

BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION  
City Hall, Room 944, Boston, MA 02201

PETITION FORM  
*(please type or print)*

Complete all numbered sections

For BLC USE ONLY

Petition No \_\_\_\_\_

Received on \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

*secretary*

Schedule for preliminary  
hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

PETITION

We, ten registered voters of the City of Boston, undersigned, petition the Boston Landmarks Commission as authorized by Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

CIRCLE ONE

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - to designate | <input type="checkbox"/> - to amend the designation of | <input type="checkbox"/> - to rescind the designation of |
|---|--|--|--|

the following: *(name area to be considered using street names)*

2

The F.L. Ames Building  
One Court Street  
( corner: Washington Street )

3

Owner's Name & Address from Official City Records:

William J. Zoppo  
c/o Neponset Associates  
155 Bodwell Street, Avon, MA 03222

We recommend the designation category to be *(omit if not designation petition)*

CIRCLE ONE

|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> - landmark district | <input type="checkbox"/> - architectural conservation district | <input type="checkbox"/> - protection area |
|---|--|--|--|--|

We recommend this action for the following reasons with particular reference to architectural and historical significance:  
*(use back of page if necessary)*

5

Please see the attached sheet for  
architectural and historical significance.

6 Please attach a map showing the location of the property(ies)

7 Please attach a photograph of the property(ies)

8 Ten Registered Voters of the City of Boston

| * Signature  | Address (Please print or type.) | zip          | Ward      | Precinct |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. <u>Andrew A. Hunter</u><br>Andrew A. Hunter       | <u>1641 W. Canton St</u>        | <u>02118</u> | <u>4</u>  | <u>1</u> |
| 2. <u>Arthur F. Howe</u><br>Arthur F. Howe           | <u>31 Montgomery St</u>         | <u>02116</u> | <u>7</u>  | <u>1</u> |
| 3. <u>Leslie Larson</u><br>Leslie Larson             | <u>6 JOY ST.</u>                | <u>02108</u> | <u>5</u>  | <u>3</u> |
| 4. <u>Stephen Daly</u><br>Stephen Daly               | <u>726 Washington St.</u>       | <u>02135</u> | <u>27</u> |          |
| 5. <u>Fernando Requena</u><br>Fernando Requena       | <u>53 E. Concord St</u>         | <u>02118</u> | <u>8</u>  | <u>2</u> |
| 6. <u>Roger Snow</u><br>Roger Snow                   | <u>3 Senky Hill Pl</u>          | <u>02114</u> | <u>5</u>  | <u>4</u> |
| 7. <u>Bettina Norton</u><br>Bettina Norton           | <u>6 Rollins Pl.</u>            | <u>02114</u> | <u>5</u>  | <u>4</u> |
| 8. <u>Laurie Moon Chauvin</u><br>Laurie Moon Chauvin | <u>37 BEACON ST #4</u>          | <u>02108</u> |           |          |
| 9. <u>Susan Park</u><br>Susan Park                   | <u>166 W. Canton St</u>         | <u>02116</u> | <u>4</u>  | <u>1</u> |
| 10. <u>Antonia M. Pollak</u><br>Antonia M. Pollak    | <u>14 Concord St.</u>           | <u>02129</u> | <u>2</u>  | <u>4</u> |

or

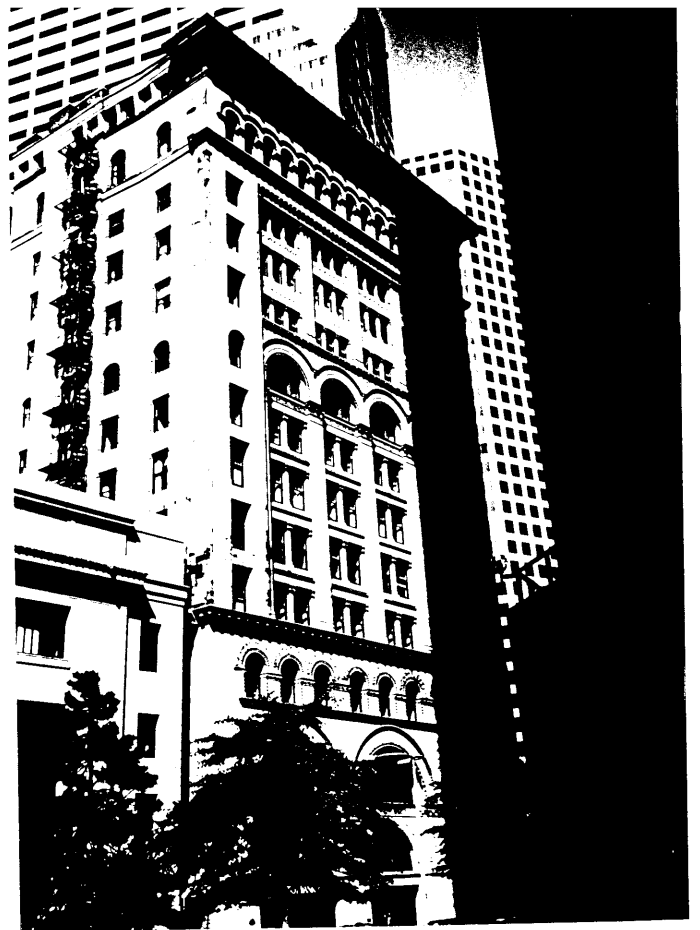
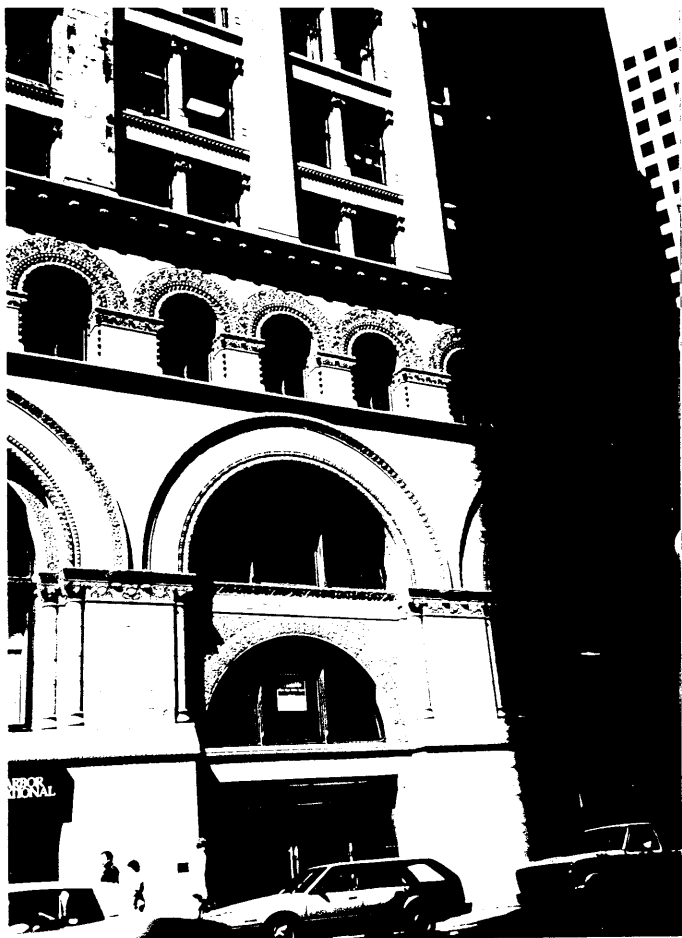
\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

or

\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

\*Please print or type name below signature.

9 Spokesperson for the petitioners is: Antonia M. Pollak phone no. 367-2458



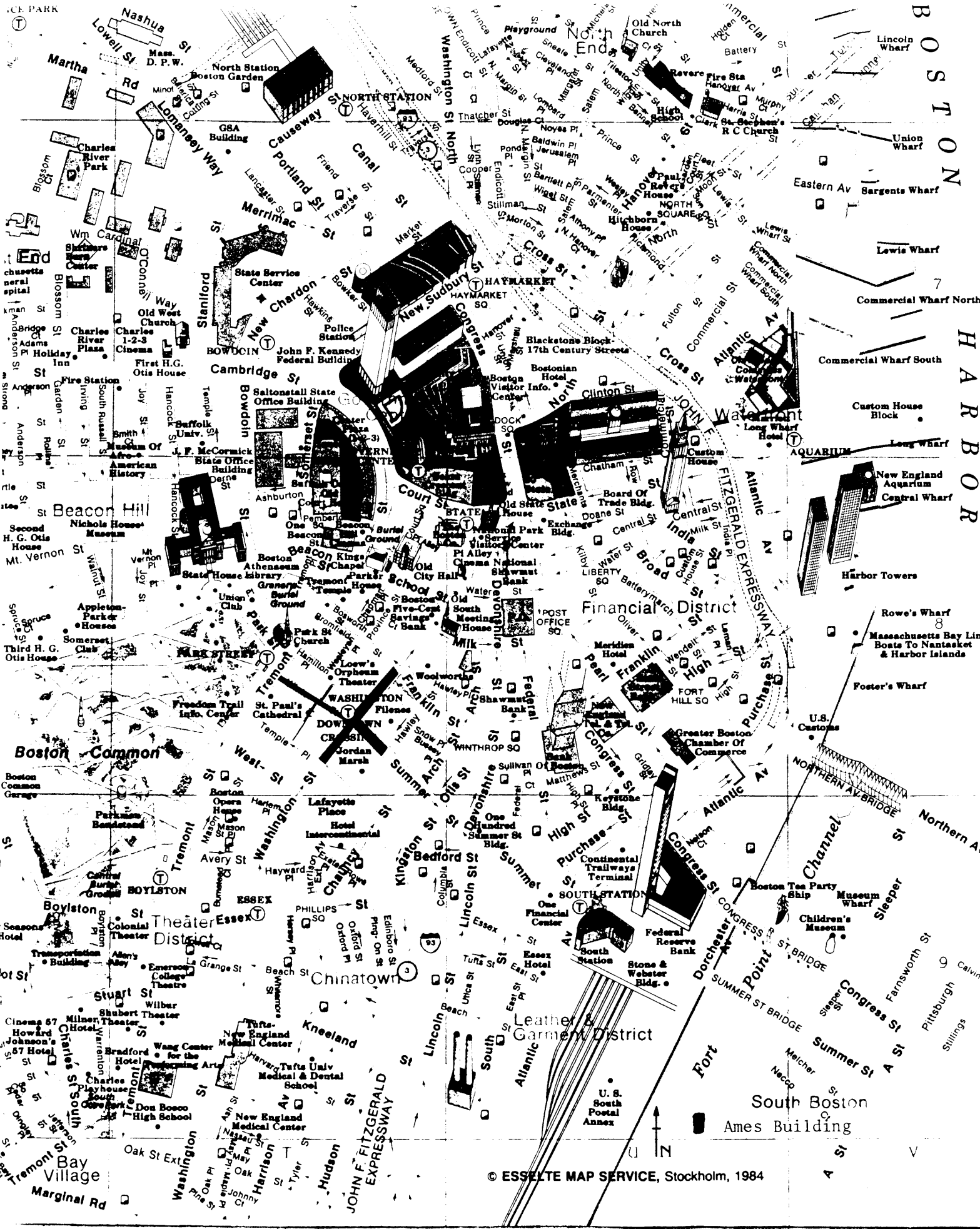
F. L. Ames Building  
One Court Street

Architectural and Historical Significance

At the time of its construction, from 1889 to 1891, and for fourteen years following, the Ames Building was the tallest structure in Boston. The design was by Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, associates of Henry Hobson Richardson, who became, after Richardson's death in 1886, heirs to his prestigious architectural firm. The three former associates oversaw completion of Richardson's unfinished plans and later gave Boston many important buildings of their own design including: South Station, The Grain and Flour Exchange, and for Harvard; Langdell Hall, at the Medical School, as well as Conant and Perkins Halls on the University's historic Cambridge site.

The Ames Building, built by the Norcross Brothers at a cost of between \$600,000 and \$700,000, rises 196 feet from Court Street. The Milford Granite structure consists of thirteen stories. A somewhat modernized ten-foot high storefront is followed by a twenty-foot second floor which contains three large arched windows. The third floor consists of nine smaller arched windows above which, completing the granite section, is a highly decorative cornice. Eighth floor fenestration mirrors the large windows of the first level. Small arched windows line the topmost floor, while those on intervening stories are square. From a sloping foundation to the rooftop, corner windows of the Ames Building are set in solid continuous masonry that projects beyond the structure's central portion. Such fenestration gives an effect similar to pilasters. Windows are decorated with ornate carvings, moldings and mosaics. A heavy projecting modillion cornice tops the skyscraper. Damrell's A Half Century of Boston's Building, of 1895, describes a few of the Court Street site's technological innovations: "Three large and rapidly moving elevators make access to any floor very easy. The interior work is of the very best, nothing but fire-resisting material being used, except in the finish around the doors and windows. It is supplied with all the modern conveniences of office buildings and is a model structure in every respect."

The original tan, brown, orange, yellow and green symmetrically-pattereded mosaic, covering the ceiling of the arched interior lobby, is extant. Although constructed with a masonry and not a steel frame, the Ames Building is considered Boston's first skyscraper. Once Boston's tallest structure, One Court Street is still today, a virtually intact example of Romanesque-Renaissance Revival architecture, designed by a locally and nationally renowned firm. It is listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places. Designation as a landmark will enhance and preserve the late nineteenth-century character of Boston.



BOSTON  
HARBOR

Ames Building