



# NEW BEDFORD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

## STEP II

# COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT PROJECT APPLICATION FY24

Project Application Deadline:

**NOVEMBER 17, 2023 by NOON**

**No late submissions will be accepted.**

Applicants must submit this application no later than Noon on Friday, November 17, 2023. *Please review the entire application packet before completing the application.*

Applications will not be accepted--regardless of project eligibility--unless the STEP I Project Eligibility Determination Form was submitted and approved by the Community Preservation Committee.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
Department of City Planning  
City Hall Room 303 | 133 William Street  
(508)979-1488 [cpa@newbedford-ma.gov](mailto:cpa@newbedford-ma.gov)

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CITY OF NEW BEDFORD  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FY24  
PROJECT APPLICATION**

**PROJECT INFORMATION – Please complete all questions**

PROJECT TITLE	Johnson House Electrical Upgrade	WARD	4
PROJECT LOCATION	21 Seventh Street		
LEGAL PROPERTY OWNER OF RECORD	New Bedford Historical Society		
CPA PROGRAM CATEGORY (Select relevant categories for your project)	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC RESOURCE	
	<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSING	
ESTIMATED START DATE	March 2024	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	July 2024
ONE SENTENCE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	Electrical system upgrade		

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION NAME	New Bedford Historical Society		
APPLICANT IS (Check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY DEPARTMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE GROUP/CITIZEN
CO-APPLICANT ORGANIZATION NAME (If applicable)			
CO-APPLICANT IS (Check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY DEPARTMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE GROUP/CITIZEN
PROJECT CONTACT PERSON	Lee Blake, President		
MAILING ADDRESS	21 Seventh Street		
TELEPHONE NUMBER	5089798828	EMAIL:	bonneylee13@comcast.net

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

CPA FUNDING REQUEST (must match CPA request-line 1 of Project Budget on page 8)	\$85,000
TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT	\$85,000

**SIGNATURES**

I/we attest that all information provided in this entire submission is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and that no information has been excluded which might reasonably affect funding. I/we authorize the Community Preservation Committee and/or the City of New Bedford to obtain verification from any source provided. I/we acknowledge and agree that a permanent restriction may be placed on the property as a condition of funding.

APPLICANT NAME (printed) Lee Blake	SIGNATURE	11/16/23 DATE:
CO-APPLICANT NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	DATE:

## Submission Checklist

The following items should be organized on your submitted flash drive in folders named for each applicable section below (e.g., Application, Financial, etc.). Please check off each item on this list if it is included in your submission packet. **Note: not all items will apply to each project.**

APPLICATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Application Information (page 1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Submission Checklist (this page)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Narrative/Project Management/Category Specific Section/Financial (pages 3-7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Schedule – Project Budget – Funding Sources Summary (page 8)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Construction Budget Summary – to be complete for construction projects ONLY (page 9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Vote of Corporation and Tax Compliance Certification (page 10) must be completed by both applicant and co-applicant. Form must be completed by authorized board member. *Certificate of Vote named person must be different person from signer of the certificate.
FINANCIAL	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 written quote from a contractor and 1 cost estimate from an architect <b>OR</b> 2 written quotes from a contractor <b>(Quotes must be submitted with application – late submissions will not be accepted)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of secured funding (commitment letters or bank statements), if applicable. <b>Please redact account numbers and any sensitive information.</b>
OWNERSHIP/OPERATION (NON-CITY)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the applicant is not the owner, attach documentation of site control or written consent of owner to undertake the project. <i>Applications will not be reviewed without this documentation.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Good Standing (if operating as a corporation)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	501(c)(3) certification (if operating as a non-profit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase & Sale agreement or copy of current recorded deed, if applicable.
COMMUNITY SUPPORT	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Letters of support from residents, community groups, city departments, boards or commissions, etc.
PLANS & REPORTS	
<i>The following plans and reports, if available, will strength your application. Submit in digital format only.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renderings, site plans, engineering plans, design/bidding plans, specifications, and any MAAB variance requests.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Applicable reports (21E, Historic Structure Report, appraisals, survey plan, feasibility studies, etc.)
VISUAL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the property location (if applicable, show wetlands and wetland buffers, flood plain, water bodies, parks, open spaces, rails, and other features pertinent to the project). Applicants may use the City's interactive mapping website.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photos of the project site (not more than four views per site) Digital copies <u>only</u> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catalog cuts (i.e. recreation equipment) if applicable.
FOR HISTORIC RESOURCE PROJECTS ONLY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Documentation stating the project is listed on the State Register of Historic Places or a written determination from the New Bedford Historical Commission that the resource is significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of New Bedford.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photos documenting the condition of the property. Digital copies <u>only</u> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report or condition assessment by a qualified professional describing the current condition of the property, if available.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I/We have read the <b><i>U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i></b> and understand that planning for and execution of this project must meet these standards.



## PROJECT NARRATIVE

### 1 GENERAL NARRATIVE (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe the project's location, the property involved and its proposed use.
- Describe the proposed scope of work.

The New Bedford Historical Society is seeking funds to upgrade and replace the electrical system in the Nathan and Mary Johnson House. The existing system is an antiquated knob and tube electrical system that clearly contains wiring problems, is a fire hazard, and is badly out of date. The lack of an upgraded electrical system hampers our work to utilize the building more efficiently.

Once the electrical system is upgraded, repair and repainting of the walls will need to be done as the electrical work will damage the walls. Repairs will have to be done on each floor where the wiring for the electrical upgrade takes place. The hope is that an system electrical upgrade with allow better usage of the building for exhibit place, office administrative space, and 3rd floor space to be used as a research library with space for scholars. The Johnson House is in the new Abolition Row district on Spring and Seventh Streets.

### 2 COMMUNITY NEED (1000 Character Maximum)

- What community need(s) listed in the FY24 CPA Plan will this project address? How does the project benefit the public and what populations(s) will it serve? If it serves a population currently underserved, please describe.
- How does the project preserve and enhance the character of New Bedford?

The Johnson House is a National Historic Landmark as well as a state landmark for its role in the Underground Railroad and as the first home in freedom for Frederick and Anna Douglass. Nathan and Mary Johnson were African American abolitionists and entrepreneurs who worked to end slavery in the country. Their efforts made New Bedford a better place for its citizens and carried the ideals of the Constitution forward. The Johnson House preserves the historic character of New Bedford and illustrates how the Black community worked to end slavery.

The site serves the entire city but has an important role in illustrating the agency for people of color who fought for freedom. The house is part of the Black Heritage Trail and preserves the Abolition Row neighborhood, one of the newest Historic Districts. Abolition Row Park district highlights the stories of abolitionists and includes a statue of Frederick Douglass which is destined to become a new tourist destination.

### 3 GOALS & OBJECTIVES (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe the project's goals and objectives. The objectives must be specific, measurable, achievable and realistic.
- How does the project meet the general and category-specific priorities outlined in the Community Preservation Plan or other current relevant planning documents?

#### 4 MEASURING SUCCESS (1000 Character Maximum)

- *How will the success of this project be measured?*

The success will be measured as the electrical system is replaced and upgraded to handle the electrical equipment that is now a requirement of any functioning office. The system will be able to handle wi-fi, cable, multiple computers and printers as well as carrying on the lighting of the house rooms and exterior.

#### 5 COMMUNITY SUPPORT (1000 Character Maximum)

- *Explain the level of community support this project has received. If possible, please include letters of support from any groups or individuals who have endorsed this project.*

The Johnson House has received support from across the country as an important historical landmark. I have enclosed letters of support from the White House for the role the members of the Historical Society have played in preserving the house. Letters are also included from the NB Economic Development Council, WHALe, Spinner, and the NB Historic Commission. The Society members have worked diligently to save this historic home to share with city residents. The city has added a new historic district that highlights the Johnson House and the Abolition Row neighborhood.

#### 6 CRITICAL NEED (1000 Character Maximum)

- *Is this project of an urgent nature?*
- *Is there a deadline or factors not controlled by the applicant (i.e. opportunity for immediate acquisition, opportunity to leverage available non-CPA grant or other financial opportunity)?*
- *For historic resource applications only, is the property at risk for irreparable loss? If so, please include a condition assessment from a qualified professional if available.*

The electrical upgrade is needed but not urgent. The Johnson House is not at risk for irreparable loss. We are concerned of the risk of fire due to the faulty and antiquated wiring.

# PROJECT MANAGEMENT

## 1 APPLICANT INFORMATION (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe applicant. Is applicant a public entity, private non-profit, private for-profit, an individual, a partnership, or another type of entity? What is their history and background?
- Identify and describe the roles of all participants (applicants, architects, contractors, etc.) including the project manager.
- Describe any past projects of similar type and scale, or experience that demonstrates the applicant's ability to carry out this project.

The New Bedford Historical Society is a nonprofit organization with 27 years of experience managing construction, rehabilitation projects, and educational programming in New Bedford. Our members saved the Nathan and Mary Johnson House through our work preserving Black historic sites. We worked with the city to develop, manage, and fund Abolition Row Park. If successful in securing funds, we will hire a local electrical firm and have a construction management company oversee the work.

## 2 PROJECT FEASIBILITY (1000 Character Maximum)

- List and explain further actions or steps required for completion of the project, such as environmental assessments, zoning or other permits and approvals, agreement on terms of any required conservation, affordability or historic preservation agreements, subordination agreements, and any known or potential barriers or impediments to project implementation.

The Historical Society will work with the electrical and construction management partners to handle permits and approvals for the historic preservation work to upgrade the electrical system. At this time, there are no other barriers that would impede implementation of the project.

## 3 PROJECT MAINTENANCE (1000 Character Maximum)

- Please explain the long-term maintenance plan for the completed project.

As the stewards of the Johnson House, we have completed plans for a yearly assessment of exterior and interior threats to the integrity of the Johnson House. Each year we have our maintenance contractor review the systems and facilities of the building to prioritize any issues for care. As a building that dates from 1820, an annual review of the facilities is necessary.

## COMPLETE FOR HISTORIC RESOURCE PROJECTS ONLY

### CPA Compliance (1000 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with the [U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation](#), as required by the CPA legislation under the definition of rehabilitation.
- Describe how the applicant will ensure compliance with these standards as the project is ongoing, including an identification of who will make historic preservation determinations.

The Johnson House electrical upgrade complies with the U.S. Secretary of Interior Standards as a preservation project and a rehabilitation project. In preserving the house we are applying the electrical upgrade to sustain the integrity of the house and ensure that the electrical system can handle complex technology necessary to run an office. We are also bringing the system up to the electrical code expected in a 21st century building. In rehabilitating the systems we are preparing the Johnson House to meet the continuing uses of a small house museum while containing its historic character. We will work with WHALe for preservation determinations.

## COMPLETE FOR PROJECTS WITH ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS ONLY

### CPA Compliance (500 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with the [ADA/MAAB Regulations](#).

## COMPLETE FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING PROJECTS ONLY

### CPA Compliance (500 Character Maximum)

- Describe how the proposed project complies with CPA affordability requirements (100% of AMI for New Bedford)
- Describe the number and types of units (e.g.: 1br, 2br).
- Provide a complete Development Budget and an Operating Budget (for rental properties).

## PROJECT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### 1 FINANCIAL INFORMATION (2000 Character Maximum)

- Describe all successful and unsuccessful attempts to secure funding and/or in-kind contributions, donations, or volunteer labor for the project. A bullet point list is acceptable.
- Will the project require CPA funding over multiple years? If so, provide estimated annual funding requirements.
- What is the basis for the total CPA request?
- How will the project be affected if it does not receive CPA funds or receives a reduced amount?

The electrical work on the Johnson House will not require funding from the CPA over multiple years. As of the date of this application, we have not applied for funding for this project. Applications will be submitted in December and January to support this work.

We plan on applying for funds for this project from the MA Cultural Facilities Fund in December. We also will apply for funds from BayCoast Bank and Rockland Trust. Administrative staff and program directors at the Society will provide in-kind administrative support to the project.

The basis for the total CPA request is guided by the estimate for the electrical work of \$55,000 and the finishing work of \$30,000 to repair the walls and ceilings after the electrical work is completed.

If the project does not receive CPA funds, we will have to put the project off. We will continue to seek funding from other sources as the electrical work is an important component of protecting this historic resource.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE – PROJECT BUDGET – FUNDING SOURCE SUMMARY

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

Please provide a project timeline below, noting all project milestones. Please note the City Council must approve all appropriations of CPA funds. Grant funding will not be available for disbursement until July 1, 2024.

	ACTIVITY	ESTIMATED DATE
PROJECT START DATE:	Begin bid process	March 1, 2024
PROJECT MILESTONE:	Review upgrade plans with contractor	April 2, 2024
50% COMPLETION STAGE:	First and main floor systems work completed	May 1, 2024
PROJECT MILESTONE:	Second floor offices completed	June 1, 2024
PROJECT COMPLETION DATE:		July 1, 2024

### ANTICIPATED PROJECT BUDGET

Please include a **complete itemized budget** of all project expenses, including the proposed funding source for each expense, with your application. Note: CPA funds cannot be used for maintenance.

If the project received CPA funds in another fiscal year, please include this amount on a separate line, not on line 1.

FUNDING SOURCES		EXPENSES				
		STUDY	SOFT COSTS*	ACQUISITION	CONSTRUCTION**	TOTAL
1	NEW BEDFORD CPA FY24***	\$	\$	\$	\$85000	\$85000
2		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
3		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
4		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
5		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
6		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
7		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		\$	\$	\$	\$85000	\$85000

\* Soft costs include design, professional services, permitting fees, closing costs, legal, etc.

\*\* Construction refers to new construction, rehabilitation, preservation, restoration work, and/or accessibility related expenses.

\*\*\*New Bedford CPA (Line 1) amount should match the amount requested on the application cover page.

### ANTICIPATED FUNDING SOURCE SUMMARY

Please explain the current status of each funding source (i.e., submitting application on X date, applied on X date, received award notification on X date, funds on hand, etc.). For sources where funding has been awarded or funds are on hand, please include documentation from the funding source (e.g., commitment letter, bank statement) in application packet.

FUNDING SOURCE		STATUS OF FUNDING
1	MA Development	submitting application December 19, 2023
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

**CONSTRUCTION BUDGET**  
To be completed for construction projects only

ACTIVITY	CPA FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL
<b>Acquisition Costs</b>			
Land	\$	\$	\$
Existing Structures	\$	\$	\$
Other acquisition costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Site Work (not in construction contract)</b>			
Demolition/clearance	\$	\$	\$
Other site costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Construction/Project Improvement Costs</b>			
New Construction	\$	\$	\$
Rehabilitation	\$	\$	\$
Performance bond premium	\$	\$	\$
Construction contingency (30%)	\$	\$	\$
Other		\$	\$
<b>Architectural and Engineering (See Designer Fee Schedule for guidance):</b> <a href="https://www.mass.gov/files/design_fee_schedule-dsb_2015_2007.pdf">https://www.mass.gov/files/design_fee_schedule-dsb_2015_2007.pdf</a>			
Architect fees	\$	\$	\$
Engineering fees	\$	\$	\$
Other A & E fees	\$	\$	\$
<b>Other Owner Costs</b>			
Appraisal fees	\$	\$	\$
Survey	\$	\$	\$
Soil boring/environmental/LBP	\$	\$	\$
Tap fees and impact fees	\$	\$	\$
Permitting fees	\$	\$	\$
Legal fees	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$
<b>Miscellaneous Costs</b>			
Developer fees	\$	\$	\$
Project reserves	\$	\$	\$
Relocation costs	\$	\$	\$
<b>Project Administration &amp; Management Costs</b>			
Marketing/management	\$	\$	\$
Operating/Maintenance	\$	\$	\$
Taxes	\$	\$	\$
Insurance	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

**CERTIFICATE OF VOTE OF CORPORATION AUTHORIZING  
EXECUTION OF CORPORATE AGREEMENTS**

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of \_\_\_\_\_(organization) duly called and held on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, the following vote was duly adopted.

VOTED: That \_\_\_\_\_(person), the \_\_\_\_\_(title) of the corporation, be and hereby is authorized to affix the Corporate Seal, sign and deliver in the name and on behalf of the corporation, contract documents with the City of New Bedford, the above mentioned documents to include but not be limited to Bids, Proposals, Deeds, Purchase and Sales Agreements, Agreements, Contracts, Leases, Licenses, Releases and Indemnifications; and also to seal and execute, as above, surety company bonds to secure bids and proposals and the performance of said contract and payment for labor and materials, all in such form and on such terms and conditions as he/she, by the execution thereof, shall deem proper.

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Affix Corporate Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

=====

**TAX COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to Chapter 62C of the Massachusetts General Laws, Section 49A(b), I, the undersigned, authorized signatory for the below named contractor, do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury that said contractor has complied with all laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts relating to taxes, reporting of employees and contractors, and withholding and remitting child support.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Tax ID #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



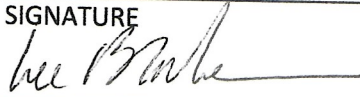


CITY OF NEW BEDFORD  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FY24  
PROJECT APPLICATION**

<b>PROJECT INFORMATION – Please complete all questions</b>			
PROJECT TITLE	Johnson House Electrical Upgrade		WARD 4
PROJECT LOCATION	21 Seventh Street		
LEGAL PROPERTY OWNER OF RECORD	New Bedford Historical Society		
CPA PROGRAM CATEGORY (Select relevant categories for your project)	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN SPACE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC RESOURCE	
	<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSING	
ESTIMATED START DATE	March 2024	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	July 2024
ONE SENTENCE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	Electrical system upgrade		

<b>APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>			
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION NAME	New Bedford Historical Society		
APPLICANT IS (Check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY DEPARTMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE GROUP/CITIZEN
CO-APPLICANT ORGANIZATION NAME (If applicable)			
CO-APPLICANT IS (Check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> CITY DEPARTMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE GROUP/CITIZEN
PROJECT CONTACT PERSON	Lee Blake, President		
MAILING ADDRESS	21 Seventh Street		
TELEPHONE NUMBER	5089798828	EMAIL:	bonneylee13@comcast.net

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>	
CPA FUNDING REQUEST (must match CPA request-line 1 of Project Budget on page 8)	\$85,000
TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT	\$85,000

<b>SIGNATURES</b>		
I/we attest that all information provided in this entire submission is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and that no information has been excluded which might reasonably affect funding. I/we authorize the Community Preservation Committee and/or the City of New Bedford to obtain verification from any source provided. I/we acknowledge and agree that a permanent restriction may be placed on the property as a condition of funding.		
APPLICANT NAME (printed) Lee Blake	SIGNATURE 	DATE: 11/16/23
CO-APPLICANT NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	DATE:

**CERTIFICATE OF VOTE OF CORPORATION AUTHORIZING  
EXECUTION OF CORPORATE AGREEMENTS**

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of The New Bedford Historical Society (organization) duly called and held on Nov. 15, 2023 at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, the following vote was duly adopted.

VOTED: That Lee Blake (person), the President (title) of the corporation, be and hereby is authorized to affix the Corporate Seal, sign and deliver in the name and on behalf of the corporation, contract documents with the City of New Bedford, the above mentioned documents to include but not be limited to Bids, Proposals, Deeds, Purchase and Sales Agreements, Agreements, Contracts, Leases, Licenses, Releases and Indemnifications; and also to seal and execute, as above, surety company bonds to secure bids and proposals and the performance of said contract and payment for labor and materials, all in such form and on such terms and conditions as he/she, by the execution thereof, shall deem proper.

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

Jacquelyn M. Ramos  
Name (printed)

Jacquelyn M. Ramos (Affix Corporate Seal)  
Signature

Vice President  
Title

Nov. 15, 2023  
Date

=====

**TAX COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to Chapter 62C of the Massachusetts General Laws, Section 49A(b), I, the undersigned, authorized signatory for the below named contractor, do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury that said contractor has complied with all laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts relating to taxes, reporting of employees and contractors, and withholding and remitting child support.

Lee Blake  
Signature

Lee Blake  
Print Name

N.B. Historical Society  
Organization name

04 334 881  
Federal Tax ID #

Nov. 15, 2023  
Date

Telephone (508) 994-8141  
Fax (508) 994-1184

970 Ashley Blvd.  
New Bedford, MA 02745

***Fortin***  
***Electrical Contractors***  
Residential – Commercial – Industrial  
Lic # 17187A

New Bedford Historical Society  
21 Seventh Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Attn: Tom Barboza  
508-769-0994

November 8, 2023

The following is a quote to upgrade the whole service at the above location:

OUTSIDE:

- Install (4) outside porch lights.
- Install (2) outside floodlight set-ups.
- Install (6) switches for lights.
- Install (1) GFI receptacle.

MAIN ENTRANCE & HALLWAY AREA 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR:

- Install (1) front door lighting fixture.
- Install (1) hallway ceiling fixture.
- Install (2) 3-way switching.
- Install (2) switches for outside lights.

SOUTHEAST ROOM 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR:

- Install (3) wall outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (2) 3-way switching.

SOUTH/NORTH ROOM (DINING ROOM):

- Install (2) wall outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (2) 3-way switching.

SOUTH/NORTH ROOM (BACK ROOM) 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR:

Remove knob & tube wiring and Install Romex for:

- Install (2) wall outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (1) S1 switching.

1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR BATHROOM:

Remove knob & tube wiring and Install Romex for:

- Install (3) S1 switches.
- Install (1) wall outlet GFCI.
- Install (1) vanity fixture.
- Install (1) fan/light combo.

BACK STAIRWAY:

- Install (2) 3-way switching from bottom of stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR FRONT HALLWAY:

- Install (2) 3-way switching from bottom of stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (1) wall outlet.

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM:

Remove knob & tube wiring and Install Romex for:

- Install (3) wall outlets per code.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture or wall fixture.
- Install (1) S1 switching.

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR OFFICE:

- Install (3) wall outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture or wall fixture.
- Install (2) 3-way switching.

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR FRONT HALF BATHROOM:

- Install (3) S1 switches.
- Install (1) GFCI outlet.
- Install (1) vanity switch.
- Install (1) fan/light combo.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR SPARE OFFICE/STORAGE:

- Install (3) wall outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (2) 3-way switching @ all doorways.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR BACK BATHROOM:

- Install (1) GFCI outlets.
- Install (1) vanity light.
- Install (3) SI switches.
- Install (1) fan/light.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR KITCHEN AREA:

- Install (3) GFCI outlets.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture.
- Install (1) switch.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR BACK HALLWAY/STAIRWAY:

- Install (2) 3-way switching for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Hallway/Stairway.
- Install (1) ceiling fixture cover Hallway & Stairway.

## BASEMENT:

Remove knob & tube wiring & BX Wiring and Install Romex for:

- Install (6) basement outlets.
- Install (10) basement lighting.
- Install (1) bath GFI receptacle.
- Install (1) fan/light.
- Install (1) vanity light.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR ATTIC AREA:

- Install (2) wall outlets per code.
- Install (2) ceiling fixture or wall fixture.
- Install (2) S3 switches.
- Install (1) stairway light.

ELECTRICAL UNDERGROUND SERVICE:

200 AMP / 240 VOLT underground service.

- Install 60 circuit breaker panel.
- Install 200 amp 240 volt surge protection for the whole building.
- Install 200 amp 240 volt meter main.
- Install 2" telephone conduit.

All trench work not included.

All Eversource fees not included.

All fixtures supplied by others.

Of prevailing wage applies, there will be additional fees.

***The price to do the above is: \$49,000.00.***

***If ,the price to do the above is: \$49,000.00.***

If you have any questions, please call me at 508-989-3914.

Thank You,  
Ronald Brunette

Treasurer

RAM SEMA CORP.  
955 Rockdale Ave.  
New Bedford, MA. 02740  
508-769-0994

**Historical Society Interior Finish Work**

**21 7<sup>th</sup> Street**

**New Bedford, MA.**

**Interior Finish Work**

To upgrade the wiring and the electrical service to the entire building the electrician will have to remove walls, ceilings, trim, moldings, and flooring on every floor (4: incl. basement) in the building. All the damage created by the electricians will have to be replaced and/or repaired.

- **Repair and/or replace all damaged walls**
- **Repair and/or replace all damaged ceilings**
- **Repair and/or replace all damaged trim and moldings**
- **Repair and/or replace all damaged flooring**
- **Skim-coat ceiling & walls**
- **Prime & Paint all replaced areas**

**Total.....\$30,000.00**

**Please make check payable to: Thomas Barboza.**

**Respectfully,**

**Date:**

**Thomas S. Barboza**

\_\_\_\_\_

All material and labor prices are estimates and subject to changes. Customers will be notified in advance of any and all changes.



# Mullin Electrical Contractor

1089 Phillips Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Massachusetts License Electrician #33605

Tel. 774-627-5307 Email: [bill@mullinelectric.com](mailto:bill@mullinelectric.com)

## **Work description as Follows:** For

New Bedford Historical Society

21 Seventh Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

Dated 11/2/2023 proposed floor plan



## **Main Entrance & Hallway Area 1 ST FL**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex for

Front door lighting

Hallway Ceiling Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.

## **Southeast Room 1<sup>st</sup> Fl**

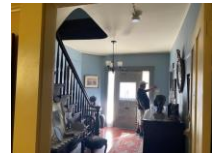
Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



## **South/North Room (Dinning Room)**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



## **South/North Room(Back Rm) 1<sup>st</sup> Fl.**





# Mullin Electrical Contractor

1089 Phillips Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Massachusetts License Electrician #33605

Tel. 774-627-5307 Email: [bill@mullinelectric.com](mailto:bill@mullinelectric.com)

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for



Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Floor Bathroom**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

1 Wall Outlet GFCI per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



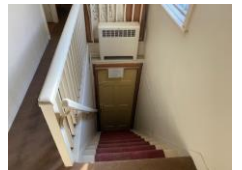
## **Back Stairway**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install 3 way switching from bottom of stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.

Ceiling Fixture

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



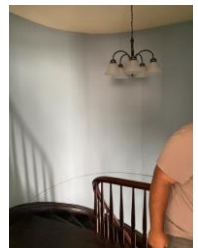
## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Front Hallway**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install 3 way switching from bottom of stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.

Ceiling Fixture

1 Wall Outlet per code



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Fl Conference Room**



# Mullin Electrical Contractor

1089 Phillips Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Massachusetts License Electrician #33605

Tel. 774-627-5307 Email: [bill@mullinelectric.com](mailto:bill@mullinelectric.com)

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for



Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Office**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install 4 Branch Circuits for Wall Outlets.

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Front Half Bathroom**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install Two GFCI Outlets

Ceiling Fixture



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Spare Office/Storage**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Install 3 way switching @ all doorways

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Back Bathroom**



# Mullin Electrical Contractor

1089 Phillips Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Massachusetts License Electrician #33605

Tel. 774-627-5307 Email: [bill@mullinelectric.com](mailto:bill@mullinelectric.com)

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install GFCI Outlet  
Ceiling Fixture



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kitchen Area**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install Two GFCI Outlets  
Ceiling Fixture



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Back Hallway/Stairway**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Install 3 Way Switching for first & second floor Hallway/Stairway  
Ceiling Fixture covers Hallway & Stairway



## **Basement**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring & BX Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Basement outlets  
Basement lighting  
Heating System



## **3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Attic Area**

Remove Knob & Tube Wiring and Install Romex wiring for

Wall Outlets per code

Ceiling Fixture or Wall Fixture

Please Note: Any Ceiling or Wall Fixture that is Historical may need to be rewired due to cloth wiring.

## **Electrical Under Ground Service**



## **Mullin Electrical Contractor**

1089 Phillips Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Massachusetts License Electrician #33605

Tel. 774-627-5307 Email: [bill@mullinelectric.com](mailto:bill@mullinelectric.com)

### **200 Amp 240 Volt Under Ground Electrical Service**

Install 60 Circuit Breaker Panel

Install 200 Amp 240 Volt Surge Protection for the whole build.

Install 200 Amp, 240 Volt Meter Main



The Total Estimate for this project is \$55,000.00

DISTRICT DIRECTOR

P. O. BOX 2508

CINCINNATI, OH 45201

Date:

AUG 27 1999

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

PO BOX 40084

NEW BEDFORD, MA 02744

Employer Identification Number:

04-3348881

DLN:

17053174028049

Contact Person:

JAMES ST. JULIEN

ID# 52653

Contact Telephone Number:

(877) 829-5500

Accounting Period Ending:

October 31

Form 990 Required:

Yes

Addendum Applies:

Yes

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, if you are involved in an excess benefit transaction, that transaction might be subject to the excise taxes of section 4958. Additionally, you are not automatically exempt from other, federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other federal taxes, please contact your key district office.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.



NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Requests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of \$20 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed \$10,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. For organizations with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 in any year, the penalty is \$100 per day per return, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. The maximum penalty for an organization with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 shall not exceed \$50,000. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so be sure your return is complete before you file it.

The law requires you to make your annual return available for public inspection without charge for three years after the due date of the return. You are also required to make available for public inspection a copy of your exemption application, any supporting documents and this exemption letter to any individual who requests such documents in person or in writing. You can charge only a reasonable fee for reproduction and actual postage costs for the copied materials. The law does not require you to provide copies of public inspection documents that are made widely available, such as by posting them on the Internet (World Wide Web). You may be liable for a penalty of \$20 a day for each day you do not make these documents available for public inspection (up to a maximum of \$10,000 in the case of an annual return).

You are not required to file federal income tax returns unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If you are subject to this tax, you must file an income tax return on Form

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter we are not determining whether any of your present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

You need an employer identification number even if you have no employees. If an employer identification number was not entered on your application, a number will be assigned to you and you will be advised of it. Please use that number on all returns you file and in all correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service.

This determination is based on evidence that your funds are dedicated to the purposes listed in section 501(c)(3) of the Code. To assure your continued exemption, you should keep records to show that funds are expended only for those purposes. If you distribute funds to other organizations, your records should show whether they are exempt under section 501(c)(3). In cases where the recipient organization is not exempt under section 501(c)(3), there should be evidence that the funds will remain dedicated to the required purposes and that they will be used for those purposes by the recipient.

If distributions are made to individuals, case histories regarding the recipients should be kept showing names, addresses, purposes of awards, manner of selection, relationship (if any) to members, officers, trustees or donors of funds to you, so that any and all distributions made to individuals can be substantiated upon request by the Internal Revenue Service. (Revenue Ruling 56-304, C.B. 1956-2, page 306.)

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in your power of attorney.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

*Mary M. M. M.*

District Director

Enclosure(s):  
Addendum

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Based on the facts and circumstances represented in the organization's request for relief, pursuant to section 301.9100-3 of the Income Tax Regulations, an extension of the filing period fixed by section 1.508-1(a)(2) of the regulations has been granted. Accordingly, the organization's exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Code will be effective from December 15, 1996, the date your organization was formed.



## NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

## NATHAN AND MARY (POLLY) JOHNSON PROPERTIES

Page 1

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

**1. NAME OF PROPERTY**

Historic Name: JOHNSON, NATHAN AND MARY (POLLY) PROPERTIES

Other Name/Site Number:

**2. LOCATION**

Street &amp; Number: 17-19 and 21 Seventh Street

Not for publication: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: New Bedford

Vicinity: NA

State: MA County: Bristol

Code: 05

Zip Code: 19121

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Private: <u>X</u>	Building(s) <u>X</u>
Public-Local: _____	District: _____
Public-State: _____	Site: _____
Public-Federal: _____	Structure: _____
	Object: _____

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

2

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2

\_\_\_\_\_ buildings

\_\_\_\_\_ sites

\_\_\_\_\_ structures

\_\_\_\_\_ objects

0 TotalNumber of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 2

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: County Street (National Register) Historic District

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DOWNLOAD THIS PDF (/GetAsset/1c199e16-2648-4698-a7c5-17d19b2c3773)



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DOWNLOAD THIS PDF [\(/GetAsset/87d8ae9e-179c-41db-9a01-833b6c405db2/\)](#)

HIDE NATIONAL REGISTER ASSETS

Copyright

#### ASSET METADATA

**Title:**

Johnson, Nathan and Mary, Properties

**National Register Information System ID:**

00000260

**Applicable Criteria:**

EVENT

PERSON

**Architectural Styles:**

FEDERAL

GREEK REVIVAL

**Architects:**

Unknown

**Areas Of Significance:**





# WHALE

Waterfront Historic Area League

November 14, 2023

**WHALE Board  
of Directors**

*President*  
Diana Henry

*Vice President*  
Jeremy Dagold

*2nd Vice President*  
Lee Blake

*Treasurer*  
Colleen Trahan

*Assistant Treasurer*  
Danielle Poyant

*Secretary & Clerk*  
June Goguen

*Asst. Secretary & Clerk*  
Peter J. Hawes

Andrew Burnes  
Melissa Costa  
Michael J. Murray  
Laura Parrish  
Carl Silva  
Ramon Silva  
Patricia Thornton  
David Wyzenbeek

**WHALE  
Presidents' Council**

*Chair*  
Tony Souza

Arthur Bennett  
John Bullard  
Paul Downey  
Peter Hawes  
Peter Kavanaugh  
Lyn Keith  
Tenney Lantz  
Thomas Lyons  
Michael J. Murray  
Daniel Perry  
Anthony Sapienza  
David Slutz

New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
Dept. of City Planning, City Hall Room 303  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Members of the Preservation Committee,

On behalf of the Waterfront Historic Area League, Inc. (WHALE), I write this letter in support of the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the Nathan and Mary Johnson House. This Community Preservation request would fund an update to the electrical systems in the Johnson House and necessary repairs after the electrical work is completed.

Founded in 1996, the New Bedford Historical Society Inc. has been an active advocate for racial and cultural inclusion to the historical narrative of the city of New Bedford while preserving the history and historic structures related to the African American, Cape Verdean, and the Native American community. For over 25 years, the organization has presented educational programs that highlight the historical contributions of these communities in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century to the whaling industry, the maritime trades and the Underground Railroad, preserving a multi-cultural history that was in danger of being lost. The preservation and education work of this all-volunteer organization compliments and completes the city's identity as a seafaring, multi-cultural urban center that was the center of maritime trade in the 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Society's greatest achievement has been the saving of one of the city's great historic treasures, the Nathan and Mary Johnson House, documented as the first free home of Frederick and Anna Douglass in 1838 and as an important Underground Railroad station.

The Nathan and Polly Johnson House is the only remaining structure in which Frederick and Anna Douglass lived during his five years in New Bedford (1838-42). Through the research and work of the New Bedford Historical Society, the Nathan and Polly Johnson House was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 2000, one of a select few properties in New Bedford that has won this status.

The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford through research and education, creating opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve an important aspect of New Bedford's history that enriches our collective heritage. I commend them for their work and hope you will look favorably on their application.

Sincerely,

Erin D. A. Miranda, Executive Director

15 Johnny Cake Hill • New Bedford, MA 02740  
Telephone: (508)997-1776 [www.waterfrontleague.org](http://www.waterfrontleague.org)



**JONATHAN F. MITCHELL**  
MAYOR

*City of New Bedford*  
**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

133 William Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740  
Telephone: (508) 979.1488 Facsimile: (508) 979.1576

December 13, 2016

Massachusetts Archives  
ATTN: MA SHRAB Veterans  
220 Morrissey Blvd.  
Boston, MA 02125

**RE: Sergeant William H. Carney House**

Dear Sir or Madame:

On behalf of the City of New Bedford's Historical Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to offer full support of the Martha Briggs Educational Club in their submission of a Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) Preservation Grant for Veterans Collections, Monuments and Memorials for the Sgt. William H. Carney Memorial House (NBE.381).

The Sgt. Carney House has both local and national significance, as it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a recognized site on the National Park Service's Network to Freedom, part of the White House designated Underground Railroad National Millennium Trail, and locally is a site on the New Bedford Black Heritage Trail. Built circa 1856, the site was the home of William H. Carney (1840-1908), the first African American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism during the Civil War. Carney was a member of the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, the first Black army unit to be raised in the northern states.

The Martha Briggs Educational Club (MBEC) has owned and maintained the Carney Homestead since 1939. The MBEC is a nonprofit civic organization that provides scholarships and educational programs for minority youth and is the oldest club for women of color in the state of Massachusetts. Since the Club's founding in 1920, the Club has helped hundreds of New Bedford residents of color with scholarships to colleges throughout the country. The MBEC is seeking a \$7500 grant that will stabilize the building by installing a reinforced concrete slab that will seal out moisture in the basement of the home which still retains its original earth floor.

The Sgt. Carney House is one of New Bedford's most significant resources, and the MBEC is a well recognized organization whose continued stewardship of the site has demonstrated that they have both the expertise as well as the administrative and financial capabilities to manage the proposed project.

The New Bedford Historical Commission urges SHRAB to give this application its utmost consideration and thanks you for the opportunity to support the preservation work for the home of Sgt. Carney, one of the first African American veterans of the Civil War.

Sincerely,

Diana Henry  
Chairman



October 29, 2023

New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
Dept. of City Planning  
City Hall Room 303  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

To whom it may concern:

I write this letter in support of the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the Nathan and Mary Johnson House. This Community Preservation request would fund an update to the electrical systems in the Johnson House and necessary repairs after the electrical work is completed.

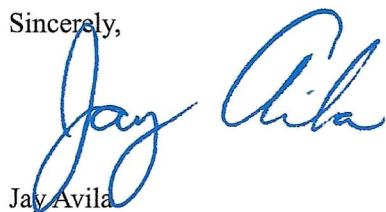
Founded in 1996, the New Bedford Historical Society Inc. has been an active advocate for racial and cultural inclusion to the historical narrative of the city of New Bedford while preserving the history and historic structures related to the African American, Cape Verdean, and the Native American community. For over 25 years, the organization has presented educational programs that highlight the historical contributions of these communities in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century to the whaling industry, the maritime trades and the Underground Railroad, preserving a multi-cultural history that was in danger of being lost. The preservation and education work of this all-volunteer organization compliments and completes the city's identity as a seafaring, multi-cultural urban center that was the center of maritime trade in the 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Society's greatest achievement has been the saving of one of the city's great historic treasures, the Nathan and Mary Johnson House, documented as the first free home of Frederick and Anna Douglass in 1838 and as an important Underground Railroad station.

The Nathan and Polly Johnson House is the only remaining structure in which Frederick and Anna Douglass lived during his five years in New Bedford (1838–42). Through the research and work of the New Bedford Historical Society, the Nathan and Polly Johnson House was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 2000, one of a select few properties in New Bedford that has won this status.

The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford through research and education, creating opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve an important aspect of New Bedford's history that enriches our collective heritage. I commend them for their work and hope you will look favorably on their application.

Sincerely,



Jay Avila  
Associate Publisher  
Spinner Publications

November 2, 2023

City of New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
Department of City Planning, City Hall Room 303  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Committee members,

I write this letter in support of the New Bedford Historical Society's application for Community Preservation funds for the Nathan and Mary Johnson House. This Community Preservation request would fund an update to the electrical systems in the Johnson House and necessary repairs after the electrical work is completed.

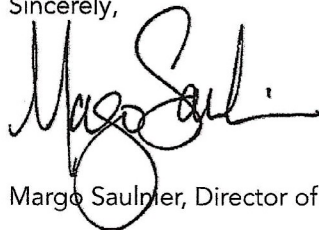
Founded in 1996, the New Bedford Historical Society Inc. has been an active advocate for racial and cultural inclusion to the historical narrative of New Bedford while preserving the history and historic structures related to the African American, Cape Verdean, and the Native American community. For over 25 years, the organization has presented educational programs that highlight the historical contributions of these communities in the 18th and 19th century to the whaling industry, the maritime trades and the Underground Railroad, preserving a multicultural history that was in danger of being lost. The preservation and education work of this all-volunteer organization compliments and completes the city's identity as a seafaring, multicultural urban center that was the center of maritime trade in the 18 and 19th century.

The Society's greatest achievement has been the saving of one of the city's great historic treasures, the Nathan and Mary Johnson House, documented as the first free home of Frederick and Anna Douglass in 1838 and as an important Underground Railroad station.

The Nathan and Polly Johnson House is the only remaining structure in which Frederick and Anna Douglass lived during his five years in New Bedford (1838–1842). Through the research and work of the New Bedford Historical Society, the Nathan and Polly Johnson House was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 2000, one of a select few properties in New Bedford that has won this status.

The New Bedford Historical Society has had a catalytic role in highlighting the important history of people of color in New Bedford through research and education, creating opportunities for the entire city to celebrate and preserve an important aspect of New Bedford's history that enriches our collective heritage. I commend them for their work and hope you will look favorably on their application.

Sincerely,



Margo Saulnier, Director of Creative Strategies & Arts-Based Initiatives



THE WHITE HOUSE

November 13, 2012

Dear Volunteers of the New Bedford Historical Society:

Congratulations on your designation as a Preserve America Steward, and thank you for all that you do to care for our Nation's important historical resources. The places you care for hold a treasured place in the American story, and it is through your vision and dedication that our history will be upheld and our future will be renewed.

President Obama and I are proud of your efforts and we applaud your achievement. The Americans who came before us built this country on the strength of their hopes, hard work, and perseverance. Now you are using those same qualities to help share our history with today's Americans and those of tomorrow. With your service, you are strengthening our country. Every volunteer shows that we all have a role to play in shaping a better future, and we can do it by honoring our past.

Thank you again for all that you do, for your continuing commitment to our Nation's heritage, and for your enthusiastic participation in the Preserve America program. I wish you all the best, and I have high hopes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

*Michelle Obama*

---



**PLANNING DIRECTOR**  
JENNIFER CARLONI

## **CITY OF NEW BEDFORD**

### **DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING**

133 William Street • Room 303 • New Bedford, MA 02740  
508-979-1488 • [www.newbedford-ma.gov](http://www.newbedford-ma.gov)

### **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

November 6, 2023

Ms. Janine da Silva, Chair  
City of New Bedford Community Preservation Committee  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

**Re: Nathan and Mary Johnson House**

Dear Ms. Da Silva:

On behalf of the City of New Bedford's Historical Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to offer full support of the New Bedford Historical Society in their submission of a Community Preservation Act funding application for the continued rehabilitation of the Johnson House, specifically an upgrade of the electrical system.

The Johnson House has both local and national significance, as it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was designated National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 2000; one of a select few properties in New Bedford that has this status. The Johnson House is the only remaining structure in which Frederick and Anna Douglass lived during his five years in New Bedford (1838–42) and is an important tourist asset for the City.

Founded in 1996, the New Bedford Historical Society Inc. has been an active advocate for racial and cultural inclusion to the historical narrative of the city of New Bedford while preserving the history and historic structures related to the African American, Cape Verdean, and the Native American community. The New Bedford Historical Society has owned and maintained the Johnson House since 2000 and considers its adaptation as a museum and exhibition space a significant achievement.

The Johnson House is one of New Bedford's most significant resources, and the New Bedford Historical Society is a well-recognized organization whose continued stewardship of the property has demonstrated that they have both the expertise as well as the administrative and financial capabilities to manage the proposed project.

The New Bedford Historical Commission urges the Community Preservation Committee to give this application its utmost consideration and thanks you for the opportunity to support the continued preservation work in New Bedford.

Sincerely,

Diana Henry  
Chairman



