

February 3, 2022

Commission on Chicago Landmarks

c/o Chairman Ernest Wong

City of Chicago

Chicago City Hall

121 N. LaSalle Street

Chicago, Illinois 60603

Re: Final Landmark Recommendation for the Ludlow Typographic Company Building

Dear Chairman Wong and Members of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks,

We at Preservation Chicago, strongly support the "Final Landmark Recommendation" for the Chicago Landmark designation of the Ludlow Typographic Company Building, located within the "Clybourn Corridor Commercial District" of the Lincoln Park Community, at 2028-2062 N. Clybourn Avenue, Chicago.

The Ludlow Typographic Building, designed by noted Chicago architect, Alfred Alschuler, and with additions by others, is a marvelous three and four-story red-brick structure, with limestone detailing, spanning the block of Clybourn Avenue, between Magnolia and Lakewood Avenues.

The Ludlow Building's principal architect, Alfred Alschuler, is known for his many high-quality buildings, with several being Designated Chicago Landmarks, including the former London Guarantee Building, now the London House Hotel, at Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive, the former Florsheim Shoe Company Building in the Avondale Community, and KAM Isiah Israel Temple in the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community.

In addition, the Chicago Landmark Designation of the Ludlow Building, recognizes and honors Chicago's role in printing, publishing and graphic design, which is a history which has almost been completely forgotten by many. It is our hope that Landmark Designations, like the Ludlow building will continue, and further promote that history and others, as the profiles and legacies of these buildings are often elevated with these designations, both in the community and often worldwide, as they are easily found on the Internet. This designation also dovetails beautifully into older Landmark Districts like "The Printing House Row District," landmarked in 1996, and is almost an extension of that important and well recognized South Loop historic district.

PRESERVATION CHICAGO

CITIZENS ADVOCATING FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CHICAGO'S HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE

We at Preservation Chicago applaud Annexation LLC, and their partnership, along with GREC Architects, Alderman Brian Hopkins and the DPD-Historic Preservation Staff, for their commitment to preserve, restore and repurpose this wonderful example of a historic warehouse building by Alfred Alschuler.

We often need to be reminded in Chicago, that investment in our historic built environment and our Landmarks is development, and the most sensitive type of development—honoring the legacy of a city known the world over for its architecture, planning, public parks and Lakefront lands—open, free and clear for all.

So, these structures, when Landmarked, become a celebrated asset, honoring the legacy of Chicago and something we can all be proud of.

With that said, we want to again thank the team and partnerships that made this project a reality and hoping for more similar projects, along the Clybourn Corridor and throughout the City of Chicago, which are as thoughtful and preserve our historic buildings.

Sincerely,

Ward Miller

Ward Miller, Executive Director

Preservation Chicago

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Re: Glessner House, 1800 S. Prairie Avenue and Adopt-A-Landmark Funds

Dear Chairman Wong and Members of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks,

We at Preservation Chicago, strongly support the approval of the City's Adopt-A-Landmark funds for both roof and exterior repairs to Chicago's John J. Glessner House and Museum, located at 1800 S. Prairie Avenue, Chicago.

The Glessner House, is one of three projects by noted architect, Henry Hobson Richardson, constructed in Chicago, and the last remaining of these buildings. The others, the Marshall Field Wholesale Warehouse and the Franklin McVeigh House, were both unfortunately destroyed.

Richardson's architecture and influence on America's built environment is well recognized and documented in many publications around the world. The Glessner House is truly a work of art in every respect, from its exterior walls to its richly appointed interiors and furnishings, most of which are authentic to the Glessner's occupancy of the house from 1887 to 1936.

Glessner House is an extraordinary asset to Chicago and its built environment, its Landmark buildings, its history and cultural arts, and all furthered with the museum's programming. The house and museum stand among "the very best of the best" of Chicago's institutions and house museums.

It was from efforts to save this structure from an uncertain future—perhaps demolition, that "The Chicago School of Architecture Foundation" was also established, now known as "The Chicago Architecture Center," with its many tours and educational outreach. The Chicago Architecture Center is credited with helping to promote Chicago's architectural legacy with tours extending throughout the city and region.

Noting Glessner House as an exemplary institution in so many respects, we encourage the Commission on Chicago Landmarks to approve the Adopt-A-Landmark funds for repairs to this remarkable Chicago Landmark building.

Sincerely,

Ward Miller

Executive Director, Preservation Chicago