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street & number  98 Dorrance Street  □ not for publication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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of certifying official/Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island Historical Preservation &amp; Heritage Commission</td>
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<td>State or Federal agency and bureau</td>
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In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

□ 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)

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<th>Date of Action</th>
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</table>
## 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ private</td>
<td>□ buildings</td>
<td>Contributing: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-local</td>
<td>□ district</td>
<td>Noncontributing: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-State</td>
<td>□ site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-Federal</td>
<td>□ structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ object</td>
<td>□ object</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of Resources within Property**

- **buildings**: 1
- **sites**: 0
- **structures**: 0
- **objects**: 0

**Total**: 1

**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

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

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.)

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

Acreage of Property  .17 acres

UTM References
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

Zone  Easting  Northing
1  1 9  2 9 7 8  0  4 6 3 9 0 0
2
3
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 20500.
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

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.

Downtown Providence Historic District (Amendment)  Providence  Providence County, RI

Name of Property  City/Town  County and State

Section Number  7  Page  2

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
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 façade 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.
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  1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Narragansett Hotel (1930)
Promotional brochure on file, RI Historical Society Library.


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.
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  

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</table>
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 0 410 820205 Feet 1 inch = 320 feet. DOWNTOWN PROVIDENCE NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT 2012 AMENDMENTS Date: 4/27/2012 Path: Y:\Projects_2012\Downtown_NationalRegister\ProjectFiles\2012_NR_Amendments_ANSI_B_Landscape.mxd

98 Dorrance St. status changed from NC to C