



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN TO PRESENT 2008 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD TO
TRINITY CHURCH, BOSTON**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, announces the selection of Trinity Church in Boston to receive a 2008 Massachusetts Historical Commission Historic Preservation Award.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is proud to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of this year’s awardees,” said Secretary Galvin. “The projects the Commission is recognizing this year are particularly diverse and represent the many creative ways significant historic resources are being preserved across the Commonwealth. Trinity Church is to be congratulated for its significant efforts to undertake a complete restoration of this historic landmark while still keeping it open to its congregation and visitors.”

Trinity Church is located in the Back Bay area of Boston. The impressive church was designed by noted architect H.H. Richardson, and its construction in the 1870s was an ambitious—and, ultimately, successful—project. Designed in the Romanesque style for which Richardson is most well known, Trinity Church serves a large Episcopalian congregation and receives thousands of tourist visitors each year. The church is magnificent both inside and out, with a massive, rough-stone exterior enveloping an open-planned interior showcasing the work of famous muralist and stained glass artist John La Farge. The renovation project restored the murals, repaired the central tower’s roof, stonework, and trim, vastly expanded the undercroft for use for church activities, and installed new heating and cooling systems utilizing geothermal energy. The multifaceted and comprehensive restoration project brilliantly met the goals of the project: to restore the original beauty of Richardson’s late 19th-century masterpiece while addressing the needs of 21st-century parishioners and visitors. Trinity Church is a National Historic Landmark.

Secretary Galvin will present the awards at an early evening ceremony on Thursday, May 29, 2008 at the Massachusetts Archives Building at 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester. The Trinity Church project is one of 11 projects and individuals to be honored.

This is the 30th year of MHC’s Preservation Awards program. Projects are considered annually for awards in the categories of Rehabilitation and Restoration, Adaptive Reuse, Education and Outreach, Archaeology, and Landscape Preservation. Individuals are considered in the categories of Individual Lifetime Achievement and Local Preservationist. Secretary Galvin serves as the chair of the 17-member Massachusetts Historical Commission.

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. Visit our website to learn more about the Commission’s programs (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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