

6 City Square (circa 1911-1922)

From: Boston Landmark Commission's Charlestown Historic Resources Study 1981 (E. W. Gordon, Consultant)*:

Number 6 City Square is a well-designed neoclassical bank building, faced with granite on the main façade and sidewalls of brick. There is a well executed mural on the south east wall with a *tromp l'oeil* Ionic portico, multi-pane round arched windows and dentilated entablature



6 City Square

2015

Original owner: Charlestown Trust Company

Architecturally the former Charlestown Trust Company building is a fine example of early 20th century commercial

architecture. Particularly noteworthy are its main entrance's elegant enframements- its portico *in antis* with monumental fluted Ionic columns and heavy dentilated and cornice-headed entablature. Also memorable is a mural, which covers the parking lot wall (possibly by Richard Haas?).



6 City Square entry detail, 1981

A Boston 200 plaque on the bank's main façade reads "In the late 18th century, no Charlestown resident as well known as Nathaniel Gorham. He was born here, became a successful

businessman and settled here with his family in the Gorham home fronting on City Square. During the Revolutionary war he served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate. He gained national recognition when he was named to the Continental Congress in the 1780s. He became its president in 1786 and signed the Constitution in 1787. He died in Charlestown in 1796".

In 1875 three contiguous buildings number 6, 7, 8, 9 were located on this site. Two stables were located to the rear. At that time an E Baker owned this property. By 1892, two wooden, contiguous buildings were located on this site (with brick sidewall) alongside the old City Hall. Maria L Baker is listed as the owner in 1892. The present building was built at some point between 1911 and 1922. Further research is needed on the Charlestown Trust Company.

Bibliography:

Maps-1818, 1852

Atlases- 1875, 1885, 1892, 1901, 1922

Boston Building Department did not have information on this building

Charlestown Enterprise microfilm at the BPL did not yield information on this building. The reels for 1913-15 are missing.

*Digitized, and edited without change in content, from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, and with addition of current photographs. In the case of houses that have been altered since the survey, these photographs may not entirely correspond to the architectural description. If earlier photographs of suitable quality are available, these have been included.

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