

ARTICLE 9D:

ARTICLE 9D: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund or borrow pursuant to G.L. c.44B, §11 or G.L. c.44 or any other enabling authority the sum of \$2,618,000.00 as a grant to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants for the restoration rehabilitation and preservation of the stone façade of the historic 1898 National Memorial Meeting House in Town Square, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an historic preservation restriction pursuant to G.L. c. 44B Section 12 and G.L. c. 184 Sections 31-33 in such property, or take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$2,618,000 (Unanimously, 12-0-0)

The Advisory & Finance Committee recommends Town Meeting approve Article 9D. Approval of this article will authorize the Community Preservation Commission to borrow \$2,618,000 to grant to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) for restoration, rehabilitation and preservation of the stone façade of the 1898 National Memorial Meeting House in Town Square and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an historic preservation restriction.

The meetinghouse requires considerable restoration both interior and exterior. Without funding this historic and architectural treasure will fall into further disrepair that may jeopardize the structure permanently.



TOWN OF PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MEMO

TO: Town Meeting, Board of Selectmen, and the Advisory & Finance Committee
From: The Community Preservation Committee
Date: Friday August 24, 2018
Re: ANNUAL SATM 2018: CPA Article 9D

ARTICLE 9D: To see if the Town will vote to raise Community Preservation receipts, transfer from Community Preservation available funds or borrow \$2,618,000.00 to grant to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants for the restoration rehabilitation and preservation of the stone façade of the 1898 National Memorial Meeting House in Town Square, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an historic preservation restriction pursuant to G.L. c. 44B Section 12 and G.L. c. 184 Sections 31-33, or take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

CPC RECOMMENDATION: Approval (unanimous)

The Community Preservation Committee voted in favor unanimously of Article 9D at its meeting held Thursday August 23, 2018.

SUMMARY & INTENT: The Community Preservation Committee is recommending 9D to Fall Town Meeting 2018 for the historical restoration of the stone façade of the 1898 National Pilgrim Memorial Meeting House located in Plymouth Town Square. After 400 hundred years, the Unitarian Universalist Church will transfer ownership of the property and the building to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD). The GSMD is a non-profit historical research society and museum founded in 1898 and has operated its international headquarters on Winslow Street in Plymouth since 1941. The agreement is as follows.

The Unitarians have already deeded the property to a Trust. Once the GSMD has raised \$3,000,000.00, the Unitarians will no long be represented on Trust and the deed will convey to the GSMD. No CPA funds would be used until the GSMD has sole control of the building. The GSMA will be responsible for all interior historical preservation and electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling and technology up grades.

The building will be available for the Town's use when requested by the Board of Selectmen free of charge based on availability. The building will be use by GSMD for displays, exhibits and meetings. The building will be available for rent to the general public for meetings, events, weddings, funerals and other services. The GSMD has agreed to establish an endowment for the future care, maintenance and capital improvements. In addition, the GSMD is required to unitize all future rental revenue from these activities for the operational costs of the Meeting House.



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CPC APPLICATION

EXTERIOR RESTORATION

NATIONAL PILGRIM MEMORIAL MEETINGHOUSE
TOWN SQUARE
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUBMITTED BY

THYE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS
4 WINSLOW ST
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

ADDENDUM NO. 1
JUNE 2018





June 15, 2017

Mr. Bill Keohan, CPC Chair
26 Court Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

RE: CPC Application Addendum
Exterior Restoration Project
National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse

Dear Mr. Keohan,

Please accept this addendum to our CPC grant application submitted this past August of 2017 by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD). This addendum letter addresses four topics. They are:

Price modifications since 2017
National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Trust Information Update
Master Plan Information for Meetinghouse Usage
Fundraising Progress through June 2018

While the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' request remains essentially the same, the application is updated in two ways. First, given the time since the last submission, updated construction cost estimates are included to reflect current conditions. Second, GSMD wants to clarify its request to include both phases of work. While the nature of the work logically breaks down into two phases, it has become necessary to emphasize the importance of doing all the work within the next year. Due to the precarious state of the Meetinghouse, coupled with recent storms, GSMD is requesting funding to complete the entire exterior restoration as outlined in this application as soon as possible.

Attached to this addendum are price modifications since the 2017 application was submitted. The National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Trust has now been formed and is meeting regularly on the permanent plans for this sacred place where freedom of religion and the beginnings of American democracy were formed. Members of the Trust include four congregants from the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church and four members of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

As agreed to by both organizations in the Trust, once \$3,000,000 is raised for the Meetinghouse by GSMD, members of First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church will

donate the Meetinghouse to The Mayflower Society and resign from the Trust. The only continuing interest it will have is to continue to hold spiritual services there.

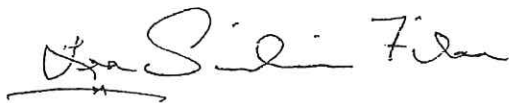
While money is being raised for the Meetinghouse to repurpose it for community events, as a tourist destination in Plymouth for visitors, and an interdenominational spiritual center, efforts have also begun toward an endowment to maintain and operate the Meetinghouse permanently. Once the structure is historically restored, work will begin on a Master Plan that is currently being completed. It includes a meeting place for town residents, an exhibit space for display of Town of Plymouth rare documents, a fully operational broadcast studio, catering kitchen, and a sanctuary that will introduce the Mayflower Pilgrim story in an interactive way to visitors and locals. The Meetinghouse will be outfitted with the latest 'unseen technology' for those wishing to use it comfortably as a venue for weddings, meetings, concerts, services, and the like.

Fundraising is ongoing with pledges received from all member Mayflower societies in the U.S., Canada, and Europe, two grants currently under review, a corporate request submitted, and bequest letters designating the Meetinghouse as the recipient. The CPC grant request is key to all of the above. It is estimated it will take through the end of 2020 for GSMD to raise the necessary funds to accept the donation of the Meetinghouse from First Parish. If the CPC members and those who vote at town meeting can offer support and help save this sacred structure in dire need of repair, GSMD pledges to make it a jewel in the crown of Plymouth and responsibly preserve and restore it permanently. In fact, even if the donation were not to occur, monies in the Trust have been designated to go toward the preservation and restoration of the Meetinghouse.

Thank you very much for your consideration of the earlier request and this modification. It is imperative that the work be done quickly on this national treasure, in the center of the town of Plymouth, if we are to save the structure. We hope that those reviewing this proposal are enthusiastic about the future of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is enthusiastic about raising the necessary funds to preserve and restore it permanently for the enjoyment of the town of Plymouth's citizens, the Mayflower Society, and the general public.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Lea Sinclair Filson, President
National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse
fjgfilson@themayflowersociety.org

CPC APPLICATION
EXTERIOR RESTORATION INCLUDING
PHASES 1 & 2

ADDENDUM NO. 1
JUNE 2018
UPDATED CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES

This addendum firstly combines Phases 1 & 2 into a single grant request. While the nature of the work logically divides into two segments, this application request is for a single funding award. Secondly, the costs outlined in the original application have been updated to reflect construction cost escalation and the impact of continued deterioration in great part attributable to recent storm damage. The revised totals are:

Phase 1	\$1,490,828
Phase 2	\$1,127,844
Total request	\$2,618,672



PHASE I: Tower, Façade, North & South Elevations (Narthex)

	Description -- Scope of Work	Quantity	Units	Cost/Unit	Cost
Division 01 - General					
General Requirements	Staging		ls		\$75,000
Division 04 - Masonry					
Deep repointing	East façade - right & left sections	824	sf	50	\$41,200
	South façade, narthex section	486	sf	50	\$24,300
	North façade, narthex section	486	sf	50	\$24,300
	Tower- north elevation	1142	sf	50	\$57,100
	Tower- south elevation	1136	sf	50	\$56,800
	Tower - west elevation	564	sf	50	\$28,200
	Tower - east elevation	2072	sf	50	\$103,600
	Allowance for stone repair and masonry cleaning				\$110,000
Division 04 - Masonry Subtotal					\$445,500
Division 07 - Thermal & Moisture Protection					
	Tower roof & gutter replacement		ls		\$50,000
	Repair to tower finial		ls		\$8,000
	Replace copper flashing at east gable copings		ls		\$30,000
Division 07 Subtotal					\$88,000
Division 08 Doors & Windows					
	Reinstall stained glass window, tower façade: "John Robinson Blessing the Pilgrims on Their Departure from Delftshaven"		ls		\$2,000
	Repairs to façade entry doors -- sliding door mechanism. Allowance		ls		\$10,000
Division 08 Subtotal					\$12,000
Division 09 - Exterior Painting					
	Prep & paint tower louvers	32	lvr	1000	\$32,000
	Repair and paint windows	16	wnd	250	\$4,000
Division 09 Subtotal					\$36,000
Division 09 - Interior Finishes	Restoration of water damaged areas easterly end of the nave				
	Staging		ls		\$15,000
	Plaster restoration		ls		\$15,000
	Decorative painting restoration				\$15,000
Division 09 Subtotal					\$45,000

Architects Opinion of Cost

First Parish Plymouth
Plymouth, MA

General Conditions:	12% of Repair Cost & General Requirements				\$84,180
Construction total:					\$785,680
2 year Escalation	10%				\$78,568
Continued Deterioration	15%				\$117,852
Subtotal 1:					\$982,100
Overhead & Profit:	10% of Subtotal 1				\$98,210
Subtotal 2:					\$1,080,310
Soft Costs (architectural/ engineering fees, expenses)	15% of Subtotal 2				\$162,047
Subtotal 3:					\$1,242,357
Contingency	20% of Subtotal 3				\$248,471
	Total All				\$1,490,828

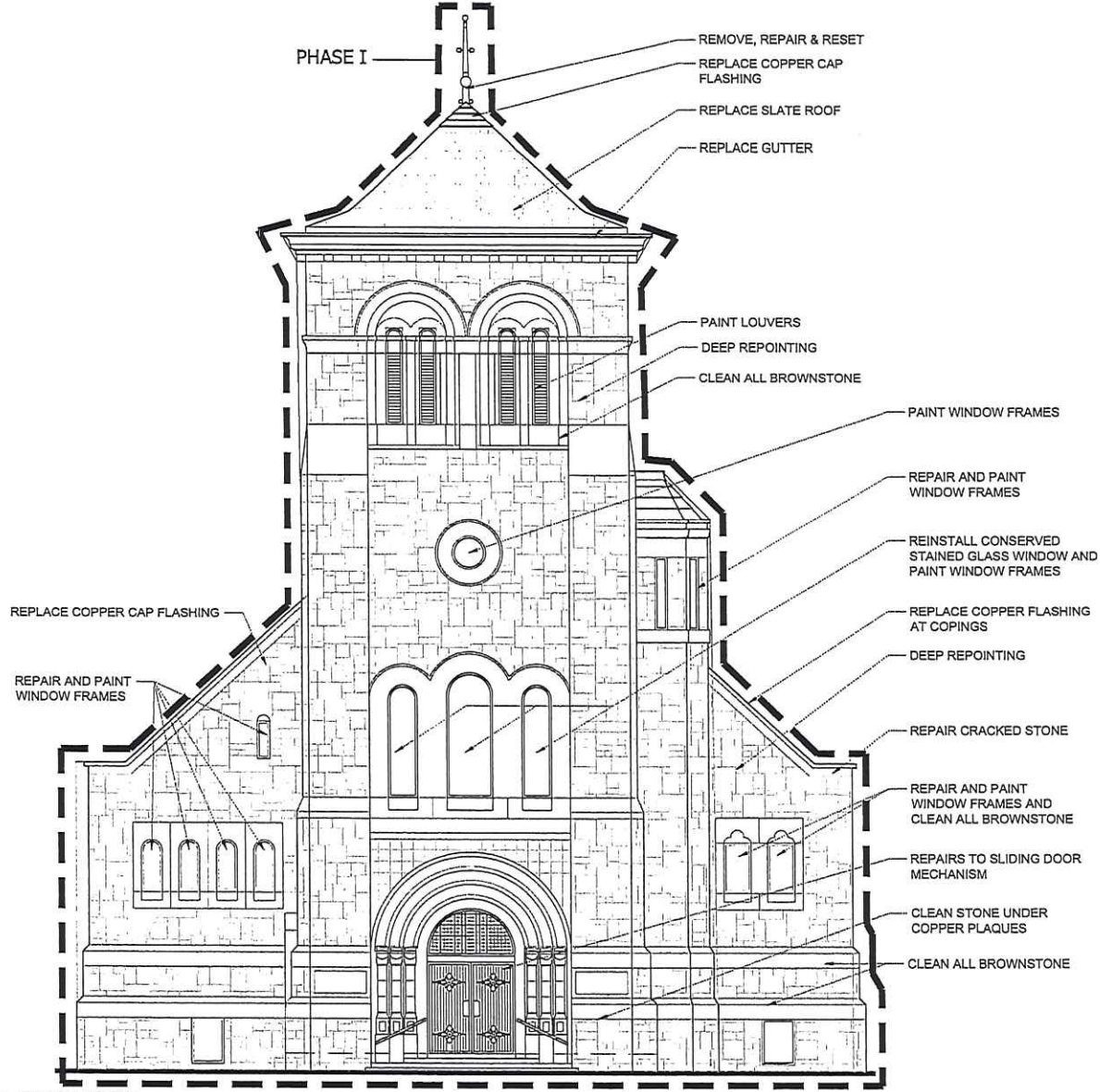
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PHASE II: North & South Elevations - Nave, West Elevation inc. Chimney

	Description -- Scope of Work	Quantity	Units	Cost/Unit	Cost
Division 01 - General					
General Requirements	Staging		ls		\$50,000
Division 04 - Masonry					
Deep Repointing	South façade, nave	1848	sf	50	\$92,400
	South façade, areaway		ls		\$20,000
	North façade, nave	1681	sf	50	\$84,050
	West façade	2285	sf	50	\$114,250
	Allowance for Chimney inspection and flue repairs				\$20,000
	Allowance for masonry cleaning				\$50,000
Division 04 - Masonry Subtotal					\$380,700
Division 07 - Thermal & Moisture Protection					
	Replace north & south gutters, nave				\$100,000
Division 07 Subtotal					\$100,000
General Conditions:	12% of Repair Cost & General Requirements				\$63,684
Construction Total:					\$594,384
2 year Escalation	10% of construction total				\$59,438
Continued Deterioration	15%				\$89,158
Subtotal 1					\$742,980
Overhead & Profit:	10% of Subtotal 1				\$74,298
Subtotal 2:					\$817,278
Soft Cost (architectural/ engineering fees, expenses)	15% of Subtotal 2				\$122,592
Subtotal 3:					\$939,870
Contingency	20% of Subtotal 3				\$187,974
	Total All				\$1,127,844

39

40



KEY

☐ PHASE 1 REPOINTING SCOPE

☐ PHASE 2 REPOINTING SCOPE

1 EAST ELEVATION - EXISTING
3/24/2014 11:00 AM

SPENCER & VOGT GROUP architecture preservation 1 Townsend Square, Suite 500 Boston, MA 02109 617.227.2825 www.spencervogt.com	
FIRST PARISH CHURCH 19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA	RECOMMENDED REPAIRS/WORKS
A200	

PHASE I PHASE II

REMOVE, REPAIR & RESET
REPLACE COPPER CAP
FLASHING
REPLACE SLATE ROOF
REPLACE GUTTER

PAINT LOUVERS
DEEP REPOINTING
REPAIR FLASHING (ANTICIPATE
SLATE ROOF AND FLASHING
REPLACEMENT C.2025)

REPAIR AND PAINT
WINDOW FRAMES

REPLACE COPPER FLASHING
CLEAN ALL BROWNSTONE
REPLACE GUTTER
REPLACE ALL MISSING COPPER DOWNSPOUTS

1 NORTH ELEVATION - EXISTING
Scale 1/4" = 1' 0" @ 21 X 36 PRINT

KEY

☐ PHASE 1
REPOINTING SCOPE

☐ PHASE 2
REPOINTING SCOPE

SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation

Foot

Concomitant

ISSUE / REVISIONS:

1

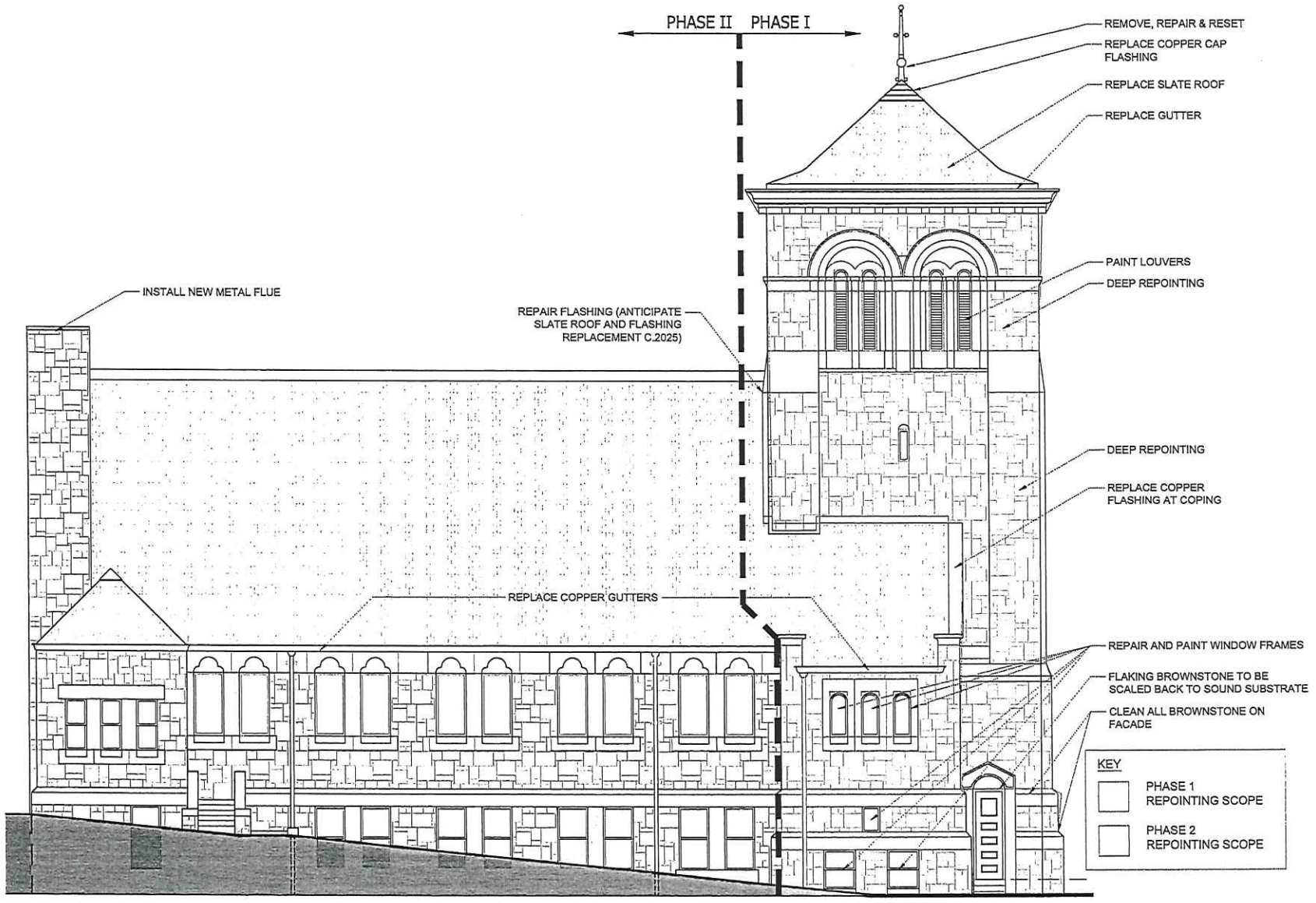
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Drawn by: _____
Checked by: _____
Project Number: _____

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS/WORKS

A201

26



1 SOUTH ELEVATION - EXISTING
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" @ 1/4" = 36" PRINT

Architect:
SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation
1 Thorpey St., Ste. 500
Cotuit, MA 01920
508.227.2825
www.spencervogt.com

Date:

Drawn by:

Checked by:

Project Number:

ISSUE / REVISIONS:

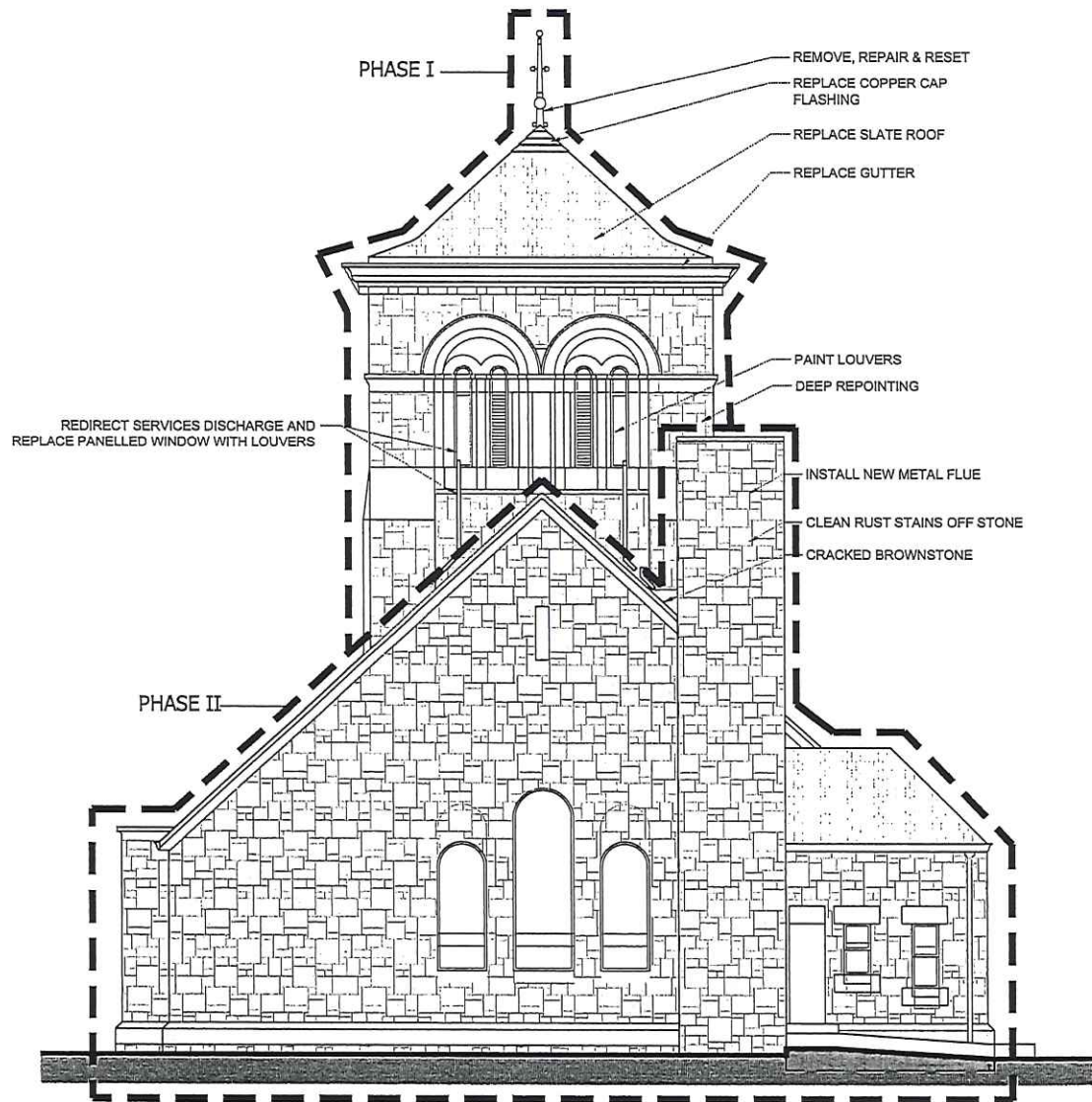
DATE	BY	XX	15/08

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS/WORKS

A202

43



KEY

PHASE 1
REPOINTING SCOPE

PHASE 2
REPOINTING SCOPE

1 WEST ELEVATION - EXISTING
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" @ 11.5 X 17.0 PRINT

SPENCER & VOGT GROUP architecture preservation 1 Tremont - Suite 410 04 Cambridge, MA 02149 617.227.2975 www.spencervogt.com	
FIRST PARISH CHURCH 19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA	RECOMMENDED REPAIRS/WORKS
A203	

49



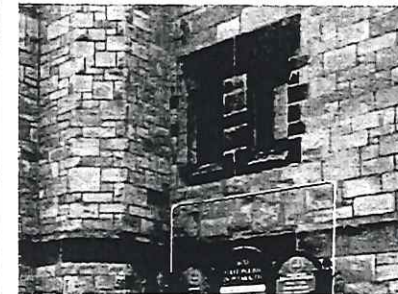
Tower east elevation. Cracked capping stone on east wall of both north and south wings.



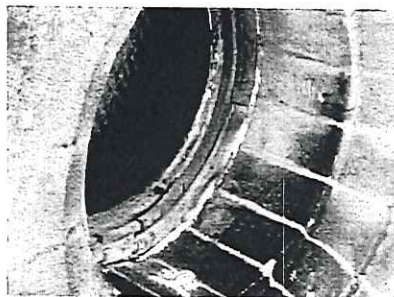
Brownstone cleaning under copper plaques.



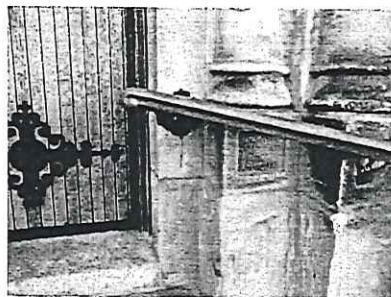
Brownstone cleaning required.



Brownstone cleaning required.



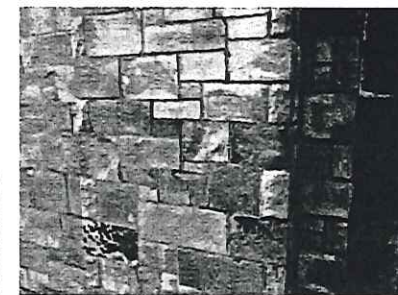
Worn window frame.



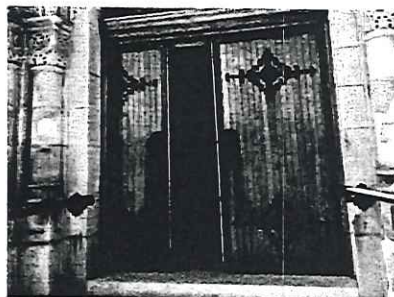
Worn and cracked brownstone at main entrance doors.



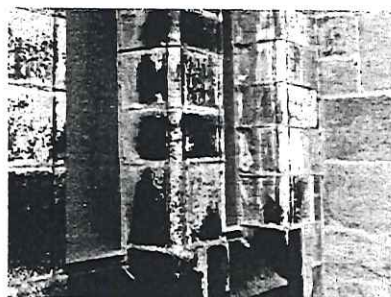
Worn brownstone around south facing entrance door.



Missing mortar in stonework



Repairs to main doors sliding mechanism.



Worn brownstone at windows on south wing



Close-up view of delaminated / flaking brownstone above south facing entrance door



Missing mortar in stonework

Architect
SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation
1 Thorp St., 8th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02139
Tel: 617-452-2700
Fax: 617-452-2701

Scale

Signature

DATE / REVISIONS

Date:
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FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA

PHOTO INVENTORY - EAST ELEVATION

A205

415



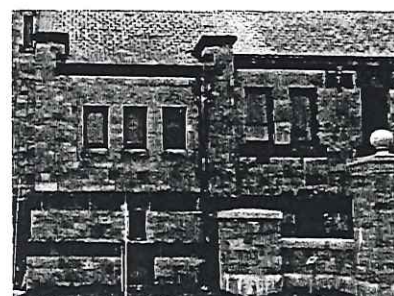
View of tower north elevation.



Evidence of slate roof tiles slipping.



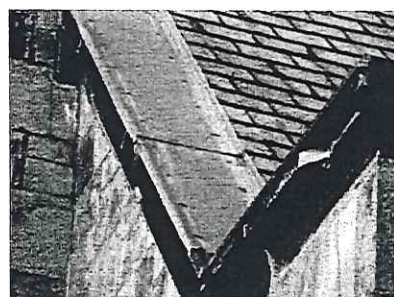
Worn slate roof tiles



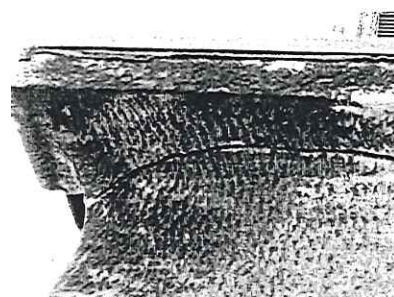
Remove moss and vine growth on north walls



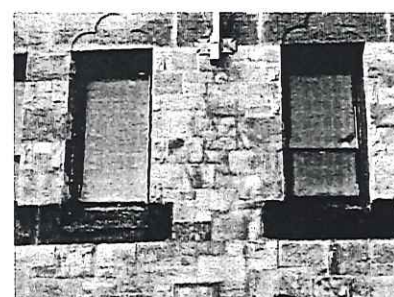
Bell tower stairs window.



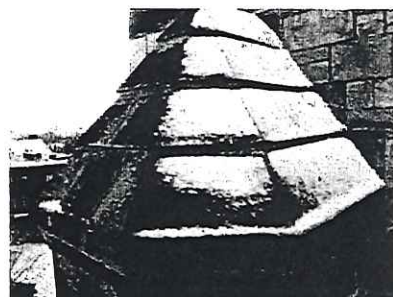
Cracked and missing brownstone coping



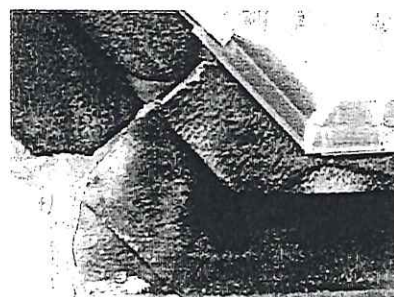
Crack continues round the corner to the north elevation



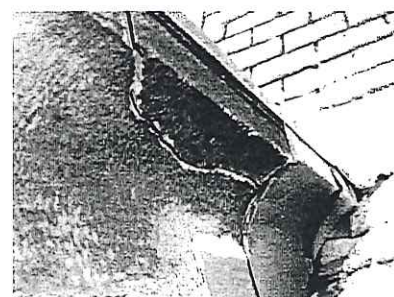
Missing portions of copper downspouts



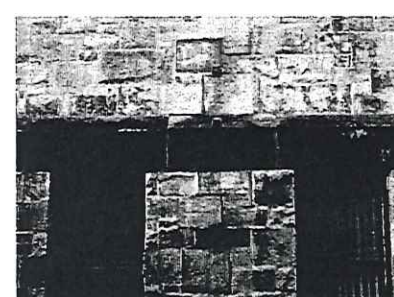
Brownstone roof over bell tower stairs.



Missing mortar.



Cracked stone



Missing mortar in north wall

Architect:
SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation
1 Thompson Square, Suite 204
Cambridge, MA 02142
617.227.2575
www.spvogt.com

Scale:
Contributor:
ISSUE / REVISIONS:

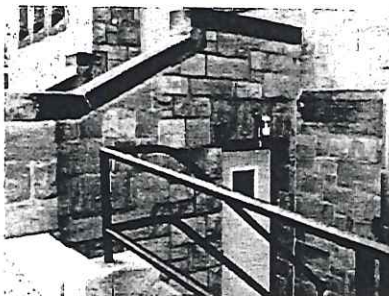
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Project Number:
FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA
PHOTO INVENTORY - NORTH ELEVATION

A206

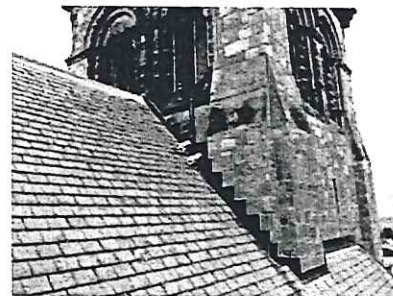
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View of tower south elevation



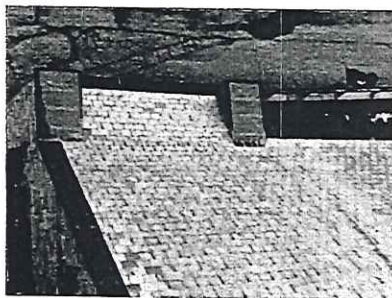
View of stair to ground and lower ground level



View of tower southeast elevation



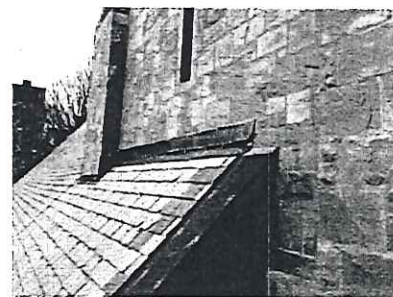
Cracked stone and cracked mortar



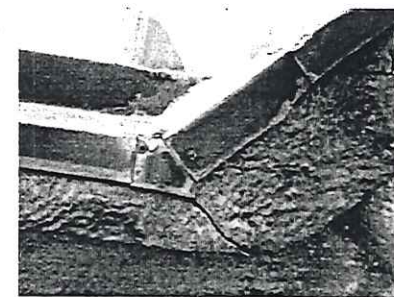
Roof at southeast



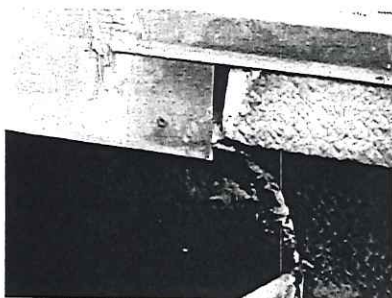
Missing mortar at stairs



Roof flashing between main roof and tower base



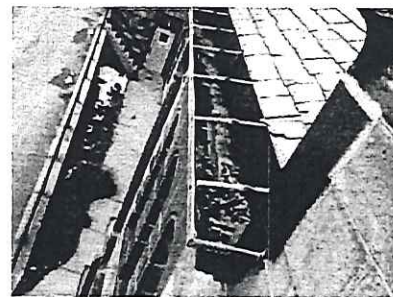
Close up of cracked stone base



Incomplete flashing



Missing mortar at stairs



Gutter to be cleared out



Worn roof

Project:
SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation
1 Thorpe St., Ste. 200
Boston, MA 02109
617.227.2675
www.spvgroup.com

Scale

Comments

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Checked by:
Project Number:

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA

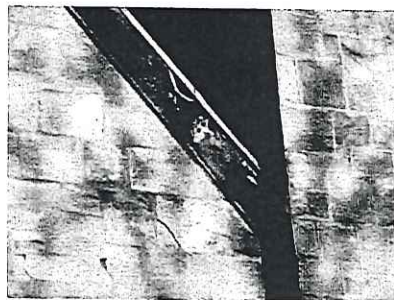
PHOTO INVENTORY - SOUTH ELEVATION

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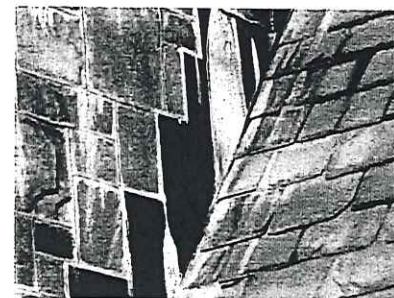
Viewed from higher elevation.



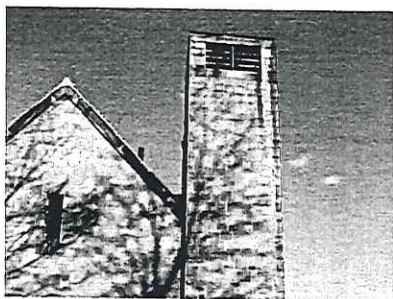
Cracked stone on end gable wall



Top of flue.



Efflorescence at base portion where flue meets roof.



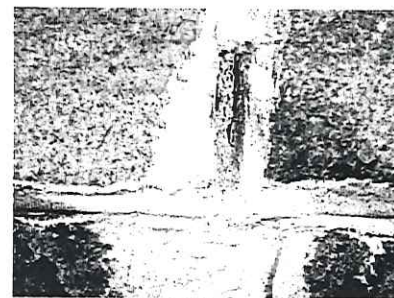
Efflorescence indicates signs of water penetration through wall.



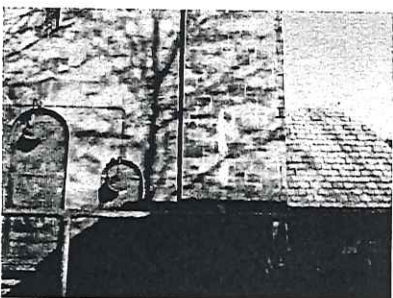
view of roof over southwest staircase.



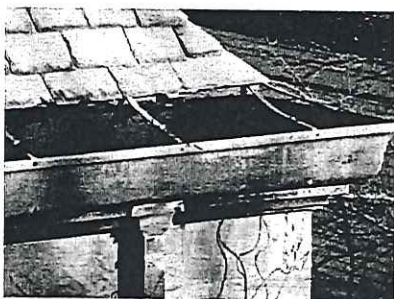
Uncovered top of flue stack



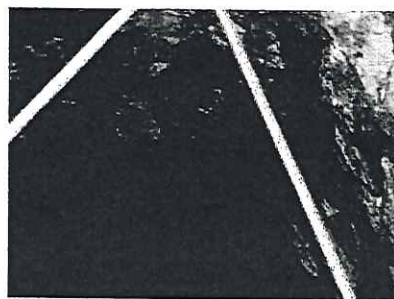
Close up of salt deposits.



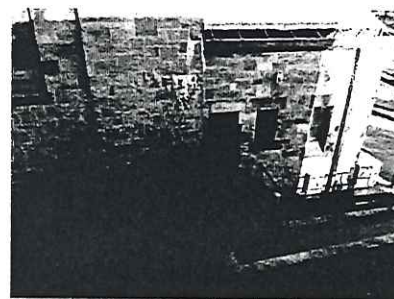
Efflorescence concentration on flue.



Worn slate roof tiles.



Close up of the inner rusted surfaces of flue opening



View of entrance to southwest staircase.

Architect:
SPENCER & VOGT GROUP
architecture preservation
1 Thayer St., 8th Fl., 02109
Cambridge, MA 02109
617.227.2025
www.spencervogt.com

Scale:
Consultant:
ISSUE / REVISIONS:

Drawn by:
Checked by:
Project Number:

FIRST PARISH CHURCH
19 Town Square, Plymouth, MA
PHOTO INVENTORY - WEST ELEVATION

A208



THERESE MURRAY
PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MA 02133-1053

STATE HOUSE OFFICE
ROOM 332
TEL. (617) 722-1500
FAX (617) 248-3840

DISTRICT OFFICE
TEN CORDAGE PARK CIRCLE
ROOM 229
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360
TEL. (508) 746-9332

THERESE.MURRAY@MASENATE.GOV
WWW.MASENATE.GOV

December 16, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in strong support of the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for restoration.

First Parish has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620, and can trace its roots directly to the Pilgrims. The current First Parish, constructed in 1899, is the fifth structure built on the site where the Pilgrims first established their congregation. It is a significant structure because of its history and the role it plays in the lives of Plymouth residents.

Built with donations from across the United States, First Parish was dedicated as the National Pilgrim Memorial Church. It houses exquisite stained glass windows crafted by Tiffany Studios depicting the Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Delftshaven, Holland; the Landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth; the Signers of the Mayflower Compact; and civil and religious liberty. Most of the stained glass windows are in serious need of restoration, conservation and preservation.

The structure itself is built of Quincy granite and Ohio sandstone. More than one hundred years of weather, traffic and wear and tear have degraded the exterior of the building. Most evident to the naked eye is the breakdown of the mortar supporting the granite blocks. Water has found its way into the sanctuary and the bell tower housing the Town Bell.

For nearly 400 years, First Parish has been a fixture in the community – hosting community wide cultural events like the Hat Trick Theater, Persephone's Daughters, books clubs and services for the homeless – and the national community - the Native American National Day of Mourning, and the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of Mayflower descendants, among others.

Moreover, for Plymouth residents, First Parish is a focal point and a highly visible architectural element in Town Square, fronting Burial Hill, the historic resting place of



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

SENATOR VINNY DEMACEDO

Plymouth and Barnstable District

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 313C

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Ranking Member

SENATE WAYS AND MEANS

DISTRICT OFFICE

SUITE 229

10 CORDAGE PARK CIRCLE

PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

TEL. (508) 747-6500

May 12, 2017

Plymouth Community Preservation Committee
c/o Town of Plymouth
11 Lincoln Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

To Whom It May Concern,

I write in support of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in their efforts to secure Community Preservation Act funding for the restoration of the 1899 First Parish Meetinghouse building. The building holds great value to the Plymouth community as both a historical monument and architectural specimen.

The current First Parish Meetinghouse, constructed in 1899, is the fifth building on its current site to serve as the home of a historical congregation dating back to our country's first settlers in 1648. In recognition of its historical significance, the Meetinghouse features beautiful stenciling and stained glass to tell the Pilgrims' story and display their values. The building is also of architectural import as a shining example of the arts and crafts architectural style. These unique characteristics combine with the Meetinghouse's historical significance make it a fitting monument to the birthplace of religious freedom in America.

To adequately preserve this historic and architectural treasure, the Meetinghouse has been recognized on the National Register of Historic Places. In order to ensure that future generations have the opportunity to visit this unique location, I ask that you look favorably on the application by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Thank you for your consideration and should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Senator Vinny M deMacedo

Plymouth & Barnstable District



May 11, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I write again in strong support of the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for restoration.

Since the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620, First Parish has been a presence in Plymouth. Today, the current First Parish, constructed in 1899, is the fifth structure built upon the site where the Pilgrims established their first congregation. As a spiritual and historical center for our community, First Parish is not only a significant part of our nation's story, it is woven into the fiber of Plymouth.

Built from donations from across the United States, First parish was dedicated as the National Pilgrim Memorial Church. Among it's architectural treasures, First Parish houses glass windows crafted by Tiffany Studios depicting the Embarkation of the Pilgrims fro Delftshaven, Holland; the Landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth; the Signers of the Mayflower Compact; and civil and religious liberty. While these are true American treasures, most of the stained glass windows are in serious need of restoration, conservation and preservation.

The structure itself, made of Qunicy Granite and Ohio sandstone, has endured nearly 120 years of weather, traffic, and pollution. These factors have seriously degraded the exterior of the structure, most visibly in the breakdown of the mortar supporting the granite blocks. Water has also found it way into the sanctuary as well as the bell tower housing the Town Bell.

Within these walls, where the pilgrims found sanctuary, our community has also found a place to gather and mark national events. Community-wide events like the Hat Trick Theater, Persephone's Daughters, and book clubs are a fixture at First Parish. The church also provides services for our homeless, and is the home for national observances such as the Native American National Day of Mourning, and the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of Mayflower descendants.

As we close in on the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim's landing, it is more evident now than ever before that the First Parish Church is an important part of our story not just here in Plymouth, but for our nation. It's presence at the base of Burial Hill, the historic resting place of the Pilgrims, and its importance in our community in the present day stand as a reminder of the power of hope, community, faith and determination for the future.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

MATHEW J. MURATORE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
1ST PLYMOUTH DISTRICT

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 39
TEL. (617) 722-2014
Mathew.Muratore@MAhouse.gov

Committees:
Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development
Health Care Financing
State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

April 27, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in strong support of the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for restoration.

First Parish has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620, and can trace its roots directly to the Pilgrims. The current First Parish, constructed in 1899, is the fifth structure built on the site where the Pilgrims first established their congregation. It is a significant structure because of its history and the role it plays in the lives of Plymouth residents.

Built with donations from across the United States, First Parish was dedicated as the National Pilgrim Memorial Church. It houses exquisite stained glass windows crated by Tiffany Studios depicting the Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Delftshaven, Holland; the Landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth; the Signers of the Mayflower Compact; and civil and religious liberty.

The structure itself is built of Quincy granite and Ohio sandstone. More than one hundred years of weather, traffic, and wear and tear have degraded the exterior of the building. Most evident to the naked eye is the breakdown of the mortar supporting the granite blocks. Water has found its way into the sanctuary and the bell tower housing the Town Bell. The Campaign for First Parish needs to raise money to restore the facade because the mortar has been compromised and has allowed moisture to permeate the interior walls. Once the facade is restored, the newly restored windows can be re-installed.

For nearly 400 years, First Parish has been a fixture in the community- hosting community wide cultural events like the Hat Trick Theater, Persephone's Daughters, book clubs, and services for the homeless- and the national community- the Native American National Day of Mourning, and the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of Mayflower descendants, among others.

Moreover, for Plymouth residents, First Parish is a focal point and a highly visible architectural element of Town Square, fronting Burial Hill, the historic resting place of the Pilgrims. Housed in the Parish's bell tower is the Town Bell, crafted from the bronze bell made by Paul Revere.

It is critical that the repairs and restoration work be performed on First Parish. Without the funding to make that happen, First Parish will fall into further disrepair and the history and heritage of Plymouth will be at stake.

I hope you will consider supporting the Campaign for First Parish Church with a generous donation to its restoration Project.

Sincerely,

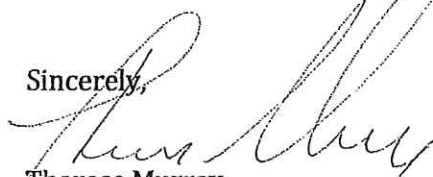
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mathew J. Muratore', written in a cursive style.

Mathew J. Muratore
State Representative
1st Plymouth District

Without the funding for the critical repairs and restoration work necessary at First Parish, a critical part of our community and our nations history will crumble.

I know that you understand the historical and cultural significance of Plymouth's First parish Church, and will consider supporting the Campaign for First Parish Church with a generous donation to its restoration project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Therese Murray', written in dark ink.

Therese Murray
Former President
Massachusetts Senate



PLYMOUTH 400™

1620-2020

An American Story - A National Legacy

134 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 | 508-812-2020 | www.plymouth400inc.org

March 3, 2016

To whom it may concern:

The board of Plymouth 400, Inc., the 501(c)3 corporation charged with implementing, planning and managing the forthcoming Plymouth 400th anniversary in 2020, is pleased to endorse First Parish Church's application for fundraising.

First Church has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620. The current First Church building is the 5th structure on this site associated with the *Mayflower* congregation and was built with donations from all across America. It embodies the spirit in which we today honor the Pilgrims as (in the words of historian Samuel Eliot Morison) "*the spiritual ancestors of all Americans.*"

First Church is also a focal point for the town of Plymouth. It is a highly visible architectural element in Town Square and a gateway to Burial Hill. Its renovation is an important element in the town's preparation for the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Pilgrims.

First Church is in need of considerable restoration. An exterior structural survey showed the urgent need to repaint the badly degraded mortar on the façade, in particular on the east (front) elevation and tower. With these necessary studies completed and with an engaged and passionate fundraising group in place, First Church is well prepared for this project.

It is important that the work on First Church begin soon so that this beautiful and significant structure can stand renewed and revitalized when national and international attention is focused on Plymouth in 2020.

We strongly recommend this project for your support and thank you for your consideration of First Church's application.

Regard,

Kenneth Tavares, President
Plymouth 400, Inc.

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First Parish Restoration Committee
Campaign for the Restoration of
First Parish Meetinghouse
19 Town Square
Plymouth, MA 02360

11 February 2016

Sirs:

I am pleased to write in support of the restoration campaign for the First Parish 1899 Meetinghouse.

First Parish has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620. It can trace its lineage directly back to the Pilgrims who gathered in 1606 in Scrooby Manor in England and transferred in 1609 in Leiden, The Netherlands, before arriving in America on the *Mayflower*.

The current Meetinghouse, as the fifth structure on this site associated with the *Mayflower* congregation, is a strong symbol of the enduring faith that drove the Pilgrims on their perilous adventure. The building is more than just a Plymouth church. It was built with donations from all across America in honor of the Pilgrims. As such, it is an architectural embodiment of the spirit in which Plymoutheans today honor the Pilgrims, as (in the words of historian Samuel Eliot Morison) "the spiritual ancestors of all Americans."

First Church is a focal point for the town. It is a highly visible architectural element in Plymouth's Town Square, fronting Burial Hill (the resting spot for both Pilgrims and later generations of Plymoutheans). Its renovation is an important element in the town's preparation for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Pilgrims. It is essential that this complex renovation process move forward expeditiously so that the church can stand renewed and strong and revitalized, as a symbol of the Pilgrims and of their significance to later generations, when international attention is focused on Plymouth in 2020.

Sincerely,



Peggy M. Baker
Director Emerita, Pilgrim Society & Pilgrim Hall Museum
231 Sandwich Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

United American Indians of New England
284 Amory Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
info@uaine.org

November 9, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of United American Indians of New England to state our support for the efforts of the First Parish UU Church of Plymouth to secure funding for restoration of their church.

While we imagine that many people are writing to you to point out the historic presence of the church dating back to the arrival of the Mayflower in 1620, we wanted you also to know that the church has served an important role for our organization.

During inclement weather, First Parish of Plymouth has housed several indoor rallies for National Day of Mourning, an annual event since 1970 that draws up to 1,000 people or more and where Indigenous people speak out about our history as well as our current conditions. The church has also provided the sanctuary as a space for a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday celebration that we held in January some years ago.

Moreover, the church in recent years has graciously welcomed us to use their social hall and kitchen facilities so that we could feed hundreds of the people who come to Plymouth every year to attend National Day of Mourning, and the church initially did so at a time when none of the other houses of worship in Plymouth would welcome us. We also understand that they feed homeless people at the church social hall.


By doing all of this, we believe that First Parish has truly demonstrated the church's role as a community focal point in Plymouth, not just for Mayflower descendants, but for Indigenous peoples and our supporters, and for many other people as well.

I am most decidedly not a descendant of the Pilgrims, but I must add that the First Parish Church of Plymouth is beautiful. I love the solidity of its granite and sandstone, the heavy wooden front doors, the beautiful woodwork throughout, and especially the amazing Tiffany stained glass work in the church, which includes what I think is a rarity: an image of a Native American.

It is our understanding that substantial amounts of repair and restoration work need to be undertaken at First Parish of Plymouth. Without the funding to make that happen, First Parish will fall into further disrepair and an irreplaceable edifice and community resource for many different people will be jeopardized.

We respectfully ask that you support the Campaign for First Parish Church with a generous donation to its restoration project.

Sincerely,


Mahtowin Munro
Co-leader, UAINE

CARLONE & ASSOCIATES
Architecture Urban & Town Design Implementation
222 Third Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142
Voice 617/494.9559 Facsimile 617/621.1477
E-mail dcarlone@CarloneAssociates.com
Web Site www.CarloneAssociates.com

November 11, 2011

RE: Letter of Support for First Parish Church Historic Restoration

Sirs:

As the principal architect/town designer and author of the *Plymouth Public Space Action Plan*, I write to strongly endorse the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for historic restoration. I do this for two reasons, both equally important.

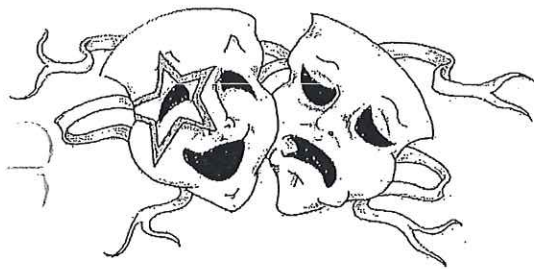
The first is the significance of the building and what it represents in the history of Plymouth, New England and the country as a whole. The second is the communal/economic health and public image of downtown Plymouth and the church's historic setting at Town Square. Both are in need of immediate care and ripe with opportunity that will better present a more appropriate public presence worthy of all - residents and visitors alike.

Built with donations from across the United States, First Parish was dedicated as the National Pilgrim Memorial Church. It houses exquisite stained glass windows crafted by Tiffany Studios depicting the Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Delftshaven, Holland, the Landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth, the Signers of the Mayflower Compact, and civil and religious liberty. Most of the stained glass windows are in serious need of restoration, conservation and preservation.

My preservation experience has taught me that stained glass windows require professional maintenance every 50-75 years. The Tiffany windows are a national treasure that must not be lost.

More than one hundred years of weather, the environment, traffic and wear and tear have degraded the exterior of the building. Most evident to the naked eye is the breakdown of the mortar supporting the granite blocks. Water has found its way into the sanctuary and the bell tower housing the Town Bell.

For nearly 400 years, First Parish has been a fixture in the community - hosting community wide cultural events like the Hat Trick Theater, Persephone's Daughters, books clubs and services for the homeless - and the national community - the Native American National Day of Mourning, and the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of Mayflower descendants, among others.



Starcreations Theater, Inc.

PO BOX 975

Manomet, MA 02345

508-747-1234

www.starcreations.org

Chairman
Glenda LeBel

Clerk
Linda Arena

Treasurer
Marie Treichel

Executive Director
Terri-Lee Zinsius

Theatrical Director
Lisa Zinsius Supka

Board of Directors
Julie Bernard
Heather Lane
Steven LeBel
Jole Lehtonen
Tom McDonald
Linda McDonnell
Linda Rohr

November 9, 2011

Greetings:

I write to strongly endorse the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for restoration. Starcreations Theater has been giving performances at Kendall Hall, the lower level of the Church for over 4 years. Without this space, it would limit our ability to display the talents of our actors, ages 4 to adult, to the residents of Plymouth and surrounding towns.

First Parish has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620, and can trace its roots directly to the Pilgrims whose courageous struggle for religious freedom led them to seek a new life in a new land - America.

The current First Parish, constructed in 1899, is the fifth structure built on the site where the Pilgrims first established their congregation. It is a significant structure because of its history and the role it plays in the lives of Plymouth residents.

Built with donations from across the United States, First Parish was dedicated as the National Pilgrim Memorial Church. It houses exquisite stained glass windows crafted by Tiffany Studios depicting the Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Delftshaven, Holland, the Landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth, the Signers of the Mayflower Compact, and civil and religious liberty. Most of the stained glass windows are in serious need of restoration, conservation and preservation.

The structure itself is built of Quincy granite and Ohio sandstone. More than one hundred years of weather, the environment, traffic and wear and tear have degraded the exterior of the building. Most evident to the naked eye is the breakdown of the mortar supporting the granite blocks. Water has found its way into the sanctuary and the bell tower housing the Town Bell.

Hat Trick Theatre of Plymouth

November 1, 2011

Sirs:

I write to strongly endorse the First Parish Church of Plymouth in their efforts to secure funding for restoration.

First Parish has had a presence in Plymouth since 1620, and can trace its roots directly to the Pilgrims whose courageous struggle for religious freedom led them to seek a new life in a new land – America.

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For nearly 400 years, First Parish has been a fixture in the community – hosting community wide cultural events like the Hat Trick Theater, Persephone's Daughters, books clubs and services for the homeless – and the national community - the Native American National Day of Mourning, and the Triennial Meeting of the General Society of Mayflower descendants, among others.

Moreover, for Plymouth residents, First Parish is a focal point and a highly visible architectural element in Town Square, fronting Burial Hill, the historic resting place of the Pilgrims. Housed in the Parish's bell tower is the Town Bell. The current Town Bell was crafted from the bronze bell made by Paul Revere. For centuries the Town Bell has kept time for Plymouth residents, chiming morning, noon and night.

It is critical that the repairs and restoration work be performed on First Parish. Without the funding to make that happen, First Parish will fall into further disrepair and the history and heritage of Plymouth will be at stake.

I hope you will consider supporting the Campaign for First Parish Church with a generous donation to its restoration project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sally Wright-Hull

Artistic Director, Hat Trick Theatre of Plymouth

Sally Wright-Hull
(774) 454-3575
hatttri98@aol.com

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**IMPORTANT COMMENTS ON THE SITE FROM THE BEGINNING OF
THE 20th CENTURY**

Rev. John Cuckson, author, The First Church in Plymouth, 1606 - 1901 Preface:
The church is approaching the tercentenary of its birth.

"That event will be interesting not only to the parish itself, but to the outside world, for the story of heroic adventure, fortitude and endurance of this church as the permanent memorial, does not belong to one age, or to one country. It has become the treasured heritage of all congregations founded upon freedom and self-government"

The Honorable Arthur Lord, President of the Pilgrim Society, and Chairman of the Parish Committee at the laying of the cornerstone on Monday, June 29th, 1896:

"On this hill-side, rich in memories, associations and history, we meet today, to lay the corner stone of the First Church in Plymouth, and the first church America. Behind us, rises the hill, where rest in peace the dead of by-gone generations; before us stretches, the first street of the Pilgrims, once bordered by their simple dwellings, once echoing to the tread of their weary feet; and beyond, lies the sea, now sparkling in the sunlight of June, but whose dark waters in that stormy December reflects the white sail of the Mayflower. All around us is historic ground. It witnessed the humble beginnings of a great people. It was the cradle of a mighty nation; the rude yet tender home of civil and religious liberty, which, elsewhere, seemed but a scholar's idle dream ...

"The inestimable privilege of such environments comes not alone. By its side, there ever stands the graver forms of duty and responsibility, and sometimes in their silent train, there comes in a lifetime of a generation, the great opportunity not bidden perchance, but ever welcomed. Another generation, three quarters of a century ago, entered upon the work of commemorating the great events of Pilgrim History, of marking and adorning the localities peculiarly interesting to every American of collecting and preserving each memento of the Pilgrims, which the hand of time has spared. Monument and statue, hall and rock, attest their labours.

"To this generation, came the duty and the opportunity to erect upon the ruins of the old church, a memorial, simple yet enduring, to the religious life of its founders, the last and best of the great memorials to the Pilgrims at Plymouth ...

"O] such a memorial, more appropriate, interesting, and suggestive than any other, we lay the corner stone. Long may it stand ... to impress upon the minds and hearts of the generations yet unborn, the lesson of the lives and labours and faith, of its Pilgrim founders; ... under whose benign influence the sea lost its terrors, the wilderness its fears, and sickness and death could not their souls dismay. "