



# NEWS

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

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## **NORTH ACTON CEMETERY 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 the North Acton Cemetery 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 in Washington, DC, for final consideration and designation.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is dedicated to preserving the Commonwealth’s rich historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources,” Secretary Galvin said. “North Acton Cemetery is in the oldest cemetery in Acton and an important early resource in the town. Its listing in the National Register documents its significance for posterity.”

North Acton Cemetery is one of six historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at a recent 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 per year.

Established in 1735, North Acton Cemetery, also known as Forest Cemetery, was used by residents of the north part of town from its incorporation in 1735 until the mid-20th century. The cemetery is a well-preserved rural New England cemetery that contains examples of popular gravestone styles and iconography from the mid-18th through the mid-20th centuries. The earliest marked burial is from 1758; the last interment was in 1948.

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.



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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 on Galvin's website at [www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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