



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Alex Geourntas, Assistant City Clerk

June 6, 2022

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Submitted herewith for your consideration, please find the designations of the Petition #38, Highland Park Architectural Conservation District, Roxbury, MA, as a Landmark.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on May and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed June 6, 2022.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (July 8, 2022), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

Alex Geourntas
Interim City Clerk

cc Rosanne Foley, Executive Director
Boston Landmarks Commission



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Alex Geourntas, Interim City Clerk

RECEIVED FROM THE CITY CLERK FOR PRESENTATION TO THE
MAYOR, VIZ:

Designation as a Landmark - Petition #38, Highland Park
Architectural Conservation District, Roxbury, MA

**VOTE OF DESIGNATION BY THE
BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

PROPERTY: Highland Park Architectural Conservation District

STANDARDS AND CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED:

As described in the section entitled: "8.0 Standards and Criteria," included in the study report for the subject property.

APPROVED BY THE BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION:

Date approved: 5/10/2022

Attest: Rosanne Foley
(Secretary to the Commission)

PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:

MAY 18 2022
(Date)

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

Date approved: 6/3/2022

Signature: [Signature]
(Mayor)

PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

(Date)

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:

Date approved: _____

Signature: _____
(City Clerk)



City of Boston
Environment



City of Boston
Mayor Michelle Wu

The Honorable Michelle Wu
Mayor of the City of Boston
Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

May 11, 2022

RE: Petition #38 - Highland Park Architectural Conservation District, Roxbury, MA

Dear Mayor Wu:

On May 10, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Highland Park section of Roxbury as an Architectural Conservation District (ACD) under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The proposed Highland Park ACD is in the northwest corner of Roxbury. It is roughly bounded by Malcolm X Boulevard on the north, Columbus Avenue on the west, Washington Street on the east, and Marcella and Highland Streets on the south.

The Highland Park ACD has an unusually comprehensive range of architectural types and styles that demonstrate the development of Roxbury from an agricultural settlement to a fashionable nineteenth-century streetcar suburb of Boston, and finally a dense, urban neighborhood. Taken as a whole, the buildings in the district provide a nearly comprehensive cross-section of architectural styles and types found in Boston, and in this respect the district serves as a valuable illustration of the trajectory of both architecture history and urban development in the region.

The neighborhood also stands out for the number of different groups of people who together have made it their home through many periods and into the present. The purpose of architectural conservation district designation is to empower members of the Highland Park community to have a voice in shaping their neighborhood and to enrich and enhance the unique heritage of the Highland Park neighborhood expressed in the physical legacy of its historical, social, cultural, architectural, and aesthetic characteristics.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of Highland Park in Roxbury as an Architectural Conservation District.

Please don't hesitate to call me at (617) 635-2510 if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Rosanne Foley
Executive Director
Boston Landmarks Commission



CITY of BOSTON

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**VOTE OF DESIGNATION BY THE
BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

PROPERTY: Highland Park Architectural Conservation District

VOTED: That on May 10, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Highland Park Architectural Conservation District under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

VOTING IN FAVOR:

John Amodeo
John Freeman
Susan Gogonian

Richard Henderson
Thomas Hotaling
Lindsey Mac-Jones

Justine Orlando
Lynn Smiledge
Brad Walker

VOTING IN OPPOSITION:

None.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT:

The Highland Park Architectural Conservation District has an unusually comprehensive range of architectural types and styles that demonstrate the development of Roxbury from an agricultural settlement to a fashionable nineteenth-century streetcar suburb of Boston, and finally a dense, urban neighborhood. Taken as a whole, the buildings in the district provide a nearly comprehensive cross-section of architectural styles and types found in Boston, and in this respect the district serves as a valuable illustration of the trajectory of both architecture history and urban development in the region.

The neighborhood also stands out for the number of different groups of people who together have made it their home through many periods and into the present. Rather than representing a single focus of significance, the many representatives of different social groups have produced a rich fabric of many styles of dwelling mixed together with places of worship and some places of business.

The neighborhood is set dramatically on a rocky hill that is steep in places, and builders have taken advantage of the topography to achieve unique views as well as surprising proximities, with old retaining walls holding structures perched on ledges far above their immediate neighbors. The same rock is found as a building material in foundations and many walls that survive from the earliest periods. Mature trees and a variety of landscape forms that range from Victorian efforts at small formal parks to civic amenities of today are an additional element worthy of note, as are the community gardens and urban wilds.