



**CITY OF BEACON
CITY COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION NO. 55 OF 2026

DESIGNATING CERTAIN PROPERTIES AS A HISTORIC LANDMARK

WHEREAS, Chapter 134 of the Code of City of Beacon (the “City Code”) authorizes the City Council of the City of Beacon (the “City Council”) to designate a landmark, site, structure or property, with special historical, architectural, cultural, or aesthetic value as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, § 134-4 of the City Code provides that any landmark, site, structure or property may be nominated for historic designation by the City Council, the Planning Board, a historic preservation committee, or upon petition of the owner of the property for which historic designation is requested; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has acted upon its own initiative to propose the historic designation of the following properties:

- 1) 11 Digger Phelps Court, Parcel ID# 5954-27-843954;
- 2) 4 N. Elm Street, Parcel ID# 5954-27-864924;
- 3) 27 Church Street, Parcel ID# 5954-28-897918;
- 4) 189 Fishkill Avenue, Parcel ID# 6054-29-047864;
- 5) 11 Commerce Street, Parcel ID# 5954-27-771935;
- 6) 20 South Avenue, Parcel ID# 5954-27-753929; and

WHEREAS, the nomination included a New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Resource Inventory Form, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and is available for review; and

WHEREAS, the City Council discussed the proposed historic designation of the aforementioned properties and discussed the Historic Inventory Forms for said properties at its meetings held on February 2, 2026, March, 2, 2026, April 20, 2026, June 15, 2026, and July 6, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is a Type II Action pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, 6 NYCRR § 617.4(c)(38), and accordingly, no further environmental review is required; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2026, the City Council adopted a resolution setting a public hearing for April 6, 2026, which was adjourned to April 20, 2026, and continued to June 15, 2026, to receive comments from the owners and public concerning the proposed historic designations of the aforementioned properties; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2026, notice of the public hearing was published in the Poughkeepsie Journal; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2026, the City mailed notice of the proposed designations to the addresses the property owners thereof, as shown on the tax roll for the City of Beacon, and such notice advised the owners of the proposed historic designations and date, time, and location of the City Council's public hearing thereon; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2026, the City Council opened and adjourned a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed historic designations of the aforementioned properties, which was continued to April 20, 2026 meeting and subsequently closed at the June 15, 2026 meeting, at which times all those in attendance were given an opportunity to be heard on the proposed historic designations; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2026, additional notice(s) were mailed to the mailing addresses of the property owners, which again advised the owners of the proposed historic designations, and the next anticipated date the City Council would be considering action thereon; and

WHEREAS, the City also engaged in a public service campaign to advise property owners and the public of the City Council's intent to take action on the proposed historic designations, which included the posting of a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the City's official website and social media; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the factors set forth under § 134-4(B) of the City Code, and upon the record before them, including testimony during the public hearing, and a review of the Historic Inventory Forms has found that the below listed properties satisfy the factors for historic designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Beacon hereby makes the following findings pursuant to § 134-4 of the City Code:

1. The Property located at **11 Digger Phelps Court**, known and designated on the Tax Map of the City of Beacon as Parcel ID # 5954-27-843954:

Has distinguishing architectural characteristics of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship. This 2-story Italianate wood structure with a flat roof, first appearing on the maps of the City of Beacon in 1884, is one of the most intact examples of its type, scale and period in the City. Other than replacement windows, the building retains its original Italianate character, particularly with its detailed front porch. It features a flat roof, a broad cornice, a wide frieze with a pointed cutout pattern, along with a narrow course of matching cut-outs at the top of the first floor. The front porch extends around the north side of the building. The decorative corbeled porch posts, detailed railing,

and paneled door all appear original, as does the bay window with dentilled cornice on the south side. There is a one-story section to the rear. While the window sashes and the chimney near the south roof line appear to be more modern replacements, the building is largely intact and reflects its original character. As such, this Italianate wood home embodies the distinguishing characteristics of its architectural period and style.

2. The Property located at **4 N. Elm Street**, known and designated on the Tax Map of the City of Beacon as Parcel ID# 5954-27-864924:

Has distinguishing architectural characteristics of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship. This 1 ½ story Second Empire structure with a raised basement and mansards roof with multiple hooded dormers is one of most the intact examples of its type, scale and period in the City. The home first appears on the 1884 Sanborn Map. The building is particularly notable for being a Second Empire residence of modest size. The house features a bracketed cornice with an arrow-shaped frieze pattern. The front porch extends across the full building frontage with four turned columns, and an original balustrade across the front. The double front doors and windows appear to be original. The south elevation has a rectangular bay and a tall brick chimney. The building's exterior was recently restored. The compatible changes to the original exterior of the structure include the front steps, balustrade flanking the steps, and corner brackets on the porch posts. The one-story rear garage has a modern exterior. However, the building retains nearly all of its original character, including its distinctive roof and cornice. As such, this Second Empire home embodies the distinguishing characteristics of its architectural period and style.

3. The Property located at **27 Church Street**, known and designated on the Tax Map of the City of Beacon as Parcel ID# 5954-28-897918:

Has distinguishing architectural characteristics of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship. This 2-story late-Victorian home is one of the most intact examples of its type, scale, and period remaining in the City. First appearing on the 1896 Sanborn Map, the home has a cross-gable roof, a central brick chimney, and a 2-story rear section. The front porch, extending around the west side, contain round Tuscan columns. The western cross-section of the house has a cutaway bay on the first level with a decorated overhand. The original siding has been covered over with asbestos siding and the window sashes and porch railing appear to be modern replacements. A former rear porch on the west side has been enclosed. There is a one-story, non-historic garage in the rear corner and a black chain link fence around the perimeter of the yard. Nonetheless, the building retains most of its original character, in particular its distinctive two-sided front porch. Accordingly, this late-Victorian home embodies the distinguishing characteristics of this architectural period and style.

4. The Property located at **189 Fishkill Avenue**, known and designated on the Tax Map of

the City of Beacon as Parcel ID# 6054-29-047864:

Has special character or historic or aesthetic interest or value as part of the cultural, political, economic or social history of the community. This 2 ½ story residence, constructed circa 1885, is associated with a historic person, James V. Forrestal (1882-1949). Born in Beacon, and graduating from Matteawan High School at the age of 16, James V. Forrestal was a naval aviator in World War I and Wall Street executive until World War II. A friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, he was appointed as Undersecretary of the Navy in 1940 and Secretary of the Navy in 1944. James V. Forrestal oversaw the effective mobilization of the war effort during World War II, and is notable for advocacy pertaining to racial integration in the military. In 1947, President Truman appointed James V. Forrestal as the first Secretary of Defense. He resigned from the position in 1949. Commissioned in 1955, the USS *Forrestal*, was the first American supercarrier and was named after James V. Forrestal. Additionally, a major office building in Washington D.C., and an elementary school in Beacon, were subsequently named after him. As such, the property is associated with a person of special historic value as part of the cultural, political and social history of Beacon and qualifies for historic designation pursuant to § 134-4(B)(2) of the City Code.

5. The Property located at **11 Commerce Street**, known and designated on the Tax Map of the City of Beacon as Parcel ID# 5954-27-771935:
 - a. **Has distinguishing architectural characteristics of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship.** This 2-story Italianate brick building is one of the most intact examples of its type, scale, and period in the City. Constructed in the mid-to-late 1800s, the house features a flat roof and brick chimney. The roof line contains a broad overhanging eave and wide frieze board without brackets. There is a one-story bay window on the west side towards the rear. The windows have stone lintels and sills with 6 over 6 sashes. The porch across the front of the house has a simple shed roof. The double front doors have arched windows with raised panels below. There is a one-story garage with a gable roof on the west side of the house that first shows up on the 1919 Sanborn Map. As such, this largely intact Italianate building embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural period and style.
6. The Property located at **20 South Avenue**, known and designated on the Tax Map of the City of Beacon as Parcel ID# 5954-27-753929:
 - a. **Has distinguishing architectural characteristics of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship.** This 2 ½ story Second Empire structure is one of the most intact examples of its type, scale, and period in the City. A house appears at this location on the 1867 and 1876 Atlas Maps, but was first accurately depicted on the 1884 Sanborn Map. There is a cobblestone retaining wall along the front sidewalk which contributes to the architectural characteristics of the Second Empire building. It has a mansard roof, brick chimney, and metal rooftop balustrade. There is a 1 ½ story addition to the rear, which also has a mansard roof, while the somewhat later 1-story addition to the

south has a flat roof. There are gabled dormers with decorative cutwork around both mansard roofs. The second-floor cornice has brackets and a broad stucco band below. The second-floor windows are 2 over 2 with stone lintels and sills. The elaborately decorated porch, which extends across front and south side, has a bracketed cornice, square columns with capitals, cut-out arches with central pendants, and turned balusters. The front double doors have glass panels and a transom window. As of February 2026, the cut-out arches with central pendants were removed from the porch. A large modern addition with a horizontal siding and a combination shed and gable roof has also been built on the north side to the rear. Nonetheless, this Second Empire building retains its original distinctive character, including its Second Empire roof and elaborately decorated wraparound porch. As such, this building embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural period and style.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 134 of the City of the City of Beacon, the City Council hereby designates the properties located at **11 Digger Phelps Court** (Parcel ID# 5954-27-843954), **4 N. Elm Street** (Parcel ID# 5954-27-864924), **27 Church Street** (Parcel ID# 5954-28-897918), **189 Fishkill Avenue** (Parcel ID# 6054-29-047864), **11 Commerce Street** (Parcel ID# 5954-27-771935), and **20 South Avenue** (Parcel ID# 5954-27-753929) as historic landmarks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the aforementioned designated historic landmarks shall be shown on the Zoning Map of the City of Beacon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Building Department and transmit a copy to the mailing address for the owner of each of the aforementioned properties.

Resolution No. 55 of 2026			Date: July 6, 2026				
☐ Amendments			☐ 2/3 Required				
☐ On roll call			☐ 3/4 Required				
Motion	Second	Council Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Reason	Absent
		Paloma Wake	x				
x		Amber Grant	x				
		Lastar Gorton		x			
		Zack Smith		x			
		Sergei Krasikov					x
		Carolyn Glauda	x				
	x	Mayor Lee Kyriacou	x				
		Motion Carried	x				