

# AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

A Project of the  
American Quarter Horse Foundation

## MISSION STATEMENT

The American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Program provides official acknowledgment of horses, people and events significant to American Quarter Horse history.

## EXPLANATION OF THE PROGRAM

The American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Program commemorates, through historical markers, horses, people and events historically important to the development of the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association. Markers perpetuate and promote the history of the American Quarter Horse, helping current and future generations understand and experience the breed's rich history. The time span considered for historical marker topics commences in the 1600s when the breed was established. The program is administered by the American Quarter Horse Heritage Hall of Fame & Museum, and is a project of the American Quarter Horse Foundation.

## CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

The following criteria and guidelines are provided to inform marker applicants of the procedures necessary to obtain an American Quarter Horse Historical Marker. An application form also is included.

### CRITERIA:

Two basic criteria govern the approval of any site for Historical Marker status:

- (1) Historical significance and,
- (2) Age.

For a marker topic to be deemed historically significant there must be evidence that the horse, person or event had a pivotal role in the development of the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association. Did the topic make a discernable difference that is noteworthy? How did the topic affect the history of the breed or the Association? What other events were occurring locally, regionally or nationally that had a bearing on why the horse, person or event was historically significant? This information must be presented in a Statement of Significance, a part of the application form required from the nominating entity.

To determine if a proposed marker meets the age requirement, it must commemorate either:

- a) Horses or persons that have been deceased at least 25 years;

**b) b) Events that occurred at least 25 years prior to application.**

**GUIDELINES:**

**1. DEFINITION OF AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE HISTORICAL MARKERS**

American Quarter Horse Historical Markers are those markers administered, approved and awarded by the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees. They are easily distinguishable from other markers by their design and the presence of the American Quarter Horse Historical Marker logo.

**2. HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM GOVERNING BODY**

All policies and procedures related to the marker process are determined and approved by the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees. The decision of the Trustees concerning the eligibility of a marker topic is final. A topic previously rejected by the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees may be re-nominated for approval if new information warrants a review of the topic. However, a new application that incorporates this recently ascertained data must be submitted to the Foundation at the preliminary stage of the approval process.

**3. APPROVAL OF MARKERS**

Marker applications are submitted to the Director of the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum for review to determine that all required paperwork accompanies the application. This information is then presented to the American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Committee for a recommendation. If the Review Committee recommends that the nomination be approved, the application is forwarded to the Executive Vice President of the American Quarter Horse Association for review. After reviewing the application, the Executive Vice President forwards the nomination to the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees for review and approval or rejection.

**4. SIGNIFICANCE OF MARKER TOPICS**

No topic is to be considered for the Historical Marker Program, which abridges the age or significance criteria. Topics not meeting the age standards will not be considered regardless of their current popularity. Inherent historical significance must be undoubtedly proven in the Statement of Significance portion of the application.

The Statement of Significance is a document compiled by the nominating entity, which demonstrates and proves to the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees that the proposed topic is worth commemorating with a marker. The report should be complete, orderly and concise.

If the marker topic is a horse it should answer questions such as:

- What were the dates of birth and death of the horse?
- What was the significance of its contributions to the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association?
- What were the details of its life? (Accomplishments, area of fame, etc.)

If the marker topic is a person it should answer questions such as:

- What were the dates of birth and death of the person?
- What was the significance of its contributions to the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association?
- What were the details of the persons' life? (Membership and activity in the American Quarter Horse Association, place of birth, other accomplishments, area of fame, etc.)

If the marker topic is an event it should answer questions such as:

- What significant date or period of time was the event initiated?
- What was the significance of the event in relation to the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association?
- How did the event develop?
- Who were the individuals that influenced this event?
- What other events were occurring at the same time in the same region that had a significant relationship to the event being considered?

#### 5. DOCUMENTATION

To be considered, the application must include:

- (1) A completed application form.
- (2) A Statement of Significance answering the question of why the topic is integral to the history of either the American Quarter Horse breed or the American Quarter Horse Association.
- (3) At least one photograph of the topic if it is available.
- (4) A photograph of the proposed site of the marker.
- (5) A map showing the proposed marker site with public access routes clearly delineated.

Other materials such as magazine articles or book excerpts may be included in the application but will not be accepted in lieu of a Statement of Significance. Marker application materials should not be bound. Copies of the application are made for various committee members and binding prohibits this process. A simple binder clip is acceptable if necessary to insure that application materials remain together.

#### 6. BURDEN OF PROOF

**The burden of proof of historical significance rest with the nominating entity.** Claims of Historical significance should be supported with written documentation in the Statement of Significance and optional magazine articles and book excerpts. Primary source data (writings, publications or other evidence from the period of the topic) take precedence over all other documentation in the evaluation of an application. The use of oral histories is encouraged as a primary resource if it is beneficial to your Statement of Significance.

#### 7. RESPONSE REQUIRED OF NOMINATING ENTITY

When a nominating entity submits an application for review; that entity must comply

with the criteria and guidelines set forth in this publication. Failure to respond after two consecutive written requests from the American Quarter Horse Foundation regarding any part of the marker process can result in termination of the application.

8. MARKER TEXT

Text for the marker will be written by the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum staff based on the information provided in the Statement of Significance. Proposed text for the marker will be provided to the nominating entity for review; however, the American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Review Committee is the final authority on the wording, spacing and style of marker inscriptions.

9. TEXT LIMITATIONS

Before being considered as a marker topic, a horse or person must have been deceased for at least 25 years and an event must have occurred at least 25 years prior to application. Additionally, space constraints prevent the listing of the nominating entities, or the current owners of a site where a marker is to be located, from being named in the text of a marker. However, information of this nature can be inscribed on the back of the marker at a cost dictated by the foundry.

10. USE OF EMBLEMS OR LOGOS

Nominating entities will not be allowed to adorn the marker with their representative emblem or logo. The only logo to be reproduced on a marker will be that of the American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Program. No other design or marker size other than the one proposed by the American Quarter Horse Foundation will be permitted. The American Quarter Horse Historical Marker Program logo is the property of the American Quarter Horse Foundation and may not be copied or reproduced for any use by other agencies or individuals without written permission of the American Quarter Horse Foundation.

11. OWNERSHIP OF MARKERS

Funds are provided by the American Quarter Horse Foundation to cover the cost of the marker production and administrative fees. Creation of markers will be the responsibility of the American Quarter Horse Foundation. Awarded markers do not become the property of either the nominating entity or the owner of the property where the marker is placed. The American Quarter Horse Foundation retains ownership of the marker.

12. PLACEMENT OF MARKERS

Ideally the marker should be placed at the location most appropriate for the marker topic. Markers must be placed in conspicuous places with dignified surroundings. There must be public access to the marker ensuring that the marker accomplishes its educational objectives. If the most appropriate site is inaccessible to the public, the marker may be placed in an accessible location as near as possible to the relevant site. Placement of markers is a carefully considered aspect in the review of an application, thus a photograph of the proposed location of a marker must accompany the application, along with a map detailing the original site and the proposed site and its accessibility.

Markers will not be placed on structures; however, markers may be placed on a post outside of a building where a historic event occurred. This allows for alterations of buildings

with no restrictions concerning exterior or interior modifications since the marker commemorates the event, not the structure. The appropriateness of the proposed placement of a marker will fall under the jurisdiction of the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees.

Permission from the owner of a site for a proposed marker must be obtained prior to the submission of the application. If the proposed marker is to be located on public land the nominating entity must first get permission from the proper governmental authority.

### 13. PUBLICITY

Whenever possible, a dedication ceremony to unveil the newly awarded marker will be hosted by the Foundation at the marker site involving the nominating entity and the American Quarter Horse Association officials. Publicity releases will be sent out to local newspapers and other news media, and a listing of markers will be published in several publications including *The American Quarter Horse Journal*, *America's Horse*, and the American Quarter Horse Association website.

### 14. RELOCATION OF MARKERS

American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees must approve all marker relocations. A request for relocation must be made in writing and submitted to the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees. A marker may be considered for relocation when:

- (1) It is the object of persistent vandalism in its current location.
- (2) A more accurate site for the marker is determined.
- (3) A hazard to viewers of the marker can be reduced or eliminated by its relocation.
- (4) Better public access would result from its relocation.
- (5) Other circumstances are presented which require further review by the American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees.

### 15. REPLACEMENT OF MARKERS

American Quarter Horse Foundation Trustees must approve all marker replacements. The Trustees reserve the right to remove a marker and not replace it. When the replacement of a marker is necessary because it has been stolen or damaged beyond repair, or because it contains previously undetected factual errors, the American Quarter Horse Foundation will pay for this expense.

### 16. PERMANENT ARCHIVES

All materials submitted by nominating entities in the application process for a marker become property of the archives of the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum. Material submitted may be used or cited at the discretion of the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum, unless otherwise noted by the nominating entity.

