

First Congregational Church Nantucket

Building Chronology

Record Number	Building	Year	Month	Day	Description	Provenance	Identification	Architect/Consultant	Structural Engineer	Contractor	Administrator	Dollars Spent	Notes
82	1710 Church	c 1710			Early first period framed church								
1	1834 Church	1834			"Big" church built at cost of \$8,000	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
2	1834 Church	1841 1842			"Big" church lengthened and fourth window added	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
3	1834 Church	1846			Union Circle formed by married ladies	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
4	1834 Church	1849			Big Church steeple (spire) removed removed due to instability and danger in the wind. Minarets placed at corners of tower	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
5	1834 Church	1850			German artist redecorated with tromp l'oeil painting.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						Later, painted over. Later, metal ceiling installed. See c -1885 photo copied by HABS, of Freeman photo of west wall trompe l'oeil.
85	1834 Church	c 1860			Clear glass triple hung sash		Photo						Charles N. Shute collection, N11, negative 298, c-1860, Old Time Photographs, Nantucket
31	1834 Church	1880			Major restoration and redecoration of Vestry	FCC	Web site						

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81	1834 Church	c 1885			c-1885 Photo of tromp l'oeil painting on west wall. Photographer J. Freeman,	HABS	Photo						HABS MASS, 10-NANT,26-16. Also NHA (Nantucket Historical Association) PH54-50 dated c-1860's to c-1870
83	1834 Church	c 1885			c-1885 Photo of tromp l'oeil painting on east wall. Photographer onknown	NHA	Photo						NHA (Nantucket Historical Association) P6371 dated c-1860's. Looks contemporary with west HABS MASS, 10-NANT,26-16.
7	1834 Church	1888 1897			Rev. Myron Dudley founded Improvement Association (now the Nantucket Civic League)	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
6	1834 Church	1889			Electricity installed	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						Third building on island to have electricity
9	1834 Church	1891			Stained glass windows installed	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
20		1891			First Rose Sunday	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
8	1834 Church	1894			Rev. Myron Dudley helped launch the Nantucket Historical Association.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
86	1834 Church	c 1900			Diamond shaped small glass panes		Photo						Unknown photo found in church 2007

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10	1834 Church	1904			Steere organ, 5 tons, \$2500.00, 914 pipes, 32 stops installed.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007					2,500	
12	1834 Church	1927			Ladies Parlor and adjacent large room built as lean to added on to Vestry	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
11	1834 Church	1935			Rev. Fred Bennett helped form Whaler's Little Theater group	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
84	1834 Church	c 1935			Photo of tromp l'oeil painting on west wall. Photographer onknown	NHA							NHA (Nantucket Historical Association) P17963. Completely different trompe l'oeil from c1885
13		1936			Bennett Hall built	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
14	1834 Church	1946			Redecorated and partially restored. Stained glass windows removed and clear glass restored. Walls painted light gray, covering yellow walls	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
15	1834 Church	1949			Vestry renovated and redecorated.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						All pieces made on Nantucket, including some by students of Coffin School.
76		1966	7		Cortlandt V. D. Hubbard for HABS photos of church. Exteriors, interiors before restoration.								From a group of photos on HABS web site. (HABS MASS, 10-NANT,26-7. Different again from c1855 and c-1935.

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51		1966	7	12	Meeting notes concerning restoration and endowments., Walter Beineke, Allan Congdon Architect, George Wren(n) (sic) of NPS and SPNEA			Allan Congdon					\$150,000 estimate
77		1966	10		Cortlandt V. D. Hubbard for HABS photos of church. Exterior								
55		1967			Appeal letter for funds to comprehensively restore the church	FCC	Letter						
58	1834 Church	? 1967			Memo from George Wrenn to Nantucket Historical Trust, John N. Welch, with six recommendations on restoration.	FCC	Memo						. New structural members in the sanctuary, New sheetrock in sanctuary - wall and ceiling, wall sconces and chandelier, steeple height, finials,
52		1967	5	3	Supplemental Report to 1966 meeting notes	FCC	Report						Wren's comments reviewed: Columns supporting the truss, Design of the tower, Exterior Flush Boarding, color selection, painting interior,
66	1834 Church	1967	5	3	Transmittal letter from Ames & Graves, sending supplemental report and revised set of plans.	FCC	Letter	W. Philip Graves					
68	1834 Church	c 1967	5	3	Set of Plans, A1 - A6, S1- S4, restoration of tower and exterior	FCC	Drawings	W. Philip Graves					Presumed to be about 5/3/1967; undated drawings. These have been scanned
65	1834 Church	1967	5	22	Report of meeting to authorize restoration of the church steeple, \$30,000 to be raised by church, remainder by Nantucket Historical Trust.	FCC	Report	W. Philip Graves					Assistance from George Wrenn

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59		1967	6	14	Letter Nantucket Historical Trust to church confirming grant of \$120,000 towards \$150,000 preservation program.	FCC	Letter						
57		? 1967	10	29	Letter announcing the plans and specifications for the restoration of the church will be displayed. Not priced yet	FCC	Letter						
50	1834 Church	1967	11	11	Plan for restoration of Vestry floor and basement plan	FCC	Drawings	Ames & Graves					
56		1967	11	17	Results of fund raising - \$30,000 pledged. Met goals.	FCC	Letter						
60	1834 Church	1968	4	8	Letter acknowledging that the work on the restoration started 1/10/1968.								
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					Photo Nantucket Historical Association, 9/5/68, photographer unknown.
78	1834 Church	1968	11		Jack Boucher for HABS photo of church - exteriors	HABS	Photo						From a group of photos on HABS web site
17	1834 Church	1969			Tower climb organized for tours.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						

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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.	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.
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.
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					38 exterior and interior items on punch list.
73	1834 Church	1970	8		Jack Boucher for HABS photo of church with tower, second stage and spire. Balustrade and finials restored	HABS	Photo						From a group of photos on HABS web site. Proves when second stage was installed. Ames' drawings of c1967 show the work above the first
74	1834 Church	1970	8		Jack Boucher for HABS photo of church interior with tromp l'oeil ceiling and west wall - virtually the same as 2006 appearance.	HABS	Photo						From a group of photos on HABS web site. (HABS MASS, 10-NANT,26-13 etc.)
36	1834 Church	1971			Written conditions report developed	FCC	Report						

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63	Bennett Hall	1971	12	20	Specs, remodelling of Bennett hall, renovations and remodeling of the basement of the vestry	FCC	Specifications	Christopher F. Holland, AC					
64	Bennett Hall	?1971	12	20	Plan, remodelling of Bennett hall, renovations and remodeling of the basement of the vestry	FCC	Drawings	Christopher F. Holland, AC					One cover sheet drawing only
62	1834 Church	c 1972	10	1	Establish a restoration committee to address issue of area under vestry, kitchen, entrance to Bennett Hall, the Hall and stage area, rest rooms.								
19		1973			First Christmas Festival	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
21	Bennett Hall	1980			Bennett Hall renovated to accommodate Theater Workshop Nantucket	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
41	1834 Church	1980 1982			Electric, plumbing, heating, air vents on Vestry - \$35,134.00	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007					35,134	
22	1834 Church	1982			Tower renovated, 94 stairs reinforced for public climb	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
23	1834 Church	1983			Museum Room display added in Tower	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						
43	1834 Church	1986			Interior roof Old North Vestry repainted. \$16,800.00							16,800	
24		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		1988			Capital Drive for preservation, restoration, and repairs. begin Endowment Fund etc.	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
48		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 maintenacne on church
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
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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						
37	1834 Church	1993	5		Interior Renovations drawings produced	FCC	Drawings	Andrew Barth					
44	1834 Church	1994 1995			Choir loft restored/renovated. \$17,000.00							17,000	
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
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.
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
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34	1834 Church	1996			Tower repairs - also Narthex	FCC	Minutes						
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,
45	Bennett Hall	1997 1998			Bennett Hall renovated to accommodate Fellowship Room and Music Room. \$768,528.00	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007					768,528	
39	1834 Church	1999			Painted interior	FCC	Minutes						
30		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
28	1834 Church	2004			Major restoration of Steere organ	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007						
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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
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".
47	Hayward House	2005 2006			In dire need of restoration. \$150,000 member donation	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007					150,000	
46	1834 Church	2006			Ladies Union Circle raised \$8,000 to redecorate Ladies Parlor attached to Old North Vestry	FCC	CPC Submission 10/29/2007					8,000	
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	Hart	Construction	David M. Hart		YSC Yankee	Bob Olson	386,000	CPA Grant also used for work.

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