The Boston Preservation Alliance

An Association of Preservation Organizations P.O. Box 1165, Boston, Massachusetts 02103

Phone: 242-5656

November 8, 1983

Pauline Chase Harrell, Chairman Boston Landmarks Commission Environment Dept., Room 805 City Hall Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Harrell:

The Boston Preservation Alliance urges redesignation of the United Shoe Machinery Building as a Landmark.

One of the most outstanding and significant examples of the "Art Deco" style in Boston, the United Shoe Building is a testimonial to the power of the shoe industry in Massachusetts. As <u>The Boston Globe</u> pointed out at the Building's completion, "United Shoe is not only the controlling factor in the American shoe industry, but the controlling factor in the Boston First National Bank, and thus the city's money. Its new building is an expressive monument to its power." With its restored lobby and semiintact storefronts, the United Shoe Machinery Building is a significant City Landmark and deserves official status immediately.

Susan Park Chairman

Sincerely,

Μ. Davis Executive Director

RAMD:djh

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