

south end

| population | gross area | pop. density | housing units | median income | median age |
|------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| 28,160 | 1.03 sq.mi. | 27,340 ppsm | 28,160 | \$41,590 | 34.3 |

Information from 2000 U.S. Census data

history

When Boston was founded on the Shawmut Peninsula in 1635, the South End was only a narrow isthmus of land connecting the town to the mainland. By the 1830s, the original Big Dig had backfilled the Charles River Basin and provided acres of buildable land. Charles Bulfinch, architect of the Massachusetts State House and later the United States Capitol, laid out the South End's first street plan in 1801 as a grid pattern surrounding a large park called Columbia Square (today's **Blackstone** and **Franklin Squares**). The bowfront townhouses of **Chester Square**, **Union Park**, and **Worcester Square** were created during the 1850s to attract wealthy merchants to the South End. Columbus Avenue was built in the Parisian boulevard style in 1868.

today

The South End has become a fashionable alternative to nearby Back Bay and Beacon Hill. Within walking distance of **Copley Place**, **The Prudential Center**, **Symphony Hall** and **Newbury Street**, the South End offers access to all the amenities of Boston along with its own destination addresses. The neighborhood is home to the **Boston Ballet** and the **Boston Center for the Arts**. Tremont Street, Washington Street and Columbus Avenue house the area's restaurants and boutiques, including **Flour**, **Hammersley's**, **Icarus**, **Truc**, and **647 Tremont**.

location

The South End lies south of the Back Bay, and northwest of South Boston. It is bounded to the north by Herald Street and the Turnpike, to the east by Albany Street and the Fitzgerald Expressway, to the west by Huntington Avenue, and to the southeast and southwest by Melnea Cass Boulevard. The South End straddles Washington Street, Boston's main north-south street and includes two other main north-south streets (Tremont Street and Columbus Avenue) and one main east-west street (Massachusetts Avenue).

housing stock

The characteristic housing stock in the South End are the red brick, Victorian row houses built in the mid- to late- 1800s. In addition, the area around Washington Street houses the South End's converted loft district.

historic districts

In 1972, the South End was placed on the National Register of Historic Places as the largest Victorian brick rowhouse district in the United States. In 1983, the area became a Boston Landmark District and is the largest such district in the country, covering more than 500 acres.

culture and recreation

Boston Ballet • Boston Center for the Arts • Boston Common • Charles River Esplanade • Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum • Museum of Fine Arts • Peters Park • Public Garden • Southwest Corridor Park

transportation

Car: From Route 93, take Exit 20. From the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), take Exit 22 (Copley Place).

T: Orange Line to Back Bay Station or Mass Avenue stop.

Bus: Silver Line runs down Washington Street.

local news sources

southend.org

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