



*Stephanie Rawlings-Blake*  
Mayor

**COMMISSION FOR  
HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL  
PRESERVATION**

*Tom Liebel, Chairman*

**STAFF REPORT**



*Thomas J. Stosur*  
Director

**September 8, 2015**

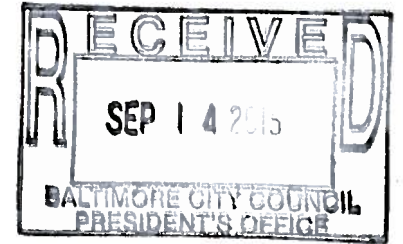
**REQUEST:** Designate as a Baltimore City Landmark

**ADDRESS:** 751 Eastern Avenue, Eastern Avenue Pumping Station

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval

**STAFF:** Lauren Schiszik

**PETITIONER:** James Kraft



**SITE/HISTORIC DISTRICT**

General Area: The Eastern Avenue Pumping Station is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Eastern Avenue and President Street in downtown Baltimore, bordering the Harbor East and Little Italy neighborhoods. It is located directly east of the outfall of the Jones Falls. Located to the north is a park and monument honoring Christopher Columbus, and the Scarlett Place development.

Site Conditions/Architectural Description:

The building is a large three-and-a-half story Classical Revival brick structure faced with orange brick and sandstone and granite trim. It features several blocks, with a main block, hyphen, rear wing, and smokestack. The main block faces north on Eastern Avenue, and features a projecting middle section with a gabled pediment and central entrance.

**BACKGROUND**

- o CHAP reviewed and approved the rehabilitation of the Pumping Station in a CHAP hearing in July 1978.
- o CHAP reviewed and approved the exterior rehabilitation, lighting, landscaping, and construction of a new generator building in a CHAP hearing September 2005.

**PROPOSAL & APPLICATION OF GUIDELINES**

The proposal is to designate the Eastern Avenue Pumping Station as a Baltimore City Landmark. This designation was requested by Councilman James Kraft, who introduced City Council Bill 15-0509 to designate Eastern Avenue Pumping Station as a Baltimore City Landmark.

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Conformity to Guidelines: The proposed designation meets Guideline 5.1 *Criteria for Designating Districts and Landmarks* as the structure meets Criteria 1 for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Baltimore history; Criteria 3 for its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and Criteria 4 for its ability to yield information important in Baltimore prehistory or history.

- At the start of the twentieth century, Baltimore City trailed behind other American cities in terms of public health and sanitation, because it lacked a sewer system. Following the Great Baltimore Fire of 1904, the City quickly constructed a comprehensive and modern sewer and stormwater management system that connected the entire city. It was an engineering marvel that anticipated the needs of the city decades into the future. The Eastern Avenue Pumping Station, designed by Baltimore architect Henry Brauns and completed in 1912, is the most prominent structure constructed for this sewer system. The large Classical Revival building, located on the Jones Falls at Eastern Avenue in downtown Baltimore, still serves its original purpose of meeting the sanitation needs of the city.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COMMENTS**

N/A

#### **ANALYSIS**

CHAP staff finds that this landmark designation meets CHAP designation requirements.

**CHAP staff recommends approval.**



**Eric Holcomb**  
**Director**