



## 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.



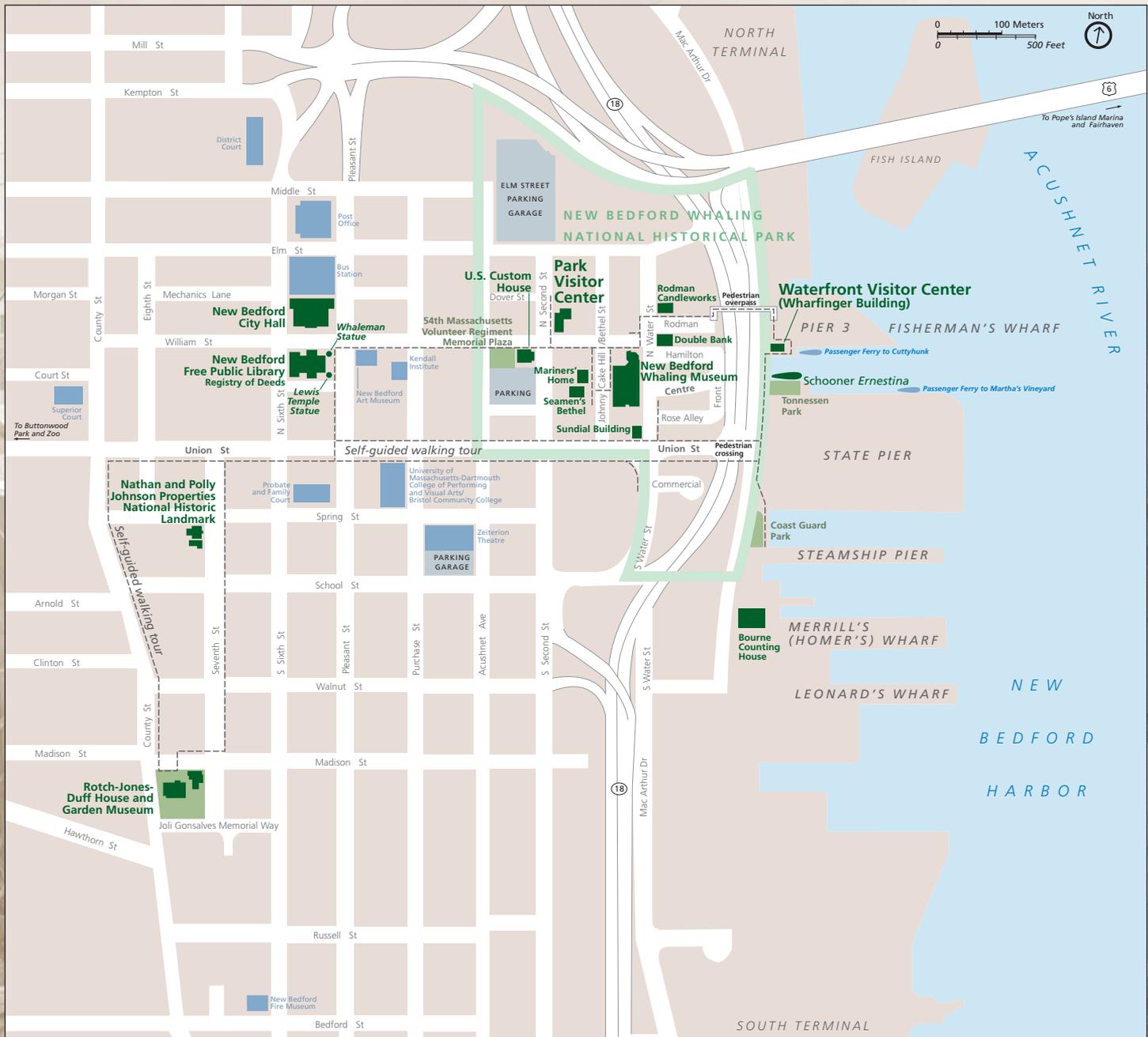
New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Visitor Center, located at 33 William Street, is a good place to begin your visit. Within **downtown** you can see the homes of whaling's elite, business districts that supported the whaling industry, the chapel featured in Melville's *Moby-Dick*, and the world's largest whaling museum.



At New Bedford's **waterfront** you can walk about an active commercial fishing port. The city's Wharfing Building visitor center grounds you in present-day commercial fishing, while outdoor exhibits dotting inviting park-like settings at the water's edge offer glimpses into whaling's past.



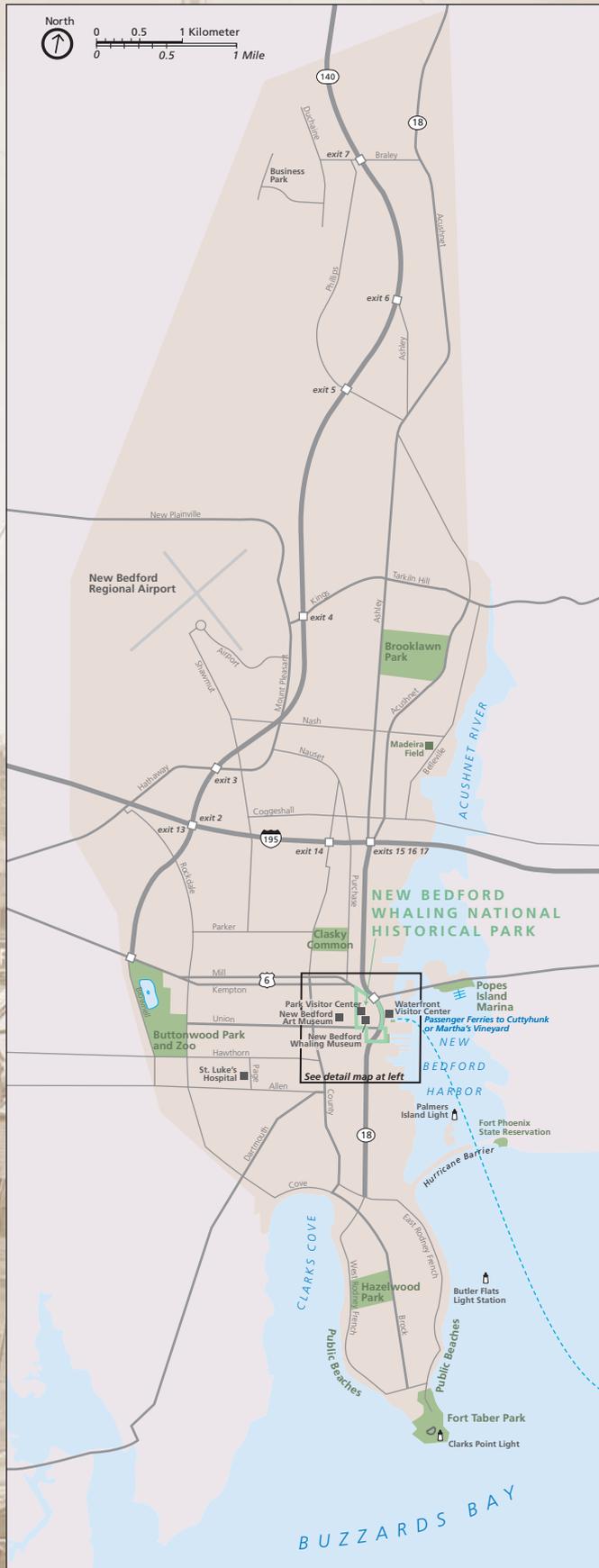
A short walk from downtown leads to residential **neighborhoods** where both grand and modest homes were built during the whaling and textile eras. You will find the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum, which offers a chance to enter a 19th-century mansion built by the fortunes of whaling.



# A Whaling Town

## 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.



The **New Bedford Whaling Museum**, located at 18 Johnny Cake Hill, holds the world's largest American whaling and maritime history collections, including a replica half-scale whaling ship, rare whale skeletons, and whaling implements, logbooks, and art.



The **New Bedford Art Museum**, at City Hall Square, features engaging art exhibitions. The museum's changing exhibits include contemporary and historic art created by local, national, and international artists.



**Buttonwood Zoo**, located at 425 Hawthorn Street, features more than 150 animals. The zoo's "Berkshires to the Sea" exhibition showcases native animals and habitats that span the Berkshire Mountains to Buzzards 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 Portuguese heritage and other cultural traditions 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 47-acre park offers playgrounds, bike paths, beaches, a refreshment stand, and sweeping views of Buzzards Bay and the Elizabeth Islands.

# The City of New Bedford