

Post walk interview....Van Doorke.

Recall: Well, as I at once noticed you led me into one of the better parts of Boston, and I enjoyed that particular street very much because it was rather broad^{sp} when you compared it to the rest of Boston. They're mostly narrow streets and you have lots of traffic difficulties, and...it doesn't seem so bright as this one...I forgot the name.

There are lots of beautiful shops^c....and the one thing that I think I did not like about it, and I found that all over Boston, is the difference in architecture...that didn't take too much notice of time and sign,...every building has its own, and placed beside ~~the~~ each other the result is often unfavorable. I don't think they looked at it at all....and they just had one architect doing one building and another doing another and no conference about that.

Of course, about this particular street I couldn't say much, only things in favor. It looked rather nice and it was open. You don't find that in big cities very often. Nice shops and rather modern buildings around. I don't think they're very new, but at least they look modern. The street wasn't too dirty.

We walked on and came to the section where you could view the park. Of course that is very nice, and I think every city should have a thing like that where you get a breath of fresh air.. just right beside the most busy district of the town. Especially in summer, people should enjoy... even though they live in the center of a city they should be able to go somewhere, and not just walk in the narrow streets.

The thing is that when you saw the old church facing the modern shop and, well I think it's all in the process of a city. I mean you can't avoid that....but I think in Holland we take more care of the architecture, that the houses and shops fit with each other and it's not too much difference in the buildings. We even have the streets like that. The houses are more or less the same time, and of course now it's all ruled. You just can't build a house as you want it. It can not be higher than this....

You know, I think that's rather nice. You have lots of villages around where people can do crazy things if they want to. But in a town they have to take care what their building....well, people live there and I think they must make it nice to look at and beside that, easy to keep clean. I don't understand why the houses are so black here, on the outside. It looks to me like Glasgow....which is terrible. We don't have to have that and the Hague is not an industrial town, and Boston is not, so I don't know what the reason is. Of course Boston might be a little bit older...I'm not very good at dates, I'm afraid. But I don't see any reason...I guess people just don't care enough to keep the city clean, and we do.

You showed me this narrow, rather dirty small street, I think the kind of street you find everywhere and in every town and big city. And the only thing is that here, as I said before, people don't care if it's dirty or not. They don't walk through it I imagine. No people living there. It's just the back way^{sp}, and I don't know who uses it but, I guess some people walk through just as we did, and it's terrible. We have narrow streets like that...but they always look clean. I'm from an especially clean country, of course, so I can say that. That's why I notice it.

Well, our houses look more friendly...I don't know why. Maybe because we have ~~no~~ curtains and more flowers
more

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and we have more trees in the street, and that's a very common thing to have them all along the street on both sides, and
(You didn't see trees here?) ^H

No, I don't think so....well, of course the park, but I said that was just great and I approve of that very much.

(People)

Well, I think this is the better part of the city and you can see businessmen and as you told me, many houses were occupied by offices....so that explains that*...I didn't notice any particular....
Of course the people here are for me very different from the people I used to see in Holland, naturally. And I find it very strange, because in Holland you have more classes, and you see you can place the people when you see them walking through the street. Here you can't....at least I can't. and even when they speak it's difficult for me to say anything like that...so I can't say I saw a particular kind of people. I must say the people here are all rather well-dressed, but

(Particularly on this street?) No. I could give you a comparison between Cambridge and Brookline, which is very different, but here no. Maybe I was too busy looking at the buildings and so on...No I think it's a good part of the city, and you see it in the people too ^P

(any particular people) no. two dark people, that's all. because you don't see them very much ^P

(sounds) Sounds weren't too bad. People don't use their horns too much. And. nothing really obvious that struck. just the normal city sounds. Of course I missed the sound of the tram. no children playing in the street. ^{SO}

(signs) no. I saw that most of the colored signs, neon, were out. I guess at night it must be quite different, though I don't know if the shops use them. I like that very much ...I think every town should have that more. I think it's very good for the business. You find that here much more than in holland, but it's coming. ^{SI}

(smells) No. I might have smelled something in the little street SM

(street-sidewalk) sidewalks were very broad, which is very favorable for the city I think. But the town is growing and growing and it needs space. I don't think they'll make them so broad as they used to. I don't think you find that ~~anywhere~~ everywhere in Boston. I like it very much, because I like the city to be a bit wide...and if you're living in the center you want to get the blue sky, and you get that with the broad street and such, and wide pavements and so on. ^{PA}

.....made of stone....pressed sand...cement. I think they should take all the ice and snow off the pavement. Because it's very dangerous and all kinds of people walk there, and not everybody has a car... ^{PA}

(bldg and features) Well they all looked rather modern to me...the beautiful shops and shop windows. They used the light stone or whatever it is. I think that makes it much nicer than what they used to use...the old dark red bricks. The old houses are that way. That's what I meant about the architecture...having these old houses beside the rather nice and modern stores and offices..... ^C

You mean the government building...it wasn't in the street. I saw it and ^B

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~~in~~ of course it was towering high above everything else (the ins co.) I remember most of the buildings, and I can't say they all had large ~~building~~ windows, which I like very much....

I guess the first floor is shop and the rest is ^Cbusiness. I don't know what you're trying to get.

(any partic)

Well the church....I remember most of the big buildings ^B but not their names.... well the big one on the corner before we started the walk (Bonwit's) which was very nice....but it all fits in with what I said about the modern standing right beside the old housesI don't think it's modern but it looked light and the show windows were very nicely made up with modern colors. I guess the building itself is not that new.

(area) Well I think we stayed on one area more or less, but I think across the street was actually more the centrum, and we had together the shops and business houses, and still houses where people live in. I guess that's more or less old and used to be all living houses, and they've rebuilt it. - made new for offices and so on.

(character) ~~with~~ No. I'd say it really looked like a business section.

(order) don't understand (uniform?) not enough, I would say.

(organized, or disorganized.) I think people should have one kind of...not exactly the same of course...That would be very boring, but at least the buildings to fit in with each other but not contradicting and being ugly because they stand beside each other. It does reflect on the beautiful building too if it stands beside an old fashioned and something awful structure.

(conception of Boston) No I couldn't say that. First place I don't know much about Boston. I have been in Boston two times, and this is the third time. I couldn't compare. I must say it is one of the better sections, I guess. And mainly because of the broad streets and the light buildings.

(at ease) very very much.