



Path of Awareness – Sounding Chinatown

EN | 中文 | ES | DE



You



Motorized traffic



Rail transport



Traffic light



Gates, Fences



Seating options



Trees, Parks



Playground



Food, drinks



Store for goods



Housing



Hospital

Path of Awareness – Sounding Chinatown, Part 1

Path of Awareness is an artistic walking format that explores how space is experienced through conscious movement and attentive listening. Developed for Boston’s Chinatown, this edition responds to the neighborhood’s layered architecture and to the presence of Interstate 90—the Massachusetts Turnpike—whose continuous infrastructural sound shapes the atmosphere of the area.

By maintaining a steady, moderate pace and listening with deliberate openness, participants can expand their auditory field beyond the habitual filtering of everyday life. The walk draws attention to subtle acoustic shifts: reverberations between buildings, the masking and revealing of voices, the rhythms of traffic, and the sound of one’s own footsteps meeting pavement and concrete.

Shoes become instruments; walking becomes a dialogue with architecture. Along this site-specific route, the path itself becomes the destination. Thresholds—between quiet and noise, enclosure and exposure—emerge as spatial experiences lived through the body. Listening while walking reveals that infrastructure is not only seen but also heard, felt, and embodied.

Since 2012, katrinem has created more than 25 *Path of Awareness* works worldwide, including in Berlin, Linz, New York, Tehran, Mexico City, and Marseille. *Sounding Chinatown* continues this evolving practice at a critical moment of urban transformation.

Path of Awareness – Sounding Chinatown, Part 1 was composed and performed for the *Walking Festival of Sound 2026* by katrinem, in collaboration with Paula Martin Rivero and Chucho (Jesús) Ocampo of the Semantic Matter Lab at Northeastern University. It is a coproduction with the Goethe-Institut Boston.

How to use this score:

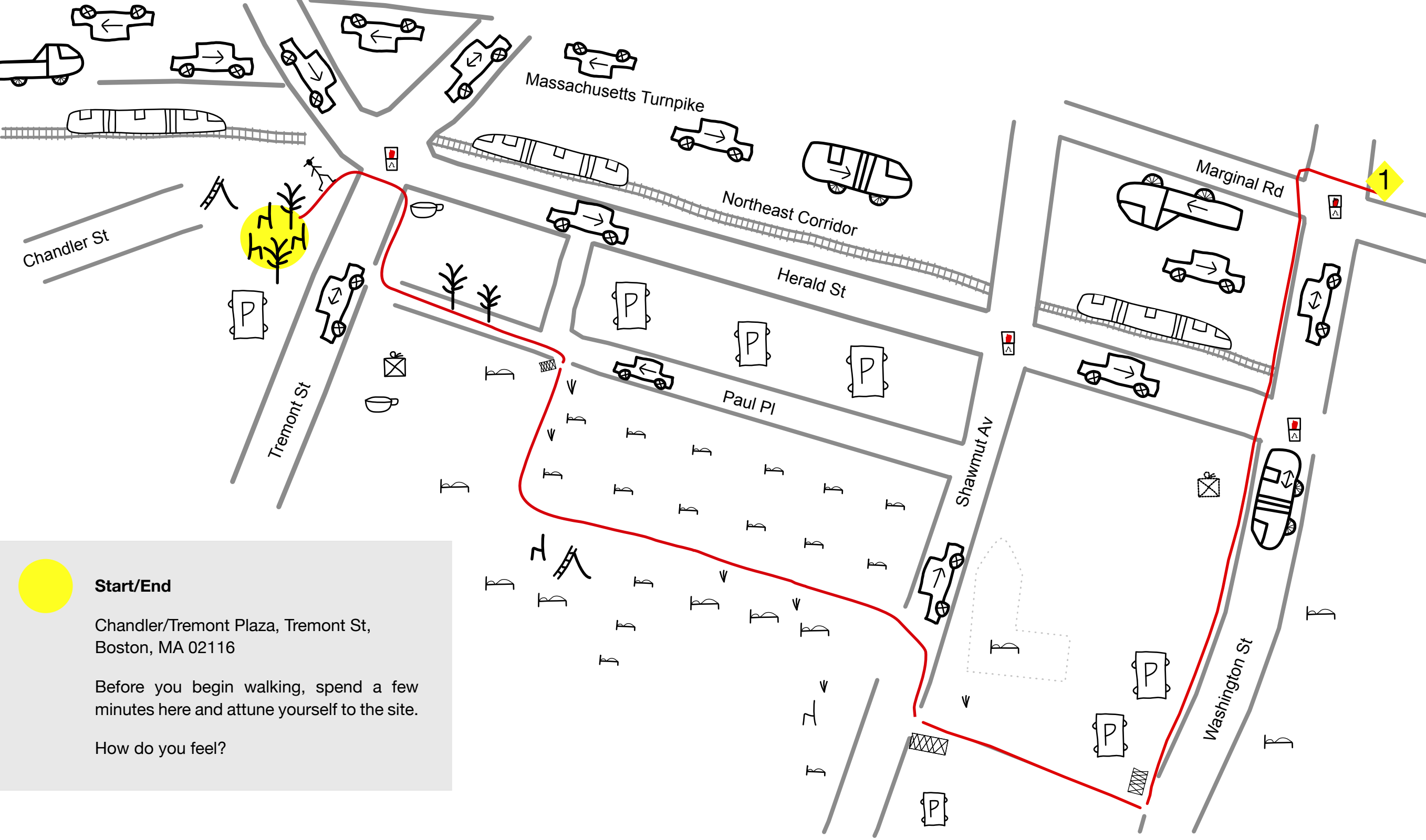
The path has a total length of 2.02 miles. Please take your time. I recommend allowing 1.5 to 2 hours.

Take this score and a pencil with you.

Put on a pair of “soundful” shoes and find a slow but steady walking rhythm that feels comfortable to you.

Travel as lightly as possible, open your ears, and refrain from talking.

Walking
Festival
of Sound



Start/End

Chandler/Tremont Plaza, Tremont St,
Boston, MA 02116

Before you begin walking, spend a few minutes here and attune yourself to the site.

How do you feel?

1

Sound Reflection

The architecture of the Josiah Quincy Upper School reflects the sounds of the nearby, hidden I-90 and carries them down towards us.

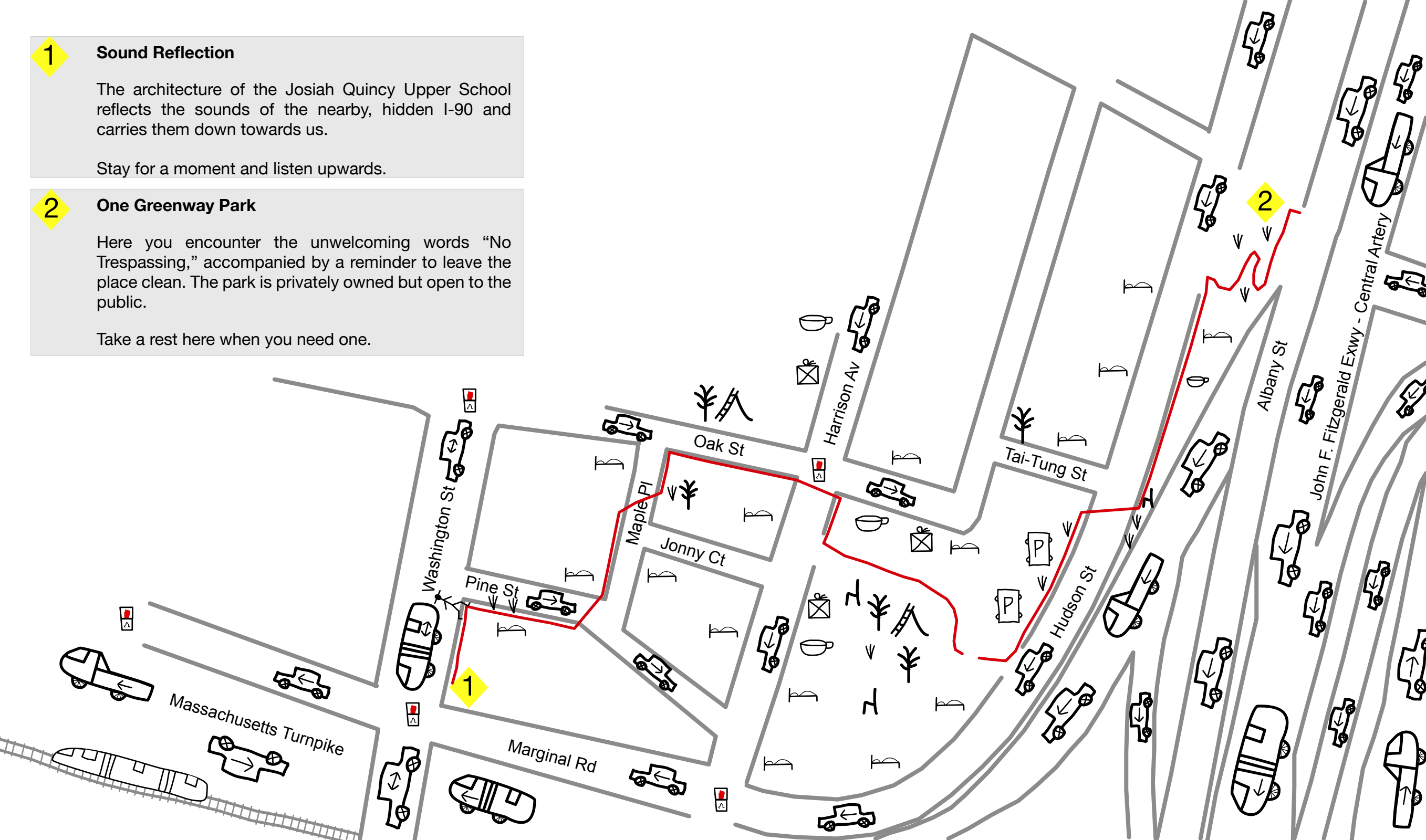
Stay for a moment and listen upwards.

2

One Greenway Park

Here you encounter the unwelcoming words “No Trespassing,” accompanied by a reminder to leave the place clean. The park is privately owned but open to the public.

Take a rest here when you need one.



3

Boston Public Library_Chinatown

A threshold between outside and inside.

The library is accessible on weekdays.
A restroom is also available upon request at the entrance.

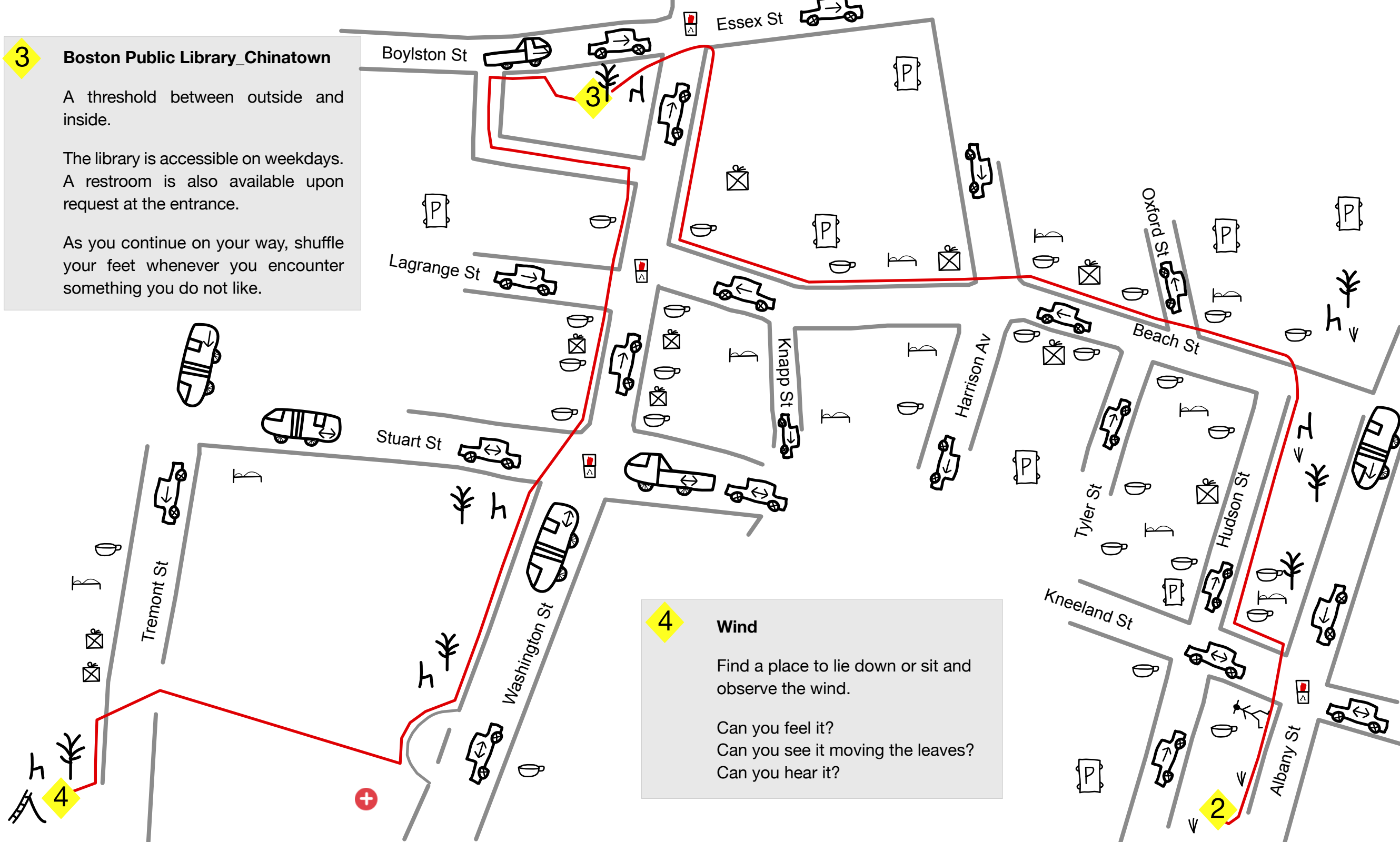
As you continue on your way, shuffle your feet whenever you encounter something you do not like.

4

Wind

Find a place to lie down or sit and observe the wind.

Can you feel it?
Can you see it moving the leaves?
Can you hear it?



After the Walk

Take a moment to pause and reflect on your experience.

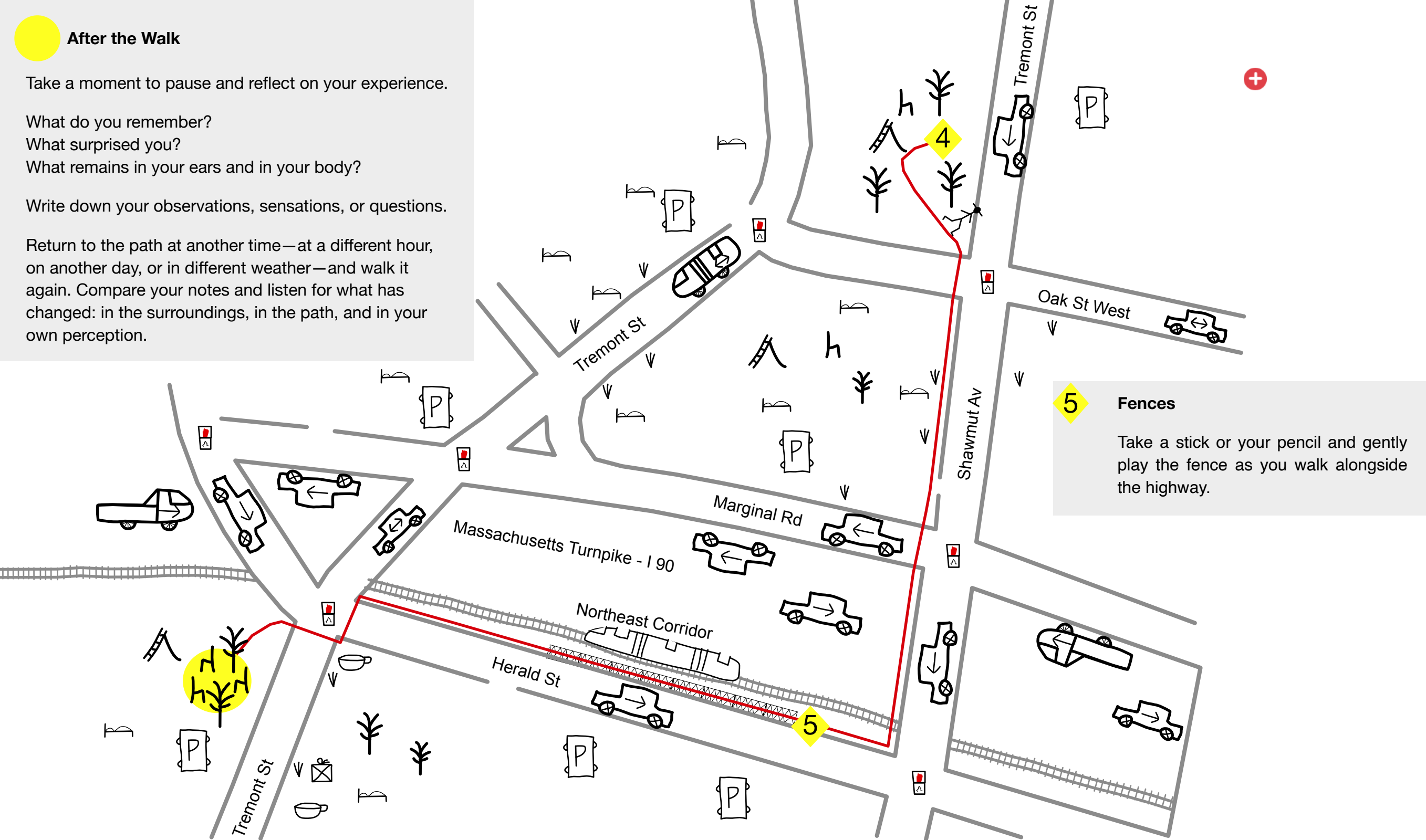
What do you remember?

What surprised you?

What remains in your ears and in your body?

Write down your observations, sensations, or questions.

Return to the path at another time—at a different hour, on another day, or in different weather—and walk it again. Compare your notes and listen for what has changed: in the surroundings, in the path, and in your own perception.



links:

katrinem.de



paulamartinrivero.com



chuchocampo.com



[youtube](#) excerpt Path of Awareness,
playing the fences I,II



About katrinem

katrinem's artistic practice explores the relationships between sound, space, and movement, with walking and listening as fundamental acts. For more than twenty years, she has investigated the walkability, acoustics, and atmospheres of urban and architectural environments through performative and installation-based works such as *go your gait!* and *Path of Awareness*. These projects reveal the rhythmic interplay between footsteps, spatial structures, and ambient sound.

Everyday life is the starting point for creative transformation in her work. Ordinary objects—such as brooms and shoes—are reimagined as instruments that intertwine movement and sound in projects including *Andante*, *BesenBallett*, and *Raumspiel*. These works often incorporate participatory elements and collective action in public space.

Her projects emerge from intensive site-specific research and interdisciplinary collaboration with artists, scientists, architects, and urban planners, inviting audiences to reconsider their habitual experience of space and discover the often-overlooked musicality of everyday movement and listening.

