

ORDINANCE

Harris Trust & Savings Bank

111 W. Monroe St.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Municipal Code of Chicago (the “Municipal Code”), Sections 2-120-620 through -690, the Commission on Chicago Landmarks (the “Commission”) has determined that the Harris Trust & Savings Bank which includes the original 1911 Harris Trust & Savings Bank and a 1960 addition known as the East Tower (together the “Building”), located at 111 W. Monroe St., Chicago, Illinois, as more fully described in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto and incorporated herein, satisfies three criteria for landmark designation as set forth in Section 2-120-620 (1), (4) and (5) of the Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Building exemplifies the boom in banking in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century that led to Chicago being a prominent American financial center; and

WHEREAS, Harris Trust & Savings Bank and its founder established the idea of buying and selling bonds as a primary business for the bank and sold it to the public; and

WHEREAS, Harris Trust & Savings Bank was a large employer and held major assets in Chicago for the majority of the 20th century. By the 1970s, the bank had amassed over \$4 billion in assets and employed approximately 3,500 people in the Chicago area. In 1984, when it was purchased by the Bank of Montreal, Harris Trust & Savings Bank was the third-largest bank in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the 1911 portion of the Building is an excellent example of Classical Revival architecture as applied to a skyscraper, influenced by the prominent 1893 World’s Fair and the city’s innovative approach to taller buildings. It features a tripartite design, monumental engaged pink granite columns, and applied terra cotta ornament; and

WHEREAS, the East Tower from 1960 is an excellent example of mid-century International Style architecture, influenced by the popularity of modernist architects in the United States. It features a steel structure, glass and metal curtain wall, and an absence of applied ornament; and

WHEREAS, though the 1911 Harris Bank Building and the 1960 East Tower were not designed in the same style, they are visually integrated at the exterior with aligned floor levels and use of columns. They are also fully integrated at the interior; and

WHEREAS, the 1911 portion of the Building was designed by the prominent firm Shepley, Rutan, & Coolidge who were also the architects for other notable works in Chicago including the Art Institute of Chicago (a contributing building to the Historic Michigan Boulevard District) and the Chicago Cultural Center (a Chicago landmark); and

WHEREAS, the 1960 portion of the Building was designed by Chicago-based firm Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill, an internationally important firm known for their skyscraper designs. The firm designed other significant buildings in Chicago including the Willis Tower and 875 N Michigan Avenue; and

WHEREAS, architect Walter A. Netsch was the supervising designer for the East Tower portion of the Building. Netsch was a noted individual designer who spent his career at SOM, working on projects like the Inland Steel Building (a Chicago Landmark) and the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel (a National Historic Landmark) for the firm; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Section 2-120-630 of the Municipal Code, the Building has a significant historic, community, architectural, or aesthetic interest or value, the integrity of which is preserved in light of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and ability to express such historic, community, architectural, or aesthetic interest or value; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2025, the Commission adopted a resolution recommending to the City Council of the City of Chicago (the "City Council") that the Building be designated a Chicago Landmark; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are hereby adopted as the findings of the City Council.

SECTION 2. The Building is hereby designated a Chicago Landmark in accordance with Section 2-120-700 of the Municipal Code.

SECTION 3. For purposes of Sections 2-120-740 and 2-120-770 of the Municipal Code governing permit review, the significant historical and architectural features of the Building are identified as:

- All exterior elevations of the 1911 Harris Trust & Savings Bank and the 1960 East Tower.
- The pair of bas relief bronze lion sculptures on the front façade of the 1911 Harris Trust & Savings Bank.

SECTION 4. The Commission is hereby directed to create a suitable plaque appropriately identifying the Building as a Chicago Landmark.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 6. All ordinances, resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval.