

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

other names/site number Narragansett Hotel Garage

2. Location

street & number 98 Dorrance Street not for publication

city or town Providence vicinity

state Rhode Island code RI county Providence code 007 zip code 02903

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- other (explain)

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION/road related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation BRICK, STONE

walls BRICK, CONCRETE

roof SYNTHETICS

other STEEL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1923-1962

Significant Dates

1923

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository

RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .17 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1][9] [2][9][9][7][8][0] [4][6][3][3][9][0][0]
Zone Easting Northing
2 [][] [][][][][][][][] [][][][][][][][][]

3 [][] [][][][][][][][][] [][][][][][][][][][]
Zone Easting Northing
4 [][] [][][][][][][][][] [][][][][][][][][][]
[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Edward Connors, principal

organization Edward Connors & Associates date April 2012

street & number 39 Dyer Avenue telephone 401 595-0699

city or town Riverside state Rhode Island zip code 02915

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Downtown Providence Historic District (Amendment)

Providence

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The subject of this proposed amendment to the Downtown Providence Historic District is the Narragansett Hotel Garage, which is located within the existing district. This property was built during the Period of Significance of the district and is similar in scale, siting and materials to those in the district.

Inventory

Contributing elements within the Downtown Providence Historic District are defined as those sites, buildings, structures, and objects that relate visually and historically to the district's areas of significance between 1800 and 1940, the period in which downtown Providence substantially achieved its present form.

Dorrance Street

98 The Narragansett Hotel Garage is a three-story building with brick and concrete walls and a heavy interior frame of rolled steel *I*-beams designed to accommodate the weight of automobiles. The building occupies a 7,412 square foot parcel on the east side of Dorrance Street, opposite the site of the Narragansett Hotel (demolished 1960). The façade features a buff-brick wall with five evenly-spaced, windows on the upper floors; the center window is twice as wide as the flanking ones. The windows, which had been blocked down in the 1970s, have been restored to their full openings and fitted with paired, multi-light steel sash that replicate the originals. On the first story, the five-bay pattern is repeated with a central automobile entrance in the center, flanked by a pair of narrow bays. One of these bays on the south side contains a standard mid-20th century glass and aluminum doorway. The façade also features projecting metal-clad cornices with ornate modillions at the first and third floors. The building is topped by a low parapet with a central pediment that contains a metal sign with *Narragansett Hotel Garage* displayed in raised letters. Built in 1923 as a parking garage for the Narragansett Hotel (which stood across Dorrance Street until its demolition in 1960), it is now the oldest automobile parking structure in the Downtown.

Source: *Downtown Providence: Statewide Historic Preservation Report P-P-5* (1981), p. 51.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Downtown Providence Historic District (Amendment)

Providence

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 7

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Photographic Information

Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

Providence County, Rhode Island

Clark Schoettle, photographer

April 2012

Original digital files stored at: Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
150 Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903

1. Façade of Narragansett Hotel Garage, view northwest

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

Providence

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 8

Page 1

SIGNIFICANCE

It is proposed to change the National Register status of the Narragansett Hotel Garage, a property lying within the Downtown Providence Historic District, from non-contributing to contributing. This building shares in the significance and is consistent architecturally with other buildings in the Downtown Providence Historic District and is within the city's Downtown Providence Design Review District.

The Narragansett Hotel Garage was identified as a non-contributing resource in the 1983 nomination for the Downtown Providence National Register Historic District due to unsympathetic alterations to the facade. These alterations had eliminated the original multi-light steel window sash, blocked down the window openings with different colored masonry and installed two-pane aluminum sash, thereby compromising the building's historic appearance. (See Additional Information) These window alterations were recently reversed, the openings have been restored to their original dimensions and steel frame windows, based on the design of the originals, have been installed, thus restoring the facade to near original appearance. This work has been completed as part of an ongoing rehabilitation project that intends continued use of the first floor for parking and adaptation of the upper two floors for residential use.

The Narragansett Hotel, perhaps the finest hotel in the city's history, was built in 1878. In 1923 a separate corporation, Narragansett Hotel Garage, Incorporated, was formed for the purpose of storage and rental of automobiles, as well as other related activities. A three-story parking structure with masonry exterior walls and a steel *I*-beam interior frame, one of the earliest of its kind in the city and the oldest surviving garage in the Downtown, was built directly across the street from the hotel. (See Additional Information) After the demolition of the hotel in 1960, the garage continued in its original use until it became the subject of the current rehabilitation and reuse project.

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

Providence

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Narragansett Hotel (1930)

Promotional brochure on file, RI Historical Society Library.

Sanderson, Edward and William Mackenzie Woodward, *Providence: A Citywide Survey of Historic Resources*.

Providence: RI Historical Preservation Commission, 1986.

Woodward, William Mackenzie, *Downtown Providence Historic District* National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. RI Historical Preservation Commission, 1983.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The property to be reclassified as contributing to the Downtown Providence Historic District through this amendment is identified by the Providence Assessor's Office as Map 20 Parcel 189, which lies completely within the existing boundaries of the Downtown Providence National Register Historic District.

Boundary Justification

The property has been included within the Downtown Providence National Register Historic District since it was listed in 1983.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

Providence

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

City/Town

County and State

Section Number 10 Page 2

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



View westerly down Dorrance Street, c. 1930; Narragansett Hotel Garage at center right.

Source: *Providence Journal Archives*



View northerly of the garage showing 1970s alterations, 2011.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Downtown Providence Historic District, Amendment

Providence

Providence County, RI

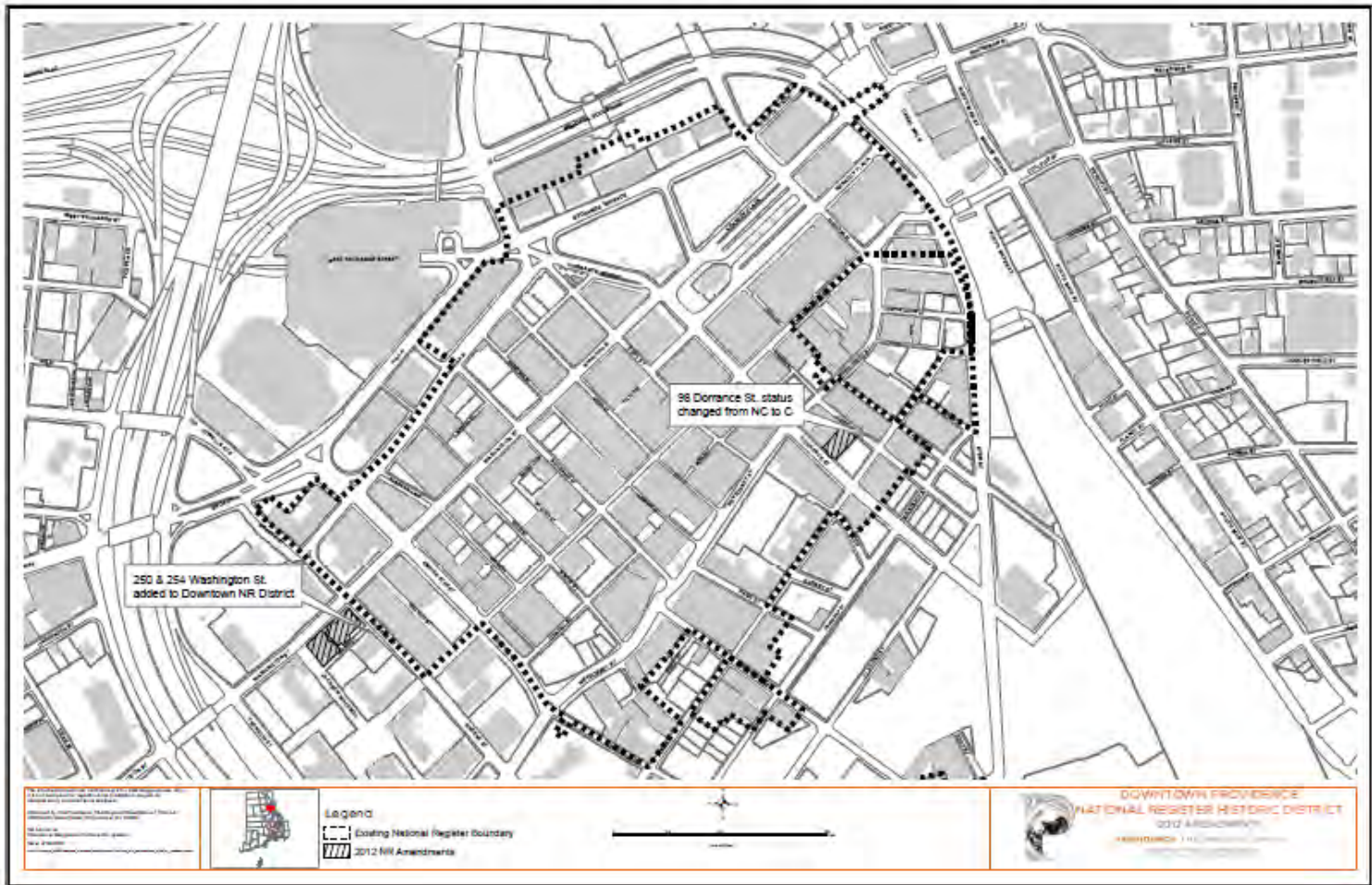
Name of Property

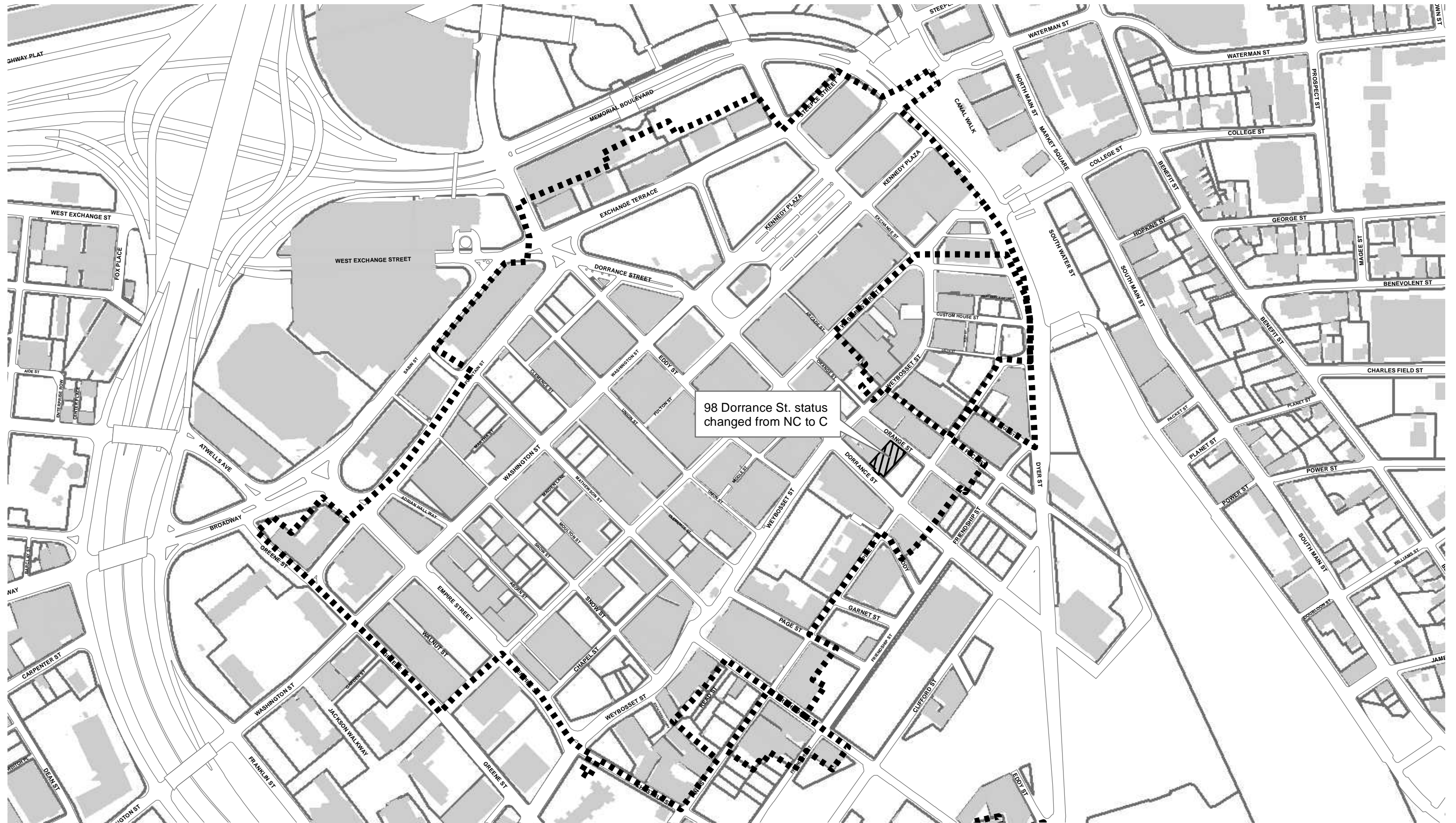
City/Town

County and State

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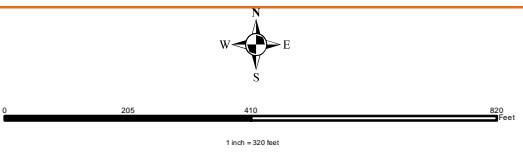
98 Dorrance St. status changed from NC to C

The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.
 Produced by the Providence Planning and Development GIS Lab, 400 Westminster Street, Providence, R.I. 02903
 Data Sources:
 Providence Geographic Information System
 Date: 4/27/2012
 Path: Y:\Projects_2010\Downtown_NationalRegister\ProjectFiles\2012_NR_Amendments_AND_B_Landscape.mxd



Legend

-  Existing National Register Boundary
-  2012 NR Amendments



**DOWNTOWN PROVIDENCE
 NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**
 2012 AMENDMENTS
PROVIDENCE THE CREATIVE CAPITAL
 Department of Planning and Development
 Angel Taveras, Mayor | Thomas E. Deller AICP, Director



MARGARET HOTEL GRACE

NO
LEFT
TURN

NO
LEFT
TURN