**suggested archive entry & YouTube Script**

**Blackstone Block Slideshow.doc**

SCRIPT: from interview with Chuck Redmon at his Cambridge Seven office, June 18, 2007, interviewed and selected by Mike Spock, images from 1973-4 Cambridge Seven Blackstone Block site study model, videography by Carol Yourman; KEYWORDS: oldest blocks in Boston, Quincy Market, http://www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com/ 17th- & 18th street patterns, Freedom Trail, Millennium Hotel <http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumboston/gallery/index.html>

**Site Study of the Blackstone Block Model.doc [November 8, 2010]**

PICTURES: selected and captioned by Mike Spock, ~~[later to be edited into slideshow]~~; KEYWORDS: <http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumboston/gallery/index.html> ,

behind Faneuil Hall Marketplace on North between Blackstone and Union Streets, oldest remaining street dimensions, 18th Century Salt Lane, old Haymarket, Chuck Redmon, John Stebbins, Cambridge Seven Associates.

**[the study of the Blackstone Block near Faneuel Hall Marketplace pp 4-5]** And then we looked at one of the oldest blocks in Boston, the Blackstone Block, which was in really bad repair. **[cut to slides, narration continues in the background]**

**7325 BLAC 001: photo of the Haymarket and Quincy Market sites**

**7325 BLAC 002:** **photo of the Blackstone Block**

**7325 BLAC 003 photo of Blackstone Site**

**Jay: The slides of the architectural studies need to be color corrected [001, 002, 003 too sepia], and trimmed [004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013]. The goal is to make them slightly better so they aren’t distracting to the viewer, not to make them perfect. They are what they are: rough studies—flaws and all!**

And this time was pre-Quincy Market, pre-birth of Boston, in a way. And you were looking at buildings that were just about ready to fall over. The Blackstone Block was, its street pattern had the remnants of the old 17th- and 18th-century city. It was beautiful. But a hodgepodge of buildings.

I remember wandering around the buildings with boots on and slopping in the basements and trying to figure out whether we could bring it together. **[cut back to slides, narration continues]**

**7325 BLAC 004: Existing Site**

**7325 BLAC 005: Demolition**

**7325 BLAC 006: Vertical Circulation**

**7325 BLAC 007: Pedestrian Circ. & Retail**

**7325 BLAC 008: Exhibits**

**7325 BLAC 009: Proposed Scheme**

**7325 BLAC 010: Section BB**

**7325 BLAC 011: Ground Plan**

**7325 BLAC 012: Second Floor Plan**

**7325 BLAC 013: Fourth Floor Plan**

And there was two old buildings we thought, well, maybe we could build something between them and use them as cornerstones. But what a dynamic location. Because at that time there was the beginning idea for Quincy Market. And to be cheek-by-jowl with what has become one of the great retailing and merchandising successes in American cities, the Quincy Market, that location for the museum would have been dynamic. You wouldn’t worry about parking. You had transportation on all sides. You had a walking traffic. You were on the Freedom Trail. I mean, people would be stumbling to get to your doors. Again, difficult issue. **1:35 min**

**[an additional narration should be recorded by Chuck or Mike for these final paragraphs]** For all its appeal and access, the cost of making the Blackstone site into a functioning children's museum was scary. While everyone was getting their courage up, an old wool warehouse on the Fort Point Channel became available--and at a price we thought we could afford. So we turned our attention from the sexy Quincy Market neito pioneering the inward-turning South Boston but more reasonable collaboration with our partner, the Museum of Transportation in developing Museum Wharf.

In a few years, the Boston Redevelopment Authority turned the site over to what became the Bostonian Hotel. Because of BRA's attention to their adaptive reuse guidelines, at least from the *outside* envelope*,* the hotel looked very much like Cambridge Seven's original museum proposal.

**Bostonian#007\_EXT: Millennium Bostonian Hotel**

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<http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumboston/gallery/index.html>

http://www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com/**Blackstone Slideshow Images**

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**7325 BLAC 009: Proposed Scheme**

**[image coming] Millennium Hotel**

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