



Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS
City Clerk

August 3, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL,

Submitted herewith for your consideration, please find the designation of The New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on July 14, 2026 and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed on July 29, 2026.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (August 28, 2026), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

Respectfully

Alex Geourntas
City Clerk

cc Elizabeth Sherva, Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

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

PROPERTY: The New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., 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: 7/14/2026

Signature: Elizabeth Shaw
(Secretary to the Commission)

PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:

Date: JUL 17 2026

DECISION OF THE MAYOR:

☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved

Date: JUL 29 2026

Signature: [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 New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA

VOTED: That on July 14, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the New England Conservatory at 290 Huntington Avenue as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

VOTING IN FAVOR:

John Freeman
Susan Goganian
Vineet Gupta

Jeffrey Heyne
Felicia Jacques
Justine Orlando

Brad Walker

VOTING IN OPPOSITION:

None.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:

The New England Conservatory of Music building is significant to the cultural history of the City, the Commonwealth, the New England region, and the nation as the permanent home of the New England Conservatory, which has made an international impact in the field of music education and is the oldest independent school of music in the United States.

Designed by renowned Boston architecture firm Wheelwright & Haven and constructed from 1901-1903, the building is also significant for its mastery of Renaissance Revival architecture and for Jordan Hall's superb acoustic functionality for music performances. The New England Conservatory stands among the best examples of the Renaissance Revival style in Boston, and contributes significantly to the architectural character of the Fenway neighborhood.

Notable historical figures who graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music and studied in this building include Florence Price (class of 1906), Cecil Taylor (class of 1951), and Coretta Scott King (class of 1954). Notable faculty and leadership at the conservatory have included George W. Chadwick, Gunther Schuller, and Ran Blake.

GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following address and parcel number: 290 Huntington Avenue, parcel numbers 0402246000 and 0402246001.



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

July 17, 2026

RE: Petition #236.11 - The New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., Fenway

Dear Mayor Wu:

On July 14, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the New England Conservatory in the Fenway as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The New England Conservatory of Music building is significant to the cultural history of the City, the Commonwealth, the New England region, and the nation as the permanent home of the New England Conservatory, which has made an international impact in the field of music education and is the oldest independent school of music in the United States.

Designed by renowned Boston architecture firm Wheelwright & Haven and constructed from 1901-1903, the building is also significant for its mastery of Renaissance Revival architecture and for Jordan Hall's superb acoustic functionality for music performances. The New England Conservatory stands among the best examples of the Renaissance Revival style in Boston, and contributes significantly to the architectural character of the Fenway neighborhood.

Notable historical figures who graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music and studied in this building include Florence Price (class of 1906), Cecil Taylor (class of 1951), and Coretta Scott King (class of 1954). Notable faculty and leadership at the conservatory have included George W. Chadwick, Gunther Schuller, and Ran Blake.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of the New England Conservatory in the Fenway 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

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



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

July 17, 2026

RE: Petition #236.11 - The New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., Fenway

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

On July 14, 2026, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the New England Conservatory in the Fenway 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



Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS
City Clerk

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

Designation as a Landmark - Petition #236.11 – The New England
Conservatory, 290 Huntington Avenue, Fenway