



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**NORTH ROCHESTER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the North Rochester Congregational Church for nomination to the National Register of Historical Places at its September 12, 2007 meeting. The nomination will be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service in Washington, DC, for final consideration and designation.

“The Massachusetts Historic Commission is dedicated to preserving the Commonwealth’s rich archaeological, architectural, cultural, and historic resources,” Secretary Galvin said. “Inclusion of this property on the National Register will help to protect our heritage for generations to come.”

The North Rochester Congregational Church, a 1½-story wood-frame Greek Revival church, was erected in 1841. It is in the isolated northwest corner of the largely rural town. It is the third meetinghouse for the community of North Rochester, which became a separate civic entity in 1748. It was designed by regionally important Mattapoisett architect Solomon K. Eaton and is an important example of the use of the Greek Revival style for an ecclesiastical structure.

The North Rochester Congregational Church is one of 10 resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting.

Secretary Galvin serves as Chairman of the 17-member Board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times a year.

The National Register is the nation’s official listing of significant cultural resources. In Massachusetts, there are over 65,000 properties listed in the National Register. The Massachusetts Historical Commission has been administering the National Register of Historic Places program in Massachusetts since 1966.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is the office of the State Historic Preservation Officer and the State Archaeologist. It was established in 1963 to identify, evaluate, and protect important historical and archaeological assets of the Commonwealth. Visit our website to learn more about the Commission’s programs (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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