

The West End Museum

Boston's Neighborhood Museum

West End Museum Walking Tours Mark Global *Jane's Walk* Weekend, Involve New York Streets Exhibit

Highlight Urban Renewal in Boston's West End and South End

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 18, 2017

Boston, MA—[The West End Museum](#) will host two walking tours in May. The first will focus on what happened to the West End under urban renewal and coincides with the *Jane's Walk* 'global festival' of citizen-led walking tours inspired by urbanist and activist Jane Jacobs. The second will concentrate on Boston's first urban renewal project, which took place in an area of the South End known as the New York Streets. Historian and West End resident Duane Lucia will lead both walking tours. Gloria Ganno, a former resident of the New York Streets, will assist Lucia for the second walk.

Jane's Walk West End Tour

Saturday, May 6; 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Starts at The West End Museum (entrance on Lomasney Way, Boston)

Cost: FREE; Pre-registration required [here](#)

This event begins with a Museum tour of the exhibit titled, *Boston's First Urban Renewal: The New York Streets*. That will be followed by a walking tour through the West End urban renewal project area, including Charles River Park, the outskirts of Government Center, North Station and the North slope of Beacon Hill. In the late 1950s an early 60s, thousands of West Enders were driven from their tenement homes to make way for gleaming, high-rise apartments rented at a premium.

Jane Jacobs (1916-2006) is renowned for her theories and writings advocating a fresh, community-based approach to urban development and for organizing grassroots campaigns to save neighborhoods like the West End and New York Streets from urban renewal. After her passing, a group of Jacobs' friends and colleagues founded [Jane's Walk](#) to honor her ideas and legacy. (Media note: Download photo of West End urban renewal [here](#), ©1962 Charles Frani; Download photo of Jacobs [here](#).)

A Walking Tour of the New York Streets

Saturday, May 20; 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Starts in front of J.J. Foley's on East Berkeley Street, Boston

Cost: \$7 Museum Members/\$15 Non-members; Pre-registration required [here](#)

This tour will survey the area of Boston's South End once known as the New York Streets, including the Ink Block, Washington Street and Harrison Avenue. Encompassing 24 acres of land comprising 12+ city blocks, the old New York Streets neighborhood—like the West End—was a vibrant, multi-ethnic neighborhood of tenement houses and mom-and-pop shops that fell victim to redevelopment in the City. (Media note: Download NY Streets urban renewal photo [here](#).)

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About The West End Museum:

[The West End Museum](#) is dedicated to the collection, preservation and interpretation of the history and culture of the West End neighborhood. The Museum's permanent exhibit, "The Last Tenement," highlights the immigrant history of the neighborhood through its

decimation under Urban Renewal in 1959. The main gallery features multiple rotating exhibits. The Museum is located near North Station. Its entrance is on Lomasney Way. Hours: Tuesday - Friday 12:00pm - 5:00pm; Saturday 11:00am - 4:00pm. Admission is free.

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