



CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Fl., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Telephone: 617 349 4683 TTY: 617 349 6112
E-mail: histcomm@cambridgema.gov URL: www.cambridgema.gov/Historic

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

1. The undersigned hereby applies to the Cambridge Historical Commission for a Certificate of (check one box): Appropriateness, Nonapplicability, or Hardship, in accordance with Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws and/or Chapter 2.78 of the Municipal Code.

2. Address of property: |12-30 Palmer Street |, Cambridge, Massachusetts

3. Describe the proposed alteration(s), construction or demolition in the space provided below:
(An additional page can be attached, if necessary).

Harvard University and the COOP are planning a substantial renovation of 12-30 Palmer Street. The proposed scope of work preserves the existing clinker brick and limestone façade, while introducing new punched windows, glass bay windows, and an illuminated three-story tall metal trellis lantern feature at the new building entrance. The project includes a complete renovation of the building interior, new mechanical systems, and a green roof. A new concourse on the ground floor will provide a public area at the same level as the retail and main office entrance, to support the retail uses and to provide full accessibility. The design at the street level calls for a stepped terrace, benches, and planters to be an extension of the concourse for the public.

I certify that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The undersigned also attests that he/she has read the statements printed on the reverse.

Name of Property Owner of Record: Harvard Cooperative Society, c/o Jerry Murphy	
Mailing Address: 1400 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138	
Telephone/Fax: 617-499-2001	E-mail: jmurphy@thecoop.com
Signature of Property Owner of Record: <i>[Signature]</i> (Required field; application will not be considered complete without property owner's signature)	
Name of proponent, if not record owner: Harvard University, c/o Alexandra Offiong, HU Planning & Design	
Mailing Address: 1350 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138	
Telephone/Fax: 617-384-8155	E-mail: alexandra_offiong@harvard.edu

(for office use only):	
Date Application Received: _____	Case Number: <u>5099</u> Hearing Date: <u>5/2/24</u>
Type of Certificate Issued: _____	Date Issued: _____

HARVARD
UNIVERSITY PLANNING AND DESIGN



April 9, 2024

Charles Sullivan, Executive Director
Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Re: 12-30 Palmer Street

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

Harvard University is partnering with the Harvard Cooperative Society (“COOP”) to renovate and re-imagine 12-30 Palmer Street to bring new life to this part of Harvard Square. Enclosed please find a completed application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for this proposed project.

The former Harvard COOP Book Store Annex building, designed by Samuel Glaser Associates, was purpose built in 1964 as an annex to support The COOP’s retail and product storage needs. Now vacant, the proposed project contemplates a reinvigorated mixed-use building with an active and vibrant street presence. The proposed scope of work preserves the existing clinker brick and limestone façade, while introducing new punched windows, glass bay windows, and an illuminated three-story tall metal trellis lantern feature at the new building entrance. A new concourse on the ground floor will provide a public area at the same level as the retail and main office entrance, to support the retail uses and to provide full accessibility. The design at the street level calls for a stepped terrace, benches, and planters to be an extension of the concourse for the public. The project also includes a complete renovation of the building interior, new mechanical systems, and a green roof.

Our project team looks forward to presenting this to the Commission at the meeting on May 2, 2024. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (617) 384-8155.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Offiong
Director of Planning Services, Campus Planning

cc: Jerry Murphy, Harvard Cooperative Society
Ben Weissbourd, HU
Michael Lamphier, JLL
Stephen Baker, BDG
Marcelo Arjona, BDG

Enclosures