be considered until twenty-five years, or roughly a generation, after his or her death. Structures are not marked for architectural value. Rather, an individual or historic event associated with a site is more likely to receive consideration. Architecturally significant buildings may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, administered by the [State Historic Preservation Office](#) of the [Office of Archives and History](#).

Over the years the Marker Advisory Committee has devised the following set of criteria, under which the program presently operates:

1. All markers are authorized by the North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee, and *no state highway historical marker may be erected under the program without the approval of the committee.*
2. All markers designate places or persons of *statewide significance*. No markers will be approved for subjects of purely local or regional importance.
3. All marker inscriptions are drafted or approved by the advisory committee. In drafting the inscriptions, the committee does not editorialize or pass judgment; only straightforward, undisputed historical facts are set forth. Words such as "great," "outstanding," "important," will not be included in marker inscriptions. The space limitations of the standard marker require that concise statements be used. The heading or title consists of one or two lines of approximately sixteen letters or spaces to the line; the text of the inscription is usually not more than five or six lines of approximately twenty-three letters and spaces each. The advisory committee will decide on the title and length of the inscription.
4. No individual can be marked prior to a waiting period of *twenty-five years after death*. Members of the United States Congress are not marked automatically even after the waiting period. Many have been marked; however, in addition to serving in Congress, they must have served with distinction elsewhere.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)

5. Churches usually are not marked in the Coastal Plains unless the congregation was established prior to the American Revolution (1776). The congregations of churches in the Piedmont must have been formed before 1800 and in the mountain region before 1820. *The age of a church body alone does not mean that the committee will approve a marker.* Other evidence of its significance must be presented, such as notable ministers, important events, and the age and architectural importance of the church building. The same criteria are applicable to brush arbors and religious campgrounds. Similar criteria are applied to schools and academies.
6. *As a general rule, markers for cemeteries are not approved by the committee.* The rare exceptions are those in which a number of persons of unusual significance are buried, such as the Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh, where seven former governors are interred.
7. *The committee usually does not mark the sites of former county seats or abandoned (but extant) courthouses.* Unless there is added importance, the fact that a building once served as a county courthouse is of local and not statewide significance. This rule applies also to former jail sites, jails, post offices, and similar structures.
8. Stagecoach roads, king's highways, stagecoach stops, plank roads, old brick roads, baggage roads, Indian trails, and most bridges and ferries usually will not be approved for marking. The earliest and most important ones have been marked previously.
9. Every spot visited by George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette, Nathanael Greene, Lord Cornwallis, William T. Sherman, George Stoneman, Francis Asbury, or Griffith Rutherford is not marked automatically.
10. The committee will not single out individuals to mark when many persons have shared equally in an event of historical importance.
11. As a general rule, when the birthplace or gravesite of an individual has been marked, that individual will not be marked with a second marker. Usually, when a person is cited on a marker (as Shubael Stearns on Sandy Creek Baptist Church marker, K-5), no marker will be erected to him individually. The committee reserves the right to decide whether or not a second marker is merited.
12. No structure, whether a house or public building, will be marked *merely* to preserve it. Sites where buildings once stood prior to their removal to another location will not be marked, as a general rule.
13. The state marker program does not mark towns or their dates of incorporation. The naming of a town on any marker plaque is coincidental and is not to be construed as the reason for marker approval.
14. Marker requests will be rejected when it is impossible to authenticate or verify the alleged information to the satisfaction of the committee. If there is conflicting evidence, the committee will make the decision. *Unless*

there is sufficient documentary evidence to establish authenticity without question, no "firsts" will be marked.
The committee will decide what evidence is acceptable and sufficient.

15. Most colleges and universities of historical significance have been or will be marked.
16. No marker will be approved for individual sites within a historical complex which has its own marker system.



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Placement ...

The [Department of Transportation](#) restricts the placement of state historical markers to numbered state or federal highways, such as N.C. 49 or U.S. 64. Interstates, restricted access routes, city maintained streets, and "SR"s are not eligible. Markers must not be allowed to create an unreasonable road hazard.

Applicants should specify the distance and direction from the proposed marker location to the site being marked. The members of the [Marker Advisory Committee](#), when reviewing a proposal, will consider the feasibility of placing a marker within a reasonable proximity. Where possible, the marker will be placed at the site being marked. In other cases, they may direct the reader to a nearby site.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Requests ...

Anyone is free to submit a proposal for a highway historical marker. An application form is available for download from this site. Documentary evidence should be included to support the validity of the claim or authenticity of the site.

Proposals must be received six weeks in advance of a committee meeting. Once received, the staff of the Research Branch will attempt to verify and supplement the proposal. The best possible case will be made in the presentation to the committee. Files on all proposals are maintained by the Research Branch and are available for public examination upon request. Photographs and negatives are kept on file for most markers.

[Highway Historical Marker Application Form](#) (PDF format)



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)

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Notification ...

Once a marker subject and an inscription have been approved by the Marker Advisory Committee and the Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources, local governments and the individual or group responsible for the proposal are notified of the action and the site selected for the marker. Likewise, members of the legislative delegation are kept informed of committee actions. No marker will be erected without adequate notice and opportunity for a hearing.

If a local government objects to the placement of a particular marker, the matter is referred back to the Marker Advisory Committee. The inscription remains the prerogative of that committee. Final resolution of any conflicts shall rest with the North Carolina Historical Commission.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Placement and Dedications ...

If no objection has been registered within thirty days after the date of notification, the marker is ordered. Casting and shipping generally require six to eight weeks.

Once the marker has been delivered to the Department of Transportation office in the appropriate division, local parties are notified if necessary. In some instances, individuals or representatives of the group requesting the marker may be asked to meet with sign erectors at the site.

Dedication or unveiling ceremonies, if held, are the responsibility of the parties requesting the marker. The Office of Archives and History can assist by sending a representative or helping plan the ceremony.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Maintenance ...

Many of the state highway historical markers have now been in service for sixty years or longer. The marker materials and design were selected in part for their permanence and the fact that they wear well under all weather conditions. Still, regular maintenance, such as painting, straightening, or post replacement, is required from time to time. The Department of Transportation conducts such maintenance as necessary.

Each year a few signs are destroyed by vandals or in traffic accidents. Individuals can assist by reporting missing signs or maintenance needs to the Research Branch of the Office of Archives and History.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Private Markers ...

If the Marker Advisory Committee declines to approve a subject for a state historical marker, it may be an appropriate topic for a local or private marker. Several counties, cities, and historical groups have in place local historical marker programs for marking places of local and regional significance.

Individuals or groups are free to pursue the purchase of privately funded markers or plaques. A list of manufacturers, with addresses and phone numbers, is available for download from this site. Such markers must be placed on private property outside the highway right-of-way, cannot bear the Great Seal of North Carolina, and should differ from state signs in design or color. They are not considered part of the official state marker program.

[Manufacturers for Private Markers](#) (PDF format)



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)

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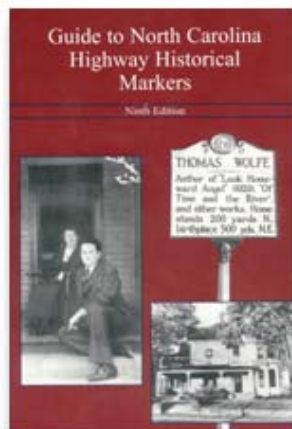


Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Marker Guide ...

A **Guide to North Carolina Highway Historical Markers** was first published in 1939 and has been periodically updated since that time. This volume—listing each marker, its inscription, and location—constitutes a reasonably comprehensive handbook to Tar Heel history.

The *Guide to North Carolina Highway Historical Markers* is temporarily unavailable. The print run in 2000 of 7,500 copies has been depleted. A new print run is planned. Copies may be found in many libraries.



Guide to North Carolina Highway Historical Markers. Ninth Edition, edited by Michael Hill.



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)



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Contact Us ...

The Highway Historical Marker Program is administered by the Research Branch of the North Carolina Office of Archives & History.

Research Branch

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Credits ...

The North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Web Project is an initiative of the Research Branch of the North Carolina Office of Archives and History (NCOAH) in collaboration with the Information Technology Office of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (NCDCCR) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). It is the culmination of two years of effort by staff historians, information technology specialists, students, and interns. The project builds upon over seventy years of work by staff members of what is today the NCOAH, among them Christopher Crittenden, Marybelle Delamar, William S. Powell, Edwin A. Miles, William S. Tarlton, Elizabeth Wilborn, and Jerry C. Cashion.

The objective is to share with internet users details heretofore available only upon examination of files in Raleigh. The site permits web users to search the database, create GIS maps, view photos, and read essays on sixty percent of the 1,502 markers. Additional essays and photographs will be posted regularly as the project progresses.

Project Coordinator

Michael Hill

Information Technology Specialists

Mickeal Johnson, NCDCCR
Jeff Schwantes, NCDCCR
David Minor, NCOAH

Project Historians

Ansley Wegner
LeRae Umfleet
Mark Moore
Michael Hill
Dennis Daniels
Joshua Howard

GPS Training

Hardee Cox, NCDOT
John Farley, NCDOT
David Johnson, NCDOT

Web Design

Mark Moore, Webmaster, NCOAH

GIS Training

Jennifer Robertson, NCDOT

Administrative Assistants

Vivian McDuffie
Lisa Keenum

Interns: GPS Fieldwork and Photography

Patrick Wade (2004)
Charles Givens (2004)
Josh Long (2005)
Justin Gerner (2005)

Departmental Support

Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary, NCDCCR
Staci Meyer, Deputy Secretary, NCDCCR
Lyndo Tippet, Secretary, NCDOT
Jae Kim, NCDCCR
Jeffrey J. Crow, NCDCCR
David L. S. Brook, NCDCCR
Daniel Keel, NCDOT

Intern: Historical Essays

Jennie Biser (2006)

Archival Photographs

Alan Westmoreland, NCOAH

Meredith College History 300 students: Historical Essays (2007)

Jenna Burnham



The first marker erected under the program (above) was dedicated alongside U.S. 15 in Stovall, Granville County, in 1936. (Marker District G)

Ron King, NCDOT

Liz Fairbanks
Michelle Palmore
Eryn Ritter
Angie Rush



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Historical Marker Program

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[Pennsylvania History \(People, Places, Events\)](#)

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[Nominate a New Marker](#)

[Approval Guidelines](#)

[Purchase a Marker Guide](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[See the Historical Markers approved for 2007.](#)
[To download Adobe Reader, click here.](#)

[Attend a marker dedication. See the schedule here.](#)



The PHMC partnered with the Luzerne County Historical Society to install a marker commemorating 18th century Native American leader Teedyuscung. Historical markers are a registered trademark® of the PHMC.

Since 1946, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has administered a program of historical markers to capture the memory of people, places, and events that have affected the lives of Pennsylvanians over the centuries

ExplorePAhistory.com
Linking Pennsylvania history, tourism, and education

In a partnership with WITF, Inc., the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has developed a digital resource for virtual and real visitors to Pennsylvania, for teachers, and for anyone interested in the state's history.

ExplorePAhistory.com uses the state's historical markers as an entry point for the enjoyment and exploration of Pennsylvania history and heritage.

You'll gain insight into Pennsylvania's most important and entertaining stories. You'll find all the tools you need to plan visits in Pennsylvania. Teachers will use the first-ever standards based curriculum for the teaching of Pennsylvania history in elementary, middle, and high schools.

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since William Penn founded his Commonwealth.

More than 2,000 cast aluminum markers tell the stories of Native Americans and settlers, government and politics, athletes, entertainers, artists, struggles for freedom and equality, factories and businesses, and a multitude of other topics.

New markers are approved and placed along Pennsylvania highways and city streets each year. Most markers are dedicated in public events featuring public officials, local historians, community representatives, and others. Each dedication presents opportunities for Pennsylvanians to celebrate and understand their heritage.

Nominations for historical markers may be submitted by any person or organization. Nominations postmarked by January 5 each year are evaluated by a panel of independent experts from across the state and reviewed by PHMC commissioners the following spring.

Once approved, staff members work with nominators to prepare marker text, select dedication dates, and arrange appropriate dedication ceremonies, generally within a year of approval.

Limited matching grants are available for the manufacture of markers, and nominators should be prepared to share in the costs of their marker's fabrication.

The PHMC maintains its historical markers on a cyclical basis through a contract. If you wish to report a marker as missing, broken, or in poor condition, please E-mail the [Historical Marker Program](#).

features:

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History of Pennsylvania State Historical Markers

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From 1914 to 1933, the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, predecessor to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), installed bronze plaques to commemorate significant individuals, events, and landmarks throughout the state. However, during the 1920s and 1930s, with accelerated automobile speeds, these plaques became impossible to read from a moving vehicle. For this reason, the PHMC, created by the state legislature in 1945, developed the

modern style of historical marker.

The PHMC dedicated the first of its historical markers in September 1946 on U.S. Route 22, fourteen miles east of Harrisburg. It was titled "Hanover Resolves" and indicated the location of the earliest decree for independence in the state. Since this time, the PHMC has adopted more stringent criteria for approval of state historical markers.

The guidelines formulated in the late 1970s require "that the person, event or site to be commemorated have had a meaningful impact on its times and be of statewide or national rather than only local significance." In December 1987, with the most recent revision of the program's guidelines, the agency adopted a standard urging "that significant subjects that have hitherto been given less attention by the Historical Marker Program receive more favorable consideration (other factors being equal) than subjects which have already had fuller coverage."

Pennsylvania's State Historical Marker Program, in its second half-century, continues to study technological changes and evolving concepts of safety,



accessibility, and readability.

More importantly, however, the program is endeavoring to meet its obligation to interpret ever more fully and fairly the great spectrum of Pennsylvania 's history.



Search for Historical Markers

Pennsylvania State Archives

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Geographic Information

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**Marker
Title:**

County:

**Marker
Keywords:**

Categories:

- Searching by Marker Title will return all matches of markers with your search criteria in the name/title of the markers
- Entering a county name and clicking on Search by Counties will return all of the markers in the selected county.
- Searching by Marker Keywords will return entries matching your search criteria in the Marker Text. This provides the largest possibilities for matching subjects.
- Searching by Categories will return all of the markers in the respective category.
- Tips
 - You only need to fill in the box of the criteria for which you are searching.
 - To Narrow Your Search
Searching by multiple words can narrow your search (for example a search for the words Gettysburg Address will return all of the makers with those words in the title, but will not return the markers about the Gettysburg Campaign)
 - Always make sure you have entered search criteria before clicking on the search button.
 - You can only search by one of the criteria: Marker Title, Counties, Keywords, or Categories at a time

Please [e-mail us](#) with any comments, suggestions or problems with the search functions.



Historical Marker Proposal Nominations

Pennsylvania State Archives

CRGIS: Cultural Resources
Geographic Information

Doc Heritage

Digital Archives (ARIAS)

ExplorePAhistory.com

Land Records

Genealogy

Pennsylvania History (People,
Places, Events)

Record Holdings

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Below is a proposal suggestion form for an official state historical marker. Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission guidelines for judging nominations can be accessed via the link at the bottom of this page.

The deadline for the receipt of nominations each year is **January 5**.

Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of independent historical experts from across the state in February. The panel will make its recommendation to our Commission based upon a proposal's adherence to the "Guidelines for Approval of Historical Markers." (It is, consequently, very important that you familiarize yourself with these guidelines.)

Normally, our commissioners will act formally upon the panel's recommendations at their March meeting.

If your nomination is approved, our staff will work with you to select a dedication date and arrange an appropriate dedication ceremony. We expect markers to be dedicated within a year of their approval. It is important that you consider the availability of funds in making this nomination, as state funds are generally available for no more than half the cost of a marker. We encourage you to examine closely the materials describing the donation of funds. For your information, city-type markers cost approximately \$1,300; roadside markers cost approximately \$1,700. Final figures may vary slightly, and there are sometimes other costs incurred with the installation of certain markers. The PHMC will assume all responsibilities for maintaining the marker once installed. If your nomination is disapproved, you may resubmit it in the following year, or you may want to consider a non-official marker of some kind.

Return twelve copies of your completed nomination form and twelve copies of any attachments to: Historical Marker Program, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053.

Please feel free to call the staff at **(717) 705-4266** regarding the nomination process if you have any questions.

[Download Our Historical Marker Nomination Form \(PDF\)](#)

File)

[Download Our Historical Marker Nomination Form \(MS Word file\)](#)

NOTE: These files are in Adobe.pdf format and require the Adobe Acrobat Reader to be viewed and printed.

The software is available free of charge from the following link:





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Land Records

Genealogy

Pennsylvania History (People,
Places, Events)

Record Holdings

Scholars in Residence

Pennsylvania History Day

Adopted by Resolution of the Pennsylvania
Historical and Museum Commission
October 23, 2002, and amended June 16, 2006

1. That the nomination be submitted in a clear and organized manner, including thorough documentation (from primary and secondary sources) and verification of the facts claimed.
2. That the person, event, or site to be commemorated has had a meaningful impact on its times and be of statewide or national rather than only local significance.
3. That only historical subjects (rather than current events) be considered.
4. That significant subjects which have hitherto been given less attention by the Historical Marker Program receive more favorable consideration (other factors being equal) than subjects which have already had fuller coverage.
5. That people and their activities receive more favorable treatment than buildings or sites.
6. That historically recognized personages shall no longer be living, and that the place of their accomplishments in history shall have become established.
7. That churches, schools, headquarters of societies, organizations, institutions, etc., be encouraged to erect their own signs or markers (consistent with legal requirements) if the subject does not meet the requirements of these guidelines.
8. That requests for graveyard markers for war veterans be referred to the Director of Military Affairs within the county concerned.

9. That requests for marking geographical or topographical features be referred to an appropriate agency.

10. That locations or individuals already commemorated with existing monuments or markers receive less favorable consideration than those not previously recognized.

11. That subjects that have been nominated, reviewed, and disapproved by the Commission in three consecutive years shall become ineligible for Commission consideration for a period of three years.

12. That any person who served as Governor of Pennsylvania shall be approved as the subject of a historical marker (subject to Guideline #5).

13. That any historic site or property owned by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission shall be approved as the subject of a historical marker.

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Travel and Guidebooks



Pennsylvania Breweries

Lew Bryson, 1998. A guide to the state's 48 regional breweries, microbreweries and brewpubs. (Stackpole Books) 206 pp., 6 x 9, foreword, index, glossary, maps, illus.

Item #	ISBN	Cover	Price
0318	0-8117-2879-X	paper	\$16.95



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If you have questions about the program, you can reach us by [E-mail](#) or telephone us at (717) 705-4266.

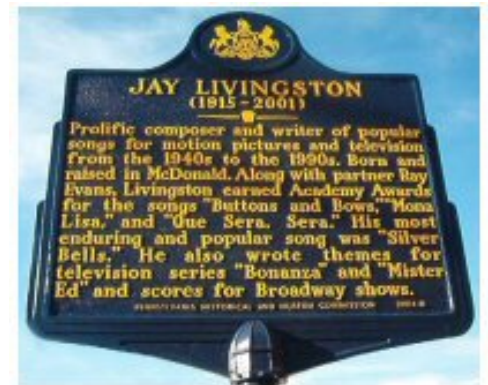
You can also write to us at the following address:

**Historical Marker Program
Bureau for Historic
Preservation
Pennsylvania Historical and
Museum Commission
Commonwealth Keystone
Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053**

Fax: 717-772-0920

Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired and who wish to contact a hearing person via Text Telephone, may use the PA Relay Center at

1-800-654-5984.



A marker in McDonald, Washington County, recalls the life of Academy Award winning songwriter Jay Livingston. Historical markers are a registered trademark ® of the PHMC.

APPENDIX E

www.waymarking.com Website Homepage

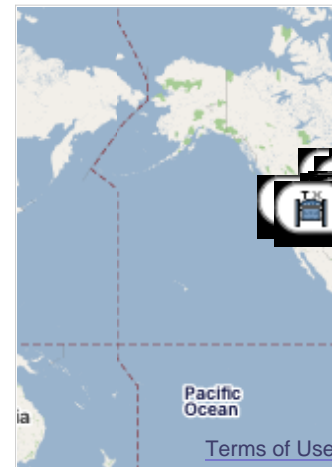


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Historical Markers

Description:

Roadside historic markers are our windows to the past. They educate us, they make us curious to investigate, or they provide a nice excuse to take a break and stretch our legs while we read what happened here.

Subcategories:

[Texas Historical Markers](#) (1563)

[Michigan Historical Markers](#) (1228)

[Pennsylvania Historical Markers](#) (1060)

[Georgia Historical Markers](#) (728)

[New York Historical Markers](#) (715)

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[North Carolina Historical Markers](#) (532)

[Ohio Historical Markers](#) (479)

[Tennessee Historical Markers](#) (432)

[South Dakota Historical Markers](#) (393)

[Missouri Historical Markers](#) (113)

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[New Jersey Historical Markers](#) (97)

[Illinois Historical Markers](#) (88)

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"Moorestown - Granite Stone" Waymark

[View waymark gallery](#)**Download this waymark:**[.LOC File](#)[.KML File \(Google Earth\)](#)**Location:** New Jersey, United States**Date Posted:** 3/8/2006 6:43:47 PM**Waymark Code:** WM8KF**Reviewed By:** [chstress53](#)**Views:** 8

Long Description:

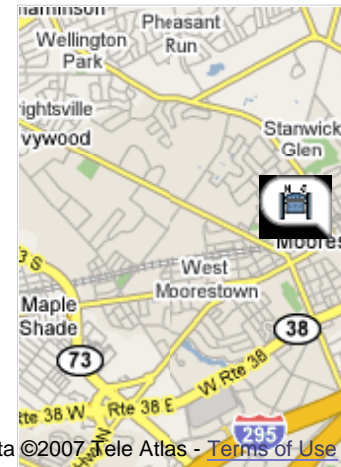


Moorestown - Granite Stone

in [New Jersey Historical Markers](#)**Posted by:** [LowellHouseGang](#)[LowellHouseGang](#)**N 39° 57.930 W 074°****56.554****18S E 504904 N 4423929**

Quick Description: This piece of granite represents In 1700, the first Society of Friends' Meeting House, built of logs, was erected on The King's Highway. Originally known as "Meeting House Lane," Chester Avenue was laid out in 1720. The Village at that time probably consisted of a few farmhouses along The King's Highway from Stanwick Road to Locust Street.

Map



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APPENDIX F

Manufacturing Information – Sewah Studios Inc.

SEWAH STUDIOS: PRODUCTS PAGE

Please click on the picture or marker style name to see more pictures in greater detail. [Contact us](#) with any questions you may have. We look forward to helping you!



click picture for more photos

South Dakota

Illustration
30"H x 42"W
Sizes Available
24" H x 18" W
30"H x 42"W



click picture for more photos

Double Arched

Illustration
33"H x 43"W
Sizes Available
24"H x 30"W
33"H x 43"W
34"H x 24"W



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Georgia

Illustration
30"H x 42"W
Sizes Available
27"H x 36"W
36"H x 24"W
24"H x 36"W
30"H x 24"W
30"H x 42"W
24"H x 30"W
24"H x 18"W



click picture for more photos

Revised Ohio

Illustration
33"H x 43"W
Sizes Available
26"H x 36"W
33"H x 43"W
20"H x 36"W
39"H x 43"W
20"H x 29"W



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North Carolina

Sizes Available
30"H x 42" W



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Manchester

Sizes Available
24"H x 18"W



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Holland

Sizes Available
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Annapolis

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Misc & Custom Designed Patterns



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We will be expanding our website to show you Metal Photographs, Detailed Maps and Etchings, Custom Seals and Emblems, Wall Mounted Plaques, and other interesting projects we can do for you!
For now, please contact us at 1(888) 557-3924 (55-SEWAH)

ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS

The Georgia, South Dakota and North Carolina designs should display an emblem in the crest. The Revised Ohio design may be used without ornamentation or with a small emblem. The Double Arch Crest, Manchester, and Annapolis designs are not an appropriate choice if ornamentation is to be used.

Sewah markers are aluminum castings with letters in raised relief. Standard finish is two color baking enamel. Background colors are medium green, dark blue, brown, white, copper, black and aluminum. Gold leaf highlight on the letter faces and ornamentation is available.

Text lettering is available in 5/8", 1", 1-1/2", 2" and 3" upper/lower case. The marker size and amount of inscription determines the appropriate letter size. ([See letter counting guide](#)).

The letter counting guide indicates the approximate copy that can be placed on the various marker styles and sizes. Actual letters per line will vary depending upon the incidence of narrow or wide letters in the text. These letter/line counts provide for a one-line caption in 1-1/2" or 2" upper case letters and a 2" margin on four sides.

Prices are governed by marker size, amount of inscription, special logo or illustration and whether copy is same both sides or different each side.

There is a one time charge for emblem pattern development. The patterns are retained and available for use on other markers at no additional charge. A black and white camera-ready drawing of the emblem is required. BAS relief seals can also be cast if a plaster/wood rendering of the seal is provided.

The mounting post is seven feet long octagonal extruded aluminum. Ten foot length is also available. With three feet post insertion in the ground, the bottom of the marker sits four feet above grade.



Millcreek Road - PO Box 298 Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: (740) 373-2087 | Fax: (740) 373-3733
TOLL FREE (888) 557-3924 [55-SEWAH]
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Site Design & Development: Eagle Web Development

APPENDIX G

www.ExplorePAHistory.com Website Example



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PA Iron Industry

Iron played a critical role in the development of the English colonies...

FEATURED ATTRACTION

Drake Well Museum

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Marker Details

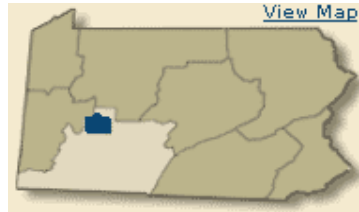
Name: Edward Abbey

Region: Laurel Highlands/Southern Alleghenies

County Location: Indiana

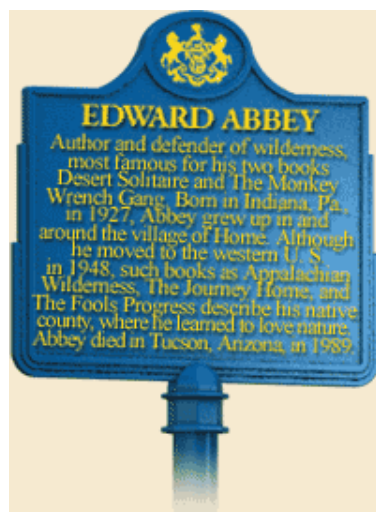
Marker Location: US 119 at North end of Home

Dedication Date: September 28, 1996



Marker Text

Author and defender of wilderness, most famous for his two books *Desert Solitaire* and *The Monkey Wrench Gang*. Born in Indiana, Pa., in 1927, Abbey grew up in and around the village of Home. Although he moved to the western U.S. in 1948, books such as *Appalachian Wilderness*, *The Journey Home*, and *The Fool's Progress* describe his native county, where he learned to love nature. Abbey died in Tucson, Arizona, in 1989.



Behind the Marker

"Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit, as vital to our lives as water and good bread. A civilization which destroys what little remains of the wild, the spare, the original, is cutting itself off from its origins and betraying the principle of civilization itself."

Edward Abbey, *Desert Solitaire*

Born in Indiana, Pennsylvania, in 1927, Edward Abbey was a shy kid who loved to hike and camp in an area of old forest he and his brothers called "the big woods" on the Chambersville side of the town of Home. "I was born and raised in the northern fringe of the Appalachian country," Abbey would later write, "and know the life of the marginal farmer and out-of-work coal miner in my bones and blood." At the age of seventeen, Abbey hitchhiked out west. His first view of the "impossible beauty" of the Rocky Mountains struck "a fundamental chord in my imagination that has sounded ever

since." It was then and there that he "became a Westerner," as he put it.

After moving to Albuquerque in 1948, Abbey bounced around for years, traveling, doing odd jobs and picking up seasonal work as a park ranger



Native Pennsylvanian Edward Abbey wrote several of his books from his fire tower...
Credit: © Buddy Mays/CORBIS

and fire lookout in some of the nation's most spectacular wilderness areas. During a year of wandering, he wrote a series of essays based on the journals he had kept while working as a forest ranger in Utah. After its publication in 1968, *Desert Solitaire* became a rallying point for America's emerging environmental movement and established Abbey's persona as "Cactus Ed," a cantankerous, independent-minded outdoorsman.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Southwest underwent explosive growth. Abbey was outraged at the damage done to wilderness areas by the logging and mining companies, cattle ranchers, developers and tourists who demanded paved roads to every scenic outlook. Abbey's father had been a farmer, school bus driver and devout socialist who followed Walt Whitman's maxim to "resist much, obey little." In the American southwest, Abbey took that maxim to heart. Alone and with a small group of close friends, he burned unsightly billboards and "monkey wrenched" bulldozers, putting sand in the transmissions and shooting holes in the tires to stop them from destroying the unspoiled Southwest that they loved so well.

In 1975 Abbey published *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, an angry, comic novel in which he fictionalized his exploits and laid out a philosophy for resistance. "I'd say that a bulldozer tearing up a hillside, ripping out

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Pennsylvanians and the Environment

Overview: Pennsylvanians and the Environment

"It is probable that in all the world there exists no other 45,000-square mile area equal to Pennsylvania in the wealth of its resources and the range of its products. It leads the entire hemisphere in the production of steel, zinc, pig iron, coal, coke, glass, cement.... Its past prosperity resulted from the existence of abundant natural resources. Its continued prosperity depends upon the use of its renewable resources in a manner which will insure the availability of these resources for generations yet unborn."

William F. Schultz, Jr., Conservation Law, 1953

When William Schultz wrote his history of conservation law in Pennsylvania, the state was still an industrial powerhouse, a powerhouse made possible by its abundant natural resources. In the early 1950s, Schultz and others were deeply concerned about the state of Pennsylvania's environment. Of the more than thirteen million acres once farmed in Pennsylvania, more than five million had been lost to the erosion of topsoil. Pollution had rendered much of the state's flowing streams and rivers unusable. "Only suicides, uninformed children, and the mentally deficient," Schultz wrote, "voluntarily dive into the lower Monongahela, the lower Allegheny or the upper Ohio."

Pennsylvania communities suffered from growing shortages of ground water. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, miners had scraped and stripped the countryside to obtain minerals close to the surface, then abandoned it. Forests had been clear-cut, destroyed by fires and damaged by insects and disease. Flooding, which many feared was becoming more severe, occurred as soil washed into streams, leaving the exposed earth to bake hard.

This was a far different world than the one Native Americans had inhabited for more than 16,000 years, or the one the first European settlers had found when they arrived in the seventeenth century. When King Charles II granted William Penn his North American colony in 1681, the province was covered with trees. Pennsylvania lies in the middle of the transitional zone between the great northern and southern forests of eastern North America. In Pennsylvania the mixed hardwoods of the southern forests — the broadleaf oak, hickory, chestnut and walnut — merged into mixed softwood and hardwood forests of the north — the great white pine, hemlock, sugar maple, beech and birch.

In Pennsylvania the winters were colder and the summers hotter than in England, but compared to much of the world it was still a mild climate, shaped by winds that swept east across the continent. The



The Allegheny National Forest.
Credit: © David Muench/CORBIS



A circa 1920 photograph of a forest in Tioga County, devastated by destructive...
Credit: Courtesy Pennsylvania State Archives

rainfall made the forests grow lush. This would be a boon to farmers, who found the rich soils of the coastal plains of the southeast, the limestone valleys of the lower Susquehanna, and the shores of Lake Erie to be ideal for agriculture. For a while Pennsylvania was the leading grain-producing state in the Union. Farmers in later generations, however, were dismayed that the soil in the rest of the state was better suited to growing trees than wheat or corn.

The plentiful rainfall also gave life to 83,000 miles of rivers and streams that channeled the abundant fresh waters back to the oceans in three great drainage systems: by way of the Allegheny to the Gulf of Mexico, and by way of the Delaware and Susquehanna to the Atlantic. The vast forests of Pennsylvania also made travel difficult. Trees 100 to 150 feet tall shut out the daylight and covered an understory littered with decaying logs, vines and shrubs that made passage nearly impossible. For the colonists, as for the Indians before them, the waterways were the major highways through the forests. They were also a source of sustenance, for they contained within them an abundance and variety of fish unseen in Europe for a thousand years.

Pennsylvania's forests, waters and meadows were home to a wide variety of plants, insects and animals. European settlers were astonished and thrilled by the abundance and size of the deer, elk and beaver, the sturgeon, shad and trout. They hunted them all with a relish and greed that would bring these and other species to the brink of extinction within 200 years. Not all the forest's inhabitants were so desirable. Wolves and panthers roamed Penn's woods, and as an explorer in the Allegheny would recount, the province was filled with "stinging flies and diverse other insects but particularly Muskeetose in this country are like to rival the Seven Plagues of Egypt."

Endless trees, rich soils and abundant wildlife were not all that Pennsylvania offered. Beneath the canopy of trees, Pennsylvania contained vast deposits of coal, iron, natural gas, slate, clay, sandstone, limestone and sand. Slimy ooze called "Seneca oil" would make Pennsylvania the birthplace of the American oil industry and, for a while, the greatest producer and exporter of oil in the world. As Schultz explained, it was the great bounty of nature that made Pennsylvania a cradle of American industry and an economic powerhouse.

In the nineteenth century, Pennsylvanians cut, mined, quarried, hunted, harvested and in others ways extracted nature's bounty with unrelenting enthusiasm and voraciousness. By the end of the century, polluted waterways, denuded landscapes, impoverished soils, extinct and disappearing plant and animal life and foul air motivated many to embrace new conservation and preservation ethics that they hoped would restore the state's vanished bounty.

To protect its natural resources and public health, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed a broad network of laws to restrict the pollution of its waters and air, protect wildlife and regulate extraction of natural resources. It established fish, game and forest commissions to conserve and manage its invaluable resources for future generations. In the twentieth century it acquired more than four million acres of land and established twenty state forests for timber conservation, plant and wildlife preservation, and recreation. Pennsylvanians played major roles in the national resource conservation,

a mixed economy, parts of the forests, water, air and wildlife rebounded.

But in the twentieth century, old challenges endured and new threats emerged, both natural and man-made. Chestnut blight, gypsy moths and hungry deer attacked Penn's woods. Leaded gasoline, acid rain, DDT, PCBs and other environmental carcinogens polluted the water and the air, wreaking havoc on creatures great and small. Suburban sprawl tore up and paved over some of the world's richest soils as extractive industries, developers, conservationists, preservationists and others continued their struggle over the meaning and the use of nature's bounty.

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Stories from PA History

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Stories of Pennsylvania's Past & Present

Since there are more than 1,800 Historical Markers within Pennsylvania's borders, we've organized them by theme to make your exploration easier. Within these story themes, you'll find stories that highlight specific aspects of Pennsylvania's history, as well as the Historical Markers that exist to denote significant places and events within those stories.

We've also made it easier for teachers to teach Pennsylvania history. There are many elementary, middle school, and high school lesson plans associated with the various stories that can be accessed from the story pages or the 'For Teachers' section.



[Pennsylvanians and the Environment](#) +

Pennsylvania's abundant natural resources have always been essential to the development of the Commonwealth, just as its natural beauty has forever been a source of inspiration to its residents. Coal, timber, iron ore, and oil made Pennsylvania an industrial powerhouse, but their extraction and use also had a devastating impact on people, ecosystems, and the environment.

[The Indians of Pennsylvania](#) +

The first people to live in Pennsylvania were part of the earliest waves of human migration into the Western hemisphere. William Penn and his fellow colonists upon their arrival encountered native inhabitants who had their own name for this land and their own starting point for its history.



[The Vision of William Penn](#) +

More than three hundred years ago, William Penn established a colony based upon his vision of religious tolerance, participatory government, and brotherly love. Penn's unique vision helped shape Pennsylvania and American history, and it continues to affect our lives today.

[Set Apart: Religious Communities in Pennsylvania](#) +

Pennsylvania has always been a haven for religious refugees from Europe and a destination for spiritual seekers determined to build intentional communities of shared values and faith. The Moravian community in Bethlehem, Ephrata Cloister, the Harmony Society in Ambridge, and less well-known groups help tell the story of Pennsylvania's many holy experiments.



[The French and Indian War in Pennsylvania](#) +

In the 1750s, the western woods of Pennsylvania became a battleground for seven long and bloody years, as the British and French struggled to build their empires. The ultimate British victory reshaped the political and cultural landscape of North America and forever shattered the fragile peace that once had existed between colonists and Native Americans in Pennsylvania.

[The American Revolution, 1765-1783](#) +

During the American Revolution, war raged on Pennsylvania's borders as well as in its southeast. As Americans fought for independence, Pennsylvania underwent its own "internal revolution," ratifying a radical state constitution, abolishing slavery, and struggling with internal divisions among loyalists, pacifists, patriots, and its Scots-Irish and German residents.



[The Philadelphia Campaign](#) +

After the Continental Congress issued the Declaration of Independence in 1776, British and Continental Armies met in a series of crucial battles throughout the Philadelphia Region. Washington's daring crossing of the Delaware River to defeat British and Hessian forces and his troops' rugged determination to survive their difficult winter at Valley Forge rallied the spirit of the American

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