

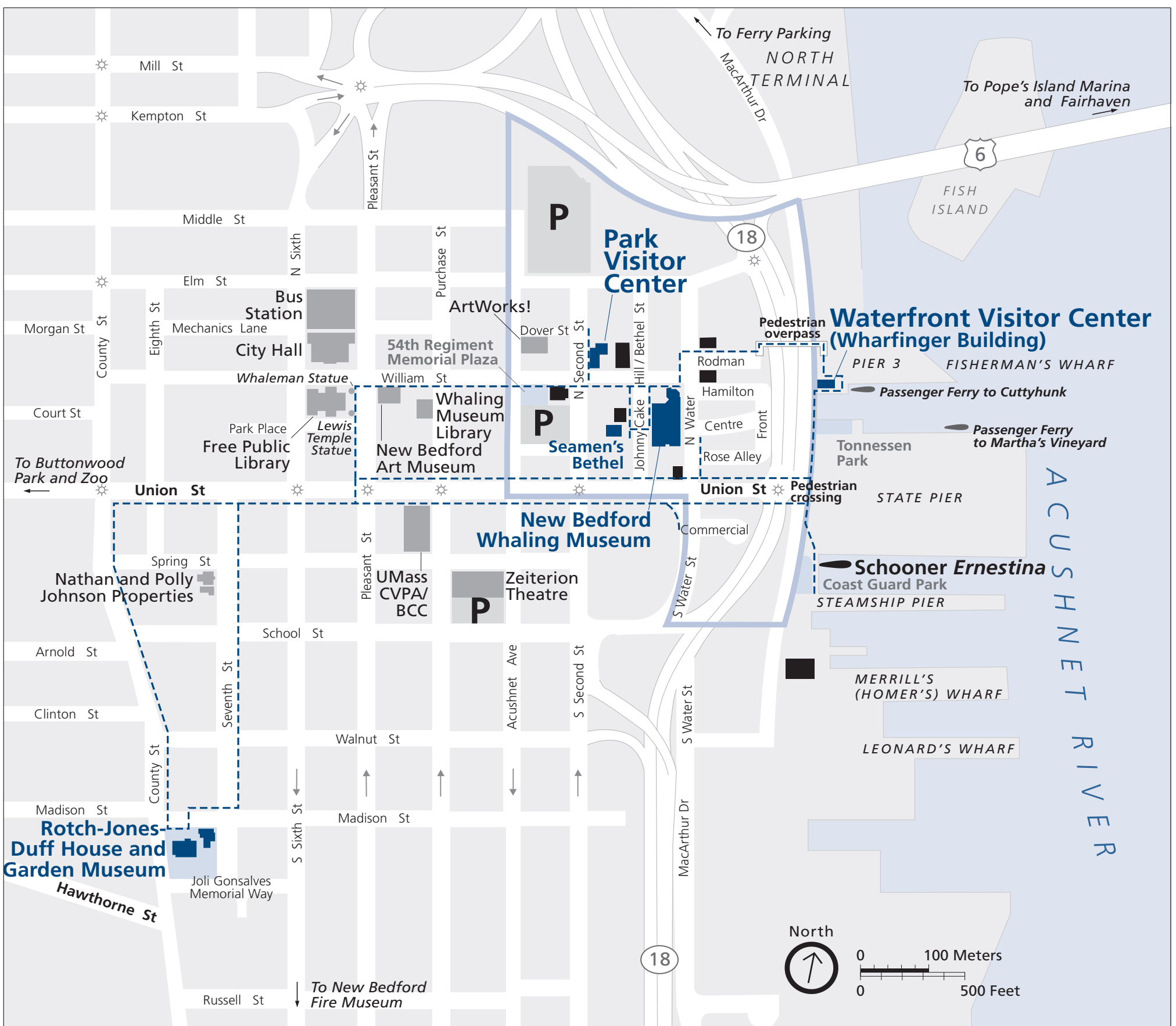


A Whaling Town



Experience a Park in Partnership—Downtown, Waterfront, and Neighborhood

During the mid 1800s New Bedford was a city coming of age. Its waterfront, business district, and neighborhoods teemed with prosperity from a flourishing whaling industry. The city was the whaling capital of the world.



- Historical park site not open to public
- Historical park boundary
- Historical park site
- Point of interest
- ☀ Traffic light
- Self-guiding walking tour

The City of New Bedford

Experience a City of Diversity. New Bedford's active waterfront, cobblestone-lined streets, stately buildings, and inviting storefronts owe their existence to whales and whalers. Though the age of whaling is long gone, its spirit lives on in New Bedford's people and thriving commercial fishing industry.



New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Visitor Center is a good place to begin your visit. Within downtown you can see the homes of whaling's elite, business districts that supported the whaling industry, the chapel featured in Melville's *Moby-Dick*, and the world's largest whaling museum.



At New Bedford's waterfront you can walk about an active commercial fishing port. The city's Wharfinger Building exhibits engage you in present-day commercial fishing, while outdoor displays at the water's edge offer glimpses into New Bedford's maritime past.



A short walk from downtown leads to neighborhoods where both grand and modest homes were built during the whaling and textile eras. You will find the **Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum**, which offers a chance to enter a 19th century whaling mansion built by the fortunes of whaling.



The **New Bedford Whaling Museum** holds the world's largest global whaling and maritime history collections, including a replica half-scale whaling ship, rare whale skeletons, whaling implements, logbooks, and art.



Buttonwood Zoo features more than 150 animals. The zoo's "Berkshires to the Sea" exhibition showcases native animals and habitats that span the Berkshire Mountains to Buzzard's Bay, including mountain lions, black bears, bald eagles, river otter, harbor seals, and more.



North and south of the city's downtown are vibrant **neighborhoods** offering a wide range of recreation, shopping, and cultural dining experiences. Annual festivals celebrate the rich heritage of the region.



Fort Taber Park, located on Clarks Point, is an important site in the area's military history, particularly during the Civil War. The park offers playgrounds, a military museum, bike paths, beaches, a refreshment stand, and sweeping views of Buzzards Bay and the Elizabeth Islands.