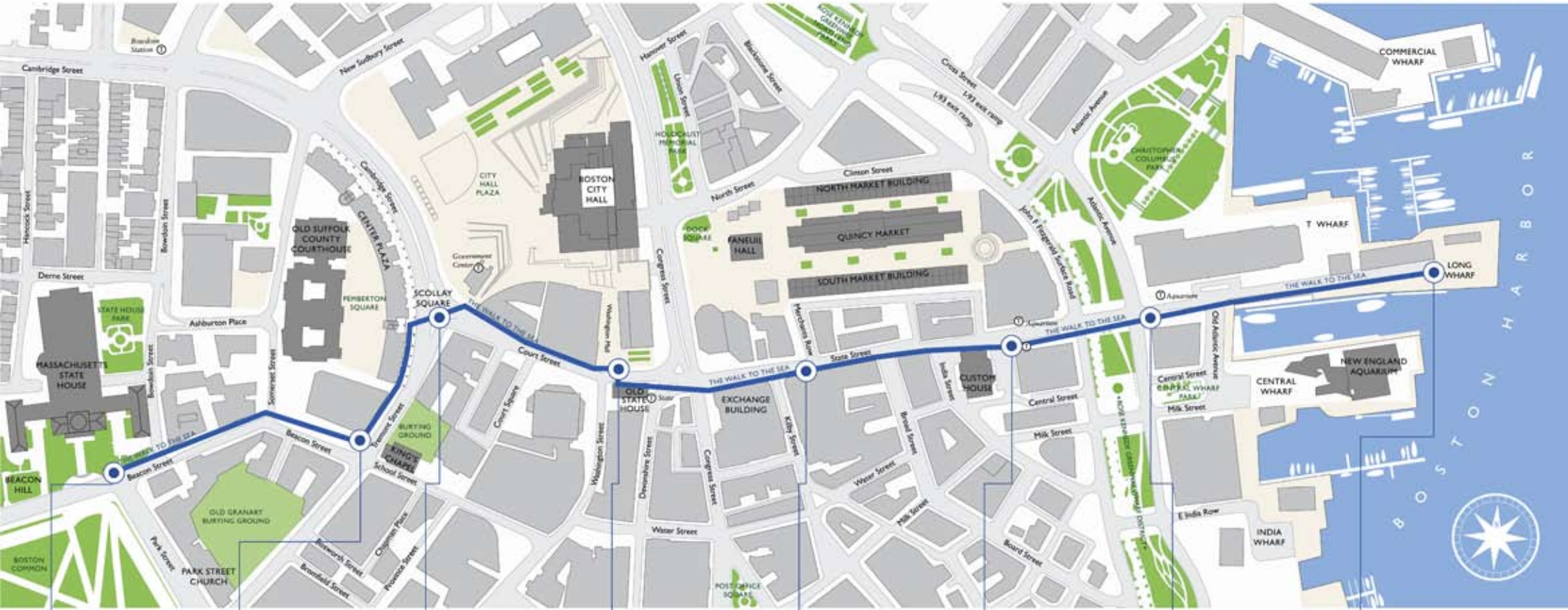




The Norman B. Leventhal

WALK TO THE SEA



BEACON HILL

Boston was born on the eastern slope of Beacon Hill, though early settlement skirted its steep terrain. After the American Revolution, Beacon Hill became central to Boston's growth. The hilltop was carted away for fill, smoothing the way for new development.

KING'S CHAPEL

Around 1750, the present, stone version of King's Chapel replaced the wooden structure of 1688. King James II had ordered the wooden chapel built. It was the first Anglican church in Boston, erected on the old burying ground over strong Puritan objections.

GOVERNMENT CENTER

The Scollay Square neighborhood stood here until the 1960s. Its colorful, Victorian buildings, bearing large painted advertisements, originally teemed with shoppers and theatergoers.

OLD STATE HOUSE

The wooden Town House of 1657 stood here, its ground floor open to merchants until the Great Fire of 1711. Settlement and commerce grew around the building. When it was built, the Old State House overlooked bustling wharves.

FINANCIAL DISTRICT

Boston's Financial District took root here along prominent King Street (now State Street) with the rich flow of goods that arrived at Long Wharf. Merchants located their offices, stores, and warehouses here, close by the wharves and the merchants' exchange.

CUSTOM HOUSE

The Custom House was built so close to the water that the bowsprits of arriving ships could touch it, though the shoreline has since moved. Around 1913, the federal government built a 433-foot tower to enlarge the Custom House. For nearly a half century the tower dominated Boston's skyline, while, ironically, waterfront activity and port services declined.

ROSE KENNEDY GREENWAY

The Rose Kennedy Greenway, completed in 2008, is a network of gardens and public spaces replacing an elevated expressway built in the 1950s. Today traffic is routed underground and the Greenway reconnects downtown Boston to the City's historic North End, wharves and warehouses.

LONG WHARF

Like an arrow pointing back to the Old World, Long Wharf, built in 1711, dominated Boston Harbor. It reached well past approximately 80 other wharves bristling out from the Shawmut Peninsula. About a third of a mile long, it extended the town's main commercial street, King Street (now State Street), far into the harbor.