



# NEWS

**William Francis Galvin**  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth*

State House, Room 337  
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

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

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## **RURAL GLEN CEMETERY IN HUBBARDSTON APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin has announced that the Massachusetts Historical Commission has approved Rural Glen Cemetery in Hubbardston for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination will now be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service 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. “Hubbardston’s Rural Glen Cemetery is a well-preserved rural New England burial ground that has been in use for some 200 years. Its nomination to the National Register documents its historic and artistic significance for posterity.”

The cemetery is one of five historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting. Secretary Galvin serves as Chair of the 17-member board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times a year.

Originally serving as an informal family burial ground in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, in 1849 the cemetery was established as an alternative to the overcrowded public cemetery in town. The cemetery contains examples of popular gravestone styles and iconography from the 19<sup>th</sup> century through the present. About half the markers are family monuments or obelisks.

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,



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evaluate, and protect important historical and archaeological assets of the Commonwealth. More information about the Commission's programs may be found on Galvin's website, [www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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