

# First Congregational Church Nantucket

## Building Chronology

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Record Number	Building	Year	Month	Day	Description	Provenance	Identification	Author	Page	Architect/Consultant	Structural Engineer	Contractor	Administrator	Dollars Spent	Notes
16	1834 Church	1968	9	5	33 foot steeple (spire) set on newly rebuilt tower, placed by helicopter.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007			Ames & Graves		Howard Jellome			Photo Nantucket Historical Association, 9/5/68, photographer unknown.
102	1834 Church	1968	9	6	33 foot steeple (spire) set on newly rebuilt tower, placed by helicopter.	Newspaper	Standard Times			Ames & Graves	John Hearst	Howard Jellome			Photo and text
103	1834 Church	1968	9	12	33 foot steeple (spire) set on newly rebuilt tower, placed by helicopter.	Newspaper	Inquirer and Mirror			Ames & Graves	John Hearst	Howard Jellome			Many photos and text
91	1834 Church	1969	5	9	L. Perry wrote to Ames & Graves, detailing observations and costs for painting decoration on ceiling.	FCC	Letter			Ames & Graves		Howard Jellome			Cites physical evidence, photos, Unitarian Church
18	1834 Church	1970			Major restoration. redecoration of interior with tromp l'oeil, and original ceiling reproduced. HABS photos of 1966 and 1970 tend to confirm this action. (1966 shows "before", 1970 shows "after")	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007			W. Philip Graves		Howard Jellome			Artist Walter Sampson. Nantucket Historical Trust assisted along with others. (Phone conversation with Howard Jellome 9/11/2008. He related that the ceiling was plaster and was boarded over and taped, then painted.
67	1834 Church	1970	1	21	Major restoration. Letter from Wittemore Associates Boston concerning delivery of 6 lighting fixtures.	FCC	Letter								
54	1834 Church	1970	4	13	Major restoration. Letter to Phillips Graves, Boston, concerning the delay in work. Punch List attached	FCC	Letter			W. Philip Graves					38 exterior and interior items on punch list.

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61	1834 Church	1970	4	14	Major restoration. Letter to Phillips Graves, Boston, concerning additional items. Punch List attached	FCC	Letter			W. Philip Graves					12 exterior and interior items on punch list.
53	1834 Church	1970	5	12	Major restoration. Letter to Phillips Graves, East Pepperell, MA, concerning the delay in work. Punch List attached	FCC	Letter			W. Philip Graves				68	38 exterior and interior items on punch list.
109	1834 Church	1970	7		Description of rededication week activities - excerpts	Newspaper	Standard Times								“When Mr. Bennett arrived in 1935 he found he had a pretty church...x A study of its records and pictures of the original structure revealed it once boasted a tall steeple... In the records he also found descriptions of the original interior
108	1834 Church	1970	7	16	Description of rededication week activities	Newspaper	Inquirer and Mirror								“ As the man chiefly responsible for the restoration program at the church, the Rev. Fred Bennett, commented briefly on his part in the work. Having become deeply immersed in the history of a Congregational Church
36	1834 Church	1971			Written conditions report developed	FCC	Report								
22	1834 Church	1982			Tower renovated, 94 stairs reinforced for public climb	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								

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42	1834 Church	1984			West wall and east wall of Vestry reshingled - \$15,000.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007							15,000	
33	1834 Church	1985			Clapboards on south side	FCC	Minutes								
24	1834 Church	1987			North Church Preservation Fund initiated	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								
25	1834 Church	1988			Tower and steeple renovated, partially as a result of storms.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								Tower lighted since 1986 by memorial donations
26	1834 Church	1988			Capital Drive for preservation, restoration, and repairs. begin Endowment Fund etc.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								
48	1834 Church	1988			Capital Drive for preservation, restoration, and repairs. begin Endowment Fund etc.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								Letter July 1988 from Helen Wilson Sherman. and Rev. Thomas M. Richard - \$800,000 - \$514,000 for maintenance on church buildings and fund raising costs and \$80,000 - development of new ministries, "Tower repair,
101	1834 Church	1988	6	2	Description of visit to work underway on tower by reporter	Newspaper	Yesterday's Island, Inc.				American Steeple & Tower	Tom Montgomery			Detailed description of work underway by newspaper reporter, who interviewed workmen on the site. " a massive community appeal to raise \$800,000"

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27	1834 Church	1989			Major restoration and renovation - roof, tower and front	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007									“South side of church and roof, north side and roof in 1990, and the tower steeple and front of church in 1991. \$36,134 for steeple. Another \$150,000 raised for other renovations.
40	1834 Church	1990			“60% of exterior restoration done - will complete in 1991”	FCC	Minutes									
32	1834 Church	1991			Reshingle (reclapboard???) north side, restore facade, window, doors	FCC	Minutes									
35	1834 Church	1995			Top of steeple rotted from inside. - \$75,000.00	FCC	Minutes					American Steeple & Tower ???				“It was found that the tip of the Tower was rotting from the inside out...”(75,000.00)
69	1834 Church	1995			Tower repairs	Hart	Telephone conversation					American Steeple & Tower				7/3/2007: I spoke with Bob Levesque of American Tower & Steeple today. He has painted the church "five times" over the years. He was involved in the 1995 - 1996 work that dealt with taking the plexi covers off the interior at the
49	1834 Church	1995	6	5	Letter to American Steeple & Tower from Denco Engineering, North Reading	FCC	Report				Denco Engineering	American Steeple & Tower				Ventilate tower and provide for metal deck inside etc.

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70	1834 Church	1995	6	10	Tower repairs - apparently completed	American Steeple & Tower	Letter					American Steeple & Tower		72,800	Proposal to scaffold tower, remove all trim and siding at base of both towers, replace 3 metal decks, install new structure at tower, remove all Plexiglas from louvers, repair stairs and hatches, replace trim at all covings, resecure bell,
71	1834 Church	1996	4	10	Tower repairs - apparently completed	American Steeple & Tower	Letter					American Steeple & Tower		4,300	Letter proposal to complete repairs to observation tower room, repaint interior, varnish, repair four windows,
39	1834 Church	1999			Painted interior	FCC	Minutes								
30	1834 Church	2000			Long Range Planning Effort initiated for repair and maintenance, and ministries.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007								
38	1834 Church	2003			Tower windows	FCC	Minutes							14	"New windows in tower were installed at a cost of \$14,000.00
79	1710 Church	c 2003			Structural inspection	Wathne					Structures North Consulting Engineers				John Wathne of Structures North Consulting Engineers visited the church at their invitation to inspect cracks in the main structural beams. he determined they were shrinkage cracks and not structural in nature,

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29	1834 Church	2004 2005			South facade shingled, downspouts restored	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007									Removed existing clapboards. "South wall was badly peeling and the wood clapboard was in jeopardy of rotten so \$22,000 was raised to shingle to take it back to its original look"
80	1710 Church	c 2004			Examination of structural system for deterioration and cracks	Wathne	Verbal				Structures North Consulting Engineers					"Cracks were shrinkage cracks and not concerning".
75	1834 Church	2007 2008	10	15	Contract signed for restoration of east facade and tower. Replacement of much wooden trim, repaint entire facade and tower, recover spire with plywood and copper metal sheeting.	Hart	Construction			David M. Hart		YSC Yankee	Bob Olson	386,000		CPA Grant also used for work. Mahogany used for all replacement trim. Paint was "Fine European Paint"

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