

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

**PROPERTY:** The Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard, 12-12R Ericsson Street, 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: **04/09/2024**

Attest:



(Secretary to the Commission)

**PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR:**

**APR 10 2024**

(Date)

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:**

Date approved:

**4/18/2024**

Signature:



(Mayor)

**PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

**MAY 01 2024**

(Date)

**APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:**

Date approved:

Signature:

(City Clerk)



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 #219.06 and 220.06, the Putnam Nail  
Factory / George Lawley & Son Shipyard, Dorchester



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

April 10, 2024

**RE: Petition #219.06 & 220.06 - The Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard, Dorchester**

Dear Mayor Wu:

On April 9, 2024, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard in Dorchester as a Landmark under the provisions of Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

The Putnam Nail Company/George Lawley & Son Shipyard site consists of two surviving industrial buildings built in 1889-1890 for the Putnam Nail Company. The site is associated with two nationally known enterprises that achieved significant innovations in their fields. The Putnam Nail Company developed specialized nails designed to fasten shoes to the hooves of horses without damaging or injuring the animal. This development was based on a complex process that fashioned finished nails using hot forging and machining to produce nails that would not splinter or fracture during horse shoeing. The George Lawley & Son Shipyard was a prominent builder of yachts and naval vessels through two world wars. The firm was well known and respected for executing designs for America's Cup contenders during the interwar years of the 1920s and 1930s.

The Boston Landmarks Commission asks that you give full consideration to the designation of the Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard 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



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

April 10, 2024

**RE: Petition #219.06 & 220.06 – The Putnam Nail Factory, Dorchester**

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

On April 9, 2024, the Boston Landmarks Commission unanimously voted to designate the Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard 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

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

**PROPERTY:** The Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard, 12-12R Ericsson Street, Dorchester (Boston), MA

**VOTED:** That on April 9, 2024, the Boston Landmarks Commission designates the Putnam Nail Factory/George Lawley & Son Shipyard at 12-12R Ericsson Street as a Boston Landmark under Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, as amended.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:**

David Berarducci  
Sue Goganian  
Jeffrey Gonyeau

Richard Henderson  
Kirsten Hoffman  
Felicia Jacques

Lynn Smiledge  
Bradford C. Walker

**VOTING IN OPPOSITION:**

None.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE:**

The Putnam Nail Company/George Lawley & Son Shipyard site consists of two surviving industrial buildings built in 1889-1890 for the Putnam Nail Company. The site is associated with two nationally known enterprises that achieved significant innovations in their fields. The Putnam Nail Company developed specialized nails designed to fasten shoes to the hooves of horses without damaging or injuring the animal. This development was based on a complex process that fashioned finished nails using hot forging and machining to produce nails that would not splinter or fracture during horse shoeing. The George Lawley & Son Shipyard was a prominent builder of yachts and naval vessels through two world wars. The firm was well known and respected for executing designs for America's Cup contenders during the interwar years of the 1920s and 1930s.

Number 12 Ericsson St. is significant as a well-preserved, representative example of manufacturing design typical of its late-19<sup>th</sup> century period. The distribution of power from level to level and across linearly arranged machinery, initially generated from water and later steam or electric power plants, dictated long, narrow, stacked work spaces. In addition to these historic attributes, 12 Ericsson retains the subdued decorative effects, including segmental-arched window labels and elaborate cornice and parapet, which distinguish its type.

Number 12R Ericsson is a more distinctive building, lower and wider under a high gable with a large monitor designed to ventilate and light, in combination with abundant fenestration and a large floor space and loft on two levels. This building's unusual form suggests it is a rare surviving example of its type.

**GENERAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE:**

The boundaries of the designated property are limited to the following addresses and parcel numbers: 12 Ericsson Street, Dorchester, parcel number 1602617005; 12R Ericsson Street, Dorchester, parcel number 1602617008.