

14-story tower of the Landmark Center

## **Landmark Center**

Stefanus Tedy

Completed in 1928
401 Park Drive, Boston, MA 02115
Designed by George Croll Nimmons of Nimmons, Carr & Wright
Renovation by Bruner/Cott & Associates, 2000
Limestone and brick art deco building
952,000 sq. ft. with a 200 ft. tall tower
Mixed use office and retail
www.landmarkcenter.com

The Landmark Center is an art deco style commercial building located at 401 Park Drive in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts. The building consists of an 8 story base with a 14 story tower. It is located at the intersection of Park Drive and Brookline Avenue. It is also a meeting point between the Riverway and the Back Bay Fens park system.

The building retail operation includes Staples, REI, a 13-screen movie theater, a sports complex and a day care center, Blick Art Supplies, and office spaces largely occupied by tenants from the medical field.



Historically, the Landmark Center is one of the last of a series of Sears distribution center buildings designed by architect George Croll Nimmons of Nimmons, Carr & Wright. The building served as a warehouse and distribution center for the Sears, Roebuck, and Company from 1929 to January 1988. Designed to be Art Deco, it truly was a reflection of its times as a contemporary building of the 1920s. After its closure, the Landmark Center came close to demolition several times until it was added into the National Register of Historic Places in January 15, 1991.

The building was restored and transformed into a lucrative rental property by The Abbey Group developer with architecture firm Bruner/Cott & Associates. The conversion was acknowledged with several awards from the Boston Preservation Alliance, Building Design & Construction, and Massachusetts Historical Commision.



Originally, as part of a series of Sears Distribution Centers, the Landmark Center had a number of sister buildings across the country, most notably the Midtown Exchange in Minneapolis, Minnesota and the Sears, Roebuck & Company Mail Order Building in Los Angeles, California.

The Landmark Center is currently owned and operated by Samuels & Associates. The firm is a major property owner and developer in the Fenway area with a portfolio including Van Ness (Target City), Verb Hotel, Fenway Triangle Trilogy, 1330 Boylston, 1249 Boylston, 1255 Boylston, 126 Brookline Avenue, and the new Pierce Boston condominium and apartment tower.