



**William Francis Galvin**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN TO PRESENT 2008 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD TO  
THE EGLESTON POWER STATION/CHARLES J. BEARD, II MEDIA CENTER, BOSTON (ROXBURY)**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, announces the selection of the Egleston Power Station in the Roxbury section of Boston to receive a 2008 Massachusetts Historical Commission Historic Preservation Award. The building was recently renamed the Charles J. Beard, II Media Center.

“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. I commend Urban Edge and the Boston Neighborhood Network for their impressive adaptive reuse of an abandoned historic power station for the headquarters of a local television network.”

The Egleston Square Power Station was built in 1909 by the Boston Elevated Railway Company, the predecessor to the MBTA, to convert AC electricity to DC for use by its trains. The power station remained in use until 1987. It played an important role in the history of public transportation in Boston where the MBTA’s effective use of electric traction influenced mass transit systems in cities across the country. The recent redevelopment of the building gave the Boston Neighborhood Network (BNN) space for its broadcast studio, educational, and administrative spaces. A new second story was inserted sensitively into the vast open spaces of the formerly single-story power station in such a way that its vast sense of open space is preserved. The rehabilitation project applied green technologies throughout, using sustainable design and construction practices that promote environmental and occupant health. This project has provided the BNN with a central location in Roxbury, which allows for them to better develop educational programs for at-risk youth, working adults, and students in the Boston Public Schools.

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 Egleston Power Station 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 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](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)).

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