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12B Extracurriculars Events on and off campus in September and October



I2D Boston's Buildings Views of an ever-evolving skyline, from the water



12K World's End A refreshing day trip to Hingham, Massachusetts



I2P Branch Line Reflecting on Watertown's past—and future

COURTESY OF CANTERBURY SHAKER VILLAGE

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Extracurriculars

Events on and off campus during September and October

SEASONAL

Boston Local Food Festival www.bostonlocalfoodfestival.com New England's "largest one-day farmers' market." (September 17)

FILM

Harvard Film Archive www.hcl.harvard.edu/hfa By Chantal Akerman explores the Belgian filmmaker's personal and political nuances

From left: a detail from Procession, by Leonid and Rimma Brailovsky, at the Museum of Russian Icons; one of the photographs by Kippy Goldfarb at the Arnold Arboretum; Creamer and Sugar, Swans in Sky (2016), by Amber Cowan, at the Fuller Craft Museum

through screenings of Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce, 1080 Bruxelles and other works. (September 8-November 12)

The Animation of Jan Lenica. This retrospective explores works by the Polish designer and illustrator. (October 21-30)

LECTURES

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study www.radcliffe.harvard.edu Social Justice and the New Food Activism. Radcliffe fellow Julie Guthman discuss-

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STAFF PICK: New Views of Boston

Terri Evans has a soft spot for Millennium Tower. The 60-story residential skyscraper, opened last year in Downtown Crossing, is "slim and graceful and conveys a sense of almost floating in the sky."

Yet she and the other volunteer Boston By Foot guides who lead architecture cruises along the Charles River and into Boston Harbor are equally devoted to traditional icons-the Citgo sign, Longfellow Bridge-and happy to delve into the topography, politics, and history that have long configured Boston's built environment. "I love how cities grow and change," Evans says, "and the clues that are left behind that give insight into what was there before."

Passengers embark at the Charles Riverboat Company's dock on the Lechmere Canal in East Cambridge. The boat passes the Museum of Science, then slips beneath both the old Boston and Maine Railroad Bridge and the new Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge before entering the Charles River Dam's locks, which open and close depending on the tides, Evans explains. The inner harbor features views of Charlestown and the North End. Beyond, the financial district includes the Custom House Tower and India Wharf—the nineteenth-century center of international trade that's now home to the Brutalist-era Harbor Towers.

Then it's on to the Seaport District. The thriving business and tourist nexus was tidal mudflats until the late 1800s, then became



a shipping hub before regressing into a no-man's land of vacant lots, parkwww.bostonbyfoot.org/tours/Boat Cruise www.charlesriverboat.com

ing lots, and warehouses tied to the Port of Boston. Last spring workers erecting 121 Seaport Boulevard—a 17-story retail and office building—found the remains of a double-masted, wooden cargo ship that had sunk there between 1850 and 1870. Also among the striking structures is the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), a sleek, Lego-like building that's both cantilevered over the water and sited on part of the emerging 47-mile Harbor Walk. "Boston is this amazing city," declares Evans. "People can actually walk throughout the landscape on a pedestrian path that's at or near the edge of the water."



12D SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2017

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es the origins, development, and challenges of the healthy-food movement. Knafel Center. (October 12)

MUSIC

Blodgett Chamber Music Series www.boxoffice.harvard.edu

The Parker Quartet plays works by Bartók and Mozart. (September 29) "Guido Fuller Craft Museum Adler: Musicology Then and Now" features the **Boston Trio** playing music by the Bohemian-Austrian composer's students and contemporaries. (October 13)

Sanders Theatre

www.boxoffice.harvard.edu The Harvard Wind Ensemble, Monday Jazz Band, and Harvard University **Band** join forces for the annual Montage Concert. (October 8)

The Harvard Choruses and Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra perform Chichester Psalms, among other works, to honor the coming centennial of composer Leonard Bernstein '39, D.Mus. '67. (October 28)

NATURE AND SCIENCE The Arnold Arboretum

www.arboretum.harvard.edu Boston-based photographer Kippy Goldfarb, Ed.M. '82, reveals patterns and kaleidoscopic images of nature in Reverberations: A Virtual Tour. (October 20-February 4)

THEATER

American Repertory Theater www.americanrepertorytheater.org Adapted by Rob Roth from audiotaped conversations between Truman Capote and Andy Warhol, Warhol Capote captures the 1970s Zeitgeist, along with the artists' signature creative drives and personalities. Directed by Michael Mayer. (September 9-October 13)

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

Harvard Museum of Natural History www.hmnh.harvard.edu World in a Drop: Photographic Explorations of Microbial Life features images by Harvard Medical School research fellow Scott Chimileski. (See "Life Beyond Sight," page 40.) He and HMS professor Roberto Kolter, coauthors of Life at the Edge of Sight: A Photographic Exploration of the Microbial World, discuss their work on October 19. (Exhibit runs through January 7.)

RISD Museum

www.risdmuseum.org Lines of Thought: Drawings from Michelangelo to Now, from the British Museum elucidates how a deceptively simple art form influences and connects artists and viewers over time. (Opens October 6)

www.fullercraft.org Amber Cowan: Re/Collection. The Philadelphia artist creates intricate sculptures, some unearthly, others arthropodic, out



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of bits and pieces of recycled vintage glass. (Through October 8)

The Museum of Russian Icons

www.museumofrussianicons.org Coinciding with the centenary of the October Revolution of 1917, Migration + Memory: Jewish Artists of the Russian and Soviet Empires reflects cultural history and individual trajectories. (Opens October 12)

Events listings are also available at www. harvardmagazine.edu.

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EXPLORATIONS

Radical Living

Canterbury Shaker Village's enduring appeal *by* Nell Porter Brown





The village grew up around the Meeting House, built in 1792 (above), followed by the Dwelling House (far left), with its simply furnished bedrooms. Behind the "garden barn" and shed (top), are meadows and vegetable crops.

HERE'S NOTHING superfluous about Canterbury Shaker Village. That's just the way members of the separatist Christian sect who lived on this New Hampshire hilltop for two centuries wanted it. The self-sufficient Shaker "brothers" and "sisters" worked hard and lived simply-prizing order, quality, cleanliness, and the common good. "Everything that was done here was done in the name of God," says village tour guide Claudia Rein. "From the minute they got up in the morning to the minute they went to bed at night."

see the 25 original white-clapboard buildings standing like stalwart parishioners themselves on 700 acres of pastoral land under open skies. Rein calls it "magically spiritual," to see "this place intact, these buildings that have been here for more than 200 years, untouched. You can feel the presence of peacefulness." Panoramic views are unmarred by commercial elements. Out back, rows of vegetable and flower gardens meet hay fields that slope to woodland trails and ponds.

Established in 1792, Canterbury was the sixth Shaker community. The uniquely These days, visitors crest that same hill to American movement, derived from Quak-

erism, was brought from England by a charismatic leader, "Mother Ann" Lee in 1774. Shakers reveled in ecstatic displays during worship—stomping, singing, dancing that broke with the increasingly reserved Quakers. They also believed in the second coming of Christ, communal living, equality between the sexes, repentance in the form of confession, and celibacy.

Lee was illiterate. Revelatory visions, experienced while imprisoned for her beliefs in England, informed her radical preaching in America, Rein says, but her ideas also likely stemmed from personal disillusionment:





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Lee's four children all died before turning six, and, unhappy in a forced marriage, she "became convinced that God wanted her to do something else with her life." For a woman to declare herself a Christian prophetess was rare enough, notes Sue Maynard, a trustee of Canterbury Shaker Village Inc., the nonprofit that preserved and operates the village as a historic site and museum. But when "she and seven colleagues left England, they were *it*: these eight people who were nobodies, and had nothing, were the origin of this American religion."

By the time Lee died a decade later, she'd attracted dozens of followers, established the first Shaker community in Niskayuna, New York, near Albany, in 1779, and laid the groundwork for the spread of Shakerism. Nineteen Christian-based utopias ultimately developed, most in upstate New York and New England, but some as far away as Ohio, Kentucky, and Florida. And Shaker values, reflected in their elegant yet utilitarian furniture, household objects, and other products, would come to reflect traditional American sensibilities.

Other former Shaker sites, like Hancock Shaker Village (New York) and Pleasant Hill (Kentucky), are also open to the public and help shed light on the sect's enduring legacy. But only Canterbury was "continually occupied by Shakers and has never been shut, or used as anything other than a Shaker Village," notes Maynard. As the site's unofficial historian, she has conducted "exhaustive and exhausting research" on all 1,809 people who ever lived at Canterbury, taken oral histories, and written the only full-length biography of the last brother to live there, Irving Greenwood, who died in 1939.

He "made sure they bought a car, a 1907 REO," she reports, "so instead of the long ride in the horse and carriage to Concord, they could drive there much more quickly." The Shakers were not ascetics. They had plenty of food and clothing. Tasks rotated, so nobody got stuck with the dirtiest jobs for long. And everyone had free time, Maynard points out, and enjoyed "entertainments" in the form of community plays and concerts: "They were trying to make as good a life as they could."

Unlike the Amish and Mennonites, Shakers also explored and gamely adopted-and often improved on-outside technology and material goods. Canterbury Shakers developed and patented a commercial-sized washing machine, put it on display at the 1876 U.S. Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, and went on to sell models to hotels and other institutions. In 1898 they bought telephones, and 12 years later they installed electricity even before New Hampshire's capital city, Concord, did. Greenwood brought in a radio set in 1921, at the dawn of that era, and several years later, as modern household appliances began to appear, the Canterbury sisters eagerly purchased a KitchenAid mixer. "Then they got an electric refrigerator—and a Maytag washer," Maynard notes.

This creativity and adaptability—and a series of talented elders—she says, made Canterbury one of the most successful Shaker communities. Yet what about it today draws 35,000 annual visitors, many from around the world? Why is there abiding interest in the Shakers, a religious sect that, at its mid-nineteenth century peak only had about 5,000 members? Some people who come are spiritually minded, others are utopian-seekers, who "see this alternative communal organization as a model for the way that everyone could live," Maynard says. Many are "struck by the achievements of these people who were basically uneducated in any formal way, but who designed and

Even the views (here populated by cows) have likely not changed much in 200 years.

built these buildings, these objects, these businesses, simply from their own inspiration," she continues. "From their own determination and imaginations, they created what they regarded as 'Heaven on earth.' It's a very American idea."

Show (October 14), and Ghost Encounters VISITORS CAN ROAM the site on their own, (October 28). Walking trails good for all or take a guided tour. Those who share in the Shakers' devotion to craftsmanship ages wind through woods and meadows, might learn from artisans' daily demonand skirt ponds marked by remnants of the strations of traditional Canterbury Shaker Shakers' elaborate mill system. activities: spinning and weaving, letterpress Two different tours-one geared for printing, and constructing brooms and the adults, another for families-offer a groundfamous oval storage boxes. Seasonal working in Shaker history, and a sense of how shops for making chairs, rugs, and folk-art the Canterbury community evolved over dolls run through November, and several time. The village began with new convert events are planned: the Canterbury Artiand farmer Benjamin Whitcher and 43 othsan Festival (September 16), Vintage Car er believers intent on transforming his 100-

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acre homestead into a communal agrarian utopia: "Heaven on Earth." First to rise was the Meeting House. There, devotees eschewed ministers and fireand-brimstone ser-

mons in favor of listening to community elders offering relevant lessons or reflections during meetings for worship. Singing was prevalent; the Canterbury Shakers alone composed about 10,000 hymns, along with dances and music, Rein said during a



even in America. "In your town, if you saw a bunch of people in black hats and dark clothes shaking and throwing themselves on the ground, and saying, 'You are a sinner, come join us! Throw your lust away! You leave your husband and join our sect!" Rein

The Dwelling House, built in 1793,

is where Shaker "sisters" and

"brothers" lived in separate

added to the building in 1835.

quarters; the chapel, below, was

recent tour. A few people in the

group knew the song "Simple Gifts,"

written in 1838 by Maine Shaker Jo-

seph Brackett (it became famous af-

ter Aaron Copland incorporated it

in his orchestral suite Appalachian

Spring); they sang it

asked, "wouldn't you pick up the phone and call the police and say, 'Get these people off the street. They're disturbing the peace!'?"

Within the Shaker communities themselves, sisters and brothers never touched. In 1793, the Canterbury Dwelling House was built, and the gender groups came and went through different doors, and stairways, and slept in separate quarters.

Yet they worked closely together, mindfully divvying up workloads and decision-making powers, even around finances. Always "entrepreneurs, inventors, and businesspeople," Rein noted, they pooled their worldly assets upon conversion and worked collectively to earn money and sustain their communities. At Canterbury, a range of ventures developed over the years, from selling farm products, patented medicines, and clothing to cookbooks, household objects, and furniture.

Visitors see artifacts from their commercial ventures, like brooms, bonnets, boxes, and baskets, and from their daily lives, at the exhibition hall. Furniture is also on display—wardrobes, corner cupboards, chairs, tables, and a ingeniously designed doublesided sewing cabinet and desk, and the Ken

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ALL IN A DAY: World's End

Exactly when and how World's End got its name remains a mystery. But when you step out from the trees along the farthest edge of this 251-acre peninsula jutting into Hingham Harbor and look back across the water at the toothpick peaks of the Boston skyline 15 miles away, the name seems to fit.

The Trustees of Reservations acquired the little hunk of land on Boston's South Shore in 1967, and has been celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. Guided hikes illuminate the property's history, and on September 15, a family-friendly tour highlights hidden pathways through the woods and other "curiosities."

Originally an island carved out by glaciers, the property was relinked to the mainland by colonial farmers and in the 1800s became part of a vast farming estate owned by



businessman John Brewer. In 1889 Brewer commissioned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, A.M. 1864, LL.D. '93, to draw up plans to turn World's End into a 163-lot subdivision. The development never materialized, but the carriage roads Olmsted designed were built and saplings planted alongside them; now those trees form a massive canopy, and the roads are wide, curving walking trails. In years past, other proposals have threatened the park: in 1945, it was considered for the UN's headquarters (bound, eventually, for Manhattan); in 1965, for a nuclear plant. With its hilly meadows,

Stunning views of Hingham Harbor (top) and the Boston skyline (lower left); trails formed from treelined carriage roads; al fresco diners at Caffe Tosca

rocky beaches, woods, wetlands, and a tidal marshplus those stunning views across the bay—World's End can easily occupy two or three hours. Through October 31, visitors can wander through Danish artist Jeppe Hein's conceptual work, A New End, whose mirrored columns mimic the surrounding landscape.

On busy days, traffic can clog narrow Martins Lane, leading to the reservation entrance, and the parking lot often fills up. There is a car-free alternative: take the MBTA Greenbush Line to Nantasket Junction, and from there it's an easy one-mile walk or bike ride. Or take the commuter ferry from Long Wharf in Boston to Hingham Harbor; from there by bike it's less than four miles.

Heading toward Boston, visitors can stop at Hingham's Bathing Beach and the farmers' market (open Saturdays through November 18). For full meals, there's comfort food at Stars on Hingham Harbor; pricier, refined Italian fare at Caffe Tosca; or fresh lobster rolls and chowders at the Hingham Lobster Pound.

Hingham can be a quintessential New England day trip. World's End is a popular Trustees site more than 60,000 people visited last year-but even when the parking lot is full, the place doesn't feel crowded. Standing at the edge of the water, you'll have the view all to yourself. ~LYDIALYLEGIBSON



Cadbury



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Burns documentary about Canterbury, The Shakers: Hands to Work, Hearts to God, is shown. The Shakers established their own communal economy "that challenged the basic tenets of an emerging American capitalism by rejecting individual ownership in favor of joint interest," reads an exhibition panel about the 1842 visit to the village by Ralph Waldo Emerson, A.B. 1821, LL.D. 1866, who called the Shaker economy a "peoples' capitalism."



Canterbury was among the Shaker villages credited with pioneering commercial crops grown for seeds, which they packaged and sold throughout much of the nineteenth century; it also produced tens of thousands of flat brooms, another Shaker invention. Canterbury physician Thomas Corbett (1780-1857) spearheaded the village's packaged-herb business, but more importantly, developed popular cure-alls, like his sarsaparilla-syrup compound, which residents

produced, marketed, and sold for 60 years. The village even had its own printing operation under the dynamic leader and Renaissance man Henry Blinn. It became the locus of published materials for all of the Shaker communities, printing the monthly *Manifesto*, and accepting jobs from outside the community as well. Visitors can explore the equipment used and learn about the arduous process that, by the 1890s, included typesetting done by some of the sisters.

Shakers were perfectionists, Rein noted, and their products are "synonymous with quality." Tours highlight how their labor, A carpenter's workbench, tools, and furniture, displayed at the Dwelling House

work ethic, and aesthetic are linked to spirituality. Lee reportedly preached: "Do all your work as though you had a thousand years to live; and as you would if you knew you must die tomorrow." But Joseph Meacham of the Enfield, New Hampshire, Shaker village, is credited with writing, more practically: "All work done, or things made in the Church for their own use, ought to be faithfully and well done but plain and without superfluity."

The work of God extended to nurturing children. The Shakers had none of their own, but before the era of official orphanages, they routinely acted as foster families for children in need. Canterbury helped hundreds of children over the years, raising and educating them until age 21, when they could choose to sign the Shaker covenant and stay on, or join the "World's People," as outsiders were called.

This was decades after the number of Shakers overall began to decline, starting in 1850 (around the time Canterbury's own population peaked at 250). Male converts were the first to ebb. with the onset of the American Industrial Revolution. Women soon predominated, playing even larger roles



in financial matters. At Canterbury, Dorothy Durgin, who arrived at age nine, in 1834, rose to become an eldress. The multitalented leader, among other pursuits, designed the "Dorothy Cloak," a wool shoulder cape with a hood (there's one

at the exhibition hall) that became a trend among society ladies. (In 1893, first lady Frances Cleveland wore one at her husband's second inauguration.) That entrepreneurship and the clothing line itself expanded during the early twentieth century. Other sisters formed the Hart and Shepard Company, going on the road with trunk-loads of cloaks and other handmade goods, traveling as far as Florida, to resort hotels, Maynard says, "then working their way up the coast, selling thousands of dollars' worth....They were dressed in their Shaker bonnets and dresses and cloaks, but they had independence and were businesswomen."

Then, as earlier, Shaker life could offer women "a sort of sanctuary—a safe and comfortable life where what they did was

Clockwise from top left: Dorothy Durgin; Henry C. Blinn (tending his bee hives); a sister using a KitchenAid mixer, c. 1926; hundreds of children were fostered at Canterbury, and some joined the community themselves. This image is from 1916.

appreciated," Maynard adds. In the outside world, options for an uneducated single woman were sparse. "She could work as a domestic, an unpaid servant in the home of a married sibling, or stay home and take care of aging parents," Maynard adds. "But





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what then? What happened as she grew old herself? At the village, as people aged, they were given tasks they *could* do, and if they became infirm, they were cared for."

The sisters nursed Irving Greenwood until his death in 1939. There were only 30 women left then, and no new converts permanently joined after that. Most of the

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Boston Harbor Islands

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Arriving at Canterbury Shaker Village, north of Concord, New Hampshire

other villages had closed or consolidated, and the flow of potential youthful converts ended as governments and charities developed orphanages and foster care. Among the last sisters to arrive at Canterbury and stay—Ethel Hudson, who came as a child in 1907—was the last sister to die there, in 1992. By 1965, with eight remaining Shaker sisters

in Canterbury, the covenant was effectively closed. Leaders there "recognized that the era had passed for the original intent of the villages," according to Maynard, "and that this was just the natural way of things." (Two people still live at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village in New Gloucester, Maine, which is also open to the public.) Fours years later, in 1969, a handful of Canterbury sisters laid plans to preserve the Shaker legacy and property by founding Canterbury Shaker Village Inc.

Village visitors come across the country, and from all over the world, to see the restored, original buildings and some of the thousands of photographs, artifacts, and documents that help explain who the Shakers were and what they might mean for the contemporary world. The BBC was there this spring to film the village and interview Maynard for its series, Utopia: In Search of the Dream.

Around that time, a tour included New Englanders and visitors from Maryland, Georgia, and California. What did they find compelling? "They were very spiritual people and they knew their purpose," answered Mary Street, of North Reading, Massachusetts. For her husband, Scott, it was the "simple beauty" of the place, the furniture, and their relationship to spiritual beliefs. "That they were progressive, and also part of the world-and being celibate," he paused, considering the fact. "It's strange, and sort of fascinating how they pulled that all off."

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Branch Line highlights Watertown's past—and future



ATIO DINERS at Branch Line can watch the sun go down—and might even catch a breeze from the Charles River—amid the Watertown Arsenal's historic red-brick buildings. The restaurant sits blissfully removed from traffic, and often feels as if it's in its own quiet little neighborhood.

Then there's the food. Branch Line is a partnership between the owner and the general manager of Eastern Standard, in Boston, and shares its brasserie-style flair. Slow-cooked French rotisserie chicken (\$19/\$38) and grilled steak (\$24) rightly lead the menu. But the potato gnocchi with "beefcheek ragu" and pecorino (\$23) is a rich treat, or go for the more nuanced grilled branzino (whole fish, or filet), with olives, harissa, and a side of micro-greens (\$28). The vegetarian entrée, though—featuring chunks of smoked eggplant over too-dry braised chickpeas and a layer of almond romesco—tasted something like a burnt oven smells.

Sides and starters had more zip. Steamed

mussels came in a beer-laced broth spiced with Calabrian chiles (\$14). The sugarsnap-pea salad, with marcona almonds and loads of ricotta cheese and fresh mint, was crunchy and refreshing (\$12). The lamb and pork meatballs drenched in *sugo al pomodoro*—classic tomato sauce—were divinely filling (\$5).

There's no hard liquor: Branch Line serves wine, beer, and mocktails. Friendly, assiduous staff can describe every one of the 20 rotating craft drafts. A few are familiar (German wheat-ale and Jack's Abbey lager), but most are not. Note: the Tartare Rouge, from California's Bear Republic Brewing Co., is sour red ale fermented with "airborne wild yeast and bacteria."

Adventurous beer hounds are among the families, celebrants, and date-nighters who frequent Branch Line. Post-work relaxers

who stream over from the arsenal's 11 buildings boost the bar tab and neighborly vibe. No homes exist on the curwww. Branch Line, which pairs fresh fare with craft beers on tap, transformed part of a historic building and created a seasonal outdoor dining room at the former Watertown Arsenal.

rent "campus," as the arsenal is now called by owner and primary occupier, Athenahealth (to which Harvard sold the property in 2013), but Branch Line is joined by a very good Mexican restaurant, La Casa de Pedro, and the Mohesian Center for the Arts (galleries, classrooms, and live theaters), along with a seasonal farmers' market and special public events, like outdoor concerts. Fledgling trees, native plants, a central plaza, and other new landscaping are further signs of Athenahealth's efforts to reinvigorate this corner of urban life. The oldest buildings date to the Civil War, but the arsenal itself (designed by Boston architect Alexander Parris, later known for Quincy Market) was originally established in 1816 by the U.S. Army, and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. (For self-guided tours, visit http://thearsenalonthecharles. com/history/walkingtour.)

For its part, Branch Line has integrated modern, industrial-chic décor with preserved elements like tall windows and exposed steel beams, and attracted a lively

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| | linking communit |
| 617-420-1900 | ment and history |
| branchlinearsenal.com. | delicious food. |

following—thus laudably linking community development and history through its delicious food. ~N.P.B.

Restaurant photographs by Melissa Ostrow; food photograph by Brian Samuels