HOTEL MANGER

Newspapers touted it as "...the most uniquely situated hotel in the world"; one of Boston's finest hotels opened its doors in August of 1930 at 76 Causeway St., where it had direct access to North Station and Boston Garden along with fantastic views of the Boston Harbor, Charles River, Cambridge, and Charlestown. The hotel was named after Julius Manger, who was head of the New York hotel development company that built it for $2.5 million as the first Boston representative of the Mangers' chain of hotels in New York and Chicago.

The "Tower of Hospitality" was 19 stories high and contained 500 rooms, each attractively furnished in the most modern manner and fully equipped with amenities such as a shower and tub bath, circulating ice-water, a French one-hand telephone, a tick-less electric clock, and a radio that tuned in on one of three leading stations at any time during the day or evening.

The hotel itself was modernly designed and styled in the popular 1920s art deco fashion featuring plenty of metals and marbles throughout. The lower floors held several banquet halls and ballrooms. An immense restaurant sat on the station level where guests could find table service and a large soda fountain. The main dining room was on the lobby floor. The lobby floor and the concourse leading into the station and the street floor were made entirely of Vermont and Botticino marble, proportionately the most marble in any New England building. Not a single expense was spared in making the grand hotel.

For several years during the mid-1930s, The Manger became home to radio station WMEX before it moved to the Kenmore Square area. At the time, everybody who came to The Garden stayed at The Manger, housing a number of celebrities which included musicians, cowboys, boxers and NHL and NBA players. The Manger was "New England's Most Perfectly Equipped Hotel", and played an important part in the history of the area.