



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**FRONT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, WEYMOUTH, APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Front Street Historic District in Weymouth for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at its September 8, 2010, meeting. 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 architectural, cultural, archaeological, and historic resources,” Secretary Galvin said. “Inclusion of the Front Street Historic District in the National Register will acknowledge this area’s many well-preserved and varied architectural treasures.”

The Front Street Historic District covers some 77 acres on Weymouth’s western edge. Largely residential, the district also includes two cemeteries, a school, and a park. The Ashwood Cemetery on Broad Street was begun in 1819 and was actively used until about 1900. Weymouth Village Cemetery on Washington Street, begun ca. 1843, includes a small Gothic Revival chapel. Both cemeteries hold graves of Revolutionary War veterans. Construction on the Colonial Revival-style Hunt School on Broad Street took place from 1915-1917. Weston Park was completed in 1929 and encompasses approximately 10 acres in the northeast corner of the district. The park contains several fragments of stone walls presumed to be remnants of the mid-19th-century estate that once occupied the location. Single-family dwellings, both high style and vernacular, account for the vast majority of the buildings in the area. The earliest structures date to the 18th century and include center-chimney Cape Cod cottages and two-story, gable-roof Georgian houses. There are also excellent later examples of Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival-style houses. Overall, the district is a distinctive concentration of landscapes and buildings that together reflect domestic life over approximately 250 years.

The Front Street Historic District is one of 8 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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