

# French-Atwood Marketplace receives Plan NH Merit Award for *“Excellence in Planning, Design, and Development”*



Alex Vailas, Christopher Carley, Anne & Robert Cruess, Mal Merrill

**French-Atwood Marketplace**, in Bedford, NH received a merit award from **Plan NH** at an awards banquet held at the Manchester Country Club on June 8, 2006.

**TFMoran Inc.**, the engineers, landscape architects and planners for the project also shared the award, given to the owners **Robert and Anne Cruess** and **Alex Vailas**.



Plan NH cited the project's sensitivity to the historic nature of the site while creating a viable 21st century marketplace. Robert Cruess, who accepted the award, said of the project, *“It's not often that national retail chain stores are willing to change their signature architecture. If they do and it's unsuccessful then they will be reluctant to take the risk in the future. We are very pleased that the stores and Laconia Savings Bank were willing to take that risk.”*

French-Atwood Marketplace is located at the corner of NH Route 101 and Wallace Road in Bedford. It is occupied by **Walgreens**, **Gloria Jean's Coffees**, **Laconia Savings Bank** and **The Meat House**.

**TFM's Civil Engineers** designed this 4.7 acre site, located in the Town of Bedford's Historic District at the busy intersection of Route 101 & Wallace Road, to allow visitors to park once and walk through a New England village commercial center to shop at a variety of stores and do their banking.

**TFM's Structural Engineers** worked with Henry Paige Builders to arrange for the 200 year-old French-Atwood Barn to be carefully disassembled and the beams numbered for reconstruction of the historic barn, which now serves as the newest branch of Laconia Savings Bank. TFM worked closely with architects and builders to retain the authentic features of the barn. Structural engineering was also provided for the center's three other buildings which include: a farmer's house to accommodate Walgreens pharmacy; a carriage house for a specialized food store, and restoration of the Curry house, a pre-1790 cape, now Gloria Jean's Coffees.



Civil Engineers  
Traffic Engineers  
Land Surveyors  
Land Planners



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