

## Rooms with a view at grande dame of waterfront

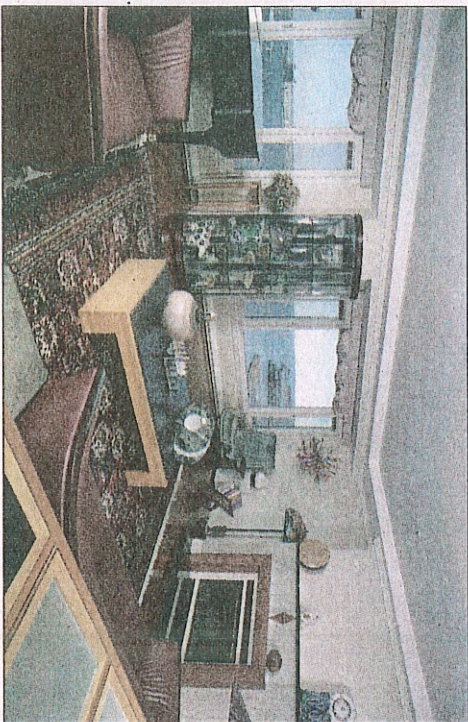
BY MARY MOORE  
SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Rowes Wharf carries herself with dignity — a woman of a certain age — and with her 20th anniversary fast approaching and three of her residences on the market, she is quick to remind that she's still got it going on.

When it opened in June 1987, Rowes Wharf brought the first five-star hotel and hotel-condominium combination project to the waterfront stretch along Atlantic Avenue. Its central location — not to mention the distinctive classic contemporary architecture and the arched entry that beckons visitors to Boston Harbor — make **The Residences at Rowes Wharf** coveted purchases.

Outdoor music and movie presentations in the summer draw crowds through that landmark arch, while commuters hustle through to the water shuttle and taxis that dock at the back of the **Boston Harbor Hotel**. To be sure, merging the upscale hotel and condominiums with the regular beat of ground floor public foot traffic creates a distinctive energy.

In contrast to, say, Battery Wharf, which bills itself as a sought-out destination for the public, and the **InterCon-**



The Residences of Rowes Wharf offers plush surroundings with a waterfront view.

**tinental Hotel**, where the public turns out largely to patronize the restaurants and bars, Rowes Wharf embraces the passerby who may have no particular reason to be there — except to be.

"This is the most successful public access on the waterfront," said **Samuel Mintz**, an 11-year resident of a corner penthouse unit that is up for sale. "This is the kind of thing Boston needs more of."

Rowes Wharf includes two residential buildings: Building 10 and Build-

ing 20. Similar to the city's other hotel-condominium combination properties, the 96 condominium units at Rowes Wharf come with everything the Boston Harbor Hotel has to offer.

While several condominiums have come on the market at 20 Rowes Wharf, property manager **Katherine McCabe Scott** remembers only two residences turning over in 10 Rowes Wharf during her eight years on the job, including a sale to the owner next door to expand the square footage of an original unit.

Of the three condominiums on the market, two of them are in 10 Rowes Wharf. The corner penthouse unit is the most expensive with the most to offer in views and added amenities. Listed at \$2.49 million, the unit's living room windows open to a wide vista of Boston Harbor.

Turn your head 90 degrees and look through the dining area to see the clock tower on the Custom House, the Rose Kennedy Greenway and Atlantic Avenue winding below.

Priced lower and without the personalized design features of the penthouse, a ninth-floor unit listed for \$2.29 million in 10 Rowes Wharf is all about its spectacular water views. The living room, office, eat-in kitchen and two bedrooms that constitute the 1,933-square-foot unit nearly breathe in Boston Harbor through large picture windows.

Priced at \$2.19 million, the lowest price of the three is a ground-level two-story townhouse in 20 Rowes Wharf, completely renovated to feel more like a home than a condominium.

With three Rowes Wharf residences on the market offering such varied views of downtown and Boston Harbor, it's as if the grande dame of the waterfront wants all eyes on her as she celebrates her 20th.

"When you're here, you really feel like you're in Boston," said **Carmela Laurella**, senior vice president at Boston's **Otis & Ahearn**, who is handling the sale of the penthouse unit in 10 Rowes Wharf. "This is the heart of the waterfront."