



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Contact: Debra O'Malley
Telephone: 617-727-9180

July 3, 2018

**LEONARD, SHAW & DEAN SHOE FACTORY IN MIDDLEBOROUGH 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 Leonard, Shaw & Dean Shoe Factory in Middleborough for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at its June 13, 2018 meeting. The nomination will now 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 the Leonard, Shaw & Dean Shoe Factory, a recipient of historic rehabilitation tax credits, in the National Register will help to raise awareness of this remarkable manufacturing complex whose rehabilitation into affordable housing will help to stimulate economic development in Middleborough.”

The Leonard, Shaw & Dean Shoe Factory is one of nine historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register 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 Leonard, Shaw & Dean Shoe Factory was built in three phases between 1896 and 1911, an era when shoe production was the largest industry in the local economy. It is now the only surviving shoe factory in town. It served as an industrial production facility until 2001, after which it was abandoned for a period before being rehabilitated in 2016 using state and federal historic tax credits for conversion into 25 units of affordable housing.

State House, Room 337, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

The National Register is the nation's official listing of significant historic resources. In Massachusetts, there are more than 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. More information about the Commission's programs may be found at www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc.

-End-