



CRITERIA FOR PLAQUES

The Cheltenham Civic Society undertakes the erection of plaques, throughout the town, to commemorate notable individuals (blue plaques) or events/places (green plaques).

Generally, the proposer or sponsor of a plaque (eg a club, an association, or interested individual(s)) will be expected to subscribe 50% of the cost, including erection. The name of the sponsor will be recorded on the plaque.

Each proposal will be considered by the Executive Committee against the following criteria:-

Plaques commemorating individuals

1. Subjects of proposed plaques should have been born, or lived a good portion of their lives (generally at least 5 years), in Cheltenham. They should normally be dead for at least 20 years, or be past the centenary of their birth.
2. The building where the plaque is to be located, ie where the individual was born, lived or worked, must still exist in some form. Sites of, or successors to, former buildings are not normally acceptable as locations.
3. Individuals must have made a prominent and lasting contribution to Cheltenham life, or be well-known for their wider achievements in a specified field.

Plaques commemorating places or events

1. The location, whether to commemorate an event, or to denote a significant place or building, must be suitable for a plaque to be publicly displayed.
2. The event or place must be recognised as one of special historical interest, and be of not merely local, but regional or national, significance. The event must have occurred at least 20 years ago.

All plaques

1. The current owner(s) of the property in question must be in agreement with the proposal, as they will in effect become owners of the plaque. They must be prepared to offer a position on a wall or gatepost where the wording on the plaque is clearly visible to the public, and from which it would not be removed without consultation with the Civic Society.

A useful description of plaques already in place can be found in ***Commemorative Plaques of Cheltenham***, by Peter Smith and Sue Rowbotham (2009), available from the Civic Society or the Tourist Office.