

## Greg M. Keil

---

**From:** DeRose, Joe R - WHS [Joe.DeRose@wisconsinhistory.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 10:37 AM  
**To:** Greg M. Keil  
**Subject:** RE: Recognition Plaques

Bronze plaques not only are pricey but they also tend to get stolen and melted down. We use aluminum and they work much better. A list of potential vendors can be found on our website at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/markers/faq.asp](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/markers/faq.asp) I hope this helps!

---

**From:** Greg M. Keil [mailto:gkeil@ci.menasha.wi.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 10:31 AM  
**To:** DeRose, Joe R - WHS  
**Subject:** Recognition Plaques

Joe: The Landmark's Commission is considering awarding a bronze recognition plaque to properties that have made some sort of outstanding effort to preserve or restore historic properties. We have found bronze plaques to be quite pricey (\$800 - \$1,000). I'm assuming that the State Historical Society acquires a number of these plaques each year. What is your source, and do you have any idea how much the SHS pays for them? Also, do you know of any other plaque material that would be durable and high quality, but less expensive?

Thanks for your assistance.

Greg

\*\*\*\*\*As a local governmental entity, the City of Menasha is subject to Wisconsin statutes relating to open records. Any e-mail received by anyone at the City of Menasha, as well as any e-mail sent by someone from the City of Menasha are subject to these laws. Unless otherwise exempted from the Open Records law, senders and receivers of City e-mail should presume that any e-mail is subject to release upon request.\*\*\*\*\*

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **How many official Wisconsin historical markers are erected in the state?**

There are more than 520 official state markers in Wisconsin that carry approved historical inscriptions commemorating sites, individuals, buildings, or events of local, state, or national significance.

#### **What topics qualify for a historical marker?**

Markers should describe one of the following aspects of Wisconsin's history: history, architecture, culture, archaeology, ethnic associations, geology, natural history, or legends. Guidance in researching your topic is available [online](#).

#### **Where can I find a list of historical markers in Wisconsin?**

[History Just Ahead: A Guide to Wisconsin's Historical Markers](#), edited by Sarah Davis McBride, is an award-winning guide to Wisconsin's state markers. This well-illustrated book includes marker texts, historic and current photographs, and is arranged by geographic region.

You may also consult the [Complete List of Current Historical Markers](#) (PDF, 154 KB).

#### **I noticed that a marker is missing or damaged, whom should I contact?**

To report a marker that is missing or damaged, please contact [Rick Bernstein](#). Please provide the title of the marker and its location.

#### **Who can apply for a historical marker?**

Anybody can apply for a marker as long as the topic addresses an aspect of Wisconsin's history. The applicant must also be able to pay for the cost of the marker, agree to maintain it, and have permission of the landowner where the marker is to be erected.

#### **Do I need to fill out an application for a marker?**

An application form must be completed for every historic marker desired. [Find information on how to apply on our website](#) or request information by mail.

#### **How much do markers cost?**

Markers are available in a variety of sizes, fonts, and prices. The [Historical Marker Price List](#) (PDF, 46 KB) includes descriptions of available sizes and costs.

#### **How long does it take to get a marker?**

The marker text requires approval of Wisconsin Historical Society staff. Please allow up to 6 months for staff to review your application. After this approval, the Wisconsin Historical Society will order the marker from the foundry. Generally, the marker is cast and shipped to the applicant within 4-6 weeks from the time the foundry receives your order.

#### **What is the approval process?**

Wisconsin Historical Society staff review draft marker text prepared by the applicant. Usually draft text needs to be modified and is returned to the applicant with suggestions. Be sure to allow time for approval if you are planning a commemoration for a specific date. Once the Wisconsin Historical Society and the applicant agree on the final version of the text, the marker is ordered.

#### **Who manufactures Wisconsin historical markers and State Register of Historic Places plaques?**

Sewah Studios produces all official Wisconsin historical markers. Standard State Register plaques are manufactured by Colonial Brass Company; those with custom inscriptions are produced by Sewah Studios.

#### **If a property is listed in the State Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places, does it automatically receive a plaque?**

No. State or National Register of Historic Places plaques no longer require approval from the Wisconsin Historical Society. You may now order a plaque for your registered historic property directly from the vendor. The following websites are provided to assist you in locating suppliers. This list is not a recommendation. Other suppliers may exist:

Atlas Signs & Plaques  
Colonial Brass Company  
Eagle Sign & Design, Inc.  
Erie Landmark Company

# Historical markers price list

Official State of Wisconsin historical markers are made of cast aluminum and have raised cream-colored letters on a brown background. All wall-mounted markers have one side. All post-mounted markers have two sides. Posts for all post-mounted markers are included in the cost and provided by the manufacturer.

Please select the appropriate model for your historical marker from the list below.

	<b>Size</b> Height x width	<b>Model</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Total Character Count</b>	<b>Price *</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A	16" x 24"	Small City Marker	5/8" lettering, wall mounted	320	\$475
<input type="checkbox"/> B	16" x 24"	Small City Marker	5/8" lettering, post mounted same text each side	320	\$675
<input type="checkbox"/> C	36" x 24"	City Marker	1" lettering, wall mounted	396	11 lines, 36 spaces each \$1150
<input type="checkbox"/> D	36" x 24"	City Marker	5/8" lettering, wall mounted	848	16 lines, 53 spaces each \$1250
<input type="checkbox"/> E	36" x 24"	City Marker	1" lettering, post mounted same text each side	396	11 lines, 36 spaces each \$1300
<input type="checkbox"/> F	36" x 24"	City Marker	5/8" lettering, post mounted same text each side	848	16 lines, 53 spaces each \$1400
<input type="checkbox"/> G	36" x 24"	City Marker	1" lettering, post mounted different text each side	792	11 lines, 36 spaces each 396 characters per side \$1450
<input type="checkbox"/> H	36" x 24"	City Marker	5/8" lettering, post mounted different text each side	1696	16 lines, 53 spaces each 848 characters per side \$1550
<input type="checkbox"/> I	72" x 54"	Two-Post Marker	1 1/2" lettering, post mounted, same text each side	1196	26 lines, 46 spaces each \$3700
<input type="checkbox"/> J	72" x 54"	Two-Post Marker	1" lettering, post mounted same text each side	2006	34 lines, 59 spaces each \$3900

\* Price includes shipping. Prices subject to change at any time. Verify all pricing with SEWAH Studios at 1-888-55-SEWAH.

The Wisconsin Historical Markers Program is administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation and Public History.

**State Register of Historic Places plaques** no longer require Wisconsin Historical Society approval. If your home is on the State Register, order State Register plaques directly from [SEWAH Studios](http://SEWAH Studios) at 1-888-55-SEWAH.