

IN WEST BROOKFIELD

VISIT THE HOMESITE OF:



Lucy Stone

1818 - 1893

In 1843: Entered Oberlin College became active in the abolitionist Anti-Slavery Society.

In 1847: The first Massachusetts woman to graduate from College.

In 1850: Organized the first Woman's Rights Convention.

In 1855: Married Henry Blackwell keeping custody of her own name.

In 1869: An organizer of the American Woman's Suffrage Assoc.

In 1870: Founded "The Woman's Journal", foremost Suffrage Newspaper of the time.

Lucy Stone was born in a farmhouse on Coy Hill Road, West Brookfield, on the 13th of August 1818. She grew up at a time when women were without most legal rights.

Women also lacked civil rights, and most personal rights were exercised at the consent of a male “head of family”. Inheriting a defiant nature from her grandfather, a leader in Shays’ Rebellion, Lucy spent her adult life promoting equal rights and full justice for all. In an age when higher education for women was considered a “unnecessary waste”, Lucy worked and saved for seven years to pay her own way through college. She campaigned for woman’s rights, often before a hostile and sometimes unruly audience, usually winning at least a grudging admiration for her eloquence and her courage. Lucy died in 1893 at the age of 75. Her last public speech urging women “to labor unceasingly” for equal rights was given six months before her death. Although the Stone Family farm house has been destroyed by fire, the Quaboag Historical Society has installed a stone marker and a large informational sign at the site. The West Brookfield Historical Commission invites you to visit it and spend a few minutes honoring this courageous 19th century woman.

DIRECTIONS: From West Brookfield library heading west on Route 9 it is 2.8 miles to Coy Hill Road on the left. From Ware library heading east on Route 9 it is 3.5 miles on the right The homesite is 0.3 miles up Coy Hill Road on the right.

