



Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS
City Clerk

August 29, 2023

TO THE CITY COUNCIL,

Submitted herewith for your consideration, please find the designation of The Parker House, 60 School Street, Boston, MA, as a Landmark.

The foregoing designation was approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission on May 23, 2023 and having been presented to the Mayor was returned signed on August 29, 2023.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended, if not acted upon within thirty days (September 28, 2023), the designation shall be deemed as if approved.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Geourntas".

Alex Geourntas
City Clerk

cc Rosanne Foley, Executive Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

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

PROPERTY: The Parker House, 60 School St., 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: 5/23/2023

Attest:

Rosanne Foley
(Secretary to the Commission)

PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:

JUL 14 2023
(Date)

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

Date approved:

WJ 8/29/23

Signature:

8/29/23 WJ
(Mayor)

PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

AUG 30 2023
(Date)

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:

Date approved:

AUG 30 2023

Signature:

Alley Stewart
(City Clerk)

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

PROPERTY: According to the City of Boston's Assessing Department, the Parker House is located at 60-74 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108. According to petition #61 filed with the Boston Landmarks Commission, the address given for the Parker House is 60 School Street.

VOTED: That on May 23, 2023, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Parker House at 60 School Street as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

VOTING IN FAVOR:

David Berarducci
John Freeman
Susan Goganian

Richard Henderson
Felicia Jacques
Lindsey Mac-Jones

Justine Orlando
Lynn Smiledge
Brad Walker
John Amodeo

VOTING IN OPPOSITION:

None.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:

The Parker House was the longest continuously operating hotel in the United States until the COVID-19 pandemic, when the hotel shut down for the first time since its opening. (It has since reopened.) Due to the presence of the Parker House Annex (1897), the oldest extant section of the hotel, which remained open during the construction of the new Parker House (1927), the business operated continuously from 1855 until March 2020.

Early innovations in pricing and fine dining positioned the Parker House for success in its long history. The products of its kitchens, most notably the Parker House Roll and Boston Cream Pie, gained national attention. The dining clubs and company and trade organization boards that met at the Parker House propelled the hotel's early popularity and widespread recognition in the region as a premier space for hosting functions.

The Parker House hosted many prominent figures in history, including Charles Dickens, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Mary Todd Lincoln and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Historical figures who worked at the Omni Parker House include Malcolm X and Ho Chi Minh.

The elegantly designed and well-crafted main building at the corner of School and Tremont streets is a tribute to the Classical Revival architectural style and the craftsmanship of the 1920s. The Parker House Annex facing Bosworth Street demonstrates the careful attention paid to detailing even on a small back street, to signify that this building was part of an elegant, first-class hotel facility. Although it has undergone some exterior alterations (primarily at the uppermost levels), the property retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following assessor's listed address and parcel number: 60-74 Tremont Street, Boston, parcel number 0304696000.



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 14, 2023

RE: Petition #61 – Parker House

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

On May 23, 2023, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Parker House in Downtown Boston 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 30 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 31st day.

I appreciate your supervision of this approval process. Please call me at (617) 635-2912 if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Dorothy Clark
Assistant Survey Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

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CITY of BOSTON



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 14, 2023

RE: Petition #61 - The Parker House, Downtown Boston

Dear Mayor Wu,

On May 23, 2023, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Parker House in Downtown Boston as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The Parker House was the longest continuously operating hotel in the United States until the COVID-19 pandemic, when the hotel shut down for the first time since opening. (It has since reopened.) Due to the presence of the Parker House Annex (1897), the oldest extant section of the hotel remained open during the construction of the new Parker House (1927), the business operated continuously from 1855 until March 2020.

The Parker House hosted many prominent figures in history, including Charles Dickens, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Historical figures who worked there include Malcolm X and Ho Chi Minh. Elegantly designed and well crafted, the main building at the corner of School and Tremont streets is a tribute to both the Classical Revival style and the craftsmanship of the 1920s. Although it has undergone some exterior alterations, the property retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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

Please don't hesitate to call me at (617) 635-2912 if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Dorothy Clark
Assistant Survey Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

CITY of BOSTON



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 #61, The Parker House, 60 School
Street, Boston, MA