**NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR**

**ELIOT SQUARE | BOSTON MA**

**TIME** | 60-90 min.

**TOUR OPTIONS**
- **Self-guided walk**
  Use the map + street addresses
- **Virtual**
  Use the location links in the right-hand corner of each page

**THEMES**
- Building types + materials
- Changes over time
- Architectural vocabulary

**MATERIALS (PER PERSON)**
- Packet printout [pg. 2-7]
- Clipboard to hold packet
- Pencil with eraser
- Crayon for rubbings
- 3 small pieces of paper

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**
How was the activity?
Email us at lbd@architects.org

Children’s Walking Tours developed by the Boston Society for Architecture are self-guided, hands-on experiences for youth in grades kindergarten to 6th grade. Although the tours highlight the architecture, urban design, and built environment of a neighborhood they are not history tours with facts and figures. Children will draw, measure, count, make rubbings, and find various architectural elements along the way. They will actively engage in the neighborhood through close observation and critical thinking. Children will note changes over time, develop vocabulary to describe building elements, and experience how it feels to be a building.

Families are encouraged to take the tour in person, but Google Street View links are provided at each location for a virtual experience. Tour routes are in city neighborhoods. Street crossings are shown at crosswalks. Please supervise your children at all times and be safe.

Looking for another way to tour the city, on the streets or from your home? Check out the AIA Guide to Boston, an iPhone app that brings the buildings, neighborhoods, and Boston architects to life. Download for a small fee.

*The Boston Society for Architecture (BSA) is a chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and a community nonprofit. We are a community committed to improving the quality of life for everyone through architecture and design. The BSA brings leadership about the built environment to New England’s design profession and to communities throughout Greater Boston. By hosting professional and youth design education programs, fostering community engagement and membership networks, and initiating civic transformation, the BSA is making this a region where architects thrive and communities flourish.*
The tour begins in the center of Eliot Square [start at 42 Centre Street, Boston]. This Square has been the center of the Highland Park neighborhood for over 200 years. It is a place where lots of different things happen. People work, play, learn, create, pray, shop etc. in this square, therefore, there are many different types of buildings.

**Begin** at the benches around the circle and look around. **Ask** the children to describe what they see and the feeling of the square: is it quiet, busy, noisy, confusing? What do people do here? What kinds of buildings are here? What do they think was here before? **Note** the historical markers. **Fun fact: ask** the students when the park was laid out? Answer: 2002, there is a brass plaque in the brick paving in the circle.

**Use** the map below to guide your tour. The location numbers on the map below correspond to numbers on pages that follow. At each location, try the activity.
1. ELIOT SQUARE

You are in Eliot Square [42 Centre Street], the center of the Highland Park neighborhood in Roxbury for over 200 years. **Find** a comfortable place to sit and look around to do the activities below.

Buildings have faces just like people. Architects call them **facades**. Many of the buildings in Eliot Square have symmetrical facades; that means that if you drew a line down the middle, it would be equal on both sides.

Can you **find** a symmetrical building?

Can you **find** an asymmetrical one?

Is your body symmetrical?

Can you **make** your body asymmetrical?

2. TIMILTY SCHOOL / DILLAWAY HOUSE

**Look** closely at the Timilty School (c 1937) and the Dillaway House (c 1750) [*view from 182 Roxbury Street*]. **List** three things that are the same and three that are different.

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<th>SIMILARITIES (SAME)</th>
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Can you find the following architectural elements? When you find them, check off the box in the lower left corner.

- Gable Dormer
- Gambrel Roof
- Fanlight
- City Skyline

The buildings around you are built with various materials [183 Roxbury Street]. Each of these materials have different textures. Look around the park to find three building materials. Place a small piece of paper on a building surface and use your crayons to make a texture rubbing. Make 3 with different building materials and list the ones you choose below.
As you walk along Putnam Street, **find** as many architectural elements as you can. When you find them, **check** off the box in the lower left corner.
There has been a **meetinghouse** on this site since 1632 [10 Putnam Street]. The current building was completed in 1804.

In the space below, **draw** the **façade** (face) of the First Church. **Start** by drawing the largest shapes first, then add details. **After**, **label** some architectural elements on your drawing that you identified earlier [see pg. 4-5].
We are back where we began. Each of the buildings you visited today have different types of structures. Architects call the parts that hold a building up **structure**.

**Find** the following **structural elements** and then **try** them out with as partner. By making the structure’s shapes, you can start to **learn** how they work.

- **ARCH**
- **COLUMN**
- **DOME**