What are we?
A Historical Society? No!
We are a seven member board appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

What is the purpose of a Local Historical Commission?
The local Historical Commission is the agency responsible for identifying and recording the historic assets of its community and for developing and implementing a program for their recognition and preservation.

What is our responsibility?
Our primary responsibility is the inventory of historic assets which provides the basis for all preservation planning in the community. The commission cooperates with other municipal agencies such as the planning board and conservation commission to insure that the goals of historic preservation are considered in planning for future development of the community.

How do we differ from a Historical Society?
A Historical Society is a private organization formed to collect and preserve artifacts of local historical interest, which may serve to illuminate and illustrate the history of a town; preserve historical sites and landmarks and promote the study of history.

How can we help you?
We maintain research files and a small library that contain information of the history, townspeople, places and events. Maps, survey forms and photographs are available for study.

Meetings
The West Brookfield Historical Commission meets every first Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Commission office in the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

How can you help?
In an effort to expand the holdings and resources of the Historical Commission’s library, the West Brookfield Historical Commission would like to invite anyone with heritage in West Brookfield, to submit a copy of their family history to the library. These family histories do not have to be “professionally published” works. They can include small “folder” editions, essays, or family recollections that have been passed down through the family. Copies of any other “collections” that might be of historical or genealogical value such as newspaper clippings, news articles, old photo collections, journals, etc. are also welcomed.

Contact us-
West Brookfield Historical Commission
Town Hall
P.O. Box 372
West Brookfield, MA 01585

Phone- 508-867-1421
Fax- 508-867-1401

Visit our Website-
www.westbrookfield.org
What have we accomplished?

National Historic Register Listings
- Center Historic District Expansion (2006)
- Old Indian Cemetery (2006)
- Wickaboag Valley Historic District (2000)
- West Brookfield Center Historic District (1990)
- Salem Cross Inn (1975)
- The 1767 Franklin Milestone Markers (1971)

Other Recent Projects
- Nominated the Jedediah Foster Homesite to the National Historic Register (2010)
- Published "A History of West Brookfield 1675-1990" by Jeffrey H Fiske (2009)
- Purchased Elm Trees for the Town Common (2009)
- Funded inventory of Historical Collections in Merriam-Gilbert Library (2009)
- Purchased and installed Franklin Mile Marker Signs

Ongoing Projects
- Sponsor Elementary School trips to Old Sturbridge Village
- Sponsor OSV history programs at Elementary School
- Fund reduced admission tickets to OSV for residents.
- Co-sponsor historical programs at the library
- Co-sponsor "Asparagus & Flower Heritage Festival" on the Town Common

Our projects have been supported by the generosity of the Town of West Brookfield and gifts from the J. Irving England and Jane L. England Charitable Trust.

Goals for the Future-
- Nominate the "Lucy Stone Homesite" to the National Historic Register
- Re-establish the "Old Bay Path Indian Trail"