



HISTORY OF 230 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

A BACK BAY ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY

Located on the south side of Commonwealth Avenue between Exeter and Fairfield Streets, 230 Commonwealth Avenue is set among one of Back Bay's most notable historic rows.

Designed by noted architect George A. Avery and built in 1881–1882 by mason L.P. Soule, the residence was originally commissioned by retail clothier Charles Wallingford Parker. It is one of three contiguous homes (228–230–232 Commonwealth) designed by Avery, reflecting the cohesive elegance and scale that define this stretch of the Avenue.

Constructed during the height of Back Bay's development, the home sits on land that was once part of the expansive Sears family holdings, integral to the creation of the neighborhood in the late 19th century.

A DISTINGUISHED RESIDENTIAL HISTORY

Throughout its history, 230 Commonwealth has been home to a notable roster of Boston residents, including:

- Bartholomew W. Taggard, retired publisher and bookseller
- Gino Lorenzo Perera, painter, sculptor, and later President of the Boston Art Club
- Henry Bryant Bigelow, Harvard professor of zoology and founding director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Prominent stockbrokers, investors, and business leaders of early 20th-century Boston

MODERN EVOLUTION

In 1986, the property was formally converted into condominium residences. Subsequent improvements included interior modifications and the installation of an elevator, refining the building into the boutique residential property it is today.

230 Commonwealth Avenue represents over 140 years of architectural character, cultural history, and enduring prestige along one of Boston's most iconic boulevards.