William G. Pomeroy Foundation®

For History. For Life.®
Today’s Presenters

Paula Miller
Executive Director
William G. Pomeroy Foundation

Susan Hughes
Historian and Archivist
William G. Pomeroy Foundation

Marsha Weinstein
President
National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites

Steve Bodnar
Communications Manager
William G. Pomeroy Foundation
About the Pomeroy Foundation

Our two main initiatives:

• To help diversify Be the Match Registry by supporting bone marrow drives in diverse communities

• To help people celebrate their community’s history through historic signage grant programs

  • Funded 800+ markers & plaques across NYS and beyond. Grown to six signage programs, including National Women’s Suffrage Marker Program
National Women’s Suffrage Marker Program

- 19th Amendment centennial in 2020
- NCWHS and Pomeroy Foundation launch marker program commemorating centennial
- Markers highlight sites on the National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT)
State Coordinators

You have a vital role!

• Select the most important suffrage sites in your state & recruit a local partner for each one

• Work with local partner to complete Pomeroy Foundation Nomination Form

• Promote the program to get best possible submissions and greatest impact
Women’s Suffrage Marker Criteria

• Must show enduring engagement in suffrage activities

• Location cannot be so extensively altered as to destroy significance

• Date or dates must be part of marker text

• Markers installed where they’re easily read
Who Are Local Partners?

Groups or individuals who can help complete nominations by accessing and researching primary sources to verify historical facts

Some examples: genealogical organizations, historic commissions and boards, historical museums, historical societies (and historians), local libraries, municipalities and public historians.
How Local Partners Will Benefit

• Join a significant national effort

• Speaking opportunity at marker dedication

• Publicity for local partner’s organization (and community), plus a social media shout out

• Name of partner’s organization featured on wgpfoundation.org local partner webpage
Application Process – Part 1

Once marker subject is proposed, State Coordinators work with local partner to complete nomination form.

Forms must include possible proposed marker inscription and primary sources list confirming historical significance of subject.
• Submit completed Nomination Form to the NVWT Advisory Board Chair, Judith Wellman:

historicalnewyork@me.com
Application Process – Part 2

• Marsha works with NVWT staff to provide approved nominations to Pomeroy Foundation

• Upon nomination form approval, State Coordinator or local partner will provide primary source documentation and Land Use Permission Letter to Marsha at: mweinst413@gmail.com
Application Process – Part 2, Continued

Land Permission Letter

Signed by landowner to verify NCWHS has permission to install marker. If a municipality or another agency owns the land, use their official letterhead.

Letter example:

(Date)
I (Property Owner name) own the property at (address) and I give the National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites permission to install a National Women’s Suffrage Historic Marker on my property should they receive funding from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation®.

Sincerely,
(Property owner’s signature)
Application Process – Part 3

• NVWT submits final application to Pomeroy Foundation with all necessary materials

• Once grant is awarded, State Coordinators should:
  • cooperate with local partner to install the marker
  • sponsor marker unveiling ceremony
  • publicize the suffrage site in your state
Primary Sources

Why Primary Sources?

• If the Pomeroy Foundation funds a marker, you can be assured that the facts presented are indisputable.

• That means we need primary sources to support the accuracy of the text on a marker.
Primary Sources vs. Secondary Sources

**Primary sources**: give more accurate picture by being as close as possible to the actual events.

- Examples: diaries, photographs, census records, deeds, legal filings, and news reports published at the time of the event.

Secondary sources: analyze, report, summarize or interpret data.

- Examples: reference books (such as encyclopedias and local history publications), textbooks, magazine articles, and newspaper articles analyzing past events.

Our Primary Sources Tip Sheet:
Publicizing in Your State

• When possible, reach out to news outlets on an individual basis. The more personalized, the better.

• Pitch multiple media outlets. Most news websites have contact info and instructions on how to send them tips and PR.

• Get to know the reporter(s) in your area. Be a resource for other news stories they’re working on.
Publicizing in Your State

Let Marsha and Steve know about plans and publicity for marker dedications as far in advance as possible.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact me:

steve@wgpfoundation.org
315-913-4068
First Dedication Ceremonies

St. James AME Church, Danville, KY

Woman’s Club of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Susan Look Avery Marker Dedication Video

Louisville honors trail blazing suffragette

Susan Look Avery was a suffragette who started the Woman's Club of Louisville and helped women win the right to vote. She was honored with a marker that is the first of 250 that will go up across the country.

Video Link: https://goo.gl/2oeEU8
Questions

COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

WILLIAM G. POMEROY FOUNDATION®