



Notes from the Chair...

Welcome to the first edition of the official newsletter of the New Bedford Historical Commission (NBHC), *the bulletin*. The NBHC was established in 1972 and plays a key role in the City's historic preservation efforts. The NBHC is a volunteer commission of New Bedford residents consisting of seven members and seven alternates appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

Our responsibilities include the design review of properties within the Bedford Landing-Waterfront Historic District and advising the City Council and City departments on matters involving historic sites and properties throughout the City.

Our goal is to meet our responsibilities in a manner that is professional and open. Please let us know how we're doing.

Joan Beaubian, Chairman

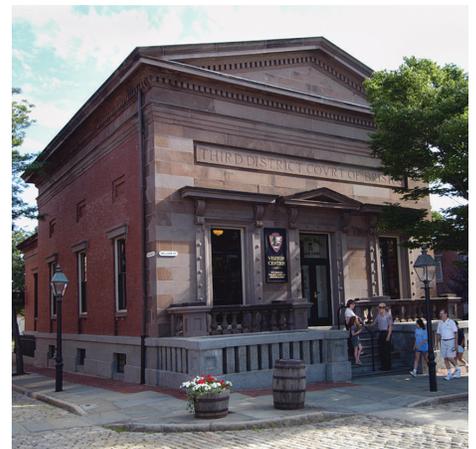
NBHC Introduces New Website

The New Bedford Historical Commission has a new website thanks to an ongoing partnership between New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park and the City of New Bedford. Park staff teamed with the City's Management Information Systems (MIS) Department to develop the site which is now part of the City's official home page.

The new website, which is located under *City Hall* in the navigation bar, has a series of pull down menus that allow the user to access historic district information, commission publications and forms. The site provides users access to planning and research materials as well as information about commission policies and approval procedures.

The site's designer, Maria Pina-Rocha, was instrumental in bringing the ideas for the website into reality. Maria worked closely with Derek Santos, the park's Historical Architect who also serves as staff for the commission. "Maria was great to work with on this project," Derek said,

"She and the rest of the MIS staff exceeded expectations of what the results of this project could be. The site is a valuable tool for property owners, contractors, architects and anyone who is interested in accessing a wealth of good information that can help with historic preservation projects throughout the city."



The NBHC holds its public meetings at the National Park Visitor Center located at 33 William Street.

Quick Tips

● PROJECT IN MIND?

Property owners and tenants in the Bedford Landing-Waterfront Historic District who wish to modify the exterior of a building or structure must apply to the Historical Commission for approval before undertaking the work. Contact the commission staff at 508.996.4095 ext 11 with any questions or for assistance with the application process.

● PLEASE PLAN AHEAD

The application process generally takes 30 days for projects that require a public hearing, such as a new sign or a change in paint color. Applicants should plan for 45 days for the review and approval process to allow time for any unforeseen delays in reviewing an application.



The boundaries of the Bedford Landing-Waterfront Historic District and New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park are contiguous.