



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 the Petition #269.20, The Howe –Kingsley House, Dorchester, as a Landmark.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on October 11, 2022 and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed October 14, 2022.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (November 14, 2022), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

Alex Geourntas  
City Clerk

cc Rosanne Foley, 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

October 12, 2022

**RE: Petition #269.20 – The Howe-Kingsley House, Dorchester**

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

On October 11, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Howe-Kingsley 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 disapproves the designation, they file the designation form with 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) 635-2510 if you have any questions.

Best Regards,



Rosanne Foley  
Executive 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

October 12, 2022

**RE: Petition #269.20 – The Howe-Kingsley House, Dorchester**

Dear Mayor Wu:

On October 11, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Howe-Kingsley House in Dorchester as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The Howe-Kingsley House is a locally and regionally significant two-and-a-half story vernacular house that displays elements of both Federal and Greek Revival styles. It was built c. 1836 by Nahum Bragg. In 1842 the house entered a period of ownership by the Howe family, where it would remain for the next century as it was passed down through several descendants of Leonard Howe. The house is also significant for its association with Lowell and Charlotte Kingsley, who made important contributions to childhood education in Boston and the field of special education through their work at the Kingsley School, which is considered by some to be the first special education school in the nation. The Kingsleys lived at 16 Howe Street from 1948-2017.

The house is a rare surviving example of a Greek-Revival-style farmhouse in Dorchester, and the changes to the property over time reflect the transition of Dorchester from farming community to dense suburban landscape. The house maintains a high level of integrity on the exterior and interior and retains an unusually high proportion of original materials. As a result, it is architecturally significant on a regional level as an unusually intact example of early nineteenth-century farmhouse architecture in New England.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of the Howe-Kingsley House in Dorchester 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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**CITY of BOSTON**

20 CITY HALL AVENUE BOSTON, MA 02108-4301 | 617-635-1935 | BLC@BOSTON.GOV

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

**PROPERTY:** The Howe-Kingsley House, 16 Howe Street, Dorchester (Boston), MA

**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: 10/11/2022

Attest: Roxanne A Foley  
(Secretary to the Commission)

**PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:**

OCT 13 2022  
(Date)

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:**

Date approved: OCT 14 2022

Signature: [Signature] 10/14/22  
(Mayor)

**PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:**

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City Clerk)

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

**PROPERTY:** The Howe-Kingsley House, 16 Howe Street, Dorchester (Boston), MA

**VOTED:** That on October 11, 2022, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Howe-Kingsley House at 16 Howe Street as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:**

John Amodeo  
John Freeman  
Susan Goganian

Richard Henderson  
Kirsten Hoffman  
Felicia Jacques

Justine Orlando  
Lynn Smiledge  
Bradford Walker

**VOTING IN OPPOSITION:**

None.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:**

The Howe-Kingsley House is a locally and regionally significant two-and-a-half story vernacular house that displays elements of both Federal and Greek Revival styles. It was built c. 1836 by Nahum Bragg. In 1842 the house entered a period of ownership by the Howe family, where it would remain for the next century as it was passed down through several descendants of Leonard Howe. The house is also significant for its association with Lowell and Charlotte Kingsley, who made important contributions to childhood education in Boston and the field of special education through their work at the Kingsley School, which is considered by some to be the first special education school in the nation. The Kingsleys lived at 16 Howe Street from 1948-2017.

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**GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:**

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following address and parcel numbers: 16 Howe Street, parcel numbers 1502817000 and 1502817001.