



NEWS

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

State House, Room 337
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Contact: Debra O'Malley
Telephone: 617-727-9180

January 8, 2019

WILLIAM SEVER HOUSE IN KINGSTON APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin has announced that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the William Sever House in Kingston for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at its December 12, 2018 meeting. The nomination will now be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., for final consideration and designation.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is dedicated to preserving the Commonwealth’s rich historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources,” Galvin said. “Inclusion of the William Sever House in the National Register documents for posterity the historical and architectural significance of one of Kingston’s most stylish Georgian houses.”

The Sever House is one of six historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register 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 William Sever House was built in the 1750s for William Sever (1729–1809) and his wife Sarah Warren (1730–1797). Sever followed his father Nicholas into the commercial shipbuilding business after graduating from Harvard in 1745. He also served in the Massachusetts Bay Colony’s House of Representatives, and during the Revolution became president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. During the war he also partook in the construction, arming, and supplying of privateers, the spoils of which he sold for the benefit of the rebellion. After the war, he served two terms in the Massachusetts Senate and as a judge in the Court of Common Pleas. His high-style Georgian house reflects the sensibilities of a well-to-do 18th-century individual, and its remarkable state of preservation conveys this significance to the present.



NEWS

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

State House, Room 337
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Contact: Debra O'Malley
Telephone: 617-727-9180

The National Register is the nation's official listing of significant historic resources. In Massachusetts, there are more than 70,000 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. More information about the Commission's programs may be found at www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc.

###