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October 23, 2007

CHICOPEE SCHOOL, GROTON, APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Chicopee School in Groton for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at its September 12, 2007 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 archaeological, architectural, cultural, and historic resources,” Secretary Galvin said. “Inclusion of this property on the National Register will help to protect our heritage for generations to come.”

Groton’s District 7 School, renamed the Chicopee School in 1874, is a vernacular brick building with elements of the Federal Style built ca. 1833 on the site of an 18th-century schoolhouse. It was one of 14 district schools built in Groton. It is one of only four surviving district schools and the only one not adapted for residential use. The building served its original function until the schools were centralized in 1916, after which it was used as a meeting place, a purpose it continues to serve today.

The Chicopee School is one of 10 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 cultural resources. In Massachusetts, there are over 65,000 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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