



Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS  
City Clerk

October 17, 2022

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Submitted herewith for your consideration, please find the designation of Blessed Sacrament Complex, 21 Creighton Street, 35 Creighton Street, 20 – 24 Sunnyside Street and 30 Sunnyside Street, Jamaica Plain, MA, as a Landmark.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on September 27, 2022 and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed on October 13, 2022.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (November 13, 2022), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

Alex Geourntas  
City Clerk

cc Rosanne Foley, Executive Director  
Boston Landmarks Commission



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

**PROPERTY:** Blessed Sacrament Complex, 361 Centre Street, 21 Creighton Street, 35  
Creighton Street, 20-24 Sunnyside Street, and 30 Sunnyside Street, Jamaica  
Plain (Boston), Massachusetts

**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: **9/27/2022**

Attest:

  
(Secretary to the Commission)

**PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:**

**OCT - 5 2022**  
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(Date)

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:**

Date approved: **10/13/22**  
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Signature:

  
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(Mayor)

**PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

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(Date)

**APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:**

Date approved: -----

Signature:

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(City Clerk)

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2022 OCT -5 P 3:50

BOSTON, MA

2022 OCT 5 3:50



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

October 4, 2022

**RE: Petition #214.05 – Blessed Sacrament Complex, Jamaica Plain**

Dear Mayor Wu:

On September 27, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Blessed Sacrament Complex in Jamaica Plain as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The Blessed Sacrament Complex merits recognition as a Landmark at the regional, state, and local level. The complex is a physical representation of the social and cultural history and significance of the Catholic Church in Boston around the turn of the last century and in the early 20th century. The five-building Complex includes the former church, convent, rectory, and two former parochial schools. Originally built between 1894-1926 to serve a growing Irish and German Catholic parish in this part of Jamaica Plain, the Church of the Blessed Sacrament and associated parish buildings represent an architecturally significant collection of buildings designed in a variety of period styles; the Church of the Blessed Sacrament is one of the finest examples of Italian Renaissance Revival church architecture in New England. Despite being converted to new uses, the grouping retains much of its integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship.

The Blessed Sacrament Complex achieves a similarly high level of historical significance for its social history, as it has served the Parker Hill/Jamaica Plain neighborhood as an outpost of the original Redemptorist Mission in Roxbury since 1892. It also was associated with the late nineteenth century Sunnyside affordable housing development envisioned by early housing reformer and philanthropist Robert Treat Paine, great-grandson of the signer of the Declaration of Independence. Later in the twentieth century, the Church and its related buildings served the thriving Latin community of Jamaica Plain to the extent that it has been described as the “Latin Cathedral” of Boston.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of the Blessed Sacrament Complex in Jamaica Plain as a Boston Landmark.

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

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2022 OCT -5 P 3:50

BOSTON, MA

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

**PROPERTY:** Blessed Sacrament Complex, 361 Centre Street, 21 Creighton Street, 35 Creighton Street, 20-24 Sunnyside Street, and 30 Sunnyside Street, Jamaica Plain (Boston), Massachusetts

**VOTED:** That on September 27, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Blessed Sacrament Complex at 361 Centre Street, 21 Creighton Street, 35 Creighton Street, 20-24 Sunnyside Street, and 30 Sunnyside Street, Jamaica Plain (Boston), Massachusetts, as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:**

John Amodeo  
David Berarducci  
John Freeman

Susan Gogonian  
Christopher Hart  
Felicia Jacques

Justine Orlando  
Anne Renehan  
Bradford Walker

**VOTING IN OPPOSITION:**

None.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:**

The Blessed Sacrament Complex merits recognition as a Landmark at the regional, state, and local level. The complex is a physical representation of the social and cultural history and significance of the Catholic Church in Boston around the turn of the last century and in the early 20th century. The five-building Complex includes the former church, convent, rectory, and two former parochial schools - Cheverus School and St. Norbert School. Originally built between 1894-1926 to serve a growing Irish and German Catholic parish in this part of Jamaica Plain, the Church of the Blessed Sacrament and associated parish buildings represent an architecturally significant collection of buildings designed in a variety of period styles; the Church of the Blessed Sacrament is one of the finest examples of Italian Renaissance Revival church architecture in New England. The parish further evolved during the twentieth century to serve a diverse community in what is now known as Boston's Latin Quarter. Despite being converted to new uses, the grouping retains much of its integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship.

The Blessed Sacrament Complex achieves a similarly high level of historical significance for its social history, as it has served the Parker Hill/Jamaica Plain neighborhood as an outpost of the original Redemptorist Mission in Roxbury since 1892. It also was associated with the late nineteenth century Sunnyside housing development envisioned by early housing reformer and philanthropist Robert Treat Paine, great-grandson of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, who sought

to build owner-occupied, affordable housing he referred to as “homes for workingmen in suburbs.” Later in the twentieth century, the Church and its related buildings served the thriving Latin community of Jamaica Plain to the extent that it has been described as the “Latin Cathedral” of Boston. The St. Norbert School building was used by the COMPASS school up to 2010, and afterwards was converted to apartments. The Cheverus School has been owned and used by the Hyde Square Task Force as offices since 2008. Both the former Rectory and Convent have been converted to affordable housing and low-income condominiums.

#### **GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:**

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following addresses and parcel numbers:

- 361 Centre Street, parcel 1002038018
- 21 Creighton Street, parcel 1002038030
- 35 Creighton Street, parcel 1002038012
- 20-24 Sunnyside Street, parcel 1002038016
- 30 Sunnyside Street, parcel 1002038014

