



Instructions for Submitting a Nomination for a National Historic Chemical Landmark

The program in brief: The National Historic Chemical Landmarks (NHCL) program of the American Chemical Society (ACS) is intended to enhance public appreciation for the contributions of the chemical sciences to modern life in the U.S., and to encourage a sense of pride about chemistry's rich history among the field's practitioners. The program does this by recognizing seminal achievements in the chemical sciences, recording their histories, and providing additional information and resources related to these achievements.

The nomination and evaluation process: Prospective nominators should carefully review the [NHCL website \(www.acs.org/landmarks\)](http://www.acs.org/landmarks) for criteria and other guidance before preparing a nomination. A nomination may be submitted at any time of year to the NHCL Program Manager, who forwards it to the NHCL Subcommittee for evaluation. The NHCL Program Manager then communicates the Subcommittee's advice and recommendations to the nominator(s). Nominations evaluated by the NHCL Subcommittee often require at least one round of revision before the Subcommittee makes its final recommendation for approval or denial. Nominations recommended by the NHCL Subcommittee are subject to final approval by the ACS Board Standing Committee on Public Affairs and Public Relations, which acts on behalf of the ACS Board of Directors. If the nomination is successful, ACS staff prepare a printed brochure, a website, and a plaque in consultation with the nominator(s). The nominator(s) and relevant local organizations plan the designation event in consultation with ACS. For questions or additional details, please contact the NHCL Program Manager at landmarks@acs.org.

Address to which nomination should be sent: Please send files by email attachment to landmarks@acs.org.

Required Elements of a Nomination: To nominate a subject for recognition by the NHCL program, write a proposal (in Microsoft Word or PDF format) that includes the following elements:

1. Proposed landmark title (e.g., Discovery of Nylon), and date of submission.

2. Preparer's contact information. Include name(s), title(s) if relevant, affiliation(s), mailing address(es), email address(es), and telephone number(s).

3. Historical narrative (maximum 1,500 words). This section should describe the historical significance of the work being nominated, establish its groundbreaking importance, and confirm its status as a significant contribution to the betterment of society. The nominated work must satisfy the basic required characteristics (a seminal contribution to the chemical sciences that is at least 25 years old and readily communicable to the general public), and the narrative should clearly delineate what sets the work apart from related achievements. The major protagonists who contributed to the work should be introduced, including relevant degrees and positions held, and their contributions described, with appropriate dates. The narrative must be fully documented by references to appropriate reliable sources in the historical and scientific literature.

4. Public outreach plans. The nomination must include a preliminary proposal for public outreach. A unit of ACS (normally either a division, committee, or local section) must formally sponsor the nomination. Describe the location, present ownership, and condition of the site where the Landmark plaque would be installed, if the nomination is approved; publicly accessible sites are much preferable

to private locations. Describe potential upcoming designation opportunities, such as significant anniversaries or milestone dates (note that the nomination review process typically takes one to two years, while designation planning can take an additional year). List tentative plans to engage the community in the designation event, as well as opportunities for public outreach following the event. Also list any commitments from partnering organizations, such as a company or a local ACS section, including commitments for financial or in-kind support.

5. Letters of Support. Letters of support from the ACS nominating unit and from the proposed host site of the prospective NHCL plaque are required.

6. Appendices. Other relevant letters, documents, or images that further support the nomination may also be submitted. There is no page limit or word limit for such appendices.