Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No: BOS.2076

Historic Name: Merchants Cooperative Bank

Common Name:

Address: 125-126 Tremont St

11-12 Hamilton PI

City/Town: Boston

Village/Neighborhood: Central Business District; Retail;

Local No: 0304754000;

Year Constructed: 1955

Architectural Style(s): Colonial Revival;

Architect(s): Perry, Shaw, Hepburn and Dean;

Use(s): Bank; Commercial Block;

Significance: Architecture; Commerce; Economics;

Area(s):

Designation(s):

Building Materials: Wall: Brick; Iron; Stone, Cut;

Demolished No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 8:09 AM

	ADDRESS 124-126	ont St. COR. 11-12 Hamilton P
	NAME Merchant	s Cooperative Bank (same)
	MAP No. 25N/1	2E SUB AREA Retail
	DATE 1955	Bldg. Dept. Records
		source
	BUILDER	source
	OWNER Merchant	ss Cooperative Sank/ present
	PHOTOGRAPHS 5	16 * 80
Show the state of		
TYPE (residential) single (non-residential)	double row 2-fam. bank offices	3-deck ten apt.
		_
NO. OF STORIES (1st to cornic	e)3	plus
		plusdormers
ROOF <u>flat</u> MATERIALS (Frame) clapboards	cupolashingles stucco asp	dormers
MATERIALS (Frame) clapboards (Other) brick BRIEF DESCRIPTION Mid-20th Palladian motif used fo	cupola shingles stucco asp (stone) trim con century Georgian r entrance, which ght above. 2nd and ntral pavillion su	dormers
MATERIALS (Frame) clapboards (Other) brick BRIEF DESCRIPTION Mid-20th Palladian motif used fo columns and has a fanli bays flanking a wide cer	cupola shingles stucco asp (stone) trim con century Georgian r entrance, which ght above. 2nd and ntral pavillion su	dormers chalt asbestos alum/vinyl crete iron/steel/alum. Revival commercial building. is flanked by fluted Doric
MATERIALS (Frame) clapboards (Other) brick BRIEF DESCRIPTION Mid-20th Palladian motif used fo columns and has a fanli bays flanking a wide cerpediment set within a b	cupola shingles stucco aspection trim con century Georgian r entrance, which ght above. 2nd and ntral pavillion su rick parapet. moderate drastic	dormers chalt asbestos alum/vinyl crete iron/steel/alum. Revival commercial building. is flanked by fluted Doric

In the design of SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd on reverse)124-126 Tremont, "Colonial" elements such as the Palladian motif, central pediment and side stepped gable imitate the past without capturing the proportions or spirit of the Georgian style. For this reason the building is not architecturally distinctive, although it harmonizes fairly well with the streetscape. The building is still occupied by its original tenant, the Merchants Cooperative Bank.

Themes (check as many	y as applicable)	
Aboriginal Agricultural Architectural The Arts Commerce Communication Community/ development	Conservation Education Exploration/ settlement Industry Military Political	Recreation Religion Science/ invention Social/ humanitarian Transportation

Preservation Consideration (accessibility, re-use possibilities, capacity for public use and enjoyment, protection, utilities, context)

Part of suggested "Pre-Fire Mercantile" National Register District.

Folletime world used for entrance, which is flanked by fluted Dorio selvant and has a familight above. End sed 3rd atour heve narrow side term flanking alwide central psychlian surmounted by stone triangula

Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

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not architecturally distinctive, alit damnonites fairly well with the The building is cuill occupied by itenant, the Herobants Cooperative

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE

ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:

124-126 Tremont Street

Massachusetts Historical Commission 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 Area Form No. CBD BOS.2076

EXISTING STATE REGISTER DESIGNATIONS

DESIG CODE	DATE	NAME
none		

MAJOR CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO PAGE 1 BASE INFORMATION

Assessors Parcel ID: 0304754000

Assessors Address: 126 Tremont Street

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The brick building has stone trim with two band courses defining the first story. The central bay projects shallowly from the façade; five ribbon windows on the second level are fronted by a decorative iron balcony. The north elevation is five bays deep with a gable parapet containing a roundel between two chimneys.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Perry, Shaw, Hepburn Dean, Boston-based architects who were proponents of the Colonial Revival style, are best known for the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. The firm designed the Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. Building (1937, BOS.2363), Aldrige and Kresge Halls at Harvard Business School (1953, BOS. 8365 and BOS.8350), and the Jordan Marsh Department Store (1948, BOS.2120), whose design was described by architectural historian Douglass Shand-Tucci as "absurd 'Modernistic' Federal Revival style".

In 1990 the Bank of Boston assumed responsibility for the assets of the failed Merchants Cooperative Bank.

Although a minor e ample of its period and of its designers, the building is carefully composed, retains a handsome original storefront, and contributes to the streetscape in massing, materials, and an active ground floor.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Shand-Tucci, Douglass. *Built in Boston; City and Suburb, 1800-2000.* (revised and e panded edition) Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press, 1999.

Boston city directories. 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970.

The Boston Globe, May 19, 1990.

Recorded by: W. Frontiero and L. Smiledge **Organization:** BLC **Date:** June 2009 *Continuation sheet 1*

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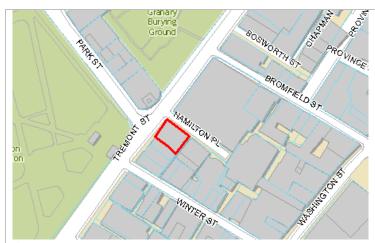
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SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES and LOCATIONAL INFORMATION



Assessors Map



Tremont Street Facade



Storefront Detail

Recorded by: W. Frontiero and L. Smiledge **Organization:** BLC **Date:** June 2009 *Continuation sheet 2*