

ORDINANCE

The Warehouse 206 S. Jefferson Street

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 Warehouse, (the “Building”), located at 206 S. Jefferson Street, Chicago, Illinois, and as more fully described in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto and incorporated herein, satisfies two criteria for landmark designation as set forth in Section 2-120-620 (1) and (3) of the Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Building was home to The Warehouse from 1977 to 1982, a dance club with cultural significance to the City of Chicago and the United States as the birthplace of house, a genre of dance music characterized by a driving beat, emotive lyrics and lush orchestration drawn from a number of genres including disco, R&B, gospel and techno; and

WHEREAS, as the former home of The Warehouse, the Building is culturally significant to Chicago’s LGBTQ, Black and Latino communities as the first supporters of house music at The Warehouse and who found a sense of community, self-expression and hope in The Warehouse’s revolutionary music; and

WHEREAS, over time, The Warehouse became popular with a broad range of Chicago club goers, and it was one of the first venues that broke down the barriers between gay and straight club scenes; and

WHEREAS, as the former home of The Warehouse, the Building is significant for its association with Frankie Knuckles, influential American DJ, record producer, and remix artist, who significantly contributed to the music culture of the City of Chicago and the United States as the “Godfather of house music”; and

WHEREAS, DJ Frankie Knuckles, one of Chicago’s cultural pioneers, created house by transforming existing songs by extending, combining and weaving them to create completely new experiences of music. Knuckles also used analog and digital technologies to alter songs to make them more up-tempo and danceable; 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 June 8, 2023, 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, including rooflines, of the Building.

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.

EXHIBIT A

Building Address

206 S. Jefferson Street, Chicago, Illinois

Permanent Index Numbers

17-16-111-019-0000

Legal Description

THE SOUTH 20.64 FEET OF LOT 5 IN MAGIE AND MERVILLS SUBDIVISION OF THE EAST HALF OF BLOCK 27 IN SCHOOL SECTION ADDITION TO CHICAGO IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.