

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

R E P R I N T E D F R O M A R E C E N T E D I T I O N

The Hot List: Hanging out on the Waterfront

A few years back, there were roughly three occasions to visit the waterfront: a concert at the Bank of America Pavilion, a meal at the Barking Crab or an arraignment at the Moakley Courthouse. (OK, four reasons: Harpoonfest.) More recently, the postapocalyptic swath of land from Atlantic Avenue down to the Pavilion has begun to take shape as an honest-to-goodness neighborhood, one worth visiting for more than a plate of fried clams or plea bargain. The intercontinental building alone will give the area two new restaurants (Sushi-Teq and Miel) and a bar (Rumba), while the spectacular new Institute of Contemporary Art adds a major cultural landmark. Area stalwarts like Anthony's Pier 4 and Jimmy's are still alive and well. Farther down Northern Avenue, Legal Test Kitchen gives residents of the Park Lane Seaport apartment building a fresh non-hotel culinary option. And the surest indicator that the waterfront has reached a tipping point? It's not even the new Westin Hotel on Summer Street or the Manulife building on Congress Avenue, but what they both house on their ground floors: a Starbucks.