

Boston Landmarks Commission News

SOUTH END LANDMARK DISTRICT AND PROTECTION AREA BECOME LAW

On December 14, 1983, the Boston City Council unanimously voted in favor of the creation of the South End Landmark District & Protection Area. The vote of the Council followed the adoption of a Memorandum of Understanding which was intended to recognize the needs of low-income and elderly residents in meeting the Landmarks Commission's standards and criteria.

The Landmarks Commission is awaiting nominations to this new Landmark District Commission which will consist of 2 resident members and 2 alternates and 3 members of the Boston Landmarks Commission. Administration of the district will require an increase in the Environment Department's budget to provide additional staff.

UNITED SHOE MACHINERY BUILDING VOTED LANDMARK

The Boston City Council approved Landmark designation of the United Shoe Machinery Building on Wednesday, January 18, 1984, following approvals in December by the Landmarks Commission and Mayor Kevin White. The owners of the building now intend to rehabilitate it for office use and build a twenty-four story office building on adjacent land with an eight story connector building. The Commission will have review responsibility for the rehabilitation work and will review the connector.

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF ARCHITECT RESIGNS

John Harrell, staff architect of the Environment Department, has submitted his resignation effective February 1, 1984. Mr. Harrell's resignation terminates a 12-year career of service to the City of Boston. In 1972, he joined the Urban Design staff of the Boston Redevelopment Authority and evolved into a specialist in guideline preparation for historic buildings. He acted as advisor to the Boston Landmarks Commission and the architectural commissions since 1978 and joined the staff of the City's newly formed Environment Department in 1981. Mr. Harrell, a registered architect holding a Masters Degree from Yale University, plans to work as a freelance architect in the Boston area.

POSITION AVAILABLE

DESIGN REVIEW ARCHITECT ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Provide professional review of proposed construction within historic districts & effecting City's Landmarks. Provide technical assistance to applicants requiring design review & submit recommendations to architectural commissions. Develop design review guidelines for Landmarks & historic districts. Must be knowledgeable in architectural & preservation concepts & demonstrate proven ability to work with developers, architects & public agencies. Five years experience & Boston residency required. Send resumes to Environment Department, Boston City Hall-Room 805, Boston, MA 02201, by February 20th.

1984 GOALS

The Survey & Planning section of the Boston Landmarks Commission has prepared a draft work program for the new year. Tentatively scheduled for the first half of 1984 are public hearings for 6 potential Landmarks: the Liberty Tree Building, 50 Broad Street, St. Gabriel's Monastery, the Tugboat Luna, and possibly the Chestnut Hill Plumbing Stations and Lower Mills Branch Library. For the last half of 1984 are the Theodore Parker Church, the Parker House, St. Leonard's Church, the Augustus Loring House, and the Berkeley Building.

Ongoing major components of the section's work include the completion of the Fenway Preservation Survey, which is being conducted by consultants Rosalind Pollan, Carol Kennedy and Edward Gordon, and the creation of an archeological plan for Boston currently being prepared by consultant Steve Mrozowski. These two projects are funded by a grant provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

The processing of National Register nominations for districts and individual sites continue to be a lively activity. Currently in progress are nominations for the Fenway/Boylston District, the Dimock Health Center, the Harriswood Crescent, the Dudley Station Commercial District, the Moreland Street District, and the Dorchester Pottery Works.