



# Fan Pier Park

Parks and Open Space

28 Northern Avenue, Boston

Landscape Architect:

**Laurie Olin with**

**Carol R. Johnson**

Architect:

**Pei Cobb Freed &**

**Partners**

Current Developer:

**The Fallon Company**

Public Park along the harbor's edge, used for gatherings, personal breaks and lunches, and aspect of the Boston Harborwalk

2.3 Acres

1998

Jared Guilmett



## Fan Pier

Part of Boston's landfill, the Fan Pier area has seen major changes and development over the course of its history. Named after its semi-circular shape, Fan Pier lies at the entry point to the Fort Point Channel, an important destination during the heyday of the Port of Boston. In the 1860's, Fan Pier became the ideal location for the railyard that would make transfers of materials and goods more efficient. The railyards functioned for nearly a century, before they became desolate and abandoned.





In the 1960s Anthony Athanas purchased the rail yards on Fan Pier in their abandoned state, for future development. By 1998, the Federal Government had purchased the 5 acre site along the Fort Point Channel from Mr. Athanas to establish a courthouse. The John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse, named after the U.S. Representative who played a vital role in the revitalization process of the area, is set back from the water's edge, creating a stunning public space for all to enjoy.



Fan Pier Park, designed by the renowned Laurie Olin with Carol R. Johnson Associates landscape architects, seeks not only to provide a public space along the water's edge, but also to educate the public. Eleven unique, interpretive panels provide a history of Boston and its harbor, as one walks along the 850' cobble waterfront promenade. Diverse New England horticulture is planted in the three distinct areas of the park: the Courthouse Lawn, the East Lawn, and the Prow, all of which offer great views of Boston and the Harbor, encourage social engagement and civic interaction.