



# 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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## **LUCY STONE HOME SITE IN WEST BROOKFIELD NOMINATED TO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin has announced that the Massachusetts Historical Commission the Lucy Stone Home Site in West Brookfield for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at a recent meeting. The nomination will 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. “The Lucy Stone Home Site is of statewide significance for associations with prominent 19<sup>th</sup>-century social reformer Lucy Stone. This nomination documents its significance for posterity.”

The former school is one of seven nominations for resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting. Galvin serves as chair of the 17-member board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times per year.

The Lucy Stone Home Site consists of a series of foundations and other structures related to the farmstead established by Lucy Stone’s family in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Stone was born here in 1818 and lived there for several decades, but returned to it often even as she became a prominent social reformer traveling the country. She had a pivotal role in the women’s rights and abolitionist movements, is the first known woman to retain her maiden name upon marriage, and may have been the first woman to retain her economic rights through a pre-nuptial agreement. She died in 1893. The property remained in the family until 1936 and the house and all its outbuildings burned down in 1950. The property has been owned by The Trustees since 2003.

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



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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. Additional information about the Commission's programs is available at [www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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