National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers

TRAILS, MONUMENTS & MARKERS (rev 3-31-15 lsr)

PURPOSES AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

One of the more successful ways History can be taught to today's generation is through historical markers and monuments placed near the site of some significant event, place, or person in history. Through attractive plaques, statues, descriptive narrations, kiosks and pictures, a visitor can pause and reflect upon what occurred at this location and how this historical knowledge can influence the life of the reader and viewer of today. Local chapters of SUP are encouraged to learn about the history of their surrounding area and be continually engaged in a monument or marker project.

Under the direction of a Committee Chairman, committees are to identify trails, events, persons and sites, recorded in pioneer journals or other histories, both early and modern, which have particular significance to people today, and to recommend appropriate memorials or markers. This usually means donating hundreds of hours of labor in planning and constructing attractive monuments or markers complete with well-documented details of the event or place being commemorated. In many cases, the chapter will solicit cooperation from other agencies or participate with other agencies in the marker or monument project. Funds to finance the project are raised through donations and fund-raising activities and are the responsibility of the chapter. Publicity surrounding the dedication of the historical marker is arranged by the chapter and a complete report of the entire process is to be filed with the National Society to be permanently in the SUP Library.

The National Program Director and National Committee Chairmen are available for consultation and advisement with each of the chapter's standing and ad-hoc committees.

GUIDELINES

When a Chapter plans a plaque, monument or to mark a trail, the committee must decide what the subject will be, where it will be placed, and get permission to put the marker there. **Notify the National Program Director of your plans.**

When a monument is placed on private property, there should be an agreement as to who will own and maintain it. When one is placed on public land, ownership likewise needs to be determined and legal clearances need to be obtained from the appropriate planning commissions, legal departments, elected officials, parks departments, or whomever has jurisdiction, whether it be state, county, city or other municipal entity. Beware of "hold harmless" legal clauses shifting liability from the municipality to the SUP.

The National Society must approve all copy and illustrations, and the application form signed by the National Program Director and a National Officer, so that duplications can be avoided and a record established. **It will be given a number** that can be used on the monument with the SUP logo. The chapters are responsible for the cost and placement of all markers/monuments they install. Since the information needs to be suitable for placing on the Website, it is preferable that pictures be taken with a digital camera and sent in jpg form by email or on a CD or DVD disc to the National Monuments Director. **A close-up picture, full-view picture and location view are desired.** Additional pictures can add even more meaning.

As important as it is to erect historical monuments, it is equally important that they be maintained. Both the effects of nature and of man can dim the beauty of the markers making the historical significance of the area less appreciated. Materials for building monuments or markers should be chosen carefully and with professional advice to assure lasting beauty, and establish a program of periodic cleaning and restoration. Chapters should use caution in using cleaning solutions that may further damage a marker. Expert advice should be sought.

In many instances there may be monuments in your area erected by others whose organization is no longer functioning. An example of such a situation is the Utah Pioneer Trails and Landmarks Association, (UPTLA), who were organized in the 1930's by George Albert Smith and others, and who erected, often with others, more than 130 monuments during its 25+ year history. In recent years, and at the request of the remnants of the organization, the SUP has assumed the responsibility for locating and recording these historic markers along with our own. Restorations have also been conducted for them and also DUP markers (with their permission) as well. A search in your area should be conducted to see if there are any of these that need attention.

If there are any questions, the National office can be contacted for help, 801-484-4441, or contact the National Director 801-479-8308 (Stewart Radmall) or 801-479-9175 (Mark Walker).

. (See next page for detailed application)

National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers

Application for Monument Approval and for Site Number

(rev 6-14-14 lsr)

SUP Chapter sponsoring _____

Name of Monument, Person or Place to be honored._____

_____

Exact Location – address, directions to locate, and GPS coordinates if possible _____

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Description of proposed construction, plaque wording or other narrative on monument (attach plans, illustrations, blueprints, site pictures etc.) _____

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Anticipated **date** of completion and dedication, with final report and pictures to National Director preferably by e-mail in jpg form. (Pictures should show **readable** close-up of plaque and another picture with a full view of monument. Location view showing surroundings is desirable with others as needed for clarity). Date_____

Do you need an SUP Logo? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Approved [ ] Chapter Officer _____ Office_____ Date _____

Approved [ ] Nat'l Monuments Director _____ Date_____

Name, address and phone number of person submitting Application, including optional e-mail address:

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Received for Library by _____ Office _____ Date _____

Site number assigned _____

Materials for SUP Monuments (rev 6-16-14 lsr)

The following guidelines should be used in the selection of materials for all monuments erected outdoors and exposed to elements of the weather.

Recommended materials:

Bronze - Perhaps one of best materials, but subject to theft because of the scrap value of the metal. If scratched, bronze will autogenously heal the scar. Expect that it will tarnish with age.

Anodized Aluminum - Weathers well, but does not have eloquence of bronze. Also, any scratches or surface defects do not heal, but take on an abused appearance. It is less subject to theft than bronze. Can be used with pictures and in colors.

Granite, Basalt, Trap Rock or Quartzite - are excellent materials. (Recent observations have indicated that with raised lettering in granite with painted background, the painted background deteriorates rapidly from weather).

Glass and Ceramic materials - weather well, but are brittle and may be easily blemished by the public.

Some **Stainless Steel** grades may be a good choice, but check with the manufacturer for proper grade selection. (300 series is suitable)

Copper can be used in appropriate artistic renditions as long as it is recognized that it will oxidize in a short time and change color. Brass also pits.

Materials not recommended:

Limestone or Dolomite of any form.

Shale, Slate or Sandstone. Sandstone can be made into a beautiful monument, but it is NOT long lasting. Using a seal coating and resealing it every few years can extend its life.

Plastics or Polymers, Marble, Painted Wood, Iron or Steel (see above for stainless steel)

Fiberglass - Very high strength – strong and flexible material, and with proper coatings, it can have a life of 10 to 20 years. Then it begins to fade with sun exposure and age. If the edges are not properly coated with a gel or encased in metal or other framing, glass fibers can cause a problem. Coatings are still polymers that tend to deteriorate with time – particularly when colors are involved.

Summary: Bronze is still the best of all material, then **Anodized Aluminum**, **Stainless Steel** (300 series) and most **Granites**. Stay away from all limestone, marbles, dolomites sandstones and concretes.

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Portland Cement Concrete

All Portland Cement Concrete placed in a freezing environment should be at least a 6-bag mix with 6-7 percent air-entrainment, and placed with a 4-5 inch slump. No water added to the mix at the project site.

Prepared by: Reid H. Brown, PhD. P.E., 2008, (with revisions)

Caution: cleaning chemicals should be carefully chosen so as not to damage the Marker.
[Example: no hydrochloric or muriatic acids should be used on aluminum. Lime-A-Way can be used if it is washed off immediately and not allowed to dry. Vinegar is suitable.]

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION RECOGNITION
(Reported by the Chapter)

(rev.10-20-15 lsr)

Chapters will contribute to preserving the memory of the Pioneers by:

Submitting ONE complete Memorialization to the National Office;

AND accomplishing ONE of the following:

- Establish one approved new monument or historical marker, or major reconstruction of an existing monument.
- Clean, repair or improve two existing monuments or markers.
- Maintain or restore one Pioneer-era structure that is available for public view.