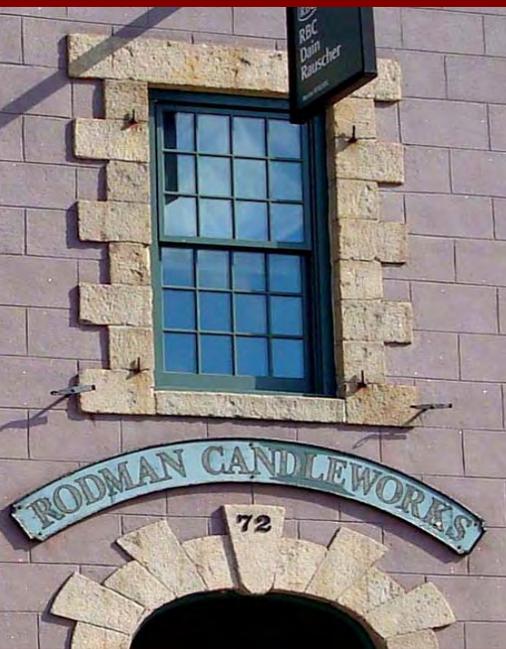




# RODMAN CANDLEWORKS, DOUBLE BANK BUILDING, UNITED STATES CUSTOM HOUSE

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park  
New Bedford, Massachusetts



Historic Structures Report

**RODMAN CANDLEWORKS,  
DOUBLE BANK BUILDING,  
UNITED STATES CUSTOM  
HOUSE**

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT**

**New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park  
New Bedford, Massachusetts**

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Lauren H. Laham,  
2009

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# **INTRODUCTION**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Purpose and Scope

This historic structures report focuses on three “mission essential” buildings located within the boundaries of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in the town of New Bedford, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> The three structures that are the focus of this report include: The Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building and the United States Custom House.

The purpose of this report is to provide New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park with documentation of the construction and chronology of these three buildings. This report includes the following sections: Historical Context and Background, Chronology of Development, Current Physical Description, Character-Defining Features and General Recommendations. The report is written according to *Director’s Order 28 – Cultural Resource Management Guideline, Chapter 8* and is intended to provide general guidance for the treatment of these three structures.

The scope of this historic structures report, as stated in the Project Agreement, was to produce a limited historic structures report documenting only the exterior only of the three structures aforementioned. Documentary research was conducted, as well as exterior physical investigations, on all three structures.

## Statement of Significance

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park encompasses 34 acres spread over 13 city blocks including the New Bedford Historic District, a National Historic Landmark, and commemorates New Bedford’s heritage as a premier whaling port of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The park was established by Congress on November 12, 1996, by enabling legislation Section 511 of Public Law 104-333:

In order to preserve for the benefit and inspiration of the people of the United States as a national historical park, certain districts, structures, and relics located in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and associated with the history of whaling and related social and economic themes in

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<sup>1</sup> The Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building, and the United States Custom House have been identified as “mission essential” structures by the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park as stated in the park’s General Management Plan, *“New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Final General Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement.”*

America, there is established the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park.<sup>2</sup>

The period of significance as stated in the National Historic Landmark Nomination for the New Bedford Historic District is c.1790, 1810-1855, and highlights the era of New Bedford's greatest success within the whaling industry. However, the General Management Plan, *Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park* states,

New Bedford's period of significance spans from 1760 to 1920 and represents the 'cradle to grave' history of the city's role in the American whaling industry.<sup>3</sup>

It is recommended that the period of significance be more inclusive and be expanded to 1760-1920 as stated above. The General Management plans also calls for the National Register nomination to be amended to reflect this extended period of significance,

The National Park Service will prepare an up-to-date, comprehensive national register nomination for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. The new nomination will solidify the defined period of significance and identify all the contributing structures associated with the historical park.<sup>4</sup>

The three structures that are the subject of the report were all constructed during the period of significance as outlined in the National Historic Landmark nomination; however, each building is significant for a unique reason.

The Rodman Candleworks was constructed ca. 1815 by Samuel Rodman Sr., a leading industrialist of New Bedford and husband of Elizabeth Rotch. Designed in the Federal Style, the Rodman Candleworks demonstrates dominance of Quaker entrepreneurs in the early half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the city of New Bedford. Constructed for the manufacturing of spermaceti candles, the Rodman Candleworks also exemplifies one of the many maritime industries that resulted from New Bedford's successful whale-fishery.

The Double Bank Building was constructed between the years of 1831 and 1833 by one of New England's foremost architects, Russell Warren. Designed in the Greek Revival Style, the Double Bank Building is an expression of permanence and monumentality that reflects the era of highest economic prosperity in New Bedford's history.

The United States Custom House was designed and constructed between the years 1834 and 1836 by the nation's first Federal Architect, Robert Mills, and was individually listed on the National Register in 1970 as a National Historic Landmark. The United States Custom House is a significant example of a Greek Revival public building that illustrates the economic success experienced by New Bedford in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Constructed for the assessment and collection of duties and taxes on imported goods, the

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<sup>2</sup>“ Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park,” (New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002), 17.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, 46.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

United States Custom House exemplifies the importance of the whaling industry in New Bedford and its financial contribution to the federal government.

## **Research Conducted**

Through physical investigation and documentary research, including both primary and secondary sources, the evolution of these three structures has been documented in this report. The resources and repositories consulted to aid in this documentation are as follows:

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, New Bedford, MA

New Bedford Whaling Museum, Museum Research Library, New Bedford, MA

New Bedford Free Public Library, Special Collections Department, New Bedford, MA

City of New Bedford, Office of Planning, New Bedford, MA

Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA

Spinner Publications, Spinner Photo Collection, New Bedford, MA

National Park Service, Northeast Region, Historic Architecture Program Library, Lowell, MA

National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Waltham, MA

National Archives and Records Administration, Special Media Archives Services Division, Cartographic Section, College Park, MD

Peabody Essex Museum, Phillips Library, Salem, MA

Winterthur Museum Library, Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera, Winterthur, DE

United States Coast Guard Academy, Library, New London, CT

Rhode Island Historical Society, Library, Providence, RI

## Recommended Treatment and Proposed Use

In June 2001, New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park completed the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park General Management Plan, *New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Final General Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement*. The proposed action, Option 2, called for the preservation and shared responsibility with the park's partners for the protection and stewardship of the park's cultural resources. The GMP states,

...the National Park Service would share responsibility with its partners for protecting the park's historic resources and offering effective programming to the visiting public. The National Park Service would bring the story of New Bedford and American whaling to a national audience. Public education, interpretation, research, and technical training aimed at generating understanding and fostering greater resource stewardship would be emphasized through National Park Service activities.<sup>5</sup>

The act of preserving the exterior of the three structures that are the subject of this report should be executed according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* and guided by the character-defining features of each structure as outlined in the "Character-Defining Features and Recommendations" section of this report.

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<sup>5</sup> "Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park," 43.

# ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

## Location of Site

The Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building and the United States Custom House are all within the boundaries of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in Bristol County, New Bedford, Massachusetts. New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park encompasses 34 acres spread over 13 city blocks and includes the New Bedford Historic District, a National Historic Landmark. The park boundary includes more than 70 properties with varying types of ownership.<sup>6</sup>

The Rodman Candleworks is located at 72 North Water Street on the northeast corner of the intersection of North Water Street and Rodman Street. The structure's principal facade faces west.

The Double Bank Building is located at 60 North Water Street on a lot situated in between Rodman and Hamilton Streets. The structure's principal facade faces west.

The United States Custom House is located at 37 North Second Street on the southwest corner of the intersection of North Second Street and William Street. The structure's principal facade faces east.

## National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmark

The three structures that are the subject of this report are within the boundaries of the New Bedford Historic District, a National Historic Landmark. The New Bedford Historic District was listed as a National Historic Landmark and on the National Register of Historic Places on November 13, 1966 with documentation accepted by the Keeper on January 18, 1978 (National Register Number: 66000773). All three structures (Rodman Candleworks, Double Bank Building, and the United States Custom House) were individually cited within the nomination. The statement of significance from the National Historic Landmark nomination states,

The New Bedford Historic District... is a good example of the commercial district of a major New England seaport of the period 1810-1855. New Bedford began its rapid growth as a whaling port shortly after the town's establishment in the early 1760s. By 1840, she had superseded Nantucket as the nation's leader in the industry and

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<sup>6</sup> "Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park," 13.

maintained that position until the growth of the petroleum industry, beginning in the late 1850s, brought American whaling to an end.

Additionally, the United States Custom House was individually listed as a National Historic Landmark and on the National Register of Historic Places on December 30, 1970 (National Register Number: 70000735). The statement of significance from the National Historic Landmark nomination states,

Designed by the noted architect Robert Mills and erected in 1834-1836, the New Bedford Custom House is a powerful essay in granite of a small public building executed in the Greek Revival Style. The design is a particularly interesting illustration of the creative use of Greek precedent; for although the whole effect is recognizably "Greek Doric" it is gained by all sorts of non-Greek means. Molding profiles are changed, triglyphs and mutules omitted, and richness and power are obtained by a carefully studied use of stone textures and the variation of rock-faced and tooled granite. The New Bedford Custom House is the largest, most elaborate, and probably the finest of the series of four granite Greek Revival custom houses that Mills designed for the New England States in the period 1834-1836.<sup>7</sup>

## List of Classified Structures (LCS) Information

The List of Classified Structures is a "web based evaluated inventory of all prehistoric and historic structures in the parks of the National Park System having historical and/or architectural/engineering significance in which the Service has or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest."<sup>8</sup> The Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building and the United States Custom House are not owned by, nor do they share cooperative agreements with, the federal government. Because of this the structures reside as records on the shadow database of the List of Classified Structures.

### The Rodman Candleworks:

Preferred Structure Name:	Rodman Candleworks
Structure Number:	006
Other Structure Names:	72 North Water Street, Compass Bank
Shadow LCS ID:	041464
National Register Status:	Entered Documented
National Register Date:	1/18/1978
Significance Level:	Contributing

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<sup>7</sup> Charles Snell, "'Custom House' National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form" (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1970).

<sup>8</sup> "List of Classified Structures," *InsideNPS WASO Cultural Resources Park Cultural Resources Programs Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Division*, 31 January 2004, <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/waso.cfm?prg=414&lv=4>.

Short Significance Description: “Part of New Bedford Historic District, an intact early-to-mid 19<sup>th</sup> C New England city that reflects maritime industry as it relates to whaling & its associated structures.”

Double Bank Building:

Preferred Structure Name: Double Bank Building  
Structure Number: 005  
Other Structure Names: 60 North Water Street, Fishermen’s Pension Building, Merchants’ and Mechanics’ Bank  
Shadow LCS ID: 041463  
National Register Status: Entered Documented  
National Register Date: 1/18/1978  
Significance Level: Contributing  
Short Significance Description: “Part of New Bedford Historic District, an intact early-to-mid 19<sup>th</sup> C New England city that reflects maritime industry as it relates to whaling & its associated structures. Fine example of temple form Greek Revival Style in urban setting.”

United States Custom House<sup>9</sup>:

Preferred Structure Name: U.S. Custom House  
Structure Number: 002  
Other Structure Names: 37 North Second Street  
Shadow LCS ID: 041459  
National Register Status: Entered Documented  
National Register Date: 12/30/1970  
Significance Level: National  
Short Significance Description: “Part of New Bedford Historic District, intact early-to-mid 19<sup>th</sup> C New England city that reflect maritime industry as it relates to whaling & its associated structures. Custom House is believed [to be] oldest, functioning federal government building in country.”

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<sup>9</sup> The information provided by the LCS database was inaccurate and the data above reflects correct information.

## Related Studies

The following reports were consulted in the preparation of this report. These reports have provided background information that was useful to frame the context in which this report was written.

Ann Beha Associates. "United States Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Historic Structures Report." Boston, MA: Ann Beha Associates, 1991.

Arato, Christine A. and Patrick L. Eleey. *Safely Moored at Last: Cultural Landscape Report for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Volume One: History, Existing Conditions, Analysis, Preliminary Preservation Issues*. Boston, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 1998.

*New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Final General Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement*. New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2001.

Architectural Conservation Services. "Exterior Finishes Investigation, Double Bank Building, New Bedford, Massachusetts." Bristol, Rhode Island: Architectural Conservation Services, 2006.

"Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park." New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002.

"New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Historic Architecture Inventory & Conditions Assessment Report." DRAFT. Lowell, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Northeast Cultural Resources Center, Dec. 1998.

"Special Resource Study for New Bedford, Massachusetts." Boston, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, North Atlantic Region, 1997.

# **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**



# INTRODUCTION

The history of the city of New Bedford is unique in that no other city of its size rose to prominence so rapidly as the result of the great success of one single industry in the history of our nation. The history of New Bedford cannot be separated from the history of whaling in America - the culture, the architecture, and the customs of the city are all rooted in the city's contribution to this industry. As said by Hon. William W. Crapo, member of the United States House of Representatives from Massachusetts from 1875 to 1883, in an oration he delivered at a municipal celebration of the centennial of national independence,

The history of whale-fishery is so interwoven with the history of New Bedford during the century that they cannot be separated; and no record of the growth and business of our town and city can be complete without it. Our wealth, our population, and our position and fame among the cities of the world are due to its successful prosecution.<sup>1</sup>

The root of New Bedford's other industrial successes such as the textile and railroad industries have been credited to the entrepreneurial and hardworking ethics of the founding men who pioneered whale-fishery in New Bedford. Numerous supporting maritime industries flourished within the city and left their footprints of success in the form of the city's architecture, culture and industrial innovation.

The focus of this historic structures report is the documentation of three structures constructed to support these prosperous maritime industries. The Rodman Candleworks (ca. 1815) was constructed for the manufacturing of whale oil and the production of spermaceti candles; the Double Bank Building (1831-1833) was constructed in response to the financial need of many insurance companies that sought to protect the wealth invested in the whaling industry by the inhabitants of New Bedford; and the United States Custom House (1834-1836) was constructed by the federal government to assess and collect duties and taxes on imported goods, as well as to control the carriers of imports and exports.

The early settlement and general history of New Bedford has been thoroughly documented and to repeat such details would be redundant. The intent of this section of the report is to highlight those industries for which the structures of this report were constructed to serve.

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<sup>1</sup> Zephaniah Pease and George A. Hough, *New Bedford, Massachusetts, Its History, Industries, Institutions, and Attractions* (New Bedford, MA: Board of Trade, 1889), 25.

# INDUSTRIAL POWER

## Whaling Industry

The manufacturing of oil was the major income-producing byproduct of the whaling industry and through which a large majority of the city's wealth was gained. Prior to the Revolutionary War, few candleworks were present in the city (then known as Bedford Village).<sup>2</sup> One of the first candleworks in the city was built in 1768 by Joseph Russell, regarded as the founding father of New Bedford, and Captain Chafee. Located near the corner of Centre and Front Streets, this candleworks fell victim to the war when it was burned by the British during their raid on Bedford Village and Fairhaven in September 1778.<sup>3</sup>

New Bedford's maritime industry suffered greatly at the hands of the British during the Revolutionary War and, because of this, the city's whaling industry's climb to success was a challenge. Bedford Village, comprised primarily of wooden structures at the time of the War of Independence, was essentially burned and destroyed as part of the British war effort. The intent of the British was to cripple the ports of Bedford Village in hopes that all maritime commerce would be brought to a standstill. Not only did they succeed in this effort, but the fire spread and destroyed a large majority of structures in the entire village. Not a single whaling vessel left the port of New Bedford for the next seven years.<sup>4</sup>

New Bedford's whaling industry recovered slowly from the effects of the war and began its climb once again to find its place as a major constituent in the American maritime economy. The town of New Bedford severed from Old Dartmouth in 1787 and became an independent municipality. By 1800, New Bedford's whale-fishery challenged that of Nantucket.<sup>5</sup> However, the War of 1812 crippled the industry in New Bedford and commerce idled. The Rotch family, and subsequently Samuel Rodman, persevered and remained hopeful that whale-fishery would once again successfully return to the port of New Bedford. Prominent New Bedford families continued to invest their wealth into maritime industries such as candleworks, stores and refineries.<sup>6</sup>

The Rodman Candleworks, constructed ca. 1815, was founded and constructed by Samuel Rodman and became one of the first successful oil manufacturing companies in the city of New Bedford. Samuel Rodman was born in Newport, Rhode Island and received a

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<sup>2</sup> Bedford Village was derived by Joseph Rotch as a compliment to Joseph Russell who shared the surname of the Duke of Bedford.

<sup>3</sup> Pease and Hough, 173.

<sup>4</sup> Christine A. Arato and Patrick L. Eleey, *Safely Moored at Last: Cultural Landscape Report for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Volume One: History, Existing Conditions, Analysis, Preliminary Preservation Issues* (Boston, Massachusetts: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 1998), 11.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Arato and Eleey, 14.

mercantile education in the counting house of Abraham Rodriguez Rivera, a well-respected merchant of Newport. Samuel Rodman worked in a local counting house until 1780, at which point he married Elizabeth Rotch of New Bedford. Elizabeth Rotch was the daughter of William Rotch, who operated the firm William Rotch and Sons based in Nantucket. Samuel joined the Rotch family firm until its dissolution in 1798, at which point he returned to New Bedford and commenced his own business ventures, with the Rodman Candleworks being one of first of these endeavors.<sup>7</sup>

The whaling industry continued to succeed and, by 1823, had far surpassed the whaling industry in Nantucket. In 1830, New Bedford boasted twice as many whaling vessels as Nantucket and supported ten local spermaceti factories.<sup>8</sup> By 1849, New Bedford vessels were voyaging into the Western Arctic to hunt the bowhead whale.<sup>9</sup> As the whaling industry boomed, the number of candleworks grew. A local surveyor noted 8 spermaceti manufactories in 1822 and the city directories of 1836 and 1845 documented 13 and 20 candleworks respectively.<sup>10</sup>

Many factors were responsible for the decline of the whaling industry; highest ranked was the advent of petroleum. In 1859, petroleum was discovered in Pennsylvania and kerosene quickly replaced whale oil as the preferred method of illumination. The final deciding factor that sealed the fate of the industry occurred in 1871. New Bedford held a contract with the federal government in which New Bedford was responsible for supplying the whale oil used to illuminate all of the nation's lighthouses. In 1871, the government decided against the use of whale oil and preferred the more inexpensive illuminant of lard oil.<sup>11</sup>

The development of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 was also instrumental in the collapse of the whaling industry in New Bedford. The railroad expedited the transport of whale products nation-wide effectively lifting the foothold New Bedford had within the whaling market. Whale products could now be easily transported throughout the country and, subsequently, the need for New Bedford's Arctic voyages ceased to exist. San Francisco could now step in and become a Pacific port for the outfitting of whaling vessels and for the processing of whale oil.<sup>12</sup>

New Bedford's glory days of whale-fishery were in sharp decline at this point and the city had no choice but to weather this transition by depending on the moderate demand of other whale byproducts. In the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the development of alternative materials produced outside of the whaling industry, this market soon collapsed. New Bedford regained its balance by investing its entrepreneurial spirit, which many believed to be the foundation of their previous success, in the textile industry and once again looked to the future for brighter days.

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<sup>7</sup> Robert Barcellos, "Candle Plant Reminder of City Whaling Days," *Standard-Times*, unknown date, 4.

<sup>8</sup> Arato and Eleey, 19.

<sup>9</sup> "Overview of American Whaling," New Bedford Whaling Museum, 24 January 2008, [http://www.whalingmuseum.org/library/amwhale/am\\_index.html](http://www.whalingmuseum.org/library/amwhale/am_index.html).

<sup>10</sup> Barcellos, 4.

<sup>11</sup> Arato and Eleey, 38.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

## Financial Industry

The prosperity that New Bedford enjoyed from the whaling industry resulted in a profusion of maritime support industries, banking facilities chief among them. The considerable number of banking facilities extant in New Bedford is atypical for a city of its size and were created to support the booming maritime economy during New Bedford's golden age (1823-1857). During this time, commerce heavily revolved around the prospering whaling industry. The city's wealth was largely invested in all things related to whale-fishery; from the construction and outfitting of whaling vessels to the processing of the whale byproducts to the construction of public buildings built to support the thriving maritime economy.

Whale-fishery was a hazardous and, therefore, risky enterprise and capital investors sought to insure their investments. Maritime insurance companies proliferated and banking facilities were needed to finance these institutions. Situated at the foot of William Street, the Double Bank Building was constructed between the years of 1831 and 1833 with close proximity to the waterfront, yet in the heart of the city's commercial district. Noted as one of the city's "ornaments" the Double Bank Building serves a great example of the type of architecture the city constructed during this era. Designed in the Greek Revival Style by Russell Warren, the Double Bank Building was an expression of monumentality and permanence that reflected the city's prosperity.

### ***Russell Warren (1792-1860)***

Russell Warren was commissioned to design the Double Bank Building and construction commenced in 1831. Russell Warren, a New England architect and engineer, was born in 1792 in Tiverton, Rhode Island. Warren was self-educated in the field of architecture and, at the age of twenty years old, opened his own architectural practice in Bristol, Rhode Island. Warren engaged in designing mansion-style homes for the prosperous inhabitants of Bristol and quickly developed a successful practice.<sup>13</sup>

Warren's first major commission and one that brought him regional recognition in 1822 was the Arcade Building in Providence, Rhode Island. Noted as one of the finest structures in Providence, the Arcade Building was designed in the Greek Revival Style and Warren soon became a master in this form of architecture. As noted in the *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*:

Warren's mastery of proportion and elegance in the arcade brought him scores of commissions for Greek Revival buildings in the succeeding years.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Elsie Rathburn Withey & Henry F. Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)* (Los Angeles, CA: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970), 635.

<sup>14</sup> Withey & Withey, 636.

A successful New York merchant, Joseph Grinnell, was responsible for engaging Russell Warren into the community of New Bedford. Joseph Grinnell, a native of New Bedford, sat on the board of directors of both the Merchants Bank and Mechanics Bank, and it was through this relationship that Warren received the commission to design the Double Bank Building.<sup>15</sup>

After Warren had successfully executed the design of the Double Bank Building he was commissioned for at least seven other public and residential structures in the city of New Bedford. These structures included: New Bedford City Hall (now the New Bedford Free Public Library), the North Christian Church on Purchase Street (demolished), New Bedford Institution for Savings, Rodman mansion on County Street, the Grinnell mansion, the Unitarian Church on Union Street, and the John Avery Parker mansion.<sup>16</sup>

## United States Customs Service

Established in 1789, the United States Customs Service was one of the first federal agencies created to serve our young nation. With the country on the brink of bankruptcy, the First Congress and President Washington decided it was necessary to collect duties on imported goods to alleviate this financial burden. This Act of Congress provided for the creation of customs districts and ports of entry, appointments of custom officers, and the method in which duties were to be collected. The Act established fifty nine districts in eleven states, ten of which were located in Massachusetts.<sup>17</sup>

The Constitution of the United States became effective on March 4, 1789 and approximately four months later, the United States Customs Service began operation on July 31. The first payment made to the United States Custom Service occurred on August 5, 1789, paid by Captain James Weeks on cargo from Leghorn, Italy, and totaled \$774.41.<sup>18</sup> On September 2 of the same year, the United States Treasury Department was established and became responsible for the administration of the United States Customs Service.<sup>19</sup>

The town of New Bedford was incorporated in 1787 and because of its importance as a port city, was chosen as the administrative center of the Tenth United States Customs District in 1789. The first Collector of the district was Colonel Edward Pope, a former Naval Officer for the town of Dartmouth beginning in 1781. It is believed the first custom's office may have operated from his home.<sup>20</sup> By 1806, the New Bedford United States Custom Office was at 43 Middle Street in a building shared with the United States Post Office (fig. 1). During the

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<sup>15</sup> *Russell Warren in Coastal Towns of Southeastern New England* (Dartmouth, MA: The Gallery of Southeastern Massachusetts University, 1982), 10.

<sup>16</sup> Zephaniah Pease, *The Centenary of the Merchants National Bank* (New Bedford, MA: Reynolds Printing, 1925), 27.

<sup>17</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., "United States Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Historic Structures Report" (Boston, MA: Ann Beha Assoc., 1991), 1-2.

<sup>18</sup> "History of the U.S. Customs Service," TRAC DHS, 24 March 2009, <http://trac.syr.edu/traccus/findings/aboutCUS/cusHistory.html>.

<sup>19</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 2.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

1820s, both the Custom Office and Postal Office moved to quarters at the city's Tallman Block at the corner of Union and Water Streets.

New Bedford's swift economic rise as a result of the city's booming maritime industry caused an increased demand on the New Bedford United States Customs Service. The operation felt the need for a larger and more accommodating space and construction of a new building was authorized by Congress in 1832. The construction of the new United States Custom House was authorized by an Act of Congress with the passage of Chapter CXCVIII on July 13, 1832. Section III provided, ". . .for the purchase of a lot, and the erection of a custom-house and public-store at the port of New Bedford, fifteen thousand dollars."<sup>21</sup>

### ***Robert Mills (1781-1855)***

The architect commissioned to design the United States (U.S.) Custom House in New Bedford was Robert Mills. Robert Mills was one of the first native-born American architects and became a leading designer in the Greek Revival Style during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Robert Mills was born in 1781 in Charleston, South Carolina and was educated at Charleston College. In 1801, Mills began his architectural career under the tutorage of James Hoban, based in Washington D.C., who was then engaged in the design of the President's House and Capitol.<sup>22</sup> There Mills received an education in the rudiments of draftsmanship and construction. While working with Hoban, Mills attracted the attention of then President, Thomas Jefferson. President Jefferson took an interest in Mills and provided him with access to his personal architectural library at his home, Monticello. It was here that Mills developed a love of classical form.<sup>23</sup>

In 1803, Mills continued his architectural work under the education of Benjamin Latrobe, then Surveyor of Public Buildings, and remained in Washington for the next 5 years contributing to further work on the nation's Capitol. Under Latrobe, Mills received the knowledge of scientific engineering skills as well as the principles of professional practice. In 1808, Mills established his private practice in the city of Philadelphia and remained in the city for nine years.<sup>24</sup> Mills received the commission to design the Washington Monument in 1814 and moved to Baltimore to superintend its construction. In 1820, Mills returned to his birth city of Charleston, South Carolina, where he was appointed Acting Commissioner for the Board of Public Works. While in this position, Mills became accustomed to working with governmental agencies.<sup>25</sup>

Mills returned to Washington D.C. in 1830 and primarily worked on federal projects, specifically on minor alterations to the White House, Capitol and Executive Office Building as well as acoustical improvements to the House of Representatives.<sup>26</sup> It was during this

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<sup>21</sup> Richard Peters, Esq., ed., *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America* (Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1856), 574.

<sup>22</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 3.

<sup>23</sup> Withey & Withey, 422.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 4.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

tenure that Mills was contracted for the design of four federal U.S. Custom Houses in New England; two in Massachusetts (New Bedford and Newburyport) and two in Connecticut (New London and Middletown). The federal office of “Architect and Engineer” was created during the administration of Andrew Jackson and, in 1836, following the success of several successful design contracts for federal buildings, Robert Mills was appointed to this position as the first Federal Architect and served in this capacity until 1851.<sup>27</sup>

Throughout his career, Mills was guided by several principles that reflected in his designs. He believed in and encouraged regional values and local architecture traditions and sought to incorporate these into his work. Mills also believed in the harmony between utility and aesthetic beauty, that one resulted from the other. This is evidence in his statement,

The principle assumed and acted upon was that beauty is founded upon order, and that convenience and utility were constitute parts.<sup>28</sup>

During his career, Mills’ designed several building types in addition to those previously mentioned. These buildings included Federal Court Houses, eight Marine hospitals, and three principal governmental buildings in Washington (the original section of the Treasury Building, the Old Patent Office, and the Old Post Office). The highest achievement in Mills’ career was securing the contract to design the Washington Monument. The cornerstone of the structure was laid in 1848, however due to several delays as a result of lack of funds; the structure had only reached 152 feet at the time of Mills’ death in 1852.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Withey & Withey, 422.

<sup>28</sup> John M. Bryan, *America’s First Architect Robert Mills* (New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press, 2001), 240.

<sup>29</sup> Withey & Withey, 422-423.



**Figure 1.** Former location of the U.S. Post Office and Custom House at the corner of Middle and Water Streets in New Bedford. Photograph taken in 1896 by unknown photographer.

# **CHRONOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT**



# RODMAN CANDLEWORKS

## Introduction

The Rodman Candleworks building was among the first of the candleworks to be constructed in the city of New Bedford, an industry that was flourishing when the whaling trade was at its prime during the first half of the last century. Although the architect of the structure is unknown, the candleworks was built in the Federal Style, an iconic style of structures built among prospering eastern seaboard villages. The candleworks was built for the production and manufacturing of spermaceti candles from whale oil and was strategically located close to the city's bustling waterfront.

The exact date of construction of the Rodman Candleworks building is unknown. It has been determined that construction took place around 1815 based on the following documentary evidence. This includes a map of the city of New Bedford drawn by Gilbert Russell in August of 1815 (fig. 3). In Russell's map of 1815, the lot labeled "S. Rodman," where the candleworks building is now located, shows an outlined structure to the east of the existing building today.<sup>1</sup> It is believed that this is an earlier wooden structure, and not the existing stone candleworks building.<sup>2</sup> The existing stone structure, in which Samuel Rodman operated a candleworks, was most likely built sometime later. An account by well-known historians of New Bedford, Zephaniah W. Pease and George A. Hough, identifies the date as around 1815:

Fifty years after [1765], or thereabouts a number of factories were in operation. Among the first of these factories was that of Samuel Rodman. The building occupied by him is now [1889] standing on Water Street, at the corner of Rodman Street. It was built of stone and covered with plaster, and is at present unoccupied.<sup>3</sup>

This structure has survived the major industrial downturn of the waterfront that began in 1857 when the oil manufacturing industry, the purpose for which the structure was built, was no longer a viable income-producing trade. The discovery of petroleum, which allowed kerosene to replace whale oil as the major fuel source for light, in effect replaced the whale

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<sup>1</sup> In this map, buildings are shown as outlined as well as colored-in/solid rectangular shapes. It is thought, based on other cartographic practices at that time, that the outlined buildings are those constructed of wood whereas the colored-in or solid buildings are those constructed of brick or stone.

<sup>2</sup> It is possible that this wooden structure, presumably owned by Samuel Rodman, could have been an earlier candle manufactory or oil works. It is also possible that this building was owned by Samuel Rodman but used for another purpose other than an oil works. It is suggested that further research be conducted.

<sup>3</sup> Zephaniah Pease and George A. Hough, *New Bedford, Massachusetts, Its History, Industries, Institutions, and Attractions* (New Bedford, MA: Board of Trade, 1889), 173.

oil industry in maritime seaports throughout the eastern seaboard. The completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 further suppressed New Bedford's faltering economy, allowing San Francisco to become a major distribution port, essentially lifting the foothold New Bedford once held in the national whaling market. Because of these major economic shifts, New Bedford began to change its industrial focus from maritime activities to textiles as evidenced in 1849 with the opening of the Wamsutta Mills. As the commercial activity of the city changed and the city's economy could no longer depend on maritime industries, the downtown waterfront area and its structures lost their importance and fell into neglect. The Rodman Candleworks managed to survive the many transitions the city weathered and after an extensive rehabilitation in 1978, the structure survives today marking its place in maritime history.

## Original Appearance

As previously mentioned, the Rodman Candleworks was constructed ca. 1815 and is sited on a lot of land at the northeast corner of North Water Street and Rodman Street in the city of New Bedford. Typical of the Federal Style that marked many maritime buildings along the eastern seaboard, the Rodman Candleworks building exemplifies the evolution from the preceding Georgian style, adding refinements to various architectural features. The first available documentation of the Rodman Candlework's exterior appearance is a photograph taken ca. 1908 that shows the west and south elevations (fig. 13). Much of the proposed original appearance of the building is based on this photograph, therefore leaving several unknowns regarding the original appearance of the north and east elevations.

The building was designed and built rectangular in shape with many symmetrical features and few exterior embellishments. As built, the structure measured 84 feet in the east-west direction and 42 feet in the north-south direction. The foundation, above grade at the west and south walls and below grade at the east and north walls, was constructed of split-faced granite blocks. The walls were built of granite rubble faced with stucco. The stucco is believed to have been originally pigmented a mauve-taupe color and scored on the principal elevations (west and south) to resemble granite blocks. However, quoining at the northwest, southwest and southeast corners is believed to be original to the construction of the building. Quoining is characteristic of the Federal Style and was one of the few exterior elaborations carried over from the earlier Georgian Style.

It is unknown how many exterior doorways were originally constructed in the candleworks building. It is believed that at a minimum, doorways D101 and D102 and their stairways in the west and south walls were part of the original design.<sup>4</sup> This is believed to be true for several reasons. One is that the design of D101 and D102 has several hallmarks of the Federal Style: the doorways have arched openings, there are elliptical fanlights above the openings, and each doorway is framed with granite quoining. Also, the west and south elevations that front on North Water Street and Rodman Street were the primary elevations of the building

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<sup>4</sup> It is believed that doorway D105 was not part of the original design. The architectural elevation drawing submitted and designed by Gelardin, Bruner and Cott, Inc., for the 1978-1979 rehabilitation shows that this doorway is to be newly cut as part of the rehabilitation.

and it is very likely that each principal elevation had a doorway. Thirdly, in the earliest available historic photograph (ca. 1908), D101 and D102 are both present (fig. 13).

Similar to the number and location of doorways, the information can be surmised regarding the number and location of original windows is based on historic photographs. As previously mentioned, the earliest photograph available of the building is dated ca. 1908. A later photograph is believed to have been taken ca. 1960s-1970s, due to the severe deteriorating condition of the exterior stucco that was present at that time (fig. 15).

The photograph of 1908 (fig. 13) shows the west elevation with the same number and location of windows that exist today (one basement-story window, two first-story rectangular windows, three second-story rectangular windows, and three third-story lunette windows). The sashes in 1908 were six-over-six, unlike the existing 12-over-12 sashes. It is likely that the original window sashes were six-over-six, as this was more common in this building type and of the Federal Style in general due to the increased availability of larger pieces of glass. Flat stone lintels characteristic of the Federal Style, exterior sills, and quoining on the left and right side of the windows are shown in fig. 13 and are believed to be original to the construction of the building. The third-story lunette windows are also believed to be original to the construction of the building because these are a hallmark of the Federal Style. In the photograph, each lunette window is bordered with stone with a keystone at the top, all of which are believed to be original. The window sashes within the lunette openings are not clear in the photograph, which makes it difficult to determine the style of the sashes. It is also difficult to discern the details of the basement-story sashes in the ca.-1908 view.

As previously mentioned, fig. 13 shows the south elevation of the candleworks building ca. 1908. The number of windows and related features present at that time (with the exception of the window sashes) are believed to date to the original construction.<sup>5</sup> Similar to the windows in the west elevation, it is believed that the windows in the first and second stories of the south elevation had six-over-six double-hung sashes. This is also believed to be the original sash pattern of windows in the west elevation, unlike the twelve-over-twelve double-hung sashes that exist today. The flat stone lintels, exterior sills, and quoining on the left and right side of the windows that are visible ca. 1908 are believed to be original. The five third-story lunette windows present ca. 1908 are also believed to be original. The photograph shows each of the lunette windows framed with stone with a keystone mounted on the top, all of which are believed to be original. Similar to the west elevation windows, the sashes within these openings are difficult to discern in the photograph.

There is one major feature illustrated in the ca. 1908 photograph (fig. 13) that no longer exists today – a large opening in the second story of the south elevation between W206 and W207. It appears that there was also some kind of pulley mechanism directly above this opening and below the soffit indicating that it was used as a loading entry into the second story. It is possible that this feature was original to the building. What is evidenced by the 1960s-1970s historic photograph (fig. 15) regarding the original appearance of the windows in the east elevation (the only elevation illustrated) is that the third-story windows now present are not exhibited in this photograph, and therefore are not original to the building. Because of the surmised date of this photograph (almost 193 years after construction), there are not any

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<sup>5</sup> This does not include the basement-story windows (unable to discern from ca. 1908 photograph).

other clues evident regarding the original appearance of the building not otherwise mentioned.

It is believed that the candleworks building was originally constructed with a hip roof, similar to the existing roof. Hip roofs were an architectural feature that was fundamental to the Federal Style.

Finally, several unknowns exist regarding the original appearance of the candleworks building due to lack of documentation. These include the location and presence of a drainage system, number and location of chimneys, exterior painted finishes, and exterior signage.

## Chronology of Use

### *Ca. 1815 – 1859: Candleworks*

Samuel Rodman, Sr. (1753-1835) was born in Newport, Rhode Island on November 11, 1753. He married Elizabeth Rotch (1757-1856) in 1780, daughter of William Rotch, Sr. Soon after their marriage, Samuel Rodman, Sr. joined the Rotch family firm in Nantucket. By 1789, Rodman left the Rotch firm, commenced his own business in New Bedford, and very quickly became a leading industrialist in the city. The site of the candleworks (as well as a second home for the Rodmans) was a gift from William Rotch, Sr. to his daughter Elizabeth and his son-in-law, Samuel Rodman, Sr., in 1801. This is depicted in the map “Original Purchasers of Lots in New Bedford of the Russells and Kemptons from 1753 to 1815” (fig. 2).

As previously mentioned, the candleworks building was constructed around 1815 for the production and manufacturing of spermaceti candles. The original address was 58 North Water Street, which was later changed to 72 North Water Street. By the year 1822, local surveyor Joseph Pickens recorded eight spermaceti manufactories in New Bedford, a typical maritime industry on the city’s waterfront.<sup>6</sup> Between 1831 and 1833, the building was occupied by the Mechanics Bank and the Mechanics Insurance Company before the construction of the Double Bank Building on the lot immediately south of the candleworks lot, where the bank would eventually conduct business.<sup>7</sup> In 1835, Samuel Rodman, Sr., died, leaving a widow and nine children.

In 1836, the New Bedford city directory refers to the building as the “Robeson Candleworks.” Andrew Robeson was a son-in-law of Samuel Rodman, Sr., and it is likely that he acquired the business after Samuel Rodman’s death in 1835. The directory also lists Charles W. Morgan, husband of Sarah R. Morgan (Samuel Rodman’s daughter), as having his

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<sup>6</sup> Robert Barcellos, “Candle Plant Reminder of City Whaling Days,” *Standard-Times*, unknown date, 4.

<sup>7</sup> Richard C. Crisson and John A. Scott, “Form B – Building, Rodman Candleworks” (Boston, MA: Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts Archives Building, 1998).

office in this building.<sup>8</sup> The 1836 city directory lists the oil works of Charles W. Morgan at 82 South Water Street, a few buildings removed from the Rodman Candleworks, as one of thirteen candle or oil manufactories in New Bedford at that time.<sup>9</sup> An advertisement posted in the local New Bedford newspaper, *The New Bedford Morning Mercury*, on May 25, 1838, offered rooms for rent in the Rodman Candleworks building (fig. 4). Inquiries were to be directed to Andrew Robeson, suggesting that it was Andrew Robeson who took over the candleworks business after the death of Samuel Rodman, Sr.<sup>10</sup>

In 1841, Rodman Street is officially accepted by the city. In 1842, the Rodman Candleworks is now identified as that of Samuel Rodman, Jr.'s.<sup>11</sup> Twenty oil or candleworks are cited in the city directory of 1845, including that of Samuel Rodman, Jr.'s, still located at the Rodman Candleworks building at 58 North Water Street (Morgan's is still listed at 82 South Water Street).<sup>12</sup> In the year of 1847, Samuel Rodman, Jr. accounts, in his diary, an agreement that his son, Edmund, and a Horatio Leonard undertook a partnership to manufacture oil and produce candles and now [1847] occupy the "motherworks" [Rodman Candleworks]. This is also supported by a map drawn by J.C. Sidney and published by Collins and Clark in 1850 that shows the candleworks building and with the label "S. Rodman & Leonard Sperm Oil Manu." (fig. 5).<sup>13</sup> As of 1856, only Edmund Rodman is listed in the city directory at the candleworks building.<sup>14</sup> In 1859, the same is true and he is listed at the site as "oil-manufacturer and oil-broker" indicating the building was still be used for the manufacturing of oil at this time.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Barcellos, 4.

<sup>10</sup> Advertisement, *The New Bedford Morning Mercury*, 25 May 1838, column 4, p. 3.

<sup>11</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>12</sup> Barcellos, 4.

<sup>13</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Plan of the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts* [map], 1850, Scale [ca. 1:3,050], Harvard Map Collection, Harvard Geospatial Library.

<sup>14</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>15</sup> Henry Howland Crapo, *New Bedford Directory Containing the City Register and a General Directory of the Citizens* (New Bedford, MA: Charles Taber & Co., 1859), 147.

## ***1859 – 1890: End of the Rodman Heirs Era***

Elizabeth Rotch Rodman passed away in 1859, and the title of the property was transferred from Elizabeth Rodman to her daughter Sarah R. Morgan.<sup>16</sup> The next year, in 1860, the building was occupied by D.A. Snell, Snell's Bakery, a manufacturer and wholesaler of ship's bread and crackers. The address used by Snell's Bakery while occupying the candleworks was 58 North Water Street as well as 13 Rodman Street (fig. 7).<sup>17</sup> Snell's Bakery occupied the building until 1868 at which point the company transferred its operation across the street to the former Rodman residence. Due to lack of documentation, it is unclear for what purpose, if any, the Rodman Candleworks building was used for between the years of 1868 and 1875. From 1875 until 1887, the candleworks building housed the tenants Peirce and Bushnell, a picture framery office and store.<sup>18</sup> A map of the city of New Bedford was drawn in 1875 published by Wheeler and Coggeshall, that erroneously shows the Rodman Candleworks (with the label of "Pierce and Bushnell") drawn on the north side of the lot instead of the south side of the lot (fig. 9).<sup>19</sup> It is believed that this a cartographic error as there is no indication that the building was ever moved. This is supported by a panoramic view of the city of New Bedford published by O.H. Bailey & Co. in 1876, which shows the Rodman Candleworks on the south side of the lot (fig. 10). Also, a map drawn of the city of New Bedford in 1881, published by George H. Walker and Co., shows the candleworks building in the correct location and also labels the building "Office of P & B" (fig. 11).<sup>20</sup> On April 2, 1890, Samuel Rodman Morgan (heir of Sarah R. Morgan) sold the property to David B. Kempton and Rodolphus Beetle thus transferring the title out of the Rodman heirs for the first time.

## ***1890 – 1967: Various Owners, Various Uses***

It is unknown for what purpose the building was used for while under the ownership of David B. Kempton and Rodolphus Beetle from the years of 1890 to 1908. On July 27, 1908, one half of the undivided title passed from Amanda M. Beetle (heir of Rodolphus Beetle) to Charles O. Brightman.<sup>21</sup> Four days later, on July 31, 1908, the second undivided half was transferred to Charles O. Brightman by Benjamin Baker and Charles M. Hussey, trustees of David B. Kempton.<sup>22</sup> Charles O. Brightman was born in New Bedford and was trained as a carpenter in Providence, R.I. He returned to New Bedford in 1878 and by 1881 he had

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<sup>16</sup> Deed of Sale from Elizabeth Rodman to Sarah R. Morgan, 1859, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 40, page 130, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>17</sup> Board of Assessors, New Bedford, *1868 Tax Pamphlet*, WHALE Archives.

<sup>18</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>19</sup> Wheeler & Coggeshall, *Map of the City of New Bedford: Bristol County, Mass.* [map], 1875, Scale [ca. 1:4,849], Harvard Map Collection, Harvard Geospatial Library.

<sup>20</sup> George H. Walker and Co., *New Bedford City Map, Plate 007* [map], 1881, "Atlas of New Bedford City, Massachusetts," [www.historicmapworks.com](http://www.historicmapworks.com).

<sup>21</sup> Deed of Sale from Amanda M. Beetle et al. to Charles O. Brightman, 1908. Bristol County, MA. Deed Book 419, pp. 332-333. Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>22</sup> Deed of Sale from Benjamin Baker and Charles M. Hussey to Charles O. Brightman, 1908. Bristol County, MA. Deed Book 419, page 252. Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

started a general contracting and building business which would later identify him as a leading builder in southeastern Massachusetts. Among the buildings built by Brightman was the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank on Purchase Street. It is believed that Charles O. Brightman used the Rodman Candleworks building as the operating base of his successful contracting and building business. A map of the city of New Bedford drawn in 1911 and published by Walker Lithograph and Publishing Co. shows the candleworks building with the label “Chas. O. Brightman,” indicating his occupancy of the structure at this time (fig. 14).<sup>23</sup> In 1925, seventeen years after acquiring ownership of the property, Charles O. Brightman died and the title passed to Brightman’s widow and two sons, Oliver C. and Marshall C. Brightman. It is unknown what Brightman’s sons used the building for during the next five years. However, it is known that in 1930, the building was used as an antique store by tenant Clarence W. Montigny.<sup>24</sup> The next year, on May 15, 1931, the candleworks building was sold to Ruth Hall Price by Oliver C. and Marshall C. Brightman.<sup>25</sup> For the next twelve years, Ruth Hall Price operated an antique store known as “Moby Dick Antique Shop” in the building.<sup>26</sup>

On March 18, 1943, Ruth Hall Price sold the property to Harbor View Marine Corporation. It is unknown what purpose the building was used for during the next 5 years. From the years 1948 to 1955, the building housed tenants Louise Drummond Beach and Nicholas Nicolaevsky, who used the building as an interior decorating and furniture refinishing studio known as the “Black Rose Studio.” Harbor View Marine Corporation sold the property to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation on August 31, 1953, who then sold it to William Kranzler three months later on November 30, 1953. The next piece of chronological documentation cites a fire on March 1, 1967, that severely damaged the first story.<sup>27</sup> Nine months later, on December 19, 1967, the New Bedford Redevelopment Authority acquired the property as part of the city’s effort to revitalize the city’s waterfront through urban renewal.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Walker Lithograph & Publishing Co., *City of New Bedford, Parts of Wards 3-4, Plate 014* [map], 1911, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

<sup>24</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>25</sup> Deed of Sale from Oliver C. Brightman and Marshall C. Brightman to Ruth Hall Price, 1931, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 702, page 214, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>26</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>28</sup> Deed of Sale, New Bedford Redevelopment Authority, 1967, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1552, pp. 662-667, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

## ***1967 – Present: Economic Revitalization Through Historic Preservation***

By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, New Bedford’s once thriving industrial and financial enterprises had long been abandoned and most of the structures that lined the streets of the commercial district were in very poor condition, some deteriorated to the point of collapse. The Rodman Candleworks building was no exception and sat vacant after the fire of 1967 for the next twelve years.<sup>29</sup> On August 20, 1976, the property was sold to Housing/70 Corporation from the New Bedford Redevelopment Authority.<sup>30</sup>

A turning point occurred in 1976 when the mayor of the city of New Bedford targeted the Waterfront Historic District<sup>31</sup> for “economic revitalization through historic preservation.”<sup>32</sup> The idea behind this movement was that rehabilitating structures that could potentially house businesses such as offices, banks, restaurants, etc. would generate income for the city in the form of property taxes. The mayor was able to offer financial assistance to prospective developers through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). As a result, \$220,000 was awarded to a joint venture between a developer known as Architectural Conservation Trust (ACT) and a local community preservation group, WHALE, for the rehabilitation of the Rodman Candleworks building which had been identified as a key structure of the historic district.<sup>33</sup> The Massachusetts Historical Commission also contributed an additional \$94,000 to the project through the federal Historic Preservation Grant-in-Aid program.

ACT became the managing partner of the project and WHALE represented the local preservation interests of the local community. The architectural firm of Gelardin, Bruner and Cott was contracted by ACT to carry out the rehabilitation of the candleworks building and construction of Phase I began in January 1978. By March 20, 1979, opening ceremonies were held at the candleworks building and the rehabilitation was officially complete. Upon completion, the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank occupied the first story and law offices occupied the second story. On April 27, 1979, a permit was granted to WHALE by the New Bedford City Planning Department to “erect addition (masonry and glass) to building [at the north elevation] as per plan submitted.”<sup>34</sup> By September 1979, the Candleworks

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<sup>29</sup> Floy A. Brown, “Chateau Clare, Woonsocket, Rhode Island; Rodman Candleworks, New Bedford, Massachusetts; Rehabilitation Through Federal Assistance” (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Technical Preservation Services Division, 1979), 18.

<sup>30</sup> Deed of Sale from New Bedford Redevelopment Authority to Housing/70 Corporation, 1976, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1726, pp. 881-886, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>31</sup> On November 13, 1966, the New Bedford Historic District was designated a National Historic Landmark. Original designation boundaries did not include the Rodman Candleworks building and were later revised to include the building in 1971. Subsequent follow-up documentation was prepared and accepted for the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper on January 18, 1978.

<sup>32</sup> Brown, 19.

<sup>33</sup> In 1962, the preservation group WHALE formed with the mission to preserve the city of New Bedford’s historic sites, buildings, and wharves in order to restore a living, working waterfront.

<sup>34</sup> *Building Permit No. 205-79*, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, April 27, 1979.

Restaurant occupied the basement story and the new masonry-and-glass addition (the final phase of the rehabilitation) was complete. The extensive rehabilitation work is detailed in the subsequent “Alterations” section of this report.

## Alterations

What is known about the alterations that have occurred at the Rodman Candleworks building has been derived from four primary sources: historical maps, historical photographs, building permits, and 1978 floor plans created by the architectural firm of Gelardin, Bruner and Cott.

### *East Addition*

The earliest primary sources of documentation for this structure are historical maps of the city of New Bedford. Information that can be gathered from historical maps may include: first appearance of a building, the location of a building, a building’s footprint, building materials and a building’s use/owner. Although several maps were published of New Bedford’s waterfront area, it was common, in earlier maps, to only illustrate buildings of public importance, such as the custom house, schools, post offices, etc.

The first available map in which the candleworks building appears is one created in 1850 by J.C. Sidney and published by Collins and Clark (see fig. 5). On this map the candleworks building is shown as rectangular in shape at the northeast corner of North Water Street and Rodman Street, where it is presently located. This same footprint exists today, with the exception of the glass addition on the north side.<sup>35</sup> The candleworks building also appears on a map created in 1851, surveyed by H.F. Walling and published by C. & A. Taber (fig. 6), as a rectangular shape and in its present location.<sup>36</sup>

The next appearance of the structure in the available historic maps occurs in 1871. This 1871 map was published by F.W. Beers and Co. and shows a reverse L-shaped appendage attached to the east side of the structure (fig. 8).<sup>37</sup> By 1876, as illustrated in a panoramic view published by O.H. Bailey and Co., an appendage is still on the east side; however, this appendage is not L-shaped as shown in the 1871 map but is rather a 2- ½ story, two-bay wide rectangular addition (see fig. 10).<sup>38</sup> The next appearance of the candleworks building is in the 1881 map

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<sup>35</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Plan of the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts* [map], 1850, Scale [ca. 1:3,050], Harvard Map Collection, Harvard Geospatial Library.

<sup>36</sup> H. F. Walling, *Map of the City of New Bedford and the Village of Fairhaven* [map], Published by C. & A. Taber, 1851, New Bedford Whaling Museum Research Library, Vertical files, “Cartographic Images of New Bedford and Vicinity in the Collections of the Whaling Museum Library of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society.”

<sup>37</sup> F.W. Beers & Co., *Atlas of Bristol County, Massachusetts, 1871, Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, City of New Bedford, Westport* [map], 1871, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

<sup>38</sup> O.H. Bailey & Co., *View of the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts* [map], 1876, Boston Public Library Central - Leventhal Map Center, <http://maps.bpl.org/id/10177>.

published by George H. Walker and Co. (fig. 11). In this map, the candleworks structure is shown as it was in the earlier maps, as a simple rectangular-shaped building with no additions.<sup>39</sup> In a later map created in 1895 and published by Everts and Richards, two wooden structures appear attached to the east side of the stone candleworks building (fig. 12).<sup>40</sup> However, by 1911, as illustrated in a map published by Walker Lithograph & Publishing Co., the addition which appeared physically attached to the east side of the candleworks building in 1895 has been removed, leaving the candleworks building and a wooden building to the east separated by the empty space where the previous attached structure had once been (see fig. 14).<sup>41</sup> An aerial photograph taken in 1978 shows the candleworks building alone on the site with no other structures present (fig. 16).<sup>42</sup>

The existence of an east addition is also supported by a historic photograph taken sometime before the late 1970s-rehabilitation (fig. 15). In this photograph the east elevation is visible which illustrates a change in material approximately one third up from the bottom of the wall. It appears that the stucco is missing from the bottom third of the elevation, indicating that an addition was present at some point in the building's history, presumably ca. 1871, according to the first documented appearance of an addition in this location.

## ***1978 - 1979: Rehabilitation***

A major rehabilitation of the Rodman Candleworks building occurred under the ownership of the Candleworks Associates, a joint partnership between the local community preservation group WHALE and developer ACT. The firm of Gelardin, Bruner and Cott, Inc. were hired as the architects for the rehabilitation project. Construction began in January 1978 and was completed by September 1979. Rehabilitation work occurred on the interior of the structure as well as the exterior. Because this report is primarily focused on the building's exterior, only the exterior alterations will be mentioned. Below is a summarized list of the alterations that occurred during the rehabilitation process (please see Appendix for the architectural drawings of Gelardin, Bruner and Cott)<sup>43</sup>:

### **General**

- Major metal and glass addition constructed on the north side of the building.<sup>44</sup>
- A mild chemical wash was applied the exterior elements to remove accumulated dirt and stains.

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<sup>39</sup> George H. Walker and Co., *New Bedford City Map, Plate 007* [map], 1881, "Atlas of New Bedford City, Massachusetts," [www.historicmapworks.com](http://www.historicmapworks.com).

<sup>40</sup> Everts & Richards, *Part of City of New Bedford, Plate 2* [map], 1895, Scale [1:300], [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

<sup>41</sup> Walker Lithograph & Publishing Co., *City of New Bedford, Parts of Wards 3-4, Plate 014* [map], 1911, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

<sup>42</sup> Marsha McCabe and Joseph D. Thomas, *Not Just Anywhere, The Story of WHALE & the Rescue of New Bedford's Waterfront Historic District* (New Bedford, MA: Spinner Publications, 1995), 45.

<sup>43</sup> Information drawn from the architectural drawings of Gelardin, Bruner and Cott, Inc.

<sup>44</sup> Building Permit No. 205-79, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, April 27, 1979.

- Removed all existing stucco and apply new exterior stucco.
  - An effort was made to match the color, texture, and composition of the original stucco, which was too badly deteriorated to be repaired.
  - Lines to imitate granite blocks were etched on the south and west facades to match the original design.
- Cleaned and repointed granite foundation on all exterior elevations.
- Cleaned and repointed granite quoins at exterior corners of the building.
- Removed flashing under second-story windows in north elevation.

## **Roof**

- The existing roof was removed; the wood decking was repaired, 2 inches of insulation was added, tar paper laid, and a hot tar roof was applied.
- Roof protrusion to accommodate hydraulic Otis elevator and shaft was constructed.
- Several hatches in the roof were reframed and new insulated aluminum roof hatches were installed.
- Chimney removed and new chimney constructed.
- New copper flashing installed on existing chimney and chimney repointed.
- All vent pipes protruding through the roof were removed.
- Wooden cornice and wooden gutters were removed and replaced to match existing along the perimeter of the roof line.
- Existing drain pipes removed.
- New galvanized steel drain pipes were installed and painted to match stucco (old ones removed).

## **Door and Window Details**

- New door opening, D105, was cut in the east elevation.
- New exterior doors milled and installed in all exterior doorways.
- New glass installed in fanlights above D101 and D102 in the west and south elevations.
- Granite steps below D101 and D102 reset and some replaced at the west and south elevations.
- New twelve-over-twelve, wooden sashes were installed into windows in all exterior windows.
- Louvre windows installed in W312 and W214 in the north elevation .
- New windows, W315 and W316, installed in the north elevation.
- New windows, W309, W310, W311, were cut in the east elevation.
- Opening in south elevation between W206 and W207 was blocked up and covered with stucco.
- Existing shutter hardware cleaned and repainted at all window openings.

## ***1997 – 2002: Minor Alterations***

Several minor alterations to the structure occurred between the years of 1997 and 2002, both on the interior and exterior of the structure. The major exterior alteration occurred on December 9, 2002 and involved the windows and doors. Attached to the building permit for this work is a “Certificate of Non-Applicability to the New Bedford Historical Commission. The description of the work reads:

Repaint all existing trim, windows and doors with the same color. All repairs for proper painting preparation with new material to match existing in same profile, dimension and other features. Install new wood true divided window sash to match existing muntin profile and configuration. All exterior window trim and casing details to match existing. Jamb liners to be painted to match window and ½ screens will be allowed with frame painted to match window trim.

The cost of construction for this alteration was \$18,000 as the applicant was listed as Hodgson, Pratt & Associates, LLC.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Building Permit No. 2040-02, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, December 9, 2002.



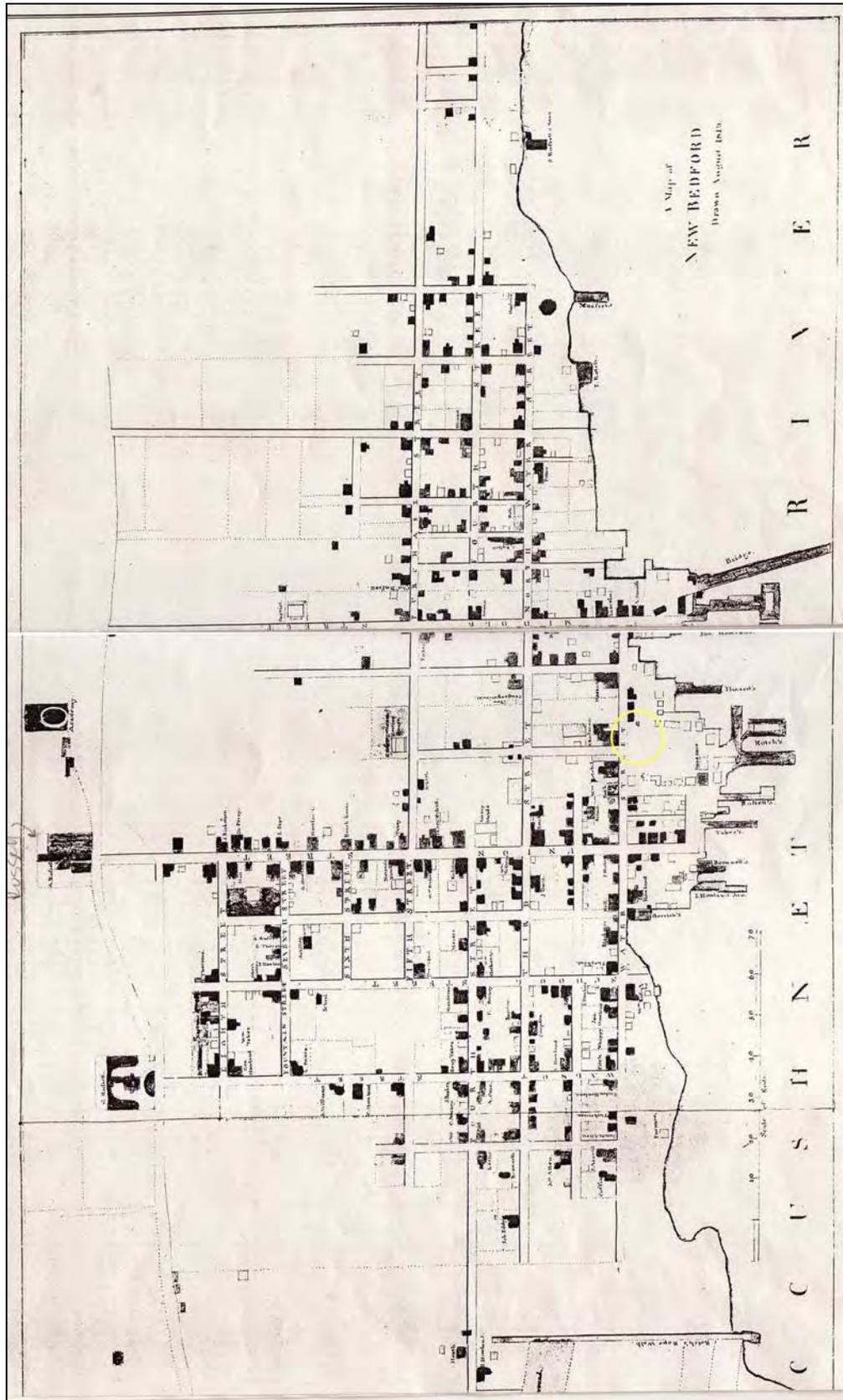


Figure 3. Map of the city of New Bedford drawn by Gilbert Russell in 1815. Note the absence of the Rodman Candleworks building.

**TO BE LET,**



The two west Rooms in Rodman's stone building, on Water street; also the rooms over them, in the 2d and 3d stories. This part of the building is separated from the other by a fire proof wall, and may be converted into convenient accommodations for the dry goods or ship chandlery and hardware business. — Apply to **AND'W ROBESON.**

ALSO—several apartments in the building on Central Square, adapted to the use of ship owners, on the arrival and equipment of their vessels. The 3d story is fitted for a rigging loft. Apply to **CH'S GRINNELL.**

ALSO—a tenement in the House, No 35 Seventh st. (entrance on the south side) consisting of 3 rooms in the first story, and 1 to 3 rooms in the attic.

FOR SALE—25 tons Richmond Coal, of good quality. 5m19—3w **SAM'L RODMAN.**

Figure 4. Advertisement in the New Bedford Mercury Newspaper printed on May 25, 1838. Note inquiries for rooms to be let in the candleworks building were to be directed to Andrew Robeson.

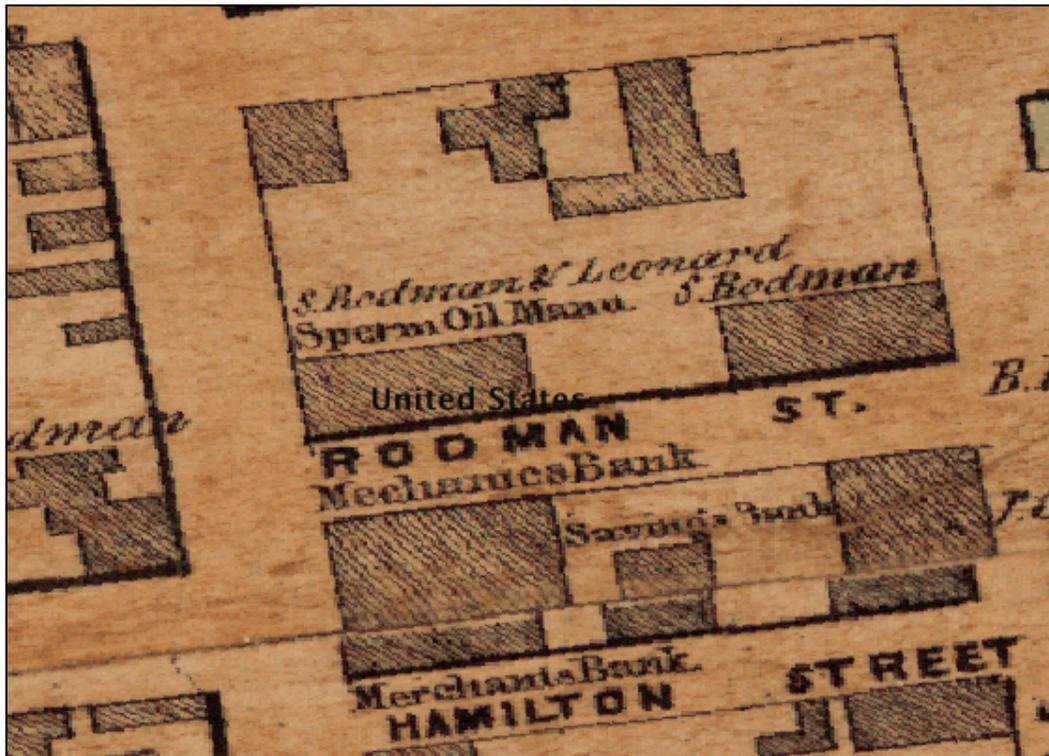


Figure 5. Map of the city of New Bedford drawn in 1850 by James C. Sidney and published by Collins and Clark. Note label above the candleworks building reads “S. Rodman and Leonard, Sperm Oil Manu.”

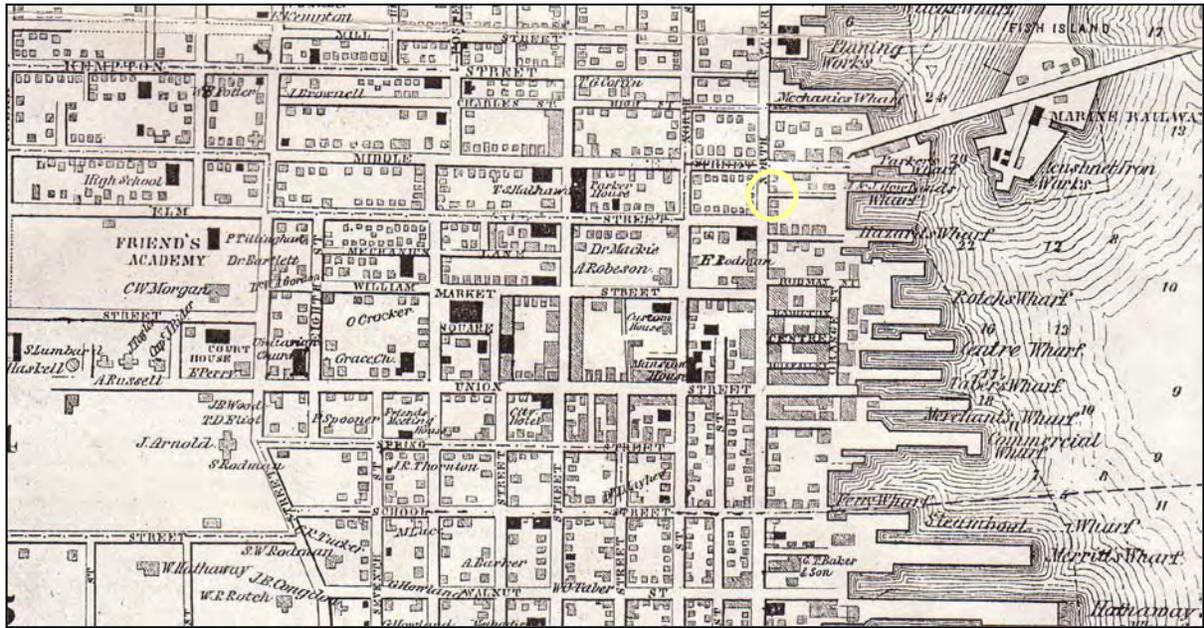


Figure 6. Map of the city of New Bedford in 1851 surveyed by H.F. Walling and published by C. & A. Taber.

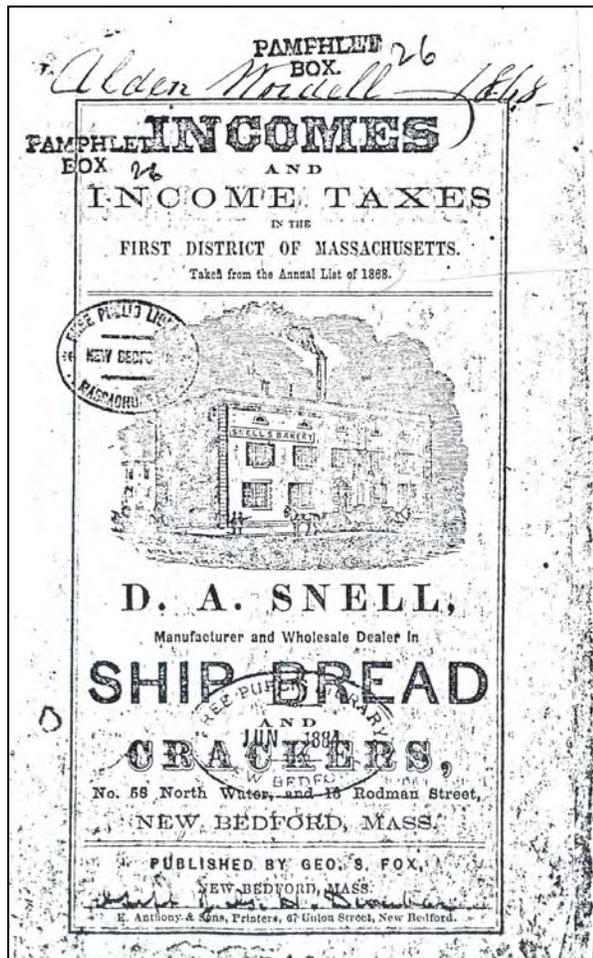


Figure 7. 1868 tax pamphlet from New Bedford, MA. Note address used for Snell's Bakery was 58 North Water Street and 13 Rodman Street.

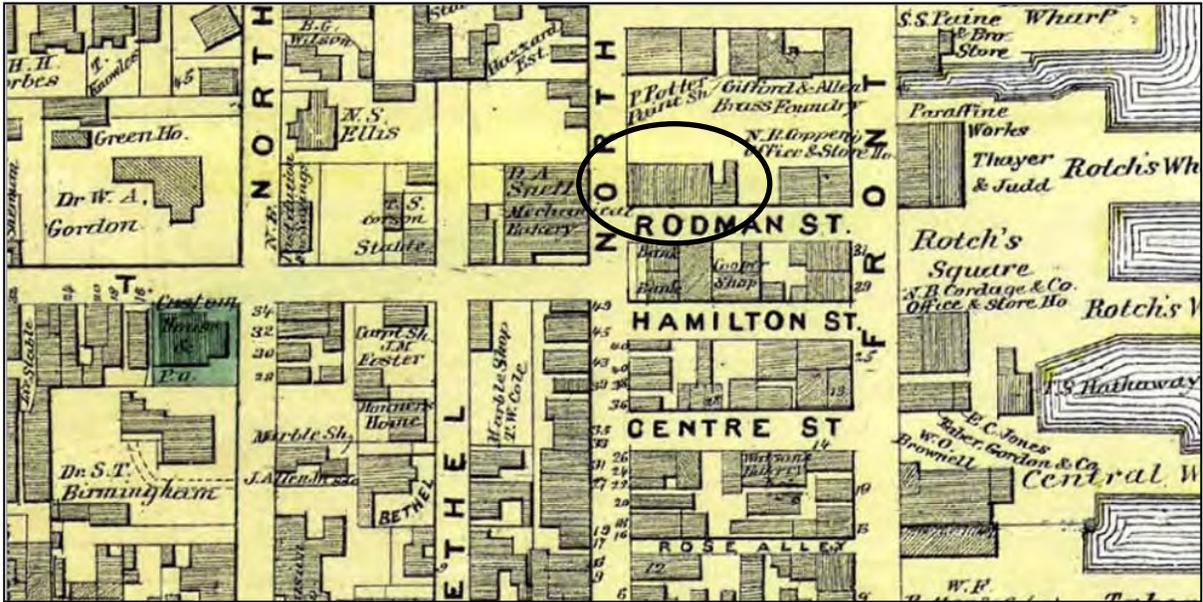
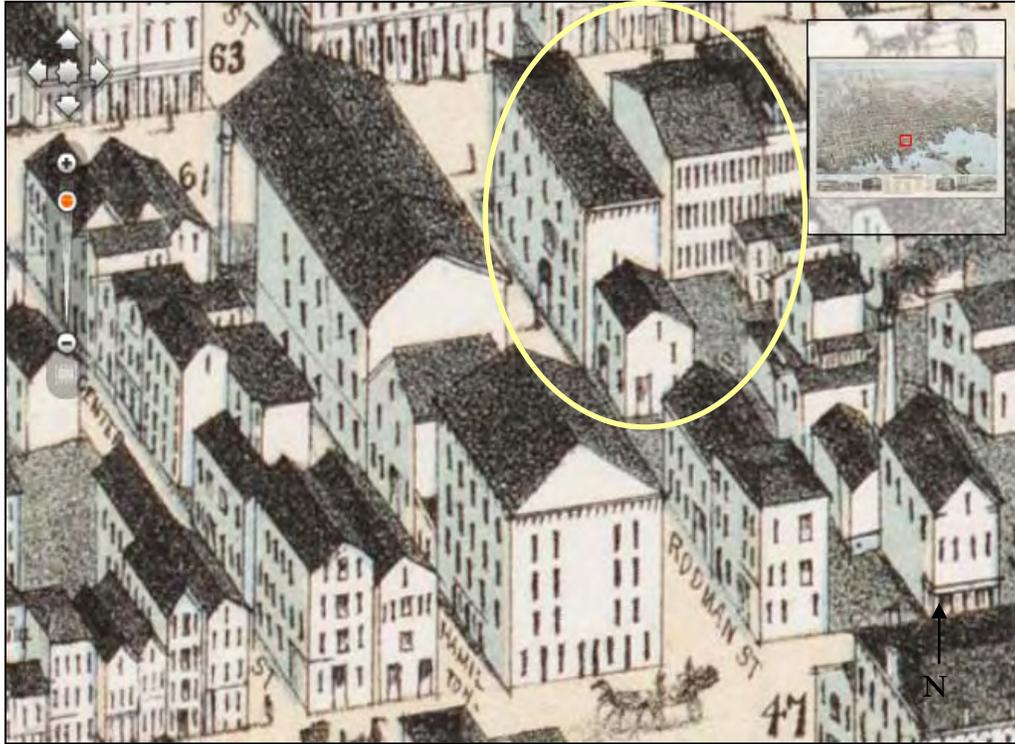


Figure 8. Map of the city of New Bedford in 1871 published by F.W. Beers and Co. Note reversed L-shaped appendage on the east side of the Rodman Candleworks building.



Figure 9. Map of the city of New Bedford drawn in 1875 and published by Wheeler & Coggeshall. Note label reads “Pierce & Bushnell.” It is believed that the building is depicted in the wrong location.



**Figure 10.** Panoramic view of the city of New Bedford 1876 published by O.H. Bailey & Co. Note correct location of the Rodman Candleworks building on the south side of the lot.

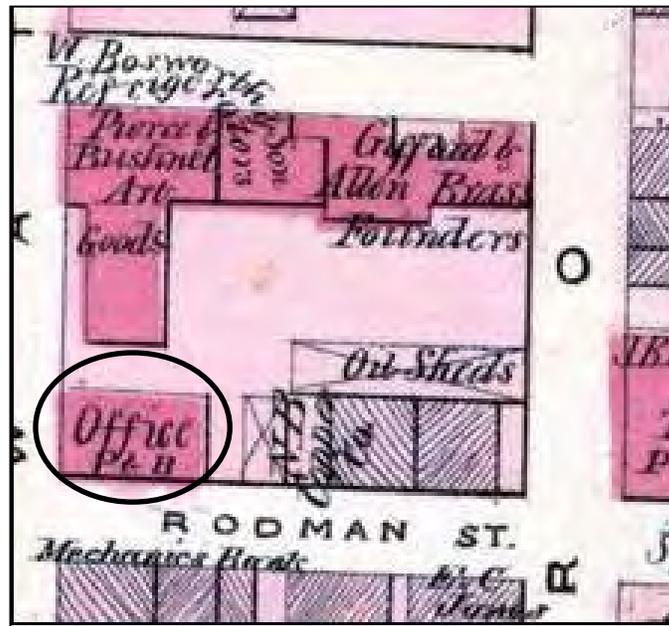


Figure 11. Map of the city of New Bedford in 1881 published by George H. Walker and Co. Note the label over the Rodman Candleworks building reads “Office P & B.”

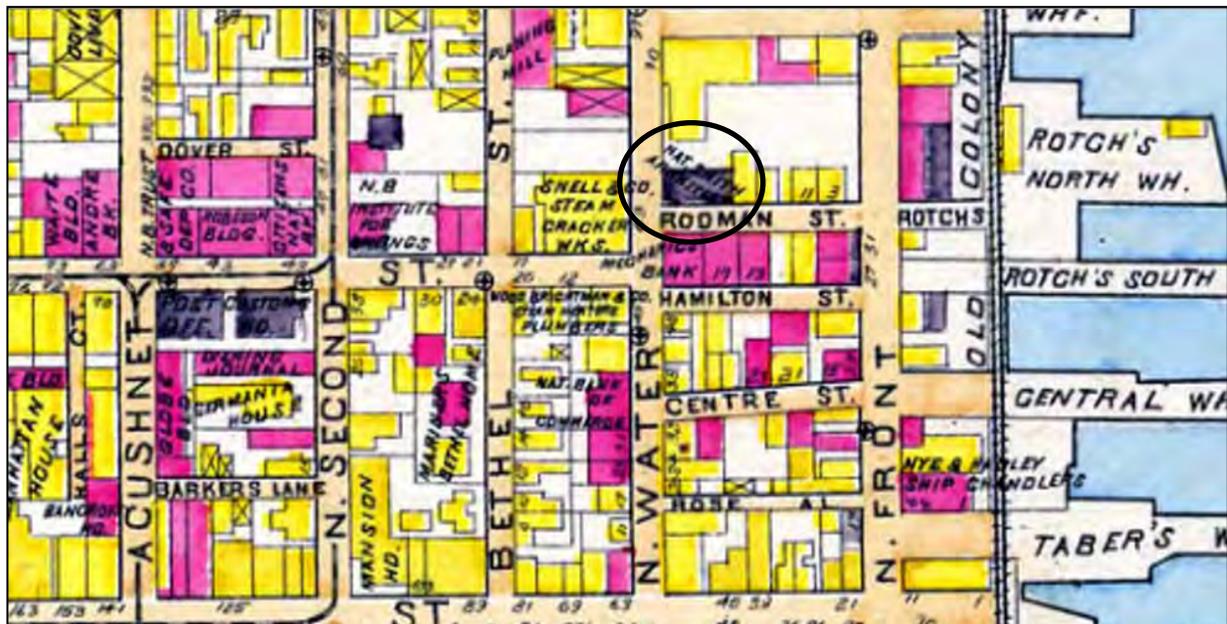


Figure 12. Map of the city of New Bedford in 1895 published by Everts and Richards. Note two wooden structures attached to the east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks building.

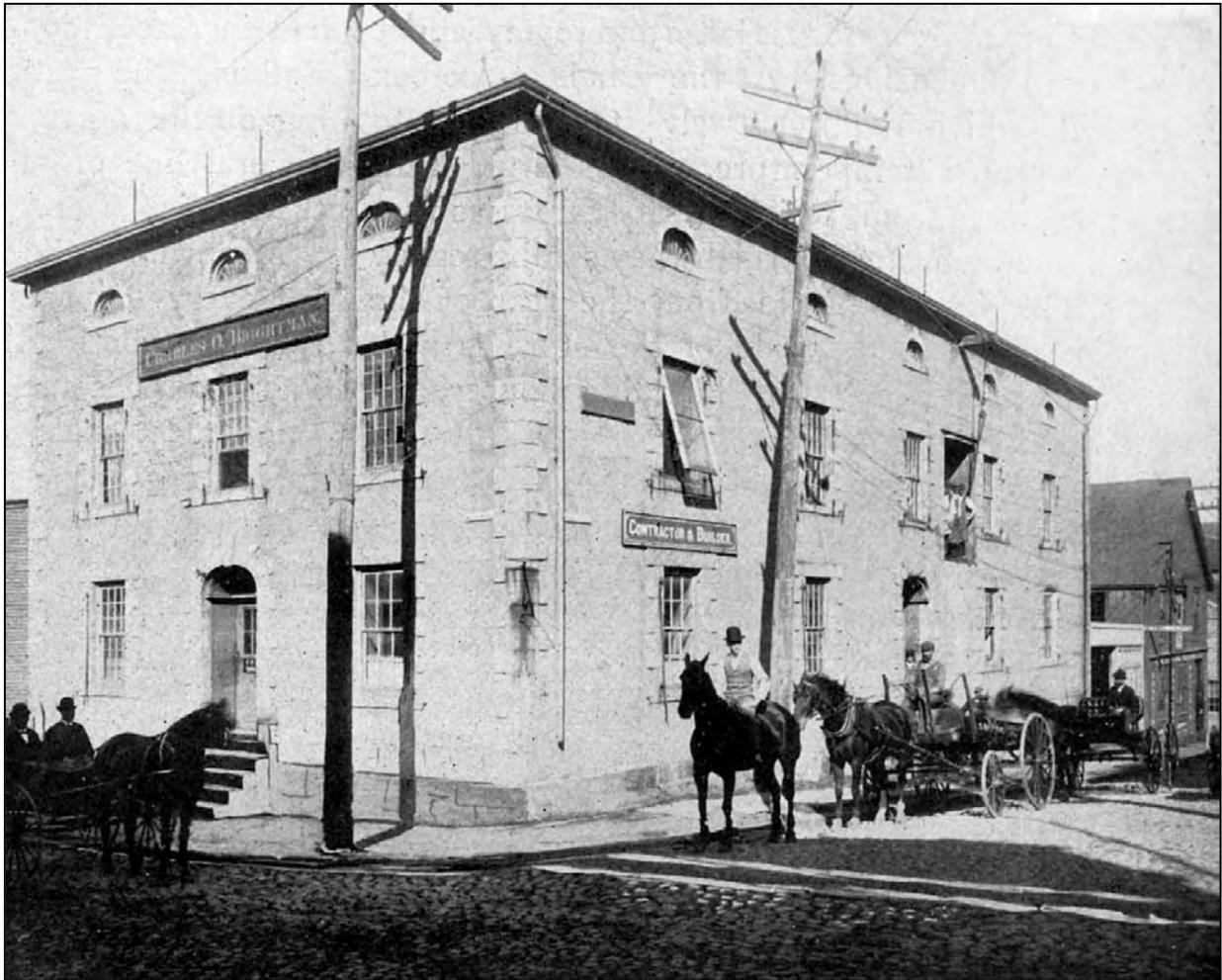


Figure 13. Photograph of the west and south elevations of the Rodman Candleworks building ca. 1908.

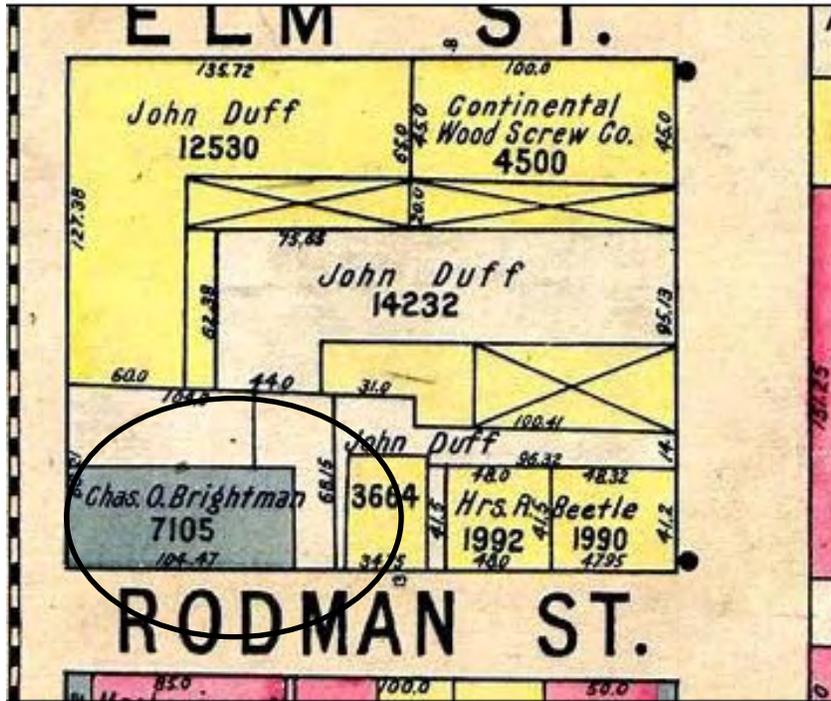
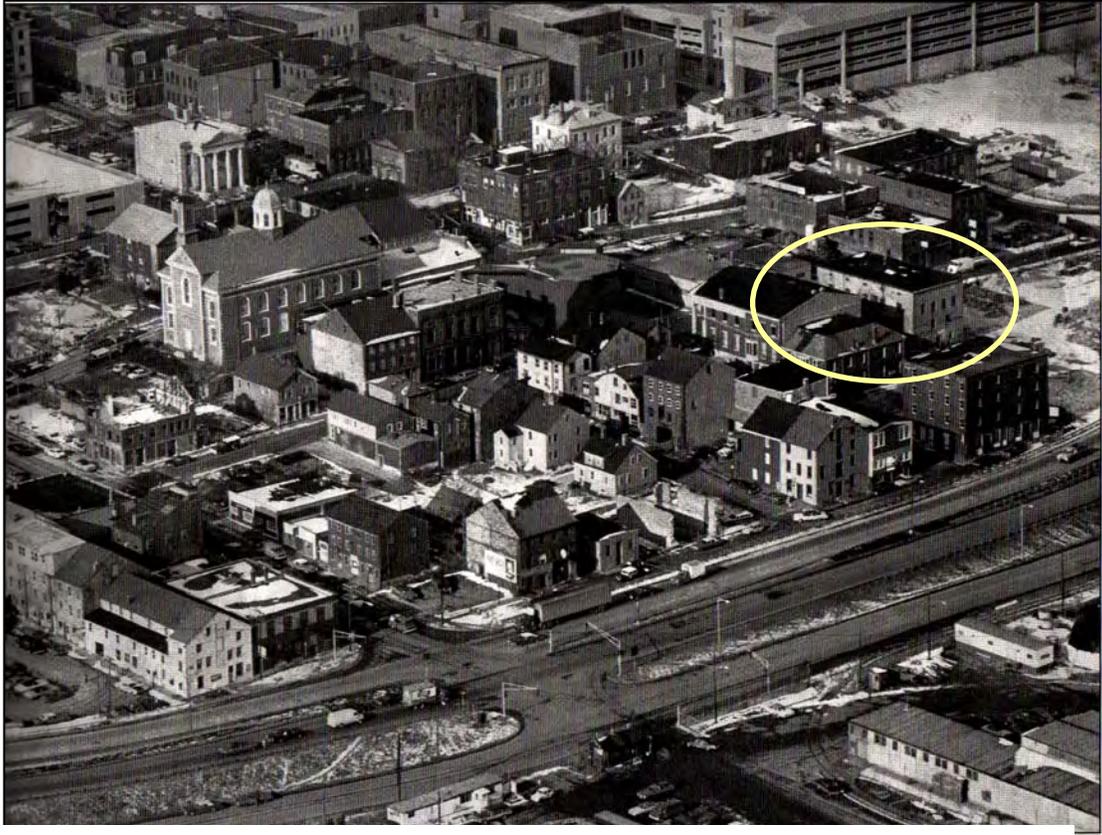


Figure 14. Map of the city of New Bedford in 1911 published by Walker Lithograph and Publishing Co. Note the label over the Rodman Candleworks building reads “Chas. O. Brighman.”



Figure 15. East elevation of the Rodman Candleworks building showing a clear break in material one third from the bottom up indicating a previous extant east elevation addition/appendage, ca. 1960s-70s.



**Figure 16.** Aerial photograph of the city of New Bedford in 1978. Note absence of additions on east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks building.

# DOUBLE BANK BUILDING

## Introduction

The economic rise of New Bedford began in the 1830s due to the thriving whaling industry that employed nearly 10,000 workers and capitalized at over \$12 million by 1840.<sup>46</sup> New Bedford flourished with prosperity as a result of the maritime industries connected with the whaling trade and retained a large number of banking facilities disproportionate to its size as a city. The prosperity the city enjoyed is reflected in the grandiose architecture of public buildings that were constructed during this decade – the Double Bank Building being a remarkable example. The Double Bank Building was constructed between the years of 1831 and 1833 to house two banking institutions: The Mechanics Bank (on the north side of the building) and The Merchants Bank (on the south side of the building). The building was designed in the Ionic order of the Greek Revival Style by architect Russell Warren, a notable New England architect who had a major influence on the architectural development of Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

## Original Appearance

The earliest pieces of documentation of the Double Bank Building's exterior appearance are three photographs: one taken in 1870 by Stephen F. Adams of the west (principal) elevation (fig. 19), the second taken in 1886 by Herbert L. Aldrich of the south and west elevations (fig. 21), and the third taken in 1912 by an unknown photographer of the north elevation (fig. 23). Much of the proposed original appearance of the building is based on these three photographs, therefore leaving several unknowns regarding the original appearance of the east elevation of which photographs were not available.

The Double Bank Building, constructed 1831-1833, was built rectangular in shape. The long expanse of the building (west and east elevations) was constructed 72 feet long and the primary elevation was orientated facing west. The building was built two stories tall not including the basement-level. Based on the 1870 historic photograph (fig. 19) it is believed the west elevation was constructed 7 bays wide and the north and south elevations constructed three bays wide.<sup>47</sup> It is also believed that the existing west portico is original to the construction of the building and was built with the triangular, wooden pediment supported by 8 Ionic order wooden columns spanning the width of the building.

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<sup>46</sup> "Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park," (New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002), 20.

<sup>47</sup> It is unknown how many bays wide the east elevation was originally constructed with due to lack of historic photo documentation of this elevation.

The existing foundation that consists of smoothly-dressed granite blocks is believed to be the original foundation of the building. The current masonry walls are also believed to be original to the construction of the building and consist of smoothly-dressed granite blocks at the west elevation, laid in a running bond pattern rising 20 courses tall, and red brick, also laid in a running bond pattern, at the north and south elevations with granite block returns on the southwest and northwest corners of the building.<sup>48</sup>

The original number of doorways in the west elevation can be surmised using the 1870 photograph taken by Adams (fig. 19); however, the original number of doorways on the other elevations (north, south, and east) can only be conjectured. It is believed that four doorways were created in the west elevation at the time of construction. D101 and D104 were constructed at the north and south ends of the west elevation without the enclosed porches that exist today, and were both hung with double wooden doors. Each door consisted of three raised panels: one small horizontal panel on the bottom; one large vertical panel in the middle; and one small horizontal panel on the top. D102 and D103, are also believed to be original doorways, having double wooden double doors hung within each doorway. A transom window was constructed above each door within the four doorways. It is believed that there were not any doorways constructed on the north and south elevation upon construction of the original main mass of the building. Also, due to lack of photo documentation, it is unknown if any doorways were constructed in the east elevation of the original building.

Similar to the known amount of the original doorways, the known number of original windows is limited to what can be observed from the available historic photographs. The 1870 photograph (fig. 19) of the west elevation shows four windows in the first story (W101, W102, W103 and W104), all hung with six-over-six double-hung wooden sashes. These windows are currently hung with a single sash. Six of the seven second-story windows (W201, W202, W203, W205, W206 and W207) are shown in the 1870 photograph (fig. 19), hung with six-over-six double-hung sashes. These windows are also currently hung with six-over-six double-hung sashes. The photograph shows an indentation where the current W204 is located with no opening in the elevation. It is unknown if this indentation was original to the construction of the building.

What is known about the possible original windows in the south elevation is obtained from an 1886 photograph taken by photographer Herbert L. Aldrich (fig. 21). This photograph shows the west end of the south elevation and shows five windows: W001, W105, W106, W208 and W209. W001, at the west end of the basement story, is rectangular in shape and covered by iron bars, similar to its appearance today. However, the photograph shows W001 with a single sash window and not the wooden louvered window that exists today. W002 cannot be seen in the photograph, so its original appearance is unknown. The two windows in the first story (W105 and W106) are hung with two-over-two double-hung sashes, and granite sills and lintels. Although the photograph terminates at this point, it is believed that W107 is an original opening hung with a two-over-two double-hung sash window, footed by a granite sill and headed by a granite lintel. The second-story windows that can be seen in the photograph (W208 and W209) are hung with three-over-six double-hung sashes, the same as those currently in place, and sit above granite sills. All of these windows are believed to be original to the structure. Similar to W107, W210 cannot be seen in the photograph but is also

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<sup>48</sup> See fig. 21 for an early photograph of the exterior masonry walls.

believed to be original and hung with three-over-six double-hung sash window and to be sitting upon a granite sill.

What is known about the original windows in the north elevation has been postulated from a photograph taken in 1912 (fig. 23). This photograph shows eight windows believed to be original openings in the main mass of the Double Bank Building. W011 and W012 in the basement story are shown in the 1912 photograph as rectangular in shape and covered with iron bars. W114, W115 and W116 in the first story are hung with two-over-two double-hung sashes, similar to the first-story windows in the south elevation as seen in the 1870 photograph (fig. 19). Also shown in this 1912 photograph (fig. 23) are granite sills, granite lintels and horizontal metal vents beneath each first-story window that are believed to be original features of the building. W217, W218 and W219 in the second story are hung with three-over-six double-hung sashes, again similar to the second-story windows in the south elevation as seen in the 1870 photograph (fig. 19). Photo-documentation of the east elevation was unavailable, so the original appearance of the windows of this façade remains unknown.

Based on the 1870 historic photograph (fig. 19), it is believed that the Double Bank Building was constructed with a low-pitch gable roof with the ridge line running in the east-west direction. The current drainage system consists of gutters beneath the wooden cornice that lines the perimeter of the roof on the north, south and west elevations. It is believed that this drainage system is original to the construction of the building; however, the original locations of the downspouts are unknown.

The 1870 photograph shows two chimneys on the north and south slopes of the roof. The chimneys are likely to be original to the construction of the building. It is unknown if there were other chimneys that were also part of the original construction.

The Double Bank Building was constructed primarily of masonry with some wooden elements including the doorways and windows and components within, the triangular pediment, the eight portico columns, the cornice, and the gutters. It is believed that these wooden components comprised the painted elements of the building.

The major special feature of the Double Bank Building is the portico on the west side of the building. For a complete description of this portico, please refer to the “Current Physical Description” section of this report. It is unknown if there was any signage included in the construction of the building. However, two signs on the west elevation are documented by the 1870 photograph: “Mechanics National Bank” and “Merchants National Bank” (fig. 19). It is unlikely that these two signs were original as both of the banks did not become “national” banks until 1864.

## Chronology of Use

### *Ca. 1825 -1835: Bank Incorporations, Property Purchases and Building Construction*

Both the Mechanics Bank and the Merchants Bank started their respective operations at approximately the same time. Ca. 1825, the Mechanics Bank, prior to operating out of the Double Bank Building, transacted business in “Samuel Rodman’s stone building, south side” and held stockholders’ meetings in Samuel Rodman’s counting room at 36 N. Water Street.<sup>49</sup> The Merchants Bank was organized on July 13, 1825 and started with a capital of \$150,000. The Merchants Bank was founded by John Avery Parker and James B. Congdon. John Avery Parker was the first president of the Merchants Bank and he served for 28 years until his death in 1853; James B. Congdon was the first cashier of the bank and served a term of 32 years until 1857. On October 3, 1831, the Mechanics Bank was incorporated under the name, “The President, Directors, and Company of the Mechanics Bank in New Bedford”<sup>50</sup> and the Merchants Bank was incorporated that same year.<sup>51</sup>

Both banks purchased the main portion of the property that the Double Bank Building now occupies in 1831 (both banks purchased the additional property to the east later in 1876). On May 27, 1831, the Merchants Bank purchased two adjacent lots of land, now considered the south side of the present Double Bank Building lot, from Mary Rotch.<sup>52</sup> Approximately a month later on June 23, 1831, the Mechanics Bank also purchased two adjacent lots of land, now considered the north side of the present Double Bank Building lot, flush with the property previously purchased by the Merchants Bank, from both Mary Rotch and Benjamin Rotch.<sup>53</sup> Shortly thereafter, the joint venture in the construction of the Double Bank Building began. The Mechanics Bank and the Merchants Bank jointly employed the architectural services of Russell Warren to design the new building, already having decided that the building would be constructed in two joined, but distinct, halves; the Merchant Bank was to occupy the south half and the Mechanics Bank was to occupy the north half.<sup>54</sup>

Although Russell Warren was hired as the architect for the building in its entirety, two different builders were employed. Robert Chase was hired for the construction of the north half of the building that would outfit the Mechanics Bank and Dudley Davenport was hired

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<sup>49</sup> Robert Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar to be Replaced,” *Standard-Times*, 11 July 1971, 5.

<sup>50</sup> Pease and Hough, 240.

<sup>51</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>52</sup> Deed of Sale from Mary Rotch to Merchants National Bank, 1831, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 33, pp. 305-306, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>53</sup> Deed of Sale from Benjamin Rotch to President, Directors and Company of Mechanics Bank, 1831, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 134, pp. 107-108, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>54</sup> Zephaniah Pease, *The Centenary of the Merchants National Bank* (New Bedford, MA: Reynolds Printing, 1925), 27.

for the construction of the south half of the building that would outfit the Merchants Bank.<sup>55</sup> Upon completion in 1834-1835, the total cost of the construction of the Double Bank Building totaled \$9,500.<sup>56</sup> The building first appears on an 1834 map of the city of New Bedford drawn by J. Congdon (fig. 17). The building is drawn rectangular in shape and labeled, “Merchants Bank, Mechanics Savings Institution.”<sup>57</sup> The first record of occupancy of the building occurred on October 5, 1835 with the annual meeting of the Merchants Bank, the previous meeting having been held at the office of the Merchant Insurance Company at a different location within the city.<sup>58</sup>

## ***1835 - 1894: Thriving Institutions***

Little is known what events or changes occurred, if any, between the years of 1835 and 1847. However, in 1847, the Wamsutta Mills established offices in the second story of the building.<sup>59</sup> The building appears on a map created in 1850 drawn by James C. Sidney and published by Collins and Clark with the label “Mechanics Bank, Merchants Bank” (fig. 18).<sup>60</sup> 1864 proved to be a significant year for each of the banking institutions. Both the Mechanics Bank and the Merchants Bank were originally formed in association with separately chartered insurance companies. In 1864, both banking institutions were rechartered as national banks.<sup>61</sup> After the Mechanics Bank was reorganized, a deed transferred the property on August 19, 1865 from “President, Directors and Company of the Mechanics Bank” to “The Merchants National Bank of New Bedford.”<sup>62</sup>

In 1876, both banks acquired additional property to the east, flush with the property they currently owned. On March 20, 1876, both the Mechanics Bank and the Merchants Bank purchased an additional thirty feet of land to the east of their existing properties from Ivory Bartlett, Jr.<sup>63</sup> <sup>64</sup> It is believed that in this same year, both banks extended their quarters eastward into this lot with a significant addition constructed flush with the existing building,

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<sup>55</sup> Harley J. McKee, “Historic American Buildings Survey, Merchants and Mechanics Banks Building, 56-62 North Water Street, HABS No. MASS-683” (Philadelphia, PA: National Park Service, Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction, 1961), 1.

<sup>56</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

<sup>57</sup> J. Congdon, *Map of New Bedford* [map], Published by Pendleton – Boston, 1834, Scale [1:100 rods], New Bedford Whaling Museum Research Library, Vertical files, “Cartographic Images of New Bedford and Vicinity in the Collections of the Whaling Museum Library of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society.”

<sup>58</sup> Pease and Hough, 29.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid*, 28.

<sup>60</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Plan of the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts* [map], 1850, Scale [ca. 1:3,050], Harvard Map Collection, Harvard Geospatial Library.

<sup>61</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

<sup>62</sup> Deed of Sale from President, Directors and Company of Mechanics Bank to Mechanics National Bank, 1865, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 55, pp. 367-368, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>63</sup> Deed of Sale from Ivory Bartlett, Jr. to Mechanics National Bank, 1876, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 82, p. 51, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>64</sup> Deed of Sale from Ivory Bartlett, Jr., to Merchants National Bank, 1876, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 82, pp. 146-147, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

as well as other architectural alterations to the exterior. Please refer to subsequent “Alterations” section for details. It is known that both banking institutions occupied this building until the year 1894, when they both vacated the premises.<sup>65</sup> It is at this time that the Merchants National Bank moved their operation to the “Cummings Building” at the southwest corner of Pleasant and Union Streets.<sup>66</sup>

### ***1917 - 1941: Wood Family Era***

It is not until the year of 1917, that both banking institutions transferred ownership of the property. On May 26, 1917, the Mechanics National Bank sold their half of the property to William M. Wood.<sup>67</sup> Three months later on August 17, 1917, the Merchants National Bank also transferred their half of the property to William M. Wood.<sup>68</sup> Wood, at the age of fourteen, worked as a messenger employed to Andrew G. Pierce, treasurer of the Wamsutta Mills. Pierce took an interest in William M. Wood and it is thought that Pierce apprenticed Wood in some manner. Years later, William M. Wood became president of the 19-mill American Woolen Company. William M. Wood, perhaps fond of his point of origin of success, purchased the Double Bank Building in 1917.<sup>69</sup> One deed transfer occurred between the years of 1917 and 1941; the property was consigned to Arden Trust on December 8, 1923, from William M. Wood.<sup>70</sup>

### ***1941 – Present: Miscellaneous Uses***

For approximately 30 years, ca. 1924-1954, the building’s primary occupant was the Registry of Motor Vehicles, even though the deed to the property was transferred three times during this period.<sup>71</sup> On February 2, 1941 the property transferred out of ownership of the Wood Family and was sold to James W. Dalrymple from Cornelius A. Wood, trustee of Arden Trust, aka. William M. Wood trustee.<sup>72</sup> Approximately 2 ½ years later, on June 30, 1943, James W.

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<sup>65</sup> Crisson and Scott.

<sup>66</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

<sup>67</sup> Deed of Sale from Mechanics National Bank to William M. Wood, 1917, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 462 pp. 491-492, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>68</sup> Deed of Sale from Merchants National Bank to William M. Wood, 1917, Bristol County, MA Deed Book 453, pp. 318-319, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>69</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

<sup>70</sup> Deed of Sale from William M. Wood to William M. Wood Trustee (aka Arden Trust), 1923, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 613, p. 214, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>71</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

<sup>72</sup> Deed of Sale from Cornelius A. Wood (Trustee of Arden Trust) to James W. Dalrymple, 1941, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 848, pp. 188-189, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

Dalrymple and Clarence L. Tower sold the property to Harbor View Marine Corporation.<sup>73</sup> It is also known that during the 1930s the second story was occupied by the Black Rose Art Studio and Antique Shop, operated by Louise Drummond Beach and Nicholas Nicolaevsky.<sup>74</sup>

On August 31, 1953, it is believed that the property went into foreclosure and the land and buildings thereon were repossessed by Reconstruction Finance Corporation, who held the mortgage on the property for Harbor View Marine Corporation.<sup>75</sup> The next transfer of the property occurred 4 months later on December 28, 1953 when the Reconstruction Finance Corporation sold the property to Harold A. Ledgard.<sup>76</sup> In 1958, the New Bedford Fishermen's Union and the New Bedford Fishermen's Welfare Fund moved in and occupied the building.<sup>77</sup> Two years later, on September 26, 1961, the property was sold to the New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corporation from Harold A. Ledgard.<sup>78</sup> The next transfer of ownership occurred on March 17, 1970 when the New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corporation sold the property to Jacob Ostensen, Austin P. Skinner, John Burt, Leonard T. Healy, John A. Sylvia, Olaf Enoksen and their successor, Trustees of the New Bedford Fishermen's Pension Trust.<sup>79</sup> It is believed that the New Bedford Fishermen's Trust occupied the building until 2005 when the property was bought by the Exchange Authority, LLP, Trustee of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust from Gerard Dhooge and Manuel F. Marques, Trustees of the New Bedford Fishermen's Pension Trust, on September 22, 2005.<sup>80</sup> The last transfer of ownership occurred on March 20, 2006 when the property was transferred from the Exchange Authority, LLP, of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust to John J. Meldon, Trustee of Second Futures Real Estate Trust.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> Deed of Sale from James W. Dalrymple and Clarence L. Tower to Harbor View Marine Corp., 1943, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 871, p. 308, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>74</sup> Barcellos, "Historic Bank Building's Pillar," 5.

<sup>75</sup> Deed of Sale from Harbor View Marine Corporation to Reconstruction Finance Corporation, 1953, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1094, pp. 82-90, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>76</sup> Deed of Sale from Reconstruction Finance Corporation to Harold A. Ledgard, 1953, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1104, pp. 230-234, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>77</sup> Barcellos, "Historic Bank Building's Pillar," 5.

<sup>78</sup> Deed of Sale from Harold A. Ledgard to New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corp., 1961, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1350, p. 358, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>79</sup> Deed of Sale from The New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corp to Jacob Ostensen et al, 1970, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 1598, pp. 453-455, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>80</sup> Deed of Sale from Gerard Dhooge et al (Trustees of the New Bedford Fishermen's Pension Trust) to Exchange Authority, LLP (Trustee of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust), 2005, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 7777, pp. 54-55, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

<sup>81</sup> Deed of Sale from Exchange Authority, LLP of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust to John J. Meldon, Trustee of the Second Futures Real Estate Trust, 2006, Bristol County, MA, Deed Book 8095, pp. 334-335, Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Southern District, New Bedford, MA.

# Alterations

What is known about the alterations that have occurred to the Double Bank Building is derived from four primary sources: historical maps, historical photographs, building permits, and newspaper articles.

## *Ca. 1876: East Elevation Extension*

The first known major alteration of the Double Bank Building occurred soon after the Mechanics National Bank and the Merchants National Bank acquired an additional thirty feet of land immediately adjacent to the east of the Double Bank Building on March 20, 1876. It is believed that this is the first major alteration campaign that the Double Bank Building underwent. After the land was purchased, both banks extended their quarters into the newly acquired land and made a few alterations to the west elevation of the original building (fig. 20). The alterations that occurred at this time included:

- Additional three-bay extension built on the east side of the structure.
  - As surmised from the 1912 photograph (fig. 23), one doorway (D002) was constructed at the east end of the north elevation. The door hung within D002 consisted of two vertical lights over two vertical recessed panels and was hung within a wooden casing and jamb. The 1912 photograph also shows a secondary exterior door that appears to be constructed of wood (fig. 23).
  - Construction of one doorway (D001) at the east end of the south elevation.<sup>82</sup>
  - Also observed from the 1912 photograph (fig. 23) are ten windows in the north elevation that were likely constructed as part of the ca. 1876 addition. The four basement-story windows (W007, W008, W009, W010) were hung with two-over-two double-hung sashes; the three first-story windows (W111, W112, W113) were also hung with two-over-two double-hung sashes; and the three second-story windows (W214, W215, W216) were hung with three-over-six double-hung sashes. The sash patterns of these ten windows are unchanged today from their 1912 configuration.
  - Although not photographed, it is likely that the windows openings in the south elevation were constructed as part of the ca. 1876 addition. This would include four basement-story windows (W003, W004, W005 and W006), three first-story windows (W108, W109, W110), and three second-story windows (W211, W212, W213).
  
- Enclosed porches added to west elevation doorways D101 and D104. For a detailed description, please refer to the “Current Physical Description” section of this report.

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<sup>82</sup> Photo documentation is unavailable for the south elevation; however, it is likely that D001 was part of the ca.-1876 addition because of its similar location to D002 in the north elevation (which is believed to have been part of the construction of the ca.-1876 addition).

- Signs “Mechanics National Bank” and “Merchants National Bank” on west elevation repositioned higher to accommodate the addition of the enclosed porches of D101 and D104.

## ***1876 – Present: Minor Alterations***

After the 1876 east addition of the Double Bank, the alterations to the establishment remained minimal. The photograph taken in 1886 by Herbert L. Aldrich shows an additional (third) chimney which was on the south slope of the gable roof (see fig. 21).<sup>83</sup> The next historic photograph available was taken in 1905 and is of the west elevation only (fig. 22). In this photograph, the window sashes in the first- and second-story windows are visible. The second-story windows have six-over-six double-hung sashes, thought to be original to the construction of the building. However, the 1905 photograph shows single sashes in the first-story windows – a departure from the earlier six-over-six double-hung sashes seen in the 1870 historic photograph (fig. 19) believed to be original to the building. Other changes to the building, as seen in the 1905 photograph (fig. 22) relate to the signage. The signs “Mechanics National Bank” and “Merchants National Bank” that were above the first-story doorways and windows of the west elevation in both the 1870 and 1886 photographs are missing (figs. 19 and 21). The signage in the 1905 photograph includes a “Tuttle, Hurley & Co.” quarter board-type sign affixed to columns P003 and P004 (fig. 22). Other various “Tuttle, Hurley & Co.” signage was also on W101, W102, W103 and W104 and the transom window above D104a.

On November 11, 1955, a 21-ton trailer truck carrying a load of hay struck the west elevation of the Double Bank Building after rolling eastward unattended for four and one-half blocks down William Street. The truck crashed into the west elevation portico and struck the third column from the right (P006). Harold S. Bosworth was hired as the contractor to carry out the repair of the column and subsequent damage. Bosworth sought out the A.F. Schmerd Manufacturing Company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a 100 year-old firm that specialized in making architectural columns according to traditional methods. Upon observation of the other remaining columns, it was found that several of them showed signs of age and decay and required repair. The total cost of the project was approximately \$25,000.<sup>84</sup> The next chronological photographs available were taken by the Historic American Buildings Survey agency (HABS) who documented the structure in 1961. Two exterior photographs document the appearance of the west elevation and the north elevation (figs. 24 and 25). Visible alterations to the west elevation, as seen in the 1905 historic photograph, are limited to the various signs, pillars, and paint finishes (fig. 22). The “Tuttle, Hurley & Co.” signs have all been removed by 1961 and have been replaced. The 1961 photograph shows two quarter board-type signs attached to the west elevation of the building (fig. 24): one is a “New Bedford Fishermen’s Union” sign affixed across P002, P003 and P004; and the other is a “Seafood Producers” sign affixed across P004 and P005. Other signs included a “New Bedford Fishermen’s Welfare Fund” sign on W104 and a “New Bedford Fishermen’s Union”

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<sup>83</sup> This chimney is not visible in the 1870 photograph but could have been part of the original construction of the building.

<sup>84</sup> Barcellos, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar,” 5.

sign on W101. Another change to the west elevation in the 1961 photograph is the absence of the third pillar in from the south end of the elevation due to the 1955 accident previously described (fig. 24). Although the 1961 HABS photographs were taken in black and white (figs. 24 and 25), it appears as though several features of the portico were finished in a dark-colored paint. These features include: column capitals, some details on the enclosed porches of D101 and D104, and the horizontal, raking cornice of the triangular pediment. The north elevation photograph taken by HABS (fig. 25) revealed a few exterior alterations when compared with the 1912 historic photograph of the same elevation (fig. 23). The first notable alteration is the presence of a small window below W007. Within this window, two small transom lights were hung separated by a wooden muntin and surrounded by a wooden casing and jamb. Vents shown in the 1912 photograph beneath the first-story windows (W111, W112, W113, W114, W115 and W116) have been filled in with either wood or stone (fig. 23). Also evident in the 1961 photograph is the absence of the chimney previously located on the north slope of the roof (fig. 25).

The next known alteration to the Double Bank Building occurred in 1971 when the exterior of the west elevation was painted. According to the article, “Historic Bank Building’s Pillar to be Replaced” written in the Standard-Times Newspaper on July 11, 1971, the façade of the building was repainted with a specially mixed paint prepared by the George Kirby, Jr., Paint Company, who have been manufacturers of marine paint since 1846. The article mentions that the color, called “putty gold,” was chosen based on the belief that this was the original color of this façade. Harold S. Bosworth, the contractor hired to replace the pillar that was struck by the truck, noted that 100 gallons of paint were required to repaint this façade. Bosworth also noted that in order to prepare the surface for the new paint, the existing “earth-color cream” paint with green trim was removed. It was during this process that Bosworth noted through examination of the paint chips, that as many as 17 previous layers of applied paint existed. As part of the restoration work on the exterior of the building, the article mentions that the granite façade of the west elevation was sandblasted and the brick siding of the remaining elevations were to be repointed.<sup>85</sup>

The next known alterations to the exterior of the Double Bank Building have been derived from the Building Permits filed with the City of New Bedford (1975 – 1990). These alterations as described on the permits are outlined in the following table:

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<sup>85</sup> Ibid.

Date	Description of Work	Cost Estimate	Permit Number
September 30, 1975	“Repair stone porch. All work to conform to local and state codes.”	\$2,500	918-75 <sup>86</sup>
March 6, 1981	“Rehab exterior of building in compliance with Historical Commission requirements.”	\$70,000	119-81 <sup>87</sup>
October 29, 1990	“Repair and replace column bases.”	\$29,500	1694-90 <sup>88</sup>

The last known alterations occurred ca. 1994 and 2005. A photograph taken ca. 1994, shows letters affixed to the horizontal cornice of the triangular pediment that spell out “Fishermen’s Pension Trust.”<sup>89</sup> A newspaper article, “Meldon Moves Downtown,” printed in the *Standard-Times* on October 7, 2005, mentions that the building was painted by Scott LeBeau of LeBeau Painting of New Bedford.<sup>90</sup>

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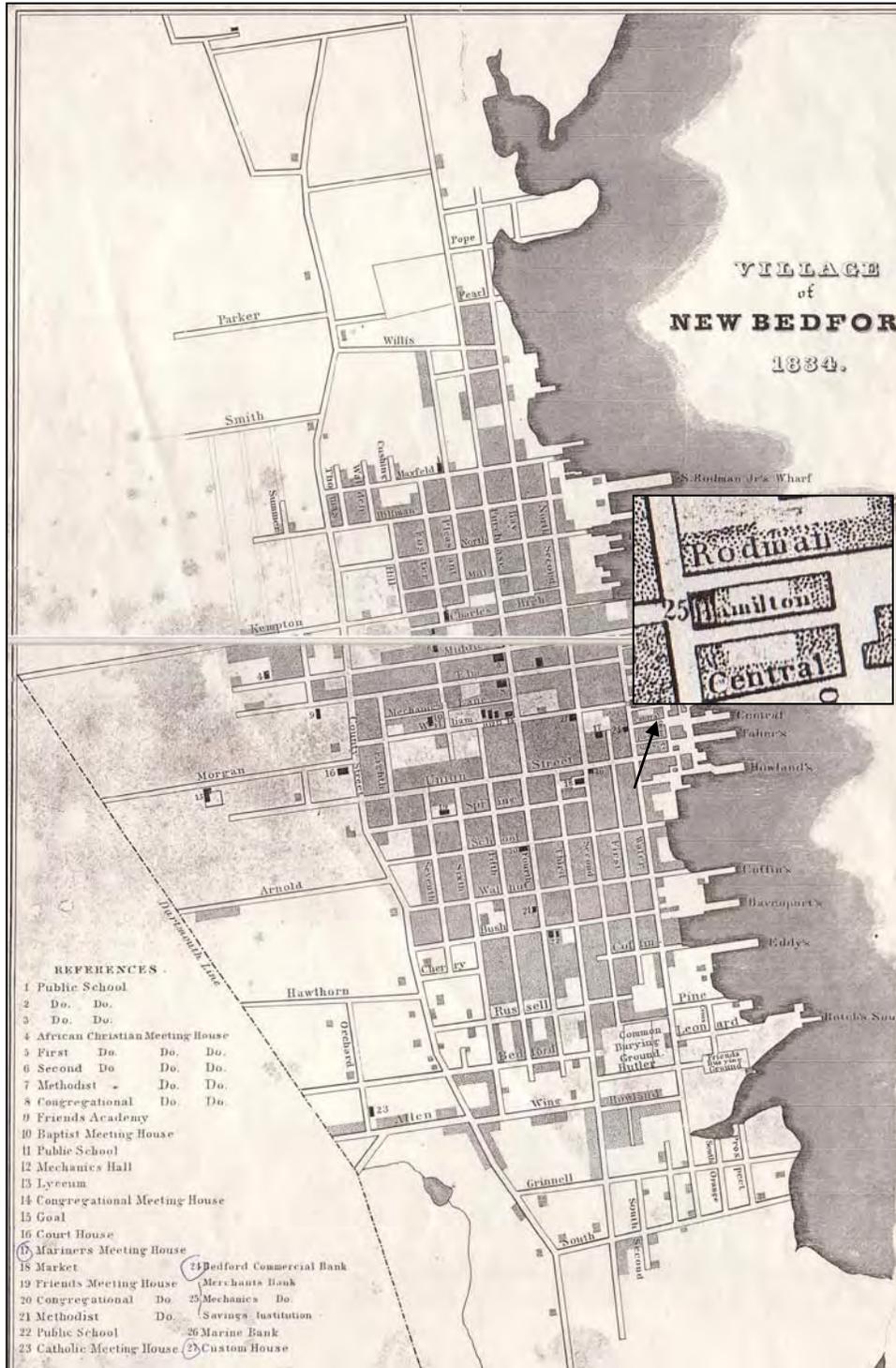
<sup>86</sup> Building Permit No. 918-75, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, September 30, 1975.

<sup>87</sup> Building Permit No. 119-81, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, March 6, 1981.

<sup>88</sup> Building Permit No. 1694-90, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, October 29, 1990.

<sup>89</sup> McCabe and Thomas, 76.

<sup>90</sup> Aaron Nicodemus, “Meldon Moves Downtown,” *Standard-Times*, 7 October 2005.



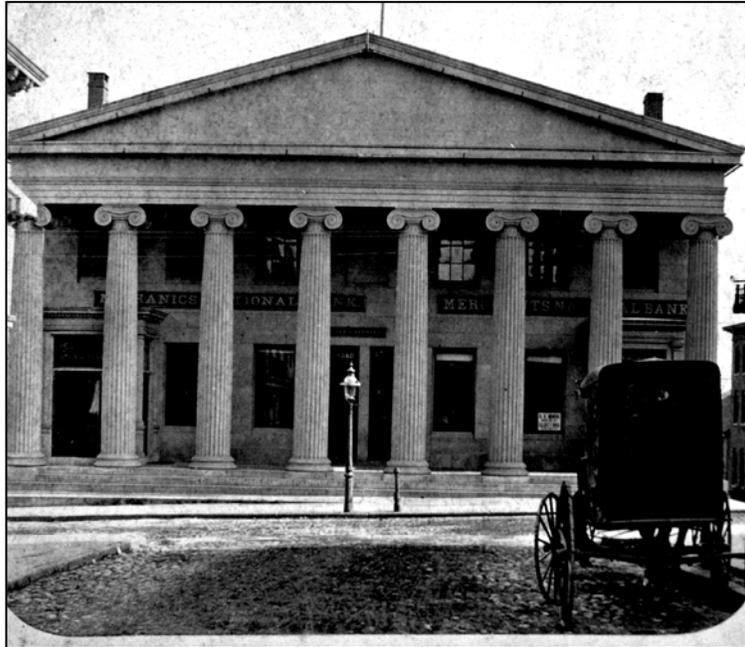
**Figure 17.** Map of the Village of New Bedford created in 1834 by J. Congdon. Note the label over the Double Bank Building, “25 Merchants Bank, Mechanics Savings Institution.”



Figure 18. Map of the city of New Bedford drawn in 1850 by James C. Sidney and published by Collins and Clark. Note labeling of the Double Bank Building as “Mechanics Bank, Merchants Bank.”



Figure 19. West elevation of the Double Bank Building, taken by photographer Stephen F. Adams in 1870.



**Figure 20.** West elevation of the Double Bank Building taken ca. 1876. Note alterations include the addition of the enclosed porches of D101 and D104, and the higher position of the signs “Mechanics National Bank” and “Merchants National Bank.”



**Figure 21.** South and west elevations of the Double Bank Building taken by photographer Herbert L. Aldrich in 1886.



**Figure 22.** West elevation of the Double Bank Building taken in 1905 by photographer Fred W. Palmer.



**Figure 23.** North elevation of the Double Bank Building taken by an unknown photographer in 1912.



**Figure 24.** West elevation of the Double Bank Building taken in 1961 by HABS photographer Ned Goode.



**Figure 25.** North elevation of the Double Bank Building taken in 1961 by HABS photographer Ned Goode.



# UNITED STATES CUSTOM HOUSE

## Introduction

The United States (U.S.) Custom House in New Bedford was constructed between the years 1834 and 1836. It is described in the National Historic Landmark Nomination as “a powerful essay in granite of a small public building executed in the Greek Revival Style.” Designed and executed by architect Robert Mills (1781-1855), the U.S. Custom House was built in a fireproof manner, avant-garde at the time of construction, using strong local building materials. Regarding architectural design and materials, Mills wrote “I have always deprecated the servile copying of the buildings of antiquity; we have the same principles and materials to work upon that the ancients had, and we should adapt these materials and customs of our people as they did to theirs.”<sup>91</sup>

In the first year of his presidency, President Washington signed the First Tariff Act on July 4, 1789. On July 31 of the same year, he signed an additional Act designating New Bedford, prospering from the whaling and shipbuilding industries, as the Tenth United States Custom District.<sup>92</sup> Colonel Edward Pope was assigned as the first Collector of the port. It is believed that the first U.S. Custom officer may have operated out of his home, which was located close to the harbor.

By 1806, the U.S Custom House and Post Office operated out of a building near the wharves at 43 Middle Street (fig. 26). Following a fire in 1820, the Custom House and Post Office relocated to the Tallman Block, which is now the corner of Union and Water Streets (fig. 27).<sup>93</sup> During the administration of Andrew Jackson, a surplus of funds in the national treasury allowed for the construction of a new building to house the U.S. Custom Service. A site was selected in 1833 and construction of a new building began in 1834. Today the U.S. Custom Service still operates from this building and holds the distinction of the oldest custom house in continuous service in the United States.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> H.M. Pierce Gallagher, *Robert Mills: Architect of the Washington Monument, 1781-1855* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1935), Appendix .

<sup>92</sup> U.S. General Services Administration, “U.S. Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts,” Buildings, 22 January 2008, (5 June 2008).  
<http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/buildingView.do?pageTypeId=8195&channelPage=/ep/channel/gsaOverview.jsp&channelId=-19751&bid=410>>.

<sup>93</sup> Lucy Wallbank, “A Grecian Gem in New Bedford,” *Standard-Times*, 1962.

<sup>94</sup> Jack Stewardson, “A Historical Jewel, New Bedford’s Custom House is Celebrated,” *Standard Times*, 15 May 1997, sec. C, 2.

# Planning and Construction

## *Appropriation*

The U.S. Custom House in New Bedford was authorized by an Act of Congress with the passage of Chapter CXCVIII on July 13, 1832. Section III provided, “. . .for the purchase of a lot, and the erection of a custom-house and public-store at the port of New Bedford, fifteen thousand dollars.”<sup>95</sup> Robert Mills, architect of the new building, was insistent on a fireproof design and subsequently found the initial appropriation of \$15,000 inadequate. In 1834, a fire devastated the headquarters of the Treasury Department, thereby convincing congressional members of the need for a fireproof design for the Custom House in New Bedford. That same year, the initial appropriation of \$15,000 was increased by \$8,200. Construction began in the early fall of 1834. In early 1835, Mills again sought additional funding for the building so that additional features could be constructed. Congress responded in the spring of 1836 and provided an additional \$7,200.<sup>96</sup> The itemized list of these additions included the following: \$4,700 for a hewn granite portico; \$975 for a stone and iron fence; \$575 for flagging the cellars; \$364 for window shutters, mill and pump, leveling the yard and paving gutters to carry rain water; \$200 for furnishing the Hall of Customs; and an unknown sum for the construction of a four-seat privy at the rear of the lot.<sup>97</sup> The final cost of the building and land amounted to just over \$30,000.<sup>98</sup>

## *Site Selection*

After Louis McLane, Secretary of the Treasury, informed Lemuel Williams, New Bedford Collector of Customs, of the initial \$15,000 appropriation for a new U.S. Custom House on August 27, 1832, the remainder of the next eight months was devoted to the selection and purchasing of the site. Although Lemuel Williams had already favored a site offered by a Mr. Baker for the new building, he complied with protocol and placed an advertisement in the local newspaper. Three sealed offers were received by September 25, 1832 and transmitted to Washington for approval. The three sites included: the aforementioned site offered by Mr. Baker; a site offered by a Mr. Russell adjacent to the rented quarters of the Customs Service at the corner of Union and Water Streets; and a site offered by a Mr. Kimpton near the lot offered by Mr. Baker. The site offered by Mr. Russell was rejected due to its high cost, and the site offered by Mr. Kimpton was rejected because its proximity to an unsightly stable. Therefore the lot offered by Mr. Baker was purchased on April 22, 1833 for \$4,900.<sup>99</sup> The

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<sup>95</sup> Richard Peters, Esq., ed., *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, Vol. IV* (Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1856), 574.

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid*, 24.

<sup>97</sup> Ann Beha Associates, *United States Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Historic Structures Report* (Boston, MA: Ann Beha Associates, 1991), 9.

<sup>98</sup> New Bedford City Planning Department, “Custom House, No. 37 Second Street” (New Bedford, MA: New Bedford City Planning Department, 1977), 2.

<sup>99</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 5.

New Bedford Mercury local newspaper announced the pending purchase on April 19, 1833, “New Custom House – The southwest corner lot, at the intersection of North-Second and William-sts., has been purchased as a site for the new Custom House in this town.”<sup>100</sup> Lemuel Williams described the advantages of the site purchased:

The lot is the best which can be purchased in this town, is in every way suitable and convenient to the public business and is offered at a reasonable price, it could not have been procured at that price for any private purpose. The lots, on which the new building for the Merchants and Mechanics Bank are situated, marked No. 4 on the plan, and which are less than five hundred feet distant from the lot now recommended were purchased last spring at five hundred dollars a rod. The lot if which I enclose a plan in eighty feet square, embraces a little more than twenty-three rods and will cost less than two hundred and twelve dollars per rod.<sup>101</sup>

### *Contract Negotiations*

Following the acquisition of the site for the new U.S. Custom House, architect Robert Mills immediately designed and drafted building plans for the new structure. These plans were forwarded to Custom Collector Lemuel Williams from the new Secretary of the Treasury William J. Duane, and Mills was paid \$200 for his design work on July 23, 1833. Duane also instructed Williams “to invite proposals through the medium of the public papers for furnishing materials and erecting the building according to the design.”<sup>102</sup>

As previously mentioned, the Federal indecision to construct the U.S. Custom House in a fireproof manner delayed construction. In an effort to expedite the Federal decision, Mills was dispatched by Duane to formulate alternative building programs with costs estimates. Mills provided the following:

1. Cost of erecting this building in a common way [not fireproof], brick walls, and timber floors, etc: \$10,000
2. If built in brick and made fireproof: \$16,000
3. If faced with freestone (sandstone or brownstone) and made thoroughly fireproof: \$18,000
4. If faced with granite and finished as No. 3: \$20,000

Mills highly advocated for fireproof construction and wrote a letter on June 25, 1834 to James K. Polk, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, petitioning to him that the budget appropriated for the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford be increased. Mills was successful

and just two days later on June 27, 1834, the budget was increased by \$8,200 therefore

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<sup>100</sup> *The New Bedford Morning Mercury*, 19 April 1833, col. 2, p. 2.

<sup>101</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 5.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid, 6.

allowing for the third option of fireproof construction.<sup>103</sup>

Although Robert Mills was paid for his designs, his services were not contracted any further in regards to the construction of the custom house. Mills sent letters to Secretary Woodbury and President Jackson during the summer of 1834 promoting his value to the project as a contract negotiator and construction supervisor. In one of his letters to Secretary Woodbury dated July 2, 1834, Mills stated,

The necessity of having a professional man to aid the department in making the contracts, instructing the contractors and seeing that the contracts are faithfully fulfilled, you will readily Sire perceive, from the fact that these buildings are to be constructed on an entire new plan which few of our mechanics are familiar with (having to be made fireproof) and consequently requiring all of the aid of the Architect to make perfect work, and thus realize to the Government a good building.<sup>104</sup>

Woodbury failed to recognize the value that Mills would provide to the project from that point on and declined Mills' proposal, further stating that the Collector of Customs, Williams, would be capable of handling construction matters. However, Woodbury was proved wrong when Mills was summoned by Williams to the construction site on July 15, 1834. The additional appropriation provided to allow for fireproof construction proved to be deficient and Williams felt he did not have the skill to evaluate the proposals put forward to cut down on expenses while still allowing for fireproof construction. Woodbury finally realized the importance of Mills' expertise in the building profession and informed both Mills and Williams that he approved of Mills consultation on improvements to be made that would cut down on ornamentation and allow for fireproof construction. He also made it clear to Mills that he should not expect compensation or traveling expenses to be paid for this work.<sup>105</sup>

## *Construction*

The construction firm of Ingalls & Luther was selected to construct the new custom house. They enjoyed a reputation for honest workmanship as evidenced by the number of grand buildings they had previously constructed in New Bedford. On September 5, 1833 a signed contract for \$16,828 with a projected completion date of September 1, 1835 was delivered to Secretary Woodbury. Ground was broken as early as October 26, 1833 as observed by the New Bedford Mercury local newspaper.

We observe that the workmen have broken ground on the lot for the new Custom House, in this town, the lot is very central, and in the

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<sup>103</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 7.

<sup>104</sup> Ibid.

<sup>105</sup> Ibid, 8.

vicinity of the largest wharves, of the Banks and Insurance offices and adjoining of the Mansion House of Wm. Rotch, Jr., Esq.<sup>106</sup>

Foundations were laid in spring 1834.<sup>107</sup> However, the 1834 construction season was terminated in early November and the two-story building was enclosed with a temporary roof. During the next few months, Collector Williams turned his attention to additional features that both he and Mills desired for the building but had not yet been appropriated for. On January 20, 1835, Williams sent a letter to Woodbury and outlined these additional features that needed additional appropriation. These features included a portico, a stone and iron fence, flagging for the cellars, window shutters, mill and pump, leveling the yard and paving gutters to carry rain water, furnishing the Hall of Customs, and a privy in the rear of the lot.<sup>108</sup>

Construction recommenced in the spring of 1835. Walls were complete by June 8 and the roof was complete by July 17. By October 16, 1835, Collector Williams reported that the building was complete according the contract. On May 9, 1836, Congress responded to Williams' letter of January 20, 1835 and appropriated an additional \$7,200 to construct the additional features outlined by Williams. Contractor Seth William was hired and a new contract was signed on July 25, 1836 with a completion date of June 30, 1837.<sup>109</sup>

## Original Appearance

The site selected for the construction of the new U.S. Custom House was at the corner of William and Second Streets (fig. 28) and within "50 rods of most of the wharves; and is on ground of about fifty feet elevation above the tide of the harbor or river."<sup>110</sup> Although the construction of the United States Custom House was authorized by Congress in 1832, construction was delayed for over two years due to the controversy of fireproof construction. Construction began in the fall of 1834.

In order to achieve fireproof construction, Robert Mills chose to have the majority of the building constructed with Hallowell white granite. In Mills' specifications, he calls for the prominent elevations, the east and north, to be faced with Hallowell granite, and the less prominent elevations, the west and south, to be faced with local granite quarried from New Bedford.

The two principal or street fronts to be constructed with Hallowell or Sandy Bay split stone laid in regular courses and jointed in the best manner. The other two sides of the building to be finished with the

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<sup>106</sup> *The New Bedford Morning Mercury*, 26 October 1833, col. 1, p. 2.

<sup>107</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 6.

<sup>108</sup> *Ibid*, 9.

<sup>109</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>110</sup> Harley J. McKee, "Historic American Buildings Survey, Custom House HABS No. 662" (Philadelphia, PA: National Park Service, Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction, 1961), 2.

New Bedford split stone also laid in level courses and jointed in the neatest manner.<sup>111</sup>

A description of the U.S. Custom House was written in 1837 in “The American Magazine of Useful and Entertaining Knowledge, Vol. III” where the account describes the “whole building” as faced with Hallowell granite.<sup>112</sup> It is unknown if Mills specifications were executed as outlined, or if, in fact, Hallowell granite was used on all elevations.

The Hallowell granite was brought to the construction site from the quarry in Hallowell, Maine.<sup>113</sup> Maine began quarrying granite since the early 1800s, and at one time was the leading state in the country for the mining of granite.<sup>114</sup> Before the material’s final destination in New Bedford, the dressing of the stone was done in the neighboring village of Assonet and then transported to New Bedford for construction.<sup>115</sup> According to Mills specifications, the granite was to be laid in regular courses and mortar was to be “made with strong stone lime and clean, sharp river or bank sand in the general proportion of one bushel of unslaked lime to six of sharp sand.”<sup>116</sup>

The portico was also constructed with Hallowell white granite, but instead of a split-faced finish, the granite was smoothly dressed. Features of the portico that were constructed with this granite included: the cylindrical pillars, each constructed in four sections and weighing 20 tons each, underpinnings, pilasters, stiles, steps, buttresses and cornices.<sup>117</sup>

Mills also outlined in his 1834 specifications that the perimeter footings were to be 2 ½ feet thick, the walls above were to be 2 feet thick up to the watertable and then 18 inches thick to the eaves. Either brick or stone backfill was to be used behind the granite facing, left to the contractor’s discretion.”<sup>118</sup>

At the time of completion, the U.S. Custom House measured 50 feet in the north-south direction and 52 feet in the east-west direction, exclusive of projections and rose to 30 feet tall.

As constructed, the U.S. Custom House consisted of a basement story and two upper stories. The first and second stories shared a similar arrangement of interior spaces: two common rooms, measuring 18 feet by 20 feet each, on the south side of the building; and one large common room, measuring 47 feet by 20 feet, on the north side of the building. A wide hallway bisected the building in an east-west direction and separated the two smaller rooms from the one larger room. Upon completion, the U.S. Custom Service operated from the second story, and the U.S. Post office operated from the first story.

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<sup>111</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

<sup>112</sup> Harley J. McKee, 3.

<sup>113</sup> Lucy Wallbank, “A Grecian Gem in New Bedford,” *Standard-Times*, 1962.

<sup>114</sup> Maine Geological Survey, “Granite Quarrying in Maine,” *Granite Quarrying*, 6 October 2005, (5 June 2008). < <http://www.state.me.us/doc/nrimc/mgs/explore/mining/sites/aug03.htm> >

<sup>115</sup> Wallbank, 1962.

<sup>116</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

<sup>117</sup> Wallbank, “A Grecian Gem in New Bedford,” 1962.

<sup>118</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

As the U.S. Custom House presently stands there are four doorways, one in each elevation. All four doorways appear to date to the original construction of the building. D101 in the east elevation served as the main entrance to the building. D102, on the north side of the building, was used as the entrance to the U.S. Post Office that operated on the north side of the first story, was also most likely part of the original design. D102 served as the primary entrance for the U.S. Post Office and an iron rail for the “North steps [under the doorway]” were included in the 1836 specifications. It is also possible that the doorway in the west elevation, D103, existed at the time of completion of the building as evidenced by a statement in Mills’ specifications regarding a “cellar door [to be constructed] on the west side of the building.”<sup>119</sup> D104 was likely part of the original design, as it would have provided an entrance to the building from the south side where a privy is thought to have been located.

The number of original windows and original sash patterns are unclear, as they were not outlined in Mills’ 1834 or 1836 specifications. There are currently thirty-two windows in the U.S. Custom House; most of these are believed to have been part of the original construction of the building, as evidenced by historical photographs taken as early as 1870. However, in one photograph taken by photographer Stephen F. Adams there is an additional basement-story window on the north side of the east elevation that is missing today – this would bring the total number of original windows to thirty-three (fig.30).

The original sash pattern is unknown. According to the GSA website in which a brief building history is written, it is mentioned that, sometime in the 1870s, the original six-over-six window sashes were replaced with two-over-two window sashes, later to be removed in the 1960s and replaced with the original sash pattern of six-over-six window sashes (the existing sash pattern is six-over-nine).<sup>120</sup> Although this is not certain, Mills did outline in his specifications that “window sashes, frames, and muntins to be constructed of wood and to be glazed with the best quality cylinder glass, well puttied and secured, the clearest and straightest to be picked for the Office Rooms and the fronts.” Also stipulated in his specifications were that “shutters of wood covered with zinc [were] to be put to all windows.”<sup>121</sup>

The U.S. Custom House was constructed with a hip roof, framed with wooden timbers, boarded with pine and plated with zinc (as a fireproofing measure). The pitch was specified not to exceed 7 or 8 feet.<sup>122</sup> The gutter system of the U.S. Custom House was designed to be minimally visible from the street level. The gutters were constructed behind the blocking course above the cornice. Downspouts were in the following locations: one on the east end of the north elevation, one on the north and south end of the west elevation, and one on the east end of the south elevation. Zinc was used to line the gutters and downspouts.<sup>123</sup> The original gutters placed behind the blocking course quickly cracked and became defective. In

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<sup>119</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

<sup>120</sup> U.S. General Services Administration, “U.S. Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts,” *Buildings*, 22 January 2008, (5 June 2008).  
<<http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/buildingView.do?pageTypeId=8195&channelPage=/ep/channel/gsaOverview.jsp&channelId=-19751&bid=410>>.

<sup>121</sup> Ibid.

<sup>122</sup> Ibid.

<sup>123</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 12.

Mills' 1836 specifications, he called for the removal of all existing gutters and for their replacement with new copper gutters.<sup>124</sup>

The U.S. Custom House was constructed with four chimneys at the center of the roof. Set close and at 90 degree angles to another, they formed the corners of a rooftop observatory which was to be "enclosed with a wrought iron fancy railing."<sup>125</sup> These four chimneys were constructed with stone and rose approximately 7 feet above the platform of the roof.<sup>126</sup>

Because the structure was constructed with granite, there are only a few wooden features that were finished with paint at the time of completion. These were window frames and sashes and doorway frames and doors. Mills outlined in his 1836 specifications that this exterior woodwork was to be "painted three times in oil with good White lead a little tinged with yellow ochre to give body to the work and (the inside stone work of doors and windows . . . not to be painted as present.)" Mills also outlined in his specifications to "finish the principal doors in a fancy colour."<sup>127</sup> No specific color was specified.

The most dominant special feature of the U.S. Custom House is the east portico. The original appropriation for construction did not allow for a portico due to its expense and decorative function, however additional monies were appropriated in 1836, and the granite portico could be constructed per the desire of Robert Mills. The portico was constructed as Mills outlined in the 1836 specifications:

To build a Stone portico to consist of four columns placed upon the platform now completed. The dimensions of the columns to be twenty-five feet from the platform to the top of the caps. The shafts to be three feet two inches diameter at the base and three feet two inches at the top composed of four pieces each. The columns to be surmounted by an entablature to correspond with that now on the building, and a pediment of the dimensions expressed in the drawing. . . The portico to be covered with a wooden roof, plated with zinc and furnished with copper gutters.<sup>128</sup>

Mills also specified that the ceilings of the entries were to be plastered to resemble stone.<sup>129</sup>

The second largest special feature included in the 1836 specifications and that may have been part of the original construction was a privy "with four seats in the South West corner of the lot so that the partition walls will make two sides of it."<sup>130</sup> Research has uncovered one photograph (fig. 31), taken in 1886 by Herbert L. Aldrich, which shows an appendage-like structure on the south side of the building. This is perhaps the privy aforementioned by Mills and is further evidenced by additional details provided in the 1836 specifications that are also evident in the photograph : "The East Wall [of the privy] to be laid in courses, and the whole

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<sup>124</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

<sup>125</sup> Ibid.

<sup>126</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 12.

<sup>127</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

<sup>128</sup> Ibid.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid.

<sup>130</sup> Ibid.

to be surmounted with a rough hammered cornice. The roof to be made of wood covered with zinc and furnished with a copper gutter and rain bucket.” It is possible that this may not be the privy; however, there is no other mention of such a large appendage on the south side of the building in other historic documentation.

Other special features that were part of the original construction and included in the 1836 specifications were a stone wall and several iron fences. Historic photographs have provided views of the east, north, and south elevations as early as 1870 and 1886 (figs. 30 and 31). Comparing the 1836 specifications with the historic images has provided some information as to what fences and stone walls may have been a part of the original construction. Mills outlined in his specifications,

The lot to be enclosed on the west and partly on the south and east with a stone wall, eight feet above the ground, faced on both sides and pointed with cement, footed on the hard pan, three or four feet below the surface of the ground, and the footing to be no less than two feet thick, the wall to taper gradually to eighteen inches at the top. . . An iron fence with a stone underpinning to correspond with a fence in front of Mr. George Baker’s house to be placed in the front [east elevation] of the lot.

Upon examination of 1870 and 1886 photographs of the east, north, and south elevations (figs. 30 and 31), it is apparent that a partial stone wall was constructed on the west side of the south elevation, as outlined in the specifications; an iron fence was built on the east side of the south elevation, not outlined in the specifications; an iron fence was constructed on the north and south side of the east elevation, as outlined in the specifications; and an iron fence was attached to the east side of the north elevation, not outlined in the specifications. A partial stone wall on the east elevation that was mentioned in the specifications was not visible in the historic photographs.

## Alterations

The New Bedford U.S. Custom House has remained largely intact for its 173 years of existence. However, a few alterations are known to have been made. These include changes to the windows, doorways D102 and D103, the observatory, stone walls and fences, and steps on the north side of the portico. A new chimney was also added on the west side of the building, and a privy possibly installed on the southwest corner of the lot.

The known alterations to the windows of the U.S. Custom House are limited to the change in the window sashes. The earliest photographic record obtained for the purpose of this report was taken in 1870 by photographer Kingman (fig. 32). In this photograph, a two-over-two sash pattern is evident. A brief history provided by the GSA mentions that, in 1870, the original six-over-six sashes were replaced with two-over-two sashes, as shown in the 1870 photograph. A historical photo taken by photographer Fred W. Palmer in 1905 shows a window sash pattern of two-over-two (fig. 33), as does a photograph from the Historic American Building Survey taken in 1961 by photographer/documenter Ned Goode (fig. 35). The GSA brief history states that during an extensive restoration of the building in 1962, the

two-over-two sashes were removed and replaced with the original pattern of six-over-six sashes.<sup>131</sup> The existing sash pattern is six-over-nine, suggesting that either the GSA report was in error or the sashes installed in 1962 were later replaced.

The main entry to the U.S. Custom House (D101) is in the east elevation. Because most of the historic photographs were taken of the northeast corner of the structure, the angle makes it difficult to see the door hung within D101. It is believed that the original double doors remained unchanged until as late as 1962. The doors were subsequently removed and replaced by new doors of similar appearance as part of a major restoration of the building.

The secondary entry to the U.S. Custom House, doorway D102, is in the north elevation. This entrance was used for the U.S. Post Office that originally operated from the first story of the building, from 1836 to 1893. Two major changes have occurred to this doorway. The first is the removal of the double doors. As evidenced by historic photographs, the original double doors remained until at least 1908 (fig. 34). The next available historic photograph available is dated 1961, when HABS documented the building. It is not clear what type of door(s) are hung in the 1961 photographs; however, it is believed that it was during the 1962 renovation that the double doors were removed and a single door and a fixed sidelight were installed.<sup>132</sup> Another major feature that relates to D102 is a raised stoop that could be reached by two runs of steps that ran flush to the exterior of the building and originally constructed below D102. Historic photographic documentation shows the stoop in 1870 (fig. 32), 1875 (fig. 38), and 1886 and then absent in 1905 (fig. 36). It is believed that the stoop was removed sometime between 1886 and 1905, perhaps a little after 1893 when the Post Office moved out of the building.

As previously mentioned, it is believed that doorway D103 was original to the construction of the building. Mills outlined in his 1834 specifications that a cellar door on the west side of the building was to be constructed. However, the bulkhead configuration currently present is not believed to have been part of the original design for D103, and was added sometime after 1939. A *New Bedford Standard Times* article printed on December 15, 1939 calls for "...the old building's wall will be newly painted in bright cream, new linoleum, bulkheads and brasswork at the doors will be installed..."<sup>133</sup>

According to a Building Evaluation Report generated by the GSA, it is believed that the existing chimney on the west side of the building may have been added in 1955 for a new boiler that was installed at that time.<sup>134</sup>

The existing observatory was once enclosed. This enclosure was not part of the original design as outlined in Robert Mills specifications of 1834, "Provide and set a wrought iron fancy railing around the observatory..."<sup>135</sup> Historic photographs show the observatory

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<sup>131</sup> U.S. General Services Administration, "U.S. Custom House, New Bedford, Massachusetts," *Buildings*, 22 January 2008, (5 June 2008). <http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/buildingView.do?pageTypeId=8195&channelPage=/ep/channel/gsaOverview.jsp&channelId=-19751&bid=410>>.

<sup>132</sup> Ibid.

<sup>133</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 12.

<sup>134</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 15.

<sup>135</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., Appendices.

enclosed from 1870 to 1961 (fig. 37). It is unknown at what time between 1836 and 1870 that the enclosure of the observatory was constructed. However, according to Congressional Public Statutes, monies were appropriated for the structure in 1840 and 1850 for \$500.00 and \$845.00, “For repairs of the custom-house building at New Bedford, five hundred dollars. . . .”<sup>136</sup>

For repairs at the custom-house at New Bedford, Massachusetts, for the fiscal year ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and fifty, eight hundred and forty-five dollars.<sup>137</sup>

It is possible that these monies in either 1840 or 1850 were used to enclose the observatory. It is worth mentioning that, although one has to be careful of artistic license, a map hand-drawn by E. Thompson in 1847 shows the location of the “Custom House” and the drawing of the building shows an enclosed observatory (fig. 29).

The portico was constructed with the second appropriation delegated by Congress in 1836 to fund the additional construction of the New Bedford U.S. Custom House. However, the original design and construction did not include the existing four steps at the north portico. Historic photographs indicate these steps date to sometime between 1875 and 1886 (fig. 38).

Alterations to the fences and walls enclosing the lot of the U.S. Custom House have occurred over time. Iron fencing was originally installed at the northeast and southeast corners of the lot; a stone wall was located at the southwest corner. By 1886, the iron fence at the northeast corner had been removed. By 1905, the iron fence at the southeast corner was also missing (see fig. 36).

As previously mentioned, it is believed that a privy was once present on the property as outlined in Mills’ specifications of 1836. In an 1886 photograph taken by Herbert L. Aldrich, there is an appendage on the west side of the south elevation (fig. 31), where Mills specified in his 1836 specifications a privy should be constructed. It is thought that the appendage in the 1886 historic photograph might be the original privy, which is missing today. No other photographic documentation of this feature has been found. Nor is it known when this feature was removed.

Little is known regarding the exterior finishes of the U.S. Custom House. As previously mentioned, Mills outlined in his 1836 specifications that the woodwork, limited to window sashes and frames, and door frames, should be painted in white lead paint tinged with yellow ochre and the principals doors to be finished in a “fancy colour.” The *New Bedford Standard Times* article printed December 15, 1939 states, “. . . new paint will decorate the building’s exterior.”<sup>138</sup> A Building Evaluation Report generated by the GSA noted that exterior painting had occurred in 1945 and 1955.<sup>139</sup> Because it is believed that the window sashes and frames, as well as the principal doors, were replaced in 1962, evidence of original paint finishes is

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<sup>136</sup> Richard Peters, Esq., ed., *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, Vol. IV* (Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1856), 574.

<sup>137</sup> George Minot Esq., ed., *The Public Statutes at Large and Treaties of the United States of America, Vol. IX* (Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1862), 426.

<sup>138</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 15.

<sup>139</sup> Ibid.

unavailable.

The building was cleaned on March 23, 1961 by the Iacona Brothers of Providence for \$2,500 and then again in 1981.<sup>140</sup>

Other minor alterations have occurred since the 1962 renovation. A building permit was registered with the Planning Department of the city of New Bedford on July 22, 1980 by the company of CE MAT Contracting Inc. that included “. . .make exterior alterations, repairs to structure, install stair exit. All work to conform to NB [New Bedford] Historic Comm. [Commission].”<sup>141</sup> It is unknown what the “exterior alterations” were but it is believed that these alterations were minor. The last known registered alteration took place in 1984 when a new roof was constructed. On March 27, 1984, a building permit was registered with the Planning Department of the city of New Bedford by Bridgeport Restoration Co. Inc. to “erect a new roof to existing structure.”<sup>142</sup>

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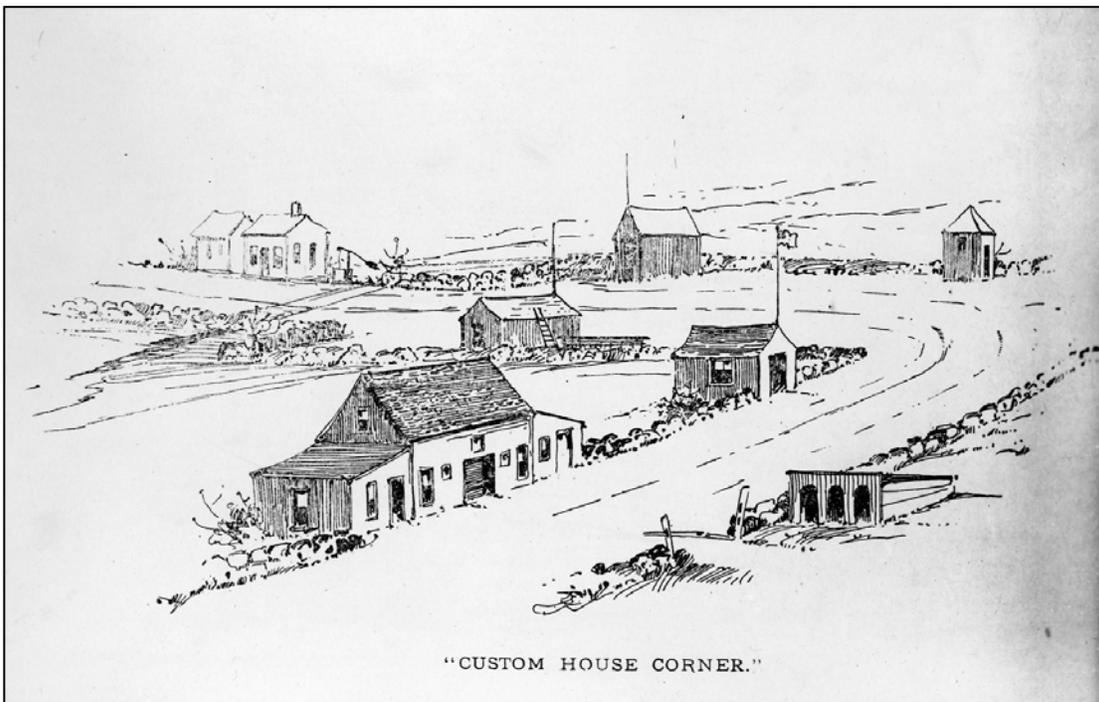
<sup>140</sup> Ibid.

<sup>141</sup> Building Permit No. 447-80, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, July 22, 1890.

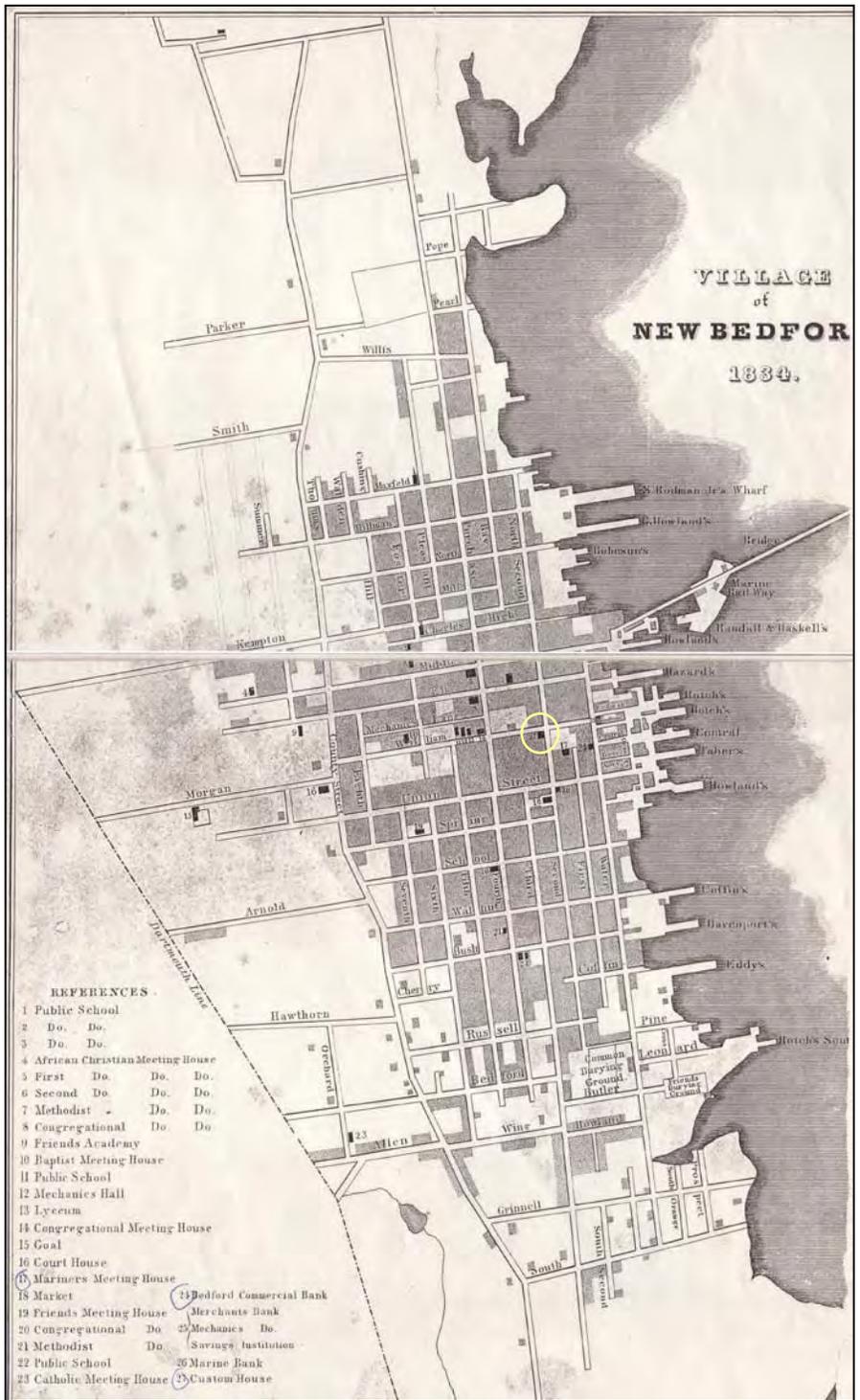
<sup>142</sup> Building Permit No. 126-84, City of New Bedford, MA, Building Department, March 27, 1984.



**Figure 26.** In 1806 the U.S. Custom House was located on the north side of the “Paint Shop,” as shown in this photograph taken in 1896.



**Figure 27.** The U.S. Custom House of New Bedford relocated to the corner of Union and Water Streets in 1820 due to a fire.



**Figure 28.** 1834 Map of New Bedford, Massachusetts, by J. Congdon. Note location of U.S. Custom House at the corner of William and Second Streets (circled).

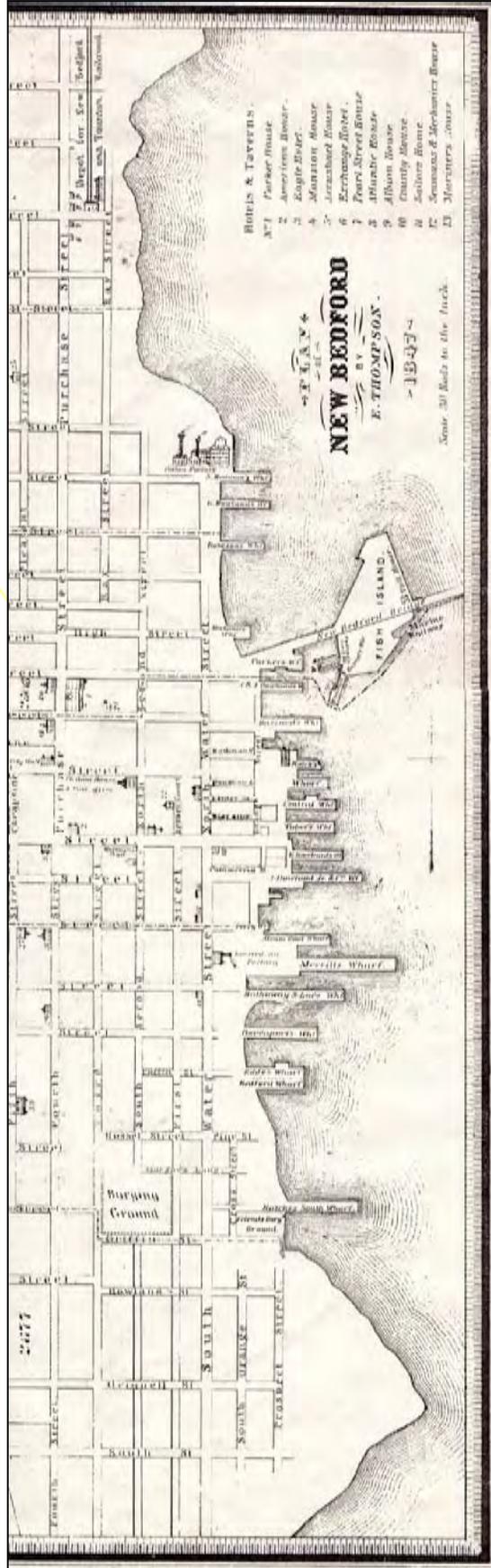
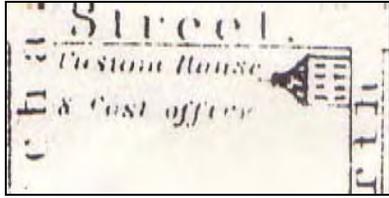
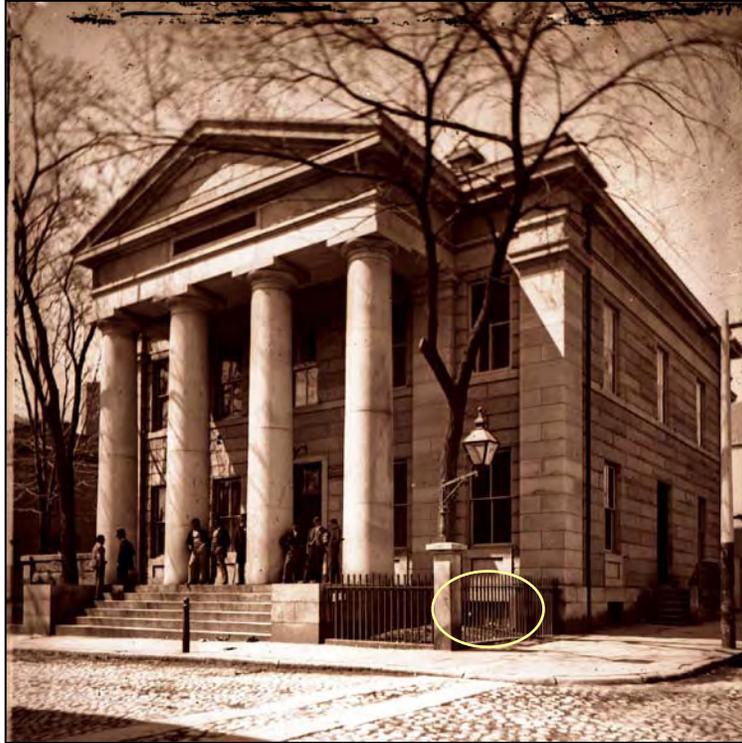


Figure 29. Map of New Bedford, MA in 1847 drawn by E. Thompson. Note detail of the U.S. Custom House with enclosed observatory.



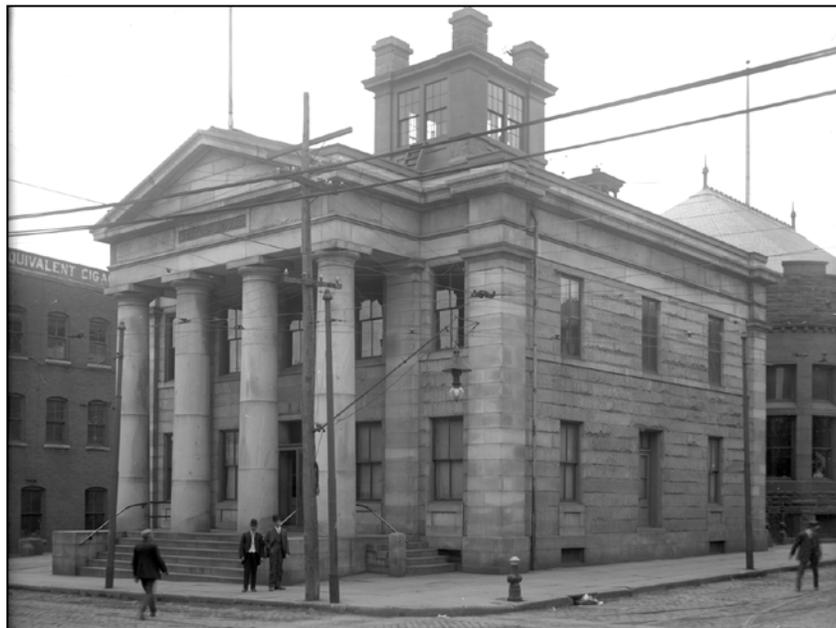
**Figure 30.** Photograph of the north and east elevations of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1870. Note basement-story window (circled) on the north side of the east elevation.



**Figure 31.** Photograph of the south and east elevations of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1886. Note appendage/possible privy (circled) at south elevation.



**Figure 32.** Photograph of the north and east elevations of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1870. Note the two-over-two window sashes.



**Figure 33.** Photograph of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1905. Note that the two-over-two window sashes are unchanged.



D102

**Figure 34.** Photograph of the north and east elevations of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1908. Note detail of double doors within D102.



**Figure 35.** Photograph of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, 1961. Note the two-over-two window sashes.



**Figure 36.** Photographs of the northeast elevation of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, taken in 1886 (upper view) and in 1905 (lower view). Note absence of the stairway below D102 in 1905 (circled).

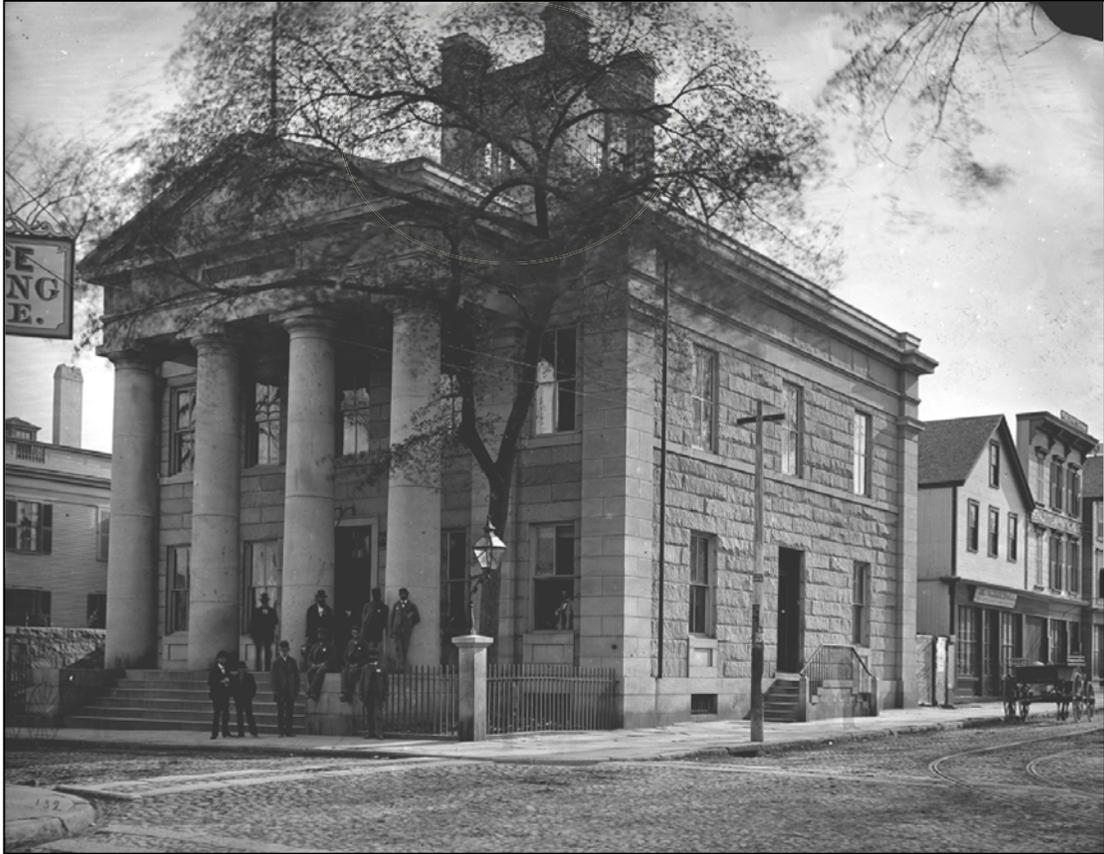
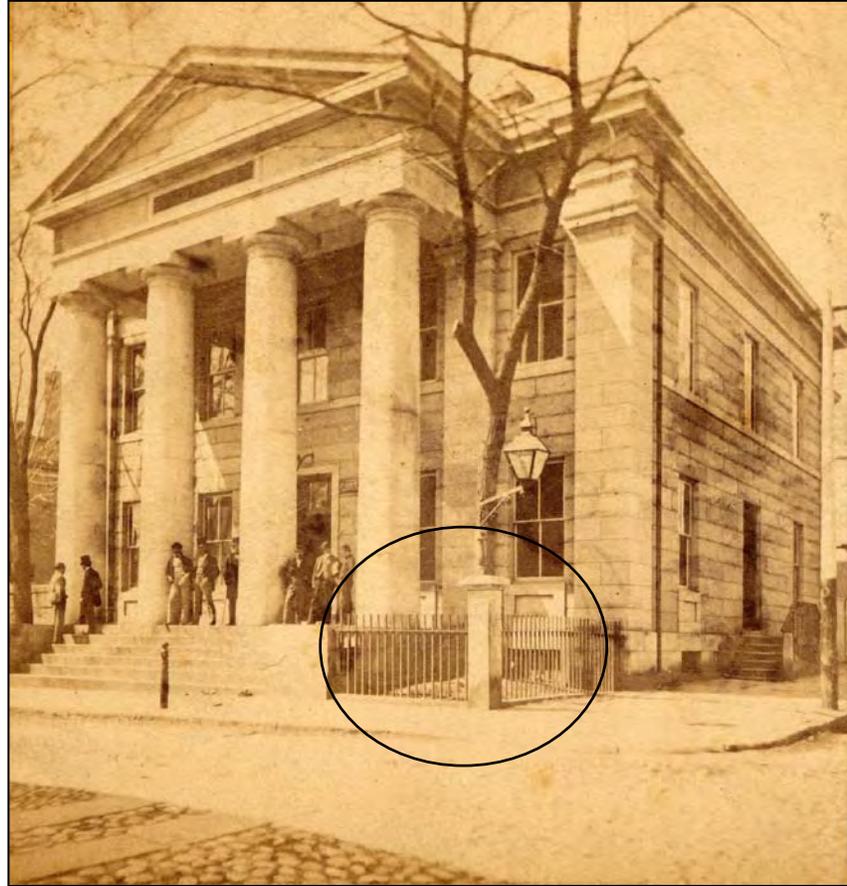


Figure 37. Photographs of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, 1870 (upper view) and 1961 (lower view). Note the enclosed observatory.



**Figure 38.** Photographs of the U.S. Custom House in New Bedford, MA, taken in 1875 (upper view) and 1886 (lower view). Note the absence of the stairs at the north elevation of the portico in 1875 (circled) and the presence of the stairs in 1886.



# **CURRENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS**



# RODMAN CANDLEWORKS

## Introduction

The Rodman Candleworks building is at the northeast corner of the intersection of North Water Street and Rodman Street in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts (fig. 39). The building front is on North Water Street and was constructed around 1815, with a major restoration in 1978 following a destructive fire that occurred in 1967. The architect of the structure is unknown; however, the building is Federal Style in its design, a popular style among prospering eastern seaboard in the United States at the time of its construction. Built for the production and manufacturing of spermaceti candles from whale oil, the Candleworks was built very close to the city's waterfront and had direct access to whaling products directly from the whaling vessels. Today, access to the waterfront is obstructed by the John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway, constructed in 1961 during a major urban renewal project that occurred in the downtown New Bedford area.

## Exterior Elements

### *General Configuration*

The Rodman Candleworks building is a rectangular in shape, with the principle elevation facing west on North Water Street. The structure is three-stories tall (excluding the basement story), three-bays wide and five-bays deep (figs. 40, 41, 42 and 43). Located 22 feet above sea level, the building measures approximately 42 feet in the north-south direction and 84 feet in the east-west direction, exclusive of the glass pavilion on the north side. The glass pavilion spans approximately 75 percent of the length of the north elevation.

### *Foundation*

The foundation of the Rodman Candleworks building is constructed of split-faced granite blocks, laid in courses in a running bond pattern. Because the site of the building slopes in the northeastern direction, foundation heights vary – taller on the north and east sides of the structure and shorter on the south and west sides of the structure. The west elevation foundation measures 37 inches high on the north end and 12 ½ inches high on the south end (see fig. 40). Each foundation block spans between 28 ½ and 40 inches long and rises approximately 14 ½ inches tall. The south elevation foundation measures approximately 12 inches on the west end and rises taller reaching approximately 40 inches on the east end (see

fig. 41). Similar to the foundation blocks of the west elevation, the foundation blocks of the south elevation span 28 ½ to 40 inches in length however rise only to 11 ½ inches. There is no visible above-grade foundation at the east and north elevations.

## *Walls*

The exterior wall of the Rodman Candleworks building are composed of granite rubble faced with stucco. The stucco is tinted a mauve-taupe color and is scored on the west and south elevations in an effort to resemble ashlar blocks laid in courses in a running bond pattern; 30 courses tall on both the west and south elevation (figs. 40 and 41). The scored “blocks” of the west elevation span approximately 18 inches in length and rise 11 inches in height. The scored “blocks” of the south elevation span approximately 18 ½ to 20 inches in length and rise 10 ½ to 11 inches in height. The stucco of the east and north elevations is not scored to resemble ashlar blocks and is finished with a smooth surface (see figs. 42 and 43).

Three of the four corners of the rectangular building are faced with roughly-dressed white granite quoins. The quoining is at the northwest corner, the southwest corner, and the southeast corner of the building. There is no quoining at the northeast corner.

## *Doorways*

The Rodman Candleworks building has a total of six exterior doorways: D101, D102, D103, D104, D105, and D106. One doorway is in the west, south, and north elevations, and three doorways are in the east elevation.

D101 in the west elevation is the main entrance of the structure. The actual doorway is recessed from the plane of the façade behind an arched opening, through which the granite entrance stairs rise. The stairs are a straight run of five risers with a very narrow landing, on which the heavy granite door sill rests (fig. 44). The arched opening is surrounded with roughly-dressed, white granite quoins. The iron numbers “72” are affixed on the granite keystone at the center of the arch. Double-door leaves are hung within a wooden door jamb. Each door consists of an unadorned flat piece of wood. Door hardware consists of an iron thumb latch with handle and embedded deadbolt lock. A simple Federal-style elliptical fanlight is encased within the frame of the doorway above the double door.

D102 is in the south elevation (fig. 45). Similar to D101, the doorway is recessed from the plane of the façade behind an arched opening, through which granite entrance stairs rise. The stairway consists of seven risers and landing upon which lies the granite door sill. The arched opening is bordered with roughly-dressed, white granite quoins. A single door is hung within a wooden door jamb and consists of an unadorned flat piece of wood. The door hardware consists of a metal doorknob and embedded deadbolt. Also similar to D101, a simple Federal-style elliptical fanlight is encased within the frame of the doorway above the single door.

D103 is at the southernmost end of the east elevation. It is flush with the plane of the wall (fig. 46). The bottom half of D103 is covered by a flat wooden board. The upper half is fitted with what appears to be a large metal exhaust fan. D103 is surrounded by roughly-dressed, white granite quoins and large roughly-dressed granite lintel.

D104 is also in the east elevation, centered between D103 and D105. It is flush with the plane of the wall (fig. 47). A wood-batten door covers the opening of D104. Roughly-dressed, white granite quoins surround D104. At the top of the door surround is a large granite lintel. Two metal hinges are on the north side of D104, embedded in the granite quoining, perhaps to hold a now-missing door shutter. There is no visible door hardware.

D105 is at the northernmost end of the east elevation and. Similar to D103 and D104, this doorway is flush with the plane of the exterior wall (fig. 48). The door hung within D105 consists of a flat unadorned piece of wood. Unlike that of the other 5 exterior doorways of the Rodman Candleworks, D105 is not surrounded by granite quoining; however, a large granite lintel is present. A wooden ramp leads up to D105. There is no visible door hardware.

D106 in the north elevation is flush with the plane of the exterior wall (fig. 49). The door hung within D106 consists of four-panels with two lights at the top. Flanking the door are 3 sidelights above a raised panel. D106 is outlined by white granite quoining and topped with a white granite lintel. There are two metal pintles on either side of D106, embedded in the granite quoining, perhaps to hold door shutters (now missing). The door hardware consists of a metal door handle surrounded by a brass plate.

## *Windows*

There are fifty-three windows in the Rodman Candleworks building. Nine windows are in the west elevation, eighteen in the south elevation, nine in the east elevation, and seventeen in the north elevation.

The nine windows in the west elevation consist of one rectangular basement-story window (W001), two rectangular first-story windows (W101 and W102), three rectangular second-story windows (W201, W202, W203), and three lunette third-story windows (W301, W302, W303) (fig. 50). W001 has a twelve-light fixed wooden sash. The jamb and casing are also constructed of wood. W101 and W102 in the first story, and W201, W202, and W203 in the second story, are similar to one another. Each has twelve-over-twelve double-hung wooden sashes within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills are also constructed of wood. Each window is flanked on the north and south side by white granite quoining, topped with a white granite lintel, and finished with a white granite sill. There are shutter pintles on the upper and lower north side of W101, the upper and lower south side of W102, and on the upper and lower of the north side and the upper south side of W201 (missing south side pintle), W202, and W203. There are also metal shutter dogs at the lower north and south sides of W201, W202, and W203. The three windows in the third story, W301, W302, and W303, are also similar to one another. These three lunette-shaped windows each house a

seven-light hopper window surrounded by a white granite arch with a matching keystone and sill.

The south elevation of the Rodman Candleworks has the largest amount of exterior windows, eighteen in total (fig. 51). The location of the eighteen windows in the south elevation are as follows: four rectangular windows on the basement story, four rectangular windows in the first story, five rectangular windows in the second story, and five lunette windows in the third story.

The four basement-story windows in the south elevation are different from one another. W002 is on west side of D102 and consists of a fixed transom window with four lights fitted within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a wooden casing. The window of W002 is embedded within the granite foundation and is covered with plexiglass. On the east side of W002 is an iron pintle where a shutter once hung. W003 is on the east side of D102 and consists of a fixed eight-light sash fitted within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a wooden casing. W003 is flanked by white granite quoining on the west and east sides and topped with a white granite lintel. Similar to W002, W003 is covered with plexiglass. An iron lintel is on the west side of W003. W004 is at the east end of the south elevation and consists of a fixed fourteen-light sash fitted within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a wooden casing. W004 is flanked by white granite quoining on the west and east sides and topped with a white granite lintel. W004 is also covered with plexiglass and has part of two iron pintles on either side of the window. W005 is also in the east end of the south elevation and is covered with a flat piece of wood framing two air vents/exhausts. This opening is flanked on the east and west sides by white granite quoining and topped with a white granite lintel. An iron pintle is on the east side of the W005.

The four first-story windows (W103, W104, W105 and W106) and the five second-story windows (W204, W205, W206, W207 and W208) in the south elevation are similar to one another. In the first story, W103 and W104 are on the east side of D102, and W105 and W106 are on the west side of D102. In the second story, W204 and W205 are on the west side of the elevation, W206 is in the center of the elevation directly above D102, and W207 and W208 are on the east side of the elevation. All nine windows are fitted with twelve-over-twelve double-hung wooden sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills of each of these windows are also constructed of wood. Each of the nine windows is flanked on either side by white granite quoining, topped with a white granite lintel, and finished with a white granite sill. All of the nine windows have iron pintles on the upper and lower east or west sides (or both sides) of the opening. Both W103 and W104 have iron pintles on the upper and lower west side of each opening only, and W105 and W106 have parts of iron hinges on the upper and lower east side of each opening only. All of the second-story windows have iron pintles on both the upper and lower east and west sides of the openings, except for W207, which is missing an iron pintle on the upper west side. The second-story windows also have metal shutter dogs on the lower east and west sides as well. W207 is missing the west-side shutter dog. There are no metal shutter dogs at the first-story windows.

The five third-story windows (W304, W305, W306, W207 and W208) are similar to the three third-story windows in the west elevation. These five lunette-shaped windows each house a seven-light hopper window surrounded by a white granite arch with a matching keystone and sill.

The east elevation has nine windows. Two are in the first story (W107, W108), four are in the second story (W209, W210, W211, W212), and three are in the third story (W309, W310, W311) (fig. 52). The two first-story windows, W107 and W108, both have twelve-over-twelve double-hung wooden sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills of each of these windows are also constructed of wood. W107 is rectangular in shape, topped with a white granite lintel and finished with a white granite exterior sill. W108 does not have a lintel or an exterior sill. It is a rectangle shape topped by a segmental arch. The four second-story windows (W209, W210, W211, and W212) are all similar to W108. The three windows in the third story (W309, W310, and W311) have eight-over-eight double-hung wooden sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills of these three windows are constructed of wood; they have no exterior lintels or sills. There is no quoining surrounding any of the windows in the east elevation.

There are seventeen windows in the north elevation of the Rodman Candleworks building. Six windows are in the first story (W109, W110, W111, W112, W113, W114), six windows are in the second story (W213, W214, W215, W216, W217, W218), and five windows are in the third story (W312, W313, W314, W315, W316) (fig. 53). W109, W111, and W114 in the first story and are similar to one another. Each of these windows has a twelve-over-twelve double-wooden sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills are constructed of wood. The openings are rectangular with segmented-arch top. Also in the first story are windows W110, W112, and W113, each with eight-over-twelve double-hung sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and sills of these three windows are constructed of wood. The difference among these three openings is that W110 and W112 are a rectangular shape, while W113 is topped with a segmented arch. Both W110 and W112 are surrounded by white granite quoining with a white granite lintel and exterior sill.

The six windows in the second story of the north elevation are, for the most part, similar to one another. Five of the six windows have twelve-over-twelve double-hung sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. The casings and recessed sills of each window are constructed of wood. Each opening is a rectangular shape with a segmented arch. The only opening that differs from the rest of the second-story windows is W214, which has a wooden louvered panel instead of glazed sashes. The five windows in the third story are also similar to one another. Four of the five windows have eight-over-eight double-hung sashes fitted within a wooden jamb. Similar to the first- and second-story windows, the casings and recessed sill of each window are constructed of wood. Each third-story window opening is a rectangular shape. The only dissimilarity among the third-story windows is that W312 has a wooden louvered panel instead of glazed sashes, similar to W214.

### *Roof and Gutter System*

The Rodman Candleworks building is covered with a low-pitched tar hip roof (fig. 54). An elevator penthouse roof is on the west end of the roof. It measures approximately 10 feet wide by 6 feet deep. Four hatches penetrate the roof, three on the east end of the roof and one on the west end of the roof. Lining the perimeter of the roof is a copper-edge strip that measures 30 inches wide. Approximately 18 inches of the strip are exposed to the weather and 12 inches are covered by the gutter.

The drainage system for the building consists of a wooden gutter integral with the wooden cornice that lines the perimeter of the roof. Four downspouts are on the north and south ends of the east and west elevations (see figs. 40 and 41).

## *Chimneys*

The Rodman Candleworks building has two brick chimneys (fig. 54). One chimney is at the northeast corner of the roof, the second is at the northwest corner of the roof. Both chimneys are similar to one another with the bricks laid in a running bond pattern. The chimney at the northwest corner of the roof rises 21 courses tall, including 5 courses of corbelling at the top above the roof line. The bottom of the northwest chimney is flashed with tar cladding and a strip of copper. Adequate views of the chimney at the northeast corner of the roof were difficult to obtain; however it appears to be very similar in height (courses and corbelling) and materials (brick, tar and copper flashing) as the previously described chimney.

## *Painted Finishes*

The Rodman Candleworks building is primarily constructed of masonry. However, there are some features, constructed of wood or metal, which are painted dark green paint. The wooden features include the doorways and windows (and components within), the cornice, the gutters, and various signage. The metal features are limited to the downspouts and hardware.

The six exterior doorways (D101, D102, D103, D104, D105, and D106) share commonly painted features finished in dark green paint and include: doors, jambs, casings and the elliptical fanlight muntins (D101 and D102 only). The elements of the fifty-three window are also painted dark green including window sashes, jambs, muntins, and casings. The cornice and gutters that follow the roof-wall junction around the building are also painted green. Seven of the eight signs at various locations on the building are painted: two with white paint and four with dark-green paint. The four downspouts at the north and south ends of the east and west elevations are painted dark green.

## *Special Features*

The most prominent special feature of the Rodman Candleworks building is the one-story glass pavilion addition on the north side of the building (fig. 55). The addition spans approximately 75 percent of the length of the north elevation. The west, north, and east elevations of the addition are constructed in the same manner: the lower quarter of the addition is constructed of poured concrete and the upper three-quarters of the addition is glazed. The glazing consists of several horizontal sliding sashes separated from each other

by muntins only. There is one doorway in the center of the addition's north elevation with a concrete slab/step in front of it. The addition is topped with a tar-covered, wooden roof. The three elevations are lined with canvas at the roof-wall junction as to imitate an awning-style roof. The words "The Candleworks Restaurant" are printed in white letters on the canvas lining in the center of the north elevation.

Several exterior signs are attached to the building (fig. 56). Six are affixed to the west elevation in various manners. They include two rectangular signs with segmented arches on either side of D101 for resident businesses; a curved sign, "Rodman Candleworks," above D101; a hanging sign located immediately below W302 for a resident business; a "No. Water St." sign on the south side of the elevation; and a plaque inscribed by the Waterfront Historic Area League also on the south side of the elevation. There is one sign, "Rodman St.," on the west side of the south elevation. One sign for a resident business is on the north elevation. There are currently no signs on the east elevation of the building.

There are two sets of staircases that lead into the interior of the Rodman Candleworks building that are within doorways D101 (fig. 44) and D102 (fig. 45). The staircase that accesses D101 consists of 6 white granite slabs that are arranged on top of one another, so that the exposed granite forms the treads and risers of the staircase. Each tread of the staircase below D101 measures 10  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep and rises 7 inches tall. The second staircase leads to D102 and consists of 7 granite steps and similar to the staircase within D101 is composed of granite slabs arranged on top of one another. Each tread of the staircase below D102 measures 10  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep and each riser measures 7 inches tall.





**Figure 40.** West elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



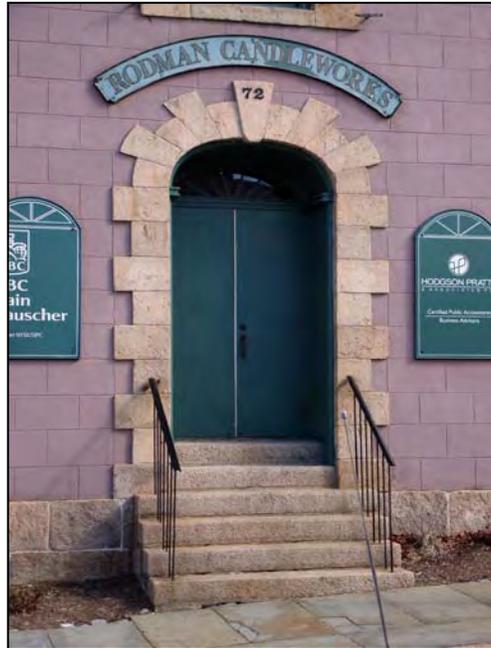
**Figure 41.** South elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 42.** East elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 43.** North elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



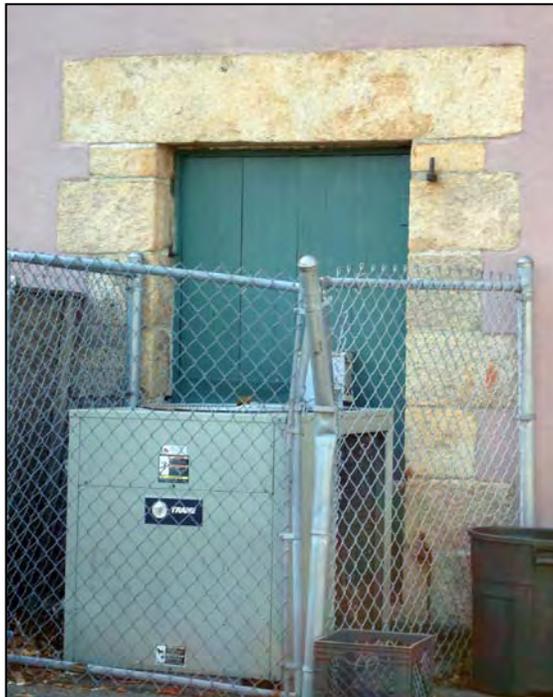
**Figure 44.** Doorway (D101) located in the west elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 45.** Doorway (D102) located in the south elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 46.** Doorway (D103) located in the east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 47.** Doorway (D104) located in the east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



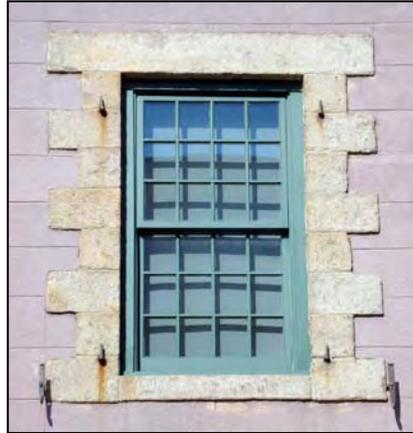
**Figure 48.** Doorway (D105) located in the east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 49.** Doorway (D106) located in the north elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 50.** Representative windows in the basement story (W001), first story (W101), second story (W201), and third story (W301) of the west elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 51.** Representative windows in the basement story (W002), first story (W103), second story (W204), and third story (W304) of the south elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 52.** Representative windows in the first story (W107), second story (W209), and third story (W309) of the east elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



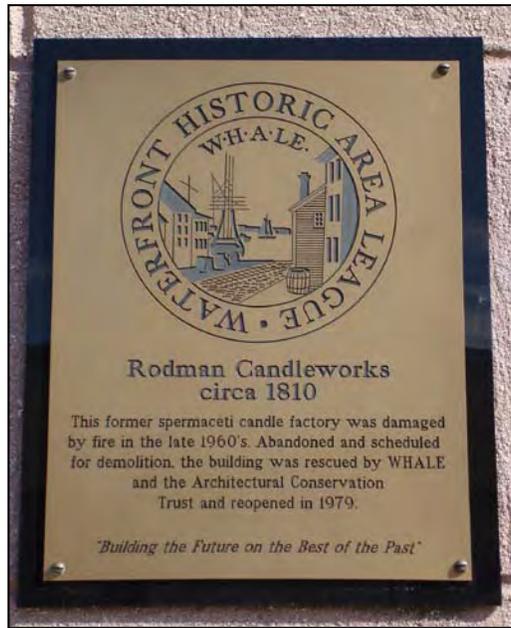
**Figure 53.** Representative windows in the first story (W109), second story (W213), and third story (W312) of the north elevation of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 54.** Low-pitched tar hip roof of the Rodman Candleworks (2008).



**Figure 55.** Glazed addition located on the north elevation of the Rodman Candleworks building (2008).



**Figure 56.** Representative signs on the west and south elevations of the Rodman Candleworks building (2008).



# DOUBLE BANK BUILDING

## Introduction

The Double Bank Building is situated between Rodman Street and Hamilton Street in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts (fig. 57). The structure fronts on North Water Street and was constructed between the years of 1831 and 1833, with an additional building campaign in 1876. The Double Bank Building was designed in the Ionic order of the Greek Revival Style by Russell Warren, a well-known architect whose work can be seen throughout southeastern New England, primarily in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. After successfully designing The Providence Arcade in 1828, Warren mastered the art of proportion and elegance in the Greek Revival Style and was well prepared to create the design of the Double Bank Building in the city of New Bedford. The Mechanics Bank and the Merchants Bank merged in 1831 and commissioned Warren for the design of the Double Bank Building that same year. Both banks occupied the building upon completion in 1833, with the Merchants Bank operating out of the southern half of the structure and the Mechanics Bank operating out of the northern side.

## Exterior Elements

### *General Configuration*

The Double Bank Building is rectangular in shape, with the principle elevation facing west on North Water Street (fig. 58). The structure rises two stories tall with a basement story accessible from the exterior on the north and south elevation. The structure extends six bays wide at both the north and south elevations, and seven bays wide at the west elevation. The east elevation is obscured by the building at 13 Hamilton Street, which was constructed flush with the east elevation of the Double Bank Building. Only the upper portion of this elevation is visible and consists of a flat stuccoed exterior wall. The structure measures approximately 72 feet in the north-south direction and 87 feet in the east-west direction.<sup>1</sup> A portico comprised of a triangular, wooden pediment supported by eight Ionic-order wooden columns is on the west side and spans the width of the building.

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<sup>1</sup> Harley J. McKee, *Historic American Buildings Survey, Merchants and Mechanics Banks Building, 56-62 North Water Street, HABS No. MASS-683* (Philadelphia, PA: National Park Service, Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction, 1961), 2.

## *Foundation*

The foundation of the Double Bank Building is constructed of smoothly-dressed granite ashlar blocks of varying lengths. Because the site of the building slopes downward towards the east, the height of the above-grade foundation varies on the north and south sides – shorter at the west end of the elevation and taller at the east end of the elevation (figs. 59 and 60). There is no visible above-grade foundation on the west side due to the granite steps of the portico that spans the length of that elevation (fig. 62).

## *Walls*

The wall materials of the Double Bank Building vary. The principal elevation (west) is composed of smoothly-dressed granite blocks of varying lengths. The granite blocks are laid in courses in a running bond pattern and rise 20 courses tall (see fig. 58). The north and south walls are similar. Both of these elevations are red brick courses laid in a running bond pattern with granite block returns at the southwest and northwest corners of the building (see figs. 59 and 60). As previously mentioned, the majority of the east elevation is obscured by the building at 13 Hamilton Street that was constructed flush with the east elevation of the Double Bank Building. Only the upper quarter of the east elevation of the Double Bank is exposed, which is sided with light gray stucco (see fig. 61).

## *Doorways*

The Double Bank Building has nine exterior doorways: D001, D002, D101, D101a, D101b, D102, D103, D104, and D104a. Seven are in the west elevation, one is in the north elevation, and one is in the south elevation.

D001 is in the south elevation at the east end of the wall (fig. 63). The doorway has a wooden threshold, jamb and casing. It is hung with a single-leaf, six-panel wooden door: four larger, recessed panels topped by two smaller recessed panels. The door hardware includes a brass door handle, a barrel lock on the lock stile, a brass mail slot on the lock rail, and brass numbers “17” on the mullion. Attached to the door casing is a wooden sign finished in black and gold paint that reads “Weekly Compass.” Above D001 is a lantern-style light fixture attached to a white-painted wooden board. The door is painted green, and the jamb and casing are painted white.

D002 is in the north elevation at the east end of the wall (fig. 64). The doorway has a granite threshold and a wooden single-leaf door. The door has four horizontal, recessed panels and one large, square light in the top half of the door. The door is hung within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a wooden casing. The door hardware consists of a brass door knob, plate

and barrel lock on the lock stile and a brass mail slot on the lock rail. The wooden jamb and casing are painted white; the door is painted blue.

D101 is at the north end of the west elevation of the Double Bank Building and is covered by an enclosed porch. Access into this enclosed porch was unavailable and therefore D101 will not be described in this report. The enclosed porch has two doorways (D101a and D101b): one in the west elevation and one in the south elevation (fig. 65). A window (W117<sup>2</sup>) is in the north elevation. D101a and D101b are similar to one another. Each doorway has double-leaf wooden doors. Each door leaf has one square and one rectangular decorative recessed panel at the bottom half of the door leaf, topped by a vertical rectangular light. The door hardware consists of a brass door knob affixed to a brass plate on the south door leaf of D101a and the east door of D101b. The doors are hung within wooden jambs and are surrounded by wooden casings. Located above the doors is a fixed single-light transom. A gold number "60" is on the transom above D101b. The enclosed porch has many Greek-Revival architectural elements. At each corner is a pilaster that rises to a decorative entablature. This entablature consists of a denticulated cornice, a flat board frieze and a molded architrave. Both D101a and D101b have granite thresholds. The entire enclosed porch, including the jamb, casing, engaged pilasters, and the entablature, are painted white; the doors are painted blue.

D102 is centered in the west elevation and immediately north of D103 (fig. 66). The doorway has a granite threshold and a set of recessed double-leaf doors. Each door leaf consists of a small rectangular recessed panel topped by two vertical lights separated by a muntin. Located above the upper vertical light of each door leaf is another rectangular recessed panel. The doors are hung within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a wooden molded casing. A fixed single-light transom is above the doors with the number "58" on the glass in gold lettering. Hardware consists of a brass door knob and a brass barrel lock on the south door leaf and two brass mail slots, one on each door leaf. The wooden jamb and casing of D102 are painted white; the doors and transom sash are painted blue.

D103 is in the west elevation immediately south of D102 (fig. 67). D103 is identical to D102 with the exception of a few small details regarding the door hardware and numbers on the single-light transom. The door hardware on the doors consists of a brass door knob on the south door leaf as well as a brass barrel lock and brass mail slot on the north door leaf. A gold number "56" is on the single-light transom window above the double-leaf doors.

D104 is at the south end of the west elevation. Similar to D101, D104 is covered by an enclosed porch that was inaccessible and therefore a description of D104 will not be included in this report. The enclosed porch has one doorway, D104a, and is very similar to both D101a and D101b (fig. 68). The doorway has a granite threshold and double-leaf wooden doors. Each door leaf consists of one square and one rectangular decorative recessed panel on the bottom half of the door leaf topped by a vertical rectangular light. The door hardware consists of a brass door knob and brass barrel lock affixed to the south door leaf. The doors are hung within a wooden jamb and are surrounded by a wooden casing. Located above the doors is a transom fitted with a four-panel louvered window. The enclosed porch is very

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<sup>2</sup> Window W117 is described in detail on the following page.

similar to the enclosed porch at the north end of the west elevation. At each corner of the porch is a pilaster that rises to a decorative entablature. This entablature has a denticulated cornice, a flat board frieze and a molded architrave. A difference between this enclosed porch and the enclosed porch at the north end of the west elevation is that this porch has one doorway rather than two. Two recessed panels are at the south elevation of this enclosed porch. The jamb, casing, engaged pilasters and the entablature of the porch are painted white; the doors are painted blue.

## *Windows*

The Double Bank Building has forty-eight windows. Eleven windows are in the west elevation, eighteen windows are in the south elevation, and nineteen windows are in the north elevation.

The eleven windows in the west elevation include four first-story windows (W101, W102, W103 and W104) and seven second-story windows (W201, W202, W203, W204, W205, W206 and W207) (figs. 69 and 70). The four first-story windows are similar to one another. W101, W102, W103 and W104 have fixed single sashes, are hung within recessed wooden jambs, and are surrounded by recessed wooden casings. Each window has two sills: one recessed wooden sill, and below this a second less recessed exterior masonry sill. The rails and stiles of the window sash are painted blue, and the window jambs and casings are painted white.

Six of the seven windows (W201, W202, W203, W205, W206 and W207) in the second story of the west elevation are similar to one another. These windows have six-over-six double-hung sashes within recessed wooden jambs and are surrounded by wooden casings. Similar to the windows in the first story, the second-story windows have two sills: one recessed wooden sill, and below this a second less recessed exterior masonry sill. The rail, stiles and muntins are painted dark green, and the window jambs and casings are painted white. W204, also in the second story of the west elevation, is in the center of the elevation between W203 and W205. It differs from the previous six second-story windows previously described as follows. W204 has two recessed six-light casement sashes that are approximately half the length of the other six windows. The window has recessed wooden jambs and is surrounded by recessed wooden casings. The sash on the north side of this window is hinged on the south side and the sash on the south side is hinged on the north side. W204 has two sills: one recessed wooden sill, and one less recessed masonry sill located approximately one casement sash window length below the recessed wooden sill.

The eighteen windows in the south elevation consist of six basement-story windows (W001, W002, W003, W004, W005 and W006), six first-story windows (W105, W106, W107, W108, W109 and W110) and six second-story windows (W208, W209, W210, W211, W212 and W213). Four of the six basement-story windows are similar to one another. W003, W004, W005 and W006 are all hung with four-light fixed single sashes hung within recessed wooden jambs and surrounded by recessed wooden casings (fig. 71). These four windows have a recessed wooden sill and below this, a non-recessed exterior masonry sill. The rail, stiles and

muntins are painted dark green paint and the window jamb and casings are painted white. W001 is in the basement story at the west end of the south elevation. The opening is rectangular in shape and fitted with a louvered panel (see fig. 71). Other window elements include a wooden jamb and casing and eight metal rods. The panel, jamb, casing and rods are painted dark green. W002, to the east of W001, has a two-light transom sash hung within a recessed wooden jamb and surrounded by a recessed wooden casing. There is no sill below W002. The rails, stiles and muntin are painted white.

Five of the six windows in the first story of the south elevation are similar to one another. W105, W106, W107, W109, W110 contain a two-over-two double-hung sash window with a recessed wooden jamb and surrounded by a recessed molded casing (fig. 73). These five windows have flush granite lintels and two sills, one recessed wooden sill and one projecting granite sill. The sashes are painted dark green. W108 is in the eastern half of the south elevation. It is an oriel window with four one-over-one double-hung sashes within wooden jambs and surrounded by molded wooden casings (see fig. 73). There are four recessed panels, one below each sash. The window is topped by a decorative entablature consisting of a flat frieze and molded cornice. Most elements of the oriel window are painted white except the four sashes that are painted dark green.

The six windows openings in the second story of the south elevation can be separated into two distinct groups (fig. 72). W208, W209, and W210 are in the western end of the south elevation. They have three-over-six double-hung sashes within recessed wooden jambs and surrounded by recessed molded wooden casings. There are flush granite lintels at the top of the opening and projecting granite sills at the bottom of the opening. The rails, stiles and muntins are painted dark green paint and the jambs and casings are painted white. W211, W212 and W213 are similar to one another and are at the east end of the south elevation. Each of these windows are hung with two-over-two double-hung windows within wooden jambs and surrounded by wooden molded casings. Flush granite lintels are at the top of each opening and projecting granite sills are at the bottom of each opening. The rails, stiles and muntins are painted dark green; the jamb and casings are painted white.

The nineteen windows in the north elevation consist of six basement-story windows (W007, W008, W009, W010, W011 and W012), seven first-story windows (W111, W112, W113, W114, W115, W116 and W117) and six second-story windows (W214, W215, W216, W217, W218 and W219). Four of the six basement-story windows at the east end of the north elevation are similar to one another (W007, W008, W009 and W010) (fig. 75). These windows have two-over-two double-hung sashes within wooden jambs and surrounded by wooden molded casings. Each window has two sills: one recessed wooden sill and one flush exterior granite sill. The rails, stiles and muntins are painted dark green, and the jamb and casings are painted white. All four windows are covered by plexiglass. One variation among these four windows is the presence of a wood board covering half the window opening, with a louvered panel in the other half. W011 and W012 have a similar configuration (see fig. 75). Each of these rectangular-shaped windows is at the west end of the north elevation. Half of the window of W011 is covered with a square piece of plywood with a "No Parking" sign in the center. The other half contains a louvered panel within a flat wooden casing covered by 4 vertical bars. The plywood, louvered panel, casing and vertical bars are painted blue. The

entirety of the window of W012 is covered with a rectangular piece of plywood with a “No Parking” sign in the center, similar to W011. The plywood of W012 is also painted blue.

Six of the seven windows (W111, W112, W113, W114, W115 and W116) in the first story of the north elevation are similar to one another (fig. 74). These windows contain two-over-two double-hung sashes within recessed wooden jambs and are surrounded by recessed molded casings. Each window has one flush granite lintel and two sills: one recessed wooden sill and one projecting granite sill. The window sashes are painted dark green paint and the casing and jambs are painted white. W117 is in the north elevation of the north-end vestibule on the west side of the building (fig. 77). The window has two-over-two double-hung wooden sashes within a wooden jamb. As previously mentioned, the enclosed porch has many Greek Revival architectural elements. Below W117 is a long rectangular recessed dado panel. At each corner of the enclosed porch is a pilaster that rises to a decorative entablature. This entablature consists of a denticulated cornice, a flat board frieze and a molded architrave. The entire enclosed porch including the recessed panel, jamb, casing, engaged pilasters and the entablature are painted white, the window sashes in the lower story are painted blue, and the window sashes in the upper story are painted dark green.

The six windows (W214, W215, W216, W217, W218 and W219) in the second story of the north elevation are similar to one another (fig. 76). Each window houses a three-over-six double-hung sash within a wooden jamb and surrounded by a molded wooden casing. Each window has one flush granite lintel and two sills: one recessed wooden sill and one projecting granite sill. The window sashes are painted dark green; the casing and jambs are painted white.

## *Roof and Gutter System*

A low-pitch, asphalt-clad gable roof covers the main mass of the Double Bank Building (fig. 78). Two additional low-pitch hip roofs are on the enclosed porches at the north and south ends of the west elevation.

The drainage system for the building consists of metal gutters built into the wooden cornice that lines the perimeter of the roof of the north, south and west elevations. Three metal rain downspouts are on the north elevation and three are on the south elevations. One downspout is located at each end and one is in the center (figs. 59 and 60).

## *Chimney*

There is one chimney that on the south slope of the low-pitched gable roof (see fig. 78). This chimney is constructed of red brick laid in a running bond pattern terminating in four corbelled brick courses.

## *Painted Finishes*

The Double Bank Building is primarily constructed of masonry; however there are some features that are constructed of wood or metal and finished with paint. The wooden features include the doorways and windows and components within, the triangular wooden pediment, the eight portico columns, the portico ceiling, the enclosed porches, the cornice, the gutters, and various signage. The metal features are limited to the downspouts. See appropriate sections in this report for specific colors of painted elements.

## *Special Features*

The major special feature of the Double Bank Building is the west portico (fig. 79). The portico consists of a wooden triangular roof pediment with flush board siding framed by a molded horizontal and raked cornice. Below the pediment exists a classic Ionic order entablature; a horizontal beam member consisting of a stepped architrave, a flat board frieze with the letters 'J.J. BEST BANC & CO' affixed to the center, and a molded cornice. This entablature returns on the north and south sides of the building, approximately half the length of the elevation. The pediment is supported by eight Ionic columns constructed of northern pine that differ from one another. The four columns at the north end of the west elevation have exhibit Roman entasis, while the four columns at the south end of the west exhibit Greek entasis. Each of the columns is 25 feet tall and consists of a 30- inch capital, a

10- inch neck and a 20- foot shaft over a 20- inch column base. Below the portico are three granite steps that extend the length of the elevation (see fig. 62).

Two enclosed porches are on the west side of the Double Bank Building (fig. 60). For a description of these porches see the preceding “Doorways” section of this report.

Other special features are on the south and west sides of the building. These include an iron bracket above D001 (fig. 80); a small sign painted black with gold letters, “Weekly Compass,” on the top casing of D001 (see fig. 63); and another sign painted black with gold letters between D102 and D103 (fig. 81).



Figure 57. Map of the historical park boundary of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. The Double Bank Building is located on a lot of land in between Rodman Street and Hamilton Street in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts.



Figure 58. West elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



Figure 59. North elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 60.** South elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 61.** East elevation of building located at 13 Hamilton Street which was constructed flush against the east elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 62.** Granite steps that span the length of the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 63.** Doorway (D001) in the south elevation of the Double Bank Building. Note small sign painted black with gold letters, “Weekly Compass,” located on the top casing (2008).



Figure 64. Doorway (D002) in the north elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



Figure 65. Doorways D101a (left) and D101b (right) in the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 66.** Doorway (D102) in the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 67.** Doorway (D103) in the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 68.** Doorway (D104a) in the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 69.** Representative windows openings in the first story (W102 on left) and second story (W203 on right) of the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 70.** Second-story W204) in the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 71.** Representative basement-story windows (W005 on left and W001 on right) in the south elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).

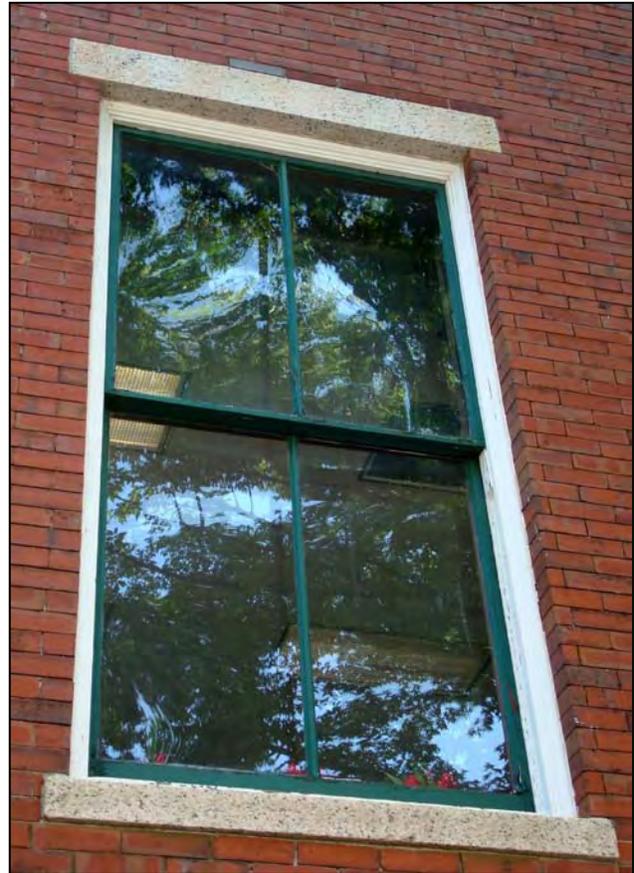


**Figure 72.** Representative second-story windows (W210 on left and W211 on right) in the south elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 73.** Representative first-story windows (W109 on left and W108 on right) in the south elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).

**Figure 74.** Representative first-story window (W114) in the north elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 75.** Representative basement-story windows (W009 on left and W011 on right) in the north elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 76.** Representative second-story window (W216) in the north elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



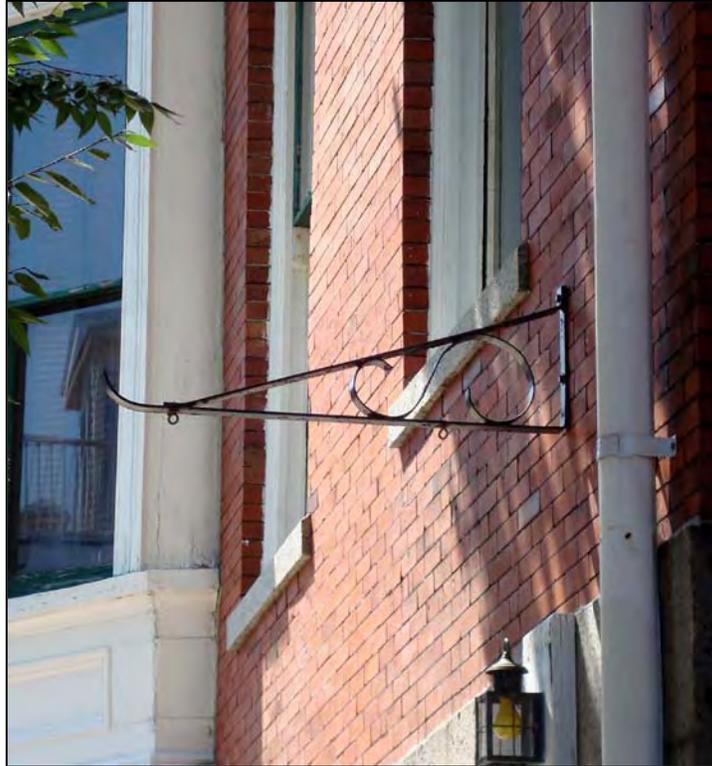
**Figure 77.** Representative first-story window (W117) in the north elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 78.** A low-pitch, asphalt-clad gable roof covers the main mass of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 79.** The portico is on the west side of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 80.** Small iron bracket above D001 at the south elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



**Figure 81.** Sign between D102 and D103 at the west elevation of the Double Bank Building (2008).



# UNITED STATES CUSTOM HOUSE

## Introduction

The United States (U.S.) Custom House is at the southwest corner of North Second Street and William Street in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts (fig. 82). The building fronts on North Second Street and is a short distance from the Acushnet River. Today, the river view is blocked by urban development and Route 18, the John F Kennedy Memorial Highway, constructed in 1961 as part of a major urban renewal project for the downtown New Bedford area.

The U.S. Custom House was built between the years of 1834 and 1836, with additional construction of the portico completed by 1837. The structure was designed in the Greek Revival Style by Robert Mills who later became the nation's first federal architect. Classically trained by Benjamin Latrobe, Robert Mills believed strongly that a building's form should express stability and permanence. Mills was sensitive to the regional values of New Bedford at the time, and wanted this structure to parallel New Bedford's emerging economic strength through traditional architectural design and the use of strong materials.

The site of the U.S. Custom House sits 50 feet above sea level and the building occupies the majority of the site. Historically flanked by other structures, the U.S. Custom House is surrounded by a parking lot on the south side and the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment Memorial Plaza on the west side. The sidewalks that frame the building on the east and north sides are constructed with a combination of brick, granite cobblestones, and bluestone pavers.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 20.

## Exterior Elements

### *General Configuration*

The U.S. Custom House is a nearly-cubic structure with the principal elevation facing east on North Second Street (figs. 83, 84, 85, 86). The building is five bays wide, three bays deep, and two stories tall rising above a full basement. The building measures approximately 53 feet 3 inches in the north-south direction and 51 feet in the east-west direction. A portico with a granite block pediment is on the east side of the building. The portico measures approximately 32 feet 5 inches wide in the north-south direction and 10 feet 2 inches deep in the west-east direction.<sup>4</sup>

The interior plan of the U.S. Custom House is organized along a central axis/main hallway that spans the length of the building in the west-east direction. In the basement story on the north side of this central axis is one principal room that spans the length of the building; on the south side of this axis are two rooms separated by a stair hall located in the middle and perpendicular to the main axis. The first floor plan is similar to that of the basement with the exception of two rooms on the north side of the central axis, instead of one long principal room, and a small room, also on the north side of the central axis, on the west-end of the building. The second floor is similar to the first floor arrangement, differing only where the central axis/main hallway is located on the first floor – two rooms on the south side of the building and one smaller room at the east end of the building extend north to occupy this space.

### *Foundation*

The foundation of the U.S. Custom House is granite ashlar blocks above grade (fig. 87). The granite blocks are laid in courses in a running bond pattern and have a smooth-faced finish on the east/north elevations and have a split-faced finish on the west/south elevations. The east foundation measures approximately 44 inches from the ground to the water table. Each east elevation block spans between 24 and 48 inches long and rise 14 inches tall. The north foundation measures approximately 38 inches on the east end and 29 inches on the west end. Each north elevation block spans between 33 and 106 ½ inches long and rises 14 to 18 inches tall. The west foundation measures approximately 23 inches on the south end and 29 inches on the north end. Each west elevation block spans between 25 ½ and 61 inches long and rises 18 inches tall. The south elevation measures 43 inches on the east end and 23 ½ inches on the west end. Each south elevation block spans between 27 and 49 inches long and rises approximately 18 inches tall.

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<sup>4</sup> Harley J. McKee, *Historic American Buildings Survey, Custom House HABS No. 662* (Philadelphia, PA: National Park Service, Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction, 1961), 3.

## *Walls*

All four walls of the U.S. Custom House are constructed of granite blocks laid in a running bond pattern. The three principal elevations (east, north, and south) are sided with split-faced granite blocks quarried from Hallowell, Maine; the west elevation (rear of the building) is sided with split-faced granite blocks quarried from New Bedford.<sup>5</sup> The elevations consist of 18 ½ courses of granite blocks, not including the sill course, that measure approximately 15 to 16 inches tall and between 45 and 90 inches long, with the most recurrent length being 90 inches. Mortar joints measure approximately ½ inch thick. Four pilasters of smooth faced granite blocks are at each corner of the structure (fig. 88).

Other siding features on the U.S. Custom House include a combination of both decorative and functional elements. On the east and north elevations under the first floor windows are raised rectangular smooth-faced dado granite panels (fig. 89). On the east and north elevations at the point of intersection between the foundation and siding of each elevation is a projecting water table. A continuous bank of granite coursing is beneath the second-story windows in all four elevations (fig. 90).

The upper walls of each elevation terminate in a small granite parapet wall capped with copper (fig. 91).

## *Doorways*

There are four exterior doorways (D101, D102, D103, and D104) in the U.S. Custom House, one in each elevation.

The doorway in the east elevation (D101) is four feet above grade and is the main entrance into the U.S. Custom House (fig. 92). D101 provides access to the main axis/hallway in the first story. The doorway has a pair of wooden doors that are painted dark green. Each door has a single raised panel on the bottom that occupies about one quarter of the total length; the other three-quarters consists of three square lights stacked vertically. A transom window above the doors has 4 rectilinear panes of glass oriented vertically and separated by muntins. Surrounding D101 is a smooth granite casing with a single convex bevel molding. Additional features of this doorway include two metal kick plates affixed to the bottom of each door, the number “37” in brass affixed to the south door, and a brass doorknob and hardware affixed to the north door.

D102 in the north elevation provides access to the west end room of the two rooms on the north side of the main axis/hallway (fig. 93). The doorway consists of a single door hung within a wooden jamb. The door has two small raised panels on the lower quarter of the door and six lights, in three sets of two, on the upper three-quarters of the door. A transom window is above the door with three rectilinear lights oriented vertically. To the west of the door is a sidelight with three lights above a small raised wooden panel. D102 does not have a

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<sup>5</sup> Ann Beha Assoc., 20.

casing, but does have a granite sill. Additional features of this doorway include a metal kick plate and a metal doorknob and hardware.

D103 is a bulkhead-style doorway in the west elevation that provides access to the basement story (fig. 94). D103 has a pair of wooden board-and-batten doors. Each door is constructed of flush vertical wooden boards painted white. The casing surrounding D103 consists of flat wooden boards on the top, right, and left sides and is covered with oxidized copper sheets. Each door has two metal strap hinges that are painted black. The doors and casing rest upon a raised concrete frame.

D104 in the south elevation provides access to a stair hall (fig. 95). Similar to D102 in the north elevation, this doorway has a single door hung within a wooden jamb. The door has two small raised panels on the lower quarter and six lights, in three sets of two, on the upper three-quarters. Located above the door is a transom window with three square lights. There is no casing surrounding D104. Additional features of this doorway include a granite threshold, small granite step, a metal kick plate, and metal doorknob hardware (exterior doorknob is missing).

## *Windows*

There are thirty-two windows in the U.S. Custom House. All the windows are simple masonry openings with common features that include absence of casings; muntins with a flat-angular profile; and wooden headers, sills, rails, stiles, jambs, sashes and muntins that are painted cream. All the existing sashes are thought to date to a restoration of the building in 1962.

The front (east) façade has ten windows (W001, W101, W102, W103, W104, W201, W202, W203, W204, and W205). W001 in the basement story has fixed single sash with eight panes of glass (fig. 96). The remaining windows in the east elevation (W101, W102, W103, W104, W201, W202, W203, W204, and W205) are similar to one another (fig. 97). These nine windows have six-over-nine double-hung wooden sashes. Each window is flanked by a pair of raised four-panel shutters painted dark green. Each shutter held open by an iron scroll-shaped shutter dog (fig. 98). The shutters are fastened to the exterior of the building by iron pintles (fig. 99).

The north elevation has seven windows (W002, W003, W105, W106, W206, W207, and W208). W002 and W003 are in the basement story and each contain a fixed transom sash consisting of four rectilinear panes (fig. 100). W003 is covered with screening and W002 is not. The remaining windows in the north elevation (W105, W106, W206, W207, and W208) are similar to one another (fig. 101). Similar to the windows in the east elevation, these windows house six-over-nine double-hung wooden sashes. There are no existing shutters at the north windows; however, there are several iron scroll-shaped shutter dogs fastened to the exterior of the building with iron lag bolts as well as several iron pointless affixed to the window jambs. Both the iron shutter dogs and pointless are painted cream.

The west elevation has eight windows (W004, W005, W107, W108, W109, W209, W210, and W211). W004 and W005 in the basement story are of similar design (fig. 102). Each has a single fixed sash with four rectilinear panes and is covered with screening. W005 differs from W004 by being slightly below grade. Four of the remaining six windows (W108, W109, W209, and W211) have six-over-nine double-hung wooden sashes (fig. 103). W107, while similar in configuration to W108, W109, W209 and W211, has a small louvered panel in place of the top-rightmost pane of glass. W210 consists of two side-by-side, two-over-three vertical double-hung wooden sashes (fig. 104). There are no shutters or shutter hardware at the west windows.

The south elevation has eight windows (W006, W007, W008, W110, W111, W212, W213, and W214). W006, W007, and W008 are in the basement story (fig. 105). W006 has a fixed sash with four rectilinear panes and is not covered with screening. The openings of W007 and W008 are covered with plywood panels painted cream. Located in the center of the wooden covering of W007 is a vent. To the east of W007 is a drainage pipe that penetrates the granite exterior. The remaining five windows (W110, W111, W212, W213, and W214) have six-over-nine double-hung wooden sashes (fig. 106). There are no shutters or shutter hardware at the south windows. Two exterior flood lamps are mounted near W110 (upper west corner) and W111 (upper east corner).

### *Roof and Gutter System*

There are two roofing systems on the U.S. Custom House. A hip roof covers the main building and a gable roof covers the east portico. The pitch of the hip roof is low and shielded by the parapet wall capped with copper that runs along the perimeter of the roof. A central observatory is in the middle of this roof. This observatory has four granite piers connected by an iron fence (fig. 107). The gable roof of the east portico has a medium pitch and a ridge line that is oriented east-west. The material covering these two roofs is unknown as the roof was not accessed at the time of the field investigation.

The drainage system for the U.S. Custom House consists of a series of gutters embedded behind the blocking course located above the cornice of the building. There are also four metal downspouts placed in the following locations: one at the east end of the north elevation, one at the north and south ends of the west elevation, and one at the east end of the south elevation (fig. 108).

### *Chimneys*

The U.S. Custom House has five chimneys. Four of these form the corners of the central observatory on the hip roof of the main building. The four chimneys are made of granite blocks and terminate with copper caps (see fig. 107). The fifth chimney is attached to the north end of the west exterior wall and ventilates the existing heating system. This chimney is a straight stack composed of brick laid in a running bond pattern and terminates with a metal cap (fig. 109).

## *Painted Finishes*

The existing painted finishes of the U.S. Custom House are limited to elements of the windows and doorways. Several window elements are painted cream, including the window sashes, jambs, and casings. The only remaining shutters on the building today are at the east windows. The shutters are painted dark green (see fig. 83). The shutter hardware is painted black. Although there are no shutters at the north windows, there are remnants of shutter hardware that are painted cream (fig. 110).

Several doorway elements of the U.S. Custom House are painted. D101, D102, and D104 share common painted features that include the following: doors are painted dark green; and headers, jambs, and muntins are painted cream. D103 in the west elevation differs from the other three doorways (see fig. 94). D103 is a bulk-head entrance with a pair of white-painted wooden doors. Each door has two black-painted strap hinges.

A decorative painted finish is on the ceiling of the east portico (fig. 111). The ceiling has three cream-color squares framed by a thin black line and a thicker green line. The remaining area of the ceiling is painted light blue.

## *Special Features*

There are several special features of the U.S. Custom House. The most dominant special feature of the U.S. Custom House is the portico, designed classically as an integral component of the Greek Revival Style (see fig. 83). The east portico covers the main entrance to the building. The portico has four Doric columns that support a triangular pediment above. Each of the Doric columns is unfluted and two-stories tall. In keeping with the design of a classical Doric column, each is constructed with a drum comprised of four separate pieces of granite, a neck, an echinus, and a rounded abacus (fig. 112). Above the column is a smooth-faced granite architrave, followed by a rusticated granite frieze upon which a tooled granite block containing the letters, "CUSTOM HOUSE," is embedded and centered over the main entrance (D101) of the U.S. Custom House. The triangular pediment is made of granite blocks and framed with a raking and horizontal cornice (fig. 113).

The main entrance and portico are reached by a wide stairway with five granite steps supported by granite cheek walls (fig. 114). A narrower stairway with four granite steps is on the north side of the portico (fig. 115).

There are two flagpoles on the U.S. Custom House. A large aluminum flagpole is centered in the middle of the observatory on the hip roof of the main building. A second aluminum flag pole is centered on the ridge of the gable roof covering the portico (fig. 116).

A central observatory is in the middle of the hip roof covering the main building. This observatory has four granite piers supporting an iron fence (fig. 107).

An exterior lamp is over the main (east) entrance doorway--D101 (fig. 117).

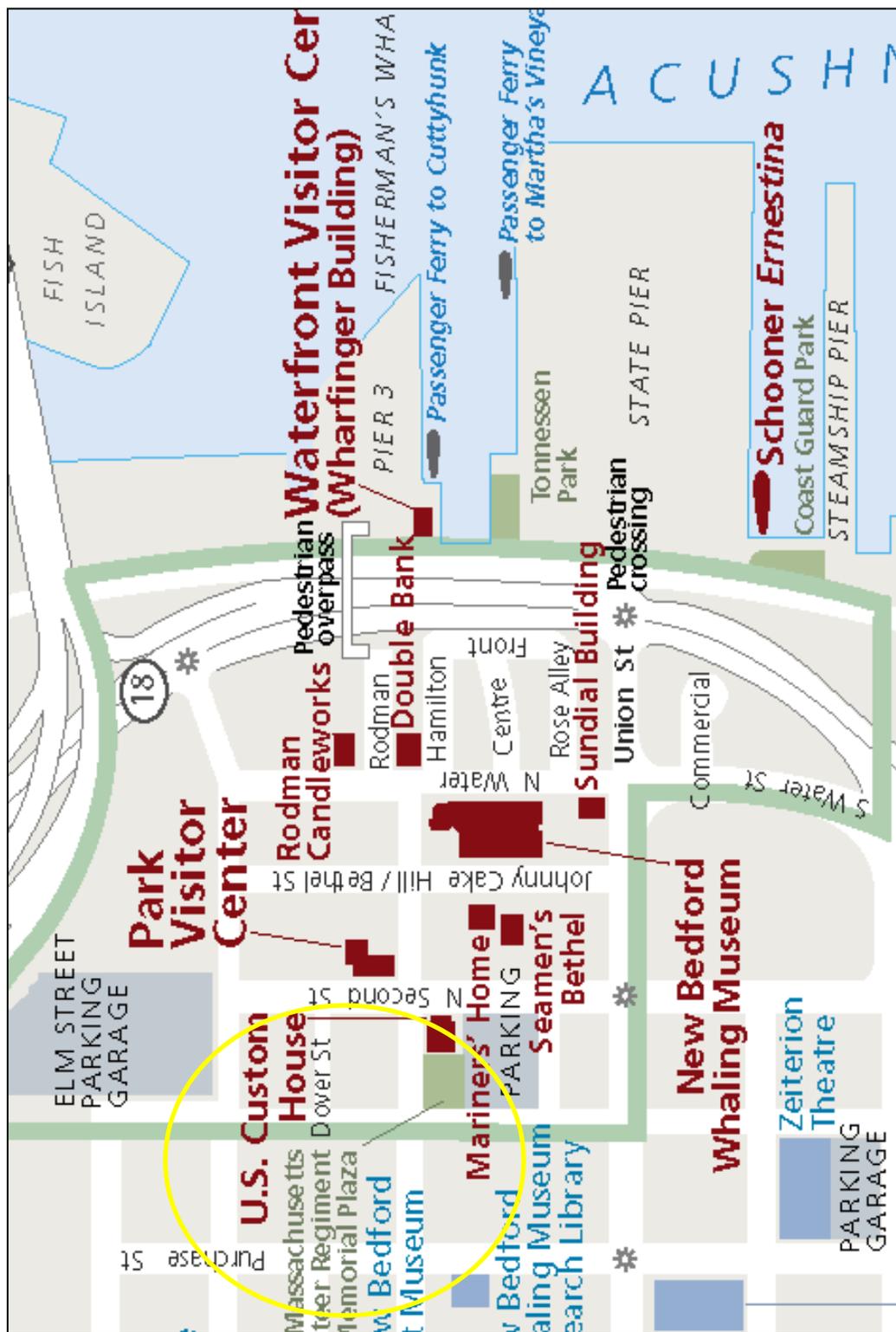


Figure 82. Map of the historical park boundary of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. The U.S. Custom House is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of North Second Street and William Street in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts.

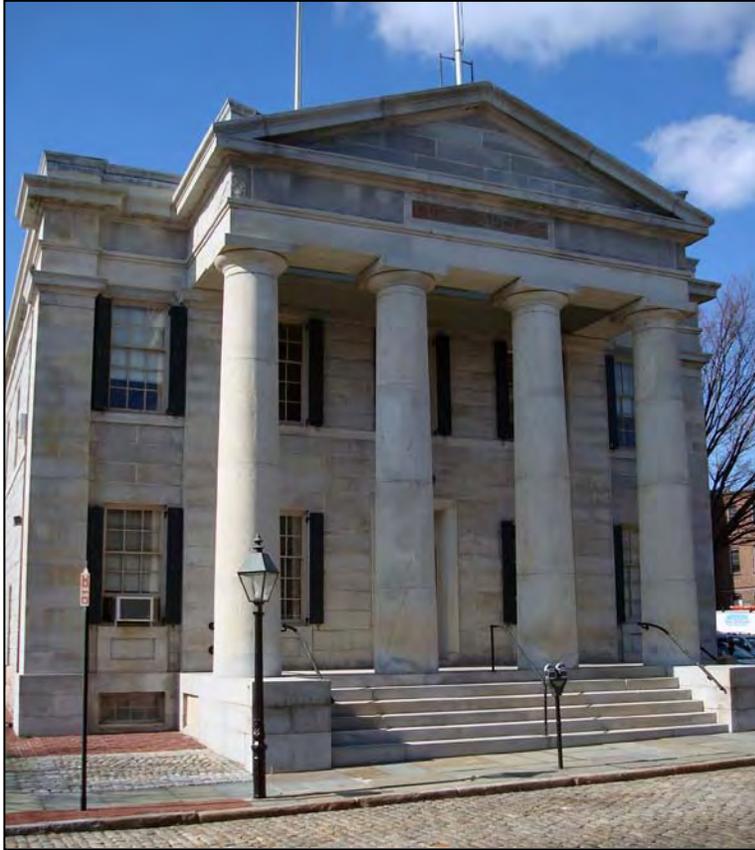


Figure 83. Front (east) façade of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



Figure 84. North elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 85.** West elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 86.** South elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 87.** Foundation of the south elevation, U.S. Custom House (2008).



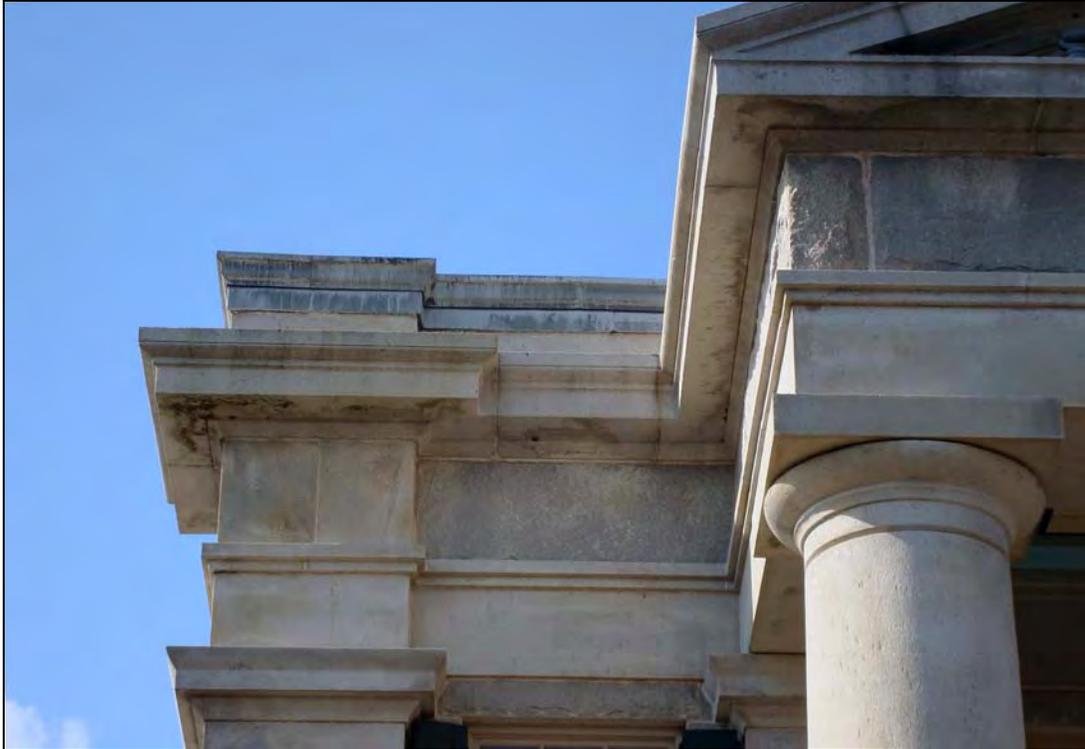
**Figure 88.** North and east elevations of the U.S. Custom House. Note the two pilasters at the northwest and northeast corners of the building (2008).



**Figure 89.** Smooth granite dado panel below window W102 in the east elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 90.** Front façade and north elevations of the U.S. Custom House. Note the projecting band of granite below the second-story windows (2008).



**Figure 91.** Front (east) façade of the U.S. Custom House. Note the granite parapet capped with copper (2008).



**Figure 92.** Doorway (D101) in the front (east) façade of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 93.** Doorway (D102) in the north elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 94.** Doorway (D103) on the west side of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 95.** Doorway (D104) in the south elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 96.** Representative basement-story window (W001) in the east elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



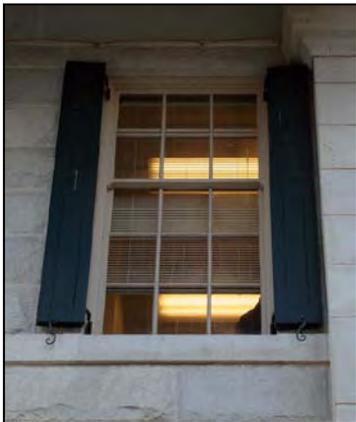
W201



W202



W203



W204



W205



W101



W102



W103



W104

**Figure 97.** Representative first- and second-story windows (W101, W102, W103, W104, W201, W202, W203, W204, and W205) in the east elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 98.** Shutter dog at the east elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 99.** Detail showing the shutter hardware of W104 at the east elevation of the U. S. Custom House (2008).



W002



W003

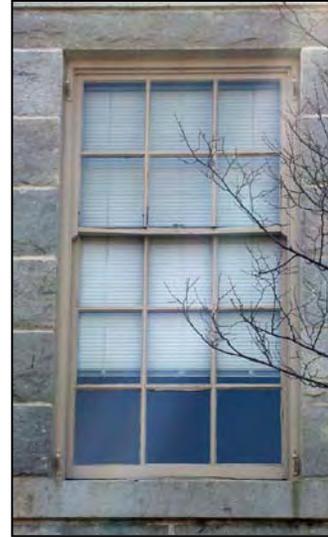
**Figure 100.** Representative basement-story windows (W002 and W003) in the north elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



W206



W207



W208



W105



W106

**Figure 101.** Representative first- and second-story windows (W105, W106, W206, W207, and W208) in the north elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



W004

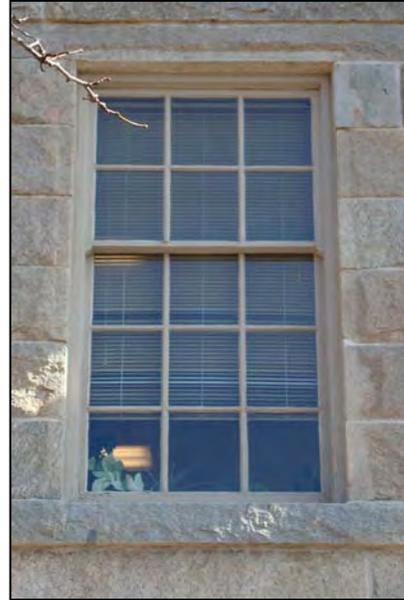


W005

**Figure 102.** Representative basement-story windows (W004 and W005) in the west elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



W209



W211



W107



W108



W109

**Figure 103.** Representative first- and second-story windows (W107, W108, W109, W209, and W211) in the west elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 104.** Representative second-story window (W210) in the west elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**W006**



**W007**



**W008**

**Figure 105.** Representative basement-story windows (W006, W007, and W008) in the south elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



W212



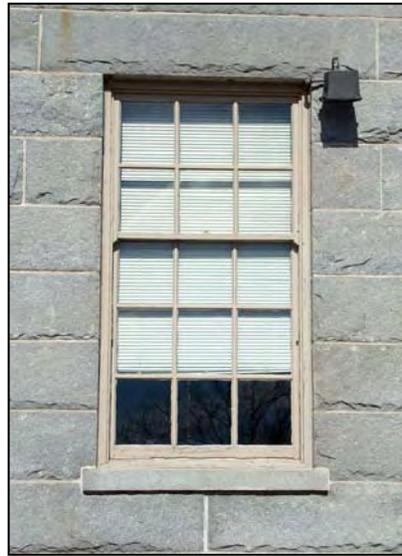
W213



W214



W110



W111

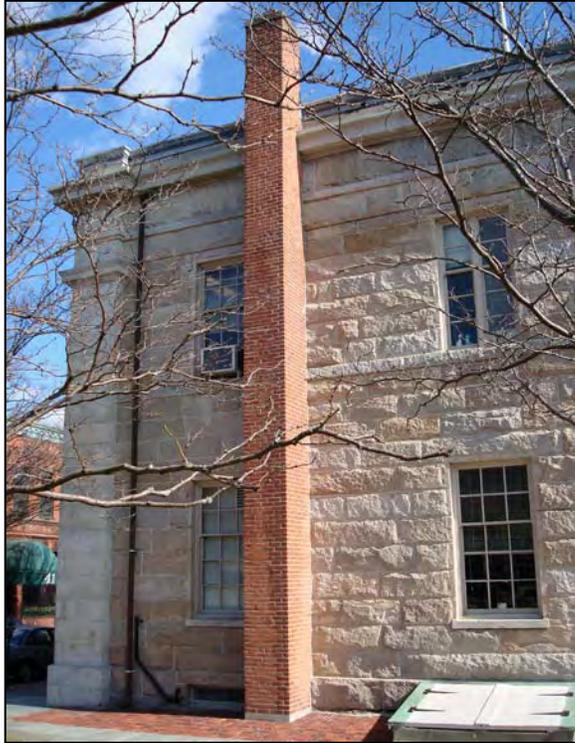
**Figure 106.** Representative first- and second-story windows (W110, W111, W212, W213, and W214) in the south elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 107.** Central observatory on the roof of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 108.** South elevation of the U.S. Custom House. Note metal downspout at the east end of the building (2008).



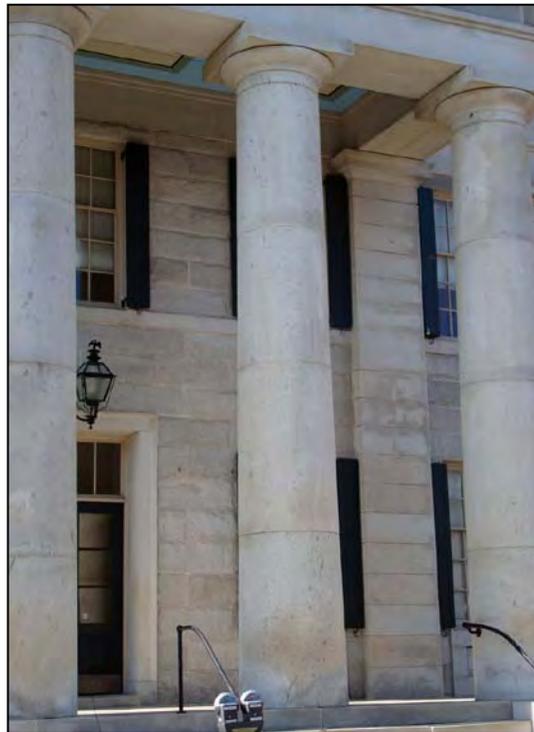
**Figure 109.** Exterior west chimney of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 110.** Shutter dog painted cream at the north elevation of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



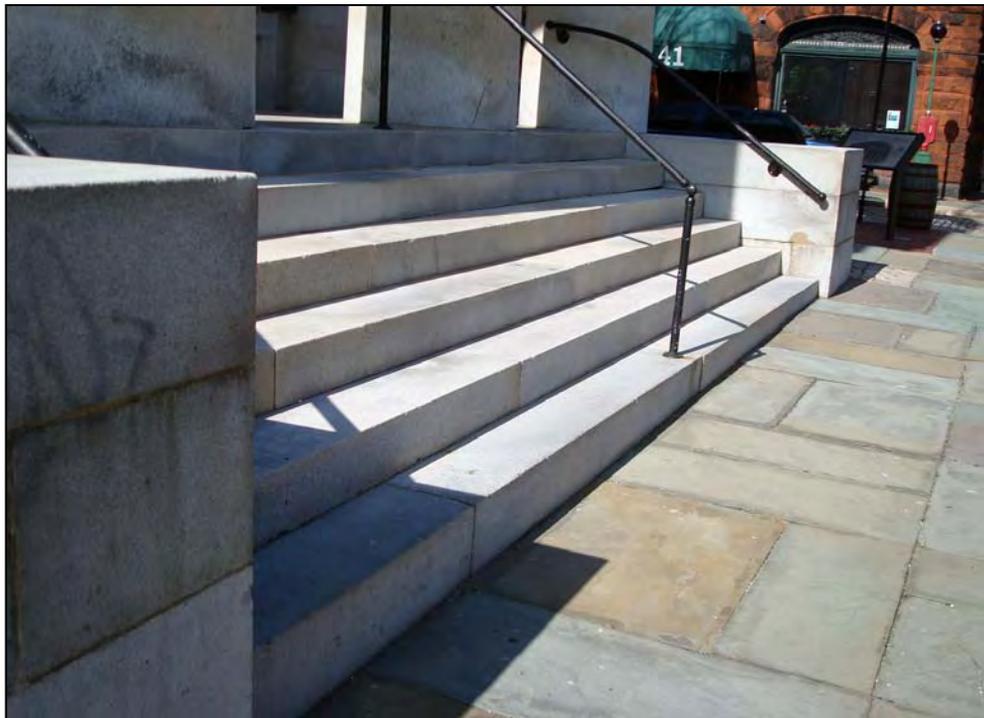
**Figure 111.** Painted ceiling of the east portico, U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 112.** Doric columns of the east portico, U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 113.** Pediment of the east portico, U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 114.** Five granite steps supported by granite cheek walls at the front entrance of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 115.** Four granite steps on the north side of the portico, U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 116.** Large aluminum flagpole in the middle of the observatory, and a smaller aluminum flagpole on the gable roof of the portico, U.S. Custom House (2008).



**Figure 117.** Exterior light above D101 at the front (east) façade of the U.S. Custom House (2008).



# **CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**



# Character-Defining Features

## Introduction

The purpose of identifying character-defining features is essential to the preservation of a structure, both to preserve historic materials and to preserve a building's distinguishing character. The Secretary of the Interior defines character-defining features as:

... those architectural materials and features that are important in defining the building's historic character. . . . The character of a historic building may be defined by the form and detailing of exterior materials, such as masonry, wood, and metal; exterior features, such as roofs, porches, and windows; interior materials, such as plaster and paint; and interior features such as moldings and stairways, room configurations and spatial relationships, as well as structural and mechanical systems.<sup>1</sup>

In the process of change, it is essential that the various features that provide a building's visual character be retained in order to achieve the highest level of preservation.

*Preservation Brief 17: Architectural Character: Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Building as an Aid to Preserving Their Character* provides guidelines for the identification of a historic structure's character-defining features. *Preservation Brief 17* outlines a three-step process to extract the elements that characterize a historic structure.

The first step in the process outlined in *Preservation Brief 17* is to identify the overall visual aspects of a building. This initial evaluation involves looking at the building from a distance to understand its overall setting and architectural context. Elements to examine include, but are not limited to, setting, overall shape, openings, roof and roof-related features, projections and trim. The second step involves identifying the visual character of the building at close range. This requires a closer look at the exterior and examining the construction materials (color, shape, and texture) and craftsmanship (texture or deliberately derived surface). The third step involves identifying the visual character of the interior spaces, features, and finishes.<sup>2</sup> Because this historic structures report is limited to exteriors, the character-defining features of the interiors have not been evaluated.

The Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building and the United States Custom House have been identified in the National Historic Landmark nomination for the New Bedford

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<sup>1</sup> Kay E. Weeks and Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Historic Preservation Services, 1995), 63.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Historic District as “mission essential” structures and are described in the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park’s General Management Plan (GMP) as “of particular importance in carrying out the park’s mission.”<sup>3</sup> The identification of the character-defining features of these structures will aid in the preservation of not only the individual structures, but also the overall integrity of the New Bedford Historic District.

The period of significance identified by the National Historic Landmark nomination includes the years circa 1790 and 1810 to 1855. However, the following character-defining features identified for the three structures in this report date to the period of significance identified in the GMP: 1760 to 1920. It is the wish of the staff at New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park that the National Register Nomination be amended to include this more inclusive period of significance.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, *PMIS Statement 66253: Prepare Historic Structure Documentation for New Bedford Whaling NHP* (New Bedford, MA: New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, 2008).

<sup>4</sup> “Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park,” (New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002), 46.

# Rodman Candleworks: Character-Defining Features

## *Setting*

- The ca.-1815 Rodman Candleworks building is within the urban environment of New Bedford with close proximity to New Bedford's working waterfront.
- The building is 22 feet above sea level at the northeast corner of North Water Street and Rodman Street in New Bedford, Massachusetts.
- The principal (west) façade fronts on North Water Street.

## *Design*

- Designed in the Federal Style.

## *Shape*

- The shape of the building is rectangular, three bays wide in the north-south direction, five bays deep in the east-west direction, and three stories tall (excluding basement story).
- The building measures approximately 42 feet in the north-south direction and 84 feet in the east-west direction.

## *Openings*

- Five exterior doorways provide access to the interior of the Rodman Candleworks building.
  - D101 is in the west elevation, recessed from the plane of the exterior wall and hung with a pair of doors with elliptical fanlight above.
  - D102 is in the south elevation, recessed from the plane of the exterior wall and hung with a single door with elliptical fanlight above.
  - D103 and D104 is in the east elevation and flush with the plane of the exterior wall.

- D106 is in the north elevation, flush with the plane of the exterior wall, and hung with a single, four-panel door.
- Forty-eight windows are in the Rodman Candleworks building.
  - Nine windows are in the west elevation .
  - Eighteen windows are in the south elevation.
  - Six windows are in the east elevation.<sup>5</sup>
  - Fifteen windows are in the north elevation.<sup>6</sup>

## *Materials*

- Split-faced granite blocks in a running bond pattern are at the foundation.
- Rubble-faced granite blocks with mauve-tinted stucco comprise the exterior walls.
  - Stucco is scored on the west and south elevations only.
- Roughly-dressed granite quoins finish the northwest, southwest and southeast corners of the building.<sup>7</sup>
- Granite quoining that frames all the doorway and window openings.
- Granite window sills and headers are at all window openings.
- Granite stairs provide access to D101 and D102.
- Wood doorway elements include doors, headers, and jambs.<sup>8</sup>
- Wood window elements include sashes, jambs, and interior sills.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> W309, W310 and W311 were cut into the east elevation as part of the 1978-1979 rehabilitation of the Rodman Candleworks building and are not historic features of the building. Therefore, they are not considered character-defining features.

<sup>6</sup> W315 and W316 were cut into the east elevation as part of the 1978-1979 rehabilitation of the Rodman Candleworks building and are not historic features of the building. Therefore, they are not considered character-defining features.

<sup>7</sup> There is no granite quoining at the northeast corner of the structure.

<sup>8</sup> Existing wooden doorway elements are replacements that were installed during the 1978-1979 rehabilitation, noted on the architectural plan to “match existing.”

<sup>9</sup> Existing wooden window elements are replacements that were installed during the 1978-1979 rehabilitation, noted on the architectural plan to “match existing.”

### *Roof and Roof-Related Features*

- A low-pitched hip roof covers the building.
- A wooden cornice with integral wooden gutters is at the perimeter of roof.

### *Special Features*

- Six granite steps provide access to D101.
- Seven granite steps provide access to D102.

# Double Bank Building: Character-Defining Features

## *Setting*

- The ca.-1831-33 Double Bank Building is within the urban environment of New Bedford with close proximity to New Bedford's working waterfront.
- The building is at the southeast corner of North Water Street and Rodman Street in the city of New Bedford, Massachusetts.
- The Double Bank Building's principle (west) façade fronts on North Water Street.

## *Design*

- Designed by architect Russell Warren (1783-1860) in the Ionic order of the Greek Revival Style.

## *Shape*

- The shape of the building is rectangular, seven bays wide in the north-south direction, six bays deep in the east-west direction, and rises two stories tall (excluding the basement story).
- The building measures approximately 72 feet in the north-south direction and 87 feet in the east-west direction.

## *Openings*

- Eight exterior doorways provide access to the interior of the Double Bank Building.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> The date of D001 is unknown. It is possible that it was added as part of the 1876 addition to the east elevation of the building; however, this is inconclusive due to lack of historical documentation.

- Seven doorways are in the west elevation (D101, D101a, D101b, D102, D103, D104 and D104a).<sup>11</sup>
  - D101a, D101b and D104a have two-leaf wooden doors with transom windows above.
  - D102 and D103 each has a pair of wooden doors with transom windows above.
- One doorway, D002, is in the north elevation.
  - D002 has a single wooden door.<sup>12</sup>
- Forty-eight windows are in the Double Bank Building.
  - Eleven windows are in the west elevation.<sup>13</sup>
  - Eighteen windows are in the south elevation.<sup>14</sup>
  - Nineteen windows are in the north elevation.<sup>15</sup>

## *Materials*

- Smoothly-dressed granite ashlar-blocks comprise the foundation.
- Masonry construction was used for three exterior walls of the building.
  - Smoothly-dressed granite blocks laid in courses in a running bond pattern are on the west side.
  - Red brick courses laid in a running bond pattern are on the north and south sides.
  - Granite block returns are at the southwest and northwest corners of the building.
- Granite thresholds are at doorways D002, D101a, D101b, D102 and D104a.
- Granite sills are at the windows of the west, south and north elevations.
- Granite headers are above the windows of the south and north elevations.
- Three granite steps extend the length of the front (west) facade.

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<sup>11</sup> Both D101 and D104 originally had a pair of wooden doors as seen in a photograph dated 1870.

<sup>12</sup> Historic photographs illustrate that although doorway D002 has always had a single wooden door, the style of the door has been modified over time.

<sup>13</sup> It is unknown when window W204 was installed. Therefore, it has not been named a character-defining feature.

<sup>14</sup> Windows W001, W002, W105, W106, W107, W208, W209 and W210 date to the original construction of the building. Windows W003, W004, W005, W006, W108, W109, W110, W211, W212 and W213 are in the 1876 addition.

<sup>15</sup> Windows W011, W012, W114, W115, W116, W117, W127, W218 and W219 date to the original construction of the building. Windows W007, W008, W009, W010, W111, W112, W113, W214, W215 and W216 are part of the 1876 addition.

- Wood doorway elements include thresholds, doors, jambs, and casings.
- Wood window elements include sills, sashes, jambs and casings.

### ***Roof and Roof-Related Features***

- A low-pitch gable roof covers the main portion of the Double Bank Building.
- Two low-pitch hip roofs cover the enclosed porches on the west side of the building.
- Gutters are hung beneath a wooden cornice at the north, south and west elevations.

### ***Special Features***

- West portico designed in the Greek Revival style.
  - Portico elements include eight Ionic columns that support a wooden triangular pediment, Ionic order entablature, a stepped architrave, a flat-board frieze, and molded cornice.
- Two enclosed porches on the west side of the building, also constructed in the Greek Revival style.

# United States Custom House: Character-Defining Features

## *Setting*

- The ca.-1834-36 U.S. Custom House is within the urban environment of New Bedford.
- The building is 50 feet above sea level at southwest corner of North Second Street and William Street.
- The building fronts on North Second Street and is conveniently close to the waterfront.
- Sidewalks on the east and north sides of the building are composed of a combination of brick, granite cobblestones, and bluestone pavers.

## *Design*

- Designed by architect Robert Mills (1781-1855) in the Greek Revival style.

## *Shape*

- The shape of the building is nearly cubic, five bays long in the north and south elevations, three bays wide in the east and west elevations, and two stories tall above a full basement.
- The building measures approximately 53-feet 3-inches long (north-south) by and 51 feet wide (east-west).
- A portico on the east side measure approximately 32-feet 5-inches long (north-south) by and 10-feet 2- inches wide (east-west).

## *Openings*

- Four exterior doorways provide access to the interior of the U.S. Custom House.

- D101 in the east elevation has a pair of wooden doors.
- D102 in the north elevation has a single wooden door.
- D103 in the west elevation is a bulkhead-style doorway, with a pair of wooden doors.<sup>16</sup>
- D104 in the south elevation has a single wooden door.
- Thirty-two windows are in the U.S. Custom House.<sup>17</sup>
  - Ten windows are in the east elevation.
  - Seven windows are in the north elevation.
  - Eight windows are in the west elevation.
  - Eight windows are in the south elevation.

## *Materials*

- Granite ashlar-block comprise the foundation.
  - Smooth-faced finish at the east and north walls.
  - Split-faced finish at the west and south walls.
- Granite blocks are the material of the four exterior walls of the building.
  - Split-faced granite blocks quarried from Hallowell, Maine were used for the east, north and south walls.
  - Split-faced granite blocks quarried from New Bedford were used for the west wall.
  - Four pilasters of smooth-faced granite are at each corner of the structure.
  - Granite dado panels are beneath the first-story windows of the east and north elevations.
  - A projecting granite band is beneath the second-story windows of all four walls.
- Wood doorway elements include doors, headers, jambs and muntins.
- Wood window elements include sills, sashes, rails, stiles, muntins, and jambs.
- A wrought-iron fence on the main roof is a component of the central observatory.

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<sup>16</sup> A basement doorway is believed to have been part of the original construction of the U.S. Custom House as evidenced by the 1834 specifications of Robert Mills. However, the existing bulkhead configuration (D103) appears to have been installed after 1939.

<sup>17</sup> All windows openings are believed to be original to the construction of the building. The window sashes are later. The original sashes are said to have been six-over-six in the first and second stories, although no confirmation of this has been found. These were replaced ca. 1870 with two-over-two sashes, which were in turn replaced in 1962 with the existing six-over-nine sashes.

## *Roof and Roof-Related Features*

- Low-pitch hip roof that covers the main building. The roof has a parapet wall capped with copper at the perimeter of the roof.
- A medium-pitched gable roof with east-west ridge covers the east portico.
- A central observatory in the center of the main roof features four granite piers connected by a wrought-iron fence.
- Gutters are embedded behind the blocking course above the cornice.
- Five chimneys:
  - Four chimneys comprise the corners of the central observatory on the main roof. Chimneys are made of granite blocks and covered with copper caps.
  - One later chimney abuts the north end of the west exterior wall. The chimney is constructed of brick laid in a running bond.

## *Special Features*

- A large portico on the front (east) façade is designed in the classic Greek Revival style.
  - Portico elements include four granite Doric columns that support a granite-block triangular pediment above.
- Five granite steps with granite cheek walls on the front (east) side of the portico provide access to the main entrance of the building.
- A decorative painted ceiling is a feature of the east portico.



# GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

## Introduction

This historic structures report focuses on three “mission essential” structures located in the New Bedford Historic District in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Each of these buildings is within the boundaries of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park established in 1996. The Rodman Candleworks was constructed ca. 1815, the Double Bank Building between 1831 and 1833, and the United States (U.S.) Custom House between 1834 and 1836. Each was built for a different purpose during New Bedford’s most prosperous economic era. All three have endured the dynamic rise and fall of this once thriving industrial city. The three structures individually retain a high level of integrity based on the seven aspects of integrity as outlined in the *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. These aspects are location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association.

In order to maintain this high level of integrity, the recommended treatment for these three structures is preservation. This treatment is in accordance with the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, “Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park,” completed in 2002. The proposed action, Option 2, calls for the shared responsibility with the park’s partners for the protection and stewardship of cultural resources.

...the National Park Service would share responsibility with its partners for protecting the park’s historic resources and offering effective programming to the visiting public. The National Park Service would bring the story of New Bedford and American whaling to a national audience. Public education, interpretation, research, and technical training aimed at generating understanding and fostering greater resource stewardship would be emphasized through National Park Service activities.<sup>18</sup>

Preservation is defined by *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* defines preservation as:

... the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic

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<sup>18</sup> “Charting the Future, A Management Plan for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park,” (New Bedford, MA: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002), 43.

materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.<sup>19</sup>

The act of preserving the Rodman Candleworks, the Double Bank Building and the U.S. Custom House should be guided by the retention of the character-defining features that have been outlined in the preceding section of this report. These are features that provide the distinguishing character of each structure and whose retention would achieve the highest level of preservation. Specific recommendations follow.

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<sup>19</sup> Weeks and Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards*, 17.

## Rodman Candleworks: Recommendations

- The setting and location of the Rodman Candleworks should be retained to preserve the urban context within which the structure was constructed and carried out its waterfront-related functions.
- The doorways and windows of the Rodman Candleworks should be preserved and replaced in kind where appropriate.<sup>20</sup>
  - As noted in the “Chronology of Development/Alterations” section of this report, new doors and window sashes were replaced in-kind in the existing doorways and windows on all four elevations during the rehabilitation of the building in 1978-79. However, it is believed that the original double-hung sashes were six-over-six, not the existing 12-over-12 type.
  - It is recommended that an opening that once existed in the south elevation between W106 and W207 be restored. It is believed that this opening was original to the building and supported in the function of the structure.
- Exterior materials should be preserved and replaced in-kind where appropriate. These include:
  - Split-faced granite blocks for the foundation.
  - Granite rubble faced with mauve-tinted stucco for the exterior walls.
  - Roughly-dressed granite for the quoins at the northwest, southwest and southeast corners of the building.
  - Wood doorway elements (doors, headers and jambs).
  - Wood window elements (sills, jambs and sashes).
  - Roughly-dressed granite for the quoining that frames the doorways and windows in all four elevations.
  - Granite for the window sills and headers in all four elevations.
  - Granite stairs at doorways D101 and D102.
- The low-pitched hip roof and the cornice of the main roof should be preserved.
- The wooden gutters within the wooden cornice should be preserved and replaced in-kind where appropriate.

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<sup>20</sup>As noted in the “Chronology of Development/Alterations” sections of this report, a doorway (D105) and five windows (W309, W310, W311, W315 and W316) were installed during the 1978-79 rehabilitation of the structure. These features are not considered to be historic character-defining features of the building. However, they do not negatively impact the integrity of the structure. Therefore, it is believed that they do not have an adverse effect.

## **Double Bank Building:** **Recommendations**

- The setting and location of the Double Bank Building should be retained in the urban environment of New Bedford, with close proximity to the city's waterfront. The existing nearby structures and setting of the Double Bank Building still largely convey the character and spirit of this structure.
- The doorways and windows of the Double Bank Building should be preserved and replaced in-kind where appropriate. These include:
  - Pairs of wooden doors within the doorways of the west elevation (D101, D101a, D101b, D102, D103 and D104 and D104a).
  - The single-leaf wooden door of D002.
  - The first-story window sashes in the west elevation, if replaced, should have six-over-six sashes installed.
  - The existing six-over-six double-hung window sashes in the second story of the west elevation.
  - The window sashes in the first- and second-story windows of the south and north elevations. These include two-over-two double-hung sashes in the first-story windows and three-over-six double-hung sashes in the second-story windows.
  - Two-over-two sashes in the basement story: W003, W004, W005, W006, W007, W008, W009 and W010.
- Exterior materials should be preserved and replaced in-kind where appropriate. These include:
  - Smoothly-dressed granite ashlar-blocks of the foundation.
  - Smoothly-dressed granite blocks of the west wall and red bricks of the north and south walls.
  - Granite block at the southwest and northwest corners of the building.
  - Granite thresholds at doorways D002, D101a, D101b, D102 and D104a.
  - Granite sills in the windows of the west, south and north elevations.
  - Granite headers in the windows of the south and north elevations.
  - Granite steps that extend the length of the west elevation.
  - Wood doorway elements (thresholds, doors, jambs and casings).
  - Wood window elements (sills, sashes, rails, stiles, muntins, jambs and casings).
- The three roof configurations of the Double Bank Building should be preserved, including:
  - The low-pitch gable main roof of the Double Bank Building.
  - The two hip roofs of the enclosed porches on the west side of the building.
- The gutters beneath the wooden cornice at the north, south and west elevations should be preserved and replaced in-kind where appropriate.

- The portico in the Greek Revival Style at the west elevation should be preserved.
- The two enclosed porches in the Greek Revival Style at the west elevation should be preserved.

## United States Custom House: Recommendations

- The setting and location of the U.S. Custom House should be retained to preserve the urban context in which the structure was constructed and continues to function as a federal building.
- The doorways and windows of the U.S. Custom House should be preserved and replaced in kind where appropriate.
  - It is believed that D102 was originally hung with a pair of doors that existed until at least 1908 (perhaps later), when the two doors were replaced with a door. It is recommended that two doors be restored to D102.
  - It is also recommended that the raised stoop that once existed at D102, as evidenced in historic photographs taken in 1870, 1875 and 1886 (removed by 1905), be restored.
  - It is unknown if the original sash pattern of the windows was six-over-six, as stated in the GSA report, or the existing six-over-nine configuration installed in the 1962. Further research may reveal the original sash pattern and it is recommended that this configuration be replicated.
  - It is recommended that a basement-level window that once existed at the north end of the east elevation, as evidenced a photograph dated 1870, be restored.
- Exterior materials should be preserved and replaced in kind where appropriate. These include:
  - Granite ashlar-blocks for the foundation.
  - Granite blocks for four walls of the building:
    - Split-faced granite blocks quarried from Hallowell, Maine at the east, north and south walls and split-faced granite blocks quarried from New Bedford at the west wall).
  - Wood window elements including sills, rails, muntins, jambs and sashes.
  - Wood doorway elements including doors, headers, jambs and muntins.
  - Granite steps and cheek walls that provide access to the portico and the main entrance of the building.
- The two roof configurations should be preserved.
  - Low-pitch hip roof that covers the main building with low parapet capped with copper.
  - Medium-pitched gable roof that covers the portico extant on front (east) façade.
- The central observatory in the middle of the hip roof should be preserved, including four chimneys and a wrought iron fence.
- The Greek-Revival-style portico on the front (east) façade, with decoratively painted ceiling, should be preserved.

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### *Double Bank Property*

1975 Building Permit No. 918-75. City of New Bedford, MA. Building Department, 30 September 1975.

1981 Building Permit No. 119-81. City of New Bedford, MA. Building Department, 6 March 1981.

1990 Building Permit No. 1694-90. City of New Bedford, MA. Building Department, 29 October 1990.

### *United States Custom House*

1977 "Custom House, No. 37 Second Street." New Bedford, MA: New Bedford City Planning Department, 1977.

1980 Building Permit No. 447-80. City of New Bedford, MA. Building Department. 22 July 1980.

1984 Building Permit No. 126-84. City of New Bedford, MA. Building Department. 27 March 1984.

# **APPENDIX A**

**Deed References:  
Rodman Candleworks and  
Double Bank Building**



## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 1 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	William Rotch Jr., Mary Rotch, Benjamin Rotch
<b>Grantee</b>	Elizabeth Rodman
<b>Date</b>	5/28/1831
<b>Book/Page</b>	33/152-154
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	... [we] grant remise release and forever quitclaim unto the said Elizabeth Rodman her heirs and assigns all our right title interest estate in and to four several lots of land situate in said New Bedford bounded and described as follows viz. the first beginning on the east side of Water Street at its intersection with the north line of Rodman Street as now laid out forty feet wide thence running easterly in said north line one hundred and four feet thence northerly in a line parallel with the east end of said Samuel Rodman's Candle House forty feet thence westerly in the north line of said Candle House to the east line of Water Street one hundred and four feet thence southerly in said east line to the place of the beginning, being the lot on which said Candle House stands. .... Four lots therein above described being assigned to the said Elizabeth Rodman in the division of the estate of William Rotch deceased"

<b>Grantor</b>	Elizabeth Rodman (mother of Sarah Rodman Morgan)
<b>Grantee</b>	Sarah R. Morgan
<b>Date</b>	1859
<b>Book/Page</b>	40/130
<b>Consideration</b>	
<b>Notes</b>	

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 2 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Samuel Rodman Morgan (heir of Sarah R. Morgan)
<b>Grantee</b>	David B. Kempton and Rodolphus Beetle
<b>Date</b>	4/2/1890
<b>Book/Page</b>	135/580
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	<p>“do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Rodolphus Beetle and David B. Kempton a certain lot of land situate in said New Bedford on the northeast corner of North Water Street and Rodman Street together with the buildings thereon and thus described: bounded on the south by Rodman Street there measuring one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47); on the west by North Water Street there measuring sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet; on the north in part by land occupied by Pierce and Bushnell Manufacturing Co and in part by other land of Grantors, there measuring one hundred four (104) feet on the east in part by other land of Grantors and in part by William Lewis, now occupied by Luscomb (?) and Corey, there measuring sixty eight and 15/100 feet. Title of Grantors under Will of Sarah R. Morgan. . .”</p>

<b>Grantor</b>	Amanda M. Beetle et ali (widow of Rodolphus Beetle), Florence B. Hutchinson, and Eugenia B. Herring (heirs of Rodolphus Beetle)
<b>Grantee</b>	Charles O. Brightman
<b>Date</b>	7/27/1908
<b>Book/Page</b>	419/332-333
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	<p>No address listed. From deed: “and convey unto said the said Charles O. Brightman an undivided one half part of a certain lot or parcel of land, with all the buildings thereon, standing situated in New Bedford, bounded and described as follows viz: - Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the North line of Rodman Street, with the east line of North Water Street; thence northerly in the east line of said North Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land belonging to John Duff; thence easterly in line of said Duff land, one hundred four (104) feet to a corner; thence southerly still in line of said Duffs land sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to said north line of said Rodman Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to the place of beginning.”</p>

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 3 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Benjamin Baker and Charles M. Hussey (Trustees of David B. Kempton)
<b>Grantee</b>	Charles O. Brightman
<b>Date</b>	7/31/1908
<b>Book/Page</b>	419/252
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. From deed: "and convey unto said the said Charles O. Brightman a certain lot or parcel of land, with all the buildings thereon, standing situated in New Bedford, bounded and described as follows viz: - Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the North line of Rodman Street, with the east line of North Water Street; thence northerly in the east line of said North Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land belonging to John Duff; thence easterly in line of said John Duff's land, one hundred four (104) feet to a corner; thence southerly still in line of said Duff's land sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to said north line of said Rodman Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to the place of beginning."

<b>Grantor</b>	Oliver C. Brightman and Marshall C. Brightman (title of Grantors being as residuary devisees under the Will of their father, said Charles O. Brightman)
<b>Grantee</b>	Ruth Hall Price
<b>Date</b>	5/15/1931
<b>Book/Page</b>	702/214
<b>Consideration</b>	Dollar amount of consideration paid not mentioned in deed.
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. Boundaries of premises conveyed listed in deed as follows: "Beginning at the southwest corner of land to be conveyed at the point of intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of North Water Street in said New Bedford; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land of Matthew J. Curran; thence easterly in line of last named land one hundred four (104) feet to a corner at other land of said Curran; thence southerly still by said other land of said Curran sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to said north line of Rodman Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to the place of beginning. Containing twenty six and 10/100 (26.10) square rods more or less."

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 4 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Ruth Hall Price
<b>Grantee</b>	Harbor View Marine Corporation
<b>Date</b>	3/18/1943
<b>Book/Page</b>	865/325
<b>Consideration</b>	Dollar amount of consideration paid not mentioned in deed.
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. Boundaries of premises conveyed listed in deed as follows: "Beginning at the southwest corner of land to be conveyed at the point of intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of North Water Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land of Matthew J. Curran; thence easterly in line of last named land one hundred four (104) feet to a corner at other land of said Curran; thence southerly still by said other land of said Curran sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to said north line of Rodman Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to the place of beginning. Containing twenty six and 10/100 (26.10) square rods more or less."

<b>Grantor</b>	Harbor View Marine Corporation (mortgage held by Reconstruction Finance Corporation)
<b>Grantee</b>	Reconstruction Finance Corporation
<b>Date</b>	8/31/1953
<b>Book/Page</b>	1094/82-90
<b>Consideration</b>	\$5,000
<b>Notes</b>	Foreclosure Deeds. Auction held on several parcels of land in the towns of New Bedford and Fairhaven, Massachusetts. Notice and boundaries/descriptions of parcels were published in the Standard Times. The Rodman Candleworks property was described as the Third Parcel: " Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of Water Street; thence northerly in said east line of Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land now or formerly of Matthew J. Curran; thence easterly by said Curran land one hundred four (104) feet to a corner; thence southerly still by land of said Curran sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to the north line of Rodman Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to the place of the beginning. Containing twenty (20) square rods more or less."

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 5 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Reconstruction Finance Corporation
<b>Grantee</b>	William Kranzler
<b>Date</b>	11/30/1953
<b>Book/Page</b>	1102/8-87
<b>Consideration</b>	Deed says "for consideration paid..."; deed does not mention actual dollar amount.
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of Water Street; thence northerly in said east line of Water Street sixty eight and 21/100 (68.21) feet to land now or formerly of Matthew J. Curran; thence easterly by said Curran land one hundred four (104) feet to corner; thence, southerly still by land of said Curran sixty eight and 15/100 (68.15) feet to the north line of Rodman Street; thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street one hundred four and 47/100 (104.47) feet to place of the beginning. Containing 20 square rods more or less."

<b>Grantor</b>	New Bedford Redevelopment Authority
<b>Grantee</b>	n/a
<b>Date</b>	12/19/1967
<b>Book/Page</b>	1552/662-667
<b>Consideration</b>	n/a
<b>Notes</b>	New Bedford Redevelopment Authority, South Terminal Urban Renewal Project, Project No. Mass. R-96, Order of Taking #31, Block 3, Lot 2, Possible Owner: William Kranzler. Block 3, Lot 2 boundaries are listed in the deed as follows: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of Water Street; thence north in said east line of Water Street 68.21 feet to land now or formerly of Matthew J. Curran; thence easterly by said Curran land 104 feet to corner; thence, southerly still by land of said Curran 68.15 feet to the north line of Rodman Street; thence westerly in said north line of Rodman Street 104.47 feet to place of the beginning. Containing 20 square rods more or less." No address listed.

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 6 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	New Bedford Redevelopment Authority
<b>Grantee</b>	Housing/70 Corporation
<b>Date</b>	8/20/1976
<b>Book/Page</b>	1726/881-886
<b>Consideration</b>	\$53,500
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the east line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 8° 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street 407.54 feet to a point; thence north 49° 57 ' 25" east 12.68 feet to a point; thence south 40° 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, 238.01 feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is 785.00 feet, a distance of 159.00 feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west 26.55 feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is 58.00 feet, a distance of 91.10 feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly in an arc whose radius is 10.00 feet, a distance of 15.71 feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street 110.03 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."

<b>Grantor</b>	Housing/70 Corporation
<b>Grantee</b>	Candleworks Associates
<b>Date</b>	5/26/1978
<b>Book/Page</b>	1762/469-473
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	No address listed. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the east line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 8° 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street 407.54 feet to a point; thence north 49° 57 ' 25" east 12.68 feet to a point; thence south 40° 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, 238.01 feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is 785.00 feet, a distance of 159.00 feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west 26.55 feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is 58.00 feet, a distance of 91.10 feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly in an arc whose radius is 10.00 feet, a distance of 15.71 feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street 110.03 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 7 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Candleworks Associates (Partner - Rodman Candleworks, Inc.)
<b>Grantee</b>	Compass Bank for Savings
<b>Date</b>	2/28/1989
<b>Book/Page</b>	2283/186-187
<b>Consideration</b>	\$500,000
<b>Notes</b>	<p>No address listed. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the east line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 8° 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street four hundred seven and 54/100 (407.54) feet to a point; thence north 49° 57' 25" east twelve and 68/100 (12.68) feet to a point; thence south 40° 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, two hundred thirty-eight and 1/100 (238.01) feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is seven hundred eighty-five and 00/100 (785.00) feet, a distance of one hundred fifty-nine and 00/100 (159.00) feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west twenty-six and 55/100 (26.55) feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is fifty-eight and 00/100 (58.00) feet, a distance of ninety-one and 10/100 (91.10) feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly in an arc whose radius is ten and 00/100 (10.00) feet, a distance of fifteen and 71/100 (15.71) feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street; one hundred and ten and 3/100 (110.03) feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."</p>

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 8 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Compass Bank for Savings
<b>Grantee</b>	Compass Bank for Savings
<b>Date</b>	9/30/1994
<b>Book/Page</b>	3402/130-131
<b>Consideration</b>	\$10
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Address listed as 72 North Water Street. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the east line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 8° 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street four hundred seven and 54/100 (407.54) feet to a point; thence north 49° 57' 25" east twelve and 68/100 (12.68) feet to a point; thence south 40° 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, two hundred thirty-eight and 1/100 (238.01) feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is seven hundred eighty-five and 00/100 (785.00) feet, a distance of one hundred fifty-nine and 00/100 (159.00) feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west twenty-six and 55/100 (26.55) feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is fifty-eight and 00/100 (58.00) feet, a distance of ninety-one and 10/100 (91.10) feet to a point; thence south 81° 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street; one hundred and ten and 3/100 (110.03) feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."</p>

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 9 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	Compass Bank for Savings
<b>Grantee</b>	HP Realty Group LLC
<b>Date</b>	11/23/1999
<b>Book/Page</b>	4567/31-32
<b>Consideration</b>	\$525,000
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Address listed as 72 North Water Street. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the easterly line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 08 degrees 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street four hundred seven and 54/100 (407.54) feet to a point; thence north 49 degrees 57' 25" east twelve and 68/100 (12.68) feet to a point; thence south 40 degrees 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, two hundred thirty-eight and 1/100 (238.01) feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is seven hundred eighty-five and 00/100 (785.00) feet, a distance of one hundred fifty-nine and 00/100 (159.00) feet to a point; thence south 81 degrees 40' 15" west twenty-six and 55/100 (26.55) feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is fifty-eight and 00/100 (58.00) feet, a distance of ninety-one and 10/100 (91.10) feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly in an arc whose radius is ten and 00/100 (10.00) feet, a distance of fifteen and 71/100 (15.71) feet to a point; thence south 81 degrees 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street; one hundred and ten and 3/100 (110.03) feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."</p>

## Deed References: Rodman Candleworks (Page 10 of 10)

<b>Grantor</b>	HP Realty Group LLC
<b>Grantee</b>	72 North Water Street LLC
<b>Date</b>	2/13/2007
<b>Book/Page</b>	8533/170-171
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1,825,000
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Address listed as 72 North Water Street. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at a point in the easterly line of Water Street, said point being the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Rodman Street and Water Street; thence north 08 degrees 08' 40" west along the easterly line of said Water Street four hundred seven and 54/100 (407.54) feet to a point; thence north 49 degrees 57' 25" east twelve and 68/100 (12.68) feet to a point; thence south 40 degrees 02' 35" east along the westerly line of John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway, two hundred thirty-eight and 1/100 (238.01) feet to a point; thence southeasterly along the westerly line of the John F. Kennedy Arterial Highway in an arc whose radius is seven hundred eighty-five and 00/100 (785.00) feet, a distance of one hundred fifty-nine and 00/100 (159.00) feet to a point; thence south 81 degrees 40' 15" west twenty-six and 55/100 (26.55) feet to a point; thence westerly and southerly in an arc whose radius is fifty-eight and 00/100 (58.00) feet, a distance of ninety-one and 10/100 (91.10) feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly in an arc whose radius is ten and 00/100 (10.00) feet, a distance of fifteen and 71/100 (15.71) feet to a point; thence south 81 degrees 40' 15" west along the northerly line of Rodman Street; one hundred and ten and 3/100 (110.03) feet to the point of beginning. Containing 48,657 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 35 in Plan Book 97, Page 39."</p>

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 1 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Mary Rotch
<b>Grantee</b>	Merchants National Bank
<b>Date</b>	5/27/1831
<b>Book/Page</b>	33/167-168
<b>Consideration</b>	\$2,333
<b>Notes</b>	South Half, Part 1 (Merchants Bank): "Beginning on the east side of Water Street at the intersection of said street with the north side of a street now laid out forty feet wide and called Hamilton Street thence running easterly in the line of said Hamilton Street forty five feet thence northerly in a line parallel with Water Street thirty one feet one and a half inches thence westerly in a line parallel with said Hamilton Street forty five feet to Water Street aforesaid and thence southerly in the east line of said Water Street thirty one feet one and a half inches to the place of the beginning."

<b>Grantor</b>	Mary Rotch
<b>Grantee</b>	President, Directors and Company of Mechanics Bank
<b>Date</b>	6/23/1831
<b>Book/Page</b>	134/106
<b>Consideration</b>	\$333
<b>Notes</b>	North Half (Approximately easterly 1/3rd of property of Mechanics Bank Lot): "Beginning in the south line of a street as now laid out called Rodman Street at the northeast corner of land belonging to said corporation thence running south in line of said land thirty one and a half inches thence east in the line of land this day sold by me to the Merchants Banks ten feet thence north thirty one and a half inches to said street and thence in the line of said street ten feet to the place of the beginning."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 2 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Benjamin Rotch
<b>Grantee</b>	President, Directors and Company of Mechanics Bank
<b>Date</b>	6/23/1831
<b>Book/Page</b>	134/107-108 (Volume 34, p. 35-36)
<b>Consideration</b>	\$2,000
<b>Notes</b>	North Half (Approximately westerly 2/3rds of property of Mechanics Bank Lot): "Beginning at a point made by the intersection of Water Street and a street called Rodman Street as now laid out forty wide for a north cornerstone (?) thence running in the line of said Rodman Street; easterly thirty five feet thence southerly in line of land this day sold by Mary Rotch to the said Mechanics Bank thirty one feet one and one half inches thence westerly in the line of the other lands belonging to Mary Rotch thirty five feet to Water Street aforesaid thence northerly in the line of said Water Street thirty one feet and a half inches to the bound first mentioned."

<b>Grantor</b>	Mary Rotch
<b>Grantee</b>	Merchants National Bank
<b>Date</b>	8/9/1831
<b>Book/Page</b>	33/305-306
<b>Consideration</b>	\$333
<b>Notes</b>	South Half, Part 2 (Merchants Bank): "Beginning on the North line of a street as now laid out called Hamilton Street, at the Southeast corner of land belonging to said corporation, thence running North, in the line of said land, thirty one feet and a half inches; thence East in the line of land this day sold by me to the Mechanics Bank ten feet; thence South thirty one feet and a half inches to the street aforesaid, and thence in the line of said Street westerly, ten feet to the bound first mentioned."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 3 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	President, Directors and Company of Mechanics Bank
<b>Grantee</b>	Mechanics National Bank
<b>Date</b>	8/19/1865
<b>Book/Page</b>	55/367-368
<b>Consideration</b>	\$7,000
<b>Notes</b>	North Half (Mechanics Bank), Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the northwest corner thereof at the intersection of North Water and Rodman Streets; thence easterly in the south line of said Rodman Street, fifty-five feet; thence southerly in a line parallel with North Water thirty one (31) feet and one and one-half inches; thence westerly in line of land of the Merchants Bank fifty-five feet to said North Water Street; and thence northerly in the east line of said North Water Street thirty one feet and one and one-half inches to the place of the beginning. Being the premises conveyed to said Grantor by Deed from Benjamin Rotch, dated June 23, 1831 and by Deeds from Mary Rotch, dated June 23, 1831 and August 9, 1831."

<b>Grantor</b>	Ivory Bartlett Jr.
<b>Grantee</b>	Merchants National Bank
<b>Date</b>	3/20/1876
<b>Book/Page</b>	82/146-147
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	South Half (Merchants Bank – East Lot): "Beginning at a point in the North line of Hamilton Street and eighty five feet east of the east line of Water Street thence westerly in the line of said street thirty feet to the Southeast corner of the Merchants national Bank Building thence northerly in the east line of said Bank building thirty one feet and one half inches thence easterly in a line parallel with Hamilton Street thirty feet, thence southerly thirty one feet one and one half inches to the point of commencing in the north line of Hamilton Street."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 4 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Ivory H. Bartlett, Jr.
<b>Grantee</b>	Mechanics National Bank
<b>Date</b>	3/20/1876
<b>Book/Page</b>	82/151
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	North Half (Mechanics Bank – East Lot), Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: “beginning at a point in the south line of Rodman Street and eight five feet of the east line of Water Street thence westerly in the line of said street thirty feet to the northeast corner of the Mechanics National Bank building thence southerly to the east line of said Bank building thirty one feet one and one half inches, thence easterly in a line parallel with Rodman Street thirty feet, thence northerly thirty one feet one and one half inches to the point of commencing in the south line of Rodman Street. Being the north half of the Estate formerly owned by the New Bedford Institution for Savings.”

<b>Grantor</b>	Mechanics National Bank
<b>Grantee</b>	William M. Wood
<b>Date</b>	5/26/1917
<b>Book/Page</b>	462/491-492
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	North Half (Mechanics Bank): Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: “Beginning at the northwest corner thereof at a point formed by the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street Eight-five (85) feet to land now or formerly of Clifton W. Bartlett; thence southerly in line of last named land Thirty-one (31) feet One and one-half (1 ½”) inches to land now or formerly of the Merchants National Bank of New Bedford; thence westerly in line of last named land Eight-five (85) feet to said east line of North Water Street and thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street Thirty-one (31) feet One and one-half (1 ½”) inches to the place of the beginning. It being the same premises conveyed to the grantor by two deeds, one from the President, Directors and Company of the Mechanics Bank dated August 19, 1865 and recorded with Bristol County (S.D.) Land Records Book 55 page 367 and one from Ivory H. Bartlett, Jr. dated March 20, 1876 and recorded with said Land Records Book 82 page 151.”

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 5 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Merchants National Bank
<b>Grantee</b>	William M. Wood
<b>Date</b>	8/27/1917
<b>Book/Page</b>	453/318-319
<b>Consideration</b>	\$1
<b>Notes</b>	South Half (Merchants Bank): Beginning at the southwest corner of the lot hereby to be conveyed at the point of intersection of the east line of North Water Street with the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly by said North Water Street thirty one (31) feet and one and one half inches to a corner; thence easterly in a line parallel with said north line of Hamilton Street eighty five (85) feet to a corner; thence southerly in a line parallel with said east line of North Water Street thirty one (31) feet and one and one half inches to said north line of Hamilton Street, thence westerly by said Hamilton Street eight five (85) feet to the point of the beginning.”

<b>Grantor</b>	William M. Wood
<b>Grantee</b>	William M. Wood Trustee (aka. Arden Trust)
<b>Date</b>	12/8/1923
<b>Book/Page</b>	613/214
<b>Consideration</b>	Not mentioned
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: “beginning at the intersection of the easterly line of North Water Street and the northerly line of Hamilton Street; thence easterly by Hamilton Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet; thence northerly sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to Rodman Street; thence westerly by Rodman Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet to North Water Street; thence southerly by North Water Street sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to the point of beginning, containing eleven thousand five hundred fifteen (11,515) square feet, more or less...”

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 6 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Cornelius A. Wood (Trustee of Arden Trust, aka., William M. Wood Trustee)
<b>Grantee</b>	James W. Dalrymple
<b>Date</b>	2/9/1941
<b>Book/Page</b>	848/188-189
<b>Consideration</b>	Not mentioned
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "beginning at the intersection of the easterly line of North Water Street and the northerly line of Hamilton Street; thence easterly by Hamilton Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet; thence northerly sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to Rodman Street; thence westerly by Rodman Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet to North Water Street; thence southerly by North Water Street sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to the point of beginning, containing eleven thousand five hundred fifteen (11,515) square feet, more or less..."

<b>Grantor</b>	James W. Dalrymple and Clarence L. Tower
<b>Grantee</b>	Harbor View Marine Corp.
<b>Date</b>	6/30/1943
<b>Book/Page</b>	871/308
<b>Consideration</b>	\$10,500
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "That certain parcel . . . with buildings thereon situated in new Bedford, County of Bristol, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, granted and conveyed to James W. Dalrymple . . . beginning at the intersection of the easterly line of North Water Street and the northerly line of Hamilton Street; thence easterly by Hamilton Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet; thence northerly sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to Rodman Street; thence westerly by Rodman Street one hundred eight-five (185) feet to North Water Street; thence southerly by North Water Street sixty-two and three-tenths (62.3) feet to the point of beginning, containing eleven thousand five hundred fifteen (11,515) square feet, more or less..."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 7 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Harbor View Marine Corporation (mortgage held by Reconstruction Finance Corporation)
<b>Grantee</b>	Reconstruction Finance Corporation
<b>Date</b>	8/31/1953
<b>Book/Page</b>	1094/82-90
<b>Consideration</b>	\$5,000
<b>Notes</b>	Foreclosure Deeds. Auction held on several parcels of land in the towns of New Bedford and Fairhaven, Massachusetts. Notice and boundaries/descriptions of parcels were published in the Standard Times. The Double Bank property was described as the Fourth Parcel: "Beginning at the intersection of the north line of Rodman Street with the east line of Water Street; thence northerly by North Water Street sixty two and 30/100 (62.3) feet to the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street one hundred and eight five (185); thence southerly sixty two and 30/100 (62.3) feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; and thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street one hundred and eight five (185) feet to the point of beginning. Containing forty-two and 1/4 (42 1/4) square rods more or less."

<b>Grantor</b>	Reconstruction Finance Corporation
<b>Grantee</b>	Harold A. Ledgard
<b>Date</b>	12/28/1953
<b>Book/Page</b>	1104/230-234
<b>Consideration</b>	Not mentioned in deed.
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the East line of North Water Street and the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street 62.3 feet to the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street 85 feet more or less to other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation; thence southerly by said other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation 62.3 feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street 85 feet more or less to the point of the beginning."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 8 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Harold A. Ledgard
<b>Grantee</b>	New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corp.
<b>Date</b>	9/26/1961
<b>Book/Page</b>	1350/358
<b>Consideration</b>	Not mentioned in deed.
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the East line of North Water Street and the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street 62.3 feet to the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street 85 feet more or less to other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation; thence southerly by said other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation 62.3 feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street 85 feet more or less to the point of the beginning."

<b>Grantor</b>	The New Bedford Fishermen's Union Building Corp
<b>Grantee</b>	Jacob Ostensen, Austin P. Skinner, John Burt, Leonard T. Healy, John A. Sylvia, and Olaf Enoksen and their successors, trustees of the New Bedford Fishermen's Pension Trust
<b>Date</b>	3/17/1970
<b>Book/Page</b>	1598/453-455
<b>Consideration</b>	\$45,000
<b>Notes</b>	Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the East line of North Water Street and the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street 62.3 feet to the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street 85 feet more or less to other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation; thence southerly by said other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation 62.3 feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street 85 feet more or less to the point of the beginning."

## Deed References: Double Bank Building (Page 9 of 9)

<b>Grantor</b>	Gerard Dhooge and Manuel F. Marques, Trustees of the New Bedford Fishermen's Pension Trust
<b>Grantee</b>	Exchange Authority, LLP, Trustee of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust
<b>Date</b>	9/22/2005
<b>Book/Page</b>	7777/54-55
<b>Consideration</b>	\$910,000
<b>Notes</b>	Address listed as 56 North Water Street. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the East line of North Water Street and the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street 62.3 feet to the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street 85 feet more or less to other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation; thence southerly by said other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation 62.3 feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street 85 feet more or less to the point of the beginning."

<b>Grantor</b>	Exchange Authority, LLP of the Meldon 2005 Exchange Trust
<b>Grantee</b>	John J. Meldon, Trustee of Second Futures Real Estate Trust
<b>Date</b>	3/20/2006
<b>Book/Page</b>	8095/334-335
<b>Consideration</b>	\$10
<b>Notes</b>	Address listed as 56 North Water Street. Boundaries of land and buildings thereon listed in deed: "Beginning at the southwest corner thereof at the intersection of the East line of North Water Street and the north line of Hamilton Street; thence northerly in said east line of North Water Street 62.3 feet to the intersection of the east line of North Water Street and the south line of Rodman Street; thence easterly in said south line of Rodman Street 85 feet more or less to other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation; thence southerly by said other land now or formerly of Reconstruction Finance Corporation 62.3 feet to the north line of Hamilton Street; thence westerly in said north line of Hamilton Street 85 feet more or less to the point of the beginning."



# **APPENDIX B**

## **U.S. Custom House: Construction Documents, 1834 and 1836**



Contract dated August 1, 1834

Description of the manner of erecting and finishing a certain building proposed to be built in the City of New Bedford, State of Massachusetts for a Custom house upon the corner of Second and William Streets and which is further explained by drawings hereunto annexed.

General Dimensions of Building & Co.

Front from out to out of walls exclusive of pilasters	50 feet
Depth " " " " " "	52 ft
Height of walls from cellar floor to eaves	40 ft
Viz. Cellar Story	8.0' In the clear between
" First Story	12.9' the floor and apex
" Second Story	15.0' of arch when finished
Thickness of arch of floors and framing as floors	12 inches
Thickness of footings of external walls	2 1/2 feet
Thickness of outer walls of cellar up to watertable	2 feet
" of all the internal walls and angular piers up to watertable	1 1/2 bricks or if
of stone 18 inches with an allowance of 6 inches additional for the footings. Thickness	
of external walls above the watertable line to eaves 18 inches.	
Thickness of the internal walls and angular piers to spring of groin arches	12 to 14
inches. The spring of the groin arches to be equal to 1/4 of their span, and to be	
turned 9 inches or 1 brick thick, spandrils solidly filled or grouted as well as all the	
walls. The base of the first floor to be not less than 4' above the footway of the street.	

The exterior walls to be all faced with granite in the manner hereinafter described:

Mason, Bricklayer & Stone Cutter

Dig out the whole area to be covered by the building to the necessary depth, perfectly level and straight. Dig out also for the footings of the several walls of brick width and depth as may be requisite with equal care. The whole of the earth excavated from these respective diggings, which will not be wanted to level the premises, to be immediately carted away. Pour the foundations and ascertain their capacity to support the incumbent walls. Carry up the several walls of the thickness, heights & c. as stated under the preceding heads and with special reference to the forms as designated in the plans annexed, signed by Robert Mills.

All the external walls above the surface of the ground to be faced with Granite Stone (the filling in behind may be of stone or brick at the option of the contractors) all the internal walls, angular piers, and arches to be built of hard brick (these walls may, if the contractors prefer it, be built of stone).

The two principal or street fronts to be constructed with the Hallowell or Sandy bay split stone laid in regular courses and jointed in the best manner. The other two sides of the building to be finished with the New Bedford split stone also laid in level courses and jointed in the neatest manner.

The architraves of the front door, joint casings, sills & c. of the windows and doors, fascia bands and base of the fronts (?) to be of dressed stone, as also the Portico platform, pilasters and angular pilasters and capitals with their cornice.

The Stone steps inside and out to be finished smooth. The windows to be all revealed, the sashes and frames are to be of wood well cured/secured (?), as also the door frames internally (Dead Arches to be thrown over all these openings). All the chimneys above the Roof to be built of stone as per drawings, the shafts to be carried at least 7 feet above the platform of observatory, top of roof, the flues to be well plastered, and not less than a foot square.

All the above work and whatever other work of the same nature necessary to complete the building according to plans, and not herein particularly specified, to be done in the best & most workmanlike manner, agreeably to the designs of Robert Mills, architect hereunto annexed and signed by him and with the best and most substantial materials. The mortar to be made with strong stone lime and clean sharp river or bank sand in the general proportion of one bushel of unslacked lime to 6 of sharp sand. The walls, arches and steps to be properly grouted, or the joints well filled with mortar. In setting the window and door sills (sic), care must be taken to leave the middle part clear from resting on the wall to avoid a fracture.

#### Carpenter

Construct and fix all the centers required to form the groin and other arches about the building. Construct a Hip roof with two principal rafters and beams over the whole building agreeably to the plans annexed, with a platform on the top for an observatory. The timbers of this roof must be well-framed and supported, and bolted together, so as to have no lateral purpose (?) acting against the walls.

The roof to be well boarded to receive a zinc or other metal covering, and the gutters formed to receive the same covering. The pitch of the roof need not exceed 1/8" or 7 or 8 feet (?). Construct the doors, door frames, window frames, sashes, and stairs hand rail of wood, the floors to be all lain with plank 1 1/4 inch heart pine resting on 3 by 4 sleepers between the arches. It will be necessary that the hanging and setting of all this work should be attended to by the carpenter so that it may be true. Construct a cellar door on the west side of the building hung to stone jambs and sills (sic), and do whatever smaller matters of woodwork may be required about the building and which may have been here omitted and yet demanded for finishing the building agreeably to the drawings annexed signed by Robert Mills, Architect. All the above work to be executed in the best and most workmanlike manner of the form and dimensions as laid down in the wittren (?) named drawings and with the best quality of materials.

#### Plumber

Cover the whole roof and observatory floor with plate zinc in the best and most durable manner forming the necessary gutters behind blocking course, and the down pipes to carry off the rain water.

Iron founder, Iron monger & Blacksmith

Provide the necessary locks, hinges & fastenings for all the doors and windows with gratings to those in the cellar. Provide the necessary bolts, straps and holdfasts which may be wanted in the construction of the roof. Provide and set a wrought iron fancy railing around the observatory and inside stairs up to 2nd story and well secured to the same. All the above work to be done in the neatest and most workmanlike substantial manner and agreeably to the drawings annexed signed by Robert Mills.

Plasterer

All the walls and ceilings of office rooms, passages and stair case to be plastered (sic) in the best manner, three coats, or stuccoed to imitate stonework. The cellar walls and ceiling to be white washed and the store rooms to have two coats.

Painter & Glazier

All the doors, windows, jamb casings of ditto (?) plinth and iron railing on top of roof and stairs, together with such show (?) woodwork as may be done, to be painted 3 times in oil with good White lead a little tinged with yellow ochre to give body to the work (the inside stone work of doors and windows in the store and cellar rooms, not to be painted at present).

All the sashes to be glazed with the best quality cylinder glass, well puttied and secured, the clearest and straightest to be picked for the Office Rooms and the fronts. Clean all the windows at the finishing of the work, and finish the principal doors with a fancy colour, all to be done in the best manner and with the best materials.

**July 25, 1836**

**Specifications for completion of the New Bedford Custom House**

To build a Stone Portico to consist of four columns, placed upon the platform now completed. The dimensions of the columns to be twenty-five feet from the platform to the top of the caps. The shafts to be three feet two inches diameter at the base and three feet two inches at the top composed of four pieces each. The columns to be surmounted by an entablature to correspond with that now on the building, and a pediment of the dimensions expressed in the drawing. The workmanship and materials to be as good as the base of the front pilasters and front cornice, and the stone to be of the same description as that used for those purposes. The portico to be covered with a wooden roof, plated with zinc and furnished with copper gutters. All the gutters now in the building to be taken up and replaced with copper, the sheets to be not less than four feet wide and to be pressed (?) to the top of the blocking. The ceiling of the entries to be plastered to resemble stone and struck off accordingly. The southeast room on the first floor to be plastered with three coats, and the southwest room with two coats well smoothed. The cellars to be flagged with good thick stone laid in stone and mortar. Drains to be constructed to carry all their water to the principal drain running through the passage to the outlet. All the sidewalks to be flagged with good Bolton stone, laid in not less than four inches of fine gravel. The lot to be enclosed on the west and partly on the south and east with a stone wall, eight feet above the ground, faced on both sides and pointed with cement, footed on the hard pan, three or four feet below the surface of the ground, and the footing to be not less than two feet thick, the wall to taper gradually to eighteen inches at the top. The East wall to be laid in courses of good split stone and capped with rough hammered coping, eight inches thick and projecting on the East not less than two inches. Construct a privy with four seats in the South West corner of the lot so that the partition walls will make two sides of it. The East wall to be laid in courses, and the whole to be surmounted with a rough hammered cornice. The roof to be of wood covered with zinc and furnished with a copper gutter and rain bucket. A heavy gate hung by substantial iron hinges to stone posts and furnished with a good lock to be placed on the South side of the lot. Shutters of wood covered with zinc to be put to all the windows and all the show woodwork to be covered with three good coats of oil paint. An iron fence with a stone underpinning to correspond with the fence in front of Mr. George Baker's house to be placed on the front of the lot. A well and a pump to be placed in such part of the lot as the Collector may elect, and gutters paved to carry off all the water into the street. A substantial iron <sup>F</sup>ail to be

installed (?)

enster (?) on the North steps, and the Collector's Office to be fitted up with a hardwood counter containing a case of drawers, two pine desks containing two drawers each with locks and keys, two cases for containing books and papers, all stained and varnished, a cherry writing table to contain four drawers, and three inside window blinds painted green and furnished with copper fastenings.

Anything herein omitted necessary to complete the buildings, fences and other work to be considered part of this specification and to be completed according to the true intent and meaning of this contract whereof the Collector shall be the sole judge.

And the said party of the second part does further agree and construct to have the copper gutters aforesaid finished and put up by the 20th day of August next. To have the stone wall to enclose the lot put up and finished, the privy built and the cellars flagged by the 31st day of October next, and the whole contract completed by the 30th day of June next.

Total cost of \$7,200

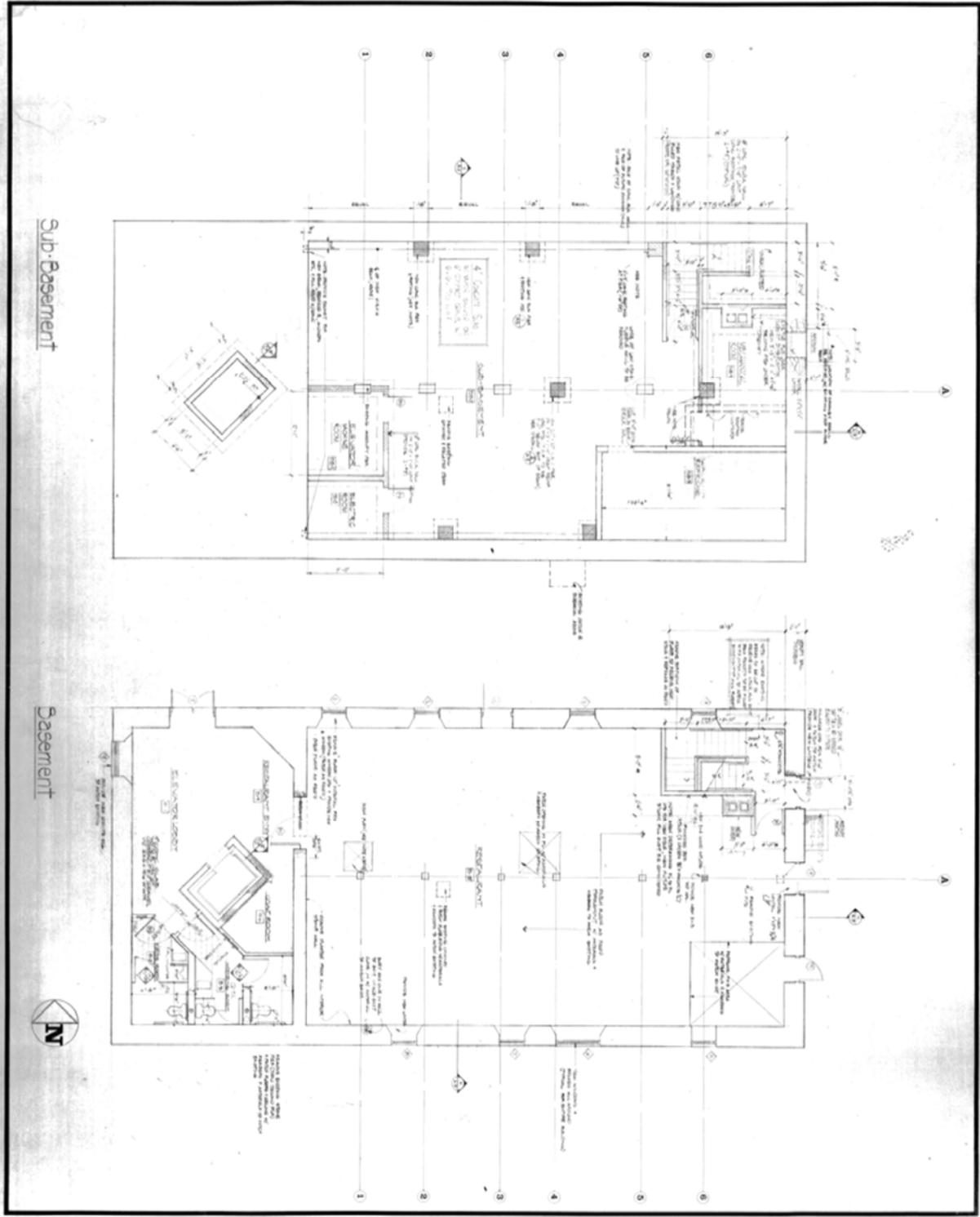


# **APPENDIX C**

## **Rodman Candleworks: Site Plan and Architectural Drawings, 1978**





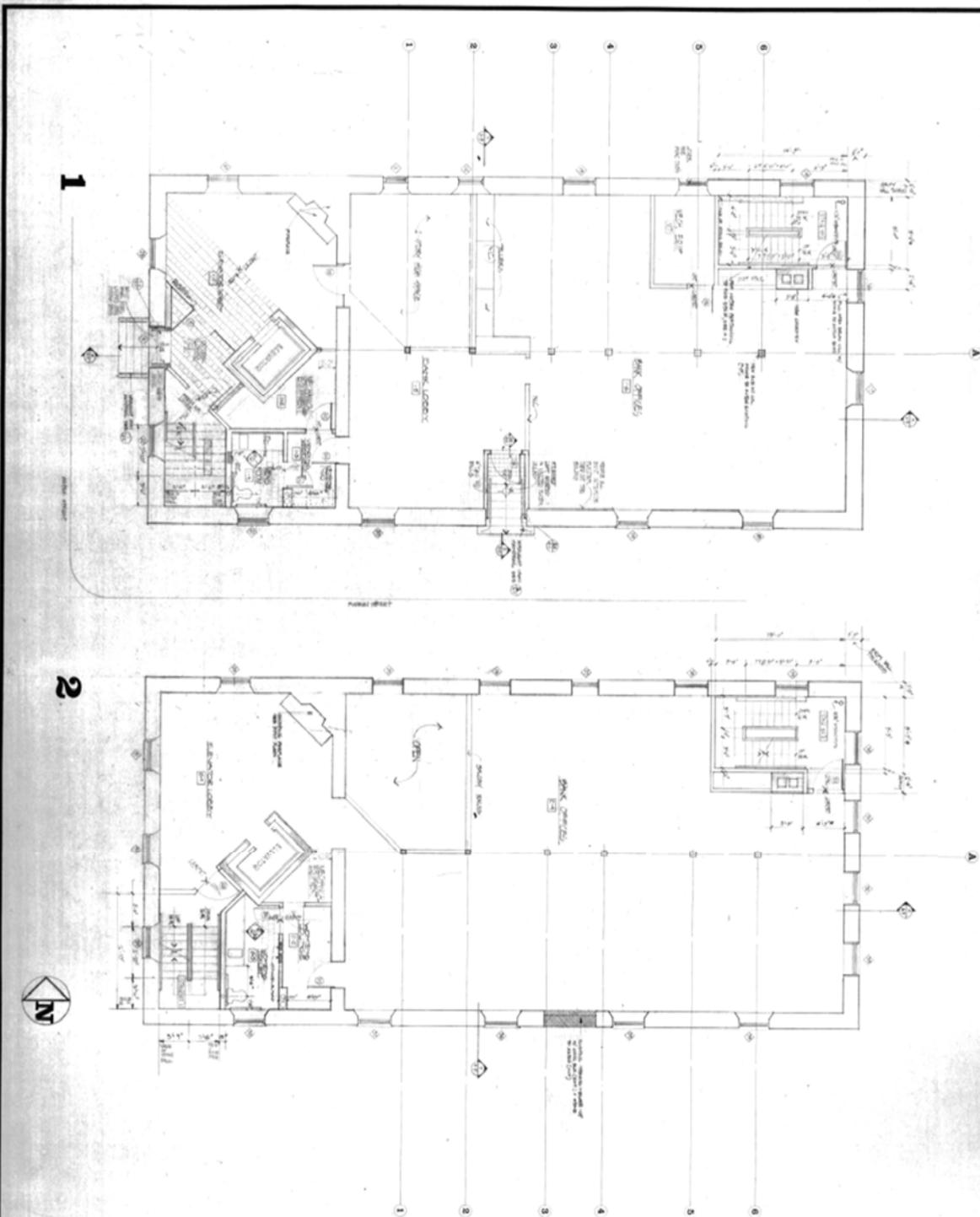


Sub-Basement

Basement



Sub-Basement & Basement Floor Plans	1/2" = 1'-0" 1/4" = 1'-0" 1/8" = 1'-0" 1/16" = 1'-0" 1/32" = 1'-0" 1/64" = 1'-0" 1/128" = 1'-0" 1/256" = 1'-0" 1/512" = 1'-0" 1/1024" = 1'-0" 1/2048" = 1'-0" 1/4096" = 1'-0" 1/8192" = 1'-0" 1/16384" = 1'-0" 1/32768" = 1'-0" 1/65536" = 1'-0" 1/131072" = 1'-0" 1/262144" = 1'-0" 1/524288" = 1'-0" 1/1048576" = 1'-0" 1/2097152" = 1'-0" 1/4194304" = 1'-0" 1/8388608" = 1'-0" 1/16777216" = 1'-0" 1/33554432" = 1'-0" 1/67108864" = 1'-0" 1/134217728" = 1'-0" 1/268435456" = 1'-0" 1/536870912" = 1'-0" 1/1073741824" = 1'-0" 1/2147483648" = 1'-0" 1/4294967296" = 1'-0" 1/8589934592" = 1'-0" 1/17179869184" = 1'-0" 1/34359738368" = 1'-0" 1/68719476736" = 1'-0" 1/137438953472" = 1'-0" 1/274877906944" = 1'-0" 1/549755813888" = 1'-0" 1/1099511627776" = 1'-0" 1/2199023255552" = 1'-0" 1/4398046511104" = 1'-0" 1/8796093022208" = 1'-0" 1/17592186044416" = 1'-0" 1/35184372088832" = 1'-0" 1/70368744177664" = 1'-0" 1/140737488355328" = 1'-0" 1/281474976710656" = 1'-0" 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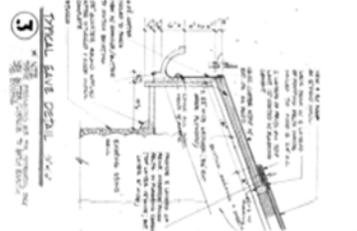
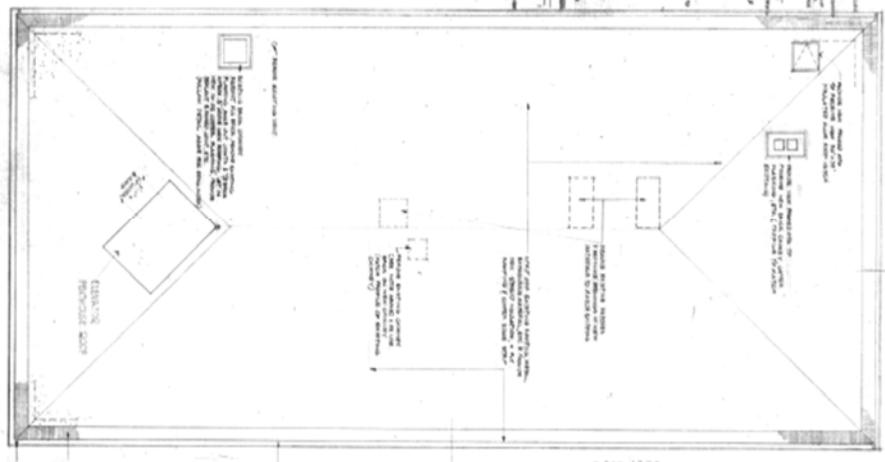
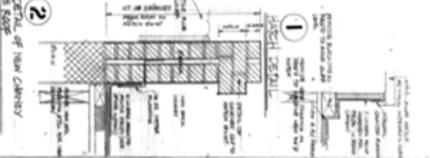
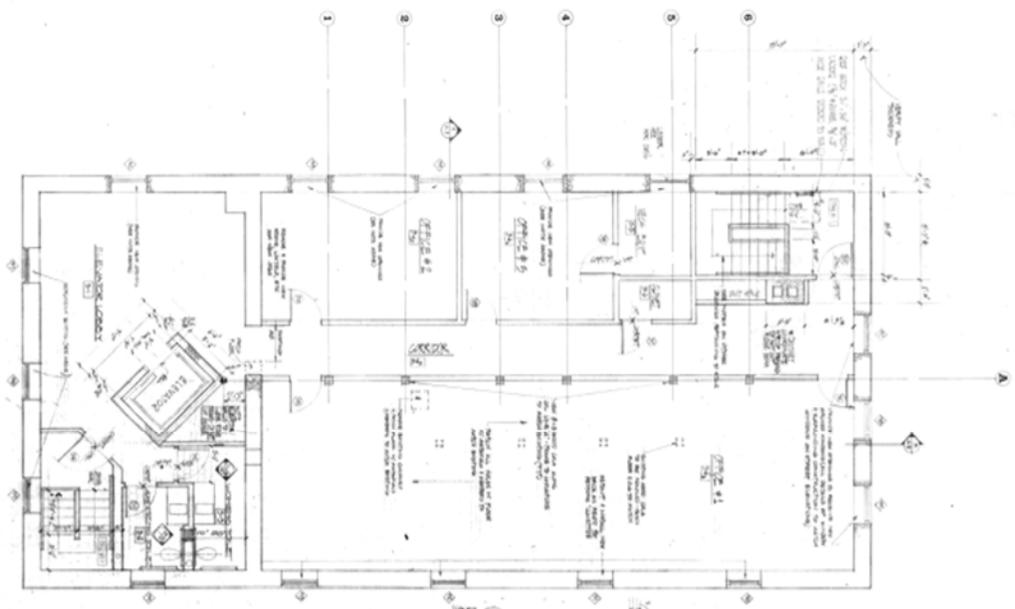


DATE	1/11/00
BY	MB
PROJECT	RODMAN CANDLE WORKS
NO.	1
DESCRIPTION	FLOOR PLANS
SCALE	1/8" = 1'-0"

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

3



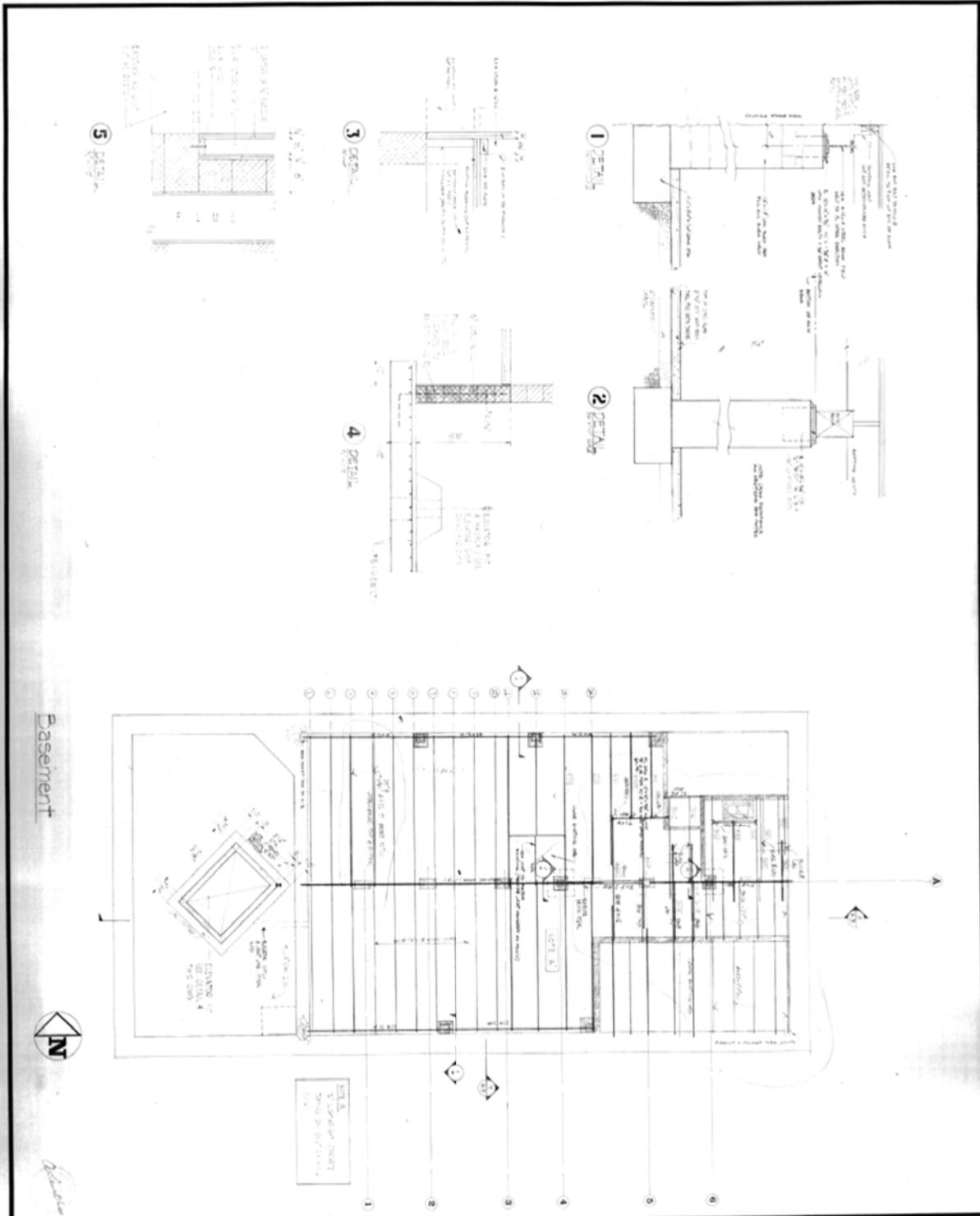
Roof Plan



3rd Floor Roof Plans	Sheet No. 3	Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"
DATE: 10/15/11	PROJECT: RODMAN CANDLE WORKS	LOCATION: 72 NORTH WATER STREET, NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
543a Green Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02129  
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS



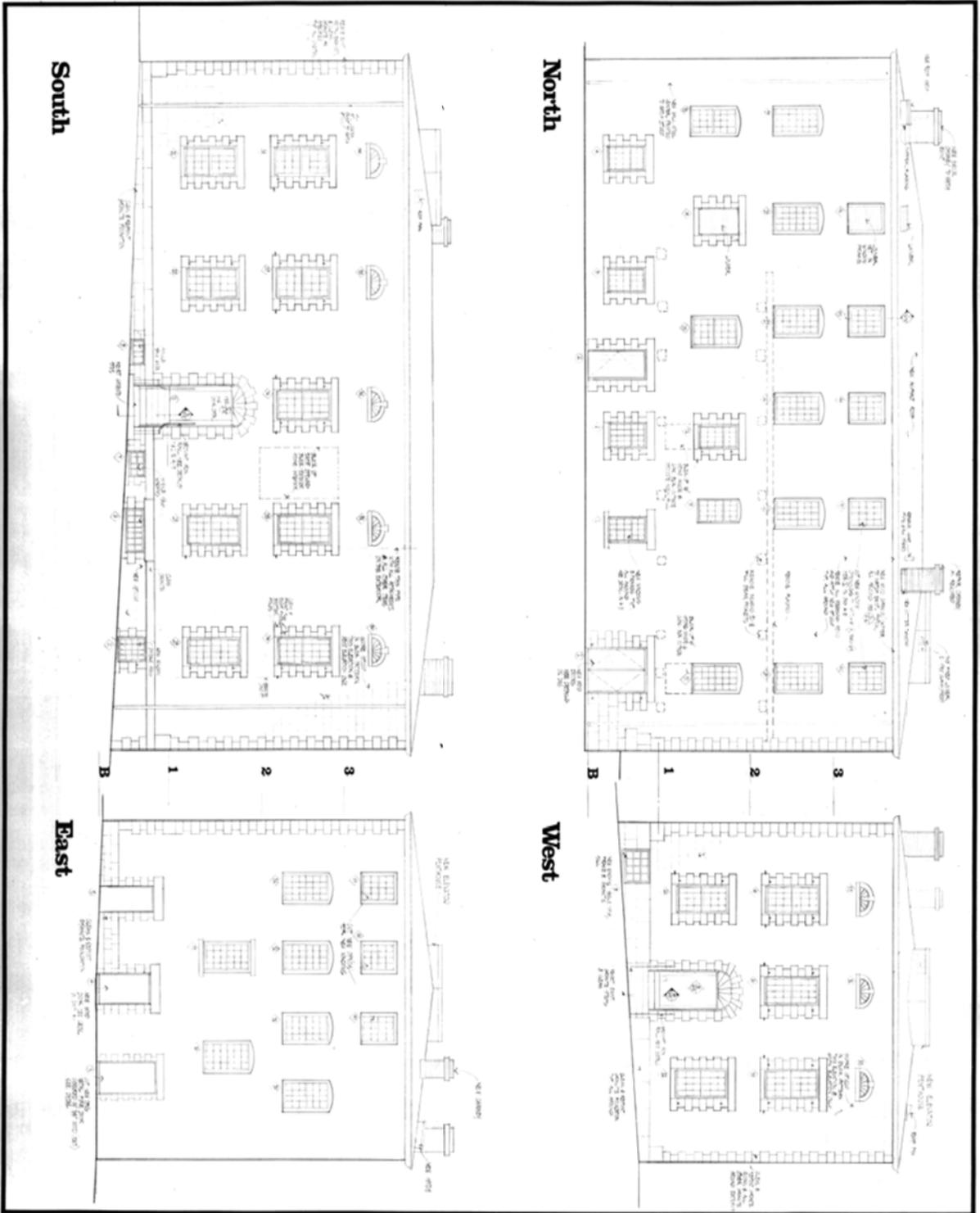
PROJECT	RODMAN CANDLE WORKS
DATE	1/14/17
SCALE	1/8" = 1'-0"
DESIGNED BY	AVI
DRAWN BY	AVI
CHECKED BY	AVI
APPROVED BY	AVI
DATE	1/14/17

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02119  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS



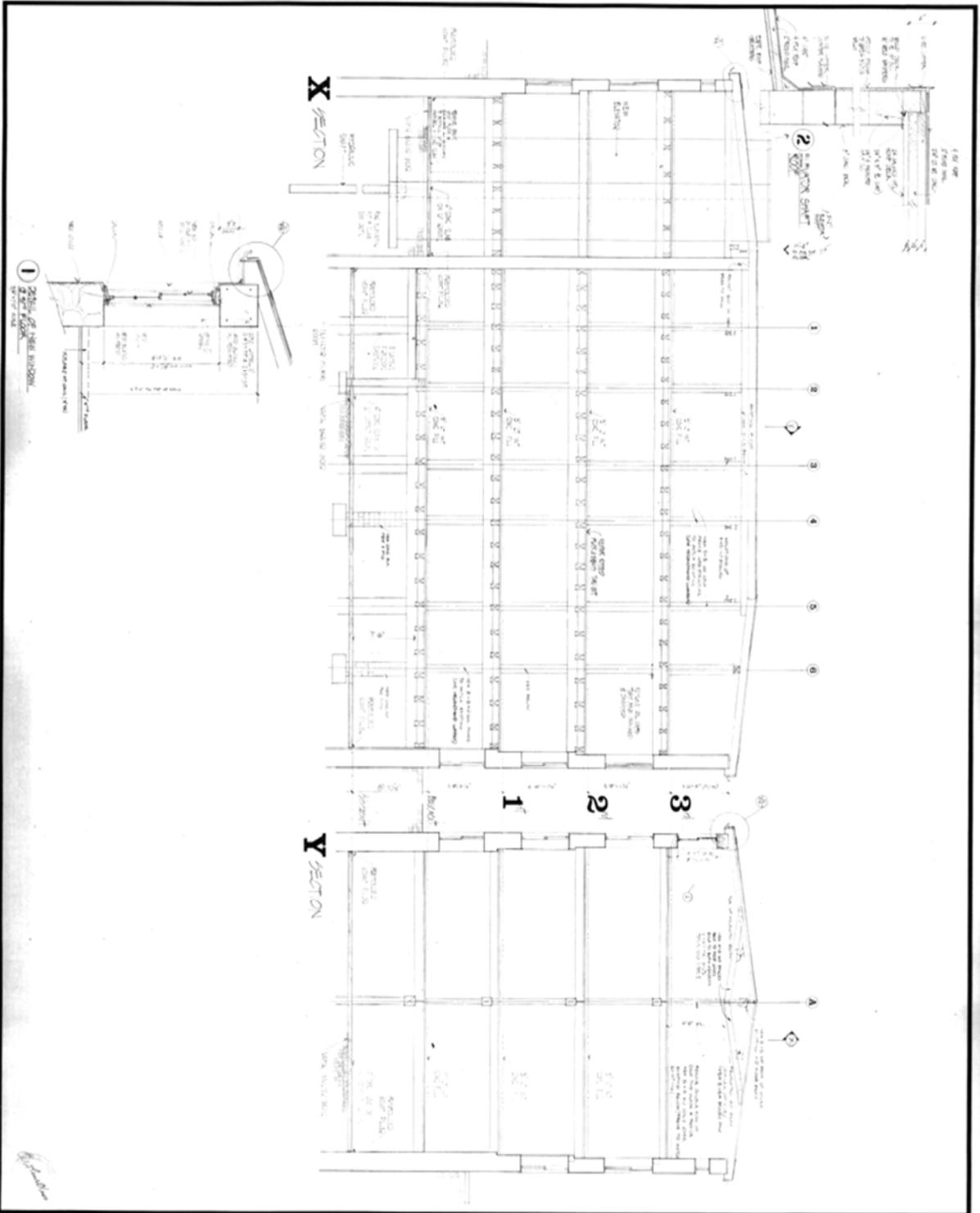




DATE	NOV 19 1915
BY	J. W. COTT
CHECKED BY	J. W. COTT
SCALE	1/4" = 1'-0"
PROJECT	RODMAN CANDLE WORKS

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

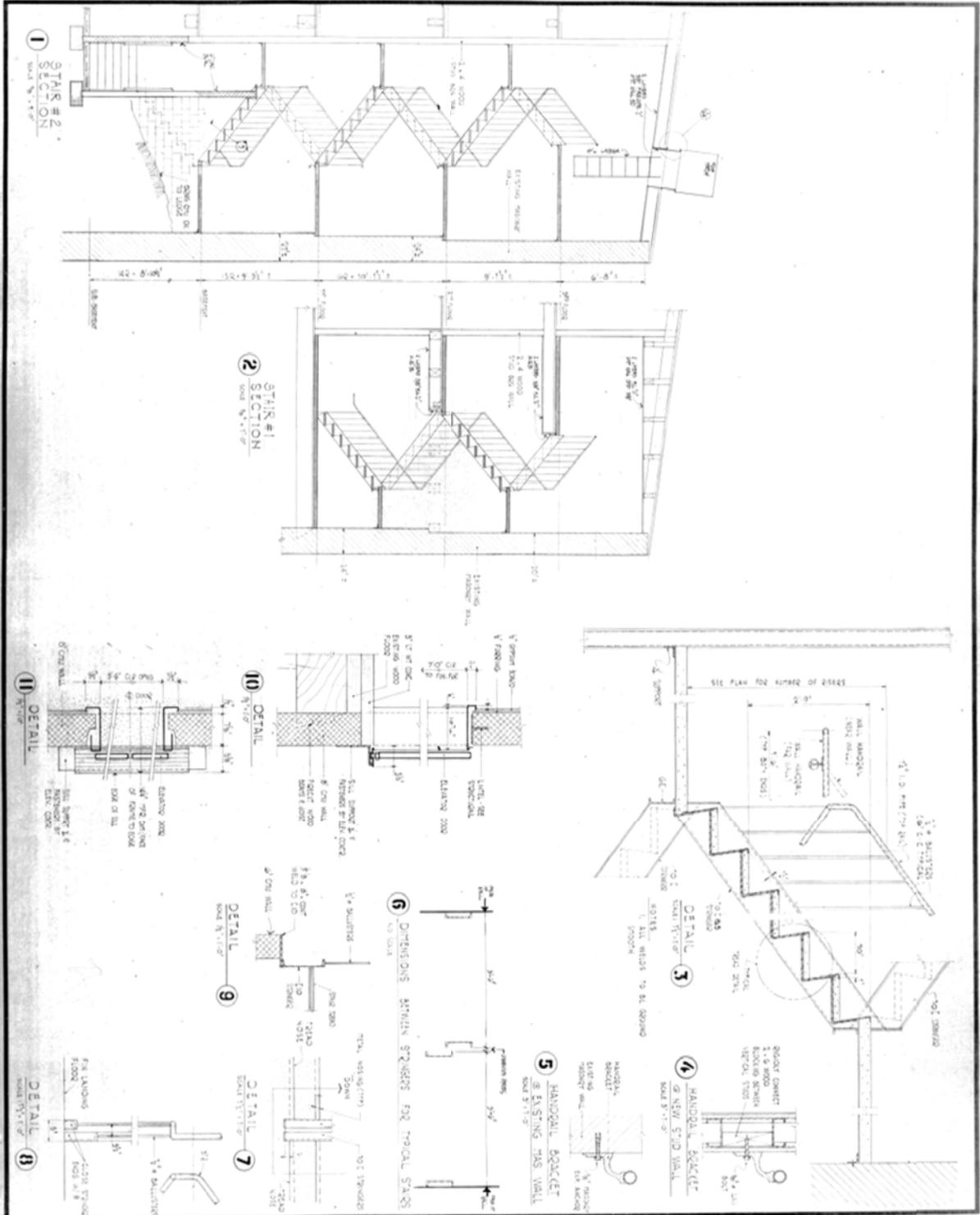


**A9**  
FIRST 2

Project	Building Section
Scale	3/8" = 1'-0"
Date	1911

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
543a Green Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

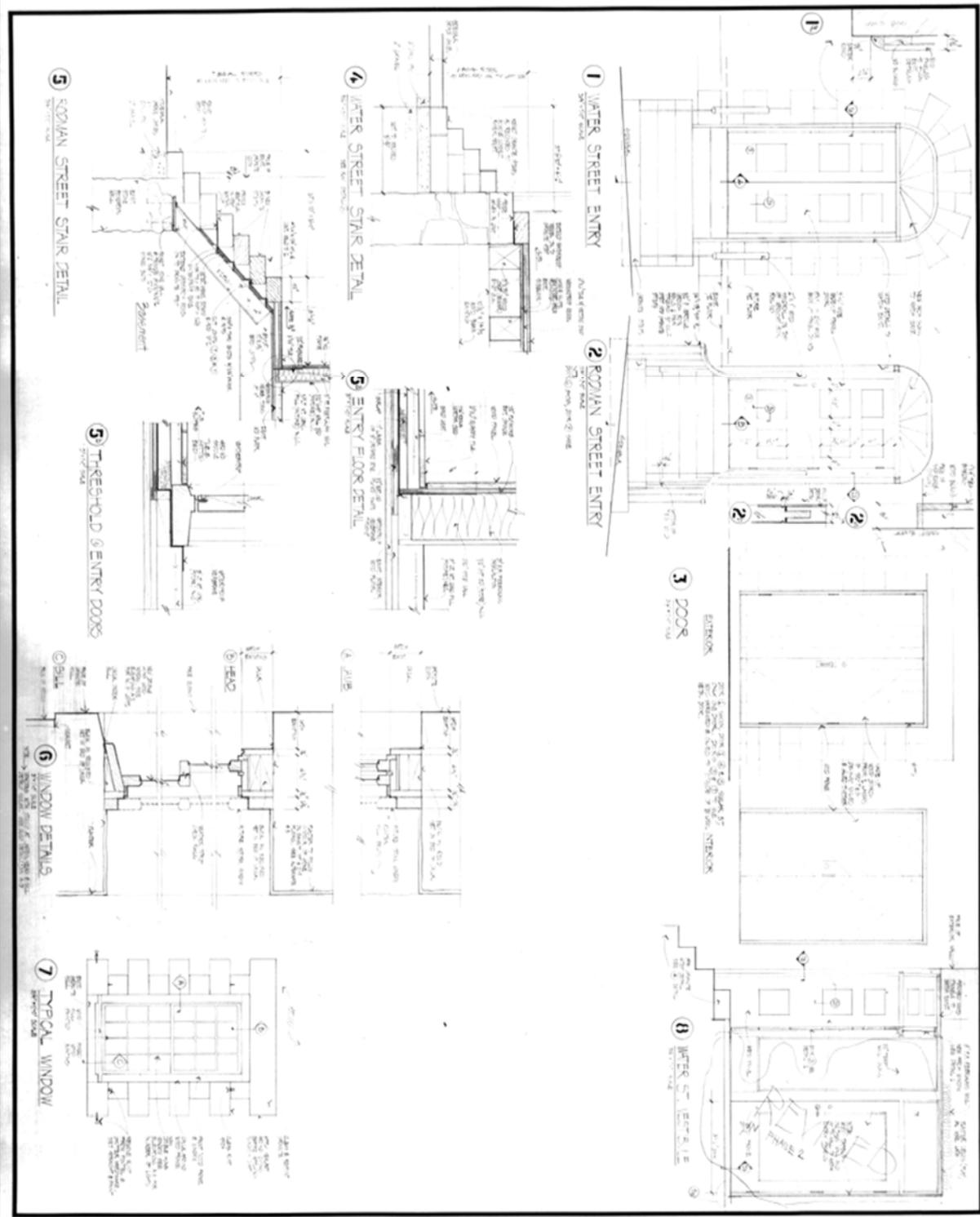


**A10**  
Architectural  
Details

Sheet No.	AS-107-10
Project	Star Details
Scale	AS-107-10

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
543a Green Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

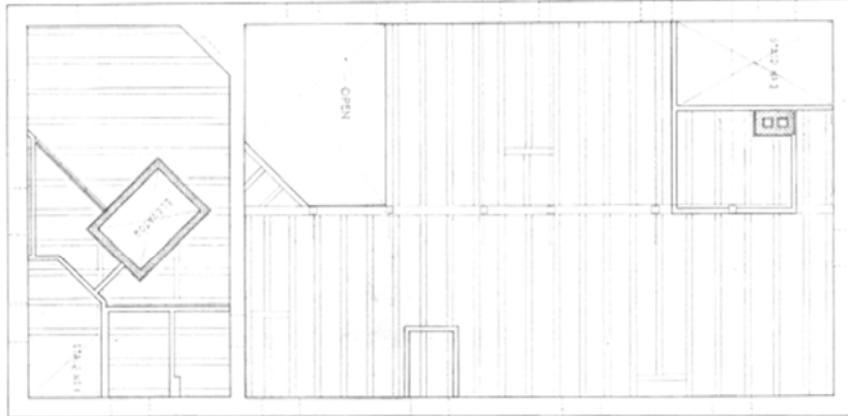


NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
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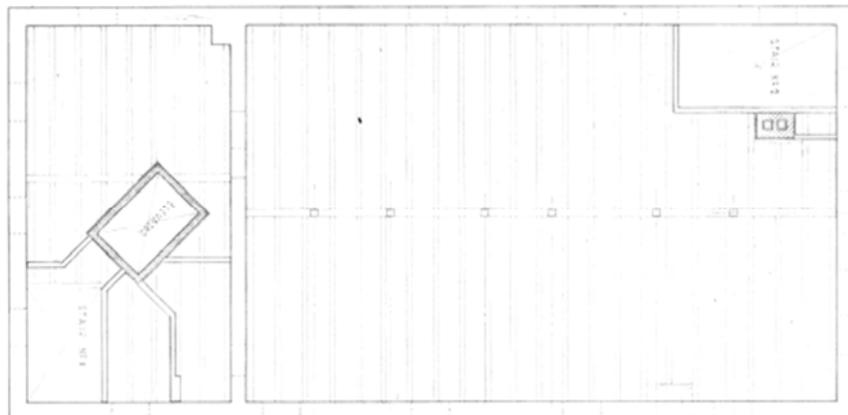
**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02130  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

1



2

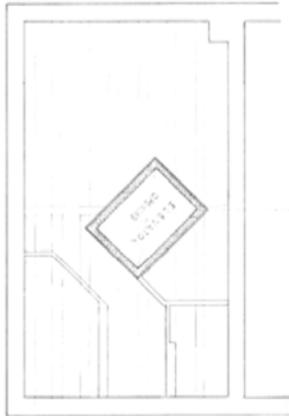


PROJECT	RODMAN CANDLE WORKS
DATE	10/1/00
SCALE	AS SHOWN
DESIGNED BY	J. BRUNER
DRAWN BY	J. BRUNER
CHECKED BY	J. BRUNER
APPROVED BY	J. BRUNER

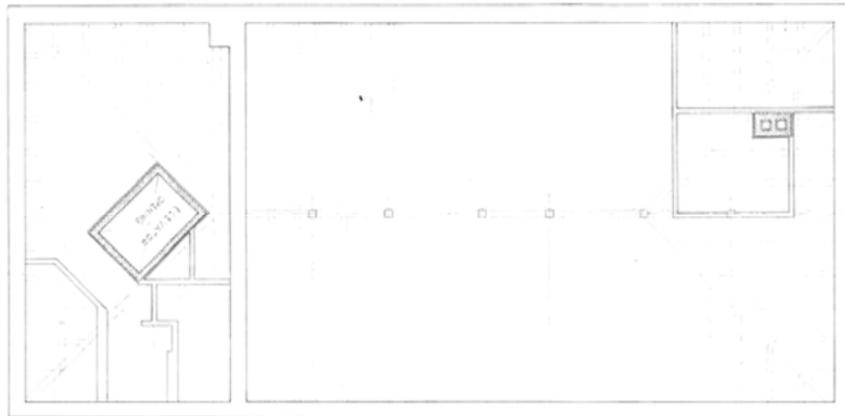
**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Basement (Partial)



3

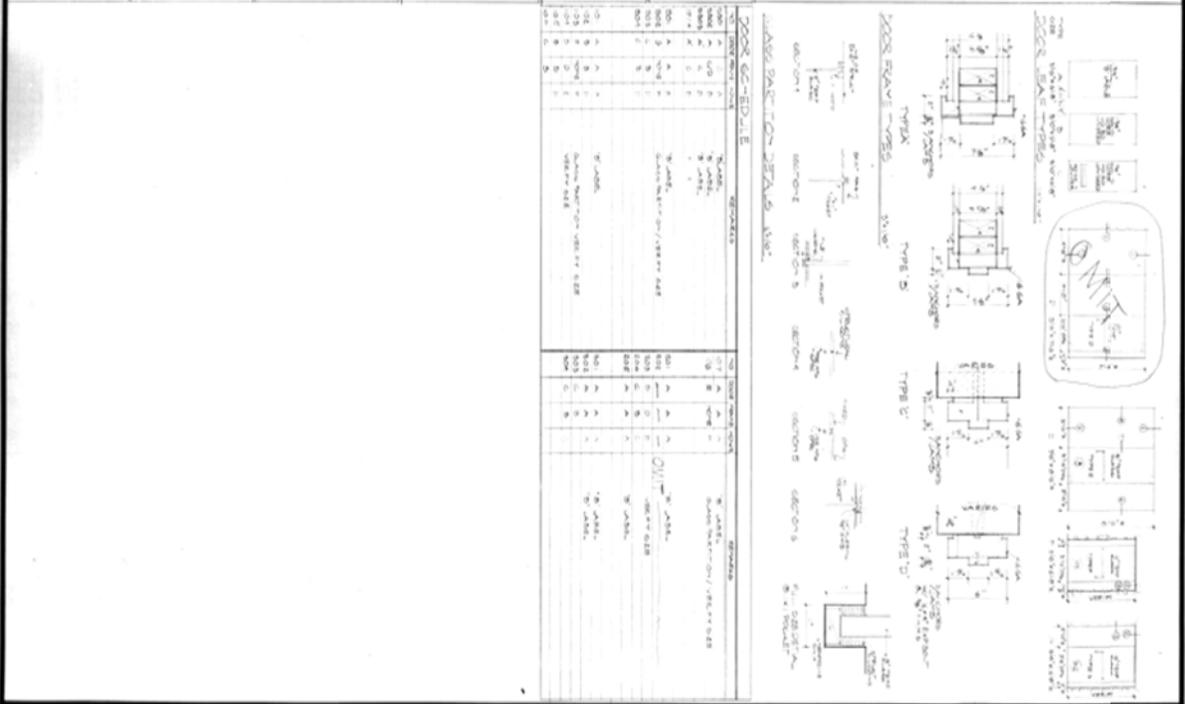


DATE	REVISION
07/11/11	
07/11/11	
07/11/11	
07/11/11	
07/11/11	

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cctt, Inc.  
543a Green Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

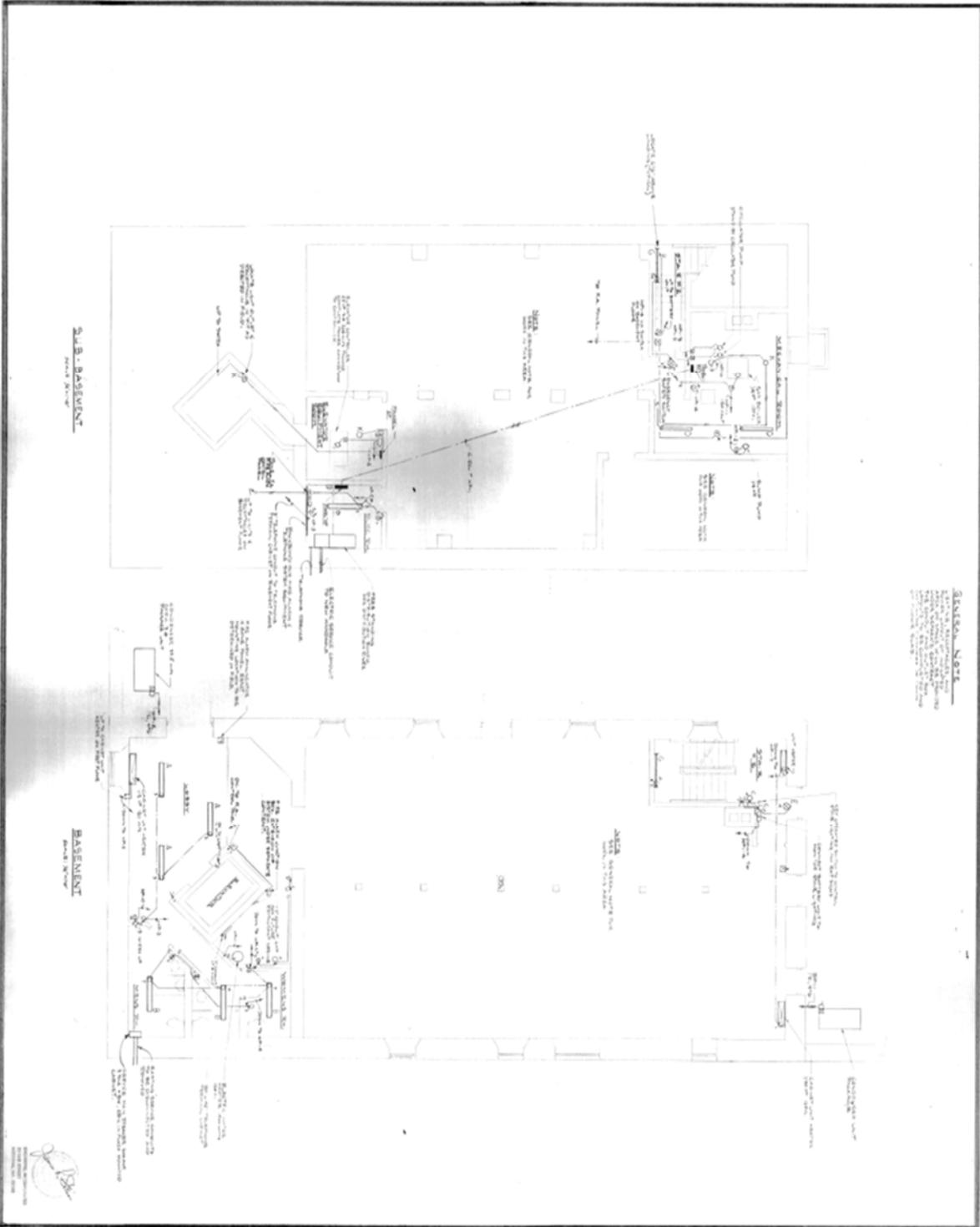
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3	REVISION			
4	REVISION			
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7	REVISION			
8	REVISION			
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16	REVISION			
17	REVISION			
18	REVISION			
19	REVISION			
20	REVISION			



NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD.
1	REVISION			
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16	REVISION			
17	REVISION			
18	REVISION			
19	REVISION			
20	REVISION			

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 54ia Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS



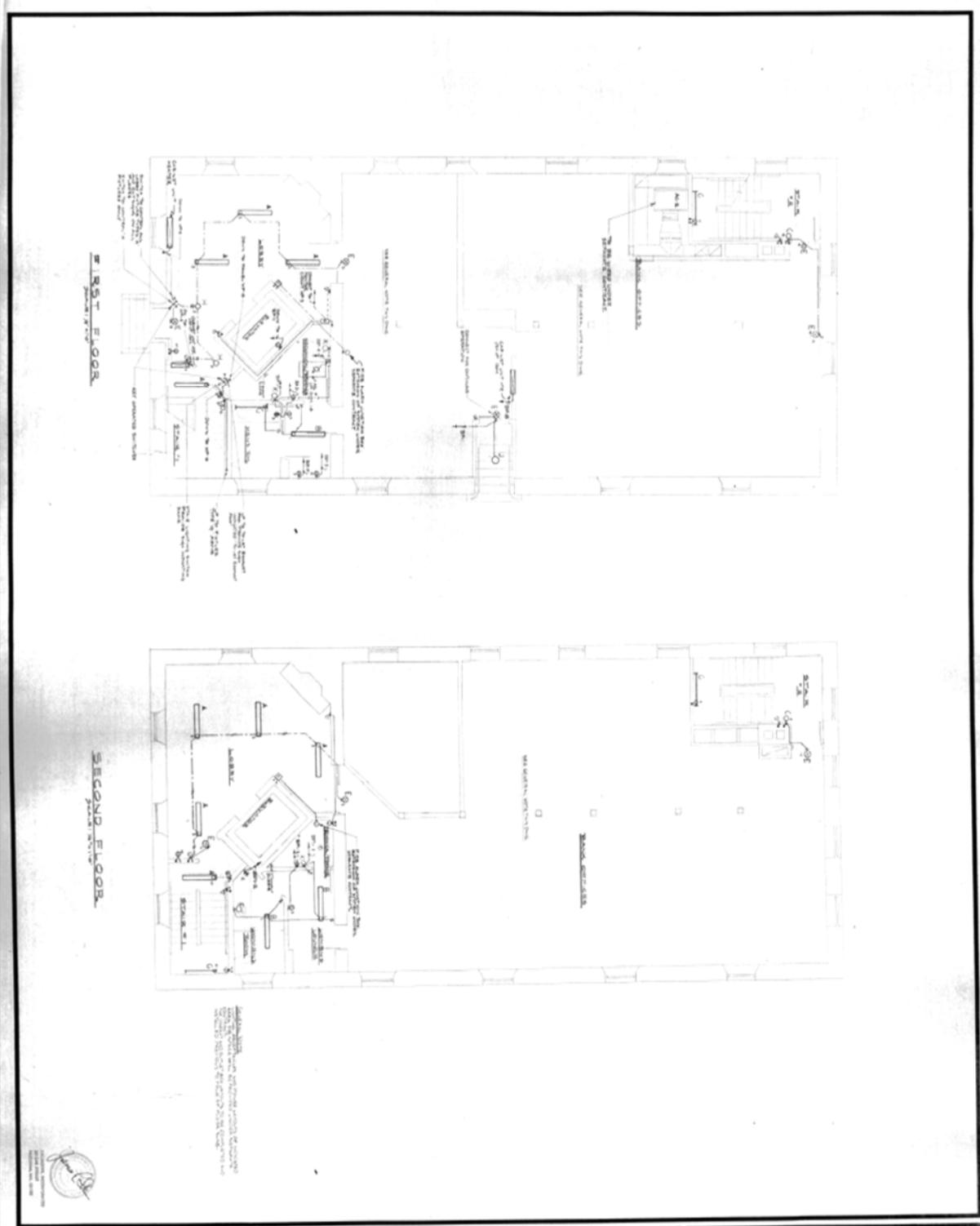
**SECTION NOTE**  
 1. ALL WORK TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE BUILDING CODES AND SPECIFICATIONS.  
 2. ALL MATERIALS TO BE APPROVED BY THE ARCHITECT.  
 3. ALL WORK TO BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE BUILDING CODES AND SPECIFICATIONS.  
 4. ALL WORK TO BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE BUILDING CODES AND SPECIFICATIONS.



PROJECT	RODMAN CANDLE WORKS
DATE	11/1/58
BY	W. J. BRUNER
CHECKED BY	W. J. BRUNER
SCALE	AS SHOWN

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 542a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

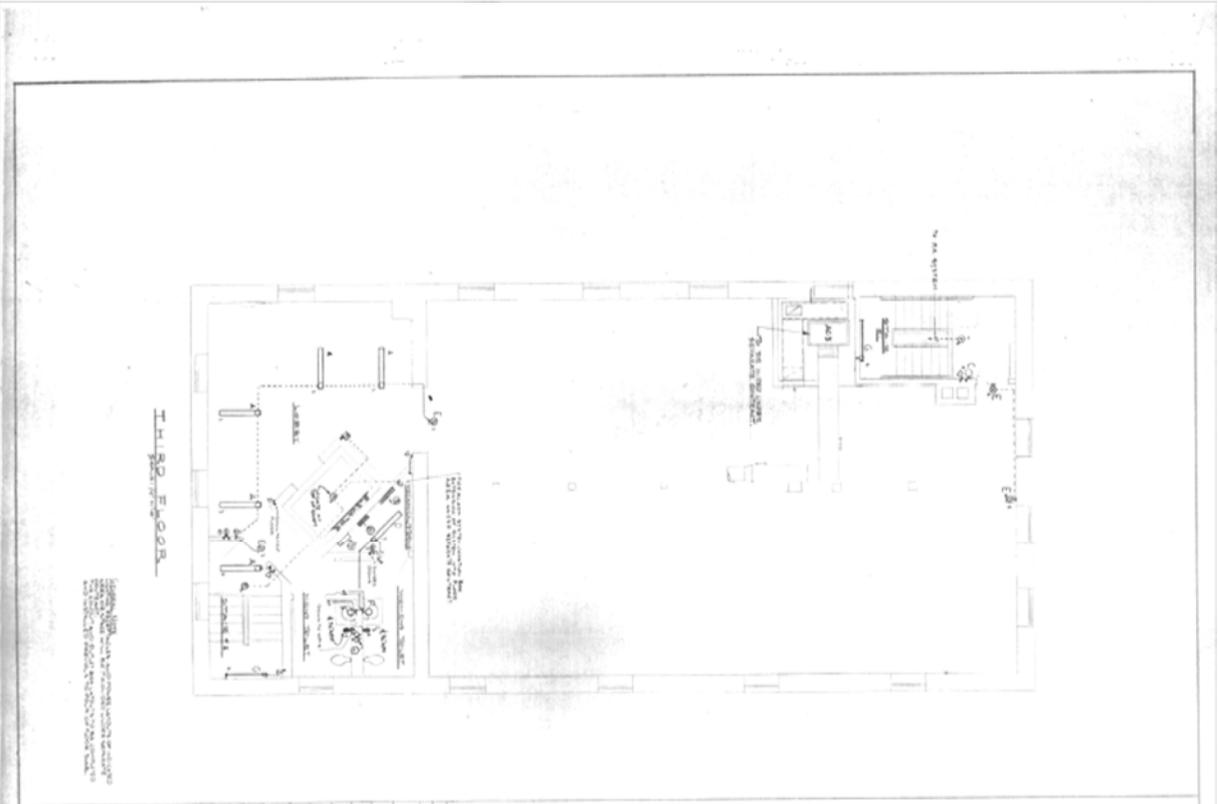


**R 2**

NO. 1	NO. 2	NO. 3	NO. 4

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

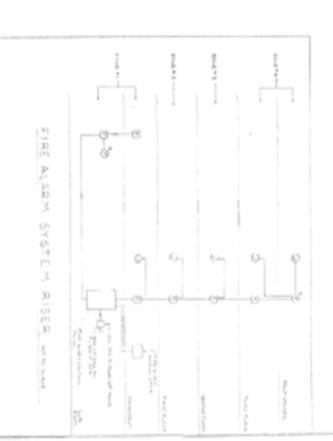
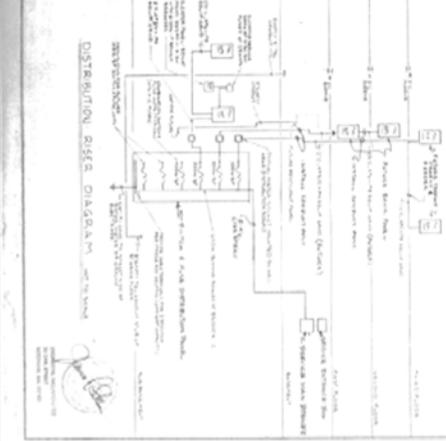
Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.  
 543a Green Street  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS



NOTES:  
 1. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) CODES AND STANDARDS.  
 2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.  
 3. ALL MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP SHALL BE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION AND APPROVAL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

NO.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT
1	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR WALL MOUNTING)	100	FT.
2	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR CEILING MOUNTING)	100	FT.
3	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR FLOOR MOUNTING)	100	FT.
4	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR WALL MOUNTING)	100	FT.
5	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR CEILING MOUNTING)	100	FT.
6	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR FLOOR MOUNTING)	100	FT.
7	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR WALL MOUNTING)	100	FT.
8	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR CEILING MOUNTING)	100	FT.
9	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR FLOOR MOUNTING)	100	FT.
10	1/2" DIA. STEEL RODS (FOR WALL MOUNTING)	100	FT.

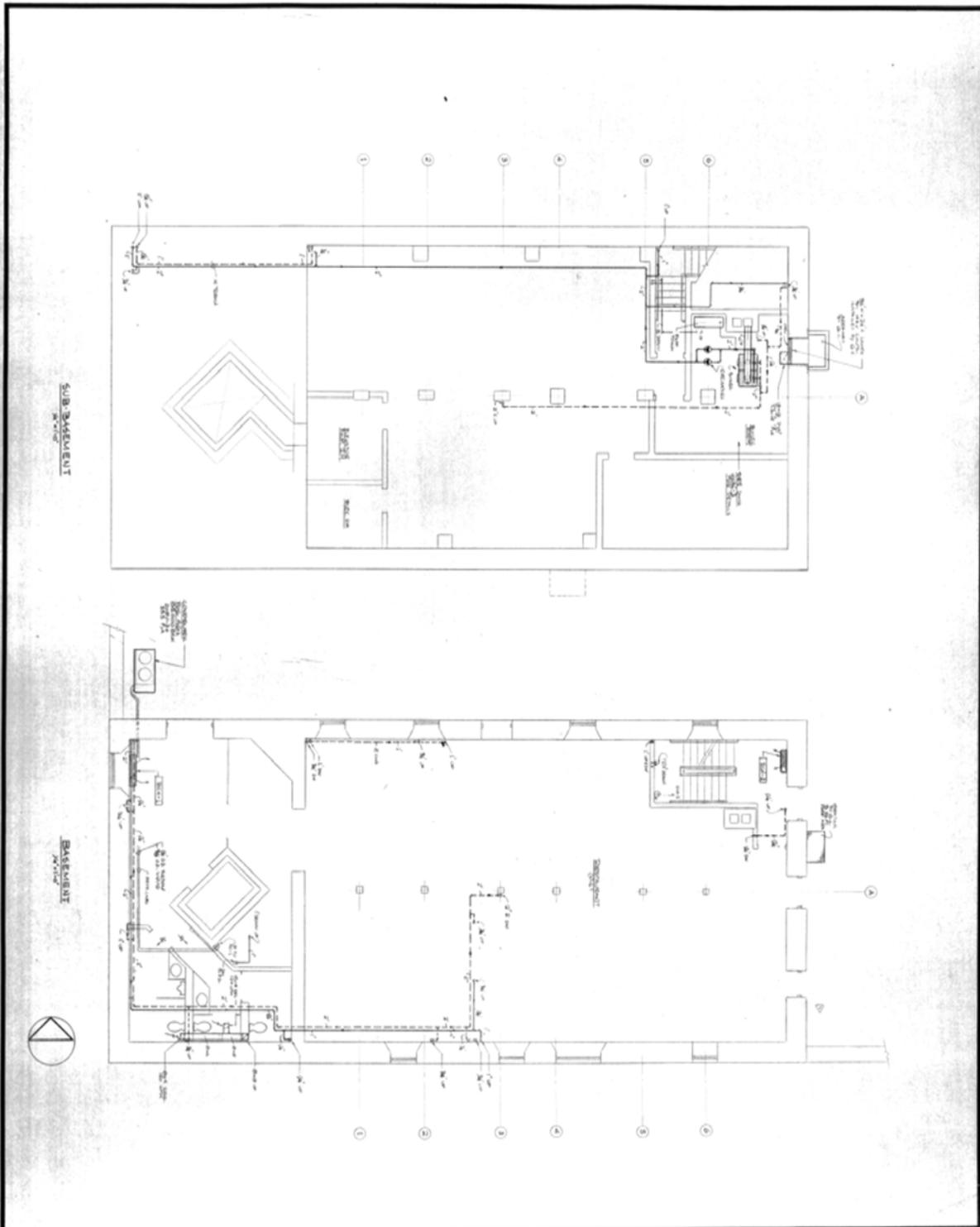
**GENERAL NOTES:**  
 1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.  
 2. ALL MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP SHALL BE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION AND APPROVAL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.  
 3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES.  
 4. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST EDITIONS OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) CODES AND STANDARDS.  
 5. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES.



RODMAN  
 CANDLE WORKS  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET  
 NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

**RODMAN CANDLE WORKS**  
 72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

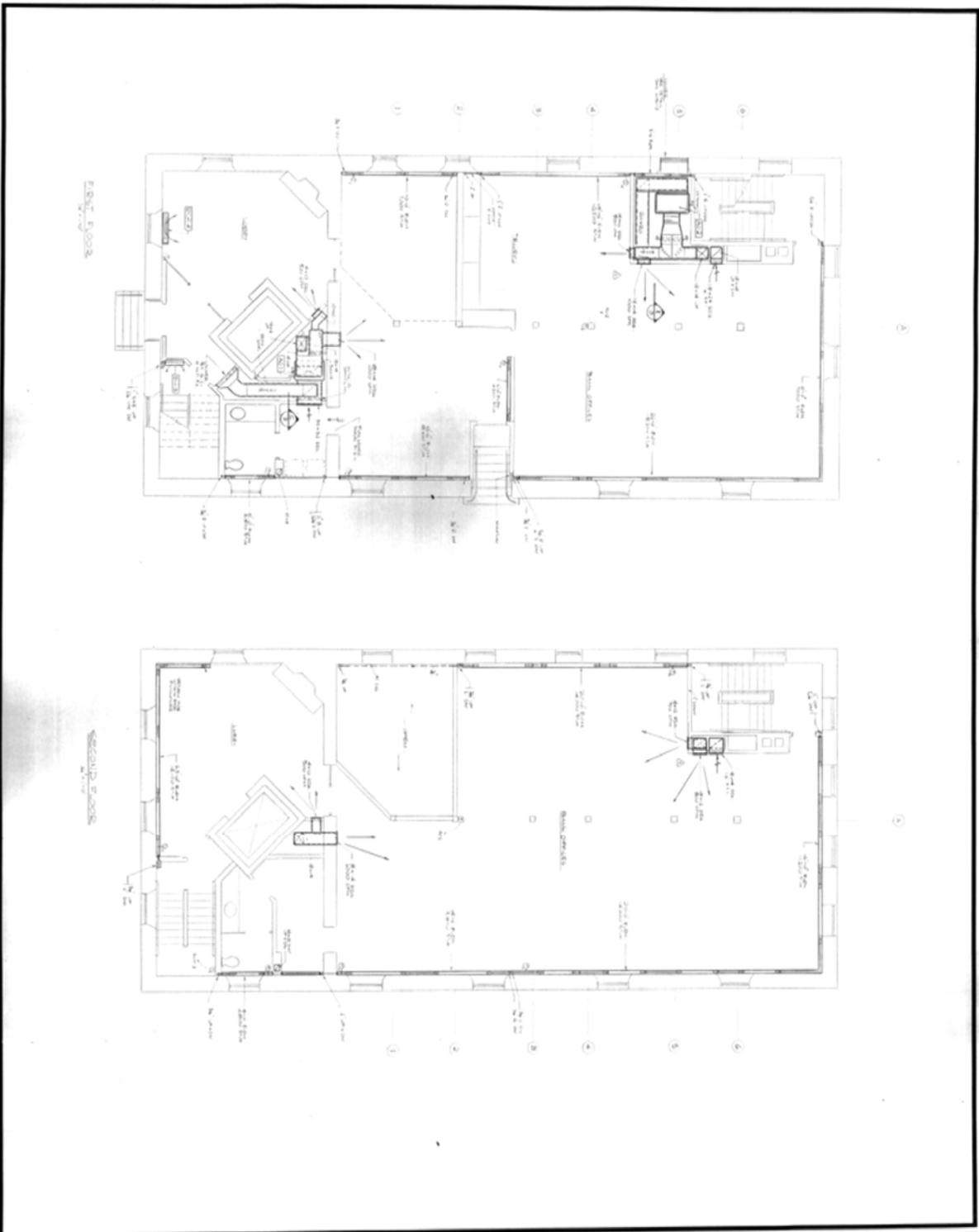
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 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
 ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS



HVAC FLOOR PLANS	72 NORTH WATER STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASS.
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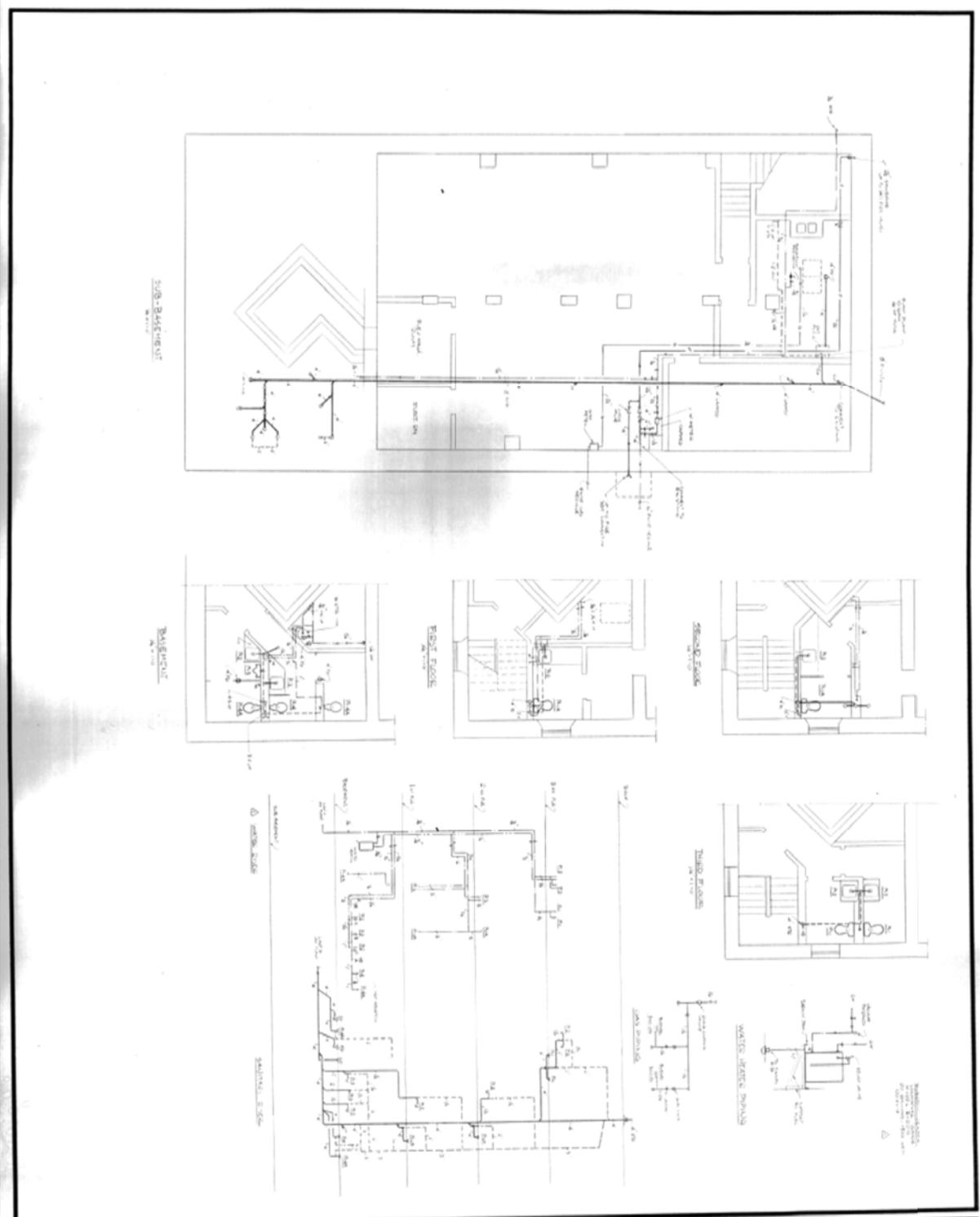
IIVAC 9

PROJECT NO. 100-100-100 DATE 10/1/68 DRAWN BY J. BRUNER CHECKED BY G. BRUNER SCALE AS SHOWN SHEET NO. 100-100-100-1	IIVAC FLOOR PLANS
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**P1**

PROJECT NO.	72 NORTH WATER STREET
DATE	NOVEMBER 1964
BY	ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
CHECKED BY	
APPROVED BY	
SCALE	AS SHOWN
NOTES	

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