



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN TO PRESENT 2014 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD TO
ELM STREET REVITALIZATION PROJECT, WESTFIELD**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, announces the selection of the Elm Street Revitalization Project, Westfield, to receive a 2014 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 that significant historic resources are being preserved across the Commonwealth. The Elm Street Apartments Limited Partnership and Domus, Inc. are to be commended for maintaining three buildings that are integral to the historic character of downtown Westfield, while helping to provide a secure future for individuals and families in need.”

The Elm Street Revitalization Project rehabilitated three properties in Westfield’s downtown commercial core: the Lamberton-Loomis Building, the YMCA-Rinnova Building, and the Kimball-Marcoullier Building. All are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Westfield Center Commercial Historic District. The Lamberton-Loomis Building, constructed in 1872 in the Italianate style, housed various commercial enterprises over the years. Local architect Augustus W. Holton designed the three-story, Italianate-style YMCA-Rinnova Building in 1900. The Colonial Revival-style Kimball-Marcoullier Building, constructed in 1920, housed commercial enterprises on the first floor and a mix of offices and residential space above.

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Domus, Inc., a nonprofit organization that creates affordable housing, and the Elm Street Apartments Limited Partnership recently purchased these three buildings for rehabilitation. Their efforts have significantly supported the revitalization of the community, while preserving the historic character of the city's downtown.

The project used state and federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits to complete the substantial rehabilitation, including returning the buildings' façades to their original appearances as closely as possible. A sensitive addition at the rear of the Lamberton-Loomis Building allowed for additional apartment space. Interior architectural features in the Rinnova Building, such as tin ceilings, millwork, and wainscoting, were saved. In the Kimball-Marcoullier Building, previous fire damage that had never been properly repaired was addressed. All electrical, heating, and plumbing systems were also updated in each building. Ultimately, the Elm Street Revitalization Project maintained these buildings' commercial, retail, and cultural uses at the street level, while creating 19 affordable apartments on the upper stories.

This is the 36th 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, Stewardship, 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.

Secretary Galvin presented the awards this afternoon, May 16, at the Massachusetts Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester. The Elm Street Revitalization Project, Westfield, is one of 10 projects, individuals, and organizations to be honored.

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