

TOUR OF CEN. BOSTON - K.L. - 11/10/55

Nov. 10

①

Fm bridge - Hancock Bldg Cust Hse Ct Hse.

Old Davis & small Peas Hill. S & P bridge.

NE Mut Tower & Copley Col. - River space Mass Ave

Back Bay - grid - brick swell fronts - street space w/  
pent gardens.

Commonwealth - space, trees, sight of Court Hse & Hancock  
many windowed ordered front.

Car. change @ Newb - mostly broken space & silhouette, also  
small RR of little import.

Cluster @ Bay State (Mass Sta) but Bay St. not strong  
thru st. - Mass Ave road, but weaker. Takes on  
strong slop character.

Motter Col mod. mark. New area character low,  
→ high mean, "square" brick front. on inner st.  
Streets & bldgs now angle.

Discontinuity @ Sympl, col not recog for rear, but pick up  
again. Sympl cluster fully bldg fully subway. Huntington  
→ a strong line. New area character ahead - high  
swell fronts - balustrades & rails.

Columbus a line, RR not exp. new Hancock change in  
Mass Ave plan to reorg. gage, chm. Less feeling  
relation to center place does Columb go?

→ Tremont also line, but cannot distinguish from Columb.

Mass creek space. Area lower class and. Wash

Mass Ave begins to be a street and a little, quiet.

→ Wash strong line due to El. Have some sense  
of where heading + vitality of traffic & stops  
shaded space.

Mass Ave ends in sun. pl @ Albany - into dense  
& fantastic industrial lands. Stacks & poles,  
Along Albany not a line but an edge like city of  
industrial yds - no sense of where going  
just butting. Up left feel "Boston".

Operating on a grid but sun like Cathedral Houses, w/  
along w/ Cathedral is hand-made in self, but confusing  
internally. Form & math. Some area feel for  
red bricks etc.

→ El again - still strong got directional clue.  
The completely un-descript area, usual. Then  
cross Tremont, strong line but loses self  
just ahead, & dead on Dartmouth (by name  
math, rounded fonts, view Copley Club tower)  
is "Boston" residential.

No feeling relation to center, R, but only ahead  
to "Copley". Church L on Warren minor mark  
Hancock - twin stacks & (Tremont St)

→ @ Columbus, the street angles break, but suddenly  
aware of center & (Staller complex) with  
& bulk of bldgs - Church steps over transect  
Parks St? Hancock in line

Suddenly reaches & Parks Bay Sta (which always seems blind)  
Parks go in wrong circle & do not go to center. ←



→ City of Glasgow def. bounds, just betw Street & City  
There is story w/ landmarks.

Huntington describes. Bayston strong line  
Newbury has free character for few blocks - bldgs  
& stores & activity - tho conceptually part of  
Paul Bay.

Commonwealth very strong - as a line but  
cfs. in self. Mulberry & to be expected Pearson  
are quite secure Paul Bay. Views downtown  
marks. Sense of Class then narrow gaps.

Also St bridge. Paul B satisfying, guided, connected  
free character - Center is dead but exact rel unknown.  
Then to Common space & sense whole tho w/ hard.

Baron goes up the hill & becomes linear  
Strong river space - the  $\Delta$  below Class in a lost  
area → a pasture Pearson Hill very def. @  
Charles, looking up. Class St as the skirting edge,  
for circle to Common.

Common strong, but for turn - for which the house  
going away from center. Facade opposite marks  
center, but somewhat anom, & not sure of true  
purs. Hancock etc much more def. R.

Class St ends by plunging into confusion. Ph Sq  
Some feeling Clatter complex tho last to

→ Busy like a hidden river thru confusion. Then Ag  
Toward - bridge. Some beautiful then down with line

→ Wash poses question when Elk leaves it, & it turns. Excl. for spec found - this is a confusing area. Come to RR tracks - edge of world again

→ I love a small grid @ foot of mountains. Center. Center chap. a kneeland - mostly lee of bulk. Also mark over

Linden St has sense of leading into it. Kneeland strong but tunnelled. This lower warehouse wholesale area has char of old loft bldgs. Turn & rear S Sta pretty strong.

S Sta grand for rear but powerful marks. Newspaper & X way confusing - Mt Ave has lost its conviction.

Old out  
Antennas  
Hill  
in front  
before Vay

The crossing confused, but can see back side PO. So bldgs up Federal - also strong sense of center direction up Summer via actual & buffer. ←

where center is - Wash is strong, tho dies to R. also aware PO Sq on R, Tremont strong, & Common & State lbe. Pt St Chal etc. A def area due to pedestrian activity, signs, window display.

Then up to Bess Hill. Ph St is distinct, but area to R is marginal. B Hill Boulevard is along R Hill facade. See alley to R & row houses. Manger Road means N Sta.

Cambridge is strong but Boulevard is anonymous. After Scollay what a Cambridge? Old staple base on Cambridge is recognized.

Steeple in old West End. Up, Lowell, some sense of  
 more landing ahead - a strange hill - more  
 → inside there are no numbers - this is not W End,  
 & W End has little meaning esp. w. Mass. Gal.  
 But this area has a character, like N End, if more  
 detailed. Views out to Mungo - El - N Sta. to  
 Xway & tracks - back to Elmore, down to  
 Class R side.

A sea blow wind - up to El & N Sta, is utterly fragmented,  
 lumped as a confused section of decay & wholesale  
 info. A Causeway & Merrimack is up, confusing  
 Xway appears as if overhanging wall. El is strong, but  
 comes from nowhere.

This wholesale - specifically det. is utterly confusing. Only  
 via glimpses of Xway or Elmore. Some little sense  
 of what's ahead & to R - Scollay ahead to L.  
 → But just in its variety. Only a bit Portland and  
 around have reached a connection. Scollay - Knight  
 & see "Ward": (this is known, an unmarked P)  
 see Docks Sq - space, slope, & begin center hills

Then Financial Mt. & Elmore. Up, Ward, sense of Old  
 State House <sup>Salt Pond</sup> in Mt. Old So. in a mark.  
 Down to financial dist. PO. So. has become  
 clear of the view - but no sense detected  
 just mixed blocks.

→ State St has character & appearance but dies as hills Xway  
 Both of Pethic centers on you suddenly, hard to relate to top



But @ lower end lose sense of border of Mts. Area to  
R is just confused tho w/ whole character  
Atl Ave of spar. just after Xway (at rather low level  
in hollow straight) - the small of sea, fairly  
algae - a strong area - the broad mixed  
of carving of R & L.

Moving of fishpond - contained smalls recently but  
not turned to L in 1 block - straightened by  
X Way straight "N Sta". This area has on  
N end qualities for mths gradually. Quite  
confusing.

Then up to cross the river, immediate spine w/ channel  
@ end. Also Salem bar, space 2 with sites. Entire  
N. End has even strength - square brick bldg but  
space life in str & the slopes.

Come out @ Clanton bridge, where do not expect  
space to be. It turns in quite a bit. Can not  
face means water, but hard to connect  
killer to Class R or AA front.

@ sharp bend @ N End Pyramid show feed at 1/2 ft of  
At line, who connects to Sta. These connections  
Cops 2 Hill steps down @ ft. Hanover in first  
red granite water & CG boats.

Areas w/ strongest character are:

Beacon Hill - slopes, narrow corridors, old brick walls & floors,  
special doors, intimate space, single houses

Back Bay - grid, high corridors, brick, <sup>Victorian detail</sup> bays of swell  
fronts, front gardens, <sup>Car. E.</sup> fld cars, middle class, apts., <sup>vicos.</sup> vicos.

North End - square brick bldg, high activity people,  
noise, Ital. shops, litter, density.

Washington Shopping - crowds, shop windows, seigns  
total activity density & detail density

Markets - smell, <sup>confusion</sup> periodic activity, <sup>food</sup> food, awnings &  
loading docks, organic litter

Atlantic Ave - sea smell, heavy mixed traffic, ragged  
open space, <sup>curving A.A.</sup> piers, sea goods, dilapidation