



**William Francis Galvin**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

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**SECRETARY GALVIN PRESENTS 2018 PRESERVATION AWARD  
TO THE FIRE ALARM & TELEGRAPH BUILDING IN WORCESTER**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin, Chair of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, has announced that the Fire Alarm and Telegraph Building in Worcester has received a 2018 Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is proud to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of this year’s awardees,” said Galvin. “The projects the Commission recognizes this year are particularly diverse and represent the many creative ways that significant historic resources are being preserved across the Commonwealth. The restoration of the Fire Alarm and Telegraph Building, for many years included on Preservation Worcester’s Most Endangered list, truly represents a success story.”

Designed by Worcester architect Lucius W. Briggs in the English Tudor Revival style and built in 1925, the building served originally as the central relay station for the Worcester Fire Department. As technology advanced, the building was no longer needed for its original purpose and so was used as city storage until the 1990s, after which it was abandoned.

After some two decades of deterioration, the City of Worcester brought Preservation Worcester together with Cornerstone Bank to work toward revitalizing the building as a headquarters for the bank and a community space for the preservation group. The use of state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits ensured the highest standards were met in the project, including a two-story addition to the rear of the property housing the lobby, a small conference room, and an elevator to provide ADA-compliant access throughout the building. The successful rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the building has created a vibrant community venue and modern income-producing office space.

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State House, Room 337, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

This is the 40th 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, Stewardship, 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.

Secretary Galvin is pictured presenting the award to the Fire Alarm and Telegraph Building at an afternoon ceremony on May 16, 2018, at the Massachusetts Archives Building at 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (left to right: Gregory O'Connor, GJO Associates, Inc.; Susan Arena, City of Worcester; Susan Ceccacci, Preservation Worcester; Secretary William F. Galvin; Leah Williams, F.W. Madigan Company Inc.; Heather Gould, City of Worcester. Photo by Wyeth Lilley).



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