

THE MAGAZINE OF SPLENDID HOMES AND GARDENS • JULY/AUGUST 2007

DESIGN

new england



SUBLIME SUMMER

* An architect designs a luxe modern loft
around the Boston skyline

www.newengland.com

19 • DISPLAY UNTIL SEPT. 5, 2007

0 7 >



74470422237

PLUS GREEN DESIGN FOCUS
RHODE ISLAND CONTEMPORARY
NANTUCKET VIEWPOINT

LIVING IN...

Picture yourself in these inviting New England communities

NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS

LOCATION Accessible only by boat and plane, Nantucket remains charmingly isolated—located 30 miles out to sea, off the south coast of Cape Cod. The island, 14 miles long and 3.5 miles wide, weathers all that the Atlantic Ocean offers up in the way of winter storms, but also enjoys fresh summer sea breezes. Its location and harbor have made it a port of call for centuries—for whaling ships, transatlantic steamers, and, more recently, recreational yachts.

HISTORY Like many offshoot settlements, Nantucket, which was founded in 1659, was realized when a handful of Englishmen grew tired of the Puritan rule of the Boston colony. The island was bought from its Native American inhabitants for 30 English pounds, and a couple of beaver hats. One hundred years later, Nantucket was one of Massachusetts's wealthiest cities. As the whaling industry slowed, Nantucket quieted—until it became a tourist destination in the early 20th century.

DESIGN Modernists beware: Cobblestone streets and quaint shingled cottages make up Nantucket's narrow roads. Art galleries and gift shops pay homage to such native crafts as lightship baskets, mold-woven baskets with wooden bases and scrimshaw inlay. With such rustic charm, many seek out Nantucket's relative isolation and old-fashioned ways for vacation homes. And with 40 percent of the land designated as nature reserves, where building is prohibited, housing stocks remain low and prices high.

[GAZETTE] POPULATION 12,000 year-round, approx. 40,000 peak season; **MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME** \$55,500; **MEDIAN HOME PRICE** \$799,460 **PROPERTY TAXES** \$3.14 per \$1,000 in value

BACK BAY, BOSTON

LOCATION A Boston epicenter for shopping, dining, arts, and entertainment, Back Bay's main thoroughfares of commerce are Boylston Street and Newbury Street, the latter known as Boston's hippest avenue; its residential heart is Commonwealth Avenue.

HISTORY Today, it's hard to imagine that the ritzy, vibrant Back Bay was a tidal marsh until the mid 19th century. Back then, as Brahmin Beacon Hill became overrun with newer immigrants, Boston's wealthy built new mansions on the reclaimed land. Back Bay is home to America's oldest public library, the Boston Public Library, which overlooks tony Copley Square.

DESIGN The street layout echoes Parisian boulevards, seen most distinctly on the grand Commonwealth Avenue, which starts at Arlington Street and stretches west through the neighborhood. The area is an architectural delight, including the Meads, a renovation of three 1890s townhouses designed by architecture firm McKim, Mead & White (who designed the Boston Public Library), and the Frank Gehry-designed 360 Newbury condo block.

—LINDA LABAN

[GAZETTE] POPULATION 26,430; **MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME** \$66,427; **MEDIAN HOME PRICE** \$540,000 **PROPERTY TAXES** \$10.99 per \$1,000 in value

ON THE MARKET IN NANTUCKET

\$2,395,000

5 beds, 3 baths

3,689 sq. ft.

1.39 acres;

Coffin Real Estate



\$1,750,000

4 beds, 2 baths

2,150 sq. ft.

.14 acres;

Coffin Real Estate



ON THE MARKET IN BACK BAY

\$1,795,000

1 bed, 2 baths

2,026 sq. ft.

Otis & Ahearn, Boston

www.360newbury.com



\$2,865,000

5 beds, 3 baths,

2 half baths

4,700 sq. ft.

.03 acres;

Hammond

Residential/GMAC,

Back Bay, Boston



Welcome home.

The recently completed Maisonettes at 270 Clarendon Street in Boston's historic Back Bay is the latest project from The Holland Companies.

For a private showing, call or visit us online.

781.335.4275

THEMAISONETTES.COM



—the
HOLLAND
COMPANIES

Design & Construction

THEHOLLANDCOMPANIES.COM

1126 MAIN STREET, WEYMOUTH, MA