



NEWS

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SOUTHBOROUGH CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin has announced that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Southborough Center Historic District in Southborough for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at a recent meeting. The nomination will now be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service 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. “The listing of the center of Southborough in the National Register documents for posterity the significance of the civic, institutional, and educational center of the town.”

The district is one of four nominations for resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting. Secretary Galvin serves as Chair of the 17-member board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times a year.

Southborough Center Historic District is significant as a distinctive, surviving example of a New England town center originating as a crossroads in the 18th century and reflecting the growth and evolution of the community over time. It has been the civic and institutional center of the town since the 18th century. The addition of two private academies, the Fay School and Saint Mark’s School, in the mid-19th century added an educational focus to the town center that it retains to this day. The center’s well-preserved 19th and 20th century houses in a variety of popular architectural styles further contribute to the district’s significance.

The National Register is the nation’s official listing of significant historic resources. In Massachusetts, there are more than 75,000 properties listed in the National



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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. Additional information about the Commission's programs is available at www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc.

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