

# Shearer Cottage - support

Darrelle D <darrellefd@gmail.com>

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To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

Greetings

I am very pleased to offer this letter on behalf of Shearer Cottage's renovation support of their Permit Application to the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC). Shearer Cottage is a part of the historic fabric of Oak Bluffs and is deserving of receiving a permit. Shearer Cottage is a family owned business with the town of Oak Bluffs for over 100 years that has been a local , regional and national place that began with lodging African American travelers during the Jim Crow era . The history of Shearer Cottage enabling African American travelers to have lodgings on Martha's Vineyard before the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed this type of racial discrimination is an important remembrance of a dark time of our nation's history. As such, Shearer Cottage will remind us to be vigilant of our rights and granting this permit will extend well beyond even this local footprint to preserve an important piece of Oak Bluffs history.

Thank you for your support of Shearer Cottages' permit of continuing the legacy in Oak Bluffs.

Best Regard's

Darrelle Demps

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