

1. MARK SANDMAN'S APARTMENT WHERE MORPHINE WAS FORMED

28 William St., Unit 3, Cambridge, MA 02139

Sandman's rent-controlled apartment (\$318/mo including heat) that he kept for eleven years. "Entering it was like stepping into the realm of the guy with the coolest collection EVER. Place was a mess with LPs and cassettes falling off of shelves and books, books, books everywhere. I was just awestruck at the immense pile of data that assaulted my senses." – Mike Rivard

2. THE MIDDLE EAST RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB

472-480 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139

Locale of the very first Morphine show, the Middle East has been owned and operated by Joseph and Nabil Sater since 1975. Local music fanatic and genuine madman Billy Ruane began to book shows at there in 1987. Morphine played many of their early, formative shows there in 1990. "The first show was real low-key," Sandman told the Las Vegas Sun in 1998. "We were the first band on a five-band bill, and the audience was just a random cross section of Cambridge types. There was a lot of variety, from skate kids to ancient alcoholics. We didn't bring the house down or anything, but the response was encouraging."

The Middle East was also a favorite socializing destination of Sandman's; it was there he courted his future girlfriend, Sabine, a bartender at the corner bar (formerly known as "the bakery"). As popular as they became, Morphine never stopped performing at the Middle East.

3. NIGHTSTAGE

823 Main St., Cambridge, MA 02139

Although the band is famously associated with The Middle East Club, the earliest, full live show recorded under the name Morphine was here at Nightstage, "a two-level room coated in muted lavender, taupe, and gray with recessed lighting, wall-to-wall carpeting, and a mahogany bar" (*Boston Magazine*). The date of the concert was June 19, 1990, and, at the time of this writing, it is available in full on YouTube and elsewhere. The venue was closed and demolished to make room for condos in 1993.

4. FORT APACHE STUDIO

18 Edmunds St., Cambridge, MA 02140

Third location of Fort Apache Studios. Where *Like Swimming* and first attempt at *The Night* were recorded. "It had two huge garage doors in the front that opened to a high-ceilinged room (big enough for trucks) and a loading dock. The former loading dock was used as the stage for the 'Live at Fort Apache' series that Gary Smith had set up with WFNX; it was a fine space for the shows, but as a recording studio, it was lacking. It had the prerequisite 'room sound' all studios crave, but the vibe was off... The switch in rooms was what led directly to the demise of the Fort." – Sean Slade

MORPHINE'S MAP OF CAMBRIDGE, MA

5. FIRST SANDMAN LOFT RESIDENCE, HI-N-DRY STUDIO

288 Norfolk St., Unit 5, Cambridge, MA 02139

"Mark would have you over for a drink or a meal, and by the end of the night, you'd have recorded a part that would appear on a song coming out on a major label." – Dana Colley

"Part of his charm offensive involved inviting me and my friend Soma to this loft to record a song. I wish I could remember what it was! Something involving meowing and cats. We started dating when he lived here." – Sabine Hrechdakian

6. SABINE HRECHDAKIAN & CAROLYN KAYLOR'S APARTMENT

160 Norfolk St., Cambridge, MA 02139

One block down from Hi-N-Dry, home of Mark's girlfriend and the band's friend, Carolyn, who would lend backing vocals to *The Night*.

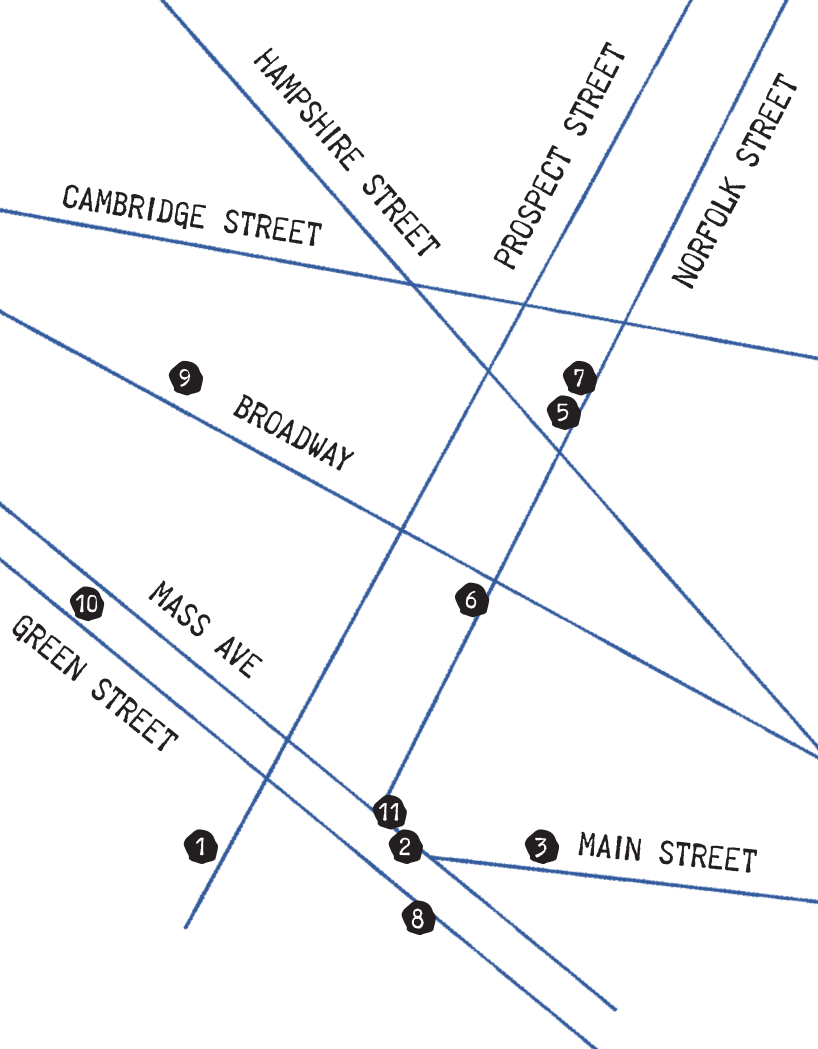
"Mark was over one day playing acoustic guitar, practicing for a Treat Her Right reunion show. After months of pursuit, I think he had decided he was just done, you know, that he had been barking up the wrong tree. But in that moment, hearing him sing 'No Reason,' a song I would later learn he wrote about the loss of his brothers, I fell in love with him. The next morning, as Carolyn is fond of saying, he was sitting at our breakfast table." – Sabine Hrechdakian

7. SECOND SANDMAN LOFT RESIDENCE & HI-N-DRY LOCATION

288 Norfolk St., Unit 5F, Cambridge, MA 02139

A larger space on the east side of the same floor as his original loft. This is where Sabine and Mark lived together and where much of the released version of *The Night* was recorded. The unit featured wall-sized shelves stacked with endless tapes, guitars hanging from ceiling beams, and Sandman's one major-label enabled purchase: a grand piano. Sabine recalls, "in one corner of the loft under a collage of tour posters was a leather chair where Mark would sit every morning, glass of coffee in one hand, cigarette in the other, to survey his kingdom. From this perch, he could see past the studio to the portion of the loft we called home."

"We were always recording ourselves at the loft... it was a musician's dream, full of great microphones and instruments... it was a beehive five days a week, for us anyway. There were people coming and going all the time." – Billy Conway



8. GREEN STREET GRILL

80 Green St., Cambridge, MA 02139

Every night about 11 o'clock, Sandman went out, and often, it was here at this tucked away, low-key bar that's been serving drinks since 1933.

9. DANA COLLEY'S APARTMENT

20 Highland Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139

"I loved going out at night with Mark. He'd always introduce me as 'his saxophone player.'" – Dana Colley

10. THE PLOUGH & STARS

912 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139

A small, dimly lit bar/venue founded in 1969, named after the Seán O'Casey play and a second home for countless musicians and writers over the decades. Sandman had a weekly residency at the Plough for some time where he'd showcase side projects like Candy Bar, The Pale Brothers, and Supergroup. To get around the venue's prohibition on drums, Billy Conway would stomp on the floor and hit walls and railings with his drumsticks.

"There's a lot of small clubs where you can experiment without any pressure. You can play in the corner, no stage, no lights, no expectations." – Sandman referencing the Plough in 1995

11. MARK SANDMAN SQUARE

The intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Brookline St. in Cambridge, MA

Dedicated to Mark in late July 1999. "Mark used to hang out here all the time," said Joseph Sater, owner of the Middle East. "His was one of the first bands to play at the Central Square World's Fair. God bless his soul."