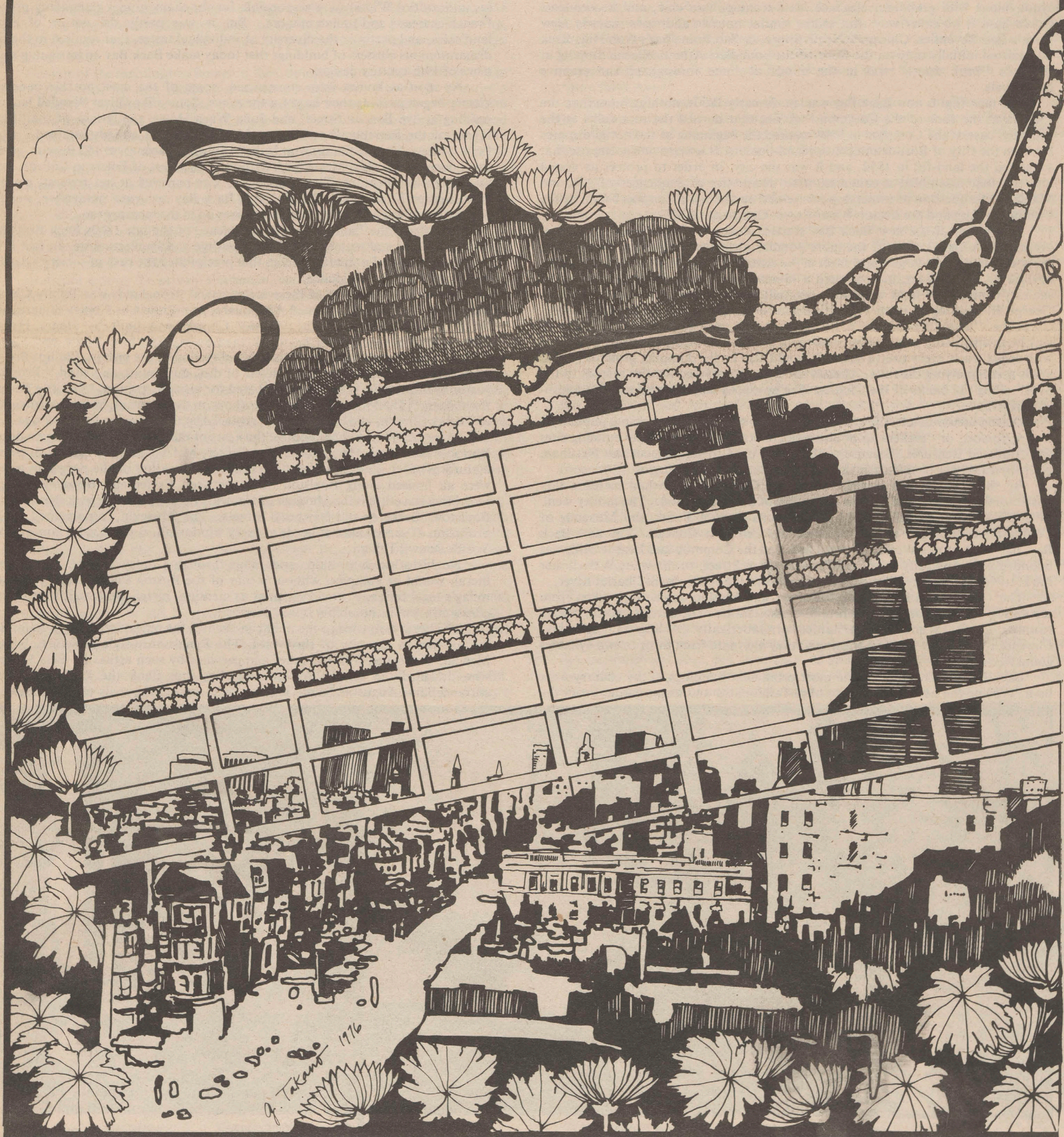
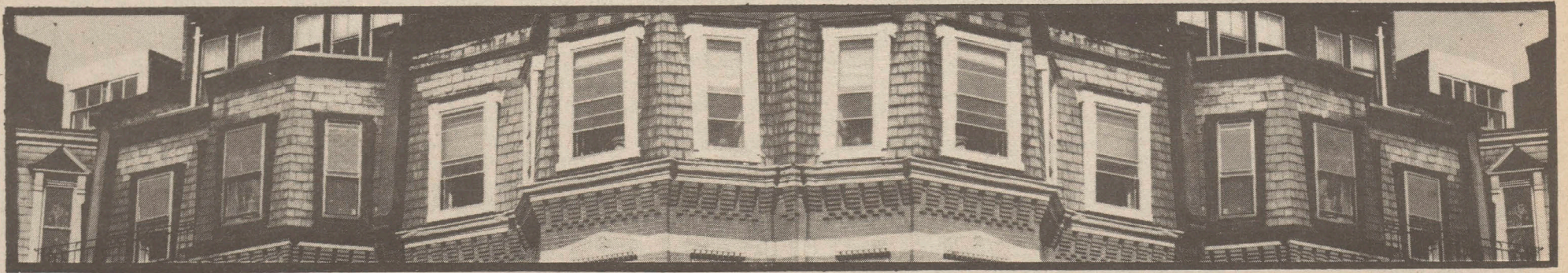


Boston's BACK BAY

A GCN Supplement





Boston's Back Bay: An Introduction to Elegance

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Contemporary Bostonians outside the *clique-ish* domain of Back Bay regard Boston's affluent microcosm as both snobbish and reserved. They may not be far removed from the truth. Since its earliest inception, Back Bay has been synonymous with grandeur, elegance, and cosmopolitan chic, and its residents would have it no other way. But unlike similar notable addresses, namely New York's East Seventies, Chicago's North Shore, or San Francisco's Nob Hill, Back Bay existed initially only on the floor of the boundless Atlantic Ocean tapping at Boston's "back door," and in the minds of some foresighted and creative individuals.

The land that is now Back Bay was, in the early 1800s, nothing more than the "marsh at the foot of the Common." A fire that burned the ropewalks at the southern base of the Common in 1794 marked the beginning of territorial disputes between the City of Boston and private land-holders. It was private enterprise that suggested the land-fill in 1852, and it was the city, in order to protect its vested interest, that assembled a commission to decide the consequences of "Round Marsh." The question of ownership was settled and construction was begun by the Commonwealth and the Boston Water Power Company in 1857.

The design of the new Back Bay started on the drafting boards of several prominent designers. One of the more popular ideas never reaching fruition was the construction of a large water sheet in the center of the new land mass. The plan, devised by David Sears, incorporated a 75-acre "Silver Lake" developed for the sanitary benefits of "fresh air passing over salt water." The project, supported by George H. Snelling (a name still prominent in the city), allowed for the refreshing of the "lake" by the tides of the ocean flowing into the water basin. The plan was later dismissed, principally because, although the basin would be refreshed with ocean water every twelve hours, it would also be the dumping grounds for the muds accompanying the tides. Already these muds provided a "dire affront to the nose" along the banks of the Charles. The proposed lake later became Commonwealth Avenue.

During construction, the still favorite sport of scavenging became popular as the *chiffoniers*, or "pickers up of unconsidered trifles," ravaged the building sites for dismissed treasures. Because rubbish was used to supplement the Needham gravel, pickin' was plentiful for the basket-laden trash aficionados.

By 1886 the fill was completed and the Commonwealth had netted a tidy profit totaling nearly four million dollars from the sale of land. The money went to establish and maintain the Massachusetts School Fund, the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Tufts, Williams, and Amherst Colleges. The new Back Bay, part of Boston's West End which included the Common and Beacon Hill, was bounded geographically to the east by Arlington Street; to the west, Westchester Park; to the south, the railroad; and to the north, the ever-present Charles River.

The street names in the area, Newbury and Marlborough, were taken from sections of Washington Street before its consolidation. The narrow thoroughfares running north to south were named alphabetically (Arlington, Berkeley, Clarendon, etc.) but more interestingly, they alternate from three to two syllables going westward.

Back Bay, where some of the most prominent buildings in the country were built, became the new center of the ultra-fashionable and avant-garde. From the

beginning it was noted as the "richest section of the city." Splendid townhouses, then becoming the vogue, were constructed at costs ranging from 50,000 to upwards of 180,000 dollars. The architectural firm of McKim, Mead, and White (as in Stanford White) were responsible for the many homes resembling pseudo-French chateaux and Italian manors. But it was partly the nature of erratic land sales, and partly the diversity of individual tastes, that resulted in the then disharmonious clusters of buildings that today make Back Bay an intriguing show-place of 19th-century design.

As soon as homes were constructed, some of the most notable people of history began packing their bags for the move. Some, like Oliver Wendell Holmes, residing at 296 Beacon Street, and Julia Ward Howe, the lyricist of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," residing at 241 Beacon, had already attained world fame. Others, like the flamboyant Isabella Stewart Gardner, at 152 Beacon, rose to fame during their stay. Mrs. "Jack's" home, now part of Emerson College, exists as a Victorian memory. The number 152 was removed at her request, never to grace Beacon Street again. The flavor of Back Bay residents: innovative, wealthy, powerful, and occasionally scandalous, lives on in the memory too.

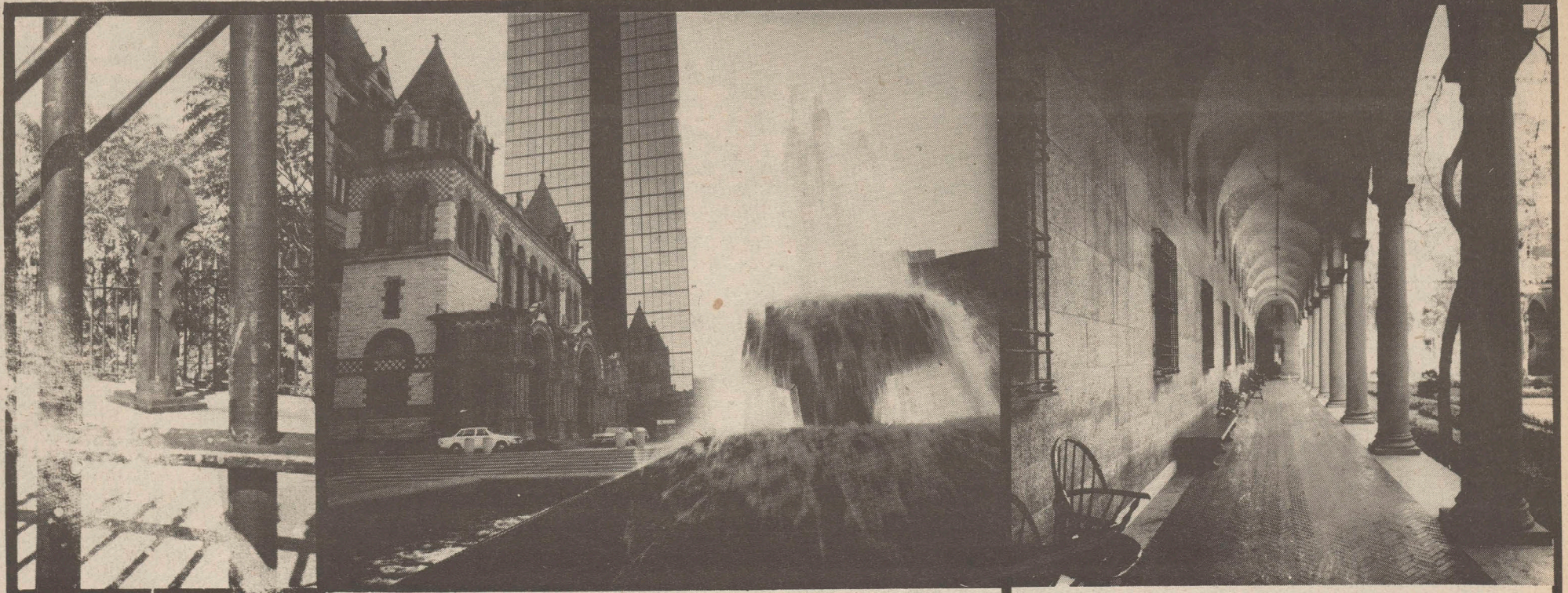
Yet amidst the flamboyance and opulence of the late 1800s Back Bay, there arose buildings and societies steeped in prestige and intellectualism. In fact it was the proliferation of notable churches that precipitated the rush of society's darlings to take up Back Bay residence.

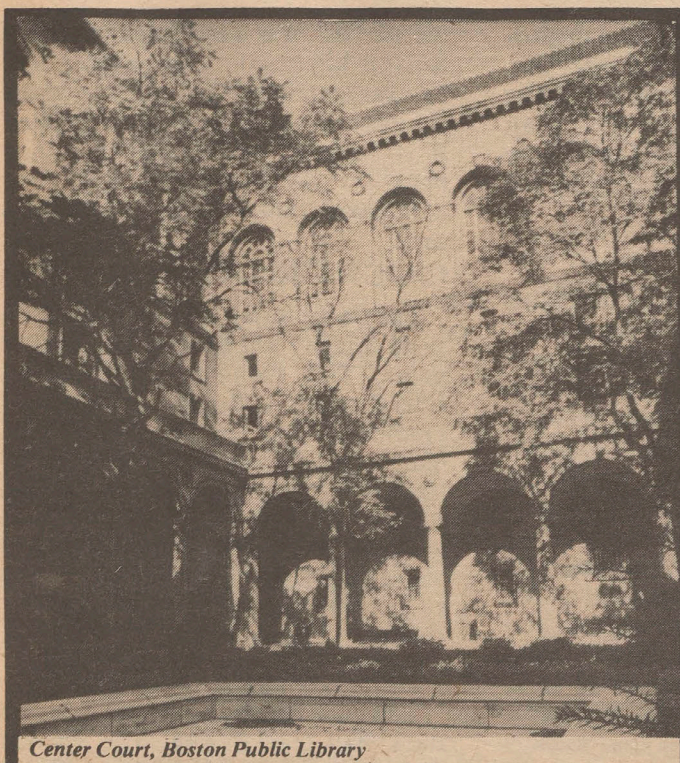
The most noteworthy of these ecclesiastical strongholds was Trinity Church, located in what was then named Art Square, now known as Copley Square, after the artist of the same name. Trinity Church was built by Henry Hobson Richardson with assistance from the then young Stanford White and Charles Follen McKim, and constructed under the direction of the bishop, Phillips Brooks, on a square that was noted as "a desert of dirt, dust, mud, and wind." Brooks, a pastor of thousands, is better remembered for his composition, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." The Museum of Fine Arts (now on the Fenway), became the neighbor of Trinity Church, and has since been replaced by the imposing Copley Plaza.

Art, or Copley, Square became the heart of the new breed of intellectualism in Boston's Back Bay. Harvard Medical Center, M.I.T., and the Boston Society of Natural History, designed with "the practical education of the people in mind," were all housed along Boylston Street between Exeter and Berkeley. The only remaining structure is the Museum of Natural History presiding over the corners of Boylston, Berkeley and Newbury Streets. The Museum, ornamented with a profusion of carved animal heads at every windowsill, is the Boston home of New York's Bonwit Teller.

No historical hop, skip, and jump through Copley Square, figurative or literal, would be complete without a tour of the Boston Public Library. Most of today's local residents would groan at its mention, merely because it's mentioned constantly, but its notability is well deserved.

The library, opened to the public in 1895, is the oldest free library maintained by taxation in any city of the world. The Renaissance-style structure, built by McKim, is adorned with bas-relief and carvings by such artists as: Bela L. Pratt, who designed the statues *Science* and *Art*, that flank the Dartmouth Street entrance, and Augustus Saint-Gaudens, who carved the seals of the library, the

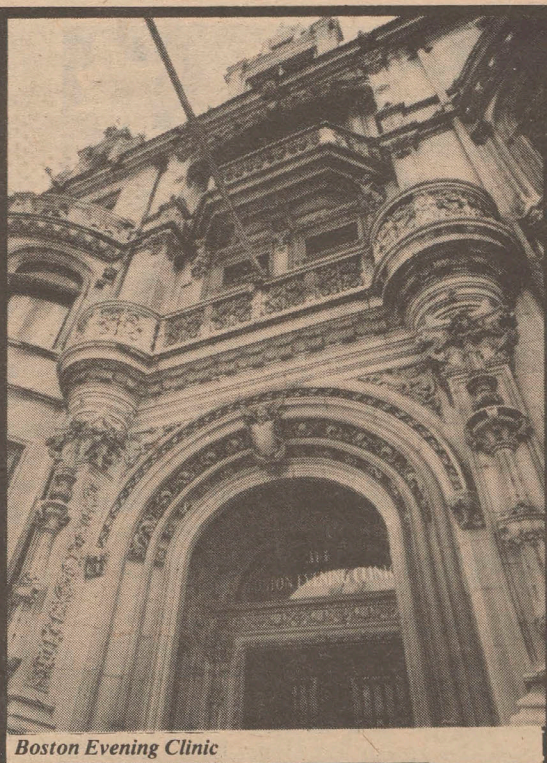




Center Court, Boston Public Library



The Esplanade



Boston Evening Clinic

city, and the state above the same entrance. I suspect, beyond the vast architectural and artistic history of the building, its most delightful aspect is the exquisite open-air atrium, inviting passers-by to sit in great Windsor-style chairs and listen to the spurting fountain and watch the slow change of the seasons. To Bostonians and visitors, the ever-present grim and grime of the city somehow seems miles away, and the splendor that was Rome is just beyond the Milford-granite walls that enclose the BPL.

The last of the buildings to flower in the Copley area, that was certainly not in conjunction with the new intellectual breed of residents, was P. S. Gilmore's Peace Jubilee Coliseum. A magnificent example of American white elephantism and desire to be "bigger and better than the rest," the Coliseum's pre-Hollywood attractions drew thousands. It literally dripped with banners, flags, and assorted Victorian murals. The shows matched the decor magnificently. The Anvil Chorus from *Il Trovatore* was presented to Boston audiences with an orchestra of one thousand musicians, a chorus of ten thousand singers, an organ, drum corps, the ringing of church bells, the firing of an electrically-controlled cannon, and one hundred Boston firemen beating upon anvils with sledge hammers. What would Gilmore have done with Fiedler's now famous rendition of the *1812 Overture*?

Returning to the residential section, we can pick up the architectural flavor that uniquely marks the Back Bay.

Scattered among the private residences, comprising the bulk of the buildings between Beacon and Newbury Streets, are examples of what were, at one time, the most fashionable hotels of this continent. The French-Victorian Hotel Vendome, until recently, was the most exclusive resident hotel. Dominating the corner of Dartmouth Street and Commonwealth Avenue, it once housed halls of mahogany and cherrywood. Its enormous chandeliers illuminated the interior with New England's first incandescent lamps.

The remainder of Back Bay, that today is externally unchanged, is the area from Newbury Street to the Charles River. Originally, building was limited to private residences, the most popular site being the river side of Beacon Street. Later the introduction of apartment buildings was made with the construction of "French Flats." The "flats" were large six-storied structures with ten-room apartments on either side. The best example remaining today is at 308-310 Commonwealth Avenue.

Other homes, best appreciated during a Sunday walk around Back Bay, include the Andrew house on the corner of Gloucester Street and Commonwealth Avenue. The house, today an M.I.T. fraternity, is ornamented with railings from the Tuileries of Paris and sports a Marie Antoinette balcony. A block further west, on Hereford Street, is a white-stone structure profusely adorned with gargoyles at every corner.

Back Bay's singular attempt to be Gothic is to be seen in the only period brownstone wonder at 165 Beacon Street. And of final note are the magnificent examples of a modification of the French academic tradition on Dartmouth Street between Commonwealth Avenue and Beacon Street.

Many years have passed since the beginning of Boston's land-fill. Slowly the gaps between homes were filled, and not until the fifties did Back Bay's

most notable location, Newbury Street, become the local attraction it is today.

It is difficult to determine when this thoroughfare began its upswing, but one thing is certain: the influence of Adrian lit the fuse of international notice. Adrian, once located on Newbury Street, was the design trend-setter of the Joan Crawford padded shoulders. He was perhaps singularly most influential for turning heads away from New York and Paris styles that dominated the fashion industry. The later introduction of fashionable couturier houses coincided with the established tradition of elegance in the Back Bay. Newbury Street became known as Boston's "little Fifth Ave."

Back Bay's signal influence also graced several novels, children's books, and the silver screen. Who can forget the steamy interlude of Bette Davis, as the repressed scion of the Back Bay Vale family, and her "foreign affair," Paul Henreid, along the tracks of the Back Bay train station?

Certainly, Back Bay has undergone many changes in the past hundred years. Brooks' Trinity Church is involved in a multi-million dollar litigation for damages sustained as a result of the construction of the John Hancock glass pillar. McKim's library has annexed a modern interpretation of his original design. The stately Vendome is a collection of costly condominiums. The *chiffonniers* of the seventies have been displaced to the alleyways. The churches stand relatively empty, save for an occasional production of provocative theater. Copley Square's desert of dirt and dust is an ocean of brick and asphalt. The walls of some of Back Bay's finest buildings are covered with expletive graffiti. The great halls of mahogany have been white-washed or covered with sheets of plywood panelling, and many of the stately brownstones have been divided, redivided, and sub-divided into apartments.

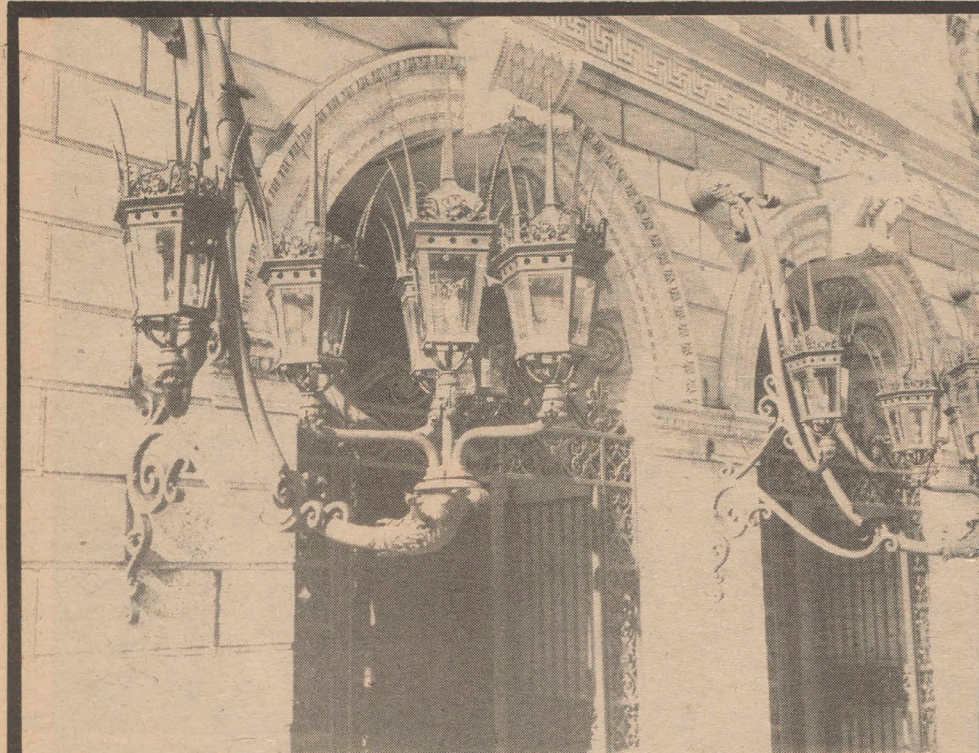
Yet no amount of "progressive modernization" will undermine the tradition that is Back Bay. In its singular fight to maintain the mandate of polish, the Back Bay Neighborhood Association was established to end further atrocities. Their current project is the development of a quarter-million dollar children's park on the corner of Clarendon Street and Commonwealth Avenue.

A similar association has been formed as well by the Newbury Street entrepreneurs to help them maintain the glamour that has been attributed to its rows of elegant shops.

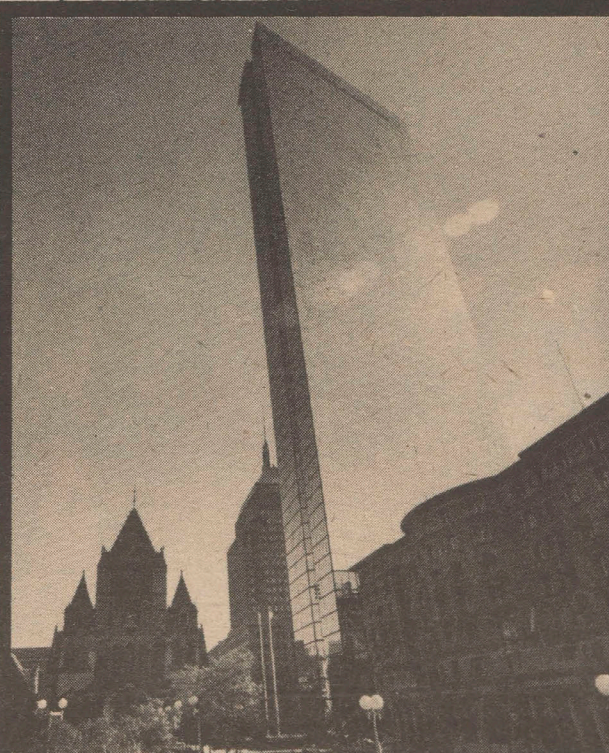
Contemporary Back Bay has lined its streets with gas lamps, has sought to preserve the classic monuments constructed decades ago, and during the summer months hosts street fairs to help return the spirit that comprises a community of concerned individuals.

It seems that even time can never take away the cobblestones that have felt the footsteps of Oliver Wendell Holmes, or Ralph Waldo Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne making their way to the Atlantic Monthly building on Arlington Street. Neither can time sweep her hands of decay over such landmarks as the immutable Ritz Carlton, scion of a national treasury of grace.

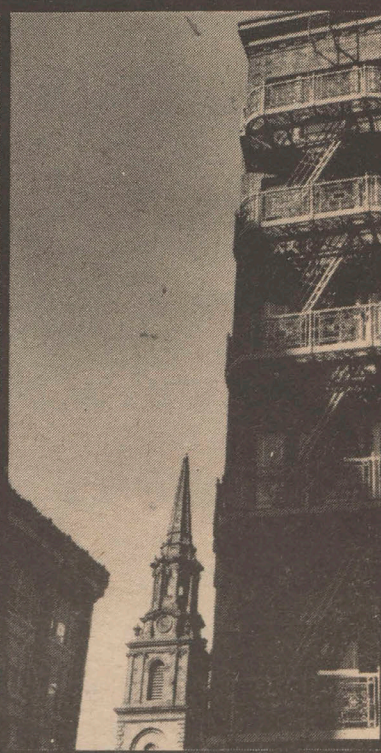
Granted, you may have to watch your step for the abundance of "gifts" from the neighborhood dogs, but remember, as you watch an elderly Back Bay matron kick them to the gutter with her cane, that she is preserving, and you are standing in, a national model of undisputed classic elegance, never to be duplicated.



BPL — Copley Square Entrance



Copley Square



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NIGHTSPOTS

Back Bay Lounge 1 Haviland St.

Well, I must say melancholia is the word here. It satisfies the customer looking for that genre of locales that provides garish bar signs, high-backed wood booths, and the toothless grin of a barmaid. It serves a purpose for those times when you want to get away from everything else, sit and sip a glass of sherry, eat a side-dish of 35¢ sardines and crackers, and be bothered by no one. Obviously not one of your upper-crust places, but somehow it serves for a wonderfully romantic interlude, dependent on the romance.

Chaps 16 Blagden St.

All arguments aside, Chaps is Boston's *original* western bar. A tough, woody decor predominates but don't be fooled, this men's bar is one of the friendliest places in town. Beverages for the stout-hearted man include cold draft and wine. Sunday happy hours, and are they happy(!) from 2-7:30 provide satisfied customers with draft, bubbling from the spigot for 25¢. With today's inflationary prices, that makes a dollar go a long way. This rustic hide-away houses a pool table, a row of

lighted pinball machines, and just to keep the mood lively, a jukebox. Hey boys, plug in another tune for me, will ya.

Jason's 131 Clarendon St.

Sure, your cousin's in town and you want to take him/her to some hot disco, where the crowd is mixed. Try Jason's.

Jason's is a relatively new restaurant/bar catering to the straight, upwardly-mobile crowd, but it is rumored that the gays are infiltrating. What's certain is that it is a lively place, requires the proper dress (spelled s-u-i-t-c-o-a-t) and rarely does not have a line two or three people wide and stretching far beyond the entrance-way.

Merry-Go-Round Copley Plaza Hotel

Boston's plush home of jazz where the stage and the surrounding seats are a huge and mirrored merry-go-round. The atmosphere is dark, the seats secluded and comfortable, and the music, some of the best in town. Even taking away the attraction of the revolving dais, the Merry-Go-Round, in the Copley Plaza Hotel, is the only lounge that comes to mind that is both elegant and entertaining. As you enter the doors to a room of thickly padded seats, white cloth-draped tables, and swagged curtains, you will be greeted with the smile of W. Clinton Creasy, who is among that rare breed that treats you like an old and established customer, even if it's your first time. His assurance comes from a guarantee that entertainers like Ruth Waters and "Fatha" Earl Hines can give you the best time possible.

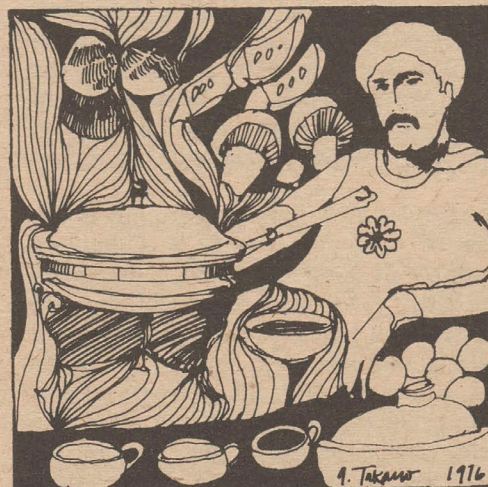
The Ritz 15 Arlington St.

The Ritz is best appreciated when reserved as the topper of rare and special occasions. The large tinted windows allow the customers a view of

the Boston Public Gardens and the rich silk interior wraps you in a privacy that is the password to a timeless hotel. The drinks, no more expensive than anywhere else, are reputed to be the best in town and after a sampling, I'd have to agree.

Styx 31 Huntington Ave.

Styx is small, beautifully decorated with gigantic plants and coach lamps; it's chic and clique-ish. It is also one of the best discos for gay men in town. The mirrored dance floor, on any night of the week, is a hustling bump-and-grind space, gyrating with the best of New York music. Although it caters to "mostly men" every look from GQ to army/navy abounds in the place. If you can make your way to the bar, you'll be greeted by attractive and friendly bartenders who will serve your drink with a smile. Everything from decor to music is done in a style that is pure Back Bay, making it your friendly neighborhood disco.



RESTAURANTS

CAFE BUDAPEST 90 Exeter St.

Madame Edith Ban is reputed to have the best restaurant in town. It is

not the best, it is more than that, it is a Boston landmark. Her magnificent Hungarian home of outstanding repast is tucked in the Copley Square Hotel. It is designed and functions principally for the aristocracy and your indulgence. Dinners — \$5.25-10.50 a la carte.

CAFE FLORIAN 85 Newbury St.

The Cafe Florian is fashioned after a small cafe in Paris of somewhat similar name. This intimate subterranean eatery serves a limited selection of sandwiches and egg plates. They are more noted for their large selection of teas, imported wines, unusual drinks (try a crushed-fruit frappe) and assorted appetizing pastries. There is warm-weather outside dining. Teas and coffees: 60¢-\$1.00, Pastries: \$1.25, Dinners: \$2.95-\$6.00.

CAFE GALLERY 73 Dartmouth St.

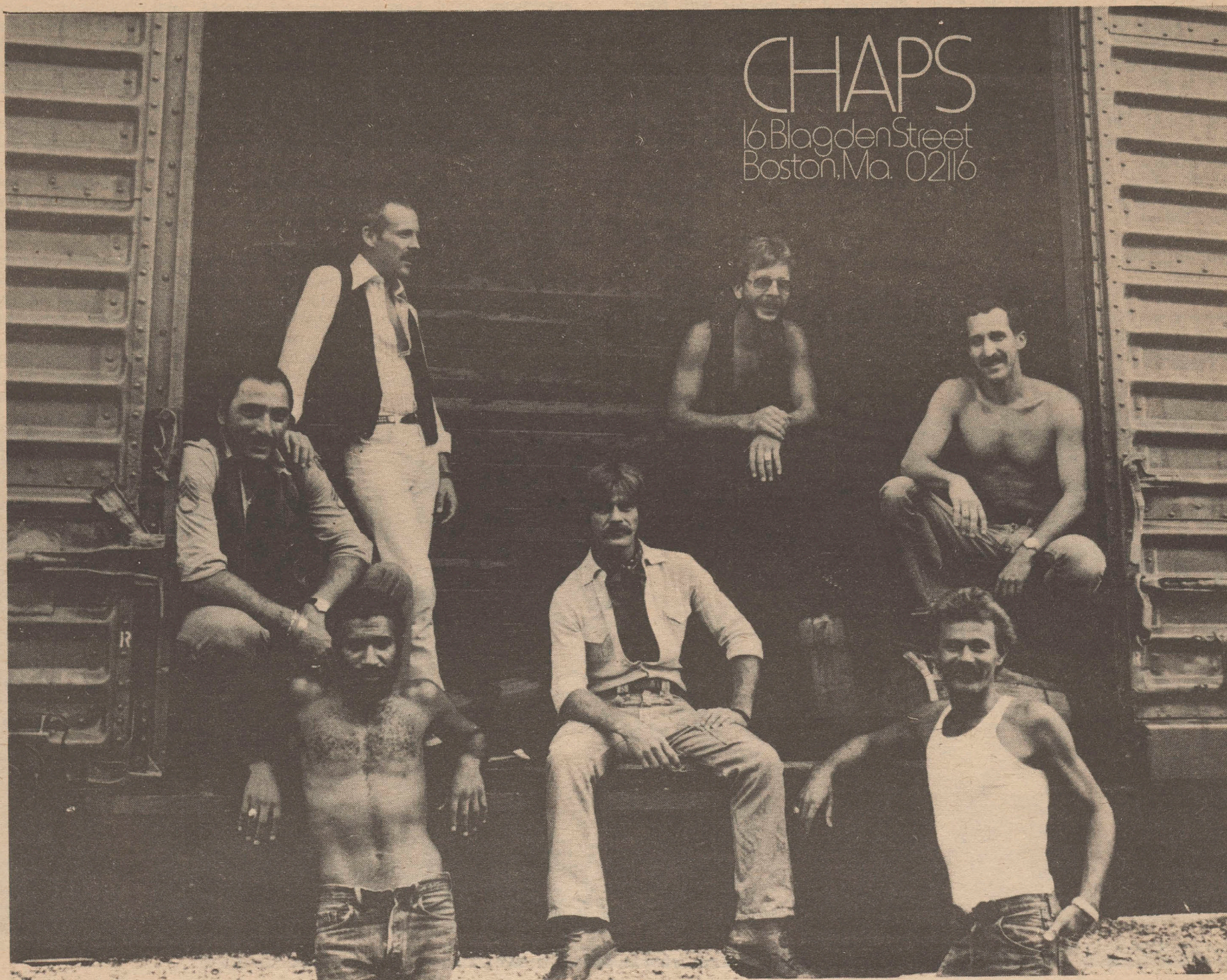
This new hide-away is just over the Back Bay tracks. The little kitchen pushes out some excellent dishes and everything is served by the affable owners. It is reminiscent of Village cafes with its bulletin board and walls of contemporary local art. Not only are their inexpensive and delightful dishes filling, but they are also one of the few restaurants that discourages mealtime smoking. Dinners: \$2-\$4.

CASA ROMERO 30 Gloucester St.

A Mexican meal for the palate enjoying super-spicy delights. Everything from the entrance door to the glazed pottery dishes is done in south-o'-the-border excellence. Casa Romero is difficult to find, considering it is tucked into a Back Bay alleyway off Gloucester Street, but if you are a Mexican gourmand, the search will be worth your effort. Besides, where else can you get a cactus salad? Dinners: \$5-\$7.

C'EST SIBON 17 Arlington St.

Perhaps the nicest part of this two-



layer restaurant overlooking the Public Garden is the lower level pastry shop. The shop, with a scattering of tables, serves the best French sugar-delights in town. The upper-level serves a full French fare with prices ranging from \$4-\$10. *C'est si bon, et c'est tres, tres francais!*

DODIN-BOUFFANT 384 Boylston St.

Dodin-Bouffant represents another "you-have-to-know-it-to-find-it" restaurant. Even if you are told that it is on the right side of Boylston Street, midway between Arlington and Berkeley Streets, you will probably walk past the entrance several times before you recognize it. It is expensive, French, and unsurpassed. It has received critical Boston accolades since its inception for its complete French fare and wine cellar. Prix Fixe: \$16.95 per person.

GENJI 327 Newbury St.

This new Japanese eatery prepares table-side Teppan and Kappo foods. In its elegant setting you are enticed to sit on raised platforms and cushions, or resort to the traditional tables and chairs, but when in Rome, or should I say when in Japan... Any way you choose, if you are a partaker and enjoyer of Japanese cuisine, you will not be disappointed by Genji's tradition-observing service and food. Dinners: \$3.75-\$9.75.

HAI-HAI 429 Boylston St.

Hai-Hai presents its entering customers with one of the most delightfully unusual menus in town. The descriptions are both witty and informative, especially if you are a neophyte of Oriental cuisine. The meal that follows (most notably the Vegetable Tempura) is as delightful to the palate as the menu was to the mind. Hai-Hai is the home of the innovative beer and lime juice cocktail. Surprisingly inexpensive. Dinners: \$2.75-\$5.95.

HERMITAGE 951 Boylston St.

This steak an' brew house is located

in the former home of Boraschi's and quotes itself as a "place whose time has returned." Heavily panelled and decorated with a profusion of etched mirrors and English roadsigns, it is both amiable and warm. The best dishes are obviously, by the menu's standards, beef, but save room for their more than ample desserts. Dinners: \$3.95-\$8.95.

KEN'S 549 Boylston St.

The Copley Square late-night place to be, Ken's presents its satisfied customers with both a take-out delicatessen and sit-down restaurant. The window is filled with sugar-delights, and the menu goes on for days. Not for those having difficulty making decisions. The line is often long and spilling out into the streets, but the wait is surprisingly short. Ken's is obviously extremely popular with the "after-bar" crowd, so things at times can get a bit rowdy, but never unfriendly. A wide and diverse price range with no minimum.

L'ANANAS 281a Newbury St.

Cafe L'Ananas is affectionately translated to the "Pineapple Restaurant" for no particular reason. Their indoor-outdoor (in appropriate weather) serves a full continental menu. A few steps underground leads you to an intimate and thoroughly Parisian hide-away. Dinners: \$4-\$8.

MAGIC PAN 47 Newbury St.

Crepes, crepes, and crepes again! This trans-continental home of crepes, prepared individually for the delight of the eater, is continually packed. Never is there not a long waiting line, which must say something. Obviously crepes proliferate from start to finish. Dinners, or should I say, crepes: \$2.95-\$5.00.

STOCKPOT 119 Newbury St.

The Stockpot represents one of the first of the now popular soup and salad spots. The salads are as large as you

want to make them, the soups are extensive in selection, and the breads delicately warmed. Sounds light, but somehow it's always filling. A large salad and large crock of soup is a mere \$2.50. It's a comfortable place to entertain with a minimal depression of the wallet.

TOPO 235 Newbury St.

The fare is the ever-fashionable French, and so are the heavily-accented service people. The menu is varied and relatively inexpensive in this "one-of-three" French oriented shops (the other two being a hair salon and boutique). Take-out service is also available for those wishing to take their bread and cheese to the Charles. Aimez-vous? Wide price range.

VENDOME 160 Commonwealth Ave.

The Cafe Vendome is located in



THEATER

Boston Arts Group

The Boston Arts Group, known around town as BAG, is a theater-producing organization at every level. Since establishment in 1973 as a non-profit institution, BAG has grown from one acting class to an innovative theater complex. The Group, at 367

what was once Boston's most elegant residential hotel. The evening meal is often supplemented with traveling minstrels and a very Back Bay crowd. Somehow it is a very "neighborhood" restaurant, so it tends to give an outsider a view of the inside of the area. The Cafe is best known for thier icy Pina Coladas and steaming bowls of chili. Dinners: \$3-\$7.

WHIMSEY'S 165 Dartmouth St.

Whimsical is the most apt adjective for the Copley Plaza-affiliated restaurant-dancing at Whimsey's. Other adjectives might include: grandiose, opulent, and delightful. The center of the room is dominated by a revolving dias and organ. If nothing else, it is certainly a horse of a different color! Dinners: \$3.95-\$9.95.

Boylston St., includes a 125-seat theater, where new works and companies are continually evolving.

BAG offers professional training for the performer from beginning through advanced workshops. The programs, taught by professionals, are designed to give intensive, practical training to those interested in acting.

The affiliated touring company brought theater to over 12,000 kids. That number will be double this year alone.

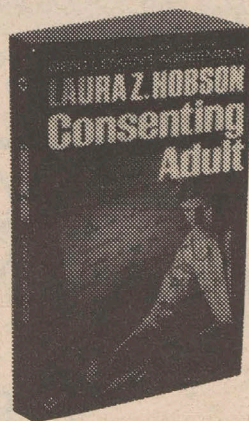
In addition to this, BAG has space available for individual artists, and new and established groups in which they can create and share a place where artists can grow both personally and professionally. Telephone: 267-7196.

The Boston Repertory Theatre, Inc.

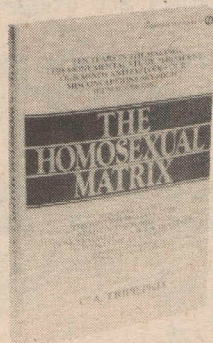
The Boston Rep was founded in 1970 by Esquire Jauchem as an alternative to the existing theater in Boston. Now in its sixth season, The Rep has achieved its main goal of acquiring a permanent home at One Boylston Place, in the heart of Boston's theater district.

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BOYLSTON STREET'S MOST AWARE BOOKSTORE



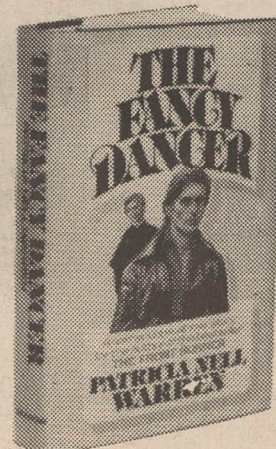
CONSENTING ADULT by Laura Z. Hobson. "You see," writes 17-year-old Jeff Lynn to his mother, "I am a homosexual..." This is Jeff's story, and that of his parents, and how they must cope with the problem as their son come to maturity in a hostile society. A Warner Books Paperback. \$1.95



THE HOMOSEXUAL MATRIX by C. A. Tripp, Ph.D. This huge scientific study has rocked the gay and non-gay worlds. It is truly the big gay book of the seventies that broadens the mind and explodes misconceptions. A Signet Paperback. \$2.50



RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE by Rita Mae Brown. The funny, sad saga of growing up a lesbian. Brown's book is the classic novel to send friends, family and the newly-coming out. You'll want more Brown after this, so ask for *In Her Day*. Daughters, Inc. \$4.00



THE FANCY DANCER by Patricia Nell Warren. A novel of love and self-discovery, set in a small Montana town where a "most disreputable" young man sets out to seduce a young Catholic priest. A Morrow Hardcover. \$7.95

Some other publications:

SOJOURNER
EQUAL TIMES
BODY POLITIC

ADVOCATE
ESPLANADE

Familiar Faces, Hidden Lives — Brown
Book of Men — Firestone
Society and the Healthy Homosexual — Weinberg
Cherry Grove — Dellinger
For Money or Love — Lloyd

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The Company's artistic policy has been to present a variety of styles of drama, keeping high professional standards. This, with long hours, limited pay, constant companionship, and open dialogue, has resulted in a Rep community. The Rep is continually open to new stimuli, and so looks beyond its doors for input from other professionals in the performing arts.

The Rep will open with Moliere's *The Misanthrope*, Oct. 21-Nov. 28. The following production will be James Kirkwood's *P.S. Your Cat Is Dead*, a gay-oriented play, in December. Telephone: 423-6580.

Boston Shakespeare

Boston Shakespeare is Boston's resident repertory company performing the classics with emphasis on the immortal Shakespeare. The theater, located in the artistically unusual First and Second Church, on the corner of Berkeley and Marlborough Streets, is a collection of young artists performing lively and exciting productions of the world's greatest plays. Aside from their strenuous yearly programs, they also tour and are active in a schools' program.

Already performing their first seasonal production, *The Taming of the Shrew*, they are well on their way to bringing Boston audiences *Macbeth*, *Robin Hood* (the only non-Shakespearean production), a new and delightful look at *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and finally, *The Merchant of Venice*.

Performances, already receiving critical acclaim from Boston presses, are every Thursday-Saturday night at 8:00 p.m. Telephone: 267-5600.

Cambridge Ensemble

This year marks the Ensemble's 4th season as an experimental theater company, at 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. The group, located in the Old Baptist Church, was listed in the September issue of *Boston Magazine* as Boston's Best Theater Company. Its director, Ms. Joann Green, was listed in a subsequent issue as one of the city's top 40 people involved in the arts. The Cambridge Ensemble, in bringing to its audiences Jean Genet's *Deathwatch*, brought to itself international recognition.

It is currently involved in an international tour with its productions, but will soon return to bring us *A Slight Accident and Other Comedies* on Nov. 18; *Oresteia*, with a musical score by Allan Crossman, on Jan. 20; and finally, *Beginner's Luck*, by Jon Lipsky, on April 14. On the same date, April 14, the Ensemble will present a new children's play, *Tales for the Telling*, created especially by the group from American folklore. Telephone: 876-2544.

Caravan Theatre-Cambridge

The Caravan, founded by Bobbi Ausubel and Stan Edelson, is now in its 11th year. It is a permanent company of two directors and six actors committed to the development and presentation of current social, political, and personal issues.

In accordance with this philosophy, it will mount four new plays for the current season. Its opener, *Family*, was cited as "an important and meaningful look at the nuclear family" by the *Boston Phoenix*. *Family* opens Nov. 3, with previews on Oct. 29 and 30. Other productions will include *Black Elk Speaks*, adapted by Lester Thompson, on Jan. 5; Tillie Olsen's award-winning story, *Tell Me a Riddle* on Feb. 25; and a new piece, *A Man's Work: It's Never His Own*, opening April 15.

All performances are held at 1555 Mass. Ave., "just outside of Harvard Square." Tickets are available through the theater, Quik-Charge (426-6210), or "Out of Town" ticket agencies. Theater telephone: 354-9107 or 868-8520.

Lyric Stage

The Lyric Stage is best recognized for its revival of the classics — from Greek to Contemporary — as witnessed by its current production of Noel Coward's *Private Lives*. Once located in Copley Square, and later at the Charles Playhouse, Lyric Stage now has a new address. The address, at 54 Charles Street in Boston's historic Beacon Hill, represents the first theater for this growing company.

The company, which strives to bring non-fail productions to the city, is planning the rebirth of some of play-history's most classic productions. For example, it will perform Ibsen's *The Master Builder* on Dec. 18. Telephone: 523-3311.

Next Move

The Next Move, with its history of community-oriented productions, has housed its roving band of performers at a new address. The company, which in the past has hosted benefits for a number of organizations, including a *Jade and Sarsaparilla* concert for GCN, is now at the prestigious Institute of Contemporary Art, at 955 Boylston Street.

The company, formerly at the Charles Playhouse Cabaret (and often trekking across New England), produces improvised shows, scripted plays, and a children's theater.

The Next Move will open its new facilities with a production long-awaited by many of Boston's theatergoers. The play will be Howard Zinn's *Emma*, based on the anarchist activist Emma Goldman. Look for the upcoming notices of this brave new play. Telephone: 536-6769.

The Open Door

The Open Door is not easily stopped, even though their headquarters, at the Art Center in the Park in Jamaica Plain's Pine Bank was destroyed by an arsonist last spring. During the summer they continued to bring their audience the summer outdoors program. Now they are touring (and looking for suitable space) throughout New England with some exciting and unusual plays.

Expecting that they will find the space they so richly deserve, they are currently casting for both *Beyond the Fringe*, a bit of English witticism, and Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story*. They hope to have a late winter production.

They are available for touring with both their adult comedy and drama, and some original children's plays. Their current children's piece is entitled: *Someone Like Alice in Somewhere Like Wonderland*. Oh to be six again! Telephone (evenings): 440-8488.

People's Theater

Ruth Elder, originally from Brandeis University, began in 1964 with what is now the oldest-living theater company in Cambridge. The theater was formed to provide a community solving problems together with theater. According to this philosophy, any race was welcome to perform any desired part in each production.

In the past, People's Theater has operated out of community centers, but since 1971 they have maintained their own storefront. Their latest production will be in their own theater at 1253 Cambridge Street, Inman Square, Cambridge.

This year they will be presenting Cole Porter's wonderful *Kiss Me Kate* from Oct. 15 through Nov. 21, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 8:05 p.m. Telephone: 547-4930.

Playwrights' Platform

Playwright's Platform opens its fourth season of new plays by Boston-area playwrights on Oct. 28, with the premiere of Joyce Berlin's newest full-length play *Rapture*. Ms. Berlin has recently been awarded a Playwriting Fellowship from the Mass. Foundation of the Arts.

Playwrights' Platform is Boston's only theater to develop and produce original plays, predominantly from Boston writers. The plays are both read, and mounted, at The Church of All Nations, 333 Tremont St., Boston. Script readings are every Monday night.

Berlin's *Rapture* will be the twenty-third new play to be premiered at Playwrights' Platform. Telephone: 523-0237.

Pocket Mime

This popular and energetic group will be making their only Boston fall

appearance Nov. 5 and 6 at the New England Life Hall. The performance will represent Pocket Mime's 6th season on the Boston performing arts scene.

Pocket Mime began as a collection of concerned mimes at Emerson College in 1970, but by '71 they had broken away and begun to form an independent company. Their performances focused on Contemporary American themes done in the classical French tradition. They are, as well, considered by many to be one of the leading mime companies in the country. This company, dubbed "Boston's quietest tradition," has won both the APA award and the Globe Calendar Reader's Poll, not to mention great acclaim from every major press. Telephone: 266-1770.

Proposition

The Proposition still remains one of the few theaters that has brought critical acclaim and attention to Boston and Cambridge. They have staged such premieres as *The Corral*, *The King of the United States*, *The Whale Show*, and presently, *Soap*. The troupe, founded and directed by Allan Albert, has recently reached its "five millionth second" on stage, and continues to provide work for young performers, and to explore original scripts. This has been their philosophy and has carried them to the heights they have achieved.

The Proposition Revue, which has toured the United States and "practically every major college and university," performs every Wednesday at 8:30, and Saturdays at 8 and 10. Their new show, which is fast becoming a theatrical rage, is performed every Thursday at 8:30, and Fridays at 8 and 10. The production, *Soap*, looks at both the inside and outside of the real and not-so-real lives of soap opera performers. Everything takes place at their own graphics-bedecded theater at 241 Hampshire Street in Inman Square. Telephone: 876-0088.

Shakespeare & Co.

Shakespeare & Co., a professional touring theater company, teaches classes in acting, directing, and scene study at the Boston Center for the Arts, for both beginners and advanced theater students. All classes cost \$2 per instructional hour.

This spring, Shakespeare & Co. will present a new original play based on the life of Robert Frost, as interpreted by Tom Brooks, recent recipient of a Playwriting fellowship from the Massachusetts Foundation of the Arts.

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285 Newbury St.
267-2547

If you teach or work with a community group, you may wish to bring one of Shakespeare & Co.'s touring programs of Shakespearean, modern, and musical theater to your people. Telephone: 266-2503.

Theater Workshop-Boston

Theater Workshop-Boston, now moving into its 10th season, continues to fulfill a three-fold purpose: performance, training, and community outreach. Public performances continue to attempt the union of inner consciousness with outer expression, through original theater ensemble pieces designed to break down traditional performer/audience barriers.

Awakening will be the mid-winter production under the direction of Saphira Barbara Linden and the Om Company. The popular *Cosmic Mass* will again be performed, as well as productions and artists supported at Spring Theater Festival—Boston.

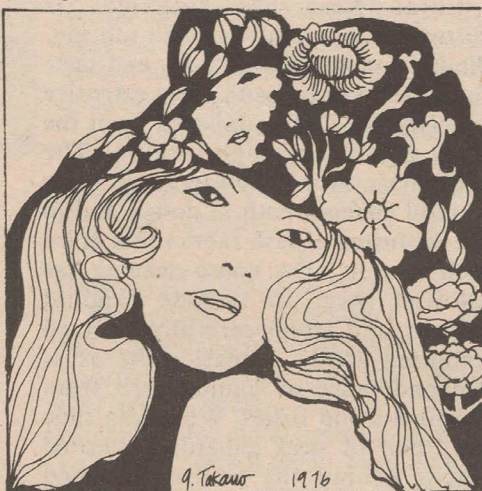
In the field of social science, they continue to explore the veiled area between intellectually-oriented psychology and experimentally-oriented mysticism. But through all of its performances, projects, and programs the central thrust of Theater Workshop-Boston is to continue toward the discovery and affirmation of the widest potential of humanity. They are located at 551 Tremont St., Boston Center for the Arts. Telephone: 482-4778.

Stage I—Theater Lab

Stage I—Theater Lab is a residential experimental theater company housed in the Boston Center for the Arts. Stage I is well known for its avant-garde approach to the theater arts, with such productions as *Masques*, which played here last spring. It is currently developing a production inspired by the works of Edvard Munch, the prominent Norwegian painter. The play will premiere in mid-November under the direction of K. Satakeny, who is currently in

Denmark with the Odin Theater supported by a grant from the George C. Marshall Fund.

Among other projects in which the company is involved, is the development of a Theater of Signs. The theater will be a blending of the hand-language of the deaf, and Kathakali. Kathakali is an ancient Indian dance form which utilized sign language in its movements. The Theater of Signs will be announced at a later date this year. Telephone: 426-8492.



FILM

Back Bay Screening Room

19 Arlington St.

The relatively new management of this theater has begun to bring Back Bay some of the finest contemporary films of the avant-garde. They have attracted a large gay following by screening such films as: *Montreal Main*, *The Sunday Woman*, *Pink Flamingos*, and selections from the American Film Theater. The Back Bay Screening Room was also influential in bringing to Boston all the Fassbinder films including *Petra von Kant* and *Fox and His Friends*.

It is the home of distinctively unusual films. Perhaps that's why there's always a line spilling over into the Public Garden. But don't worry,

there's always room for one more.

Cheri Complex 50 Dalton St.

The Cheri Complex is the Back Bay home of Ben Sack and his collection of "main attraction" screenings of commercially popular films. Sack brings in all the big names, the big films, and the big prices for Boston.

Located just behind the Prudential Center, the Cheri Complex, housing three theaters, is bound to have something to please you. Watch for Sack's screening of the long-awaited *King Kong* on December 17.

Cinema 733 733 Boylston St.

Cinema 733's programs, always a double bill, change every two days, so plan in advance to catch what you want to see. They are responsible for bringing back all the classics of the past five years.

If you missed them when they were four dollars a showing, you can catch them now for \$2.50. Films are put on a repeat schedule of approximately every three months. The best way to know what is showing is to pick up their calendar of films, dates, and times.

Exeter Street Theater 26 Exeter St.

If you're going to the Exeter, which is now showing the immensely popular, *Cousin, Cousine*, plan to get there about twenty minutes before showtime: 1) to avoid the lines, and 2) to revel in the interior of what was once a Jewish temple for Back Bay.

It has been extensively modernized, but not destroyed. They have retained much of what is architecturally important, including an immense wall organ. The Exeter will soon premiere a new glass-encased restaurant on the Newbury Street side of the theater.

Paris 841 Boylston St.

The Paris is much like the 733, but on a much grander and more comfortable scale. The programs change every two days. There is an occasional sneak preview of an important film, and there are outrageous midnight specials on Friday and Satur-

day nights.

Check their lengthy calendar of coming films, and save time on your busy schedule to see the return of such films as *On the Waterfront*, *A Doll's House*, or *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*.



GALLERIES

Alpha Gallery 121 Newbury St.

Contemporary Art, Modern Master Graphics. 536-4465.

Arvest Galleries 77 Newbury St.

American and European works of art. Restoration and appraisals. 247-1418.

Copley Society 158 Newbury St.

Oldest Art Society in America. The best traditional and contemporary art. Open September through June.

Doll and Richards 172 Newbury St.

The nation's finest gallery. American 20th century Realism Paintings, Sculpture, and Graphics. 266-4477.

Frank Tanzer Gallery 33 Newbury St.

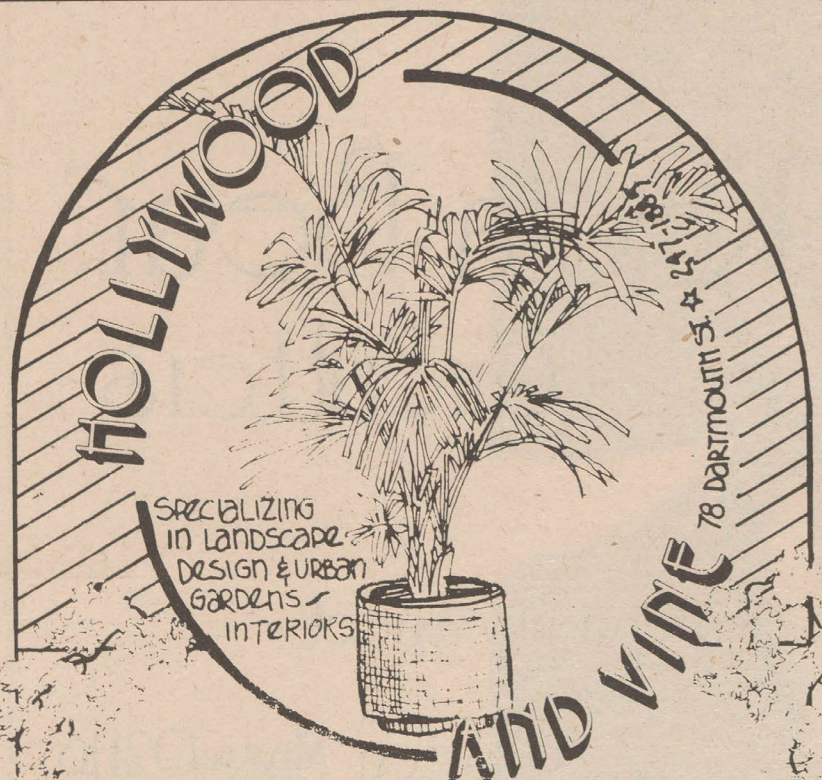
Individually designed and crafted jewelry and fine art. November exhibit: *Eleanor Steindler*: Spacious rhythmically constructed landscapes. Opening reception Friday, November 5, from 6:00 to 9:00. And especially for the holiday season, "Art-To-Wear" with a day long open house, December

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168 Newbury St.

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Harcus Krakow Rosen Sonabend Gallery 7 Newbury St.

Contemporary sculpture, painting and graphics. 20th century Masters bought and sold. 262-4483.

Harold Ernst Gallery 161 Newbury St.

Contemporary painting, graphics, sculpture from US, Europe, Israel. Realism to graphics. 536-0515.



CLOTHES

ARMADILLO 156 Newbury St.

What was once a small high-fashion shop catering to buyers looking for a "Gentleman's Quarterly" look has now blossomed into three shops. Their shops: men's, men's shoes, and women's apparel, the latter a block farther up the street, now contains some of the best examples of con-

Kanegis 244 Newbury St.

Contemporary painting and sculpture, master graphics by Picasso, Miro, etc. 267-6735.

Kennedy Studios 443a Berkeley St., 40 Joy Street, and Mercantile Wharf

Original prints of Boston by Robert Kennedy. Custom framing for any picture. Special order work welcome by a large and talented staff. 742-2875.

Nielsen Gallery 179 Newbury St.

20th century European and American master prints, drawings; contemporary graphics and paintings. 266-4835.

Pucker / Safrai Gallery 171 Newbury St.

20th century paintings (US, Israel, Europe), graphics (Picasso, Chagall, etc.), sculpture (Eskimo, African). 267-9473.

porary domestic and imported clothing. They still cater to the ultrachic set (or those who would like to be) with a profusion of Italian knits, fine wool pants, and a collection of shoes that will be tapping at the best night-spots of the Commonwealth. Besides, who else would turn mannequins' backs to the eyeing public?

BONWIT TELLER 234 Berkeley St.

Reputed to have the best window designs in the city, this New York-based shop for the smart-set is housed in what was once the Museum of Natural History. No one could better juxtapose a structure of immutable design with clothing of the same quality. Bonwit's is primarily a women's shop of the finest finery, but they will soon premiere a large men's section that will provide stiff competition for the locals.

BROOKS BROTHERS 46 Newbury St.

If your social life includes yachting along the coast of Marblehead or cocktails at the Ritz; if your sport is polo in the Hamilton fields, then the appropriate dress is mandatory. Brooks

Brothers has long been synonymous with richly conservative clothing and deservedly so. Their heather-toned wools, grey pin-striped suits, and abundance of finely-constructed shirts emblazoned with the Brooks Brothers' tag have long been the graduation gifts given to Harvard-bred lawyers. Their classic tailoring still remains the password of fashion in Boston's federal district.

ELLIOT NESS 279 Newbury St.

Elliot Ness has satisfied its customers penchant for bath-tub gin, dimly-lit nightclubs of jazz, and taste for art-decorative with their extensive collection of clothes tailored from the early decades of high-fashion. The shop has recently undergone some tasteful changes both in design and in the profusion of lush fabrics that grace their hangers. The house-cleaning has allowed them to include original designs and some carefully selected imported goods, alongside the usual preponderance of unique garb from the forties and fifties. While you slide on a pair of sleek gabardine, pleated slacks behind the chintz-curtained dressing room, don't be surprised if an apparition of Coco Chanel gives an approving nod.

THE LODGE 190 Newbury St.

Down-home, knee-slappin', get-up-an'-strut clothes at appropriately the same price. The Lodge can supply you with "just the right jeans," cotton flannel shirts, or sundry other country fashions. Along with a shoe and boot collection, The Lodge is the Boston-based consumer outlet for Danskin and Capezio leotards for the dance-set. Now, slide into that, if you can.

LORD AND TAYLOR 760 Boylston St.

Yes, Martha, you can buy Chemise LaCoste shirts at Lord and Taylor. I'll take the one in pink, you can wear the royal blue. Lord and Taylor is a gem of many facets. Boasting more than men's and women's clothes, they

include a housewares section (and I don't mean paper napkins and plastic spoons), a vast cosmetic department, and the only luncheon spot in town with Strawberry Soup.

ROBERT TODD 141 Newbury St.

Robert Todd's upper-crust clientele can now shop at one of two locations, merely a block apart. The original shop still carries a complete Ralph Lauren collection of soft lisle shirts, exquisite leather shoes, suitings for the gentleman, and canvas and leather totes. The new shop carries similar apparel for the woman of, shall we say, discerning taste. Robert Todd can be said to have a definite bias in favor of the classic.

SAKS FIFTH AVENUE Prudential Ctr.

One of New York's "big three" to reach Boston's shores along with Bonwit's and Lord and Taylor. Saks ignores the conservatism that is Boston, and brings us New York windows, New York professionalism, and most importantly, New York fashion in their large "annex-to-the-Prudential" store for sophisticates.

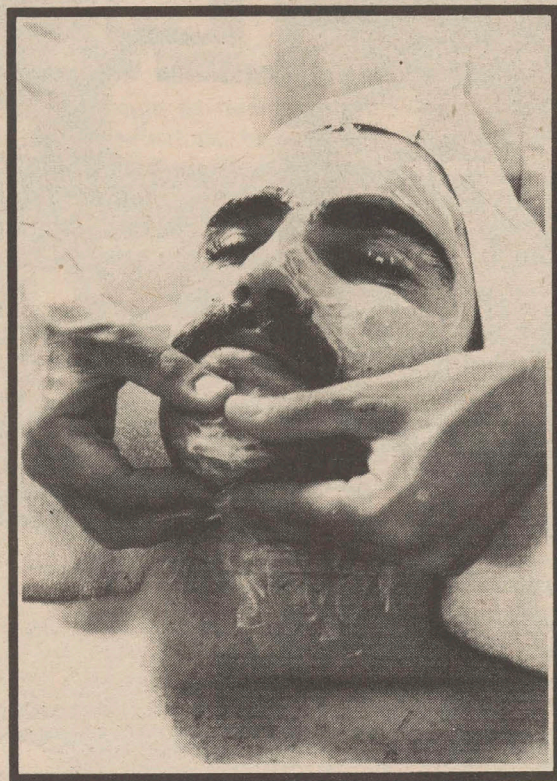
SETTEBELLO 406 Boylston St.

Italian knits, Italian silks, and Italian chic in Back Bay's only vestige of the "Italian" woman. Settebello carries some of the best of Italy, including luscious silk shirts in every color of the rainbow (and perhaps a few yet undiscovered shades) in a shop for women only.

SNYDER'S ARMY & NAVY 557 Boylston St.

Of course, Snyder's carries the fashions made chic by the armed forces. Snyder's Back Bay branch carries most of the delights of the Washington Street stronghold of governmental toss-offs. One thing can be certain about their line, when the crepes and linens soon become threadbare and pale, them ol' fatigues will keep on truckin' from washer to body a thousand times.

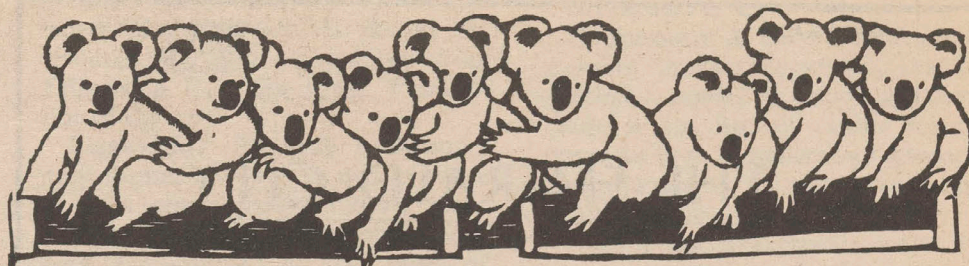
Not For Women Only



So, you think that a facial is only for the lady. Each time you step outside the same city grit and exhaust penetrate your face and skin. If you don't think so, take a tissue, wipe it across your forehead and call Ms. Grady for an appointment.



39 Newbury St., Boston, Massachusetts 536-4447



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OPEN EVENINGS

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BOOKS

Avenue Victor Hugo 339 Newbury St.

Avenue Victor Hugo has blossomed from a roadside stand to a large shop with a complete collection of books and literary magazines. The owners put out their own magazines, *Fiction* and *Now Voyager*, a collection for young people. Each magazine contains some of the best writers on the contemporary scene.

They specialize in a large selection of science fiction and also carry current best-selling fiction and non-fiction. Many of the books are red-tagged specials. Their first location should help establish them as an important book store, catering to buyers seeking hard-to-find publications. Several gay-oriented publications are available, including *GCN*.

Dartmouth Street Stand

Actually there is no name for this Back Bay location. It is an outdoor stand, directly beside the Copley MBTA station, carrying every imaginable magazine. It is, of course, a popular place to pick up the latest issue of *Paris* or *Italian Vogue*, *Architectural Digest*, or even *Time*, if you don't

have a subscription. In fact it's the only place to pick up many of the domestic and international magazines they carry. Their publications and pots of inexpensive flowers are spread out all along the cobblestoned corner of Dartmouth and Boylston Streets.

Harvard Book Store 124 Newbury St.

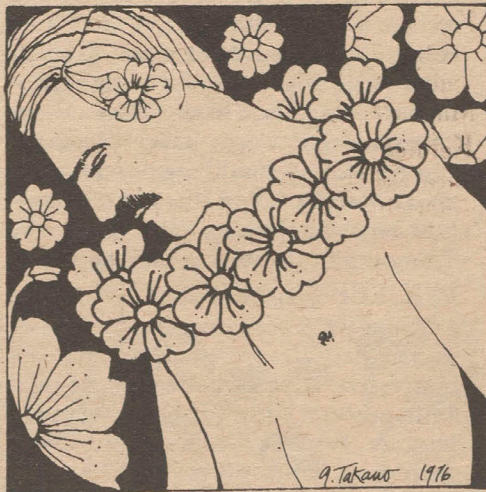
If the Harvard Book Store has a specialty, surely it is their extensive collection of art books. Although they carry a good selection of contemporary fiction and non-fiction, their number of coffee-table art books is unmatched.

Many of the books are marked down to unheard-of prices, which makes buying all that more tempting. Bet ya can't buy just one!

Paperback Booksmith 753 Boylston St.

Paperback, Hardback, and Magazine Booksmith might be a more appropriate name for this heavy-trafficked shop. And it's heavy-trafficked for good reason. If it's in paperback, they have it. There is also a corner devoted exclusively to women, and a wide selection of gay-oriented literature — not in brown wrappers.

But best of all, you can go there when you want to, not when they want you to. In other words, it's rare when they are not open. In fact, they are open seven days a week, many into the late hours of the evening. Browsing and reading is completely unhassled. There are several tables of book-bargains and a magazine bin displaying: *Mandate* and *Blueboy*, and newspapers including: *Andy Warhol's Interview*, *The Advocate*, *Sojourner*, *GCN*, and *Fag Rag*, as well as other gay and feminist publications. I could list their departments for hours: for instance, their classical record collection. But go discover Paperback Booksmith for yourself.



PLANTS

Greenhouse I 385 Boylston St.

Greenhouse I is a huge and abundant glass greenhouse plunked in the middle of the shopping district. Their specialty is towering greenery and elephant-sized ferns. They also carry an extensive selection of cut flowers for your own arranging. Once you enter their canopied entrance, plan to spend a time browsing in their multi-leveled "gardens," marvelling at the miniature cactus, gawking at the 20-foot palm. Don't pinch the leaves; they're real.

Harry Quint 275 Dartmouth St.

Quint's is everything that a Newbury Street shop ought to be. It is both fashionable and old world. Plants dot the stairway leading from the marble entrance and overflow into a quaint fireplace opening. Although they carry an extensive line of bigger and better than average plants, their specialty is in cut-flower and dried arrangements. While you're looking around don't be surprised to see a face come through the door that is somehow familiar (what television program is she on?) while you eavesdrop on an order for

three dozen white tulips for the evening's dinner affair.

Hollywood and Vine 78 Dartmouth St.

Cleverly-named and equally clever in their selections, Hollywood and Vine is one of those rare plants shops where the plants seem to smile. It is obvious that the owners of this shop know how sensitive the darlings can be, and the plants, both large and small, are given plenty of space to breathe and shine in. The owners will be pleased to design a corner of a room or an entire apartment with greens that are suited specifically to your environment. I should warn you, though, that I almost lapsed into catatonia when I saw the price tags. Please don't tell them that the fern in the other room, hanging from the ceiling and cascading almost to the floor, is twice the price everywhere else; let's keep our shopper's secret.

Pallota's 267 Newbury St.

Once stationed on Beacon Hill, Pallota's has come over to our side. Their principal service is flower arrangements of the unusual, unusually beautiful, that is. They provide the full line of florist services, so even if your mother is in Istanbul, go ahead, wire her a Pallota arrangement, it is her birthday!

Plant Parenthood 177 Newbury St.

Tiny is one word for this shop; unusual is the other. Well, PP is principally a plant shop, but like everything listed here, it has that little something that sets it apart from the others. If you're having trouble knowing just when to water the *Saxifraga sarmen-tosa* or you can't keep the *Impatiens sultanii* alive after the first blooming, you can find your own solutions at Plant Parenthood's weekly classes in the art of maintaining a green thumb and greener plants.

a cut above the rest

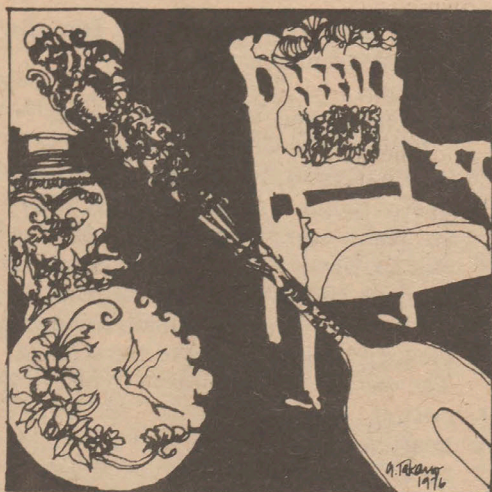


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Harringtons



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85 Newbury Street • Boston, Massachusetts • 262 5587



ANTIQUES

BRODNEY GALLERY OF FINE ART 811 Boylston St.

Brodney Gallery is Back Bay's finest display of rococo splendor and art nouveau for well-heeled aficionados. The gallery has, perhaps, Boston's largest collection of bronzed and lilted fauns, million-prismed chandeliers, and aisles of gilt and glint. Perhaps a bit on the "too much" side, it remains singularly "the" place to buy the artistically most outrageous late-1800s delights.

CHILDS 169 Newbury St.

Childs, carrying only the finest classical period antiques, has earned them a listing in *Antiques* magazine. They cater to those in the market for a Chippendale or two for the entryway. Their display of ominously-dark portraits, classically simple furniture, and other notable artifacts, is a pleasure merely to browse through. Your eyes will be treated to nothing but museum-quality antiques in a delightfully-comfortable arrangement.

THE EMERALD CITY 53 Dartmouth St.

It's difficult not to be cliché in the descriptions of a shop called The Emerald City. That is, one would like to say that the wizardry of their selections is evident in this shop that is truly a horse of a different color. With a snip, snip here and a snip, snip there, Tom Slater has brought together lions, and tigers and bears — delightful little "I-can't-do-withouts." He'll get you, and your little one too, with his mixed bag of mirrors, Victorian-style pictures, and tables and cabinets filled with any number of goods for any corner of your house. Everything is refreshingly inexpensive. Don't be surprised if you think you've found the best antique bargains in town — you have!

FOREVER FLAMINGO 290 Newbury

The time is 1932, the place, The Club Coconut in Palm Beach. Tiny round tables are draped in white with a single rose at each setting. A light jazz drifts through the air. The glittering clientele give themselves a quick check in massive blue-tinted mirrors at their entrance. As you withdraw a Camel from a paper-thin silver case, you remember you must catch the boat for Paris tomorrow. This is the dream that is Forever Flamingo. It is the blue tint, the silver case, it is the Club Coconut. Forever Flamingo is Back Bay, and Boston's, only home for the still popular art deco antique. Their new larger quarters (directly across from the old) afford the space for large furniture to supplement their already extensive display of housewares, coffee table wonders, jewelry, and clothes. The current surge of popularity in art deco has generally been reserved for those with large pocketbooks, but fortunately for us, Flamingo is still reserved for those with a taste for the chic, and sporting thin wallets.

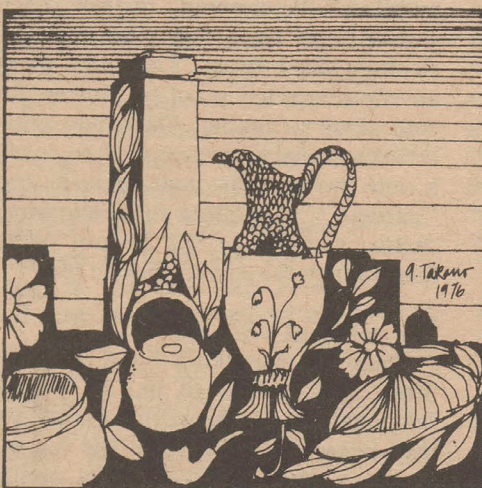
MARCOZ 281b Newbury St.

Marcoz is in the genre of antique shops that carries a limited display, but what they have limited themselves to is

excellent. It's difficult not to be attracted to something from their fine collection. A mauve-silk drawing-room chair suits your fancy? Or perhaps a Handel lamp, or Tiffany glass. Here, let me show you their Imari collection. The most important thing to remember about Marcoz is that it is not a "shop-now-buy-later" shop. The reason is: Things don't stay there that long.

PHOEBE'S 214 Newbury St.

Phoebe's is a relatively new shop of impressive importance. What is impressive is their collection of fine 19th century furnishings and limited imports. What is equally impressive is their museum-quality glass and porcelain collection. They carry one-of-a-kind Dynastic Chinese porcelains, towering maple Queen Anne chests, and scattered here and there, a Lalique. And if Laliques are scattered here and there, one can only imagine what is under the show-lights.



SHOPS

Aladire 166 Newbury St.

Aladire brings a bit, or should I say quite a bit, of African culture to Back Bay. They carry a full line of beading, fabrics, and original-design shirts and smocks made from the fabrics. African cloths and their designs tend to be bold and simple. They look like wonderful children's block prints, but when looked at closely the artistry goes far beyond that. Obviously some other people have understood this enough to endeavor to bring it to the public.

Beacon Tours 160 Commonwealth Ave.

Winter's coming and fall's already here. So where are you going now, besides rushing to huddle next to your fireplace or your heating plate? How about Aruba or the Islands? You know — those little tucked away bits of geography with nothing but endless stretches of white sand, hot sun, and crystal clear waters. What this all means is that it's time for a vacation, and we're here to tell you who can best plan it. Beacon Tours can. And best of all, Beacon Tours can plan it with you in mind. They can situate you in the areas where your individual needs will be best met, because they understand you, and they understand the gay traveler.

Beacon Tours is located in the Vendome Mall, and they await your thoughts and plans for your next trip.

Fabrications 114 Newbury St.

Considering the number of homes I have seen in Boston in the last few years, I wonder what people would do without Fabrications? Considering the number of homes I have seen within a hundred mile radius of Boston, I would ask the same question. Fabrications is fast becoming a tradition in Boston, Cambridge, and New York. It is a tradition of high quality and unusual fabrics from all over the world.

Oh, I suppose a number of businesses could carry fabrics designed by Marimekko, or imports from every major European city, but they don't. Yet, even if they did, none could match

the attention given the customer in Fabrications. They can show you how to design the ever-popular fabric wall hanging, how to cover a pillow, make a fabric lamp shade, and scores of other ideas. They're not there to sell, as much as they are there to help you design and create exactly what you need, even if you are all thumbs.

When you arrive at Fabrications, knowing just what you want for a new pillow cover, don't be surprised if you change your mind several times over, and don't be surprised when the salespeople are attentive to your every idea. A wonderful confusion is synonymous with Fabrications, as is satisfaction, selection, and an understanding smile.

Il Grifo 167 Newbury St.

Il Grifo peeks up at you from below the sidewalks of Newbury Street. Once inside, you'll find just the right token for just the right person. Every wall is adorned with tiny and delightful books and knick-knacks. They also carry a wide selection of children's books and toys.

When you finally reach the counter with your selections, don't be surprised if you find yourself spending another hour surveying their wide range of jewelry, and talking at length with the salespeople. It's a difficult shop to leave, but for delightful reasons.

Peking Oriental Imports 159 Newbury St.

Peking Oriental Imports is somehow better than any shop in Chinatown. It is less touristy, and contains a far better collection. It is a shop that has been mentioned in every major publication in Boston, and for good reasons. They carry an extensive array of baskets, woven luggage, lacquered parasols, and cork sculpture.

Their entire line is relatively inexpensive. And while you try on a pair of Chinese cotton slippers, an Oriental child may scoot under your feet, or you may be shown a toothbrush with Calligraphy inscribed on

the handle, but somehow these experiences will be a welcome relief from the usual hum-drum shopping.

Shell Shocked 291 Newbury St.

Someone has done some fairly extensive beachcombing to put this place together, and your initial reaction will be much like the title implies. What they carry is obvious, but it is not obvious to many that they exist. Thankfully they do.

Every kind of crustacean from practically every seashore in the world awaits your inspection and appreciation. Which reminds me, I think I'll do my ceiling in sand dollars.



COIFFURE

Crimpers 230 Clarendon St.

This young happy group of hair specialists offers unisex cuts, styling, permanents and hair color. The new breed of crimpers changed the face of the haircutting business some years ago, and they are still the favorites of men and women into hair, cut naturally to frame the face.

Harrington's 85 Newbury

Step into this stark black and white shop; stand in the gentle breeze of the

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IMAGE
223 Newbury St.
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ceiling fan. You're in Casablanca: no, in Harrington's on Newbury Street. Here's Norman coming to greet you. Norman, is that you? Check the face in the ad. Norman came to have his hair cut three years ago, and fell in love with the hairdresser. A great setting for a romance. He spent so much time at the shop that he finally learned to do hair and well, go on in and he'll tell you the rest. They now have seven hairdressers, and all pride themselves on giving the customer the personal treatment from wash to cut to dry. They're there 8:30-6:30 and Saturdays, too. "I never take lunch," says Norman.

Image Haircutters 223 Newbury St.

Think of the word 'image'. What does it bring to mind? A look? An illusion? A reproduction? Image Haircutters can fulfill any of these definitions. They can design a look, create an illusion you wish to bring off, or reproduce your wildest dream. John Mansaur and his staff of cutters can snip, set, and design a whole new head for you.

Image, of course, can perform any of the modern miracles of the hair world but only to your specific requirements. Unlike many shops who tend to use their customers' heads like an experimental dummy, Image cutters make your wish their reality. Besides,

if they weren't good, they wouldn't be listed here.

Janet T. Cormier, Inc. 232 Newbury St.

Janet T. Cormier, or rather the physical shop, is small. It is that way for a reason. Smallness, in this instance, means careful attention, an unhurried pace, and a parlor-like intimacy. Another thing that is synonymous with Janet Cormier is professionalism. She uses a careful blending of just the right materials for just your kind of hair. It is the smallness, the time for attention, that allows for this kind of skilled professionalism.

In today's world of factory-like haircuts it's nice to find a person and a place like Janet T. Cormier. Shop hours from 10-6, Tuesdays through Saturdays. Telephone: 266-0300.

Koala Bear 253 Newbury St.

If you like the personal touch, you'll love Koala Bear. Drop in where the fuzzy animals smile at you and you'll be treated like a (take your choice). One special person will handle you from wash to cut to set to style. They specialize in the natural look, the real you. But if you need a little help, this is the best place in town for a henna rinse. And, they probably don't want us to tell, but Koala Bear is well-known

in the city for their cut-ins for worthy causes.

Luc de France 119 Newbury St.

Here the emphasis is on healthy hair and wash-and-wear hair styles. Go in and they'll give you a hair analysis, prescribe the best Redken products for you, even tell you what to do with that face. They're so scientific they have a computerized electronic permanent system. For Wild hair.



FACE/BODY

Catherine Hinds 39 Newbury St.

Catherine Hinds started out 10 years ago working for Cyclax on Newbury Street. Then she developed her very

own cosmetic formulas and opened up her own salon, still on Newbury Street. In fact, Catherine Hinds has the oldest facial salon in Boston. That must attest to the lasting quality of her formulas and the skillful work of her technicians. Relax and enjoy the skin treatments, facials, waxings, make-up instruction and lash applications. Her salon is also the only place in the States to buy the best of the Cyclax formulas, as well as Catherine Hinds' own products. Too lazy to move? They have mail order. Get beautiful at home or in the luxurious Hinds salon. By appointment.

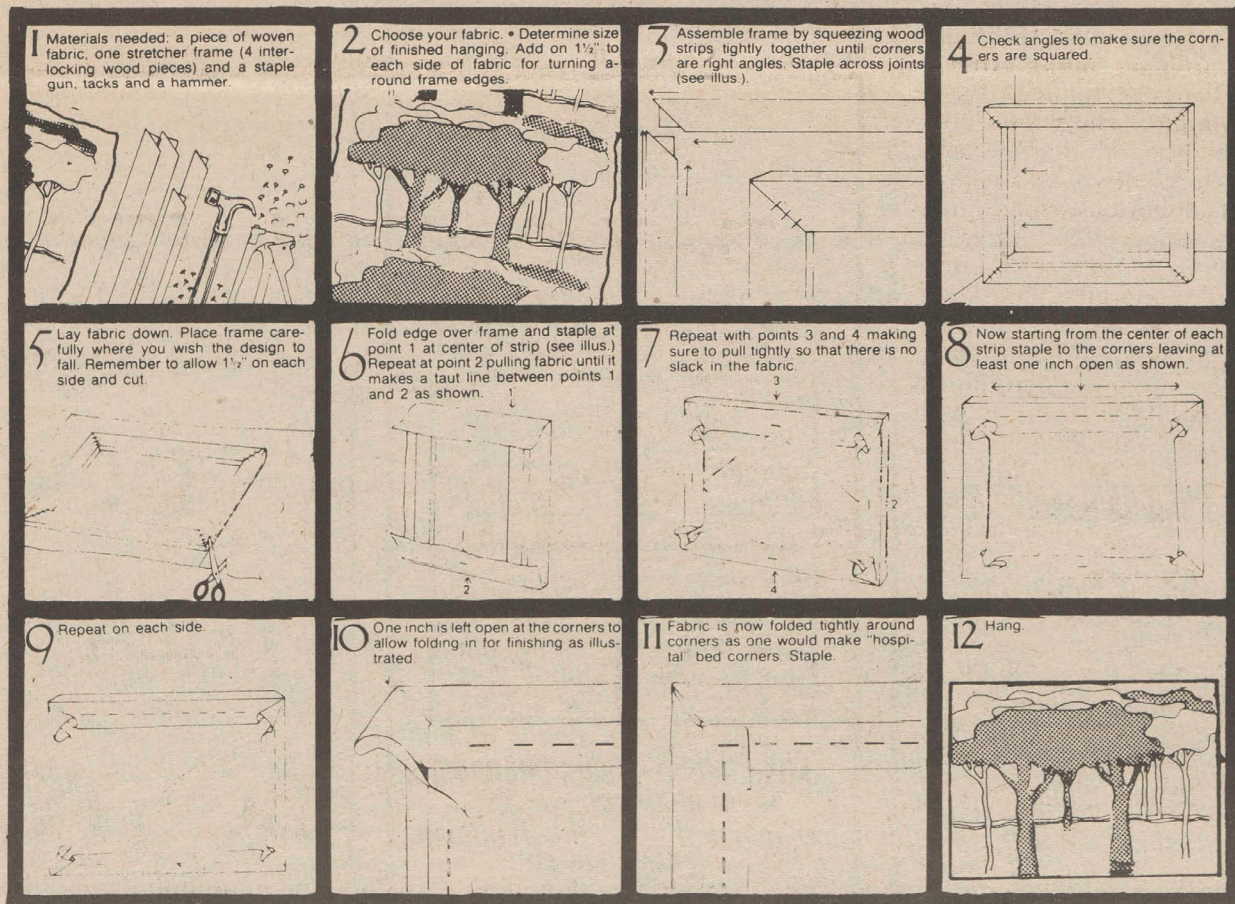
Elizabeth Grady 39 Newbury St.

When is a step down really a step up? When you step down into the luxurious facial salon called Elizabeth Grady. It is truly fashionable to have your face massaged, cleansed and totally revitalized by the scientifically-trained skin specialists here, and it is so good for your skin. Men, note that there are not one but two male technicians. It is nice to have a choice. But you cannot go wrong with any of the superbly expert people that have made Elizabeth Grady a fine name in facial care.

Klair Taut Newbury St.

From the oldest to the newest in a few steps. Klair Taut has been open a scant two months on Newbury Street and is already attracting considerable attention. Their European-trained technicians know all the latest scientific skin treatments from Switzerland. This is the only place in America to get chicken embryo treatments for mature skin, no pun intended. These face scientists are serious about their work. Go on in for a free face analysis. They can tell you everything you need to do. As Klair says, "There is no bad skin, only bad skin care." Mon.-Sat., and some eves. by appointment.

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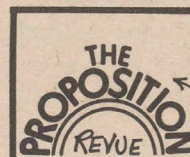
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