

CHAPTER 4 - DIVISION OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
SUBCHAPTER 4T - HIGHWAY HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

SECTION .0100 – HIGHWAY HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

07 NCAC 04T .0101 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply in this Subchapter:

- (1) "Committee" means the Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee. The committee establishes criteria for highway historical markers and approves or disapproves proposed markers.
- (2) "Statewide historical significance" means events, persons, or sites of prominence over and above those of local or regional note.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7);
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0102 MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS OF COMMITTEE

- (a) The committee is composed of ten members of the academic community in four-year colleges or universities who are expert North Carolina historians. Committee members meet generally twice a year. They are appointed by the Secretary of Cultural Resources for terms of five years; the terms of two committee members expire each year. One year must elapse before any member can be reappointed. The committee shall recommend candidates for membership to the Secretary of Cultural Resources.
- (b) At its last meeting of each calendar year, the committee shall elect a chairman to serve a one-year term; no person may serve more than two consecutive years as chairman. The Director of the Division of Archives and History shall be exofficio secretary, and the Research Supervisor, Division of Archives and History, shall be acting secretary.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7);
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0103 ERECTION OF HIGHWAY MARKERS

- (a) No state highway historical marker under the North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program shall be erected without the approval of the committee.
- (b) All proposals for new markers shall be submitted in writing to:
Research Supervisor Division of Archives and History
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Proposals shall include supportive documentary evidence and a suggested site or location.
The suggested site is not binding on the committee.

- (c) Based upon availability of funds, several months may elapse from the time a marker is approved by the committee until its actual erection.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7); 136-42.3;
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0104 CRITERIA

- (a) All highway historical markers shall designate places or persons of statewide significance. No highway historical markers will be approved for subjects of local or regional importance. Statewide historical significance must be documented by the presenter.
- (b) No marker will be erected for an individual within 25 years of his death.
- (c) Markers for representatives in the Congress will not be approved automatically; in addition to serving in Congress the individual must have served with distinction elsewhere.

- (d) Brush arbors, religious campgrounds, schools, and academies will not be considered unless established prior to the following dates: coastal plains--1776; piedmont--1800; mountain region--1820. Churches established after the dates set out in this Paragraph generally do not have statewide historical significance.
- (e) Markers for cemeteries will not be approved unless a number of persons of statewide historical significance are buried there.
- (f) Markers will not be approved for former county seats, abandoned courthouses, jails, jail sites, post offices, former building sites, colleges or universities unless of statewide historical significance.
- (g) Stagecoach roads, king's highways, stagecoach stops, plank roads, old brick roads, baggage roads, Indian trails, trails, ferries, and military routes will not be marked unless of statewide historical significance.
- (h) Visits to a site by George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette, Nathanael Greene, Lord Cornwallis, William T. Sherman, George Stoneman, Francis Asbury, Griffith Rutherford, or other historical figures will not make the site eligible for a marker.
- (i) Markers will not be erected to mark a town or solely to list its date of incorporation.
- (j) No marker will be approved for individual sites within a historical complex which has its own marker system.
- (k) Marker requests will be rejected where it is impossible to authenticate or verify the documentation to the satisfaction of the committee. "Firsts" will not be marked unless there is sufficient documentary evidence to establish unquestionable authenticity.
- (l) Individuals will not be singled out for marking if they were part of a group involved in a historical event.
- (m) An individual will not be marked a second time if his birthplace has been marked, except in cases of statewide historical significance.
- (n) If a person is cited on one marker, no individual marker will be approved except in cases of special historical significance.

History Note: Authority G.S. 100-8; 121-4(7);
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0105 PLACEMENT OF MARKERS

- (a) Highway historical markers shall be placed at the authentic site where possible, or placed to direct travelers to the site.
- (b) The committee may reject a proposed marker because of unsuitability of the site, or choose an alternate location.
- (c) The Department of Transportation shall determine the exact location of a marker, at a site selected by the Department of Cultural Resources.
- (d) No markers will be approved on interstate highways. Markers will only be approved on paved and numbered state or federal highways.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7); 136-42.2,.3;
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0106 INSCRIPTION AND ERECTION

- (a) The title or heading of the highway historical marker shall consist of one or two lines with approximately 16 letters and spaces per line. The text will consist of not more than five lines, each line to be approximately 23 letters and spaces.
- (b) The inscription for the marker will be selected by the committee and consist of only undisputed historical facts set forth in concise statements. The words "great," "outstanding," or "important" will not be used.
- (c) Upon approval by the committee and the Secretary of Cultural Resources, local governments will be notified of the inscription and site selection, and given an opportunity for a hearing. If a local government objects to the erection and placement of a marker, the North Carolina Historical

Commission shall hold a hearing at a regular meeting to make a final determination; the inscription will not be changed without the concurrence of the committee. If no objection is made within 30 days, or if the Historical Commission approves the marker, it will be ordered.

(d) Once cast, the marker will be sent to the Department of Transportation.

(e) Unless otherwise specified by the committee, plans for the unveiling or dedication shall be made by the person or group requesting the marker. Local officials should be informed of the ceremony. The Division of Archives and History may assist, upon request, by sending a representative, helping plan the program, or furnishing a special cloth for the unveiling.

(f) Only markers authorized by the committee may display the Great Seal of North Carolina.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7); 136-42.2,.3;
Eff. June 1, 1989.

07 NCAC 04T .0107 CORRECTIONS TO MARKERS

(a) The committee shall correct or update markers which are outdated because of new information, disappearance of structures, or relocation of highways. The Department of Cultural Resources shall arrange for the relocation or correction.

(b) Any person submitting the proposed correction must have knowledge or information of the erroneous marker or mistaken site, and must submit historical data to show such error or mistake. The person submitting the proposed correction, upon written request, may appear before the Committee and present documentation of the error at its next scheduled meeting. Proposed corrections may be submitted to:

Research Supervisor Division of Archives and History
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(7); 136-42.1,.3; 136-43.1;
Eff. June 1, 1989.