

Guidelines for the Nomination for Commemorative Plaques

- That the nominated person is worthy of commemoration, that they are of national or international standing or of such outstanding local importance as to deserve a plaque. They should be regarded either within their profession as eminent or be recognisable to the well-informed passer by.
- That the nomination is vetted by the History Curatorial team and subject to final approval by the appropriate council committee.
- That the person or group who have made the nomination make available finance necessary to see the plaque created, shipped and installed (approximately £350). A letter of financial commitment will be required. Finance must be raised independently: unfortunately Aberdeen City Council officers will not be able to become involved in the fund raising process.
- That the person in question is dead and where appropriate any living relative has granted their consent to the erection of the plaque.
- That an appropriate location for the plaque has been found. Appropriate means that either the person lived within the building upon which the plaque will be fixed or they worked there for a significant period and that the location of the plaque is such that members of the public will normally be able to view it from a public road or street without needing to enter upon private property. It will be necessary to have permission from those either resident within that building or those who work there. Consent will also be required from those who own the building.
- That the plaque will conform to the normal dimensions of other commemorative plaques within Aberdeen City. That is to say that they are cast aluminium, round, 20 inches in diameter and with white raised lettering on a fawn background.
- That no notice of sponsorship will occur on the plaque. However notice of sponsorship will occur on the plaques information on the City Council's Corporate Website and in any forthcoming versions of the plaque leaflet. Aberdeen City Council will retain ownership of the plaque.
- That the wording on the plaque should be in normal English, with exceptions where a piece of fiction or such like is being indicated.

The form below should be completed in full and applications should be sent to

Plaques@aberdeencity.gov.uk

1.2 Nominee Details	
Full Name:	Caroline Agnes Phillips
Date of Birth:	13 12 1874
Date of Death : <i>(all nominees must be deceased)</i>	13 01 1956
Occupation:	Journalist
<u>Brief Biography of the nominee:</u>	<p>Caroline Phillips is mentioned on Stop Nine of the Aberdeen Women’s Heritage Trail.</p> <p>Caroline Agnes Isabella Phillips was born on 13 December 1870 at the Free Church School house in Kintore, Aberdeenshire. She was the elder of two children of James and Jane Phillips. Both parents taught in the same school; her father was the headmaster and her mother was a part-time sewing teacher. Her mother’s maiden name was Watt and the family believed that they were distant cousins of James Watt, inventor of the steam engine. Caroline's younger brother, James William Phillips, was born at Kintore 18 September 1872.</p> <p>In 1874, the family moved to Aberdeen, where her father taught at St Paul Street School. However her father’s health was poor and he was moved to a smaller school in Rosemount. Both Caroline and her brother James became journalists. Caroline worked for the <i>Aberdeen Daily Journal</i> from 1900 on.</p> <p>Phillips first involvement in public life came in 1904 when she served on the committee of “Fresh Air Fortnight” a charity which sent children from Aberdeen’s slums for a fortnight of fresh air and wholesome food in the countryside. Thereafter she became interested in women's rights. She joined the Women’s Social and Political Union (WSPU) and was honorary secretary of the Aberdeen branch 41 ½ Union Street Aberdeen from 1907 to 1909. Her correspondence (including correspondence with the Pankhursts) is archived in Aberdeen Art Gallery, in the Watt collection. The editor of the <i>Aberdeen Journal</i> initially allowed her to use the <i>Journal</i>’s address as her correspondence address, but later complained that she was too closely associated with women’s suffrage.</p>

	<p>In 1907, Caroline organised a train to take suffragettes from Aberdeen to Edinburgh to take part in a suffrage demonstration. This was preceded by a meeting in Aberdeen attended by many of the most prominent suffragettes – Christabel Pankhurst, Mrs Despard, Mrs Pethick Lawrence, Mrs Billington Greig and Helen Fraser, who were accompanied on the platform by Caroline Phillips.</p> <p>Although Caroline was not opposed to violent protest, her own actions were peaceful. She would walk round golf courses at dawn, replacing each flag with a “Votes for Women” flag.</p> <p>Many suffragettes hid during the night of the 1911 census, stating that they would not participate until they had the vote. Caroline may have tried to hide because she is included in the household of the Rev Alexander Webster, a known supporter of women’s suffrage, listed as his “adopted daughter.” Her mother was still alive at the time.</p> <p>In 1912 Caroline inherited the Station Hotel, Banchory, from an aunt. She gave up journalism and left Aberdeen in order to run the hotel. When she retired she moved back to her home village of Kintore.</p> <p>Caroline Phillips is buried in the Watt family plot in Kintore kirkyard. The main part of the gravestone had already been filled with her grandparents details, and her inscription “Caroline Agnes Isabella Phillips, journalist, died 13 January 1956, aged 85” is on the base.</p>
<p>Reasons for nomination <i>The following requirements should be met:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i) That the nominated person is worthy of commemoration</i> <i>ii) That they are of national or international standing or of such outstanding local importance as to deserve a plaque.</i> <i>iii) They should be regarded either within their profession as eminent or be recognisable to the well-informed passer by.</i> 	<p>Caroline Phillips was the leader of the Aberdeen suffragettes from 1907-09 and her correspondence with WSPU leaders offers a unique insight into the suffrage campaign.</p> <p>There is no other plaque in Aberdeen to represent the Suffragettes. We hope to get this plaque erected by November 2018 to celebrate the Centenary some women first achieving the vote and the week of our Rise Up Women! Women and Politics and Leadership - Past, Present and Future.</p>

<p>Please provide any additional reference materials regarding this nominee:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British Library Newspaper - Aberdeen Journal 24/12/1912 – retirement presentation
<p>Proposed location of the plaque:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen Suffragette and Journalist published by Sarah Pedersen ISBN 9781907349140 • Aberdeen Journal 2/10/1907 – meeting in Aberdeen • Aberdeen Journal 18/02/1904 – committee of Fresh Air Fund • Books – A Guid Cause Leah Leneman Aberdeen University Press 1991 • Aberdeen Art Gallery holds a unique collection of correspondence that belonged to Caroline Phillips, which gives us accounts of the work she did as honorary secretary of the Aberdeen branch of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). Some of these letters have the Union Street address on them. <p>The Women's Suffrage Movement: A Reference Guide 1866 – 1928, Elizabeth Crawford 41 ½ Union Street Aberdeen</p>
<p>Reasons for this location:</p>	<p>Place where she worked as honorary secretary of the Aberdeen branch of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU)</p>
	<p><i>*Note: These permissions for this plaque for Caroline Phillips had previously been granted to be erected in View Terrace where she used to live but unfortunately we couldn't get permissions from all of the residents in the flats.</i></p>

<p>Your Details</p>	
<p>Title:</p>	
<p>Name:</p>	

Address:	
Telephone Number:	
E-Mail Address:	
Organisation (if representing one):	
Position in that organisation:	
Has consent been sought from any living relatives of the nominee?	
<i>If yes please provide evidence attached to your application, if no please seek approval prior to submitting this form.</i>	
What is your interest in the nominee?	<p>Caroline Phillips was a Journalist and Suffragette who actively campaigned for women to get the vote. Her job as a female journalist was unusual at the time as there were so few women journalists. At the risk of her losing her job she actively campaigned for the vote for women and corresponded with the Mrs Pankhurst and her daughters. A collection of letters were donated to Aberdeen Art Gallery by her family given us the rare opportunity and insight of this historic period.</p> <p>She lived and worked in Aberdeen and there are no other plaques in Aberdeen, which represent the suffragettes.</p>
Funding for plaques must come from an individual or group/ organisation. Has funding been secured for this proposed plaque?	
Yes	
<i>If yes please provide evidence attached to your application, if no please secure funding prior to submitting this form.</i>	
<p>ACC's Creative Funding stream for the erection of plaques for women of achievement who have made a contribution to the city was awarded to AWA for this project</p>	