



GRACE  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH  
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Lara Kritzer  
Community Preservation Program Manager  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

February 28, 2022

**Re: Grace Church Bell Tower Restoration, Project Status Report No. 4**

Dear Lara,

As a representative for Grace Episcopal Church Newton, I want to provide you this Project Status Report as a prerequisite to our pending February 2022 Reimbursement Application. This report covers the months of January and February 2022.

We thank you for processing our first Application for Reimbursement, capturing all eligible project costs since May 1, 2021, which we issued in late December and which you helped the City to process in a timely matter.

In January, Aniceto Restorations put on-site work on hold due to cold weather conditions and snow that made mortar work not possible and occupation less than safe. Rather than on-site work, the team has focused on preparation for Spring work. The steel for the internal reinforcements has been ordered and the components are currently being fabricated. Shop drawings are under review. In addition, stone has been ordered for areas of the exterior slated for replacement and rebuilding. We anticipate that Aniceto will be back on site to begin the installation of reinforcing steel in early March.

The team has been in regular communication with John Wathne of Structures North Consulting Engineers. In our last report, we summarized a revised repair methodology under review. Based on further testing and investigations, it became apparent that more areas than we thought require rebuilding. Also, we learned that it would be possible to do this, whereas we thought that our only option was to anchor existing stones. As reconstruction will provide a better looking and stronger result long term, we have opted to shift away from anchoring toward replacement of broken stones and reconstruction of the most damaged areas. This adjusted approach allows us to remain within our original budget while achieving a higher quality renovation.

I look forward to providing you with project updates each month and look forward to you visiting the site again this Spring to see the progress firsthand.

Sincerely yours,

Scott B. Aquilina, AIA  
Tower Restoration Project Manager-Preservation Consultant-Junior Warden  
Grace Episcopal Church

CC: John Wathne, Structures North Consulting Engineers  
Paul Wong, Grace Episcopal Church  
Paul Holtz, Massachusetts Historical Commission