



NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NBHC POLICY: AIR CONDITIONER INSTALLATION

DATE: 12.6.2005

PURPOSE: To provide guidance to property owners and tenants to the review and approval policy of installation of air conditioning units for properties in the Bedford Landing-Waterfront Historic District. The NBHC has the authority under Chapter 40C of Massachusetts General Law to review and approve AC units (and other similar appurtenances) in the district.

The goal of the NBHC is to maintain a historic district that can grow and develop respective of the changing needs of the property owners and tenants while keeping the architectural and historical integrity of the district intact.

GUIDELINES: Air conditioner units shall include window units and condenser units for central air conditioning systems that are viewable from a public way.

AC units shall be installed in such a manner to ensure; that the installation of such units does not create damage or loss of historic fabric to the host structure, that the installation is temporary (i.e. seasonal in windows) or reversible and that the placement of these units cause the least possible visual impact on the historical integrity of the building and district as a whole.

PROCESS: The installation of all AC units is to be reviewed and approved by the NBHC under the application process for issuing a Certificate of Non-Applicability. There is no public hearing, nor a fee for this application. Most applications will be reviewed by NBHC staff and approved by the Chairman within 2 business days.

If you are planning to install new AC units or already have them in place, please contact Derek Santos, the NBHC secretary and he will guide you through the application process as with all other changes that may require NBHC approval.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call, Derek can be reached at 508.996.4095 ext 11, fax 508.984.1250.