

**Guidelines for Selecting Sites & Locating AHA Historical Highway Markers in
Madison County, Alabama
(November 15, 2006)**

1. Sites deemed worthy of an Alabama Historical Association (AHA) marker must have national, statewide, or local historical significance as determined by the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society Marker Committee (Committee).
2. Historical markers are erected to designate historical structures, sites, or events, but not to honor individuals or families; no living person may be listed on an AHA marker.
3. Proposed sites for historical markers are generally categorized as historic churches, schools, cemeteries, notable structures, notable sites, notable events, or early settlements, and applicants are given points to determine priorities within each category.
 - a. Historical Significance: local (10 pts.), statewide (15 pts.), national (20 pts.)
 - b. Age: pre-Civil War (30 pts.); 1865-1900 (20 pts.); 1901-1950 (10 pts.); 1951-present (5 pts.)
 - c. Proximity to Population Centers and Accessibility to the Public: (5 or 0 pts.)
 - d. Surviving Structure vs. Site: surviving structure (10 pts.), site (0 pts.)
 - e. Existence of Organized Sponsoring Group: (5 or 0 pts.)
4. Marker should be erected within 100 yds of the actual site or the direction & distance to the site must be noted on the marker.
5. Marker should be placed on a busy thoroughfare where it can be easily seen; not obstructed by signs and/or vegetation.
6. Private cemeteries are not eligible for historic designation unless a notable historic figure is buried within. Public cemeteries are eligible for consideration only if they are at least 150 years old or have served a community for a considerable time (at least 100 years).
7. Markers to be erected in the county are dependent upon resources from the County Commission. Markers to be erected within the Huntsville City limits depend on the availability of funds provided by the Huntsville City Council. Privately funded markers must meet the eligibility requirements noted above and have the approval of the Marker Committee.