



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Old State House  
150 Benefit Street  
Providence, R. I. 02903  
(401) 277-2678

December 28, 1978

Mr. Ralph Fagnoli, President  
The Providence City Council  
25 Dorrance Street  
Providence, R.I. 02903

Dear Mr. Fagnoli:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission regrets that its Review Board has had to eliminate a considerable portion of the Wesleyan Avenue Historic District, which was approved for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places in September of 1977.

The National Register is the official inventory of the nation's cultural resources and, as such, is a highly selective listing. To qualify for the National Register, a district must retain integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In a recent reconsideration of the Wesleyan Avenue District, the Review Board concluded that a number of recent demolitions, particularly along Harvard Avenue, within the proposed district had so eroded the historic fabric that its integrity was severely compromised.

Significant concentrations of noteworthy structures remain at the western end of Comstock Avenue and along Wesleyan Avenue itself. The Comstock Avenue portion has been incorporated into the Parkis-Comstock Historic District, while the Wesleyan Avenue District has been reduced to include only that street and adjacent buildings on Broad and Taylor Streets. Nominations for both these districts are now in preparation. It is our hope that these areas may thus be spared.

If you have any questions concerning the National Register, please feel free to call Mrs. Ancelin Lynch, National Register Coordinator, at the Commission office.

Sincerely yours,

*George E. Downing*

Mrs. George E. Downing  
Chairman

IN CITY COUNCIL

JAN 18 1979

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Rose M. Moulton* CLERK

FILED

JAN 2 9 46 AM '79

DEPT. OF CITY CLERK  
PROVIDENCE, R.I.

JAN 2 8 30 AM '79



WESLEYAN AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT (FORMER BOUNDARY) -----

PARKIS-COMSTOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

WESLEYAN AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT (NEW BOUNDARY) - . - . - .