



# City of New Bedford

## Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development

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DIRECTOR

## STAFF REPORT

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING

May 7, 2018

### CASE #2018.14: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

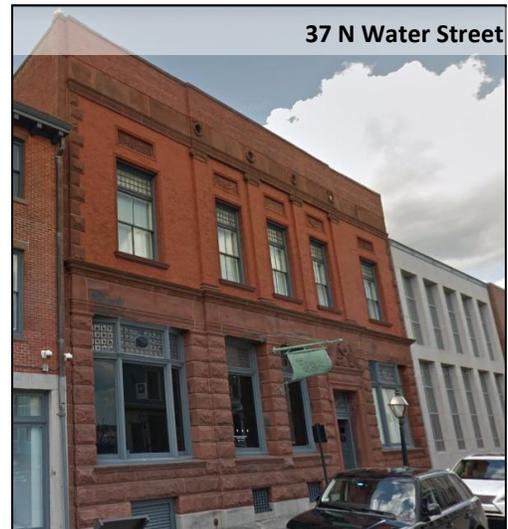
37 N Water Street (Map 53, Lot 161)  
Part of 18 Johnny Cake Hill

**APPLICANT/  
OWNER:** Old Dartmouth Historical Society/  
New Bedford Whaling Museum  
18 Johnny Cake Hill  
New Bedford, MA 02740

**OVERVIEW:** The applicant is seeking to replace three (3) pieces of single pane plate glass with double pane insulated glass in the first story north bay window of the National Bank of Commerce Building to address condensation issues.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The National Bank of Commerce Building, circa 1883, is a two story masonry brick and brownstone building designed in the Renaissance Revival style by the noted architectural firm of Peabody and Sterns. The building is located on the west side of N Water Street and is part of the Whaling Museum complex. The Old Dartmouth Historical Society moved its offices to the building in 1906 and opened the Whaling Museum there in 1907.

**PROPOSAL:** The subject building has two projecting bay windows on the first story which are characterized by multi-light bulls-eye transoms. Only the northern bay window is being addressed in this application. The bay window consists of three bays of fixed ¼" single pane plate glass sections with a transom above. The proposal is to remove the three sections of ¼" glass and replace with double-pane insulated glass which is approximately 1" thick. This will require the removal and replacement of the existing glass stop moulding. No other moulding trim requires alteration and the transom will not be altered. The contractor has stated that the original glass stop trim is able to be removed intact and reinstalled, primed and painted.



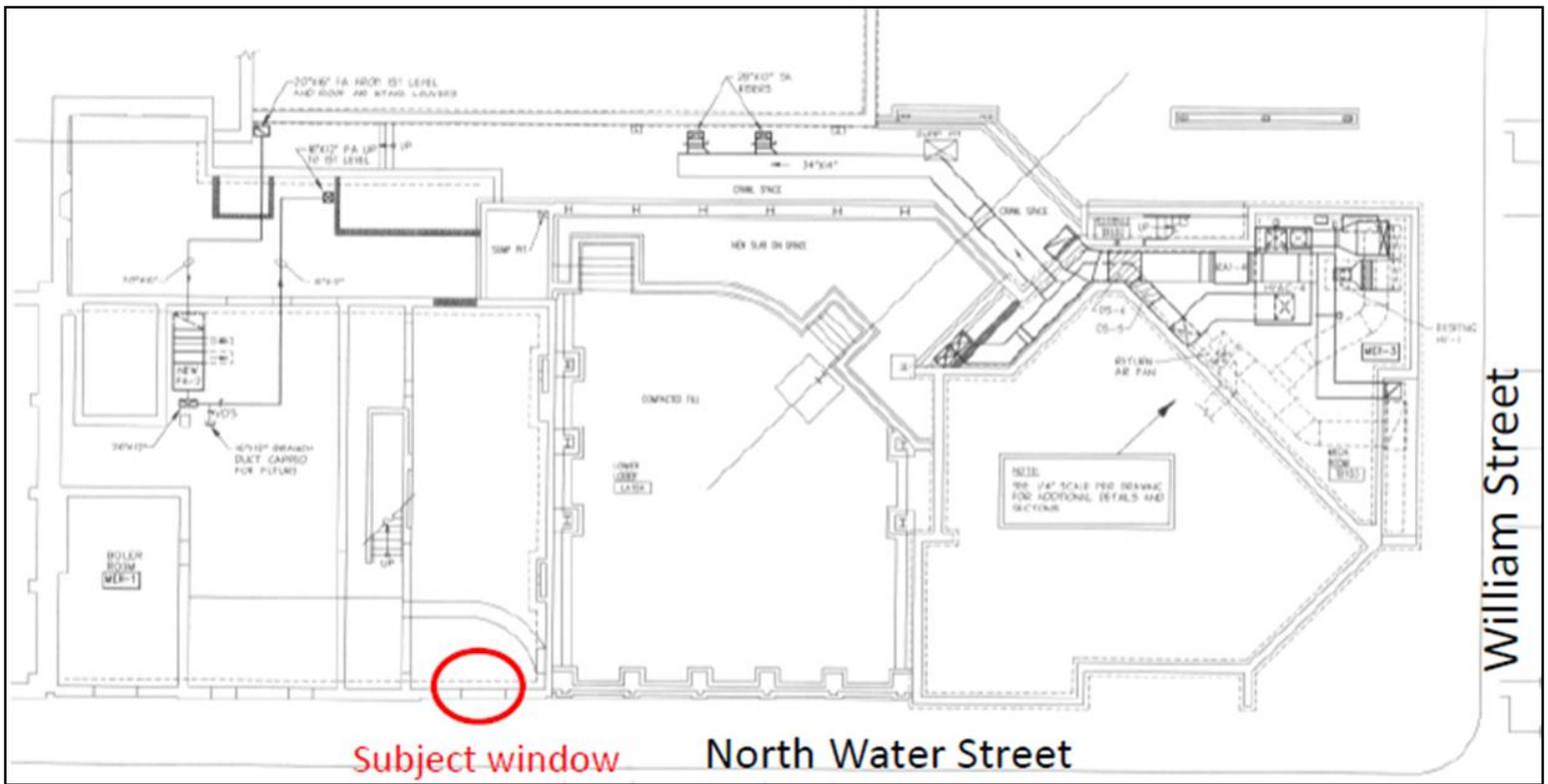
**STATEMENT OF APPLICABLE GUIDELINES:** *The Bedford Landing District Design Guidelines* state the following relative to this proposal:

**WINDOW REPLACEMENT:** If replacement is necessary, new windows shall match the existing window pattern, proportions and scale, and be in character with the building's style.

- All parts of the replacement windows (such as exterior molding and/or casing, exterior frame, and exterior sash members) should match the original or existing historic windows.
- Glass should be clear; not tinted or frosted and have minimal reflectivity. Low-e glass should appear as standard clear glass and not be visually apparent.



Window Detail



Site Plan

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

There will be no discernible outward change to the window, as the original window stop trim will be utilized.

Staff recommends the approval of the application and the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness with the condition that if Low-e glass is used that it be clear and not tinted.