

Historic Boston Inc. (HBI)

Historic Boston Inc. (HBI) is a non-profit organization that redevelops historic places to help urban neighborhoods thrive. We act in the belief that re-using older properties meets current needs, enriches communities, and restores neighborhood pride. We are

Collaborative—we work with community based partners and public agencies to encourage positive neighborhood change.

Entrepreneurial—we take strategic risks, using market forces to guide our investments to where they will have the most impact.

Pragmatic—we are problem-solvers, using a range of planning and development tools to complete preservation projects ourselves and to assist others.

Innovative—we use new preservation approaches, learn from our experience, and share our knowledge.

Transformative—we pursue projects and programs which inspire imitation and transform neighborhoods.

HBI's Real Estate Activities

- Property acquisition and development
- Project financing (borrowing and lending)
- Partnerships with public, private and not-for-profit entities
- Fee-for-service consulting or project development
- Fundraising
- Easement acquisition and management

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- Founded in 1960 to save the **Old Corner Bookstore Building (1718)**, slated to be demolished for a parking garage.
- Oldest private commercial building
- 19th century offices of influential publisher Ticknor and Fields
- Renowned literary hub for American Renaissance writers Emerson, Thoreau, Alcott and others
- HBI continues to own and manage the building; net revenue supports HBI's preservation mission in Boston's neighborhoods.

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- In 1979, HBI re-cast itself as a city-wide historic preservation revolving fund.
- Targets at-risk historic places in the municipality of Boston only.
- Old Corner Bookstore rental income subsidizes HBI programs and projects.
- Bookstore property is also leveraged at times to complete high risk preservation projects in Boston's neighborhoods.