

# Mounting and Caring for Your National Register Historic Plaques

## Concealed Mount Instructions

**Mounting Where There Is No Access to the Back:** Your plaque is supplied with four aluminum studs that are 1-3/4 inches long. Screw the studs into the back of the plaque. Determine the position of the plaque and mark the location of the studs onto the mounting surface. Next, mark the holes with a center punch. Use a masonry bit with a diameter ranging from 7/16 inch to 1/2 inch to drill the hole deep enough to accommodate the studs.

Obtain a small quantity of hydraulic cement. This is the generic name for what is commonly referred to as “expanding cement.” The clerk at your local hardware store will be happy to help you find the brand it carries. Please note, however, that **it is important to use hydraulic cement so that if you ever need to remove the plaque, you can do so without damaging the wall on which it is mounted.** Follow the instructions to mix the cement and then insert the cement into each hole with a trowel or putty knife. Then mount the plaque onto the surface (hurry—the cement sets up quickly), and hold the plaque in place until the cement hardens. Make sure to wipe the excess cement from the plaque before it dries.

**Mounting Where There Is Access from the Back:** Use 3/8-inch course thread aluminum bolts in the length required to fit through the material. Drill holes in the back of the plaque. If you need to adjust the length of the bolts, washers can be used. Be careful not to force the bolts into the plaque.

## Post Mount Instructions

Get a threaded pipe cut to the desired length from your hardware or plumbing supply store. We advise you to take the bracket with you when purchasing the pipe to insure a proper fit. Remember to purchase enough post so that even after you bury it, the sign will be at the correct height (usually about waist high). Sink the pipe into the ground about two feet, mount the universal bracket onto the sign, and screw the sign onto the pipe. Some people find that placing the post in a coffee can filled with cement before burying it makes the task easier.

## Caring for Your Plaque

The plaque is waxed when you receive it. We recommend that you wax your plaque with a good quality carnauba wax twice a year. If the plaque surface becomes dull, you can clean it with a slightly abrasive cleaner. Waxing should follow cleaning.