HISTORICAL LANDMARKS DESIGNATION

I. DEFINITION AND HISTORY

In 1969, the ASM Historical Landmarks Designation was established to identify permanently the many sites and events that have played a prominent part in the discovery, development and growth of metals and metalworking. In 1987, the scope of this award was broadened to include all engineered materials.

II. RULES

A. Nominations for designation of historical landmarks may be submitted by chapters, affiliate societies, committees, councils, award selection committees or by individual members.

B. The Selection Committee will review only nominations submitted on the proper form.

C. Recommendations must be submitted to ASM Headquarters not later than 1 February of the year in which the award is to be presented.

D. Nominations shall remain valid for a period of three years.

E. Nominations are to be documented with such pertinent information as:

   - location and ownership
   - materials significance of landmark or event nationally and/or internationally
   - historical/cultural significance of landmark or event nationally and/or internationally
   - history and description
   - photographs and references
   - suggested citation

F. There is no specific criterion as to age or date, but generally recommended sites, structures or events should be at least 50 years old. Exceptions to this time frame may be made if, in the opinion of the Awards Policy Committee and the Board of Trustees, the recommended site is clearly of outstanding historical significance. In such cases, sites recommended by the Award Selection Committee may be approved regardless of age.

G. The site or event must in some way be of significant historical importance in the field of materials science and engineering. The Selection Committee shall give more consideration to nominations that emphasize “first” achievements or “substantive improvements” in materials technology.

H. Emphasis should, in general, be on important technological developments rather than on individuals, although individuals will often be associated with such developments. Nominators should include reference to previous historic landmark awards related to the technology if known.

I. If the award is for a site, it should have been preserved or restored and should be authentically typical of materials activities of former times, even if not associated with any specific technological advance or innovation.

J. While it is preferable that some of the original structures should survive, sites of real importance in terms of technological achievement should be recorded and marked, even if no trace now remains.
K. Unrestricted access by the public should not be required as a prerequisite for accepting a site, although some agreement for reasonable access by responsible interested individuals should be worked out.

L. ASM obviously cannot accept responsibility for restoration and preservation of sites, but should aid and encourage local organizations to do this, (e.g. local Historical Societies, Chambers of Commerce, etc.). However, it would be unreasonable to insist on any guarantee of restoration or maintenance as a prerequisite for acceptance of a site for marking and recording.

M. The ASM Historical Landmark Designation will be presented at a convenient time on site. Historical Landmarks shall be included in the Awards Dinner booklet and duly noted during the Awards Dinner at MS&T.

N. Typically one to two awards shall be selected annually.

O. Organization and expense of the dedication ceremony shall be the responsibility of the nominator.

III. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARD

An appropriate marker will be made for each historical development so honored, to conform and complement the site on which it will be mounted.

IV. AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE

A. Appointments
   1. Individual members and the chairman of the Award Selection Committee shall be selected and appointed by the Awards Policy Committee.

B. Composition and Tenure
   1. The committee shall consist of a minimum of five members.
   2. The tenure for members of the Award Selection Committee shall be three years on a rotating basis with no more than one third of the committee members replaced in any one year.

C. Report of the Selection Committee
   1. The committee shall, by 1 April of the year in which the award is to be made, submit to the Awards Policy Committee a report, including nomination form(s) and background information on all chosen sites and giving the rationale and documentation for selection.
   2. A concise statement, in thirty words or less, on the Historical Landmark Designation shall be composed by the Selection Committee for inclusion on the Marker.
   3. The Selection Committee Chairman will be furnished with a Board Report Form which, when completed, provides a reporting mechanism for the above requirements and should be a part of the report to the Awards Policy Committee for each site recommended.