

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
 FOR APPROVAL OF HISTORICAL MARKERS SUBMITTED IN 2011

	Name of Marker	Municipality & County	Description
1	Camp Michaux	Cooke Twp., Cumberland Co.	Formerly an iron ore mining site and CCC camp, it became a POW camp during WWII. It was used as an interrogation center to gather intelligence key to developing Allied military policies. Strategically located in a forested area just 80 miles from Washington, DC.
2	First County Agricultural Extension Office	Schellsburg, Bedford Co.	Established in 1910 by the US Dept. of Agriculture in Bedford County, it was the first agency of its kind in the nation. The County Agent provided practical advice on farming and gardening as well as consumer economics and nutrition to rural residents. The Cooperative Extension program improved food production across the state and nation, and is still in existence today.
3	Giovanni's Room	Philadelphia Co.	One of the earliest gay book stores in the nation, and the oldest in existence, Giovanni's Room provided not only reading material, but a refuge as a support center and gathering place for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals in the community. A true center of early activism for the gay civil rights movement.
4	Kidnapping & Rescue of Rachel & Elizabeth Parker	Nottingham, Chester Co.	In 1851, shortly after the passage of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act, two free black sisters were kidnapped by bounty hunters, who claimed they were runaway slaves. Members of the community rose to their defense. Although they could not immediately free the girls, they continued in their efforts, and were successful in mounting a defense by the PA State Attorney General in a court case that ordered their release.
5	Magdalena House / River Brethren	Conoy Twp., Lancaster Co.	Site of the establishment of the River Brethren denomination, subsequently Brethren in Christ, in the late 1770s. This sect is one of the earliest indigenous American religious denominations. It has spread to 23 other states and several other countries.
6	Marshalls Creek Mastodon	Marshalls Creek Monroe Co.	One of the most complete and best preserved mastodon specimens from Eastern North America, the Marshalls Creek Mastodon provides evidence and aids in understanding of prehistoric animal life during the Cenozoic Era. Exhumed in 1968, it is part of the collection of the State Museum of PA.
7	Mason-Dixon Survey	Philadelphia Co.	Starting point of the survey which led to the establishment of the Mason Dixon Line. Begun in 1763, Mason and Dixon took the first scientific measurement of a degree of latitude and longitude in America to end a property dispute between Wm. Penn and Lord Baltimore.

8	McDonald Oil Field	McDonald, Washington Co.	The largest producing oil field in the world in the early 1890s, this area in southwestern PA, quite a distance from the traditional “oil region,” had short-lived but significant impact on the US oil industry.
9	Monongehela River Navigation System	Elizabeth, Allegheny Co.	This system of locks and dams connects southwestern PA with the nation’s extensive inland river navigation system managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The improved navigation it provided aided in the growth of PA coal, steel, and glass industries, and its impact on trade is still felt today.
10	Patrick C. Boyle (1846-1920)	Oil City, Venango Co.	An early oil scout, Boyle was a pioneering oil industry journalist, editor, and publisher, creating the petroleum industry’s most influential trade publications, <b>The Derrick</b> and <b>The Oil &amp; Gas Journal</b> . His writings are critical to the knowledge of oil industry history, and the journal is still a relevant publication in the gas and oil industries.
11	Red Star Line	Philadelphia Co.	The Internat’l Navigation Co., an offshoot of the Pennsylvania Railroad, created the Red Star Line to compete with the port of New York and stimulate commerce in Phila. Operating 54 steamships, it was one of the largest lines operating between Europe and America, and was instrumental in much immigration to PA in the late 19 <sup>th</sup> and early 20 <sup>th</sup> century, especially that of Jews.
12	Robert Aitken (1734-1802)	Philadelphia Co.	An early colonial printer, Aitken printed the first English-language Bible in America. Due to the embargo on Bibles from England during the Rev. War, Aitken’s edition was the only version in English available to colonists. He also printed the <b>Journals of Congress</b> , the proceedings of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress.
13	US Sanitary Commission Great Central Fair	Philadelphia Co.	Created in 1861 by Pres. Lincoln, the US Sanitary Commission coordinated efforts of volunteers that wanted to contribute to the Civil War effort. The Great Central Fair was held in Phila. to raise money for the war, and Abraham Lincoln spoke at this event.