



Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS
City Clerk

March 23, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL,

Submitted herewith for your consideration, please find the designation of The Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams Street, Dorchester, MA 02124.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on March 10, 2026 and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed on March 23, 2026.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (April 22, 2026), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

Respectfully

Alex Geourntas
City Clerk

cc Elizabeth Sherva, Director
Boston Landmarks Commission



City of Boston
Historic Preservation



City of Boston
Mayor Michelle Wu

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

March 11, 2026

RE: Petition #228.07 - The Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams St., Dorchester

Dear Mayor Wu:

On March 10, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Bussey House in Dorchester as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The Bussey House is historically significant to the city of Boston as one of few surviving properties from the 18th century associated with an officer from the Revolutionary War, Captain John Bussey (1751-1841). Bussey was also a well-known sea captain on trading vessels during the early 19th century.

Despite alterations to the front elevation and an addition to the rear, the ca. 1792 house is sufficiently intact to indicate its 18th-century origins. A house of this age is a rarity in Boston; it may be one of the 50 oldest extant buildings in the city. The Classical Revival storefront for the reading room, as noted in a 1977 inventory form for the Boston Landmarks Commission, is architecturally noteworthy and has acquired significance as a later addition.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of the Bussey House in Dorchester as a Boston Landmark.

Please don't hesitate to call me at (617) 635-1935 if you have any questions.

Best Regards,



Elizabeth Sherva
Executive Director
Boston Landmarks Commission



City of Boston
Historic Preservation



City of Boston
Mayor Michelle Wu

Alex Geourntas
City Clerk, City of Boston
Boston City Hall - Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

March 11, 2026

RE: Petition #228.07 - The Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams St., Dorchester

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

On March 10, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Bussey House in Dorchester as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

According to the Landmarks Commission's statute, a designation approved by the Commission is presented to the Mayor for signing. If the Mayor approves the designation, they sign and date the provided signature page. If the Mayor disapproves the designation, they return the signature page to the City Clerk with objections noted in writing. If no mayoral action is taken on a designation, it is deemed approved by the Mayor after fifteen days.

The statute states that within thirty days following mayoral approval, the City Council can override a designation by a two-thirds vote. In the absence of City Council action, the designation is approved after the thirty-first day.

I appreciate your supervision of this approval process. Please call me at (617) 635-1935 if you have any questions.

Best Regards,



Elizabeth Sherva
Executive Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

CITY of BOSTON

26 COURT STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 | 617-635-1935 | BLC@BOSTON.GOV

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

PROPERTY: The Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams Street, Dorchester (Boston), MA

STANDARDS AND CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED:

As described in the section titled "Standards and Criteria" included in the study report for the subject property.

APPROVED BY THE BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION:

Date approved: 3/10/2026

Signature: 
(Secretary to the Commission)

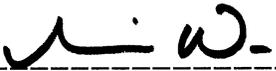
PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:

Date: MAR 11 2026

DECISION OF THE MAYOR:

Approved Disapproved

Date: 3/23/26

Signature: 
(Mayor)

(OR) DEEMED IN EFFECT WITH NO ACTION BY THE MAYOR:

Date: _____

Signature: _____
(City Clerk)

PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Date: _____

DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Approved Disapproved

Date: _____

Signature: _____
(City Clerk)

(OR) DEEMED IN EFFECT WITH NO ACTION BY CITY COUNCIL:

Date: _____

Signature: _____
(City Clerk)

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

PROPERTY: The Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams Street, Dorchester (Boston), MA

VOTED: That on March 10, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Bussey House at 1203-1205 Adams Street as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

VOTING IN FAVOR:

John Amodeo
John Freeman
Jeffrey Gonyeau

Jeffrey Heyne
Felicia Jacques
Justine Orlando

Brad Walker
Angela Ward-Hyatt

VOTING IN OPPOSITION:

None.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:

The Bussey House is a two-story, five-bay Federal-style house with a Classical Revival shopfront addition and a drive-through porte cochere on the side. While the building has seen some significant alterations to accommodate different uses, the main block retains much of its Federal-era identity, and the Classical Revival shopfront is a significant architectural feature in its own right. The house is prominently sited on Adams Street, with the Classical Revival shopfront directly abutting the sidewalk. It is surrounded on three sides by paved driveway and parking

The Bussey House is historically significant to the city of Boston as one of few surviving properties from the 18th century associated with an officer from the Revolutionary War, Captain John Bussey (1751-1841). Bussey was also a well-known sea captain on trading vessels during the early 19th century.

Despite alterations to the front elevation and an addition to the rear, the ca. 1792 house is sufficiently intact to indicate its 18th-century origins. A house of this age is a rarity in Boston; it may be one of the 50 oldest extant buildings in the city. The Classical Revival storefront for the reading room, as noted in a 1977 inventory form for the Boston Landmarks Commission, is architecturally noteworthy and has acquired significance as a later addition.

GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following address and parcel number: 1203-1205 Adams Street, Dorchester, parcel number 1703550000.