Bowdoin/Geneva

Located in Meeting House Hill, one of the oldest sections of Dorchester, the area dates back to Boston’s first settlement in 1630.

The neighborhood is now home to many new Bostonians. Bowdoin/Geneva’s businesses represent all generations of Dorchester residents past and present, from Caribbean restaurants to a 50 year-old hardware store. Discover some of the best ethnic restaurants in Boston.

In August look for the annual Ronan Park Multicultural Festival which brings people of all ages together with local food, bands, and performances.

Dining & Food
Area restaurants and markets include Cape Verdean, Jamaican, Dominican, West Indian, Chinese, and classic American foods.

Directions
By MBTA: Red Line to Fields Corner Station. From Fields Corner take the #17 bus to Bowdoin Street. Or, Orange Line to Ruggles Station. From Ruggles take the #19 bus to Geneva Avenue and Bowdoin Street. Walk .25 miles down Bowdoin Street.

By Car: From I-93, take Columbia Road exit, Follow Columbia Road to Upham’s Corner. At the Strand Theater, turn left onto Hancock Street, bear right onto Bowdoin Street. At the first traffic light, Saint Peter’s Church will be on the left.

Sights to See

First Parish Church
Built in the early 1700’s, this was the first meeting house in Boston. It continues to serve as a gathering place today. The area is known as Meeting House Hill.

Mather School
Located behind First Parish Church, the Mather School was the first public elementary school in the country.

Reverend Allen Park
Originally Dorchester Common during the area’s first settlement, the park contains a monument to soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

Ronan Park
Ronan Park’s 11.65 acres of land is perched on the peak of Meeting House Hill and has spectacular views of the Boston Harbor and Dorchester Bay. The site was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and was comprised of two grand family estates. In 1912 it was turned into a public park when the City of Boston acquired the land.

Saint Peter’s Church
Built in 1872 from the puddingstone on which it rests, St. Peter’s Church is a beautiful example of Neo-Gothic architecture.

LEGEND

- District boundary
- Park/open space
- Public parking
- MBTA station
- Bus route