



**William Francis Galvin**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN PRESENTS 2018 PRESERVATION AWARD FOR LIFETIME  
ACHIEVEMENT TO MINXIE AND JAMES FANNIN**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin, Chair of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, has announced that conservators and historic preservationists Minxie and James Fannin of Concord have received a 2018 Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award for Lifetime Achievement.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is proud to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of this year’s awardees,” said Galvin. “I am delighted to recognize Minxie and James Fannin of Fannin-Lehner Preservation Consultants with a Lifetime Achievement Award. For 30 years, the Fannins have applied their expertise to the care of historic cemeteries on behalf of municipalities and nonprofits across the Commonwealth. Their dedication to conserving historic gravestones in Massachusetts has preserved countless treasures for future generations to appreciate.”

The Fannins’ careers in historic preservation span more than 30 years. Minxie Fannin co-founded the preservation consulting firm Fannin-Lehner in 1984. In 1988, her husband James joined the firm, and since that time the couple has focused their preservation efforts on historic cemeteries. Their first cemetery documentation project was for St. Augustine’s cemetery in South Boston; founded in 1818, it is the oldest Catholic cemetery in Massachusetts. Their first hands-on cemetery conservation project was in the town of Princeton in Worcester County. Their work has taken them throughout New England, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Midwest, but most of their projects are in Massachusetts, where they reside. Over the course of their careers, they have conserved thousands of gravestones, working in 60 cemeteries in Massachusetts alone. Often

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they return to cemeteries year after year as part of multi-phase projects to ensure that all historic gravestone markers are in good repair.

This is the 40th year of MHC's Preservation Awards program. Projects are considered annually for awards in the categories of Rehabilitation and Restoration, Adaptive Reuse, Education and Outreach, Archaeology, Stewardship, and Landscape Preservation. Individuals are considered in the categories of Lifetime Achievement and Local Preservationist. Secretary Galvin serves as the chair of the 17-member Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Secretary Galvin is pictured presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Minxie and James Fannin at an afternoon ceremony on May 16, 2018, at the Massachusetts Archives Building at 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (left to right: James Fannin, Secretary William F. Galvin, Minxie Fannin. Photo by Wyeth Lilley).



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