



NEWS

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

State House, Room 337
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

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

October 4, 2021

WORCESTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE 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 Worcester County Courthouse in Worcester 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 former Worcester County Courthouse, recently rehabilitated for residential use thanks to state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits, provides much-needed housing to downtown Worcester and a new lease of life to this important building.”

The building 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.

Worcester County Courthouse was built in four stages between the 1840s and 1950s on a site that had held various courthouse buildings since the 1730s. The existing courthouse complex exhibits fine examples of popular architectural styles—Greek Revival, Classical Revival, and International—designed by notable architects Ammi Burnham Young; Stephen C. Earle; Andrews, Jaques & Rantoul; and Cornelius W. Buckley and Stuart W. Briggs. The complex also contains an equestrian statue of General Charles Devens by Daniel Chester French and Edward Clark Potter.

The courthouse closed in 2008, and between 2019 and 2021 was converted to 118 units of affordable and market-rate housing supported by the state and federal historic



NEWS

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

State House, Room 337
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

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

rehabilitation tax credit programs. Apartments retain built-in judge's benches and other features of the building's past use.

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 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.

###