



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**AMHERST CENTRAL HISTORIC BUSINESS NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT'S BOUNDARIES
INCREASED TO INCLUDE LORD JEFFERY INN**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved a boundary increase to include Lord Jeffery Inn as part of the Amherst Central Historic Business District in the National Register of Historic Places at its June 8, 2011, meeting. The boundary increase will 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 architectural, cultural, archaeological, and historic resources,” Secretary Galvin said. “Inclusion of Lord Jeffery Inn in this National Register District will help to ensure the building’s thoughtful preservation.”

The Amherst Central Historic Business District, originally listed in 1991, consists of a collection of 1836-1930s buildings of various styles including Federal, Victorian Eclectic, Georgian Revival, Colonial Revival, and Richardsonian Romanesque. The district is grouped around the northern part of the Amherst Common along Pleasant, Main, Spring, and Amity Streets, and Boltwood Avenue. The single-building boundary increase will include in this district the Lord Jeffery Inn, located at 30 Boltwood Avenue on a lot adjoining the southern boundary of the district. The 3-story, red brick building, designed by Putnam and Cox and built in 1926, is a rare, well-preserved example of a Colonial Revival country inn. The interior is also well preserved, with original finishes such as floors, plaster, moldings, fireplaces, doors, and some pieces of furniture largely intact. The inn, town, and college were all named after Lord Jeffery Amherst, a British Army officer who served as a Major General in the last of the French and Indian Wars. The inn was developed by Amherst College, which had been considering a project for comfortable and attractive visitor accommodations since the 1910s. Robert Frost, who was associated with the college from 1916 until his death in 1963, stayed at the inn each fall and spring, beginning in 1946. His southeast corner room on the first floor, with a private gate to the garden, is still intact. The Lord Jeffery Inn is current undergoing a major restoration and renovation project.

Lord Jeffery Inn is one of 6 historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting.

Secretary Galvin serves as Chairman of the 17-member board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times a year.

The National Register is the nation’s official listing of significant historic resources. In Massachusetts, there are over 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.

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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