

## William Francis Galvin Secretary of the Commonwealth

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## WINTER STREET SCHOOL, HAVERHILL, APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Winter Street School in Haverhill for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at a recent. The nomination 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 historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources," Secretary Galvin said. "Inclusion of Haverhill's Winter Street School in the National Register will contribute to its preservation by enabling the conversion of this mid-19<sup>th</sup> century public school into twelve units of affordable housing."

The Winter Street School, located at 165 Winter Street, was built in 1856 to accommodate Haverhill's rapidly growing school-age population, a direct result of the city's successful industrial economy, particularly its shoe industry. The school, which began as a two-story, Italianate-style building with six classrooms for grades 1-8, was expanded to its present size in 1873 by the addition of a third story in the Second Empire style.

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The school is built of red brick with brownstone trim, and features large windows intended to let in maximum light and fresh air in a period before electricity and antibiotics. The deep eaves and carved brownstone brackets are characteristic of the Italianate style, and the mansard roof with ornamented dormers is emblematic of the Second Empire style. In the recent conversion to living space, each former classroom became an apartment complete with a blackboard.

The Winter Street School is located in a residential neighborhood that in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries contained a large Irish population as well as a concentration of Greek immigrants, among them Euterpe Boukis, the mother of former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, who arrived in Haverhill in 1913 at age nine, attended the Winter Street School, and then went on to graduate from high school and college. Today, the Winter Street School, which educated generations of Haverhill children for more than 114 years, is one of the city's oldest extant school buildings.

The Winter Street School is one of five 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 75,000 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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