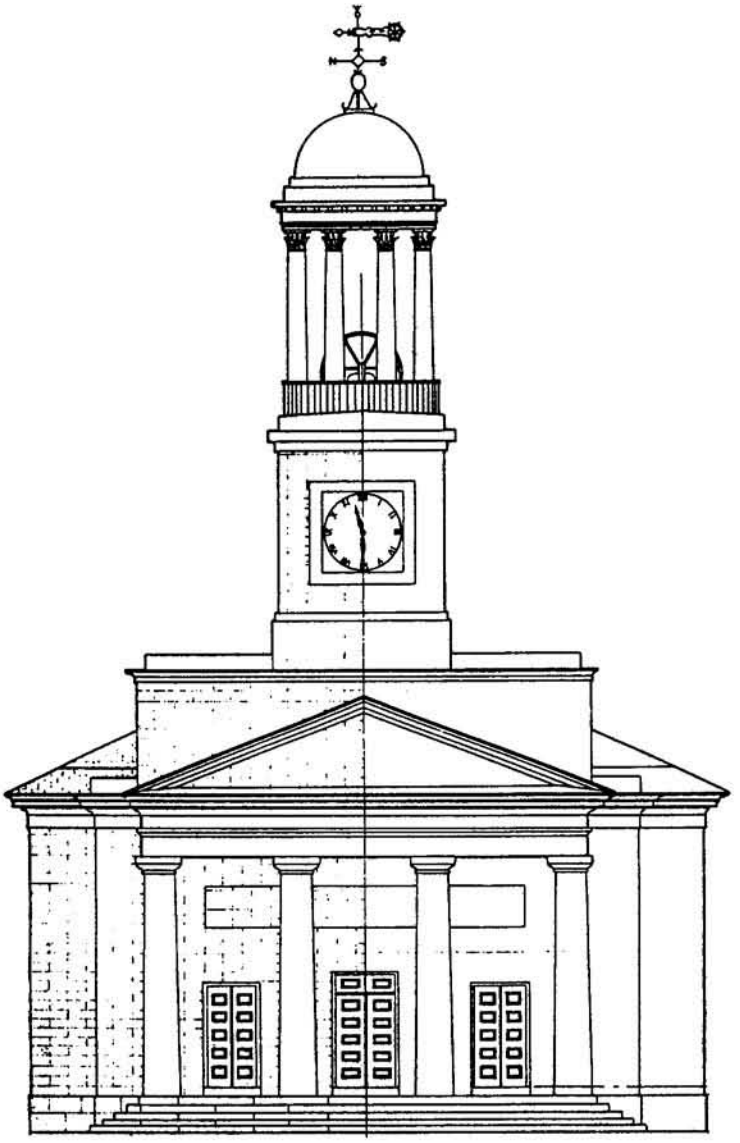
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# UNITED FIRST PARISH CHURCH (UNITARIAN)

## *CHURCH OF THE PRESIDENTS*

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## Quincy, Massachusetts



**Historic Structure Report**

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# UNITED FIRST PARISH CHURCH (UNITARIAN)

## *CHURCH OF THE PRESIDENTS*

## HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

**Quincy, Massachusetts**


By:

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Through:

Northeast Cultural Resources Center
Northeast Field Area, National Park Service
Lowell, Massachusetts



April 1996

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Research Performed for the Report

The preparation of this historic structure report for the United First Parish Church, Quincy, Massachusetts, was made possible by a congressional appropriation. This appropriation targeted the need for technical assistance for the church, a designated National Historic Landmark and a cooperating site of the Adams National Historic Site (NHS), National Park Service (NPS).

The church houses the remains of John Adams, second President of the United States; his wife Abigail; their son John Quincy Adams, sixth President of the United States; and his wife Louisa. Their remains are cloistered in four separate sarcophagi in a basement crypt under the main entrance. John Adams had worshipped in the church edifice that preceded the Stone Temple, and helped make the construction of the Stone Temple possible through land and quarry donations.

This report documents the evolution of the site and the extant church edifice. The majority of primary research was conducted from the church archives, which includes a collection of original and transcribed records that are stored in a security vault. These records provided an account—at times a very detailed account—of the church's activities up to the early 1970s. Most of the documentation on which this report is based was extracted from these records.

Four people authored this report. Katharine Lacy wrote the chapter "Site History and Landscape Development"; Peggy Albee contributed the chapters "Building History and Evolution" and "Character-Defining Features and General Recommendations"; Richard Crisson wrote the chapter "Conditions Assessment and Repair Recommendations"; and Judith Jacob conducted the finishes analysis provided as Appendix D. The report was edited by Sharon K. Ofenstein, technical publications editor for the Northeast Cultural Resources Center.

The work of the authors could not have been accomplished without the assistance of several people, including: the Reverend Sheldon Bennett, Ph D., and the staff at the United First Parish Church (Unitarian); and the staffs of the Adams National Historic Site, the Quincy Historical Society, the Crane (Quincy) Library, and the library at the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

## Research Findings

Clearly the research has confirmed and enhanced the site's historical significance and affirmed the need to preserve it. The report provides a chronological history of the structure. It also identifies those elements that are character-defining and should be maintained and not altered. The report also assesses current conditions and makes repair recommendations for selected areas as needed. Exterior and interior paint analysis was conducted and—for the most part—synthesized with the historical documentation. The finishes analysis provides specific color matches for significant construction periods and painting campaigns.

In addition to approximately 75 bound copies of the historic structure report, copies of all research materials will be turned over to the church.

### Recommendations for Treatment and Use

This historic structure report has two purposes. First, it is meant to alert the church's parishioners to the need for sensitive preservation of the site. Second, it provides guidance for any future changes, alterations, or repairs to the church by architects, contractors, or maintenance personnel. The use of the Stone Temple will not change. However, periodic improvements will need to be made to the structure to keep it in good repair.

The church is about to embark on a building campaign to raise money for several purposes, including alterations, improvements to the utility systems, and better compliance with code issues related to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Therefore, the work of assessing all of the church's physical requirements will not occur until after the fund-raising campaign begins. (Since specifics of the proposed renovation are unknown at this time, treatment recommendations provided in this report are only general.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

United First Parish Church (Unitarian), Church of the Presidents, is located at 1306 Hancock Street, Quincy, Massachusetts. It was entered for National Historic Landmark status on December 30, 1970. National Historic Landmark properties are automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The First Parish has been an operating parish since 1639. The parish has occupied the Stone Temple since it was dedicated in 1828. The site's significance lies in several areas, but most importantly through its association with the family of John Adams and his descendants. This association provides national significance. The structure is also significant for its granite construction and the use of monolithic columns, one of the first such uses in the United States. Finally, the structure is significant because it was designed by Alexander Parris, one of Boston's preeminent architects of the time. While it retains some earlier Federal and Neoclassical motifs, the church was one of the first in New England to exhibit Greek Revival design elements.

# I. SITE HISTORY AND LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

# THE FIRST MEETING HOUSE: 1634

What is today named the United First Parish Church of Quincy has been a continuing congregation since 1639. It was established in that year as the Braintry Church, an independent Puritan Congregational Church. Its predecessor was the "Chappel of Ease," begun in 1636 as a branch of the Boston Church.[1] To create the Braintry Church, a group of eight men—William Tompson, Henry Flynt, George Rose, Stephen Kinsley, John Dassett, William Potter, Martin Saunders, and Gregory Belcher—entered into a sacred covenant, thus establishing a new Puritan church community.

Very little is known about the exact location or the appearance of the first meetinghouse. Early records refer to "the meeting house over the old bridge."[2] When the Boston to Plymouth Highway was laid out in 1648, the "Brantry meeting house" was known to have stood on the rise of land just south of the Town Brook on what is now Hancock Street at about Clivenden Street, lying about half a mile south of the present site of the First Parish Church in Quincy Square.

The church was located in what was then known as the Mount Wollaston Region of Boston. This area included the present-day towns of Braintree, Randolph, and Holbrook, and the City of Quincy. The area had been annexed by the City of Boston in 1634, in an effort to provide additional room for the establishment of large estates. However, soon after the establishment of the church, the township of Braintree was established on May 23, 1640; it encompassed essentially the same area as the old Mount Wollaston Region.

For the next 50 years this was the only church for the entire region. As a church of the Standing Order, the Braintree Church and its minister were supported by public taxation. The minister served not only the congregation, but was also considered a public teacher of religion and morality.[3] The church building was also used for town meetings and was called "the meeting house."

By 1666, a meetinghouse at this location was known as the Old Stone Meeting House. It was about 35 feet square, with some type of platform and bell above the roof. It is not known if this was still the first meetinghouse, or if it was a second meetinghouse built on the site of the first. In any case, the structure served the community for approximately 60 more years.

---

[1] Pastor of the United First Parish Church, the Rev. Sheldon Bennett, Ph.D.

[2] Bennett, "Three Meeting Houses and the Stone Temple," in *United First Parish Church in Quincy, 350th Anniversary, 1639-1989* (n.p.).

[3] Bennett, "Three Parish Meeting Houses and the Stone Temple."

## THE OLD TRAINING FIELD: 1635-1730

The land where the First Parish Church currently stands was part of the grant given by the Town of Boston to William Coddington and Edmund Quincy in 1635 (fig. 1). In 1638 a portion of the grant including all of Quincy Center was purchased by Captain William Tyng, one of Boston's richest merchants at that time.[4] William Tyng, who was the captain of the company of soldiers at Braintree, allowed the company to train on a portion of his land, which came to be called the "training field."[5] The training field of 1640 was a triangular piece of land extending from where Faxon Avenue is now located to Maple Street, to a point near the junction of Washington Street and the south side of Temple Street.

Development of a commercial center in the area now occupied by Quincy Center occurred after 1640. By 1640 a town burial ground had also been established in the area now known as Hancock Cemetery, across from what was then the Training Field, now the site of the First Parish Church. The Town's first schoolhouse, built in the 1650s, was built adjacent to the first meetinghouse, and a tavern was located on the west side of Hancock Street.[6]

William Tyng died in 1653, and in his will bequeathed all of his land, including an area know as Salter's Farm along with "26 acres of plain land" to his four daughters.[7] In 1666 Tyng's heirs sold all of his property to a group including Deacon Samuel Bass, Edmund Quincy, William Savil, Gregory Belcher, and Joseph Crosby.[8] There is specified in the deed "plain land bounded upon the burying ground and lying on each side of the County Highway," which apparently included the training field. This land was divided by the proprietors, each man to his share. However, the two acres occupied by the training field were not formally divided, and continued to be used for military training purposes (fig. 2).

As the years passed, all of the proprietors disposed of their land, either by sale or inheritance. Likewise, ownership of the surrounding land was divided and changed hands numerous times as this area developed. The title of the training field, however, remained under a joint title held by all five of the proprietors who purchased the property in 1666. By the year 1700, the training field had apparently been in use as a military training ground for over sixty years. However, no one remained who could lay claim to the title.

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[4] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, Friday, June 17, 1949, B17.

[5] The Ezekial C. Sargent Quincy Land Records Collection, Book H. Training Field: Ye Plain Land of William Tynge East of Hancock Street. Quincy Historical Society (n.p.). Sargent, City Engineer for the City of Quincy until his retirement in 1940, spent 1941 to 1961 documenting the original Braintree/Quincy property holdings, complete with plot plans showing the original property lines and subsequent divisions.

[6] National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Quincy Multiple Resource Area, July 27, 1989.

[7] National Register Nomination Form.

[8] Ezekial Sargent Collection, Book H.

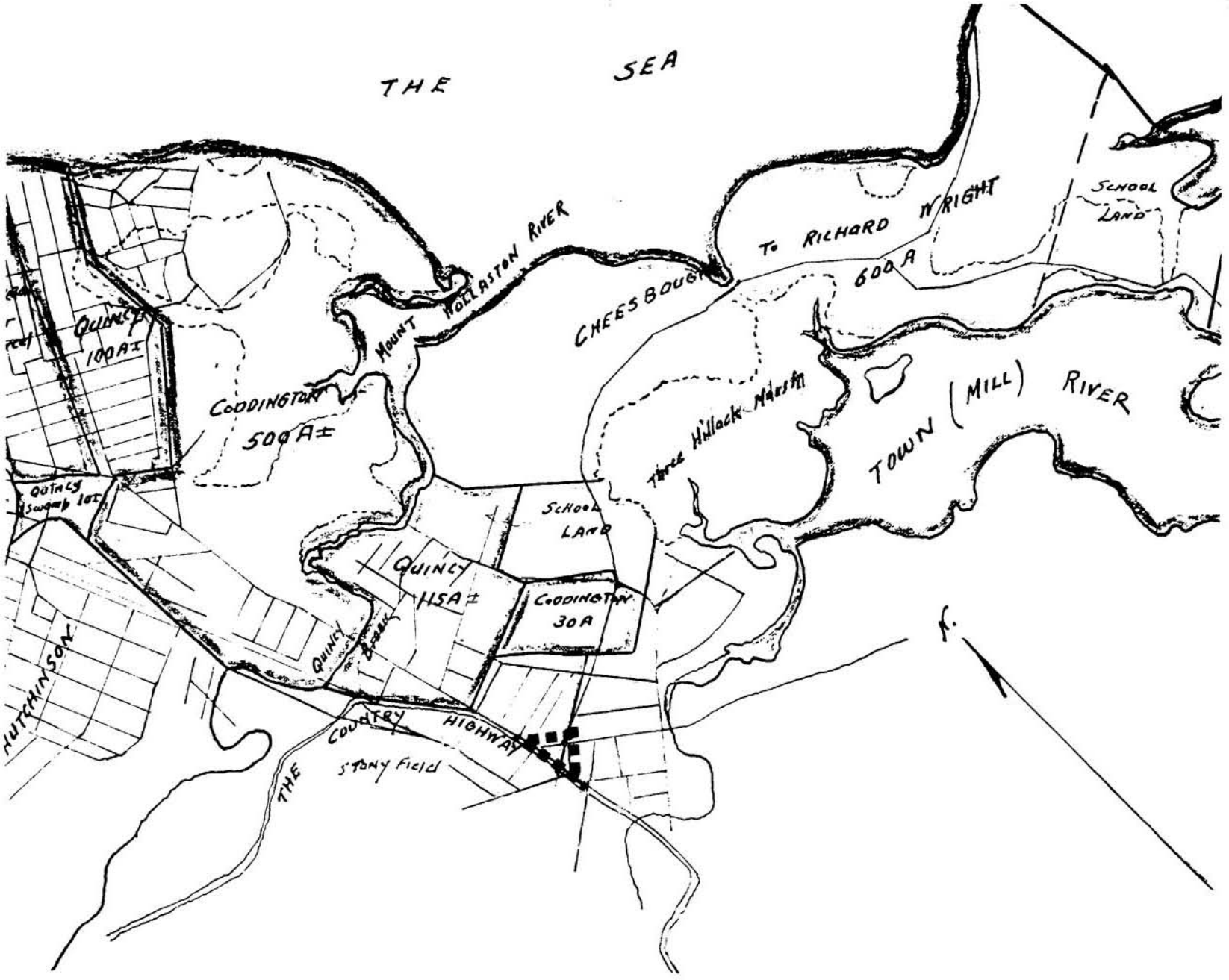



**Figure 1.** Sketch map of Quincy, showing early land grants, including the Coddington and Quincy grants (map 1957).

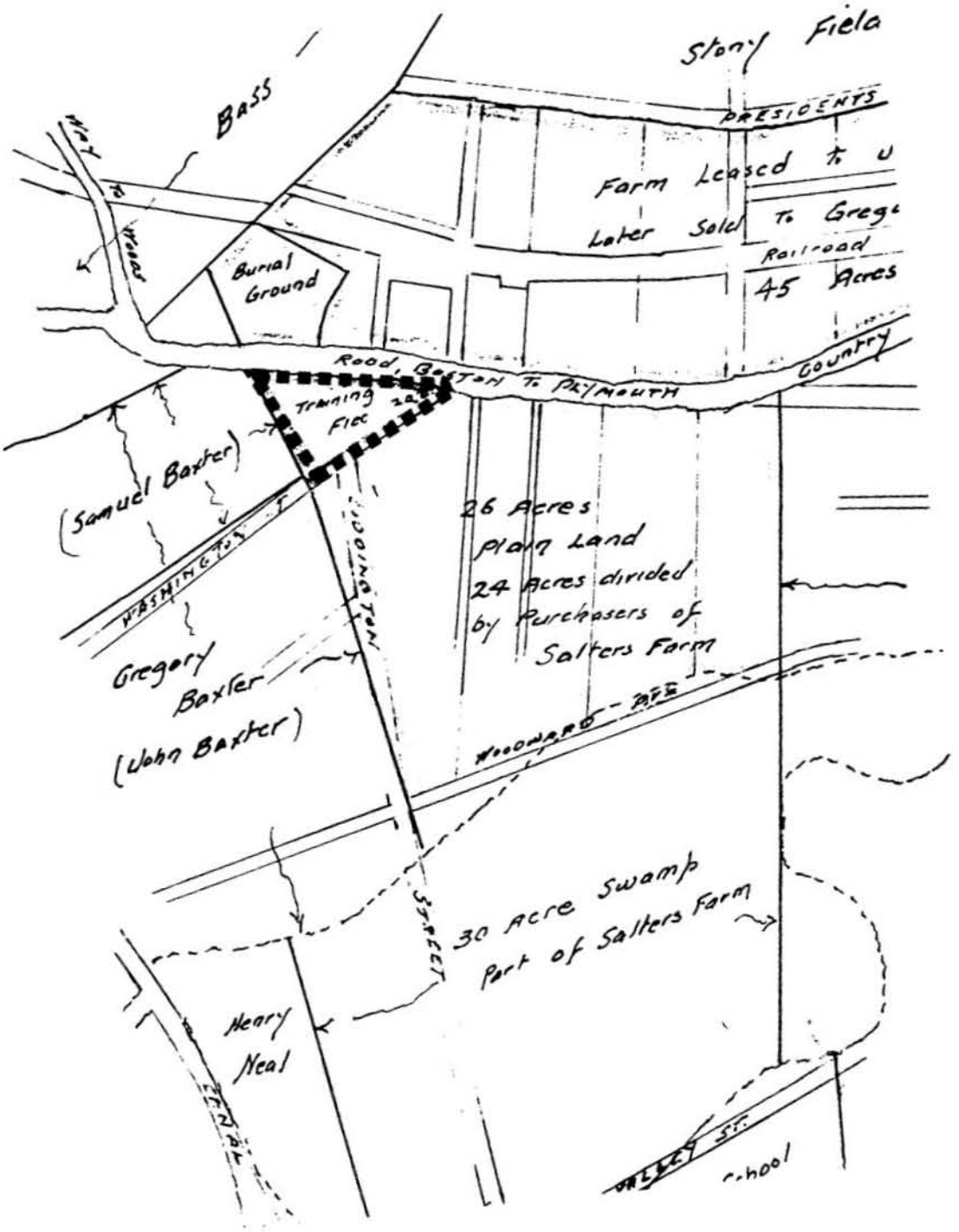



**Figure 2.** Sketch map of Quincy Center, showing Salter's Farm and the Training Field (map 1957).

# THE HANCOCK MEETING HOUSE

In 1708 Braintree was divided into the North Precinct (now Quincy) and the South Precinct (now Braintree, Holbrook, and Randolph). Though technically part of the same town, each precinct had separate churches and meetinghouses.

On January 13, 1731, the North Parish voted to build a new meetinghouse on the training field. A Building Committee was appointed, including J.H. Emery, H.M. Faxon and J.C. Morse. However, the Building Committee was not willing to proceed until clear title to the land had been established. Consequently, another committee was established to clear the title and procure all necessary deeds. Members of this committee included Benjamin Neal, Joseph Crosby, Peter Adams, Benjamin Webb, and Deacon John Adams, the father of the President. On February 15, this committee was instructed to:

> stake out a place for the Meeting House so as to front the south as near as may be conveniently, and further to lay out and stake the piece of land being a corner of Ensign Samuel Baxter's land lying before the front of said meeting house which may be needful to be purchased of him for the accommodation of passage thereunto and round the same at east corner and to perfect the said purchase by taking a legal conveyance of him in their names.... Also to take the like legal conveyance of those proprietors of the land called the Training Field as may appear to convey and alienate the same. The said Trustees are also empowered and directed to pay out of Precinct Treasury or secure to be paid the said purchase consideration to the said Samuel Baxter.[9]

As a result of this mandate, the committee purchased an additional quarter-acre of land from Ensign Samuel Baxter along the Country Highway, or Hancock Street (fig. 3).

At a meeting held March 22, 1731, the appointed committee publicly read all of the deeds, which were approved and accepted by the President of the Congregation and officially recorded. At that same meeting the committee described the newly staked-out boundaries of the meetinghouse property:

> Being at the corner by the road next to the Burying place, and from the same corner we measured eleven rods Northeast by the fence, and from the same corner we measured eleven rods and a half, to the end of which three square pieces makes a quarter of an acre, and we have staked out the spot for the meeting house so as the house shall face south, the southeast corner

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[9] Committee of the First Congregational Church of Quincy (Messrs. J.H. Emery, H.M. Faxon and J.C. Morse), February 15, 1731. From Edwin W. Marsh, Examination of Title for the First Parish Church of Quincy, April 22, 1889, United First Parish Church, Quincy, MA (Record book of original documents [hereafter referred to as "Documents"], Vol. III, pp. 117-141.)

> thereof joining to Mr. Baxter's fence about ten feet from the Northwest corner of the piece of land we laid out, viz., of Mr. Baxter's land.[10]

In 1732 the third meetinghouse, known as the Hancock Meeting House, was completed. Documentary evidence suggests that it was located near the south corner of the training field, immediately south of the present church (fig. 3), with its front doorway facing roughly west. This simple wooden structure (figs. 4-5) would serve the community for almost a century.

[10] Marsh, Examination of Title.

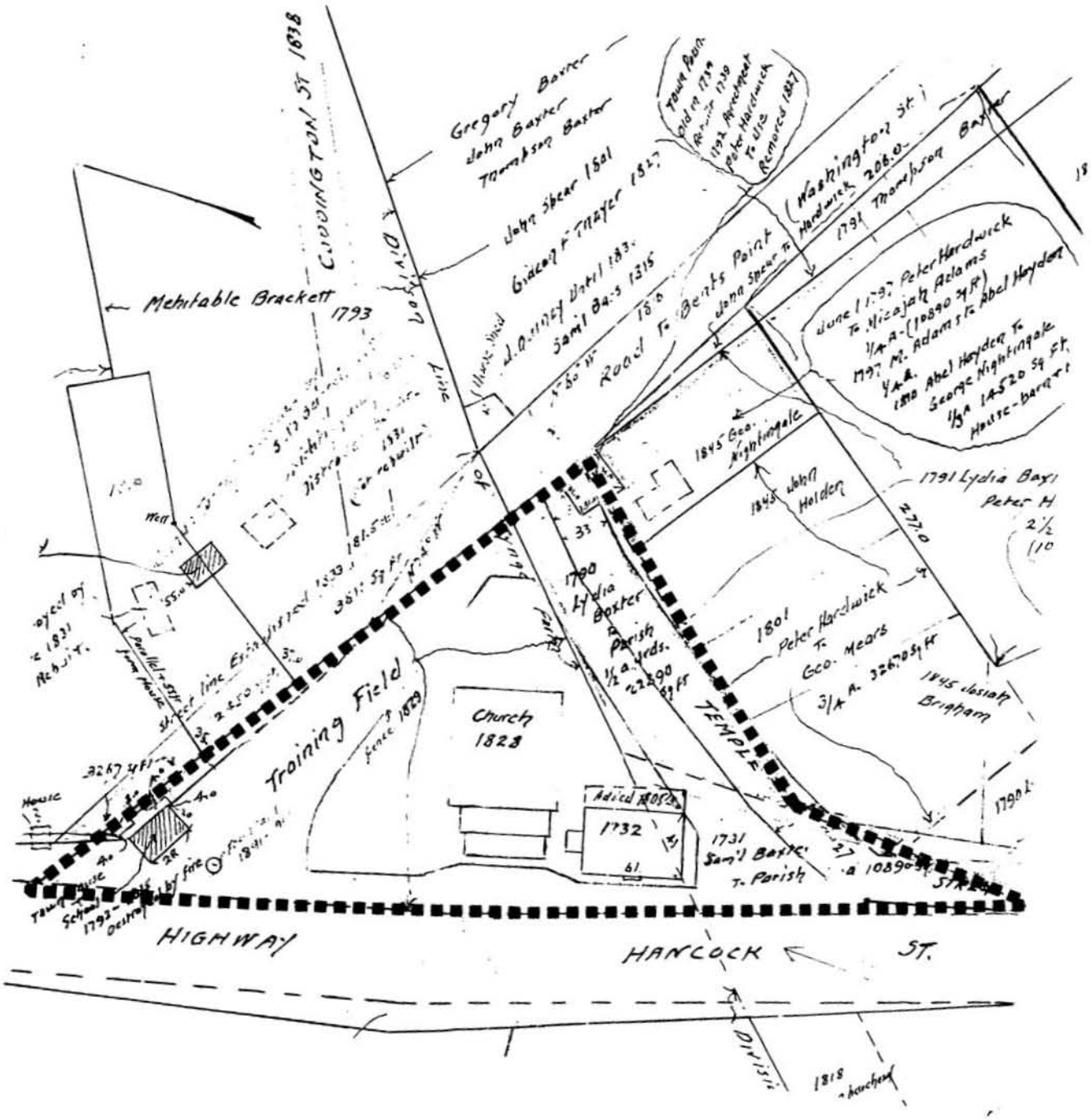



**Figure 3.** Sketch map of parcels including the Training Field (map 1957).

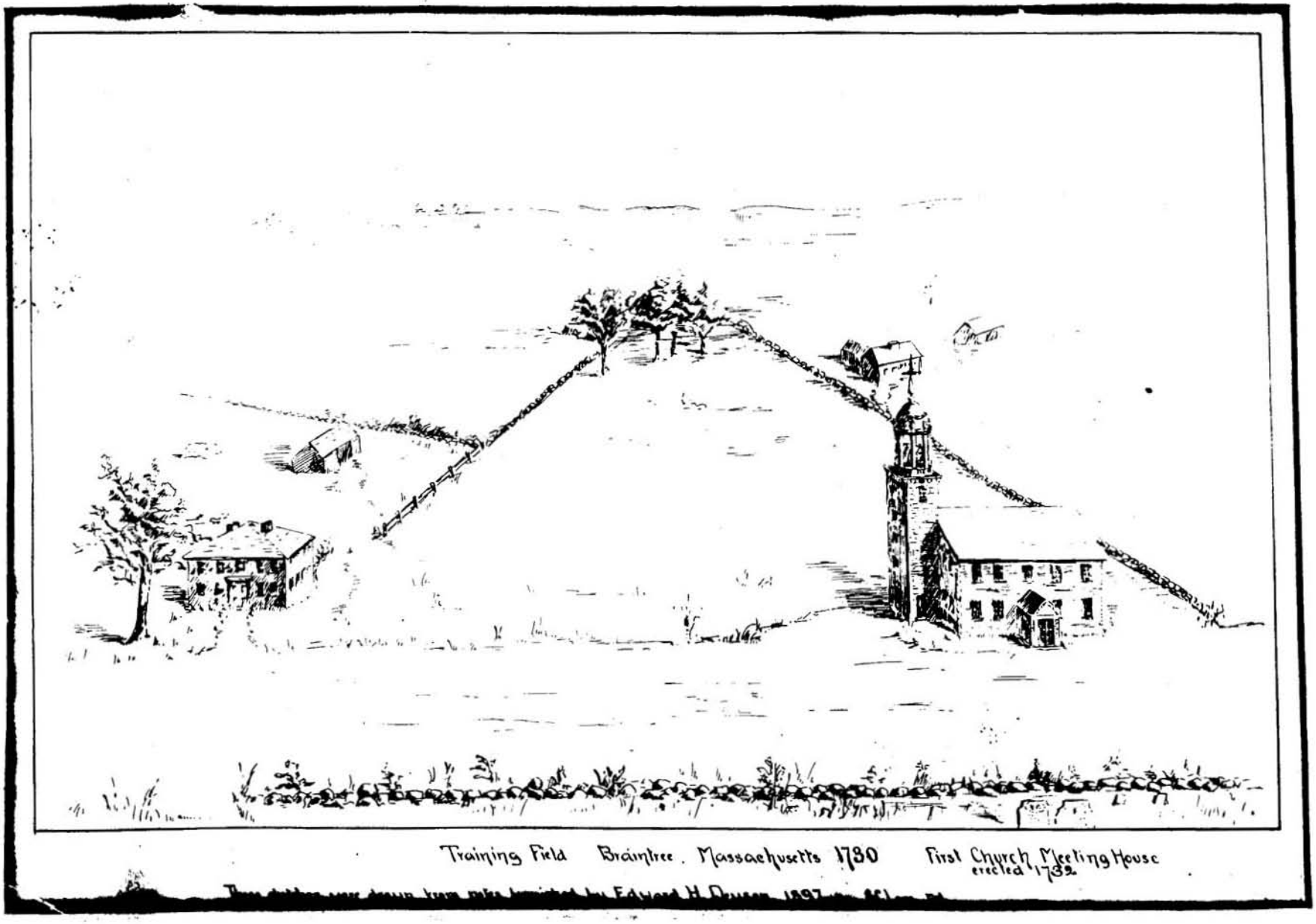



**Figure 4.** The Training Field, Braintree, Massachusetts, 1730 (drawing 1897).



**Figure 5.** The Hancock Meeting House (woodblock print).

## ADDITION OF LYDIA BAXTER'S LAND

Nearly 60 years after the construction of the Hancock Meeting House, its grounds were officially expanded through the purchase of a small parcel of adjacent land. On April 20, 1789, a committee from the congregation was appointed to purchase one-half acre and four rods of adjacent land from Widow Lydia Baxter and "so lay it off as will best accommodate the Training Fields and road, get the old fence moved and new set, on as good terms as they can, and take a deed."[11] On March 22, 1790, Lydia Baxter signed the following deed:[12]

> To all people to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting(ital). Know Ye, That I Lydia Baxter of Braintree in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of the Massachusetts Widow
>
> For and in Consideration of the Sum of Five Pounds Six Shillings to me in Hand before the Ensealing hereof, well and truly paid by James Brachett?, Peter Boylston Adams and Jonathan Webb of Braintree aforesaid Gentlemen, being a Committee of the first Parish of said Braintree Legally Appointed At A Meeting of the Inhabitants of Said Parish At their Annual Meeting in March Last to Purchase for and in Behalf of said Parish the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and my self therewith fully satisfied and contended, HAVE given, granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and confirmed, and by these Presents, do freely, clearly and absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell, aliene, convey and confirm unto the said Inhabitants of Said first Parish and Their Heirs and Assigns forever, A Certain Piece of Land in Said first Parish of Braintree, Near the Meeting house Containing half an Acre and four Rods and is Bounded as follows vis. Northerly on other Land belonging to Said Parish Commonly Called the Training Field Westerly on Lands of said Parish Southerly on the Country Road and The Road Leading to the Neck, Northeasterly, Easterly and Southeasterly on Other Lands of the Said Lydia Baxter, As the fence now Stands or however Otherwise Bounded or reputed[sic] to be Bounded.[13]

The parcel acquired from Lydia Baxter is shown in figure 3.

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[11] Committee meeting minutes, May 18, 1789. From Marsh, Examination of Title.

[12] Suffolk County Deeds, Lib. 169, Fol. 284. From Marsh, Examination of Title.

[13] Deed of Lydia Baxter, March 2, 1790 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 1).

## CHANGES IN QUINCY CENTER AROUND 1800

Toward the end of the 18th century, residents of the North Precinct of Braintree began to organize to become an independent town. In 1792 the precinct was incorporated as the Town of Quincy. The next year, a single building housing a schoolhouse and public meeting room was built in the northern corner of the Training Field, opposite the Hancock Meeting House. The upper story was used as a town hall, and the grammar school was kept in the room below. This established the area as a focal point within the community. The first Town Meeting was held in this building on December 8, 1796. A map of Quincy prepared in 1795 (fig. 6) does not show the structure, but it does show the Hancock Meeting House at the center. In 1802 the Town of Quincy voted to adorn the green around the meetinghouse with trees, suggesting that may have been used at that time as a small public park.[14] Soon after, owing to a steady growth in its congregation, the Hancock Meeting House was enlarged in 1805 (see figure 3).

In 1810 the Hingham Turnpike (later Washington Street) was built, terminating in Quincy at the east corner of the Training Field, at the site of the Town Pound. According to historian Edward H. Dewson, travel from the end of the Quincy Turnpike to Hancock Street (the route that Washington Street would later take) crossed over an informal route through the Training Field and passed south of the schoolhouse. In 1815 this schoolhouse was destroyed by fire. A drawing of this area prepared in 1822 shows the Hancock Meeting House in a village-like setting, located directly across from the Hancock Cemetery and surrounded by numerous small buildings (fig. 7).

According to historian Edward Dewson, during the first decade of the 19th century several of the landowners adjacent to the Training Field, including the Torrey, Nightingale, and Baxter families, began to encroach onto its boundaries. Consequently, around 1811 a church committee was appointed to inquire into the state of the land on the Training Field. This committee reported the existence of a 1790 deed to the First Parish in Braintree, but no further action was taken.

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[14] Edward H. Dewson, "History of Hancock Street and the Training Field at Quincy, Massachusetts." A paper read by Edward H. Dewson before the Quincy Historical Society, February 15, 1896. Quincy Historical Society.

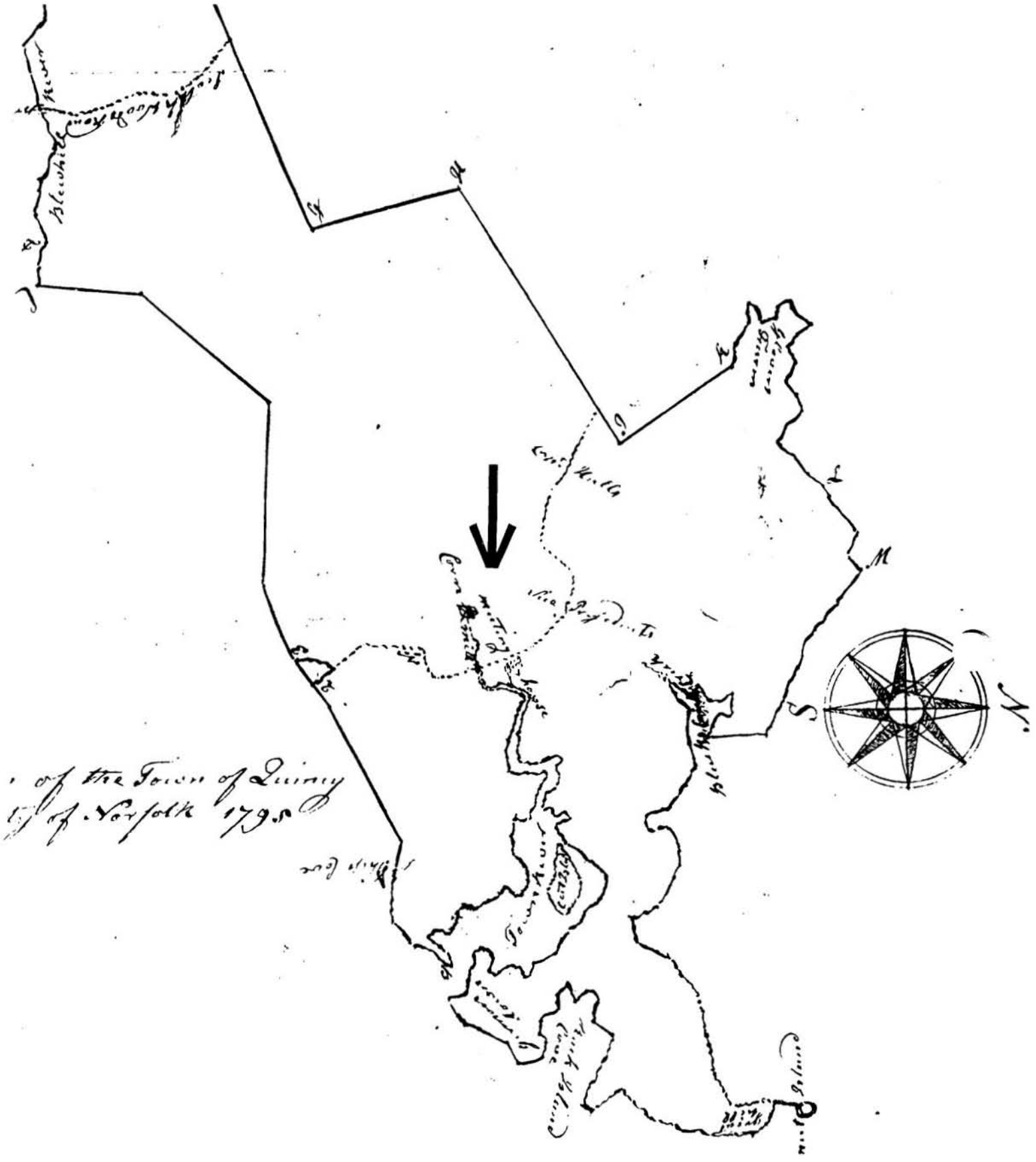
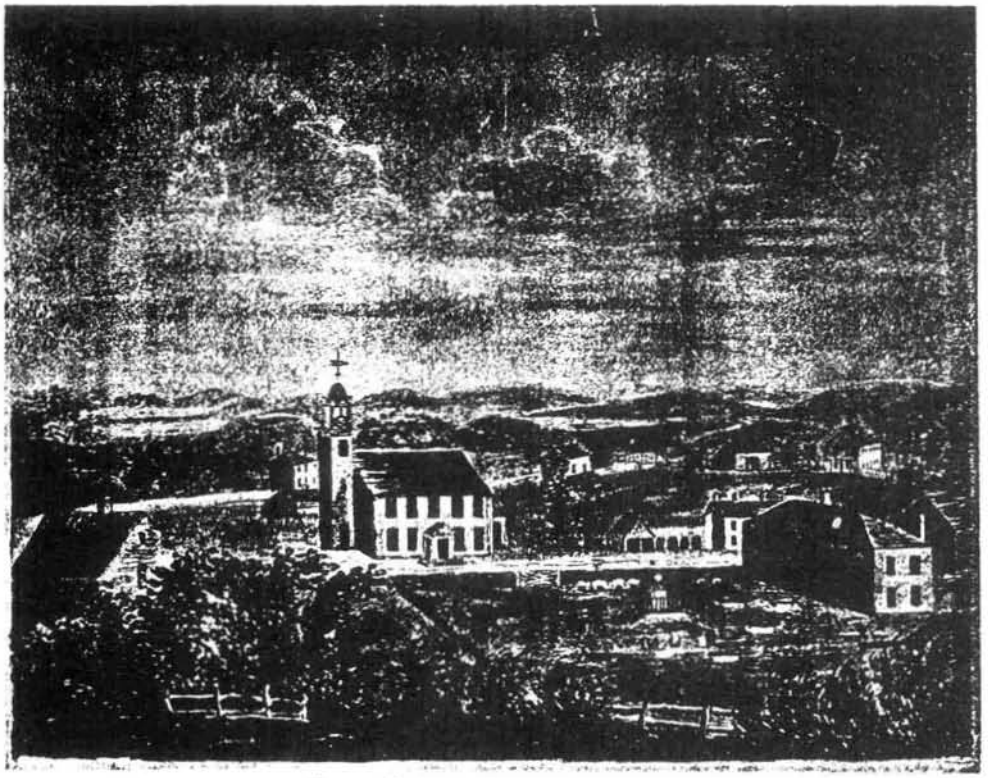



**Figure 6.** Map of the Town of Quincy, 1795.



View of the Village of Quincy
from President's Hill.

Congregational Church erected 1732 taken down 1829.
Monument of J. Quincy, Jr. erected 1802.
Eliza S. Quincy, del. 1822.

**Figure 7.** View of the Village of Quincy, 1822.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE STONE TEMPLE

Despite the enlargement of the Hancock Meeting House in 1805, the congregation soon outgrew the structure, and church members soon began to make plans for a larger structure. In support of this cause, in 1822 President John Adams, a member of the congregation, deeded to the town approximately 220 acres, the income from which was to accrue and go towards:

> the completing and finishing of a temple to be built of stone, to be taken from the premises, for the Public worship of God, and the public instruction in religion and morality, and for the use of the Congregational Society in said town.[15]

On April 12, 1824, by public vote, the affairs of church and town were separated, and the First Parish was incorporated as a distinct religious body named officially "The Congregational Society of Quincy."[16] Until 1824, in Quincy the affairs of the church and the town were considered one and the same. Town Meetings voted on the minister's salary and upkeep of the meetinghouse along with other town affairs. However, from this point on, the issue of who controlled the property on which the church was located—the church or the town—would remain an issue.

On April 11, 1826, the Congregational Society voted to establish a Building Committee to investigate the "expediency of erecting a new house for Public Worship for the use of this Society."[17] On February 1, 1827, the Building Committee presented to the Congregational Society plans for the temple prepared by architect Alexander Parris, which the congregation voted to accept. At the same time, the committee raised the issue of who owned the land upon which the church was to be built. Undoubtedly concern over the issue of ownership of the Training Field was more acute in light of the recent split between the town and the church. Consequently, at that meeting it was voted:

> That a Committee be appointed to ascertain what land the Congregational Society own in the vicinity of the present meeting house, and to cause an article to be inserted in the warrant for the next Town meeting,- for the Town to consider the expediency of conveying to the Congregational Society all the right and title that they have, if any, to the land in the vicinity of the meetinghouse, usually called the Training Field.[18]

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[15] Bennett, "Three Meeting Houses and the Stone Temple."

[16] However, the affairs of the town and the church were not totally separated until 1833, at which time the Massachusetts constitution was amended to prohibit the integration of church and state.

[17] Minutes, parish meeting, April 11, 1826. In Book of Records of the Congregational Society of the Town of Quincy, formerly the North Precinct Parish of the Town of Braintree, now the United First Parish Church, Quincy, MA (hereafter referred to as "Records"), Vol. I, pp. 13-14.

[18] Minutes, parish meeting, February, 1, 1827 (Records, Vol. I, p. 24).

Unfortunately, this issue was not quickly resolved. On March 31, notes of the Building Committee indicate that:

> The Committee met—some alarm having existed reporting the parish title to the land on which the Temple was to be erected in consequence of defects in the original Deed, -they carefully examined the Deeds and the laws respecting acknowledgment, and also decisions of the Supreme Court on the subject.[19]

As it turned out, the issue of land ownership, and in particular the conflict between the city and the church, would not be resolved until well into the next century.

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[19] Building committee minutes, March 31, 1827 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 42). Original manuscript of building committee minutes is folded into an envelope that is glued to p. 42 and labeled "Minutes of Building Committee of Stone Temple built 1827-1828; These records were preserved among the papers of the John Adams Library and were placed in the Town collection of the Thomas Crane Public Library Nov. 6, 1883. Transferred to the First Congregational [Unitarian] Society by vote of Trustees of the Thomas Crane Public Library, October 3, 1895."

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE GROUNDS AROUND THE STONE TEMPLE

Construction of the new Stone Temple began in the spring of 1827. Church records indicate that from the start the grounds around the church were an issue of great concern. Several entries in the records of the Building Committee and the Congregational Society indicate that not merely the secure ownership of the church grounds, but also their dignified appearance, were considered significant issues by the committee. On April 7, 1827, the Building Committee met to carefully consider the site for the temple:

> They examined the ground having refused to dig the cellar until after the Parish meeting, that they may have the opportunity to make such alterations as they may deem expedient on a careful examination of the site selected, and viewing it from all the roads leading to it, the Committee were of the opinion that without moving the stake near the old meeting house, the back stakes may be carried farther south and will appear better from the road....[20]

At the next meeting, on April 9, 1827, it was further voted that:

> A committee be chosen to take charge of the Parish property, and that they be authorized to take all legal and proper measures to defend it; when the Hon. Thomas Greenleaf, Lemuel Brackett esq., Noah Curtis Esq., Mr. William Wood, and Josiah Brigham were chosen said committee.[21]

On April 12, 1827, this committee reported that they were satisfied that the title of the Parish to all of the three pieces of land now comprising one lot were legal, clear, and without any encumbrance whatever.[22]

In 1827 Temple Street was laid out along what was the southern side of the Training Field, leading from what is now Hancock Street to Washington Street. It has not been determined whether the construction of this new road was prompted by the erection of the Stone Temple. However, it is known that although the land used for the layout of Temple Street appears to have been a part of the original Training Field, the town authorities reimbursed adjacent landowner Henry Hardwick, rather than the First Parish Church. Historian Dewson, writing in 1896, notes that around this time Hardwick erected a 30- to 40-foot board fence on the newly established boundary, with hooks on it to which churchgoers could tie their horses.

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[20] Building committee minutes, April 7, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I).

[21] Minutes, parish meeting, April 9, 1827 (Records, Vol. I, p. 24).

[22] Marsh, Examination of Title.

With the church building nearly complete, the congregation set out to embellish the grounds. On October 6, 1828, the Congregational Society voted that:

> The Building Committee be authorized to have the ground leveled round the new meeting house, and the House enclosed with Stone Posts and chains, in such a manner as they shall deem expedient.[23]

The Stone Temple was dedicated on November 12, 1828. The following spring, work on the landscape began. Records of the Building Committee include a voucher dated May 9, 1828, to William Wood "For one hundred Stone Posts at $3.50 per post, $350."[24] On May 10, 1829, the Congregational Society voted:

> To appoint a Committee of seven to examine into the doings of the Building Committee respecting the location of certain Post and Chains which are to surround the new Stone Temple lately erected by said society.
>
> That said Committee be authorized and empowered to cause a survey to be made of the land to be enclosed, its limits to be designated, and a plan to be drawn.[25]

In response to this mandate, at a meeting on May 18, 1829, the appointed committee dutifully described the plans for the grounds currently being developed by architect Parris under the direction of the Building Committee:

> The Committee appointed in pursuance of the aforesaid vote, have attended that service and respectfully report:
>
> That there be a paved walk in front of the Stone Temple Fifty Seven feet long and Eight feet wide, to be laid with hammered Stone, the stones to be seven feet and an half long to run from the steps to the Edge Stone, which is to be six inches wide. From each end of the pavement a curved line of 22 feet is marked by stakes, and a straight line of 84 feet, making the whole front on the Old Plymouth Road 209 Feet. At each end of this line and at right angles thereto; straight lines of 27 feet each; thence diverging lines of 213 feet each, to meet a line of 13 at the back of the Temple; The whole plot being marked off by Stakes.
>
> That at each end of the pavement and steps there be a gravel walk within the pests [sic] of Six feet wide, and the Posts be set within the Posts of six feet wide and that the Posts be set on each line in corner? at convenient distances, not to exceed 10 feet a part, and at the entrance of the gravel walks to be disposed as to prevent the intrusion of Cattle and other animals [sic]; that the raised banks fourteen feet wide on the south, East and North Sides be sodded, and that their be a gravel walk 4 feet wide parallel with

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[23] Minutes, parish meeting, October 6, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, p. 49).

[24] Voucher to William Wood, May 9, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 144).

[25] Minutes, parish meeting, May 10, 1829 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 68-69).

> and adjoining the banks and that the residue of the land within the Posts be sodded or seeded with Grass.[26]

The committee noted that these plans reflected the design intent of Alexander Parris, in that they were "guided by a sketch drafted by Mr. Paris [sic] in the hands of the Honorable Thomas Greenleaf, Chairman of the Building Committee." These plans, while "reducing the quantity of ground to be enclosed to a smaller compass than before staked out by Building Committee," would "better the appearance." In order to ensure that the full extent of the property be retained in church ownership, however, the committee recommended that "measures be taken to cause substantial permanent stones to be placed at suitable distances upon, under or around the whole of the land claimed to be parish property in conformity as near may be, to a plan and survey taken a few years since by Mather Withington Esq., now in custody of their clerk."[27]

At the close of the meeting, the committee was authorized to carry out their plans, set the posts, hang the chains, and place landmarks defining the property flush with the surface of the ground.

Building Committee records for the following summer indicate steady progress on the development of the grounds. On July 11, 1829, the Building Committee records include a voucher to "Pay George Spear 2nd 25 Dollars of the Society's money...for twenty five tons of paving stone."[28] On August 18, 1829, there is a voucher to "Pay Josiah Savil One hundred and fifty five dollars, eighty cents...for 1290 feet of chain and eyes fitted to the Stone posts around the new stone temple...."[29]

The following spring, on April 12, 1830, the committee in charge of the grounds submitted a report outlining their progress during the previous year, accompanied by a plan defining the boundaries of the church property. According to the report, the committee "have caused a permanent stone pavement to be laid under the eaves of the Temple on each side thereof, the utility of need only to be seen to be justly appreciated."[30] Substantial, permanent stones were set, even with the surface of the ground, around the boundary of the property. Finally, 80 stone posts had been set around the temple itself, in accordance with the plan drawn by Alexander Parris.

At that same meeting, it was voted that a committee be formed to "procure and cause to set around the church a suitable number of ornamental trees—at an expense not exceeding One hundred Dollars."[31] Accordingly, the following spring, on April 9, 1831, the Building Committee minutes contain a voucher to pay John Souther $60.87 "for setting out Sixty five Trees.... Also twenty five dollars ninety eight cents repairs on Roof, carting stone posts...," along with another voucher of the

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[26] Minutes, parish meeting, May 18, 1829 (Records, Vol. I, p. 70).

[27] Minutes, parish meeting, May 18, 1829.

[28] Voucher to George Spear, July 11, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 149).

[29] Voucher to Josiah Savil, August 18, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 150).

[30] Minutes, parish meeting, April 12, 1830 (Records, Vol. I, p. 76).

[31] Minutes, parish meeting, April 12, 1830.

same date to pay Aaron Mason "also twenty Nine dollars eighteen cents for labor in setting out trees, labor on roof and three cords and half pine wood...."[32] Apparently ivy was planted around the church soon after its dedication, as was a branch of the Abigail Adams Rose Bush.[33]

Early images of the Stone Temple show it prominently positioned on a raised mound, with the stone posts and chains surrounding the building clearly shown. One ca.-1835 image focuses on the stark lines of the building, and shows no trees (fig. 8). Another image postdating 1844 shows a verdant, park-like setting featuring many trees (fig. 9).

In 1833 the Hingham Turnpike (later Washington Street) was extended to Hancock Street, thus completing the triangle of roads surrounding the Stone Temple. With the extension of Washington Street, the traffic island on which the church now sits was thus created. The north line of the road was established by removing a blacksmith shop that stood at the corner of where Washington Street is now located, and running a straight line through the north side of the Training Field. Since this land had since been encroached upon by adjacent landowners Torrey and Nightingale, they were appropriately reimbursed.[34]

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[32] Voucher to Aaron Mason, April 9, 1831 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 178).

[33] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, Wednesday, March 29, 1950, p. 1.

[34] Dewson, "History of Hancock Street and the Training Field."



VIEW OF THE QUINCY TEMPLE.

**Figure 8.** "View of the Quincy Temple," ca. 1835.



**Figure 9.** "The Adams' Temple, at Quincy," ca. 1851-1854.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUINCY CENTER: 1830-1888

The middle decades of the 19th century in Quincy were marked by rapid new development. Maps from 1830, 1849, 1858, and 1878 show the area around the First Parish Church becoming more densely settled (figs. 10-13). While 18 commercial structures were present in Quincy Center in 1850, twice that many existed by 1888.[35] After 1845 the Old Colony Railroad Line appeared as a prominent feature passing north to south through the center of the town.

In 1844, the granite Town Hall was constructed in the Greek Revival style directly across the street from the First Parish Church (fig. 14). Designed by architect Solomon Willard, the granite town hall confirmed Quincy Center as the center of the town's religious and civic affairs.[36] By this time, numerous one- and two-story wooden commercial buildings were located along Hancock Street.

Development of Quincy Center as the commercial and civic focus of the community continued during the second half of the 19th century. The Adams Academy, built in 1872 (fig. 15), and the Thomas Crane Library, designed by H.H. Richardson and completed in 1882 (fig. 16), were two significant new civic structures constructed near the church.

Throughout this period church records indicate that routine maintenance of the grounds continued. On November 28, 1835, a voucher is included to pay Peter Turner 3.00 "for pruning the Trees about the meeting house."[37] In March 1840, it was voted that a committee, apparently the Parish Committee, be instructed to "take care and improve the condition of the trees on the common around the meeting house and make such improvements by planting out others as they may think expedient at the expense of the Parish."[38]

In 1844 the Committee recommended that the sum of $1,500 be raised for church maintenance, $25 of which would be allotted to the improvement of the grounds, walks, and trees around the meetinghouse.[39] This same amount was allotted for 1845.[40] At the Annual Meeting of 1850 it was reported that $15.15 was actually spent on the improvements of grounds, trees, etc.; this sum went up to $25 the following year.[41] In 1852 a notation is included in the report of the Finance Committee dated March 6, 1852, that T. Shagrene was paid $11.87 for work on the Parish

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[35] National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Quincy Multiple Resource Area, July 27, 1989.

[36] National Register Nomination Form.

[37] Voucher to Peter Turner, November 28, 1835 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 252).

[38] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1840 (Records, Vol. I, p. 160).

[39] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 11, 1844 (Records, Vol. I, p. 186).

[40] Minutes, parish annual meeting, April 21, 1845 (Records, Vol. I, p. 194).

[41] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 10, 1851 (Records, Vol. I, p. 266).

grounds. In that same report, E. March was paid $1.00 for a chestnut tree.[42] On a list of accounts paid out in 1853, it was noted that a chestnut tree was purchased for $1.00.[43] In 1855 Luke Rideout was paid $2.50 for setting posts.[44] In 1859 J. Flint was issued a contract "To care of stone temple from March 1st 1859 to December 1 at $70.00 per year," and also for Trimming Trees and Raking gravel walks for a total of six days, 3 hours, $61.95. On October 25, 1883, Abel Wright was paid $1.00 for cutting the grass on July 1.[45]

Around 1860 it appears that the ownership of the Training Field once again became an issue, for the minutes of the Congregational Society for February 7 include the following entry:

> As to land around and on which the House stands which was formerly called the Training Field (part of which at present is only inclosed) the title to the same we find the Town accepted the report of a Committee appointed by the Town for the purpose of ascertaining what rights if any the town possessed and which Committee consisting of William Packard Geo Venice Noah Curtis Josiah Brigham & Leml Brackett after fully examining into the titles by which the land was bought reported that the title of the Parish was legal clear and without any incumbrance whatever. Their report is recorded in the Town Records April 2 1827 as a portion of the ground is at present unenclosed. We would advise placing stone posts a few inches from the surface to mark the boundaries.[46]

An illustrative map dating from 1881 shows the general shape of the church plot to have remained the same since the church was built in the 1820s. This plan also shows the church grounds as dotted with trees, suggesting a park-like area extending from the church grounds across the street to the Hancock Burying Ground (fig. 17).

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[42] Report of the Committee on Finance as of March 6, 1852 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 9).

[43] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1853 (Records, Vol. I, p. 260).

[44] Report of Prudential Committee Appropriation for 1855 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 32).

[45] Voucher to Abel Wright, October 25, 1883 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 77).

[46] Minutes, parish meeting, February 7, 1860 (Records, Vol. I, p. 361).

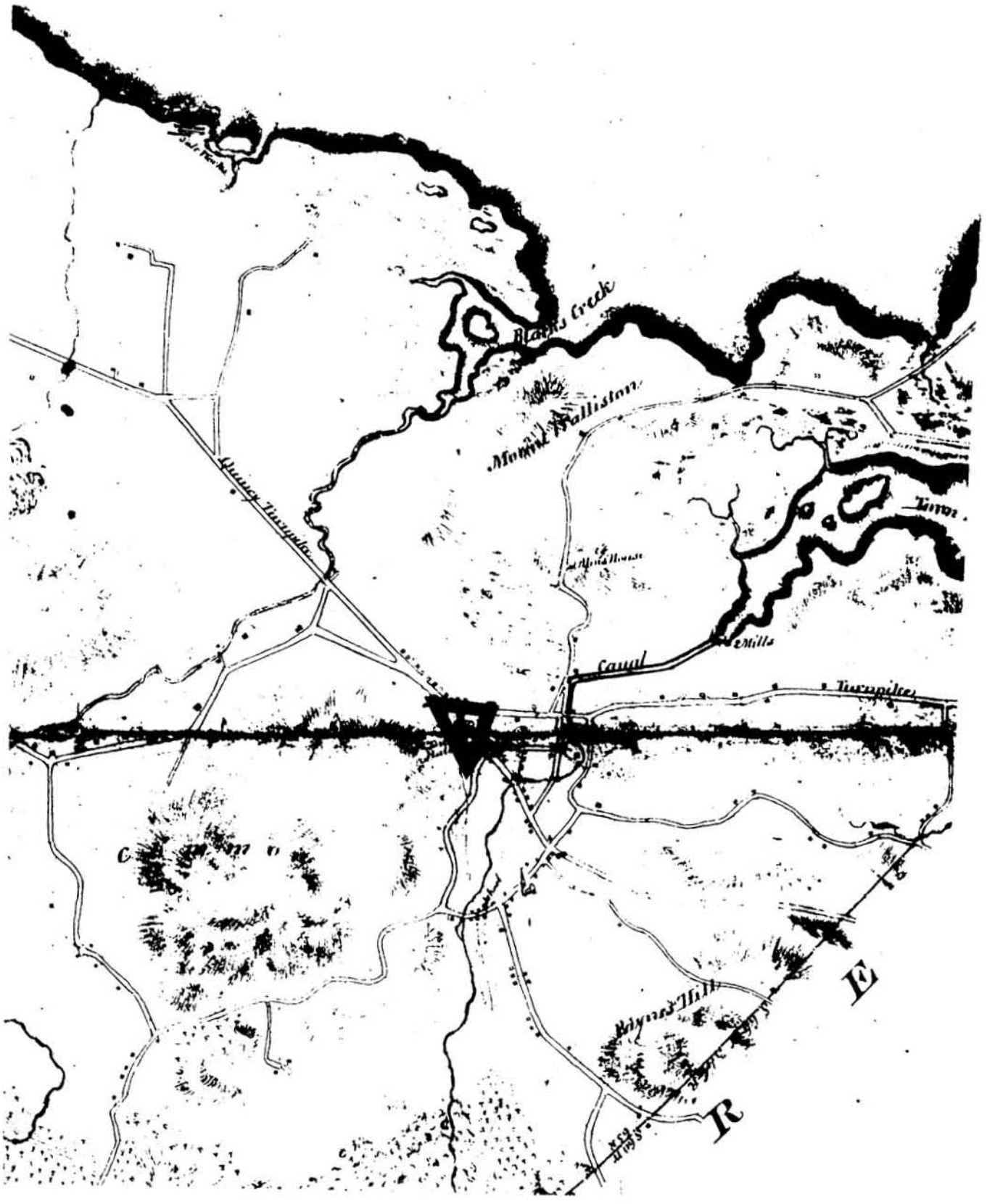



**Figure 10.** Plan of the Town of Quincy, 1830.

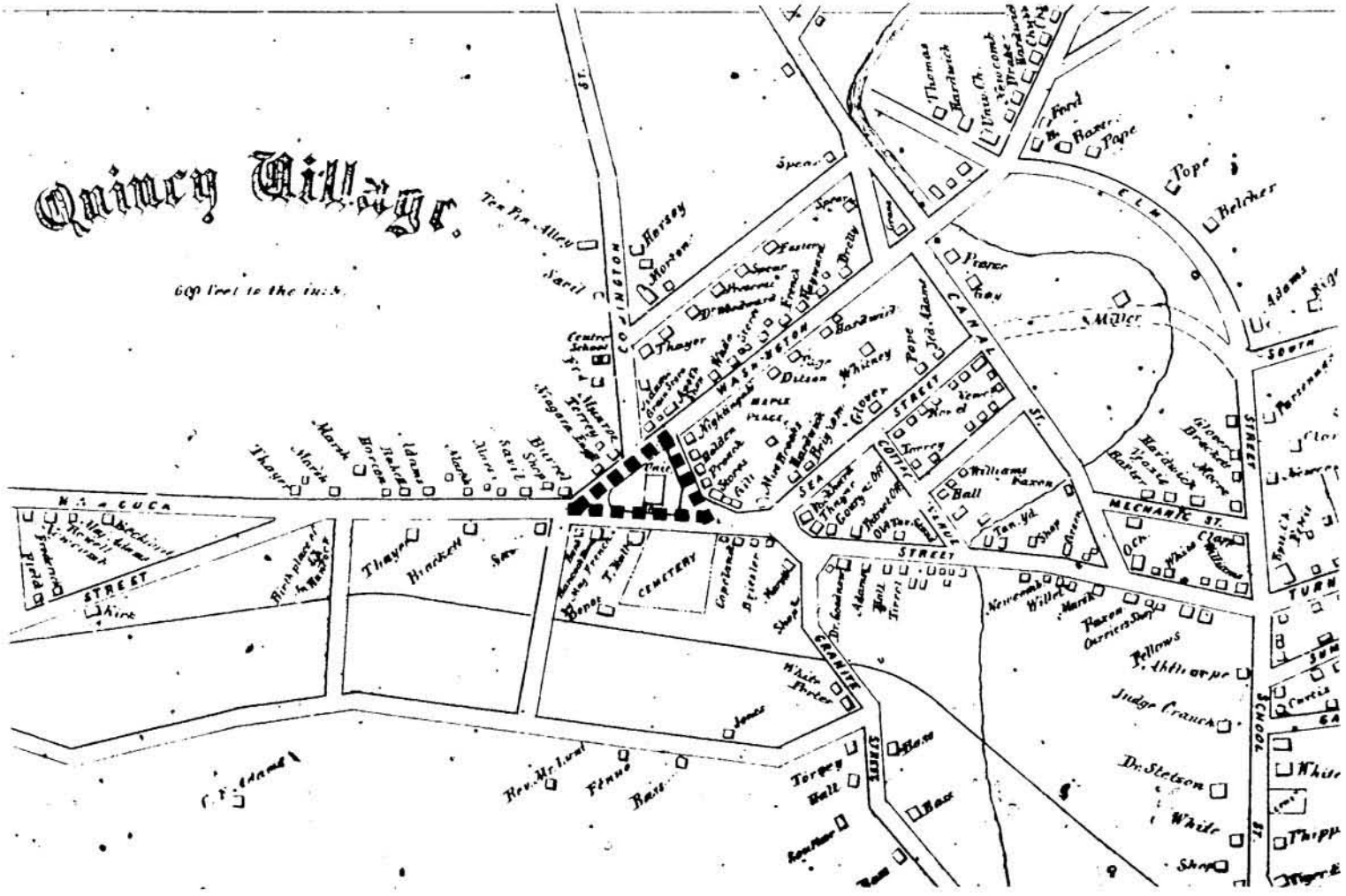



**Figure 11.** Plan of the Towns of Quincy and Milton, 1849.

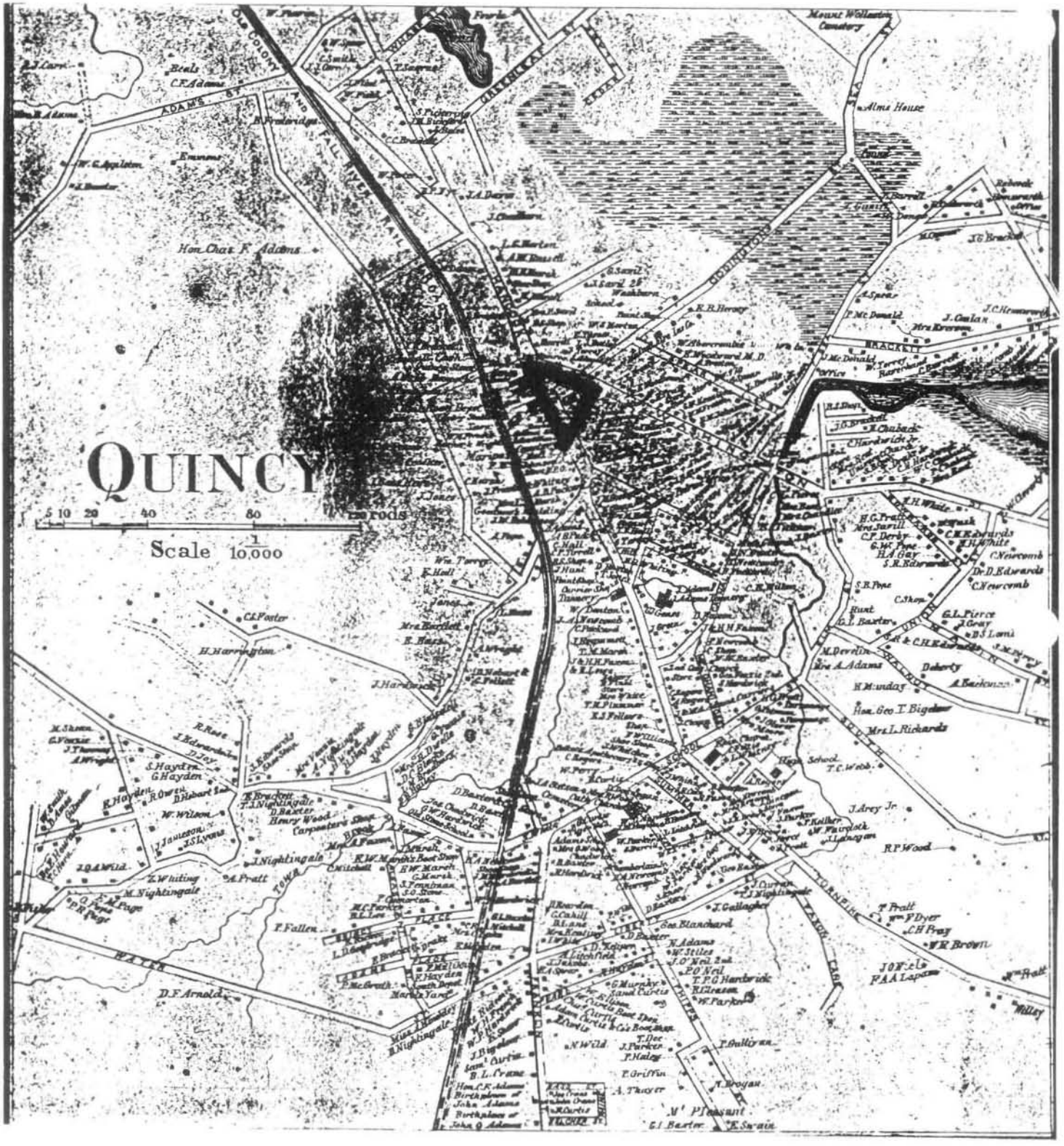



Figure 12. Map of Quincy, 1856.

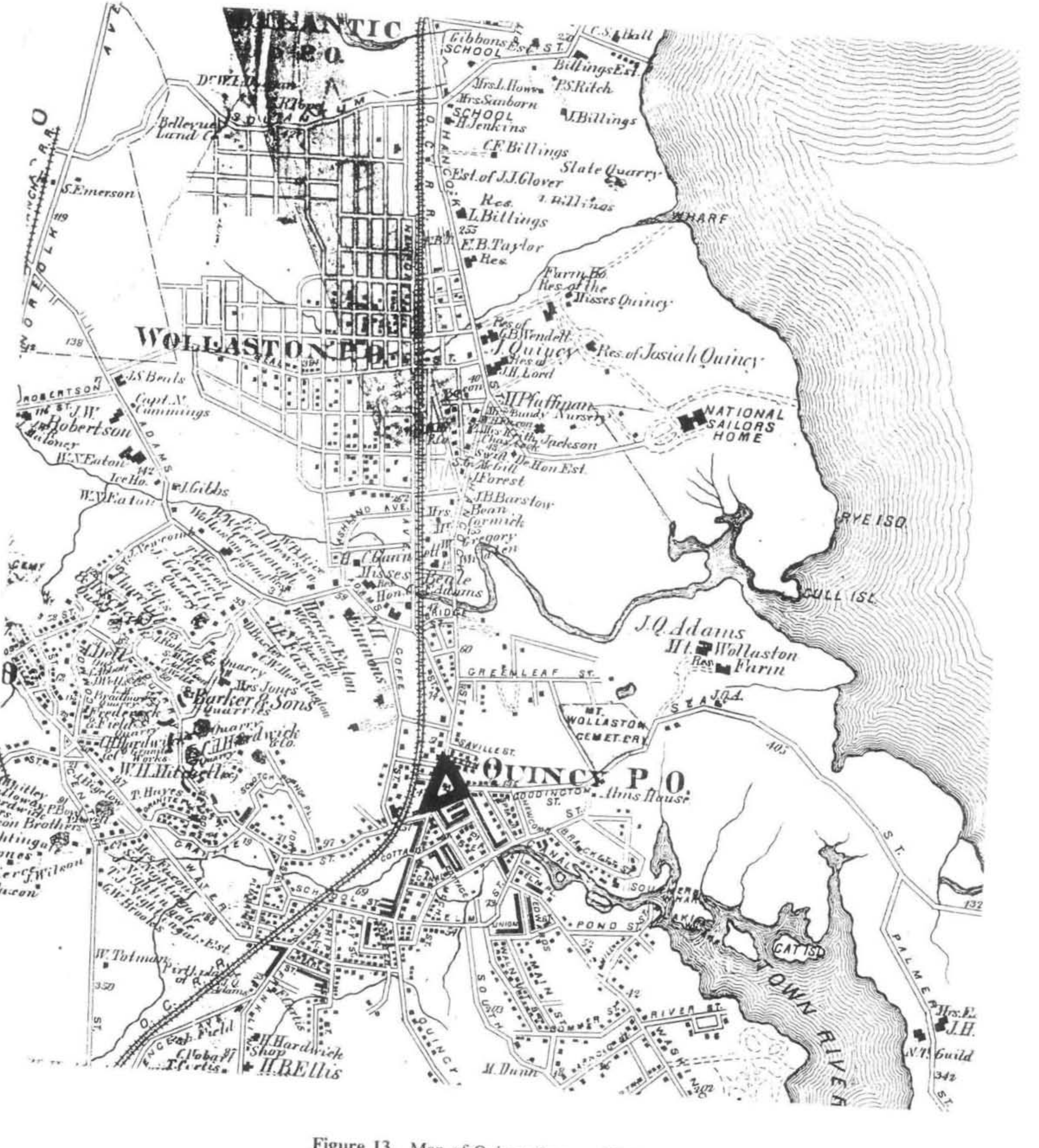



Figure 13. Map of Quincy Center, 1876.




**Figure 14.** Quincy City Hall (photograph ca. 1915).




**Figure 15.** Adams Academy (photograph ca. 1905-1915).

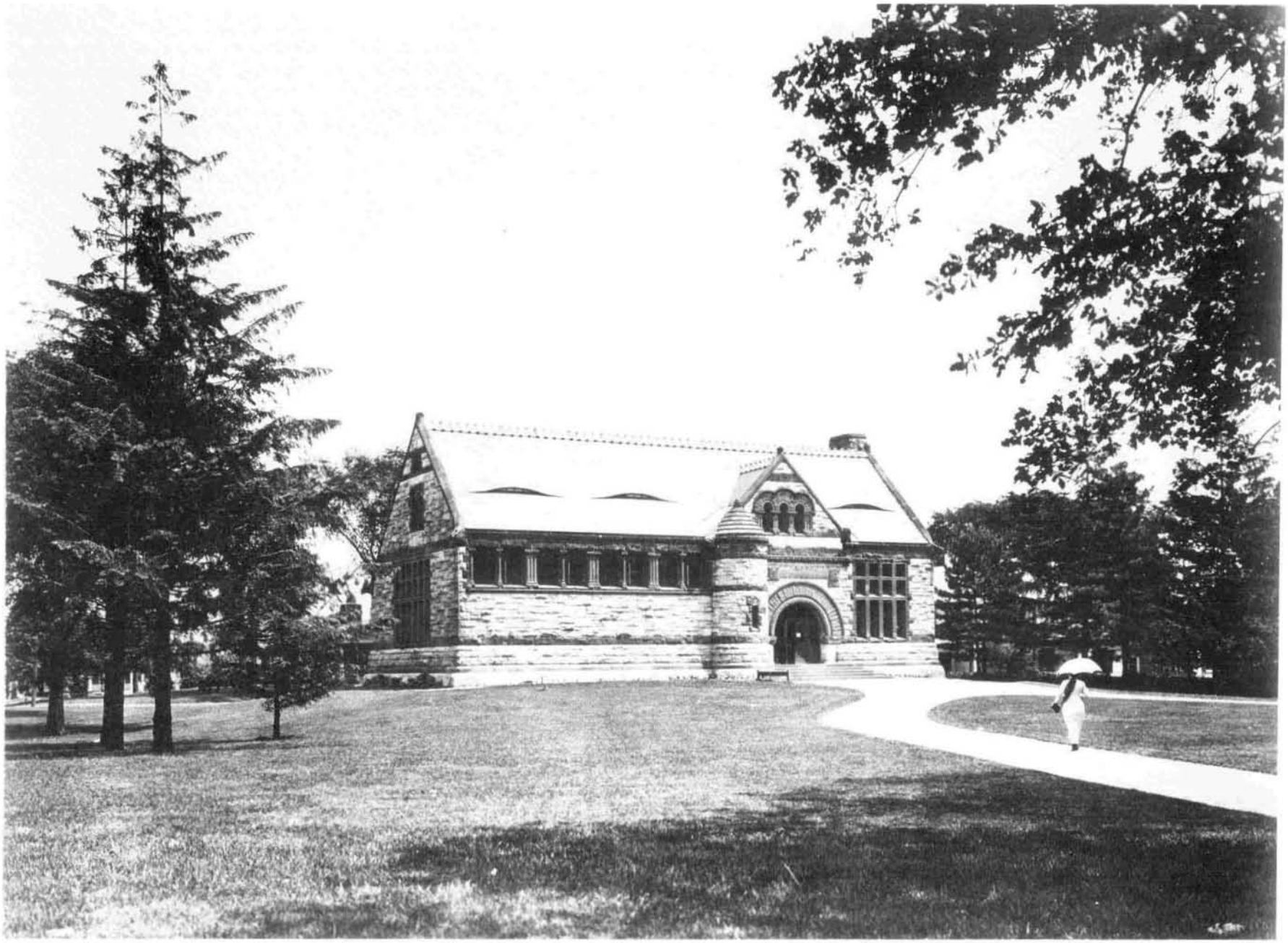


**Figure 16.** Thomas Crane Public Library, ca. 1905.




**Figure 17.** "Plan of Land and Approaches Embraced in a Scheme for a Public Park in Quincy..., 1881."

## CHANGES TO THE PARISH GROUNDS: 1883-1917

Between 1883 and 1917 the grounds of the United First Parish Church underwent a certain amount of change brought about by growth in the congregation, along with continued growth in Quincy. For nearly a decade in the 1870s, the Congregational Society debated the merits of constructing an addition or remodeling the basement to provide additional space for a Sunday School. In 1883, with the decision to construct an addition on the back of the temple for a "chapel and other uses," it was necessary to lay a firm claim on the land located to the rear (east) of the church. At a meeting on March 1, 1883, it was voted that

> A committee ... petition the Town to discontinue the public right of way upon the Parish Land in the rear of the Church,...[47]

In 1883 a special committee in charge of this addition authorized the erection of such a building on church land. With the completion of the addition, the building footprint increased significantly, occupying nearly all of the open land formerly located to the rear of the building (compare figures 18 and 19).

The Town of Quincy became the City of Quincy in 1888. On May 21, 1888, a warrant (agenda) was posted for the upcoming June 4 meeting "to see if the Parish will allow the Quincy Street Railway Company to lay and maintain a track between the triangle so called and the Church enclosure."[48] In this case, the triangle is taken to mean the small, triangular plot of land located north of the church, in the middle of the intersection of Hancock and Washington Streets. Maps from this period show a small road or way passing between the triangle and the north corner of the church plot. Despite the apparent objection of the congregation, the street railway was installed by the end of the year (fig. 20). This railway, which operated its main route along Hancock Street, Washington Street, Quincy Avenue, and Independence Avenue, fostered fast-paced development of suburban housing and tremendous industrial growth around the turn of the century.[49]

Following the installation of the streetcar tracks, the Quincy Village Improvement Association approached both the city and church with a proposal to embellish the small triangle of land located in the middle of the intersection of Hancock and Washington Streets. On February 12, 1889, the congregation issued the following warrant for an upcoming meeting on March 11:

> To see if the parish will appoint a committee and authorize them to grade and lay out the triangular piece of land between Washington and Hancock Streets, and also to grade the church lands at the northeasterly end of the chapel and set some eighty (80) feet of hammered granite curbing on same at the corner of Washington Street and Temple Street and appropriate money therefore

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[47] Minutes, parish meeting, March 28, 1883 (Records, Vol. II, p. 144).

[48] Warrant dated May 21, 1888 for meeting of June 4, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103).

[49] National Register Nomination Form.

> Article 7 To see if the parish will grant the City of Quincy the right to erect a stone fountain on the northwest corner of its lands, and instruct any committee appointed under Article IV to consult with the Village Improvement Society as to the exact place where it is best to place the fountain, and how best to lay out the lands of the church adjoining said fountain.[50]

At the meeting, a decision was made to postpone a vote on whether the fountain should be erected. Instead, the congregation decided to determine once and for all the extent of their land. In particular, they wanted to determine if the small island of land in the middle of the intersection and the small way passing between the triangle and the church grounds was still a part of the church property.

A vote was taken and approved:

> That the Parish Assessors be instructed to define the bounds of the parish lands and prepare a plan for its improvement and present the same to a future meeting of the parish, at as early a date as possible,
>
> and the sum of two hundred dollars, or as much thereof as necessary, be placed at the disposal of the Parish Committee to pay the expenses attending this duty.[51]

Apparently as a result of this mandate, Attorney Edwin W. Marsh was hired to examine the title of the church property. This document, entitled "An examination of title by Edwin W. Marsh, April 22, 1889" is held in the church records.[52] The Marsh title search confirms the church ownership of the plot of land on which it sits. However, while admitting that the small triangle of land in the intersection was once part of the church property, it denies that the church retained control over this parcel over time:

> As regards to the land north of the church, the case is entirely different. To that, I cannot find that the Parish has any title outside of its own records. The deeds referred to appear to have been lost for a long time, as the committee chosen in 1824 to collect all books and papers belonging to the parish, made no mention of the deeds transferred.[53]

A warrant of October 10 lists three articles relating to the church maintaining the triangular piece of land, laying out curbing around the triangle, and appropriating $500 for the same. However, all three of these articles were indefinitely postponed at a meeting of October 21, 1889. It was not until March 23, 1891, that the congregation voted "That permission be granted to the Quincy Village Improvement Society to locate a drinking fountain in the position indicated upon the

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[50] Warrant dated February 12, 1889, for annual meeting of March 11, 1889 (Records, Vol. II, p. 180).

[51] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 11, 1889 (Records, Vol. II, p. 183).

[52] Marsh, Examination of Title.

[53] Marsh, Examination of Title.

plan submitted to this meeting drawn by Devlin Mackay, dated July 1890."[54] Unfortunately, such a plan has not been located in the course of this project.

Historian Edward Dewson, writing in 1896, described the installation of the fountain:

> In 1891 the parish granted permission to the Village Improvement Society to erect a fountain on its land. The architects were Walker and Best, the builders were McKenzie and Peterson. It cost a little over $7,000. When it was designed, there was a large plot of greensward between the driveway north of the posts and chains of the church enclosure and Washington Street.
>
> There was the opportunity for a fine artistic effect, which the architects availed of by dividing the basin into two sections, each of which rested upon a street, and was for the use of the horses. A third section faced towards the grass plot, and was arranged with steps and seats.[55]

Unfortunately, within a few years after the creation of the fountain, the City of Quincy proposed eliminating the small traffic island, and taking the driveway north of the church and widening it to create a safe public way for all traffic other than the electric streetcars. At a public hearing held on July 3, 1894, city officials stated that the fountain was creating a "muddy nuisance," and cited the need for a safe route for carriages and pedestrians.[56] In 1896 historian Dewson commented that "At the present time it is abused and the grass plot nearly destroyed by the untrained passage of teams over it."[57]

Thus ensued a protracted conflict between those in favor of widening the intersection and eliminating the small triangle and fountain (fig. 21), and those suggesting the creation of a small park that would encompass the private drive and the fountain site (fig. 22).

Ultimately, some representatives of the Congregational Society met with representatives from the City Council, and agreed with them on a plan for laying out the grounds in the vicinity of the church:

> The proposed plan, provided for the widening of Temple street to our posts and chains, also for the establishment of the South line of Washington street, extending from the North side of the fountain to the junction of Temple and Washington streets, the closing of the drive way, and the enclosing of the triangle formed by these three streets with curbstones and a side-walk..[58]

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[54] Minutes, special parish meeting, March 23, 1891 (Records, Vol. II, p. 204).

[55] Dewson, "History of Hancock Street and the Training Field."

[56] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, July 3, 1894, p. 1 (in church files).

[57] Dewson, "History of Hancock Street and the Training Field."

[58] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1896 (Records, Vol. II, p. 244).

On March 8, 1897, it was reported that:

> Steps were taken early in the year to preserve the Church green, appurtenant to the fountain, from further destruction, and on May 1st work was begun. The surface of the ground was raised, properly turfed and protected on two sides by suitable enclosure, leaving proper passageway for foot passengers. It is believed that the work has be generally satisfactory to the members of the Society and to the public at large....[59]

However, whatever progress was accomplished in establishing a compromise solution between the church and the city appears to have dissolved fairly soon. On March 14, 1898, the First Congregational Society of Quincy served the following notice upon the City of Quincy and the City of Boston Street Railway:

> The First Congregational Society of Quincy a corporation organized according to law and having its place of worship on the easterly side of Hancock street and between Washington street and Temple place in said Quincy in the County of Norfolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, hereby give public notice of its intention to prevent any person or persons, corporation or corporations, class or classes of persons, from acquiring a right of way or other easement over its land herein after described.
>
> This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Chapter 122 of the Public Statutes of the Commonwealth and of any and all acts of said Commonwealth in addition to or in amendment of the same.

The *Quincy Patriot Ledger* reported the church's action on March 24, 1898, with the headline "The First Church Makes Big Claims. Serves notice Today upon the City and the Quincy and Boston Street Railway."[60]

Despite the protests of the church, it appears that during 1902 the church property was reduced through a taking of land by the City of Quincy. On March 9, 1903, the records of the Congregational Society reported that:

> During the year the City of Quincy has taken by right of eminent domain the plot of land north of the church and adjacent to the fountain, which has always been regarded as a part of our property. The necessary legal steps have been taken to determine once and for all the matter of ownership.[61]

As a result of this taking by the City of Quincy, maps and photographs made after around 1905 show that the small island of land had been removed, leaving the fountain standing by itself in the newly widened Washington Street (fig. 23).

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[59] Minutes, parish meeting, March 8, 1897 (Records, Vol. II, p. 251).

[60] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, March 24, 1898, p. 1 (in church files).

[61] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1903 (Records, Vol. II, p. 300).

A photograph taken ca. 1906 shows the fountain standing alone in the middle of the intersection, set off by a small drive (fig. 24). In this image, streetcar tracks appear to be extremely close to the church grounds along both Hancock and Washington Streets, and a tangle of streetcar wires hang overhead. The northern side of the church property is shown surrounded by the original granite posts, and planted with four or five large elm trees. A photograph of the south side of the property from this period shows that side of the property relatively unchanged by the new traffic pattern, and featuring a small lawn area, a concrete walk and several large elm trees (fig. 25).

Between 1900-1917, the Quincy center area was marked by a rapid volume in the amount of automobile traffic. Between 1913-1919, traffic problems in Quincy Center led to the widening of Hancock Street, to accommodate both streetcars and automobiles. In 1917 the City of Quincy took all of the land lying outside the stone posts for street purposes, and widened both Washington Street and Temple Street. In exchange, they agreed to construct and maintain a granolithic sidewalk around the remaining church property.

This series of events was recorded in the minutes of a meeting of the Congregational Society on March 12, 1917, where it was it was voted:

> That Henry M. Faxon, James H. Stetson and Frederick H. Smith are hereby authorized and empowered to execute and deliver in the name of this Parish or Society a good and sufficient release to the City of Quincy for highway purposes, all rights of said Parish or Society in and to any property lying within the limit of the highways known as Hancock, Washington and Temple Streets in the City of Quincy as now established and laid out, in return for the construction and maintenance by the said City without cost or expense to said Parish or Society of suitable sidewalks adjoining the property of said Parish or Society and abutting on said Hancock, Washington and Temple Streets, and in consideration of a release by the city of Quincy duly authorized and executed by it of all its right, title and interest in and to any property claimed by the Society and situated within the posts and chains as now located including the platform and approach to the steps of said Church. Said property abutting on said newly constructed sidewalks on H, W and T Streets as aforesaid.[62]

With the widening of Washington Street, the granite fountain was moved to another location at the entrance of the Mount Wollaston Cemetery on Sea Street, and does not show up on maps of this area (fig. 26). A photograph taken in the 1920s shows the church property looking somewhat reduced in size, and surrounded by the newly constructed sidewalk (fig. 27). Elm trees and lawn still ornament the grounds, although the park-like appearance is somewhat diminished by the presence of utility poles, light standards, and traffic and street signs around the perimeter.

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[62] Minutes, parish meeting, March 12, 1917 (Records, Vol. II, p. 402).

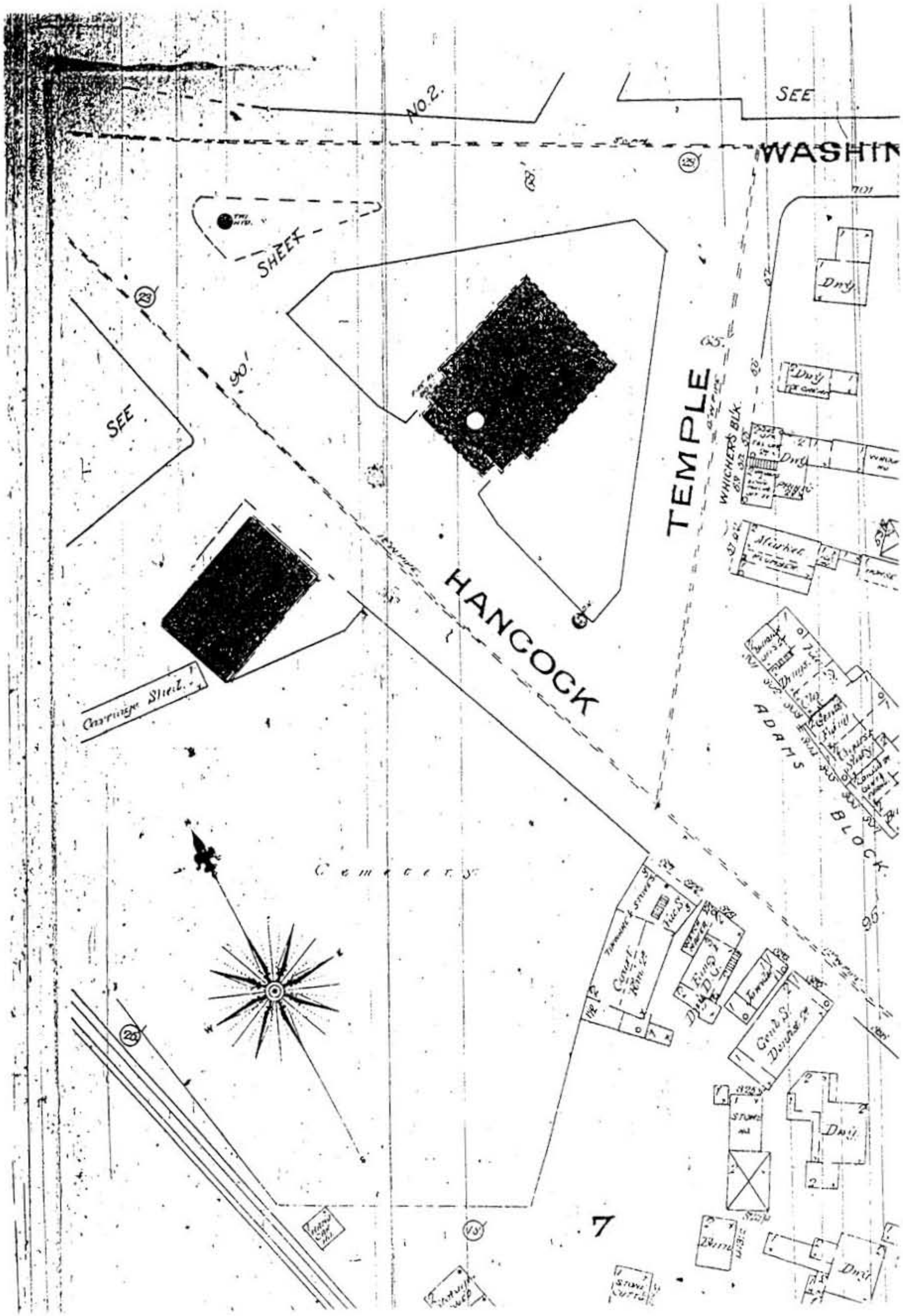



**Figure 18.** Sanborn Map of Quincy, 1885.

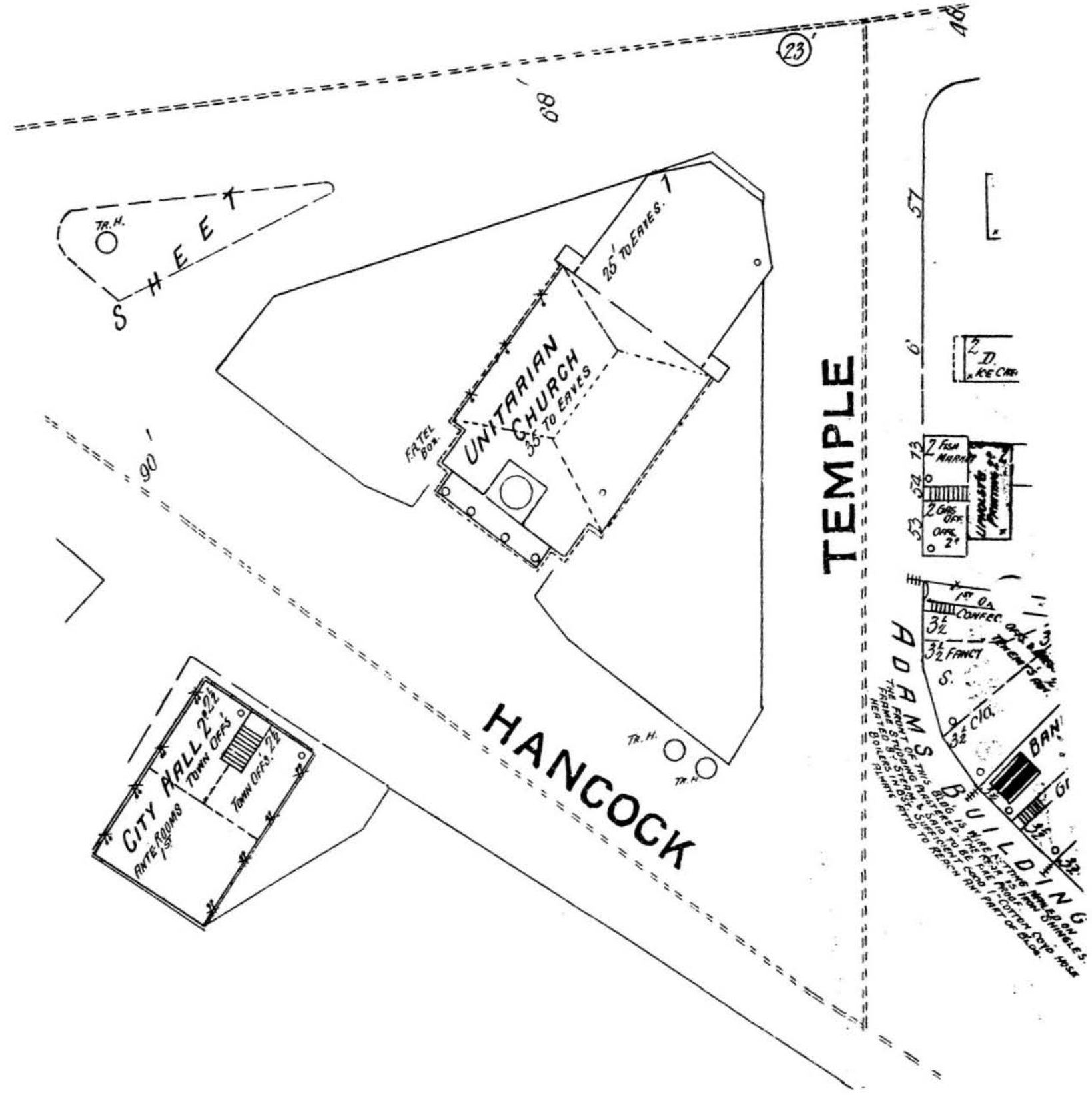



**Figure 19.** Sanborn Map of Quincy, 1891.

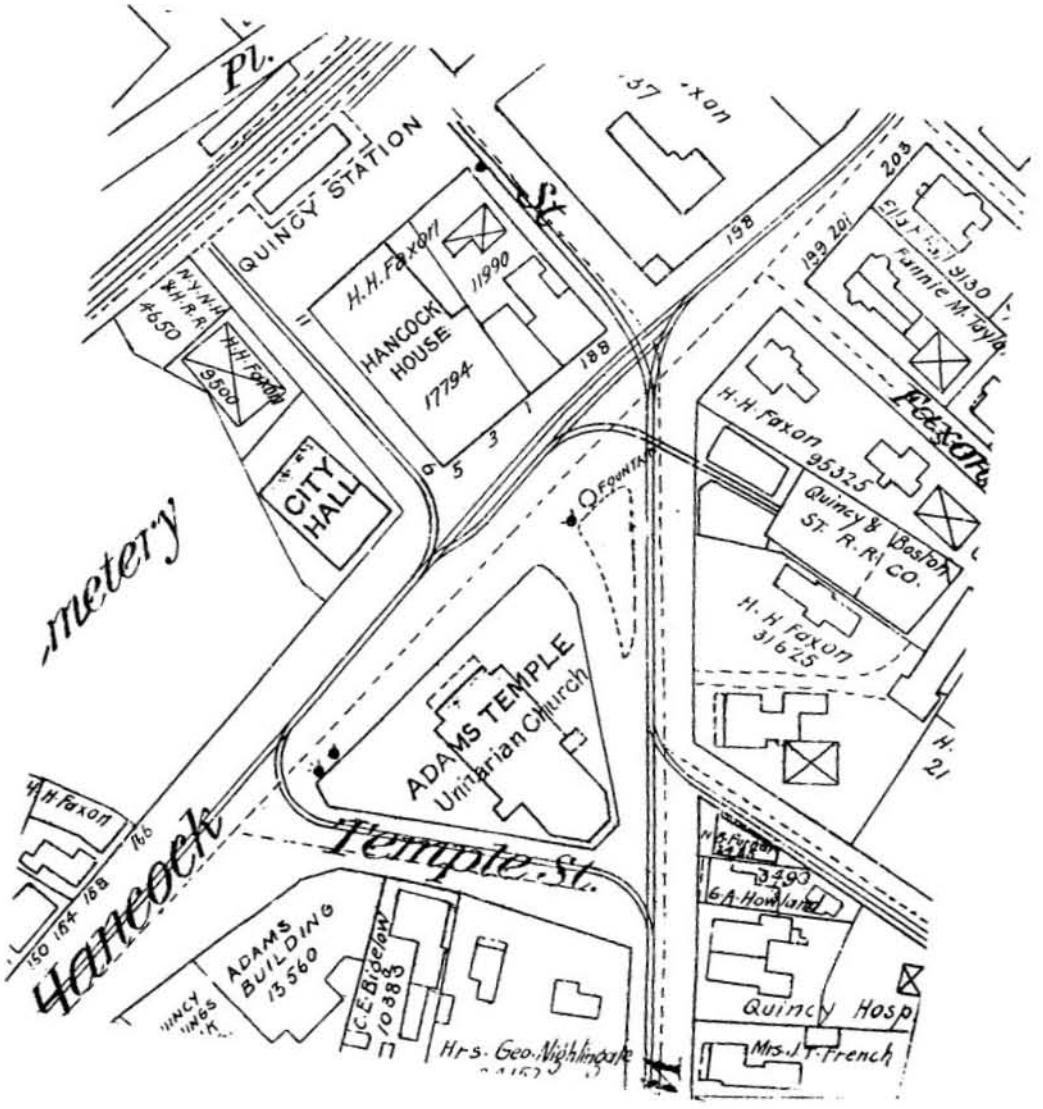



**Figure 20.** Map of Quincy showing the route of the street railroad, 1897.

**Figure 21.** Plan for Relocation of a Portion of Washington Street, May 1899.

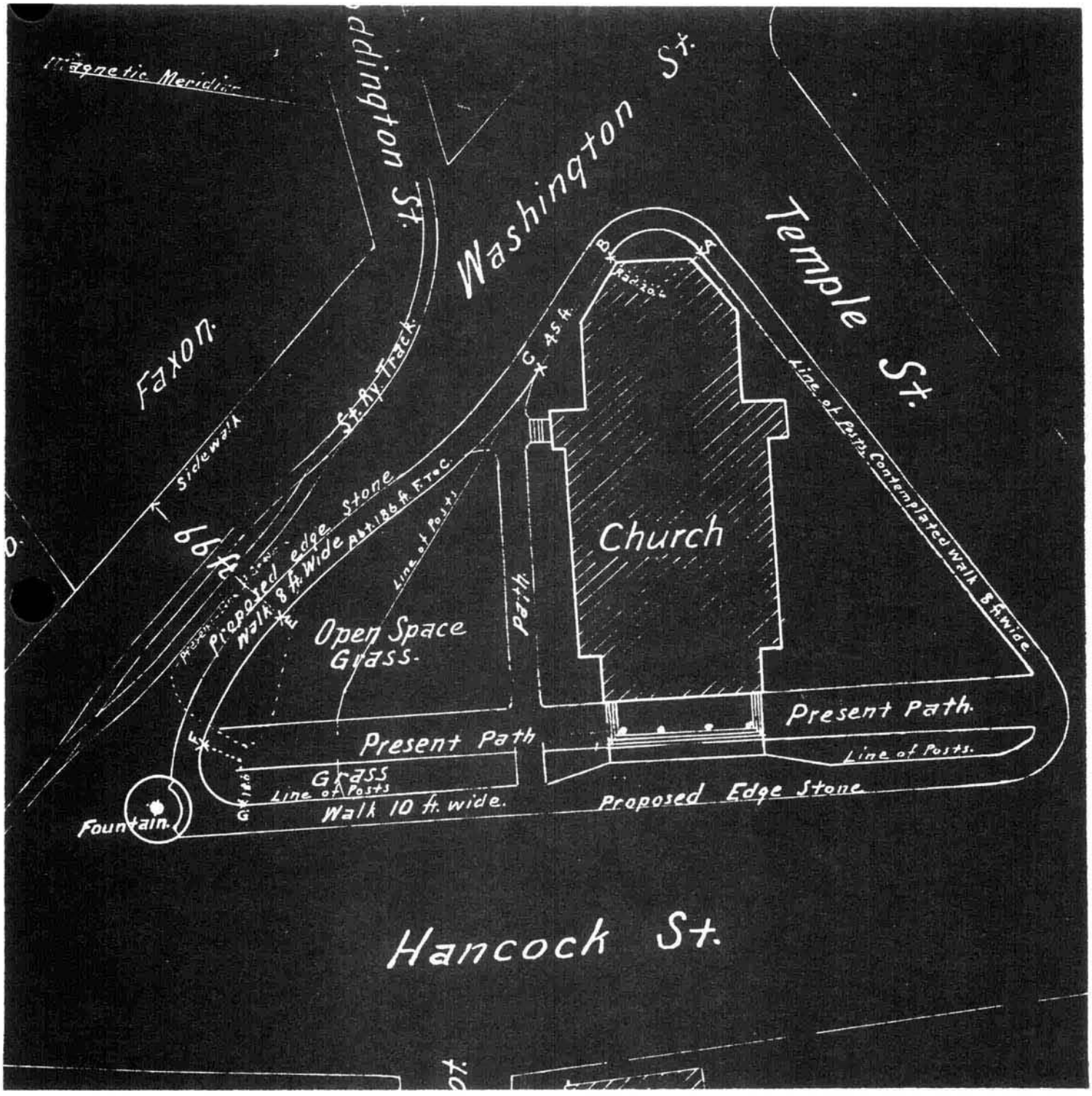



**Figure 22.** Plan Used at City Hall on the Evening of July 3, 1894.

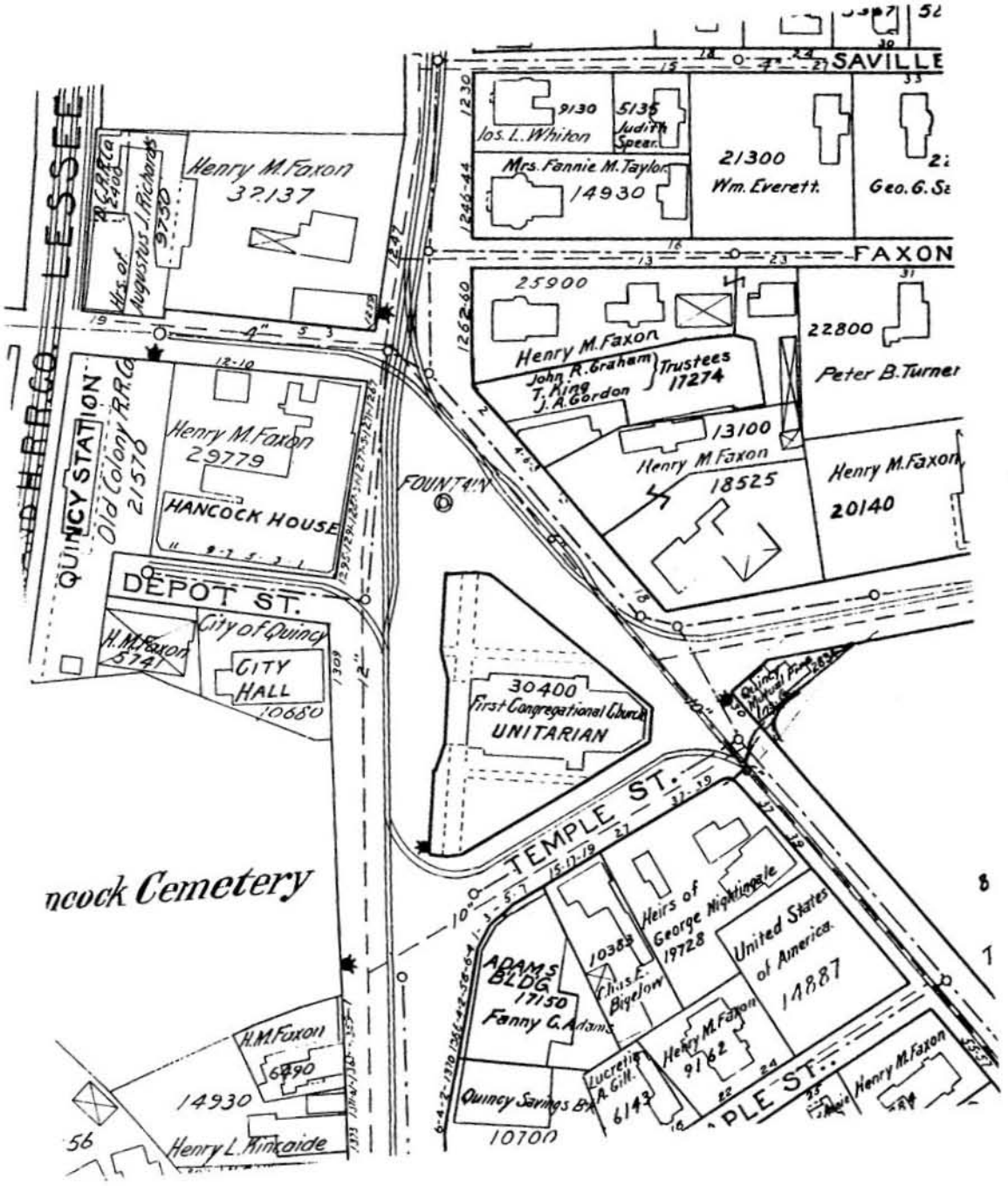



**Figure 23.** Map of Quincy Center, 1907.



**Figure 24.** View of the First Parish Church (photograph ca. 1906).



**Figure 25.** View of the First Parish Church (photograph ca. 1910).

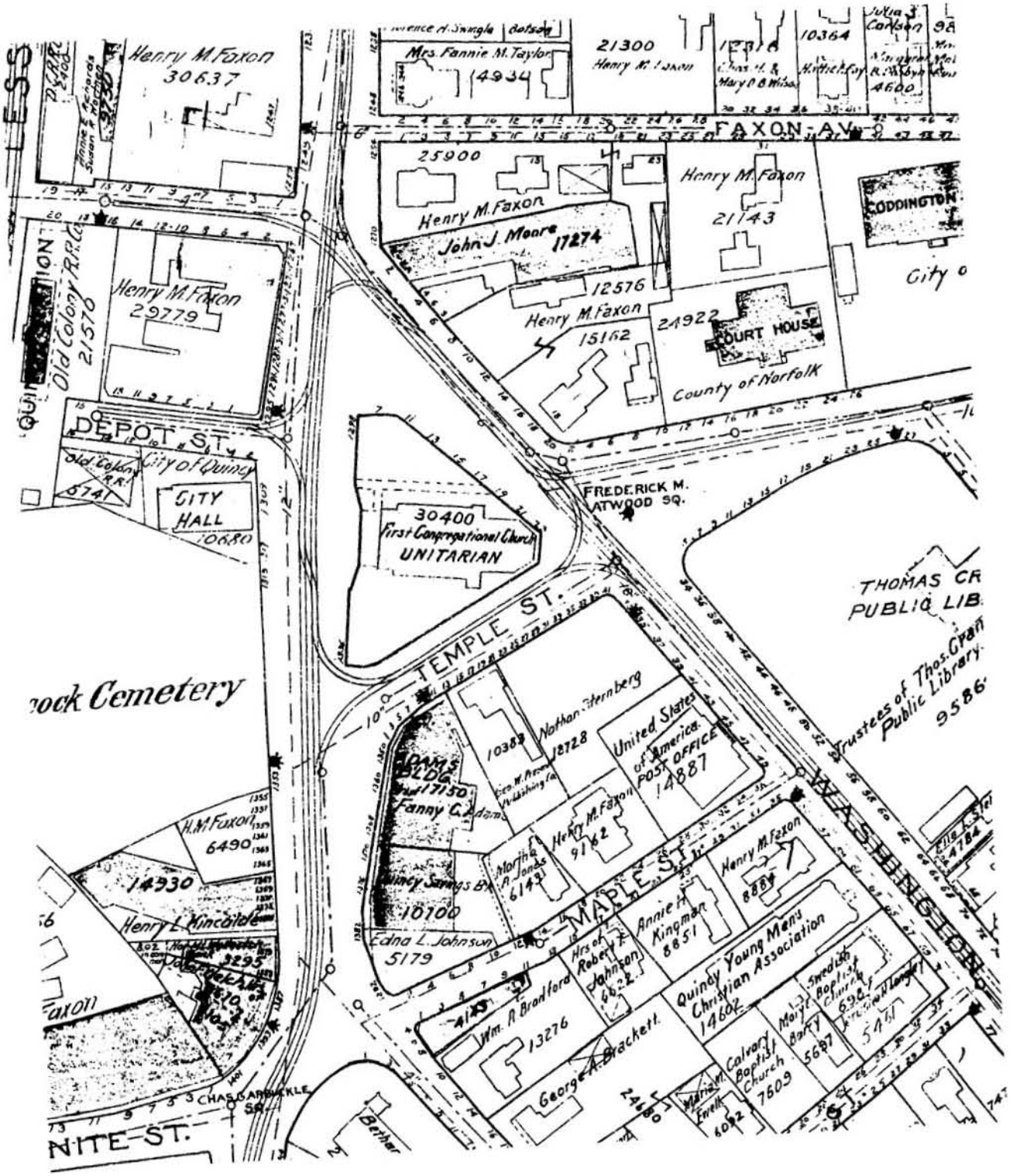



**Figure 26.** Map of Quincy Center, 1923.



**Figure 27.** View of First Parish Church (photograph ca. 1920).

## CHANGES TO THE PARISH GROUNDS: THE 1950s

Throughout the first decades of the 20th century, there were few changes to the church grounds. During this period the church actively attempted to retain title to its land. A small article on the front page of the November 11, 1940 issue of the Patriot Ledger noted that:

> A legal notice, which was last posted on a tree beside the walk that cuts through the property of the First Parish church from Hancock Street to Washington Street 19 1/2 years ago was on the same tree again today. It is a notice to prevent easement and must be posted once within twenty years for the church to retain ownership of the right of way. At the end of six days the notice is taken down and the Sheriff files notice with the register of deeds at Dedham that this technicality has been fulfilled.[63]

During this period the appearance of the church grounds began to suffer from general wear and tear. In 1944 the Board of Assessors reported that:

> The chains around the Church grounds are in bad shape. They are 115 years old and have worn down so that they are very slack. There are about 150 links between posts and a wearing 1/16" on each link over 9" slack. They may possible be repaired but they really should be replaced. No chain, however, can be purchased till after the war.[64]

Some of the elm trees, which had apparently suffered from extensive storm damage, were removed in the late 1940s and early 1950s.[65] In 1950 all of the ivy was removed from the sides of the building, where it had died after nearly 100 years (fig. 28). The removal of the ivy after greatly altered the overall appearance of the building.[66]

In 1946 the streetcar line running down Washington Street from Quincy Center to Hough's Neck was discontinued, and the tracks were removed. This did not significantly ease traffic congestion in the area, however, and another debate between the City of Quincy and the church ensued over further reduction of the church grounds. In the spring of 1949 a City Council hearing was held on the taking of land from the southwest corner of the church property in order to expedite the flow of traffic from Hancock Street onto Temple Street.[67] At this meeting, members of the church proposed that additional land also be removed from the northeast corner of the plot at the

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[63] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, November 1, 1940, p. 1.

[64] Board of Assessor's Report, May 8, 1944 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 183).

[65] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, August 27, 1951, p. 1.

[66] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, March 29, 1950, p. 1.

[67] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, April 9, 1949, p. 4.

corner of Hancock and Washington Streets, in order to retain the symmetry of the front of the lot.[68] However, they also requested that the City of Quincy pay the congregation $20,000 for the land. A lively debate ensued involving members of the church congregation, the City Council, the Planning Board, and the Police Department, focusing on the price of the land and the safety of the proposed design.[69] Ultimately, on July 7, 1953, a church committee made up of Thomas S. Burgin, William C. Edwards, Robert M. Faxon, Clark Saville, and George W. Bonsall voted to accept an offer of $10,000.[70]

Excavation for the enlarged traffic rotary began the following spring of 1954. During the course of the excavation, pieces of granite believed to be part of the foundations of the old Hancock Meeting House (built in 1732) were uncovered. The blocks were buried about 3 feet below the lawn of the First Parish Church.[71]

By September 1954, work had begun on digging up and relocating the granite fence posts in order to implement the proposed widening. According to a newspaper article, 12 posts at each end of the church property were to be reset.[72] However, the remainder were removed following the widening of the roads.

As completed, the north and south corners of the United First Parish Church lot were reduced and rounded. Following the widening of Hancock and Temple Streets, the church embarked on a project to re-landscape the now-reduced grounds around the church. Through a gift from Mrs. Henry M. Faxon, the church purchased a significant amount of new plant material. The new planting scheme was described as follows:

> Two matching pin oaks have been placed on each side of the church. These trees are approximately 35 feet high and required special equipment to transp[ort] them by reason of their size. Each tree with its ball of earth weighed about 2 1/2 tons. The north and south sides of the church are planted with approximately 20 different varieties of shrubs and bushes. On the two Hancock Street corners there is a planting of spreading Yew which will give a low line of dark green color. This type of Yew is one that will stay low and will not obstruct the view around these corners. On the North side of the church there are several pink flowering crab-apple trees and on the south side there are double flowering Japanese cherries. These coupled with rhododendrons and azaleas should give a pretty touch of color in the spring.[73]

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[68] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, April 18, 1949, p. 1.

[69] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, May 22, 1953, p. 1.

[70] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, July 8, 1953, p. 1.

[71] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, July 9, 1954, p. 1.

[72] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, September 14, 1954, p. 1.

[73] *Quincy Patriot Ledger*, November 29, 1954.

The effort to re-landscape the grounds around the church continued for several years. A 1957 receipt in the church records from the Bay State Nurseries notes that the following trees were delivered and planted:

1 Azalea Mollis in North Border Replacement at left of front entrance

1 Taxus Cuspidata, approximately 4' spread by 2' on south side in place of existing trees

2 Taxus cuspidata 5/6' spread

200 Pachysandra Terminalis on south side

3 Redleaf Barberry

6 Juniperis Pfitzeriana

4 Taxus Baccata in corner of church

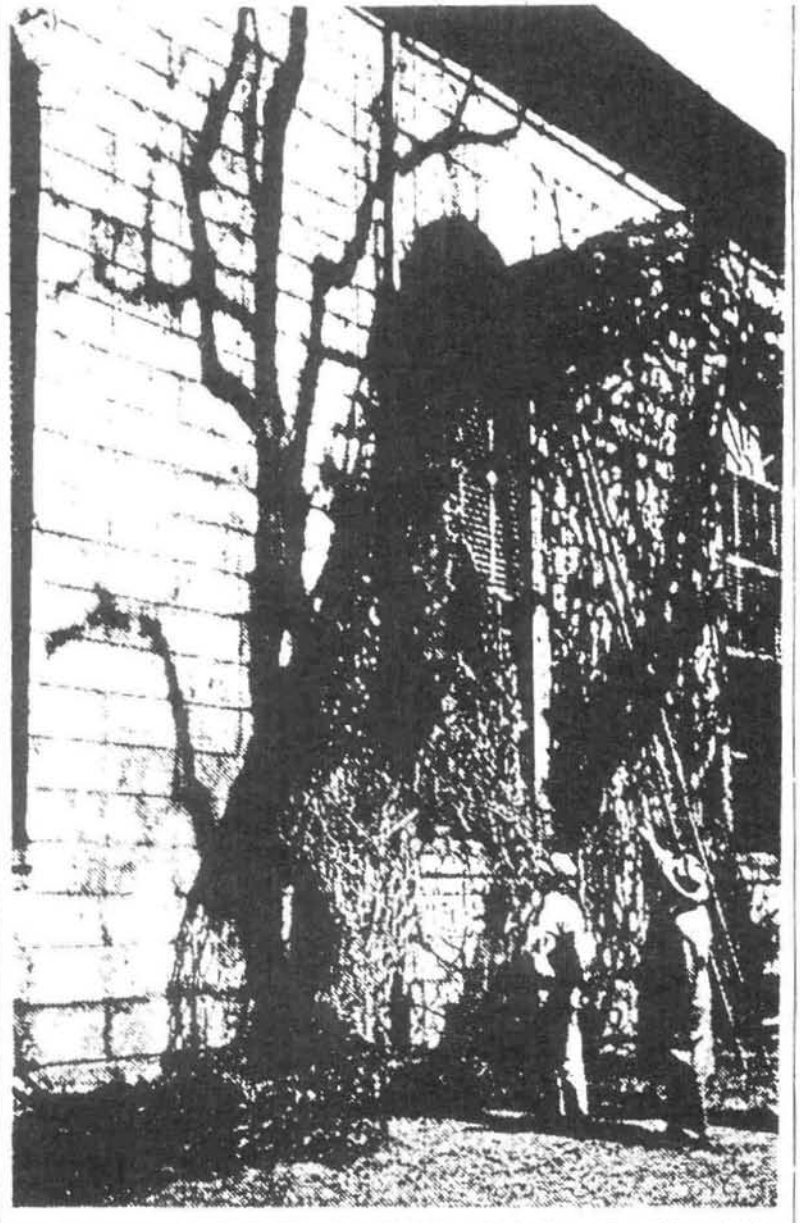
2 Rhodoendron Maximum

50 Myrtle

Charges were made to church member Robert M. Faxon.

It appears that around this time, perhaps associated with the removal of the traffic island and the street widening, a small traffic island was recreated at the center of the intersection of Washington and Hancock Streets, at the former site of the fountain. This island was surrounded with a low wall, and planted with evergreen shrubs. A plan from the 1970s shows the newly rounded corners of the church property, as well as the small triangular traffic island in the adjacent intersection (figs. 29-30).

The most recent change to the church grounds occurred in early 1990, at which time the traffic pattern through Quincy Center was substantially revised, and a significant amount of new building was initiated. At this time the north corner of the church grounds was extended outward approximately 20 feet and the traffic island in the intersection was greatly enlarged. The newly extended portion of the grounds was planted with shrubs and turf.



IVY PLANTED MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO at the sides of the First Parish Church in Quincy square, fell from the church walls this morning and had to be torn down completely. William C. Edwards, (right) Quincy city historian and chairman of the board of assessors of the church, said the ivy was probably the outgrowth of branches planted in 1828 when the church was dedicated. A branch of the Abigail Adams rose bush, which has since died, was also planted at that time. With Mr. Edwards is Elorf Nordling, sexton at the church who had to cut the remaining ivy from the stone wall of the building. Although there was a little life left in some roots, most of the ivy had to go. "We saved what we could," Mr. Edwards said. The main portion of the vine fell to the ground when the tiny feelers which held the plant in place on the wall, dried up and gave way.

**Figure 28.** Ivy being removed from First Parish Church, 1950.

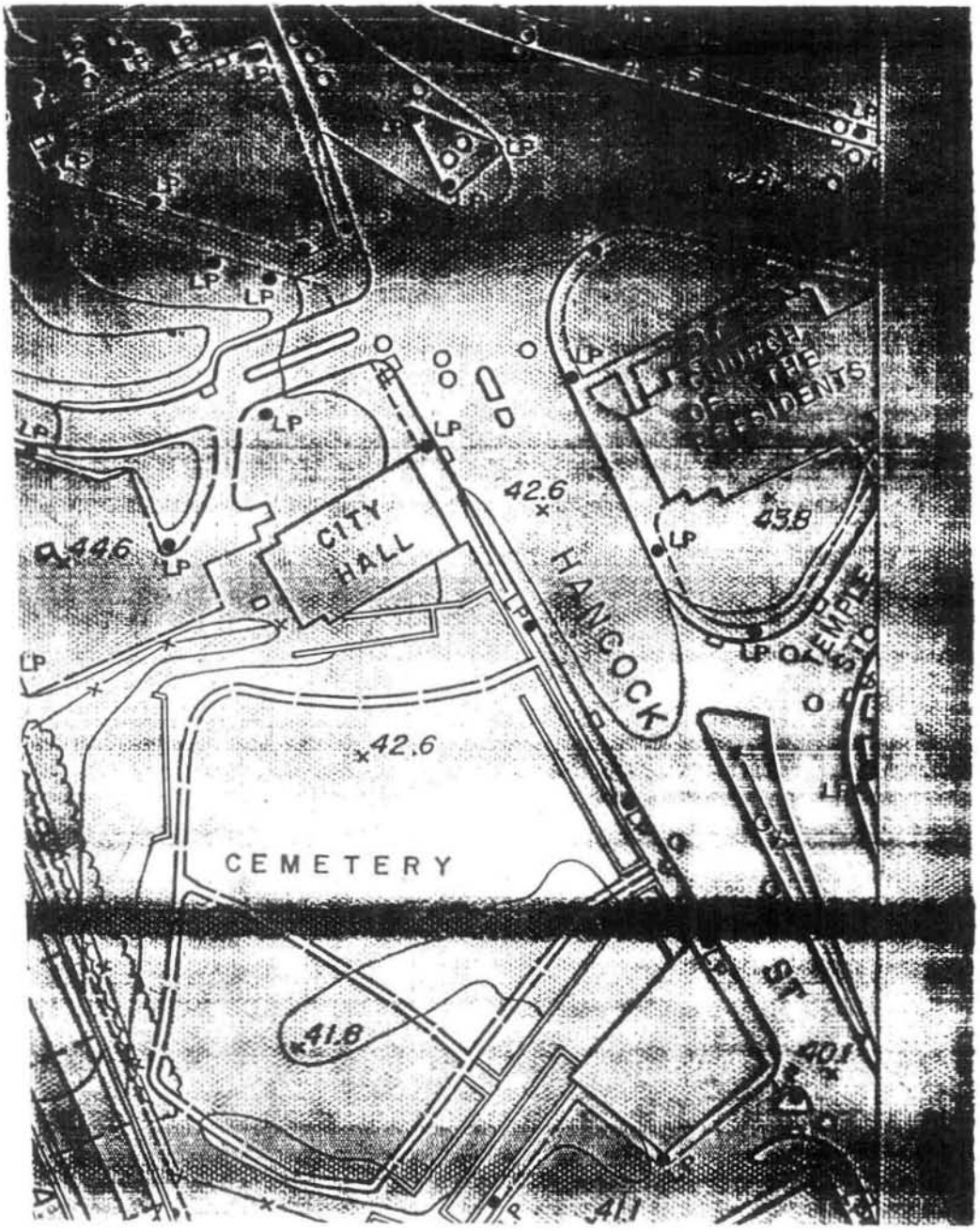



Figure 29. Map of Quincy Center, 1974.



**Figure 30.** Quincy Center (photograph ca. 1975).

## SITE CONCLUSIONS

In summary, the grounds around the United First Parish Church in Quincy have changed steadily, but not significantly, since the Stone Temple was erected in 1827-1828. Indeed, certain aspects of the property have remained the same since even earlier. As early as the 17th century, the Training Field served as a public open space, although primarily for military purposes. When the Hancock Meeting House was built in 1732, the triangular piece of land surrounding it began to be considered almost a public park, with the Town of Quincy voting to embellish it with trees as early as 1803. By that time the Hancock Cemetery was already established across Hancock Street, providing a setting similar to that of today.

With the construction of the Stone Temple, the development of the grounds around the church was "guided by a sketch drafted by Mr. Parris." Since that time, the church grounds have experienced a notable amount of change. Currently, most of the plant material on the grounds dates from the 1950s or later. Several of the stone posts and chains were moved when the traffic island was reconfigured in the 1950s. Finally, the setting of Quincy has undergone dramatic change since the first decades of the 19th century.

However, despite these drawbacks, the appearance of the grounds today retains several character-defining features from the period of construction. These include the stone posts and chains surrounding the area, the front steps, and the broad front walk. Further, with the development of Temple Street in 1827 and the extension of Washington Street in 1833, the general form of the traffic island upon which the church is now situated was created. Though the exact shape of this plot of land would change over the next 150 years, its boundaries of Hancock, Temple, and Washington streets would remain the same. With the construction of the Greek Revival-style Town Hall directly across the street, the axial relationship between these two important community buildings was established, marking what is still regarded as the "center" of Quincy Center.

The grounds of the United First Parish Church do not appear to have significance on their own merits as a cultural landscape under any of the National Register criteria. However, this small piece of property plays an important role as an appropriate landscaped setting for the church structure, which contributes to the significance and integrity of this National Historic Landmark. Indeed, any further reduction of or modification to the property would have a decidedly negative impact on the integrity of the property.

# II. BUILDING HISTORY AND EVOLUTION: GENERAL ASPECTS

# THE NEED FOR A NEW HOUSE OF WORSHIP

During its existence, Quincy's Hancock Meeting House (1732) was the Adams family's place of worship. John Adams was baptized there on October 26, 1735,[1] and was buried from there in July 1826. His progeny also worshipped there, as did young John Hancock.[2] Evidence of inadequate accommodations in the Hancock Meeting House surfaced in town records as early as 1804, when a town meeting was called with several agenda items, one of which was "To know if the town will take any method to enlarge or repair the Meeting House."[3] (The affairs of the town and parish were not separated until 1824.) Subsequent town meeting minutes show that a committee was appointed "to Consult with some Architect upon a plan of an Enlargement of the House and to Report to the town their Opinion thereon...."[4] Later records suggest that at least one enlargement took place prior to 1816, as indicated below.

Again in 1816, town meeting appointed a new committee to "examine the state of the Meeting-House." They found:

> That upon examination the sills appear to be sound.--that when the Meeting-House was enlarged, the foundation of the tower was not properly attended to, in consequence of which, the front part of it has settled...the greater part of the stone steps will require to be new laid, and considerable repairs are necessary on the tower,--the roof, and round the doors, after due consideration your committee are unanimously of (the) opinion, that it will (be) expedient for the town to direct all such repairs to be made necessary to preserve the House from further decay, and to make the external appearance more respectable. The repairs required are of that kind, and so various, that your Committee can not point out all that is necessary to be done....[5]

An 1817 committee was directed to examine the galleries of the meetinghouse and assess whether "room Could be Spared for the purpose of building pews, without incommoding the inhabitants of the town"; whether the tongue of the bell could be repaired in order to provide a better sound; and whether the structure needed painting. The committee concluded that more pews in the gallery could be built and sold; that the fault of the bell was more in the manner in which it was

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[1] Old-Style Calendar.

[2] Rev. Sheldon W. Bennett, Ph.D., "Freedom, Friendship, and Faith; A Noble Heritage Through 350 Years" (Quincy, MA: United First Parish Church [Unitarian], 350th Anniversary Booklet, 1989), n.p.

[3] Warrant for 1804 town meeting, Quincy town records, Vol. I (Massachusetts State Archives, microfilm roll #845726, p. 83).

[4] Minutes, Quincy town meeting, November 5, 1804 (Archives, microfilm roll #845728, n.p.).

[5] Quincy town records, Vol. I, May 5, 1817 (Archives, microfilm roll #845726, p. 160).

hung than in the bell itself; and that the meetinghouse indeed needed to be painted. A sum of $500 was appropriated to handle these deficiencies.[6]

The redesign of the gallery for more pew space suggests that the town was outgrowing its meetinghouse. Perhaps that is what prompted John Adams to donate land to the town of Quincy in 1822, as follows:

> that is of three Deeds by which I have given to the Town of Quincy one hundred and Sixty five acres of Land and my Library. for the purpose of Building a Stone Temple, and a Stone Academy that academy to [be] built over the Cellar, of the House in which your Master John Hancock was born, so much for this mighty Matter.-[7]

This donation became the known as the Adams Temple and School Fund. The citizens voted to accept "...the Deed of Land given by the Hon.e John Adams to the town and the provisions and conditions Contained therein..." in July of that same year.[8]

Substantial momentum for the erection of a new edifice for worship among the Congregational Society of Quincy began in April 1826, at the society's annual meeting. A committee was nominated to investigate "the expediency of erecting a new house for Public worship for the use of this Society, and of the best course to be adopted relative to the same; also to make inquiry on what terms the Proprietors of Pews in the Building now in use are willing to part with the same...."[9] The following November the report of the committee was accepted "almost unanimously":

> ...that it is expedient that the Parish cause to be erected, on some convenient site, to be hereafter designated, in the vicinity of the present Meeting House, a Stone Temple, for the public worship of God, for the use of the Congregational Society in the town of Quincy.- The old meeting House not to be taken down, or removed, or the present proprietors of pews obliged to relinquish them, before the first day of January 1829.- They also recommend, that the proprietors of pews in the old meeting House provided they release the same to the Society, be allowed fifty dollars for each pew on the lower floor, and ten dollars for each pew in the gallery.- Your Committee are also unanimously of opinion, and Report-- That to carry into full effect the object contemplated by the Society.- to complete, and furnish a Temple, to be built of Stone in the best and most prudent manner, and one that shall be creditable to the Town and Society, it will be expedient to

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[6] Quincy town records, June 5, 1817 (Archives, microfilm roll #845726, p. 163); and town meeting minutes, May 5, 1817 (microfilm roll #845728, n.p.).

[7] Letter, John Adams to Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq., August 24, 1822 (Adams NHS, Adams Papers, Letter book, microfilm roll #253).

[8] Minutes, Quincy town meeting, July 8, 1822 (Archives, microfilm roll #845728, n.p.).

[9] Minutes, parish meeting, April 11, 1826. In Book of Records of the Congregational Society of the Town of Quincy, formerly the North Precinct Parish of the Town of Braintree, now the United First Parish Church, Quincy, MA (hereafter referred to as "Records"), Vol. I, pp. 13-14.

> appoint a Committee to consist of not more that [sic] seven members, to be styled the Building Committee, with full power and authority to make all the necessary contracts and to adopt all proper measures relative to the same, according to their best discretion and judgement, acting at all times however under such restrictions and with such instructions, as the Society may from time to time deem it proper to give them.- And that said Committee be authorised, and instructed, to apply to some skilful [sic] architect or architects, procure a plan or plans for the Temple with estimates of cost, and present the same to the Society for their approbation at the adjournment of this meeting.- and that said Committee be enjoined to commence opperations [sic] as early in the spring as may be practicable [sic].[10]

The process had now begun.

After his father's death in July 1826, then-President John Quincy Adams informed the Adams Temple and School Fund supervisors that he wished to build, at his expense, a vault or tomb under the proposed "temple." The vault or tomb was to contain the "mortal remains of the late John Adams, and of Abigail his beloved and only wife," his parents. In addition, he requested "that within the Walls of the Temple at a suitable place to be approved by me, a tablet or tablets of marble or other stone, may be adapted to the side of the Walls, with a view to durability, and with such obituary Inscription or Inscriptions as I shall deem proper...."[11] He continued as follows:

> I have many reasons for desiring that this may be undertaken without delay- and among the rest, that both my Parents may not remain for an indefinite time without a Stone to tell where they lie- Should the Town and Parish both assent to my present proposal, I shall be anxious to know when the latter would propose to commence the building- Should they approve my design, I shall take no measures for erecting a monument elsewhere; which I propose to do, should they see any inconvenience in the acceptance of my offer. It will be necessary that the agreement should be in writing; perhaps by Indenture, to fix the property of the Vault or Tomb and of the Tablets.[12]

The society also voted to accept President Adams' offer "by Indenture or otherwise" at their November meeting.[13]

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[10] Warrant, October 25, 1826 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 17-18).

[11] Letter, President John Quincy Adams to Supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund, dated September 8, 1826, recorded November 6, 1826 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 21-22).

[12] Letter, President John Quincy Adams to Supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund, dated September 8, 1826.

[13] Minutes, parish meeting, November 6, 1826 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 20-21).

## THE BUILDING COMMITTEE, AN ARCHITECT, AND A PLAN

The building committee was appointed and met for the first time on November 27, 1826.[14] This arrangement was the beginning of an ordeal that was to last more than two years for its members, who took their responsibilities very seriously. As the records show, they retained almost total control of the building program, which in this case assured the parish of quality workmanship and a building completed within a reasonable time frame.

Initially one committee member was assigned "to confer with Mr Willard the Architect respecting a plan for the Church."[15] Since Willard was otherwise engaged, the committee was forced to search for another architect, until Mr. Quincy offered to employ "Capt. Parris the City Architect to draft a plan."[16] Captain Parris was Alexander Parris, who was completing his work as architect and superintendent at the City [Quincy] Market in Boston.[17] At the same time, the committee examined several plans of other churches, including ones in Gardiner and Portland, Maine, and a pew plan drawn by a committee member that fulfilled the necessary seating requirements. During a meeting on January 6, 1827, the committee's soon-to-be-hired mason (Mr. Wood) submitted a plan of a Portsmouth, New Hampshire, church that was "much approved."[18] The committee also attempted to gather costs of other similar construction in Boston, specifically the "Meeting House in Purchase Street."

Clearly the committee was doing research in order to best protect itself from unscrupulous people and to ascertain what it did and did not like. By the time Parris presented his first proposal in the "Gothic" style, the group knew that was not what it wanted, and promised to meet with Parris at his office to show him a plan of the "much approved" Portsmouth church.[19] Parris countered

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[14] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 27, 1826. Minutes of all building committee meetings are from United First Parish Church record book of original documents [hereafter referred to as "Documents"], Vol. I. The building committee included Thomas Greenleaf (chairman), Noah Curtis, Lemuel Brackett, Daniel Spear, and John Souther.

[15] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 27, 1826. Solomon Willard was a Boston-based architect of some renown.

[16] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 16, 1826.

[17] Parris was born in Halifax, MA, on November 24, 1780. He married in 1801, and moved to Portland, ME, where he began his career as an architect. After time spent in Richmond, Virginia, and Philadelphia, he returned to Boston to become one of the city's most prominent architects. The Stone Temple was one of his last major commissions before entering into service as a federal engineer. For a most excellent review of Parris' career, see *The Architectural Career of Alexander Parris (1780-1852)*, an unpublished Ph.D. thesis prepared by Edward Francis Zimmer for Boston University's American and New England Studies Program in 1984.

[18] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 6, 1827. The Portsmouth, NH, church structure that was so well-liked by the committee was South Church.

[19] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 13, 1827.

with a new plan in the "Grecian Doric" style a week later, presumably to an approving audience, since the records noted it was "apparently a great improvement on the Portsmouth church."[20]

The Portsmouth church was the 1826 South Church (fig. 31), sometimes attributed to Parris, but in fact built by a local builder.[21] South Church may have been based on Parris' own design of Boston's Saint Paul's Church (built 1819-1820, depicted in figure 32), but neither of these churches, as Edward Zimmer points out in his thesis, *The Architectural Career of Alexander Parris (1780-1852)*, have a tower with a grounded base. In South Church the tower is "grafted onto the [roof] ridge of a classical temple," and is a separate unit only above the roof line.[22] In the Stone Temple, the narthex and tower combine to form a solid base and tower, separate in form from but integral to the main body and portico. For this design concept, Parris may have borrowed heavily from the First Church of Christ (1816) in Lancaster, Massachusetts (fig. 33). This church was built from a design by Charles Bulfinch adapted by Thomas Hearsey. The base for the tower is almost identical.

On February 1, 1827, the Congregational Society met again to see "the plan presented by Capt. Parris, and the Plans of the Portsmouth church, [to] be placed in some conspicuous place,"[23] and to hear and vote on the report of their building committee. The committee presented:

> ...That they have given much time and attention to the important duty assigned them, fully aware, that to agree upon a plan for a Granite Timple [sic], which will be creditable to the town of Quincy, and which will probably continue for centuries, a monument of the state of the arts at this time, and of the taste and refinement of the present generation, with a due regard to econimy [sic] in expenditure, is no ordinary task.- Your Committee have therefore earnestly sought information from every quarter where it could probably be obtained.- have had several meetings with the first architect in the City of Boston, and have received from him plans for a stone meeting House, with estimates of cost, which will be presented for your examination- they have also procured plans of meeting Houses erected in other places, and which have been much celebrated for their architectural [sic] beauty; they have also received and examined other estimates of cost, together with a statement of the whole amount actually expended in the erection of one of the stone meeting Houses lately built in Boston, and are unanimously of opinion that a stone meeting House in conformity to the plans drawn by Capt. Parris, which are herewith presented may be built for a sum within the estimate he has made which is about 29,500 dollars.[24]

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[20] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 20, 1827.

[21] Zimmer, pp. 571-572.

[22] Zimmer, pp. 570-571.

[23] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 1, 1827.

[24] Minutes, parish meeting, February 21, 1827 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 24-25).

The society voted:

> That the above Report of the Building Committee be accepted- and that the plans of the Stone Meeting House drawn by Capt. Parris be approved, and that the Building Committee be directed to carry the same into effect- with authority to make such alterations as his experience from time to time may show to be expedient or advantageous to the interests of the Parish, conforming as for as may be practicable to the general outline of the plan presented and approved.
>
> That the meeting House shall be built of hammared [sic] stone.
>
> That the Building Committee be directed to commence their opperations [sic] as soon as may be practicable, and to cause a Stone Temple for the public worship of God, and the public instruction in religion and morality for the use of this society, to be built on some part of the green usually called the training field, and near the present meeting House.- and that they be authorised and empowered in behalf of the Congregational Society to make all necessary purchases and contracts for materials and labour, and to adopt all measures which they may deem expedint [sic], or necessary to carry into full and complete effect the several votes of the Society for Building a stone meeting House,
>
> That the Parish Committee apply to the town of Quincy and request that the amount of rent, income, and profits arising from the donations of the late President Adams, and which constitutes that portion of the Adams Temple and school Fund now in the Treasury of the Town which by his deed of gift dated June 25th 1822, is directed to be applied for the completing and furnishing a Temple to be built of stone for the use of the Congregational Society be paid over to the Treasurer of the Parish, who is authorised to receipt therefor [sic].
>
> That the Treasurer be authorised and empowerd [sic] to borrow for the use of the Congregational society in the town of Quincy from time to time such sum or sums of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of 25,000 dollars at an interest not exceeding six per cent pr an. as may be requisite to enable the Building Committee to carry into effect the several votes of the society for building a stone meeting House.
>
> That a Committee be appointed to ascertain what land the Congregational Society own in the vicinity of the present meeting House, and to cause an article to be inserted in the warrant for the next Town meeting,- for the Town to consider the expediency of conveying to the Congregational society all the right and title which they have, if any, to the land in the vicinity of the meeting House, usually called the training field.
>
> That the Parish assessors be a Committee for the above purpose.[25]

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[25] Minutes, parish meeting, February 21, 1827 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 25-26).

The committee did not hesitate to assert its lead role in the project when it commented on the submitted plans. It requested that the side pews be lengthened. It also questioned the following:

- the use of one window behind the pulpit, wondering "whether two windows on that side would not have a better effect and be more eligible";
- whether widening the recess in the vestibule would make the passage into the side aisles more convenient; and
- whether the window in the vestibule would provide sufficient lighting for the passageways and staircases.

Finally, it suggested that the "battlement at the sides of the portico" be eliminated in order to carry the steps around all three sides.[26]

[26] Minutes, building committee meeting, Thursday, February 1 or 2, 1827.

## CONSTRUCTION PREPARATIONS

The search for "mechanics" or builders had begun as early as December 1826,[27] and an advertisement for them was decided upon in the middle of February, to run in two Boston newspapers until March 10.[28] In fact the identical advertisements (fig. 34) both ran on February 21, noting that:

> ...The Stone of Quincy Granite, to be taken from the ledges given to the town by the late President Adams--the external walls to be hammered according to an approved plan, the inside backed up with rough stone, and the whole well laid in lime mortar. Four hammered stone columns to be provided for the support of the portico, of one stone each; and the stone throughout the building to be at least one fourth headers or binders....[29]

The search for builders ended when a contract was signed with Mr. Wood on or around March 19, 1827, "to dig the cellar, and do all the stone work agreeable to the specifications presented by Capt Parris, ...and find all the materials excepting the columns with their Capitals for $14,000...."[30] (Wood was identified as the master builder on the engraved plate placed in the lead box under the cornerstone.)[31] Messrs. Batchelder and Davis contracted for the majority of the remaining work, as follows:

> to do all the work excepting stone, agreeably to the plan and specifications for the sum of Ten thousand seven hundred dollars,- the pews to be made in the sofa fashion,- the timber for the frame to be taken from the Dock, and the stage for the stone Masons to be made by him (Davis),- the pulpit to be estimated at $400, ... the plastering at $1000, ... the contractor for the Carpenter's work to do the furring for the stucco work and not included in the estimate of $1000,-...[32]

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[27] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 9, 1826.

[28] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 16, 1827.

[29] *Boston Patriot & Mercantile Advertizer*, February 21, 1827, p. 3; and *Columbian Centinel*, February 21, 1827. Boston Public Library microtext.

[30] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 19, 1827.

[31] Account of cornerstone-laying ceremonies, June 11, 1827 (Documents, Vol. I).

[32] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 24, 1827.

The building site had been staked out with Parris on March 17.[33] Within the next two weeks a small panic arose regarding:

> some alarm having existed reporting the parish title to the Land on which the Temple was to be erected in consequence of defects in the original Deed,- they (the Committee) carefully examined the Deeds and the laws respecting acknowledgment, and also decisions of the Supreme Court on the subject.-[34]

On April 7, the committee:

> examined the ground having refused permission to dig the cellar until after the Parish meeting, that they may have the opportunity to make such alterations as they may deem expedient, on a careful examination of the site selected, and viewing it from all the roads leading to it, the Committee were of opinion, that without moving the stake near the old Meeting House, the back stakes may be carried farther south and will appear better from the road....[35]

The minutes of a parish meeting that took place on April 9 record that the society voted to authorize the committee to "alter the location of the new meeting House so far as it can be without interfering with the old meeting House"; and to refer "the subject of the underpining [sic] Stone to the new meeting House, as respects the number of courses...to take the advice and opinion of the architect."[36]

The minutes of an April 12 meeting record the completion of the long-sought financial agreement with Alexander Parris: his total fee as architect and superintendent of construction was to be $500.[37] Less than a month later the chairman of the building committee was requested to prepare an inscription for deposition under the cornerstone. He also was requested to contact President John Quincy Adams concerning the following: the project's progress, the date on which the cornerstone would be laid, to request from the President any items the latter wanted to be laid under the cornerstone, and "to know his wish, as to the place for his Father's Tomb."[38] Apparently Parris was the one who actually dealt with the engraver, Hazen Morse, a man he had used many times for the same purpose in other projects.[39]

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[33] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 17, 1827.

[34] Minutes, building committee meeting, Saturday, March [31, 1827].

[35] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 7, 1827.

[36] Minutes, parish meeting, April 9, 1827 (Records, Vol. I, p. 24).

[37] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 12, 1827.

[38] Minutes, building committee meeting, May 5, 1827.

[39] Zimmer, p. 267.



**Figure 31.** South Church, Portsmouth, New Hampshire (photograph ca. 1930s).

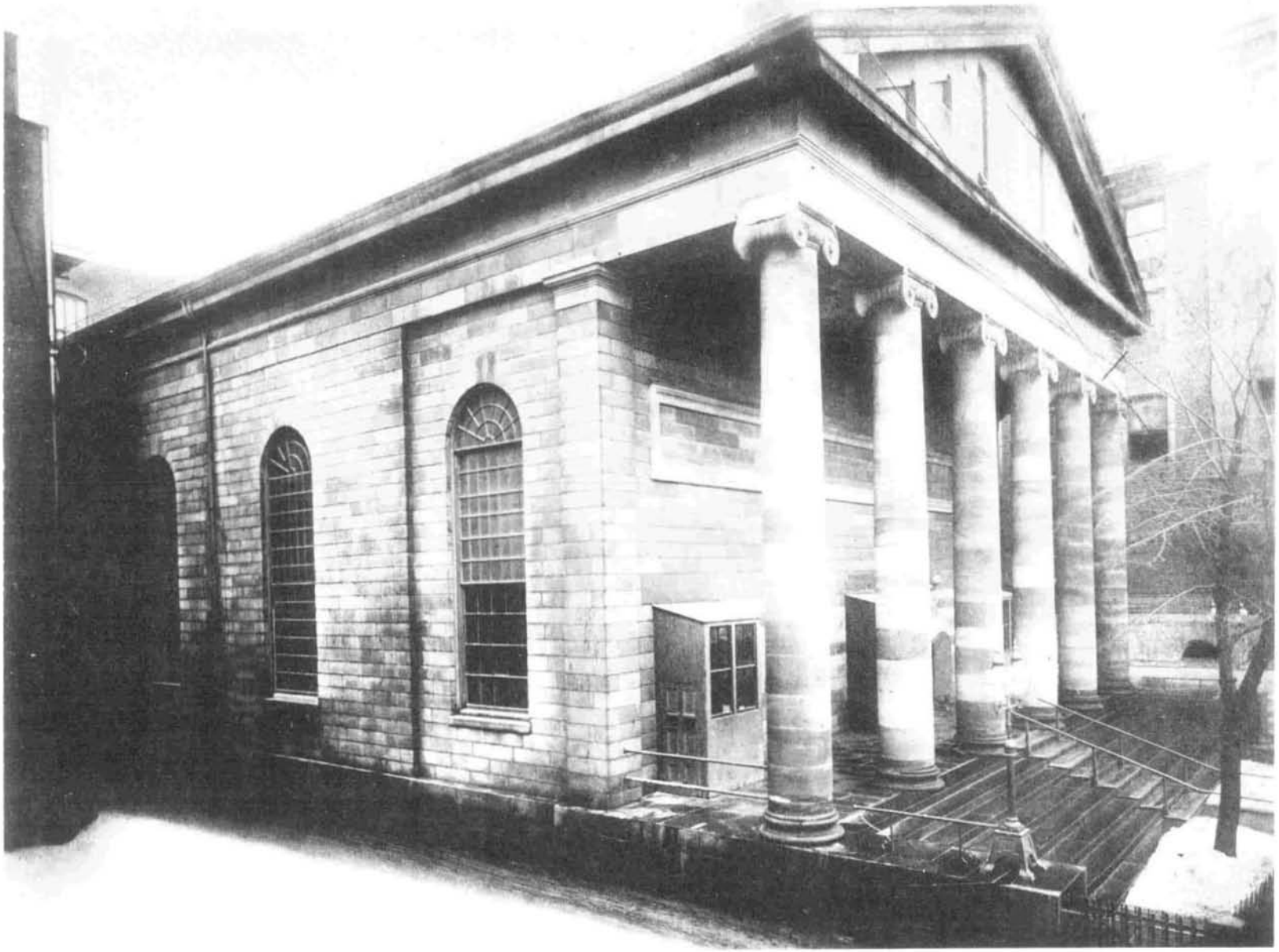


**Figure 32.** St. Paul's Church, Boston. Photograph early 20th century.

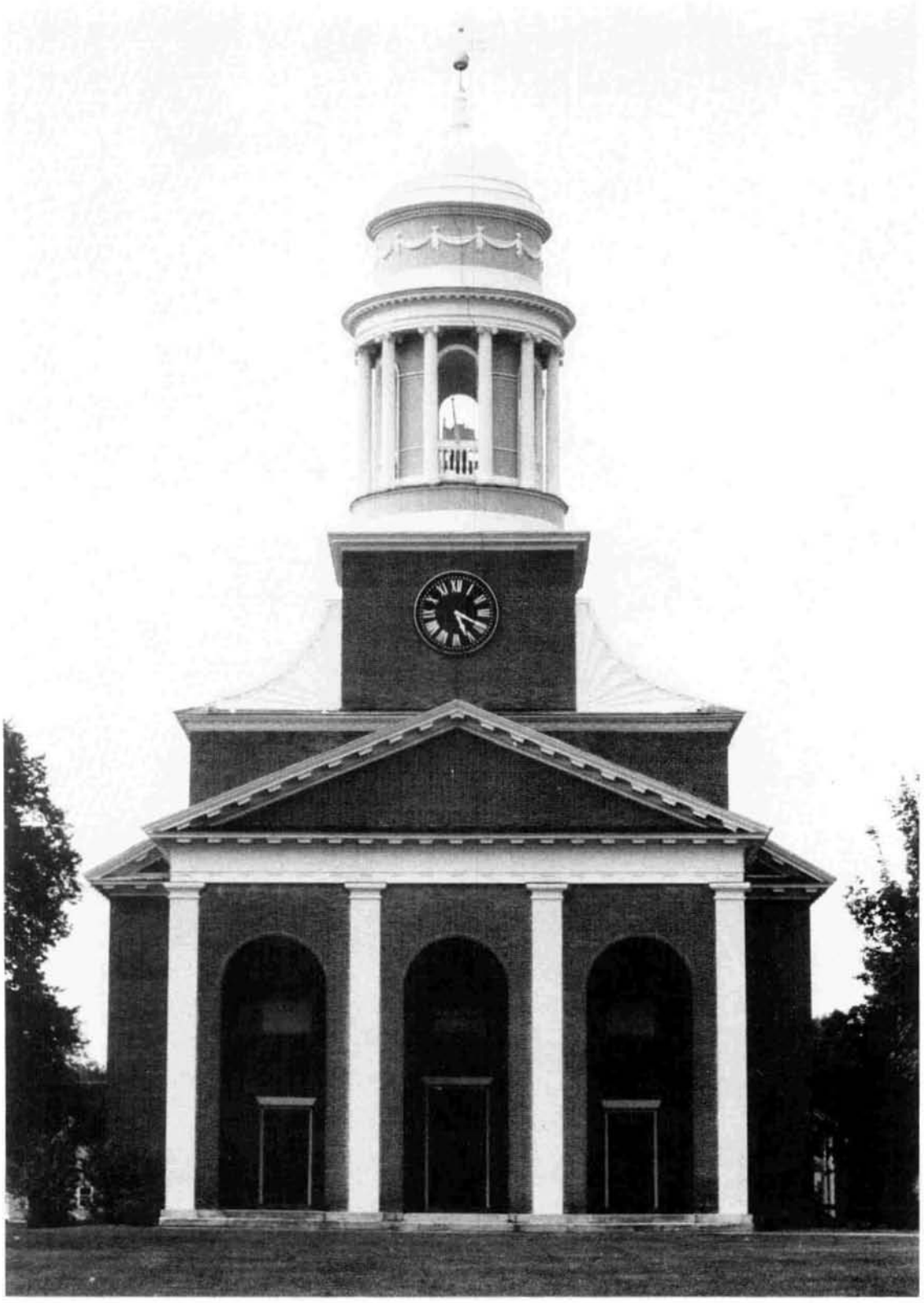
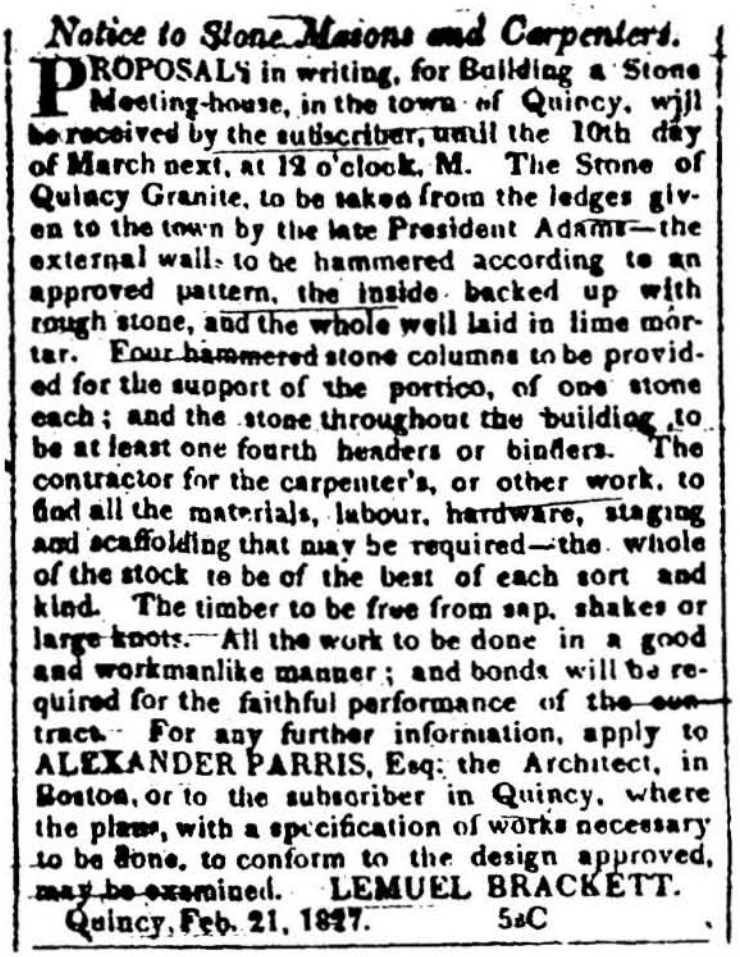


**Figure 33.** First Church of Christ, Lancaster, Massachusetts.



*Notice to Stone Masons and Carpenters.*

PROPOSALS in writing, for Building a Stone Meeting-house, in the town of Quincy, will be received by the subscriber, until the 10th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, M. The Stone of Quincy Granite, to be taken from the ledges given to the town by the late President Adams—the external walls to be hammered according to an approved pattern, the inside backed up with rough stone, and the whole well laid in lime mortar. Four hammered stone columns to be provided for the support of the portico, of one stone each; and the stone throughout the building to be at least one fourth headers or binders. The contractor for the carpenter's, or other work, to find all the materials, labour, hardware, staging and scaffolding that may be required—the whole of the stock to be of the best of each sort and kind. The timber to be free from sap, shakes or large knots. All the work to be done in a good and workmanlike manner; and bonds will be required for the faithful performance of the contract. For any further information, apply to ALEXANDER PARRIS, Esq. the Architect, in Boston, or to the subscriber in Quincy, where the plans, with a specification of works necessary to be done, to conform to the design approved, may be examined. LEMUEL BRACKETT.

Quincy, Feb. 21, 1827. 5aC

Figure 34. "Notice to Stone Masons and Carpenters," February 21, 1827.

# CONSTRUCTION OF THE STONE TEMPLE: 1827-1828

## Exterior Elements

### Masonry

The parish had previously decided that the granite finish would be hammered. At the same time Mr. Wood was finalizing his contract with the parish, it was decided to use the Union Bank on Union Street (presumably in Boston near State Street) as a model for the stone.[40]

A special building committee meeting occurred on April 9, largely due to the dissatisfaction of the color of the delivered stone. It was resolved that the committee would visit the town ledges with Mr. Wood the following day, in order to explore the possibility of procuring "the blue granite in sufficient quantities to build the Temple, the Committee having expressed their decided preference for that Colour--."[41] The second issue was that the committee wanted and was now authorized (with the consent of Parris) to divide the underpinning stone into two courses, which was an apparent alteration.[42] This special meeting is one of many examples where the committee took a *very* active role in the construction of the church building, just as it had in the planning stages.

The new meetinghouse was to be built very near to the old meetinghouse (slightly to the north and east of it), and on an axis perpendicular to it. The excavation for its foundation and cellar began the day after the above-referenced meeting, on April 10, 1827. The committee also that day made their visit to the ledges in search of enough blue granite to build the temple. It was determined that since:

> the Committee having expressed so divided an opinion in favour of that colour, it was determined to open several new ledges, MG (Mr. Greenleaf) with M. Wood and several of his men were employed for a week in opening ledges in the Mount arrarat pasture, with considerable expense, and difficulty, but finally succeeded in obtaining a considerable quantity of a colour satisfactory....[43]

An inspection of delivered stone took place on May 5, but it was not until May 12 that the record shows that "the Committee disapproved of the colour of some stone delivered by M. Hardwick, and gave directions to Mr. Wood not to receive them,- and to inform him, that none but the blue granite would in future be received."[44] Ten days later "the first Hammered stones at the

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[40] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 19, 1827.

[41] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 9, 1827.

[42] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 9, 1827.

[43] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 10, 1827.

[44] Minutes, building committee meeting, May 5 and 12, 1827.

four Corners were laid--."[45] The committee was still not satisfied with some of the stones already laid in the cellar wall. This time no comment was made as to their color, but rather to their finishing: "requested Mr Wood to inform the workmen, that none would be accepted, that did not come up to the pattern agreed on...."[46]

Meanwhile, arrangements were made to ship the timber for the ground floor, and it arrived on Tuesday, June 5.[47] The masons had been waiting for the floor to be laid: the timber had been delayed, and not all the working agreements had been signed. It finally occurred on June 7.[48] Construction had progressed to the point where the cornerstone ceremonies could take place. An engraved silver plate and various documents were placed in a lead box that was then soldered closed. The inscription on the plate read:

> A Temple for the Public Worship of God, and for public instruction in the doctrins [sic] and duties of the christian religion.-
> Erected by the Congregational Society in the Town of Quincy. The Stone taken from the Granite quarries given to the Town by the Hon. John Adams, late President of the United States.
> This stone was laid June 11, Anno. Domini 1827. in the fifty first year of the American Independence.
> The Rev. Peter Whitney, pastor of the Society.
> John Quincy Adams, President of the United States.
> Levi Lincoln, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
> John Whitney, Daniel Spear, John Souther, Selectmen of the Town of Quincy..----
> Building Committee, Thomas Greenleaf, Chairman, Noah Curtis, John Souther, Lemuel Brackett, Daniel Spear.
> Alexander Parris, Architect.
> William Wood, Master Builder.
> Memoranda.
> The population of the town estimated at 2,000;
> That of the United States at 13,000,000.
> (Engraved by Hazen Morse.)[49]

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[45] Minutes, building committee meeting, May 22, 1827.

[46] Minutes, building committee meeting, May 25, 1827.

[47] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 5, 1827.

[48] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 5 and June 7, 1827.

[49] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 11, 1827; Records, Vol. I, p. 31.

Complaints regarding the finish of the stone continued, with the record showing that the members of the congregation were now voicing their opinions:

> ...that the stone were not so well dressed, as the Building stone in Boston, and wished Mr Wood to be informed of their disatisfaction [sic],- previous to this information, Mr G[reenleaf] had conversed with Mr Wood on the subject, and they together had examined the stone, they do not appear so finely hewn as the stone in some of the buildings in Boston, but are brought down to a fair surface, and are totally free from holes, Mr Wood was however particularly requested to attend to the hammering and oblige them to dress the stone equal to the pattern agreed on,-- Deacon Spear was requested to see Capt Parris, and with him examine the stone in the Union Bank, and compare our stone with them, and Report the result of the examination,- Mr G stated that he had examined the several stone Buildings in Boston very carefully, had conversed fully with Capt. Parris on the subject, who expressed his perfect satisfaction with the workmanship of the stone,- he did not think that finer hammering would add to the their appearance, his great object was to get them out of quoin,- free from holes, and a fair and tolerably smooth surface-....[50]

While these disagreements were ongoing, Parris was requesting that the sand for the mortar be hauled from "the cape" (presumably Cape Cod), "as it makes a stronger cement than the sand obtained here...." Although no further references ascertain that this supply was obtained, Mr. Wood was requested to research the matter in regard to availability, transportation, and cost.[51]

At the beginning of August, the committee again intervened to request a change in the original design. The single granite-walled inset panel now over the three main doorways apparently was originally designed as three individual panels, as in South Church in Portsmouth. The committee "were of [the] opinion that one extending over the three doors would appear better, and more in keeping with building, than the three small ones at first contemplated."[52] This singular detail is the same at Parris' St. Paul's Church in Boston, which suggests that perhaps Parris originally had wanted to imitate South Church or simply desired a different panel design.

On August 21 it was found "that the stone work had so far progressed, that the centres for the windows would be immediately wanted,- a question arose whether it was the duty of the stone mason, or the Carpenter to provide them...."[53] The carpenter eventually provided them.[54] Two weeks later the committee "found that Mr Wood had progressed so far with the stone work, that it

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[50] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 29, 1827.

[51] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 29, 1827.

[52] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 3, 1827.

[53] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 21, 1827.

[54] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 7, 1827.

would be necessary to notify the Contractor for Carpenter Work; that the wall would be ready for the roof, by the first of October...."[55]

It was hoped that the weather would remain warm enough to removed all of the needed stones from the quarry by January. This would permit the stones to be hammered throughout the winter, "by which a great saving to the parish may be made."[56]

Six months later, while the interior masonry was being completed, the "Committee directed the Masons to suspend their work on the Arch in the singers seat, having proceeded to close it without orders, leaving the recess too small for an organ."[57] A redesign of this area in the gallery had occurred the previous August, specifically to increase the space for the organ (see the section "Interior Elements"). Uncharacteristically, the minutes do not record how the problem regarding organ space was resolved.

At some point during transportation or construction, or perhaps as the result of a natural weathering process, some of the stone was stained. Experiments were conducted with "nitriake" (believed to be nitric) acids, "which promises success" for removal.[58] Presumably, once the stone was cleaned, the subject of tuck-pointing arose, which Mr. Wood "contended...was not included in his agreement."[59]

## The Columns and Portico

The contract for the columns and their capitals was settled in mid-June 1827 with a Mr. Torrey. The committee:

> agreed to pay him the sum of One thousand dollars for each of said Columns, well hammered with their Capitals, to the satisfaction of the Committee and securely placed in the Building, provided that they can agree as to the terms of payment.... Mr Torrey to have ten days to find if he can from the rock he has selected, split out blocks of a dimension sufficiently large to make them....[60]

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[55] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 7, 1827.

[56] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 11, 1828.

[57] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 16, 1828.

[58] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 25, 1828.

[59] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 8, 1828. Tuck pointing is a technique employed since the 19th century. The term was first used in 1803, according to the *Oxford English Dictionary*. It consists of ordinary mortar joints finished with a narrow groove down the center of the joint, which is filled with a projecting ridge of fine lime or putty, sometimes colored (Russell Sturgis, *Sturgis' Illustrated Dictionary of Architecture and Building* [New York: Dover Publications, Inc., reprinted 1989, Vol. III, p. 167]). No remaining evidence of tuck pointing was found on the original church structure.

[60] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 11, 1827.

The committee meeting minutes show that on the 11th day after their initial agreement, Torrey requested an additional week, since the poor weather had not given him sufficient time to ascertain if all four columns could be procured from the same rock. Two representatives of the committee had ridden to the granite ledge and reported "...the appearance highly favourable,- the Rock large and very handsome, the colour uniform, and of the bright blue granite...."[61]

The following week a controversy began that was to evolve throughout the calendar year. Torrey reported that he in fact could supply all four columns from the same stone, but:

> ...found on examination, more work in the Capitals than he had expected, he could not therefore undertake to deliver them for $1000 each, but would deliver the Columns well hammered to the satisfaction of the Committee, and set in their places, and furnish the stone for the Capitals but not hammer them for $1000....

The committee was appalled, now expressing their previous reluctance to contract with him at so high a price. Since the strong desire of the parish members was to have each column a single block, and the rock he could supply was so beautiful and perfect for the installation, they had been "induced...to make him the offer."[62] Torrey unhappily relented, but was to create more problems during the subsequent months. An August entry in the building committee minutes confirms the concern of the committee regarding the columns, in that they felt the need to ascertain "that the four may be obtained from Mr. Mardin's ledge."[63] This is the first indication that Mardin, and not Torrey, operated the quarry; indeed, it sounds as though Mardin owned the quarry. However, we know that the town of Quincy owned the quarry, because of John Adams' gift. If Mardin was the operator, Torrey was merely the supplier.

By October 12, one "Mr. Whiche[r]" had related to the committee that:

> "the top of one of the stones is not sufficiently large, and will require to be pieced, to make it conform to the plan,- the committee can not in justice to their employers, agree to accept it without knowing the extent of the injury, and what the appearance of the Columns so pieced will be finished....

The committee:

> examined the defect in the Columns, but were not prepared to decide, without consulting the Architect and Master Builder, Mr Mardin thinks the defect no[t] material, that the Column will be better than those at the Branch Bank (Willard's U.S. Bank), or Market House (Parris' Quincy Market)....[64]

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[61] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 22, 1827.

[62] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 29, 1827.

[63] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 17, 1827.

[64] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 12, 1827.

By this time Mr. Torrey wanted to sell part of his agreement to Messrs. Wood and Whicher, which finally took place by October 26. The stones had been split from one rock and were uniform in color, which made the committee's decision to look elsewhere for four intact stones more difficult. The committee questioned their own indecision, and resolved to wait for Parris' opinion. The indecision prevailed throughout November, in spite of wood models built by Whicher "to show the appearance of the defect in stone," a request to Mr. Mardin as to the feasibility of getting another stone from the same rock, and reassurances from Wood and others "that the defect would scarcely be seen, and that it would be extremely difficult if not impossible, to procure others equally good, so uniform in colour...."[65] The committee finally decided and apparently settled with Mardin for two of the columns and their capitals, to be hammered by a Daniel Hoyt, and with a Henry Wood and John Whicher for the remaining two. All four columns and capitals were to be moved and set in place by Almoran Holmes.[66]

The masons were building a chimney in November, so a furnace was probably planned for the building from the beginning of the design process.[67] The columns were in "fair progress" by the middle of December, while "most of the stones for the portico [were] in a state of preparation." Parris had just "furnished Mr Wood with all the working plans for the portico, and steps, and for all the stone work excepting the tower...."[68] But the foundation of the portico was not ready to be laid until February 8, 1828, and that work had to wait until the parish voted to remove the tower of the old meetinghouse.[69] A week later, "...a Committee was appointed to examine the foundation of the tower of the old Meeting House, to ascertain if it cannot for the present be secured by props, in so secure a manner that the masons may dig under it for laying the foundation of the stone portico-...."[70] Almost a month later the parish voted to remove the old tower, and "to cause the Bell to be placed in a situation that it may be rung."[71] Although a Mr. Alexander offered to take down the tower and dispose of it for $30, the committee was unsure "whether to sell it as it stands and remove the bell or to take in [sic] down carefully and dispose of the material...."[72] In the end, "Mr. Wood was requested to begin laying the foundation for the portico..." on March 21.[73]

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[65] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 18 and 26, and November 2 and 16, 1827.

[66] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 16 and 20, and July 3, 1827, and vouchers (Documents, Vol. I, pp. 82-84).

[67] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 23, 1827.

[68] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 14, 1827.

[69] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 8, 1828.

[70] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 15, 1828.

[71] Minutes, parish meeting, March 10, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, p. 33).

[72] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 12, 1828.

[73] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 21, 1828.

At the end of construction, John Souther was paid and reimbursed for his part in removing the bell tower and having the bell moved. Although no date for the actual work was recorded, this payment document suggests how some of the work was accomplished. The money that was dispersed paid for "removing bell Boarding up end of meeting house; also for Cash paid Frances Batchelder for removing Bell from Old to New and for 5 squares of Glass; also for R & C. Lane & painting bell frame."[74] Clearly this documented the reuse of the bell in the Stone Temple from the Hancock Meeting House.

References regarding the columns do not appear again until April 1828, when it was noted that they were finished and would "be moved as soon as the state of work will permit."[75] On June 6 the committee "again examined the portico and are again assured that every thing has been done to secure it, not satisfied with the work of some of the large stones to [c?]over the Columns, not to be accepted unless better finished...."[76]

Between the 13th and the 16th of June, 1828, the columns were moved from the quarry to the building site. The committee's minutes recorded the odyssey:

> ...the Columns were brought down with about 80 oxen and many men in four days the last day by great exertion two were brought in safety the Carriage made for them although severely tried by the badness of the roads remains uninjured, directed one of the caps to be better hammered, were disatisfied (sic) with the stone and work but agreed to accept it as the delay of two or 3 weeks to procure another will be very injurious,-... Mr Holmes set three of the Columns and the other on Tuesday morning.... The Columns set, and secure the platform strong,... in placing the Columns a piece put in by Hoyt came out, he was requested to cause it to be immediately secured,- the large stones over the Columns placed and tomorrow will probably complete all the work that requires Holmes Machinery....[77]

By June 20, the "Columns [were] set, and secure the platform strong."[78] The remaining work, which was an extra expense, included leading the joints of the portico steps, which was felt added "to the strength and beauty of the portico."[79] In preparation of the dedication ceremonies on October 1, Mr. Wood was directed to wash the columns.[80]

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[74] Order on treasurer, November 15, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 118).

[75] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 30, 1828.

[76] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 13, 1828.

[77] Minutes, building committee meetings, June 13, 16, and 20, 1828.

[78] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 20, 1828.

[79] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 1, 1828.

[80] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 29, 1828.

## The Roof

In September it was thought that the roof work might begin "by the first of October [1827], and enjoin punctuality on his [the Contractor's] part, that the roof might be well covered, and secured, before Winter."[81] Apparently the work did not begin when hoped, since Mr. Bachelder was still "making the necessary arrangements with respect to the roof" on October 5, and Mr. Davis was preparing the roof on the 18th: "M Davis informed us, that he had after much delay, and with great difficulty procurred [sic] all the timber necessary for the frame, and believed that not a stick suitable for the purpose, could be found in Boston...."[82] Davis has also come to the site to meet with Parris about a change in the coving, presumably the eaves coving. A week later Davis proposed a model for the coving.[83] Whether it was adopted is not known.

The carpenters were framing the roof on November 2, a month behind the estimated schedule.[84] Two weeks later the committee "measured the distance between purlins, were apprehensive that it would not be sufficiently strong,- it did not conform to the specification,- on examination found that one more principal, or section, was made, then ordered, and the size of the rafters might possibly account for the difference in distance,- we however thought it prudent, to enquire into the cause of change...."[85] Parris was also surprised by the installation and suggested that the roof sheathing cease until the issue could be resolved. Parris had designed the joists at a distance of 16 feet apart, felt that 18 feet would be sufficient, but measured an installed distance of 24 feet.

The committee members were worried about the roof framing's stability in its current state. They first "were of opinion, that additional purlins, would be much stronger, than any other alteration...." They also believed "that purlins placed in the roof, will be more satisfactory than increasing the number of joist,- would be less expensive, and make a stiffer roof.-" Then the committee changed its mind. After first stating "...that in their opinion more purlins were necessary...," they considered an alternative: "...additional pieces of plank inserted, which would probably answer a better purpose, and although purlins were mentioned in the specifications, and would be more expensive, yet they should be well satisfied with plank, they promised to have them inserted immediately."[86] That promise was recorded in the minutes on December 5, 1827. On March 21, 1828, another entry records that "the Carpenters were again requested to prepare, and put in the additional rafter into the roof immediately."[87]

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[81] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 7, 1827.

[82] Minutes, building committee meetings, October 5 and 18, 1827.

[83] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 26, 1827.

[84] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 2, 1827.

[85] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 16, 1827.

[86] Minutes, building committee meetings, November 23 and 28, and December 5, 1827.

[87] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 21, 1828.

Recognizing that terminology may have changed since 1827, it is difficult to identify the original problem as described, if the words "rafter," "purlin," and "joist" are used in the same context as they are today. This author's examination of the rafter system and comparisons to the 1939 drawings of the trusses did not reveal the specific original problem or the supposed final solution. Although the actual solution is not readily evident, it was suggested at the completion of the roof construction that there was "more timber in the roof, than any Church in Boston."[88]

The method of slating became the next point of contention between the committee and the contractors. On November 28:

> Mr Brackett observed that the slaters were about to lay the slate 9 inches exposed to the weather, which they say is the usual distance, but they were requested the reasons being too far advanced to lag them in cement, and as the roof is very flat, to give them the same distance, as at the New Market House in Boston, which was only 8 inches....[89]

The apparent resolution was to give the slate an 8 1/2-inch exposure. This satisfied the committee because the fairly flat roof required more than the customary installation, and "it is closer slated than any Building, except the new Market House" (Quincy Market in Boston); it also satisfied Parris.[90] During discussions a concern arose about the extra cost of the more closely lapped slates, but finally an extra charge of $53.12 was paid to Asa Wilbur for the tighter installation.[91] The committee went so far as to comment on the slaters' use of copper nails, in that they were "at least as good, if not superior, to the composition nails...."[92]

The roof was completed "as far as can be done the present season," but the specifics of how much of it was completed by mid-December are not known.[93] The next entry in the minutes regarding the roofing materials did not occur until April 1828: "examined the ceiling and requested the Contractor to attend to the slating, that the ceiling may be secure against rain-...." The next reference was in July: "the weather has been very unfavourable, rain every day,- the roof not being wholly slated, great fears are entertained by the committee that the ceiling may be injured...."[94] The slating was most likely finished by August 1, when the committee directed "that the Coppering should be completed as soon as possible, to give the masons an opportunity to plaster the vestibule...."[95] Three weeks later the same request was made, this time referring to the need to

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[88] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 14, 1827.

[89] Minutes, building committee meeting, November 28, 1827.

[90] Minutes, building committee meeting, December (14?), 1827.

[91] Payment voucher (Documents, Vol. I, p. 85).

[92] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 7, 1827.

[93] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 14, 1827.

[94] Minutes, building committee meetings, April 23 and July 11, 1828.

[95] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 1, 1828.

make the building ready for the dedication ceremony on October 1, 1828.[96] The same request was made for a third time a week later, at the end of August, in addition to a direction that the "coppering [copper flashing] be well pointed" with mortar into the masonry.[97] Quincy Bicknell, who was to point the copper, was paid $6 for his "Role of mason work and finding mortar" on September 16.[98]

Roofing problems occurred almost immediately. The concern for the plastering was justified in October, when the roof "broke" and "the workmen have [been] enjoined to attend to the roof over stairs to prevent leaking."[99] It is presumed that the "roof over the stairs" was in the front section of the church, over the vestibule.

## The Tower

By September 1827, the labor had progressed to the point where the tower needed to be addressed. The committee "found it necessary that Capt Parris should send out immediately the Building plan of that part of the tower, where the windows are to be placed...."[100] Today the tower has one fixed window sash, located on the east side at the same level as the tower clocks. It is believed that originally the tower was built without a clock, based on early documentary references and an engraving (fig. 8). However, an original payment voucher records that Rufus and Charles Lane were paid for "painting the sashes Black on each side of the Tower and sanding the window frames."[101] The reference suggests that at least two windows existed, with the possibility of as many as four, one for each side of the tower. While the engraving does not depict any windows in the tower, two windows do exist on either side of the lower base of the tower, illuminating the staircases in the vestibule between the first and second stories. These are referenced elsewhere as vestibule windows, but may represent the above-described work. As to the clock, a reference for a clock *can* be found in the parish meeting minutes for the replacement of the "dial and glass to the Clock now belonging to the Parish and put the same up in the new Meeting House...," but this appears to relate to a wall clock.[102]

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[96] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 22, 1828. The actual dedication ceremony did not occur until mid-November, due to construction delays.

[97] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 29, 1828.

[98] Voucher, September 16, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 88).

[99] Minutes, building committee meetings, October 2 and 10, 1828.

[100] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 7, 1827.

[101] Voucher, October 27, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 110).

[102] Minutes, parish meeting, October 6, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, p. 53).

Apparently the original tower design was not acceptable, since on September 14, when Parris and Chairman Greenleaf spent the afternoon with President John Quincy Adams discussing the plans of the meetinghouse, the subject arose of the tower design:

> Scientific men have found fault with the plan for the Cupola, and have pointed out several defects.... Parris stated that he had never been satisfied with that plan, it was drawn by a person in his office, and after he had sufficiently studied the subject, he should prepare a plan, and drawing, and submit it for the approbation of the Committee, but never intended we should adopt the one before us,- he was also at present undetermined whether to have the bell within the stone work of the tower, or the bell deck to commence with the wood work, he should after further consideration, prepare a plan for that purpose also,-- The President after many remarks respecting the Architecture of Europe, suggested for his consideration several improvements, in the construction of the tower, Capt Parris promised to give the subject full attention, and mature a plan as soon as possible-....[103]

This notation made Parris sound like the consummate salesman, realizing his client is dissatisfied and needing to squirm out of his disgrace gracefully.

Parris apparently turned to the English architect, William Pocock, for his final design of the bell tower (fig. 35).[104] Zimmer notes that Parris had based previous designs on Pocock's publications: first during the construction of the Parker-Appleton Houses in Boston in 1817-1819,[105] then for the design of St. Paul's Church in Windsor, Vermont, in 1820.[106] Although these design details are what is today typically called Greek Revival, they were not well known in America until Asher Benjamin published them widely in the 1830s.[107] Parris is also known to have an extensive library, suggesting that Pocock may have been part of his collection or that he at least was aware of his publications.

A design for at least portions of the tower was ready by mid-October, when the committee "examined the plans with Mr. Davis, to see what change if any, should take place with respect to the battlement,- and whether it should be of stone, or wood, agreed to converse with Capt Parris before deciding...."[108] The "battlement" seems to have been the north and south end walls of the plinth portion of the tower, since wood were selected, and these walls are wood today. The records

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[103] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 14, 1827.

[104] William F. Pocock, *Designs for Churches and Chapels* (London: Printed for J. Taylor at the Architectural Library, No. 59, High Holborn), plate 27.

[105] Zimmer, p. 315.

[106] Zimmer, p. 418.

[107] Zimmer, p. 434.

[108] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 18, 1827.

show that they were faux-painted by Rufus and Charles Lane in "imitation stone on either side of the tower."[109]

Perhaps not all of the tower plans were ready in October, or perhaps alterations were necessary. In any case, Mr. Wood did not received all of the building plans for the tower until January 11, 1828.[110] On March 7, Parris "was requested to prepare the plans for Cupola [belfry]...," and again on March 21.[111] The tower and belfry apparently were considered as two separate entities.

The building committee minutes of April 18 record a discussion regarding the tower. It included how Parris never liked its design (perhaps referring back to his conference with President Adams), and how it was improper for the committee to reject the design unless some striking defects existed, since Parris' reputation as an architect was at stake.[112] This seems to be one of the very few instances in which the committee did not assert its power, possibly because of indecision as to whether the design really worked. In the end, the design was accepted without reservation, except for one interior detail. On August 1, 1828, the committee "examine[d] and disapproved the stairs leading to Cupola, but thought it best to make no alterations till we have an opportunity to converse with Parris and Bachelder respecting it...."[113]

The weathervane was also part of the tower design. An early attempt to procure one at a lower cost ($50) failed, and Parris then was directed "to draw a plan and have one finished immediately."[114] In June, two months later, "Capt Bachelder informed that the vane is in forwardness and the cost from $75 to $100 or 80.-"[115] A defect in the design that caused the vane to appear "too near the letters" required an addition to the center rod.[116]

Although the parish tried to a dedicate the new building in October, the ceremony did not take place until November 12, 1828.[117] One reference indirectly inferred that the old meetinghouse had been demolished in the middle of October. This reference was found on a bill for "four Oxen two carts & two hands Levelling [sic] at the Meeting house ten days...."[118] This range of dates

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[109] Voucher, October 27, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 110).

[110] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 11, 1828.

[111] Minutes, building committee meetings, March 7 and 21, 1828.

[112] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 18, 1828.

[113] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 1, 1828.

[114] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 30, 1828.

[115] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 20, 1828.

[116] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 26, 1828.

[117] Report of dedication ceremony, November 12, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, p. 54).

[118] Voucher, October 21 to 20[?] (Documents, Vol. I, p. 124).

is supported by notations in the parish minutes, which record "that after the pews in the Stone Temple are offered for sale [October 1], immediate arrangements be made to cause the Old Meeting House to be disposed of and taken down...."[119]

## Interior Elements

### The Tomb and Tablet

After the initial planning for the church had begun, President John Quincy Adams made a request to the supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund. At a meeting held in November 1826, the Congregational Society voted:

> ...in compliance with a proposition made by President Adams, as stated in the third Article in the Warrant, that the Supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund be a Committee, authorized and empowered, in behalf of the Parish, to conclude with President Adams, an agreement, in writing, by Indenture or otherwise, whereby at his expense, a Vault or Tomb may be constructed under the stone Temple to be erected for the use of the Congregational Society in this town, wherein may be deposited the mortal remains of the late John Adams, and of Abigail his beloved and only wife.- and that within the walls of the Temple, at a suitable place, to be approved by him, a tablet, or tablets of marble or other stone, may be adapted to the side of the Wall, with a view to durability, and with such obituary Inscription or Inscriptions as he may deem proper....[120]

It was not until September 1827, that:

> Capt Parris called on Mr G(reenleaf), and passed the afternoon with President Adams, examining the plans of the Meeting House,- The President determined on the middle recess, under the Portico, for the tomb of his Father, and did not wish to have a recess reserved in the wall for the tablet, and Bust, but to have the bust in full relief from the Wall,-....[121]

The official indenture between the supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund and President Adams was made October 1, 1827:

> And to that end we the Supervisors in behalf of said Town and Society, and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to us in hand paid, and the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm to him the said John Quincy Adams, that portion of the soil in the cellar, situated under the porch at the entrance of the said

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[119] Minutes, parish meeting, September 15, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 45-47).

[120] Minutes, parish meeting, November 6, 1826 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 20-21).

[121] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 14, 1827.

> Temple, and partitioned off by walls being the central division of the said cellar under the porch, and containing fourteen feet in length and fourteen in breadth.... And it is further agreed that the said John Quincy Adams, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, may also cause to be adapted to the side of the walls of said Temple and within the same a tablet or tablets of marble or other stone with suitable obituary inscriptions and with such appendages to the same as he may deem proper....[122]

The area under the portico was probably the only planned section of the basement to be finished at construction's end. It is assumed that the tablet was originally installed on one of the walls of the first story, where it remains today (fig. 36).

## Framing, Floors, and Finish Details

Between June 5 and June 7, 1827, the floor framing was prepared and set, and the first floor was laid.[123] Two months later several questions arose regarding construction specifics. The first was "why the frame for the flooring of the tower, was higher than that for the body of the House,- Capt Parris satisfactorily explained his views with respect to the frame, but made some alteration in the door ways leading to the gallery, so as not to interfere with the floor...." While this issue seemed relatively easy to resolve, the second issue required more discussion:

> ...It appeared that the room back of the singers seat have no communication with that seat, a question arose if that room could be made convenient for the use of the singers, as it can not be well applied to any other purpose now, than to contain their books, and instruments.- the size will not admit its being used for their meetings for practice.- on further examining the singers seat it appeared, that if a space sufficiently large for an organ was reserved, the seat in front would be much too narrow,- Mr Wood proposed that an arch be turned to open the room back, with the body of the House, after the plan of the House in Portsmouth,- the Committee considered the subject, and were of opinion, that a great accommodation might be obtained, by connecting that room, with the singers seat.- the only objection was the possibility that it might weaken the Wall that supports the tower, Mr Parris was much in favor of the plan, the convenience he stated would be great, and if the walls were now closed, and the space should be hereafter wanted, it could not be obtained at an expense of $400. he thought it would add much to the appearance of the interior of the Building, and could not by any possibility diminish the strength of the Wall, this was also the opinion of several Gentlemen....[124]

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[122] Indenture between the Supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund and President Adams, recorded in the minutes of parish meeting, April 14, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 36-38).

[123] Minutes, building committee meetings, June 5, 6, and 7, 1827.

[124] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 10, 1827.

A full week passed before the subject of the arch was broached again, and the workmen were directed to construct it.[125] In the end, Stephen Alexander was paid in November 1828 for "boarding the organ arch," including joists, boards, nails, and 1 1/2 days' labor.[126] This arch is extant today, hidden behind the existing organ and housing some of the organ pipes. The doorway in the second-story vestibule, opposite the doorway to the tower, leads into this archway. The "room back of the singers seat" appears to be the middle bay of the second-story vestibule, which may have been originally designed as a separate room. As explained in the section "Exterior Elements," masonry work on the arch was suspended in June 1828, because the masons left "the recess too small for an organ."[127] The resolution for this mistake went unrecorded.

A third, more serious issue surfaced in January 1828:

> Capt Parris with us, he stated that from some mistake, the galleries were placed higher than he had intended, when he was last here, he requested the Carpenters not to put them up until further orders but from some misunderstanding, the master workman never received the message, the mistake his between the Carpenter, and Architect, and Capt Parris promises if it be found necessary to alter them, to do it at his own expense,- The Committee carefully examined them, and were apprehensive that if now taken down, they will not again be placed as strong....[128]

In order to resolve the issue, several men—including Parris, Greenleaf, and Wood—visited other Boston churches in order to make comparisons. Parris took measurements of heights of the other church galleries, and in the end, "the Committee after a full consideration unanimously determined not to alter them,-...."[129]

Another problem occurred when Parris was asked to install the iron columns under the galleries. These were to be supported by stone piers in the basement. The committee discovered that the piers were not high enough and ordered more stone to be cut and delivered the following day. They also ordered "Mr Wood to cause two stone posts to be placed under the Iron columns sufficiently strong to bear the whole weight and to fasten said stone to the pier already built by clamp of iron." The fault was apparently Parris': he had slightly revised the depth of the front gallery, but had not directed the mason to alter the basement footings. "Although several workmen were of opinion that it would be sufficiently strong[,] the Committee were not satisfied for if the cap stone should break an(d) the ribs of the floor should decay the gallery would have no support."[130] The

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[125] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 17, 1827.

[126] Voucher to Stephen Alexander, November 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 126).

[127] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 16, 1828.

[128] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 11, 1828.

[129] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 18, 1828.

[130] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 26, 1828.

cost of the iron clamps and the half-day installation was $1.42.[131] An additional $.33 was paid to Stephen Alexander for "Shoreing [sic] Gallerys [sic]."[132]

The use of cast-iron columns to support the gallery could also be found in Richard Bond's 1826 Green Street Church in Boston. Earlier uses elsewhere included Latrobe's 1808 Christ Church in Washington, D.C., and two of Strickland's Philadelphia structures, the Chestnut Street Theater (1820-1822) and the U.S. Naval Asylum (1826-1830).[133] Most likely Parris had first-hand knowledge of at least the Bond and Latrobe churches, from which he may have derived his use of cast-iron columns at the Stone Temple. (These columns were altered in 1923-1924: two were removed, and the rest were encased.)

Two months before the scheduled completion date, dissatisfaction with the stairways to the galleries was noted in the committee's minutes. The appearance of the stairways and the quality of the work were questioned by the committee, which then "directed the [?] board to be raised and more attention to the workmanship."[134]

As the targeted finish date loomed ahead, other problems contributed to the postponement of the date until early November. The gallery handrails, originally made of pine, were replaced with mahogany.[135] Then Parris was "not satisfied with the finish of the...railing of stairs...."[136] And the committee worried about the three coats of paint that still had to be applied, eight days into the month of October.[137]

## Pews

The first time the subject of the pews surfaced was during contract negotiations, when contractor Davis agreed to the specifications to make the pews in the "sofa fashion."[138] It is not known whether the specifications were ignored, or if a doubt arose regarding the pew design, since the building committee's minutes of a meeting held on December 5, 1827, recorded that:

> The Contractors were desirous of knowing the form of the pews, as they intended that all the work should be got out during the winter,- it would be better seasoned, and ready to be put together early in the spring,-

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[131] Voucher, October 15, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 108).

[132] Voucher to Stephen Alexander, November 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 126).

[133] Zimmer, pp. 486-487.

[134] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 1, 1828.

[135] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 19, 1828.

[136] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 6, 1828.

[137] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 8, 1828.

[138] Minutes, building committee meeting, May 24(?), 1827.

> the Committee determined in favour of settee pews, but not the low door, with respect to the backs they were not determined, whether they should be panneled [sic], or straight boards, the Committee were apprehensive that the plain backs would appear unfinished, they however agreed to wait until the next week, and if the Committee gave no particular directions within 5 or 6 days, they were to frame them accourding [sic] to the direction of Capt Parris,- the several members promised to visit the several modern churches lately built in Boston and examine the form, and finish of the pews....[139]

For the following four weeks, much discussion occurred as to the desired height and appearance of the pews. The committee "decided in favor of pannel [sic] pews, in the sofa fashion."[140] Apparently several committee members went about measuring pews in other meetinghouses, deciding that 3 feet 3 inches was average height, but that their plan of 3 feet between the pews would be better if reduced to 2 feet 10 inches, affording them the space for six additional pews.[141] In addition, "on examination, it was found that the floors of the side pews were not sufficiently raised, the Carpenters were directed to take them up, and raise the point 3 inches above the floor of the body pews,- Capt Parris was consulted with respect to double floors, but decided in favor of single floors grooved for the pews, and double for the aisles.-"[142]

The subject of a single versus a double scroll became a much-discussed design issue in reference to the pew-end and door.[143] Although it was decided that the single scroll would be acceptable, in part due to the fact that the contractor had already constructed half of the needed quantity with single scrolls, the discussion was revived one week later. The matter was voted on again, finally passing unanimously in favor of the double scroll.

Alterations were also occurring in the seating area for the singers. Presumably at the request of the singers, "the pews at the side of the singers gallery were lowred [sic] to the level of the gallery pews,"[144] and Captain Bachelder was urged "to be ready by the 1st of October,"[145] in order to meet the initial deadline for dedicating the church.

The finish of the pews was not satisfactory in either materials or workmanship. This was first recorded in mid-September, and again on October 2. The specifics of the complaints included "the mahogany have [sic] in the tops are too rough,- the joints are not well put together the fastenings of doors are too loose and under cracks are to be observed- the thresholds are unfinished in short almost every way regards." This was to be corrected by having the contractor survey each

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[139] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 5, 1827.

[140] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 7, 1827.

[141] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 7, 1827.

[142] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 18, 1828.

[143] Minutes, building committee meetings, December 14, 1827, and January 4, 18, and 25, 1828.

[144] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 1, 1828.

[145] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 29, 1828.

pew and correct the shortcomings.[146] But Parris was still complaining about the quality of their finish on October 6.

The issue of quality must have been resolved within four days of Parris' appraisal, since Major Lane was scheduled to begin painting on October 10.[147] A contract with Lane for numbering the pews had been pursued in mid-September, and bids for numbering in gold and common letters had been sought at the end of the month.[148] In the beginning of October, Lane was contracted to "paint the front of pews and number them...." His cost was "thirty five dollars and the numbers for about 6 cents a pew-...."[149] He was paid thirty-five dollars for painting only the pews on the lower floor and an additional $14.87 for numbering the pews on both floors, the latter of which was paid at a daily rate, rather than by the number.[150]

## The Pulpit

During the contract negotiation stages, the cost of building the pulpit was estimated at $400.[151] Later documentation suggests that the estimate was not based on a particular design, since almost a year later, Parris "was directed to determine on the form of the pulpit, as persons are now applying for the contract to make it...." Parris "was requested to visit the Pine street church, as that pulpit is considered very handsome, and has been approved by several of the Committee...."[152] Meanwhile, Parris was lobbying the Committee "to examine the pulpit in Mr Deanes Church, it being made of curled maple, which he thought very beautiful,-...."[153] Parris apparently delayed, since in March the committee was again calling for plans for the pulpit to be given to the cabinetmaker, and again for Parris to visit the Pine Street Church.[154]

Finally the committee again had its way, since the plans of the pulpit resembled the pulpit of the Pine Street Church, and were directed to be turned over to the contractor after the ensuing weekend. The committee also agreed to adhere to the original estimate of $400.[155]

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[146] Minutes, building committee meetings, September 19 and October 2, 1828.

[147] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 10, 1828.

[148] Minutes, building committee meetings, September 19 and 26, 1828.

[149] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 2, 1828.

[150] Voucher, dated Hingham Oct. 27, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 110).

[151] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 24(?), 1827.

[152] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 18, 1828.

[153] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 8, 1828.

[154] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 7, 1828.

[155] Minutes, building committee meeting, March 21, 1828.

After the passage of five months the pulpit was ready for finishing touches. Apparently the pulpit space was originally designed for a sofa, since alterations were made "in the recess back of the pulpit the better to accommodate the sofa." The agreement with one Mr. Briggs was to pay him $150 for a sofa, a table, and two chairs.[156] The cushion for the pulpit was changed from damask to velvet in mid-September.[157] Briggs was paid for both the furniture and the cushion, $150 for the former and $28 for the latter, on November 7, 1828.[158]

Also in mid-September a contract was sought with Major Lane, the man who had done most of the special painting during the church's construction, for "the Columns at the pulpit."[159] Since Lane had been specifically contracted by the church for only painting work, it is not known as to whether this reference pertains to only the finishing of the columns or their actual construction. The extant columns do not appear to be grained, a finish for which one might hire a painter, but rather varnished mahogany-crotched veneer. This veneer is indeed stained, for which Lane might have been hired.

At the end of September the committee agreed on the "colour of Pulpit which has since been approved by Capt Parris...."[160] This reference may refer to the color of the stain used to finish the pulpit. Ten days later "...the parish ordered the Committee to procure a curtain for pulpit."[161] William Hancock was the apparent provider of this curtain.[162]

## Window Openings and Doorways

It has been noted previously that the committee took an early interest in the window openings that were represented in the initial plans: in February of 1827 they directed changing a single window behind the pulpit to two windows on either side of the pulpit, and questioned if the windows designed for the vestibule were sufficient to light the passageways and stairways.[163] Photographic evidence shows that two windows did exist on the east wall of the sanctuary on either side of the pulpit prior to the 1889 addition.[164] These were filled in at some point between 1889 and 1923.

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[156] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 22, 1828.

[157] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 18, 1828.

[158] Voucher to C. Briggs, November 7, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 115).

[159] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 19, 1828.

[160] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 26, 1828.

[161] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 6, 1828.

[162] Building committee, Full Accounting of Construction, November 23, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 125).

[163] Minutes, building committee meetings, February 3 and 6, 1827.

[164] Daniel Munro Wilson, *"The Chappel of Ease" and Church of Statesmen* (Cambridge, MA: John Wilson & Son, printed for the Society, 1890), photograph dated September 29, 1889, p. 65.

As construction progressed, the masonry became ready for the preparation of the centers of the windows. The main body of the church was ready for this work by August 1827, while the tower was ready by September.[165]

The size of the sash lights was not determined until the end of October of that same year: the committee decided that, of the two sizes presented (presumably in drawing form), the largest size of light was preferable.[166] The decision to contract for the glass was not made until December, when Bachelder convinced the committee that the Lechmere Point glassworks provided a superior product. If an order was placed for the work to be done over the winter months, a "much purer and better glass" could be produced than if it had to furnished "on a sudden demand."[167]

The window sashes were obviously being constructed in February 1828, when Parris "directed the Carpenters to be careful to place dowels of hard wood into the sashes for the windows,-...."[168] They were probably nearing completion in June, when direction was given "to secure the tops of the windows and to proceed in the work as fast as possible--...."[169] Although blinds were ordered for the windows in October as construction completion neared,[170] John Souther was not reimbursed $171.87 for "cash paid to Elihu Thayer for makeing [sic] six Blinds and hinge and screws, for the same..." until May 9, 1829.[171] Since only six blinds were made for eight windows, it seems logical that the two window openings on the east wall were left initially without blinds. Additional hardware was not paid for until August 1829,[172] and blinds for the two remaining window openings were ordered in October 1829.[173] The Lanes were not paid for "Painting eight window Blinds for the stone Temple" until the last day of 1829.[174]

A cellar doorway was installed midway through construction, but its size and location were not specified.[175] It is known that steps were also installed, leading to the cellar doorway.[176]

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[165] Minutes, building committee meetings, August 21 and September 7, 1827.

[166] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 26, 1827.

[167] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 5, 1827.

[168] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 22, 1828.

[169] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 25, 1828.

[170] Minutes, building committee meeting, October 6, 1828.

[171] Voucher to John Souther, May 9, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 144).

[172] Voucher to Josiah Savil, August 18, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 150).

[173] Voucher to Capt. Elihu Thayer, October 26, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 155).

[174] Voucher to R & C Lane, December 31, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 158).

[175] Minutes, building committee meeting, April or May 23, 1828.

[176] Minutes, building committee meeting, April or May 30, 1828.

As more finishing tasks were tackled, one question arose that was resolved apparently readily: "examined the door ways, and concluded it would be best to hang the doors, to open in the vestibule,-...." In addition, "a Committee was appointed to contract with Major Lane for...the colour of outside door...."[177]

## Ceiling

Research for the ceiling plan began as early as December 1827, when the committee was requested to visit several public buildings in Boston to examine details that might suit the new Stone Temple.[178] Parris, who had just completed Quincy Market, requested that the committee especially view "the new Market House, as the Architect wanted to draw one for us, somewhat similar,-....[179] Parris' influence seemed to dominate in this particular case, since he was building a model for the ceiling as early as February and the final product was similar to the extant ceiling in Quincy Market.[180]

Construction for the ceiling may have commenced in March, when Parris was giving instructions regarding it and when he and Bachelder were examining the boarding for it.[181] By April, proposals for the plastering were being reviewed, and one Mr. Edson was given the contract for "$825 without staging." Mr. Edson had been recommended by Solomon Willard and "several Gentlemen in Boston."[182]

As the ceiling neared completion in June, the masons were directed to "secure the cavettos strong...," and several comments were made as to its beauty.[183] A partial payment of $500 was made to Edson on June 25. However, the more work Edson completed, the more concern grew for possible ceiling damage due to rain and incomplete roof slating.[184]

The structural design for the domed ceiling—70 feet in diameter—is a variation of a design developed by Philibert Delorme, a 16th-century French engineer. The technique is based on the use of vertically set laminated wooden ribs. Parris may have learned of the technique while in Philadelphia, seeing Mills' and Latrobe's work, or from Peter Nicholson's *Architectural Dictionary* (London, 1819). Whichever the case, he used the same technique at the David Sears House (Boston,

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[177] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 19, 1828.

[178] Minutes, building committee meeting, December 14(?), 1827.

[179] Minutes, building committee meeting, January 11, 1828.

[180] Minutes, building committee meeting, February 22, 1828.

[181] Minutes, building committee meetings, March 7 and 21, 1828.

[182] Minutes, building committee meeting, April 11, 1828.

[183] Minutes, building committee meetings, June 6, 13, and 20, 1828.

[184] Minutes, building committee meetings, April 23 and July 11, 1828.

1819-1821), Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, 1823), and Faneuil Hall Market (Boston, 1826-1828) before incorporating it into the Stone Temple.[185]

## Finishing Touches

Payment for a "Soffa" [sic], chairs and a table was made on November 7, 1828, and the pulpit was cushioned.[186] In addition, 13 1/2 yards of "Brussels carpetry" was ordered, along with more than 10 yards of non-specified material to make gallery cushions.[187] It is unclear if the "carpetry" was for the floor (perhaps of the steps and landing of the pulpit), drapery, or for upholstery. However, it seems likely that something as fine as "Brussels carpetry" would have been installed with the pulpit. Later in November a voucher for "Brass Rod & Pillars" was paid to the Boston Copper Company, for the brass rods and standards installed in the singers' gallery,[188] and to Stephen Alexander for "Hanging curtains front of Singers."[189] These may have been the same installed on the rail of the balustrade at the rear section of gallery, as seen in an 1892 photograph (fig. 37).

Alexander Parris received the outstanding $200 of his $500 fee six days later.[190] Other accounts were also settled, since committee members had personally paid for items and wished reimbursement. Mr. Souther was paid for 30 hat hooks, five mats (presumably door mats), and then for an additional three "Manilla Matts."[191]

When the accounting was completed it showed that Parris' estimate was slightly higher than the actual construction cost, which included all furnishings.[192] The records clearly displayed that the building committee commanded strict adherence to the budget, and therefore helped make this a successful financial endeavor.

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[185] Zimmer, pp. 158, 350, 409, and 488.

[186] Voucher for C. Briggs, paid Nov. 7, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 115).

[187] Voucher, Nov. 12, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 116).

[188] Voucher, November 17, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 116); and building committee, full accounting of construction, p. 125.

[189] Voucher to Stephen Alexander, November 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 126).

[190] Voucher paid to Alexander Parris, November 21, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 121).

[191] Voucher to John Souther, November 1828, paid December 26, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 127).

[192] Report of the committee appointed to examine the books (Documents, Vol. I, p. 131).

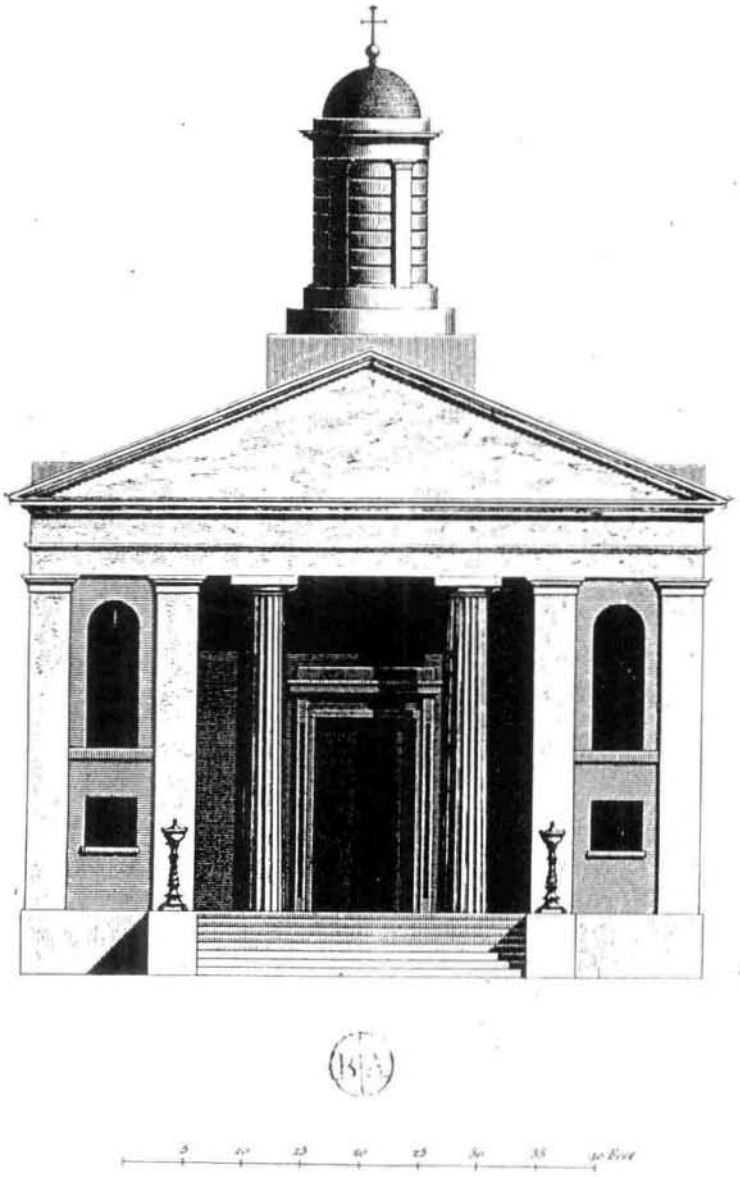


**Figure 35.** "Elevation of the principal Front" (drawing, 1819).

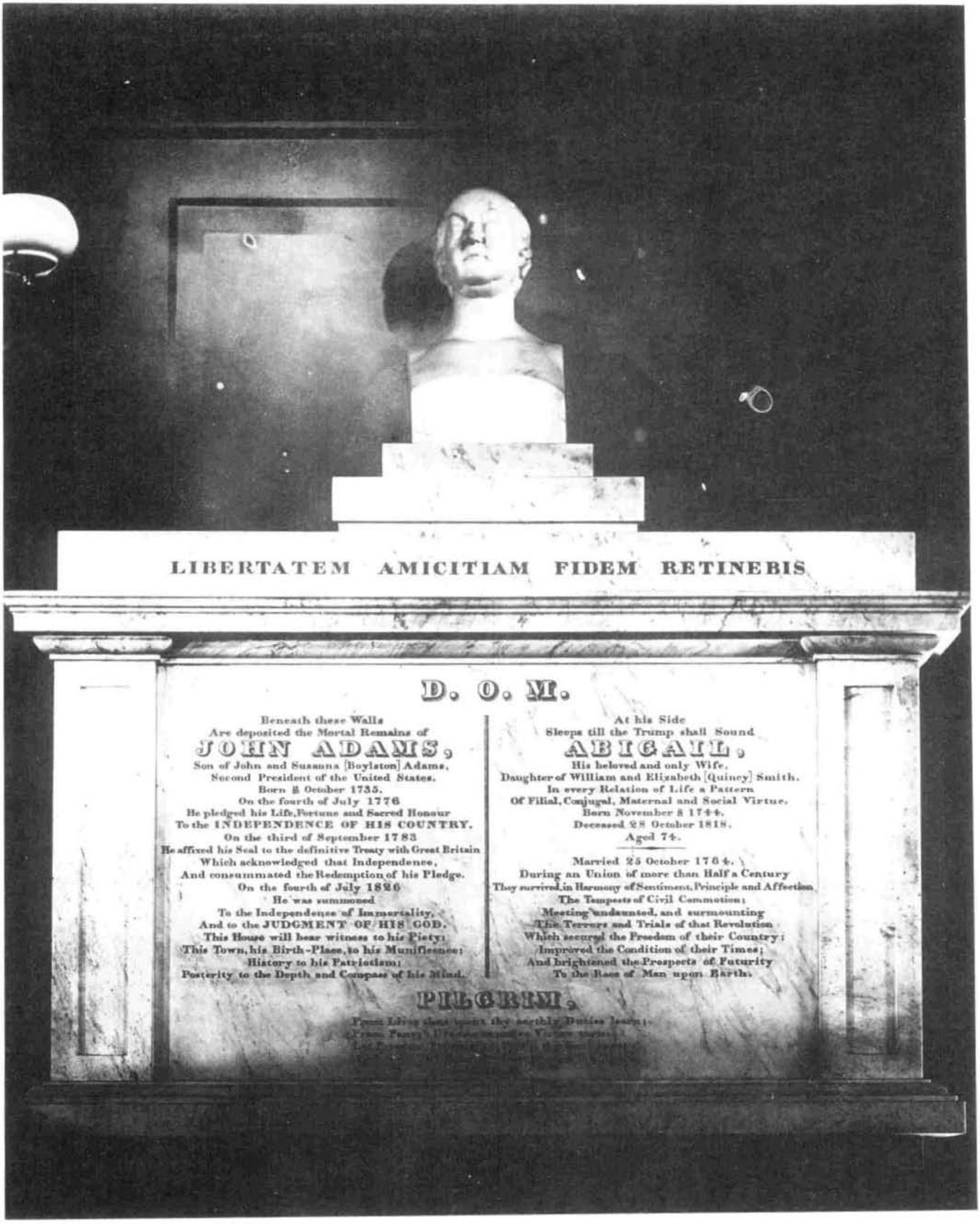



**Figure 36.** John Adams memorial tablet (photograph ca. 1900).



**Figure 37.** Sanctuary ceiling (photograph ca. 1892).

## EARLY REPAIRS: THE 1830s

Roof and other repairs for leaks began shortly after the congregation occupied the church. On March 14, 1830, Josiah Adams Jr. was paid $21.19, in part for "repairs on Roof and Circular Window."[193] No less than 12 and possibly 17 additional vouchers relating to the repair of leaks were paid in the following six years: they chronicled such specific items as "Lead to repair Circular window and roof of Society's House," "tuck Pointing 732 yds on the Tower & Pediment of the Stone Church," "puttying Sashs [sic] of Circular Windows," and "Labour in tuck Pointing the Joints, and repairs on Plaistering [sic]."[194] Clearly either poor design or workmanship created the faulty construction, since the problems persisted. On December 16, 1830, a parish committee in charge of the "Prudential Concerns of the Society" reported to the congregation:

> ...that they pay that attention to the Leaks in the house that it demands, and as it is a subject of much regret to your Committee that they should not after; so great a length of time entirely prevented the Storms from coming through But; from the peculiar [sic] structure of the Tower and the design of the Artichect [sic] who paid more defference [sic] to the external appearance than that of guarding against the Storms, makes it extremely difficuilt [sic] in some parts, to make tight, but they do not despair; they believe that they have stopped nine tenths of the leaks in the tower by tuck pointing and Leading and have good hopes to in all.- Since Mr Fullick who pointed the tower down to the Pediment went back to Boston an uncommonly Stormy and rainy season has prevailed; the East end of the house has been wet through to the Plaistering [sic] which never was before (except arround [sic] the Circular Window) and it is believed never will be tight against violent Storms of rain, untill [sic] it is tuck pointed and they therfore [sic] recommend that it should be done as soon as the season will permit.[195]

A similar report written six years later reflected the same kind of intensity in the committee's desire to correct the problems and rid themselves of the continued nuisance. This report also described in detail the repairs that were made:

> ...the subject of repairing the Meeting house so as to prevent its leaking, being under consideration...the Parish Committee... concluded to repair the house, and agreed with Mr. John H. Wheeler of Boston to do the work. Mr. Wheeler was recommended, and acknowledged by all, as being the best mechanic in the City of Boston, or vicinity, that could be employed to do the kind of work which was thought necessary to be done. And in October last he went to work and took off all the copper on the roof of the projection on each side of the tower, and coppered it all anew, partly with new copper and partly with the old, and put on new lead upon every part of

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[193] Voucher (Documents, Vol. I, p. 159).

[194] Vouchers (Documents, Vol. I, pp. 159-254).

[195] Report of the Committee of Prudential Concerns, December 16, 1830 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 174).

> the roof which was deemed necessary. And the work when finished, and during its progress appeared to the committee, and to several individuals who examined it to be a most thorough and perfect piece of work. And full confidence was entertained that, where Mr. Wheeler had worked, the building was made perfectly tight, but in this expectation the Committee have been appointed, and regret that they are obliged to say that the roof which has been newly coppered still continues to leak in very severe storms. The roof of the main house where it joins upon the tower has been repaired, and as the Committee think, made perfectly tight. Mr. Wheeler has not been paid for his work, and says that he does not wish to be paid untill [sic] the house is made tight. His bill for work, together with some materials furnished by him, is $228.80....[196]

A voucher for payment of Mr. Wheeler's work was not preserved with the other original church documents, but clearly Wheeler's contribution involved some rebuilding, not of the masonry structure, but apparently of the wings' flat roofs on either side of the tower. Clearly he was a man who guaranteed his work, since he requested no payment until the leaks stopped. The minutes of the April 9, 1839, parish meeting recorded that Wheeler was finally paid during the previous year.[197] The above report also chronicled that other repairs were made totaling $352.27 (a partial total, since some money was recouped by selling old copper and lead), including repairs to the furnace.[198]

Although prior documentation indicates that the old bell was moved from the former parish building, one Aaron Mason was paid $14.20 "for Iron on bell..." in April 1830.[199] This expenditure may have been for repair work. Four years later Josiah Savil was paid $5 for "smith work on Bell, and furnace, in the Meeting house the year past."[200] Mr. John Hall provided a small rope for the bell at a cost of 50 cents the following year.[201]

In 1831 a door required painting, but it is not known which door it was or why it was required so soon after the church was completed.[202] Several references cited previously also suggest that the furnace needed repairs shortly after it was constructed.

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[196] Committee report on repairing the meeting house, March 14, 1836 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 256).

[197] Minutes, parish meeting, April 6, 1839 (Records, Vol. I, p. 148).

[198] Minutes, parish meeting, April 6, 1839 (Records, Vol. I, p. 148).

[199] Voucher to Aaron Mason, April 15, 1830 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 161).

[200] Voucher to Josiah Savil, April 5, 1834 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 221).

[201] Voucher to Mr. John Hall, October 14, 1835 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 251).

[202] Voucher, account with John Souther for John Howard, 1831 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 194).

# IMPROVEMENTS 1840-1858

Fifteen years after the Stone Temple was completed, Daniel Greenleaf presented a clock to the town of Quincy, which the congregation agreed to have "placed in the tower of their Meetinghouse."[203] It is this author's belief that no clock existed in the tower until this time of 1844. An early, undated depiction of the church shows only blank panels in the tower, supporting the theory that it was originally constructed without the clock (see fig. 8).

Although vouchers for repairs are not extant for the period between 1836 and 1849, minutes of parish meetings suggest that the congregation did not shirk its duties regarding the maintenance of the Stone Temple. In 1840, the Parish Committee was "instructed to take care and improve the condition of the trees on the common around the Meeting house...."[204] Two years later the parish granted the treasurer authority to borrow money for "any necessary repairs upon the Meetinghouse...."[205] The following year the committee in charge of repairs to the meetinghouse reported that

> they have expended the sum of $251.79 cents for repairs and for painting, Blinds, Windows, Doors, Coveings [sic] &C- The committee have spared no pains to cause thorough repairs to be made on the walls, windows and covings at the east end of the house and on the sides of the Tower which from their peculiar exposure to storms had often been penetrated by water...; some other trifling repairs have been made on other parts of the walls of the house and the Committee believe still further repairs, and painting are needful on the Tower, Bell deck, and other coverings of the house....[206]

This documented the first time a large-scale repainting occurred at the Stone Temple since its construction 14 years earlier, although it seems to have been limited to the exterior.

An appropriation of $125 was made for "Repairs & Painting Meetinghouse" in 1845, as well as $25 for "improving the greens & Trees Walks &c around the Meeting house."[207] The location of the repairs and painting was not cited. The following year, a parish meeting set aside an additional $50 to help defray "the expense of making necessary repairs in the interior of the Meetinghouse."[208] At the same meeting, the parish committee was "authorised and instructed to

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[203] Minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1844 (Records, Vol. I, p. 186).

[204] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1840 (Records, Vol. I, p. 160).

[205] Minutes, parish meeting, March 14, 1842 (Records, Vol. I, p. 174).

[206] "Report relating to repairs...," in minutes of parish meeting, March 13, 1843 (Records, Vol. I, p. 180).

[207] Minutes, parish meeting, April 21, 1845 (Records, Vol. I, p. 195).

[208] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1846 (Records, Vol. I, p. 204).

make such repairs in the interior of the meetinghouse as they may deem expedient by painting, and whitening the walls and ceiling or collouring [sic] the same."[209] Interestingly, the finishes analysis indicates that this work was never executed.

Work recorded at the middle of the 19th century appears to have been concentrated in three areas. First, a new wheel may have been required for the bell frame, as well as new parts for the frame itself. John Hall was paid $33.99 for "stock and work done on the Bell and bell frame, new Wheel painting &c" on June 11, 1849.[210] The annual account shows that Hall personally earned two-thirds of that amount, while Alden French earned the other third for "7 1/2 dys [sic] work on bell."[211]

Second, two entries existed regarding window repair in 1850, one for unspecified repairs to windows for $3.62, and one for setting glass.[212] The annual reports show that the setting of glass occurred in the cellar windows.[213] Third, four vouchers dated between August 17, 1850, and January 23, 1852, suggest that leaks were continuing at the meetinghouse. One voucher relates to pointing the tower; one is for slate and roof work; one is for "studs" and work on the meetinghouse, and one is for "studs" and mason work on the meetinghouse.[214] Three of the four entries are substantiated by the minutes of the annual meeting, which also show that locks were purchased for the doors and that windows were washed.[215] Unspecified but significant masonry and carpentry work continued the following year, amounting to $10 and $48.48, respectively.

John Quincy Adams died on February 23, 1848. On June 29, 1852, six weeks after his wife Louisa died, Charles Francis Adams drafted a letter to the Supervisors of Adams Temple and School Fund and the members of the First Congregational Society of Quincy, regarding the possibility of enlarging his grandparents' tomb at his own expense to accommodate his parents, John Quincy and Louisa Catherine Adams:

> For many reasons the first idea that occured [sic] to me was to place their remains under the same superintending care under which those of John Adams and of Abigail, his wife, had been placed, and to solicit the privilege

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[209] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1846 (Records, Vol. I, p. 206).

[210] Voucher to John Hall, June 11, 1849 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 319).

[211] Minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1850 (Records, Vol. I, p. 226).

[212] Vouchers to S. Wade, June 16, 1850 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 322), and to John Hall, March 6, 1850 (p. 323).

[213] Minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1850 (Records, Vol. I, p. 226).

[214] Vouchers: to John Picket, $41.00, August 17, 1850 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 330); to John Borrowscale $34.01 (p. 330); to James M. Wade, $57.85 (p. 331); and to M.D. Sleeper, $10.00, January 23, 1852 (p. 344).

[215] Minutes, parish meeting, March 10, 1851 (Records, Vol. I, p. 233).

> of erecting within the Stone Temple in which they worshipped God, a similar tablet to that which already exists there....[216]

The parish voted to authorize approval of the proposal and the work was carried out, including the addition of a marble tablet (fig. 38).

During the mid-1850s, sleighs were stored in the church cellar and their owners paid rent to the church for the privilege.[217] An opening large enough for a sleigh is not evident in the north, south, or west foundation walls. The east foundation wall was excavated and covered over by the addition of 1888 and subsequent alterations. It is possible that the double doorway that now connects the basement of the main church and the basement of the 1888 addition is an original opening. The 1888 drawings that depict the design proposal for the addition label this opening as "Old Cellar Door," suggesting it existed prior to the 1888 construction (see Appendix A). A ramp would have been required to maneuver a sleigh into the cellar, but this could have been made of dirt.

At about this same time a payment for "locks Catches and labor- done on the meeting House" was authorized for Mr. C. C. Brackett.[218] While some "locks and catches" had been installed at the church at an earlier date, the storage of the sleighs for church revenue may have prompted the need for an increased sense of security. James Wade was paid for stock and carpenters work ($12.92) between 1852 and 1853.[219] The specifics of this work are not known. At the end of the same decade, carpets were purchased from J.H. Pray & Sons for $6.53, but the type of carpet and area of installation are also not known.[220] One Peter B. Turner received $2.83 for work he performed on window repairs during the last six months of 1858, including "Cord & work on a window," "fixing blinds & sash," "takeing [sic] down blinds," and "work on Sashes and Glass."[221]

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[216] Minutes, parish meeting, August 16, 1852 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 250-252). The personal papers of Charles Francis Adams were not consulted during the research for this project, so the details for enlarging the tomb were not found.

[217] Minutes, parish meeting (Records, Vol. I, p. 276).

[218] Order to pay, August 30, 1856, and Report of Prudential Committee Appropriation for 1857 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 53); and minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 295).

[219] Report of Committee on Finance as of March 6, 1852 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 9); and minutes, parish meeting (Records, Vol. I, p. 260).

[220] Report of Prudential Committee Appropriation for 1857 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 53); and minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 295).

[221] Receipt of payment to Peter B. Turner for 1858 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 83).

Additional roof repairs occurred prior to March 1858, and new glass was set, presumably window glass. The church was also cleaned during this same time period, as well as draped.[222] The draping may have related to the death of the Rev. Dr. Lunt, the pastor of the First Church, who died and was buried abroad.

After the Rev. Dr. Lunt's death and internment in what is now called the Middle East, his supporters requested of the parish to erect a memorial in his honor, since:

> ... the customary tribute to his remains cannot be paid at home over his grave.
>
> Under these circumstance it has seemed to many members of the Parish a grateful no less than a fitting duty to the memory of the deceased to substitute for the common mode of marking respect, the erection of a simple but suitable Tablet within the walls of the Temple in which he officiated so long....[223]

This request was accepted by the parish on October 7, 1857.[224]

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[222] Minutes, parish meeting, March 8, 1858 (Records, Vol. I, p. 308); and Report of Committee on Prudential Affairs Appropriation for 1858 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 67).

[223] Letter "To the Standing Committee of the First Congregational Parish in the town of Quincy," September 1857 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 59).

[224] Minutes, parish meeting, October 7, 1857 (Records, Vol. I, p. 310).

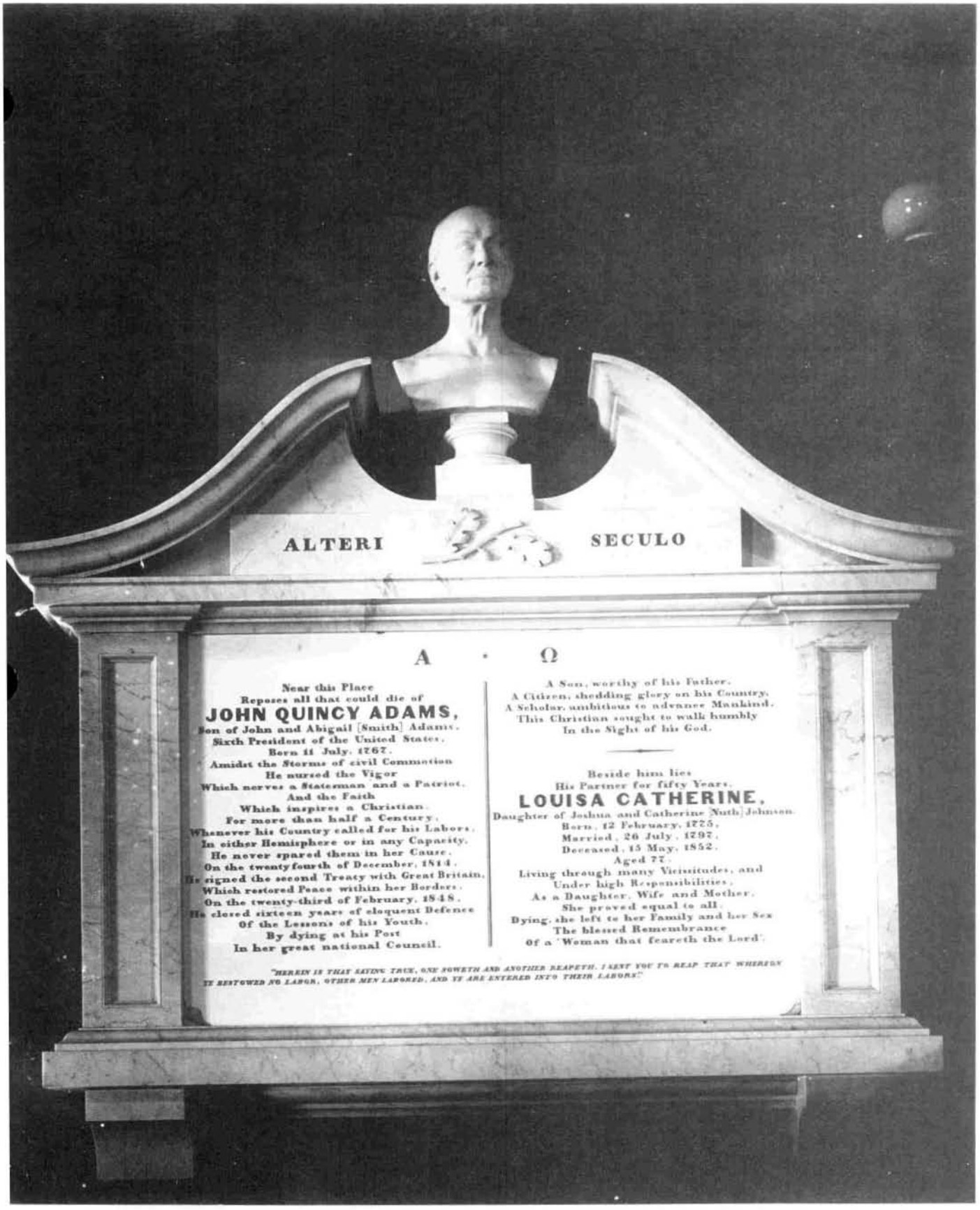



**Figure 38.** John Quincy Adams memorial tablet (photograph ca. 1900).

# THE RENOVATION OF 1859

No sooner had the memorial for Rev. Lunt been approved when friends of the late Rev. Peter Whitney, who had been the congregation's pastor when the Stone Temple was constructed, requested that a "Mural Monument" be erected in his memory "without any cost to the Society."[225] This request was approved by the parish on March 8, 1858.[226] There is no documented discussion on the matter, but it is possible that the decorative painting that existed on the walls and ceiling of the sanctuary from 1859 until after 1923 was a memorial to the late Rev. Peter Whitney, in addition to the marble tablet honoring him. Although the records did not cite contributions from others for specific work, neither did they do so when John Quincy Adams and Charles Francis Adams paid for the original Adams crypt and the enlargement of the crypt, respectively; only the requests were recorded. Furthermore, there is no other entry in the records for the decorative painting scheme. The only entry related to painting the walls is "fresco work on walls...5.00."[227] While this might suggest some sort of decorative painting, the cost was only $1.50 more than the price of varnishing the organ at the same time by the same person. It seems unlikely that the large decorative painting scheme, covering all of the sanctuary's plaster walls and ceiling, would cost so little— even in the mid-19th century.

By 1859 the church was in disrepair. The plaster had fallen, due to roof leaks, and damaged the organ; the belfry leaked; and the blinds and the portico required painting.[228] The congregation authorized repairs as long as they did not exceed $250.[229] Vouchers record work that was completed throughout June and July, and very little of it related to repairing actual leaks: seven days were spent plastering, the ceiling was dusted, and whitening and "Elastic cement" were applied; two packages of "Carpeting Paper" and one "Roll Malt" were purchased; and Mr. Litchfield was paid for painting the blinds and the lower and upper entries, for taking off and repairing the blinds, for painting doors, casings, and the "base inside of Church," for fresco work on walls, for varnishing the organ, for painting and puttying the bell deck, for resetting glass, for the "difference in expence [sic] between party colors & plain Paint," and for painting the second coat on the stairs and dado in the gallery. A total of $160.63 was expended for this work.[230] An additional $17.15 was paid to Mr. Brackett for locks, knobs, labor, a blacksmith's bill, screws, work on the blinds, and hooks and eyes for the doors.[231]

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[225] Warrant for meeting, February 25, 1858 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 66).

[226] Minutes, parish meeting, March 8, 1858 (Records, Vol. I, p. 310).

[227] Voucher, July 13, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 94).

[228] Parish Assessors Report, in minutes of parish meeting, June 6, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 351).

[229] Parish Assessors Report, in minutes of parish meeting, June 6, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 352).

[230] Vouchers, July 13 and 26, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 94).

[231] Receipt of payment, C.C. Brackett, November 22, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 102).

None of the above entries suggest that the sanctuary walls were painted, and yet a great deal of plastering work was required, which would have necessitated repainting. It seems unlikely that the replastering or patching was confined to the vestibules. Therefore one might presume that the friends of Rev. Whitney paid to have the walls painted in a decorative paint scheme, based on their request to install a "Mural Monument." The scheme that was applied was not what art historians today would call a mural: it was composed of geometric patterns formed by foliated stencils and stripings (figs. 39-40), and was very appropriate to the period.

At the same time the interior of the church was being repaired and painted, a proposal was before the congregation to alter the gallery pews. It voted to leave the matter in the hands of the parish assessors, and it is not known if any alterations occurred at this time. However, the floor levels in the gallery are not consistent.[232] One voucher from August 1859 seems odd in that it was for cleaning the cellar, when it is believed that the cellar at this time was only a dirt floor and stone foundation walls.[233] Possibly it was the crypt that was cleaned. The furnace was also repaired in 1859.[234]

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[232] Minutes, parish meeting, July 11, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 354).

[233] Voucher, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 95).

[234] Voucher, October 25, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 99).




**Figure 39.** Sanctuary, looking east, showing decorative painting on walls and ceiling (photograph January 24, 1923).



**Figure 40.** Sanctuary, looking west, showing decorative painting on walls and ceiling (photograph January 24, 1923).

Attention to the roof and leaks apparently had been deferred until the following year, when a report was filed that recorded the condition of the church, documented the title to the grounds, and chronicled the bell and assessed the condition of its framework:

> ...the house is in a very good condition with the exception of some slight leakages through which snow is occasionally driven, and which occasions the Sexton much trouble to remove from the ceiling, but they may be remedied at a small expense.... As to land around and on which the House stands which was [formerly] called the Training field...as to the title to the same, We find the Town accepted the report of a Committee appointed by the Town...reported that the title of the Parish was "legal, clear, and without any incumberance [sic] whatever." This report is recorded in the Town Records Apl. 2d-1827....
>
> We find that the present Bell was exchanged in the year 1811 for two other Bells, and a balance of $129.37 paid by the Town, as at that time all Parochial expenses were paid. We find the frame work of Bell much worn and decayed, and the hanging of the Bell such as to make the ringing of it very laborious, and as it is used by the Town every day, We think it should keep it in repair and have it working in such a manner as to make the ringing of it more easy, or it might be exchanged at a few hundred dollars expence [sic] for a heavier one, and so cast as to be hung in an Iron Axle & frame. We have particulary [sic] examined the roof work of the Meeting house in company with Mr. Charles C. Brackett a carpenter acquainted with the frame work, and he considered it as strong as it could be made, and perfectly secure, in which opinion we concur.[235]

Interestingly enough, the warrant for the parish annual meeting of 1860 called for votes "To authorize the Parish Assessors to make such repairs to the ceiling as may be necessary to prevent its falling" and "To consider and adopt measures in relation to a new bell or for repairing the frame work of the present bell."[236] If plaster repairs were made during seven days in 1859, but the roof repair was delayed, was the plaster damaged again? Apparently it was, and the congregation never had made the direct connection between the leaky roof and falling plaster. At the meeting the parish voted to turn over the issue of the ceiling to the Parish Assessors, and voted to appoint a three-man committee "to act with the Selectmen in putting up a new Bell in the place of the old one and that they be authorised [sic] to expend a sum of Money not exceeding one hundred & fifty dollars."[237]

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[235] Report of parish committee, February 14, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 110).

[236] Warrant for parish meeting, March 7, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 116).

[237] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1860 (Records, Vol. I, p. 369).

The parish assessors apparently took immediate action regarding the roof, since a voucher for roof repairs survives, dated May 11, 1860. Once again a Boston roofer was called to make the repairs, which included 25 slates, zinc, nails, and three days' work.[238] A voucher also exists from about the same time for work done on two doors of the church, but the specifics of the work were illegible.[239]

The bell replacement was also immediate, based on two bills relating to the bell and belfry. One shows that a Boston firm was paid $30 for rigging and "putting up Bell on church," less $7.50 for "Repairing Roof &c."[240] (The latter figure represents a credit; perhaps the riggers damaged the roof during the removal of the old bell or the installation of the new bell.) The second indicates that Charles Brackett was paid $19.64 for work throughout May that included "Stock in Attic," "Timber in Belfrey," "Horse hire to Neponset," and labor for himself and for Josiah Adams.[241] However, since no bill was found for the actual purchase of the bell, the town of Quincy may have paid for it.

Other work bills were submitted in 1860, some for unspecified repairs. Specific repair bills included work for a "Window Line" and "3/4 day on Windows"; Benjamin Bass' repair of the furnace; Richard Newcomb's services for fixing the bell; and L. Litchfield's "pointing and Puttying circular window," "Resetting/Light glass over door 29 x 3," and "resetting 3 Lt glass in sellar [sic] windows."[242]

The congregation's minutes of their annual meeting held in March 1861 revealed that during the previous fiscal year, cash had been paid for the "Ceilor [sic] and repairs on Church," which may have related to the 1859 interior repairs; Mr. Litchfield had not been paid for his painting.[243] Mr. Litchfield still remained unpaid by the next annual meeting held in March 1862.[244]

More roof work was accomplished in 1861. Peter Donald again was hired for repairs, this time for replacing 20 feet of "Imperial Slate" and 14 pounds of zinc during two days' work.[245] Ten pounds of cement was also purchased at this time, but whether it accompanied the roof work

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[238] Voucher to Peter Donald, Slate and Tin Roofer, 81 Essex St., Boston, May 11, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 120).

[239] Voucher to Henry G. Pratt, Jr., May 8, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 120).

[240] Voucher to Henry N. Hooper & Co. (58 Commercial St.; Factory 66 Causeway St.), copper dealers and founders, May 15, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 121).

[241] Voucher to Chas. C. Brackett, May 17 to May 23, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 134).

[242] Vouchers and bills (Documents, Vol. II, pp. 123, 129, and 134-137).

[243] Minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1861 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 381-382).

[244] Minutes, parish meeting, March 10, 1862 (Records, Vol. I, p. 387).

[245] Bill from Peter Donald, April 20 and 29, 1861 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 144).

or was for repointing purposes is not known.[246] Window work was also begun during 1861 and it carried into 1862. Fees for a "window line" (sash cord?), labor on windows, and hanging a window were paid to C.C. Brackett, while J.T. and W.V. Hayward were paid for setting glass of various sizes.[247] On the interior, the most notable repair involved the oiling and repairing of the gallery clock.[248]

The roof leaks continued, as documented in the minutes of the 1863 annual meeting, coming from the "Tower and other places."[249] Roof repairs presumably were deferred, unless a general entry in the 1863 *Report of Parish Assessors* for "sundry bills for repairs - $49.34" relates to some roof work.[250] Window work from April through December included "hanging 2 windows & work on curtain," "hanging window," "trimings [sic] on pulpit curtain," "labor on curtains," "job on celler [sic] windows," and "18 screws."[251] More glass lights were also replaced during the last half of 1863,[252] and again in November 1864.[253]

In 1864, work on and presumably around the pulpit was completed. The entries "stock and work on pulpit" and "trimings [sic] on pulpit curtain" obviously relate directly to the pulpit, while "Laying carpet, brss [sic] naills [sic] stock & labor 3.04" may relate to the area around the pulpit. The small cost of the latter suggests a smaller space than the whole of the sanctuary, and the fact that pulpit work was progressing simultaneously, suggests that the carpet work may have occurred in the same area.[254] It is not known exactly what repairs or changes were made to the pulpit, but based on the references, all of the textiles here may have been replaced.

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[246] Bill from Bailey, Baxter & Co., April 19, 1861 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 146).

[247] Vouchers to C.C. Brackett (Documents, Vol. II, p. 158), and to J.T. and W.V. Hayward, December 31, 1862 (p. 163). Glass light sizes included (in inches) 8 by 19, 9 by 13, 8 by 23, 8 by 10, and 7 by 9.

[248] Voucher to John O. Holden, December 14, 1861 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 150).

[249] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1863 (Records, Vol. I, p. 397).

[250] Report of Parish Assessors, 1863 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 167).

[251] Bills from C.C. Brackett, April 16, July 4, September 17, and December 1863. In an envelope of bills, dated 1864 and pasted to page 176 of Documents, Vol. II.

[252] Bill from J.T. and W.V. Hayward, December 1863. In an envelope of bills, dated 1863 and pasted to page 166 of Documents, Vol. II. Glass light sizes include (in inches) 15 by 21, 7 by 9, and 15 1/2 by 21 3/4.

[253] Bill from J.T. & W.V. Hayward dated November 22 (Bill envelope, 1864). Glass light sizes were (in inches) 10 by 23 1/2 and 7 by 9.

[254] Bills from "Wm Parker" dated 1864 and N.B. Furnald dated July 16, 1864 (Bill envelope, 1864).

Only minor repairs took place during 1865, a situation which by then was fairly standard. Fifty cents was paid for "paint & labor" and also for "setting glass." Additionally, a window line was replaced, 11 more glass lights were replaced, and Mr. Holden again repaired the gallery clock.[255] Mr. Furnald also billed the congregation $2.20 for "labor, tacks, keys knobs labor" on March 13,[256] 11 days after the parish voted at its annual meeting:

> That all persons Occupying the cellar under the Church for the purpose of storage for Sleighs pay the sum of three dollars for the double Sleigh, and two dollars for a single one and that said Sleighs be held for the payment of the same.
>
> Also that Mr Flint- be authorised and instructed to procure propper [sic] Locks for the Doors and take charge of the Keys, and collect the pay for the storage of all Sleigs [sic].[257]

Mr. Furnald may have replaced the locks at Mr. Flint's request, in order to protect the money derived from the sleigh storage.

The year 1866 was more active, involving furnace work, roof work (repair of 55 feet of slate), and mason work (possibly also related to the furnace), along with the usual glass replacement and Mr. Furnald's "labor and tacks."[258] Additional glass replacement was done by Mr. Faxon, who also painted and repaired the cellar windows and the cellar door.[259] One unusual entry was for 12-1/2 yards of cord, one pulley, and labor.[260] While this entry initially appears to relate to some type of hoist, it may instead have represented a repair or installation of the mechanism that operated the bellows for the organ. Remnants of this device, including a pulley, still are extant in the second-story vestibule.

The church's first surviving gas bill covered the period from July 1 to December 1, 1867. During that time period 7,400 cubic feet of gas was used, amounting to a charge of $44.40.[261] This bill suggests that gas was first introduced into the church in 1867. While no specific bills have

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[255] Bills from J.T. & W.V. Hayward, June 1, C.C. Brackett, November 20, J.T. & W.V. Hayward, December 4, and John O. Holden, December 11. In an envelope of bills, dated 1865 and pasted to page 180 of Documents, Vol. II.

[256] Bill from N.B. Furnald, March 13, 1865. In an envelope of bills, dated 1867 and pasted to page 195 of Documents, Vol. II.

[257] Minutes, parish meeting, March 2, 1866 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 3-5).

[258] Bills from C.F. Pierce, February 21, Peter Donald, July 7, J.T. & W.V. Hayward, December 31. All in an envelope of bills, dated 1866 and pasted to page 180 of Documents, Vol. II; and bills from B.F. Bass, March 31, July 14, September 14, and November 14, 1866, and from N.B. Furnald, May 19, 1866 (Bill envelope, 1867).

[259] Bill from H.H. Faxon, June 12, 1867, for work November 14-15, 1866 (Bill envelope, 1867).

[260] Bill from N.B. Furnald, November 16, 1866 (Bill envelope, 1867).

[261] Gas bill, July 1 to December 1, 1867 (Bill envelope, 1867.)

survived that chronicle the installation of the gas pipes, one bill from H.H. Faxon records a charge for 2 days' labor for "carpentering" and an additional charge for nails and iron brackets.[262]

A painting campaign and minor roof repairs occurred during October 1867. Mr. Faxon charged the parish for screws, setting glass, 131 pounds of paint, zinc, glass, tar paper, nails, cement, lumber, roman cement, and labor, of which three days was specified for painting.[263] It is not known whether this painting campaign was directed at the interior or exterior of the structure. Based on the other entries from the same time period that appear to be oriented to exterior work, one might assume that it was an exterior painting campaign. Other repairs appear to be minor in nature, including those by Messrs. Faxon and Brackett for window and window line work,[264] by Mr. Holden returning once again to repair the church clock, and by the Haywards for setting glass.[265]

Two dozen gas chimneys were added to the decor early in 1868, along with new carpeting (33 1/2 yards) in March. Cleaned pew carpets were put down by Mr. Flint in June, and some new globes (probably glass lighting accessoreies) and pew cushions were purchased in September.[266] The trend to spruce up the interior continued into 1869. More pew cushions were purchased; Mr. Faxon made substantial repairs to the meetinghouse ($73.99 worth, but the nature of the repairs is not known); Mr. Flint fixed windows, cleaned, and put down two additional pew carpets; and one dozen additional gas chimneys and one dozen "cm rough crg globes" were purchased.[267] Mr. Furnald also accomplished a fair amount of work at the church throughout 1869, when he installed one dozen hooks, bought "stock" (building materials?), painted, made a platform, installed 1 1/4 yards of carpeting, made a (chimney?) cricket, installed 4 1/2 yards of oil cloth, and repaired the organ.[268] He also repaired the pulpit settee, locks, and a sash cord, and installed paper tacks.[269]

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[262] Bill from H.H. Faxon, January 1, 1868, for work February 27-28, 1867. In an envelope of bills, dated 1868 and pasted to page 201 of Documents, Vol. II.

[263] Bill from H.H. Faxon, January 1, 1868, for work October 1 and 26-28, 1867 (Bill envelope, 1868).

[264] Bill from H.H. Faxon, January 1, 1868, for work December 21, 1867, and from C.C. Brackett, December 1867 (Bill envelope, 1868).

[265] Bills from John O. Holden, March 16, and from J.T. & W.V. Hayward, December 24 (Bill envelope, 1867).

[266] Bills from S.A. Stetson, January 18, 1868, from N.B. Furnald for carpeting, March 9, 1869, and from Frank Flint, June 13, 1868 (Bill envelope, 1868). Also, Report on Committee Finance Matters, entries dated September 1, 1868, to S.A. Stetson & Co. and September 8, 1868, to Abel Wright (Documents, Vol. II, p. 204).

[267] Report on Committee on Finance Matters, entries of February 22 and March 1, 1869 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 204). Also, bills from F. Flint, December 1, 1868-March 1, 1869, from Whitney and Tappen, February 1, 1869, and from S.A. Stetson, September 27, 1869; all in an envelope of bills dated 1869 and pasted on page 210 of Documents, Vol. II. The globes probably related to lighting fixtures, but what "cm rough crg globes" meant is not known.

[268] Bill from N.B. Furnald with entries dated March 11 and 18, April 18, May 2, July 8 and 18, and December 26 (Bill envelope, 1869).

Other work was performed by Thomas Kelly (repair of $10 worth of slate in September);[270] Whitney & Nash charged for "Steps. Shovel &c;" and Jacob Flint charged for washing the pulpit curtains.[271] Finally, Amos Litchfield worked 27 days before the end of December, charging the church for labor, 550 feet of hard pine, 330 feet of lumber, 350 feet of something not decipherable, 75 pounds of nails, 2 locks, cement, carting, and the use of staging.[272] Litchfield's work is only referred to as "repairs on church" in other documents, but represented a substantial amount of work. Unfortunately, nothing in the extant structure is clearly datable to this time period.

Bills from 1870 chronicle additional work.[273] John Holden returned to repair the gallery clock. Argand chimneys were ordered, along with four burners.[274] Mr. Furnald was "covering pew cushions, [installing or repairing] green baize and repairing springs, locks, windows, the double doors, and the carpet sweeper."[275] Bills submitted by a Mr. Turner suggest that his work was concentrated primarily on one window opening, replacing the sill and rehanging its sash, and secondarily on repairing a cellar window.

More interesting work occurred the following year, in that Keating and Spear remodeled pew No. 9 by widening the seat, providing 13 feet of new cushions and 5 yards of carpeting (presumably for the same pew). Significant repairs were made to the organ in the spring, and Mr. Furnald repaired a chair, bookcase, and lock (presumably the lock was associated with the bookcase) in November. Mr. Hersey reset a total of 31 sash lights in December. Citizens Gas Light Company was active at the church site throughout the year, including repairing a street lantern in February and

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[269] Bill from N.B. Furnald for work July 1, August 11 and 24, September 30, and November 18, 1869. In an envelope of bills, dated 1870 and pasted onto page 223 of Documents, Vol. II. The reference to paper tacks is not definable at this time.

[270] Bill from Thomas Kelly, September 21 (Bill envelope, 1869). Also, minutes, parish annual meeting, March 21, 1870 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 41).

[271] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 21, 1870 (Records, Vol. 2, pp. 41-42).

[272] Bill from Amos Leitchfield (Litchfield?), December 29 (Bill envelope, 1869).

[273] Bill from Mr. Turner. In an envelope of bills, dated 1870 and pasted onto page 223 of Documents, Vol. II.

[274] It is not known why the parish needed to supplement their gas lighting with Argand lamps. These had hollow wicks and burned fatty fuels; they had been available as lighting fixtures during the previous 87 years, chronologically preceding gas lighting in the history of lighting technology. From Roger W. Moss, *Lighting for Historic Buildings* (Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1988), pp. 75-80.

[275] Baize can be either "a coarsely woven woolen or cotton fabric napped to imitate felt and dyed in solid colors," or "a baize drapery, table cover, or lining for furniture." From Philip Babcock Gove, Ph.D., ed., Webster's Third New International Dictionary (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 1986), p. 164. Two separate entries specify 5 1/2 yards of fabric with labor and spring repair. These entries could refer to reupholstering chairs, but later references suggest that baize was used to cover the swinging interior doors that lead to the sanctuary from the vestibule. It should also be noted that the history of technology regarding carpet sweepers is not known, but this may have been an early model.

a gas torch in May, and installing 52 feet of pipe in November, along with three Argand chimneys.[276]

Thomas Kelly made roof repairs in 1872, and possibly in the fall of 1871 as well. He used 24 new slates along with tar paper, cement, and nails.[277] One company supplied 24 latches, but whether they were for windows, pews, or something else is not known.[278] Peter Turner accomplished considerable repairs throughout the end of 1871 and the beginning of 1872. Most of them were for windows, including the cellar windows and large windows, work on a door, and repair or installation of the scuttle in the roof.[279] While the February scuttle work appears to have been extensive, the work was insufficient. Turner returned in March to paint the scuttle and to build what appears to have been scaffolding; actual "work on leak" did not begin again until June, when he used 31 pounds of lead and some slate in the repair.[280]

More sash lights were replaced, window blinds were repaired, work to ease the sashes was accomplished, and a coal bin was constructed.[281] The gas company also supplied a torch and four Argand burners, repaired a lamp post and lantern, and supplied six porcelain globes for the pulpit. One lantern was also supplied by Furnald and Company.[282] However, the most extensive work by far was what appears to have been the replacement of the entire slate roof. Horace Jenkins billed the church $332.05 for 51 1/2 days work, with materials including cement, sand, oil cement, and slating.[283]

Several record entries documented work on or to the furnishings throughout the 1870s. More carpet and cushions (for at least pews No. 70 and 64) were purchased in 1872,[284] and the 1872 collection of bills hinted that shades may have used in the church. Mr. Furnald charged the church

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[276] Bills from Citizens Gas Light Company. In an envelope of bills, dated 1871 and pasted onto page 223 of Documents, Vol. II.

[277] Bill from Thos. Kelly, January 22, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 225).

[278] Bill from Tirrell & Sons, February 24, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 227).

[279] Bills from Peter B. Turner (Documents, Vol. II, p. 228).

[280] Bill from Peter B. Turner, entries dated March 19 and 22, and June 6, 8, and 10, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 239).

[281] Bills from H.T. & W.V. Hayward, July 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 236); and from Peter B. Turner, July 18, 19, and 25, and October 3, 1872 (p. 239).

[282] Bills from Citizens Gas Light Company, May 1, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 234), September 18, 1872 (p. 237), and December 9, 1872 (p. 243); and from T.E. Furnald & Company, November 27, 1872 (p. 241).

[283] Bill from Horace Jenkins, December 16, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 244).

[284] Bills from E.H. Dewson, May 23, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 234); and from Lewis Bass, June 21, 1872 (p. 235).

for 2 1/3 yards of green holland and paper tacks.[285] Holland is "a cotton or linen fabric in plain weave usually heavily sized or glazed and used for window shade, bookbinding, clothing."[286] The fact that paper tacks were purchased simultaneously suggests that the holland may have been used for shade material and tacked down. Keating and Spear furnished stock and labor on cushions, 6 yards of oil cloth, 3 yards of carpet and labor, charged "labor on curtain," repaired cushions in pew No. 23, and supplied new cushions in pews No. 26 and 103.[287] The firm of Ewell & Josephs supplied four "office cane seat chairs and 9 yards of cocoa matting, 3 yards of webbing, 1 paper 16 oz tinned tacks," installed new carpet, and took up and fitted old carpets.[288]

In March 1875, the parish voted to put "up a new Curtain, [and] New Carpets...,"[289] but it was not until five years later that bills reflected work relating to this vote. In May 1880, Winslow Burrell leveled the curtain pole, and later in the year took down and rehung curtains.[290] At about the same time, Samuel H. Spear issued a bill for marking ink, brushes, benzine, bottles of polish, 23 yards of green baize, and labor on doors.[291] The first four entries seem to pertain to cleaning supplies. Within days of Spear's work, Church's Naptha Cleansing Works issued a bill for renovating 13 feet of cushions, renovating and laying 600 yards of carpet, renovating and recovering 18 "powerishys" (not clear) and 25 other unknown items, and "beauting [sic] & Laying 141 yards of cocoss[?]ting."[292] The following month Edward Hixon & Co. put up curtains in the church.[293]

The parish committee reported that they had:

> ... found the church infested with moths and the coverings of many of the cushions destroyed.
>
> There was no time to lose here. We closed the church during the four weeks of Mr. Wilson's vacation thereby saving $100 appropriated for the supply of the pulpit, and at an expense of about $325- had all the cushions, carpets, and curtains, taken out and treated with naptha, the building thoroughly cleansed and the damaged cushions repaired.[294]

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[285] Bill from N.B. Furnald, June 1, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 224).

[286] Gove, *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, p. 1080.

[287] Bills from Keating & Spear for work September 17, 1872, and January 3, 1873, dated February 14, 1873 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 246); July 30, 1873 (p. 258); March 9 and April 18, 1874 (p. 273).

[288] Bills from Ewell & Josephs, May 29, 1874 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 277); and September 29, 1874 (p. 282).

[289] Minutes, parish meeting, March 8, 1875, adjourned to March 22, 1875 (Records, vol. 2, p. 82).

[290] Bills from Winslow Burrell, May 1 and August 20, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 318).

[291] Bill from Sam'l H. Spear, September 4, 1880, for work August 7-27 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 328).

[292] Bill from Church's Naptha Cleansing Works, September 1, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 327).

[293] Bill from Edward Hixon & Co., October 23, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 330).

[294] Report of Parish Assessors, March 14, 1881 (Records, Vol. II, p. 127).

This documentation supports and explains the information found in the bills.

Sash lights were repaired in 1873 and in 1880.[295] The gas-light company continued to supply equipment to the church, including a porcelain shade and a globe in 1874, and an opal globe and two lantern cocks in 1880.[296] Windows and blinds were cleaned in 1874 and 1880, and blinds were also repaired in both years.[297] Mr. Holden once again repaired the gallery clock in 1880.[298]

More extensive work was initiated at the 1875 annual meeting, when the parish authorized "...the repainting of the woodwork, and restoration of the Walk and ceiling of the Church, provided the same can be done without expense to the Parish" and "That the Parish Assessors attend to the repairs of the Church."[299] Either the woodwork repainting and walk and ceiling restorations were completed somehow without expense to the church, or no work was done, since no bills survive that document it. Whatever happened, three years later the parish assessors' report of 1878 recorded that "The Property of the Church is in good condition, the Roof that flanks the Tower covering the vestibule can we think for a small sum be made tight."[300]

As far as the roof was concerned, the parish hired Calvin Ryder to examine it in 1879.[301] No repair work began until 1880. Since the records suggest that the roof—at least the slated section—had been replaced in 1872, the later entries documented a continuing struggle with making the building weather-tight. The parish assessors had found:

> ... the roof in such bad order that immediate action was neccessary [sic] to prevent serious injury to the property That portion of the roof on the south side over the vestibule had decayed so that in every rain the water came through. the plastering in part of the Gallery vestibule had already fallen down.
>
> At an expense of 275.00 the roof was put in perfect order the plastering and paint renewed and the outside doors repainted....[302]

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[295] Bills from John W. Hersey, November 1873 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 263), and from J.R. & W.V. Hayward, December 31, 1880, for work on December 18, 1880 (p. 335).

[296] Bills from Citizen's Gas-Light Company, September 1874 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 275); undated bill filed with 1874 bills (p. 278); and August 28 and September 16, 1880 (p. 327).

[297] Bills from Daniel Bucher (Documents, Vol. II, p. 282), from Geo. O. Langley, June 18, 1880 (p. 321), Treasurer's Report 1875 (p. 289), and from E.H. Dewson, June 22, 1880 (p. 321).

[298] Bill from John O. Holden, July 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 322).

[299] Minutes, parish meeting, adjourned meeting of March 22, 1875 (Records, Vol. 2, pp. 82-83).

[300] Report of Parish Assessors: report of appropriation for 1878 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 305).

[301] Bill from Calvin Ryder, August 25, 1879 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 310).

[302] Report of the Parish Assessors, in minutes of parish annual meeting, March 14, 1881 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 127).

Several contractors and suppliers participated in this work. John Farquhar's Sons, advertized as "Slate, Metal & Composition Roofers," installed 11 slates, 55 pounds of tar paper, and 84 tin sheets with 8 pounds of solder during April and June.[303] Benjamin C. Barlow spent six days throughout June and July installing 500 feet of "select Pine Matched," using 30 pounds of nails, 9 pounds of white lead and oil, 10 pounds of tar paper, and then an additional 42 feet of lumber.[304] E.F. Field supplied much of the metal, including 553 pounds of copper, 7,090 feet of tin, 72 pounds of sheet metal, and three boxes of cement. His work lasted 18 days throughout July and possibly into August.[305]

The quantities of the above supplies, especially the tin sheets and "select Pine Matched," suggest that the work was concentrated on only one side of the tower. As the parish assessors' report states, the "roof on the south side over the vestibule," or tower base, was most needy. The supplies would have been adequate to redo this small roof and resheath the flush-board south wall of the plinth. Unfortunately, this wall could not be reached for paint sampling during the preparation of this report. If paint samples could have been removed from this area, they might have proved that the wall's boarding was in fact replaced in 1880. (Samples from the north wall of the plinth suggest that its fabric is original: it displays paint-layering characteristics that might be interpreted as the original faux-painting applied to imitate granite.)

On September 13, William French submitted a bill for labor, mortar and skim coat, and staging and carting. The Haywards did not submit their August bill for painting and supplies until December 31. C.C. Brackett submitted a bill for "1 bunch of lathes [sic]" on January 1, 1881.[306] If these three bills suggest contemporary work, then one might presume that they represent the plaster finish work on the interior, accomplished in August and perhaps September. It is also interesting to note that the Haywards' bill charged the church for lead (presumably white lead pigment), yellow, red, and black Japan (or black and Japan), and bronze paint, along with various amounts of vehicle for the pigments. The quantities of these supplies suggest that some sort of limited decorative scheme may have been applied in the vestibule area where most of the damage required repair, but paint analysis was not able to substantiate this theory.

In order to subsidize the repairs, the church may have decided to solicit the Adams family for a contribution. While the actual solicitation was not found, two letters from Charles Francis Adams document that a request had been made, that Adams did not seem pleased to be asked initially, but that he donated $100 in spite of his misgivings.[307]

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[303] Bill from John Farquhar's Sons, July 31, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 324).

[304] Bill from Benj. C. Barlow, July 12, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 323).

[305] Bills from E.F. Field, July 15 and 30, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 322).

[306] Bills from William H. French, September 13 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 329), from J.T. & W.V. Hayward, December 31, 1880 (p. 335), and from C.C. Brackett, January 1, 1881 (p. 312).

[307] Letters, Charles Francis Adams to E.H. Dewson, January 29, 1881 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 338) and February 5, 1881 (p. 339).

An additional but perhaps minor repair to the roof was required in May 1881. Mr. Faxon was reimbursed for 5 gallons of roofing paint, 15 pounds of cement, and labor in order to make the repair.[308] During 1881 some changes were made in lighting. R. Hollings & Company supplied new pipe and other materials for the lighting, including those needed for "altering Post Lights to 3 Lt Brkts" (light brackets).[309] A portable stand was purchased; this was presumably some type of gaslight stand, since tubing, pipe, a union, cock tee, and elbow were also ordered.[310]

Various repairs were made to furnishings throughout the early 1880s. Minor repairs were made to the pulpit and pews, window shade(s) were repaired or supplied, a curtain was repaired, other work was done on "Curtains palliards," cushions were cleaned, and repairs were made to a shade, the pulpit, a curtain, a "map"(?), and locks and latches.[311] The windows and blinds received attention in 1882 when Mr. Starbuck took down blinds, Messrs. Watson and Bordman washed the windows and oiled the blinds, Mr. Faxon washed the blinds, and Mr. Spear supplied two screens for cellar windows.[312] Mr. Faxon also made minor repairs to the roof in 1882, as well as bought stock for and painted the sides of a sleeper, indicating a stairway of some type (location not known).[313] Minor painting occurred in 1882, using lamp black and oil; 1 1/2 days' worth of masonry work occurred, probably in 1882, using mortar and plaster of paris; the bellows was repaired; and the coal sieve and door were repaired in 1883.[314]

The saga of repairs to the upper sections of the exterior did not end in 1880. The annual meeting held in March 1882 chronicled that "We have been obliged to exceed the appropriation. Unexpected repairs on the belfry cost 295.83."[315] The bills from the summer of 1881 show the extent of work, but the specifics can only be presumed from the evidence. J.F. Marshall charged 6 1/2 days' labor on the belfry. Edwin S. Carr, advertized as working in "Slate Tin and Copper Roofing," listed his quantities of materials and hours of labor, but not where they were installed. In all, for those entries seemingly related to roof work, Carr supplied 537 pounds of 16-ounce copper, a "Chimney Top," 91 pounds of solder, 19 pounds of galvanized nails, 173 pounds of tar paper, 173 pounds of sheet lead, and 37 pounds of cement. For entries seemingly related to gutter

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[308] Bill from W.L. Faxon, May 20, 1881 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 337).

[309] Bill from R. Hollings & Co., October 7, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 17).

[310] Bill from Citizens Gas Light Co., December 23, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 23).

[311] Bills from Edw'd A. Spear, December 10, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 20), from D.J. Roche, February 1882 (p. 24), from E.A. Spear, August 1, 1882 (p. 46) and March 8, 1883 (p. 63), from J. Flint, August 2, 1883 (p. 73), and from E.A. Spear, August through October 1883 (p. 76).

[312] Bills from G.W. Starbuck, February 15, 1882 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 25), from Chas. Watson & A.P. Bordman, June 7, 1882 (p. 37), from W.L. Faxon, June 10, 1882 (p. 38), and from E.A. Spear, August 1, 1882 (p. 46).

[313] Bill from W.L. Faxon, June 10, 1882 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 38).

[314] Bills from Whitney Nash, 1882 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 52), from William H. French, January 1, 1883 (p. 57), from Hook & Hastings, March 16, 1883 (p. 68), and from John A. Pratt, April 1, 1883 (p. 69).

[315] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 13, 1882 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 135).

work, he supplied 104 pounds of galvanized iron for gutters, plus an additional 13 pounds of galvanized iron, 74 feet of 4-inch galvanized iron conductor, 8 conductor brackets, 2 heads and 2 elbows, 31 pounds of iron rods, solder, rivets, 59 pounds of sheet lead, 132 pounds of cement, and 49 pounds of #10 zinc.[316] It is difficult to ascertain from these entries if the roof and gutter work was restricted to the belfry; no other record of roof work on the main structure for 1881 has survived in the church records. The day after Carr finished his work, one Mr. Merrill recorded a charge to the church for painting, using only 10 pounds of paint and a half day's labor.[317] These amounts could be consistent with painting the belfry.

Evidence supporting the belief that Carr's 1881 work applied to the belfry and not the main structure included the minutes of the annual meeting held in the spring of 1882. These chronicled that the roof was again in poor condition:

> ...early in the summer our attention was called to the unsafe condition of the roof. We employed Mr Jon.a Preston a well known expert to examine it carefully. We have here his report with plans and specifications. The cost is estimated at $1200 to $1500. We recommend immediate action on this subject.[318]

The "immediate action" took a year and a half to materialize. In August 1883 Edwin Carr was contracted "for Stripping and relaying Slate on roof of Unitarian Church in Quincy" for $550. The final bill came to $1,064.79. In the report of the parish assessors for 1884, the reasons for the overrun became more clear:

> The repairs exceeded the estimate 576.12. It was intended only to renew the slates, but on removing them it was found that there was an opportunity to restore the roof to its proper shape at a cost of $600- thereby saving a much greater expense that would soon have to be incurred to make it safe.[319]

This great expense suggests that major roof work was accomplished at this time.

Beginning with 1885, the chronological records in the archival material relating to repairs becomes very general. It is only known that during the church's respective fiscal years that ended each March, $71.25 had been spent for repairs in the year ending in 1885, $32.60 for the year

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[316] Bills from J.F. Marshall, July 30, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 11), and from Edwin S. Carr, July 11, 1881 (p. 12).

[317] Bill from Amrett Merrill, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 16).

[318] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 13, 1882 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 135).

[319] Report of Parish Assessors, 1884 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 85).

ending in 1886, $82.37 for the year ending in 1887,[320] $76 for the year ending in 1888,[321] and $166.85 for the year ending in 1889.[322]

A very specific bequest was given to the church in 1885. When Thomas Adams died he bequeathed $10,000 to the "Religious Society worshipping in the Stone Church Edifice in Quincy," with the provision that "the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, or his family, within two years from the death of my [Thomas'] wife give to said society a like sum for the same purpose."[323] The family of the late Charles F. Adams agreed to the terms in 1886, but with their own provisions:

> The family of Mr. Charles Francis Adams would wish that the Parish might be willing to empower certain suitable members thereof to enter into such sufficient trust covenants in writing by way of deed or otherwise as may be found most convenient to effectually bind the beneficiaries of this joint fund forever somewhat as follows:
> 1st That this principle sum of twenty thousand dollars be called the "Adams fund for the support of public worship in the Stone Temple in Quincy," shall be set apart in the hands of three trustees, who shall securely invest the same and who shall from time to time re-invest and care for the same without cost or charge to the fund.
> 2nd That they shall from time to time pay over the entire net income thereof from year to year for the support of public worship in the stone church edifice which your Society now occupies....[324]

The society voted to accept all monies and attached terms; the principle would stay untouched.[325]

This bequest was being accepted at the same time as a new chapel was being planned and possibly constructed. While the principle of the bequest would not directly benefit the construction of the chapel, the interest earned from it would certainly provide money to ease the burden of operating the church. Initially, the interest was earned from three mortgages arranged by the investors prior to the annual meeting of March 14, 1887.[326] This investment practice continued for several years.

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[320] Treasurer's Reports, 1885 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 90), 1886 (p. 92), and 1887 (p. 99).

[321] Treasurer's Report, March 12, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103).

[322] Treasurer's Report, 1889 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 144).

[323] Letter presented by the trustees of the estate of Thomas Adams to the Treasurer of the Unitarian Society, dated March 6, 1885, in the minutes of a parish meeting held January 10, 1887, adjourned to January 25, 1887 (Records, Vol. 2, pp. 159-161).

[324] Letter from the family of the late Charles Francis Adams dated December 29, 1886, to the Standing Committee of the First Unitarian Parish of Quincy, in the minutes of a parish meeting held January 10, 1887, adjourned to January 25, 1887 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 161-162).

[325] Letter from the family of the late Charles Francis Adams, dated December 29, 1886 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 163-164).

[326] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 14, 1887 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 169).

# THE CHAPEL ADDITION

Some members of the church's congregation were interested in providing additional space for Sunday School classes. The first indication of this interest surfaced in a warrant for a parish meeting that was dated February 27, 1875:[327]

> Art. 8 To see whether the Parish will authorise the Sunday School to construct at their own expense a Chapel, on the Church grounds or a Vestry underneath the church.[328]

The initial parish meeting was postponed for two weeks, when it was voted "to indefinitely postpone the article in the warrant relating to a chapel or Vestry."[329] However, the proponents of the new space were persistent, because a warrant for a special meeting was issued in June: "To see if the Parish will permit the Trustees of the Chapel Fund to construct rooms for the accommodation of the Sunday School in the basement of the church."[330] Their persistence was to no avail, since the members of the congregation voted "Not to grant the request of the Trustees of the 'Chapel Fund' to Construct Rooms in the basement of the Church for the accomodation [sic] of the 'Sunday School,' by a vote of 11 Yeas & 13 Naes."[331]

The same issue resurfaced in 1880. At this time the warrant requested "if the Parish will allow the Chapel Committee to erect a Chapel in the rear of the Church on land belonging to the Parish."[332] The parish voted "to indefinately [sic] postpone art[icle] 9th in relation to building a Chapel in the rear of the Church," but chose Dr. W.L. Faxon, J.M. Gilson, and Gen. L. Gill to form a committee to find "a site for the Chapel and report at the next meeting."[333]

One bill, dated April 9, 1881, has survived from this period. It was from John Lyman Faxon, Architect, whose relationship to Dr. Faxon is not known. The work represented in the bill pertains

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[327] Edward H. Dewson, "The Story of the 'Building of the Chapel,'" February 14, 1889 (Documents, Vol. III, pp. 110-116). This later entry related that the first meeting "to consider the plan of erecting a Chapel for the use of the S. School" was held in 1870. A church fair was held in October 1870, which raised $2,700. No additional information regarding the chapel is recorded until 1875.

[328] Warrant for parish meeting, dated February 27, 1875 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 287).

[329] Minutes, parish meeting, March 22, 1875 (Records, Vol. II, p. 82).

[330] Warrant for parish meeting dated June 24, 1875 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 290).

[331] Minutes, parish meeting, July 6, 1875 (Records, Vol. II, p. 84).

[332] Warrant for meeting March 8, 1880, in the minutes of parish meeting, February 26, 1880 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 119-120).

[333] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 8, 1880 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 122-123).

to "Pew Plans" and "Frames."[334] Although the plans have not been found, they may have shown the framing of an addition with an altered pew arrangement, which would have been required if access from the sanctuary to an east addition was required.

The whole issue was again deferred until 1883, when the warrant for the annual meeting included an article "To see if the meeting will take any action in regard to building a Chapel on land belonging to the Parish."[335] At the meeting a vote was taken to appoint another committee of five parishioners to "take into consideration the whole matter relating to the building of a Chapel."[336] The meeting was then adjourned for two weeks when the committee presented the following report:

> 1st That this meeting authorize the erection of a building for a Chapel and other uses of the society on land belonging to the Parish. After discussing the question for some time it was voted to accept and adopt the report the vote being 26 in favor and 12 against the same.
> Voted That a committee of thirty five (35) of which twenty two (22) shall be gentlemen and eighteen (18) ladies be appointed to petition the Town to discontinue the public right of way upon the Parish Land in the rear of the Church, and procure suitable plans for a Chapel building, to raise money by subscription and gifts and to build the Chapel after sufficient money has been raised to cover a fair estimation of the cost and to do whatever is necessary to be done on the premises.[337]

The only record of the chapel's construction process was found in an account written in 1889, after construction was completed. This account states that not until March 1887 was it "decided to erect a wooden building in the rear of the church at an estimated cost of Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-five Dollars ($12,995)."[338] Mr. Charles F. Adams objected to the wooden addition, for which the estimate was prepared:

> Mr. Charles F. Adams ... feared that such a structure would be a disfigurement to the church.
>
> The discussion that ensued between the chairman of the committee and Mr. Adams, resulted in the following letter, with its generous proposition, from Mr. Adams.
>
> "My dear Sir:-
>
> I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 29th., enclosing a letter from Mr. Parker showing the cost of a stone, as also, of

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[334] Bill from John Lyman Faxon, April 9, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 4).

[335] Warrant for annual meeting March 12, 1883, in minutes of parish meeting March 1, 1883 (Records, Vol. II, p. 140).

[336] Warrant for annual meeting March 12, 1883, in minutes of parish meeting March 1, 1883 (Records, Vol. II, p. 140).

[337] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1883, adjourned to March 28, 1883 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 142-144).

[338] Dewson, "Building of the Chapel."

> a wooden building, for the chapel, to be built upon the rear of the stone church at Quincy.
>
> I have examined these figures and now have to repeat what I remember I said last summer. I will agree to pay the difference between construction in stone and construction in wood which according to Mr. Parker's estimate amount to some Forty-three Hundred Dollars ($4,300.) if the balance of the money is raised by the parish from other sources. This would have to be accepted as the contribution to this edifice on the part of all my family, as I do not think the other members of it should be called upon to contribute additional sums...."[339]

This letter provided the first reference to Mr. Parker, the architect, and indicated the original intention was of a wooden addition. Mr. Parker was Charles Edward Parker, a Boston architect, listed as doing business at 39 Court Street in the 1881 *Boston Business Directory*.[340] Parker was listed in the annual directories from 1847 to 1849, from 1850 to 1853 with the firm of Bond and Parker, and again individually from 1853 to 1884.[341] The latter may suggest that he was semi-retired when he agreed to design the church addition in 1887.

While no actual minutes of any committee meetings relative to the construction of the new stone chapel survived with other church records, a set of drawings has (Appendix A). The following note appears on the drawing that depicts the proposed east and north elevations:

> These are the plans referred to in a contract entered into this sixth day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and eighty seven by and between the undersigned,
> EA [Perkins] E.H. Dewson Chairman of Committee
> In presence of Chas. Edw. Parker August 6, 1888

It is somewhat disconcerting that the dates on the drawing are inconsistent, and none of the other drawings in the set are dated. Since Charles F. Adam's letter was written on April 1, 1887, and work was begun in November 1887,[342] it might be assumed that the 1888 date was a mistake.

The 1889 account of the chapel's construction also states that the building committee had purchased railroad stock in 1882 with monies that had been raised very early in the building campaign. Near the completion of construction, the committee admitted that although it had initially invested wisely, earning more than $31 per share, it did not sell high and the stocks decreased in value by $1,200.[343] This, along with some underestimating, provided a shortfall of $1,316.

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[339] Letter, Charles F. Adams to E.H. Dewson, Esq., April 1, 1887, related in "Building of the Chapel."

[340] *Boston Business Directory*, No. XXI, (Boston: W.A. Greenough & Co., 1881); Massachusetts State House, Special Collections.

[341] Nancy Carlson Schrock, ed., *Directory of Boston Architects 1846-1970* (Cambridge, MA: Mass. COPAR, 1984).

[342] Dewson (Documents, Vol. III, pp. 110-116).

[343] Dewson (pp. 110-116).

The areas in which estimates were exceeded included plumbing, the cellar, extra stone work, the library, and miscellaneous items. In addition, "there still remain some things desirable to do that were not provided for in the plans of the architect." The library is noted on the plans as the "S.S. [Sunday School] Library" (see Appendix A). It is the room northeast of the Ladies' Parlor, now the service kitchen. "To complete the work as originally planned, there remain to be done Toilet rooms below, Cesspool and other items amounting to Five Hundred Forty-five dollars ($545.) that will bring the total cost up to $18,011.21." The committee prioritized a list of "desirable things remaining to be done":

| | |
|---|---|
| To lay floors and finish walls of toilet rooms | $150.00 |
| Wire protectors of basement window, | 50.00 |
| Frescoing of walls and ceilings, | 300.00 |
| Finishing the basement in wood, | 279.00 |
| Solid doors to church in place of the swinging "baize doors" | 30.00 |
| Total | $2,125.00 |

The congregation evidently did not agree with the priorities, and decided that the first two items on the list should be completed in the future, and that the money for all other work would be subscribed.[344]

Little else of a construction time line can be gleaned from the church's documentation. What is known is that construction began in November 1887, that the walls were partially raised prior to the onset of winter weather, and that construction was then postponed until the spring of 1888.[345] Three building-related issues were raised for the congregation's annual meeting on March 12, 1888. They included the request to alter the interior of the church to accommodate access directly from the sanctuary to the chapel, the request to "build a chimney at the rear of the church at an expense not exceeding seventy six dollars," and "to see what action the parish will take in regard to heating the church and chapel."[346]

The report of the parish assessors suggested that the access to the chapel from the sanctuary should be:

> through the east [south] Window at the rear of the Church. If this permission is granted, it will cause the removal of all the pews, on that side of the pulpit. In this connection we would state that there is a desire on the part of some to have the organ taken from its present place, and removed to the west [north] side of the pulpit, believing that the effect would be much better, whether the singing be congregational, or by Choir.
>
> The pews which would have to be removed are not a source of income to the parish, but might be, if removed to the front Gallerery [sic]. If this can be done without additional expense in the taxing of the pews, we

[344] Dewson (pp. 110-116).

[345] Dewson (pp. 110-116).

[346] Warrant for parish annual meeting March 12, 1888, dated February 28, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103).

> should heartily recommend that permission be given to make this change....[347]

The congregation voted to appropriate $100 to remove the pews on both sides of the pulpit, but only to the outside boundaries of the existing windows, as well as "the four pews in the front of the body of the house" in order to provide suitable access to the chapel.[348] This was the first of two, and possibly three, pew alterations to occur at the sanctuary level, as evidenced by the 1889 photograph in Wilson's book, *"The Chappel of Ease" and Church of Statesmen*.[349] The side pews were removed only to the outer edge of the new doorway, and the first row of front-facing pews in the center section were also removed.

It is presumed from this information that the parish assessors originally planned for only one doorway to access the chapel, and hoped that the organ would be relocated to the first story, but the renovation drawings clearly show two connecting doorways (Appendix A). Apparently the organ was never relocated, even though a vote passed to establish a committee "to consider the matter of changing the organ from its present location to one side of the pulpit."[350] Clearly the lower ends of the two east windows were converted to doorways, but the upper sections were not filled in at this time. Instead a grill-like panel filled the void above each new doorway in the former window opening. These openings were eventually filled in and plastered sometime prior to 1923.

The congregation also voted to build a chimney at the rear of the church, and to nominate a committee to deal with the issue of heating the church and chapel.[351] It is interesting to note that no chimney is evident "at the rear of the church" in any of Parker's drawings, nor do any framing plans accommodate a proposed or existing chimney. As will be explained in Chapter III ("Building History and Evolution: Specific Aspects"), the chimney of 1888 is believed to have been in the same location as the extant northwest chimney. This location would have required the architect to prepare alternative framing plans.

Other issues regarding the construction were not recorded in the church records. The chapel was dedicated on February 14, 1889,[352] but whether all planned work was completed by this time is not known.

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[347] Report of Parish Assessors, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103).

[348] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1888, adjourned to March 19, 1888 (Records, Vol. II, p. 175).

[349] Wilson, *"The Chappel of Ease"*, photograph dated September 29, 1889, p. 65.

[350] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1888, adjourned to March 19, 1888 (Records, Vol. III, p. 176).

[351] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1888, adjourned to March 19, 1888 (Records, Vol. III, p. 175).

[352] Dewson (pp. 110-116).

While construction was in progress, other persons were preparing to install railway (trolley) tracks, at least to the north of the church.[353] In 1889 it was suggested to regrade the land around the church and install a city fountain in the road to the north of the church.[354] These issues prompted a definition of land boundaries, which were undertaken and recorded by Edwin W. Marsh.[355] (See the previous section "Site History and Landscape Development.")

[353] Warrant for meeting June 4, 1888, dated May 21, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103).

[354] Warrant for meeting March 11, 1889, in minutes of parish meeting, February 12, 1889 (Records, Vol. II, p. 180).

[355] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 11, 1889 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 180); and "Examination of Title" by Edwin W. Marsh, April 22, 1889 (Documents, Vol. III, pp. 117-141).



**Figure 41.** View of Quincy (photograph ca. 1880s).

## ALTERATIONS IN THE 1890s

The treasurer's report of 1890 documents that the church paid a water bill, suggesting that a connection to a public water supply had recently been established. This coincided with the city's request to install a fountain on the triangular piece of land to the north, at Washington Street, in 1889. While further archival evidence was not pursued, the suggestion that might be drawn from these two entries is that the city of Quincy had recently installed a public water system. Unspecified repairs to the church for the same year totaled $181.59.[356]

The assessors' report of 1890-1891 declared that the "church building is in fair condition, and no extensive repairs are likely to be necessary in 1891." The report also documented that $164.28 had been spent in the category entitled "repairs and miscellaneous," but again no specifics were given.[357] The following year the report documented that $88.60 had been disbursed.[358]

The precedent had been set in previous years for the installation of commemorative plaques within the church, and the issue resurfaced in the beginning of 1891. The family of Rev. John Wheelwright requested and was granted permission to install a memorial tablet on the walls of the church, with approval of design and location resting with the parish assessors.[359]

The treasurer's report of 1892-1893 provided some of the most explicit repair data of the decade:

> A careful examination of the church building in the early spring of 1892 showed that the proper maintenance of your property required the painting of all the exterior wood-work. This was accordingly done in a most thorough manner, three coats of paint being applied. The tin roofs beneath the north and south faces of the clock were also repaired, resoldered and painted; while the top of the south chimney on the front of the church was taken down and the chimney cleared of an accumulation of brick and mortar which had obstructed the draft and caused the escape of gas into the church. The chimney was then rebuilt and supplied with an earthenware cap in place of the former sheet-iron hood. which by corrosion had tended to stain the exterior walls of the church. Minor repairs were also made upon the interior of the church.

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[356] Treasurer's Report, 1890 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 144).

[357] Assessors Report, 1890-1891 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 144).

[358] Treasurer's (Assessors) Report as of March 1, 1892 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 146).

[359] Letter from Wheelwright family, February 19, 1891, in minutes of parish annual meeting, March 9, 1891 (Records, Vol. II, p. 201); and minutes of parish annual meeting, March 9, 1891 (p. 202).

> After the erection of the staging required for painting the belfry, your assessors succeeded in inducing the municipal authorities, at the expense of the city, to repaint the faces and regild the hands and dial figures of the city clock located in the church tower, which had not previously been done since 1869, a period of twenty-three years. This has greatly improved the appearance of the church.
>
> The church and chapel buildings are now in good condition, and no extraordinary repairs will probably be necessary for the coming year.[360]

An entry of $454.69 for "repairs and miscellaneous" followed.

While the description of the painting indeed represented exemplary maintenance, the roof replacement represented the continuing struggle to keep the roof weather-tight. However, in this instance, the roofs flanking the tower may have been replaced before any major repairs were required on the interior. The previously cited description of the chimney location is confusing, until one examines a photograph dated 1904 (fig. 42). Although no longer extant, a chimney did exist directly to the rear (east) of the tower, extending through the roof at the ridge. This documentation is also interesting as confirmation of the city's continued responsibility regarding the maintenance of the clock.

The church and chapel may have remained in good condition, because subsequent warrants and meeting minutes mention no specific necessary repairs. However, $554.73 was expended for "repairs and miscellaneous," including $157.50 for insurance, during the 1893-1894 fiscal year.[361]

Alterations rather than repairs were denoted in the report for the following fiscal year:

> Additional safeguards against the spread of fire between the basements of the church and chapel have been provided by protecting the connecting doors and the cold-air box with a covering of tin, and walling up the old window spaces with brick. Similar precautions have also been taken in the tower over the organ loft, in order to obviate the dangerous conditions heretofore existing there. This work was done after careful inspection by the Chief of the Quincy Fire Department.[362]

This work was included in a disbursement of $209.85 designated as "Repairs and Misc." The connecting doors referenced were removed during a later alteration. The cold-air box, believed to have been related to an old furnace, is also gone. However, the bricked-in window openings are still visible in the basement. The work that might have occurred in the tower space is more puzzling. Since the doors to attic spaces are now covered with asbestos, it is difficult to ascertain if they once were or still are tin-covered, as well. There is no evidence of brick enclosures in the tower space.

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[360] Treasurer's Report, 1892-1893 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 147).

[361] Treasurer's Report, 1893-1894 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 148).

[362] Report of Parish Assessors, 1894-1895 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 213).

At the parish's annual meeting of March 9, 1896, the parish assessors presented their report, a section of which was relative to lighting the church:

> Early in the summer it was found that the gas lighting apparatus in the church was in a condition beyond repair except [at] a large expense. Confronted by this situation, it seemed best to the Assessors to introduce electric lighting in place of gas as a measure both of economy and of safety. This has been done at a total cost of $319.52.[363]

Aside from the introduction of electricity to the church, repairs and other miscellaneous items were chronicled in the same report as costing less than $300.

The disbursements for repairs for the fiscal year 1896-1897 were again less than $300, which included $76.21 for the balance of the expense of indexing records the previous fiscal year, and which also may have included the cost of preserving the church green adjacent to the fountain.[364] During the same annual meeting on March 9, 1896, the congregation also voted to accept "a group of photographs of the Parish Lands presented to the Parish by Mr. H.L. Rice...."[365] Unfortunately these photographs have not survived in the church archives.

The report of the fiscal year 1897-1898 recorded only a small disbursement for unspecified "repairs and miscellaneous."[366] The following year the church spent $386.30 for "painting the vestibules and pews of the church, cleaning and repairing the pew carpets and cushions, recovering the swinging doors, and other renovations of the church." In addition, organ repairs cost $102.60, and other "repairs and miscellaneous" items cost $179.88.[367] The following year almost $600 was expended for "repairs and miscellaneous," with $51.42 appropriated for a three-year assessment for street sprinkling and $40 appropriated "for the construction of a plank walk on the northerly side of the church, where the mud and melting snow have heretofore been a great annoyance in winter."[368]

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[363] Report of Parish Assessors, 1895-1896 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 219); and minutes, parish annual meeting, March 9, 1896 (Records, Vol. II, p. 241).

[364] Report of Parish Assessors, 1896-1897 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 227).

[365] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 8, 1897 (Records, Vol. II, p. 255).

[366] Report of Assessors, 1897-1898 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 231).

[367] Report of Parish Assessors, 1898-1899 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 239).

[368] Report of Parish Assessors, 1889-1900 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 242).

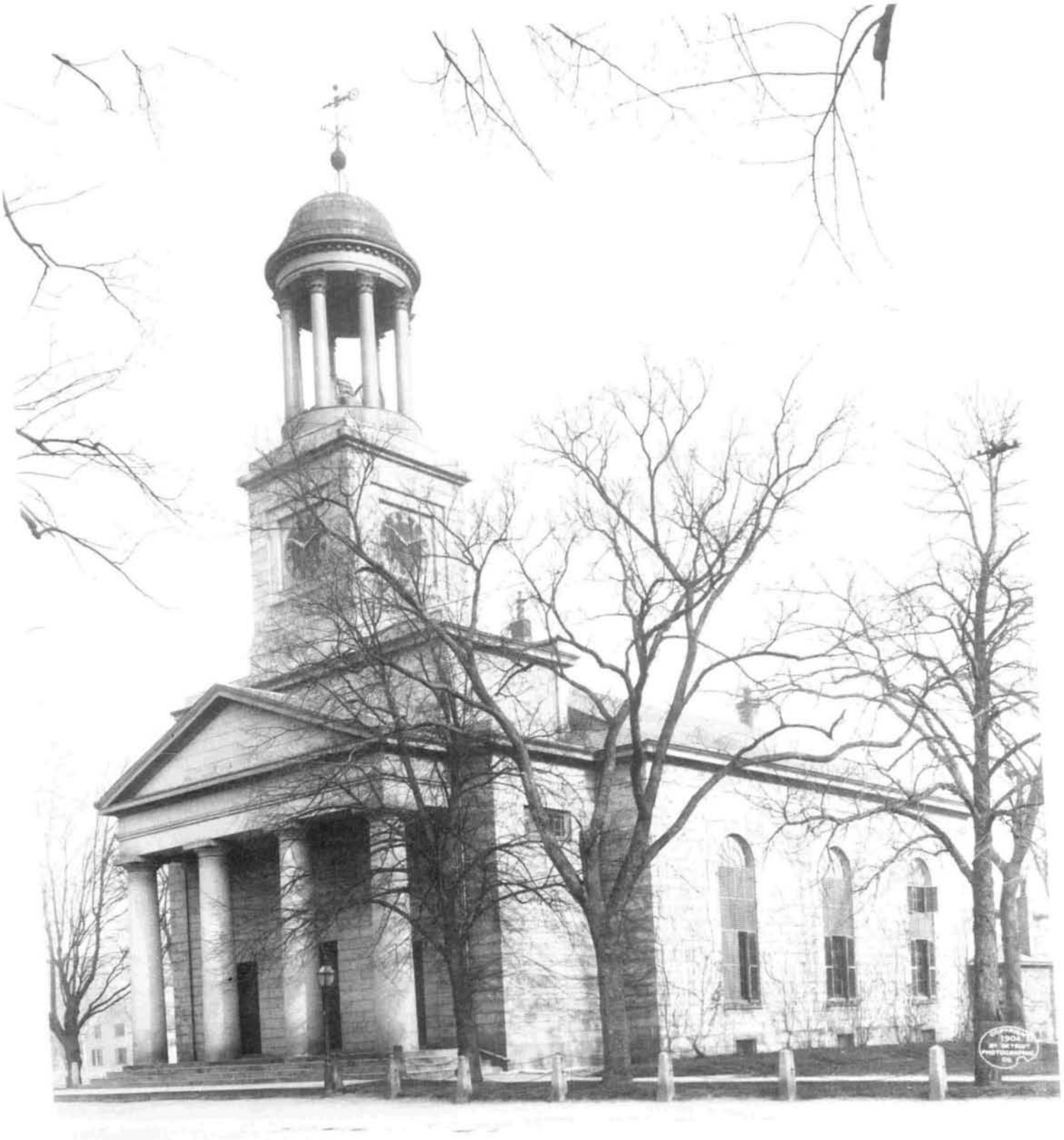


**Figure 42.** Exterior, looking northeast, 1904.

The new century began with a gift of a mirror for the chapel from Miss M.M. Field. It is not known if this mirror survives. It was also necessary to perform some maintenance on the exterior of the building: painting was required on "the exterior wood-work of the church" and the belfry needed "extensive"—but unspecified—repairs. The total disbursement for "repairs and miscellaneous" was $574.41.[369] The following year the same category's disbursement was $470.35.[370]

The report of parish assessors for 1902-1903 recorded that:

> Through the kindness of Mr. C. F. Adams the tomb of the Presidents under our church has been fitted with an inner grille door and suitably lighted, so that it may be visited by the general public. To defray the cost of maintenance and attendance on our part, it is proposed to charge a nominal admission fee to all visitors, as is the custom in similar places of historical interest both here and abroad.[371]

It is not known whether the "grille door" was meant to keep visitors out of the tomb area and provide them only with a peek into the space. Originally it was mounted on the inner side of the tomb (fig. 43), and the granite "door" was mounted on the hall side. Since the tomb would then be illuminated with electric lighting, visitors could view into the space but still be limited in terms of access. Of the almost $400 expended by the church for repairs during the same fiscal year,[372] it is not known whether any of these funds were used to support the tomb alteration.

One interesting aspect of the tomb work is that it acknowledges not only the role of the site as a national shrine, but also the desirability to provide public access to it, albeit for a fee. The last quarter of the 19th century had witnessed a burgeoning appreciation of national history, and this singular act on the part of church displayed their support of that appreciation. A newspaper article written 35 years later recorded that:

> For 50 years after the last internment there, the crypt was kept closed and locked except on two occasions. One of these was to permit Charles Sumner, Civil War senator from Massachusetts, to view the tombs of the two Presidents whom he venerated. The other occasion granted similar privilege to members of the American Antiquarian Society.

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[369] Report of Parish Assessors, 1900-1901 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 246).

[370] Report of Parish Assessors, 1901-1902 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 250).

[371] Report of Parish Assessors, 1901-1903 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 254).

[372] Report of Parish Assessors, 1901-1903.

> Since 1903 the crypt has been open to anyone who wishes to view it and its tombs before and after all church services and on other occasions when the building is open.[373]

The following year, 1904, justified the tomb alteration, when 1,125 people visited the tomb, and gross receipts from fees totaled $123.30.[374] The new policy also may have precipitated the alteration of the north stairway between the first-story vestibule and the cellar:

> The improvements in the approaches to the tomb of the Presidents beneath our Church, were completed early in the year 1903, and the income from admission fees has fully justified the expenditure for the improvements....[375]

The use of the term "approaches" suggests a form of access to the tomb. Drawings of the structure dated 1939 (Appendix B) do not show a change in the north stairway, nor the addition of a cellar entrance. However, these drawings are labeled as presentation plans, and may have been traced from original drawings, omitting changes that occurred since original construction. It is known that these drawings were presented to the church by the city of Quincy, and therefore the city may have earlier drawings of the structure. A new entry for "Tomb improvements, etc." was in the treasurer's report for 1904, which coincidentally equaled the same amount of money that was taken in by visitation fees. An additional $277.55 had been disbursed for "repairs and miscellaneous."[376]

During the year 1904-1905, the three old furnaces were replaced by "a modern steam-heating plant capable of comfortably warming both church and chapel even in the coldest weather..." for a cost of $2,675.38. An additional $135.01 was expended for "repairs and miscellaneous."[377] An equally meager amount of money, $201.53, was disbursed for the 1905-1906 fiscal year in the latter category of expenditures.[378]

Charles Francis Adams donated two memorial tablets to the society during the year prior to the annual meeting held on March 11, 1907.[379] Both tablets were marble: one was "in memory of Charles Francis Adams, former Minister to England during the Civil War, and the other in honor of Col. John Quincy, from whom our city takes its name...." The records suggest some hesitation on the part of the congregation to accept the gifts, since they were given "on condition that the east wall of the church should be suitably rearranged to receive them. While the expense involved was necessarily considerable, it was deemed best to gratefully accept the gift so generously proffered,

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[373] Newspaper article, no heading, September(?) 26, 1938 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 123).

[374] Report of Parish Assessors, 1903-1904 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 260).

[375] Report of Parish Assessors, 1903-1904.

[376] Report of Parish Assessors and Treasurer's Report, 1902-1903 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 260).

[377] Report of Parish Assessors and Treasurer's Report, 1904-1905 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 266).

[378] Treasurer's Report, 1905-1906 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 272).

[379] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 11, 1907 (Records, Vol. II, p. 332).

the cost of the required changes being defrayed by one of our members." That member was H.M. Faxon, who was indeed generous, contributing $1,795.19.[380] This amount of money seemed enormous for just rearranging memorial tablets. It is possible that the money was used to fill in and plaster the voids of the former windows on the east wall, above the doorways to the Parish Hall. The decorative entablatures above the doorways also may have been installed at this time; they certainly were there by 1923 (see figures 44-45). Plaster patching above the doorways is also visible in the series of 1923 photographs.

Miss Anne E. Beale also donated to the church the same year, under terms of her will. She bequeathed $1000, "the annual income therefrom to be used for 'the interior repairs and improvement of the church edifice.'" Other "repairs and miscellaneous" charges for the same year amounted to less than $400.[381]

Little documentation existed for repairs or alterations to the church for the next four years: disbursements for "repairs and miscellaneous" ranged between $300 and $600.[382] The only other entry regarding changes concerned the organ replacement, which occurred during the 1908-1909 fiscal year.[383]

Major repairs to the dome and belfry occurred in 1911. The dome was staged, coppered, and gilded. The belfry woodwork was repaired and painted.[384] The problem of rotted timbers was addressed. An additional $522.85 was expended for "repairs and miscellaneous" during this same fiscal year, but none appears to have been disbursed for the dome and belfry repair.[385] The treasurers' reports for the subsequent two years also reflect a substantial amount of money being expended for "repairs and miscellaneous": $996.21 for 1912-1913 and 442.01 for 1913-1914.[386] No other documentation reveals what type of work was done during these years, and no specific physical evidence suggests specific work accomplished during this time period.

It is interesting to note that the $675.46 spent for repairs and miscellaneous during the fiscal year 1914-1915 was also not explained, while specific entries for grading and boiler repair were

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[380] Report of Parish Assessors, 1906-1907 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 278).

[381] Report of Parish Assessors, 1906-1907.

[382] Treasurers' Reports, 1907-1908 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 282), 1908-1909 (p. 290), 1909-1910 (p. 296), and 1910-1911 (p. 302).

[383] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 8, 1909 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 348).

[384] Report of Committee of Fifteen (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 12); minutes, parish meeting, January 22, 1912 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 367); and *Boston Globe*, August 13, 1911, no page number (Files of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities).

[385] Treasurer's Report, 1911-1912 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 8).

[386] Treasurers' Reports, 1912-1913 (Documents, Vol. IV, loose between pp. 12-13), and 1913-1914 (loose between pp. 18-19).

separated from the general repair category.[387] The annual meeting records also show that the Fragment Society furnished the church "with a new and beautiful carpet,"[388] presumably in the sanctuary.

The Report of Parish Assessors for 1915-1916 finally provides more detail for expenditures:

> Aside from the ordinary charges provided for in the budget, we have expended for permanent improvements upon the Church and grounds the sum of $1637.15.... The equipment of Church and Chapel with copper gutters, the laying of granolithic walks and curbing, and the rough grading of the grounds are practically completed. The work of surfacing and seeding remains to be done and will require some further contributions.
>
> Some unusual repairs will be required during the coming year, notably to the roof over the vestibule of the Church, where serious leaks have been discovered.[389]

Again, the "repairs and miscellaneous" category was separate from the "Church Grounds" category, to which the $1637.15 cited previously is charged. Clearly the roof had begun to leak in a location where leaks had occurred many previous times, but repair may have been delayed.

The work on the grounds was finished the following year, a result that provided an impetus for maintaining a certain image in the community and an appreciation of ownership:

> ...The result of this work had given universal satisfaction and makes our Church in its commanding position in the Square an ornament and pride to the whole City. But it makes necessary the raising of more money, during the coming year, and this necessity is increased by the demand for considerable repairs on the main roof of the Church as well as on the Chapel.
>
> A number of the older New England Churches both in our and other denominations have already taken steps to safeguard their valuable properties by placing them in permanent trust. There are especial reasons why the property and traditions of this ancient Parish should be thus protected at this time. We therefore recommend that your Parish Assessors be authorized and empowered to place the property of this Church in trust with the American Unitarian Association as Trustee, in accordance with plans which will be presented to the Parish Meeting.[390]

The expenditures for this same year are more confusing. While the disbursements for "repairs and miscellaneous" totaled $522.17 in one section of the minutes, they increased to $1,490.77 in a "Memorandum Regarding Expenditures" without explanation. The disbursements for the grounds remained the same, $824.58, in both accounts. It is interesting to note that during

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[387] Report of Parish Assessors, 1914-1915 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 21).

[388] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 8, 1915 (Records, Vol. II, p. 389).

[389] Report of Parish Assessors, 1915-1916 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 25).

[390] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1917 (Records, Vol. II, pp. 402-403).

this time period, no mention of—or reference to—World War I was made. The records did not even hint that a major international conflict was taking place, nor that any hardships existed for the parishioners.

The treasurer's report at the annual meeting of 1921 revealed that only $101.10 had been spent on church repairs during the previous fiscal year.[391] In 1922, only $165.67 had been expended for the same purposes,[392] but new work was being planned. A dissatisfaction had arisen with the interior of the church. Certainly by this time the "Victorian" painted decoration on the walls and ceiling was falling out of vogue and was probably quite dirty, since it had been applied in 1859. The church assessors noted that the "question of the Church renovation has received attention and at present the matter is in the hands of Mrs. Atwood for investigations only."[393] The minutes show that at the same meeting, the minister expressed his opinion:

> He strongly recommended the renovation of the Church especially the vestibule on account of the unfavorable impression made upon strangers as they enter the structure but he felt that it was only a question of a short time when it would be necessary to entirely redecorate the interior. He also recommenced that two more tablets be placed upon the walls - one Commemorating the men who gave their lives in the World War and one in memory of John Hancock who was christened in and attended the Church.[394]

This recommendation confirmed that the interior, and especially the vestibule, was in fair to poor condition. It also was ironic that the recommendation for the tablet for World War I veterans was not fulfilled until 19 years later.

Another year passed, during which only $206.68 was spent on church repairs. Another annual meeting was held where the renovation was the:

> most important matter.... A very substantial sum of money was pledged and a special committee was appointed to superintend the work.... The toilet facilities are inadequate and there is a question if sufficient exits are available in the basement in case of fire. This matter might be serious if a fire should occur on Sunday while the Sunday School was in session....[395]

Now that the preliminary work was done, renovations could finally begin. By this time, the remainder of the side pews on the sanctuary floor had been removed, and paneled wainscot had been installed running from the two east-wall doorways, around the northeast and southeast corners, to

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[391] Treasurer's Report, in minutes of parish meeting, May 9, 1921 (Records, Vol. III).

[392] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 8, 1922 (Records, Vol. III).

[393] Assessors' Report, in minutes of parish annual meeting, May 8, 1922.

[394] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 8, 1922.

[395] Minutes, parish meeting, May 14, 1923 (Records, Vol. III).

the first window openings on the north and south walls. This wainscot was built to match the paneled wainscot on the east wall between the doorways and the pulpit (see figs. 39 and 44-45).

When the interior of the Stone Temple was renovated in 1923-1924, a trail of paperwork documented very specific work that was accomplished. The Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring Company, Inc., Decorators and Painters, of Clarendon Street (Boston?), charged the church for alterations, painting, drapery work, floor coverings, electric wiring and fixtures, and remaking and recovering pew cushions. Extra was charged for washing and retinting the ceiling, painting and texturing the walls, varnishing the woodwork, and bronzing the radiators and pipes in the "Sunday School Room" (location not known); washing and painting the ceiling in the minister's study; retinting the ceiling, bronzing the radiator pipes, texturing the walls, and varnishing the woodwork in the "Ladies' Sewing Room" (Ladies' Parlor?); washing the woodwork and walls in the Dining Room (the room under the Parish Hall); and washing and retinting the ceiling, and painting the walls of the Kitchen. Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring charged an additional $30 for supplying and installing a rope covered in red velvet with brass ends and wall plates.[396]

The bill for the previously cited items was enclosed with a letter that stated:

> We have delayed sending the enclosed bill for the First Parish Church waiting to finish the work on the linoleum floor, which we believe completes the contract....[397]

The original estimate provided more specifics, relative at least to the first several items:

> Auditorium [sanctuary]: Fur down and case in false beam under balcony six inches below present level and finish same with cornice moldings.
>
> Remove four iron columns at entrance and provide and set two Lally columns with I Beam to wall to support organ. Case in same with wood and two wood pilasters on wall. Provide necessary supports in basement. Encase iron columns under balcony with wood and relocate out of aisles. Cut pew ends and refinish same. Do all necessary plaster work.
>
> Wash off the water color on ceiling, repair cracks. Wash and repair walls and paint two coats of lead and oil. Wash, sandpaper, putty and paint two coats all woodwork, including ends of pew, which are also to be numbered. Refinish stained wood on fronts and backs of pews and give tin coat of shellac.
>
> Refinish all mahogany and other hardwood and rub down with pumice to a dull gloss.
>
> Vestibule: Wash off, repair cracks amd [sic] retint ceiling, paint walls and woodwork two coats of oil color...
>
> Drapery back of Pulpit: One pair of curtains of silk damask with three festoons over arch, trimmed with old fringe redyed. Pole, large rings and arms to be covered in same goods. Curtains lined.

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[396] Bill from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring Co. Inc., Decorators and Painters, 203 Clarendon St., dated December 20, 1923. In folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)", file box 2, United First Parish Church of Quincy archives.

[397] Letter from Pennell, Bibbs, & Quiring to Clarence Burgin, December 20, 1923 [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

Wall Space Rear of Pulpit: Same material as over drapery shirred on poles.
Pulpit: Recover in heavy cotton velvet.
Sofa and Two Arm Chairs: Repair upholstery and recover in linen velour.
Floor Coverings.
Main Church: Take up old green carpet, cleanse and relay.
Pulpit Platform: Remove old carpet, furnish, make and lay new plain Wilton carpet, lined.
First and Second Floor Vestibules and Two flights of Stairs: Remove old carpet, furnish and lay (cemented) 3/16" brown battleship linoleum. Stair treads only to be covered, with brass nosing for each tread.
Casement Curtains: Make and hang twelve pairs of curtains of poplin casement cloth for six window, six shirred semicircular valances on 1/2" brass poles with traverse cords.
Electric Wiring and Fixtures: We will install an equipment of electric wiring for one ceiling outlet, ten balcony outlets and one pulpit reading fixture, with wires concealed in the construction of building, having control switches in front entrance of Church, one for ceiling and one for each four wall outlets. The fixtures for same in black iron as shown, and all properly installed, with winch for center fixtures, less electric lamps.....
$7620.00
In addition to the above price we would make for 112 pews, Main Church, two part all hair cushions, made up with inside cover, covered both sides in cotton rep [sic], old hair to be used as far as practicable, for the sum of Eighteen Hundred and Ten dollars.[398]

Much of the work done in 1923-1924 is still evident today. Based on the bill and the estimate, it included the following alterations: the decorative painting in the sanctuary was washed off and painted over, the walls were textured, the iron posts supporting the galleries were either encased or replaced, the fretwork along the bottom of the paneled gallery balustrade was changed to dentil work, and the brown linoleum was installed. They also provide other clues about window treatments, pulpit hangings, and floor treatments for the period, including reuse of items. One proposal that probably was not carried out was the installation of a lighting fixture at the center of the ceiling. However, "black iron" fixtures (fig. 46) were installed on the face of the gallery balustrade.

Other documentation cites additional work that may or may not have been performed: it was difficult to determine if the entries represented only proposals with estimates, or bills for work completed. One Peter Swanson, Designer and Builder, submitted either a proposal or a bill to the church on February 7, 1923, for tearing down two galleries, 100 yards of plastering, "6 Paneled Col. soffit & labor," carting away debris, and staging.[399] Since the majority of 1923 work was not accomplished until the last third of the year, the above may represent a proposal or bill for only replastering the gallery soffits, which could have been accomplished. Alternatively, it could have been a proposal for tearing down the side galleries, which obviously was not accomplished. A note

[398] Letter from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring to Assessors of Unitarian Church, December 20, 1923 [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

[399] Estimate or bill from Peter Swanson, Designer and Builder, 27 Edward St., February 7, 1923 [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

filed with a sheet of Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance letterhead stationery estimated $1,000 for repainting the chapel and a "new exit under side porch/oiler [Mc?]."[400]

Work that definitely was invoiced can be attributed to George Langly for 10 feet of cypress boards and eight hours of labor (no location); to Edward Farmer for "Cleaning Painting and Varnishing Gents and Ladys [sic] Toilets in Basement of said Church" (probably located under the Parish Hall); to William Brown for various lengths of various lumber, flooring, spikes, nails, six locks, six doors (probably for building bathrooms under the Parish Hall; see Appendix B); and to Brown for plumbing supplies.[401] The permit from the Department of Health to William B. Brown and the receipt from the Sewer Department for the church's sewer connection were also among these records.[402] This work was clearly related to plumbing and most likely to the construction of the bathrooms in the Parish Hall basement, which had been planned during the construction of the addition, but not installed.

More than $9,000 had been raised with subscriptions and more than $4,300 had been borrowed from the bank to complete the renovations. Individual charges were as follows:[403]

| | |
|---|---|
| Pennell, Gibbs & Quiring & Co. a/c Church | 9,430.00 |
| " " " a/c Chapel | 880.41 |
| W.B. Brown & Co. Plumber | 850.02 |
| J.P. Lamb Carpenter | 605.70 |
| Beckford and Lynch Electricians | 37.44 |
| City of Quincy Sewer Department | 96.13 |
| E.E. Farmer Painting | 73.35 |
| Sundries | 17.00 |
| 2 Pianos & Covers | 507.00 |
| Organ Reeds | 200.00 |
| Music Cabinet | 85.00 |
| N.W. Pemberton - Copper on Roof etc. | 850.00 |

In addition to the above work, repairs were made to the heating plant. The minister was well pleased. He related that the renovation of the church was one of four reasons that the previous year had been the most successful since his arrival in Quincy. But the renovations were apparently not enough to meet the demands of a growing congregation, because the parish voted "that the matter of removing some of the pews in the gallery to make room for Sunday School classes be left to the Assessors."[404] The direct result of this vote is not known.

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[400] Letterhead of Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance, no date [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

[401] Bills from Geo. O. Langley, Carpenter and Builder, November 1, 1923, for work October 1; Edward Farmer for Cleaning..., no date; Wm. B. Brown & Co., September 25, 1923; and W.B. Brown & Co. for September 21, 1923 [all folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

[402] Permit from Dept. of Health to Wm. B. Brown, September 20, 1923, and receipt from Sewer Dept., August 13, 1923 [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"].

[403] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 12, 1924 (Records, Vol. III).

[404] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 12, 1924.

Over the subsequent two years repairs were minimal. A gas hot-water heater was purchased for $144.70, a clock was repaired for $3.50, and the combined church supplies and repairs totaled $150.35 for 1924-1925 and $189.21 for 1925-1926.[405]

The year 1925 was especially notable in that President and Mrs. Coolidge visited the church and the Adams crypt. In addition, in honor of Quincy's Tricentennial, the church and the crypt were open to the public for four days in June, being visited by 2,177 persons.[406]

The federal government, possibly due to the President's visit, appropriated $5,000 for a memorial to the Adams family in the form of bronze doors for the church. A committee was elected "to confer with experts and submit [the] design to the Parish for its approval or disapproval."[407] At an adjourned meeting held two weeks later, the congregation voted to accept the committee's recommendations:

> First- that the design for the doors with the allegorical figures typifying Aspiration and Achievement, a preliminary model of which was shown at the Annual Meeting be not accepted.
> Second- that any doors which may be installed shall be architectural in form, of simple colonial design, in keeping with the Church itself.
> Third- that unless the Parish is given adequate guarantee that any doors which may be installed, shall be made in accordance with the description in recommendation number two, that the present doors remain in place without change.[408]

The church further responded by restating its opposition to "sculptured doors," suggesting that if the doors were to be replaced, the new ones would be designed by an architect of the society's choice. No other subsequent documentation regarding this issue was found; the doors were never replaced.

Modest repairs were listed for the fiscal year ending in May 1927,[409] and more substantial repairs were listed for the following year. The latter-year entries were broken down by payments, but not by category of repairs. They are as follows:

Repairs Church & Chapel:

Beckford & Lynch 27.75
P.W. Hibbett & Son 1.94
Peter Swanson 434.23
George H. [T]ow 243.70
Citizens Gas Light Co. 4.90

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[405] Minutes, parish annual meetings, May 11, 1925, and May 10, 1926 (Records, Vol. III).

[406] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 10, 1926 (Records, Vol. III).

[407] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 10, 1926.

[408] Minutes, adjourned parish annual meeting, May 24, 1926 (Records, Vol. III).

[409] Treasurer's Report, in minutes of parish annual meeting, May 9, 1927 (Records, Vol. III).

Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp. 550.
Troup Bros. 67.20[410]

It is known from previous bills that Beckford & Lynch were electricians, but the nature of the other charges are not known. Certainly the charge from the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation was the most puzzling.

The church's pattern of asserting its autonomy continued after rejecting the federal government's offer of a gift of bronze doors. It denied the local electric company permission to install underground conduit at its property borders, fearing encroachment. At the same time it voted to install another memorial tablet, this one in memory of Mr. Butler, a former minister.[411] A year later the Daughters of the American Revolution also successfully requested permission to install "a tablet in the crypt in memory of Louisa Catherine Adams."[412]

The church developed a spending trend that directly corresponded to the economic situation created by the Great Depression. Throughout the fiscal year ending in April 1929, the church spent $1,036.64 for unspecified repairs and miscellaneous items. (A telephone had been installed by this time, as suggested by a separate expenditure for "telephone.")[413] The following year, more than $400 was disbursed for repairs, almost $400 for miscellaneous items (although another record attributed $1,052.54 to "repairs and miscellaneous" for the same year), $90 for signs, almost $200 for vestry doors, and more than $400 for wiring the chapel.[414] (This entry suggests that the chapel had not been previously electrified, even though the church was wired by March 1896.) The following year the expenditures dropped radically, hovering around $200 for two years.[415] In the annual report of 1931-1932, the parish assessors noted that work might be necessary to improve the "heating system for the Kitchen and Lower Parish Hall,"[416] but general references suggest that these improvements were not made until three years later.

In 1932, a descendent of Richard Brackett, who was one of the church's first deacons, received permission to place a memorial tablet in the church in honor of his forefather. The inscription included the words "Descendants of his have been members of this church for seven generations."[417] In his letter of thanks to the congregation, the descendent noted that the tablet,

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[410] Treasurer's Report, in minutes of parish annual meeting, May 14, 1928 (Records, Vol. III).

[411] Treasurer's Report, in minutes of parish annual meeting, May 13, 1929 (Records, Vol. III).

[412] Minutes, special parish meeting, January 6, 1930 (Records, Vol. III).

[413] Treasurer's Report 1929, dated April 30, 1929 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 52).

[414] Treasurer's Report 1929-1930 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 56), and Report of Treasurer, April 30, 1931 (p. 61).

[415] Report of the Treasurer, April 30, 1931 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 61); and Report of the Treasurer 1931-1932 (p. 64).

[416] Parish Assessors Annual Report, 1931-1932 (Documents, Vol. IV), p. 67.

[417] Letter from Jeffery R. Brackett, April 24, 1932 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 63).

"of English Georgian design, is a work of art by the architects who have just built for Harvard University the group of great houses and the memorial church, Messrs. Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch and Abbott." This tablet now hangs in the sanctuary on the south wall at the west corner. The architectural firm of Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge had been the immediate successor to H.H. Richardson's firm,[418] which had designed the Thomas Crane Library; the firm of Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch and Abbott was the subsequent successor.[419]

The report of the Board of Assessors for 1933 chronicled that the board had:

> ...authorized the necessary expenditure to recondition the cornice in the rear of the church and to make repairs to prevent the leaks which had been doing damages to the Col. John Quincy Tablet. At the same time a copper wire was placed on the front and sides of the church to permanently prevent the nuisance caused by the pigeons.
>
> A survey of the acoustics of the Parish Hall has been made and the matter at present placed on the table waiting the investigation of similarly treated halls by the treasurer....[420]

The roof leaks noted indicated that water seepage was occurring at a point other than the vestibule: at the east wall of the sanctuary, at the north corner, possibly near the chimney that was built in 1889. This is also the first time that a method for pigeon control was documented.

The church had temporarily suspended its frugal ways by the spring of 1933, having expended $534.84 for "Maintenance and Repairs" for the fiscal year.[421] It is also interesting to note that the church was entertaining the idea of spending money to improve the acoustics of the Parish Hall at such an economically devastated time. Perhaps it soon realized the extravagance, because considerably lesser amounts of money were expended for "Maintenance and Repairs" in the two subsequent years, ending in the springs of 1934 and 1935 respectively.[422]

A report attributed to 1935 states:

> The heating apparatus has been placed in a first class condition and the repairs disclosed that we had been operating an extremely menacing fire hazard.
>
> Temporary repairs have been made to the roof of the chapel, but permanent repairs this summer are clearly indicated to prevent damage from leaks. The dial of the church clock which has caused so much comment

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[418] Margaret Henderson Floyd, *Architecture After Richardson* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1994), p. 6. The firm survives today as Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott.

[419] Floyd, *Architecture*, p. 399.

[420] Board of Assessors Report, 1933 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 74).

[421] Report of the Treasurer, 1932-1933 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 73).

[422] Report of Treasurer for 1933-1934, $261.16 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 77), and for 1934-1935, $206.36 (p. 83).

> from outside sources should be repainted, and there is always before us the condition of the gilding of the dome.
>
> The meticulous condition of the interior of the church is due to the efforts of our very efficient sexton....[423]

This report suggests that money had been expended the previous year to repair the furnace, but no other documentation survived to provide more specific information. The need for temporary roof work was not surprising, but the comments regarding the clock face and dome suggest chronic problems that were not categorized as such until this date. No record of remedial work for any of these problems surfaced until several years later.

The issue of abandoning the pew rental system arose during the annual meeting held in May 1936, but the issue was postponed until the following year.[424] Apparently a questionnaire was distributed prior to the annual meeting of 1937, which showed that a large majority of the congregation favored discontinuing the practice of renting pews. The vote at the meeting abolished the practice effective May 1, 1937, and declared that all pews would thereafter be free.[425] Slightly more money was expended for repairs these two years than had been expended the previous two years, between $400 and $500 each year.[426]

The warrant for a parish meeting in 1938 recorded that the parish would be asked to give the treasurer authority to borrow $1,800 from the American Unitarian Association. This loan would be used to regild the dome and vane, and repoint the ashlar joints of the church.[427] The treasurer's report of the following year suggests that authority had been given, based on the $2,202.63 expenditure for maintenance and repairs for fiscal year 1938-1939. The same expenditure for the previous fiscal year only had been $413.54.[428] In fact, the Board of Assessors' report of May 8, 1939, detailed that $1,251 had been spent on regilding the dome, $370 on repointing the "steps and ashlers [sic]," $154 on painting, and $25 on repairing the plaster in the balcony.[429]

Drawings of the church dated 1939 (Appendix B) were given to the parish by the City of Quincy:

> The Building Department on this day forwards to you a set of drawings of the First Parish Church of Quincy for presentation to the Board of Assessors of that Church.

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[423] Board of Assessors Report, no date but adhered to a page labeled 1935 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 87).

[424] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 11, 1936 (Records, Vol. III).

[425] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 10, 1937 (Records, Vol. III).

[426] Treasurer's Reports, in minutes of parish annual meetings, May 11, 1936, and May 10, 1937 (Records, Vol. III).

[427] Warrant for parish meeting, 1938 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 103).

[428] Report of Treasurer, April 30, 1939 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 108).

[429] Board of Assessors Report, May 8, 1939 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 111).

> These drawings were made by members of the Building Department Record Plan Project, which is being sponsored by the Building Department, of which Mr. John F. Kelly is supervisor, for the purpose of being presented to the Board of Assessors of the First Parish Church of Quincy by Mayor Burgin.[430]

The Record Plan Project may have been a local version of the Works Progress Administration, a Depression-era federal employment program, but this is only a hypothesis. It is interesting to note that on the same date as the letter regarding the drawings was written, the church voted to request that the mayor and the City of Quincy "transfer all parish records in the care of the city to the custody of the First Congregational Society of Quincy."[431] It is not known whether this transfer took place; it may be that the 1939 presentation drawings were traced from original drawings that were in the possession of the city at that time. The Alexander Parris drawings of the Stone Temple have never been located, and indeed may not survive. However, they also could be tucked away somewhere in a city storage area.

Ironically, as World War II was beginning in Europe, the First Parish Church School donated a bronze tablet in memory of veterans of the First World War (1914-1918). The dedication ceremony took place on May 25, 1941, more than six months before the bombing of Pearl Harbor.[432] The frugal times of the Depression era would soon be replaced with other hardships related to the war. Disbursements for maintenance and repairs were relatively low during the early years of the war: $156.81 for 1939-1940, $458.39 for 1940-1941, $396.38 for 1941-1942, and $402.58 for 1942-1943.[433]

However, the parish was not paralyzed during this time period. A discussion occurred regarding the installation of a sprinkler system and construction of a fireproof closet in which to store church documents and silver.[434] The sprinkler system was not installed, and a safe may have been purchased in lieu of constructing a special closet. The organ was "completely overhauled and cleaned" after many years' deferment.[435] Still another memorial tablet was installed in the church, in honor of Lewis Bass.[436]

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[430] Letter on City of Quincy stationary, from Inspector of Buildings Alrich A. Weidman to Mayor Burgin, dated May 13, 1940 (Documents, Vol. IV).

[431] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 13, 1940 (Records, Vol. III).

[432] Invitation to dedication service for World War I Memorial Tablet (in folder "World War I Memorial Tablet," file box 2).

[433] Report of Treasurer, 1939-1940 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 124); 1940-1941 (p. 139); 1941-1942 (p. 157); and 1942-1943 (p. 173).

[434] Board of Assessors Report, May 13, 1940 (Documents, Vol. IV, loose between pp. 126-127).

[435] Board of Assessors Report, 1940-1941 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 141).

[436] Minutes, parish meeting, probably 1941 (Documents, Vol. IV, pp. 148-149).

The church contributed to the war effort by opening a "reading room for Service Men in the lower Parish Hall...."[437] Newspaper photographs from the era illustrated a wainscot, wainscot cap, doorway trim, and doors of dark wood, with light-colored walls.[438] As the war slowly drew to a close, the church was beginning to spend larger amounts of money for repairs. In addition to completely rewiring the church, which cost slightly more than $1,000, the church spent another $600 on unspecified maintenance and repairs during the fiscal year 1943-1944.[439] Other repairs were proposed:

> The Alliance Room must certainly be redecorated--walls, woodwork and ceiling. This cannot be put off if we can find anyone to do it.
>
> There is some slight fire hazard in the boiler room which should be shut off from the rest of the basement.
>
> It would be a great convenience if a dumb waiter were installed, connecting the kitchen with the Parish Hall.[440]

The chains around the church also required repair, but they would have to wait until the end of war, when chain would once again be available.

The Alliance Room, presumably the room under the Parish Hall, was successfully decorated by the spring of 1945, leading to the suggestion that the Parish Hall also "needs it very badly."[441] A photograph has survived in the church records, presumed to be represent the room after its redecoration, showing light-colored walls and woodwork (fig. 47). The wall that once separated the former toilet rooms from the main room is still evident in the image. Only $394.45 was spent for maintenance and repairs during the 1944-1945 fiscal year. No doubt some of this expenditure was applied to redecorating the Alliance Room, but it is not known if any of the other proposed work from the previous year was completed at this time.

The church's congregation appears to have been ever cognizant of the significance of Quincy's history. It repeatedly insisted on few changes to the church's appearance, and then tried to intervene when rumors were circulating regarding the expansion of City Hall into the Hancock Cemetery across the street. It voted:

> That we, the members of the First Congregational Society in Quincy, do now record our unalterable opposition to any plan which will involve the erection of a City Hall on the site now occupied by the Hancock Cemetery

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[437] Report of Board of Assessors, May 11, 1942 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 158).

[438] Report of Board of Assessors, May 11, 1942 (Documents, Vol. IV, pp. 168-169).

[439] Board of Assessors Report, May 8, 1944 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 183), and Treasurer's Report, April 30, 1945 (p. 190).

[440] Board of Assessors Report, May 8, 1944 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 183).

[441] Board of Assessors Report, May 14, 1945 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 191). The term "Parish Hall" was officially offered as replacement for the term "Chapel" during the 1944 annual meeting. See Warrant dated April 7, 1944 (p. 182).

> and that a copy of this vote be forwarded to His Honor, the Mayor and the Quincy City Council.[442]

References to the Adams Temple and School Fund resurfaced in the notations in 1942, relative to improving the crypt:

> We are pleased to report that plans have been made by the supervisors of the Adams Temple & School Fund for the improvement and beautifying of the Crypt in which are buried Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams and their wives. It is expected that this work will be completed in the near future. It will be a very great improvement to our property, and will provide a handsome setting for this unique national shrine.[443]

A year after the above entry was written, $2,000 had been spent "to improve the surroundings of the crypt and our latest information is that the work will soon be resumed and an early completion may be expected."[444] After two additional years, the work remained incomplete, presumably because of legal difficulties initially, and then because of a shortage of materials. However, by May 1945, the plans had "been approved and the money ($15,000) appropriated so there should be no delay when the materials are available."[445]

The sum of $15,000 was a substantial amount of money for alterations. Nowhere in the records are specifics recorded that enumerate or even hint at the work that was proposed or completed at this time. In fact, work was completed in increments. Copies of court documents suggest that the City of Quincy petitioned the Supreme Judicial Court against the Massachusetts Attorney General and the church to exempt the city from allocating funds for maintenance of the crypt. The city had acted as the supervisor(s) of the Adams Temple and School Fund. The court's Final Decree stated that:

> ...plaintiffs are charged with keeping and maintaining a proper, suitable, and attractive condition of the tomb; plaintiffs are authorized and instructed to use out of income from the Adams Temple and School Fund amount not to exceed $15,000 for necessary repairs.
> Entered: October 11, 1944.[446]

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[442] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 14, 1945 (Records, Vol. III).

[443] Board of Assessors Report, May 11, 1942 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 158).

[444] Board of Assessors Report, May 10, 1943 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 174).

[445] Board of Assessors Report, 1944 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 183); and Board of Assessors Report, May 14, 1945 (p. 191).

[446] Final Decree, In Equity No. 779, Entered: October 11, 1944 (in folder "Adams Temple and School Fund," file box 1, United First Parish Church of Quincy archives).

Some physical evidence from the same time period can be found in a series of photographs found in the church archives.[447] They show parishioners William C. Edwards, Mrs. John L. Gow, Mrs. Donald P. Crane, Mrs. Philip Hamlin, and Mrs. Bertram Whitley, and may depict the tomb after work was completed. The crypt was pictured similarly as it appears today, painted white, with the door grate painted a light color; the granite door was still in place, but no ceiling lighting.

The disbursement of the $15,000 dragged throughout the years. The last of the money, $5,000, was not distributed until 1967, when the decree of 1944 was "carried out in full."[448] Work included the following:

- the construction of the present wooden stairway from the first-story vestibule to the basement of the tower;
- the reconstruction of the corridor (Room 005) along the west end of the church basement, to provide better access from the basement of the tower to the crypt area;
- the creation of a window in the north and south basement walls, at either end of the rebuilt corridor;
- the conversion of the south room in the basement of the tower to a museum room; and
- the upgrading of the electrical system.

Once World War II ended, materials for finishing the crypt were probably easier to purchase, but the records from spring of 1946 suggest that the work continued to drag. While optimism abounded in an April letter,[449] the Board of Assessors' report presented in May was less enthusiastic:

> The work on the crypt has not yet been completed. Changes in the original plans were felt to be advisable, which made necessary the drawing of new plans. When the plans are completed we anticipate that the work will be started and pushed to completion.[450]

The work was presumed completed, but no record survived in the church archives to record when it was finished or what it entailed. These records might be found with the city of Quincy.

After the war ended, fund-raising for redecorating the most-used spaces was begun:

> Approximately twenty-two years ago, the interior of the Church Edifice and Parish Hall, then known as the Chapel, were renovated for the Tercentenary Celebration of Quincy.

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[447] Photographs (in folder "Photographs of the Adams Crypt," file box 1).

[448] Letter from City of Quincy to the church, October 10, 1967 (in folder "Adams Temple and School Fund").

[449] Letter from Ways and Means Committee Chairman William C. Edwards to "Our Members and Friends," April 1, 1946 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 193).

[450] Board of Assessors Report, May 13, 1946 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 195).

> It is the opinion of the Ways and Means Committee and others of the Society that the time has now arrived for redecorating the walls of the Church, Parish Hall and the Minister's Study. It has also been suggested that a ceiling be put over the beams in the Parish Hall. This would decrease the cost of heating and greatly improve the acoustics. The Parish Hall is now in constant use by our Church organizations and by many organizations throughout the city. This is in keeping with the thought of the builders of the Chapel, "The good that it can do for the community."
> ...The estimated cost of the redecorating and the new ceiling is $1500.00. We ask your support in this project....[451]

Within six weeks of the above letter, the Board of Assessors reported that "the upper Parish Hall is soon to receive sorely needed reconditioning so that it too will be a credit to the Society."[452]

The Community Fund Committee had offered to pay for the reconditioning of the "Recreation Room" after the latter's closure following the war. This may have been the room now called the Parish Hall; the committee's offer suggests that the room had been used for community purposes during the war. By May 1946, the room had been redone, referred to not only as "lovely," but also as "a great asset to the work of the Parish."[453] More than $700 had been spent on maintenance and repairs during the fiscal year 1945-1946, but expenditures increased dramatically over the subsequent two years. By the spring of 1947, $3,738.87 had been spent:[454]

> During the past year the Church and the Parish Hall have received extensive and very much needed reconditioning. The work included painting the walls, washing the woodwork and refinishing the pulpit in the Church and the receiling and the repainting of the walls in the Parish Hall....[455]

This documented the first major repainting campaign since 1923-1924, and clearly dated the installation of the dropped ceiling in the Parish Hall. This same report also continued, disclosing the need for a new heating plant.

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[451] Letter from Ways and Means Committee Chairman William C. Edwards to "Our Members and Friends," April 1, 1946 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 193).

[452] Board of Assessors Report, May 13, 1946 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 194).

[453] Board of Assessors Report, May 13, 1946.

[454] Treasurer's Report, April 30, 1947 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 200).

[455] Assessors Report, no date, filed May 12, 1947 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 201).

The need for a new heating plant was met the following year, when $8,142.77 was spent for maintenance and repairs, including a "thouroughly [sic] modern and approved oil fired heating boiler in a cut off, fireproofed boiler room in the basement of the Church."[456] In addition, extensive repairs were made to the parsonage during this year.

After these major repairs, annual expenditures for maintenance and repairs dropped dramatically, to less than $600 by the spring of 1949, and less than $300 by the spring of 1950.[457] By 1949 the congregation voted to authorize the Board of Assessors "to remove two front pews and two back pews when the necessary funds are available."[458] It is known that several pews were removed from the sanctuary floor, but it is not known if the action resulted from this particular proposal. The mayor of Quincy at the time, Thomas S. Burgin, and perhaps a parishioner, donated money for "a new valance for the stage and the cleaning and fire proofing the old curtins [sic] of the stage," as well for the repair of the "cord in front of the pulpit."[459]

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[456] Treasurer's Reports for periods ending April 30, 1947 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 200) and April 30, 1948 (p. 204); and Board of Assessors Report, no date, filed after 1948 and before 1950 Treasurer's Reports, but including entries for FY 1946-47 and FY 1947-48 (p. 205).

[457] Treasurer's Report for period ending April 30, 1950 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 212).

[458] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 9, 1949 (Records, Vol. III).

[459] Report of the Board of Assessors, 1949-1950 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 213).

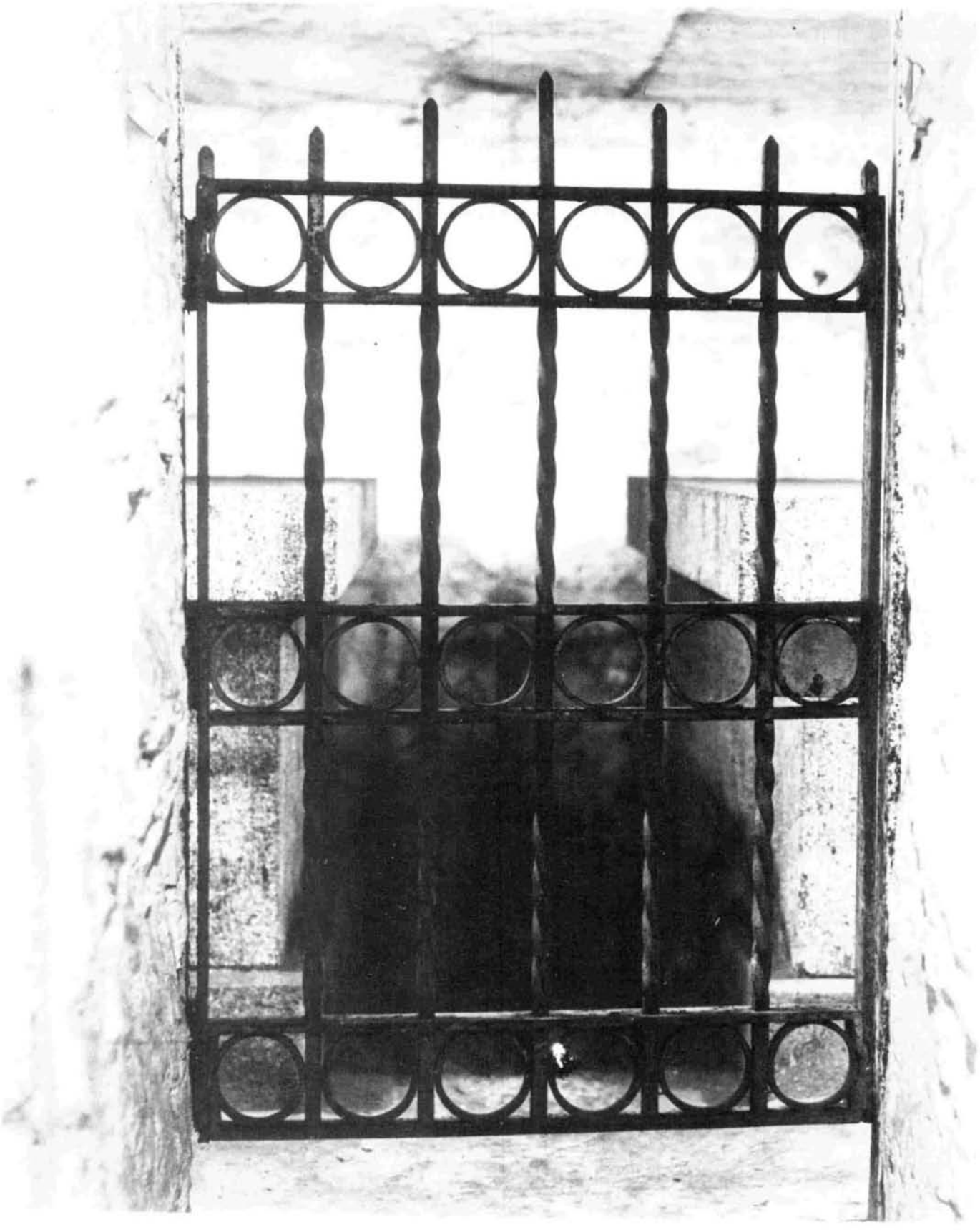


**Figure 43.** Iron-grate door to crypt (photograph before 1925).

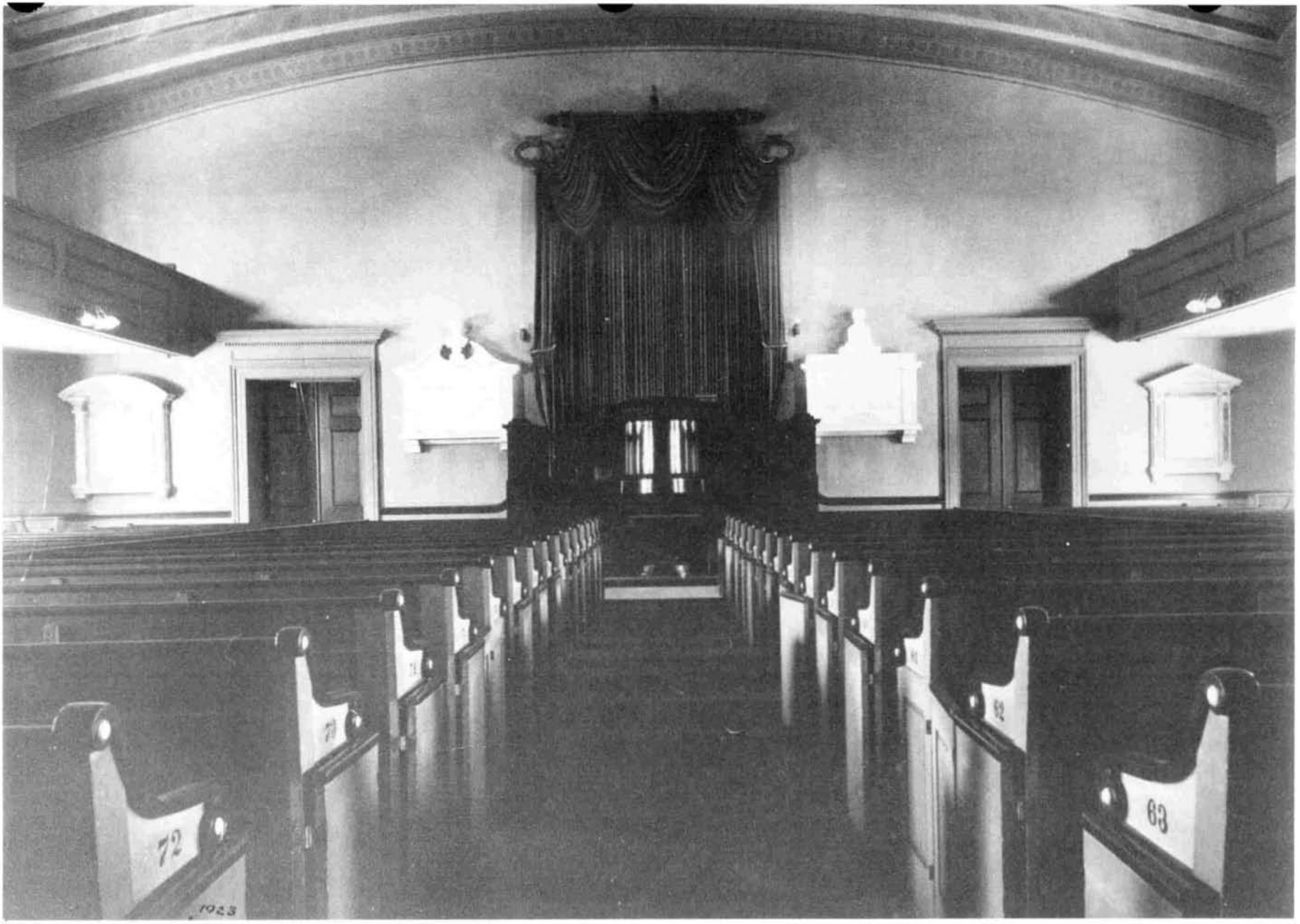



**Figure 44.** Sanctuary, looking east (photograph January 23, 1923).




**Figure 45.** Sanctuary, looking northeast (photograph January 24, 1923).

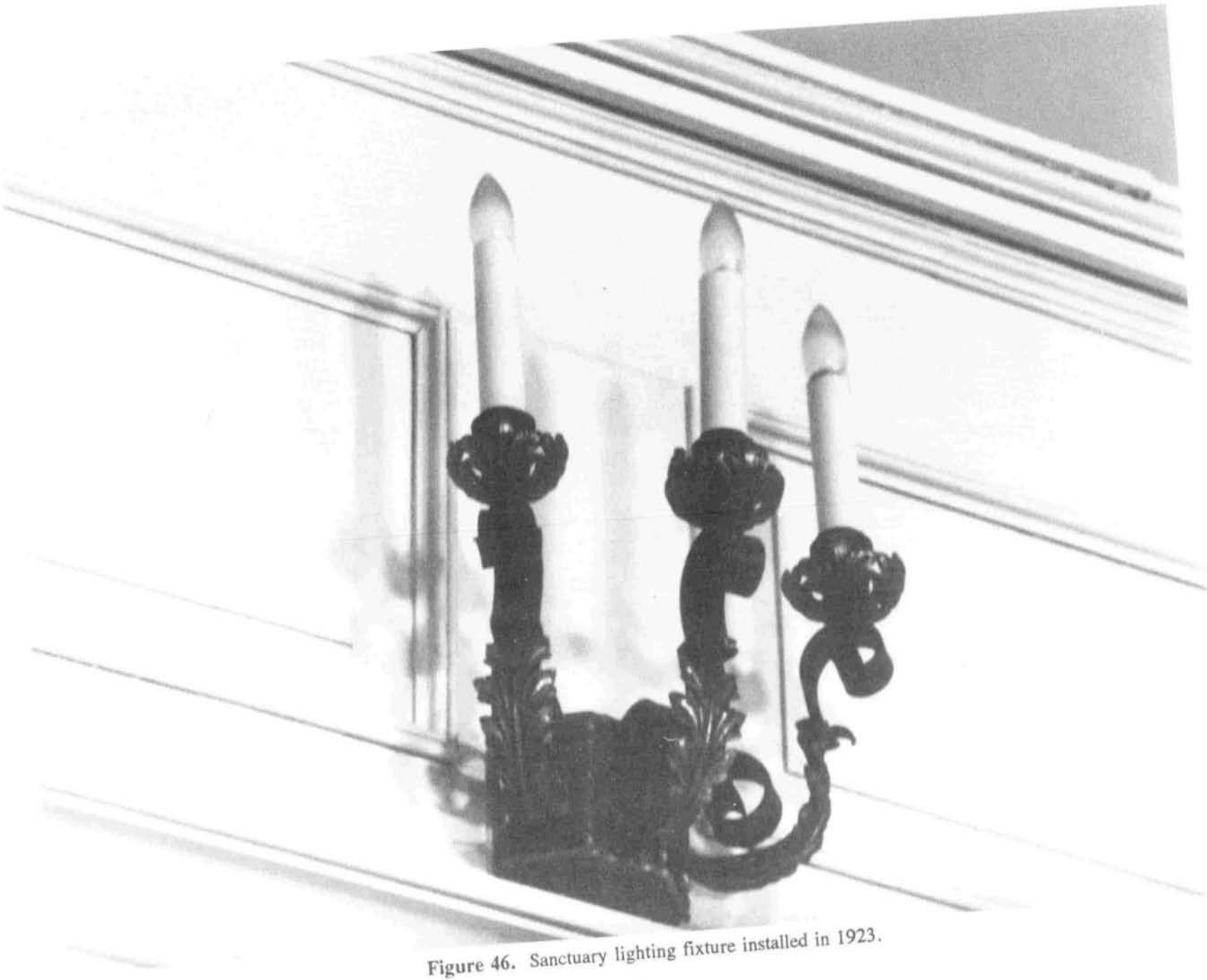


**Figure 46.** Sanctuary lighting fixture installed in 1923.



**Figure 47.** Basement room under the Parish Hall, possibly the Alliance Room (photograph ca. 1945).

# THE SECOND HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY

The high standard of the church's record-keeping lessened after World War II. Much of the documentation pertaining to the last half-century was not transferred to record books, but rather incorporated into file boxes. However, some meeting minutes were been transcribed in the early 1950's. For example, it is known that only $225 was expended for maintenance and repairs for the fiscal year ending in the spring of 1950.[460]

In 1953, the city of Quincy proposed to take church land, presumably by eminent domain, at both corners of Hancock Street for widening the street. The discussion of this proposal at the annual meeting included the fact that the proposal could have a positive effect on the church's finances. This was important, since the church needed extensive repairs, including some to the dome. The parish voted to send the House and Grounds Committee to the City Council meeting, which was to be held one month later.[461] At a special parish meeting in July of the same year, the parish voted to accept $10,000 from the city for land-taking so that a traffic rotary might be created.[462]

Belfry repairs took precedent in 1954. The correspondence from the period, including proposals and estimates, recorded the condition of some of the structure before the work was completed, as well as the relationship between the church and the Adams Temple and School Fund at the time.

The three proposals from Belleau Metal Works of Salem, Massachusetts, are annotated and informative. The first is the most inclusive and detailed:

> After a thorough examination of the Church I found the following necessary to get a good and lasting job.
> 1. Repair copper dome; I have found that it has taken in water.
> 2. Remove all loose gold, then sandpaper and Gold leaf weather vane and dome with 23 Karat Gold.
> 3. While Stagings are up paint all woodwork on Tower, 2 coats, down to roof, and repair all woodwork. The circular cornice is loose and ready to drop off. Caulk and repair all columns.
> 4. We have added $150.00 to our contract for carpenter in Tower, it will not exceed this amount.
> 5. The weather vane will be greased with a special grease, so it may operate freely.
> 6. Price for all work listed above is 3,850.00.
> 7. Painting of all Trim and windows on Church and Parish Hall outside.
> 8. Scrape Sandpaper and apply 2 coats of any paint you wish.
> 9. Putty all windows where necessary.

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[460] Treasurer's Report, in minutes of parish annual meeting, May 8, 1950 (Records, Vol. III).

[461] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 11, 1953 (Records, Vol. III).

[462] Minutes, parish special meeting, July 7, 1953 (Records, Vol. III).

10. Price for 7-9 plus cleaning and repairing dry wells and screening out pigeons on rear of Church is 1,390.
11. Point all joints where necessary on Church and Parish Hall except for the section that comes under the AT&SF [Adams Temple and School Fund]. 950.00.
12. Install new copper cable lighting [sic] rod down two sides of building from tower with two grounds 12 feet into the ground. 325.00.
13. Install new 16 oz. copper half round gutters and conductors with copper straps and brass bolts. They will be the same as present gutters and conductors. Gutter and conductors over Crypt are O.K. 1,695.
14. Tear down chimney to where the old tie back bolts are and recap it. 250.00.
Price in full 8,460.00.[463]

Two separate letters added prices for gold-leafing the clock numerals ($480), and for pointing a section of the building ($445) for which the Adams Temple and School Fund was responsible.[464]

A week later, church representatives wrote three letters: one to the Quincy City Manager, one to representatives of the Adams Temple and School Fund, and one to the Belleau firm accepting the work proposals with provisions. The letter to the City Manager informed the city of the church's impending work and suggested:

> It is our feeling that savings would accrue to the City if the clock faces were painted and the numerals gilded while the staging is up around the tower.[465]

A similar letter was sent to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the Adams Temple and School Fund, addressing the cost-saving issue if staging was in place, if "that portion of the Church which constitutes the approaches to the Adams Crypt" was repointed.[466]

The provisions to accepting Belleau's proposal included:

1. It is to be understood that any savings in Item #4 (Carpenter work in tower) should revert to the First Parish Church.
2. Item #7 - it is our understanding that all blinds and doors are to be included in the painting of the Church.
3. Item #11 - all pointing work on the Church without exception is to be done for the sum of 1395.00.

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[463] Letter from Belleau Metal Works to Robert Faxon, April 19, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954," file box 2).

[464] Letters from Belleau Metal Works, Inc., to Mr. William Edwards, April 19 and 20, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[465] Letter, Robert Faxon, Chairman of Buildings and Grounds Committee, to William J. Deegan, Jr., City Manager, April 26, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[466] Letter to W.C. Edwards, Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Adams Temple and School Fund, April 27, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

4. Item #13 - it is agreed that cast iron pipe is to be installed on the lower ends of the downspouts on both sides of the front steps.
5. Item #14 - This work is not to be done until draft in chimney is checked by heating engineers.[467]

The draft of the chimney must have been checked the day after this letter was written, since a letter dated April 27 noted that "there is more than adequate draft in the chimney, and up to 5' of the latter could be removed without adversely affecting the operation of the oil burner."[468]

A price quotation for additional work was given to the church by Belleau Metal Works in May:

1. New gutters over study and 3 conductor pipes; also dig and install new tile connecting to city catch basins, approx. four to five hundred dol.
2. Install a new copper belt at the bottom of tower, at the front of church. This work is very necessary as it spans the full length of the front of the Church; approx. 22 in. of copper will be required, 50 ft. long 390.00
3. While we are there a complete check up of slate roof from one end to the other would be important to the Church. We would repair and replace all broken slates and flashing. 190.00
4. Install a new 16 oz copper roof at the right side of tower. The present roof is all worn out and perforated 1,150.
Your church has another roof, the same as this one, on the other side that is in fair condition; if you should decide to do this other roof we would do both roofs for the price of 2,200.[469]

Negotiations must have occurred between the two parties, because a revised scope of work with reduced pricing was returned to Belleau Metal Works four days later:

...It is our understanding that you will:
1. Repair the roofs on either side of the tower for the sum of $400.00.
2. Repair the copper belt at the bottom of the tower at the front of the Church using suitable waterproof mastic for the sum of $50.00.

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[467] Letter, Robert Faxon to E.R. Belleau, Jr., April 26, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[468] Letter, Robert Faxon to George Bonsall, April 27, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[469] Letter, Belleau Metal Works to Robert Faxon, May 21, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

> 3. Check the slate roof from one end to the other, repair and replace all broken slates and flashing and replace the white slates over the front entrance of the Church with gray slates to match the rest of the roof, for the sum of 190.00.
> 4. Install 3 conductor pipes, one on the north side of the Parish House and 2 on the south side, and install a gutter around the Minister's study, this work together with the necessary connections to the drain to be done at a cost not to exceed $300.[470]

Four bills were sent to the church between the end of May and the end of June. Additional charges included caulking windows where caulk fell out as they painted, repairing a large window and its sash cords, renewing a pigeon screen, and providing new glass.[471] Belleau included a statement of work:

> Repaired and regilded dome.
> Repaired cornice and woodwork on tower and over portico.
> Painted all exterior woodwork (Two coats).
> Re-pointed all joints in masonry where needed.
> Installed new copper cable lightning rod down two sides from tower.
> Replaced gutters and conductors with 16 ounce proper material.
> Lower and recap chimney.
> Repaired roof either side of tower.
> Checked roof and replaced broken and off color slates to match.
> Installed three additional conductor pipes and connected to drains.
> Installed gutter around study.
> Renewed caulking around windows.
> Repaired one large window.
> Installed pigeon screens.
> Total cost 10,310.00, of which 445.00 was charged to and paid by the Adams Temple and School Fund....[472]

While the church had been repaired extensively, it is interesting to note that the roofs—which traditionally created the worst maintenance problems—were only repaired. Their replacement would have cost $2,200; instead their repair cost $400. Belleau's statement of work did not record that the weather vane was regilded, which it was, nor that the new double lightning rod replaced a single rod, which it did.[473]

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[470] Letter, Robert Faxon to Belleau Metal Works, May 25, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[471] Bills from Belleau Metal Works dated May 31, June 16, June 18, and June 29, 1954 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954").

[472] Bills from Belleau Metal Works dated May 31, June 16, June 18, and June 29, 1954.

[473] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 10, 1954 (Records, Vol. III).

Several repairs were accomplished during the last half of the decade, as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1955 - | three Corbin-brand door closers were reinstalled |
| 1956 - | the roof was repaired |
| December 1955-1956 - | exterior flood lights were installed, the pulpit lighting was altered, and a refrigerator outlet was installed |
| 1958 - | bird prevention was installed on the rear copper overhang; the roof was repaired again; slating was repaired; copper flashing on the addition's eyebrow windows was repaired; the electric clock in the main church was repaired in 1958; and a railing was installed at the north portico |
| 1959 - | plastering and painting repairs were made, and a new sign was built.[474] |

Total costs for maintenance and repairs for 1955-1956 were $2,611.32; for 1956-1957, $193.53; and for 1957-1958, $474.34.[475]

The 1957 annual meeting records show that the church and Adams crypt were opened "on Friday evenings with attendance of a spontaneous nature, between 15 and 20, without benefit of news notices or advertising."[476] This quiet success may have been what prompted Charles F. Adams IV to contribute to "the redecoration of the Adams Crypt..." the following year, but this is only an hypothesis.[477] The report of the House and Grounds Committee this same year stated that no major repairs were necessary during the year.

The First Parish Church of Quincy absorbed the Wollaston Unitarian Society in 1958, forming the United First Parish Church.[478] The sale of the Wollaston church building ca. 1960 provided funds to make improvements in the Stone Temple, including the creation of new Sunday School rooms; at the time, the money was presumed to be enough to pay for a new organ, as well.[479] Much work was accomplished throughout the 1960s, but it appears that only the basement benefitted from the profits from the sale of the other church building. The organ was not replaced.

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[474] Bills from Accurate Lock & Key Works, July 29, 1955; from Norman W. Pemberton, Inc., January 16, 1956; (three) from MacKenzie & Foster Co., from December 1, 1955 to December 13, 1956; from Norman W. Pemberton, Inc., December 8, 1958; from Charles P. Miller, January 8, 1958; from Harding Welding & Piping Corp., May 2, 1958; and from Eric A. Ekblomm, Builder, October 27, 1959 (all in folder "Stone Temple, Misc. Repairs and Purchases," file box 2).

[475] Treasurer's Reports, in minutes of parish annual meetings, May 13, 1957, and May 12, 1958 (Records, Vol. III).

[476] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 13, 1957 (Records, Vol. III).

[477] Minutes, parish annual meeting, May 12, 1958 (Records, Vol. III).

[478] Dorothy B. Wrigley, "History of the Wollaston Unitarian Church," *United First Parish Church (Unitarian) in Quincy, Church of the Presidents, 350th Anniversary, 1639-1989.*

[479] Letter, Delcevare King to Dr. Bradford E. Gale (minister), May 17, 1960 (in folder "Delcevare King," file box 2).

In the autumn of 1960, the Building and Grounds Committee submitted a report to the congregation:

> Last June, C. Francis N. Roberts, Architect, prepared preliminary plans for new classrooms and revision to the social room of the Church. After several conferences, these plans were revised, on February 12, 1960, and figures were obtained, and contract let, on May 3, to W.R. Lofgren and sons, general contractors, and George H. Peterson, for the plumbing and heating.
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | The Lofgren figure, which included new toilets, a new floor in the social hall, but no work in the kitchen was | $13,435.00 |
> | A Peterson figure, which included a new sewer connection and a new water service, was | 4,405.00 |
> | As the work progressed, it was thought well to make alterations in the kitchen ... | 1,410.00 |
> | Extras in the recreation room, including masonite dado | 640.00 |
> | Alterations to two door openings, including lowering the doors, narrowing opening, necessary hardware & painting | 710.00 |
> | New lighting fixtures in recreation room | 240.00 |
> | The actual cost of the sewer and water connection exceeded estimate by | 197.00 |
> | The purchase and installation of the unit on the first floor | 620 |
> | Architect's fee | 750.00 |
> | Further work to be done at this time is repair of the flashing on the front of the Church, which is estimated to cost | 350.00 |
> | Estimate for shelving and cupboards in kitchen | 375.00 |
> | | 22,832.00[480] |

The above work probably commenced after May, and was augmented by the plumbing work. Some of this was billed to the church in July (rough plumbing, water piping, and rough heating); the remainder was billed in October (plumbing, heating, kitchen plumbing, first-story kitchen unit installation, moving gas water heater to boiler room, and the provision of a sink, refrigerator, and stove unit).[481]

Additional bills from Lofgren documented additional work. The first Lofgren bill reflected the contract charge, plus charges for alterations to the kitchen ($1,410), changing two pairs of doors in the "Social Hall" ($710), installing the masonite dado and dado cap in the Social Hall ($640), removing the old wood floor and laying a concrete floor in the kitchen ($125), rehanging a door to swing out from the crypt to the front stairway and a door check ($65), rehanging a door to swing out at the stairway and first-story hall ($35), laying a concrete floor in the old storage cellar (no

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[480] Report of the Building and Grounds Committee, First Parish Church, October 9, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961," file box 2).

[481] Bills from Peterson, July 15, 1960, and October 6, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961").

charge), painting the large kitchen and entry ($255.70), and installing six electric light fixtures.[482] The church was also charged for labor and materials for installing two wall cabinets and enclosing undercounter units in the large kitchen ($385.76), and for installing new oak thresholds at the entrance doors ($70.25).[483]

It appears that two more rooms were built as an afterthought, in April 1961. Lofgren charged the church $2,960 for work that encompassed laying the basement concrete floor and building a "storage room with 5/8" sheet rock ceiling as per letter 2/10/61." There were no charges for building a room for records, or for installing stair rails, exit signs, and door closures.[484]

The plans for this work, drawn by C. Francis N. Roberts, survived in the church archives (Appendix C). The first proposal is dated June 30, 1959; the second is dated February 3, 1960, revised to February 12 and May 5, 1960. Clearly the old toilets were removed from the basement of the Parish Hall, which provided more space for the "Social Room"; the pantry area of the kitchen was remodeled; and a new concrete slab was poured under half of the church's basement, where three new Sunday school rooms were built across from new toilets. The details were reflected in the previously cited bills. What was most interesting is that the work that was billed in April 1961—pouring the remainder of the cement floor and building the record vault and store room—was not recorded on a plan by the same architect until April 1962, when the work was denoted as "existing."

This 1962 plan, revised three different times—July 18 and October 3, 1962, and February 21, 1963—reflects a basement layout similar to the current layout, with the additional rooms constructed. When this work was accomplished is not known, since no invoices have survived. The fact that it was accomplished is evident in the existing conditions.

Other work that took place during the early 1960s included repairs to the front and rear copper overhangs, slate repair,[485] installation of a sound system including speakers and outlets,[486] and the installation of cabinets in the Sunday School rooms.[487]

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[482] Bill from Lofgren, October 7, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961").

[483] Bills from Lofgren, one undated, one dated December 1, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961").

[484] Bill from Lofgren, April 11, 1961 (in folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961").

[485] Bill from Pemberton, November 29, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[486] Bill dated June 15, 1960 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[487] Bill from Quincy Lumber, January 31, 1961 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

By 1963 major repairs were evidently needed both to the interior and to the belfry. Apparently some disagreement arose initially as to which should have higher priority. The Building and Grounds Committee decided to hire experts to inspect and prioritize the needed work:

> The Committee discussed the matter of repairs to the belfrey [sic] and the painting and plastering work to be done in the Church. It was voted to recommend to the Board of Assessors that a church architect be retained, to ascertain the work to be done in the dome, together with supervising of the work of painting and plastering the Church, and the renewal of the carpet and dorsal [the drapery hanging behind the altar; also called a dossal]. It was suggested that he determine the priority of work to be done and whether the belfrey [sic] required first priority. It was recommended that a sum not to exceed $500.00 be recommended to the Board for professional services in this regard. The members present felt that all the work should be accomplished at one time, incl. painting of the Parish House and the renewal of the dorsal and the carpet.[488]

One committee member appears to have felt that the interior work should take precedent over the belfry work, and so chronicled the condition of some elements:

> I would now, as I have in the past, urge that the Dome Ceiling, the walls of the Church, the ceilings under the balconies, and the two stairways and Vestibule be repaired and painted two coats. I would also add the painting of the Parish House. Why have a clean church, and lower hall and Sunday School rooms and have a dirty upper floor?
>
> I do not approve of Gold Leafing the Greek Key in the circle of the Dome. This is absolutely out of line in the architecture and decor of a Stone Temple (so called by President John Adams) or a New England Meeting-House dedicated in 1828.
>
> Under no circumstance allow the woodwork of the Pulpit to be washed and polished. A few years ago, the Pulpit was worked on with very disastrous results. Mr. Bussolini, who cares for the Mahogany furniture at the Adams National Site was called in. It took him a week to restore the finish. His method of care is known to our sexton, Mr. James Smith.
>
> If repairs are needed to the now called Dorsal, they should be made. We go to England, Scotland, France, and other European countries to visit their landmarks. Some date back to 1400, and we view with awe the beautiful churches and their decor. The large sash [cords?] on each side of the dorsal were placed there in 1925.
>
> Which is the most important at the present time, redecorating or the repairs to the belfry? Something must be done about these repairs in the very near future....[489]

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[488] Building and Grounds Committee Report given May 13, 1963, on meeting held May 7, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964," file box 2). The dorsal was a very large, elaborate piece of drapery that hung on the east wall of the Sanctuary to provide a backdrop for the pulpit.

[489] Letter, William C. Edwards to Robert M. Faxon, May 7, 1963 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967," file box 2).

In the end, the poor condition of the belfry predicated that work on it had to take precedent. A report from the consulting engineers revealed that:

> ... we are very much concerned with the conditions we are finding in the columns supporting the dome over the belfry.
>
> There are eight (8) columns. the condition at the top was checked using a drill 2 feet long and in each case the drill met with no resistance for the full length. The movement of the dome was excessive when working on a ladder in making the examination.
>
> It is our opinion that this is a dangerous condition needing immediate attention and we recommend employing an experienced shoring contractor [?] Blair & Company to shore this dome with the proper shoring and bracing to make this condition safe until repairs can be made.
>
> We recommend that the church bell be used to strike the time and to toll only and not be "swung" until after repairs are made.[490]

A subsequent letter with enclosures dated a week later documented even more alarming conditions: "The sill supporting the dome was badly rotted. The dome is probably being held up by the architectural casing around the columns.... The large wood girder under the floor joists is extensively rotted and the cribbing supporting the bell is beginning to rot...."[491] The committee met on July 8 and 15, with the following results:

> It was brought out that in order for the engineer to formulate plans the casings around the columns would have to be stripped, as has been stated above. This would necessitate staging starting at the two granite abutments north and south of the tower and running up to the height of the bottom of the dome. This staging would serve also as shoring and would safeguard the tower during the winter months...estimate $7,500.00
>
> Mr. Pike felt that probably the columns could be reinforced with steel on two sides, through-bolted with fillers to prevent collapse if further rot set in upon the columns. In Mr. MacLeod's estimate, such a method, I believe, was to be followed, and his price also included the strengthening of the beam under the bell deck, which also is rotted, through one-third at its center. The contractor was asked also whether it might not be possible to shore the tower with steel in a manner that might last for a considerable period of years....
>
> It was moved and voted to report and recommend to the Board of Assessors that staging be erected, condition of columns be examined and engineering plans be obtained....[492]

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[490] Letter, Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, Consulting Engineers, to Mr. Robert Faxon, June 26, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[491] Letter, Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, with enclosures, to Robert Faxon, July 3, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[492] Report of meetings of Building & Grounds Committee, written July 18, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

The engineering firm's contractor submitted a proposal with four alternatives for solving the belfry problems, some temporary and some permanent. One was for total replacement of elements between the granite and gold leaf, except for the eight column capitals; one was for replacing only finished woodwork; one was for erecting semipermanent timber shoring; and one was for the entire removal and disposal of the tower above the granite.[493] The church contracted with MacLeod, the engineers' builder, on September 27, 1963.[494]

Less than three weeks later, the church received bad news. The contractors found such progressive rot and worm damage when the ceiling of the dome was removed that:

> ... the deterioration in the dome has gone so far as to make the proposed shoring impracticable. [The Quincy Building Department was notified of this unsafe condition.]
>
> In view of this, we recommend that the W.A. MacLeod Co. be asked to give a price on removing the dome, placing it on cribbing on the ground and providing it with a fence for protection....[495]

The church committee agreed to follow their suggestion.[496] MacLeod submitted a proposal to the engineering firm, outlining the removal of the dome, the placement of it on staging at least 6 feet above the ground (see figure 48), and the procedure for removing the wood columns and capitals.[497]

Two months later the church received a letter from a fund-raising firm, accepting work for "the forthcoming Belfry Reconstruction Program."[498] It was estimated that $30,000 would be needed for the project, which now included installing new copper flashing at the base of the dome, the tops of the columns, and the belfry deck; coating all the structural steel with Koppers Super Service bitumastic; shoring and protecting the clock mechanism; furnishing and installing new "ship" ladders from the clock tower to the belfry floor; and furnishing eight new half-column casings and reusing existing material for the remainder.[499]

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[493] Letter, W.A. MacLeod Co., Builders, to Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, July 17, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[494] Contract with W.A. MacLeod Co., for proposed belfry tower shoring, September 27, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[495] Letter, Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, to Robert Faxon, October 21, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[496] Record of October 24, 1963, meeting of Building and Grounds Committee, dated October 25, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[497] Letter, MacLeod Co. to Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, October 25, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[498] Letter, Donald T. Steele of Haney Associates, Inc., to George H. Bonsall, December 20, 1963 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[499] Letter, W.A. MacLeod to Cleverdon, Varney and Pike, January 21, 1964 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

Other bills throughout 1964 and 1965 suggest that another engineering firm also was involved, and in fact may have completed all the repair work and the steel reinforcing once the MacLeod firm removed the dome.[500] After the dome was hoisted back into place, the church's roofer had to repair the slates and copper roof,[501] but these repairs finally brought the project to completion, in August 1965.

Other work went on while the belfry repairs were continuing. Electrical work included installation of the following: floor receptacles in the large basement room, presumably in the addition; two weather-proof receptacles; two new receptacles in the organ loft; and a new electrical feed. The existing load was redistributed over circuits, and organ fixtures were repaired.[502] A shower was also installed and new areas "at basement windows" were constructed.[503] The location of the shower is not known, but the areas at the basement windows may have been the extant window wells. A red velour valance was purchased and installed, possibly for the pulpit area.[504]

The majority of repairs to the interior had been postponed until 1967, but not cancelled, and the momentum for their revival is evidenced by a record of agreement between the Albert D. Howlett Company in Quincy and the church. This agreement proposed:

> to paint complete the main body of the First Parish Church complete, including vestibules and balcony. The work will consist of plastering and patching cracks. Washing all painted and natural surfaces except pulpit, prepare and paint ceilings one coat of flat latex paint, prepare and paint two coats satin sheen enamel painted woodwork including dadoes, pews, stairs, balcony and posts, windows, and frames. Also, reletter existing numerals. Prepare and apply one coat of satin varnish to natural woodwork presently varnished; prepare and apply one coat of Danish oil to natural unfinished wood in pews and to wood floor and balconies.
> All in accordance with seller's bid dated February 20, 1967. 9,900.00.[505]

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[500] Bills from Conti and Donahue, Inc., Engineers, Contractors, dated October 15 and November 24, 1964, and February 25, 1965 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[501] Bill from Norman W. Pemberton, August 11, 1965 (in folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-1964").

[502] Bill from Ross Electric, October 27, 1964 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[503] Bill from Richard Miller dated September 22, 1965, and from W.R. Lofgren & Sons dated October 14, 1865 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[504] Bill from Major Theatre Equipment Corporation, August 7, 1965 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[505] Letter of Agreement between Albert D. Howlett Co. of Quincy and United First Parish Church (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967," file box 2).

An addended proposal was received in June of the same year "for painting an additional coat on the coiffered [sic] ceiling..." for $975.[506]

While no other confirming documentation survived with these records, it is presumed that the work was completed, along with additional work. This is based on a letter to the church treasurer from the chairman of the Church and Grounds Committee (formerly the Building and Grounds Committee).[507] This letter authorized a payment of $13,392 to the Howlett Company for painting and decorating the church based on agreements dated June 19 and July 5, 1967. The letter also stated that the payment "...also includes the sum of $2,517 for work in the Parish House and in the study of Dr. Gale," but this work was not specified. Finally, the letter recorded the following:

- that work was done on the heating system, including a special finish for four units (i.e., unit heaters, two in the front and two in the rear of the church;[508]
- that new carpet was installed, but that a shortage of 35 yards existed;
- that the dorsal drapery required correction, implying that a problem existed, but it was not specified;
- that new seat cushions had been delivered;
- and that the drain work and the repointing work would be paid by the Adams Temple and School Fund.

The Adams Temple and School Fund issued a check for $5,000 in fulfillment of their obligation to the Supreme Judicial Court decree of 1944. The decree had demanded that the fund pay $15,000 toward the upkeep of the Presidents' tomb in the church, and the $5,000 payment fulfilled the direction of the decree in full.

It is not clear as to whether the dorsal drapery was replaced in 1967, but several pieces of evidence suggest that it may have been. First, a bill exists for "Cleaning old dorsal" that is dated July 1967.[509] Although the dorsal drapery had to be cleaned because a pigeon found its way into the church, the adjective **old** indicates as certain dissatisfaction with it. Second, a folder labeled "Dorsal Drapes 1967" contained three apparently new fabric samples: one was not labeled, one was labeled "Pulpit Velvet," and one was labeled "Dorsal Drapes." Third, the seat cushions and carpet were replaced in 1967, so it would be a likely time to have the dorsal drapery replaced as well. Since the letter discussed previously stated that the dorsal drapery required correction, one might assume that a new installation had been done unsatisfactorily.

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[506] Letter, Albert D. Howlett Co. to United First Parish Church, June 27, 1967 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967").

[507] Letter, Chairman of Church and Grounds Committee to Treasurer, October 3, 1967 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967").

[508] Bill from Thomas E. Purpura, Electrical Contractor, November 25, 1967 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[509] Bill from A.A. Carlson & Son, Painting Contractors, July 7, 1967 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967").

The 1967 redecoration of the church was apparently directed by the Boston architectural firm of Perry, Shaw, Hepburn and Dean, because a bill for a $1,000 fee can be found in the records, specifically for "the re-decoration and repairs to the Church Edifice and Parish House." The firm's role and commitment evidently was based on a letter from Mr. Edwards dated May 17, 1967.[510]

In January 1968, the church received two bills for more than $300 for floodlighting the ceiling.[511] This lighting was apparently installed in the Parish Hall, and not the sanctuary.

Two months later, water leaks had once again caused noticeable damage to the ceiling, so a new approach was formulated to deal with them. The church's roofer installed a heavy plastic "water shed" in the attic, to divert "water blowing through bell tower" and thereby protect the ceiling. Within days the cracks, joints, and step flashing at the base of the bell tower were cemented and caulked, followed by a recommendation for additional work.[512]

Five invoices dated 1969 documented repairs and alterations to the property. The earliest was dated February 1, 1969, recording repair to the floor and replacement of floor tile in the corridor of the Sunday School area.[513] The roofer replaced two copper roofs in October, most likely the two on either side of the tower.[514] New sound equipment was purchased in November, along with the installation of a new air conditioning connector and repair of a lamp cord.[515] In addition, some work was performed on the front doors of the church; although the work was not specified, it could not have been extensive, since the total bill amounted to $18.[516] Finally, lumber and materials were purchased in December for the installation of flooring in the Sunday School store room.[517]

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[510] Bill from Perry, Shaw, Hepburn and Dean, Architects, November 27, 1967 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967").

[511] Bills from Ross Electric, January 9, 1968 (in folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967") and January 9, 1968 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[512] Bill from Norman Pemberton, Inc., April 8, 1968 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[513] Bill from W.R. Lofgren & Sons, February 1, 1969 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[514] Bill from Norman W. Pemberton. Inc, October 17, 1969 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[515] Bill from Fred Lane, no date, approved November 11, 1969 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[516] Bill from W.R. Lofgren & Sons, dated May 12, 1970 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[517] Bill from Quincy Lumber, December 31, 1969 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

A 1970 spring storm required emergency roof repairs that entailed slate and copper hip replacement.[518] Other minor work in 1970 included the installation of "Lt Hammered Cathedral Glass" for $24; repairs to the lock on the front door; and repairs to the chimney and "S.I.S. roof" (meaning not known).[519] More extensive work included repairs to holes in the copper gutter and replacement of copper "goosenecks" where needed.[520] Two major projects were accomplished this same year. The first was the installation of a 200-ampere electrical system; the second involved the demolition and repouring of sections of concrete sidewalk, the excavation and installation of stone in "areaways," the repointing of sills and foundation walls, and the repairing of dry wells. Some chain fencing was also replaced at this time.[521]

The most recent bill contained in the records that relates to repairs, alterations, or maintenance of the structure dates to January 13, 1971. It suggests that one of the two side windows in the vestibule section of the church required repair, including covering the sill with lead and painting it with two coats of paint.[522]

Documentation for repairs made since 1971 have not yet been recorded and organized in either record books or file boxes. As a consequence, these records were not reviewed for this study. However, a list of activities performed during this time period was provided to the authors by the Rev. Sheldon Bennett, Ph.D., pastor of the church. The work included the following:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1971 | major restoration of the organ (see Chapter III) |
| 1973 | addition of glass and metal office partitions in Parish Hall |
| 1983 | regilding of dome |
| 1986 | installation of central-station ADT intrusion- and fire-detection system |
| 1986-87 | modernization of kitchenette pantry off Parish Hall (new counter top, electric stove top, under-counter refrigerator) |

[518] Bill from Norman W. Pemberton, Inc., May 4, 1970 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[519] Bills from John H. Settles Company, Inc., April 1, 1970; W.R. Lofgren & Sons, April 10, 1970; and Norman W. Pemberton, Inc., July 6, 1970 (all in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[520] Bill from Norman W. Pemberton, Inc., September 21, 1970 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[521] Bills from Ross Electric, September 30, 1970, and Rudy V. Pompeo, November 24, 1970 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

[522] Bill from W.R. Lofgren, January 13, 1971 (in folder "Stone Temple, Miscellaneous Repairs and Purchases").

| | |
|---|---|
| 1987 | renovation of the lower story, including a new VAT floor in social hall, with extensive repairs to subfloor; the finishing of the large storeroom on north side of the corridor into new classroom space with electric baseboard heat; the installation of a new subfloor and carpet in the corridor; and the installation of a urinal in the men's room |
| 1987 | rehanging of the bell on a new support structure, and the installation of an electromagnetic striking device (all at city expense) |
| 1987/88? | installation of new electric service to the kitchen for the upstairs pantry off the Parish Hall, to power an electric stove top and outlets for coffee makers |
| 1988/89? | repairs to roof, including new valley flashing on both sides of the cricket at the east end of the addition at the chimney to the Ladies' Parlor, and replacement of the roof hatch/skylight on the north side of the main roof |
| 1988-89? | repointing of the crypt and repair of the lighting system (all by the Adams Temple and School Fund) |
| 1992? | organ repair (see Chapter III) |
| 1992? | replacement of the old, deteriorated gutter on the north side of the main roof with temporary aluminum gutter; examination of entire roof and replacement of slates as needed |
| 1992? | installation of new exterior floodlights at the tower level, and the ground level (at the expense of the Quincy Partnership) |
| 1992? | installation of new lightning-protection system |
| 1993 | installation of electrical service in first-story front vestibule, including outlets for electric space heaters for tour guides |
| 1994? | extensive repairs to roofs - Parish Hall roof, including north eyebrow window; examination of entire roof and replacement of slates as needed |
| 1994 | refinishing of Parish Hall floor |
| 1995 | extensive repairs to roofs - Parish Hall roof, including south eyebrow window; main roof at west end at tower, southeast side; and south roof over south stairway to second-story vestibule |
| 1996 | replacement of motor in gallery clock; cleaning and repairing of tower clock (at city expense) |

At some time between March 23, 1971, and November 19, 1972, the United First Parish Church (Unitarian) was listed as a National Historic Landmark.[523] Presumably the requisite two Historic American Building Survey photographs were taken at that time, but they were not found in the church records.

[523] Letter, Department of the Interior to United First Parish Church, March 23, 1971; and letter, Murray H. Nelligan, Landmark and National Register Specialist, National Park Service, to church historian, n.d. (in folder "Historic Landmark Data," file box 1).

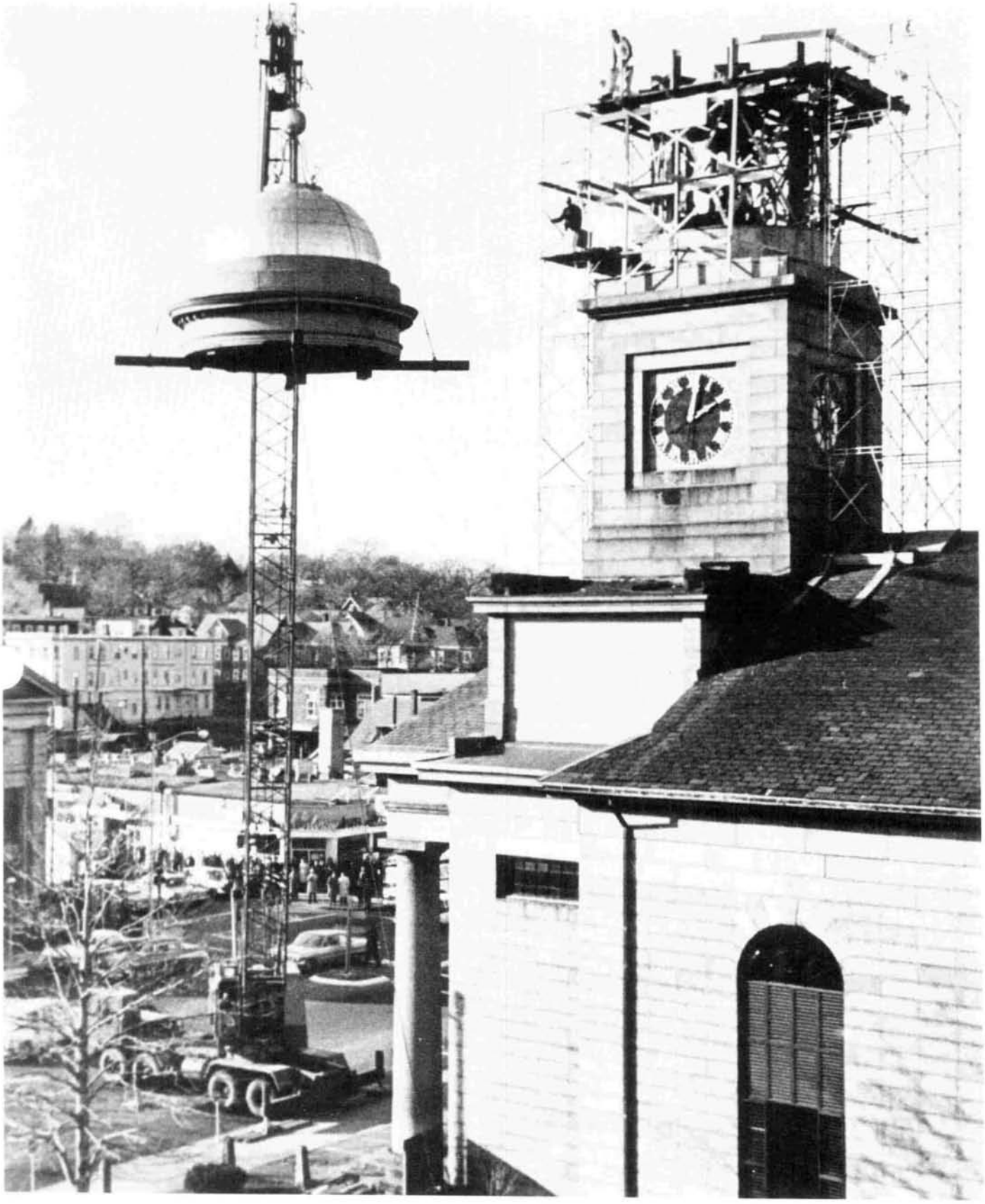


**Figure 48.** Belfry repairs and dome removal (photograph ca. 1964).

# III. BUILDING HISTORY AND EVOLUTION: SPECIFIC ELEMENTS

# THE ORGAN

The first mention of an organ in the records was in August 1827, relative to a discussion of space at the rear gallery, referred to as the singers' seat. It was discovered that "if a space sufficiently large for an organ was reserved, the seat in front would be much too narrow."[1] This was resolved by cutting an archway from the rear gallery into the second-story vestibule.

Nearly a year later the masons were directed "to suspend their work on the Arch in the singers seat, having proceeded to close it without orders, leaving the recess too small for an organ."[2] Finally, one Stephen Alexander was paid (apparently above and beyond the contract) $6.06 for boarding the organ arch, which included joist(s), boards, nails, 1 1/2 days' labor, and "hanging curtains in front of the singers."[3] But the issue of the organ was never resolved for the record.

A decade later, at a parish meeting on February 16, 1837, a warrant was considered:

> to see if the parish will permit individuals to place an Organ in the Meetinghouse for the Use of the Society.... It was voted unanimously that Individuals have permission to place the Organ in the Meeting house under the Superintendence and direction of the parish committee....[4]

The meeting was adjourned for two months, when a committee was chosen to procure an organist and the singers were "authorised to dispose of the double Bass Viol- as they please for the good of the Singing Society."[5]

These records show that the parish did not have an organ in the Stone Temple when it was constructed, at least for the first decade, and that music other than voices was apparently supplied by the double bass viol. A record dating to 1839 shows that a total of $1,232.77 had been expended to that date relating to the organ. The instrument cost $500, three people were paid for "taking down & putting up," three people were paid for "Gilding & Painting," Mrs. Graves was paid for playing the organ, and Josiah Adams III was paid for "Blowing," no doubt referring to the bellows that provided air to the pipes.[6] Some of the hardware relating to a bellows still remains in the second-story vestibule.

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[1] Minutes, building committee meeting, August 10, 1827 (Documents, Vol. I).

[2] Minutes, building committee meeting, June 16, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I).

[3] Voucher to Stephen Alexander, November 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 126).

[4] Minutes, parish meeting, February 16, 1837 (Records, Vol. I, p. 141).

[5] Minutes, parish meeting, April 10, 1837 (Records, Vol. I, p. 145).

[6] Minutes, parish meeting (Records, Vol. I, pp. 155-156).

Only six years passed before the subject of replacing the organ arose. The reason seemed to stem from the lack of a sub-bass in the existing organ. The committee chosen to pursue this issue consulted with Mr. Appleton in Boston and Mr. Stevenson in Cambridge. The committee concluded that a new organ with a full sub-bass would cost $1400; that a sub-bass could not be added to the extant organ, due to lack of sufficient power; and if it could, the extant organ was not worth the extra investment of $500. The final conclusion was "that the time has arrived when some measures should be adopted to procure a new and more fashionable instrument."[7]

The old organ was apparently sold by 1848,[8] but it may not have been removed immediately. Entries for payments prior to March 1850, regarding the tuning and repairing of the organ ($25), and gilding ($1) and repairing ($1) the pipe could relate to the old or new equipment.[9] The new one was certainly installed by March 1851: "The new Organ is completed and is now being put up in the Meeting House," and the congregation voted to insure it for $1,500.[10]

Due to leaks in the building that caused falling plaster, the organ was directly affected and required repair. The parish assessors asked "for instructions as to making repairs" in 1859.[11] During the year prior to this request, the organ had been repaired twice for a total of $19.[12]

Mr. Furnald repaired the organ two or three times between 1868 and 1869, possibly first in 1868,[13] and definitely in December of 1868 and January 1869.[14] Major repairs amounting to $272 took place in the spring of 1871, when Horatio Davis installed "four new stops of the best of spotted metal," tuned the organ, repaired the wind chest and bellows, and gilded the front pipes.[15]

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[7] Minutes, parish meeting, April 21, 1845 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 194-195).

[8] Minutes, parish meeting, March 13, 1848 (Records, Vol. I, p. 217).

[9] Minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1850 (Records, Vol. I, p. 226).

[10] Minutes, parish meeting, March 10, 1851 (Records, Vol. I, p. 237).

[11] Report of June 6, 1859, in minutes of parish meeting (Records, Vol. I, p. 351).

[12] Vouchers for G.G. Hook, July 3, 1858, and for E. & G.G. Hook, April 2, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II).

[13] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 9, 1868 (Records, Vol. 2, p. 21).

[14] Bills from N.B. Furnald for December 26, 1868, and January 4, 1869, in an envelope dated 1869 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 210).

[15] Bill from Horatio Davis Inc., for May 9-June 3, in an envelope dated 1871 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 223); and minutes, parish meeting, March 11, 1872 (Records, Vol. II, p. 57).

During the fiscal year 1898-1899, the organ was repaired for $102.60.[16] Two years later, the "ladies of the Society" began a campaign to raise money for a new organ, and $252 was deposited in the Organ Fund.[17] The Organ Fund apparently had a relatively long existence, since it was not until the fiscal year ending in March 1909 that:

> Thomas Fenno treasurer of the organ fund reported that he had received the $2000. from the executor of the Estate of Amanda W. Reed and that a new organ had been purchased and installed at a cost to date of $5,164.10. having a balance of some $1100 still to the credit of the organ fund.[18]

This organ, manufactured by Hook and Hastings, is the same that exists today.[19]

In 1941 the organ was "completely overhauled and cleaned" after many years' deferment.[20] This was the first recorded work to the organ since its installation in 1908-1909. A second major restoration of the organ occurred in 1971. This included the relocation of the console, the electrification of the controls, and the addition of a register of pipes. In 1992, significant repairs were made to the organ's swell motor. The now organ is now serviced twice a year, with repairs being made as needed.[21]

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[16] Report of Parish Assessors, 1898-1899 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 239).

[17] Report of Parish Assessors, 1900-1901 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 246).

[18] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 8, 1909 (Records, Vol. II, p. 348).

[19] The Rev. Sheldon Bennett, Ph.D., pastor of the church.

[20] Board of Assessors Report, 1940-1941 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 141).

[21] The Rev. Sheldon Bennett.

## THE HEATING SYSTEM

A chimney was being constructed on the roof ridge of the church in November 1827, presumably for venting a furnace. However, the building committee did not ask the parish about "warming the House by a furnace" until after September 12, 1828.[22] Permission to "contract for a furnace" was granted immediately.[23]

The original furnace was probably located in the basement of the church, being vented by the chimney still extant on the roof ridge at the east end of the building (fig. 41). As will be explained shortly, another chimney existed on the roof ridge at the west end of the church at an early date (fig. 42). However, the east chimney is thought to be the original one, because it is believed that its flue was incorporated into the original stonework of the church's east wall.

The first furnace was most likely fabricated from bricks, soapstone, iron, doors, hardware, and boards, based on notations in a voucher submitted by Mr. Souther for reimbursement and paid December 26, 1828, for work completed the prior November. It may have had an inner combustion chamber, based on the description of purchases. The firm of Safford and Low sold a "Furnace" to the church for $197.08, which may have been the internal chamber; this was carted from Boston. In addition, 4,000 bricks were purchased from Samuel Clapp and carted from Dorchester. William Mardin, mason, set 900 bricks for the furnace, possibly lining it. The New England Soap Stone Company supplied "$4.12 1/2" worth of materials, presumably soapstone. Enoch Horton and "E. Bigilow [sic]" were paid for work as laborers, relating to masonry and piling wood. George Hardwick supplied two casks of lime; Josiah Savil provided four scrapers and iron for the furnace; Stephen Alexander supplied labor, board, nails, and stock for the doors; and William Greenough & Company provided door springs and handles.[24] The latter entry may relate to other doors, such as entry doors or pew doors, since subsequent entries on the voucher are not furnace-related. Initially the furnace was fueled with wood, evidenced by the many vouchers in the record books for payments for cords of wood.[25]

Several references suggest that the furnace needed repairs shortly after it was constructed. By 1839, the committee authorized a "New Furnace to be placed in the Cellar of the Meeting house instead of the old one at the expense of the Parish making use of such materials of the Old furnace as may serve for the purpose of setting the new one-...."[26] No vouchers survived to substantiate that this work was done at this time.

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[22] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 12, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I).

[23] Minutes, building committee meeting, September 15, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I); and minutes, parish meeting, September 15, 1828 (Records, Vol. I, p. 48).

[24] Voucher paid to John Souther, December 26, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 127).

[25] Voucher to Salmon Copland, January 19, 1829 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 134), and many vouchers without names for wood (e.g., p. 151).

[26] Minutes, parish meeting, October 11, 1839 (Records, Vol. I, p. 158).

The original furnace apparently remained in service until 1849, when entries related to a new furnace (or at least new parts for the furnace) appear in the annual settlement of accounts. The old furnace pot was replaced with a new one and mason work was completed, presumably for the new furnace. In addition, an entry in the same list for more than five tons of coal suggests that the new furnace burned coal instead of wood.[27]

Repairs were made to the new furnace within two years of the new installation, at some time before the close of the church's fiscal year in March 1851. The exact repairs were not specified.[28] A new furnace funnel and pipe were installed by March 1853.[29]

Entries for a new furnace begin to appear again in 1855. Stove posts and a new furnace were purchased for $212 prior to March 1855; an order to pay $150.64 to Mr. Fellows for "a Furnace and Setting the same in the meeting house" survived from February 1856.[30] Additional entries suggest that the furnace fuel was still coal.[31] The furnace was repaired in 1859[32] and again in 1860.[33] Charles F. Pierce was paid in October 1861 for furnace supplies and again in December 1862 "for pipes and cleaning new furnace and putty."[34]

An official request for still another new furnace surfaced in 1863. The minutes of the annual meeting of March 9, 1863, chronicled that "The Meeting House needs repairs to prevent leakages from the Tower and other places & one new furnace is very much needed which will cost if made and procured about $200.00." While the habitual need for roof repair was apparently not addressed, the parish did vote "To request the Collector to make an effort to raise money by subscription for the purchase of a new Furnace for the Meeting House."[35] Charles Pierce supplied parts and installed a new furnace in 1863. The records suggest that this furnace also was coal-burning.[36]

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[27] Minutes, parish meeting, March 12, 1849 (Records, Vol. I, p. 219).

[28] Minutes, parish meeting, March 10, 1851 (Records, Vol. I, p. 233).

[29] Voucher to John Hall (Documents, Vol. II, p. 8); and minutes, parish meeting, March 14, 1853 (Records, Vol. I, p. 260).

[30] Minutes, parish meeting, March 1855 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 276-278); and order to pay E.[S?] Fellows, February 4, 1856 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 38).

[31] Order to pay Nathaniel White, December 27, 1855 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 37); and order to pay N. White, January 5, 1858 (p. 49).

[32] Voucher for E.S. Fellows, October 25, 1859 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 99).

[33] Bill from Benj. F. Bass, November 1, 1860 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 129).

[34] Bill from Charles F. Pierce, December 29, 1862 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 163).

[35] Minutes, parish meeting, March 9, 1863 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 397-399).

[36] Envelope dated 1863 filled with bills (Documents, Vol. II, p. 166); and minutes, parish meeting, March 14, 1864 (Records, Vol. I, p. 404).

Based on several pieces of later documentation, it is likely that either the 1855 furnace or the 1863 furnace was a second unit. First, a treasurer's report of 1892-1893 and an assessors' report of 1901-1902 made it clear that the church was being heated by two furnaces in the mid-19th century.[37] Second, a 1904 photograph (fig. 24) shows a chimney on the roof ridge at the west end of the church, in addition to the apparently original chimney at the east end of the roof ridge. Both chimneys must have served furnaces, since no evidence was found for either a fireplace or stove in these locations.

Pierce installed or replaced additional furnace pipes and fittings in 1864, and cleaned the furnace, pipes, and grate in 1866.[38] In March 1866, B.F. Bass charged the parish for repairs to the furnace, which was followed by three other bills, one definitely furnace-related and two others—billed as mason work—possibly related to the furnace.[39] In December 1867, Mr. Pierce made a major repair to the furnace that necessitated some masonry work that was subcontracted to William H. French. Pierce's work totaled $144.70.[40] These repairs presumably sufficed until 1869, when Pierce's next bill appears, for an amount one-fourth of his bill in 1867.[41] Charles and James W. Pierce also worked on the furnace at the end of 1870.[42]

Substantial furnace work—totaling $85.90—again took place in November 1872, which included work on the tin box, a new grate, and masons work.[43] The Pierces also repaired the furnace in 1873, 1874, and 1875, for a total cost of $37.20.[44] Repair was not required again until 1880, when Charles Pierce spent two days on the furnace and masonry work.[45] James Pierce cleaned the furnace and replaced its grate in 1882.[46]

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[37] For some reason, the drawings for the 1887-1888 chapel addition (Appendix A) show a boiler room only in the east end of the church's basement. This may reflect the expectation that one large heating system would be installed at that time for the entire, expanded structure.

[38] Bills from C.F. Pierce: October 25, 1864, in an envelope dated 1864 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 176), and February 21, 1866, in an envelope dated 1866 (p. 181).

[39] Bills from B.F. Bass, dated March 31, July 14, September 14, and November 14, 1866, misfiled in an envelope dated 1867 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 195).

[40] Bills from C.F. Pierce, dated December 11 and 21, 1867, in an envelope dated 1867 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 195).

[41] Report of the Committee on Finance Matters, 1869 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 204).

[42] Bill from C.F. & J.W. Pierce, December 26, in an envelope dated 1870 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 223).

[43] Bill from C.F. & J.W. Pierce, November 22, 1872 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 242); and Report of the Committee to Examine the Books - 1873 (p. 250).

[44] Treasurer's Report, 1875 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 289).

[45] Bill from C.F. Pierce, March 1, 1880 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 312).

[46] Bill from James W. Pierce, May 1882 (Documents, Vol. II, p. 35).

Construction work on the new chapel was begun in 1887, and with the new addition came the need to heat it. The congregation voted to build a chimney at the east end of the church, and to nominate a committee to deal with the issue of heating the church and chapel.[47] The chimney was probably built where the present northwest chimney stands. It may not have been constructed immediately after the vote, because the next special meeting to address the need for a furnace was held in September 1888. A request for $4,000 was specified in the warrant for the meeting, to purchase a "suitable apparatus for heating the Church and Chapel." However, the congregation voted at the meeting that the Treasurer could "borrow a sum not exceeding fifteen (1,500) hundred dollars to be expended by the Committee for the heating of the Church and Chapel."[48]

Apparently the reduced appropriation made it necessary to retain the two old furnaces heating the church, and to install a third furnace to heat the addition only. The report of the parish assessors for 1901-1902 stated that:

> The heating apparatus of the church is in deplorable condition and cannot with safety be used another season. Two of the furnaces have apparently been in use for about half a century and the other for fourteen years. The Assessors strongly recommend the installation of steam-heating apparatus to heat both church and chapel. While the first cost will be large, the heating, and particularly the ventilation, will be far more satisfactory, and the consumption of fuel probably less than at present.[49]

The third furnace cited is the one that was installed when the chapel addition was built. Clearly three furnaces were in operation at the time of the parish assessors' report.

The following year, rather than installing a needed new heating system, one of those furnaces ceased to be used:

> Owing to the high price of fuel it was thought inexpedient to install new heating apparatus, and by abandoning one furnace deemed unsafe for further use we shall be able to finish out the present season with the old apparatus....[50]

Due to lack of funds, the procurement of a new heating system was delayed even further:

> Owing to the unsatisfactory and even dangerous condition of our old furnace, it will be necessary to install new heating apparatus as soon as our present floating debt is extinguished....[51]

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[47] Minutes, parish annual meeting, March 12, 1888, adjourned to March 19, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 175).

[48] Warrant for parish meeting of September 10, 1888, dated September 1, 1888 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 103); and minutes, parish meeting, September 10, 1888 (Records, Vol. II, p. 179).

[49] Report of Parish Assessors, 1901-1902 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 250).

[50] Report of Parish Assessors, 1902-1903 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 254).

[51] Report of Parish Assessors, 1903-1904 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 260).

A new steam plant was finally installed in 1904 at a cost of $2,675.38.[52] The 1939 drawings (App. B) refer to the boiler as a 1904 "Walworth Steam Boiler." The work included the construction of a new chimney (extant today) on the north end of the east wall of the church. This may have replaced the one believed to have been constructed ca. 1888 for the addition's furnace. At some point, the adjacent early chimney was capped with lead, and the early chimney at the west end of the church was removed above the roof line.

The boiler required "re-tubing" during the fiscal year ending in 1915, at a cost of $150.[53] Other unspecified furnace repairs were required in 1934 or early 1935, and had they gone unattended, might have been a fire hazard.[54]

The need for a new heating plant arose again in 1948, when a large sum of money was spent for maintenance and repairs, including a "thouroughly [sic] modern and approved oil fired heating boiler in a cut off, fireproofed boiler room in the basement of the Church. This equipment replaced the old coal fired boiler...."[55] The "new" boiler room was located in the same space as the 1904 boiler room (compare Appendices B and C).

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[52] Report of Parish Assessors, 1904-1905 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 266).

[53] Report of Parish Assessors, 1914-1915 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 21).

[54] Board of Assessors Report, no date, but adhered to page labeled "1935" (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 87).

[55] Treasurer's Reports for periods ending April 30, 1947 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 200) and April 30, 1948 (p. 204); and Board of Assessors Report, n.d., filed after 1948 and before 1950 Treasurer's Reports, but including entries for fiscal years 1946-1947 and 1947-1948 (p. 205).

# IV. CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

# CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Many individual elements related to a whole site or structure may lend importance or architectural integrity to it. These elements can be significant through historical association, through the types of materials that are used or how they are installed, or through representation of unique craftsmanship. When combined, they represent the whole of the setting and structure, and add to its historical significance and its visual integrity. These elements are called **character-defining features**. It is these features that should be preserved when considering changes to a historic site, in order to preserve its historical and architectural integrity.

The term "character-defining" should not be equated with the term "original"; in the case of the United First Parish Church, its character-defining elements date from various periods during the church's long history of service to its parish. Therefore, all of these elements are considered to be "historical," even though some of them may be fairly recent.

## Exterior Character-Defining Features

1. **The location of the building on a triangular island (its setting).**

   The street pattern around the church was established at an early date, providing the structure with similar surroundings throughout its existence.

2. **The church grounds surrounded by granite posts and chain.**

   The church's grounds have always been marked by the granite posts and chain since this edifice was constructed; they thus constitute a very prominent landscape feature.

3. **The broad front walk.**

   Although the materials that define the walk have changed, the basic form of the walk has remained the same.

4. **The footprint of the church and its addition.**

   Although the addition is not original to the church, it has existed as an integral part of the structure since the late 19th century.

5. **The mass and shape of the church and the addition.**

   This feature includes the entire massing; the Greek-temple form of the main structure and the tower base, with pedimented west portico; the square tower shaft supporting the round, columned belfry; and the roof lines, including the eyebrow windows of the addition.

**6. The relationship of solids to voids.**

The way in which doorway and window openings are juxtaposed to solid wall areas creates a visual rhythm, which is augmented by the size and treatment of the openings (i.e., the type and arrangement of panels or sashes used). When the church was originally constructed, a very deliberate choice was made in the size of the glass in its window sashes. Likewise, the windows of the addition were deliberately designed with a perimeter row of small lights of colored glass—a popular Queen Anne motif in the 1880's. The original sashes of the eyebrow windows also were selected to create a certain pattern, which is no longer present due to replacement pieces. The north-porch entrance to the addition contributes to the solid/void interaction. The tower creates a different relationship of solid to void, with the solid shaft of the tower extending above the bulk of the structure and culminating in the open, colonnaded belfry.

**7. Building materials and the form they take.**

This includes the extensive use of granite; how it was tooled and installed; the fact that the granite of the main church is finished differently than that of the addition; the granite steps leading to the main entrance; and the use of single pieces of granite for the four columns (one of the earliest uses of such mass in the country). It also includes the use of wood for building trim and belfry details, and particularly its detailing at the north porch of the addition; the use of copper gutters, leaders, and downspouts; the use of slates as a roofing material; and the gilded dome roof and metal weathervane.

**8. The color of the building materials.**

The color of the granite was an important factor during the construction of the original building. A concerted effort was made to match the earlier granite as closely as possible when the addition was built. The painted color of the wood trim has always been in the gray tones. The roof-slate color is also grayish. Clearly this structure was designed to be monochromatic, although contrasted with the gilded dome and weathervane.

**9. The clock faces on the tower, the bell, and the weathervane.**

All three elements function as a service to the community.

## Interior Character-Defining Features

**1. The floor plan.**

Although several alterations have occurred in the church and addition, the basic floor plans have always been similar.

2. **The three-dimensional spaces and their relationships to each another.**

The vestibules provide relatively intimate spaces that create the transition of entrance into the openness of the sanctuary space, either at the first or second level. The gallery vertically intersects the large sanctuary space at its perimeter but does not completely cut it in half. The juxtaposition of the sanctuary and the Parish Hall spaces connects the most important space of the church and the most important space in the addition. The openness of the Parish Hall space was reduced by the installation of a false ceiling, meant to help reduce heating costs. This space as designed, open to the underside of the roof, was character-defining. The Ladies' Parlor space augments the Parish Hall space; the same is true of the basement kitchen relative to the open space under the Parish Hall. The kitchenette space supports the first-story Parish Hall and Ladies' Parlor; the pantry space below supports the two rooms in the addition's basement. The location of the crypt under the vestibule and how it is accessed is also very character-defining. The Sunday School spaces have a very different character than the rest of the structure, and seem more like an island unto themselves, walled by concrete masonry units.

3. **The pews and pulpit and their plan.**

The materials used to construct the pews and the pulpit, their finishes, and their designs (constructed shapes)—all are character-defining. Although several of the pews on the first story have been removed to accommodate alterations, the basic arrangement of pews remains as originally designed. While the pew removal on the first story has slightly impacted the visual aesthetics of the interior, reinstallation of the pews is not practical. The pulpit is emphasized by its central location, elevated position, and dorsal backdrop; it has been given physical significance to match its religious importance.

4. **The sanctuary ceiling.**

One of the most striking of the interior character-defining features—the coffered domed ceiling, decorated with rosettes, fretwork, and spandrels—dominates the space.

5. **The materials and finishes used in the addition**.

These include the formed brick and terra cotta used for all three mantels; the rough-textured plastered walls with rough texture; and the beautiful woodwork and trim, naturally finished and some with carved designs. Also significant are the wooden roof trusses, which were originally exposed, and the wood wainscot.

6. **The crypt.**

The crypt of the Adams family adds great significance to the church. It is true that the church was designed by a prominent Boston architect, was one of the first churches and possibly major buildings to be constructed of Quincy granite, and was one of the first buildings in the country to install columns made of solid stone. However, the church's national significance rests with the crypt and the Adams family's connections to the church. The crypt's construction is character-defining in that the space is clearly divided into two major areas, one for the sarcophagi of John and Abigail Adams, and one for the sarcophagi of John Quincy and Louisa Adams. In addition, the arrangement of the sarcophagi with minimal surrounding space is character-defining.

# GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

## Retention of Character-defining Features

One of the most important recommendations for any historic structure is to retain its character-defining features. Retention of these features assures that historical and architectural integrity will survive, and therefore ensure the continued relationship of the visual characteristics. If alterations are necessary, the character-defining features should remain unchanged: alterations should be limited to areas or features that are not considered to be character-defining.

## Possible Treatments

### Restoration

*The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* defines the term "restoration" as follows: the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period in time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project."[1]

### Preservation

The *Standards* likewise defines the term "preservation" as follows: "the act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic 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."[2]

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[1] *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, Preservation Assistance Division, Cultural Resources, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1992.

[2] *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards.*

## Not Recommended: Restoration Treatment

### Restoration to Original Appearance

The single most significant period in the church's history is its date of construction. However, restoration of the structure to its strictly original condition is not a viable treatment option, for several reasons. First, it would require demolition of the 1887-1888 addition. While the original church structure is more significant than the addition, the two are not separate units, but rather parts of a whole; they have existed as such for more than a century. The addition does not overpower the original structure, but rather plays a subservient role to the church as the smaller and less prominent structure, situated at the rear of the more important edifice.

Also, several alterations have changed the appearance of the sanctuary over the years. First, the building of the addition required the removal of window openings and the creation of doorways in the east wall on either side of the pulpit. Second, in 1923-1924 two of the cast-iron columns were removed, the others were encased, and the fretwork along the bottom of the gallery balustrade was replaced with dentil work. Third, several pews were removed at the east end of the sanctuary. All of these changes would have to be reversed in order to restore the church to its appearance in 1828. The congregation could better spend its funds on other improvements.

### Restoration to a Post-Original Date

Restoration to the single most significant period of the church's history has been shown to be infeasible. Alternative periods of restoration might be formulated based on the church's appearance after major alterations. Four alternative periods of restoration are possible: 1859, when extensive decorative painting was added to the sanctuary; 1888, when the addition was constructed; 1923-1924, when alterations were made to the sanctuary; and the 1960s, when basement alterations occurred.

The first period, 1859, is not a viable restoration date for several reasons. First, while the decorative painting was an interesting decoration that reflected the tastes of the Victorian era, it had little long-term significance relative to the structure and has since been overpainted. Second, the decorative painting existed for 30 years prior to the construction of the addition, the retention of which has been deemed important.

The selection of an 1888 restoration period would not require the removal of the addition, but it would involve substantial alterations in the sanctuary. These would include the re-creation of the 1859 decorative painting, the reinstallation of the window openings with reproduction grille panels above the two east doorways, and the removal of the 1924 alterations.

A restoration date of 1924 would be much less disruptive and expensive than either of the two previous alternatives (assuming that the ca.-1960s walls of the basement Sunday School rooms would not be demolished). This restoration date might require only the restoration of paint colors.

The alterations to the basement in the 1960s gave the church expanded space for the Sunday School and enlarged the main room below the Parish Hall, but otherwise had little effect on the

structure. Selection of this date as the restoration period would also be nondisruptive and inexpensive, but it is probably the least significant period: its major changes took place in the least significant space.

## Recommended: Preservation Treatment

The disadvantage with any of the four possible post-original periods of restoration is that the significance of their dates rests solely on the fact that alterations were made. One alternative remains, that of **preservation** without a specific restoration period. This alternative is viable for several reasons. First, the use of the structure has not changed since its original construction, and the church has functioned as a continuously operating organization for more than three centuries. Second, the alterations have not altered the basic use of the structure, except to provide more space for specific functions, nor have they destroyed the integrity of site. Third, the evolution of changes reflects the evolution of needs in a continuum, such that the significance flows in the same continuum. Since no major changes have occurred to the site and exterior structure since the 1920s, preservation is a very cost-effective treatment.

## Implementation of Preservation Treatment

It is recommended that the church concentrate its resources on the following:

- *preserving* the exterior structure and grounds;
- *repairing* its interiors;
- *upgrading* its utility systems; and
- *installing a barrier-free design.*

Roof work is mandatory and should take priority over all other work in order to stop the leaks and thus halt interior plaster failure and cracking. Care should be taken to match original slates in color, exposure, and width. Perhaps a new treatment could be devised for the flat roofs, since nothing seems to prevent their leaking. Because these roofs are not visible from the street and have always caused major problems, they do not need to be replaced with historic materials; a new, more-effective treatment would be most welcome.

The granite appears to be in excellent condition, but it is dirty. It could be washed with a low- to medium-pressure water treatment, following accepted preservation standards for granite. This work should be a very low priority. Whether or not the building is washed, it will need repointing in designated sections, if not the entire body. Documentation has shown that the Stone Temple was originally tuck-pointed. No physical evidence for this style of pointing survives. Therefore, mortar joints should be narrow and unobtrusive, with a mortar that matches the early mortar (remaining in certain areas) in color, texture, and hardness. (The latter requirement will rule out the use of only standard gray portland cement: some testing may be needed in order to formulate a mix that is compatible.

Exterior wooden trim elements should continue to be painted as they have been traditionally: a gray color that it harmonious with the granite. Window sashes should be painted black; blinds should be painted dark green. Doors should be painted one of the colors that has been used on them in the past; see Appendix D.

The grounds should continue to be maintained as they have in the past. Further encroachment should be resisted. If any digging is necessary during preservation construction, an archeological assessment should be conducted.

Once the roof is repaired, interior patching and replastering can begin. The plaster of the coffered ceiling in the sanctuary appears to be secure. However, a systematic investigation should be conducted, with moveable staging, to determine that there are no loose sections of plaster. The removal of the textured paint in both the sanctuary and the Parish Hall would require expensive and extensive work. This is not necessary, since the paint is part of the continuum being preserved. Paint colors could be selected for repainting, based either on the colors that were used in the church in the past (see Appendix D), or on colors known to have been in general use at a particular point in history.

Interior woodwork that has never been painted, but which is varnished and waxed, should be maintained and not painted. Painted woodwork should be repainted using colors of the church's choice. The suspended ceiling in the Parish Hall could be removed if efficient and unobtrusive methods of conserving heat and dampening noise in the room could be devised.

Historic fabric is often destroyed when utility systems are updated. Care should be taken not to alter, remove, or damage any character-defining features. Any new installations should concentrate on concealing work where possible without destroying significant building fabric, and on camouflaging work that cannot be concealed. Installations of these types will often require some destruction, but this should be kept to a minimum and limited to areas where replacement in kind is relatively easy. If work cannot be concealed, the installation should avoid areas where character-defining features would be impacted.

Installing barrier-free access is often a difficult problem in historic buildings. Any proposed solution should be evaluated as to how much it would damage historic fabric, and an effort should be made to minimize that damage. The character-defining features relative to the exterior and the interior of the structure should be considered when contemplating the installation of ramps, elevators, or lifts. Often access is achieved through one of the lesser elevations of an historic structure, in order to minimize the visual impact and maximize the space available and needed for the access. Approaching the solution using these qualifiers ensures the preservation of the character-defining features and thus the integrity of the historic structure.

The church's archives contain documents that are priceless not only to historians but also to the congregation. An environmentally controlled room in which to preserve these documents is not fiscally practical. However, hiring a consultant who specializes in the care of paper collections could be very practical. This consultant could provide advice on acid-free storage and the prevention of insect infestation and biological growth, and could suggest reasonable environmental parameters that the church could manage without installing a specialized system. This consultant should work with the architects and engineers hired for the preservation and upgrade contract, beginning in the early stages of the planning process.

Once preservation treatments are complete, the church should develop a routine maintenance schedule. Proper and regular maintenance often prevents large expenditures for major repairs because the repairs generally remain minor. The maintenance schedule could include things as simple as cleaning out gutters twice or four times a year, recaulking glass once a year where needed, and surveying the roofs, especially over the vestibule, twice a year. Tasks included in the schedule can be distributed throughout the year so as to not cause hardship in any one season. This type of maintenance is cost-saving in the long run, even though expenditures might be slightly higher in the weekly or monthly routine.

While the preceding recommendations provide only general guidance, the church must first establish its needs and develop a program for renovation. Once this program is finalized, then more specific treatment recommendations could be developed. Recommendations for specific repairs are contained in Chapter VI ("Conditions Assessment and Repair Recommendations").

# V. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

# EXTERIOR ELEMENTS

As of December 12, 1995

## General Information

The following discussion is organized primarily by type of element—i.e., foundation, walls, etc.—rather than by location. This was done to avoid redundancy, since so many locations share the same description. If an element is not cited for a particular elevation or area, it means that no such element exists there. For example, windows are not mentioned for the west elevation of the church, because there are none. Information about finishes is available in a separate finishes analysis (Appendix D). Doorway and windows numbers are provided in Appendix B.

### Configuration

**Church:** Massive, rectangular church structure, consisting of one monumental story raised above ground level.

**Tower:** Four-stage tower appended to west end of church; consists of (in ascending order) a two-story base, a one-story rectangular "plinth," a shaft with clock faces, and an open, colonnaded belfry with domed roof. West side of the tower has a monumental pedimented portico.

**Addition:** On east end of church structure; also with one oversized story but lower than the church; east wall is polygonal (three-sided). Small, one-story projection at both intersections of church and addition (south wing and north porch).

### Dimensions

**Church and Tower:**

Approximately 76′ 0″ wide (north-south) by 95′ 0″ long (west-east); 49′ 0″ high to ridge and 105′ 0″ high to top of dome.

**Addition:**

Approximately 66′ 0″ long (north-south) by 57′ 0″ wide (west-east) by 32′ 0″ high to roof ridge).

### Roof Type

**Church:** Gable roof with ridge running east-west; west gable end has pent-roof section on either side of tower plinth.

**Tower:** Base and plinth have nearly flat roofs; belfry has a circular domed roof.

**Addition:** Hipped roof, terminating at polygonal east end.

### Orientation

Primary elevation is west elevation; faces toward Hancock Street. South side elevation faces toward Temple Street. Rear east elevation faces toward intersection of Washington and Temple Streets. North side elevation faces toward Washington Street.

## Foundation

### Church and Tower

Ashlar granite foundation blocks with a 2 1/4" projection, and matching granite upper walls; granite units vary from 3' 4" to 7' 7 3/4" wide by 1' 1 3/4" high.

### Addition

Ashlar granite foundation blocks with a 3" projection, and matching rough-hewn textured granite for upper walls; granite units vary from 2' 9" to 3' 8 3/4" wide by 1' 4" high.

## Walls

### Church

**Cladding:**

*All elevations* - solid granite blocks; ashlar granite coursing; granite units vary from 3' 4" to 7' 7 3/4" wide by 1' 1 3/4" high; flush joints are approximately one-quarter to one-half inches wide, with tan-colored mortar. Different colors/layers of pointing may indicate previous repointing phases; generally, the joints are flush with the granite.

*West and east gable ends* - west pediment mostly concealed by tower; remaining areas on either side of tower are clad with roof-type slates. East pediment consists of five courses of same granite as used for walls, with copper flashing.

**Trim:**

*All elevations* - frieze of flat, horizontal granite ashlar blocks; horizontal cornice of gray-painted wood with Greek Revival ovolo profile.

*West and east gable ends* - west pediment's raking cornice concealed by tower and slate shingles (see "Cladding," above). East pediment's raking cornice same as horizontal cornice.

**Tower**

**Cladding:**

*Base* - same as church; one large, rectangular, recessed, flat panel above west-elevation doorways, with a cementitious covering at its base to shed water.

*Plinth* - west (front) and east (rear) walls of same granite as church walls; both walls rise as parapet walls above the roof line topped by granite capstones; modern repairs made with bituminous asphalt. Copper flashing at intersection with church roof also has repairs with bituminous asphalt. South and north end walls clad with horizontal, flush, gray-painted boards.

*Shaft* - shaft of same granite as church walls. Areas below the clock faces have stains and discoloration. West, south, and north elevations of shaft each have a recessed panel in which a black-painted clock face and gilded Roman numerals are painted on the granite. East elevation has a clock face consisting of a glazed circular opening; Roman numerals are gilded onto the granite surrounding the opening. All clock faces have hands of gilded wood.

*Belfry* - lower drum consists of vertical, tongue-and-groove, gray-painted boards. Drum supports eight columns of vertical tongue-and-groove boards. (These are hollow columns over modern steel columns attached to new steel reinforcement of tower).

**Trim:**

*All elevations* - frieze and horizontal cornice same as for church.

**Addition**

**Cladding:**

*All elevations* - solid granite blocks with rough-hewn texture; ashlar granite coursing, units vary from 2′ 9″ to 5′ 11 1/4″ wide by 1′ 1 1/2″ high. East and north elevations have biological growth and excessive vegetation at northeast corner (near north porch).

## Porches

**Tower**

**West Portico:**

*General* - massive-scale gable-roofed porch with four monumental (25' high), smooth granite, Greek Doric-style columns, centered between doorways and supporting the entablature; and two matching engaged pilasters attached to west wall.

*Foundation/Steps* - five gray granite step risers that match in size and appearance the granite coursing of the church and tower foundations.

*Balustrade* - modern bronze railing fastened to granite walls, leading up from ground to north and south.

*Flooring* - gray granite pavers running east to west that match size and appearance of wall foundation.

*Ceiling* - gray-painted narrow tongue-and-groove boards with surface-mounted recessed light fixtures.

*Pediment* - architrave of three horizontal granite ashlar blocks, with ends resting on the granite columns. Greek-Revival ovolo molding between architrave and frieze. Frieze and cornice (horizontal and raking) same as for church. Frieze covered with rusting chicken wire as a bird deterrent.

*Roof* - semi-weathering gray-black slate shingles, with smaller patches of gray-green and clear black slates.

*Other* - two wall-mounted commemorative bronze wall plaques screwed to granite wall and centered between the doors.

## Addition

### North Porch:

*General* - one-story gable-roofed porch at northwest corner of addition; serves as main entrance to addition. Inner (south) half is enclosed; outer half is open.

*Foundation* - granite, to match size and appearance of the addition's north foundation wall.

*Steps* - seven granite stone risers; modern black-painted steel railing set into north granite wall and steps at both sides of steps.

*Flooring* - open part has glazed ceramic tiles in a geometric pattern; edged with black square tiles, with some modern replacement tiles of differing sizes. Floor of enclosed part is discussed as an interior element.

*Walls* - granite; west and east (side) walls are full height for enclosed part, half-height for open part; north (front) wall is half-height. All half-height walls have spindles above.

*Ceiling* - gray-painted tongue-and-grooved ceiling paneling with surface-mounted hanging light fixture. Ceiling of enclosed part is discussed as an interior element.

*Roof* - semi-weathering gray black slate shingle roof, similar to those on the west elevation; rolled copper ridge and copper flashing.

# Doorways

## Church

### North Elevation:

*Emergency egress* - D-7 is a basement doorway, with 10 concrete risers up to the concrete sidewalk. Granite opening is an original window opening enlarged to a doorway ca. 1963. Surround within granite opening of painted wood. Modern six-paneled door with glass in the top two panels. Door hardware is modern and/or replacement hardware.

## Tower

### West Elevation:

*Front entrance* - triple, centered doorways, each rectangular opening with a paired set of 5-paneled, painted wood doors; raised, middle doorway (D-2) with a blind-set, wood-paneled transom; side doors (D-1 and D-3) with glazed top panels. Surround within granite opening, of white-painted wood, with flat moldings and long vertical panels; with raised granite thresholds. Door constructed with mortises and tenons, with five recessed molded panels.

Door hardware includes large, cast-iron hinges and modern brass doorknobs (with indications of earlier hardware on doors).

## Addition

### South Elevation:

*Bulkhead entrance to addition* - opening (D-4) in granite wall an original entrance to addition basement; surround of modern, pressure-treated wood; modern door and hardware, but evidence of original wrought-iron hardware.

*Basement entrance to addition's kitchen* - opening (D-5) in granite wall; eight granite risers up to sidewalk; surround of modern, pressure-treated wood; six-panel modern wood door with glass in the top two panels and modern hardware.

### North Elevation:

*Addition entrance* - D-6 is primary entrance to the addition; located within the north porch; painted wood surround within granite opening; double doors of mortise-and-tenon construction, five-paneled and painted red, with modern and or replacement door hardware.

## Windows

### South Elevation

### Church:

*Basement* - four small openings with various sash configurations: W001 - 8-over-8, apparently modern sashes within a newer granite opening; W002 - two paired single, fixed sashes; W003 - three-light wood sash; W004 - fixed three-light sash and copper ventilation louvers. All basement windows are surrounded by window wells.

*First story* - three arched windows (W102, W103, and W104), each with 20-over-20 single-hung sashes and a fixed, 15-light fanlight[3]; wood surrounds and sills; black-painted sashes are original, including glass; surrounds show evidence of earlier repairs; see subsequent section entitled "Blinds."

*Attic* - scuttle (W301) at west end of main roof near ridge; flashed with copper.

[3] Drawn incorrectly in the 1939 Presentation Drawings (Appendix B).

**Tower:**

*Base* - horizontal opening (W101) high on wall, with one fixed black-painted sash having 21 lights.

**Addition:**

*Basement* - three pairs of small windows (W005, W006, and W007), with modern 4-light wood sashes covered with security wire mesh.

*First story* - four windows with wood sashes. One fixed lunette (W106) with three vertical lights surmounted by 11 small, square lights of yellow glass. Three tall, arched windows (W108, W109, and W110) with 12-over-9, single-hung sashes bordered by 49 small, square lights. All glass is textured; the small lights are yellow-colored.

*Attic* - eyebrow window (W201) with three sashes separated by two mullions. The center bottom-hinged casement sash now in storage, and opening covered with black-painted plywood; the two end sashes remain in situ and have five lights each.

**East Elevation**

**Church:**

*Attic* - large oculus (W302) centered on the gable end; wood sash remains, but recently covered with a sheet of transparent, weather-resistant thermoplastic fixed to the granite surround. Granite interior surround pointed with portland cement.

**Tower:**

*Shaft* - east clock face, which is glazed and not painted, serves as a window.

**Addition:**

*Basement* - three small windows (W008, W011, and W012) and two somewhat larger windows (W009 and W010); all with 2-over-2 sashes and covered with exterior security wire mesh.

*First story, south wing* - W101, with 2-over-2 wood sashes.

*First story, addition* - southeast facet: W111 and W112, with 6-over-6 wood sashes and topped by a granite blind arch; east facet: W113 and W114, arched windows with 8-over-6 wood sashes; northeast facet: W115 and W117, arched windows with 8-over-6 wood sashes, and W116, small rectangular opening with 2-over-2 wood sashes. Sashes of all windows have clear glass; all sashes except those of W116 are bordered by small lights of yellow-colored glass.

*First story, north porch* - small, segmentally arched opening (W121) with one four-light fixed sash surrounded by 22 smaller lights, all with yellow glass.

*Attic* - small oculus (W202) centered in east chimney, with a fixed six-light sash.

**North Elevation**

**Church:**

*Basement* - three small openings with various sash configurations: W016 - horizontal painted steel louvers (to ventilate boiler room); W017 - modern wood top-hinged casement sash; and W018 - modern 8-over-8 sash within a newer granite opening, with a concrete window well covered with an iron grate, filled with debris and silt.

*First story* - three arched windows (W123, W124, and W125), each with 20-over-20 single-hung sashes and a fixed, 15-light fanlight; wood surrounds and sills; black-painted sashes are original, including glass; see subsequent section entitled "Blinds."

*Attic* - operational scuttle (W303) at center of main roof, halfway to ridge; flashed with copper; modern replacement (original wood, glass, and copper scuttle is stored in attic).

**Tower:**

*Base* - horizontal opening (W126) high on wall, with one fixed black-painted sash having 21 lights.

**Addition:**

*Basement* - three pairs of small windows (W013, W014 and W015), with modern 4-light wood sashes covered with security wire mesh.

*First story* - four windows with wood sashes. One fixed lunette (W122) with three vertical lights surmounted by 11 small, square lights. Three tall, arched windows (W118, W119, and W120) with 12-over-9, single-hung sashes bordered by 49 small, square lights. All glass is textured; the small lights are yellow-colored.

*Attic* - eyebrow window (W203) with three sashes separated by two mullions; the center bottom-hinged casement sash now in storage, and opening covered with black-painted plywood; the two end sashes remain in situ and have five lights each.

## Blinds (Exterior Shutters)

### Church

**South and North Elevations:**

Dark green-painted blinds on windows W102, W103, W104 (south elevation) and W123, W124, and W125 (north elevation). All with fixed louvers grouped into two stacked sections; each leaf hinged in two sections with 15 and 16 fixed louvers for each panel.

## Roofs

### Church

Semi-weathering gray black slate shingle roof, with some patches of semi-weathering gray green slates, and other areas with missing, broken, or cracked slates; porch roof appears to be more deteriorated than the church roof. Dimensions vary from 8 to 14″ wide by 10 to 12″ exposure. Sheathing of wood, not visible from exterior. Rolled copper ridge cap. Flashing generally of copper, with hot bituminous asphalt patches; evident use of ferrous nails resulting in copper deterioration, rusting, pitting, and abrasion.

### Tower

**Base:** Copper sheet roof, with solder joints and bituminous patches.

**Plinth:** Asphalt roll roofing; originally copper sheets.

**Shaft:** Earlier flat-seam copper roof (floor of belfry) covered with hot-bituminous felt roof.

**Belfry:** Circular dome covered with gold-leaf over copper sheets and surmounted by a decorative copper weathervane.

### Addition

Slates resemble those of the church in appearance and dimensions; eyebrow roof of flat soldered copper sheets, with slate shingle patch over eyebrow area; flat part of roof over south wing has flat, soldered copper sheets covered with bituminous asphalt; small patched area of shingles next to eyebrows and ridge cap of north elevation. Evident use of iron nails in ridge cap. Flashing generally of copper, with patches of asphalt coating; evident use of ferrous nails; with bituminous patches, rusting, pitting, and copper abrasion.

## Drainage Systems

### Church

**South Elevation:**

Copper half-round gutter attached with iron straps to shingles, with three square, ribbed copper downspouts attached to the granite walls with copper and ferrous fasteners, leading to subterranean cast-iron storm drains (city storm sewers?)

**North Elevation:**

Modern replacement aluminum half-round gutter attached with iron straps fastened to shingles, with three square, ribbed copper downspouts attached to granite walls with copper and ferrous fasteners, leading to subterranean cast-iron storm drains; leaders with modern replaced top sections.

### Tower

**Base:**

No gutters per se, but roof's south and north outer edges have raised lip that may serve to guide water toward the gutters on the body of the church.

**Belfry:**

Belfry has openings at floor level for water drainage at base of wood drum.

### Addition

Earlier half-round copper gutter and rectangular ribbed leaders.

## *Chimneys*

### Church

**East Elevation:**

*East chimney* - on ridge at east end of roof; entirely covered with gray metal (lead?); former function unknown.

*Northeast chimney* - on east wall near north end; tall brick chimney with copper flashing and granite cap; serves the boiler.

**Addition**

**East Elevation:**

Chimney centered on east wall; elaborately shaped granite chimney with carved granite chimney cap and copper flashing; two flues, for fireplace in Ladies' Parlor and the original kitchen stove in the basement kitchen.

## Utility Systems

**Lightning Protection**

Copper lightning rod fastened to weathervane, with twisted copper wires fastened to belfry and at southwest and northwest corners of the church and into grade.

**Electrical and Telephone Service**

Overhead electrical/telephone service comes into the addition at the north end of east wall from a post on Washington Street; additional overhead wires to the southeast from an electric pole at Washington and Temple Streets.

**Plumbing**

Cast-iron roof-vent pipe at northeast corner of addition.

## Grounds

See Chapter I, "Site History and Landscape Development," for more detailed information.

**Topography**

Flat urban landscape with wide concrete sidewalks and granite curbs; modern exterior illumination system is set into the ground at various locations.

**Walks and Fence**

Generally, modern concrete sidewalks at perimeter of site and into side garden to the north. Site is surrounded at perimeter by granite bollards and double iron chain (missing in some locations).



Figure 49. General exterior view, west elevation.

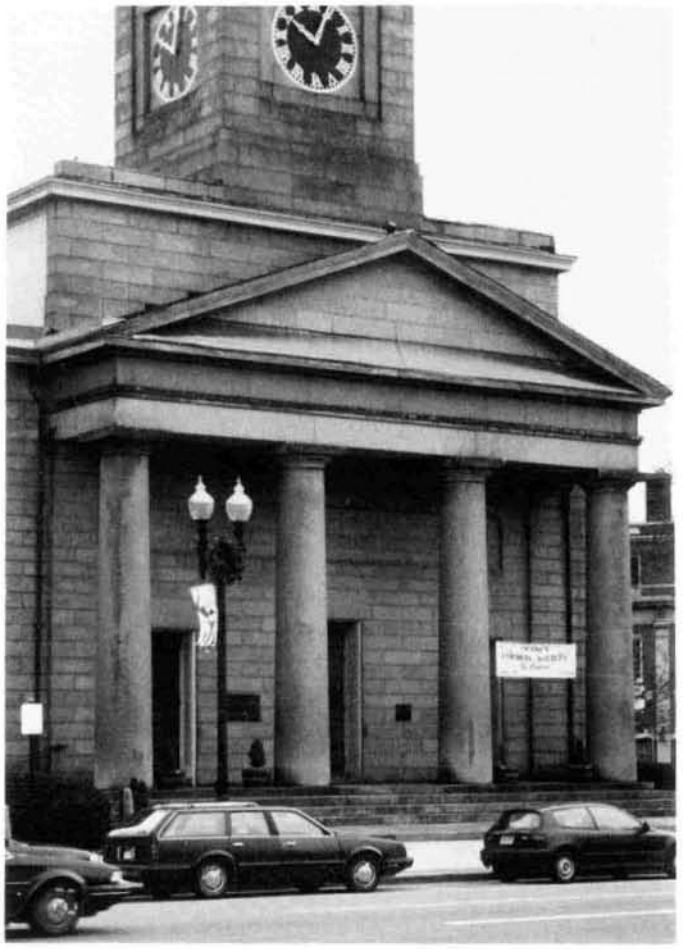


Figure 50. Tower exterior: west portico.



**Figure 51.** Tower exterior: west elevation, showing plinth, shaft, and belfry.



**Figure 52.** Tower exterior: belfry, southwest view.

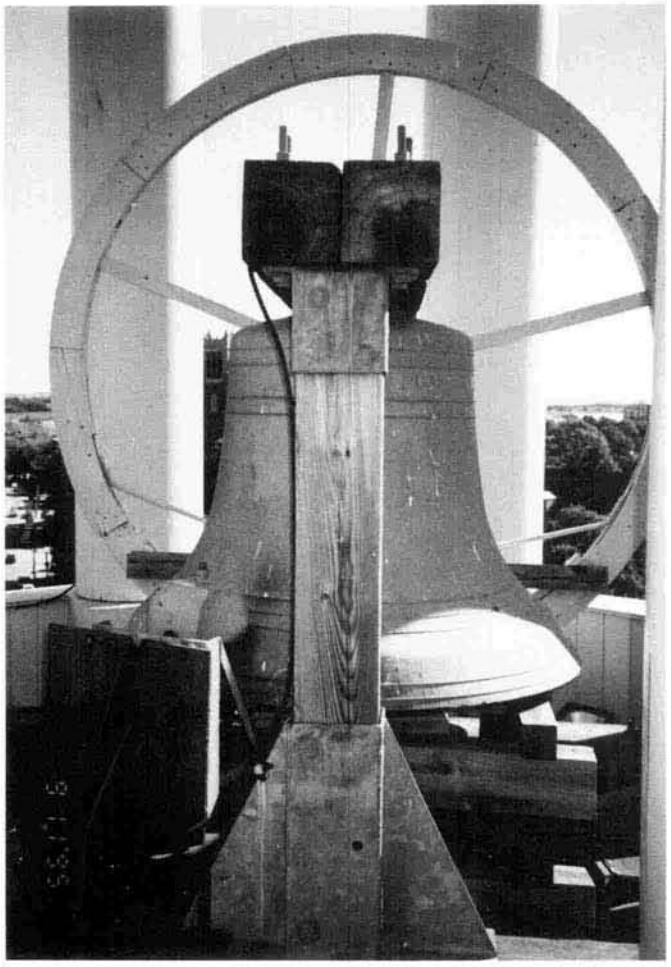


**Figure 53.** Tower interior: belfry, west view of bell and support structure.

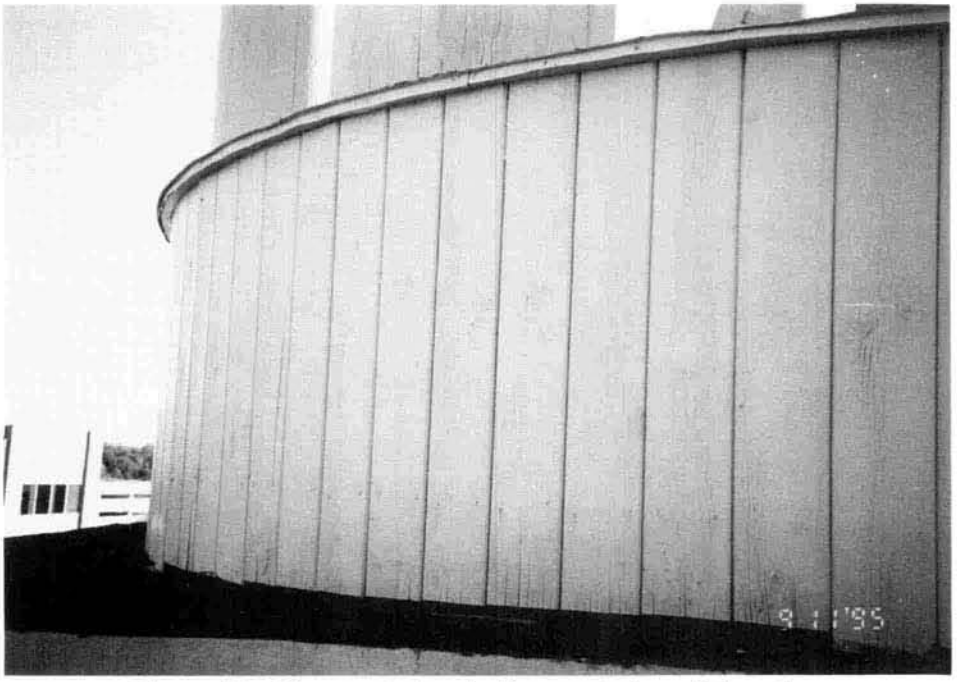


**Figure 54.** Tower exterior: belfry, west view of drum base.



**Figure 55.** Addition exterior: south elevation, general view.

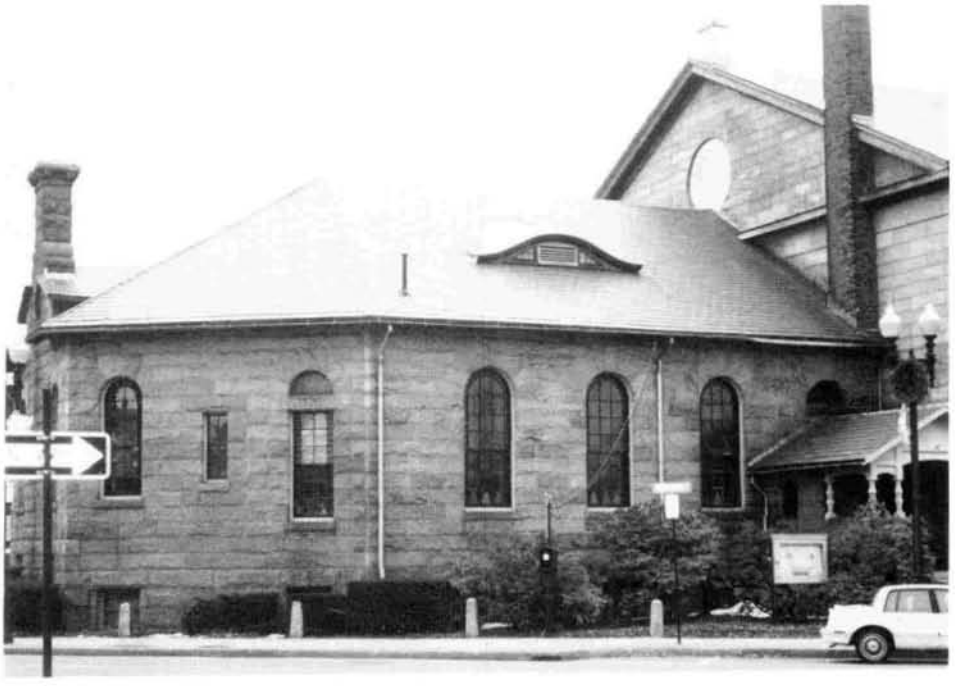


**Figure 56.** Addition exterior: north elevation, general view.



**Figure 57.** Addition exterior: east elevation, general view.



**Figure 58.** Addition exterior: roof and south "eyebrow" window (W201).

# INTERIOR ELEMENTS

As of September 7, 1995

The following discussion is organized primarily by location, rather than by type of element. This is because the different spaces within the church and addition vary widely in construction and appearance. As with the description of exterior elements, if a feature is not cited for a particular room or area, it means that such no such feature is present there. Information about finishes is provided in a separate finishes analysis (Appendix D). Room, doorway, and window numbers are provided for most areas in Appendix B; those for the basement, which was changed substantially in the 1960s, are found in Appendix C.

## Church

### Basement - Sunday School and Ancillary Spaces (Rooms 005-014 and 021-24)

*Location* - in the rehabilitated basement level of the church, the Sunday School consists of five separate classrooms; the ancillary spaces include corridors, toilet rooms, mechanical equipment rooms, and storage spaces.

*Flooring* - the flooring materials vary, with square vinyl tiles in the corridors, classrooms, and toilet rooms, and unfinished cement in the mechanical equipment rooms.

*Walls* - wall finish materials vary, with painted concrete-masonry-units in the interior partitions, and painted plaster on wood lath, brick, or stone for the exterior walls; the west wall of the corridor is of whitewashed granite blocks.

*Doorways* - the most unique door is the solid granite door between the west corridor (Room 005) and the burial crypt of the tower (Room 003), with wrought-iron pintels (the door is presently removed and leans against the west wall of the corridor). The remaining interior doors are modern replacement doors consisting generally of plywood or metal. Exterior door D-7 is described under the existing description section, and is located in the former location of a window.

*Windows* - the seven exterior windows and their sashes, W001-004 (facing south) and W016-018 (facing north) are described in the section for exterior description. With the exception of W001 and W018, they remain in their original locations but have been modified to accommodate modern sashes or ventilation equipment.

*Ceiling* - generally, ceilings are modern suspended tile grid ceilings; original finishes are difficult to determine based on the observed conditions.

*Closets* - there are no closets in the basement, but Room 022 is the records vault storage and is lined with shelves and cabinets.

*Utility Systems* - The classrooms and toilet rooms have modern baseboard radiators; the furnace room (Room 021) contains the steam boiler and gas-fired hot water heater; heating ducts and pipes are generally scattered in the ancillary spaces of the basement.

The classrooms and toilet rooms have modern ceiling-mounted fluorescent light fixtures, while the ancillary spaces have older ceiling-mounted pendant-type incandescent light fixtures; there are limited numbers of wall outlets throughout the basement; wiring condition were not observed; the electric panel box is in Room 015 of the addition.

The toilet rooms (Men's Room 012 and Ladies' Room 013-014) contain most of the plumbing equipment and fixtures; Room 008, facing south, contains the external water supply for the church and has exposed water pipes; other pipes lead to the hot water heater in Room 021.

The telephone panel box is in Room 015 of the addition, but telephone jacks may be found in some of the other basement rooms.

The basement rooms have ceiling-mounted smoke detectors for fire protection, and motion detectors for intrusion protection.

**First Story - Sanctuary (Room 103)**

*Location* - occupies the entire church structure; the primary and largest space in the building.

*Flooring* - tongue-and-groove boards (not visible during research for this report due to wall-to-wall carpeting).

*Walls* - painted plaster on wood lath, surrounded by painted wood panelled wainscot up to the level of the window stoops; the design is integrated with that of the boxed pews, mostly facing east.

*Doorways* - two double doorways in east wall lead to Parish Hall (Room 104) in addition; with varnished wood paneled doors. Three doorways in west wall lead to entrance vestibule (first story of tower); doorways have deep wood-paneled reveals and painted wood surrounds; doors formerly on this side of the doorways (see Appendix B) are missing.

*Windows* - six large arched windows (W102, 103, and 104 facing south, and W123, 124, and 125 facing north); all with deep plaster reveals and flat wood stools. See discussion of exterior elements for sash information.

*Ceiling* - plaster domed ceiling on wood lath, characterized with large coffers, flower rosettes, and one large central ceiling medallion, also in a stylized flower form and made of plaster. Underside of the galleries are finished with flat, painted plaster on wood lath.

*Other* - the primary focal feature of the sanctuary is the highly polished mahogany pulpit at the center of the east wall, resembling the one shown in Plate LX of Asher Benjamin's *The Builder's Guide* (Boston: Perkins and Marvin, 1839).

Another significant feature of the sanctuary are the pews, fixed to the floor and extending east to west in four rectangular sections, with details matching the general appearance of the pews shown in Plate LXI of the same 1839 publication by Asher Benjamin.

A third significant feature are the three galleries, which are supported by six slender, white-painted, cast-iron columns. The gallery balustrade forms a highly visible decorative element of the sanctuary, faced with paneling and supported by a projecting, modillioned cornice.

*Utility Systems* - The sanctuary has four, large, cast-iron radiators--two at the west wall and two at the east end of the pews; although circular floor registers were shown in the 1939 floor plans, their existence for this report was not confirmed, due to the wall-to-wall carpet installation.

Uneven illumination is provided by 10 evenly spaced brass wall sconces attached to the front of the galleries' balustrade and reflected ceiling lighting. The room has a limited number of wall outlets; the wiring condition was not observed.

Intrusion-detection equipment in the sanctuary includes motion detectors.

**Second Story - Galleries (Rooms 203A, 203B, and 203C)**

*Location* - second story of the sanctuary; contains balcony seating (with some fixed pews), the organ loft, and the choir area.

*Flooring* - tongue-and-groove floor running perpendicular to the edge of the galleries, of unfinished wood; in stepped configuration at the north and south gallery.

*Walls* - painted plaster on wood lath, with plaster pilasters at the four corners, and surmounted by a plaster cornice from where the coffered dome ceiling starts; the gallery railing consists of a solid wood-paneled balustrade, supported by a modillioned cornice and topped with a flat wide cap; the walls between the exterior windows are cased with a flat board wainscot and a railing with turned balusters and handrail at each window location.

*Doorways* - two paneled wood doors leading west to Rooms 200 and 202 in the tower; both painted white, with round doorknobs and iron butt hinges; both with plain board surround.

*Windows* - six large arched triple-hung sashes, W102-103-104 (facing south) and W123-124-125 (facing north). See Exterior Description section.

*Ceiling* - plaster domed ceiling on wood lath, characterized with large coffers, flower rosettes, and one large central ceiling medallion, also in a stylized flower form and made of plaster.

*Other* - gallery 203B has a large pipe organ, with wood paneling and sheet metal and brass pipes.

*Utility Systems* - The galleries have no direct heating system, but receive heat from the first story space.

Brass wall sconces on the west wall and two brass upright fixtures attached to the gallery railing near the organ provide illumination; temporary spotlights facing up provide additional ceiling illumination; limited electrical outlets provide electrical power; the wiring condition was not observed.

Both the north and south galleries have linear beam photoelectric smoke sensors mounted high up on the walls; these are connected to an audible alarm and to the local fire station.

**Attic (Room 300)**

*Location* - over the sanctuary.

*Flooring* - only a limited "catwalk" of planks extending east to west.

*Walls* - exposed structural elements of the wall materials, including solid exterior granite walls on all elevations serving as bearing walls for the 8 roof trusses and related roof construction.

*Doorways* - no attic door, except for trap door providing access at the west wall to Room 301 in the tower; trap door is not hinged and is a planked door covered with insulation board.

*Windows* - skylights W301 (facing south) and W303 (facing north) are within the roof; oculus W302 (facing east) provides most of the limited light to the attic.

*Ceiling* - no ceiling except for the unfinished tongue-and-groove sheathing boards supporting the slate roof.

*Utility Systems* - Electricity is supplied to the attic by a long extension cord extending from Room 301. Fire-detection equipment includes rate-of-rise heat sensors.

## Tower

**Basement Crypt (Rooms 001, 002, 003, and 004)**

*Location* - in the basement of the tower base, below the first-story vestibule; contains the burial crypt (Rooms 002-003), flanked on the north by Room 001 (storage space) and on the south by Room 004 (circulation space).

*Flooring* - all floors are covered with square, vinyl tiles (assumed to cover a masonry floor).

*Walls* - all exterior and interior walls are solid, load-bearing granite masonry, whitewashed and painted white.

*Doorways* - Rooms 001, 003, and 004 each have one doorway in their east walls, leading to the corridor (Room 005) that runs the width of the church basement. The doorways of Rooms 001 and 004 have a wood paneled door. The doorway of Room 003 (the south burial crypt) has a wrought-iron door in the form of a grate that swings eastward. A solid granite door on wrought-iron pintels formerly hung here; having cracked, it was removed and propped up nearby in the corridor.

*Ceiling* - the ceiling consists generally of solid granite slabs laid horizontally, running east to west; these are exposed in the burial crypts (Rooms 002-003) but concealed with plaster in Rooms 001 and 004.

*Closets* - the only closet in the basement of the tower base is the west half of Room 001 (adjacent to the staircase), which is used to store discarded items.

*Utility Systems* - The basement has limited electrical service, consisting of concealed spotlights to provide indirect lighting in the burial crypts; there are no electrical outlets.

The basement has smoke detectors for fire protection and motion sensors for intrusion protection.

**First-Story Vestibule (Rooms 100, 101, and 102)**

*Location* - in the first story of the tower base; serves as the main entrance to the sanctuary, and provides access to the galleries by way of the second-story vestibule described previously. As with the second story, vestibule is divided into three rooms by masonry bearing walls. Room 100, to the north, provides access from the exterior to the sanctuary, to Room 101, to Room 001 in the basement, and to Room 200 in the second-story vestibule. Room 101, in the center, provides access from the exterior to the sanctuary and Rooms 100 and 102. Room 102, to the south, provides access from the exterior to the sanctuary, to Room 101, and to Room 202 in the second-story vestibule.

*Flooring* - the floors are assumed to be of tongue-and-groove boards, but inspection was not possible due to wall-to-wall carpeting. The treads of the staircases to the second story are covered with linoleum.

*Walls* - the painted walls are of plaster on wood lath.

*Doorways* - Rooms 100, 101, and 102 each have a double doorway in their west exterior walls (D-1, D-2, and D-3, respectively). These have deep, wood-paneled reveals; their doors have already been described as exterior elements. Rooms 100, 101, and 102 also each have doorways in their east interior walls, leading to the sanctuary. Doorways have double, painted wood paneled doors with push plates and recessed double-acting hinges.

*Ceiling* - all ceilings are painted plaster on wood lath.

*Closets* - one closet exists in Room 102, under the staircase up to Room 202. This area once contained a staircase leading down to Room 004 in the basement.

*Other* - Rooms 100 and 102 have similar staircases along their outer (north and south) walls that ascend to the second story. The staircases are L-shaped with winders, and have solid balustrades capped with molded handrails. The staircase in Room 100 has an enclosed staircase below it that descends to Room 001 in the basement, but it is seldom used. Primary access to the basement is now provided by a straight, concrete-and-steel staircase installed ca. 1946; it descends from the east side of Room 102 to Room 004.

*Utility Systems* - The first-story vestibules have ceiling-mounted, pendant incandescent light fixtures; there are limited wall-mounted outlets. Room 101 has a telephone jack.

The first-story vestibules have ceiling-mounted smoke detectors. Intrusion protection includes magnetic contact switches on the exterior doors.

**Second-Story Vestibule (Rooms 200, 201, and 202)**

*Location* - in the second story of the tower base; divided into three rooms by masonry bearing walls. Room 200 is to the north; it has a stairway from Room 100 in the first-story vestibule, and provides access to the north gallery (Room 203A) and to Room 201. Room 201, in the center of the vestibule, has a stairway up to the tower plinth (Room 301), and also provides access to the rear of the organ. Room 202 is to the south; it has a stairway from Room 102 in the first-story vestibule, and provides access to the south gallery (Room 203C) and to Room 201.

*Flooring* - varnished tongue-and-groove wood floor in all rooms.

*Walls* - painted plaster on wood lath, with wood molded baseboard.

*Doorways* - Rooms 200 and 203 each have one doorway in their east walls, leading to the north and south galleries, respectively. Room 201 has a doorway in its west wall leading to the stairway up to Room 301. All three doorways have wood paneled doors.

*Windows* - Rooms 200 has a window in its north wall (W126); Room 202 has an identical window in its south wall (W101). These have already been described as exterior elements.

*Ceiling* - painted plaster ceiling on wood lath.

*Other* - Rooms 200 and 202 have similar staircases along their outer (north and south) walls that descend to the first story. The staircases are L-shaped with winders, and have solid balustrades capped with molded handrails. Room 201 has an enclosed winder staircase along its west wall ascending to the tower plinth (Room 301).

*Utility Systems* - rooms have ceiling-mounted pendant incandescent light fixtures; limited wall-mounted outlets provide electrical power and service the long extension cord that provides the only power to Room 301 and the church attic (Room 300). Rooms have ceiling-mounted smoke detectors but no intrusion-detection system.

**Plinth Rooms (Rooms 301, 301A, 301B, and 301C)**

*Location* - Room 301 occupies the middle third of the tower plinth. It provides access to Rooms 301B and 301C, which occupy the attic-like north and south thirds of the plinth, respectively. It also provides access to Room 301A, which is the attic over the west portico, and to Room 300, the attic over the sanctuary.

*Flooring* - the floor of Room 301 is unfinished tongue-and-groove planks. Rooms 301A, 301B, and 301C have no floors; the elements of the ceiling of the rooms below are exposed.

*Walls* - the tower plinth was designed to include adequate support for the tower shaft and belfry above it. It thus consists of three rooms separated by masonry walls that are located directly under the masonry walls of the tower shaft. Thus, all four walls of Room 301 are of granite, as well as the west and east walls of Rooms 301B and 301C. The north and south walls of the latter rooms are the exposed structural elements of the exterior wooden walls.

*Doorways* - wall openings provide access to Rooms 300, 301A, 301B, and 301C; all but the one to 301A have a plank door covered with insulation with no hinges. The opening to Room 300 has a fixed wooden ladder that provides the only access to the church attic.

*Ceilings* - Room 301 ceiling is the exposed tongue-and-groove board floor of Room 401. Attic ceilings are the exposed tongue-and-groove sheathing boards for the roof of the west portico and the plinth.

*Other* - a wood spiral staircase ascends from Room 301 to Room 401.

*Utility Systems* - electrical service is provided by a long extension cord extending from Room 201 to Room 301 and the church attic (Room 300). All spaces have smoke detectors but no intrusion-detection system.

**Shaft Room (Room 401)**

*Location* - in the shaft of the church's tower. It contains the clock mechanism and provides access to the belfry.

*Flooring* - unfinished tongue-and-groove planks.

*Walls* - granite exterior walls, which serve as bearing walls for the belfry.

*Windows* - no windows. Some light comes through the east-wall oculus that serves as the east clock face.

*Ceiling* - exposed tongue-and-groove board floor of belfry.

*Other* - a wood ladder ascends to a hatch in the belfry floor.

*Utility Systems* - one smoke detector; there is no intrusion-detection system.

## Addition

### Basement Social Area (Rooms 015-019)

*Location* - the basement of the addition consists of the social room (Room 016), the kitchen and ancillary spaces (Room 018), the service passage (Room 015), the stair hall (Room 017), and the storage room (Room 019). Rooms 015 and 019 are accessed from a corridor (Room 106) that lies mostly in the church basement, but whose east end extends into the addition basement.

*Flooring* - the flooring materials vary, with square vinyl tiles in the social room, linoleum in the kitchen area, and unfinished cement in the ancillary spaces.

*Walls* - wall finish materials vary, with painted concrete-masonry-units in the interior partitions, and painted plaster on wood lath, brick, or stone for the exterior walls. The west wall of the service passage, once the exterior east wall of the church, consists of exposed granite.

*Ceiling* - generally, the ceilings have been modernized with suspended panel ceilings; original finishes are difficult to determine from the observed conditions. The service passage (Room 015) has a plaster ceiling.

*Doorways* - two exterior doorways: D-4 is a bulkhead at the south end of the service passage, under the south wing, while D-5 leads to the exterior areaway and steps along southeast wall; both have been described as exterior elements. Interior doorways in the social room are all double doorways containing modern wood swinging doors. Single, hinged doors lead to the service passage (Room 015), the storage room (Room 019), and the kitchen storage areas (Rooms 018A and 018B), and link the kitchen with the stair hall (Room 017).

*Windows* - the basement of the addition has 11 windows, all original to the construction of the addition. The social room has six windows (W005-008, facing south, and W013-015, facing north). The kitchen has two windows facing east (W009-010); each kitchen storage area has one window, facing southeast and northeast (W008 and W011); and the pantry has one window facing northeast (W012). All have been described previously as exterior elements.

*Fireplaces* - there are no fireplaces in these basement areas, but the former coal-burning stove at the east end of the kitchen has been blocked with more modern kitchen equipment.

*Closets* - basement closets include the storage room (Room 019) and two small closets off the kitchen.

*Other* - the stair hall (Room 017) contains a "dog-leg" wooden staircase that connects the kitchen with the first-story stair hall (Room 106), and links both to exterior doorway D-5.

*Utility systems* - the social room has modern baseboard radiators, and the kitchen area has cast-iron radiators; heating ducts and pipes are generally scattered throughout the basement.

The social room and kitchen have modern ceiling-mounted fluorescent light fixtures; service areas have older ceiling-mounted pendant-type incandescent light fixtures. There are limited numbers of wall outlets in the basement; wiring condition were not observed. The electric panel box is in Room 015.

The pantry (Room 018) of the kitchen has a service sink. The telephone panel box is in Room 015, but telephone jacks may be found in some of the other basement rooms. The basement rooms have ceiling-mounted smoke detectors. Intrusion-detection equipment includes magnetic contact switches on the exterior doors and motion detectors.

**Parish Hall (Room 104)**

*Location* - occupies the west two-thirds of the first story of the addition.

*Flooring* - varnished tongue-and-groove oak floor. Laid east-west in this room.

*Walls* - painted vertical matchboard wainscot to the level of the window stools; painted plaster on wood lath above.

*Ceiling* - older-type suspended ceiling, consisting of sheets of composition material held up by wooden strips. Insulation above the sheets.

*Doorways* - west wall has two double doorways leading to the sanctuary; varnished wood paneled doors have mahogany veneer facing west, oak veneer facing east. West end of south wall has a single doorway to Minister's Study (Room 105); paneled door. South end of east wall has single doorway to stair hall (Room 106); paneled door. North end of east wall has single doorway to service kitchen (Room 108); door missing. West end of north wall has a double doorway to enclosed part of the north porch (Room 109).

*Windows* - six large arched windows (W108, 109, and 110 facing south, W118, 119, and 120 facing north); described previously as exterior elements.

*Other* - the primary feature in the Parish Hall is a raised, curved area at the east end of the room. Two sets of steps (four risers each) at either end of the raised area ascend to it from the main Parish Hall floor. Its floor level is the same as that of the adjacent Ladies' Parlor. Together, these two spaces can be used as a stage, with the Parish Hall portion serving as the proscenium. A partition separates the two, but it can be drawn up into the attic by a pulley system. The partition is a varnished wood-paneled wall with a double doorway in its center.

*Utility Systems* - two large, cast-iron radiators at the west wall, and horizontal wall radiators on the north and south walls below the window level. Ceiling-mounted fluorescent light fixtures. Smoke alarms provide fire protection. Intrusion-detection equipment includes magnetic contact switches on the exterior doors and motion detectors. North wall has central-station fire- and intrusion-detection annunciator panels.

**Minister's Study (Room 105)**

*Location* - occupies the south wing.

*Flooring and Walls* - same as Parish Hall.

*Ceiling* - tray-shaped ceiling of plaster on wood lath.

*Doorways* - one single doorway in north wall, to Room 104; paneled door.

*Windows* - W105 in west wall, W107 in east wall; described previously as exterior elements.

*Fireplace* - diminutive brick and marble mantle on south wall, with a brick hearth.

*Other* - built-in oak cabinets.

*Utility systems* - ceiling-mounted pendant incandescent fixture, with a limited number of wall outlets; the wiring condition was not observed. Small cast-iron radiator; telephone jack. Smoke alarms provide fire protection but there is no intrusion-detection system.

**Stair Hall (Room 106)**

*Location* - southwest of Ladies' Parlor.

*Flooring and Walls* - same as for Parish Hall.

*Ceiling* - plaster.

*Doorways* - in west wall, to Parish Hall; in north wall, to Ladies' Parlor.

*Windows* - W111 in southeast wall; described previously as an exterior element.

*Other* - a wood staircase descending to the basement kitchen, and steps ascending to the Ladies' Parlor.

**Ladies' Parlor (Room 107)**

*Location* - in the polygonal east end of the addition.

*Flooring and Walls* - mostly same as for Parish Hall. West wall is wood-paneled partition described in connection with the Parish Hall.

*Ceiling* - modern suspended acoustical-tile ceiling.

*Doorways* - one each in south and north walls, to closets; one in southwest wall, to stair hall (Room 106); a double doorway in center of west-wall partition.

*Windows* - W112, 113, 114, and 115 in southeast, east, east, and northeast walls, respectively; described previously as exterior elements.

*Fireplaces* - large mantel on west wall, consisting of brick, marble, and granite, with a brick hearth.

*Closets* - two small closets, at the north and south ends. North closet contains W116 in northeast wall; south closet contains narrow, steep ladder to attic (Room 205).

*Utility systems* - a brass, 15-light Colonial-Revival chandelier; small cast-iron radiator; telephone jack; smoke alarms no intrusion-detection system.

**Service Kitchen (Room 108)**

*Location* - northwest of Ladies' Parlor; a small kitchen/pantry connected by a dumb-waiter to the larger kitchen/pantry in the basement.

*Flooring and Walls* - same as for Parish Hall.

*Ceiling* - plaster.

*Doorways* - one in west wall, to Parish Hall; door missing.

*Windows* - W117 in northeast wall; described previously as an exterior element.

*Other* - wooden cabinets, dumb-waiter.

*Utility systems* - small sink at the west wall; small cast-iron radiator; telephone jack. Smoke alarms provide fire protection but there is no intrusion-detection system.

**North Porch (Room 109)**

*Flooring and Walls* - same as for Parish Hall.

*Ceiling* - tongue-and-groove varnished horizontal boards.

*Doorways* - double exterior doorway in north wall (D-6); described previously as an exterior element. Double doorway in south wall; described previously with Parish Hall.

*Utility systems* - bell/intercom system to allow for external-internal communication.

## Attics (Rooms 204-205)

### West Attic (Room 204)

*Location* - attic over the Parish Hall; was the upper part of Room 104 before the latter received a suspended ceiling.

*Flooring* - no flooring, except for several planks forming a "catwalk" extending westward from Room 205.

*Walls* - south and north walls consist of the roof slope; see "Ceiling." West wall of plaster on wood lath; east wall of horizontal tongue-and-groove boards, concealing the wood partition that can be lowered by pulleys to separate Rooms 104 and 107.

*Ceiling* - varnished tongue-and-groove sheathing boards supported by chamfered rafters; formerly visible from Room 104 below.

*Doorways* - informal opening to Room 205; no surround or door.

*Windows* - two eyebrow windows (W201 facing south, and W203 facing north); already described as exterior elements.

*Utility systems* - wall and ceiling-mounted incandescent light fixtures, but no electrical outlets. Fire-protection equipment includes a rate-of-rise heat sensor.

### East Attic (Room 205)

*Location* - attic over the Ladies' Parlor (Room 107), located in the polygonal east end of the addition.

*Flooring* - unfinished tongue-and-groove wood floor, laid north to south.

*Walls* - south, east, and north walls consist of the roof slope; see "Ceiling." West wall of horizontal tongue-and-groove boards; wood partition that can be lowered to separate Rooms 104 and 107 lies along east side of the wall. Center of east wall has the exposed brick and granite of the addition's chimney.

*Doorways* - trap door in floor at southeast corner, with ladder down to Room 107; other doorways are simply informal opening with no surrounds or doors.

*Windows* - oculus W202, in east wall; already described as an exterior element.

*Ceiling* - consists of the exposed structural support system for the roof.

*Utility systems* - wall and ceiling-mounted incandescent light fixtures, but no electrical outlets. Fire-protection equipment includes a rate-of-rise heat sensor.

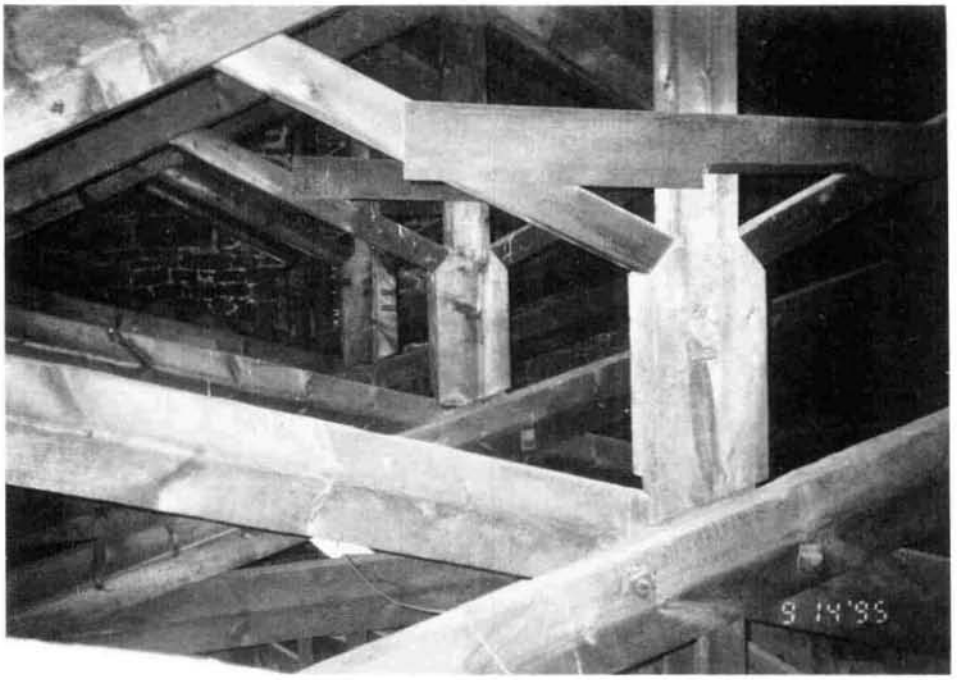



**Figure 59.** Church interior: attic, eastward view of scissor trusses.

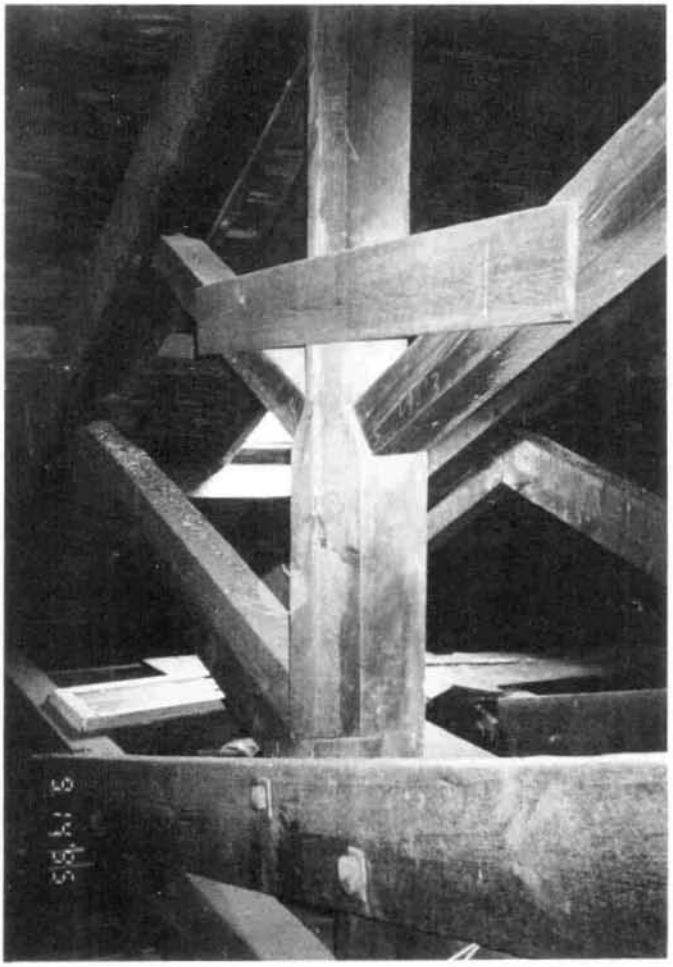


**Figure 60.** Church interior: northward view of king post.

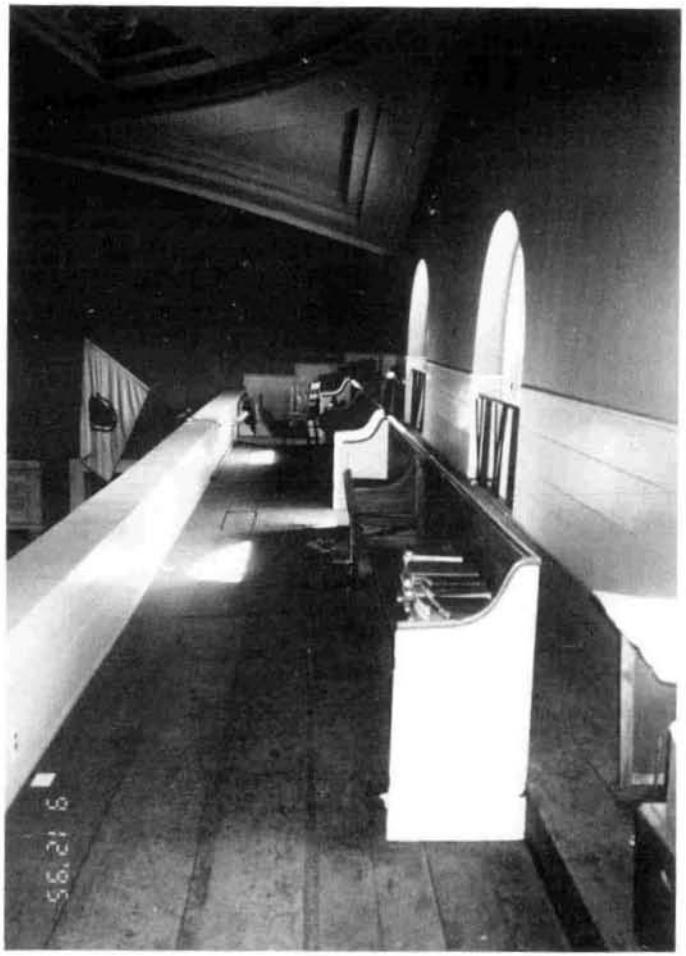


**Figure 61.** Church interior: south gallery (Room 203C), view eastward.



**Figure 62.** Church interior: sanctuary (Room 103), view toward west gallery (Room 203-B) and organ.

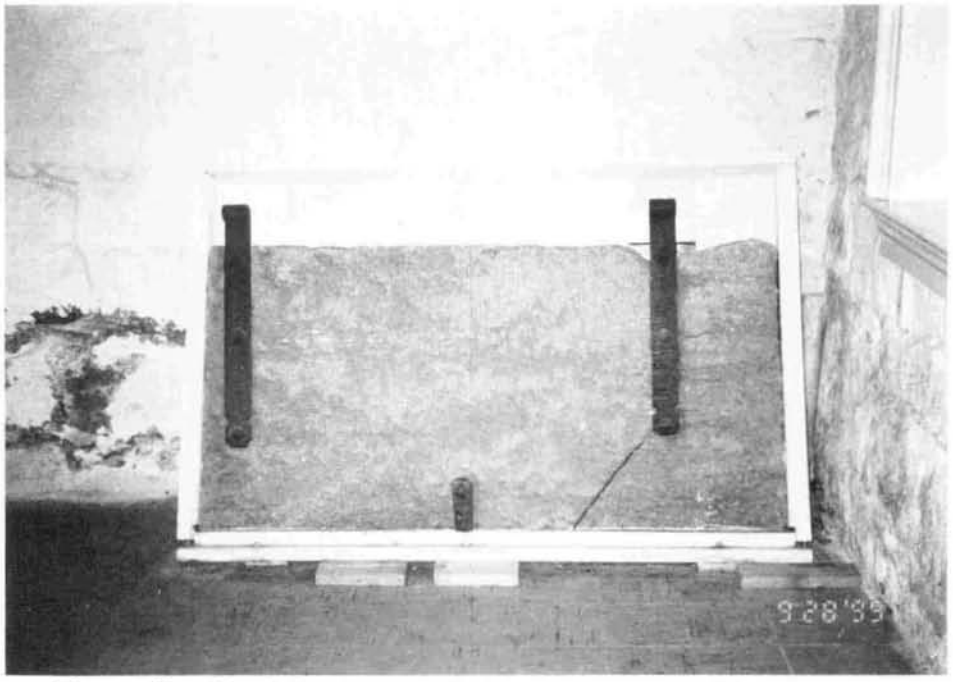



**Figure 63.** Church interior: granite door to crypt, stored in basement corridor (Room 005).



**Figure 64.** Tower interior: plinth room (Room 301), east-wall hatch to church attic.

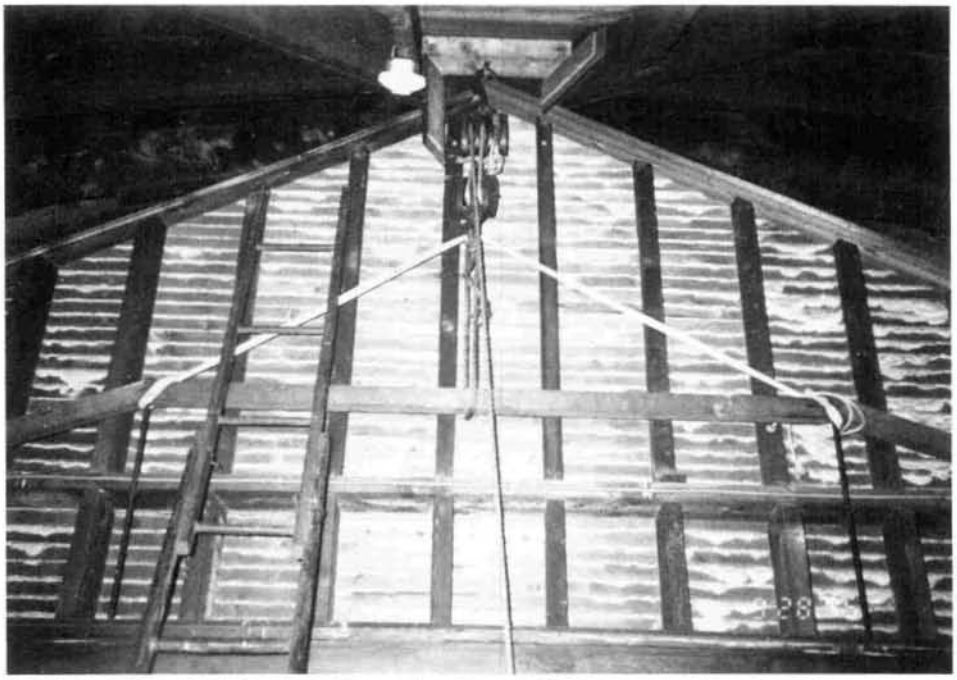


**Figure 65.** Addition interior: attic (Room 205), west wall and pulley system for lowering partition wall.



**Figure 66.** Addition interior: Ladies' Parlor (Room 107), west partition wall that can be lowered from attic.

# VI. CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT AND REPAIR RECOMMENDATIONS

# INTRODUCTION

Field work for the architectural description and the conditions assessment sections was conducted on September 11-15, 1995. It was accomplished by Richard Crisson, Historical Architect with the Building Conservation Branch (BCB) of the Northeast Cultural Resources Center (NECRC), NPS. Specific recommendations are included in each section whenever they apply. This approach also demonstrates the relationship and effect between exterior deficiencies and interior deterioration. Recommendations made are in keeping with preservation standards provided by the Secretary of the Interior: preservation of materials is the preferred treatment, and rehabilitation and replacement in kind are preferable to reconstruction or replacement with incompatible or new materials. The intent of this approach is to maintain the historic fabric and character-defining features of United First Parish Church in Quincy, Massachusetts.

# EXTERIOR ELEMENTS

## General Information

The following assessment is organized primarily by type of element, as was done in the chapter "Physical Description." This was done to avoid redundancy, since similar exterior elements share the same conditions. If an element is not cited for a particular elevation or area, it means that no such element exists there.

## Overview of Conditions

### Church

Generally, the exterior of the church is in good condition. The majority of problems that do exist are associated with moisture penetrating through the roof from either deteriorated flashing or missing slate shingles. The general condition of the copper flashing is poor, being either deteriorated or improperly repaired, and with open joints. Various campaigns of slate installation are evident, and replaced slates do not always match the earlier slates. The roof is inaccessible except with specialized equipment, a situation that has led to deferred maintenance. Copper gutters and downspouts are in poor condition due to erosion and the use of incompatible materials. Repairs using ferrous fasteners and bituminous coatings have caused additional copper deterioration. The copper gutter on the north elevation has been recently replaced with an aluminum gutter. Fascia boards and wood cornices have open joints; many of the wood components are split or cracked, and suffer from a general lack of paint. Windows, sashes, and blinds suffer from similar conditions, although with careful attention, most of these problems can be repaired so as to preserve the historic fabric.

### Tower

The exterior of the tower is in fair condition. The majority of existing problems are associated with moisture penetrating from the belfry, and to the lack of maintenance for the wood elements that are difficult to access. The general condition of the copper flashing is poor; it is either deteriorated, or has been improperly repaired with ferrous materials and/or bituminous patches. The granite blocks are discolored and stained with rust. Lack of consistent maintenance has resulted in various instances of open joints, missing flashing, split or cracked wood joints, insufficient sealants, and lack of paint on wood surfaces. Roof slates have been patched and stained with inappropriate and/or excessive applications of hot bituminous mixtures.

### Addition

The exterior of the addition--like the church--is in good overall condition. The majority of existing problems are associated with moisture penetrating through the roof at the dormer and ridge from either deteriorated flashing or from cracked or loose slate shingles. Color variations in the roof

slates indicate that more than one slate installation has occurred. Copper gutters and downspout are in poor condition due to erosion and to incompatible materials (iron and bitumen) being in contact with copper elements. Windows and sash conditions vary widely from good to poor, but with careful attention using technical expertise, most of these problems can be repaired so as to preserve most of the significant historic fabric.

## Roofs

### Church

**Conditions:**

- Slate roof of standard smooth-textured, semi-weathering gray-black shingles in fair condition, with minor areas of missing and/or cracked shingles, and evidence of rusting nails.
- Copper rolled-ridge flashing in fair condition, with minor areas of deterioration and open seams, but other areas of deteriorated copper flashing and with deformation and bituminous patches.
- Two copper and glass scuttles (W301 facing south and W303 facing north) are described subsequently in "Windows."
- Drainage system with copper half-round hanging gutters, in poor condition with pits due to erosion and incompatible use of iron fasteners, supported with iron straps attached to the roof sheathing. (North-elevation gutter has been replaced with a painted aluminum gutter.)

**Recommendations:**

- Replace missing/cracked slates with semi-weathering gray-black shingles to match the overall roof appearance, using copper nails.
- Replace copper rolled ridge flashing and other roof flashing using copper, copper nails, and rubberized membrane in concealed areas (below the slates and copper flashing).
- Repair existing copper gutter with a two-part rubberized lining and re-attaching loose fasteners.
- Replace the modern aluminum gutter with a reproduction copper gutter matching the south gutter.
- When slate shingles are removed, determine the original gutter configuration, whether built-in or hanging for future gutter recommendations.
- Initiate cyclic roof inspection (twice yearly) and regular maintenance schedule as required after inspections.

## Tower

**Conditions:**

*Belfry and Shaft*

- Decorative copper weathervane with gold-leaf in good condition, with attached copper point for lightning protection system.
- Gold-leaf application on domed roof appears recent and is in excellent condition.
- Evidence of birds nesting in the open belfry.
- Modern pressure-treated bell support in excellent condition, attached to new structural steel installed in tower ca. 1964.
- Earlier flat-seam copper roof of shaft (floor of belfry) is covered with hot-bituminous felt roof without complete coverage where bell support frame sits on the floor, leading to water leaks below.

*Plinth and Base*

- Nearly flat roof of plinth consists of rolled asphalt roofing, probably applied over earlier copper sheets.
- Nearly flat roof of base consists of copper sheets with extensive bituminous patches; discarded slate shingles now adhered to bituminous patches.

*West Portico*

- Slate roof, of standard smooth textured semi-weathering gray-black shingles with semi-weathering gray-green and clear black patches. Slate is in deteriorated condition with many loose, cracked, and replaced shingles.
- Copper rolled-ridge flashing in deteriorated condition with areas of rusting nails and a surface-mounted electric halogen spotlight.
- Gray-painted wood cornice and fascia in poor condition throughout, with open joints, peeling paint, and nesting birds.

**Recommendations:**

*Belfry and Shaft*

- Ensure that any rehabilitation work done to the belfry maintains the integrity of the lightning-protection system at all times during the work and after the work is completed.

- Repair deteriorated copper flashing; where replacement is necessary, install according to best trade standards, if possible using concealed rubber membrane.

- Replace deteriorated roof of shaft (floor of belfry) in kind, using self-sealing membrane below copper roof, or install a rubber membrane roof since the roof is not exposed.

*Plinth and Base*

- Repair copper flashing in kind and only where necessary.

- Remove bituminous patches and inspect condition of copper sheets on flat tower roof.

- Repair and/or replace copper sheets and related base flashing after assessment, installing rubber membrane if possible.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of tower plinth and base.

*West Portico*

- Remove and salvage intact slate shingles and replace with new semi-weathering gray-black slate shingles, using copper nails.

- Remove and replace all copper flashing and rolled-ridge flashing with identical material, using copper nails and concealed rubber membrane (below flashing and slates).

- Replace missing wood elements, repair rotting wood elements in kind, and prime and paint all wood elements.

## Addition

**Conditions:**

*Main Roof*

- Roof of semi-weathering gray-black slate shingles of standard smooth texture; in good condition, except for some patched areas at ridge and eyebrow window of semi-weathering gray-green shingles.

- Ridge and hip flashing of rolled copper in fair condition, with some open joints and repairs associated with evidence of leaks in attics below.

- Half-round copper gutters in deteriorated condition with sagging sections and pitting due to erosion and applications of incompatible materials (iron and bitumen).

- North and south eyebrow dormers clad with flat copper sheets in good condition, but deteriorated window sashes and copper flashing are evident from leaks in the rooms below.

- Chimney dormer has interior leaks below it, indicating copper flashing problems where chimney projects through the roof.

*South Wing and North Porch Roofs*

- Semi-weathering gray-black slates of standard smooth texture, with minor areas of missing and replaced slate shingles.

- Deteriorated rolled copper ridge flashing, in poor condition due to inappropriate repairs using hot bituminous coatings and iron nails to refasten the copper ridge flashing.

- Flat areas of south-wing roof used to store discarded roofing materials and tar buckets.

- Half-round copper gutters on both roofs in poor condition due to sags and erosion.

**Recommendations:**

*Main Roof*

- Assess feasibility of replacing slate shingles to match the semi-weathering gray-black shingles both for immediate repairs and for future applications.

- Assess feasibility of replacing copper flashing when slate shingles are replaced, and repair in kind as a temporary alternative solution.

- Repair and/or replace in kind the half-round copper gutters and copper fasteners.

- Assess eyebrow dormers' copper flashing, cladding, and slate shingle conditions prior to making any repairs; monitor leaks to determine if any are still a problem; repair and/or replace materials as needed in kind and in accordance with preservation standards.

- Initiate cyclic maintenance of roof areas and regular maintenance schedule.

*South Wing and North Porch Roofs*

- Repair and/or replace slate and copper roofs using appropriate historic preservation standards and in kind materials.

- Repair and/or replace copper gutters or sections of the same using in kind materials.

- Initiate cyclic maintenance of roof areas, remove discarded materials, and institute regular maintenance schedule.

## Chimneys

### Church

**Conditions:**

*East Chimney*

- Chimney is apparently no longer used, and covered with a lead cap. Brick conditions are thus unknown.

*Northeast Chimney*

- Brick chimney with copper flashing extends down to furnace room and is in active use. It is in excellent exterior condition.

**Recommendations:**

- Both chimneys should be inspected by a chimney consultant to determine flue conditions.
- The lead covering should be removed, if determined to be non-historic or causing damage to brick surfaces.
- Flue lining repairs should be done in accordance with consultant and evaluated by Architectural Conservator/Historical Architect for long-term effects.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of chimneys.

### Addition

**Conditions:**

*East Chimney*

- Corbelled granite chimney, forming a decorative feature of the east elevation, appears in excellent condition.
- Copper flashing appears in good to fair condition.
- Chimney receives occasional use; conditions of flue and damper are unknown.

*South-Wing Chimney*

- Brick chimney projecting from the study below appears in good condition.
- Copper flashing in poor condition, due to incompatible material repairs of the slate shingle roof and the copper flashing.

- Not in active use; flue-damper conditions are unknown.

**Recommendations:**

- Assess conditions of south and east chimneys' copper flashing and repair and/or replace in kind.
- Assess flue and damper conditions of the chimneys and determine if dampers or cap installations are feasible; recommend that chimneys not be used if unsafe conditions exist.
- Initiate cyclic yearly chimney inspections and regular maintenance schedule.

## Walls

### Church

**Conditions:**

- Walls of granite blocks with flush mortar joints in good condition.
- Wall areas with minor cracks; discoloration; rust, copper, and some environmental-pollution stains; and biological growth.
- Minor areas of open joints, particularly at lower sections near grade, or with evidence of different pointing phases.
- Patched cracks and minor discolorations in four round monolithic portico columns.
- Drainage from roof with three square, ribbed copper leaders on the south and north elevations in fair condition (pitted at the highest sections). Attached to the granite wall with copper-iron fasteners leading to subterranean cast-iron storm drains (operation uncertain).
- Eave trim consisting of gray-painted wood cornice and fascia in poor condition due to peeling paint, cracked wood, and lack of caulking.
- West-wall inset panel over front doorways with mortar and iron wire mesh to deter birds, showing evidence of rust stains.

**Recommendations:**

- In consultation with Architectural Conservator, determine appropriate pointing mix. Repoint as conditions become necessary and on a case-by-case basis, starting with the base of the wall and below the windows.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule, making note of changing conditions in patched or repaired areas of columns and walls.

- Monitor stained conditions; if conditions deteriorate further, clean in accordance with Architectural Conservator's recommendations.

- Consider a more unobtrusive bird-deterrent system, in accordance with more specific recommendations from the Architectural Conservator.

- Consider cleaning small areas of biological growth at northeast corner, in accordance with more detailed recommendations by the Architectural Conservator.

- In consultation with the Historical Architect, determine repair treatment for copper leaders, salvaging as much of the copper as possible and replacing with new sections to match, and using copper-compatible fasteners.

- Repair cornice and fascia boards in kind; sand, prepare, and repaint all of the wood trim components so that the repaired and replaced gutters can be fastened securely.

- Inspect the subterranean drain outlets; clean and or replace them to make the system operational.

## Tower

**Conditions:**

*Belfry*

- Eight hollow, tongue-and-groove wood columns of belfry are split and show evidence of rot; their white paint is worn in places.

- Interior of columns contain 10-inch "H"-shaped steel beams, measuring five-eights of an inch, inserted ca. 1964.

- Painted column base moldings and carved wood Corinthian capitals are deteriorated, with small pieces missing and peeling paint throughout.

- Tongue-and-groove painted vertical boards of belfry's drum base are in fair condition, with some open joints and worn paint coating.

*Shaft and Clock Faces*

- Granite blocks below clock faces with minor rust stains and discoloration.

- Wood surround and circular sash of east-elevation clock face are deteriorated.

- Black-painted and gilded clock faces on west, south, and north elevations all in excellent condition; clock hands of gilded wood also in excellent condition.

*Plinth and Base*

- Painted tongue-and groove-horizontal wood siding of south and north elevations of plinth have split joints.
- Granite blocks of west and east elevations of plinth, and all granite walls of base, have some open joints, with some minor rust stains.
- Copper base flashing in fair condition.

**Recommendations:**

*Belfry*

- Correct deteriorated conditions of wood elements, and perform repairs in kind according to historic preservation standards.
- Repair the missing wood column elements in kind; strip to sound paint layer and repaint.
- Repair in kind, prepare, seal, and repaint all other wood elements.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of belfry components.

*Shaft and Clock Faces*

- Repair or replace in kind deteriorated elements of glazed east clock face and surround.
- Monitor stained areas; if conditions deteriorate further, clean in accordance with the Architectural Conservator's recommendations.
- Initiate cyclic inspections and regular maintenance schedule for shaft and clock faces.

*Plinth and Base*

- Seal wood joints, sand, prime, and paint the horizontal wood siding.
- Repair copper flashing in kind and only where necessary.
- Remove bituminous patches and inspect condition of copper sheets on flat tower roof.
- Repair and/or replace copper sheets and related base flashing after assessment, installing rubber membrane if possible.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of tower plinth and base.

## Addition

**Conditions:**

- Granite blocks with flush mortar joints in good condition.
- Areas with minor granite discoloration, biological growth, and minor staining.
- Minor areas of open joints or with evidence of different pointing.
- Ribbed, square copper leaders in poor condition due to pitting, erosion, and loosening of fasteners.

**Recommendations:**

- In consultation with Architectural Conservator, determine appropriate pointing mix for future applications as conditions deteriorate and on a case-by-case basis, taking special precautions at northeast and southeast corners, where biological growth is more prevalent.
- Consider cleaning small areas of biological growth in accordance with specific recommendations made by Architectural Conservator.
- Repair or replace the copper leaders and fasteners in kind.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule.

# Doorways

## Church

**Conditions:**

- South-elevation basement emergency exit (D-7) was installed ca. 1963, within a former basement window opening that was enlarged and given access by an open concrete areaway with 10 steps ascending to the sidewalk. Doorway has a gray-painted wood surround and paneled door with glass in the top two raised panels and "panic" hardware; all in excellent condition.
- Stairway landing at basement level has a drain hole with a wire screen, to provide drainage from excess rainwater; in poor condition due to accumulation of debris (performance is unknown).

**Recommendations:**

- Maintain a regular schedule of repairs and maintenance for the surround and door of the south-elevation basement exit, and keep drainage hole free of debris.

- Determine performance of drainage outlet and re-design if necessary to make operational.

- Remove and maintain vegetation away from openings and base of wall, and if feasible, lower grade at wall base.

## Tower

**Conditions:**

- Three doorways (D-1, D-2, and D-3) inside west portico with paired red-painted doors; in fair condition due to lack of maintenance and heavy use.

- Evidence of earlier hardware on doors, now fitted with modern hardware.

- Paneled surrounds in fair condition due to lack of maintenance, with peeling paint, cracked wood, and lack of caulking.

**Recommendations:**

- Repair west doors in kind and repaint, with appropriate color in accordance with paint analysis by Architectural Conservator.

- Repair surrounds in kind and in accordance with preceding recommendations for doors.

- Assess evolution of historic hardware; determine appropriateness of existing hardware, and recommend retention of same or appropriate replacement hardware (dependent on the approved treatment plan).

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of doors and surrounds.

## Addition

**Conditions:**

*South Elevation*

- Bulkhead entrance (D-4) provides access to the basement storage area. Door of modern pressure-treated wood, reusing older cast-iron hardware.

- Although in good condition, the appearance of the bulkhead is not appropriate to the historic character of the church.

- Basement doorway (D-5) has modern door and hardware, all in good condition.

*North Elevation*

- North porch doorway (D-6) provides access to Parish Hall. Doorway has two paneled oak doors in good condition.

**Recommendations:**

- Assess feasibility of replacing bulkhead entrance with a more appropriately designed entrance, reusing the existing hardware.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule for all doorways, including doors and surrounds.

## Windows

**Church**

**Conditions:**

*North and South Elevations*

- Roof/attic copper-clad scuttle facing south (W301), probably with copper flashing and with leak damage evident on ceiling below.

- Roof/attic glazed scuttle facing north (W303), probably with copper flashing; original wood, glass, and copper scuttle now stored in attic.

- Gray-painted wood frames and sills in six windows (W102-104 facing south and W123-125 facing north); all in poor condition, with peeling paint, cracked wood, and lack of caulking.

- Six triple-hung and arch-headed wood sashes (W102-104 and W123-125); in varying conditions of deterioration, due to lack of paint, caulking, and sealants.

- Six pairs of green-painted rectangular and doubled wood blinds (W102-104 and W123-125); in poor condition due to open joints, cracked wood, and peeling paint.

- Seven basement windows (W001-004 facing south and W016-018 facing north) with black-painted sashes; in poor condition due to raised exterior grade, filled window wells, and general lack of maintenance.

- Some basement windows blocked with gray-painted plywood (W003) and copper-clad ventilating louvers (W016), or with modern top-hinged casement sashes (W017).

*East Elevation*

- Large oculus attic window (W302) with surround and sash in deteriorated condition, with a lack of paint due to inaccessible location and lack of maintenance.

- Evidence of leaks, wood rot, and damaged surfaces below W302.

- Thermoplastic sheet fastened with screws to the granite surround of W302, designed to protect the sash from further deterioration.

**Recommendations:**

*North and South Elevations*

- Assess both roof/attic scuttle flashing to determine if previous repairs have corrected leaks, or make repairs by replacing copper flashing

- Assess condition and possible rehabilitation of old scuttle stored in attic.

- Assess damage to all first-story original sashes, surrounds, and blinds, and repair in accordance with historic preservation standards. This involves repairing in kind, consolidating decayed wood, and sanding/priming/painting and re-glazing the sashes and by salvaging and re-using the old glass, and cleaning and re-painting the historic hardware.

- Assess damage to basement surrounds and sashes, and repair in kind as described previously; replace missing sashes in accordance with the general sash configuration determined to be original and compatible with interior uses of the basement area.

- Reduce height of exterior grade adjacent to basement sashes; clean out existing window wells, and/or create new window wells where non-existent, in accordance with design of existing window wells.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of all window surrounds, sashes, and blinds.

*East Elevation*

- Assess impact of thermoplastic sheet on original sash and granite surround, and make corrective changes (i.e., ventilation holes or removal) if required.

- Repair in kind the original sash and surround of W302, according to historic preservation standards and methods discussed previously.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule of W302.

## Tower

**Conditions:**

*North and South Elevations*

- Two fixed horizontal windows (W101 in the south wall and W126 in the north wall), in fair-poor condition with peeling paint due to inaccessible locations.

**Recommendations:**

- Same as for church windows.

## Addition

**Conditions:**

*North and South Elevations*

- Two eyebrow dormers on roof: W201 on south slope, and W203 on north slope). Each has had center sash removed and stored in attic; opening is blocked with a black-painted plywood panel. (Side sashes remain in situ.)

- Six large arched windows with double-hung sashes in north and south walls (W108-110 in south wall, and W118-120 in north wall) in fair condition, bordered with small panes of yellow-tinted glass.

- Two lunette window sashes (W106 over the south wing, and W122 over the north porch) in poor condition, due to inaccessible locations for regular maintenance.

- Six paired basement sashes (W005-007 in south wall and W013-015 in north wall) all in fair condition due to raised exterior grades and excessive vegetation.

*East Elevation*

- Small oculus (W202) centered in east side of east chimney. Both the wood surround and the six-light sash in deteriorated condition due to loss of caulking and paint.

- First-story windows are all in generally fair to poor condition with loss of paint, caulking and rotting of the muntins. These include: W107 in east wall of south wing; W121, in east wall of north porch; windows W111 and 112, in the southeast wall; W115, 116, and 117, in the northeast wall; and arched windows W113 and 114, in the east wall.

- Five basement sashes (W008 in southeast wall, W009-010 in east wall, and W011-012 in northeast wall) in good condition, generally with exterior security screen mesh.

**Recommendations:**

- Preserve original sashes whenever possible; assess damage on a case-by case basis to determine the extent to which each must be repaired or replaced in kind.

- Assess condition of stored eyebrow-dormer sashes to determine rehabilitation feasibility for re-using or replacing in kind.

- Assess damage to basement sashes and determine if grade can be lowered and vegetation partially removed to reduce high levels of humidity and its related damage.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule for all windows and sashes.



**Figure 67.** Tower exterior: west portico, slate roof with copper ridge cap. Note cracked and repaired slates, bituminous patches, loose copper flashing, and spotlight screwed to ridge cap.



**Figure 68.** Tower exterior: west portico, north end of entablature. Note peeling paint, cracked moldings, open joints, and granite stains from rusting chicken wire.



**Figure 69.** Church exterior: east wall, south corner of gable end.

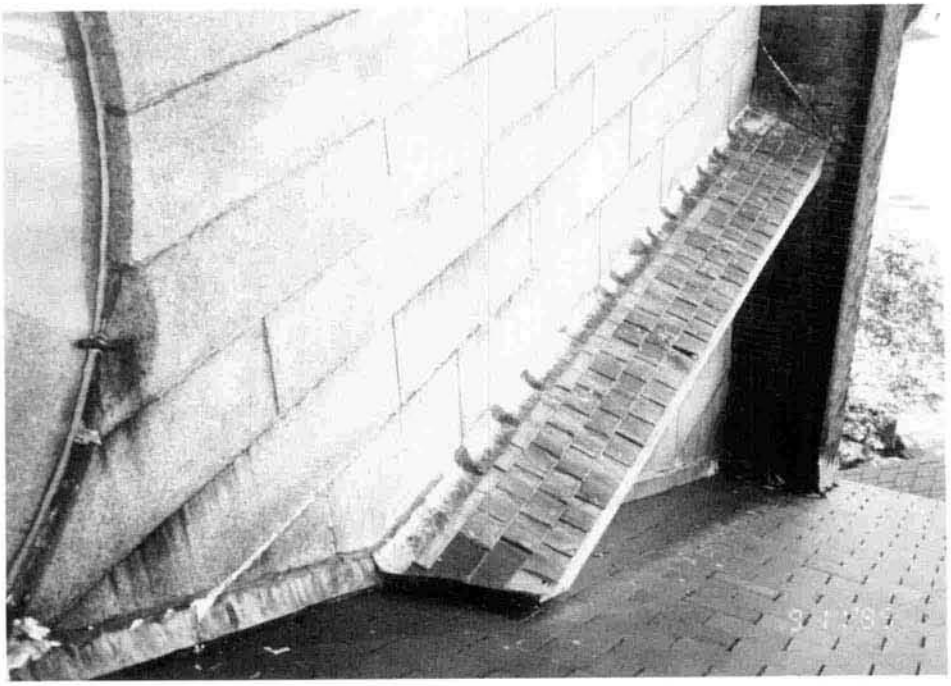


**Figure 70.** Church exterior: east wall, north corner of gable end.



**Figure 71.** Church exterior: roof, view eastward.



**Figure 72.** Church exterior, roof ridge cap at east end.

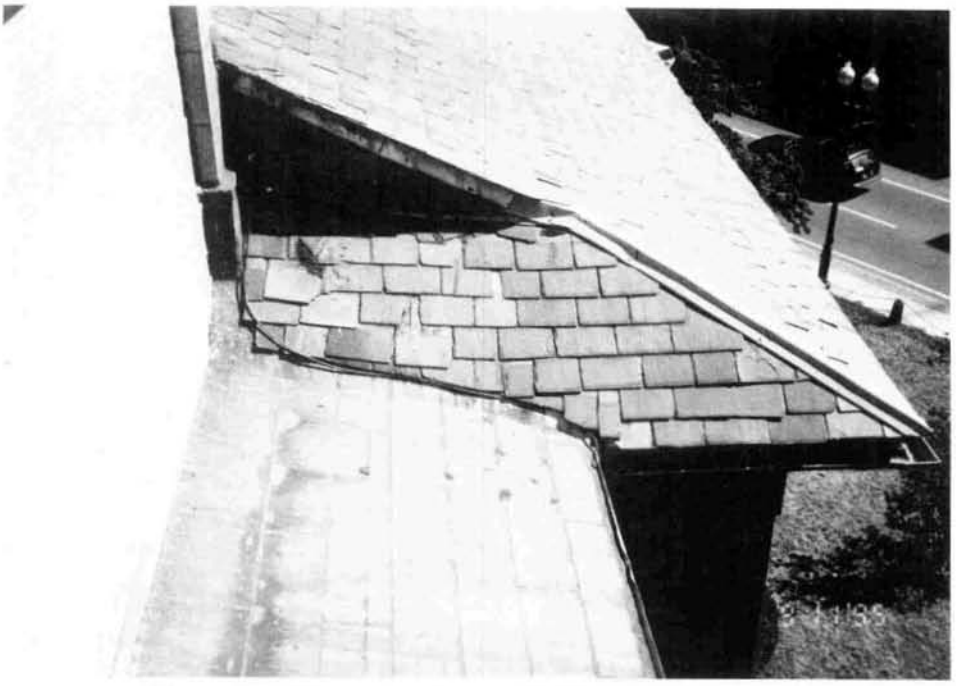


**Figure 73.** Tower exterior: roof of base, south side.



**Figure 74.** Tower exterior: roof of base, north side.

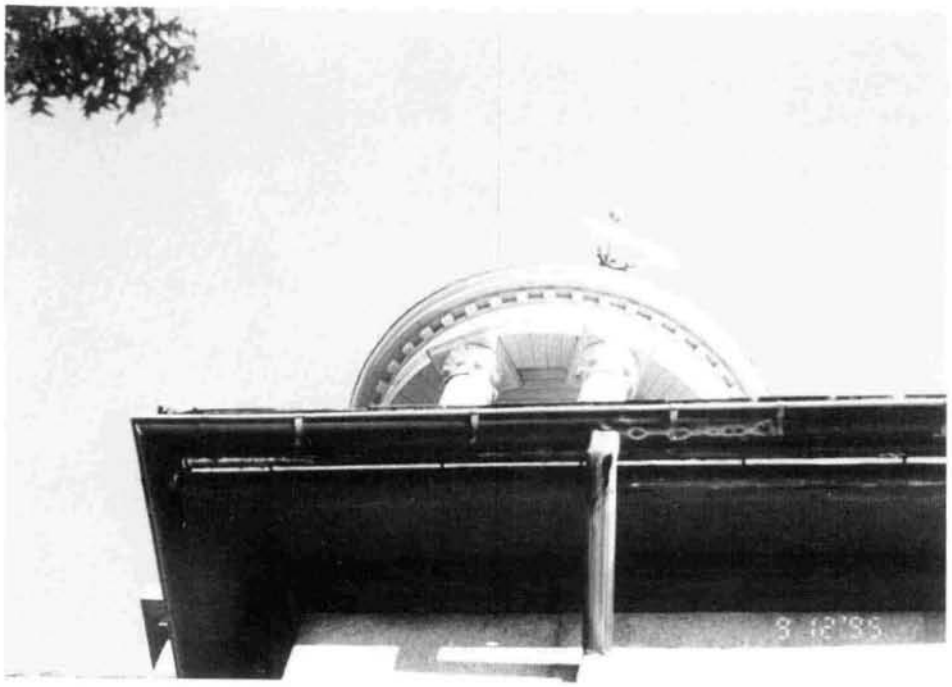


**Figure 75.** Church exterior: southwest corner of roof, showing hanging half-round copper gutter and rectangular downspout, with oxidation and pitting of the copper.



**Figure 76.** Church exterior: southeast corner of the roof, showing hanging half-round copper gutter with oxidation and pitting, and peeling paint and open joints of the wooden cornice moldings.



**Figure 77.** Tower exterior: base with southwest downspout (top).



**Figure 78.** Tower exterior: base with northwest downspout (top).

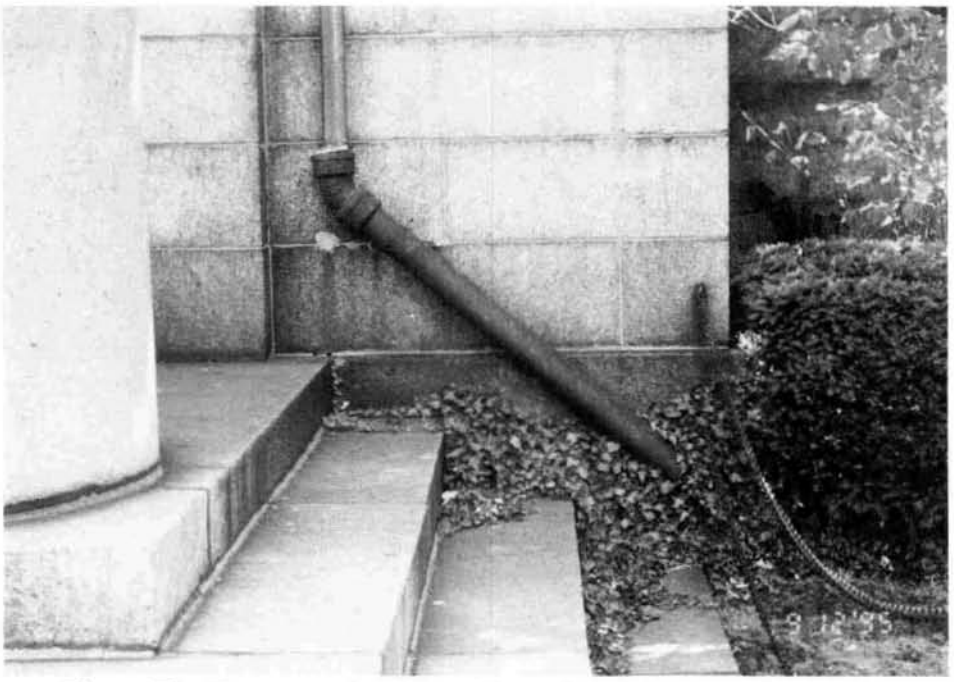


**Figure 79.** Tower exterior: base with southwest downspout (bottom).

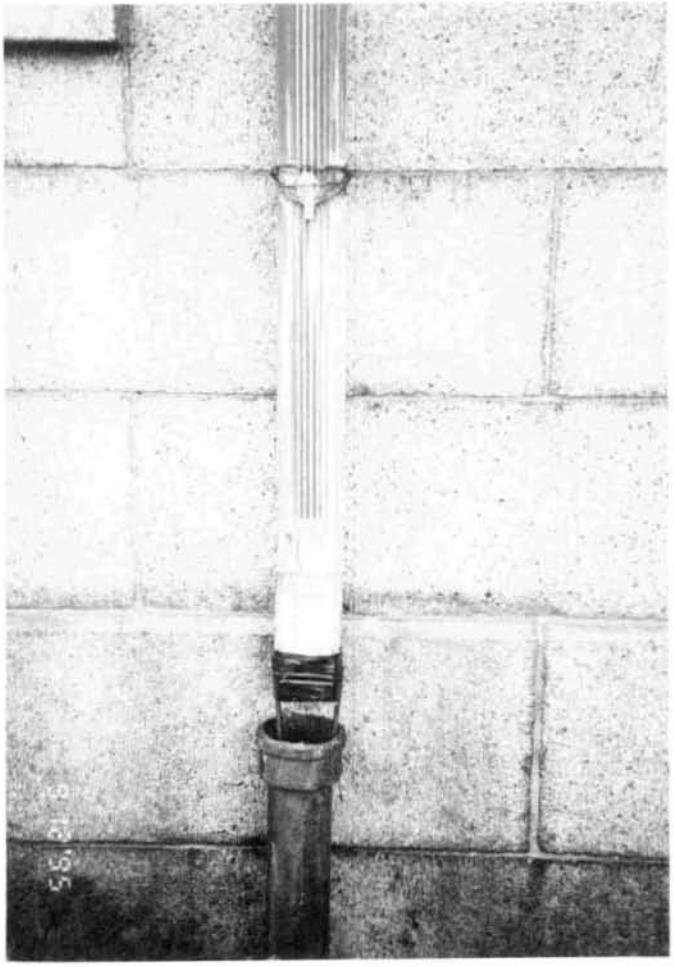


**Figure 80.** Church exterior: north wall, center downspout.

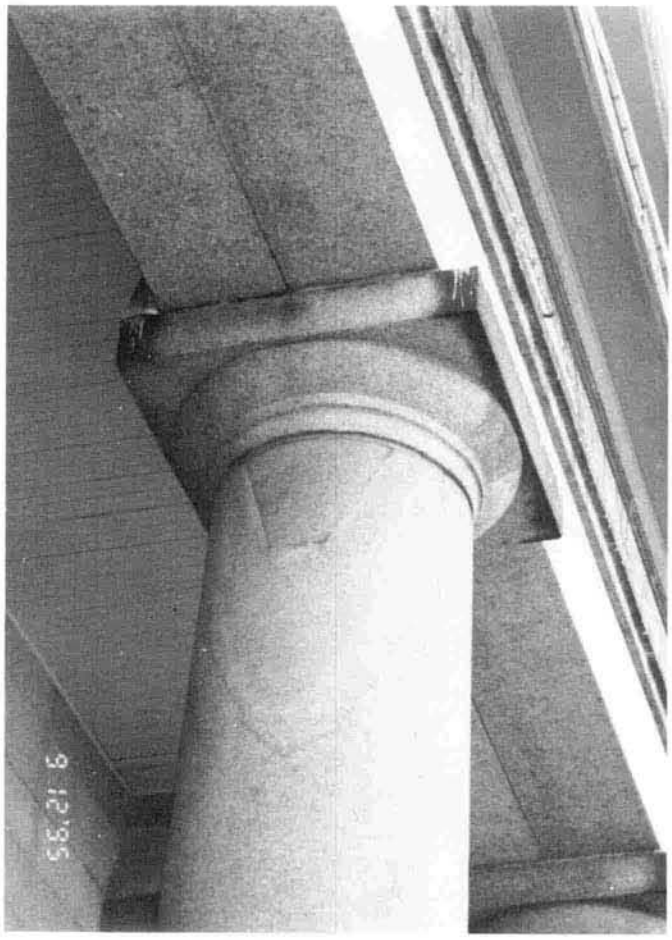


**Figure 81.** Tower exterior: west portico, column capital and entablature.

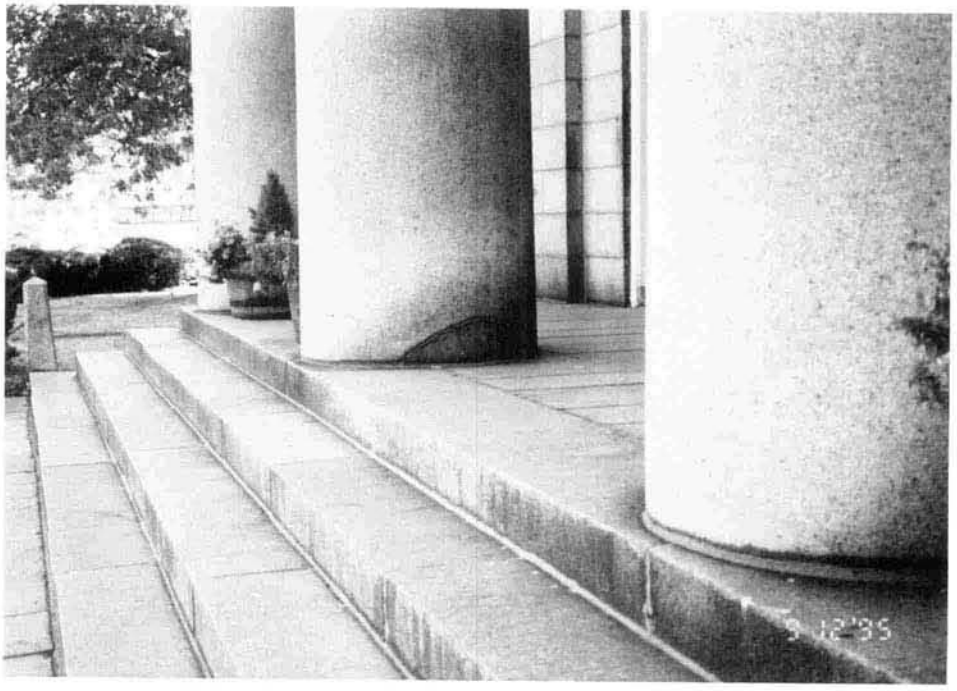


**Figure 82.** Tower exterior: west portico, column base and steps.

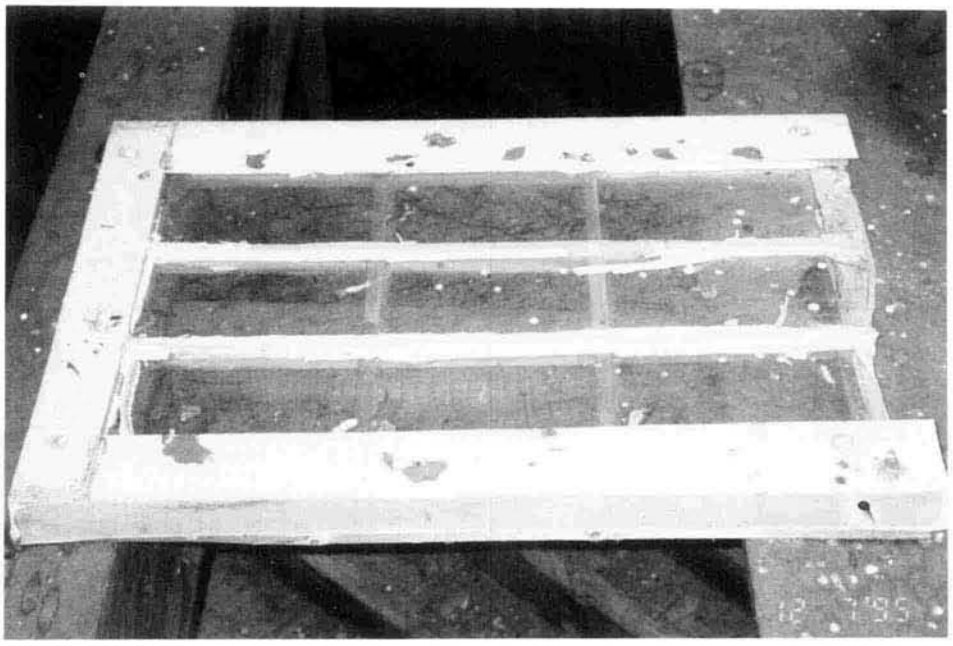


**Figure 83.** Sash of north scuttle of church (W303), stored in attic.

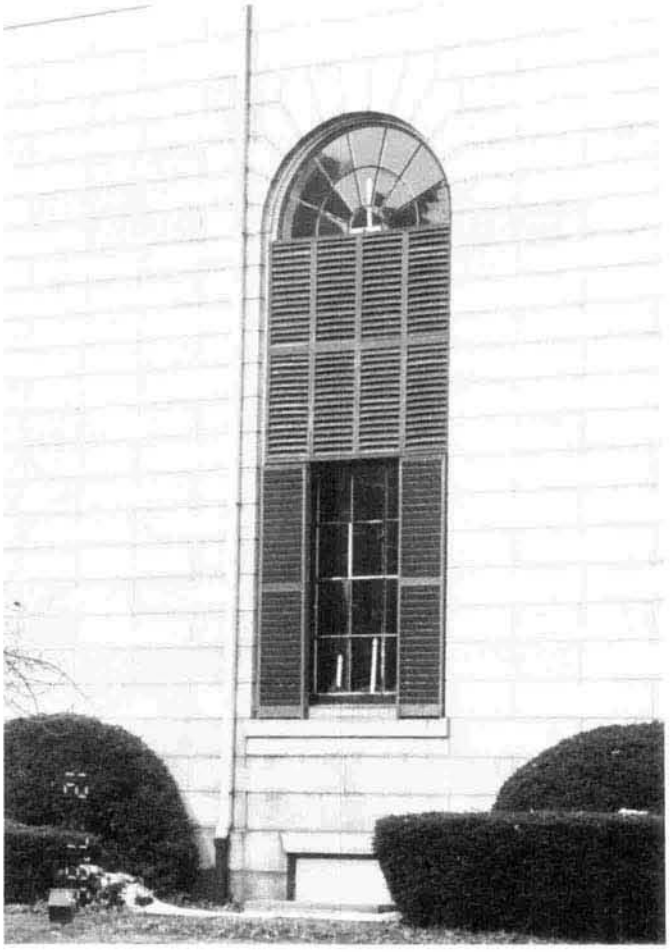


**Figure 84.** Church exterior: south wall, center window (W103) and basement window (W003).

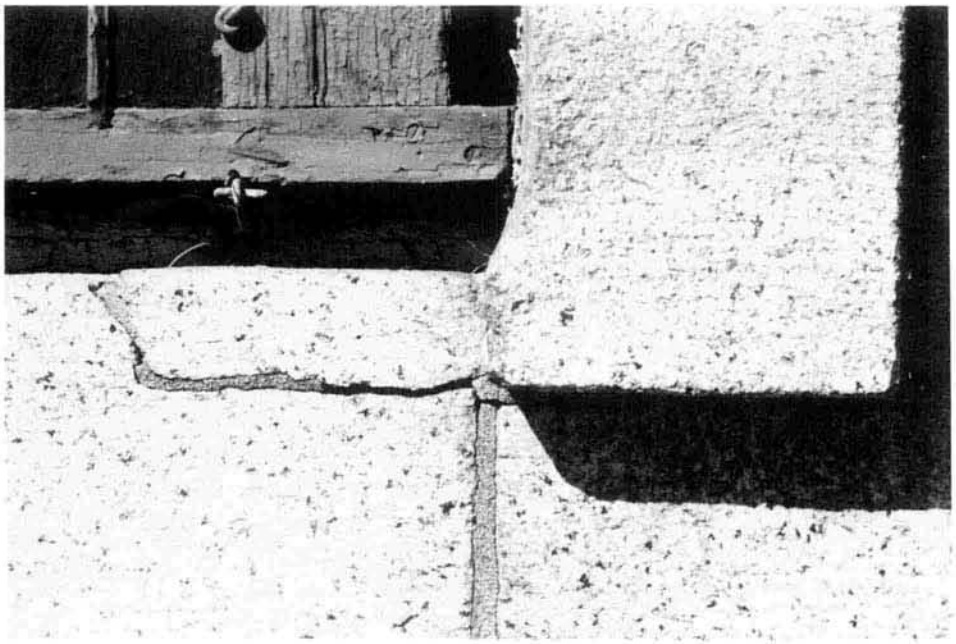


**Figure 85.** Church exterior: south wall, center window (W103).



**Figure 86.** Tower exterior: base, north wall, second-story window (W126).

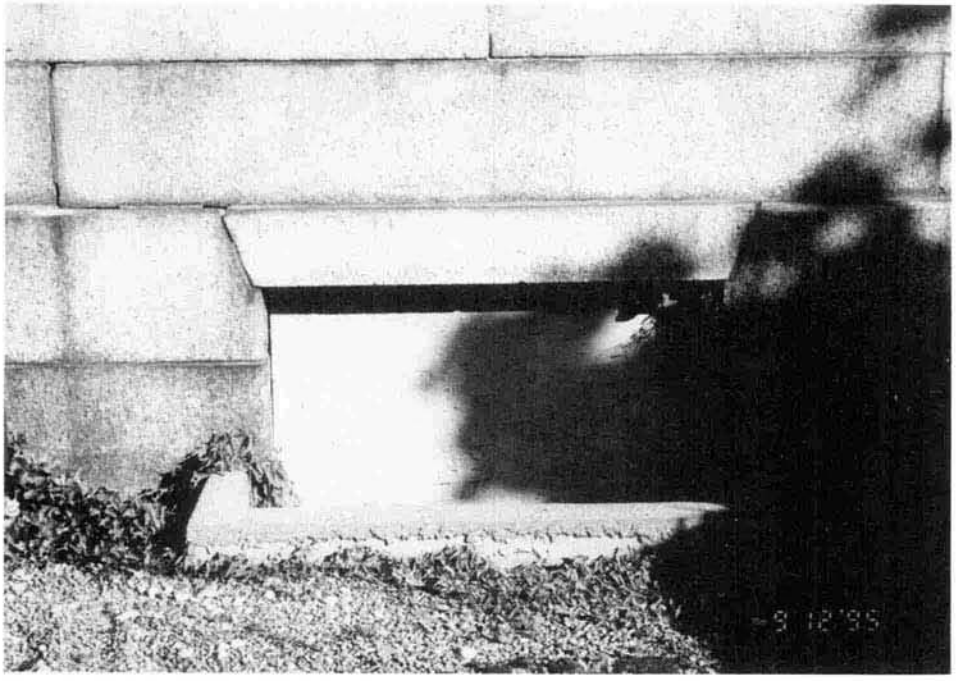


**Figure 87.** Church exterior: south wall, center basement window (W003).



**Figure 88.** Church exterior: south wall, basement window (W004).

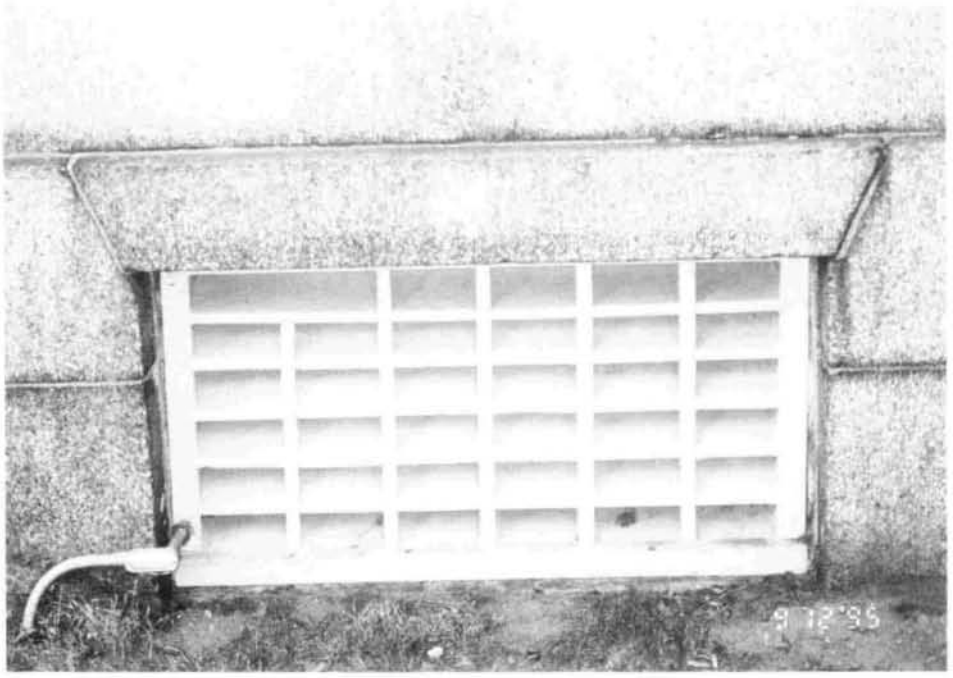


**Figure 89.** Church exterior: north wall, basement window (W016), showing sash replaced with metal furnace room ventilation panel. Note that grade is above sill level.

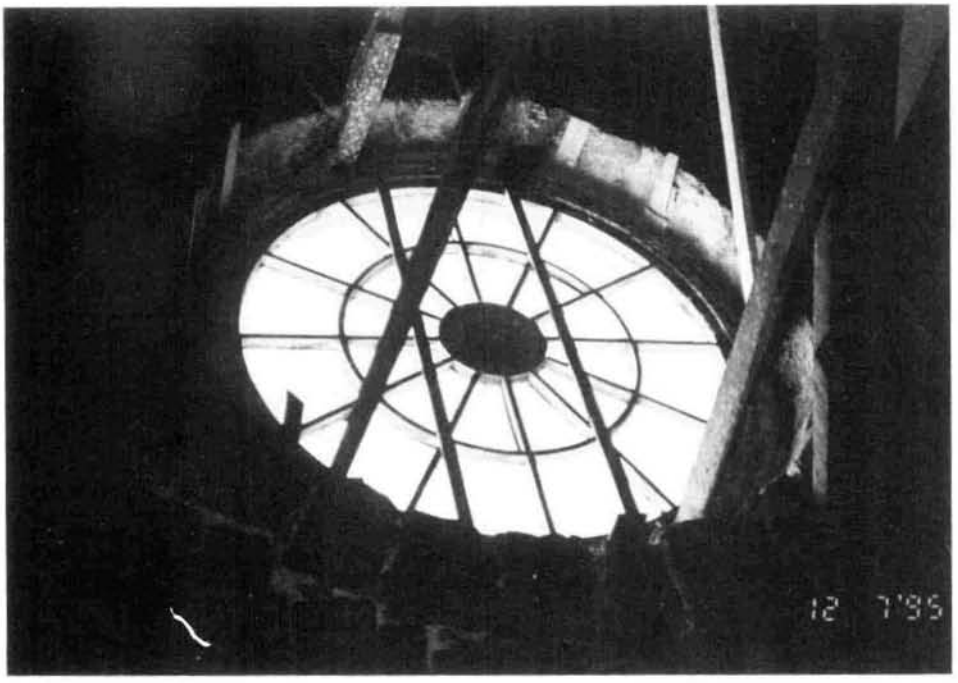


**Figure 90.** Church exterior: east wall, attic oculus (W302), with loose glazing, peeling paint, open joints; now covered with an exterior thermoplastic sheet.



**Figure 91.** Tower exterior: belfry, modillioned cornice.



**Figure 92.** Tower exterior: belfry, capital of southeast column.

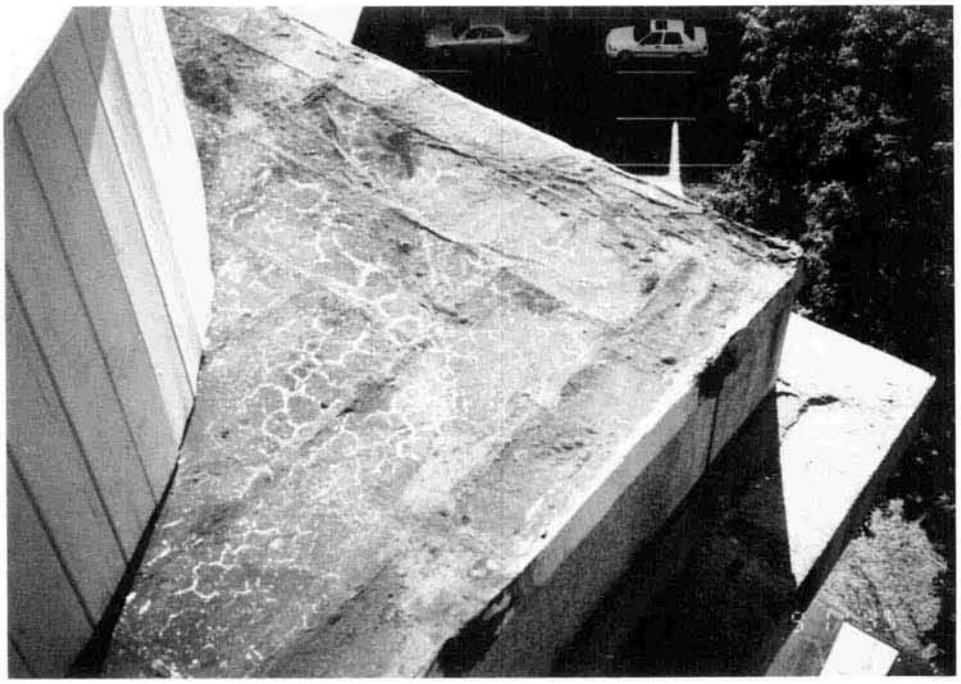


**Figure 93.** Tower exterior: belfry drum and roof of shaft at southwest corner. Roof of bituminous aasphalt over flat-seam copper now weathered, dry, and brittle.



**Figure 94.** Tower exterior: shaft, north side below clock face. Note minor stains and discoloration and open joints of granite.



**Figure 95.** Tower exterior: shaft, east side with glazed clock face. Note open joints and stained granite, and spotlight attached to copper ridge cap.

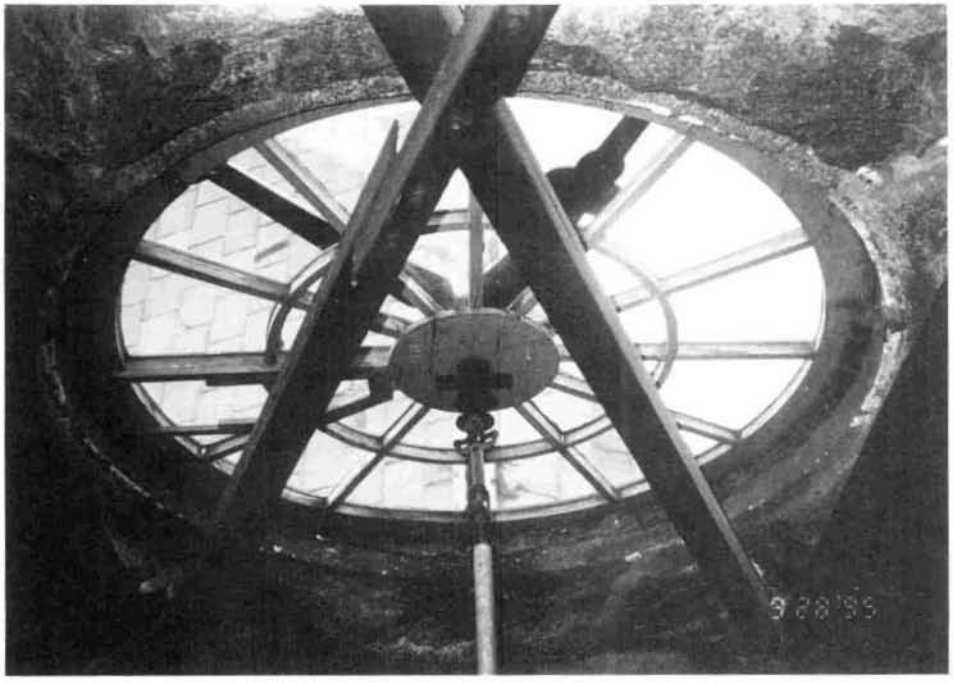


**Figure 96.** Tower interior: shaft, east clock face. Note lack of maintenance of wood elements, and modern interior tower support in foreground.

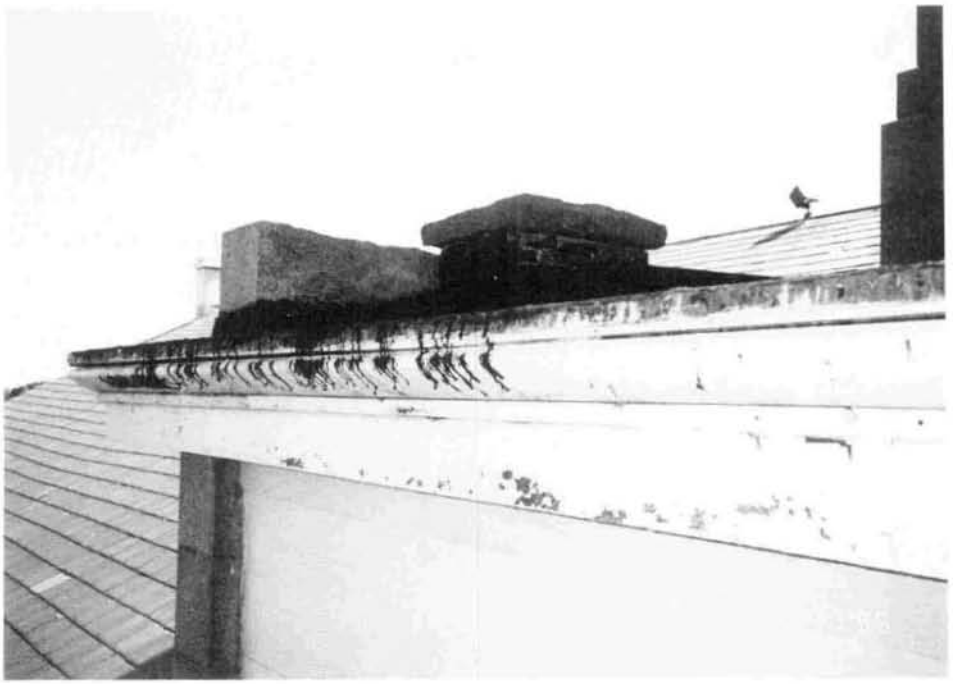


**Figure 97.** Tower exterior: base, cornice of north side of roof. Note careless application of bituminous asphalt over flat-seamed copper roof, and typical lack of maintenance of inaccessible areas.



**Figure 98.** Tower exterior: base, north end of west parapet. Note inappropriate use of bituminous asphalt to seal masonry joints and to parch the copper flat-seam roof; flashing is missing from parapet wall.

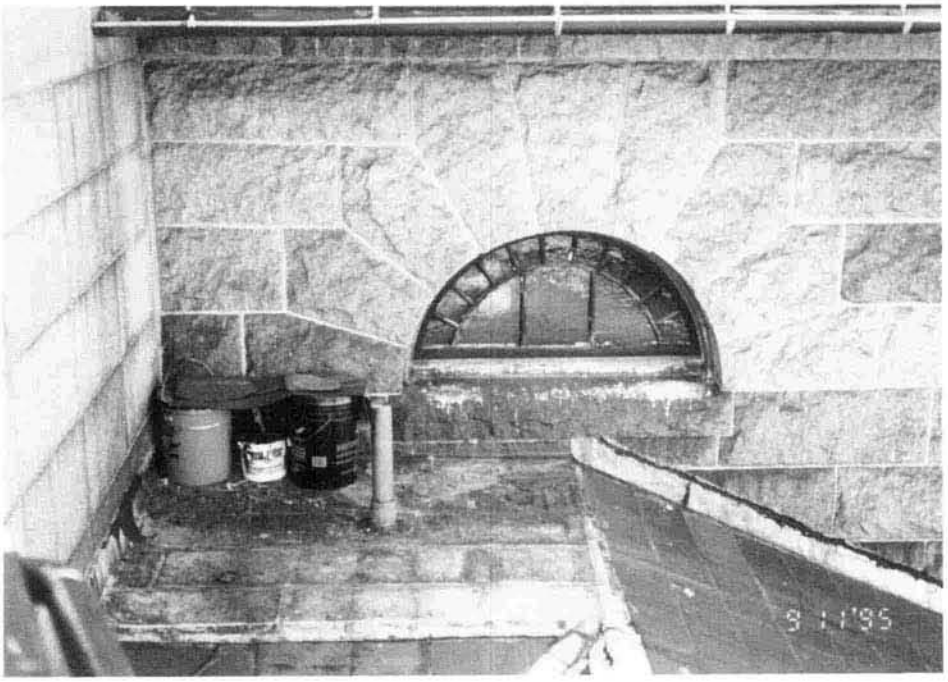


**Figure 99.** Addition exterior: intersection of south wall with church, showing roof roof of south wing and lunette window. Note surplus supplies left after last repair with bituminous asphalt; window has peeling paint and dry wooden components.

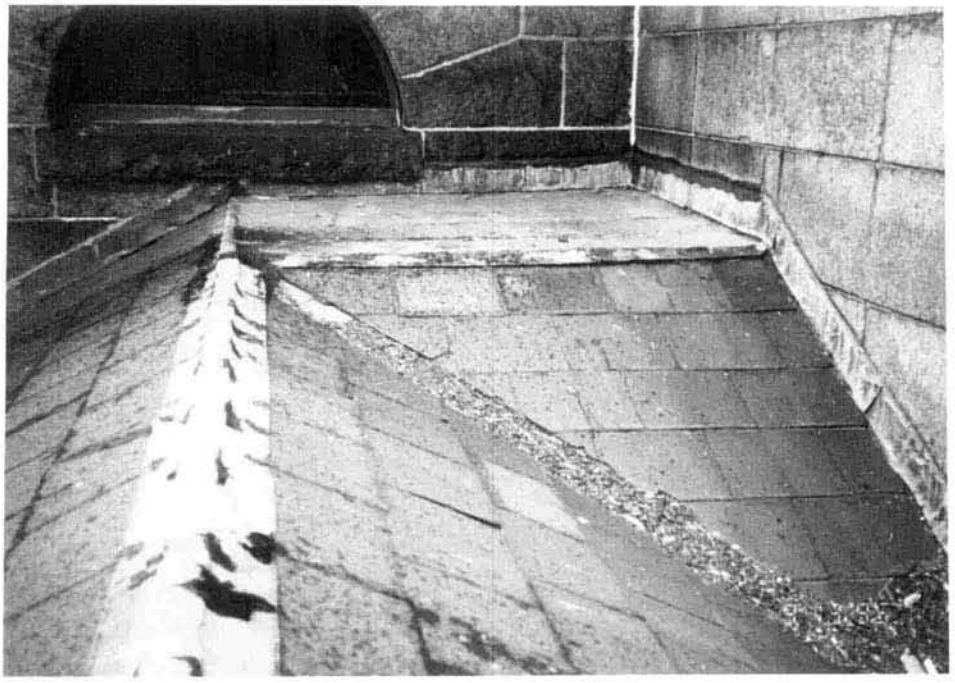


**Figure 100.** Addition exterior: intersection of north wall with church, showing roof of north porch and lunette window. Note bituminous patches on copper ridge cap and slate roof, clogged valleys, and peeling paint and open joints of window.

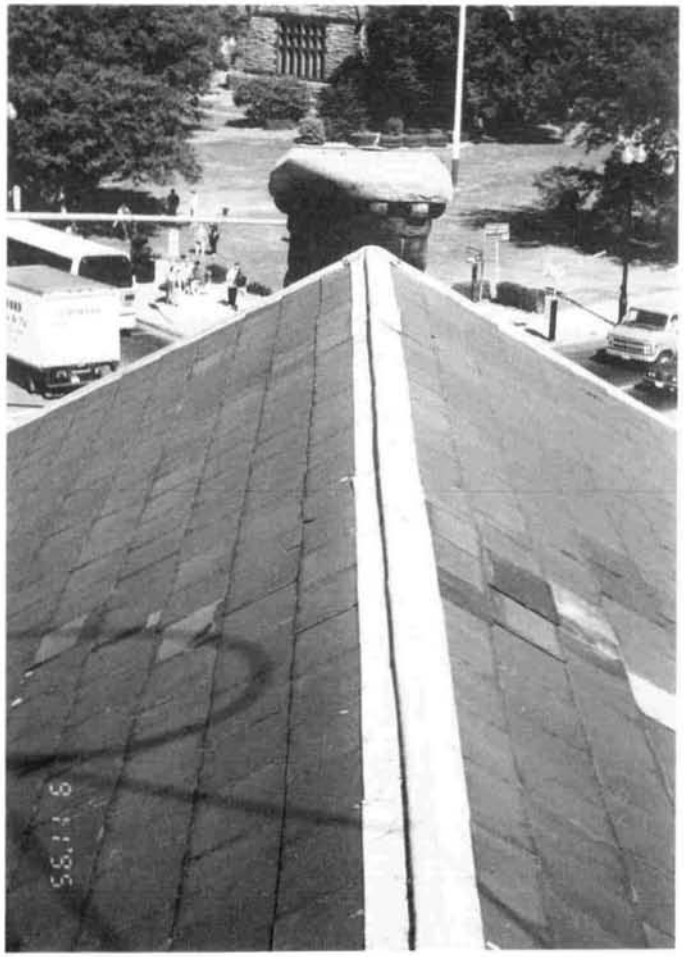


**Figure 101.** Addition exterior: slate roof and copper ridge cap, view eastward. Note replacement shingles, rolled copper ridge cap, and granite chimney.



**Figure 102.** Sashes of south eyebrow window (W201) and north eyebrow window (W203), stored in attic. Note peeling paint and missing ribbed, colored glass.

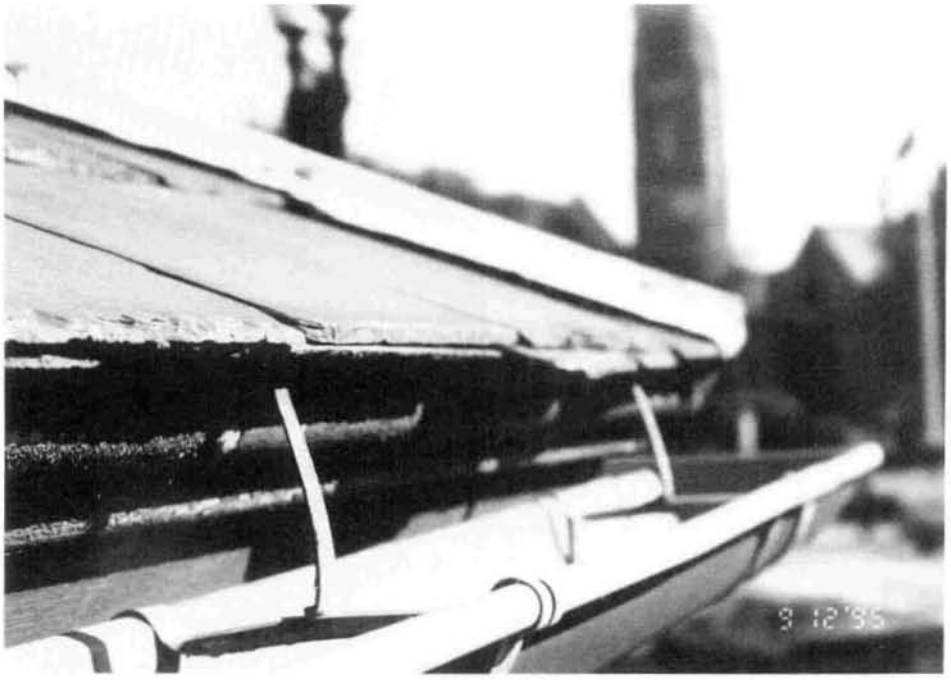


**Figure 103.** Addition exterior: east end of south half-round copper gutter and cornice. Note lifting slates and hip ridge cap, and peeling paint, dry wood, and open joints of cornice.



**Figure 104.** Addition interior: east wall, attic oculus (W202). Note effects of leaks through the flashing and/or the open joints of the sash and surround, and repointing of brickwork.



**Figure 105.** Addition exterior: intersection of north wall and north porch, showing gutter and downspout.

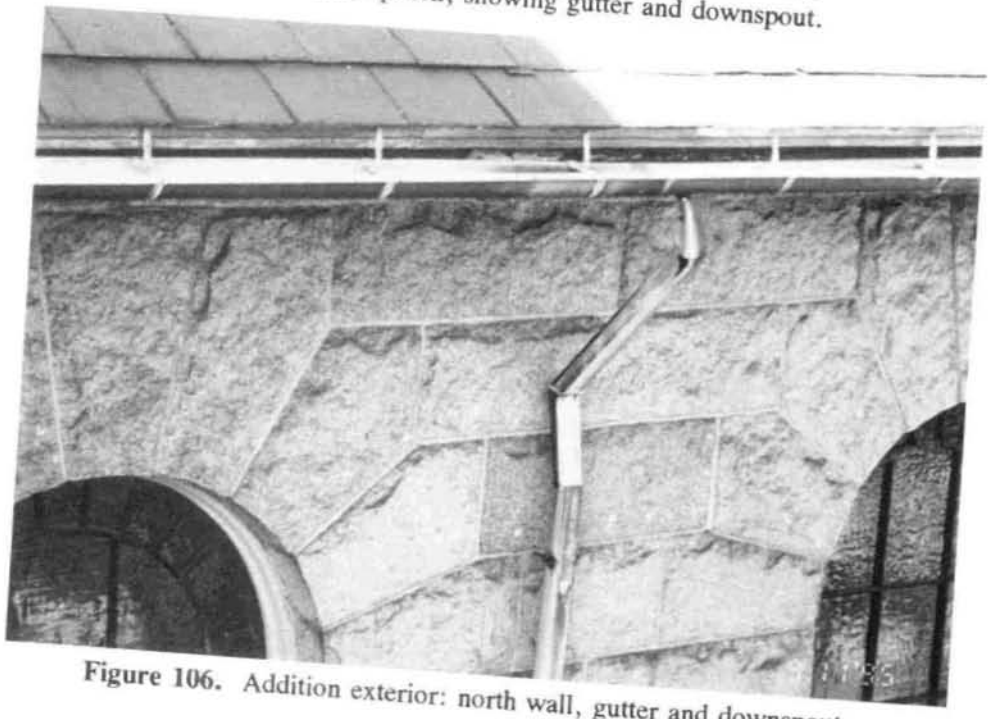


**Figure 106.** Addition exterior: north wall, gutter and downspout.



**Figure 107.** Addition exterior: south wall, bottom of center window (W108). Note dry wood, peeling paint, and open joints of both sash and surround.



**Figure 108.** Addition exterior: north wall, basement window (W015). Note wire security mesh, soil above sill level, peeling paint, and biological growth, which affect both windows and the granite foundation.

# INTERIOR ELEMENTS

## General Information

The following assessment is organized primarily by location, as was done in the previous chapter "Physical Description." This is because the different spaces within the church and addition vary widely in construction and conditions. As in the preceding section "Exterior Elements," the interior assessment proceeds generally from top to bottom and left to right.

## Church

The overall condition of the church interior is good. The primary problem consists of diagonal cracks radiating from the central medallion of the domed ceiling, and leaks mostly evident on the west end of the dome. The galleries are in poor condition, mostly due to floor and pew removals. In general, the interior sashes show evidence of water leaks around the perimeter and bottom, and dead insect accumulations at the window stools. The basement is characterized by high levels of humidity. The poor attic conditions are generally caused by the lack of maintenance, moisture penetrating from the roof, and its inaccessibility--limiting cyclic inspection and regular maintenance. A general concern is limitations of interior spaces to handicapped persons.

### Attic (Room 300)

*Conditions*

- Exposed structural system consisting of eight scissor trusses supporting the roof rafters and planked sheathing, and supporting eight chords also running north to south supporting the suspended domed ceiling of the sanctuary. The domed ceiling structure is visible from the attic, consisting of the exposed wood framing for the plaster coffers and plaster rosettes visible from the sanctuary below.

- Evidence of water leaks from the ridge and roof scuttle areas, but may be inactive.

- Salvaged artifacts and miscellaneous debris scattered throughout attic.

- Plastic sheets fastened to the west end to trap moisture and roof leaks at the wall intersection. These may hold moisture and fallen debris, as well as preventing the inspection of hidden conditions (at the sanctuary ceiling or of the west wall).

- Loosely laid planks designed as "catwalk" installed in some attic areas.

- Extension cords from second story to provide electric power for emergency lights.

*Recommendations*

- Inventory and store historic artifacts and dispose other discarded materials.
- Remove plastic sheets after completing exterior flashing/roofing repairs, or re-design and upgrade the leak protection system with more durable materials.
- Extend "catwalk" to make entire attic accessible for cyclic inspection and maintenance.
- Introduce emergency power/lights along "catwalk" with outlets for emergency lights and small extension cords as may be necessary for specific repairs or inspection tasks.

**Second Story - Galleries (Rooms 203A, 203B, and 203C)**

*Conditions*

- Integrity of north gallery (203A) is only fair, because most of the pews have been removed.
- Integrity of south gallery (203C) is poor, because most of the pews have been removed, and floorboards are loose.
- Both north and south galleries have sections of handrails where the six windows intersect the gallery. Railing is in poor condition due to missing or broken sections.
- West gallery (203B) with organ and choir loft, all in good condition.

*Recommendations*

- Assess structural conditions of galleries to determine permanent use of space or its limitations, if any.
- Remove flammable materials stored in galleries to appropriate storage areas.
- Repair and replace in kind the missing window handrail components.
- Initiate cyclic inspections and make the galleries part of regular maintenance schedule.

**First Story - Sanctuary (Room 103)**

**Ceiling:**

*Conditions*

- Painted, generally in good condition. Displays hairline cracks, larger cracks radiating out from the center, and water stains from previous roof leaks. Minor areas of the ceiling are in poor condition with loose plaster due to plaster key failures. Rosettes and center medallion of white-painted cast plaster in good condition.

*Recommendations*

- Monitor ceiling crack conditions on a cyclic schedule to determine stability of visible cracks or appearance of new cracks, utilizing drawings and/or photographs.

- Assess specific areas of loose plaster to re-adhere with flat anchors and areas of missing plaster to re-plaster in kind.

- Clean ceiling and repaint.

**Walls:**

*Conditions*

- Generally in good overall condition, painted green and white, with hairline cracks, wider cracks, loose plaster where plaster keys have failed, and water stains from roof and wall leaks. The area most affected is the southwest corner, where the ceiling and wall intersect.

*Recommendations*

- Monitor wall crack conditions on a cyclic schedule to determine stability of visible cracks or appearance of new cracks, utilizing drawings and/or photographs.

- Assess specific areas of loose plaster to re-adhere and areas of missing plaster to re-plaster in kind.

- Clean walls and repaint in accordance with specific recommendations by the Architectural Conservator.

**Woodwork and Floor:**

*Conditions*

- Woodwork painted white, with a wainscot, paneled gallery balustrade, and paneled pews, all in good overall condition.

- Condition of wood floor unknown, since floor is covered with red wall-to-wall carpet.

*Recommendations*

- Maintain woodwork in same condition as presently found; continue to inspect and treat in accordance with regular schedule.

- Allow inspection of wood floor by Architectural Conservator when carpet is next replaced, to allow for documentation and determination of feasibility to remove the carpet and expose the wood floor with a recommended treatment.

**Basement - Sunday School and Ancillary Spaces (Rooms 005-014 and 021-024)**

*Conditions*

- Most rooms in the Sunday School area (Rooms 006, 007, 009, 010, 011, and 023) have been upgraded with yellow- and blue-painted concrete masonry unit walls, suspended ceiling tiles with fluorescent lights, vinyl tile floors, and hollow-core doors.

- Most Sunday School areas affected with high humidity and limited environmental controls, particularly the classrooms and toilet rooms.

- The furnace room (021), housing a steam boiler and gas-fired hot-water heater, also provides storage for flammable materials and discarded items.

- Toilet areas (Rooms 012-013-014) are in fair condition, with rusting of metal partitions and worn painted finishes, and lacking adequate handicapped access.

- Records vault/storage room (022) is stacked with shelves and cabinets with archival material that appears to be partially catalogued.

- Utility systems—particularly the heating, electrical, and plumbing systems—appear old and obsolete. Room 008 contains the external water supply connection for the church.

- Corridor along the west end (Room 005) in fair condition, with floor tiles lifting in some areas or missing due to water leaks at the northwest corner. Accumulated debris and flammable storage at the northeast corner.

- Granite door to crypt area (see Room 003)has been removed and propped against corridor wall at northwest corner.

*Recommendations*

- Remove flammable materials from corridor area and furnace room, and initiate cyclic maintenance of service and utility areas, as well as areas generally open to the public.

- Initiate environmental conditions (HVAC) study by environmental engineering firm, to assess conditions and make recommendations. Consider feasibility of replacing steam heat with forced hot-air system or other more innovative solution.

- Complete cataloging of historic archives, and assess environmental conditions and effects prior to implementing any recommendations.

- Consider complete analysis of utility systems for code compliance, safety, energy, and cost; then set priorities before implementing any recommendations.

- Consider design options for providing an accessible basement entrance, and/or elevators, in combination with rehabilitated accessible toilet rooms.

- Repair corridor floor tiles; if they contain asbestos, replacement may be necessary.

- Assess feasibility of repairing and reinstalling the granite door in its original location, at the entrance to the burial crypt, for interpretive purposes.

## Tower

### General Information

Generally, the interior of the tower is in fair condition. Most of the existing problems are associated with a lack of maintenance that has led to deteriorated and unsafe conditions. The tower was reinforced with structural steel elements ca. 1964 and appears to be in stable condition. The interior of the tower plinth, closed to visitors, provides access to the attic of the church, the clock mechanism, and the belfry. The second story of the base is not open to visitors but provides access to the choir and organ loft portions of the gallery. The first story of the base is the main entrance vestibule to the church, and gives access to the basement crypt where John and Abigail Adams and John Quincy and Louisa Catherine Adams are buried. The crypt suffers from moisture penetrating the granite walls and high levels of humidity.

## Shaft Room (Room 401)

*Conditions*

- Contains clock-mechanism room, with wood partitions, interior sashes, and a tongue-and-groove door. Room is kept locked but requires occasional access for maintenance of delicate equipment.
- Walls are of exposed structural granite; most of room full of debris, consisting of discarded or salvaged materials.
- Wood ladder up to belfry floor is narrow and steep, without handrails.

*Recommendations*

- Clean clock mechanism area and belfry interior; salvage historic artifacts and discard debris.
- Consider designing an alternative ladder system to belfry floor that meets minimum safety concerns.
- Install emergency lighting and emergency outlets in selected areas for servicing and maintenance purposes.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance of shaft interior.

## Plinth Rooms (Rooms 301, 301A, 301B, and 301C)

*Conditions*

- Center room in plinth (Room 301) provides access to attic of west portico (Room 301A, and to north and south rooms in plinth (Rooms 301B and 301C).
- Access is provided by means of masonry openings with planked doors covered with insulation board and fastened with metal hinges.
- Room also provides access to church attic (Room 300) by means of a steep wood ladder in good condition but without handrails, to a masonry opening covered with insulation board over wood-planked door fastened with metal hinges.
- Room is constructed with masonry walls and exposed structural system; it is now filled with debris and discarded salvaged items.
- Wood spiral stairway up to shaft (Room 401) in poor condition, with loose boards and treads, and wood rot in the center post support.
- Wood winder stairway down to second-story vestibule in poor condition, due to insect infestation and/or dry rot, with loose boards, treads, and handrails.

- Some debris—architectural salvaged items and other miscellaneous materials.

*Recommendations*

- Carefully clean out rooms and attic areas, disposing debris and salvaging architectural artifacts for appropriate storage.
- Rehabilitate existing spiral stairway to Room 401 using in kind materials, and install safety railings.
- Rehabilitate existing winder stairway to second-story vestibule using in kind materials, and install safety railings.
- Install emergency lighting and emergency outlets in selected areas for servicing and maintenance purposes.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance of areas not generally open to visitors.

**Second-Story Vestibule (Rooms 200, 201, and 202)**

*Conditions*

- Subdivided into three rooms.
- North and south rooms (Rooms 200 and 202) each have a wood staircase from first-story vestibule; they provide access to second-story church galleries.
- Center room (Room 201) has a wooden staircase up to Room 301; also provides access to organ and choir loft.
- Walls and ceiling in fair-poor condition, painted green and white respectively, with areas of plaster failure and evidence of wall and ceiling cracks and water leaks.
- Some debris—architectural salvaged items and other miscellaneous materials.

*Recommendations*

- Carefully clean out rooms and attic areas, disposing debris and salvaging architectural artifacts for appropriate storage.
- Determine if insulation board contains asbestos and remove and re-insulate trap doors. If feasible, install hinges on trap doors.
- Install safety railings for ladders/stairways and appropriate emergency lighting for enclosed second-story areas.

- Install emergency lighting and emergency outlets in selected areas for servicing and maintenance purposes.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule, including areas not open to visitors.

**First-Story Vestibule (Rooms 100, 101, and 102)**

*Conditions*

- Subdivided into three rooms; all in good to fair condition.

- Center room (Room 101) is the primary entrance to the church, and also serves as a reception and sales area.

- North and south rooms (Rooms 100 and 102) contain sales counters related to sales area in Room 101.

- North and south rooms each have a wood staircase to the second-story vestibule, with linoleum-covered treads; staircases provide limited access to church galleries, primarily for the use of choir and organist.

- North room (Room 100) with wood winder staircase down to basement; steps in poor condition and not in active use. South room had a similar staircase that was removed; area used as a closet to store some flammable materials.

- South room (Room 102) with a straight-run wooden staircase to Room 004 installed ca. 1946; serves as the primary access to the basement corridor that opens to the burial crypts.

- Vestibule wood-floor conditions unknown, since it is covered with red wall-to-wall carpet.

- Painted plaster walls and ceilings generally in fair condition, with some cracks and loosely adhered plaster. Painted woodwork in good condition but worn in many areas.

- A general concern is limitations of interior spaces to handicapped persons.

*Recommendations*

- Consider removing counters and other obstructions to provide better access to church and basement, and redesigning sales/storage area to improve safety, efficiency, and general appearance.

- Remove flammable materials from closets.

- Study structural and safety conditions of staircases to second story.

- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule, including closets and stairways areas not open to visitors.

- Assess feasibility of designing a handicapped-accessible entrance to the church and basement areas.

**Basement Crypt (Rooms 001, 002, 003, and 004)**

*Conditions*

- Basement areas in fair condition; generally characterized by high humidity/moisture, and with efflorescence on granite walls/ceilings.
- Discarded and/or salvaged material stored in northwest stair closet (Room 001-001A).
- Granite door to crypt (Room 003) removed from opening and stored in Room 005.

*Recommendations*

- Monitor environmental and structural conditions in basement prior to any proposed treatment.
- Clean out stair closet and salvage historic materials to appropriate storage area.
- Assess feasibility of repairing and reinstalling granite door into crypt, or using somewhere for display purposes.
- Initiate cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule, including basement areas not open to visitors.

## Addition

**General Information**

The interior of the addition, containing the Parish Hall and ancillary offices and meeting spaces, is in good condition. Water penetration is evident from the chimney dormer and the north and south eyebrow dormers. The center sashes of both dormers have been removed and stored and the opening blocked with plywood. The attic over the Parish Hall was created when a suspended ceiling was installed in 1947, and is difficult to access for regular maintenance. The first story is in good condition, except for some east windows whose sashes and stools need refinishing. The basement, housing a large kitchen and a meeting space (Social Room), suffers from high humidity and water penetration through the window openings.

## Attics (Rooms 204 and 205)

**Conditions:**

*West Attic (Room 204)*

- Created when the suspended ceiling at the height of the tie rafters for Room 104 was installed in the 20th century. Prior to this, Room 104 had a "cathedral" ceiling. The attic is in poor condition, with evidence of roof and dormer leaks and stains. Insulation loosely laid between rafters, with some planks serving as a "catwalk" but not providing complete access to the attic.

- Ceiling of varnished tongue-and-groove horizontal boards is in fair condition.

- West plaster wall is in poor condition, with hairline cracks, water stains, and peeling paint.

- East wall contains a raised partition that is lowered by pulleys to form the proscenium wall between the Parlor and the Parish Hall (see Rooms 104-107, first story).

*East Attic (Room 205)*

- Generally in poor condition due to history of leaks from roof, chimney dormer, and oculus. Debris and salvaged architectural items stored in attic.

- Access to first story provided by a floor opening to a steep wooden ladder in southeast closet of Ladies' Parlor (Room 107).

- Floor of tongue-and-groove boards in good condition.

**Recommendations:**

- If suspended ceiling is removed from Parish Hall (see below), insulate west attic roof during slate roof replacement.

- Monitor wall cracks and ceiling leaks to insure that previous roof and flashing repairs have been effective.

- Clean out east attic and salvage significant materials to appropriate storage area, and consider repairing and reinstalling stored historic dormer sashes.

- Initiate cyclic inspections and regular maintenance schedule of attics.

**Parish Hall (Room 104)**

**Conditions:**

- Primary space in the addition.

- In good condition, with painted plaster walls, varnished oak woodwork, varnished tongue-and-groove pine floors, suspended fluorescent lights. (Sash conditions have been discussed in connection with exterior elements.)

- Later suspended ceiling of composition panels conceals original cathedral-type ceiling; installed to improve heating and acoustics. Marked by leaks from the roof and attic above.

**Recommendations:**

- Continue to repair, maintain, clean, and repaint in accordance with established cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule.

- Consider feasibility of removing suspended ceiling. Heat loss could be addressed by attic insulation (see preceding recommendations for Attic); an acoustical engineer could be retained to address the noise issue.

**Ladies' Parlor (Room 107)**

**Conditions:**

- At east end of addition; floor level is four risers higher than the floor level of the Parish Hall.

- In good condition, with painted plaster walls and coved ceiling with minor leaks at east due to leaks from oculus and chimney dormer. Room is highlighted by the brick and stone mantle at the east elevation, and painted woodwork. Doors and west pulley-hung partition of varnished wood in good condition. (Sash conditions have been discussed in connection with exterior elements.)

- Northeast and southeast closets; southeast closet has steep wooden ladder without handrails up to east attic (Room 205).

**Recommendations:**

- Continue to repair, maintain, clean, and repaint in accordance with established cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule.

**Other First-Story Rooms - Minister's Study (Room 105), Stair Hall (Room 106), Service Kitchen (Room 108), and North Porch (Room 109)**

**Conditions:**

- Minister's study is in south wing; appears to be in good condition.
- Stair hall is southwest of Ladies' Parlor; contains the stairway to the basement entrance (Room 017). In only fair condition, due to wear on treads and surface finishes.
- Service kitchen is northwest of Ladies' Parlor; door to Parish Hall missing, finishes in fair condition.
- North porch, opposite south wing, is in good condition.

**Recommendations:**

- Continue to repair, maintain, clean, and repaint in accordance with established cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule.

**Basement - Kitchen, Social Room, and Ancillary Spaces (Rooms 015-019)**

**Conditions:**

*Social room (Room 016)*

- Primary space of the basement.
- In only fair condition due to excessive moisture levels, moisture migrating at the base of the four columns, and leaks coming through the sashes of both north and south elevations. Vinyl tile floor and insulated ceiling tiles are in good condition.

*Kitchen, pantry, and closets (Rooms 018, 018A, 018B, and 018C)*

- In only fair condition, due to worn brown linoleum floor over tongue-and-groove wood floor, and some areas of paint peeling off the plaster.
- Perimeter of kitchen has painted wood storage cabinets and commercial appliances; at east end was the location of the former coal-burning stove.
- Southeast closet (018A) has the natural-gas intake connection; northeast closet (018B) for storage.

*Stair hall (Room 017)*

- Contains the stairway leading to the first story, and to the exterior by way of doorway D-5 at street level. It has a cementitious floor covered with rubber mats.

*Rooms 015 and 019*

- Service-oriented areas at the west end of the addition, containing a storage room and a service access through the bulkhead (D-4) at the south. The service passage has a cementitious floor, and during this inspection was used for the temporary storage of waste and flammable materials prior to disposal. This room also contains the partially upgraded electrical service and telephone panel boxes. Room 019 has the fire/intrusion-alarm panel box. These two areas are significant for having exposed parts of the original church construction—granite columns and walls of brick and granite—since this was the former (east) exterior wall of the church, prior to the construction of the addition.

*Recommendations*

- Monitor environmental and structural conditions in basement.

- Continue cyclic inspection and regular maintenance schedule, including the basement areas not open to visitors.

- Maintain the visibility of those aspects of original construction still visible in the service passage (Room 015).

- Assess feasibility of designing a handicapped-accessible entrance to the church, Parish Hall, and basement areas.

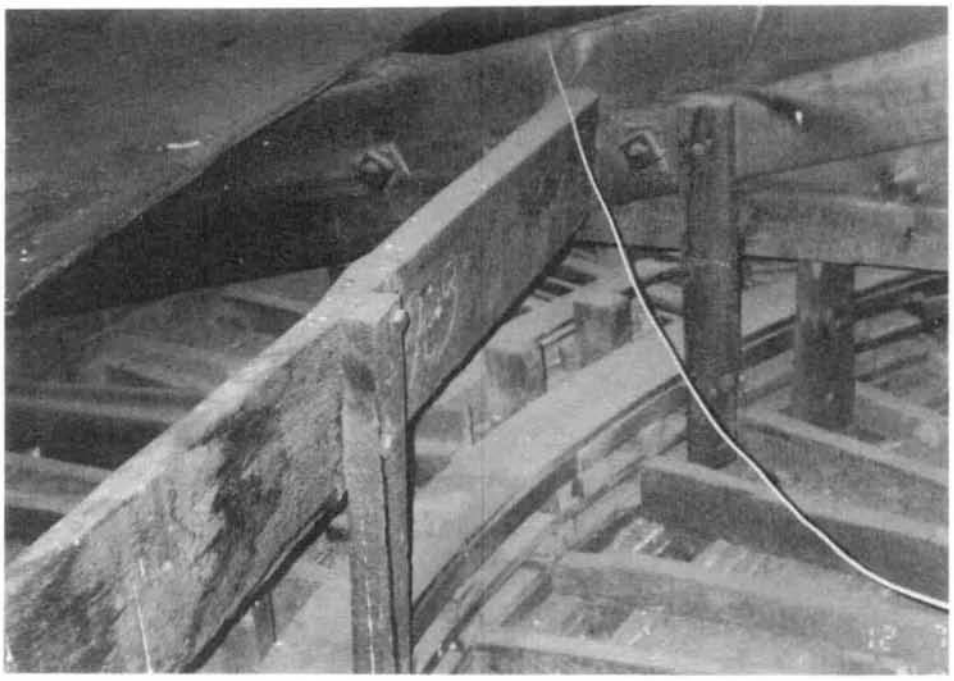


**Figure 109.** Church interior: attic, view of framing of sanctuary's coffered ceiling dome. Note scissors truss and water stains from roof leaks on many of the wooden elements.



**Figure 110.** Church interior: attic, view of plaster keys of sanctuary's coffered ceiling dome. Note accumulation of debris and pigeon droppings, although bird access now seems blocked.



**Figure 111.** Church interior: attic, westward view of king post, rafter, and sheathing. Note water damage from leaks, mold growth, and rusting chicken wire.



**Figure 112.** Church interior: attic, north end of east wall, at intersection with sanctuary ceiling. Note repointed mortar joints of wall.



**Figure 113.** Church interior: attic, north end of west wall, at intersection with sanctuary ceiling.



**Figure 114.** Church interior: attic, south end of west wall, at intersection with sanctuary ceiling.

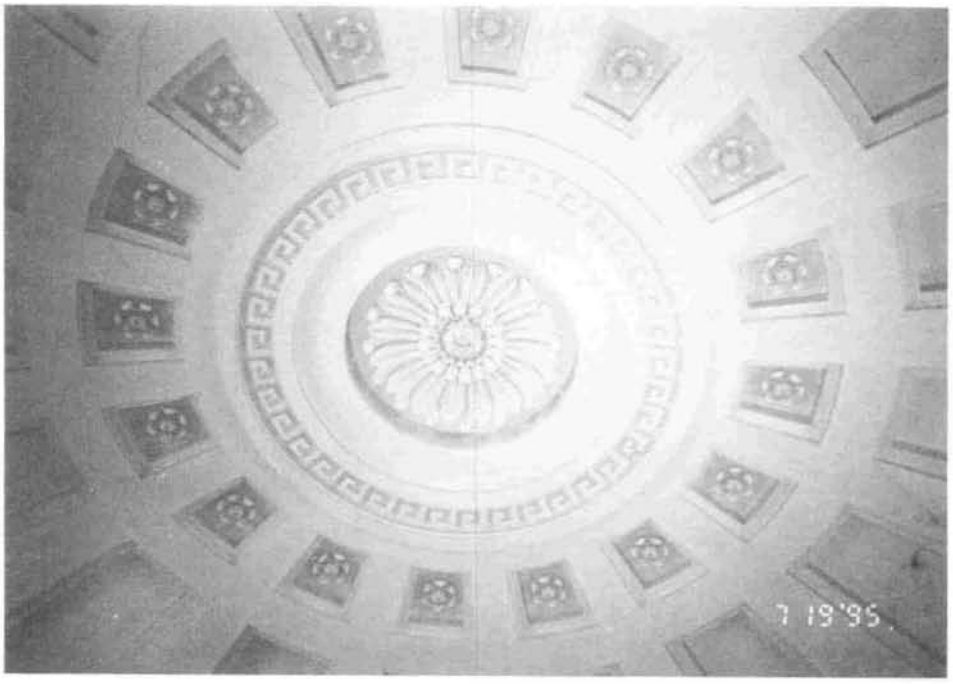



**Figure 115.** Church interior: sanctuary (Room 103), coffered dome ceiling. Note minor areas of diagonal cracks and water stains from roof leaks.




**Figure 116.** Church interior: sanctuary (Room 103), southwest corner at intersection of ceiling and wall pilaster. Note largest plaster-wall crack and water stains from leaks.

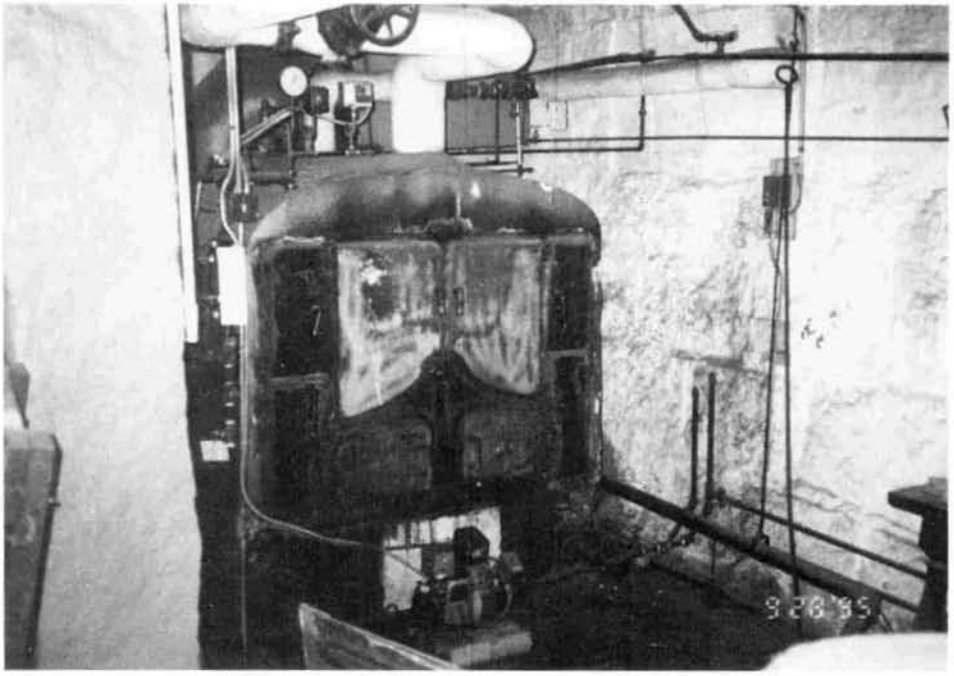


**Figure 117.** Church interior: basement furnace room.



**Figure 118.** Tower interior: plinth room (Room 301), view northwest toward spiral staircase.

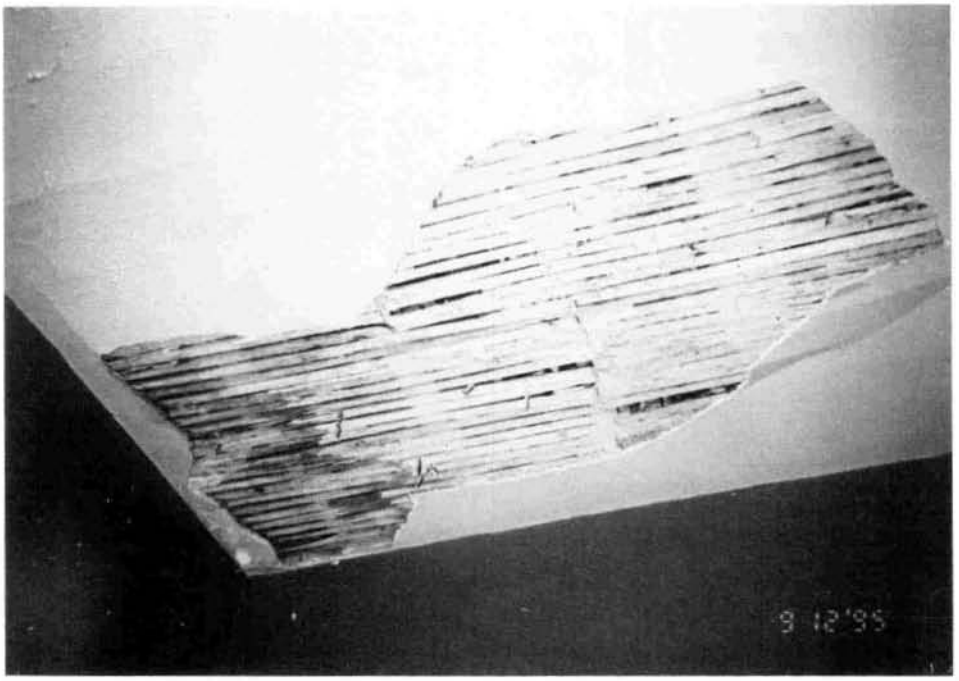


**Figure 119.** Tower interior: second-story vestibule south room (Room 202), southeast corner of ceiling where plaster has fallen due to failed plaster keys due to roof leaks.

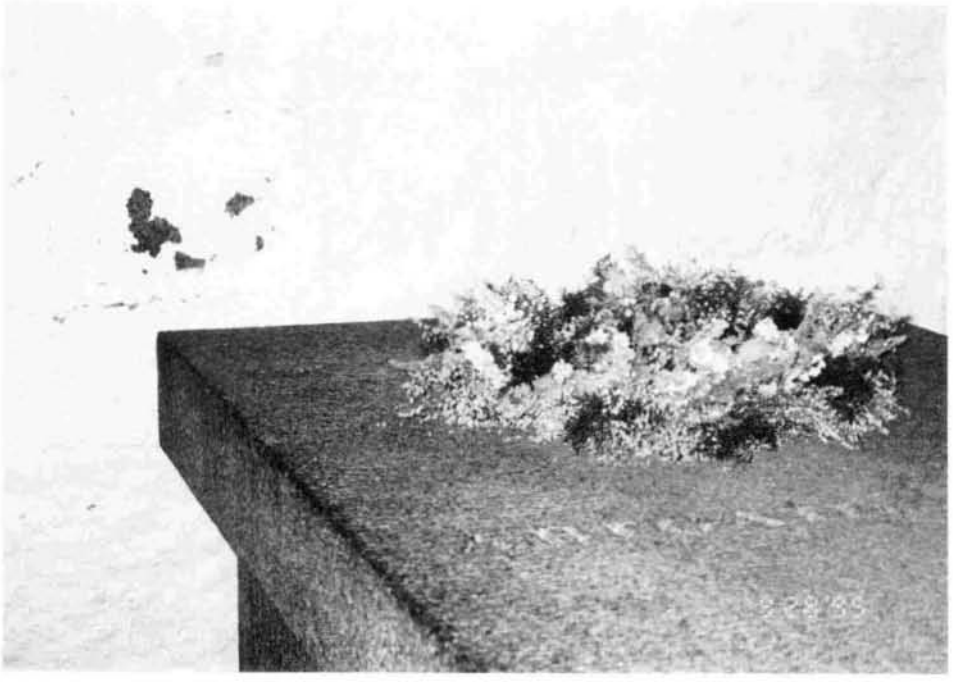


**Figure 120.** Tower interior: basement crypt south room (Room 003), west wall. Note whitewash peeling from granite wall due to moisture penetration of wall.

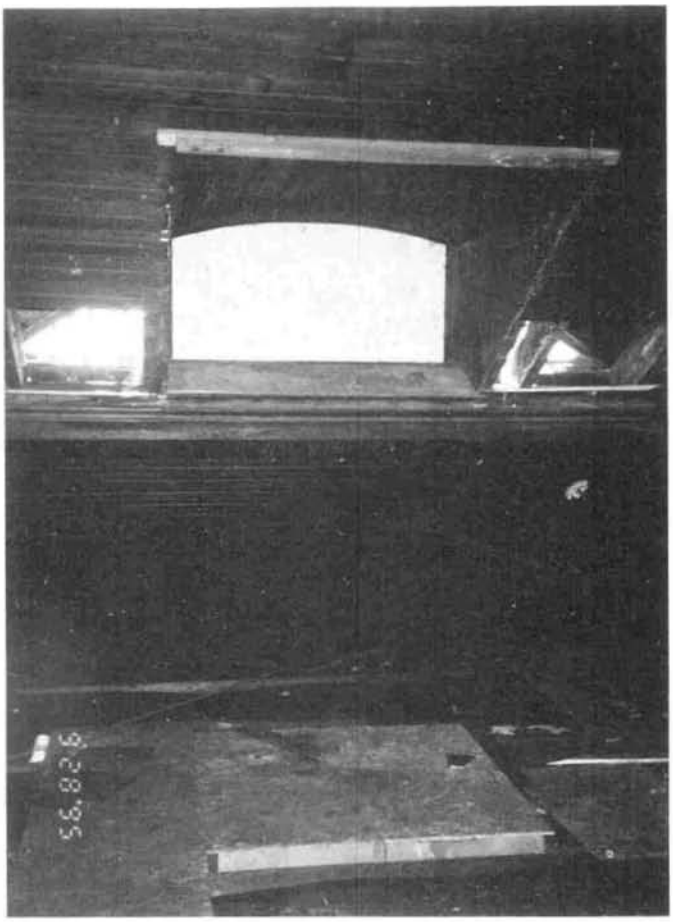


**Figure 121.** Addition interior: west attic (Room 204), south eyebrow window (W201).

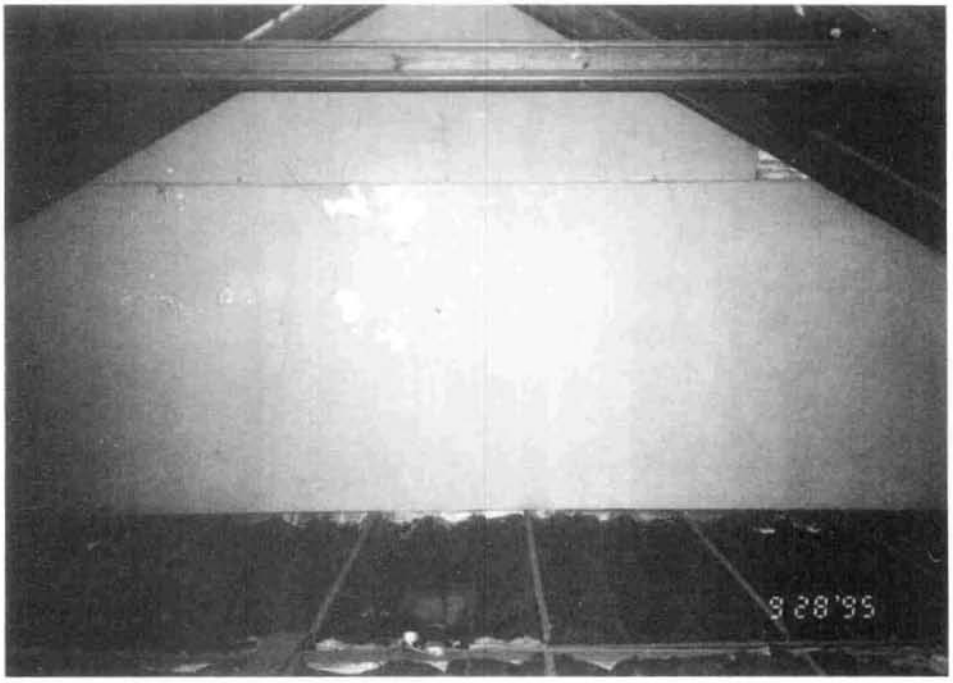


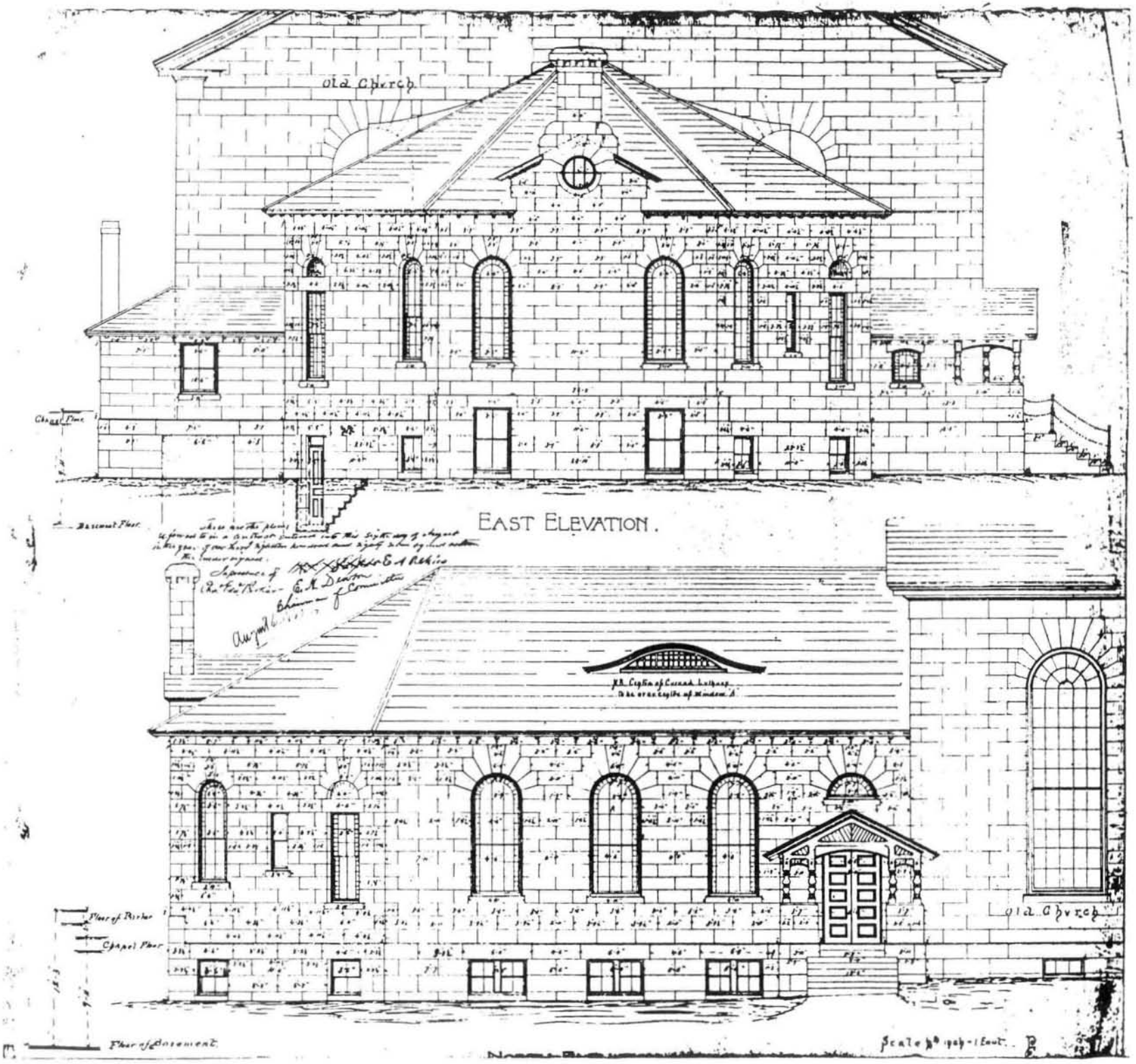
**Figure 122.** Addition interior: east attic (Room 205), west wall and suspended ceiling of the Parish Hall (Room 104) below.

# VII. APPENDICES

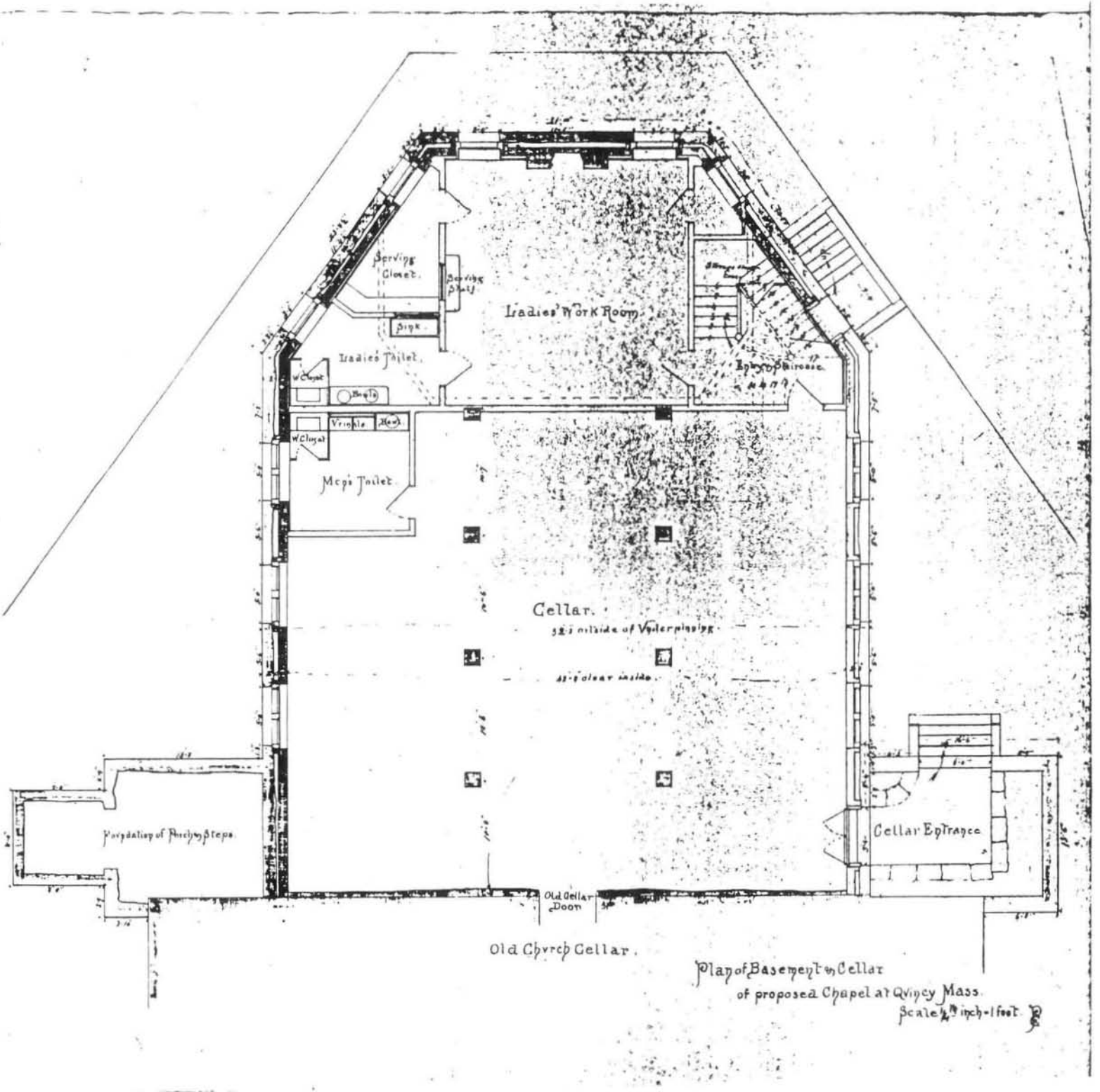
# APPENDIX A.

## 1888 Drawings for Addition

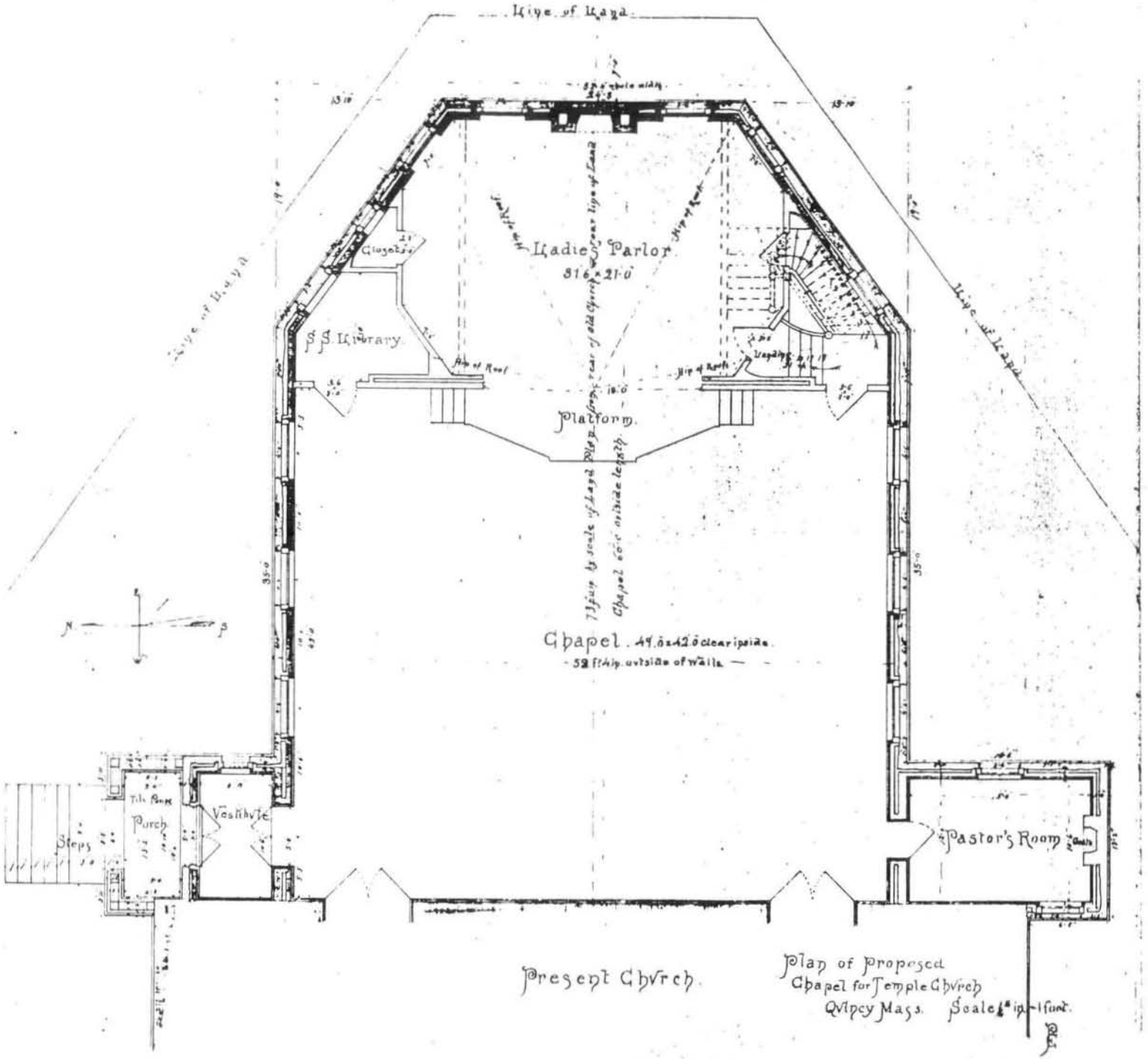
## By Charles Edward Parker

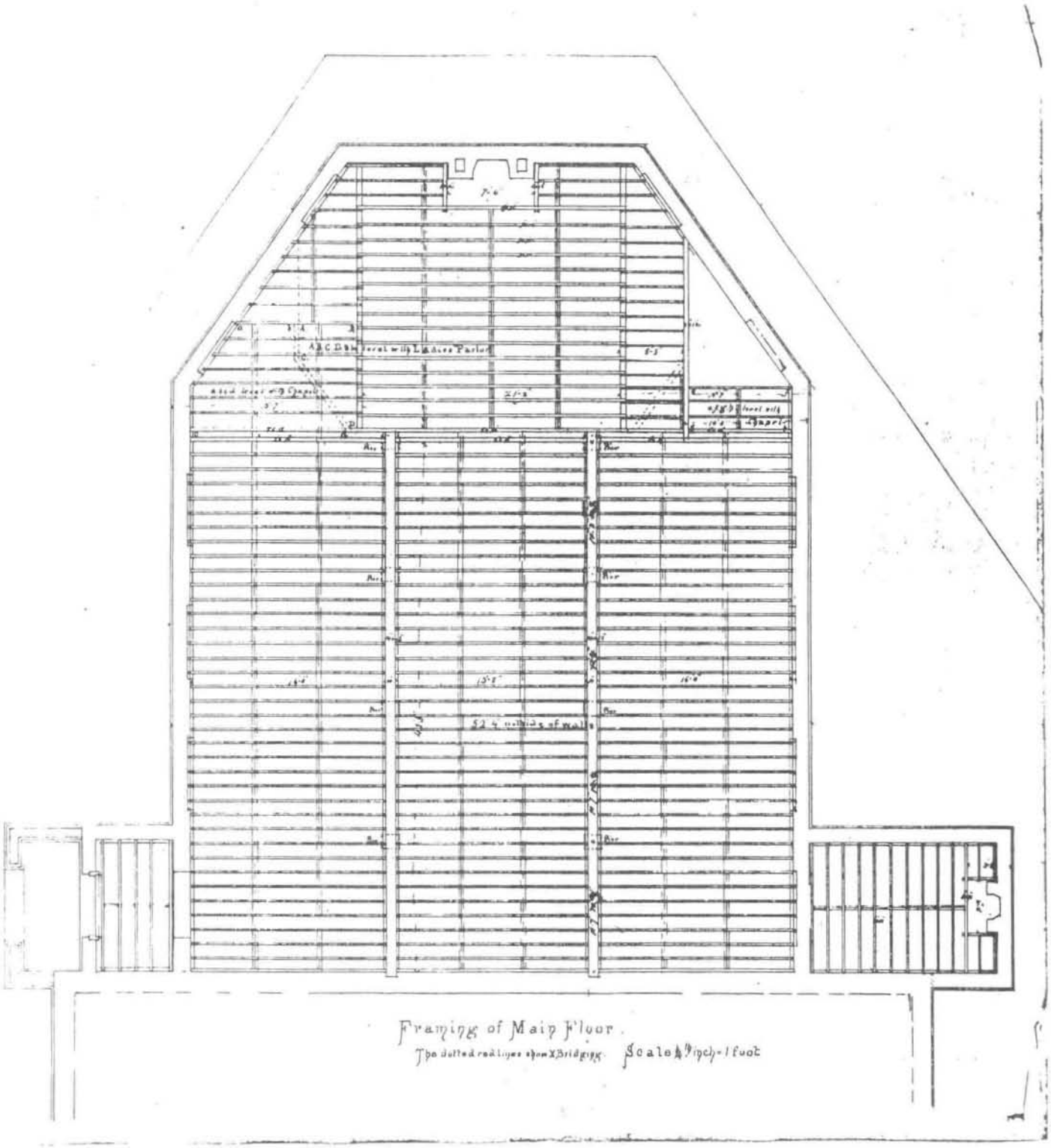

Old Church
EAST ELEVATION.
Old Church
Floor of Porch
Chapel Floor
Floor of Basement

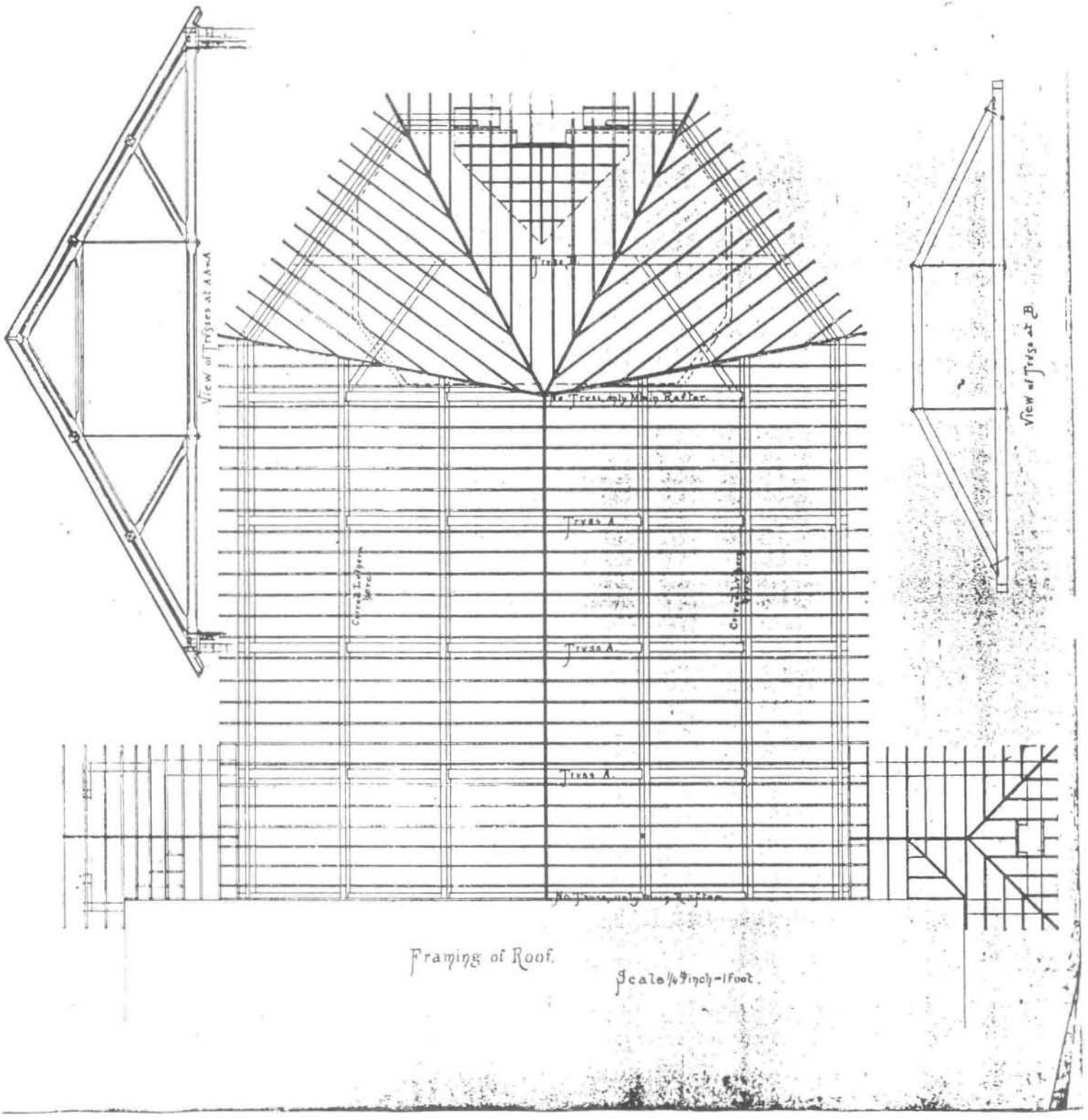
Vertical Section,
Looking East.
Vertical Section,
Looking South
Cellar.
Chapel.
Ladies' Parlour
Ladies' Workroom
Vestibule
Porch
Old Church.




Plan of Basement or Cellar
of proposed Chapel at Quincy Mass.
Scale ½ inch = 1 foot.


Line of Land
Ladies' Parlor
S.S. Library
Platform
Chapel . 49.6 x 42.6 clear inside.
52 ft 4 in. outside of walls.
Steps
Porch
Vestibule
Pastor's Room
Present Church.
Plan of Proposed
Chapel for Temple Church
Quincy Mass. Scale 1/8 in. = 1 foot.


Framing of Main Floor.
The dotted red lines show X Bridging. Scale ¼ Inch = 1 Foot



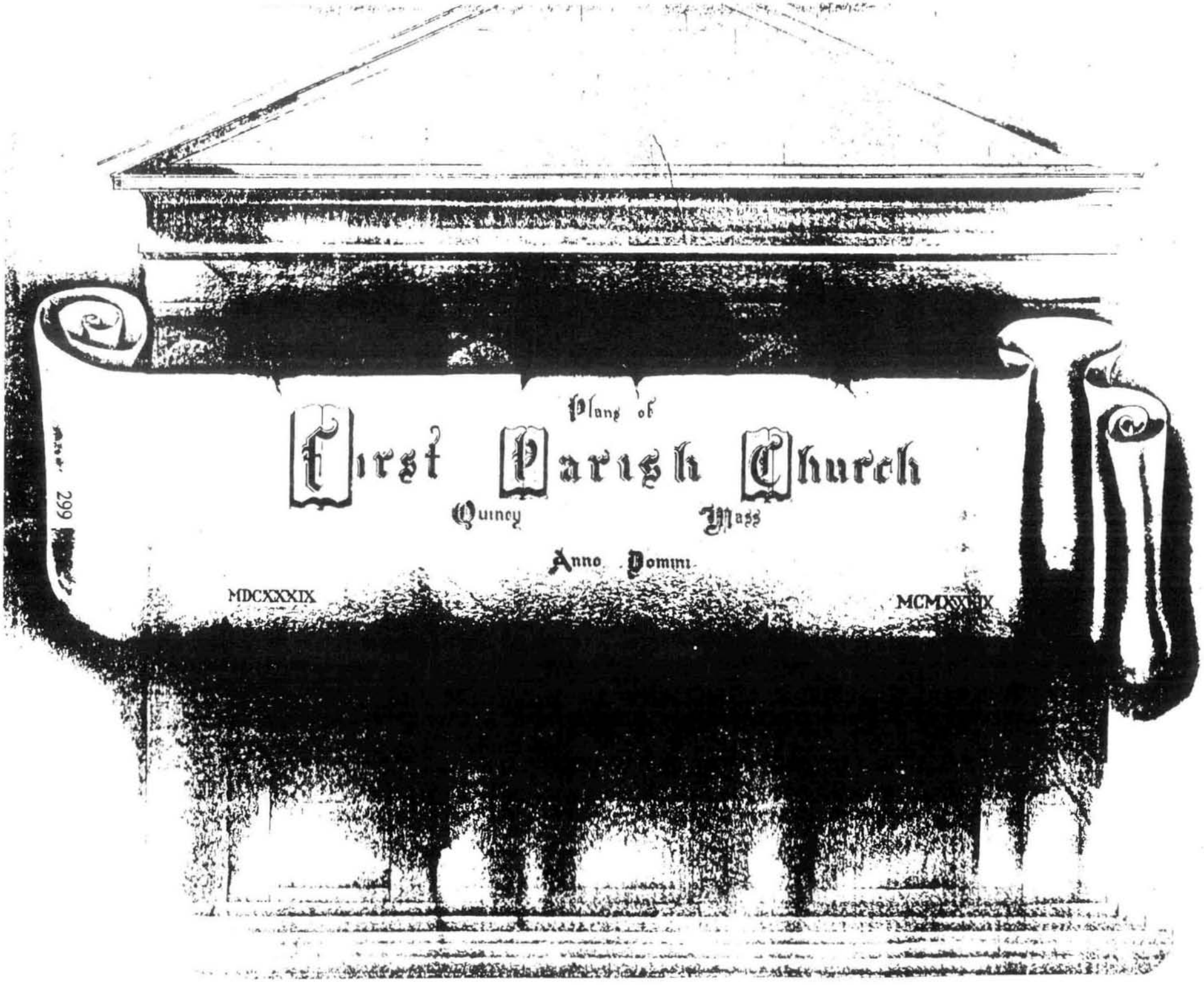

Framing of Roof.

Scale ¼ Inch = 1 foot.

# APPENDIX B.

## 1939 Presentation Plans

**By the City of Quincy**
**Building Department Record Plan Project**


Plans of
First Parish Church
Quincy Mass
Anno Domini
MDCXXXIX
MCMXXXIX




Front Elevation




South Elevation

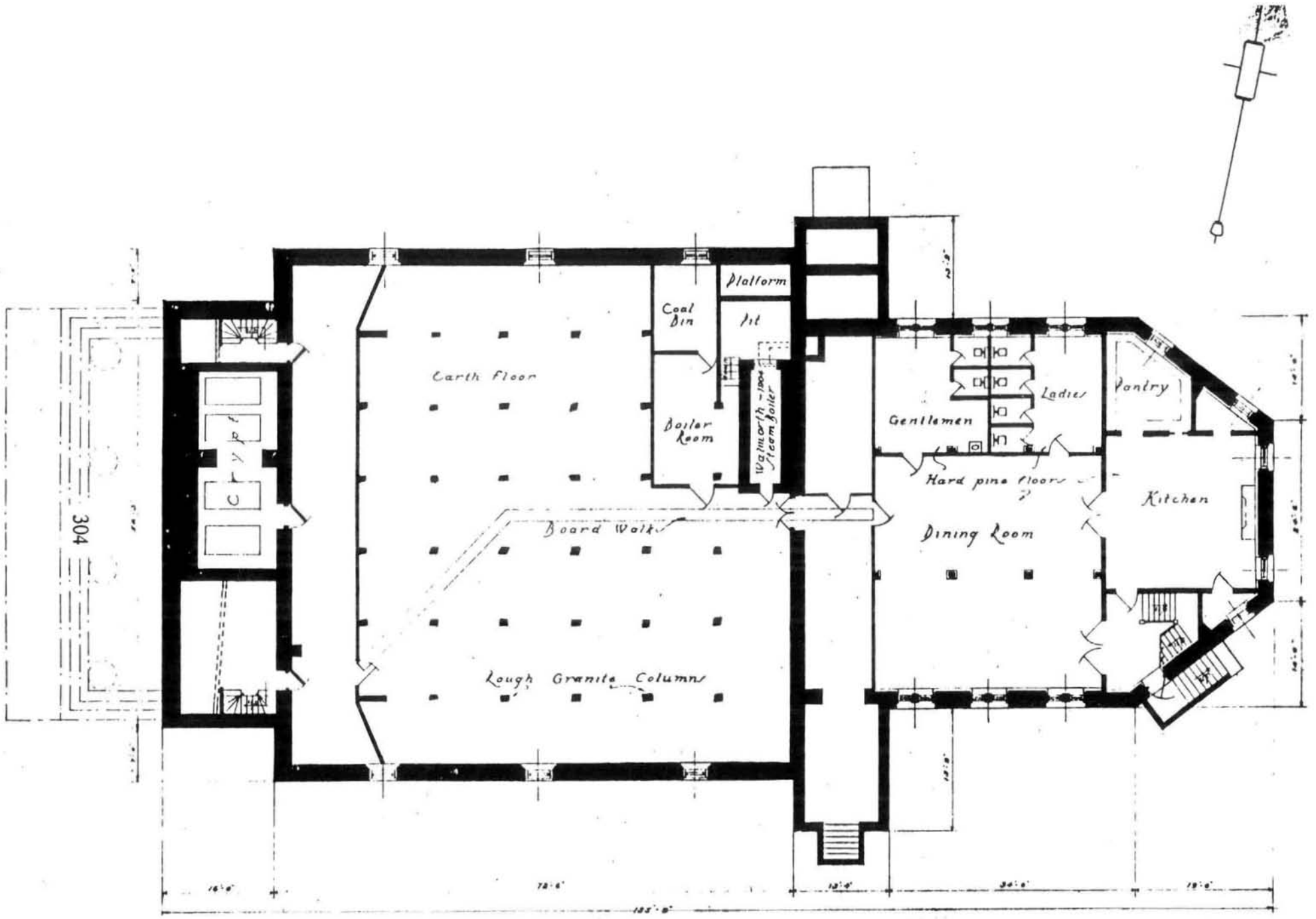



Rear Elevation




North Elevation

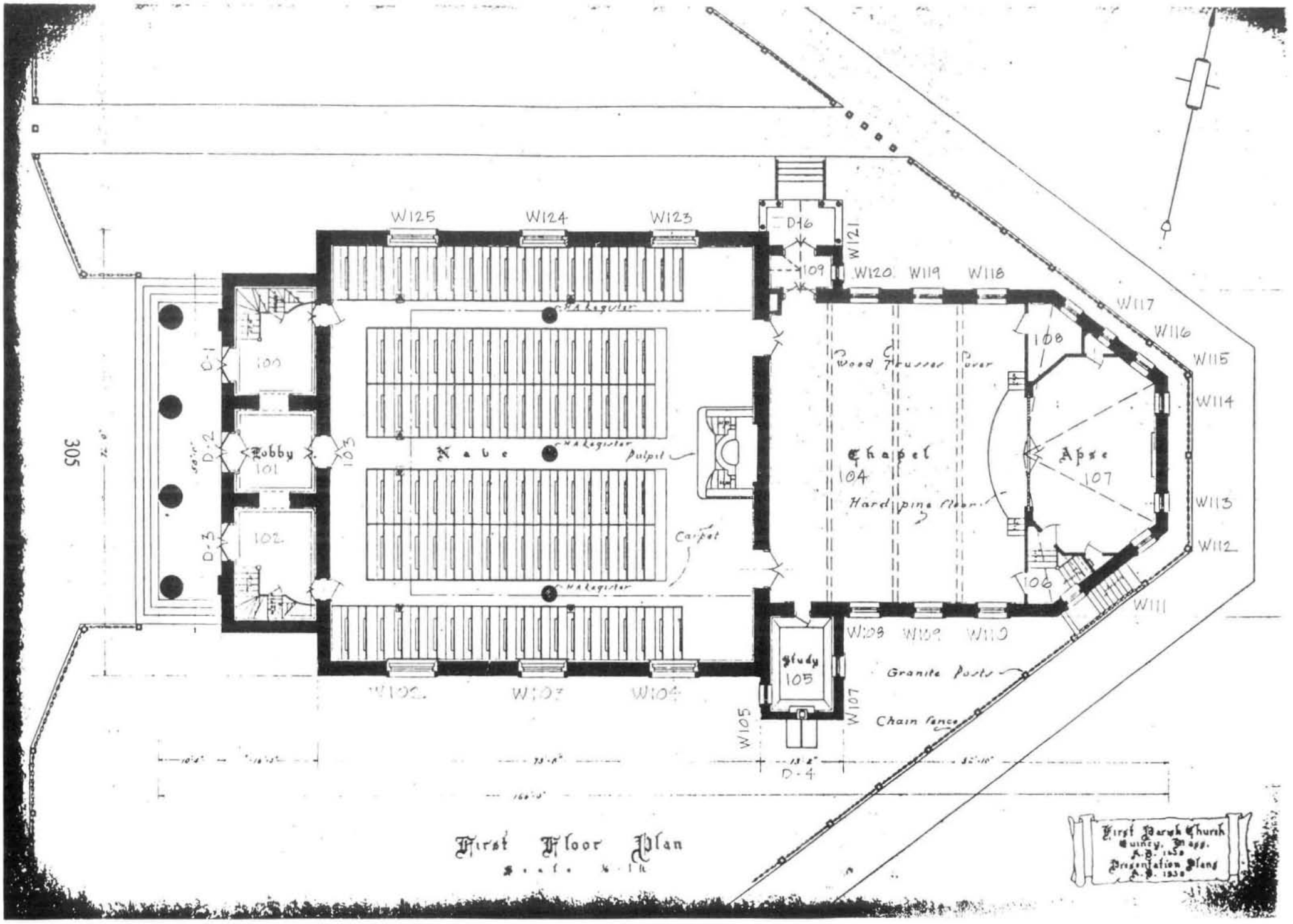
First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
A.D. 1636
Presentation

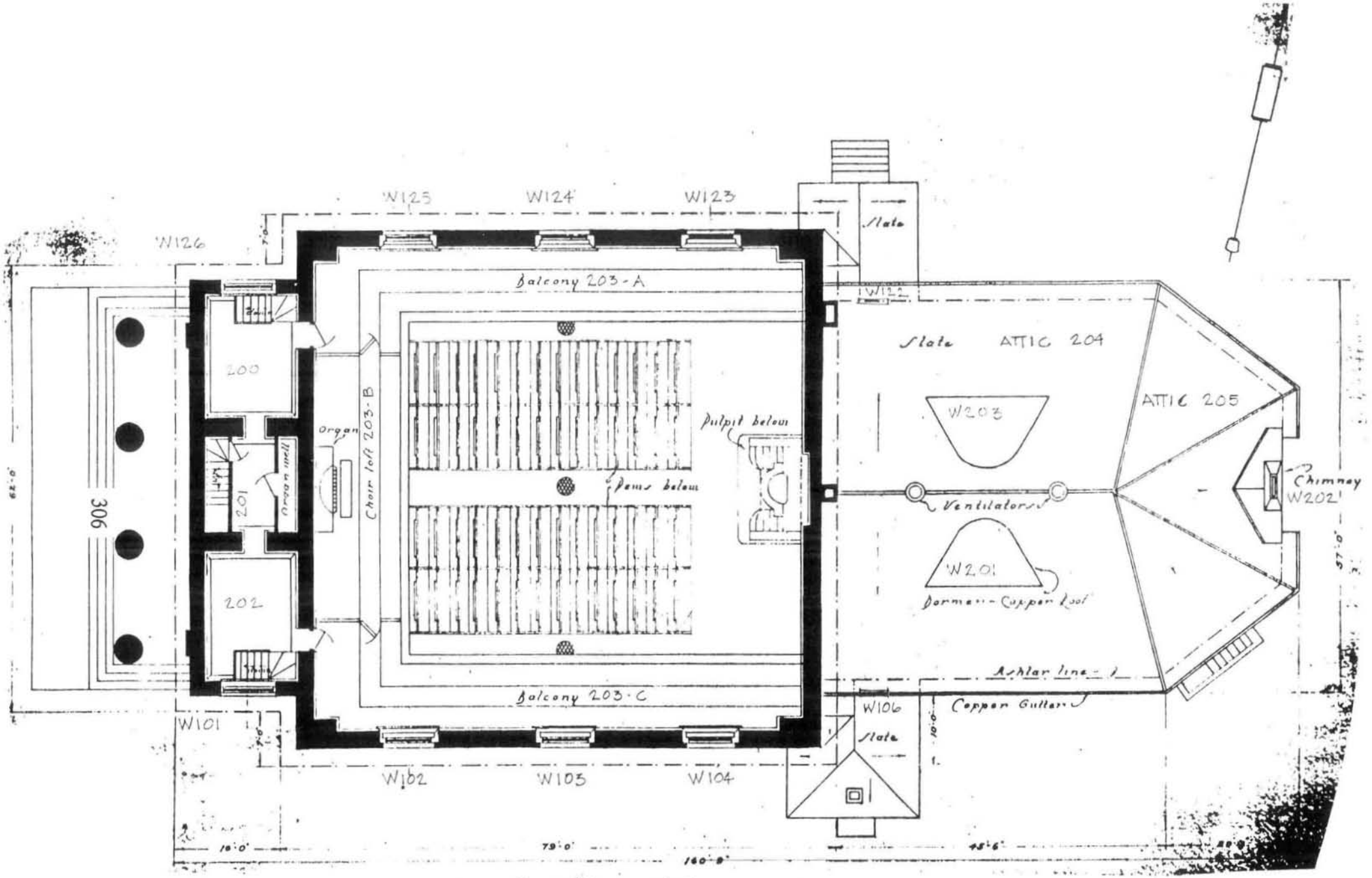



(NOTE: SEE APPENDIX C FOR ROOM NUMBERS.)

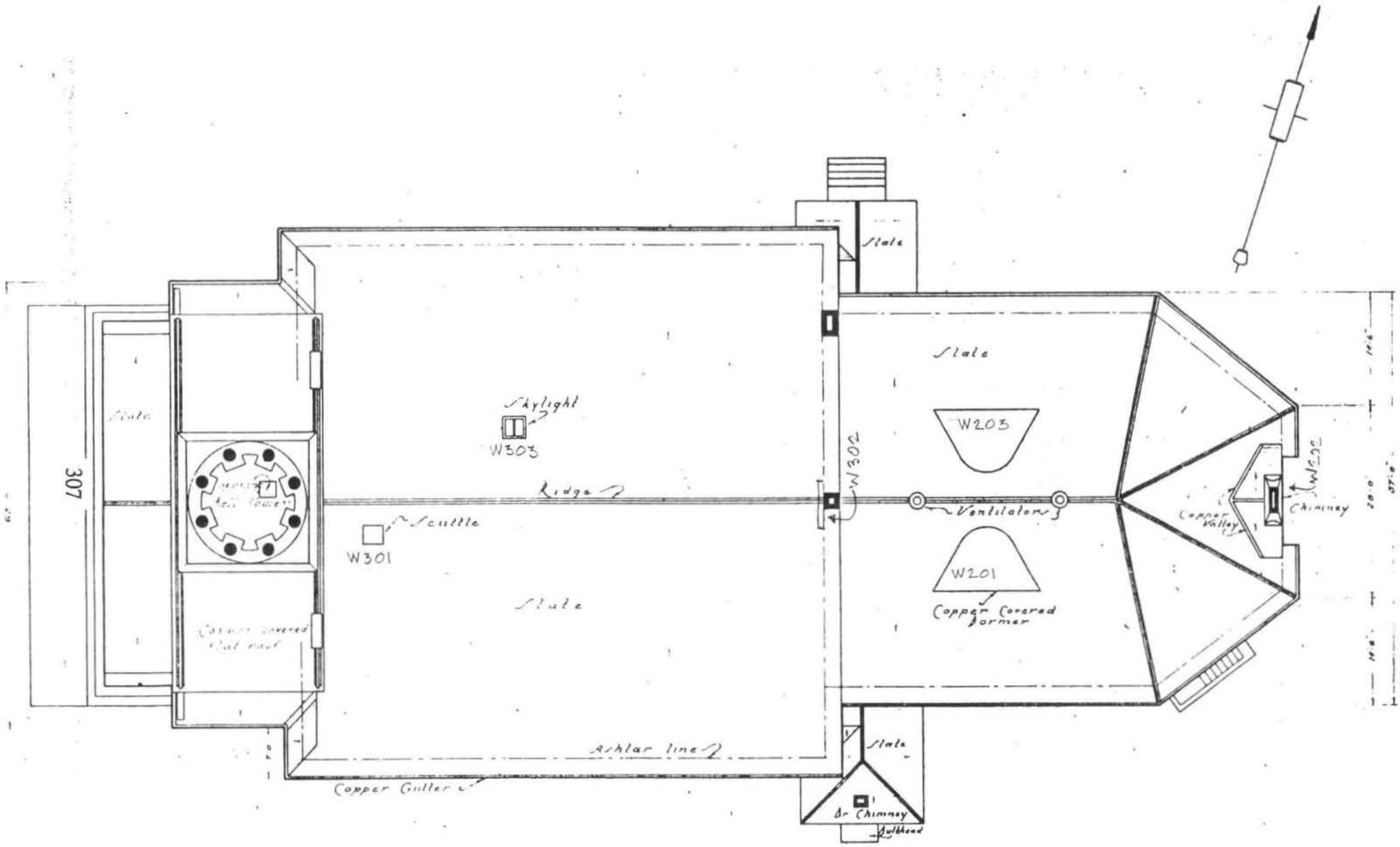
Basement Plan

First Parish Church
Cy. Mass.
D. 1830
lation Plans
D. 1830


W125
W124
W123
D16
W121
109
W120
W119
W118
W117
W116
W115
W114
W113
W112
W111
W108
W109
W110
W107
W106
W105
W104
W103
W102
D-1
D-2
D-3
D-4
100
Lobby
101
102
103
Nave
C.H.A. Register
Pulpit
Carpet
Wood Trusses
Cover
Chapel
104
Hard pine floor
Apse
107
106
Study
105
Granite Posts
Chain fence
305
First Floor Plan
First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
A.D. 1930
Presentation Plans
A.D. 1930



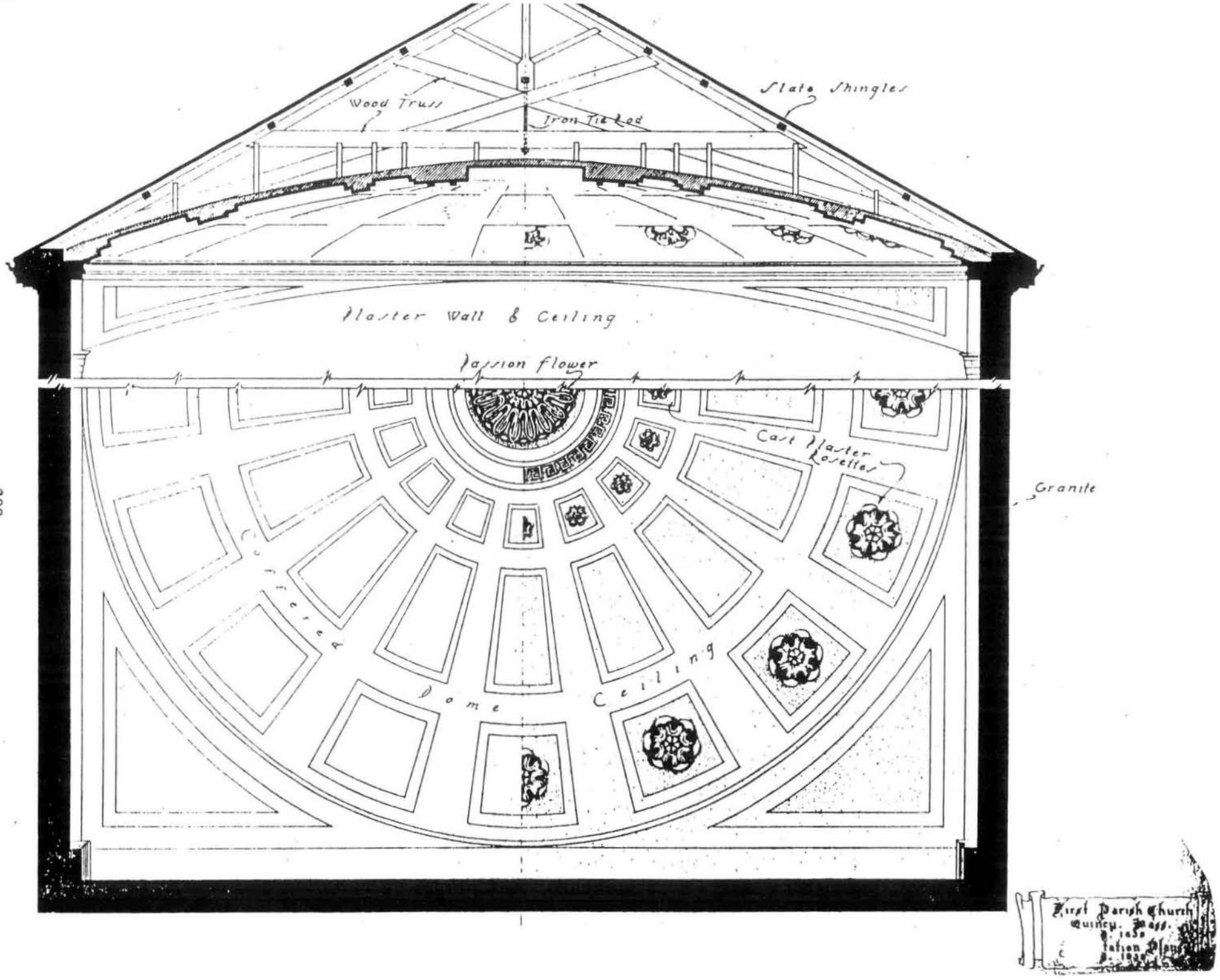

Second Floor Plan

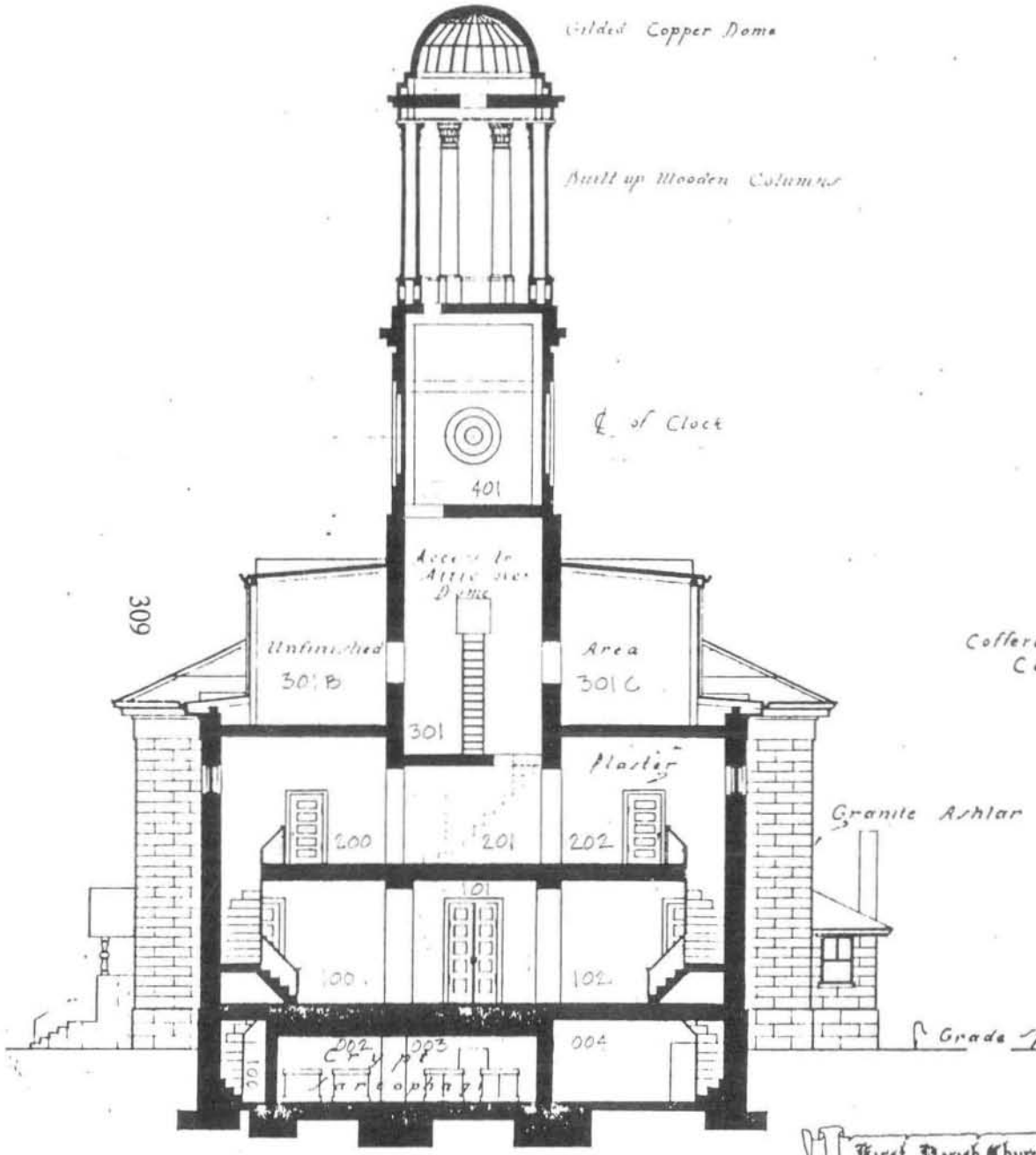



# Roof Plan

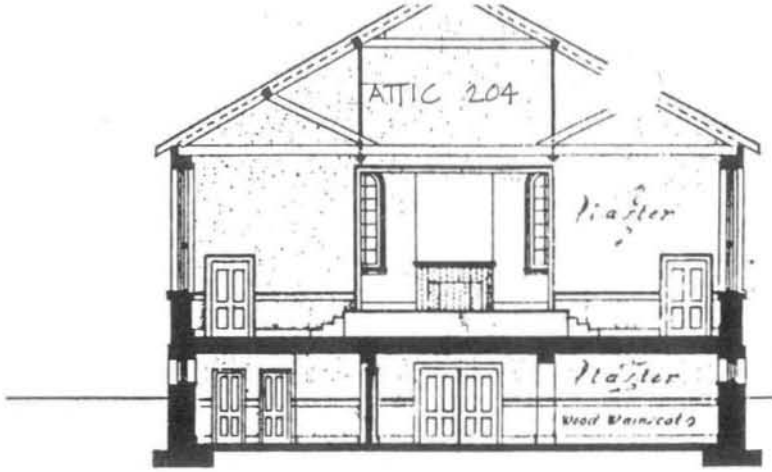
Scale 1/8"

First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
A.D. 1636
Presentation Plans
A.D. 1936

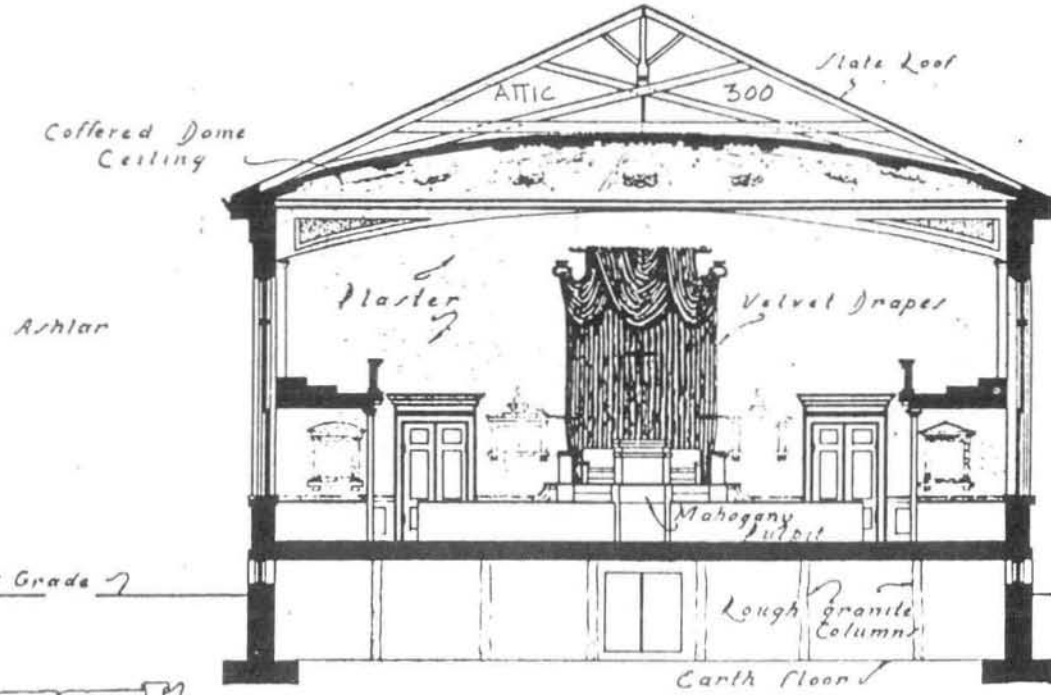

Slate Shingles
Wood Truss
Iron Tie Rod
Plaster Wall & Ceiling
Passion Flower
Cast Plaster Rosettes
Granite
Coffered Dome Ceiling
First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
Location Plan




Section through Tower

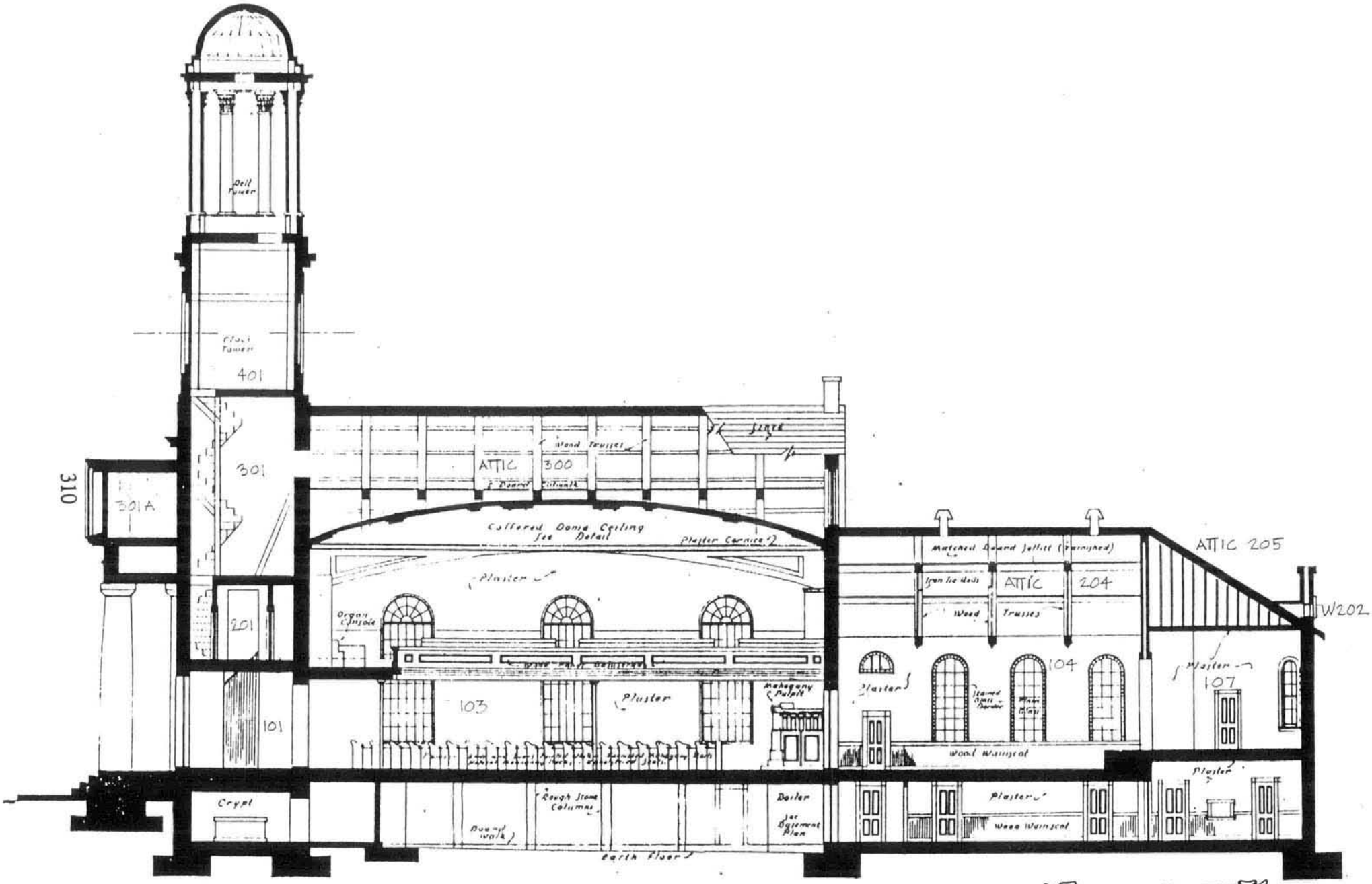



Section through Chapel




Section through Nave

First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
A.D. 1639
Presentation Plans
A.D. 1950



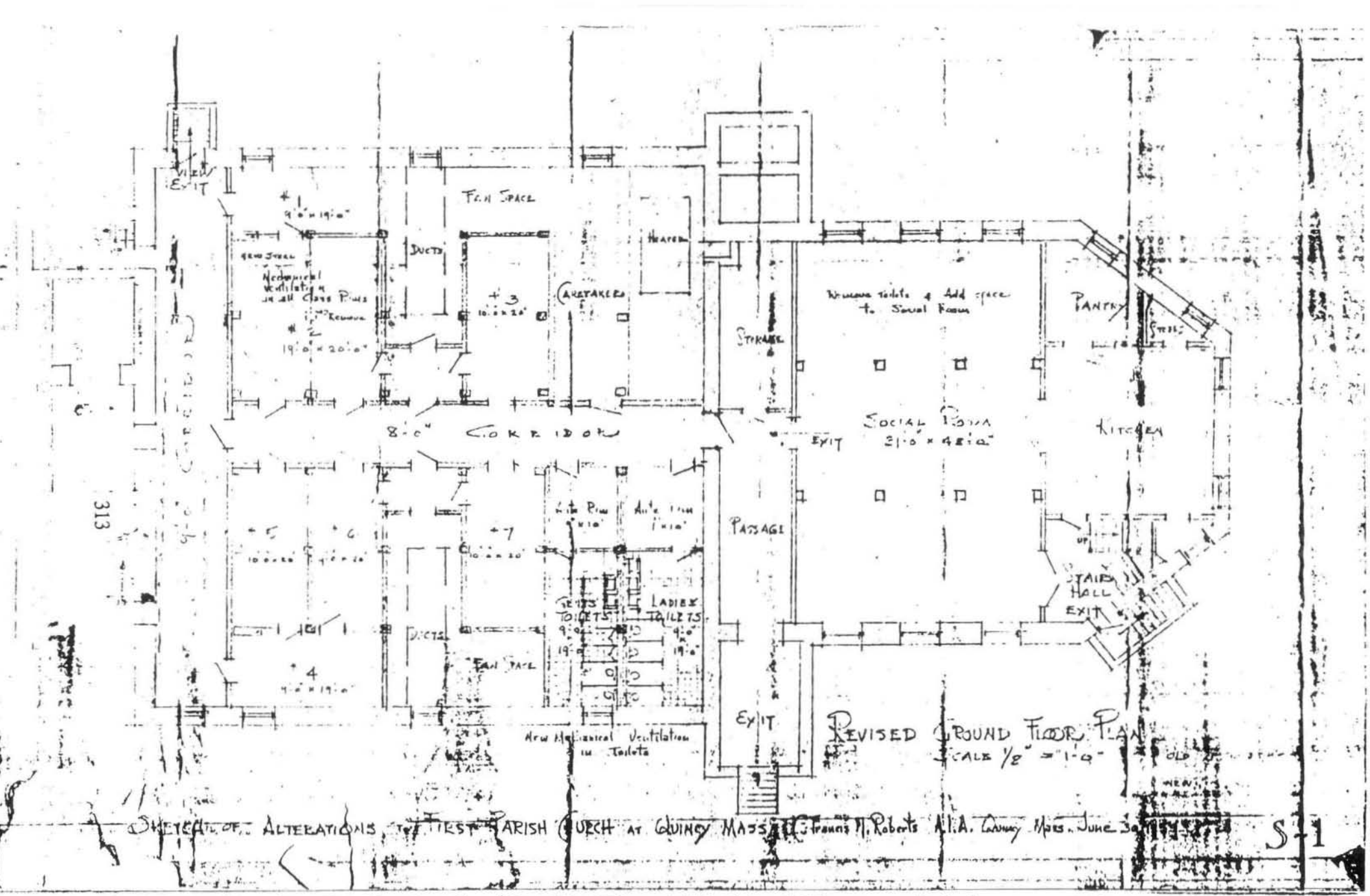

# Longitudinal Section

First Parish Church
Quincy, Mass.
A.D. 1830
Presentation Plate
A.D. 1830

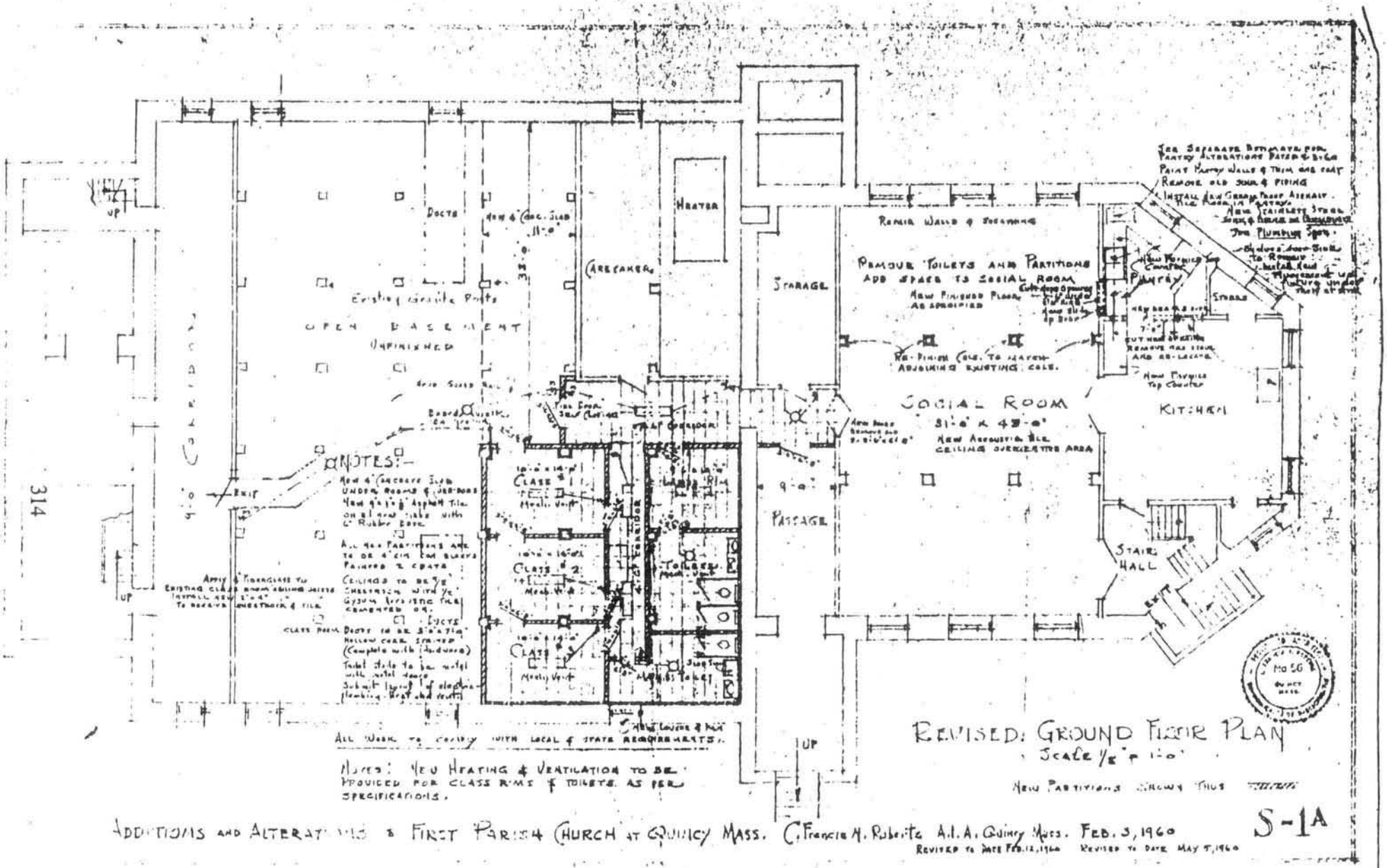
# APPENDIX C.

## 1960s Renovation Plans

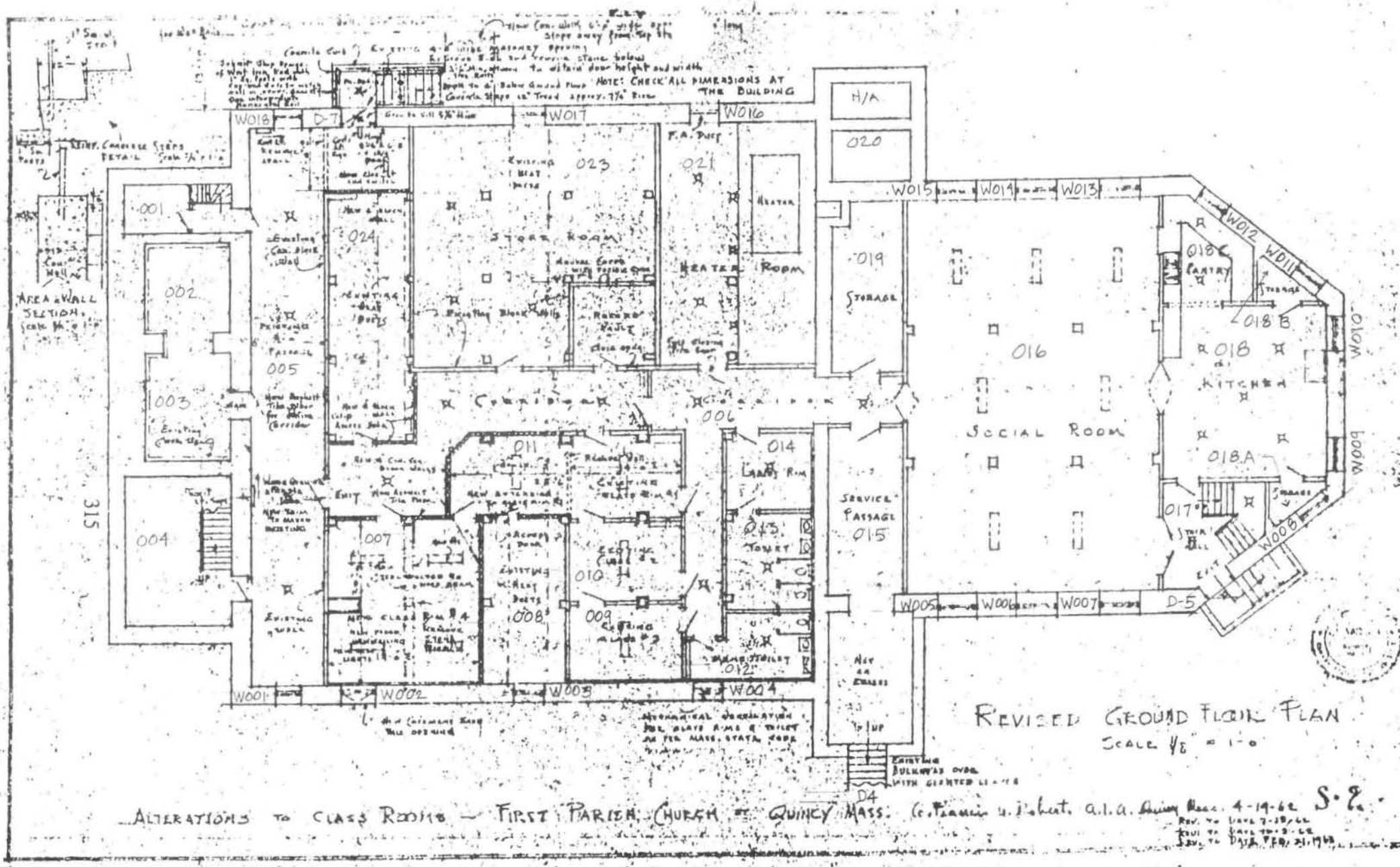
**By C. Francis N. Roberts**




REVISED GROUND FLOOR PLAN (BASEMENT) · JUNE 30, 1959 # S-1




REVISED GROUND FLOOR PLAN (BASEMENT) - FEBRUARY 3, 1960 #S-1A




REVISED GROUND FLOOR PLAN (BASEMENT) · FEBRUARY 21, 1963 #S-2 (WITH LAST REVISIONS)
NOTE: ROOM & WINDOW NUMBERS ASSIGNED BY R.C. CRISSON, DEC. 14, 1995

# APPENDIX D.

## FINISHES STUDY

**By Judith M. Jacob**

# INTRODUCTION

An examination of exterior and interior finishes of the United First Parish Church was made for the purposes of documenting finish histories and determining past architectural changes not chronicled in church records. The study was carried out from July 1995 to March 1996, concurrently with the general study of the church. This report describes major finishing campaigns and is based on archival sources, analysis of extracted samples, and examination of surfaces with outer finish layers removed.

"Finish" is the term used to refer to the final treatment of an architectural surface that creates the desired appearance. Finishes include, but are not limited to, tooling marks on stone, terra cotta glazes, paint, varnish, wall paper, and gold leaf. Aspects of finishes that affect appearance include color, pattern, gloss, opacity, and texture. The choice of finish is based on available materials (e.g., type of paint and pigments) and desired appearance. A desired appearance usually conforms to notions of "style": a design quality conforming to regional, national, or international tastes of a specific period of time. "Major finishing campaigns" are those that cover a large area of a building or that markedly change the appearance of a building.

This study examines finishes applied to plaster walls and ceilings, wooden elements (exterior and interior), and the stone faces of the tower. Major finishing campaigns are documented. Finishes associated with repairs, minor architectural alterations, and upkeep of surfaces receiving excessive wear (i.e., exterior doors) are not considered part of these campaigns, and are not described in this report. However, a list of references for this work is included at the end of this appendix.

Samples extracted from finished architectural surfaces provide stratigraphies (successions of finish layers) of all finishing and repair campaigns, and therefore provide documentation of the history of these campaigns. The interpretation of stratigraphies, coupled with examination of finishes in situ and archival research, leads to hypotheses or conclusions regarding finish schemes and histories. Selected stratigraphies from samples collected at the church are included at the end of this appendix.

# METHODOLOGY

Church archives were extremely useful for their documentation of finishing campaigns. Records are extensive for most of the 19th century, although there is a gradual trend towards less specificity at the end of the century. The archives were perused, and selected portions were transcribed by Peggy Albee, Architectural Conservator with the Building Conservation Branch (BCB) of the Northeast Cultural Resources Center (NECRC), NPS. These transcriptions were used for this study. Recent archives were not available for examination.

Information on style, finishing materials, and finishing practices is found in builders' manuals, architectural and decorative arts design publications, and architectural and decorative arts history publications. This information provides a useful guide for interpreting finish stratigraphies. For this study, only a minimal examination of literature pertaining to architectural finishes and decorative practices of churches was made.

A total of 664 finish samples were extracted from the church with an X-Acto knife. Samples included both the finish layer(s) and a portion of the substrate; they were generally not larger than three-sixteenths of an inch square, and were taken from locations as inconspicuous as possible. Samples were placed in coin envelopes that were then labeled and sealed. The numbering system used for labeling is that used by the BCB: each sample is marked with a unique sequential number, beginning with the park's alpha code and followed by the LCS (List of Classified Structures) number of the building, the letter "P" (for paint), and the sample number. Because the church is affiliated with the Adams National Historic Site, samples were labeled "ADAM UFP" with UFP (United First Parish) substituted for the LCS number. Samples are labeled ADAM UFP P001 through ADAM UFP P664.

Representative samples from each painted element (e.g., window components, wainscots, and plaster walls) were taken. Samples were not extracted from varnished or waxed wood, nor were they taken from the organ. Finishes applied to the dome of the belfry, floors, hardware, radiators, vents, exposed pipes, and ceilings in the addition were not examined. Finishes applied to rooms in the Sunday School portion of the church basement (situated between the west-end corridor and the east-end social area) were not examined either.

In order to assure the acquisition of full stratigraphies, more than one sample was often taken from an element. Multiple samples of certain elements were taken for comparative or verification purposes. In areas where a decorative paint scheme had been executed, multiple samples were taken in order to identify specific locations and colors.

A BCB Nikon stereozoom binocular microscope with a fiber-optic light source was used to examine samples in cross section. A stratigraphy was identified for each sample and a color name assigned to each paint layer. Color names are general and serve only to make distinctions between layers.[1] Other characteristics noted were: observations of dirt particles; fractures between layers;

[1] The brightness of the fiber-optic light, required to distinguish between layers, visually bleaches color. When viewed microscopically, colors are considerably lighter than when viewed in natural light, therefore, paint colors noted during microscopic examination are lighter than the actual color (e.g. "light gray" in fiber-optic light would be "gray" in natural light).

resins or resinous materials; sheen; texture; presence of bulking agents; color, size, and distribution of pigments; additives; and deterioration (common in exterior environments).

The relationship of one layer to the next often provides information useful for interpreting finish histories. Accumulations of dirt particles between layers indicate a time lapse between finishing campaigns. Fractures between layers may also indicate a time lapse, or else a succession of materials not entirely compatible with each other. Paint layers that are well bonded together may have been applied as part of the same finishing campaign, and may indicate primer and finish coats.

Once stratigraphies had been recorded, major finishing campaigns were identified and samples with the most clearly defined stratigraphies were selected for color matching. Paint colors of major finish campaigns (excluding the 1960s campaign) were given color notations by matching them microscopically to standards in the Munsell Book of Color.[2] In assigning color notations to each element for each finishing campaign, color variations between samples were evaluated; in almost all cases, these were considered to be the result of differential weathering or aging, or differing paint mixtures. A single Munsell notation was then selected to represent all of the samples. Where variations may have been the result of differing paint colors (e.g., the 1923 cream-colored paints in addition rooms), the differing Munsell notations were retained. Selected color names were then re-notated using the Munsell notation system and the National Bureau of Standards dictionary of color names.[3]

After selecting Munsell colors for each major finishing campaign, Munsell color samples were visually matched, in florescent light, to Benjamin Moore paint colors (Benjamin Moore & Co., Montvale, NJ).[4] This was done to provide a link to commercially available paints, and is by no

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[2] The Munsell Color System identifies color in terms of three attributes: hue, value and chroma. The hue (H) notation of a color indicates its relation to one of ten major hue names (red, yellow-red, yellow, green-yellow, green, blue-green, blue, purple-blue, purple, and red-purple). The value (V) notation indicates the lightness or darkness of a color in relation to a neutral gray scale (the symbol 0/ is used for absolute black and the symbol 10/ is used for absolute white). The chroma (C) notation indicates the degree of departure of a given hue from a neutral gray of the same value (chroma scales extend from /0 for a neutral gray to /10, /12, /14 or farther, depending upon the saturation of the color). The complete Munsell notation for a chromatic color is written symbolically: H V/C; the complete notation for an achromatic (neutral) color is: N V/.

Munsell color standards consist of opaque pigmented films on cast-coated paper for over 1,500 Munsell notations. Standards (1/2 x 5/8 inch) are inserted into pages in a loose-leaf notebook (the Munsell Book of Color) and arranged into orderly scales of equal visual steps. The scales are used as parameters for the accurate specification and description of color under standard conditions of illumination.

[Paraphrased from the introduction to the Munsell Book of Color.]

[3] Kenneth L. Kelly and Deane B. Judd, *The ISCC-NBS Method of Designating Colors and a Dictionary of Color Names*, United States Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards Circular 553 (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, issued November 1, 1955, reprinted January 2, 1963).

[4] Benjamin Moore's "Professional Color Selector" (1987) was used for color matching. The "Professional Color Selector" consists of six volumes containing color swatches (each 5 1/2 x 9 inches) arranged in sections organized by hue. Benjamin Moore Paints uses the Moor-O-Matic Color System for notating colors; each

means an endorsement of Benjamin Moore paints. Munsell colors can be matched to any commercially available paints.

Munsell color notations (and citations of Benjamin Moore paint colors) are approximations of the colors actually used on the First Parish Church. In considering the original appearance of a paint, color is only one factor contributing to this appearance. Pigment:medium concentrations (producing sheen and opacity variations), size of pigments (visible or invisible to the naked eye), and brush marks are factors also affecting appearance. Paints often fade, darken, or yellow over time or with exposure; the color of a layer in a sample may not be exactly that of the original paint. This is especially true of white and cream-colored paints containing linseed oil which often yellow or darken when covered from light by a succeeding paint layer.[5]

Upper layers of paint were removed from a 1 by 6-inch strip of wall in the sanctuary to expose previous finishes.[6] The area chosen was in a location where a decorative painting scheme had once been executed: the west wall, just south of the north doorway and above the wainscot. Removing layers of paint in situ provides information on previous colors, decorative patterns, and textures. Again, the exposed color can only be taken as an approximation of the original color due to fading, darkening, or yellowing of paints.

The composition of paints and varnishes was not determined for this study. Woods that were selected for their color and grain pattern (considered finish materials, since they are visible through clear resinous coatings) were not identified.

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color is assigned a unique number and this number is given a reflectance value, listed at the beginning of each color section of the volumes. Colors are numbered from 001 to 1680; colors in the last section, "Historical Colors," are numbered from HC-1 to HC-174.

[5] Oils tend to yellow over time, especially when not exposed to the bleaching effects of light; what may have been a white or light-cream-colored paint when new appears to be cream or yellow when examined many years later. Bleaching a sample will lighten these colors, but since it is difficult to determine an appropriate level of bleaching, this operation was not carried out.

[6] A solution of acetone and ethanol (1:1) was used to swell the paint which was then removed with a scalpel and cotton swabs, or abraded first with a stiff natural-bristle brush and then removed.

# MAJOR FINISHING CAMPAIGNS

## Construction of Church (1827-1828) and First Finishing Campaign

### Exterior Elements

The construction history of the church is well documented, but the same is not true for decorative treatments. The names Rufus Lane, Charles Lane, and Major Lane appear in records related to finishing work. All references with these names are considered to refer to the first finishing campaign.[7]

Several references mention exterior painting. The bell frame is documented as having been painted, and it is assumed that all wooden elements of the tower and roof were painted at this time as well. The two wooden end walls of the tower plinth were painted to resemble stone, possibly simulating the granite of the church: "painting two imitation stone on each side of the tower" and "painting a part of the tower in imitation of Stone." The "colour [sic] of outside door" indicates the painting of the front doors. Window sashes were painted black and the surrounds were sanded. Eight window blinds were also painted.[8]

Examination of samples indicates that most wooden elements were painted various shades of grays in 1828 and for many years thereafter. In some cases, sand was added to paint to provide a texture in imitation of stone; painting wood in this fashion was common practice in the 19th century.[9]

The first finish of the belfry appears to have been a gray paint. The dome is thought to have been gilded in 1828. Samples from cornice and eave moldings indicate that they were painted with the same gray paint as the belfry.

The original appearance of the "imitation stone" end walls of the tower plinth is not known. Some samples from the north wall show the first layer of paint to be a light olive gray color. Other samples show no distinct first layer, but rather several paints somewhat mixed together (white and grays); some samples have sand mixed into the first layer or layers. Determining an original finish, and quite possibly a *faux* finish, from only a few samples with differing stratigraphies and from an area receiving harsh weathering is difficult at best. It is possible that the finish was painted with several colors, all or some textured with sand, in order to imitate stone. Possibly too, the panels

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[7] Rufus and Charles Lane seem to have been responsible for the majority of original finishes in the church. The name "Major Lane" also appears in records related to finishing work.

[8] All but two references from Documents, Vol. I, October 27, 1828, p. 110; "the colour of outside door" from September 19, and "Painting eight window Blinds for the stone Temple" from December 31, 1829, p. 158.

[9] Abbott Lowell Cummings and Richard M. Candee, "Colonial and Federal America: Accounts of Early Painting Practices," and Roger W. Moss, "Nineteenth-Century Paints: A Documentary Approach," in *Paint in America: the Colors of Historic Buildings*, ed. Roger W. Moss (Washington: The Preservation Press, 1994).

were painted light olive gray, after which *faux* mortar joints were penciled on with white paint containing sand.[10] An engraving from ca. 1851-1854 (fig. 9) shows the church with the plinth end walls identical in appearance to the church walls, indicating a scheme with *faux* ashlar matching the ashlar of the church in dimension.

Examination of samples indicates that the three west entrance doors of the church were originally painted gray. The surrounds, including jambs, were painted a light olive gray color; the panels of the jambs were painted a yellowish gray. (These panels may also have been the same color as the stiles and rails). The portico ceiling was painted a dark gray.

Determining finish histories for window surrounds is difficult. Stratigraphies for the surrounds of the sanctuary and second-story vestibule windows differ from each other, and the surrounds of the basement windows were replaced in the 1960s. Differing stratigraphies may be due to polychromatic finish schemes, susceptibility to deteriorative weathering, selective paint removal, selective repainting, or any combination of these. Church records document numerous window repairs.

A sanded paint, documented in church records, is found in samples from the second-story vestibule window surrounds. The surround of the north window has a first finish layer of a yellowish gray paint containing sand. The first finish layer on sanctuary window surrounds and blinds is a blackish green paint. It is possible that both of these paints are original, and the latter color was chosen to match the color of the associated blinds. It is also possible that original paint was removed from sanctuary window surrounds in preparation for painting and an original first layer is no longer present (a blackish green color was used in the 1923 finishes scheme). Because of the height, paint may never have been removed from second-story vestibule windows, leaving full stratigraphies intact. Window sashes were originally painted black.[11]

## Interior Elements

Archival information on original interior finishes is scant. Several references document painting, varnishing, and numbering pews. A reference to "the Columns at the pulpit" may indicate their varnishing.[12]

Plaster surfaces in the sanctuary appear to have been sized prior to painting.[13] Examination of samples indicates that a very thin layer of a pinkish gray paint was applied in 1828. The ceiling under the gallery was painted a pinkish gray color as well.

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[10] Pencilling refers to the execution of thin lines painted with a small brush (called a "pencil").

[11] Black was a common paint color for sash during much of the 19th century.

[12] Minutes, building committee meeting, Friday [September] 19th, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I).

[13] Sizes were usually glue-based, but could also be resin-based. Sizing is visible in the samples as a gray or tan, waxy or resinous material adjacent to the plaster and in some cases, penetrating the plaster. Analysis of the material was not carried out.

Determining the original finish for the domed ceiling is difficult. In 1923, preparations for repainting included washing the existing paint off the ceiling; it is not known how many layers of the existing paint were affected.[14] Samples show a first layer of size in the stratigraphy. The second layer appears to be a yellowish gray paint, similar to the wall paint of 1859. It is possible that the ceiling was not painted in 1828; mid-19th century decorative plaster ceilings were sometimes left without an applied finish.[15] However, no dirt particles were found between the plaster and the size, indicating that either the size was applied to the plaster soon after completion of the ceiling, or that it was applied after the ceiling was washed, sometime after 1828. Certainly, the yellowish gray could have been the 1828 finish, if the water-soluble yellowish gray paint of 1859 was removed; it may only match the 1859 finish by coincidence. It would not be unreasonable to consider the possibility that the same pinkish gray paint of the walls and ceiling under the gallery may have been used for the domed ceiling as well.

All original woodwork in the sanctuary (dating to 1828) that is presently painted was painted originally. Examination of samples indicates that the original paint color was a yellowish white. Church records document the finishing of the pews in far greater detail than the finishing of any other elements; they attest to some problems with quality of workmanship and timeliness of execution.[16] The original numerals appear to have been painted either a light olive gray color or black (the question of "gold figures or common"[17] was raised.) Mahogany that is currently varnished is considered to have been varnished originally.

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[14] Letter from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring Co. Inc. Decorators and Painters, 203 Clarendon St., to Clarence Burgin, December 20, 1923 (folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 [Interior]," file box 2). This letter states: "Wash off the water color on ceiling...." The accompanying bill states: "370 hours Washing and retinting ceiling."

[15] Federal Hall National Memorial in New York City, completed in the 1840s as the New York Custom House, has a large rotunda surmounted by a plastered dome. The plaster was not painted originally.

[16] "...examined the finish of the pews and were not satisfied with the materials or workmanship, determined after the house is more cleared, to begin at No 1 and go through them all, and ascertain what further work shall be done on them, a Committee was appointed to contract with Major Lane for the numbering..." [Friday 19th]

"...found that much is yet wanting to finish our pews in a satisfactory manner the mahogany have in the tops are too rough...determined to contract with Mr Lane to paint the front of pews and number them[,] he has offered to do the painting for thirty five dollars and the numbers for about 6 cents a pew--agreed with him to do it..." [Friday the 2d day of October]

"...he [Parris] is not satisfied with the finish of the pews and the railing of stairs the man at work on them orderd [sic] to stop for the present..." [Monday Oct 6th]

"Parris and Bachelder did not come out[,] apprehensive of delay with respect to dedication as 3 coats of paint are necessary..." [Wednesday 8th]

"...Major Lane to begin painting..." [Friday Oct 10th]

All from Documents, Vol. I.

[17] September 19, 1828 (Documents, Vol. I).

Determining a finish history for plaster walls and ceilings in the vestibules is difficult. Church records document numerous roof problems and repairs in the vestibules. Steady leaking over the years may have discolored surfaces, and the extent of plaster repairs and partial repainting campaigns is not known. Therefore, sample stratigraphies may not be accurate representations of the vestibules, and individual paint layers may not accurately depict original colors. Because the first- and second-story vestibules are connected by open stairways and wall surfaces are continuous from one story to the next, it was assumed that finishes were continuous as well. However, examination of samples indicates otherwise. Not all walls appear to have been sized. Samples from the first-story vestibule show the first paint layers to be a pale pink lime-wash (with large red and smaller black pigment particles), a yellowish gray, a light gray (also with large red and smaller black pigment particles), and the same pinkish gray of the sanctuary. In some places in the second-story vestibule, a dark red paint appears as a first layer. These various colors could theoretically indicate a decorative scheme, but this is somewhat improbable, considering that the scheme of the sanctuary—the principal space—is monochromatic. More likely, these colors do not all date to 1828. Perhaps a pinkish gray paint was used, and the vestibules and sanctuary all featured the same color. Perhaps too, the pale pink lime-wash was the first finish, now remaining only in some areas and sometimes discolored by possible staining.

Woodwork in the vestibules appears to have been the same yellowish white of the sanctuary. Risers of the two stairways between the first- and second-story vestibules were gray.

Originally, access to the crypt was provided by two stairways, situated at either end of the first-story vestibule. The north stairway may retain its original configuration; the original south stairway was removed and a floor installed to create a closet. Examination of samples from this closet indicates that the wainscot was originally varnished, and that the upper wall was finished with the same light pink lime-wash described previously. The north stairwell no longer retains its original finishes.[18]

The crypt of the church was not given a finish in 1828; granite walls and ceilings were left unpainted. The two doors to either side of the crypt are not considered to be original.

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[18] The present finishes of the north stairway (varnished matchboard wainscot and light blue and white printed wallpaper) indicate a ca.-1900 installation date.

## 1843/1849 Exterior Finishing Campaign

A major exterior painting campaign was carried out in 1843,[19] and the belfry was repainted in 1849.[20] Examination of samples indicates that the paint colors used were similar to those already present. All wooden elements of the belfry and roof were finished with the same light brownish gray paint containing sand. The tower plinth end walls were painted the same color but apparently without the addition of sand; it is not known if the *faux* ashlar pattern was maintained.

Church records document the installation of a clock in the church tower.[21] Analysis of samples extracted from the clock's west face indicate that the face itself may have been painted a dark gray color and the numerals painted either black or white.

Determining mid-19th century finishes for the west doors is difficult. There were two major finishing campaigns during this period (1843/1849 and 1859), but extracted samples indicate only one finish layer. This layer is a dark gray paint that was applied to the doorway surrounds, jambs, and doors. The portico ceiling may not have been painted at this time (it was not painted during every finishing campaign).

Although church records document the painting of windows, samples indicate the contrary. Window surrounds and sashes do not have many paint layers and therefore, were not included in every finishing campaign. Because paint colors remained fairly constant for each of these elements for each campaign, assigning dates to paint layers (other than the original layer) is impossible. It is probable that window surrounds and sashes were not painted at this time. Blinds, however, appear to have been painted a grayish olive green color.

The documentation suggests that interior painting occurrred in 1845-1846.[22] However, examination of samples indicates that this was not done.

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[19] "The Committee of the 1st Congregationalist in Quincy.... To wit. That they have expended the sum of $251.79 cents for repairs and for painting, Blinds, Windows, Doors, Coveings &C- The committee have spared no pains to cause thorough repairs to be made on the Walls, windows and covings [sic] at the east end of the house and on the sides of the Tower which from their peculiar exposure to storms had often been penetrated by water...." (minutes, parish meeting March 13, 1843, and Treasurer's Report [Records, Vol. I, p. 180]).

[20] "...stock and work done on the Bell and bell frame, new Wheel painting &c..." [Documents, Vol. I, voucher, June 11, 1849, p. 319].

[21] Minutes of parish meeting, March 11, 1844 (Records, Vol. I, p. 186).

[22] The Parish Committee was authorized to paint the interior of the church in 1846. Church records document the necessity of making repairs (not specified) and painting—: "whitening the walls and ceiling or collouring [sic] the same." (minutes, parish meeting March 9, 1846 [Records, Vol. I, p. 206]).

## 1859 Finishing Campaign

### Exterior Elements

In 1859, a major finishing campaign was carried out. A church record documents the painting of shutters, "Lower entry" and "upper entry," and "bell deck." Another record notes: "painting the blinds and the portico."[23] The term "Lower entry" may refer to the basement doorway, and the term "upper entry" to the west doorways. It is also possible that the lower and upper entries refer to the first- and second-story vestibules.

Determining exterior finishes for this period is as difficult as it was for the previous painting campaign. Samples from the belfry, and roof cornice and eaves, indicate that a light olive gray paint was used. The same color was used for the end walls of the tower plinth and this paint may have contained sand.

The west doors of the church appear to have been a dark gray color (the same as the last campaign). Doorway surrounds and jambs, as well as the portico ceiling, were also the same color.

Samples indicate that window surrounds and sashes were not painted during this finishing campaign. Blinds were painted a dark grayish olive color.

### Interior Elements

The painting campaign of 1859 completely changed the interior appearance of the church to one reflecting late-19th century design tastes. Information on this campaign is found in the church's expenditure accounts. All woodwork (doors, windows, surrounds, wainscot, and stairways, but not the mahogany elements) was painted and the walls received "fresco work": decorative painting but not in the *buon fresco* technique.[24] A note in the expenditures list implies that there may have been a change in plan, possibly from neutral or monochromatic colors to more varied colors: "difference

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[23] Report of June 6th, 1859 (Records, Vol. I, p. 351); and Documents, Vol. II, p. 94.

[24] The *buon fresco* technique of mural painting is one in which pigments, suspended in water, are applied directly to fresh lime plaster.

In the 1924 *House Painting*, "frescoeing" is described as follows: "After the wall or ceiling has been Kalsomined, it is possible to decorate it with figures or borders, using, as paint, Kalsomine of suitable colors; this is called frescoeing [sic]." An explanation for this incorrect use of the term "fresco" is offered in a 1910 reference: "The decorator hardly likes to have his work known under the name calcimine (also spelled kalsomine)--as the name sounds too common, so he dubs it fresco...." (Alvah H. Sabin, *House Painting* [New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 1924], p. 129; and Frederick J. Maire, *Modern Painter's Cyclopedia* [Chicago: Frederick J. Drake and Co., 1910], p. 58).

in expense between party colers [sic] & plain Paint."[25] Photographs of the sanctuary dating to 1889 and 1923 depict the decorative scheme of this campaign (figs. 39-40 and 44-45).[26]

The 1859 finish is retained on one small area of wall behind the organ case (installed in 1909).[27] The wainscot is painted a light olive brown color and the upper wall is painted a yellowish gray.

The decorative scheme of the walls consists of a band of several stripes and a Greek-key directly above the wainscot. There is also a decorative band following the arches of the upper walls and outlining the windows. On the east wall, decorative bands cross the wall at the top and bottom of the gallery balustrade with the lower band continuing along under the entire gallery. The two marble plaques on the east wall are surrounded by *faux* frames and surmounted by a decorative band. "Thy Will Be Done" is written above the south plaque; the words over the north plaque cannot be read in the photograph. It is difficult to discern the motifs of the bands from the photographs; palmettoes may adorn the upper wall band.

A small portion of the decorative band above the wainscot was exposed when upper layers of paint were removed from the west wall of the sanctuary. The colors used were black, dark red, olive green, tan, and gray. Some of these same colors appear in samples taken from the capital of a pier in the gallery and adjacent wall surfaces (yellowish gray, light reddish brown, light olive brown, and moderate reddish brown).

Woodwork (with the exception of the varnished mahogany) was painted to harmonize with the upper walls. A polychromatic scheme is visible in the photographs: the gallery balustrade (facing the sanctuary) appears to have a darker color painted around the edge of the panels, around the edge of the smaller panels at the base, and on the frets articulating either end of the smaller panels. (The base is now covered with dentils installed in 1923). Examination of samples indicates that all woodwork was painted a light olive brown, similar to that found behind the organ. A brownish pink was used to articulate certain areas of the balustrade, the recess adjacent to the raised panels of the doorway jambs between the vestibule and sanctuary, and the recess adjacent to the raised panels of the pew doors. Pew numerals were painted in black.

The 1923 photographs show a ceiling color lighter than the walls (this interpretation of the photograph takes into account the facts that the photograph is black-and-white, and the light entering through the windows illuminates some areas and creates shadows in other areas). Ornamentation of the ceiling (in addition to the plasterwork) is limited to decorative bands outlining the spandrels and articulating radii and coffers. It is difficult to determine if rosettes and fretwork were of a different color since they appear to be similar in tone to radii and coffers. The bands of the radii appear to be ornamented with a diamond pattern. Examination of samples indicates a background paint of a yellowish gray color, about the same color as the walls. Colors for the decorative work cannot be

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[25] Documents, Vol. II, p. 94.

[26] The east wall of the sanctuary was modified in 1888, and perhaps again in 1898 or 1907. The east wall, as it appears in the 1889 and 1923 photographs, is not how it appeared in 1859. The 1898 photograph is not included in this report; it is currently on display in the church.

[27] Minutes, parish annual meeting March 8, 1909 (Records, Vol. II, p. 348).

determined, since this paint was washed off in 1923. It is possible that the yellowish gray remains from 1828 and was not that used in 1859.

Plaster walls in both first- and second-story vestibules, including the walls of the stairwells, and in the sanctuary were painted yellowish gray. There seems to have been some decorative banding (executed in light grayish brown, and maybe some other colors too) above the wainscot and stair stringers. Walls of the closets do not appear to have been included in this painting campaign. Ceilings may have been painted a brownish gray. Woodwork was painted a light olive brown color. The recess adjacent to the panels of the exterior doors and the jambs of the gallery doors, as well as stair risers, were painted a brownish pink or gray color.

## 1888 Construction of Addition and Finishing Campaign

### Exterior Elements

In 1888, the addition was constructed at the east end of the church. All exterior woodwork of the addition was either painted or varnished; exterior woodwork of the main church structure does not appear to have been included in this finishing campaign.

Cornice and eave moldings of the addition roof were painted a dark gray color. The north porch was painted a dark grayish olive color with the rafters and underside of the roof sheathing finished with a resinous material, perhaps a varnish. Doorway and window surrounds appear to have been painted the same color as the porch. The north door was painted black (the original south basement door is no longer extant) and window sashes were painted black as well.

### Interior Elements

Walls of the Parish Hall were finished with a wainscot (made of a buttery-orange colored wood) and plaster. Church records document the "Frescoing of walls and ceilings";[28] the work carried out is assumed to be decorative painting not using the *buon fresco* technique (similar to the 1859 reference to frescoing). Walls of the Parish Hall were painted a grayish yellow, the Ladies' Parlor a light brown, the minister's study a moderate yellowish pink, and the stairwell a grayish yellowish brown. The service kitchen and interior of the north porch may have been painted yellowish white. Samples provide no indication of any decorative painting. However, evidence of a simple design (such as thin banding) or any type of design in areas difficult to reach (such as a frieze) is difficult to discern. The wainscot, proscenium arch, and window surrounds appear to have been waxed.[29] Window sashes were varnished.

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[28] Edward H. Dewson, "The Story of the 'Building of the Chapel,'" February 14, 1889 (Documents, Vol. III, pp. 110-116).

[29] The present finish is dull, in areas of both high and low traffic. The appearance of the first finish in a sample from the painted woodwork of the Ladies' Parlor is wax-like.

The basement of the addition has undergone several architectural alterations since 1888, and determining original finishes is difficult. As far as can be determined, walls were finished with a wainscot and painted plaster.[30] Originally, room divisions were somewhat different than they are now; it is not known if walls in all rooms were finished in the same manner. Samples from the social hall indicate a first finish of a yellowish gray paint with window surrounds and sashes varnished (original doors are no longer extant). Samples from the kitchen walls show a similar finish scheme.

Several modifications to sanctuary fabric were made when the addition was constructed, namely to provide access between the sanctuary and the Parish Hall. Doorways were installed to either side of the pulpit (in the openings of the two former windows), north- and south-facing pews at the front of the sanctuary were removed, and a wainscot was installed around the area where the pews had been. The 1889 and 1923 photographs, as well as church records, indicate that in 1888, when doors to the new Parish Hall were installed, panels were placed in the upper portion of the former windows, and a matchboard wainscot was installed along the east wall. Later, perhaps in 1898, when church records document painting,[31] or more probably in 1907, when a sizable donation was made for the installation of memorial tablets,[32] window panels were removed and voids plastered over, the present wainscot installed, decorative entablatures installed over each east door, and the east wall plastered over and painted a grayish yellow. The new plaster appears to have stopped short of covering the decorative band at the top of the wall.[33] Examination of paint samples indicates that the new wainscot on either side of the pulpit was painted to match the rest of the woodwork.

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[30] Church records state that the basement of the addition was finished in wood: "Finishing the basement in wood" (Dewson, "Building of the Chapel"). Newspaper photographs from 1942 show a basement room with a wainscot and cap and plaster upper walls (Documents, Vol. IV, pp. 168-169).

[31] "The large deficit is partly due to exceptional expenses for painting the vestibule and pews of the church ..." (Report of Parish Assessors 1898-1899 [Documents, Vol. III, p. 239]).

Examination of samples indicates that the wainscot; doorway surrounds, jambs, and doors; and pews on the first story were painted a light olive gray, matching the existing color. A grayish reddish brown accent was reapplied to the jambs of the doorways between the sanctuary and vestibule, but not to pew doors. Woodwork in the vestibules was also painted with the same light olive gray.

[32] Charles Francis Adams donated two memorial tablets to the church in 1906 or 1907 (Minutes, parish annual meeting March 11, 1907 [Records, Vol. II,, p. 332]). H.M. Faxon donated the funds necessary for their installation, "on condition that the east wall of the church should be suitably rearranged to receive them" (Report of Parish Assessors 1906-1907 [Documents, Vol. III, p. 278]).

[33] Prior to the next finishing campaign, the top area was also plastered over, providing an even wall surface. This plaster can be seen overlapping the top of the southeast pier; all other junctures of wall and pier are square and even with no overlapping.

## 1892 Exterior Finishing Campaign

The treasurer's report of 1892-1893 documents the painting of all exterior woodwork and the painting and gilding of the tower clock faces.[34] Because the woodwork of the addition was painted upon completion of the structure in 1888, the execution of a painting campaign four years later is considered to have just been for the original church building.

Examination of samples indicates that most wooden elements were painted a dark gray color, similar to that used for the addition. It is not known if the belfry was painted at this time; it was painted in 1911, and finish stratigraphies do not indicate painting in 1892 as well. Roof cornices and eaves and the end walls of the tower plinth appear to have been painted dark gray.

Paint schemes for doorways and windows appear to have been selected from a dark gray green pallet. The west doors of the church were painted a dark greenish gray color (similar to the north door of the addition). Doorway surrounds and jambs appear to have been painted the same color as the doors; some samples indicate a scheme with black surrounds and jambs, with only the jamb panels the same color as the doors. The portico ceiling was painted a light brownish gray color. It is not known if sanctuary window surrounds were painted; although they do not appear to have been painted since 1828, and painting would have been needed, it is difficult to determine an 1892 paint color from the samples. Surrounds of the second-story vestibule windows appear to have been painted a dark grayish olive color. It is not known if sashes were painted at this time, if they were, their black color was maintained. Blinds were painted blackish green.

## 1911 Finishing Campaign of Belfry

Brief notes in church archives document the regilding of the dome and painting of the rest of the belfry in 1911.[35] Samples indicate that a dark gray paint was used.

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[34] "A careful examination of the church building in the early spring of 1892 showed that the proper maintenance of your property required the painting of all the exterior wood-work [sic]. This was accordingly done in a most thorough manner, three coats of paint being applied.... After the erection of the staging required for painting the belfry, your assessors succeeded in inducing the municipal authorities, at the expense of the city, to repaint the faces and regild the hands and dial figures of the city clock located in the church tower, which had not previously been done since 1869, a period of twenty-three years. This has greatly improved the appearance of the church...." (Treasurer's Report, 1892-1893 [Documents, Vol. III, p. 147]).

[35] "Staging for dome etc. ... Repairs to woodwork of belfry... Coppering dome... Gilding dome... Painting belfry..." (Statement of receipts and expenditures to Dec. 26, 1911 [Documents, Vol. IV, p. 12]; and minutes, parish meeting January 22, 1912 [Records, Vol. II, p. 367]).

## 1923 Finishing Campaign

### Exterior Elements

In 1925, Quincy celebrated its tercentennial, and the church was renovated for this event. Church records provide no documentation of exterior finishing at this time. However, the fact that the exterior of the church had not been painted since 1892 (and the belfry in 1911), would suggest a somewhat shabby appearance in 1923, and not one appropriate for an important city celebration. Extensive efforts were made to improve the interior appearance of the church specifically for the celebration, and it is difficult to imagine that equal attention was not given to the exterior. The number of finish layers between specifically dated finish layers in the samples confirms that an exterior finishing campaign occurred at this time.

Samples from the belfry, roof cornices and eaves, and end walls of the tower plinth show two layers of paint, either of which could be the 1923 finish. The first layer is a light gray (perhaps containing sand on the end walls), and the second layer is a dark gray.

A blackish green color appears to have been used for the north porch. Doorway surrounds and doors were painted black or blackish green. The portico ceiling appears to have been painted gray. Window surrounds appear to have been painted either a blackish green color or a dark bluish green color (and perhaps these really are just two different shades of the same color). Blinds were also a blackish green. It is not known if window sashes were painted at this time, if they were, their black color was maintained.

### Interior Elements

Documentation for the interior 1923 renovation is found in a folder marked "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (interior)."[36] In addition, a 1946 letter to the Ways and Means Committee from a church member contains a brief reference to the 1923 interior work.[37]

The dark colors and decorative work of 1859 were covered over with a finish scheme thought to emulate Colonial or Federal interiors (a common practice during the Colonial Revival period). Sanctuary walls were covered with a yellowish white paint,[38] thickened with a fine sand, and brush applied.[39] The sand provided a texture which was enhanced by brush marks remaining from the

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[36] Folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)."

[37] "Approximately twenty-two years ago, the interior of the Church Edifice and parish hall...were renovated for the Tercentenary Celebration of Quincy." (letter from Ways and Means Committee Chairman William C. Edwards April 1, 1946 [Documents, Vol. IV, p. 193]).

[38] Examination of the paint in cross section and in situ shows a dark cream color. It is quite possible that this is darker than the original color due to the darkening of the oil component of the paint.

[39] There appears to have been smaller amounts of sand added to the paint in areas of lesser visibility (e.g., the upper walls of the Parish Hall).

application. A record from 1923 documents the "painting and texturing" of the walls.[40] The ceilings were painted the same color as the walls. Woodwork was painted a similar color or perhaps one a little lighter. Stained wood was refinished with shellac and polished with pumice.[41]

Vestibule walls and ceiling appear to have been painted a yellowish white, matching those of the sanctuary but without the sand texture. Woodwork matched that of the sanctuary; stair risers were painted gray. The closets were not included in this painting campaign.

In the addition, the Parish Hall and interior of the north porch received the same cream-colored sanded paint as the sanctuary walls. The minister's study may have been painted tan or a yellowish gray color, the service kitchen may or may not have been painted, and the Ladies' Parlor appears to have been painted a pinkish gray color. Woodwork in the Ladies' Parlor may have been painted white at this time. The kitchen and social hall appear to have been painted a brownish pink (the reference: "Washing woodwork and walls Dining Room" may refer to the social hall). Woodwork that had been varnished was re-varnished. A record of expenses (for work in the toilets and perhaps other work as well) lists the purchase of varnish, shellac, turpentine, alcohol, and Muresco.[42]

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[40] "...370 hours Washing and retinting ceiling, painting and texturing walls..." (bill from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring, December 20, 1923).

"We herewith submit the following estimates for work... Auditorium: ...Wash off the water color on ceiling, repair cracks Wash and repair walls and paint two coats of lead and oil.... Vestibule: Wash off, repair cracks and [sic] retint ceiling, paint walls and woodwork two coats of oil color...." [letter from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring to Assessors of Unitarian Church, May 14, 1923 (folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 [Interior]").

[41] The proposal for finishing woodwork is more detailed than the bill: "Wash, sandpaper, putty and paint two coats all woodwork, including ends of pew, which are also to be numbered. Refinish stained wood on fronts and backs of pews and give thin coat of shellac."

"Refinish all mahogany and other hardwood and rub down with pumice to a dull gloss." [letter from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring, May 14, 1923).

[42] "...Washing and painting ceiling in Study; Retinting ceiling...texturing walls, varnishing woodwork Ladies' Sewing Room; Washing woodwork and walls Dining Room; Washing and retinting ceiling, painting walls Kitchen..." (bill from Pennell, Bibbs & Quiring, December 20, 1923).

"1 Gal of Wall Paint, 2 Gal of Varnish, 1 Gal of Shellac, 1 qt Turpentine, 1 qt Alcohol, 10 of Muresco at 12c, 1/2 Gallon of Floor Paint" (bill from Edward Farmer for Cleaning Painting and Varnishing Gents and Ladys Toilets in Basement of said Church [folder "Stone Temple Renovations 1923 (Interior)"]).

Turpentine is a solvent for varnish and alcohol is a solvent for shellac. Muresco was the trade name of a calcimine paint (consisting of whiting, or calcium carbonate, and glue). The cream-colored paint used in 1924 is not a calcimine paint; it is not known where the Muresco paint purchased was used.

## 1940s Interior Finishing Campaign

In 1942, plans were made for the "improvement and beautifying of the Crypt."[43] Work commenced the next year, but dragged on until 1967 (see "Chapter II. Building History and Evolution: General Aspects"). An examination of architectural drawings and samples indicates that three modifications were made to the vestibule and crypt area as part of this work: the original south stairway from the first-story vestibule was removed and replaced with the present stairway, the present concrete-masonry-unit wall creating the corridor adjacent to the crypt was built, and a window was created in the north and south foundation walls at either end of the corridor.[44] The doors in the doorways on either side of the crypt may also have been installed at this time. Masonry walls and woodwork were painted white or a yellowish white color.

In 1947, the church assessors reported that the interior of the church had received "very much needed reconditioning." The finishing work executed included "painting the walls, washing the woodwork and refinishing the pulpit in the Church and the receiling and the repainting of the walls in the Parish Hall."[45] Examination of samples from the sanctuary indicates that plaster walls were painted a matte yellowish gray color (with microscopically visible red and black pigment particles in the paint). Vestibule walls and ceilings, and the walls of the south closet, were painted the same color. Woodwork in the first-story vestibule was painted a yellowish gray color.

The interior of the addition was painted as well. Walls of the Parish Hall, interior of the north porch, minister's study, service kitchen, and stair hall were painted a pale orange yellow or a light yellowish brown color. The Ladies' Parlor was painted a grayish yellow; the sashes may have been painted a yellowish gray or a pale yellowish pink. The kitchen and social hall were painted a pale orange yellow color.

## 1954 Exterior Finishing Campaign

In 1954, the dome and weathervane were regilded and all exterior woodwork was painted. The contract for this work was based on a letter from the Belleau Metal Works, outlining the measures necessary "to get a good and lasting job."[46]

All loose gold on the dome and weather vane was removed, surfaces were prepared for gilding (sandpaper is mentioned), and then gilded with 23-carat gold. While mention is made of the clock faces, and a cost given for their regilding, it is not clear if this work was actually carried out.

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[43] Report of Board of Assessors, May 11, 1942 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 158).

[44] The two windows are not delineated on the 1939 drawings of the church.

[45] Assessors Report, n.d., filed May 12, 1947 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 201).

[46] Letter from Belleau Metal Works, Inc., 125 Canal Street, Salem, MA, to Robt. Faxon, April 19, 1954 (folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1954," in file box 2).

Several statements in the Belleau Metal Works letter indicate that woodwork, especially in the belfry and roof cornices and eaves, was not in good condition. Records document that prior to painting, woodwork was repaired (caulking is mentioned) and surfaces were scraped and sanded. Two coats of paint were applied; analysis indicates that a light brownish gray paint containing sand and mica was used (this is the first paint layer having a dry spongy appearance, an appearance common to post-World War II paints). End walls of the tower plinth received the same color and sand texture. The portico ceiling and porch were also painted with the same color, but the texture was flat, without sand.

Doors were painted a dark green color and jambs of the west doors were painted a light brownish gray (panels may have been painted white). Window surrounds and blinds were also painted a light brownish gray. Window sashes, if they were painted during this campaign, were painted black.

## 1960s Finishing Campaigns

### Exterior Elements

A major finishing campaign was carried out over several years in the 1960s. It is assumed that this was the last major campaign executed as there are no records of later work. However, due to minor painting campaigns, the colors of this period may not be those visible today. Examination of samples indicates that the entire church was repainted at least once following the 1954 campaign and it is probable that general exterior painting was carried out in the 1960s.

From 1963 to 1964, the belfry was entirely reconstructed; original carved and turned elements (e.g., column capitals) were saved, and all other elements were refabricated.[47] The belfry was then painted a light blue gray. The end walls of the tower plinth were painted a light gray. Cornice and eave moldings were painted gray; the west pediment and portico roof were painted a light blue gray.

There are numerous paint layers on the west doorways' doors and jambs. The present scheme, dark red doors and white jambs with light blue gray panels, may be that of the 1960s. At one time after 1923, doors were painted a dark green color and jambs were painted gray, though not necessarily simultaneously. The north door to the church basement was installed in the 1960s and was painted dark green. The north door to the addition was also painted dark green, and the south door to the basement was painted either dark red or dark green. Window surrounds were painted gray, while sashes may have been painted black. Basement windows of the church appear to have been replaced at this time; both surrounds and sashes were painted gray. Blinds were painted dark green.

[47] Folder "Stone Temple: Belfry Repairs 1963-64"; in file box 2.

## Interior Elements

From 1960 to 1961, the basement and kitchen were renovated.[48] The social hall was reconfigured (details are not provided) and walls covered with a Masonite[49] dado and chair rail of wood. The walls of the social hall today retain this dado and chair rail; the upper walls are either of plaster (dating to 1888) or covered with plasterboard. Piers are finished with plaster. Examination of samples indicates that a pastel-colored pallet was used for all subsequent finishing campaigns.[50] Work in the kitchen included the installation of two wall cabinets and the "closing in under counters with doors and shelving."[51] Woodwork was painted for the first time during this finishing campaign. The same pastel-colored pallet was used and continued in the kitchen until the application of the current bright blue paint.

On the interior of the church, all plaster and previously painted wood surfaces were painted in 1967. The agreement between the painting company and the church states: "to paint complete the main body of the First Parish Church...," and then lists the types of paint to be used for all surfaces, excluding the walls. (It is assumed that this was an erroneous omission, and that walls were also painted.) Prior to painting, all surfaces were washed. The agreement states that the ceilings were to be given one coat of flat latex paint, that all previously painted woodwork was to be painted with two coats of satin sheen enamel, and that the numerals on the pews were to be relettered. All varnished woodwork (with the exception of the pulpit) was to be given one coat of satin varnish and all unfinished wood (pews and floors) were to be given one coat of Danish oil.[52]

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[48] "Revised Ground Floor Plan," Additions and Alterations, First Parish Church at Quincy, Mass., C. Francis N. Roberts, AIA, Quincy, Mass., February 3, 1960, revised to date May 5, 1960; and "Revised Ground Floor Plan," Alterations to Class Rooms, First Parish Church at Quincy, Mass., C. Francis N. Roberts, AIA, Quincy, Mass., revised to date February 21, 1963 (folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961"; in file box 2). See Appendix C.

[49] Masonite is a trademark for fiberboard made from steam-exploded wood fiber.

[50] Colors include pastel yellow, blue, mauve, green, and the pastel orange on surfaces today.

[51] Bill from Lofgren, October 7, 1960 (folder "Stone Temple: Basement & Kitchen Renovations 1960-1961").

[52] "Agreement betw. Albert D. Howlett Co. Q. & church for painting," 1967 (folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967"; in file box 2).

Danish oil is a mixture of boiled linseed oil, turpentine, and a drying agent.

A small piece of information is given concerning the care of the pulpit: "Under no circumstance allow the woodwork of the Pulpit to be washed and polished. A few years ago, the Pulpit was worked on with very disastrous results. Mr. Bussolini, who cares for the Mahogany furniture at the Adams National Site was called in. It took him a week to restore the finish...." (letter to Robt. M. Faxon, Chairman of Building and Grounds Committee, May 7, 1963 [folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967"]).

Sanctuary and vestibule walls were painted with a slightly textured matte gray paint containing a very small amount of sand, ceilings were painted with a matte off-white paint, and woodwork was painted with an off-white paint with a slight sheen. The south closet was painted white. The north stairway connecting the first-story vestibule and the crypt area was not included in this work. Masonry walls and woodwork in the crypt were painted white.

At the same time that the interior of the church was being painted in 1967, some finishing work was executed in the addition. The painting bill for the church includes an amount for "work in the Parish House and in the study of Dr. Gale."[53] The Parish Hall and Ladies' Parlor were painted their present reddish brown and pink colors, respectively; the woodwork of the latter was painted as well. The interior of the north porch, minister's study, and stair hall were painted the same color as the Parish Hall, and the service kitchen may have been painted white.

[53] Letter from Chairman of Church and Grounds Committee to Treasurer, to pay bills, October 3, 1967 (folder "Sanctuary Repairs 1967").

## NON-MAJOR FINISHING CAMPAIGNS

### 1830

Some painting work carried out. Organ worked on and gilded.

> "to Cash paid R & C Lane ... order, painting"
>
> "To Cash p.d T.A. Dexter - for Organ ... J Harraman - Gilding &c ..."[54]

### 1832

Door(s) painted.

> "To Cash paid John Howard bill painting door"[55]

### 1839

Organ gilded and painted.

> "That he has paid out at different times and for different purposes as follows ... For Organ ... Harraman for Gilding & Painting ..."[56]

### 1849

Painting carried out in the belfry.

> "stock and work done on the Bell and bell frame, new Wheel painting &c"[57]

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[54] Treasurer's Record Book, folio 6th, p. -- and p. 22.

[55] Documents, Vol. I, p. 194.

[56] Report presented at meeting of April 6, 1839 (Records, Vol. I, pp. 155-156).

[57] June 11, 1849 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 319).

**1850**

Windows repaired, it is not known if they were painted as well.

> "for repairing windows at the Meetinghouse"[58]

Organ pipe gilded.

> "accounts: ... Daniel H Shirley tuning & repairing the Organ ... A.M. Burrell, guilding [sic] pipe ... C. Holmes, repairing pipe"[59]

**1868**

Painting carried out, along with apparent roof and window repairs. Other painting carried out, carpet and oil cloth laid.

> "10/26 3 days work painting 10.50 ... 131 lbs paint 26.20 ... zinc & glass .62 tar paper 7 nails .80 ... 10/27 3 days labor 10.50 ... 10/28 1/2 day labor 1.75 ... cement 1.50 labor 1.00 ... lumber .75 roman cement .50"

> "To NB Furnald ... 1 doz hooks, 2 doz screws, labor ... Stock and labor painting ... Making platform ... carpet 1 1/4 yd ... 4 1/2 yds oil cloth ... fitting, tacks"[60]

**1870**

Window repairs carried out, some painting included with repairs. Front pipes of organ gilded.

> "to peter b turner for stock to window sill, paint & nails, cord for window ... work hanging window & fixing celler window ... stock & window fastens, work tightening up window"

> "big repairs to organ by Horatio Davis inc. four new stops of the best of spotted metal, tuning, repairing wind chest and bellows, gilding front pipes"[61]

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[58] June 16, 1850 (Documents, Vol. I, p. 322).

[59] Minutes, parish annual meeting March 11, 1850 (Records, Vol. I, p. 226).

[60] Documents, Vol. II, p. 201.

[61] Documents, Vol. II, p. 201.

**1875**

Shutters may have been painted.

> "By Cash paid ... WH Wason taking off and repairing Blinds of the church"[62]

The parish was authorized to install a new curtain and carpets, paint the woodwork, and restore the "walk" and ceiling of the sanctuary. It is not known if this work was carried out.

> "That the Parish Authorise the putting up of a new Curtain, New Carpets, the repainting of the woodwork, and restoration of the Walk and ceiling of the Church, provided the same can be done without expense to the Parish."[63]

**1880**

White lead and oil purchased in conjunction with apparent roof repairs.

> "30 lbs Nailes ... 9 lbs White Lead & Oil ... 10 lbs Tar paper ... 42 ft lumber ... 500 ft select Pine Matched"[64]

Painting materials purchased.

> "2 gal Finish ... 65 lbs Lead ... Yellow Red ... Black Japan ... 1 1/2 Gal Oil 1 1/2 gal Spts ... 7 lb Bronze Paint ... 14 1/2 days"[65]

**1881**

Roofing paint purchased.

> "5 gal roofing paint, 15 lbs cement, labor"[66]

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[62] Minutes, parish annual meeting March 8, 1885 (Records, Vol. II, p. 81).

[63] Records, Vol. II, pp. 81-82.

[64] Documents, Vol. II, p. 323.

[65] Documents, Vol. II, p. 335.

[66] Documents, Vol. II, p. 337.

Paint purchased.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| "July 15 | 1/2 day | 1.25 |
| | 10 lbs paint | 1.50 |
| | 2 qts oil | .42 |
| Sept 20 | 1/4 day | .63 |
| Oct 2 | 1/2 day | 1.25 |
| | 20 lbs paint | 3.00 |
| | 2 qts oil | .42"[67] |

Ceiling in south side of upper vestibule repaired and painted. Exterior doors painted.

> "... That portion of the roof on the south side ... the vestibule, had decayed so that in every rain, the water came through, The plastering in part of the gallery vestibule had already fallen down.... At an expense of about $275- the roof was put in perfect order the plastering, and paint renewed, and the outside doors repainted."[68]

Repairs to pulpit and pews.

> "Dec. 3 to repairs on Pulpit & pews 1.25"[69]

## 1882

Window blinds removed, washed, and oiled. Mention of a window shade. Woodwork on steps painted.

> "DJ Roche carpenter and builder Feb 1882 Window Shade 3.00"

> "Feb 15, 1882 GW Starbuck for taking down blinds on church 1.00"

> "rec'd payment June 7 1882 to Chas. Watson & A.P. Bordman for washing windows and oiling blinds, and painting woodwork on steps total 13.50"

> "June 10 1882 WL Faxon [---]ing roof labor 1.50, Paint stock for sides of sleeper 1.00, paid labor washing blinds etc as per enclosed bill"

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[67] Voucher to Amrett Merrill, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 16).

[68] Documents, Vol. II, p. 346.

[69] Edw'd A. Spear, December 10, 1881 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 20).

"Whitney Nash 1882

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| June 2 | 1 1/2 galls oil | 1.05 |
| June 5 | 1 Qt dr | .18 |
| " | 1 pr? L. Black | .06 |
| " | 1 pr? Lache or Sache Tacks? | .06 |
| Dec 28 | 1 " d | .10"[70] |

**1898**

Vestibule and pews painted.

> "The large deficit is partly due to exceptional expenses for painting the vestibule and pews of the church, cleaning and repairing the pew carpets and cushions, recovering the swinging doors, and other renovations of the church. These special expenses aggregated $386.30. The organ repairs also called for $102.60 additional."[71]

**1900/1901**

Exterior woodwork of church painted; expenses for work are classified as "miscellaneous." Extensive repairs to belfry.

> "Miscellaneous expenses include the cost of painting the exterior wood-work of the church and also the expense of extensive necessary repairs to the belfry."[72]

**1933**

East cornice of church "reconditioned."

> "The Board authorized the necessary expenditure to recondition the cornice in the rear of the church ..."[73]

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[70] Documents, Vol. III, pp. 24-25, 37-38, and 53.

[71] Report of Parish Assessors 1898-1899 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 239).

[72] Report of Parish Assessors 1900-1901 (Documents, Vol. III, p. 246); and March 11, 1901 (Records, Vol. II, p. 286).

[73] Board of Assessors Report 1933 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 74).

**1935**

Clock face reported to be in need of painting, dome gilding may have been in poor condition.

> "... The dial of the church clock which has caused so much comment from outside sources should be repainted, and there is always before us the condition of the gilding on the dome."[74]

**1939**

Dome regilded, painting carried out, plaster in balcony repaired.

> "During the summer, the $1800 borrowed from the A.U.A. was expended as follows:-
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | regilding the dome | $1251 |
> | painting | 154 |
> | repairing plaster in balcony | 25"[75] |

**1959**

Plastering and painting work carried out.

> "To make repairs to plastering and painting, to build new sign $131.60"[76]

---

[74] Board of Assessors Report, ca. 1935 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 87).

[75] Board of Assessors Report, May 8, 1939 (Documents, Vol. IV, p. 111).

[76] Bill from Eric A. Ekblom Builder Quincy, Oct. 27, 1959 (folder "Stone Temple, Misc. Repairs and purchases"; in file box 2).

**1961**

Cabinets built in Sunday school rooms.

"32 ft 3/4 4x8 Fir Panel Int. AD (Used for cabinets in sunday school rooms"

"96 ft 3/4-4x8 Fir Panel Int. AD
56 " 1x12 #2 Com. Idaho Pine
80 " li. 1x2
14 " 1 1/2 bed mo.
15 " 2x3 Const. & Btr. Fir
5# 8d Finnish Nails
5# 6d "
5# 16d "
used for same as above"[77]

**1971**

Window in upper vestibule repaired and painted.

"Repairing window in upper stair hall; Lead cover sill and paint two coats"[78]

[77] Bills from Quincy Lumber Co., January 24 and 31, 1961 (folder "Stone Temple, Misc. Repairs and purchases").

[78] Bill from Lofgren, January 13, 1971 (folder "Stone Temple, Misc. Repairs and purchases").

# REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE STRATIGRAPHIES

## Belfry, Roof Cornice, North End Wall of Tower Plinth

| Date | Belfry<br>acan. leaf<br><br>P010 | Cornice<br>W pediment<br><br>P031 | N end wall<br>top molding<br><br>P021 | N end wall<br><br><br>P025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>lt olv gray<br>5Y 6/1 | wood<br><br>lt olv gray | wood<br><br>lt olv gray<br><br>white<br>w/sand | wood<br><br>lt olv gray |
| 1843/<br>1849 | lt brn gray<br>w/sand?<br>10YR 5/1 | lt brn gray<br>w/sand | lt brn gray | lt brn gray |
| 1859 | <br><br>lt olv gray<br>5Y 6/1<br><br>lt gry yllw brown<br>10YR 6/2 | <br><br>lt olv gray<br>5Y 5/1 | gray<br>N 6.5/<br><br>lt olv gray<br>w/sand? | gray<br>N 4.5/ |
| 1892<br><br>1911 | dk gray<br>N 2.5/ | dk gray | dk gray | dk gray |
| 1923?<br><br>1923? | lt gray<br>N 6.5/<br><br>dk gray<br>N 2.5/ | lt gray<br><br>dk gray | lt gray<br><br>dk gray | lt gray<br>w/sand?<br><br>dk gray |
| | off white<br>cream | | | |
| 1954 | lt brn gray<br>10YR 6/1 | lt brn gray<br>w/sand? | lt brn gray<br>w/sand | lt brn gray<br>w/sand |
| | cream | gray | gray | white |
| 1964 | lt blue gray | lt blue gray | lt gray | lt gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

| | |
|---|---|
| N 2.5/: | dark gray |
| N 4.5/: | gray |
| N 6.5/: | gray |
| 10YR 5/1: | light brownish gray (1828) |
| 10YR 6/1: | light brownish gray (1954) |
| 10YR 6/2: | light grayish yellowish brown |
| 5Y 5/1: | light olive gray |
| 5Y 6/1: | light olive gray |

Note: Paint layers color matched to the Munsell Color System were re-notated using the Munsell notation and the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) dictionary of color names. Paint layers not considered significant (primers, not-related to a major finishing campaign, and those post-dating the 1960s) were given identifying color names but not NBS names.

**West Portico**

| Date | Ceiling<br><br>P041 | D-2<br>jamb rails,<br>stiles<br><br>P052 | D-2<br>jamb panels<br><br>P057 | D-2<br>door<br><br>P062 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood | wood | wood | wood |
| | lt yllw brown<br>7.5YR 7/4 | lt olv gray<br>5Y 6/1 | yllw gray<br>2.5Y 7/2 | gray<br>N 4.5/ |
| 1843?<br>1859? | dk gray<br>N 2.5/ | dk gray | dk gray | dk gray |
| 1892 | lt brn gray<br>5YR 6/1 | black<br>N 1.5/ | black | dk gray<br>N 2.5/ |
| 1923 | gray<br>N 6.5/ | blk green<br>7.5G 2/2 | blk green | blk green |
| 1954 | lt brn gray<br>10YR 6/1 | lt brn gray | lt brn gray | gray<br>N 6.5/ |
| | | gray<br>gray | gray<br>gray | lt gray red<br>7.5R 3/6 |
| | | gray<br>gray | gray<br>gray | dk green<br>dk green |
| 1964 | white<br>lt blue gray | white<br>white | lt blue gray | md red brn<br>md red brn |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| N 1.5/: | black | 2.5Y 7/2: | yellowish gray |
| N 2.5/: | dark gray | 5Y 6/1: | light olive gray |
| N 4.5/: | gray | 7.5G 2/2: | blackish green |
| N 6.5/: | gray | | |
| 7.5R 3/6: | light grayish red | | |
| 5YR 6/1: | light brownish gray | | |
| 7.5YR 7/4: | light yellowish brown | | |
| 10YR 6/1: | light brownish gray | | |

**Sanctuary: Windows**

| Date | W-124<br>blind<br><br>P094 | W-124<br>surround<br><br>P095 | W-124<br>sill<br><br>P096 | W-124<br>sash<br><br>P097 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>dk blu grn<br>10BG 7/2<br>blk green<br>10G 2/1 | wood<br><br>white<br><br>blk green | wood<br><br>cream<br><br>blk green | wood<br><br>cream<br><br>black<br>N 1.5/ |
| 1843 | gry olv grn<br>gry olv grn<br>5GY 3/2 | | | |
| 1859 | dk gry olv<br>10Y 2/1 | | | |
| 1892 | black grn<br>7.5G 3/4 | | | black<br>N 1.5/ |
| 1923 | black grn<br>7.5G 2/2 | dk blu grn<br>2.5BG 2/4 | dk blu grn | gray<br>N 5.5/ |
| | | pale blue<br>10B 5/1 | pale blue | black<br>N 1.0/ |
| 1954 | lt brn gray<br>10YR 5/1 | lt brn gry | lt brn gray<br><br>gray<br>gray | |
| 1964 | black grn<br>black grn | gray<br>lt gray | gray | |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 1.0/: black
N 1.5/: black
N 5.5/: gray
10YR 5/1: light brownish gray
10Y 2/1: dark grayish olive
5GY 3/2: grayish olive green
7.5G 2/2: blackish green
7.5G 3/4: blackish green
10G 2/1: blackish green
2.5BG 2/4: dark bluish green
10BG 7/2: dark bluish green
10B 5/1: pale blue

**Church Basement Windows and Door**

| Date | W-001<br>surround<br><br>P066 | W-001<br>sash<br><br>P068 | D-7<br>surround<br><br>P084 | D-7<br>door<br><br>P085 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1942 | wood<br><br>cream<br>gray<br>N 4.5/<br><br>black<br>N 1.5/ | wood<br><br><br>gray<br><br><br>black | | |
| 1954? | cream<br>blk green<br>2.5G 2/2 | <br>black<br>N 2.5/ | | |
| 1954? | lt brn gray<br>10YR 6/1<br><br>gray<br><br>dk gray | black<br><br><br>gray | | |
| 1964 | <br><br><br><br>lt blue gray | <br><br><br><br>lt blue gray | wood<br><br>white<br>white<br>gray<br>lt blue gray | wood<br><br><br>white<br>dk green<br>dk green |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 1.5/: black
N 2.5/: black
N 4.5/: gray
10YR 6/1: light brownish gray
2.5G 2/2: blackish green

**Second-story Vestibule Windows, Tower Clock**

| Date | W-126 surround<br><br>P098 | W-126 sash<br><br>P101 | Clock W face background<br><br>P016 | Clock W face numeral<br><br>P017 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw gray w/sand 5Y 8/1 | wood<br><br>cream<br>black<br>N 1.5/ | granite | granite |
| 1843/ 1844 | | | dk gray? | gray<br><br>black<br>N 1.5/ |
| 1859 | | gray | | white |
| 1892 | cream<br>dk gry olive<br>5Y 2/1 | black<br>N 1.5/ | gray<br>N 6.5/ | mod orng yellow<br>10YR 8/10<br>(resin?) |
| 1923 | blk green<br>2.5BG 2/2 | | strng yllw pink<br>10R 7/8 | |
| 1954 | gray<br><br>lt brn gray<br>10YR 5/1 | black | black<br>N 2.5/<br><br>black | |
| 1964 | gray | | black | gold leaf |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 1.5/: black
N 2.5/: black
N 6.5/: gray
10R 7/8: strong yellowish pink
10YR 5/1: light brownish gray
10YR 8/10: moderate orange yellow
5Y 8/1: yellowish gray
5Y 2/1: dark grayish olive

**Addition: Roof Moldings and North Porch**

| Date | Roof<br>eave mldg<br><br>P102 | Porch<br>post<br><br>P141 | Porch<br>rafter<br><br>P134 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | wood<br><br>cream<br>dk gray<br>N 2.5/ | wood<br><br>cream<br>dk gry olv<br>5Y 2/1 | wood<br><br><br>resin |
| 1923?<br><br>1923? | lt gray<br>N 6.5/<br><br>dk gray<br>N 2.5/ | blk green<br>2.5G 2/2 | |
| 1954 | lt brn gry<br>w/sand<br>10YR 6/1 | brown gray<br>brown gray<br>10YR 4/1 | brown gray<br>brown gray |
| 1964 | dk gray<br>dk gray | lt blue gray<br>lt blue gray | lt blue gray<br>lt blue gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 2.5/: dark gray
10YR 4/1: brownish gray
5Y 2/1: dark grayish olive
2.5G 2/2: blackish green

**Addition: Doors**

| Date | D-5<br>surround<br><br>P111 | D-5<br>door<br><br>P112 | D-6<br>surround<br><br>P144 | D-6<br>door<br><br>P147 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | wood<br><br>white<br><br>dk gry olive<br>5Y 2/1 | | wood<br><br>cream<br>gray<br>dk gry olive<br>5Y 2/1 | wood<br><br>cream<br><br>black<br>N 2.5/ |
| 1923 | black<br>black<br>N 2.5/<br><br>blk green<br>2.5G 2/2 | | <br><br><br><br>blk green<br>5BG 2/1 | <br><br><br><br>blk green |
| 1954 | gray<br><br>gray<br>10YR 5/1 | | <br><br>gray<br>10YR 6/1 | <br><br>gray<br>N 5.0/ |
| 1964 | gray<br>N 4.5/<br><br>lt blue gray | wood<br><br><br>dk green<br>dk green | gray | lt gry red<br>7.5R 3/6<br><br><br>dk green<br>7.5G 2/4<br><br>lt gry red |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 2.5/: black
N 4.5/: gray
7.5R 3/6: light grayish red
10YR 5/1: light brownish gray
10YR 6/1: light brownish bray
5Y 2/1: dark grayish olive
2.5G 2/2: blackish green
7.5G 2/4: dark green
5BG 2/1: blackish green

**Addition: Windows**

| Date | W-119<br>surround<br><br>P128 | W-119<br>sash<br><br>P130 | W-010<br>screen<br><br>P119 | W-008<br>screen<br><br>P115 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | wood<br><br>white<br>gray<br><br>dk gry olive<br>5Y 2/1 | wood<br><br>black<br>N 2.0/<br><br>black<br>N 1.0/ | | |
| 1923 | <br><br><br>dk blu green<br>2.5BG 2/4 | <br><br><br>black | wood<br><br>dk green<br>dk blu green | |
| 1954 | lt brn gray<br>lt brn gray<br>10YR 5/1 | | lt brn gray | |
| 1964 | <br><br>gray | | <br><br>lt blue gray | wood<br><br>lt blue gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 1.0/: black
N 2.0/: black
10YR 5/1: light brownish gray
5Y 2/1: dark grayish olive
2.5BG 2/4: dark bluish green

**Crypt: Walls, Doors, Windows**

| Date | Crypt wall<br><br>P152 | W-018<br>surround<br><br>P164 | Door to N stair<br>door<br><br>P163 | D-7<br>door<br><br>P169 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | granite | | | |
| 1903 | | | wood<br><br>white<br>N 9.5/<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2 | |
| 1940s-<br>1960s | <br><br>white<br>N 9.5/<br><br>yllw white<br>5Y 9/1<br><br>white<br><br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white<br><br>white<br>white<br>white | wood<br><br><br><br><br>yllw white<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2<br><br>white<br><br>white<br><br>white | <br><br><br><br><br>yllw white<br>2.5Y 9/2<br><br><br><br><br><br>white<br><br>white | <br><br><br><br><br><br><br>wood<br><br>yllw white<br><br>white<br>white<br>white<br>white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 9.5/: white
10YR 8/2: yellowish gray
2.5Y 9/2: yellowish white
5Y 9/1: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: West Wall above Wainscot, East Wall above Wainscot**

| Date | W wall<br>2" above<br>wainscot<br><br>P291 | W wall<br>2' above<br>wainscot<br><br>P293 | W wall<br>top of wall<br><br>P294 | E wall<br>20" up from<br>S door<br><br>P308 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1 | plaster<br><br>size?<br>pnk gray | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray | |
| 1859 | yllw gray<br>5Y 8/2<br>gray<br>N 4.5/ | yllw gray<br>5Y 7/2 | yllw gray<br>5Y 7/1<br>gray<br>N 4.5/ | |
| 1898 | | | | plaster<br><br>size<br>gry yellow<br>5Y 7/4 |
| 1923 | yllw white<br><br>5Y 8.5/2 | yllw white<br>w/sand | yllw white<br>w/sand | yllw white<br>w/sand |
| 1947 | yllw gray<br>10YR 7/2 | yllw gray | yllw gray | yllw gray |
| 1967 | gray | gray | gray | gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 4.5/: gray
5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
10YR 7/2: yellowish gray
5Y 7/1: yellowish gray
5Y 7/2: yellowish gray
5Y 7/4: grayish yellow
5Y 8/2: yellowish gray
5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Southwest Pier in Gallery**

| Date | Top molding<br><br>P362 | Bottom block of capital<br><br>P364 | Shaft<br><br>P365 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1 | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray |
| 1859 | yllw gray<br>5Y 7/1<br>lt rd brown<br>2.5YR 5/4<br>lt olv brown<br>2.5Y 5/2<br>mod rd brown<br>2.5YR 4/4 | yllw gray<br><br><br><br>lt olv brn<br><br>mod olv brn<br>2.5Y 4/2 | yllw gray<br>5Y 8/1 |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/2 | yllw white | yllw white<br>w/sand |
| 1947 | yllw gray<br>10YR 7/2 | yllw gray | yllw gray |
| 1967 | white<br>gray | white<br>gray | white<br>gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

2.5YR 4/4: moderate reddish brown
2.5YR 5/4: light reddish brown
5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
10YR 7/2: yellowish gray
2.5Y 4/2: moderate olive brown
2.5Y 5/2: light olive brown
5Y 7/1: yellowish gray
5Y 8/1: yellowish gray
5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Domed Ceiling, Ceiling under Gallery**

| Date | Domed ceiling SE spandrel edge<br><br>P572 | Ceiling under gallery<br><br>P298 |
|---|---|---|
| 1828 | plaster<br><br>size? | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1 |
| 1959 | yllw gray<br>2.5Y 8/2 | yllw gray<br>5Y 8/1 |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/2 | yllw white<br>2.5Y 8.5/2 |
| 1967 | white | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
2.5Y 8/2: yellowish gray
2.5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white
5Y 8/1: yellowish gray
5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Wainscot, Doors to Vestibule**

| Date | Wainscot W wall<br><br>P290 | N door to vestibule jamb rail<br><br>P320 | N door to vestibule recess adj to panel<br><br>P322 | N door to vestibule door<br><br>P326 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1<br>resin? | wood<br><br>yllw white<br><br>resin? | wood<br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white |
| | white | white | white | |
| 1859 | lt olv brn<br>2.5Y 5/4 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn<br><br>brn pink<br>7.5YR 4/2 | lt olv brn |
| 1898 | lt olv gray<br>5Y 5/1 | lt olv gray | lt olv gray<br><br>gry rd brn<br>2.5YR 4/2 | lt olv gray |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | yllw white | yllw white | white<br>yllw white |
| 1967 | yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/1 | yllw white | yllw white | yllw white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

2.5YR 4/2: grayish reddish brown
7.5YR 4/2: brownish pink
2.5Y 5/4: light olive brown
5Y 5/1: light olive gray
5Y 8.5/1: yellowish white
10Y 8.5/1: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Windows**

| Date | W-123<br>surround<br><br>P333 | W-123<br>sash<br><br>P334 |
|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | wood<br><br>yllw white |
| | white | white |
| 1859 | lt olv brn<br>2.5Y 5/4 | lt olv brn |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1<br><br>yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/1 | yllw white |
| 1967 | white<br>white | white<br>white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

2.5Y 5/4: light olive brown
5Y 8.5/1: yellowish white
10Y 8.5/1: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: South Gallery Balustrade**

| Date | N side raised panel<br><br>P409 | N side recess adj to panel<br><br>P408 | N side dentils<br><br>P415 | S side<br><br>P400 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/1 | wood<br><br>yllw white | | wood<br><br>yllw white |
| | yllw white | yllw white | | |
| 1859 | lt olv brn<br>2.5Y 5/2 | lt olv brn<br><br>brn pink<br>7.5YR 4/2 | | lt olv brn |
| 1923 | white<br>yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | white<br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white | white<br>yllw white |
| 1967 | white | white | white | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

7.5YR 4/2: brownish pink
2.5Y 5/2: light olive brown
5Y 8.5/1: yellowish white
10Y 8.5/1: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Doorways to Parish Hall, Column**

| Date | N door to Parish Hall, surround<br><br>P329 | Architrave (formerly above east doorways)<br><br>P337 | Column<br><br>P335 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1898 | wood<br><br>cream<br>lt olv gray<br>5Y 6/1 | wood<br><br>lt olv gray | |
| 1923 | <br><br>yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | <br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white |
| 1967 | white | | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

5Y 6/1: light olive gray
10Y 8.5/1: yellowish white

**Sanctuary: Pews**

| Date | Pew 125<br>aisle end<br>bottom rail<br><br>P348 | Pew 125<br>aisle end<br>recess adj<br>to panel<br><br>P349 | Pew 125<br>aisle end<br>panel<br><br>P350 | Pew 106<br>center of<br>"0" numeral<br><br>P354 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/2 | wood<br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white<br><br>lt olv gray<br>5Y 5/2<br><br>black<br>N 1.0/ |
| | white | white | white | lt yllw brn<br>10YR 6/6 |
| 1859 | lt olv brn<br>2.5Y 5/4 | lt olv brn<br><br>brn pink<br>7.5YR 4/2 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn<br><br>black |
| 1898 | lt olv gray<br>5Y 5/1 | lt olv gray<br><br>gry rd brn<br>2.5YR 4/2 | lt olv gray<br><br>gry rd brn | lt olv gray<br><br>black |
| 1923 | white<br><br>yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | yllw white | yllw white | yllw white |
| 1967 | white | white<br>white | white<br>white | white<br>(black*) |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 1.0/: black
2.5YR 4/2: grayish reddish brown
7.5YR 4/2: brownish pink
10YR 6/6: light yellowish brown
2.5Y 5/4: light olive brown
5Y 5/1: light olive gray
5Y 5/2: light olive gray
5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white

*Black is the color of the present-day numerals, but it is not present in this sample.

**First-story Vestibule: Upper Walls and Ceiling**

| Date | S wall, center<br><br>P215 | N arch, W face adj to wain<br><br>P180 | N arch, W face center<br><br>P181 | Ceiling<br><br>P184 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | plaster<br><br>size?<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/1 | plaster<br><br><br><br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1 | plaster<br><br><br><br>pnk gray | plaster<br><br>size?<br><br>pnk gray |
| 1859 | lt gry brn<br>7.5YR 6/2<br><br>yllw gray<br>5Y 8/1<br><br>yllw gray<br>5Y 7/1 | yllw gray<br><br>yllw gray<br><br>mod red brn<br>2.5 YR 4/4 | yllw gray<br><br>yllw gray | brn gray<br>10YR 4/1 |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>5Y 8.5/2 | yllw white | yllw white | yllw white<br>2.5Y 8.5/2<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white |
| 1947 | yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2 | yllw gray | yllw gray | yllw gray |
| 1967 | gray | gray | gray | white<br>white<br>lt gray |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 8.5/: white
N 9.5/: white
2.5YR 4/4: moderate reddish brown
5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
7.5YR 6/2: light grayish brown
10YR 4/1: brownish gray
10YR 8/1: yellowish gray
10YR 8/2: yellowish gray
2.5Y 8/2: yellowish gray
2.5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white
5Y 7/1: yellowish gray
5Y 8/1: yellowish gray

**First-story Vestibule: Wainscot, Closet Wall, South Stairway**

| Date | Wainscot<br><br>P183 | Closet wall,<br>S end<br><br>P194 | Crypt stairway<br>balustrade<br><br>P189 | S stairway<br>stair riser<br><br>P217 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>white<br>yllw white | wood<br><br><br>yllw white | | wood<br><br>dk gray<br>N 3.5/ |
| 1859 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn | | lt olv brn<br>brn pink<br><br>gray |
| 1898 | lt olv gray | lt olv gray | | lt olv gray |
| | white | white | | |
| 1923 | yllw white | yllw white | | lt gray<br>N 7.0/ |
| 1940s | | | wood<br><br>white<br>white | |
| 1967 | white | white | white | |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

N 3.5/: dark gray
N 7.0/: light gray

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**First-story Vestibule: Doors**

| Date | D-2<br>surround<br><br>P219 | D-2<br>door panel<br><br>P224 | D-2<br>door, recess<br>adj to panel<br><br>P222 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white |
| 1859 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn | lt olv brn<br>gray |
| 1898 | | lt olv gray | lt olv gray<br>gray |
| 1923 | yllw white<br>10Y 8.5/1 | yllw white<br><br>yllw white | yllw white<br><br>yllw white |
| 1947 | <br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2 | <br>yllw gray | white<br>yllw gray |
| 1967 | white | white<br>white | white<br>white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

10YR 8/2: yellowish gray
10Y 8.5/1: yellowish white

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**First-story Vestibule: North Door to Sanctuary**

| Date | Sanct. door frame<br><br>P231 | Sanct. door door<br><br>P235 |
|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br><br>gray | wood<br><br>yllw white |
| 1859 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn |
| 1898 | lt olv gray | lt olv gray |
| 1923 | yllw white | yllw white |
| 1947 | yllw gray | yllw gray |
| 1967 | white | white |

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**First-story Vestibule: South Closet**

| Date | Wainscot<br><br>P206 | Board wall<br><br>P208 | Upper wall<br><br>P203 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>resin | wood<br><br>wax?<br>black?<br><br>pl pink | plaster<br><br><br><br><br>pl pink<br>5R 9/2 |
| 1947 | yllw gray<br>5Y 8.5/1 | yllw gray | yllw gray |
| 1967 | white | white | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

5R 9/2: pale pink
5Y 8.5/1: yellowish gray

**Second-story Vestibule: Upper Walls and Ceiling**

| Date | East wall adj to base<br><br>P264 | East wall center<br><br>P266 | Ceiling center<br><br>P271 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | plaster<br><br>dk red<br><br>pnk gray | plaster<br><br>size<br>pnk gray | plaster<br><br>size<br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/1 |
| 1859 | lt olv brown<br><br>dk tan | gray | brn gray<br>10YR 4/1<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/1 |
| 1923 | yllw white | yllw white | yllw gray<br>5Y 8/1 |
| 1947 | yllw gray | yllw gray | yllw white<br>2.5Y 8.5/2 |
| 1967 | gray | gray | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

10YR 4/1: brownish gray
10YR 8/1: yellowish gray
2.5Y 8.5/2: yellowish white
5Y 8/1: yellowish gray

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**Second-story Vestibule: Wainscot, Baseboard**

| Date | Wainscot<br><br>P256 | Baseboard<br><br>P260 |
|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white | wood<br><br>white?<br>yllw white |
| | white | white |
| 1859 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn |
| 1898 | lt olv gray | lt olv gray |
| 1923 | yllw white | yllw white |
| 1967 | white | white |

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**Second-story Vestibule: South Door to Gallery, Door to Organ**

| Date | S door<br>jamb<br>panel<br><br>P275 | S door<br>jamb<br>recess adj<br>to panel<br><br>P274 | S door<br>door<br><br>P276 | Organ door<br>door<br><br>P282 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1828 | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white | wood<br><br>yllw white<br>yllw white | |
| 1859 | lt olv brn | lt olv brn<br>brn pink | lt olv brn | |
| 1923 | white<br>yllw white | white<br>yllw white | white<br>yllw white | |
| 1967 | <br><br><br>white | <br><br><br>white | <br><br><br>white | wood<br><br>white<br>white |

Note: NBS color names not associated with Munsell color notations are considered the same as those documented in previous pages.

**Parish Hall, North Porch Interior, Minister's Study, Service Kitchen**

| Date | Parish Hall<br>upper wall<br><br>P418 | N porch int<br>upper wall<br><br>P417 | Minister's<br>study<br>upper wall<br><br>P426 | Serv kitch<br>upper wall<br><br>P431 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | plaster<br><br>size<br>cream<br>gry yellow<br>2.5Y 8/4 | plaster<br><br>size<br><br>yllw white<br>5Y 9/1 | plaster<br><br>size<br>cream?<br>mod yllw pnk<br>10R 7/4 | plaster<br><br><br><br>yllw white |
| | | | lt gry rd br<br>5YR 5/2 | |
| 1923 | <br><br>yllw white<br>w/sand<br>5Y 9/2 | <br><br>yllw white<br>w/sand | tan<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 7/2 | |
| 1947 | pl or yellow<br>10YR 8/6<br><br>lt yllw brn<br>7.5YR 7/4 | pl or yellow<br><br><br>lt yllw brn | <br><br><br>lt yllw brn<br>lt yllw brn<br>10YR 7/4 | <br><br><br>lt yllw brn<br>10YR 7/4<br><br>yllw gray<br>10YR 7/2 |
| | | white | pl green<br>lt grn gray<br>10GY 8/1 | white<br>white |
| 1967 | lt gry rd br<br>2.5YR 6/2 | lt gry rd br<br>2.5YR 5/2 | lt gry rd br<br>2.5YR 6/2 | |
| | | white | white<br>cream<br>white | |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10R 7/4: | moderate yellowish pink | 10YR 7/4: | light yellowish brown |
| 2.5YR 5/2: | light grayish reddish brown | 10YR 8/6: | pale orange yellow |
| 2.5YR 6/2: | light grayish reddish brown | 2.5Y 8/4: | grayish yellow |
| 5YR 5/2: | light grayish reddish brown | 5Y 9/2: | yellowish white |
| 7.5YR 7/4: | light yellowish brown | 10GY 8/1: | light greenish gray |
| 10YR 7/2: | yellowish gray | | |

**Ladies' Parlor, Addition Stair Hall**

| Date | L. Parlor<br>upper wall<br><br>P436 | L. Parlor<br>wainscot<br><br>P434 | W-113<br>sash<br><br>P438 | Stair hall<br>upper wall<br><br>P440 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | plaster<br><br>cream<br>lt brown<br>7.5YR 6/4 | wood<br><br>waxy matrl | wood<br><br>varnish | plaster<br><br>cream<br>gry yl brn<br>10YR 5/2 |
| 1923 | pnk gray<br>5YR 8/1 | white?<br>white? | yllw gray<br>5Y 8/2 | lt gy yl br<br>10YR 6/2 |
| 1947 | gry yellow<br>2.5Y 7/4 | | pl yllw pnk<br>5YR 8/2 | pl or yllw<br>10YR 8/6 |
| 1961/<br>1967 | lt gry rd br<br>2.5YR 5/2<br>mod yllw pnk<br>7.5R 8/4 | lt gry rd br | white<br>lt gry rd br | white<br>lt gry rd br<br>5YR 5/2 |
| | | | | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

7.5R 8/4: moderate yellowish pink
2.5YR 5/2: light grayish reddish brown
5YR 5/2: light grayish reddish brown
5YR 8/1: pinkish gray
5YR 8/2: pale yellowish pink
7.5YR 6/4: light brown
10YR 5/2: grayish yellowish brown
10YR 6/2: light grayish yellowish brown
10YR 8/6: pale orange yellow
2.5Y 7/4: grayish yellow
5Y 8/2: yellowish gray

**Social Hall: Walls**

| Date | E lower wall<br><br>P459 | E upper wall<br><br>P460 | W upper wall<br><br>P463 | Pier<br><br>P469 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | | | plaster<br><br>size<br>yllw gry<br>10YR 8/1 | plaster<br><br>size<br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2 |
| 1923 | | | yllw gry | brn pink<br>7.5YR 7/2 |
| 1947 | | | pl or yllw<br>10YR 8/4 | pl or yllw<br>10YR 8/6 |
| 1961 | fiberboard<br><br>vry pl blue<br>10B 9/2<br><br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1<br><br>stng yllw gr<br>7.5GY 7/8 | fiberboard<br><br>white<br>pl yllw pink<br><br>pl grn yllw | <br><br>white<br>pl yllw pink<br>10R 6/2<br><br>pl grn yllw<br>7.5Y 8.5/4 | lt grn gry<br>10GY 8/1<br><br>pl or yllw<br>10YR 9/4<br><br>white<br>pl yl grn<br>5GY 8/2 |
| | pl or yllw<br>7.5YR 8/4 | pl or yllw | pl or yllw | plaster<br><br>white<br>pl or yllw |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

10R 6/2: pale yellowish pink
5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
7.5YR 7/2: brownish pink
7.5YR 8/4: pale orange yellow
10YR 8/1: yellowish gray
10YR 8/2: yellowish gray
10YR 8/4: pale orange yellow
10YR 8/6: pale orange yellow
10YR 9/4: pale orange yellow
7.5Y 8.5/4: pale greenish yellow
5GY 8/2: pale yellow green
7.5GY 7/8: strong yellow green
10GY 8/1: light greenish gray
10B 9/2: very pale blue

**Social Hall, Windows**

| Date | W-005<br>surround<br><br>P465 | W-005<br>sash<br><br>P466 | W-015<br>surround<br><br>P467 | W-015<br>sash<br><br>P468 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | wood<br><br>varnish | wood<br><br>varnish | wood<br><br>varnish | wood<br><br>varnish |
| 1961 | pl yllw grn<br>5GY 8/2<br><br>pnk gray<br>5YR 7/1<br><br>pl grn yllw<br>7.5Y 9/4 | pl yllw grn<br><br>pnk gray<br><br>pl grn yllw | white<br><br>pnk gray<br><br>pl grn yllw | <br><br>pnk gray<br><br>pl grn yllw |
| | pl or yllw<br>7.5YR 8/4<br><br>white | pl or yllw<br><br>white | pl or yllw<br><br>white | pl or yllw<br><br>white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

5YR 7/1: pinkish gray
7.5YR 8/4: pale orange yellow
7.5Y 9/4: pale greenish yellow
5GY 8/2: pale yellow green

**Kitchen**

| Date | N wall<br>chair rail<br><br>P452 | S upper wall<br><br>P445 | N pantry<br>upper wall<br><br>P455 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1888 | wood<br><br>resin | plaster<br><br>size<br>yllw gray<br>10YR 8/2 | |
| 1923 | | brn pink<br>7.5 YR 7/2 | |
| 1947 | | pl or yllw<br>10YR 8/6<br><br>pl or yllw<br>10YR 8/4 | |
| 1961 | <br><br>lt grn gray<br>10GY 8/1 | <br><br>lt grn gray | plaster<br><br>lt grn gray |
| | brght blue | white | white |

Selected Munsell color notations and associated NBS color names:

7.5YR 7/2: brownish pink
10YR 8/2: yellowish gray
10YR 8/4: pale orange yellow
10YR 8/6: pale orange yellow
10GY 8/1: light greenish gray

# MUNSELL/BENJAMIN MOORE COLOR NOTATIONS AND SAMPLES FOR MAJOR FINISHING CAMPAIGNS

## Introduction

Color notations and color samples are provided for each painted element for each of the major finishing campaigns, excluding the 1960s campaign. Both Munsell and Benjamin Moore color notations and samples are included (in some cases, no Benjamin Moore match was available). While these samples give approximate colors for paints, they do not match the texture, sheen, and opacity of the former finishes.

## Colors for Major Finishing Campaigns

### 1828 Finishes

**Exterior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Belfry, cornice and eave moldings, end walls of tower plinth, doorway jambs[79] | 5Y 6/1 | 1553 |
| Portico ceiling | N 2.5/ | 1617 |
| Doorway jamb panels | 2.5Y 7/2 | HC-82 |

[79] The presence of sand (within this layer of paint) in many of the samples indicates that sand was a component of this finish.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Doors | N 4.5/ | 1595 |
| Window blinds and window surrounds (sanctuary)[80] | 10G 2/1 | 714 |
| Window surrounds (second-story vestibule)[81] | 5Y 8/1 | 973 |
| Window sashes | N 1.5/ | |

**Interior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Plaster walls, ceiling under gallery, first-story vestibule ceiling | 5YR 7/1 | 1551 |

[80] The two different paint colors for the surrounds of the sanctuary and second-story vestibule windows appears to be accurate for 1828; possibly all upper windows were painted the same color as the latter. There was a sand component of the paint used for the second-story vestibule window surrounds.

[81] See footnote 80.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Second-story vestibule ceiling[82] | 10YR 8/1 | 995 |
| Woodwork | 10Y 8.5/1 | 945 |
| Numerals on pews[83] | 5Y 5/2 | 1532 |
| Vestibule stair risers | N 3.5/ | 1616 |

**1843/1849/1859 Finishes**

**Exterior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Belfry, cornice and eave moldings, end walls of tower plinth[84] | 5Y 5/1 | HC-103 |

[82] The paint color provided is that of the first paint layer in the samples. However, due to the constant water infiltration problem and subsequent repairs in the second-story vestibule, the original paint color may in fact be that of the first-story vestibule ceiling.

[83] The numerals on the pews may have been black in 1828. The presence of two colors in the sample may be due to the re-numbering of pews or re-lettering of numerals.

[84] The presence of sand (within this layer of paint) in samples from the north end wall of the tower plinth indicates that sand was a component of this finish.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Portico ceiling,[85] doorway jambs and doors, clock face | N 2.5/ | 1617 |
| Window blinds | 10Y 2/1 | |
| Window surrounds (sanctuary)[86] | 10G 2/1 | 714 |
| Window surrounds (second-story vestibule)[87] | 5Y 8/1 | 973 |
| Window sash, clock numerals[88] | N 1.5/ | |

[85] The portico ceiling was not painted as frequently as other elements and assigning dates to paint layers in the samples was much more difficult than for other samples. The paint color provided here may or may not be that for 1843/1849/1859.

[86] The two different paint colors for the surrounds of the sanctuary and second-story vestibule windows appears to be accurate for 1843/1849/1859. It appears that the latter was not painted at this time and the color is therefore that of the first finishing campaign. Possibly none of the upper windows were painted at this time, and possibly all of these window surrounds were the same color as those of the second-story vestibule (there was a sand component of this paint).

[87] See footnote 86.

[88] It is possible that the numerals on the face may have been white in 1859.

**Interior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Plaster walls, field; ceiling under gallery | 5Y 7/1 | HC-108 |
| Plaster walls, decorative features[89] | N 4.5/ | 1595 |
| | 2.5YR 5/4 | 1161 |
| | 2.5Y 5/2 | 987 |
| | 7.5YR 6/2 | 1020 |
| Domed ceiling, field[90] | 2.5Y 8/2 | 959 |

[89] There may have been more colors used for the decorative work than were found in the samples.

[90] Due to the removal of paint for the 1923 finishing campaign, the paint color provided here may not be accurate.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First-story vestibule ceiling | 10YR 4/1 | 980 |
| Second-story vestibule ceiling[91] | 10YR 8/1 | 995 |
| Woodwork | 2.5Y 5/4 | 252 |
| Woodwork, decorative features; vestibule stair risers | 7.5YR 4/2 | 1022 |
| Numerals on pews | N 1.5/ | |

[91] The paint color provided is that presumed to be the 1859 paint layer in the samples. However, due to the constant water infiltration problem and subsequent repairs in the second-story vestibule, the 1859 paint color may in fact be that of the first-story vestibule ceiling.

## 1888/1892/1898 Finishes

**Exterior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Belfry, cornice and eave moldings, end walls of tower plinth, doors | N 2.5/ | 1617 |
| Portico ceiling[92] | 5YR 6/1 | 1468 |
| North porch, doorway and window surrounds; window surrounds (second-story vestibule)[93] | 5Y 2/1 | |
| Church doorway jambs, window sashes | N 1.5/ | |
| Window blinds | 7.5G 3/4 | 651 |

[92] The portico ceiling was not painted as frequently as other elements and assigning dates to paint layers in the samples was much more difficult than for other samples. The paint color provided here may not be that for 1888/1892/1898.

[93] The two different paint colors for the surrounds of the sanctuary and of the addition and second-story vestibule windows appears to be accurate for 1888/1892/1898; possibly all upper windows were painted the same color as the latter.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Window surrounds (sanctuary)[94] | 10G 2/1 | 714 |
| Window sashes | N 1.5/ | |
| Clock face and numerals[95] | ? | |

**Interior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Sanctuary same as 1859, with the following four exceptions: | | |
| East wall* | 5Y 7/4 | 257 |
| Woodwork | 5Y 5/1 | HC-103 |

[94] See footnote 93.

[95] Due to the infrequent finishing of the clock, determining finishes for specific dates is impossible. It appears that after the first finishing campaign, clock faces were painted black and the numerals were either painted a gold color or gilded.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Woodwork, decorative features | 2.5YR 4/2 | 1246 |
| Numerals on pews | N 1.5/ | |
| Parish Hall, plaster walls | 2.5Y 8/4 | 193 |
| North porch interior and service kitchen, plaster walls | 5Y 9/1 | 912 |
| Minister's study, plaster walls | 10R 7/4 | 053 |
| Ladies' Parlor, plaster walls | 7.5YR 6/4 | 1131 |
| Addition stair hall, plaster walls | 10YR 5/2 | 987 |
| Social hall and kitchen, plaster walls | 10YR 8/2 | 952 |

**1923 Finishes**

**Exterior Elements**

| *Element* | | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Belfry, cornice and eave moldings, end walls of tower plinth[96] | | N 6.5/ | 1461 |
| | or | N 2.5/ | 1617 |
| Portico ceiling | | N 6.5/ | 1461 |
| North porch, window blinds and surrounds, doorway jambs and doors | | 7.5G 2/2 | 686 |
| Window sashes | | N 1.5/ | |
| Clock face and numerals[97] | | ? | |

[96] There are two distinct paint layers in the samples that could date to 1923, making it impossible to determine a specific paint color for this time. Both of these paint colors are provided here.

[97] Due to the infrequent finishing of the clock, determining finishes for specific dates is impossible. It appears that after the first finishing campaign, clock faces were painted black and the numerals were either painted a gold color or gilded.

**Interior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Church, plaster walls and ceilings; Parish Hall and interior of north porch, plaster plaster | 5Y 8.5/2 | 240 |
| Church, woodwork | 10Y 8.5/1 | 945 |
| Numerals on pews[98] | ? | |
| Vestibule stair risers | N 7.0/ | 1460 |
| Minister's study, plaster walls | 10YR 7/2 | 1033 |
| Service kitchen, plaster walls | 5Y 9/1 | 912 |

[98] A 1923 paint color for the numerals could not be determined from the samples.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ladies' Parlor, plaster walls | 5YR 8/1 | 989 |
| Ladies' Parlor, sashes[99] | 5Y 8/2 | 234 |
| Addition stair hall, plaster walls | 10YR 6/2 | 998 |
| Social hall and kitchen, plaster walls | 7.5YR 7/2 | 1026 |

**1940s/1954 Finishes**

**Exterior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Belfry, cornice and eave moldings, end walls of tower plinth, portico ceiling, north porch, window blinds, doorway jambs and surrounds, window blinds and surrounds[100] | 10YR 6/1 | HC-87 |

[99] At some point, the sashes in the Ladies' Parlor were painted, covering the original varnish. It is impossible to determine when this work was carried out; it may or may not have been in 1923.

[100] Sand was added to the paints of the cornice and eaves and end walls of the tower plinth; it may have been added to the paint of the belfry, as well.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Doors | N 6.5/ | 1461 |
| Window sashes | N 1.5/ | |
| Clock face and numerals[101] | ? | |

**Interior Elements**

| *Element* | *Munsell* | *Ben. Moore* |
|---|---|---|
| Crypt walls and woodwork | 5Y 9/1 | 912 |
| Church plaster walls[102] | 10YR 7/2 | 1033 |
| Church ceilings | 5Y 8.5/2 | 240 |

[101] Due to the infrequent finishing of the clock, determining finishes for specific dates is impossible. It appears that after the first finishing campaign, clock faces were painted black and the numerals were either painted a gold color or gilded.

[102] The paint used on the walls had a matte finish.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Church woodwork | 10Y 8.5/1 | 945 |
| Numerals on pews[103] | ? | |
| Vestibule stair risers | N 7.0/ | 1460 |
| Parish Hall, interior of north porch, minister's study, and service kitchen, plaster walls | 7.5YR 7/4 | 1153 |
| Ladies' Parlor, plaster walls | 2.5Y 7/4 | 1097 |
| Ladies' Parlor, sashes | 5YR 8/2 | HC-59 |
| Addition stair hall, social hall, and kitchen; plaster walls | 10YR 8/6 | 166 |

[103] A 1940s/1954 paint color for the numerals could not be determined from the samples.

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