St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
Historic Structure Report

Prepared by: FFA Architecture and Interiors, Inc.
architecture + history, llc

Task Order: 140P2020F0303

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+Interiors

The National Park Service provided support for this Historic Structure Report through its National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P) program which supports historic preservation efforts to the owners of historic structures listed or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Legislative authority for technical assistance originates with the Antiquities Act of 1906 which established the federal government's efforts to develop public policy for the preservation of cultural resources. The Historic Sites Act of 1935 made cultural resource preservation national policy and assigned the Secretary of the Interior the responsibility to carry this policy, and specifically gave the National Park Service the role to carry out this mission on behalf of the Secretary. The act explicitly stresses technical assistance to and partnerships with states, local communities, and associations and the importance of providing an active "educational program" to the public on the story told by our nation's important historic properties. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (as amended) reaffirmed historic preservation as a national policy and elaborated on the mission the National Park Service fulfills on behalf of the Secretary such as maintaining the National Register and carrying out the National Historic Landmarks program. And finally, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Action (ANILCA) (1980) specifically speaks to the Secretary of the Interior providing historic preservation advice and technical assistance to Alaska Native Corporations and Native Groups. ANILCA underscores the National Park Service's unique obligation in Alaska to deliver historic preservation services through the National Register Programs.

Photographs:

All existing conditions photographs were taken by the project team in October 2020 unless stated otherwise.

Cover Image:

St. Peters by-the-Sea, looking northeast, c.1900, St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

ST. PETER'S BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

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Junior Warden, St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

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1. Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION

Completed under NPS IDIQ Task Order Number 140P2020F0303, this Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church was developed by a consultant team consisting of FFA Architecture and Interiors, Inc. and architecture + history, llc, with input and guidance from St. Peter's by-the Sea Episcopal Church, BBFM Engineers, and the National Park Service (NPS) staff at the Alaska Regional Office and Channel Islands National Park. Though NPS provided guidance and support for this project, the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church HSR serves as a stand-alone document, independent of the NPS.

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church was constructed in 1899, followed by the construction of the See House in 1905. The buildings are among the earliest constructed by the Episcopal Church in Alaska and are both architecturally and historically significant for their association with exploration and settlement of Alaska. The church and adjacent See House are said to have been built by Alaska's first Bishop, Peter Trimble Rowe. The See House served as a residence for Bishop Rowe and his family until he relocated to Seattle in 1912. The complex and individual buildings continue to remain an important place of worship and gathering for the community of Sitka.

PURPOSE

Historic Structure Reports (HSR) are the primary planning documents for historic resource treatment projects. Historic resources are buildings, structures, objects, sites, and historic districts that are eligible for listing or already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* defines four treatments for historic resources: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. These treatments guide the recommendations put forward in an HSR.

SCOPE

As defined by the National Park Service Preservation Brief 43, a historic structure report serves as a reference document that provides documentary, graphic, and physical information regarding a property's history and existing conditions. The report records research findings, investigative analysis, and evaluation of physical conditions. HSRs document the existing conditions of a building, changes over time, and serve as a basis for proposing physical changes. Historic structure reports are broadly recognized as an effective aspect of preservation planning, management, and use that outlines a scope of recommended work and provides thoughtful arguments for selecting the most appropriate treatment approach. An HSR is an important guide that is intended

to serve as a basis for future maintenance, repair, and any potential changes made to a historic property during preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. The development of an HSR is the preferred first phase of any historic preservation effort, preceding design and implementation of the selected treatment and use for the property. The level of detail to which the work items are defined should be limited in the historic structure report, as these recommendations serve as the foundation for, rather than in place of, design and construction documents for the work.

METHODOLOGY

The information included in this report stems from extensive research of primary and secondary source materials and comprehensive field observations of the buildings and site. The HSR follows the National Park Service's Technical Preservation Service's Preservation Brief 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports (2004) by Deborah Slaton. The HSR includes a developmental history of the site, descriptive information, identification of character-defining features, a condition assessment for the building(s), an assessment of the overall integrity of the resources, and recommendations for future treatment and use.

Primary research materials were located at the following repositories:

1) St. Peters Church Archives, located at St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Sitka, Alaska

2) Archives of the Episcopal Church, located in Austin, Texas

3) Sitka History Museum, located in Sitka, Alaska. All existing conditions photographs were taken by the project team in October 2020, unless stated otherwise

Special thanks to vestry members Linda Trierschield and Anne Pollnow, and St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archivist, Gail Peterson. The current project team thanks Grant Crosby, Historical Architect, National Park Service- Region 11 for his assistance and involvement.

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church and See House were individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. The early-era National Register nominations did not specify which criterion the buildings are eligible under. It is assumed that if the buildings were evaluated today, they would be eligible under Criterion B, at the statewide level, for their association with Bishop Trimble. They would also be eligible under Criterion C, at the local level, as a significant example of a Gothic Revival church with stone detailing and a Shingle Style house.

SUMMARY OF INTEGRITY ASSESSMENT

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church and the See House both retain a high degree of historic integrity. The church building sits in its original location, as does the See House to the north. In design, the church has undergone a series of alterations, none of which impair its overall integrity. The setting of the church has been moderately changed from when it was originally built, primarily due to the asphalt paving on the property to accommodate vehicles. The materials of both buildings are largely intact or replaced in kind, and while there have been some maintenance repairs over time, these interventions have not significantly impaired the integrity of the materials. The roofing material of the See House has been changed, but the roof shape and its form is intact. The church retains the strong feeling of a small, rural church in Sitka, Alaska and conveys its original Gothic Revival style and design in its features and construction methods. The See House conveys its Shingle style design through its materials and architectural elements. The present integrity of the workmanship, through years of careful stewardship by the congregation, is high. St. Peter's by-the-Sea and the See house have retained their association with Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe and the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska.

SUMMARY OF CONDITION ASSESSMENT

The overall condition of the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church is good with no indication of failure or deterioration of primary structural elements, including roof trusses, timber wall framing, and foundation walls that were assessed during visual investigation. Primary condition issues identified and requiring treatment include deteriorated mortar on east and west façades masonry buttresses and decay of wood elements along building foundation walls on the northeast side of the church. Moisture infiltration from rain runoff and ground water surface flow has contributed to the decay of wood elements on the building, including siding, floor joist(s), and half-timber column ends. The interior of the church is in good condition with minimal alterations over the years. Code-compliant accessibility for the building site and building entries is a recognized challenge for current and future use.

SUMMARY OF FUTURE NEEDS AND TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The approach to future projects or upgrades proposed for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea is recommended to follow preservation and restoration treatment approaches as defined by the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. Preservation and restoration as the recommended treatment approach will preserve the building's historic fabric and existing character-defining features that convey the historic significance of St. Peter's by-the-Sea. Future treatment guidelines will follow the *Secretary of Interior's Standards* that prioritize repair over replacement while considering flexibility for future upgrades that will address and improve site and building accessibility, building egress, structural systems, building envelope performance, and mechanical systems without diminishing the building's historic character or integrity. General treatment recommendations focus on the repair of character-defining features and maintenance related to moisture management and mitigation.

2. Administrative Data

SITE AND BUILDINGS NOMENCLATURE

Preferred Structure Name	St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
Building Address	611 Lincoln St, Sitka, AK 99835
Alaska Heritage Resources Survey	SIT-029
Structure County	Sitka
Structure State	Alaska
Period of Significance	1899 - 1912

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church and See House were listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

SHORT SIGNIFICANCE DESCRIPTION

The early-era National Register nominations did not specify which criterion the buildings are eligible under. It is assumed that if the buildings were evaluated today, they would be eligible under Criterion B, at the statewide level, for their association with Bishop Trimble. They would also be eligible under Criterion C, at the local level, as a significant example of a Gothic Revival church with stone detailing and a Shingle Style house.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The period of significance for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church is 1899, when it was constructed, to 1912 when Bishop Rowe moved to Seattle. The period of significance for the See House is from 1905, when it was completed, to 1912 when Bishop Rowe moved to Seattle.

DIRECTIONAL INFORMATION

With regard to the compass orientation of the building and simplicity of describing façades of the building, directional language assumes the front elevation is facing south toward Crescent Bay, when in fact it faces slightly southwest. Both St. Peters-by-the-Sea and the See House are assumed to be oriented north-south for the purposes of this report.

3. Statement of Significance

PREVIOUS EVALUATIONS

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church was designed by Philadelphia architect Herman L. Duhring for a site he never visited and client he may not have met, Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe, who was the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska. The Church and the adjacent See House are significant for both their architecture and their historical association with exploration and settlement of Alaska. The buildings are associated with the early development of the Episcopal Church in Alaska and with Bishop Rowe. The Church was completed first in 1899 and the See House finished several years later by 1905. The two buildings are intrinsically linked both physically and historically.

The church, executed in the Gothic Revival style, is one of the few stone buildings in Alaska and is constructed of heavy timbering above a random rubble stone foundation. The upper portion of the exterior walls and the roof are sheathed in wood shingles. The building is characteristic of small Episcopal Churches, with Gothic and Richardsonian references, a cruciform plan, stone buttresses and several well-crafted, stained glass windows, including a rose window at the entry façade. The interior is simple, but exquisitely designed, with exposed wood scissor trusses ceiling and wood wainscot and flooring. The church retains its original wood pews with simple trefoil decorative cut outs at the ends. There are a number of well-designed stained glass windows.

The See House is emblematic of the Shingle style as it was evolving in the late 1890s in the United States. The house also has Queen Anne style influences. At the exterior, the house has a series of bay windows and dormers with decorative shingling and stone work. There are a leaded glass windows and the front porch is also reflective of the Shingle style. The primary interior first floor rooms have a board and batten wood wainscot with a molded plate rail. The battens are over plaster which was then subsequently adorned with a burlap finish. The upstairs rooms were originally bedrooms organized around a generous hallway. The building, which received a rear addition in 1956, now serves as the church rectory and has a small residential apartment above the rear addition. The building was constructed by Bishop Rowe himself and was his family home from 1905 to 1912.

The buildings are among the first constructed by the Episcopal Church in Alaska and are said to have been built by the Bishop's own hand. While Bishop Rowe did not remain in Sitka long, decamping to Seattle by 1912 as the importance of Sitka in Alaska's trade and politics dwindled, upon his death, Bishop Rowe was interred adjacent to St. Peter's alongside the graves of his first wife and a son. The two buildings complement each other forming a significant complex not far from the Russian Bishop's House (1842-44) along Sitka's waterfront, the buildings retain a high level of historic integrity including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The buildings were listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. However, the early-era National Register nominations did not specify which criterion the buildings are eligible under. It is assumed that if the buildings were evaluated today, they would be eligible under Criterion B, at the statewide level, for their association with Bishop Trimble. They would also be eligible under Criterion C, at the local level, as a significant example of a Gothic Revival church with stone detailing and a Shingle Style house.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The period of significance for the church is 1899, when it was constructed, to 1912 when Bishop Rowe moved to Seattle. The period of significance for the See House is from 1905, when it was completed to 1912, when Bishop Rowe moved to Seattle.

The earlier National Register nomination summarized the importance of Bishop Rowe's association with the See House noting:

> There are many fine houses in Sitka, and also in other communities in Alaska. However, this is the only house in all Alaska, conceived and built by one who stands among the foremost humanitarian figures in the history of the Territory and state. Its design was unusual and was his own unique contribution. The construction was unusual, and was his own unique contribution. The years between 1905 and 1912 when Bishop Rowe and his family occupied the house were seminal years for the Territory, for the development of the large number of hospitals, clinics, libraries, orphanages, and mission churches, that he located, instigated, staffed, and nurtured; and they, too, were his unique contribution. For that period of time this house stands as his home place, the home to which he returned, planned for the future, and then set out again for journeys which in number, length, and difficulty, are yet unequaled by any man in the modern history of Alaska as a Territory or a state.

4. Developmental History

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

CRITERION B: ASSOCIATION WITH BISHOP PETER TRIMBLE ROWE

St. Peter's by-the-Sea is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B, important persons, at the statewide level, for its association with Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe, the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska whose religious and humanitarian efforts to found churches, orphanages, hospitals, and educational institutions are still felt in Alaska today.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SITKA, ALASKA

Lay Episcopal services were first held in Sitka in 1867 and were led by an unnamed Army colonel and later a "Mr. Austin." Services ceased in 1885 and did not resume until the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe, arrived in Sitka in April 1896.[1] Sitka, being the capital of the Alaska territory at the time, was selected as Bishop Rowe's seat and the location from which he planned his travel around Alaska (Figure 4.1).

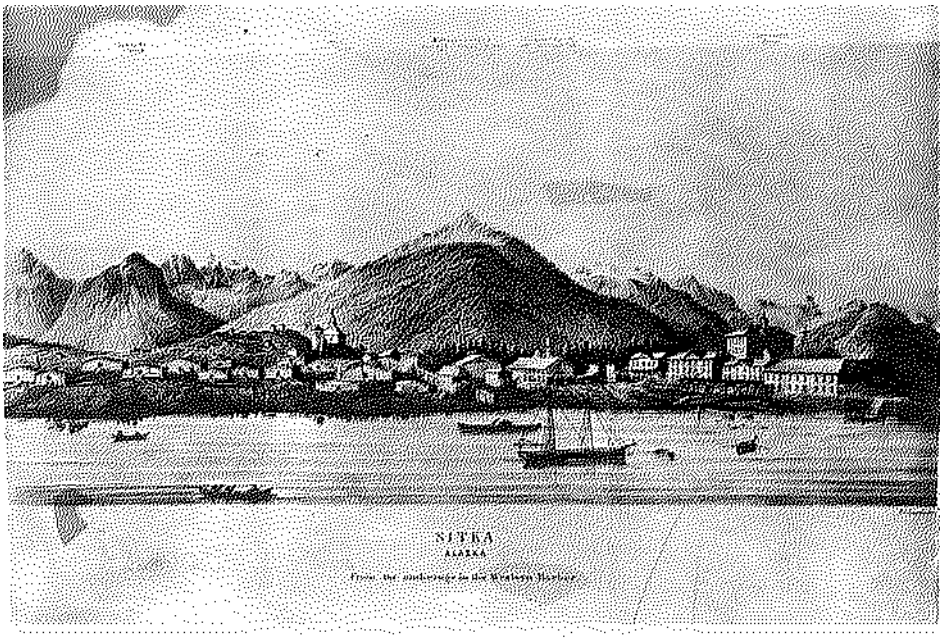


Figure 4.1: Sketch of Sitka, c. 1900. Source: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Charles S. Hubbell Photograph Collection. PH Coll 1154.79.

Figure 4.2: Bishop Rowe shortly after his consecration. Source: *Man of Alaska*.

Figure 4.3: Dora Henriette Carry Rowe. Source: *Man of Alaska*.

The previous fall, November 1895, Rowe had been consecrated in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.[2] The following spring, Rowe found himself almost 3,000 miles away in Alaska, to establish Mission outposts of the Episcopal Church. Rowe, a Canadian, was born in Meadowvale, a small village, west of Toronto, near Lake Ontario, Canada, in 1856. His father held various jobs as a miller, postman, farmer, and coach driver and his mother, who may have been a governess before marriage, encouraged the education of her children. His family later moved to Clarksburg, Ontario, which sits on Lake Huron's Georgian Bay, where they owned a farm.[3]

It was in Clarksburg, that Rowe came under the tutelage of a local clergyman and with his mother's encouragement prepared for college. Rowe entered Trinity College at the University of Toronto in 1875, but remained in residence only one year, apparently completing his degree through remote study. "The Degree book shows that the Convocation met on July 2, 1880, and that the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on Peter Trible Rowe on that day."[4] That same year he was ordained as an Episcopal priest and assigned to an Indian Reservation in the Algomar District near Garden River, Ontario (Figure 4.2). In 1882, he married, Dora Henriette Carry (Figure 4.3), the daughter of the rector of the church at Port Kerry, Reverend Carry, who was somewhat of a mentor to Rowe. Soon after their marriage, the Rowe's took up a new parish at St. James in Saulte St. Marie, Michigan. The Rowe's remained in Michigan and started a family with two sons arriving, the first in 1884 and the other in 1887. By 1894, Rowe had become a United State citizen and the following year he was elected Bishop of Alaska.[5]

A history of the Episcopal Church in Alaska noted of Rowe that after ordination he:

> . . . worked as missionary to the Ojibways from 1878 to 1882. For the next fourteen years he was in charge of eleven scattered missions among white people, with his headquarters in Sault St. Marie, Michigan. So when he went to Alaska he had already had many years' acquaintance with vigorous outdoor life and with the means and methods of primitive travel.[6]

A lengthy article about Bishop Rowe's consecration appeared in the *New York Times* on December 1, 1895, accompanied by a sketch portrait of Rowe (Figure 4.4). The article noted that Rowe spoke of his past work in Michigan and its relevance to his

new church assignment in Alaska.

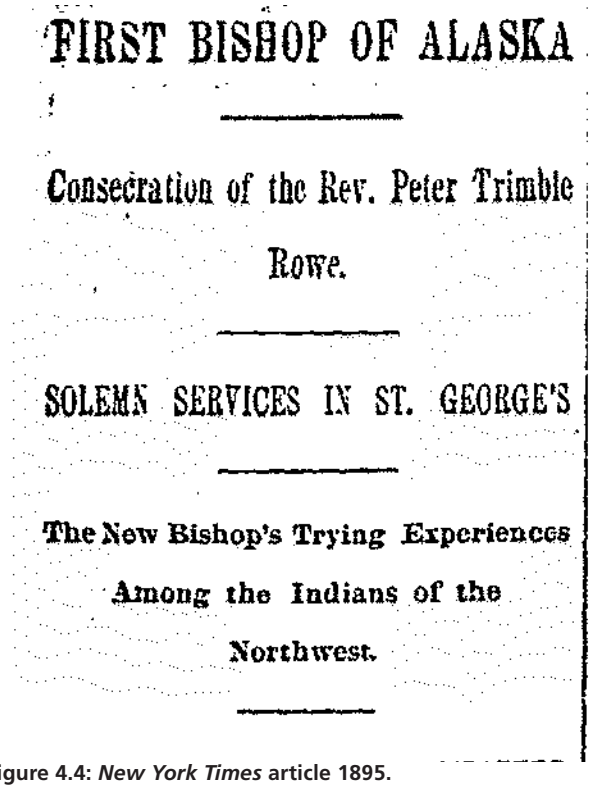
> Mr. Rowe, in his quiet, modest way, related several expeditions of this sort. He dwelt briefly on the hardships he had undergone in the cold, lonely little mission house in the forests of Garden River, modestly leaving it to the imagination of his listener to form an idea of how much he had suffered, and how much he had toiled for the poor people among whom his missionary work lay. . . Mr. Rowe founded sixteen missions in five years. [7]

Upon his consecration in New York in November 1895, Rowe joined four other missionary Episcopal bishops including China, Japan, Haiti and Liberia. The United States acquired Alaska from Russia in 1867 through a deal negotiated by the Secretary of State William Seward. First administered as a Department, Alaska became a district in 1884. Sitka had been the capital of Russian Alaska and remained the territorial capital under the United States until 1900 when the governmental center was moved to Juneau. Therefore, when Bishop Rowe began to plan for his new assignment, he looked to Sitka to serve as his home and seat. His first trip to Sitka in April 1896 pre-dated news of gold in the Yukon by several months; however, the now famous stampede of prospective miners would not fully escalate until the following spring. The bishop was a first-hand witness to the trials and tribulations of the miners and Alaska Natives as the Yukon Gold Rush progressed over the next few years.

Upon arriving in Sitka in April 1896, Rowe secured quarters for his family and departed for Skagway so he could experience the Chilkoot Trail into the Yukon and familiarize himself with the territory. Upon his return to Sitka in November, Bishop Rowe conducted services on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1896, in Sitka's Presbyterian chapel, as there was not an Episcopal church building. Indeed, at that time, Episcopal services in Alaska were conducted in cabin chapels or borrowed facilities from other denominations. Bishop Rowe immediately set about to build a church for his new Bishopric.[8]

The next year, the Proctor family donated $2,000.00 toward a church for the Alaska territory. By 1899, ground was broken for the church and Bishop Rowe began the laborious task of building the church. While he likely had help, the bishop himself oversaw the construction and labored many days toward its completion (Figure 4.5).

In the meantime, Bishop Rowe was busy with other travel around Alaska and establishing his Mission



FIRST BISHOP OF ALASKA

Consecration of the Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe.

SOLEMN SERVICES IN ST. GEORGE'S

The New Bishop's Trying Experiences Among the Indians of the Northwest.

Figure 4.4: *New York Times* article 1895.

Figure 4.5: Bishop Rowe pictured on the steps of St. Peter's, date unknown, but after the bell tower had been enclosed.

in what was a severe climate with many travel impediments. When he arrived in Sitka, the Russian Orthodox Church was, of course, firmly in place having built a beautiful cathedral, St. Michael the Archangel from 1844 to 1848. The Lutherans built a church in Sitka, in close proximity to St. Michael's, also in the 1840s. Additionally, Bishop Rowe found that the Presbyterians were well established in Sitka with having founded a school in 1878 that later became Sheldon Jackson College. The Presbyterian Church began a Sitka presence in 1884.

Bishop Rowe was tireless in his pursuit to explore Alaska and perform his mission work. *The Daily Morning Alaskan of Skagway* published a long article about the bishop on March 23, 1900. It stated:

> The Right Rev. Bishop Rowe, who arrived from Juneau . . . will stay in this city until the opening of navigation on the Yukon, at which time he will start on a trip of thousands of miles and one that will require a year to accomplish. Before leaving the bishop hopes to start work for the building of an Episcopal church in Skagway. The proposed trip will lead the bishop to the full length of the Yukon River and far up the coast into the Arctic region. The journey is to be made in the furtherance of his church work. . . 'I shall remain in Skagway until the river opens, and then by easy stages travel down the Yukon on steamer. I shall call and visit all the Episcopal missions on the river, then proceed north to Nome and establish a mission there. After arranging matters at Nome I shall push 100 miles to the northward of Bering straits to visit Esquimaux missions of our church in the Arctic region. On the Yukon we have missions at Circle, Fort Yukon, Fort Hamilton, Rampart, Tanana, Nowikata, and Anvik. No other church has as many missions in the Yukon basin. At each mission we have a school and a church in charge of a missionary, and assisting him in some cases two or three natives, two or three laymen and a staff of two or three women. At Circle and Rampart we have hospitals, which are similar to our hospital in Skagway. . . During my absence Mrs. Rowe, who is in Skagway with me, will remain on the coast and will likely spend the greater part of the time in Sitka.[9]

Rowe was expanding on mission work that commenced years earlier by the Church of England but was taken over by the Episcopal Missions in the 1880s. By 1904 it was apparent that the bishop was fully ensconced in his Alaska work and required a more permanent home for himself and his family. He began work on the See House, behind St. Peter's in Sitka and it was completed in 1905. This home became the center of his work and mission service in Alaska (Figure 4.6).

Rowe was tremendously successful and well-liked in his work in Alaska. He worked tirelessly from his appointment in 1895 until his death in 1942 to improve the medical and hospital facilities, educational facilities, libraries, and orphanages serving the Alaska Native community.

A 1912 article in *Travel* noted:

> In the bend of the bay, where one catches a distant glimpse of the ocean, gray and far away, stands Saint Peter's-by-the-Sea, a beautiful little stone church built, largely by the labor of his own hands, by the Very Reverend Peter Trimble Rowe, the beloved Bishop of Alaska. The story of this man and his yearly journeys by dogsled to the most northern corners of his diocese, reads like a page from some old-time book of devotion, and brings every year more recognition and cooperation from the civilized East.[10]

As the bishop's church St. Peter's was the most important Episcopal edifice in

Alaska. In addition, the church was in the region's key city. As the capital of the District of Alaska from its purchase, Sitka held political and cultural influence. However, after the Klondike Gold Rush in the late nineteenth century, Juneau usurped Sitka in influence, and in 1906, the seat of government was relocated to that city. With the transfer of the capital, all the district officials and courts moved to the new government seat. In addition, the District of Alaska became the Territory of Alaska further increasing its consequence. As a result of this change, Sitka's political and economic importance declined. With the diminishing influence of Sitka, as well as health concerns for his wife, Bishop Rowe to move his family to Seattle, Washington in 1912. However, he continued his yearly, lengthy trips traveling throughout Alaska and to the East Coast, to interact with the donors from whom he received moral, legal, and financial support.

Rowe remained Bishop of Alaska and for the rest of his life traveled to Alaska yearly for months on end. Dora died in May 1914 and was interred in the church yard at St. Peter's by-the-Sea. A year later, in April 1915, his youngest son Cyril also died. In October 1915 Bishop Rowe remarried. His second wife, Rose Fullerton, was considerably younger and together they had three children (Figure 4.7).

Time magazine reported on the state of the Episcopal Church missionary work in its October 22, 1934 edition:

> Finally, the advocates of missions were cheered by a defense made by the 20 missionary bishops who had gone to Atlantic City, and especially by the appearance of 77-year-old Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe. Most famed of Episcopal missionaries, he had journeyed down from Alaska where he has labored for 39 years, been put in books by Rex Beach and Jack London, and mushed, navigated and flown over 50,000 miles of Arctic wastes. Bishop Rowe is not yet ready to put his parka and fur boots in mothballs — unless his Church forces him to.

On the anniversary of his 85th year, long time Alaska newspaperman Frank Cotter wrote:

> Bishop Rowe was not content to build churches alone in Alaska. As soon as a church was completed, he would start work on a hospital, and as soon as the hospital was ready to aid the sick and ailing pioneers, he would start building a schoolhouse. Around many of the monuments he has left in the North, we now have thriving

Figure 4.6: Early view of the completed See House. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Figure 4.7: Rose Fullerton Rowe. Source: *Man of Alaska*.

> little villages and trading posts and through all of these communities runs the golden thread of the memory of a kindly man who came to serve.

What Frank Cotter did not capture in his article was the constant work of Bishop Rowe to build relationships with the Alaska Natives. While Rowe's purpose was missionary in nature, he admired, respected, and tried to understand the community in which he served, seeking to make living conditions better through providing a range of services (Figure 4.8).

The earlier National Register nomination summarized the importance of Bishop Rowe's association to St. Peter's by-the-Sea and See House noting:

> There are many fine houses in Sitka, and also in other communities in Alaska. However, this is the only house in all Alaska, conceived and built by one who stands among the foremost humanitarian figures in the history of the Territory and state. Its design was unusual and was his own unique contribution. The construction was unusual and was his own unique contribution. The years between 1905 and 1912 when Bishop Rowe and his family occupied the house were seminal years for the Territory, for the development of the large number of hospitals, clinics, libraries, orphanages, and mission churches, that he located, instigated, staffed, and nurtured; and they, too, were his unique contribution. For that period of time this house stands as his home place, the home to which he returned, planned for the future, and then set out again for journeys which in number, length, and difficulty, are yet unequaled by any man in the modern history of Alaska as a Territory or a state. [11]

The connection between St. Peter's by-the-Sea and Bishop Rowe and his family were reestablished after the remains of Rowe, the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, and his first wife, Dora, and two of their sons, were interred in front of the church and memorialized with simple, unobtrusive, engraved, ground-level gravestones (Figure 4.9).

Figure 4.8: Bishop Rowe with Delatuck, a Kobuk Eskimo, and Maggie, an Athabascan Indian (Koyukuk), circa 1905. Source: Walter and Lillian Phillips Photograph Collection, Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks UAF-1985-72-141.

CRITERION C: EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF GOTHIC REVIVAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH BY MASTER ARCHITECT EXECUTED IN RARE MATERIAL

St. Peter's by-the-Sea is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, at the statewide level, as a significant example of a Gothic Revival church designed by a master architect, Herman Louis Duhring, Jr., and executed using a rare building material for Alaska, stone.

PLANNING FOR ST. PETER'S BY-THE-SEA

In the summer of 1897, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Towne Proctor, affluent Episcopalians from Utica, New York visited Sitka, and upon their return home, offered Bishop Rowe a donation of $2,000 toward construction of a church in Sitka. Bishop Rowe's personality drew additional participants to his endeavor to build both a congregation and a church in Sitka.

To identify a site for the new church, a committee was formed including: the U.S. Attorney for Alaska, Burton E. Bennett; William Millmore, a hotelier; and Edward de Groff, a merchant and photographer. In addition, a fundraising committee was organized to secure funds for the purchase consisting of Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. de Groff. A lot on Beach Road (now Lincoln Street) overlooking the harbor was selected and purchased for $800 (some reports say $750) from owner Peter Panamarkoff (Figure 10). The Bennetts, de Groffs, the Millmores, James Shoup, and W.P. Mills were some of the largest contributors to the fund. Other donations came from notable Alaskans such as C.L. Andrews, later known for his writings on *Sitka and The Story of Alaska* and C.C. Georgeson, an official of the Department of Agriculture and pioneering innovator in Arctic farming techniques.[12]

Figure 4.9: Bishop Bentley officiates at the consecration of Bishop Rowe's gravestone in the St. Peter's churchyard. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Bishop Rowe had clearly conceived ideas regarding the design of the new church and prepared a list of requirements for the church building as well as a rectory. In September 1898, a committee of Sitka's leading citizens, including de Groff, Bennett, Col. W.L. Distin, John W. Dudley, and G.D. Clayett, met at the bishop's house to discuss the initial design conception. Attendees voted unanimously to convey the bishop's ideas for the church and rectory to an architect to translate into working drawings and detailed specifications. Meeting attendees also elected a building committee composed of De Groff, chairman; Dudley, secretary; and C.S. Johnson, Distin, and W.P. McBride, as members.

Philadelphia philanthropist George C. Thomas commissioned Philadelphia architect Herman L. Duhring, Jr. to prepare drawings and specifications for the church and rectory. Thomas was a frequent benefactor of missionary work in Alaska and served as the treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church. Professionally, Thomas was the manager of the investment bank Drexel, Morgan and Company, a Philadelphia affiliate of J.P. Morgan and Company. His selection of Duhring was not surprising given that Duhring's father, Herman L. Duhring, Sr., was a reverend in the Episcopal Church.[13] It seems likely that Bishop Rowe met with architect Herman Duhring during his November 1898 visit to Philadelphia. On November 12, 1898 the *Philadelphia Inquirer* published a notice that Bishop Rowe would be speaking at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Philadelphia (Figure 4.11).[14] The timing of Rowe's visit would have been after Duhring's return from his fellowship-funded travel in Europe, likely in late summer or early fall 1898.

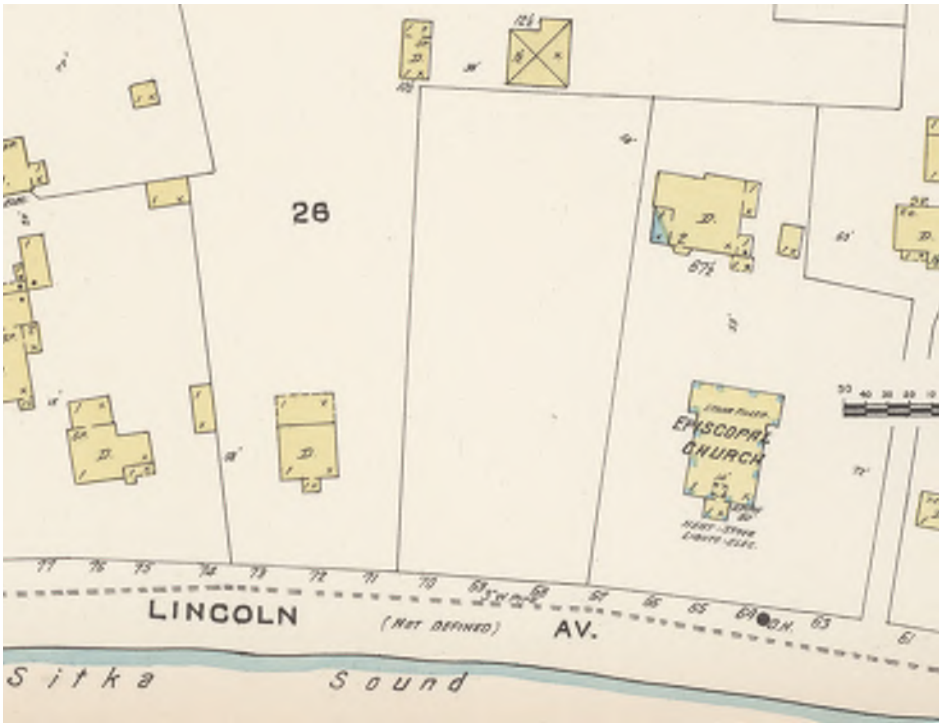


Figure 4.10: The 1914 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Sitka showing St. Peter's, the See House and the small shed to the east of the See House. Note that the map indicates the church was heated by a stove and that at that time it had electric lights. Source: Library of Congress, Sanborn Map Collection.

In June 1899, the organizing conference of the Building Committee described the designs for the church:

> The Chapel is designed to seat one hundred and thirty people and is 30 x 50 feet inside, and of a composite gothic style of architecture. The foundation, walls and buttress are of stone masonry, above which walls are of open timber frame work to a height of 9 feet, filled with stone, allowing the timbers to show on the wall. Above the roof, the walls will be finished with stained shingles. A small belfry will be mounted on the roof.
>
> Windows and door of stained glass will add attractiveness to the interior which will be finished in oiled spruce with open roof trusses also oiled. The interior finish of the roof will also be ceiling spruce in panels, oiled in the same manner.[15]

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHURCH

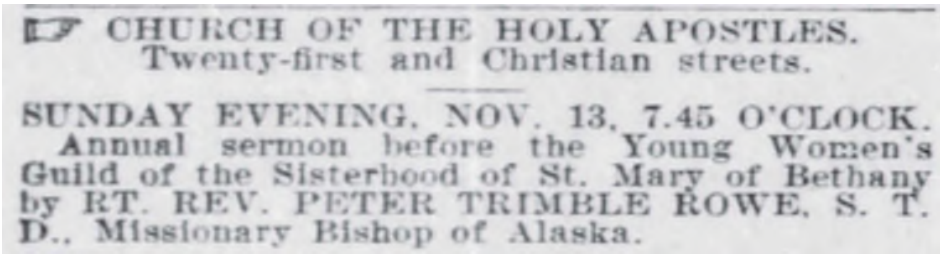
The secretary of the building committee, John W. Dudley, supervised the construction of the church based on the architect's plans. Construction of a rectory was deferred to a later date. Dudley worked as the recorder for the General Land Office (now the Bureau of Land Management) in Sitka.

Bishop Rowe reported to his wife Dora on May 16, 1899:

> We have made a start on the chapel. I have about 12 men at work, blasting out rock and leveling it. We are blasting that big rock near the "blarney stone." Pete Raber is hauling it to the site and so we are moving. I expect the material which I ordered from Tacoma by the next steamer. . . You ought to hear the blasting. One stone dropped on the roof of the Presbyterian Mission – no damage.
>
> Have just received a short note from the Proctor's enclosing me $500. My letter just caught him in New York as they were about to sail for Europe. [16]

Several weeks later on June 24, 1899 *The Alaskan* described the church:

> The foundation, walls and buttresses are of stone masonry, above which walls are of open timber framework to a height of 9 feet, filled with stone, allowing the timbers to show on the wall. Above to the roof, the walls will be finished with stained shingles. A small belfry will be mounted to the roof. Windows and doors of stained glass will add attractiveness to the interior which will be finished in oil spruce with open roof trusses also oiled. . . [17]



☞ CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES.
Twenty-first and Christian streets.

SUNDAY EVENING, NOV. 13, 7.45 O'CLOCK.
Annual sermon before the Young Women's Guild of the Sisterhood of St. Mary of Bethany by RT. REV. PETER TRIMBLE ROWE, S. T. D., Missionary Bishop of Alaska.

Figure 4.11: *The Philadelphia Inquirer* November 12, 1898. Source: *Philadelphia Inquirer* indexed in Newspapers.com.

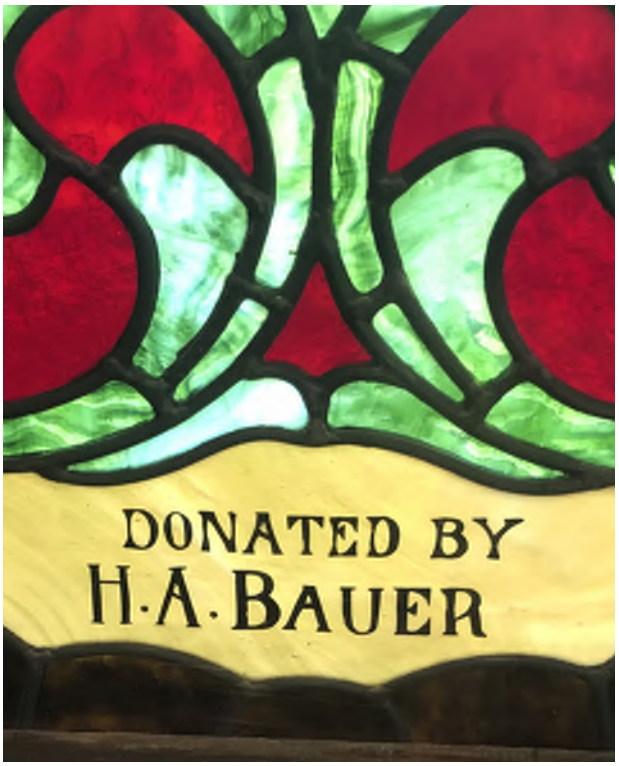


Figure 4.12: A current detail photograph of the stained glass window with inscription "Donated by H. A. Bauer."

Figure 4.13: An early view of St. Peter's, but after the 1905 construction of the See House. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

The church's foundation was completed in time for the cornerstone ceremony, which was held on June 29, 1899, St. Peter's Day; the building would be called St. Peter's by-the-Sea. Despite rain, attendance at the ceremony was impressive, indicating the importance of both the building and Bishop Rowe to the community. For the ceremony, Bishop Rowe was joined by Fathers Anthony and Kaiakokonok of the Russian Orthodox Church and Reverend M.D. McClelland of the Sitka Presbyterian Church. As part of the ceremony, Navy Lt. George T. Emmons delivered a paper on the history of Sitka, and Bishop Rowe listed the items to be deposited in the cornerstone:

- *The Alaskan,* June 24, 1899 (which described the church as noted above)
- *The Church Standard*, June 3, 1899 (published in Philadelphia)
- List of bishops of the American and Anglican branches of the Catholic Church from the Apostles to the present
- Lt. George T. Emmons historical sketch of Sitka
- List of the clergy of Alaska
- Names of the church building committee, contractor, etc.
- A shell from the Sea of Galilee
- Two small American flags
- Coins from various donors:
    - From F. Woodcock: a Queen's Jubilee crown, a Columbian half-crown, a cent of 1803, a half-cent of 1804, and other coins
    - From Father Anthony: a Russian coin
    - From M. G. Hindshaw: an English penny, half-penny, and a Canadian five cent piece.

Reverend W.M. Partridge followed with a short address on the historical significance of the laying of cornerstones. The choir and congregation sang, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and the service concluded with a benediction by Bishop Rowe. [18]

According to the 1977 National Register nomination for the property, Bishop Rowe was actively involved in the construction of the church and was working on the project when the following event occurred:

As construction progressed, Bishop Rowe, in his characteristic way, did much of the stone work himself, and the front wall of the church he built entirely with his own hands. The Bishop's biographer, Thomas Jenkins, wrote that one day while Bishop Rowe worked at the wall a man came sauntering along. 'Well, Bishop,' he remarked, 'you are working to beat the devil.' Replied the Bishop, 'Yes, he's the very one I'm trying to beat.'

As the church neared completion in September 1899, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bauer donated two stained-glass windows for the building, Mary Rhinelander of New York City provided the communion service and Mr. Codman of Brookline, Massachusetts sent the oak eagle lantern. Like George C. Thomas, Rhinelander was an active philanthropist and shared business interests with J.P. Morgan (Figure 4.12).

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

The inaugural service at the newly completed St. Peter's was held on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1899 (Figure 4.13). Bishop Rowe and Father Anthony of St. Michael's shared the rostrum, and representatives of ten different denominations were in attendance. The formal consecration service for the church occurred the following spring on Easter Sunday, April 15, 1900.

In his early years in Alaska Bishop Rowe was also responsible for building or helping to build several other Episcopal churches. These projects included the Church of our Savior in Tanana, which shares some Shingle style qualities with St. Peter's by-the-Sea, but without the stone foundation and buttresses. It has a similar hooded arched gable, but is generally a more simplified edifice.[19]

HERMAN LOUIS DUHRING, JR., ARCHITECT

The *Philadelphia Enquirer* published a small story and image of the completed Sitka church on August 5, 1900 (Figure 4.14). The article referenced the architect Herman Louis Duhring, Jr., and noted the fine quality of the design. Duhring was born in Philadelphia in 1874, the son of the Rev. Herman Louis Duhring, Sr. and Lucy (Bryant) Duhring. His father, a native Philadelphian, was an Episcopal Priest of some note, who served as the Dean of the Convocation of South Philadelphia. The junior Duhring began his education in Philadelphia public


St. Peters-by-the-Sea, Sitka, Alaska

a the efforts of the friends of the church mission have been most effective. A
e-Sea, has just been consecrated. The plans of the church were made by H. L

Figure 4.14: From the *Philadelphia Enquirer* August 5, 1900. Source: Newspapers.com.

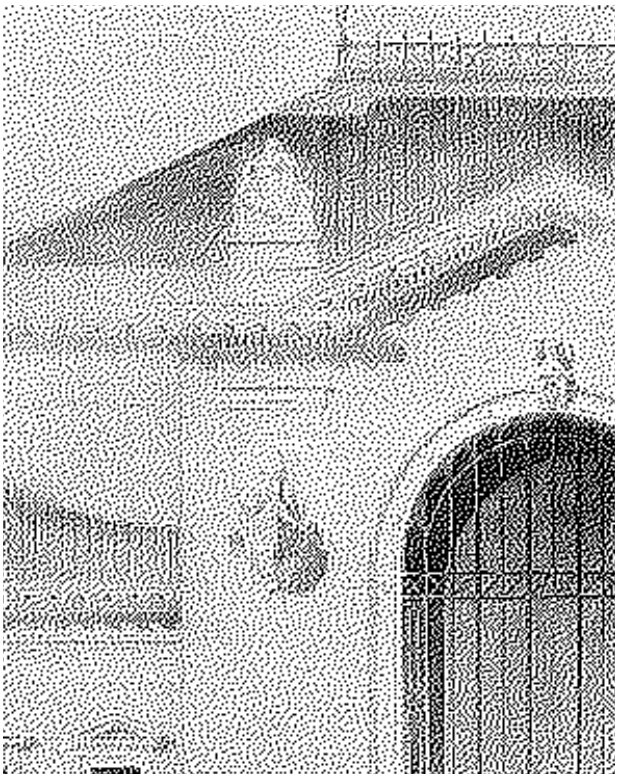


Figure 4.15: A detail of one of the drawings by Herman Duhring for his award-winning church design, 1897. Source: Philadelphia Architects and Buildings, an online archive (www.philadelphiabuildings.org).

schools, subsequently graduated from the Central Manual Training School in 1891. Duhring then attended the University of Pennsylvania, receiving a Bachelor of Architecture in 1895.

Additionally, by 1892, Duhring began a period of office experience, first with the firm Mantle Fielding followed in 1893 by work with Furness, Evans & Company. Frank Furness was, at the time, one of Philadelphia's most significant architects. Furness had studied with Richard Morris Hunt whose influence permeated American architecture in the second half of the 19th century. In 1897, Duhring became the first recipient of the Stewardson Traveling Scholarship, funding European travel for students from a Pennsylvania architecture school, for his winning design of an assigned ecclesiastical program: "A Protestant Episcopal Church in a City"[20] (Figure 4.15).

The scholarship enabled Duhring to do extensive study in Venice, Italy, including, according to his obituary in the *New York Times*, completing measured drawings of the campanile of San Marco which informed rebuilding the tower after its collapse in 1902. [21]

Upon returning to Philadelphia in 1898, Duhring launched his own firm, followed in 1899 by his collaboration with R. Brognard Okie and Carl A. Ziegler under the name of Duhring, Okie & Ziegler. This firm continued in operation through 1918, when Okie resigned. Duhring & Ziegler remained in practice through 1924, with Duhring working independently following that time.

The early work of Duhring, Okie & Ziegler focused on residential work and later their interest in the restoration of Pennsylvania's landmarks, especially those of the Colonial Period. Duhring joined and became an active member of the American Institute of Architects in 1914 and became a fellow of the Institute in 1952. He was also active in Philadelphia's T-Square Club, was a member of the Sons of the Revolution, he served on the Board of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and was president of the Architectural Alumni Society of the University of Pennsylvania. Duhring died in 1953.

A comprehensive list of Duhring's works does not seem to exist, but he is known to have designed or restored several other churches. His primary works appear to be residential projects throughout the Philadelphia area.

GOTHIC INSPIRED CHURCHES

St. Peter's by-the-Sea is a small, cruciform plan church typical of buildings within the American Episcopal Church at the turn of the twentieth century. The small church was based on building practices that often relied on language typical of the Gothic Revival or the Ecclesiastical Gothic, as it is sometimes called. In the 19th century, ecclesiastical tastes shifted away from Classical Revival architecture and harkened back to the Gothic period. However, the building of Gothic-influenced churches was also tied to theological arguments made by British architect Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin regarding what he termed "Ethical Gothic." The adaptation of the Gothic into the American Episcopal building tradition was fairly common, inspired by Pugin and other British and American Gothic enthusiasts. Phoebe Stanton's essay in the classic publication *Built in the USA* noted: "The Episcopal Church tended to adopt the English Gothic style and experiment with the Romanesque."[22]

Figure 4.16: A small church design from Upjohn's 1852 publication, *Upjohn's Rural Architecture*. Source: *Upjohn's Rural Architecture*.

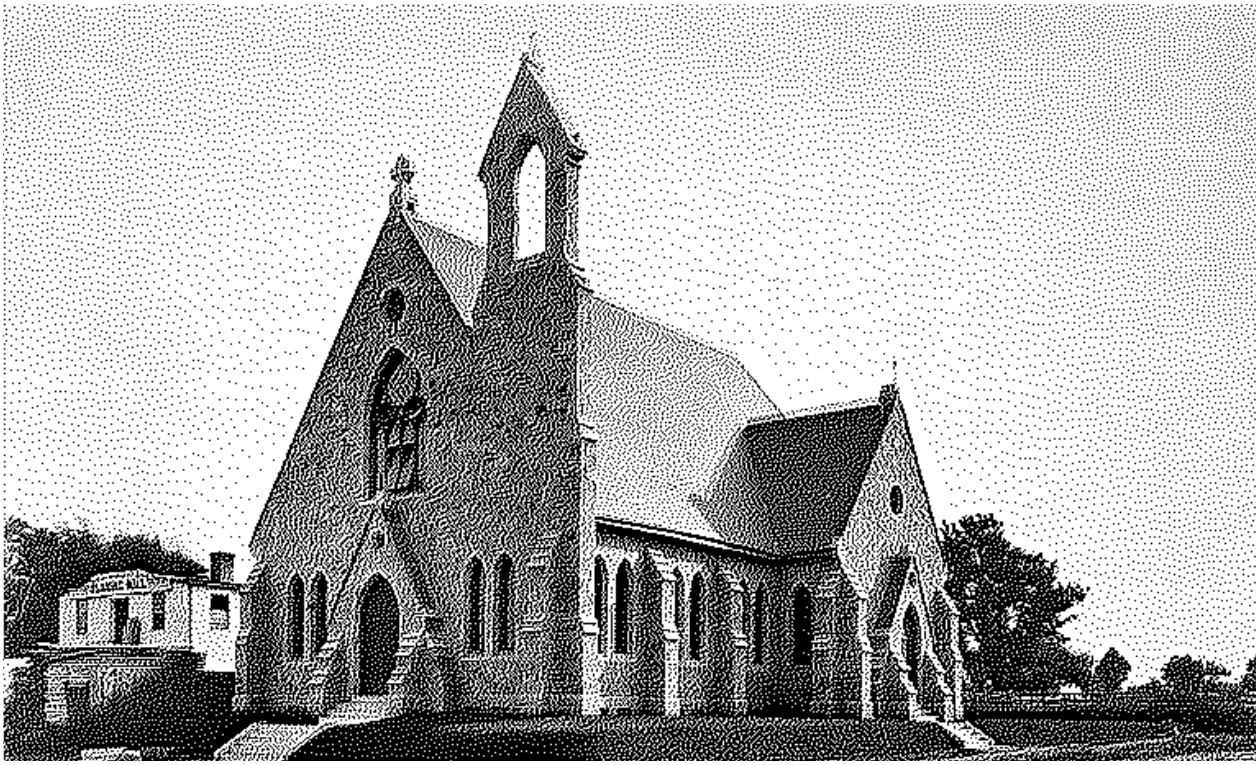


Figure 4.17: Upjohn's First Unitarian Church of Germantown, Pennsylvania, demolished 1920s. Source: Philadelphia Architects and Buildings, an online archive (www.philadelphiabuildings.org).

On the east coast, British-born architect and Episcopalian Richard Upjohn became the master of the type and style of churches embraced by the Episcopal Church. While Upjohn designed substantial churches of stone in large east coast cities, with his Trinity Church in New York City being his most famous edifice, his 1852 publication *Upjohn's Rural Architecture: Designs, working drawings and specifications for a wooden church, and other rural structures,* included small church designs (Figure 4.16). His long list of ecclesiastical projects in the northeast influenced a generation of architects and designers.

As the son of an Episcopal priest, the St. Peter's by-the-Sea architect Duhring would have been familiar with Upjohn's work as well as the Episcopal churches in and around Philadelphia. Further, through his architectural studies he would have known of Upjohn's built works and writings. Lastly, Duhring's understanding of a broader European ecclesiastical building tradition would have flourished during his year-long fellowship abroad. Similarly, Duhring was also familiar with the work of Frank Furness, both from his short apprenticeship in Furness' office and from his reputation. Furness' designs often strayed from the traditional but his earlier works such as the First Unitarian Church of Germantown, Pennsylvania could certainly have inspired Duhring (Figure 4.17). All of this would have influenced Duhring's design for a small church in Sitka, Alaska, a location to which he had never traveled.

ALASKA'S BUILDING TRADITIONS

In a region where timber for wood-frame construction was abundant, Duhring's use of stone may have been an odd choice. However, Bishop Rowe may have specified stone, not realizing the difficulty of extracting the material. Nevertheless, St. Peter's by-the-Sea is one of the few stone buildings in Alaska and according to Bishop Rowe, it was the first building of stone constructed in the Territory. In his 1899 yearly report Rowe noted:

Figure 4.18: An colorized postcard view of St. Peter's. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

> The chapel is called 'St. Peter's by-the-Sea.' It will cost $4,000 and is a quaint, unique building. It is partially of native stone, the first semi-stone structure in Alaska. It will seat 150 persons, and will be ready for consecration some time in October.[23]

Architectural Historian Alison Hoagland in her *Buildings of Alaska* concurs:

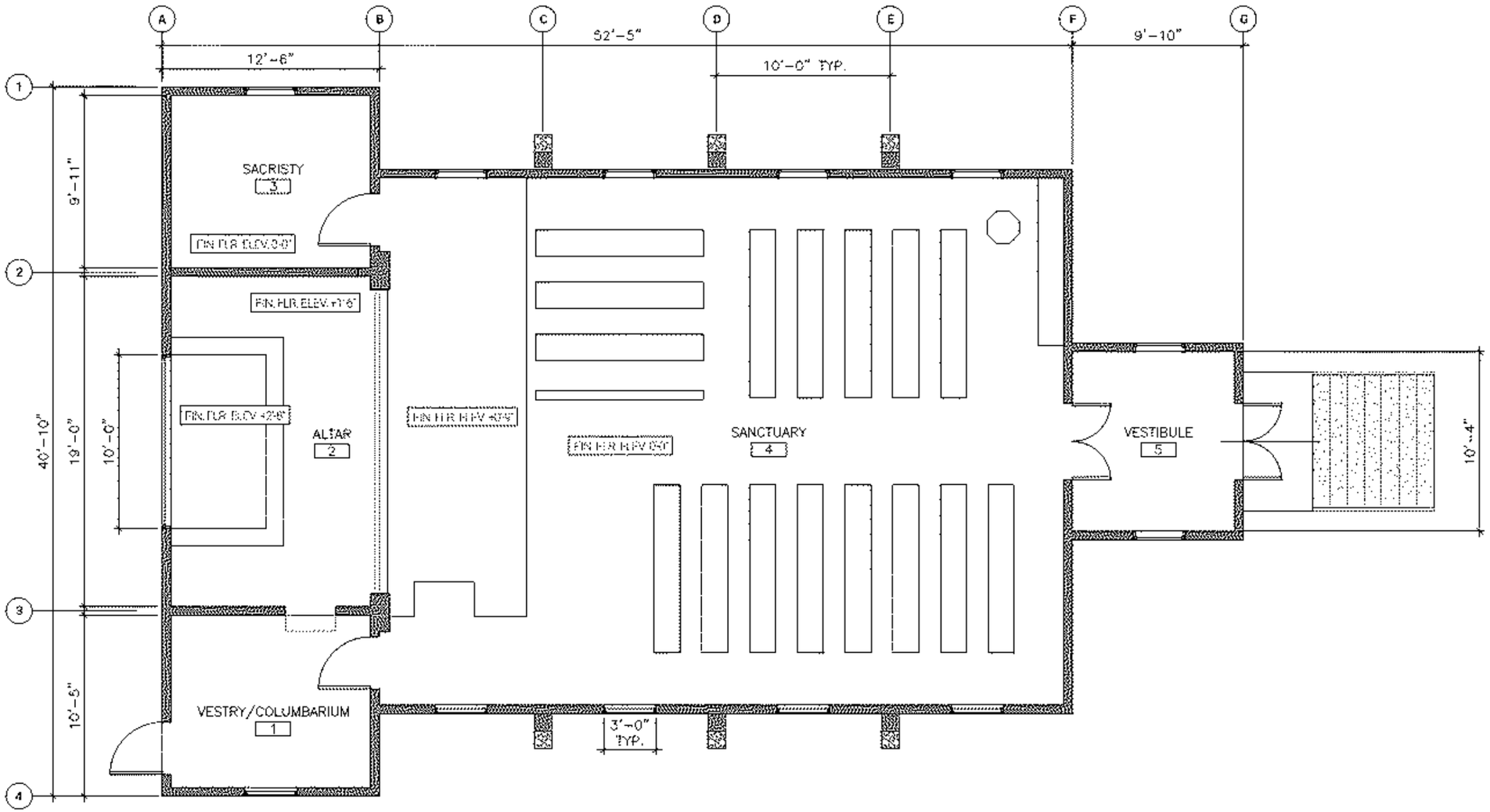
> One of the few stone buildings in Alaska. Saint Peter's Church has the heavy timbering, random rubble stone, and wood shingling characteristic of small ecclesiological churches of the late nineteenth century. Set on a stone foundation, the church is constructed of a heavy timber frame, filled with rubble stone nogging.[24]

THE IMPORTANCE OF ST. PETER'S BY-THE-SEA

The significance of St. Peter's by-the-Sea is three-fold: its association with Bishop Rowe, its design which is one of the finest Gothic-inspired churches in Alaska, and its use of stone, a rare building material at the time of its construction (Figure 4.18).

CHAPTER 4 ENDNOTES

1. Information on the life of Bishop Rowe is from three main sources: Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska: Peter Trimble Rowe, New York: Moorhouse-Gorham*, 1943; Nancy J. Ricketts, *A Brief History of St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church to the Year 2000*, Indianapolis, Indiana: Dog Ear Publishing, 2006; and Alfred Mongin and Alaska Division of Parks. "St. Peter's Church." National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Sitka, Alaska, March 15, 1977
2. "The First Bishop of Alaska: Consecration of Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe." *New York Times*. December 1, 1895.
3. Ricketts, *A Brief History of St. Pete's By-the-Sea*, 7-8.
4. Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska*, 9.
5. Ricketts, *A Brief History of St. Pete's By-the-Sea*, 10-12.
6. *That Great Land...Alaska*, 30.
7. *New York Times* December 1, 1895.
8. Ricketts, *A Brief History of St. Pete's By-the-Sea,* 23.
9. *Daily Morning Alaskan* March 23, 1900.
10. Alice Pace Henson. "The Real Sitka." *Travel.* Vol 71, No. 1 May 1912: 27.
11. National Register Nomination See House, August 1977.
12. National Register Nomination St. Peters, August 1977.
13. February 1918, *Church News*.
14. *Philadelphia Inquirer*. November 12, 1898: 12.
15. National Register Nomination St. Peters, August 1977.
16. Nancy J. Rickets, *A Brief History of St. Peter's by-the-Sea*, 28-29.
17. *The Alaskan* June 24, 1899.
18. Nancy J. Rickets, *A Brief History of St. Peter's by-the-Sea,* 28-29.
19. Alison K. Hoagland, *Buildings of Alaska*, 235-36
20. *Inland Architect and News Record*, June 1897: 59.
21. "Architect 58 Years Dies, Herman L. Duhring Jr., 79 Had Restored Colonial Houses." *New York Times*. July 20, 1953.
22. Phoebe Stanton, "Religious Structures," in *Built in the USA*. Washington, D.C. Preservation Press, 1985: 140.
23. Nancy J. Rickets, *A Brief History of St. Peter's by-the-Sea*, 29.
24. Alison Hoagland, *Buildings of Alaska*, 189-190.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40'-10"
19'-0"
10'-6"
10'-5"
10'-4"
SACRISTY
3
FIN. FLR. ELEV. 0'-0"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +1'-6"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +2'-6"
ALTAR
2
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +3'-4"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. 0'-0"
SANCTUARY
4
VESTIBULE
5
VESTRY/COLUMBARIUM
1
3'-0" TYP.

Floor Plan

5. Physical Description

SITE

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church property is located on the north side of Lincoln Street in Sitka, Alaska overlooking Crescent Bay (Figure 5.1). There are three buildings on the property, the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, the See House (Bishop's House, but now referred to as the rectory), and the Archives Building. The See House and Archives Building are located north and northeast of the church, respectively. The front (entry) facades of the church and the See House face south toward Lincoln Street and the bay. The entrance to the Archives Building faces west. An uncoursed fieldstone wall with a jagged rock cap runs east-west along the public sidewalk at Lincoln Street separating the church property from the sidewalk. The fieldstone wall terminates at taller posts of the same material at the west side at a paved drive

Figure 5.1: Historic view of Sitka's Crescent Bay with St. Peter's and the See House visible along the shoreline, likely c. 1908-1915. From Anne Pollnow (RHC09-126.ar.jpg).

and at the east before meeting the second paved drive. Within the fieldstone wall, there is a wrought iron gate, with decorative fleur-de-lis caps, centered on the front entry of the church (Figure 5.2). The gate is flanked by fieldstone posts which also have jagged rock caps. There are two steps at the gate leading to a concrete sidewalk, with low concrete curb walls on either side that progresses

Figure 5.2: Wrought iron gate at front entry of church, accessed from the public sidewalk next to Lincoln Street.

Figure 5.4: Cutting from the famous Glastonbury Thorn from England's Glastonbury Abbey planted in 1999, at northwest corner of church.

Figure 5.3: Peter Trimble Row and his family's gravestones rest on the front lawn of the church. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 5.5: Paved parking to the north of the church, looking southwest.

to concrete steps leading up to the church's entry vestibule. The concrete steps are bounded on either side with fieldstone kneewalls that match the sidewalk masonry wall. There is also a concrete path that leads from the church steps eastward toward the paved drive at the east side of the property.

The church is surrounded by lawn and a few trees and shrubs. Large shrubs flank the front entry stairs, but for the most part the lawn continues to the base of the church; there are no low foundation plantings at the east and west side of the church. The remains of the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, Peter Trimble Row, and those of his first wife, Dora, and two of their children are buried on the front lawn and are marked by gravestones (Figure 5.3). There is a stump of what was a large tree to the east of the Rowe family gravestones. At the east side of the church there is a stepped, concrete planting bed just at the edge of the parking area and several concrete parking bumpers at the northeast corner of the church. Near the northwest corner of the church there is a cutting from the famous Glastonbury Thorn from England's Glastonbury Abbey, which was planted in 1999 (Figure 5.4). A protective metal fence surrounds the thorn tree. At the rear (or northeast) corner of the church there is a low, boulder retaining wall separating the church from the paved area behind that allows for the approximately three-foot facade difference between the church floor and the parking lot level. At the northwest corner there is a concrete path and steps leading from the parking area to the church's rear door. The rear door leads to the columbarium room and is one of only two entrances into the church. This area around the rear door has some low plantings along the edge of the paved drive and a serpentine-shaped concrete pathway serving as the accessible route from parking into the church. One-way directional asphalt driveways at the east and west sides of the church lead to a large, paved parking behind the church to the south of the See House (Figure 5.5).

Figure 5.6: Paved parking area and drive that separates the church and See House, looking north.

Figure 5.7: The See House situated along the west property line, looking northeast.

Figure 5.8: Pathway between the rear addition of the See House and the Archives Building, looking west.

Figure 5.9: Church garden at the north end of the parcel behind the See House, looking north.

To the north of the church is the See House which is separated from the church by the paved parking area and drive. The paving terminates in front of the See House where there are foundation plantings at the south front and a set of stairs to the building entry (Figure 5.6). Along the east side of the See House the asphalt paving continues up to the building's foundation eventually transitioning to lawn at the northeast corner.

The See House is situated along the west property line, where a wood fence separates the church property from the adjacent parcel (Figure 5.7). There are some low plantings along the east side of the wood fence and to the west of the See House. To the east of the See House is the small Archives Building, which was originally a garage and storage building. There is an area of lawn and a concrete pathway between the rear addition of the See House and the Archives Building (Figure 5.8). The concrete pathway also leads from the asphalt parking lot to the porch entry at the rear of the See House and provides a partially accessible route from the parking area into the building. At the north end of the parcel behind the See House, there is a church garden and several small garden sheds. A wood fence runs along the far north side of the property (Figure 5.9).

BUILDING EXTERIOR

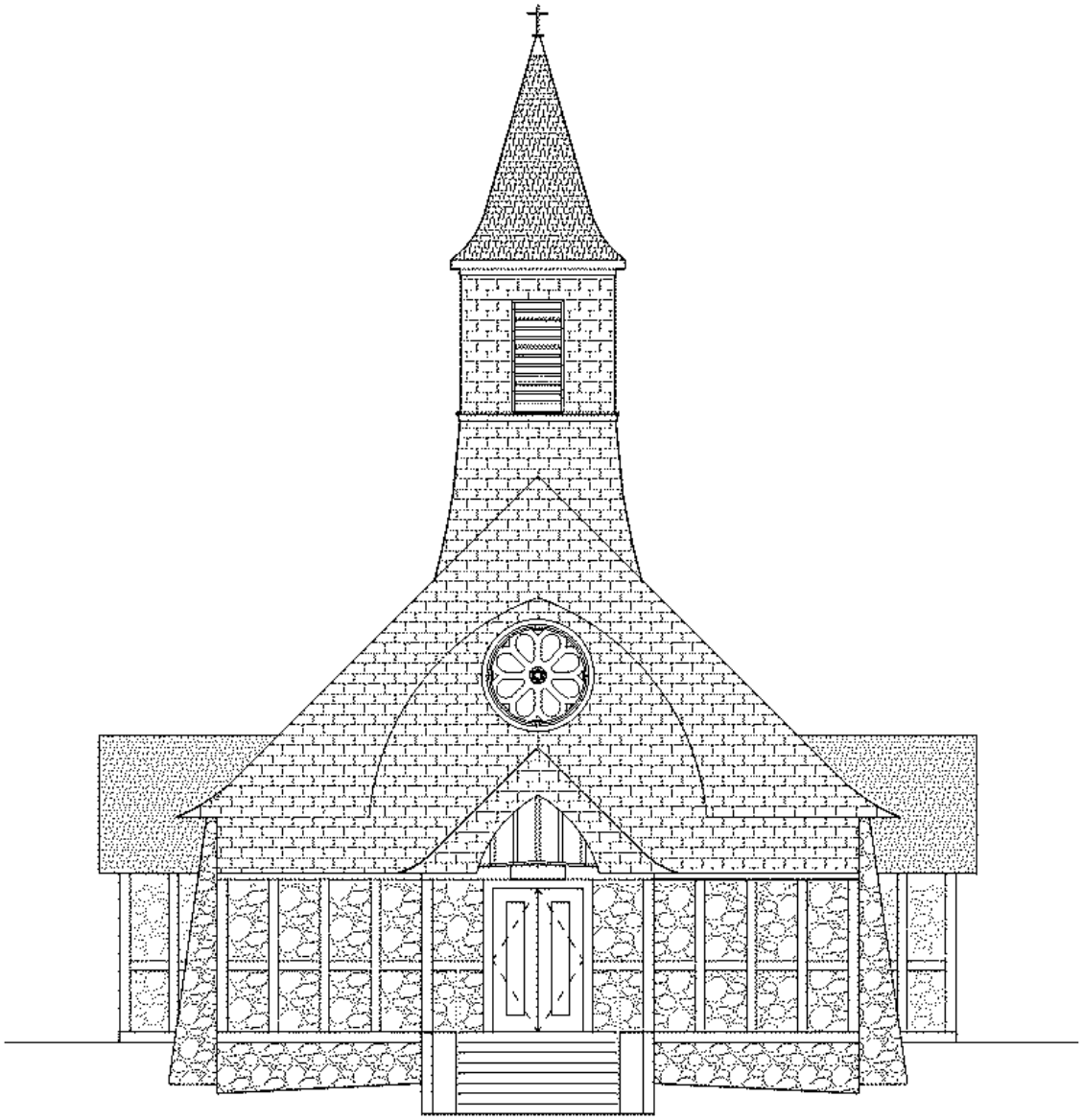
St. Peter's is an amalgam of the Shingle, Tudor Revival and Gothic Revival styles (Figure 5.10). Having been designed by a Philadelphia architect in 1899, its architecture is heavily influenced by country churches found throughout England and the small Episcopal churches of the eastern United States. The building has a traditional cruciform plan, with transepts on either side of the altar.

At the foundation level, the stem walls are a combination of a base course of randomly laid fieldstone, of the same quarry type as those used for the church yard wall along Lincoln Street, with a brick leveling course above parged with mortar and painted red to mimic the half-timber wall framing. Above the foundation masonry the walls are half-timber framed and infilled with uncoursed fieldstone to a height of approximatle nine feet (lintel height). Above this fieldstone infill, the walls are clad in painted wood shingles. Timber lintels are continuous along the tops of the walls and divide the shingle siding and masonry (Figure 5.11). The half-timbered wood members of the church structure and other exterior wood elements are painted red.

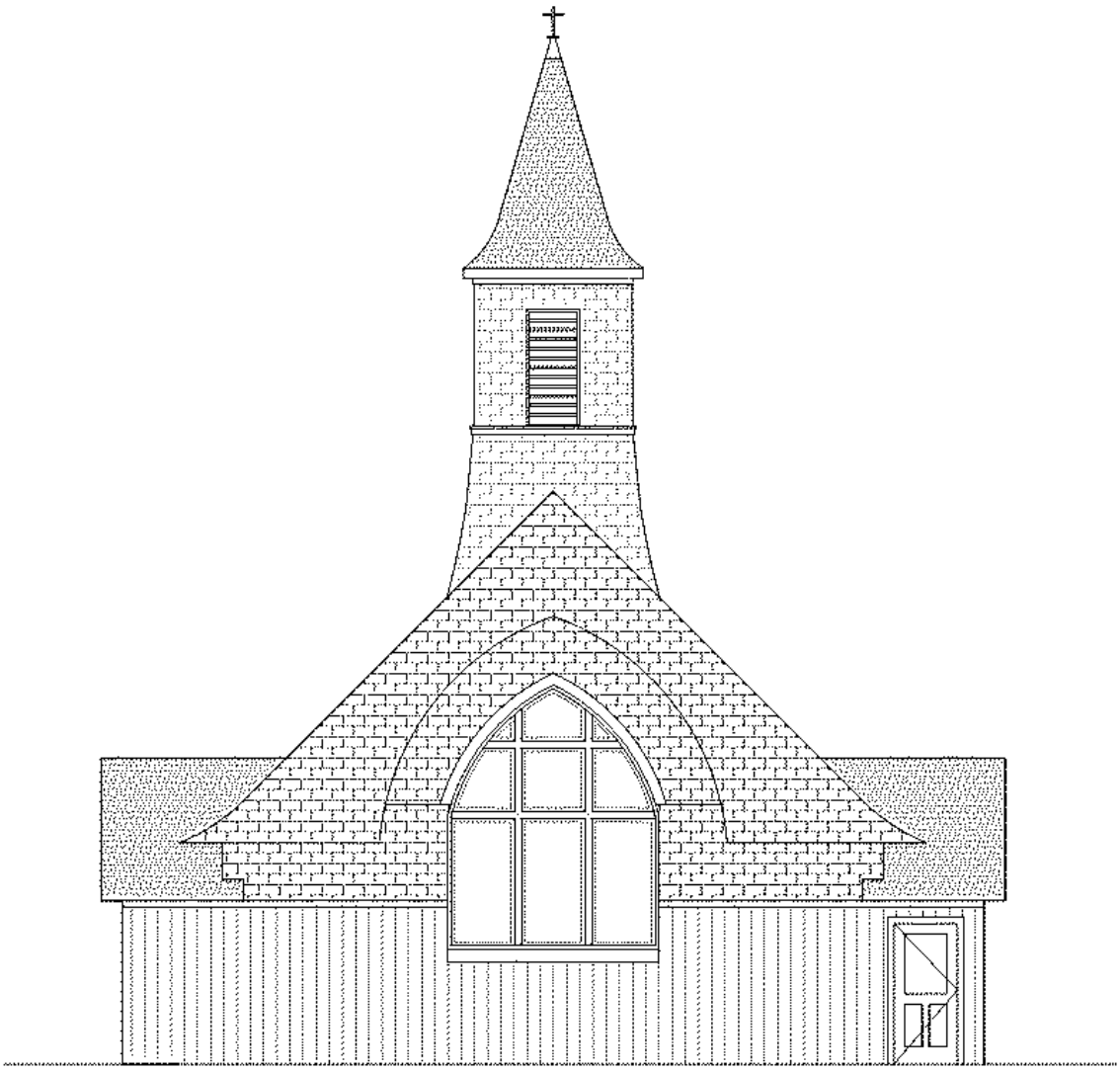
Figure 5.10: St. Peter's is an amalgam of the Shingle, Tudor Revival and Gothic Revival styles, south (front) facade of church.

Figure 5.11: Timber lintels are continuous along the tops of the walls and divide the shingle siding and masonry.

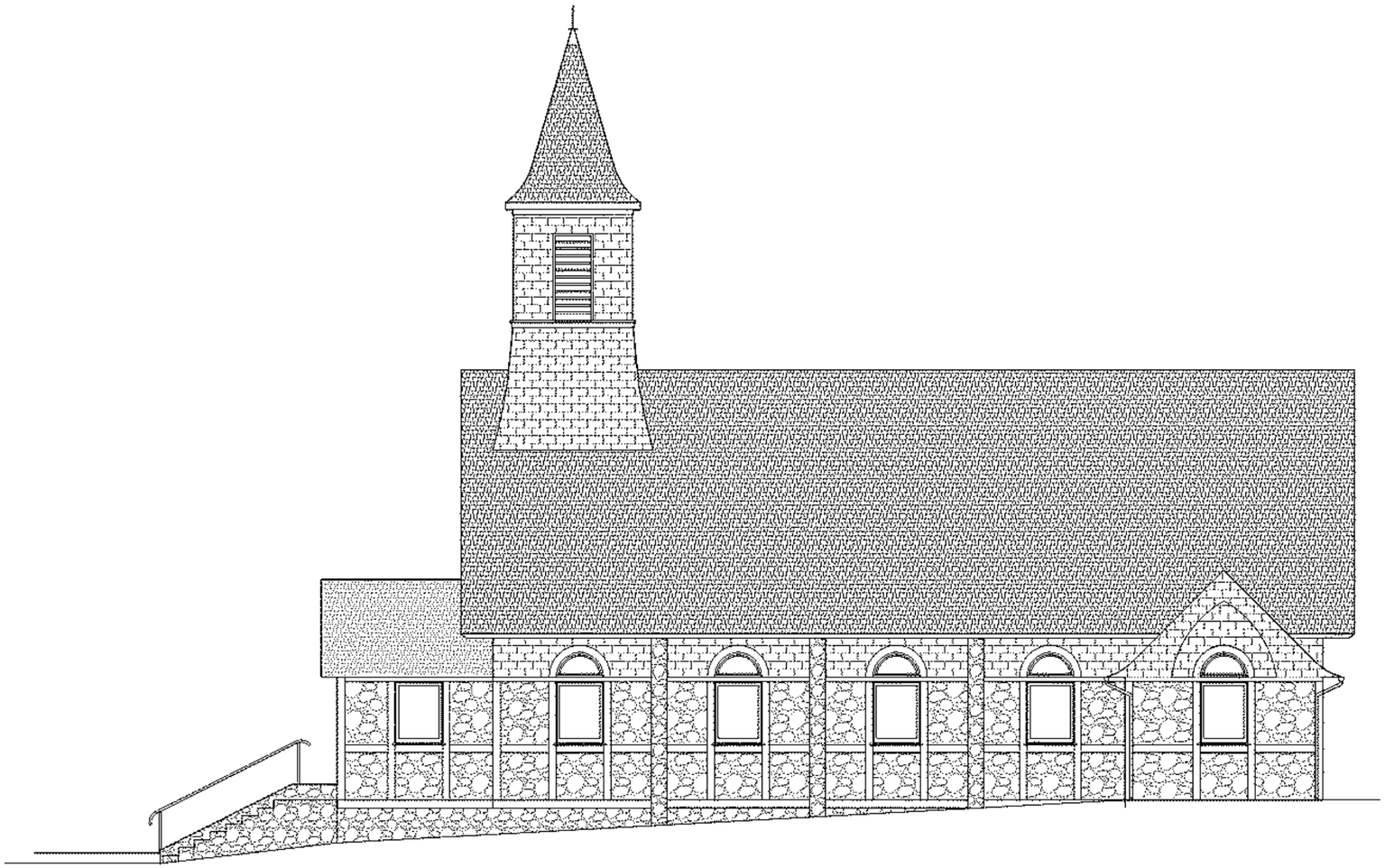
Figure 5.12: The church has a steeply pitched, gable roof with the ridge oriented perpendicular to Lincoln Street, and lower cross gables over transepts run parallel to the street, looking northeast.



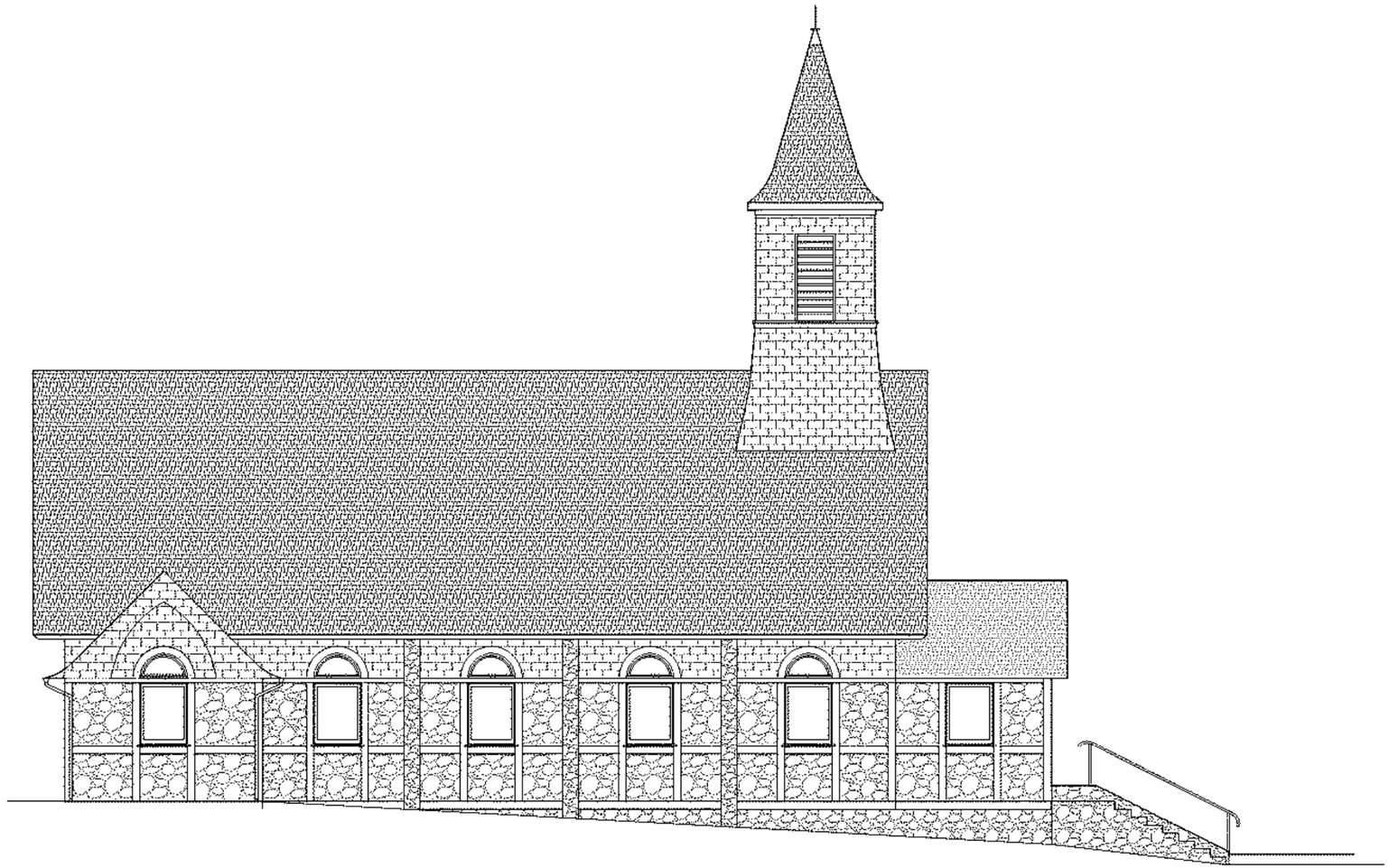
South Elevation



North Elevation



East Elevation



West Elevation

Figure 5.13: The belfry has vertically oriented, rectangular wood slat vents set within each of the four shingled walls.

Figure 5.15: Hooded arches are repeated throughout the church, including at the transepts and entry porch.

Figure 5.14: One of the earliest views of St. Peter's showing the open-air belfry. Source: St. Peter's By-The-Sea Archives.

Figure 5.16: The hooded arch at the entry vestibule is unique to the building, consisting of shiplap siding.

A steeply pitched, gable roof tops the building with its ridge oriented perpendicular to Lincoln Street. There are lower cross gables over the transepts which run parallel to Lincoln Street. (Figure 5.12). The roof is clad in cedar wood shingles. A wood shingle is sawn and sanded on both faces resulting in a thinner butt end and flatter profile when compared to a wood shake. Shaped wood lookouts support the eaves at the entry vestibule roof but are not used at the main roof eaves. All roof eaves are constructed with tongue-and-groove board soffits. A belfry is located at the ridgeline close to the south facade. The belfry is square in plan and has a shingle-clad base and walls. Vertically oriented, rectangular, wood louvers are set within each of the four shingled belfry walls. (Figure 5.13). The belfry was originally open-air but later infilled to its current configuration (Figure 5.14). A steep pyramidal roof, clad in wood shingles with flared eaves matching the main roof, tops the belfry. At the gable ends of the building, the main roof is cantilevered out from the shingled walls below creating a hooded arch. This hooded arch shape is a theme repeated throughout the church including at the transepts and entry porch (Figure 5.15). The entry porch roof is a mimic of the main roof including flared ends and hooded arch. Siding within the hooded arch at the entry vestibule is unique to the building consisting of shiplap siding placed behind square framing members (Figure 5.16).

The typical windows in the church are wood frame with leaded stained glass of a simple design (Figure 5.17). The lower portion of the typical window assembly is rectangular with leaded glass pieces of amber color; these are configured with eight pieces across and five vertical. These elements are framed by smaller rectangular glass pieces of a green hue. Centered within the fourth and fifth rows are white glass pieces set within a white ribbon-shape and small, diamond-shaped pieces. This lower window is capped by an arched window with a semi-circular or fan lite of multiple colors. These fan lites are each an operable transom. All the windows have wood sills and trim. There are two of these typical windows at the entry vestibule, three along the east and west sides of the church nave, and one under each of the transept gables. The only one of these windows that has been altered is at the east transept, at the sacristy, where the lower window has been replaced with clear glass. However, the fan light at this location retains its stained glass (Figure 5.18).

Figure 5.17: Typical windows are wood frame with leaded stained glass of a simple design.

Figure 5.18: The east transept window at the sacristy has been replaced with clear glass.

Figure 5.19: Two northern-most windows on the east and west facades contain more decorative stained glass, with the same configuration as the typical window.

Figure 5.21: The most elaborate window at St. Peter's is a large, divided, arched window at the north facade behind the alter.

Figure 5.20: The large rose window at the south front facade features eight, teardrop shaped lites filled with floral patterns.

Figure 5.22: Similar to the walls of the main church, the walls of the entrance vestibule are timber framing infilled with fieldstone.

The exceptions to the typical windows are the two northern-most nave windows at the east and west sides of the church, which contain more decorative stained glass, but are the same configuration as the typical window discussed above. The details of the stained-glass design and theme for these two windows is discussed below in the interior description (Figure 5.19).

Additionally, there is a large rose window at the south (front) facade which is centrally placed under the main gable. This round window features eight, teardrop shaped lites filled with floral patterns (Figure 5.20). The most elaborate window at St. Peter's is a large, divided, arched window at the north facade behind the alter. The window has nine elements across three rows (Figure 5.21). The decorative features and themes of these windows will be further described in the interior section below.

SOUTH (PRIMARY) FAÇADE

The south façade of the church is symmetrical. The hooded arch below the main gable at this façade frames a stained-glass rose window. Centered below the rose window is an entrance vestibule that projects from the main building walls.

Figure 5.23: The gabled roof of the entrance vestibule has flared eaves, a hooded arch, and is covered with wood shingles.

Figure 5.24: Entrance doors are glazed metal-skinned doors that are not original.

Figure 5.25: An historic view of St. Peter's showing the original wood door. Source: St. Peter's-By-The-Sea Archives.

Similar to the walls of the main church, the walls of the entrance vestibule are timber framing infilled with fieldstone (Figure 5.22). The gabled roof of the entrance vestibule has flared eaves, a hooded arch, and is covered with wood shingles (Figure 5.23). Beneath the hooded gable end in the south façade, there is a pair of glazed metal-skinned doors that are not original (Figure 5.24). The original doors were also in a double configuration and constructed of wood without glazing. (Figure 5.25). Leaded glass windows typical of the building are located on the east and west walls of the entry vestibule. A concrete stairway with closed fieldstone balustrades leads to the entrance. Modern round metal pipe handrails have been added on both sides of the concrete stairs (Figure 5.26).

EAST AND WEST FAÇADES

South of the transepts, the east and west facades of the church are identical (Figure 5.27). They are each divided into four bays by fieldstone buttresses that stretch from the ground to the building's eaves. The buttresses are tapered from the base to the roof eave, and they sit directly on the ground where they are joined with the fieldstone at the foundation level. Each bay has a centrally located leaded stained-glass window with a semicircular, operable transom. The main gable roof along the east and west facades has a modest overhang consisting of a tongue-and-groove board soffit bounded by an ogee profile wood fascia trim.

Transepts project from the main building at both the east and west sides (Figure 5.28). The transepts have the same flared gable roof and hooded arch as the south façade. At the west facade of the west transept and east façade of the east transept, there are windows of similar configuration. The east window has a replacement clear glass window, while the west transept window has the stained glass typical of the other windows.

NORTH FAÇADE

A large, nine-panel, stained-glass, pointed-arch window dominates the north façade (Figure 5.29). Unlike the other three facades, the lower wall level at this façade has vertical wood lap siding; however, the upper level is shingled in similar patterns to the other facades. There is no fieldstone or half-timbering at this façade. At the rear of the west transept there is secondary entry into the vestry and columbarium. The nave can be indirectly accessed

Figure 5.26: A concrete stairway with closed fieldstone ballustrades leads to the entrance. Modern round metal pipe handrails have been added to the stairs.

Figure 5.28: Transepts project from the main building at both the east and west facades.

Figure 5.27: South of the transepts, the east and west facades of the church are identical, looking northeast.

Figure 5.29: A large, nine-panel stained-glass, pointed arch window dominates the north facade.

Figure 5.30: A secondary entrance at the north facade provides access to the vestry and nave, looking southeast.

through this secondary entry, which serves as the accessible entry into the church (Figure 5.30). The east transept does not have a window at the north façade but, rather, this area houses the exterior mechanical and electrical equipment for the church.

BUILDING INTERIOR

INTRODUCTION

St. Peter's by-the-Sea has a cruciform-shaped plan with a small nave and altar flanked by the east transept, housing the sacristy, and the west transept, housing the vestry and columbarium. The church was designed to seat about 130 people and is 30 feet wide by 50 feet in length (Figure 5.31). A small entry vestibule is accessed from the front stairs and porch. The walls are plaster with some gypsum repairs. The wood flooring in the nave is tongue-and-groove Douglas Fir. The ceiling features open pointed-arch scissor trusses with oiled spruce panels between. The wood pews, with a simple trefoil cut out motif at either end, are arranged flanking the center aisle of the nave. The altar and chancel are located beneath a pointed-arch opening at the north end of the church (Figure 5.32). The organ piping is mounted to the west wall of the east transept adjacent to the altar. The organ console is elevated above the nave level at the northwest corner of the nave, in front of the altar.

ENTRY VESTIBULE

The entry vestibule is accessed via two, solid-wood, full-lite doors that swing inward to the space. The vestibule has 18-inch square beige tile flooring (Figure 5.33). A bronze remembrance plaque is mounted on the wall to the west of the double doors. There is diagonal tongue-and-groove beadboard at ceiling and gable portions of vestibule walls. There is a decorative pendant light fixture, that does not appear to be original to the building, centered in the space. (Figure 5.34). The walls in this space are gypsum painted white. The vestibule has two leaded glass windows typical of the church on both the east and west walls (Figure 5.35). The double doors to the nave mimic the exterior doors with full, vertical lites. There are wall sconces on either side of the nave doors.

Figure 5.31: Overall view of the interior of the church, looking south.

Figure 5.33: View of the church entry doors and the tile in the entry vestibule, looking south.

Figure 5.32: The alter, chancel and north wall stained glass window, looking north.

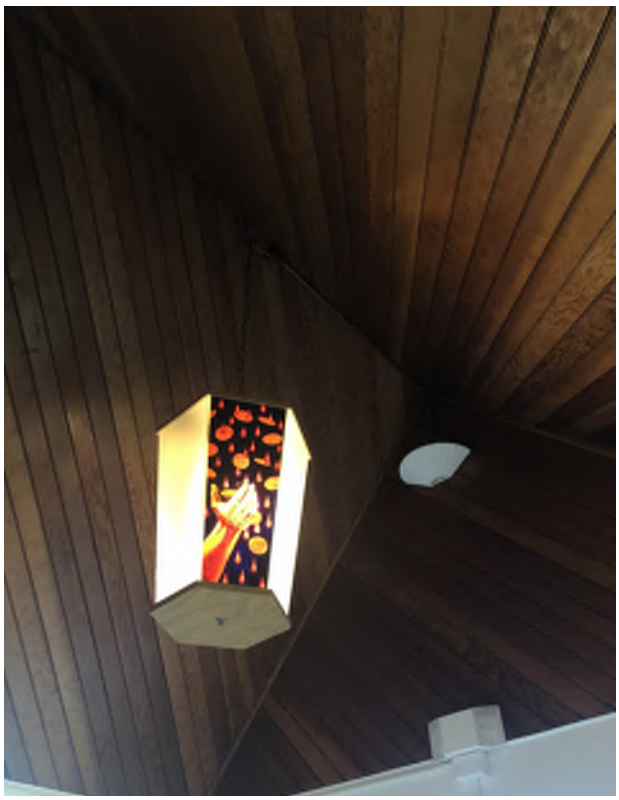


Figure 5.34: Detail of the entry vestibule ceiling and decorative light fixture.

Figure 5.35: Entry vestibule window, looking northeast. Note the windows in the entry vestibule do not have the fan lite transom above like the nave and transept windows.

Figure 5.36: Detail of the church pews showing the trefoil motif at the ends. Also visible in this photograph are the wood floors.

Figure 5.37: Detail of the church pews showing the kneelers and hymnal racks. Also visible in this photograph are the wood floors.

Figure 5.38: The wood floors at the east aisle. Also visible are the wall mounted heaters and the baseboards.

Figure 5.39: View of the raised floor, covered with red carpet, and the awkward transition to the sacristy at the east transept.

Figure 5.40: View of the west side of the church showing the flooring and the white-painted wainscoting and smooth upper walls.

NAVE AND PEWS

The nave is configured with a center aisle flanked by pews and east and west side aisles. The wood pews, with a simple, raised, wood trefoil motif at either end, are arranged in two columns (Figure 5.36). There are nine rows of pews on the west side of thechurch and seven on the east side. There are also three pews running perpendicular to the nave pews for use by the choir just south of the altar. The pews have low, rounded arms at the ends and rounded top backs. The pews are fixed directly to the floor at the inside edge of each pew. There is also a single pew at the southeast corner of the church, behind the baptismal font, which serves as the children's corner of the church. Padded kneelers side under the pews and there are wood slat hymnal holders affixed to the back of the pews (Figure 5.37).

FLOORING

The wood flooring in the nave is Douglas fir tongue-and-groove with 3-¼" boards and is original to the building (Figure 5.38). The center aisle of the nave is carpeted, but the wood flooring remains underneath. The altar is raised and a portion of the nave to accommodate the organ and a piano is also raised, but the original wood flooring appears to be in place under this area (Figure 5.39). The raised areas around the altar are also carpeted.

WALLS

The upper walls of the church are plaster with some gypsum board repairs or replacement. The walls are painted a stark white. The lower walls of the nave have a fiberboard wainscoting that does not appear to be original to the building. The wainscoting, also painted white, is capped with a horizontal trim piece (Figure 5.40). The wainscot was originally vertical, unpainted, wood boards with a simple wood drip cap. The baseboard at the walls is wood, but appears to be replacement material. Also at the base of the walls are a series of obsolete baseboards from a past heating system. The west wall of the east transept has been infilled with diagonal wood painted white to assist with supporting the organ pipes (Figure 5.41).

CEILING AND TRUSSES

The ceiling is 3/4" by 3-¼" Douglas fir diagonal tongue-and-groove dark wood beadboard. It is

Figure 5.41: The west wall of the east transept with the horizontal boards infilled at the organ piping.

Figure 5.42: Detail of the diagonal tongue-and-groove dark wood beadboard ceiling, the scissor trusses and king posts with teardrop finials.

Figure 5.43: A typical pendant light fixture in the nave of the church.

Figure 5.44: Historic view of the church interior from a postcard, likely 1930s – postdates insertion of the reredos (1932?). Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives and the Photo Shop Studio.

Figure 5.45: Detail of the altar, looking north.

Figure 5.46: Historic view of the church interior from a postcard, likely 1930s – postdates insertion of the reredos (1932?). Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives and the Photo Shop Studio.

bounded in panel sections formed by the upper truss cords and purlins. At the interior the roof is supported by exposed wooden scissor trusses with three king post, tension ties and wall corbels (Figure 5.42). The king posts have a decorative tear drop finial. The truss system has a blackened iron hardware and is of the same dark finish as the ceiling. The truss system has finished edges with a ¾" chamfer. The dark wood ceiling and trusses contrast with the white walls of the church interior.

Pendant Ceiling Light Fixtures

There are four pendant ceiling light fixtures on each side of the nave. They are six-sided with bronze or bronze colored metal and opaque glass (not likely mica). The bottoms of the light fixtures have circular grilles. The fixtures hang from the wood trusses from metal chains (Figure 5.43).

SANCTUARY, ALTAR AND CHANCEL

In a church, the sanctuary is the area surrounding the altar. An altar is the ceremonial table for the celebration of sacrifice and feast and is usually located at the opposite end of the church from the main entry. The chancel, situated in front of the altar, is the rail that separates the nave from the sanctuary. An historic image of the church shows the altar, chancel, reredos, and stained glass window before the current organ was installed and the reredos relocated to the rear of the church. The reredos covered the lower portion of the north wall stained glass window. Note that the wainscoting was wood and unpainted at the altar and likely throughout the church. (Figure 5.44).

Today, the sanctuary is carpeted whereas historically it was not. The raised floor of the sanctuary was extended further into the nave to accommodate the organ in 1969. The altar is original (Figure 5.45). Another view of the interior from 1962 shows an earlier organ (Figure 5.46). There is a carved wood eagle lectern to the south of the organ console.

Reredos

A reredos is a screen, usually set behind an altar, that often has a theme or tells a story in its design (Figure 5.47). The reredos was relocated to the rear of the church in 2016 to accommodate repairs to the stained glass window behind the altar.

Figure 5.47: The reredos was relocated from behind the altar to the south wall of the church, looking south.

Figure 5.50: Detail of the altered window in the east transept, looking east.

Figure 5.48: Detail of the baptismal font and children's corner pew at the southeast corner of the church.

Figure 5.51: The columbarium in the west transept, looking northeast.

Figure 5.49: View of the sacristy in the east transept, looking northeast.

Figure 5.52: The west wall and window of the west transept. Note the original diagonal wood wall paneling.

Figure 5.53: Detail of the original west transept door and hardware.

Figure 5.54: Detail of a typical stained glass window with the fan lite transom above.

Baptismal Font

The octagonal-shaped, granite baptismal font is located at the rear of the church on the east side of the nave. It has a fitted wood top with a decorative metal cross (Figure 5.48).

SACRISTY- EAST TRANSEPT

The east transept houses the sacristy, which is typically a small room or chapel used for the preparation of services and to store sacred vessels and vestments. The sacristy is accessed via a south-facing door to the east of the altar. The sacristy has built in cabinets, a sink, wood tongue-and-groove floors and ceiling (Figure 5.49). The room has a typical window on the west wall, but the lower rectangular section has replacement glass rather than the leaded and stained glass typical of the other church windows (Figure 5.50). The west wall of the sacristy was modified to accommodate the organ pipe mounted on the east wall of the sanctuary.

COLUMBARIUM- WEST TRANSEPT

The west transept houses the columbarium (Figure 5.51). The original brick chimney in this room was removed to accommodate the columbarium. At some point the lower portion of the window in this space was removed, but was later reinstated with the window from the sacristy (Figure 5.52). This room has the same beige colored tile as found in the entry vestibule. The door from the nave into this space is original and appears to have original hardware (Figure 5.53).

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The typical windows in the church are wood frame with leaded stained glass of a simple design (Figure 5.54). The lower portion of the typical window assembly is rectangular with leaded glass pieces of amber color; these are configured eight across by five vertical pieces. These elements are framed by smaller rectangular glass pieces of a green hue. Centered within the fourth and fifth rows are white glass pieces set within a white ribbon-shaped and small, diamond-shaped pieces. This lower window is capped by an arched window with a semi-circular or fan lite of multiple colors. These fan lites are each an operable hopper style transom.

Figure 5.55: The stained glass window at the northern-most bay at the east wall of the church.

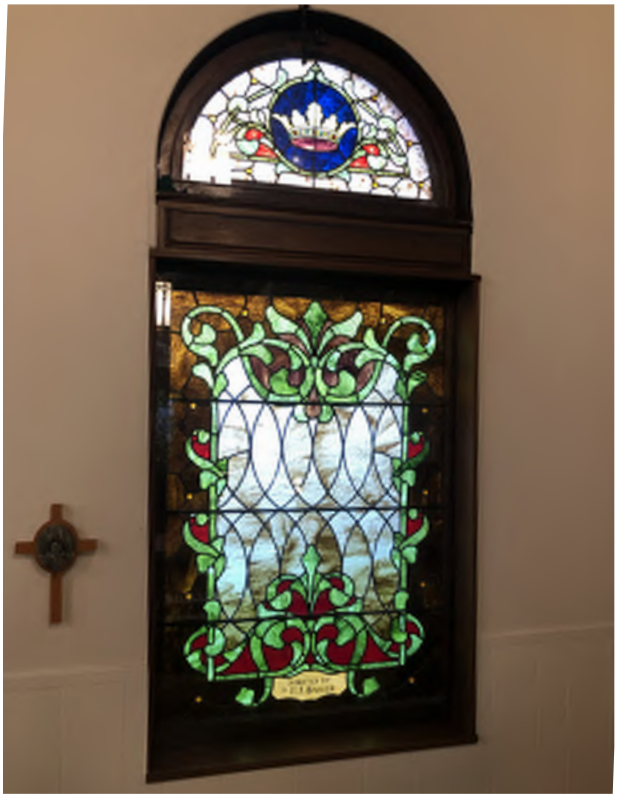


Figure 5.56: The stained glass window at the northern-most bay at the west wall of the church.

Figure 5.57: Detail of the rose window at the south gable of the church.

There are two exceptions to this typical window, both of the same configuration but with more decorative stained glass. The northern-most east wall nave window consists of a floral pattern at the lower, rectangular window and at the fan lite, another floral pattern with a circular inset of blue glass with a white cross (Figure 5.55).

The opposite west nave window also has a floral pattern at the lower window, but the upper fan lite has a blue circle with a crown (Figure 5.56). These two windows were donated by H. A. Bauer.

At the south wall there is a large rose window. The window has teardrops with floral motifs and a central star of interlocking triangles, a symbol of the trinity. The colors used in the rose window include blue, green, purple, red and yellow (Figure 5.57).

The most elaborate window at St. Peter's is a large, divided, arched window at the north facade behind the altar (Figure 5.58). The window has nine elements across three rows. The window grouping has several modillions with images representing the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The lowest section consists of three rectangular windows with amber colored lites surrounding each window. The central window of this lower grouping has a circular modillion with the image of an ox head, the symbol of Luke. The middle section of windows in this grouping is smaller with the middle window being square while the outer windows are curved at the outer side to follow the arch of the overall assembly. Each of these three windows has a circular modillion. The central window has the early Christian Cho-Rho symbol symbolizing the resurrection of Christ (Figure 5.59). The western window has an eagle in the modillion, the symbol of John, and the eastern window has a winged lion, the symbol of Mark. The top grouping in this window has triangular shaped outer elements and a center window that is five sided. The center window has a modillion with an angel, the symbol of Matthew (Figure 5.60).

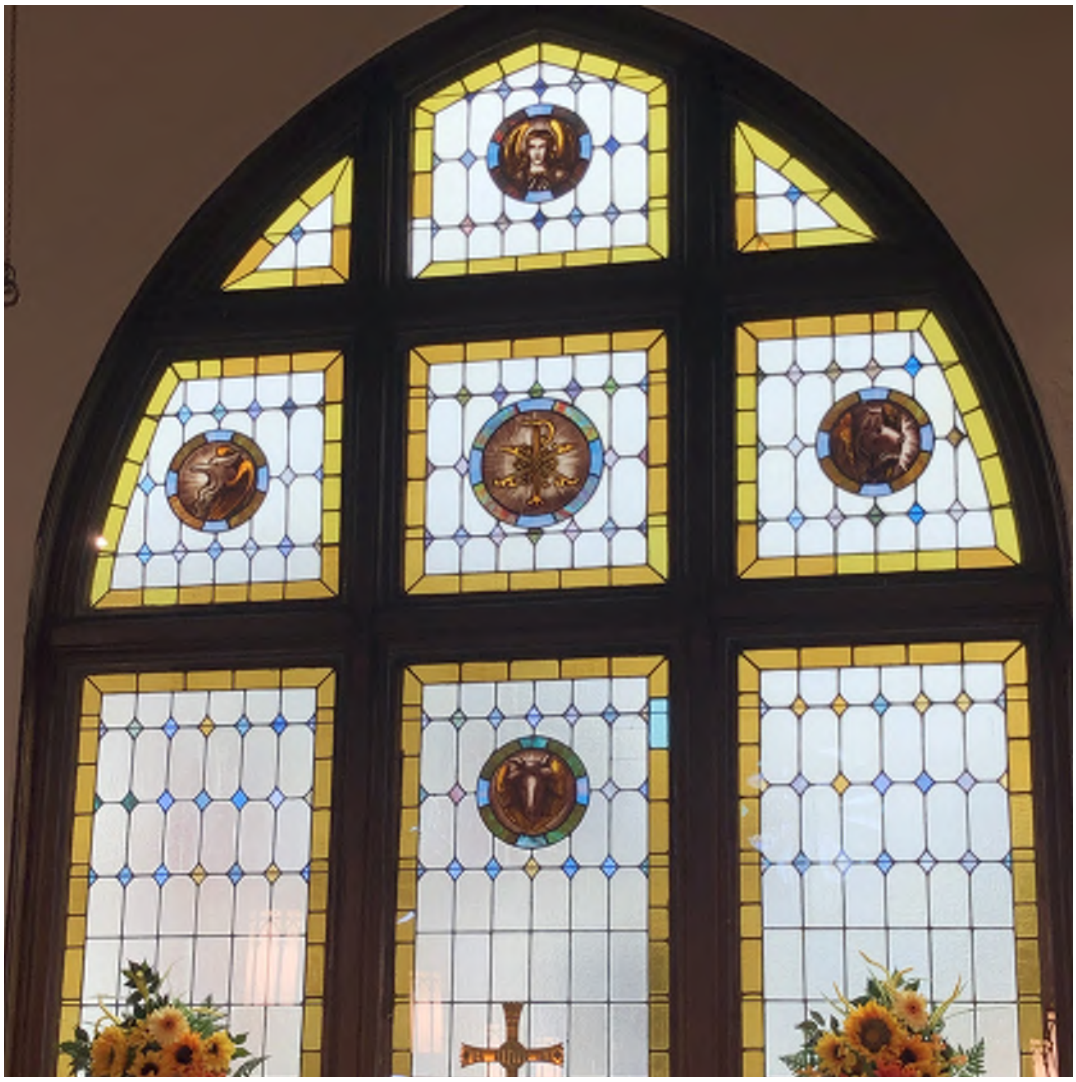


Figure 5.58: Detail of the north wall stained glass window assembly.

Figure 5.59: The center window of the upper most grouping of windows has a modillion with an angel, the symbol of Matthew.

Figure 5.60: The central window in the middle grouping of windows has a modillion with the early Christian Cho-Rho symbol symbolizing the resurrection of Christ.

6. Chronology of Development and Use

1867 United States purchases Alaska from Russia.

1882 Bishop Rowe assigned to Sault St. Marie Michigan.

1894 Bishop Rowe becomes a United State citizen.

1895 Peter Trimble Rowe elected Bishop of Alaska at Episcopal General Convention in Minneapolis.

November 30: Consecration of Bishop Rowe in St. George's Church, New York City:

> 'Believe me,' said Bishop Rowe, 'as I walked up that aisle to the altar, I felt like a lamb going to the slaughter. Everyone believed it to be an impossible job and that it would be bitter for whoever accepted it.'[1]

1896 April: Rowe arrives in Sitka, Alaska.

April-October: Rowe makes first trip north through Alaska.

Bishop Rowe returned from the Klondike by November 1896 to celebrate Thanksgiving service in the Presbyterian Church (as the Episcopal Church had not yet been constructed).

July: Jenkins recounts that Bishop Rowe reported:

> On April 22nd,I left Juneau by the overland route for the Yukon River. Upwards of six or seven hundred men had already started by the same route for the mines at Forty Mile and Circle City. . . After crossing the Summit, Chikoot Pass, I hauled my own sled with a load of 450 pounds over Crater, Long, Lindeman, Bennett, and Horse Lakes, and their connection of Canyon and River. [2]

August: Gold is discovered near the Klondike River in Canada's Yukon Territory.

November 26: First Episcopal Service in Sitka, conducted by Rowe at the Presbyterian Church.

1897 May 30: First confirmation in Sitka, conducted by Rowe.

Summer – Rowe family living in Sitka in rental house.

June – October: Rowe makes second trip north through Alaska and finds a much more crowded Yukon Territory filled with gold seeking miners.

Exact date unknown: Proctor family of Utica, New York donate $2,000.00 toward “church home”.

1898 Building lot chosen for church.

Plans for church and possibly the See House drawn by Duhring in Philadelphia; unclear if Bishop Rowe ever met.. Duhring to discuss the project.

March - October: Rowe makes third trip north through Alaska.

July – The Rev. Wallis M. Partridge becomes Vicar.

1899 April 7: Bishop Rowe writes to Dora regarding the avalanche at the Chilkoot Pass.

June 29: Ground breaking and placing of cornerstone of church.

September - The Rev. Wallis M. Partridge leaves.

November 26 – Opening service in St. Peter’s by-the-Sea.

1900 Pro Cathedral formed, name St. Peter’s-By-the-Sea selected.

April 15: Consecration of the church.

August 5: St. Peter’s pictured in *Philadelphia Enquirer* article.

1902 May – July: Rev C. F. Taylor has short service as Vicar.

1903 March: According to local historian Robert N. DeArmond: The first bell on St. Peter's had been given to Bishop Rowe by the Society of St. Cecelia at Philadelphia for use in Alaska. A new bell was received early in 1902 but apparently was so much larger that a new belfry had to be built. The new bell first rang, in Sitka, on March 15, 1903, and was said to have a rich tone in the key of C.[3]

May: Bishop Rowe finishes the stone wall along Lincoln Street.

1904 Rev Clarence S. Milliken becomes Vicar.

1905 See House constructed.

1908 June 6: Bishop Rowe attends the Lambeth Conference sailing from New York; Leo Rowe travels with the bishop. Rowe visits Paris after the Conference; Leo travels to Scotland. [4]

1912 Bishop Rowe and family move to Seattle.

1914 May 22: Dora Rowe, Bishop Rowe's first wife, dies; interred in St. Peter's churchyard.

> Rowe corresponded after her death: "I am not able to write – I'm dumb with the loss of my dear wife. I have just laid her precious body in Sitka, as she wished."[5]

1915 April 11: Cyril Rowe, Bishop Rowe's son, dies; interred in St. Peter's churchyard.

October: Bishop Rowe marries Rose Fullerton, the niece of the Bishop of Calgary, Pinkham in St. Mark's Church in Seattle. She brings him three more sons.

1921 Electric lighting installed in St. Peter's church.

1924 Mrs. J. H. (Elizabeth) Molineux arrives in Sitka as Missionary-in-charge.

1925 Bishop, Mrs. Rowe and sons move to Victoria, Canada; he maintains an office in Seattle.

1942 June 1: Bishop Rowe dies.

June 12: Bishop Rowe's ashes interred in St. Peter's churchyard.

Fall: Mrs. Molineux retires.

1943 Publication of *The Man of Alaska: Peter Trimble Rowe* by Thomas Jenkins.

1956 No exact date; circa 1956 St Peters Sanctuary Renovation and

Repair including diagonal bracing, Foss, Olsen & Sands, AIA, Juneau, AK, 1 sheet (Foss, Olsen & Sands only operated between 1956-1958).

February 7: Drawing set (8 sheets) by carpenter George Nelson for a two-story, rear addition to the See House including the parish hall downstairs and upstairs apartment.

1956 -1958 Undated drawings: St Peters Sanctuary Renovation and Repair including diagonal bracing, by architectural firm Foss, Olsen & Sands, AIA, Juneau, AK, 1 sheet (Foss, Olsen & Sands only operated between 1956-1958).

1963 Leo Rowe, Bishop Rowe's son, gifts Bishop Rowe's papers to the Episcopal Church Archives in Austin, Texas.

1968 Leo Rowe dies; interred in St. Peter's churchyard.

1969 or 1979 (two dates listed in various sources).

Pipe organ ordered, built, and installed in St. Peter's.

Installed by Dr. R. Byard Fritts of Tacoma, Washington.

This likely resulted in the raised floor in front of the altar and the changes to the west wall of the east transept.

1971 Alaska becomes a Diocese of the Episcopal Church, rather than a Missionary District.

1978 St. Peter's by-the-See and See House listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

1979 - 1980 August 1979 and April 1980, drawing set for the See House Renovations, Ackley Jensen Architects Juneau, AK.

1982 Stations of the Cross, carved soapstone, created and installed by Alaska artist Donna Standerwick.

1983 St. Peter's archives established.

1993 December 25: Fire in church.

1995 100th Anniversary of the Episcopal Church in Alaska.

1997 Church roof and side walls are re-shingled to match the original.

1998	January 4: See House, As-Built Drawings, 4 sheets (these pre-date the work done in 1999).
	December 21: See House, Robert Fehlberg Architect, draft project drawings, 15 sheets.
	Glastonbury Thorn arrives.
1999	May 1999: See House, Robert Fehlberg Architect project drawings, 22 sheets.
	Glastonbury Thorn dedicated.
2003	November 17: See House, Robert Fehlberg Architect, project drawings 23 sheets.
c. 2010	Columbarium established in west transcript which required the chimney to be removed.
2015-2016	Stained glass repairs; including moving a lower window from the east to the west transept.
c. 2019 - 2020	See House re-roofing campaign
Undated	Church chimney removed
	Church belfry rebuilt / redesigned
	Church front stairs and entry door changed

CHAPTER 6 ENDNOTES

1. Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska*, 54.
2. Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska*, 60-61.
3. Robert N. DeArmond. “Around & About Alaska: Early Churches Part 8.” *Sitka Daily Sentinel*. March 23, 1995, 5.
4. Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska*, 251-2.
5. Thomas Jenkins, *The Man of Alaska*, 262.

7. Character-Defining Features

Character-defining features are the visual aspects and physical features that comprise the appearance of an historic building. Character-defining features include the overall shape of the building, its materials, craftsmanship, stylistic elements, decorative details, interior spaces and features, as well as the various aspects of its site and environment. The purpose of identifying character-defining features is to understand the individual character of buildings, and to provide a framework of what aspects of the building should be considered when undergoing any repairs or treatment.

SITE

- Location relationship of St. Peter's church to the See House
- Siting of the church and See House on the lot both face Crescent Bay
- Bishop Rowe and family gravestones
- Fieldstone churchyard walls and end posts with jagged rock cap
- Wrought iron gate with decorative fleur-de-lis caps within fieldstone wall
- Archives Building (originally an auto garage) located on the paved drive, southeast of the See House

BUILDING EXTERIOR

- Bilateral symmetrical layout centered on belfry
- Cruciform plan with east and west transepts
- Symmetrical entry vestibule centered on south facade
- Randomly laid fieldstone foundation and lower walls
- Battered fieldstone buttresses
- Half-timber framing and fieldstone wall infill at lower half of walls with painted wood shingles at upper half
- Wood shingle roof to weather
- Steeply pitched roofs sloped 12:12 with flared eaves
- Belfry with pyramidal metal spire
- Hooded arches at gable ends of roof

Figure 7.1: Half-timber framing and fieldstone wall infill at lower half of walls with painted wood shingles at upper half.

Figure 7.2: Steeply pitched roof with eaves, hooded arches at gable ends, belfry with pyramidal metal spires.

- Entry stairs and porch with fieldstone knee walls; stairs centered on building gable end wall
- Window configuration with rectangular fixed windows below and fan lite operable transoms above, each with decorative colored and leaded glass
- Northwest and northeast nave windows that contain more decorative stained glass than the typical church windows
- Wood window sills
- Rose window at south facade centered at the gable
- Nine-lite, arched, stained glass window at north facade

BUILDING INTERIOR

- Entry vestibule attached to south end of nave
- Nave, central aisle, side aisles, and pew configuration
- Wood pews with trefoil motif at ends
- Douglas fir tongue-and-groove wood flooring
- Exposed wood trusses and wall corbels
- King posts with teardrop finials at trusses
- Diagonal tongue-and-groove beadboard ceiling organized in panel sections between trusses
- Baptismal font
- Carved wood altar
- Carved wood eagle lectern
- Stained glass windows
- Transept rooms at east and west
- Original door to west transept
- Original flooring and ceiling at east transept
- Hymnal board

Figure 7.3: Nave, central aisle, side aisles, and pew configuration.

Figure 7.4: Exposed wood trusses, king posts with teardrop finials.

Figure 7.5: Carved wood eagle lectern in sanctuary.

8. Condition Assessment

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

St. Peter's by-the-Sea was visually surveyed during a site visit in October 2020 conducted by FFA Architecture and Interiors staff in conjunction with architecture + history, llc. A structural and masonry assessment was conducted in December 2021 by BBFM Engineers and National Park Service specialists. The survey methodology for the buildings and structures involved visual observations conducted at the ground level of building exteriors. Interior spaces were also inspected during the October 2020 site visit. Investigative techniques were conducted using non-destructive methods and tools. Historic research and resource inspections informed the descriptions and condition assessments presented below.

CONDITION DEFINITIONS

The condition of the building elements that were evaluated are categorized in a good, fair, poor rating systems, defined as:

Good – The building or structure element or feature appears to be functionally and structurally sound and exhibits only minor wear and tear or minor deterioration of surfaces. Repair or rehabilitation is not required; however, routine maintenance will ensure continued good condition.

Fair – The building or structure element, feature or components of the feature show signs of aging, deterioration and possible future failure. While the element or feature is still structurally adequate, corrective maintenance and repair is required within a moderate period of time (approximately 3-5 years).

Poor – The building or structure element shows extensive deterioration, is missing, or shows signs of imminent failure if corrective action is not immediately taken. Major corrective repair or replacement is required. Applicable laws, codes, regulations and other requirements must be considered before any rehabilitation work can begin.

EXTERIOR CONDITIONS

SITE ACCESSIBILITY

The front (entry) façade of St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church faces south towards Crescent Bay and is accessed directly from Lincoln Street just south of the property (Figure 8.1). Vehicle entry into the site is provided by driveways located east and west of the church leading to a one-way asphalt paved loop around the church. The asphalt drive is connected to small parking areas scattered on the east and west sides of the building as well as adjacent to the See House (Figure 8.2). The drive provides access to concrete pathways that connect parking to both the front and rear building entrances (Figure 8.3). The Lincoln Street entrance is bounded by a rubble fieldstone wall and wrought iron gate leading to a concrete pathway that serves the primary (front) entrance (Figure 8.4). Concrete stairs flanked by fieldstone kneewalls provide access to the front entry landing, entry doors, and vestibule (Figure 8.5). Another concrete pathway splits from the main pathway and connects to the east parking lot. The stairs have round metal pipe handrails without balustrades or horizontal railing infill and without handrail extensions at landings. The secondary (rear) entrance on the north facade of the building is accessed from a combination concrete ramp and stairs from the north parking area and a partially accessible concrete pathway connected to the west driveway (Figure 8.6). The concrete ramp/stairs have a metal pipe handrail on their east side which connects to the north building wall (Figure 8.7).

Figure 8.1: St. Peter's is accessed directly from Lincoln Street, just south of the property. Vehicle entry into the site is provided by a one-way asphalt paved loop around the church accessed from Lincoln Street, looking south towards Crescent Bay.

Figure 8.2: The drive provides access to parking on the east and west sides of the building, looking north.

Figure 8.5: Concrete stairs flanked by fieldstone kneewalls provide access to the front entry landing, entry doors, and vestibule.

Figure 8.3: The drive also provides access to concrete pathways that connect parking to both the front and rear building entrances, looking southwest.

Figure 8.6: Secondary (rear) entrance on the north facade of the building is accessed from a combination concrete ramp and stairs.

Figure 8.4: Lincoln Street entrance leading to a concrete pathway that serves the primary (front) entrance.

Figure 8.7: The concrete ramp/stairs have a metal pipe handrail on their east side.

Figure 8.8: Designated van accessible parking space does not have an access aisle, and is not attached to a compliant accessible route connecting parking to building entry.

Figure 8.9: The pipe handrail serving the combination ramp/ stairs at the north entry is not continuous and is lower than the required 34-38" height required by code.

Figure 8.10: Loose stones and crumbling mortar caps on entrance stair walls are a falling hazard and potential tripping hazard.

Condition

Public access from the city sidewalk to the front entry doors is not accessible due to the need for users to climb stairs to reach the entry doors. Moreover, the building lacks both an accessible route from the city sidewalk to the north entry door and a fully code-compliant accessible route from designated accessible parking to accessible building entry. The existing designated van accessible parking space located east of the church is placed on a sloping site, does not have an access aisle, and is not attached to a compliant accessible route connecting parking to building entry (Figure 8.8). The existing concrete pathway providing entry to the north door does not meet slope or width requirements and the clear floor space at the landing of the north door does not meet code minimum of 50" wide by 60" deep. The pipe handrail serving the combination ramp/ stairs at the north entry is not continuous and is lower than the required 34-38" height required by code (Figure 8.9).

Building Egress

The church lacks two compliant means of egress. While two sets of exit doors are present in the building, the north door is accessed from the nave of the church by passing through an intervening room (the vestry) and the south (primary) exit door requires passing through two sets of double doors which are narrower than the required 32-inch minimum width per door leaf. Considering the assumed occupant load of the church based upon 2012 International Building Code with an occupancy designation of A-3 Assembly Group and fixed seating, there is an assumed total of 102 occupants in the church. There are 2 required exits from the church and each exit must have at least one door leaf measuring a minimum of 32 inches in width. The door leaves from the nave into the vestibule and from the vestibule to the exterior are 27 inches in width and do not meet the code minimum door width.

Front Entry Stairs

Loose stones and crumbling mortar caps were visible on entrance stair walls creating both a falling hazard and potential tripping hazard (Figure 8.10). Significant vegetative growth was noted on masonry stair walls and on the Glastonbury Thorn rock and plaque located at the southwest corner of the property.

The metal pipe handrails at the front entry stairs do not meet code compliance for handrail extension continuity – must return to a wall, guard, or the walking surface – and required guardrails at the top treads or entry landing where the fall height is greater than 30 inches. The metal handrails at both front and rear doors are rusted on their top surfaces and lower areas of the posts.

STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

The St. Peter's Church has a rubble masonry foundation laid on a single course of leveling bricks. The exposed portions of the foundation wall have a thick masonry parge coat, painted red to match the building's shingles, which partially conceals the foundation structure. The brick leveling course provides a base for the half-timber post construction and stone masonry wall infill. Rectangular crawlspace vents with mesh wire are located along the foundation on the east and west facades providing some ventilation for the crawlspace. The masonry used for the foundation, wall infill, stair walls, and wall buttresses are constructed of irregular-shaped stones randomly laid with mortar joints. The wood floor structure consists of 2" by 11-3/4" solid sawn floor joists spaced 24" on center, cut at their ends to rest on the brick leveling course (Figure 8.11). The joists are supported along their lengths with 8" by 8" wood girders spaced 7'-6" on center, that are themselves supported by masonry foundation piers spaced 9 feet on center (Figure 8.12). Flooring consists of 7/8" diagonal tongue-and-groove sheathing boards with 3/4" spacers supporting 3/4" by 3-1/4" tongue-and-groove Douglas fir finish flooring.

Exterior walls are constructed in a half-timber appearance with 9 1/8" by 9 1/8" wood columns at building corners, and 5-3/4" by 9-1/8" (assumed depth based upon corner columns) columns, headers, and sills at window openings (Figure 8.13). Vertical and horizontal timber framing members are positioned as the rough framing around windows which are centered in wall bays spaced at 10 feet on center. Walls are infilled with mortared rubble stone masonry up to the underside of the timber top plate at approximately 9 feet in height and assumed to be the full depth of the exterior walls.

Six stone masonry buttresses (3 on the east and 3 on the west facades) are aligned with each of the 3 scissor roof trusses in the interior. Structural evaluation concluded that the masonry buttresses appear to be ornamental and do not support

Figure 8.11: The wood floor structure consists of 2" by 11-7/8" solid sawn floor joists spaced 24" on center, cut at ends to rest on the brick leveling course. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 8.12: Flooring is supported by narrow beams at intermediate masonry foundation piers. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 8.13: Typical half-timber framing positioned around windows centered in wall bays.

Figure 8.14: Buttresses span from the ground up to the underside of the roof soffit.

Figure 8.16: Roof rafter on top plate. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 8.15: Trusses are supported by wood timber corbels located at the ends of truss lower chords.

Figure 8.17: Cracks on the masonry mortar joints at the buttresses.

building loads or outward thrust from the scissor trusses. The buttresses are constructed with the same mortared rubble masonry found elsewhere on the church, spanning from the ground up to the underside of the roof soffit, and are built with a slight batter (Figure 8.14).

The roof structural system consists of lumber 2” by 5-3/4” rafters spaced at 24” on center. Rafters are supported by solid sawn wood beams at the ridge and an intermediate beam halfway downslope between the ridge and exterior walls. Roof beams are supported by the exposed "scissor" type timber trusses spaced at 10 feet on center which are anchored to wood wall framing. Roof rafters are attached to the stud wall top plate with a toenail joint connection, common for the period of construction. The rafters provide gravity support for the roofing assembly by distributing the load to the exterior walls while the trusses and buttresses prevent the exterior walls from separating by providing tension ties between the walls and the roof. Trusses are supported by wood timber corbels located at the ends of truss lower chords (Figure 8.15) and rafters sit on a built-up top plate constructed from (2) 2” by 8-1/2” members on top of a 5-3/4” by 8-1/2” member. The wood scissor trusses consist of 3-3/4" by 7-3/4" top chords and collar ties configured with a king post. The diagonal bottom scissor chords are off set from the top chords and are continuous from wall to midpoint of the top chord and are 2 3/4” x 7 3/4” members. The king posts are bolted to the diagonal tension ties (which extend from the wall top plate to the midspan of the roof) and strapped to the horizontal tension tie (which extends from roof midspan to roof midspan) (Figure 8.16). All connections between truss members use a single 3/4" diameter through bolt. Upper chords are strapped to the top of the king post at the ridge and are through-bolted to 3-3/4" by 7-3/4" wall corbels at their lower ends. Corbels are bolted to the wall bearing studs and to the truss top chords. All wood framing members have an eased 3/4” chamfer edge providing a decorative touch to the dressed timber framing. Truss wood-to-wood connections are both through-bolted and lag-bolted. Tongue-and-groove ceiling finish boards run diagonally between trusses and fasten to the underside of rafters. Roof sheathing consists of oriented strand board (OSB) placed over 3/4” by 5-3/4” skip sheathing boards.

The wood framed belfry is situated on a platform and anchored to the main roof’s framing and sheathing. The original open-air belfry was constructed with 4 corner posts and canted to taper from the main roof up to the spire. The 4 corner posts are intact but have been infilled with wall framing and plank board sheathing. It is unclear whether the belfry framing is simply overframed and fastened to the main roof’s sheathing or framing members extend down into the rafter assembly to provide a more positive connection. Structural connection from the belfry to the main roof could not be accessed due to the floor of the belfry being sealed and concealing the main roof. Bituminous waterproofing has been applied to the belfry floor surface. Tongue-and-groove beadboard paneling covers the interior of the belfry roof. The functional cast bell is secured to a cast iron frame placed on top of a square wood base that is bolted to the main roof of the church. The bell hardware, pulley, and rope are intact and attach to a grooved wood wheel that provides motion and allows the bell to swing.

East and west transept walls are constructed similar to the main walls of the church, with post and beam half-timber framing infilled with rubble stone masonry, and the roof rafters and sheathing have been overframed onto the main roof.

Figure 8.18: High soil levels on the exterior walls of the sacristy (east facade).

Figure 8.19: Visible debris between floor joists, minimal separation from soil, and decay at joist blocking. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 8.20: Rot deterioration and checking on half-timber framing column.

Figure 8.21: Spalling on parge coat, exposing mortar.

Condition

Visual inspection concluded that the overall condition of structural systems are good and there is no indication of failure or deterioration of primary structural elements. Evaluation confirmed that the roof and roof components, including the integrity of truss members, capacity, and connections are in good condition without structural concerns. Assessment by qualified professionals determined that there was no indication of stress or failure in the truss system. Structural review of masonry buttresses concluded that masonry buttresses appear to be ornamental and do not provide structural support to building loads. However, the mortar on the masonry buttresses is in poor condition and has significantly deteriorated due to prolonged water infiltration from roof runoff and repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Large cracks are visible on the masonry mortar joints at the buttresses, which have caused stones to loosen and separate from the mortar (Figure 8.17). There is evidence of past mortar repairs on several buttresses, which likely indicates water infilation into the mortar in the past. Weep holes on exterior masonry infill walls, visible at each bay on the east and west facades, allow water to drain from the wall cavity.

The stone and brick foundation exterior walls and interior beam footings at the building's northeast corner were investigated by NPS Grant Crosby and St. Peter's Junior Warden, Loyd Platson during a visit to the building in April 2021. Flooring in the sacristy was wet after heavy rains had saturated the exterior ground and the investigation was conducted to explore the cause. Photographs of the floor framing interface with the foundation walls indicate possible localized settlement of the masonry foundation at the sacristy due to saturated soils. Soil levels around the sacristy are high relative to interior framing and stormwater may be penetrating through the masonry and/or floor framing/floor sheathing into the building interior (Figure 8.18). This diagnosis was confirmed by Structural Engineer, Troy Feller and NPS Masonry Specialist, Sterling Holdorf when they evaluated the structural components of the church floor furing their site visit in December 2021. The crawlspace was too shallow to allow access to the northeast corner of the building (below Sacristy), but structural review suggests that the probable cause for the slight downward deflection of the Sacristy flooring is likely due to wood rot at the ends of floor joist(s) that are in contact with masonry. Soil contact and moisture infiltration is the probable cause for wood decay at the end of joist(s). Photographs indicate that decay may be limited to end grain surfaces and has not propagated down the length of the joists. Photographs also indicate considerable amounts of debris (wood scraps, mortar, vegetative material) between joists, minimal separation between wood elements and soil, and decay at joist blocking (Figure 8.19).

Half-timber framing at northeast exterior walls exhibits signs of rot deterioration at column ends and checking along timber faces (Figure 8.20). Paint has failed at many locations allowing moisture penetration into the wood, causing further deterioration. Sealant joints at bottom ends of columns may be trapping moisture in the timber end grain and accelerating deterioration. Some spalling on brick parge coat has exposed mortar, making it more susceptible to moisture intrusion (Figure 8.21).

The condition of the belfry to main roof connection is unknown due to structural components of the main roof not being visibly accessible. The corner posts, exterior walls, and the interior of the belfry are in good condition, without any indication of water intrusion. There is evidence of weathering and localized

wood rot on exterior trim, visible loose shingles and nails, as well as surface rust on bell hardware. However, these are minor issues that can be addressed in future reroofing campaigns. Considering the exposed location of the belfry and lack of regular maintenance access, the belfry is in good condition.

ROOF AND GUTTERS

All roofs are covered in cedar shingles laid with 5-1/2" exposure. The main roof is a simple gable configuration with smaller cross gable roofs over the transepts. All roofs cantilever approximately 12"-16" at the gable ends forming hooded arches which are covered with wall shingles painted red. All roofs are sloped 12:12 and terminated with flared eaves at their lower ends (Figure 8.22). Eave sides of the roof cantilever approximately 16" from the exterior wall and are finished with tongue-and-groove soffits and ogee molding. Soffits, molding, and corbels are painted red. Soffits at the entry vestibule roof are supported by flat decorative corbels with an ogee profile not found elsewhere on the building and the siding at the hooded arch is infilled with tongue-and-groove siding and rough sawn square studs (Figure 8.23).

The square-shaped belfry is positioned on the main roof ridge near the south façade and has a steeply pitched, pyramidal hipped roof with an approximate roof slope of 84:12. The construction and design of the belfry roof is consistent with the main roof form and features, including the flared eaves, tongue-and-groove soffits, molding, and shingle cladding. The belfry base and exterior walls are wood-frame, clad in red-painted cedar wall shingles and fitted with a wood louver on all four sides. The louver on the north wall is fit with hinges and swings outward, proving access to the interior of the belfry. At the peak of the belfry is a metal finial (stainless steel or aluminum) created from an obelisk shape topped with a circular disk and terminated by a cross. The belfry was originally constructed with an open-air middle section where observers could view the church bell from the exterior but was enclosed in later years.

Roof weather protection and drainage on the building consist of predominantly copper flashings, gutters, and downspouts. Flashing is installed at ridges, valleys, and at the belfry's headwall joint (transition from wall shingles to main roof shingles). The metal flashing at the belfry appear`s to be a painted metal rather than copper. Gutters are installed only at the transept roofs and consist of K-style copper gutters attached to the fascia and 3" round downspouts fastened to wall corner columns. Several downspouts have black plastic pipe extensions attached to their lower ends to direct water runoff away from the building but those located on the east transept discharge within close proximity to the foundation and exterior walls (Figure 8.24).

Condition

The roof is in good condition with evidence of elevated moisture exposure and poor drying in localized areas. Prolonged moisture retention in wood shingles have the potential to lead to decay and will progressively promote growth of decay mechanisms. Roof shingles at various locations exhibit biological growth (mold, mildew, moss, and lichen) which retain moisture and increases the risk of slowly degrading the material integrity. Heavy biological growth was observed on the belfry roof and lower wall shingles as well as the eaves and rakes of the main roof (Figure 8.25). Moderate levels of biological growth were detected across roof shingle surfaces. Additionally, roof shingles are missing from various locations on the main roof due to loose fastenings, wind, and poor quality of original material.

Figure 8.22: All roofs are sloped approximately 12:12 with flared eaves at lower ends.

Figure 8.25: Heavy biological growth on the belfry roof, lower wall shingles, and the eaves and rakes of the main roof.

Figure 8.23: Soffits at the vestibule roof are supported by flat decorative corbels with an ogee profile not found elsewhere on the building.

Figure 8.26: The downspout is disconnected at the northeast corner of the church, causing water to flow onto building walls.

Figure 8.24: Several downspouts have black plastic pipe extensions attached to their lower ends, those located on the east transept discharge close to the building.

Figure 8.27: Metal flashing at the top of roof valley is poorly constructed and may not be properly directing water from the roof.

The absence of gutters on the main roof has created a trench at the dripline around the building, collecting water and causing runoff to splash back onto wood and masonry wall surfaces. The downspout connection at the northeast corner of the building is disconnected allowing water to flow onto building walls (Figure 8.26). Metal flashing in roof valleys is poorly constructed and may not be properly directing water from the roof (Figure 8.27). Step flashing at roof-to-sidewalls was not visible but splashback from the main roof onto the transept roofs is allowing water to saturate wood wall and roof shingles and possibly infiltrating underlying wood sheathing.

EXTERIOR WALLS

The walls of St. Peter's Church are constructed of half-timber framing comprised of continuous columns (at corners, window/door openings and some mid-wall locations), horizontal beams spanning between columns (below window openings), and continuous header beams (above window openings). Wall panels between timber framing is infilled with rubble stone masonry. Battered stone masonry buttresses define the wall and window bays on the east and west facades. The layout of the half-timber framing establishes horizontal datums that occur at approximately 3' above the finished floor (directly beneath the window sill) and 8'-3" above the finished floor (directly above the windows) (Figure 8.28). Masonry infill is constructed of rubble stonework dressed with mortar joints consisting of coarser fine aggregate mix that is generally tooled to the face of stone. Mortar on the buttresses is a combination of coarse aggregate with fine, sandy mortar that is black in color (Figure 8.29). The timber beam at the head of the windows provides a continuous datum around the building and divides the lower masonry walls from the upper shingle walls. Each façade, with the exception of the north, is constructed of half-timber framing infilled with rubble masonry and all facades are clad with cedar shingles above the timber datum. However, the original wall cladding below the timber datum at the north façade has been replaced with T-11 plywood siding installed in a reverse

Figure 8.28: Half-timber framing establishes horizontal datums approximately 3' and 8'-3" above the finished floor (below the window sill and above the windows).

Figure 8.29: Mortar on the buttresses is a combination of coarse aggregate with fine, sandy mortar that is black in color.

Figure 8.31: Cedar wall shingles decoratively wrap around semicircular transom window openings in lieu of wood trim.

Figure 8.30: Original wall cladding below the timber datum has been replaced with T1-11 plywood siding.

Figure 8.32: Evidence of wood decay at bottom edge of plywood siding on northeast corner of building.

Figure 8.33: Shingles and plywood siding contain elevated moisture levels and evidence of biological growth.

Figure 8.36: Secondary entrance stamped metal door painted white stimulates a stile-and-rail door with lower panels and upper glazed half-lite.

Figure 8.34: Damaged wire mesh on crawl space vent at the east facade.

Figure 8.37: Interior door between the nave and the vestry is original wood stile-and-rail with tongue-and-groove panel infill.

Figure 8.35: Main entry doors on the south facade with carved wood sign above entitled "St. Peter's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church".

Figure 8.38: Non-original pair of stile-and-rail wood doors with full glazing lites between the nave and the vestibule.

board and batten pattern (Figure 8.30). The cedar wall shingles above the datum are laid in a uniform pattern with a 6" exposure up to the underside of the roof soffit. Wall shingles are decoratively wrapped around window openings in lieu of the use of wood trim (Figure 8.31). All exterior wood timber, shingles, plywood siding, and trim is painted a brick red color.

Condition

Overall, the exterior walls are in good condition with some deterioration due to prolonged moisture exposure and retention. High soil levels along the north facade and around the east transept prevent adequate separation between the soil and wood elements leading to moisture intrusion (from direct contact with soil and ground surface water) and potential decay. The wood decay observed at the crawlspace wood in the northeast corner of the church is a product of the high soil levels. The north façade has evidence of wood decay at bottom edge of the plywood siding at the northeast corner of the building (Figure 8.32). Moisture infiltration has caused paint delamination and failure at the plywood which will further expose wood material and accelerate the decay process. Paint on exterior wall shingles and plywood siding is weathered in many locations allowing moisture penetration into the wood material and subsequent cupping of shingles. Shingles and plywood contain biological growth on many surfaces, with elevated levels observed on the north facade (Figure 8.33). Some shingles are missing on the gable end of the east transept, exposing the sheathing to the weather. Infill masonry is in good condition, with some evidence of vegetation and biological growth on stone masonry surfaces and joints. Organic material at masonry joints causes elevated moisture levels and will erode mortar over time and compromise the physical integrity of the material. Wire mesh on a crawlspace vent has been damaged creating an opening large enough for pests to enter (Figure 8.34). Rodents and other pests have the potential to damage wood framing and flooring and create nests which reduce the clearance between wood elements and the soil.

DOORS

The main entry to the church is located on the south facade and consists of a pair of outswing, stile-and-rail, metal-skinned doors with full glazing lites. Each door leaf is 27" wide, painted red, and fitted on the exterior with a stainless steel pull handle, ball bearing hinges, meeting stile and sill weatherstripping, and a single rim cylinder deadbolt lock on the east leaf. Interior hardware consists of door closers, push plates, and door stops. The door set is trimmed on the exterior and interior with flat casing at the jambs and head, painted red. Above the exterior head casing is located the painted wood church sign with white carved letters entitled "St. Peter's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church." (Figure 8.35)

A secondary entrance to the church is located on the west corner of the north facade providing access into the west transept. The door is stamped metal painted white and simulates a stile-and-rail door with two lower panels and an upper glazed half-lite (Figure 8.36). The door swings outwards onto the small concrete landing and is fitted with a lever handle lockset, aluminum threshold, and interior side closer. There is evidence of the original stone and timber above the modified door frame and the casing trim installed at the door is placed on top of the original timber columns. At the interior, the door frame is installed within a framed, gypsum board finish wall that conceals the original exterior wall finishes.

Figure 8.39: The north entrance door threshold exceeds the 1/2" maximum height and is not accessible.

Figure 8.40: Typical windows of lower sash rectangular leaded stained glass windows with an upper semicircular leaded glass transom on the east and west facades.

Figure 8.41: Divided stained-glass window on the north facade configured to match the hooded arches throughout the building.

Interior door types include an original wood stile-and-rail door with tongue-and-groove panel infill at the opening between the nave and the vestry (Figure 8.37), a single thickness, tongue-and-groove beadboard door at the opening between the nave and the sacristy, and a non-original pair of stile-and-rail wood doors with full glazing lites between the nave and the vestibule (Figure 8.38). There is a variety of hardware types and materials used at interior doors including brass, bronze, aluminum, and stainless steel. The majority of the original doors and door trim have been removed, but original doorway openings remain intact at most locations. As a result of the installation of the raised floor at the altar, a wooden step is placed in the vestry at the doorway opening which leads up the altar and entry into the sacristy from the sanctuary requires a step down.

Condition

The exterior doors are in good condition with normal wear. Door framing, flashing and weather stripping at the main entrance are also in good condition. Door hardware has visible signs of rusting on the hinges and at screws on the pull plates and sill weatherstripping. The rear entrance door is in good condition. The door threshold of the north entrance exceeds the 1/2" maximum height and is not accessible (Figure 8.39). The concrete pathway leading to the rear entrance door has a large surface crack near the door threshold, causing the surface to be uneven and potentially hazardous.

Interior doors are in good condition. Paint is deteriorating at the threshold of the doorway from the sanctuary to the vestibule and the doorway leading to the sacristy has a step and uneven flooring at the threshold that is not code compliant. The original door at the vestry appears to have had a different hardware set that was removed and replaced with a decorative escutcheon on both side of the door. The interior side of door has missing paint around the escutcheon.

WINDOWS

All windows are constructed of wood and painted. The typical windows found in the bays of the east and west facades consist of a lower sash of rectangular leaded stained-glass with an upper, operable transom sash of semicircular leaded glass (Figure 8.40). There is a large, stained-glass rose window placed above the vestibule roof on the south facade and a monumental divided stained-

glass window on the north facade configured to match the hooded arches found throughout the building (Figure 8.41). The typical windows at the east and west facades have their rectangular sash portion inset within the half-timber framing and their semicircular sash inset within the shingle band at the top of the wall. The rose window is set within the shingled wall of the south gable and does not have a defined sill while the north window spans between the half-timber wall below and the shingled wall above. There is a partial plexiglass covering on the upper portion of the rose window and sheet metal flashing protecting the lower area of the window sash and frame. All stained-glass windows with exception of the rose window are positioned between a single layer of clear glass at the interior and a layer of protection plexiglass at the exterior. The plexiglass coverings are secured to the exterior wood trim. Interior glazing and plexiglass were installed in 2015 to improve thermal performance and provide protection from the elements. Repairs were also conducted in 2015-2016 that included the altar window and the restoration of the east transept window which was removed from its original location and reinstalled in the vestry. Standard glazing replaced the original east transept window after its removal.

Condition

The leaded stained-glass windows are in good condition throughout the building. The lead came that holds the stained glass together appears to be maintaining its structural integrity, and the stained glass is in good condition with only a few visible cracks noted on the north facade window. Wood sills of windows on the east (window closest to the transept) and north facades have visible signs of deterioration where paint has failed, causing the wood to be exposed to the weather and susceptible to moisture intrusion (Figure 8.42). A clear sealant has been applied to the bottom of plexiglass coverings, which has the potential to trap moisture. Condensation was visible between the leaded glass and plexiglass covering on the northeast window. Paint on the frame and muntins of the rose window has weathered and the metal flashing has visible rust stains (Figure 8.43).

Figure 8.42: Visible deterioration on wood sill of windows on the east and north facades. Paint failure has caused wood to weather and be susceptible to moisture intrusion.

Figure 8.43: Weathered frame and muntins, and rust stains on the rose window located on the south facade.

INTERIOR CONDITIONS

INTERIOR WALLS

Typical interior wall finishes include original plaster and lath, original Douglas fir tongue-and-groove walls, non-original gypsum board, and non-original fiberboard. The sanctuary consists primarily of plaster finish that is painted white and extends from the floor to the roof, covering the window opening arches. Multiple plaster layers are visible at the interior window and wall interface indicating the different plasters have been applied overtime. Fiberboard faux wainscoting with vertical v-grooves and chair rail trim was added to the lower walls in the sanctuary over original plaster or replacement gypsum board. An elaborate white oak wall screen with detailed carvings and moldings is placed on the south wall of the sanctuary around the entrance from the vestibule. The screen was originally located at the north wall of the altar, where it sat closer to the floor but has been raised in its current location with the use of fir spacers that elevate the screen approximately 3' above the floor.

The interior walls of individual rooms contain both original tongue-and-groove wood finishes and non-original gypsum board. The vestibule, vestry and sacristy all retain some amount of historic finishes which have been modified with newer materials during different building repairs. Original Douglas fir tongue-and-groove beadboard walls are oriented diagonally across the walls and ceilings of both the vestry and the sacristy. The wood panels are stained and coated with a glossy finish. The south, west, and upper portion of the north walls of the vestry have original tongue-and-groove wall finishes while the lower area of the north wall has been built out with gypsum board walls that were a later addition to improve insulation. The east wall of the vestry was also finished with gypsum board up to the level of the ceiling and is further finished with the columbarium woodwork. The southern corner of the east wall is not completely finished at the floor level allowing electrical wiring in the stud cavity to be exposed. An electric baseboard heater is also located on the east wall beneath the columbarium. At the sacristy, tongue-and-groove finishes are intact, but white plywood paneling has been installed over the tongue-and-groove behind cabinets and electrical panels. On the west wall, the original tongue-and-groove has been replaced behind the organ with a newer, square-edge tongue-and-groove board attached to exposed stud framing. Some of the original tongue-and-groove remains at the lower area of the west wall. Wall hung, clear finished wood cabinets (upper and lower cabinet units) and plastic laminate countertop are attached to the north, east, and south walls.

The entrance vestibule walls are finished with gypsum board up to the ceiling and capped with a 1/4" round painted wood bead trim at the top. Walls are painted white and 3/4" x 4-1/4" wood baseboards with 1/4" round base shoe are painted brown. The room is finished with gypsum, with exception of the north wall which has the original tongue-and-groove wood finish.

Condition

Plaster and gypsum finishes are in mostly good condition without substantial indications of water intrusion. The original design of the vestry and sacristy rooms have been reconfigured, which has slightly altered the original layout of the interior walls. The vestibule has evidence of water intrusion with blistering gypsum board surfaces above the doorway and an electrical outlet that is rusting due to its location under the coat rack.

CEILINGS

Ceiling finishes are Douglas fir tongue-and-groove beadboard laid in a diagonal pattern that is consistent throughout the church. Ceiling panel sections in the sanctuary are bounded by the trusses and purlins with diagonal boards of each panel section converging at the intersection of trusses and purlins (Figure 8.44). Edges of the ceiling panels are trimmed with a cyma reversa molding profile at truss and purlin joints and a cavetto profile at wall caps (Figure 8.45).

Condition

Original ceiling finishes remain intact and are in good condition in all interior rooms. The tongue-and-groove beadboard ceiling finish did not have any visible leaking or water damage that was visible from the ground level. The finish stain is not consistent on the the beadboard in the sanctuary, and the stain appears to be faded or unevenly applied in certain locations.

FLOORS

The interior floors of the church are original Douglas fir tongue-and-groove with a 3 1/4" exposure. The raised altar platform is original, though an additional wooden platform was added in front of the altar. The sanctuary and sacristy have original wood flooring, though the center aisle and raised platform below the altar have been covered with a dark burgundy-colored carpet. The vestibule and vestry have tile flooring that consists of non-original 18" x 18" square, ceramic beige-colored tiles that were a later addition. It is unknown if the original flooring was removed or is intact beneath the tile flooring.

Condition

The Douglas-fir tongue-and-groove floor finish exhibits a normal level of wear on the surface. The wood floor surface does not appear to be waxed, or the coating has significantly diminished due to normal wear. The carpet and ceramic tile flooring are not original but are both in good condition.

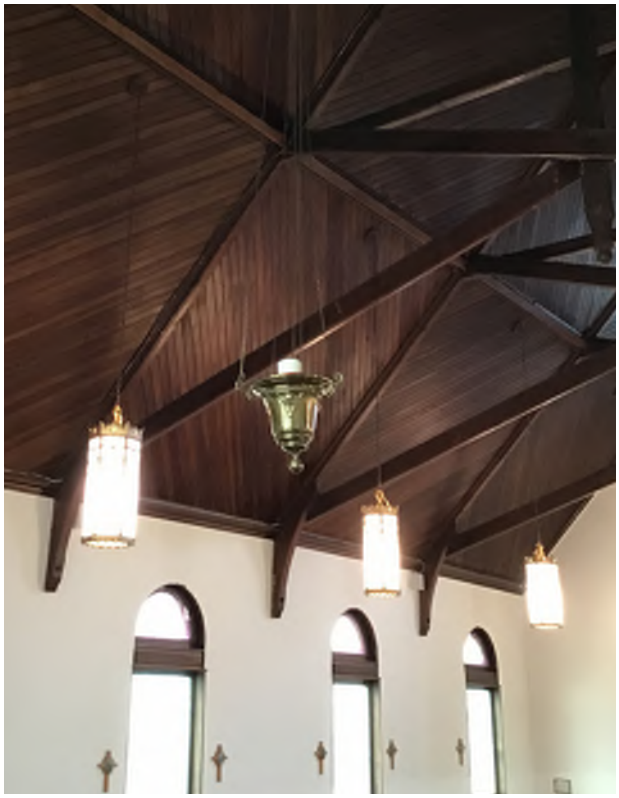


Figure 8.44: Ceiling panel sections in sanctuary bound with diagonal tongue-and-groove beadboard that converges at intersections.

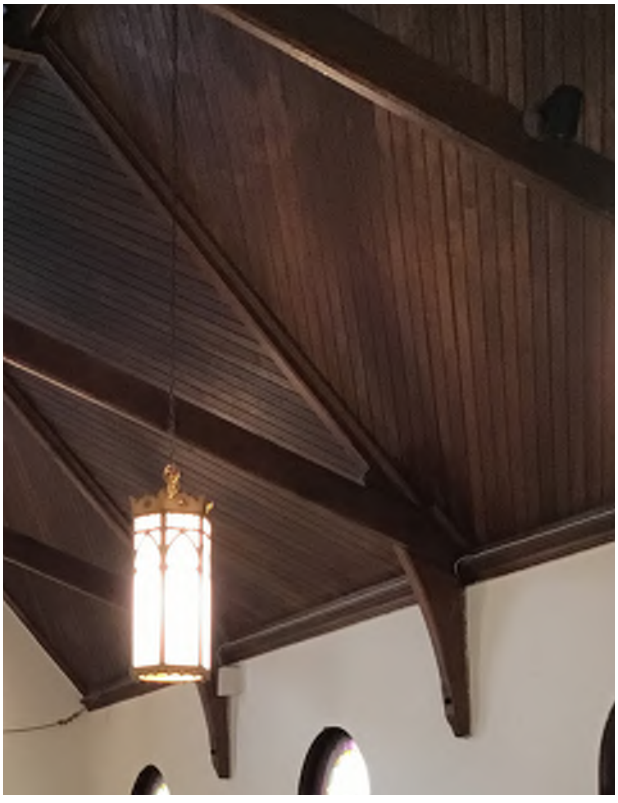


Figure 8.45: Cyma reversa molding profile at truss and purlin joints, and cavetto profile at wall caps.

EQUIPMENT

ELECTRICAL

The electrical main distribution panel is located on the east wall of the kitchen (Figure 8.46). Multiple pull box extensions powering heating and lighting systems extend from the panel. Electric resistance baseboard heaters are mounted on the lower east and west walls of the sanctuary. Older floor heat registers are no longer in use and have been sealed closed. Heat pump terminal units have been installed on the upper walls of the sanctuary. The sanctuary is illuminated by four decorative brass and opaque glass light fixtures that extend from the ceiling on each side of the aisle.

Condition

Heating equipment is not appropriately integrated into the historic character of the building. Heat pump units at the sides of the sanctuary visually detract from the white walls and wood ceilings. Baseboard heaters project into the narrow side aisles, limiting floor space (Figure 8.47). Heat pump units effectively heat the space, but acoustically interfere during services and while the space is in use. Floor heat grilles no longer in use should be removed, and wood floors should be restored following their removal. The electrical panel appears heavily relied on for heating, power, and lighting systems. An upgrade to meet future needs should be considered. The electrical ceiling components (fans, flood lights, conduits) distract from the historic character of the church.

Figure 8.46: Electrical main distribution panel on kitchen wall.

Figure 8.47: Baseboard heaters in sanctuary limit floor space.

9. Integrity Assessment

Under the National Register of Historic Places criteria, there are seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In order for a property to retain historic integrity, a majority of the seven aspects must be maintained. Assessing the overall integrity of a property assists in measuring the ability of the property to convey its historical significance. Assessing a building's integrity entails understanding the physical features and how they convey significance. The retention of specific elements of historic integrity to the defined period of significance is important when assessing integrity.

The seven aspects of integrity are defined as follows:

- **Location** is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
- **Design** is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.
- **Setting** is the physical environment of a historic property.
- **Materials** are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
- **Workmanship** is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
- **Feeling** is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- **Association** is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

The period of significance for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church extends from its construction in 1899, to 1912 when Bishop Rowe moved to Seattle. Overall, St. Peter's by-the-Sea retains a high degree of historic integrity.

LOCATION

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Church and See House buildings retain a high degree of historic integrity. The church building sits in its original location, as does the See House to the north, and together they form an associated grouping situated on their original parcels on the north side of Lincoln Street. (Figure 9.1).

DESIGN

In design, the church has undergone a series of alterations none of which impair its overall integrity. At the exterior, the original open-sided belfry was enclosed with louvered and shingled walls and the brick chimney at the northwest corner of the building was removed to provide floor space for installation of the Columbarium in the west transept. One stained glass window was removed and replaced with clear glass in the east transept and the original, single leaf wood front door has been replaced with a pair of glazed, metal doors. At the interior, the original reredos installed in 1932 and placed behind the altar was moved to the nave's south wall below the rose window. A raised, carpeted floor was installed at the altar and piano to elevate these spaces above the level of the church floor. While these changes do affect some of the character defining features of the church, they do not significantly change the overall Gothic Revival design of the church. (Figure 9.2).

SETTING

The setting of the church has been changed modestly from when it was originally built. The adjacent parcels to the east and west of the church site have newer structures that do not drastically change the setting. The extensive asphalt paving on the church property to provide parking and vehicular circulation has impacted the original landscaped setting to a modest degree. St. Peter's and the See House maintain their view of Crescent Bay despite the modern boat harbor and the modernization of Lincoln Street.w

MATERIALS

The materials are largely intact or replaced in kind, including the wood shingles at the upper portion of exterior walls and the roof. The stone, a rare construction material choice for Alaska, is in fair condition and while there have been some maintenance repairs over time, these interventions have not impaired the integrity of the materials. (Figure 9.3)

WORKMANSHIP

The original workmanship of the church was exceptional for its very remote location, especially the use of fieldstone for the lower portion of the church walls and the site walls. The present integrity of the workmanship, through years of careful stewardship by the congregation, is high.

FEELING

The church retains the strong feeling of a small, rural church in Sitka, Alaska and exudes the Gothic Revival style in which it was originally constructed.

ASSOCIATION

St. Peter's by-the-Sea has retained its association with Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe and the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska. The church also retains its physical and historical association, as well as its shared congregational uses with the See House.

Figure 9.1: The church has remained in its original location since its date of construction in 1899.

Figure 9.2: While some character defining features have been altered over the years, the overall Gothic Revival design of the church has been retained.

Figure 9.3: Materials are largely intact or replaced in kind, including the wood shingles at the upper portion of exterior walls and the roof.

10. Future Use & Treatment Recommendations

INTRODUCTION

The St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church has maintained its original function as a place of worship, having served the community of Sitka for over a century. Considering the building's historic significance, intact integrity, and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) status, it is recommended that any future projects or upgrades proposed for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church follow the Preservation or Restoration treatment approach. The approach to future projects or upgrades proposed for the St. Peter's by-the-Sea should follow Preservation or Restoration approaches as defined by the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. Preservation or Restoration as the recommended treatment approach will preserve the building's historic fabric and existing character-defining features that convey the historic significance of St. Peter's by-the-Sea. Future treatment guidelines will follow the *Secretary of Interior's Standards* that prioritize repair over replacement while considering flexibility for future upgrades that will address and improve site and building accessibility, building egress, structural systems, building envelope performance, and mechanical systems without diminishing the building's historic character or integrity.

Treatment recommendations are listed and organized according to priority needs. Individual recommendations within each building element are listed hierarchically from the highest concerns down to those of lesser concern. Each priority level will have a corresponding duration for recommended treatment, while maintenance activities will be listed with recommended frequency intervals.

High priority = immediate to 2 years

Medium priority = 2 to 5 years

Low priority = 5 to 10 years

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines four primary treatment approaches: Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration and Reconstruction. Each treatment approach has its own standards and general recommendations according to the property's significance, existing physical condition, and documentation. The two recommended approaches of Preservation and Restoration as defined by the National Park Service are as follows:

Preservation

When the property's distinctive materials, features, and spaces are essentially intact and thus convey the historic significance without extensive repair or replacement; when depiction

at a particular period of time is not appropriate; and when a continuing or new use does not require additions or extensive alterations, Preservation may be considered as a treatment.

Restoration

When the property's design, architectural, or historical significance during a particular period of time outweighs the potential loss of extant materials, features, spaces, and finishes that characterize other historical periods; when there is substantial physical and documentary evidence for the work; and when contemporary alterations and additions are not planned, Restoration may be considered as a treatment. Prior to undertaking work, a particular period of time, i.e., the restoration period, should be selected and justified, and a documentation plan for Restoration developed.

TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

GENERAL BUILDING

- Create a Preservation Maintenance Guide to identify, organize, schedule, and document required maintenance activities. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

SITE

1. Conduct a vehicle circulation and parking analysis to identify safety issues and need for signage improvements and additional parking. (Figure 10.2) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Conduct a topographic survey to document as-built conditions. Survey information will provide the basis for addressing accessibility, drainage, parking, and pedestrian and vehicle circulation. (Figure 10.1) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Repair the loose and crumbling site masonry walls. Hire a qualified mason to conduct repairs and repoint masonry walls. Ensure masonry repairs use an appropriate mortar mix with workmanship techniques matching the original masonry. Identify and document a mortar mix that is compatible with the original mortar in color and texture and with the same physical performance characteristics. (Figure 10.3) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Remove rust from wrought iron entry gate and restore deteriorated metal components. Install replacement finials at four locations and restore latch mechanism. Refinish with powder-coat paint finish. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

Figure 10.1: Conduct a topographic survey to provide basis for addressing accessibility, drainage, parking, and circulation.

Figure 10.2: Conduct circulation and parking analysis.

Figure 10.3: Hire qualified mason to repair loose and crumbling masonry walls.

5. Future considerations based upon the findings of the topographic survey could entail installation of catch basins and an underground stormwater collection system.**[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

SITE ACCESSIBILITY

1. Provide a compliant accessible entrance into the building. The preferred accessible entrance location is the south (primary) entrance into the building. Due to the large vertical difference between the surrounding grade and the church floor facade, the preferred entrance may not be feasible to provide accessibility while also retaining character-defining features. The north (secondary) entrance can provide a compliant accessible route into the building with a minimum of changes to historic fabric. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Provide compliant accessible parking connected to an accessible route that leads to an accessible building entrance. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Provide a compliant accessible parking space, access zone, and designated route to the north building entrance. If a ramp is part of the accessible route, provide a compliant ramp including walking surface, slope, and handrails. Provide a compliant landing at the north entrance door measuring a minimum of 50 inches wide by 60 inches deep per International Code Council (ICC) A117.1 accessible standards. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Replace exterior door at the north entrance to meet accessibility requirements including minimum 32 inches clear opening width, clear floor areas at interior and exterior sides of doors, accessible thresholds, and accessible operating hardware. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

5. Adjust door closer on the east leaf of exterior door pair at the south entrance to provide code compliant closing speed. Regularly monitor and ensure door closers are working correctly. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

INTERIOR ACCESSIBILITY

- Provide a compliant accessible route from the accessible building entrance to all accessible building features, including the altar, sacristy, vestry/ columbarium, baptismal font, and designated accessible seating. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

EGRESS

1. Provide code-compliant egress lighting along egress paths and egress signage at all door locations. Provide emergency lighting illuminating the path to all egress doors. Currently the only egress signage is a wood carved “Exit” sign above the door opening leading from the sanctuary to the vestry and an illuminated “Exit” sign on the wall of the vestry adjacent to the north door. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. The church currently lacks two compliant means of egress due to the south (primary) pair of doors consisting of narrow door leaves not meeting the required 32-inch minimum width per door leaf. Neither the interior doors from the nave to the vestibule or the vestibule's exterior doors are original to the building. It is recommended that doors used as part of the egress system meet the code requirement of 32-inch minimum width. This requirement would apply to the two sets of double doors at the south entrance and the single door at the north entrance. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

FRONT ENTRY STAIRS AND LANDING

1. Repair the loose and crumbling stair guardrail walls. Hire a qualified mason or contractor with a knowledge of historic buildings and building materials to conduct repairs and repoint masonry walls. Ensure masonry repairs use an appropriate mortar mix with workmanship techniques matching the original masonry. Identify and document a mortar mix that is compatible with the original mortar in color and texture and with the same physical performance characteristics. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Replace existing metal pipe stair handrails with code-compliant handrails. Handrails with a simple design of round metal tubing, that are distinguishable from other historic features, and do not visually distract from the historic character of the church are recommended. Consult with historic preservation and accessibility professionals to design compliant handrails and guardrails which are compatible with the building's historic character. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Remove biological (moss, lichen, mildew) and vegetation growth from masonry walls. Use recommended D/2 cleaning solution and non-abrasive cleaning methods to remove biological growth during regular maintenance intervals and as needed. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

BUILDING EXTERIOR

THERMAL ENVELOPE

1. Repair weatherstripping at south entry doors to ensure complete perimeter and meeting rail air sealing. **[Immediate to 2 years]**

2. Preservation Brief 3: Improving Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings recommends conducting an energy audit to evaluate current energy use of building and identify deficiencies in the building envelope or mechanical systems prior to implementing any measures to improve thermal performance. Energy audit to include assessment of temporary (high occupancy events such as masses) and regular (daily low occupancy use) space conditioning needs. **[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

3. An energy audit is recommended before implementing energy conserving measures, including insulating the building. Future energy retrofitting measures should be selected based on the lowest level of intervention and

Figure 10.4: Wood rot visible at notch in floor joist. Photo credit: Sterling Holdorf

Figure 10.6: Install gutters on all roof sections. Photo credit: Troy Feller

Figure 10.5: Patch and repair mortar parge coat on brick foundation walls.

Figure 10.7: Reconnect joints in downspout at northeast corner.

avoid negatively impacting the building's historic character and integrity, or the alteration of significant historic features and fabric. [**Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

1. Structural assessment of the deflected floor in the northeast corner of the sacristy indicates joist ends have rotted where they bear on the perimeter foundation wall and the wood may be in contact with soil. Remove and salvage the flooring and floor sheathing at this location to access and repair the deteriorated structural floor members. Remove joist(s) that are structurally compromised and replace with pressure treated members that are reseated on the foundation wall. Reinstall salvaged sheathing and flooring to match adjacent flooring. A more comprehensive design approach that addresses seismic concerns of the building's foundation is recommended for long-term planning. (Figure 10.4). **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Repair and/or replace decayed wood sheathing, siding, and the wall bottom plate at the building's northeast corner. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. The half-timber framing column at the northeast corner exhibits rot at the end grain due to repeated exposure to moisture. Columns are structural elements and if left untreated are susceptible to further deterioration, including decay. If decay is minimal and limited to the surface, treat column ends with consolidant epoxy wood repair and repaint to protect wood. Monitor and ensure paint coating is intact and repair is not exposed to moisture. Conduct a Dutchman repair splice as needed to repair larger areas of decay. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Patch and repair spalling of mortar parge coat on brick foundation walls at the northeast corner and along the east façade. Repair of parge coat provides a continuous barrier for limiting moisture intrusion into the wood floor structure. (Figure 10.5) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

5. Regrade at exterior of building walls to ensure drainage is directed away from the foundation and exterior walls. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

6. Remove debris (wood scraps, mortar, vegetative material, trash) at crawlspace in tandem with localized removal of soil to provide a minimum clearance of 6 inches between soil and wood framing elements. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

ROOF AND GUTTERS

1. Install gutters on all roof sections to prevent splashback at lower building walls and deterioration of masonry and wood surfaces. Select gutter material and profile compatible with the historic character of the building. Recommended gutters are painted K-style gutters placed below the soffit molding and fitted with a single round copper downspout along each straight run. Paint gutters to match building color. Galvanized half-round

gutters are an alternative to K-style gutters and more period appropriate but recommendation is taking into consideration the existing copper, K-style gutters already installed at the transept roofs. Ensure all downspout connections are secured and downspouts effectively direct water away from the building. (Figure 10.6) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Securely reconnect joints in downspout at the northeast corner of building. (Figure 10.7) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Rehang and slope existing gutters to drain effectively to downspouts. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Replace missing or damaged roof shingles in kind and properly secure with concealed stainless-steel nails. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

5. Remaining expected usable lifespan of existing shingle roof is 5 years. When lifespan of roof is complete, replace roof using in kind, No. 1 quality grade cedar shingles treated with a wood preservative. **[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

6. At next roofing campaign, replace failing metal flashing at eaves, rakes, valleys, sidewalls, and bell tower with copper flashing. Reinstall step flashing at rakes and sidewalls to ensure proper drainage away from building. Install self-adhered membrane flashing (e.g. "peel and stick") at eaves, rakes, and ridge for improved waterproofing at roof transitions and add a shingle ventilated underlayment product (e.g. cedar breather) beneath shingles to provide greater drying capacity. **[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

7. During next scheduled roofing campaign provide cleaning, shingle repair, and paint maintenance of belfry tower, including exterior walls, roof, and interior. Remove biological growth from wood cladding and roof shingles using non-abrasive cleaning products and methods. Treat deteriorated, weathered, and exposed wood trim at base of belfry and louvers with an epoxy wood repair product and wood preservative if necessary. Repaint to protect wood after conducting repair. Provide bird/insect screening at interior side of louvers. (Figure 10.8) **[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

8. Reconstruct shingle covered corbels below the soffits at the southwest and southeast corners. (Figure 10.9) **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

9. Regular maintenance and inspection are important to the performance and longevity of roofing materials. Regularly check downspouts, extensions, and adapters to ensure connections are secure and water is being directed downslope and away from the building. Gutters, downspouts and connections should be cleaned during regularly scheduled maintenance intervals and replaced if damaged or in poor condition. There is evidence of elevated moisture exposure and poor drying in localized areas of the roof due to its slope, configuration, and general exposure in the marine environment. Remove debris and biological growth (mold, mildew, moss, and lichen) regularly to manage and mitigate moisture. Avoid high-pressure

Figure 10.8: Provide cleaning, repair, and maintenance of belfry tower during next scheduled roofing campaign. Photo credit: Grant Crosby

Figure 10.9: Restore the original character-defining shingle covered corbels. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Figure 10.10: The repair and repointing of masonry buttresses is required due to prolonged water infiltration from roof runoff and repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

Figure 10.11: Reduce soil levels around building to provide clearance between bottom of parge coat and top of soil

Figure 10.13: Review egress conditions with local fire marshal.

Figure 10.12: Inspect weep holes in masonry during regularly scheduled intervals.

Figure 10.14: Replace non-original entry doors with replica wood doors based on historic documentation. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

washing and other abrasive cleaning methods and solutions. Inspect shingles, flashing, sheathing, gutters, and downspouts regularly. Follow manufacture's guidelines for reapplication of wood preservative coating, to prolong performance and service, typically every 3-5 years. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

EXTERIOR WALLS

1. Large cracks, loose stones, and mortar deterioration on masonry buttresses require repair and repointing due to prolonged water infiltration from roof runoff and repeated freeze-thaw cycles. After gutters are installed on the main roof, hire a qualified mason or contractor with a knowledge of historic buildings and building materials to conduct repairs and repoint masonry buttresses. Ensure masonry repairs are conducted using appropriate mortar mix with original workmanship techniques. Identify and document a mortar mix that is compatible with the original mortar in color and texture and with the same physical performance characteristics. Provide sealant joint at buttress interface with wood materials and locations where movement is required. (Figure 10.10) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. High soil levels along building foundation walls in combination with rain runoff and ground water surface flow are contributing to excessive moisture infiltration into exterior walls at the north façade and east transept. Reduce soil levels around building to provide a minimum of 6 inches clearance between bottom of parge coat and top of soil to mitigate moisture infiltration. Monitor soil buildup to maintain a positive grading slope around foundation and remove soil on regular maintenance intervals to provide appropriate separation between wood building elements and groundcover. (Figure 10.11) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Repair decayed wood material at half-timber framing. Use epoxy consolidant and filler at minor areas of surface decay (less than 16 square inches) and Dutchman splice repairs on larger sections. Reprime and repaint wood timber surfaces ensuring exposed end grain surfaces are fully coated. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. T1-11 plywood siding on the north facade has consistent wood decay at the bottom edge. The siding is not original and is not historically compatible. Remove T1-11 siding, repair wood sheathing and framing as necessary, and replace with wood shingle cladding consistent with upper shingle siding. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

5. Replace missing shingles on exterior walls in kind and properly secure. Repaint and properly coat weathered and exposed shingles to ensure protection of wood. Maintain regularly scheduled painting of all exterior wood surfaces, including the exterior walls of the bell tower, every 5 years. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

6. Replace wire mesh on crawlspace vents to prevent rodent and pest infestation. Inspect all vents regularly to ensure wire mesh is secure. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

7. Conduct paint analysis to determine original exterior color. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

8. Remove moss and vegetation in contact with or in close proximity to masonry infill walls using non-destructive methods, as indicated in earlier treatment recommendations. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

9. Remove biological growth from shingle siding using non-destructive techniques, previously mentioned in earlier treatments. **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

10. Inspect weep holes on masonry infill walls at regularly scheduled intervals to ensure holes are free of organic debris. (Figure 10.12) **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

DOORS

1. Review egress conditions with local fire marshal and make adjustments as required. (Figure 10.13) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. While the thumb turn lock at the south entry doors is code compliant based on the 2012 International Building Code, Section 1008.1.9.3, the required signage associated with this locking method is not installed. After review with fire marshal, install required signage. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Replace the south (primary) door threshold with a code compliant threshold that does not exceed the maximum height of 3/4 inch. Secure door hardware with stainless steel screws. (Figure 10.14) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Replace non-original metal clad entry doors with replica wood doors shown in historic photos adapted to provide code-compliant egress width. Reconstruct original entry doors based on historic documentation indicating vertical tongue-and-groove wood planks consistent with the Gothic Revival style. Install compatible period appropriate hardware meeting code compliance. Install door closers and weather seals at head, jambs, and sill. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

WINDOWS

1. Remove clear sealant/caulking at the bottom of the acrylic plastic coverings, which has the potential to trap moisture and cause deterioration of the wood sill and trim. Protective interior glazing and exterior acrylic plastic can promote condensation on window surfaces due to lack of ventilation and trapped moisture between the historic windows and protective glazing. An increase in temperature within the airspace created between the window elements may lead to expansion/contraction issues. Monitor protective glazing for signs of condensation and consider removal if windows exhibit condensation issues. Figure 10.15) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. Remove failing paint (peeling, chipping, delaminated) from deteriorated wood sills on the east façade. Treat wood deterioration and decay with an epoxy wood consolidant and filler. Reprime and repaint following proper preparation methods to protect the wood. Assess all wood sills for deterioration and ensure wood window components are regularly painted

Figure 10.15: Remove clear sealant/caulking from the bottom of acrylic plastic coverings.

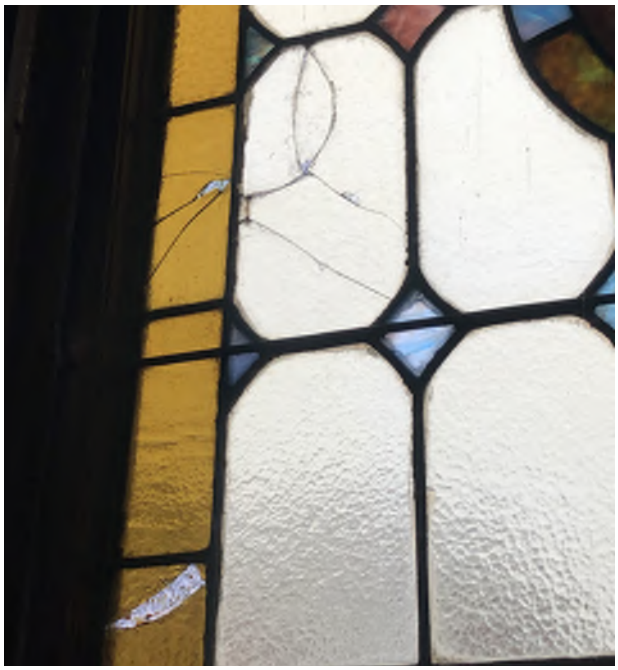


Figure 10.17: Monitor chipped and cracked glass panes on stained-glass windows.

Figure 10.16: Remove failing paint and treat wood deterioration on wood sills on east facade.

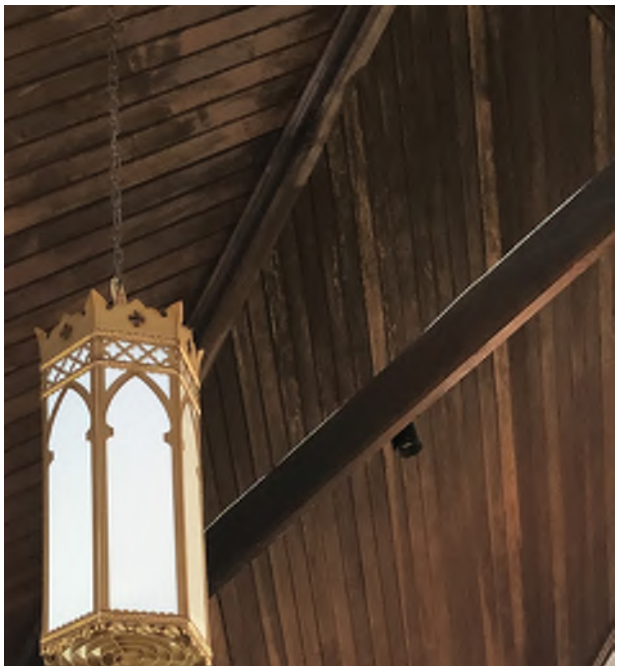


Figure 10.18: Follow manufacture's guidelines for the reapplication of stain finish on ceilings, trusses, and corbels.

Figure 10.19: Restore existing original Douglas-fir floors in the sanctuary and sacristy.

Figure 10.21: Paint ceiling fans in sanctuary to conceal appearance.

Figure 10.20: Relocate terminal heating units to sanctuary walls.

Figure 10.22: Hire qualified electrician to inspect electrical main distribution panel.

to provide weather protection. A Dutchman repair or in kind replacement of the wood will, depending on the extent of rot, provide an alternative treatment to epoxy but should be performed by a qualified craftsman with knowledge of historic buildings and materials. (Figure 10.16) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

3. Reprime and paint exposed wood window sills on the east façade (window closest to the transept) and north facade where paint is weathered and exposing bare wood. The east window sill should be further assessed to ensure the wood is not decayed. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

4. Reprime and paint the mullions on the rose window at the south façade. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

5. Install replica of the missing stained glass window at the east transept. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

6. Monitor chipped/cracked glass panes on the large arched stained-glass window behind the altar on the north facade, as well as two cracked glass panes on the west entry vestibule window. Original glass should be retained whenever possible. Observe cracks in glass that have the potential to enlarge over time. (Figure 10.17) **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

BUILDING INTERIOR

INTERIOR WALLS

- Further inspect water intrusion above exterior and sanctuary doorways in vestibule to determine source of moisture exposure. Relocate coat rack so that is not positioned over the electrical outlet, which has rusted. Repair moisture damage on north and south walls above doors. Remove rust and clean electrical outlet and wire guard. Continue to monitor moisture and humidity in room. **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

CEILINGS

- Follow regularly scheduled reapplication of stain finish following manufacture's guidelines. Ensure stain is evenly applied and distributed on the wood surface of tongue-and-groove beadboard ceilings, trusses, and corbels. (Figure 10.18) **[During regularly scheduled maintenance intervals]**

FLOORS

1. Restore existing original Douglas-fir tongue-and-groove floors in the sanctuary and sacristy. Refinish floors with a durable, no-wax polyurethane finish in a satin gloss. (Figure 10.19) **[Medium priority = 2 to 5 years]**

2. The carpet and tile flooring are not compatible with the historic interior and somewhat alter the overall historic appearance, however they are in good condition and provide protection of the original wood flooring in heavily trafficked areas. Consider removing carpet at the center aisle and restoring original wood flooring. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

EQUIPMENT

MECHANICAL

1. Relocate terminal heating units on sanctuary walls at either side of altar to location at rear of sanctuary. Heating units are visually distracting from the historic character of the interior and make an audible sound when the church is quiet. (Figure 10.20) **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

2. Remove abandoned mechanical floor grilles in the sanctuary and restore flooring using in kind Douglas-fir material. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

3. Paint ceiling fans and conduit in sanctuary a dark brown color to conceal their appearance. (Figure 10.21) **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

4. Consider relocation of north façade mechanical equipment to a dedicated enclosure designed to conceal the exterior heat pump units. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

ELECTRICAL

1. Hire a qualified electrician to evaluate current power usage and inspect electrical main distribution panel to determine any code deficiencies and need for upgrades. (Figure 10.22) **[High priority = immediate to 2 years]**

2. During siding replacement at north façade, install circuiting conduit associated with the heat pump equipment in the stud framing or buried below grade to conceal its appearance. **[Low priority = 5 to 10 years]**

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No original drawings for either building located to date.

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February 7, 1956, See House Addition, George Nelson, 8 sheets

August 1979 and April 1980, See House, Ackley Jensen Architects, Juneau, AK

January 4, 1998, See House, As-Built Drawings, 4 sheets (these pre-date the work done in 1999).

December 21, 1998 See House, R. Fehlberg Draft 15 sheets

May 1999 See House, R. Fehlberg 22 Sheets

November 17, 2003, Exterior Restoration of the See House, R. Fehlberg Architects, 24 Sheets.

MAPS

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps of Sitka, Alaska, 1914 (Sheet 3) and 1948 (Sheet 3).

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St. Peters Church Archives

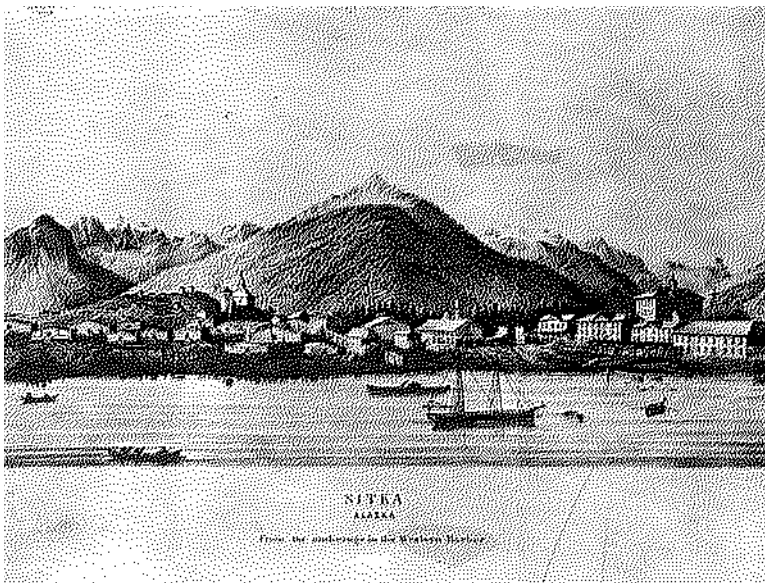
Episcopal Church Archives Austin, Texas.

The Sitka History Museum (formerly the Isabelle Miller Museum, IMM

Appendices

APPENDIX A: HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

St. Peters by-the-Sea, looking northeast, c.1900, St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.



Sketch of Sitka, c. 1900. Source: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Charles S. Hubbell Photograph Collection. PH Coll 1154.79.

Bishop Rowe shortly after his consecration. Source: *Man of Alaska.*

Dora Henriette Carry Rowe. Source: *Man of Alaska.*

FIRST BISHOP OF ALASKA

Consecration of the Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe.

SOLEMN SERVICES IN ST. GEORGE'S

The New Bishop's Trying Experiences Among the Indians of the Northwest.

LONG TRAMPS IN WINTER WEATHER

Hardships When Only Snow Was to be Seen and No Food to be Had—Many Missions Established.

There was a notable gathering of the leading Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church yesterday, when the first missionary Bishop that Alaska has ever had, the Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe, was consecrated in St. George's Church, in Stuyvesant Square. The consecrator was Bishop William Croswell Doane of Albany, who was assisted by Bishop Potter of New-York and Bishop Davies of Michigan.

The ceremony was a solemn and impressive one, and the coming together of so many men eminent in their church, not only as Bishops, but as men who have suffered and sacrificed much for their cause

Hardships When Only Snow Was to be Seen and No Food to be Had—Many Missions Established.

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Figure 3

The Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe.
Consecrated Yesterday in St. George's Church.

New York Times **article 1895.**

Early view of St. Peter's with Bishop Rowe. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Early view of the completed See House. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Rose Fullerton Rowe. Source: *Man of Alaska.*

Bishop Rowe with Delatuck, a Kobuk Eskimo, and Maggie, an Athabascan Indian (Koyukuk), circa 1905. Source: Walter and Lillian Phillips Photograph Collection, Alaska and Polar Regions Collections, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks UAF-1985-72-141.

Bishop Bentley officiates at the consecration of Bishop Rowe's gravestone in the St. Peter's churchyard. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives

The 1914 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Sitka showing St. Peter's, the See House and the small shed to the east of the See House. Note that the map indicates the church was heated by a stove and that at that time it had electric lights. Source: Library of Congress, Sanborn Map Collection.

An early view of St. Peter's, but after the 1905 construction of the See House. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

From the Philadelphia Enquirer August 5, 1900. Source: Newspapers.com.

A colorized postcard view of St. Peter's. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Steps of St. Peter's by-the-Sea. Date unknown. Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives.

Historic view of Sitka's Crescent Bay with St. Peter's and the See House visible along the shoreline, likely c. 1908-1915. From Anne Pollnow (RHC09-126. ar.jpg).

Historic view of the church interior from a postcard, likely 1930s – postdates insertion of the reredos (1932?). Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives and the Photo Shop Studio.

Historic view of the church interior from a postcard, likely 1930s – postdates insertion of the reredos (1932?). Source: St. Peter's by-the-Sea Archives and the Photo Shop Studio.

APPENDIX B: NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

Miller, Isabel, Alfred Mongin and Alaska Division of Parks. "See House." National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Sitka, Alaska, August 1977.

Mongin, Alfred and Alaska Division of Parks. "St. Peter's Church." National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Sitka, Alaska, March 15, 1977.

Senators: Mike Gravel, Ted Stevens; Representative: Don Young

Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH050385 DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 12 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 3 1 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
St. Peter's Church (AHRS Site No. SIT-029)

AND/OR COMMON
St. Peter's Episcopal Church; St. Peter's by the Sea

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
611 Lincoln Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Sitka — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Alaska, at large

STATE
Alaska

CODE
02

COUNTY
Sitka

CODE
220

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Clyde Tennant
Senior Warden (907) 747-3503

STREET & NUMBER
St. Peter's Church, P.O. Box 1156

CITY, TOWN
Sitka — VICINITY OF

STATE
Alaska 99835

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
District Recorder

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 910

CITY, TOWN
Sitka

STATE
Alaska

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRS)

DATE
October 24, 1972 — FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Alaska Division of Parks, Suite 210, 619 Warehouse Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Anchorage

STATE
Alaska 99501

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The general plan for this building was described at the organizing conference of the Building Committee in June 1899, as follows:

> The Chapel is designed to seat one hundred and thirty people and is 30 x 50 feet inside, and of a composite gothic style of architecture. The foundation, walls and buttress are of stone masonry, above which walls are of open timber frame work to a height of 9 feet, fulled with stone, allowing the timbers to show on the wall. Above the roof, the walls will be finished with stained shingles. A small belfry will be mounted on the roof.
>
> Windows and door of stained glass will add attractiveness to the interior which will be finished in oiled spruce with open roof trusses also oiled. The interior finish of the roof will also be ceiling spruce in panels, oiled in the same manner.

This is how it was envisioned, that is how it was built, and that is what it looks like to this day. There are some additional details, not mentioned above, such as the entry porch, but these are mere details, and were integrated into a design fully envisioned by the architect from the instructions communicated to him in person by Peter Trimble Rowe, The Bishop of Alaska. While the structure is in the Gothic style, it has little of Gothic structural elements, but embodies effectively the centre pointed design throughout its major interior and exterior elements in the major design finish and fenestration of the lights in the entrance (south) and altar (north) walls, in the parallel rows of stained glass small windows along the side (east and west) walls of the chapel. A soft north light illumines the altar through a large nine panel centre pointed window, while the view from the front steps is of the harbor and the sea, literally at the doorstep of this church, set here for the beauty of the site, which this building has enhanced since 1899.

This country church is deceptively simple in appearance. Its design at first glance appears similar to many other small country churches, and to a few others in Alaska. Upon further examination, it appears that the design has been executed with a unity of purpose, in complement to the site, that results in a building whose form is expressive of its function in every dimension.

At a later date an adjoining building lot, adjoining the church lot on the north, was acquired, and the See House was built to a design complementing the church building. The remains of the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, Peter Trimble Row, and those of his first wife and one of their sons, are buried on the front lawn of the Church, marked by unobtrusive ground level grave stones.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1899 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Architect: H.L. Duhring, Jr Philadelphia, Penn, Builder: John W. Dudley, Sitka, Alaska

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This country church is significant for its architectural design. It embodies design elements, and a unity of conception related to its distinctive site location, that give it high artistic value and represent the work of master builders of that time and place.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Tradition relates that Episcopal lay services were held in Sitka, Alaska, between 1867 and 1885, first by an anonymous Army colonel and subsequently by a Mr. Austin. After 1885 there were no Episcopal services in Sitka until the arrival of the First Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe, in 1896.

Bishop Rowe arrived in Sitka in April 1896, following his November 30, 1895, consecretation in the Cathedral of St. John the Devine, New York City. The newly installed Bishop immediately obtained quarters for his family, and departed for the Yukon River, via the Chilkoot Trail, to observe first hand the nature of the responsibility which he had accepted. Upon returning to Sitka in November, Bishop Rowe conducted services on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1896 -- a year following, and a world distant, from the scene of his consecration. From then onward Bishop Rowe conducted services regularly when he was in Sitka. He immediately saw the need for a church for his new Bishopric one that would be somewhat more imposing than the cabin-chapels he then had available, but not so expensive as to be unreachable.

An affluent couple from Utica, New York, who visited Sitka the summer of 1897, contacted Bishop Rowe upon returning to their home, and offered $2,000 toward the building of a church in Sitka. It was remarked, in later years, that the Bishop was ". . . such a darned human, lovable cuss, somehow, that wherever he goes he starts a stampede for heven." This offer was the first move in what became a stampede to build this church.

A committee formed to locate and purchase a suitable site. The committee included the U.S. Attorney for Alaska, Burton E. Bennett, William Millmore, and Edward de Groff. A committee of women raised money for the purchase. These women included Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. DeGroff. A lot of the crescent of the harbor was chosen and purchased for $800 (some accounts say $750) from Peter Panamarkoff.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acres

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	0 8	4 8 0 8 1 7 5	6 1 2 9 3 9 5 0
B			
C			
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot C115, Block 13.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Alfred Mongin, Architectural Historian

DATE
March 15, 1977

ORGANIZATION
Alaska Division of Parks

TELEPHONE
(907) 274-4676

STREET & NUMBER
619 Warehouse Avenue, Suite 210

STATE
Alaska

CITY OR TOWN
Anchorage

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE William Abenathe

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE 8/23/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE 1/31/78

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 1-31-78

GPO 892-453

Form No 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED JAN 31 1978

St. Peter's Church (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-029)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1 of 3

The road along the crescent then called Beach Road, is now called Lincoln Street. While the largest individual contributors included Bennet, Millmore, deGroff, James Shoup, and W. P. Mills, the full list of donors was a long one, including such names as C. L. Andrews, later notable for his writings on Alaskan and Sitka history, and C. C. Georgeson, an official of the Department of Agriculture and pioneer experimenter in Arctic farming techniques.

Bishop Rowe prepared specifications of his conception of what the church should look like and how it should be designed, and what the Rectory (the "See House") should look like and contain. A meeting of a committee of the town's leading citizens convened early in September 1898 at the Bishop's house to discuss these ideas and their execution. Present were Messrs. deGroff, Bennett, and W. L. Distin, John W. Dudley, and G. D. Clayett. Following discussion, a motion carried unanimously that the Bishop's conceptions for the church and house be conveyed by the Bishop to an architect to translate into working drawings and specifications, during the Bishop's forthcoming trip to the East Coast. The meeting also elected a building committee for the project, with deGroff as Chairman, Dudley as Secretary, and C. S. Johnson, Col. W. L. Distin, and W. P. McBride, completing the membership.

Soon after the meeting in Sitka, Bishop Rowe traveled to the East Coast on the business of his See. A Philadelphia philanthropist, George C. Thomas, engaged Philadelphia architect, H. L. Duhring, Jr., to prepare plans and specifications for the church and the See House. George C. Thomas, many times a benefactor of missionary work in Alaska, was Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church. In his professional life he was Manager of the banking firm of Drexel, Morgan and Company, a major affiliate in Philadelphia of J. P. Morgan and Company. Mr. Thomas' interest in Alaska might have been related also to the investment activities in Seattle and in southeast Alaska of J. P. Morgan's little known, but most important, son-in-law, William Hamilton.

The cornerstone laying was scheduled for Thursday, June 29 -- St. Peter's Day, and the church would be called "St. Peter's-By-The-Sea". John W. Dudley, Recorder in Sitka for the General Land Office (now the Bureau of Land Management) had undertaken to supervise construction according to the architect's plans. Only the church was to be built at that time, the See House deferred to a later date. Mr. Dudley had completed the foundation work by June 29, and had erected a temporary shelter over the foundation, large enough to accommodate the town's clergy and the congregation. This was fortunate, because rain fell, in typical Sitka fashion, all day, without intermission, and continued through the 4:00 p.m. hour set for the cornerstone ceremony. Consequently, in typical Sitka fashion, the turnout for the impressive and solemn service was relatively large and enthusiastic.

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED JAN 31 1978

St. Peter's Church (ARRS SITE NO. SIT-029)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2 of 3

Forming with Bishop Rowe for the ceremoney were Father Anthony and Father Kaiakokouok of the Russian Orthodox Church, and Rev. M. D. McClelland of the Presbyterian Church. Following the Order of Service -- Psalm, Versicles, Special Prayers, Scripture Lesson, and Psalm 136 -- Bishop Rowe introduced Lt. George T. Emmons, USN, who delivered a paper on the History of Sitka -- written for deposit in the cornerstone. Bishop Rowe then read a list of the materials to be deposited in the cornerstone of the church:

The Alaskan issue of June 24, 1899.
The Church Standard, June 3, 1899, published in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
A list of Bishops of the American and Anglican branches of the Catholic Church from the Apostles to the present day.
The historical sketch of Sitka, prepared and read that day by Lt. George T. Emmons, USN.
A list of the clery of Alaska.
Names of the church building committee, contractor, etc.
Coins of the National currency, a Queen's Jubilee crown, a Columbian half-crown, a cent of 1803, a half-cent of 1804 and other coins presented by Mr. F. Woodcock, a Russian coin presented by Father Anthony; an English penny, half-penny, and a Canadian five cent piece, presented by Miss M. G. Hindshaw.
A shell from the Sea of Galilee.
Two small size American flags.

Rev. W. M. Partridge next delivered a short address relative to cornerstones and the historical significance of laying cornerstones. The choir and congregation sang, "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," and the service closed, with the Benediction, pronounced by the Bishop.

In September 1899, as the church construction near completion, an offer was accepted from a Mr. and Mrs. Bauer to furnish three stained glass windows, and from Miss Mary Rhinelander, of New York City, to provide a communion service. Miss Rhinelander, like Mr. Thomas, shared family and business interests with J. P. Morgan and Company, and was a benefactor of many good causes.

As construction progressed, Bishop Rowe, in his characteristic way, did much of the stone work himself, and the front wall of the church he built entirely with his own hands. The Bishop's biographer, Thomas Jenkins, wrote that one day while Bishop Rowe worked at the wall a man came sauntering along. "Well, Bishop," he remarked, "you are working to beat the devil." Replied the Bishop, "Yes, he's the very one I'm trying to beat!"

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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St. Peter's Church (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-029)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3 of 3

The new church witnessed its initial service on November 26, 1899, a Thanksgiving Service in which Bishop Rowe shared the rostrum with Father Anthony of the Greek Cathedral, and at least 10 different denominations of Christians were in attendance. A formal service of consecration for the building was held on Easter Sunday, April 15, 1900. As the home church of the Bishop, this was the most important Episcopal Church in Alaska. This picturesque building lost its importance with the decline of Sitka, when the capital was removed and all the courts and officials of the District were removed to Juneau, where the District would become a Territory. Due to other factors than merely the decline of Sitka with the removal of the capital to Juneau, Bishop Rowe moved his See to Seattle, and continued his yearly crusades from there, both to the farthest reaches of Alaska, and to the far reaches of the Eastern United States, from whence had to come his moral and legal support and the wherewithall for him to serve his flock throughout Alaska.

This lovely little church, conceived in the fertile brain of one of the most indescribably of men who ever served humanity in Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe, continues its serene way, serving the Episcopal congregation now as in 1899, while continuing to draw attention to itself as an architectural jewel in the diadem of Sitka's Crescent Harbor shore.

One visitor, Ella Higginson, poetized her impressions of St. Peter's-By-The-Sea, and sent it to Bishop Rowe. It reads, in part:

The little Church at Sitka--
It is so dim and still!
The doors stand open to the sea,
The wind goes through at will
And bears the scent of brine and blue
To the far distant hill.

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St. Peters Episcopal Church (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-029)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1 of 2

Alaskan, The, August 6, September 10, 1898; May 27, June 24, July 1, August 26, September 9, December 2, 1899.

Brown, Phyllis, "The Sea House, The Parish House of the Episcopal Church, St. Peter's By the Sea." 1 page. Typescript for the Sitka Volunteer Historic Preservation Committee. February 1977.

Carpenter, Frank G., Alaska Our Northern Wonderland. N.Y., Doubleday Page & Co., 1925.

Hardcastle, Romaine, Alaska Day Festival, Inc. /Sitka, 1954?/.

Henson, Alice Pace, "The Real Sitka." Travel, Vol. 19, May 1912, Pages 26-29.

Historical Sketch of St. Peter's-By-the-Sea, 1899-1949. 3 pages. /Sitka, 1949?/.

Jenkins, Thomas, The Man of Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe. N.Y., Morehouse-Gorham, 1943.

"Our Church." 3 pages. Mimeographed pamphlet history of St. Peter's Church, Sitka. n.d.

Stuck, Hudson, The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church. N.Y., Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, 1920. Reprint, Seattle, The Shorey Book Store, 1968.

Willoughby, Barrett, Sitka, Portal to Romance. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1930.

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St. Peters Episcopal Church (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-029)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1 of 2

Miss Isabel Miller
P.O. Box 1672
Sitka, Alaska 99835 (907) 747-3405

Property *St. Peter's Church* | *78000536*

State *Alaska* Working Number *9.12.77.1435*

TECHNICAL

Photos *1*

Maps *1*

~~*[illegible]*~~

CONTROL

OK - 9.13.77

HISTORIAN

yes - we do need to call an ~~[illegible]~~ independent [illegible] what's included - dates etc. much of the justification rambles on is religious

accept

See photo report

12.22.77

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Little mention of history & arch. significance; history (see above) but a [illegible]? The church possesses strong historical/religious significance through its association w/ the Bishop. (Religion not checked.) Would like to see better photographs of church.

call for Accept

1/2/77

ARCHEOLOGIST

The architectural composition of the church would make it significant in architecture/construction. Interesting facade.

OTHER

HAER

Inventory ______

Review ______

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

History nominated separately

Church is architecturally significant as early (for Alaska) well done church

accept

1/24/78

BRANCH CHIEF

1.31.78

KEEPER

1/31/78

National Register Write-up ______ Send-back ______ Entered JAN 31 1978

Federal Register Entry *4.4.78* Re-submit ______

INT:2408-74

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service WASO No. 7

Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74) Senators: Stevens, Gravel; Congressman: Young

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0502 82 / DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 22 1977
DATE ENTERED MAR 30 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC: See House ** (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-195)

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 611 Lincoln Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Sitka — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Alaska, at Large

STATE: Alaska — CODE: 02 — COUNTY: Sitka Division — CODE: 220

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Mrs. Clyde Tennant, Senior Warden (907) 747-3503

STREET & NUMBER: St. Peters Church, P.O. Box 1156

CITY, TOWN: Sitka — VICINITY OF — STATE: Alaska 99835

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Recorder

STREET & NUMBER: P.O. Box 910

CITY, TOWN: Sitka — STATE: Alaska 99835

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRS)

DATE: March 7, 1977 — __FEDERAL XSTATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Alaska Division of Parks, 619 Warehouse Avenue

CITY, TOWN: Anchorage — STATE: Alaska 99501

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE.....
X FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house was designed and built to complement St. Peter's-By-the-Sea. It was designed to be Gothic in appearance, though not in construction principles. The first Bishop of Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe, drew his conception for the house in the fall of 1898, at the same time he drew sketches of his conception of what St. Peter's should be. Architectural plans for the house appear to have been executed by Philadelphia architect H. L. Duhring, Jr., at the expense, and as a benefaction, of George C. Thomas, of Philadelphia. The house was not built in 1899, when the church was built, due, apparently, to lack of funds.

The shape of the house is an almost irregular rectangle, with bays jutting out to the west from the side walls, to take advantage of the view over Beach Road (now Lincoln Street) to the harbor and the sea. The building is set upon a solid foundation which appears to be primarily of concrete or cement. The basement was used from its earliest days for classrooms, meetings, and other church functions, as it is today. The main second floors have the exposed timber appearance of a Gothic mansion, lightened by large windows on all sides which illumine the basically good proportions of the rooms and provide an aura of natural illumination providing welcome leaven to the otherwise somber cast of the design. There is a large kitchen and pantry, and oversize living, dining and family rooms, all of which appear to have been designed with a view to their uses as functional elements of the church organization for St. Peter's, and as the headquarters for the Episcopal Church in Alaska, as well as the home of the Bishop's family. The second floor has a bath, three bedrooms, and the Bishop's study.

Since the house functions now as the Rectory for St. Peter's Church, and the church is now between Rectors, the house is being used now only for church business, and the family bedrooms are unoccupied and unfurnished. The study on the second floor, is, however, partially furnished. The last Rector had the room redecorated somewhat garishly. This should be considered for return to the period of Peter Trimble Rowe, which could be done in the course of normal redecoration for an incoming Pastor.

The attic is a full finished floor which has been used at various times for day classes and Sunday school classes, and is used still for storage of church records. In one place in the attic are personal records and possessions of Peter Trimble Rowe, apparently placed here at the time of his burial in 1942 on the lawn of St. Peter's Church. These artifacts include personal reference books, including a set of the Encyclopedia Brittanica, his personal portable piano organ, and apparently a quantity of his personal notes and diaries -- all of them of great potential as archival and historical documents and museum artifacts.

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
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8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION	
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE	
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE	
___1600-1699	___ARCHITECTURE	___EDUCATION	___MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITAR	
___1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER	
___1800-1899	___COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION	
X 1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		___INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1905 BUILDER/ARCHITECT H. L. Duhring, Jr. from design by Peter Trimble Rowe; built by Peter Trimble Rowe

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant as the home and headquarters of Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe, the First Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, which he conceived in his own mind, built with his own hands, and from whence he went forth on seven of his approximately 46 journeys, often alone, to the far north and west reaches of the Alaskan subcontinent, building and staffing hospitals, libraries and schools, and establishing mission churches on the last American frontier.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Peter Trimble Rowe was the first Episcopal Bishop of Alaska. In April 1896 he established his headquarters at Sitka, found quarters for his family, and left immediately for the interior to see for himself what it was he must do in his newly accepted charge. He traveled over the Chilkat Trail to the Yukon, transporting his own dunnage and building his own boats, as necessary -- two years before the Klondike gold stampede. He early established that he would be a leading missionary in fact to both Alaskan Natives and to Sourdoughs -- as well as in name. During the ensuing years that he served -- from 1895 until his death in 1942 -- he made approximately 46 such journeys between southeastern Alaska, the length of the Yukon River, north to Nome, and west to the Aleutians, often all in the same trip. He established and staffed hospitals, libraries, and schools, and established mission churches to serve the needs of both the Natives and the incoming Sourdoughs. He worked tirelessly to create a bridge for the Natives between their past and their future, and to provide aid and succor to the Sourdough hordes who often mindlessly descended upon the vast wilderness unprepared to cope with its relentless demands upon the human mind and body. He was the Episcopal Bishop of Alaska, but he was also, to the rest of the country, the Bishop from Alaska, becoming a nationally celebrated figure, based upon his accomplishments in Alaska and the effectiveness with which he carried his message of need to the Eastern establishment of the church and of the government, and to the press. Over the 47 years of his service to Alaska he repeatedly rebuffed attempts to transfer him to elevated positions of authority and honor in the church at places of far less demand upon his physical powers.

The fame and honors bestowed upon Bishop Rowe are legion, and a brief account of them must inevitably fall short of any adequate treatment. What is important here is that the house he built represents one of the few physical legacies of his work that remain as he created them.

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	...CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	...ECONOMICS	...LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	...ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	...MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITAR
__1700-1799	...ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	...TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
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See House (ABRS SITE NO. SIT-195)

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1 of 2

Since funds were adequate in 1899 to build only St. Peter's Church, he deferred construction of the See House, for which he already had architect's plans, based upon his conception for the house. In 1905, while Mrs. Rowe was in Victoria for the first of a series of operations, the Bishop stayed in Sitka, rather than journeying to the interior, and he occupied himself with building the See House. It was at that time apparently, that the site was purchased from Peter Panamarkoff or his estate, as the adjoining church property had been purchased earlier. Bishop Rowe described his work on the house:

> "Mrs. Rowe has left Sitka for Victoria for medical treatment. I am alone, not a new experience. I get my own meals and keep the new house progressing to a finish. I find it hard after using the trowel or plane, shovel or hammer, wheelbarrow or paint brush, lifting and placing rocks all day, to handle easily or conveniently at night so small an article as a pen. Building this house is a pretty difficult contract in Sitka, owing to the scarcity of good workmen and the long delayed shipments of materials. While the house is going to be the most complete thing of the kind in Alaska, yet it ties me down, and will do so until November. Then I shall hang up the trowel and the hoe and be off to the work that is calling loudly for me. I shall have to hit the trail this winter."

In addition to creating the house he had earlier envisioned, his work of that summer solved the problem of lack of money for construction. It also probably served him well in his concern for the health of his beloved wife, who lived only 12 years longer. Their attachment to this place is evidenced in that upon his death 37 years later they were both reinterred here in the lawn of St. Peter's Church.

After the house was completed, the family occupied it for seven years. In 1912, with the transfer of the major resources of the capital of Alaska to Juneau, Sitka declined in importance. Access to ships which Bishop Rowe needed to set out on his annual pilgrimages to the Bering Sea, the Yukon, and the Aleutians, became unavailable, except by journeying first to Seattle. This, in addition, the increasing need of Mrs. Rowe for constant medical attention, decided a move of the See from Sitka to Seattle. The See House, while retaining that name, became the home of the resident clergyman of St. Peter's Church, rather than the actual headquarters of the Bishop of Alaska. Ultimately, of course, the See was relocated in Fairbanks, where it is now.

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2 of 2

There are many fine houses in Sitka, and also in other communities in Alaska. However, this is the only house in all Alaska, conceived and built by one who stands among the foremost humanitarian figures in the history of the Territory and state. Its design was unusual and was his own unique contribution. The construction was unusual, and was his own unique contribution. The years between 1905 and 1912 when Bishop Rowe and his family occupied the house were seminal years for the Territory, for the development of the large number of hospitals, clinics, libraries, schools, orphanages, and mission churches, that he located, instigated, staffed, and nurtured; and they, too, were his unique contribution. For that period of time this house stands as his homeplace, the home to which he returned, planned for the future, and then set out again for journeys which in number, length, and difficulty, are yet unequalled by any man in the modern history of Alaska as a Territory or a state.

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1 of 1

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Cairns, Ralph H., "Interesting Westerners: A Bishop the the Snows," Sunset, May 1913, pages 576-579.

Historical Sketch of St. Peter's-By-the-Sea, 1899-1949. 3 pages, [Sitka, 1949?].

"How the Church went to Alaska, and what has been done there," Spirit of Missions, Vol. 70, April 1905, pages 257-265.

Jenkins, Thomas, The Man of Alaska, Peter Trimble Rowe., N.Y., Moorehouse-Gorham, 1943.

"Our Church." 3 pages. Mimeographed pamphlet history of St. Peter's Church, Sitka, n. d.

Stuck, Hudson, The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church. N.Y., Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, 1920. Reprint, Seattle, The Shorey Book Store, 1968.

Thomas, Tay, Cry in the Wilderness. Anchorage, Color Art Printing Co., 1967.

Weems, Carrington, "The Bishop of the Arctic," World's Work, April 1912, pages 661-672.

Willoughby, Barrett, Sitka, Portal to Romance. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1930.

APPENDIX C: STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT REPORT & FIELD NOTES

Structural Systems Assessment for St. Peter's by-the-Sea conducted by Troy Feller, BBFM Engineers Inc.

St. Peter's by-the-Sea field sketches by Sterling Holdorf, NPS Masonry Specialist

St. Peters by-the-Sea Structural Site Visit

12/13/21-12/15/21 by Troy Feller, PE, SE

Structural Systems and Observations

Roof

The roof framing is 7/16" OSB over ¾" x 5 ¾" board skip sheathing (average of 2 ½" gap between boards) supported by 2" x 5 ¾" rafters at 24"oc. The rafters are supported solid sawn wood beams at the ridge and an intermediate beam half way between the ridge and outside walls The roof beams are supported by wood scissor trusses spaced at 10'-0" oc. See Roof section in attached field notes on page 1 of 2.

The scissor trusses are exposed in the main Sanctuary and the remainder of the roof framing is obscured by the roof and ceiling finishes except one small area in the Sacristy. In this area the roof framing was inspected and appeared in good shape with not wood rot or other deficiencies observed. The roof rafters are attached to the stud wall top plate with a large (20d?) toe nail each side which is common for construction of the period.

The wood scissor trusses are constructed of 3 ¾" x 7 ¼" top chords, collar ties, and center king post. The diagonal bottom scissor cords are off set from the top chords and are continuous from wall to midpoint of the top chord and are 2 ¾" x 7 ¾" members. All connections are a single ¾" diameter through bolt. There is a 3 ¾" x 7 ¾" corbel with a ¾" diameter bolt to the wall bearing stud and another bolt to the truss top chord. The wall bearing stud size is unknown but assumed to be at least a 2 ¾" x 7 ¾" member based on observations above the Sacristy ceiling. See Truss Elevation in attached field notes on page 2 of 2. All elevations were measured from the floor with a laser measuring device. All truss measurements, member sizes, connections, etc., were documented to allow a structural analysis in the future.

All truss members and connections were in good condition and no signs of distress were observed. Structural analysis of the truss is beyond the scope of work for this condition assessment but it is worth nothing that they have been supporting the roof loads for over 120 years and appear to be in good condition.

Walls and Buttresses

Wood stud wall framing was covered by finishes and could not be inspected. Based on what could be observed above the Sacristy ceiling the walls appear to be 7 ¼" deep studs (the wall top plate is 7 ¾" wide). See plan view section of window at wall in attached field The exterior rubble stone masonry buttress piers align with each of the 3 scissor trusses but appear to be ornamental and do not support any building loads or outward thrust from the scissor trusses. The mortar in the buttresses is in poor condition and many of the rocks are loose. This is covered in more detail by the historic masonry specialist that was part of our inspection team.

The side walls that support trusses were measured for vertical alignment and it was found that they are leaning out by an average of approximately ¾". These walls are 12'-0" tall and ¾" outward deflection is considered acceptable. See wall outward deflection values in attached Field Notes at bottom of page 1 of 2.

Floor

The floor is ¾" tongue and groove flooring over ¾" staggered sleeper boards over 7/8" diagonal tongue and groove sheathing. Floor joists are 2" x 11 ¾" joists at 24"oc supported by 8" x 8" girders at 7'-6" oc. The girders are supported by stone and mortar piers at approximately 9' oc.

A laser level survey was done and the floor is level to within plus or minus ½" with the exception of the Sacristy floor. The Sacristy floor at the northeast corner of the building is sagging approximately 3". A laser level was utilized to show that the exterior wall bottom plate and top of foundation wall is level to within ⅛" and it is the floor that is deflecting downwards. The crawlspace was too shallow to allow access for inspection of this area from the underside. The most probable explanation of the floor sag is that the end of the joists have rotted where they bear on the perimeter foundation wall and have deflected downward and possibly made contact with the soil. It is recommended that the flooring and floor sheathing be removed to confirm the problem and the floor joists be replaced with pressure treated members and be reseated on the foundation wall. Exterior grade slopes up steeply to the upper parking lot at this corner of the building and it is likely that water and high soil moisture content occur during periods of rain and snow melt. That combined with the limited crawlspace depth in this area (untreated wood in close contact with moist soils) have most likely caused the accelerated wood rot in this location. The exterior sheathing and wall bottom plate at the northeast corner is also decayed and should be repaired.

Belltower

A manlift was utilized to access the Belltower. For the Belltower structural components the critical connection is from the corner posts to the roof structure. The inspection was intended to access the connection of the corner posts to roof framing. However, the original Belltower floor, located just above the main building ridge line, is a sealed built-up roof with no access to the space below. Therefore the Belltower to roof connection could not be viewed and the condition and strength of the connection is unknow. The wood framing above the Belltower floor was inspected and was in good condition.

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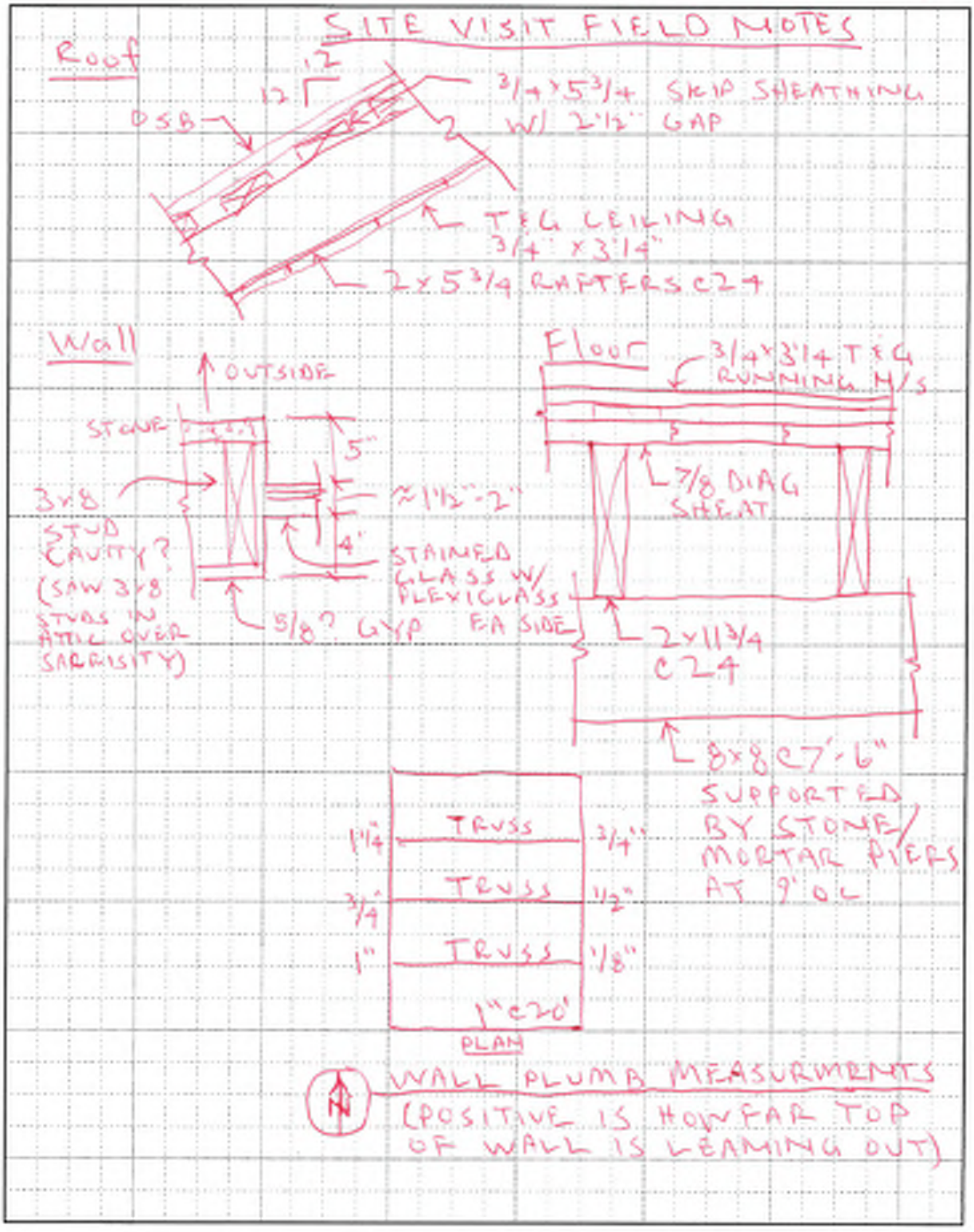
JOB St Peters(church PAGE 1/2
CALCULATED BY TJF DATE 12/13/21



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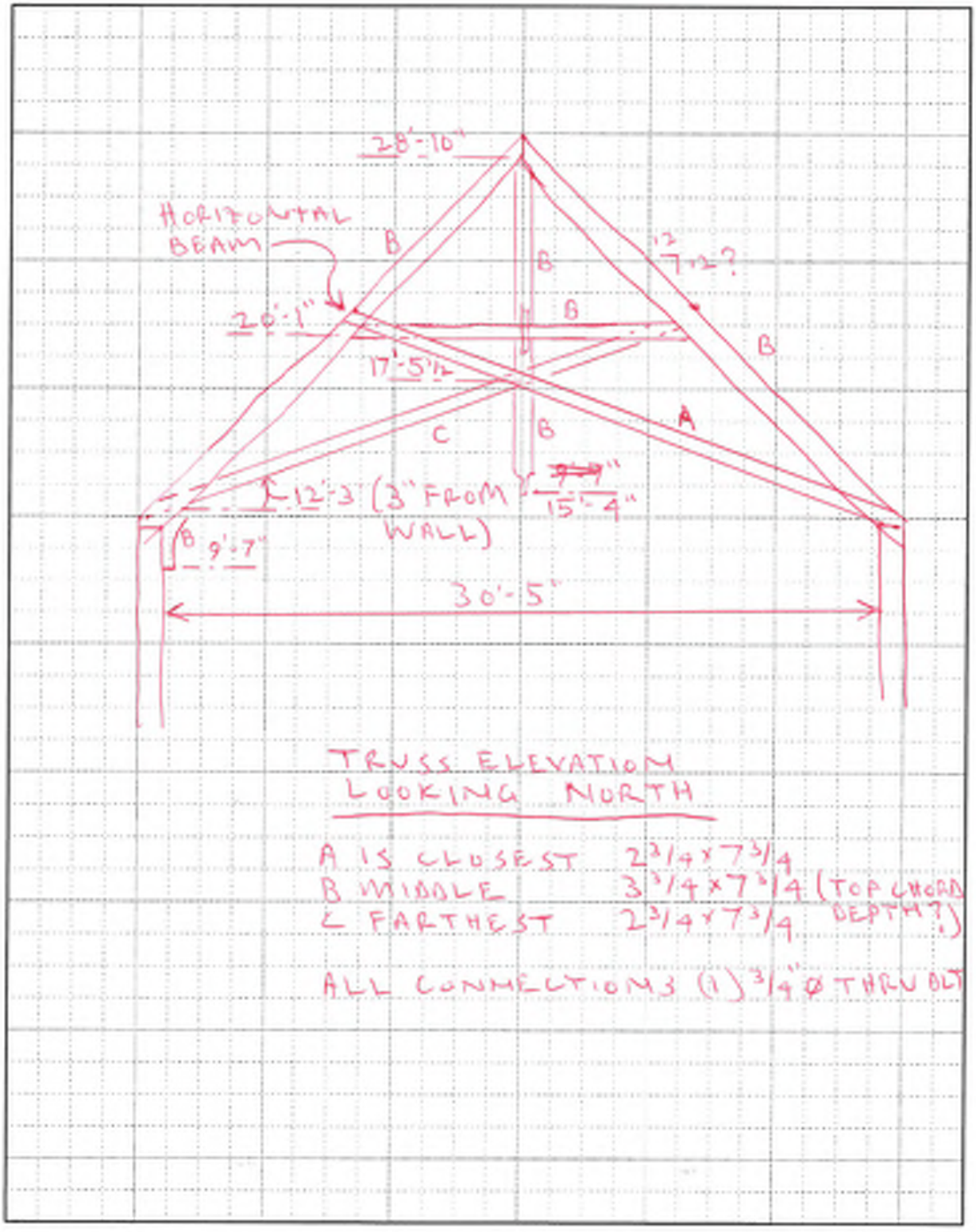
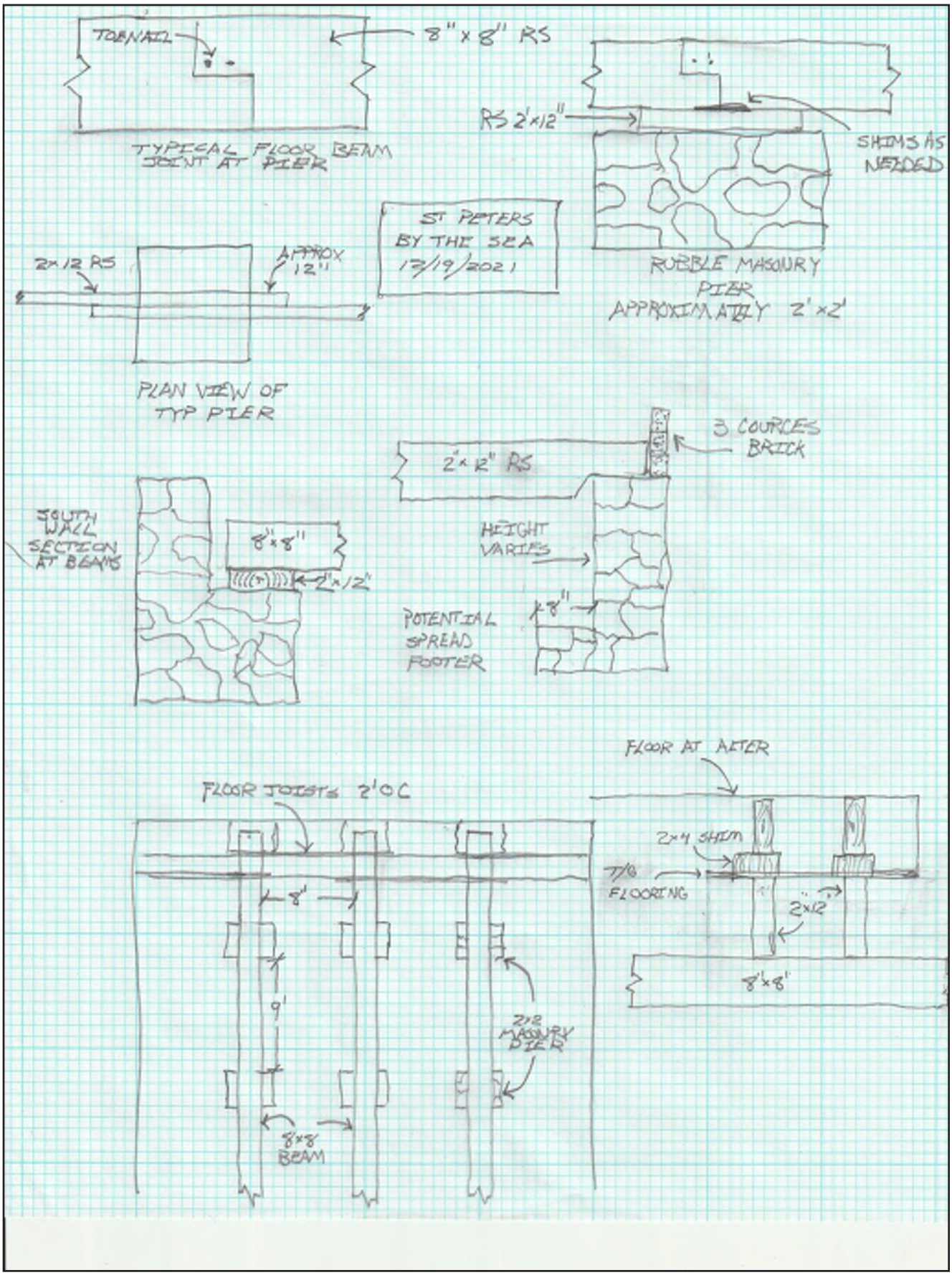
JOB St Peters Church PAGE 2/2
CALCULATED BY TJF DATE 12/14/21



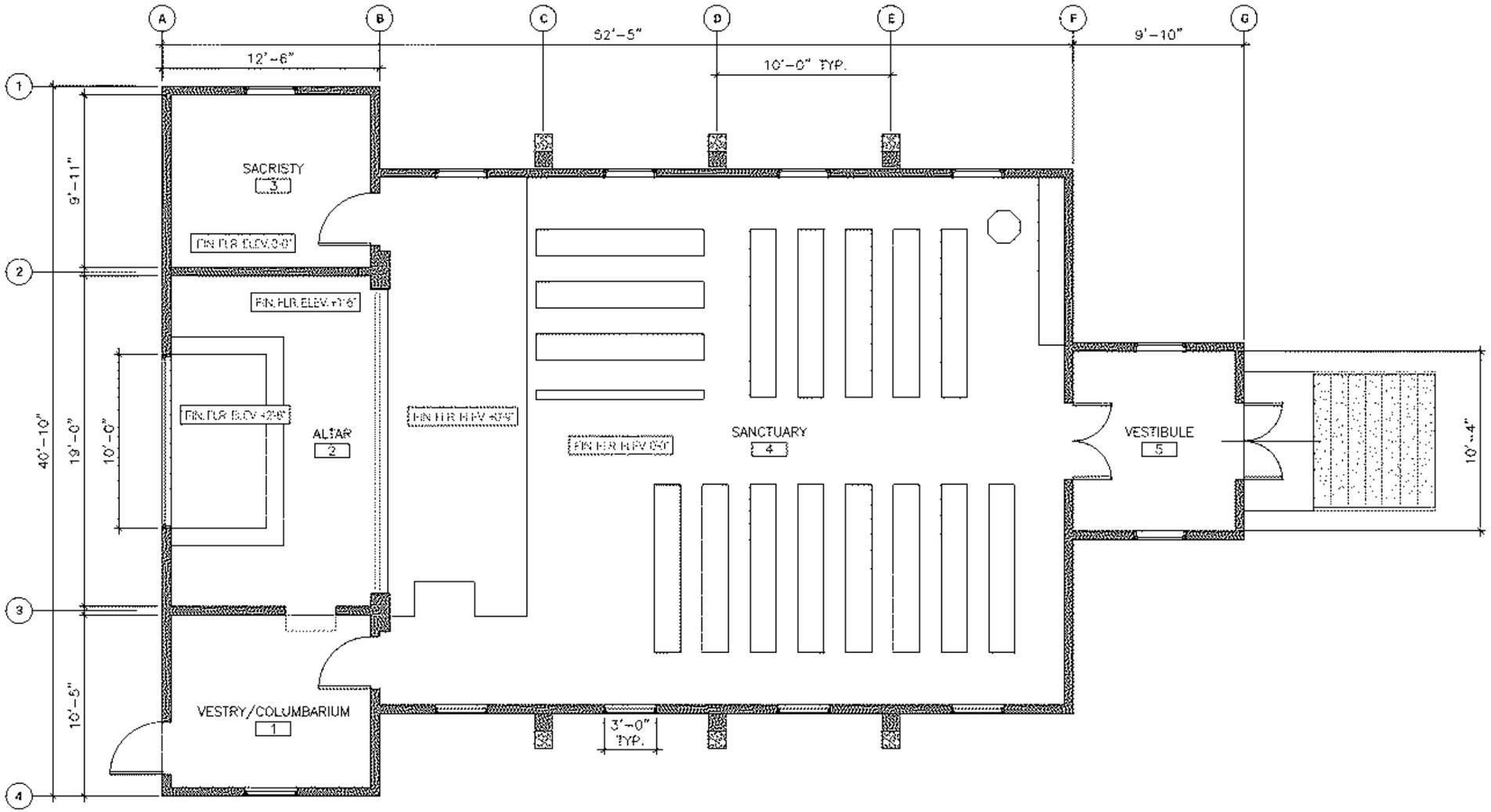
TRUSS ELEVATION
LOOKING NORTH

A IS CLOSEST 2¾ x 7¾
B MIDDLE 3¾ x 7¾ (TOP CHORD DEPTH?)
C FARTHEST 2¾ x 7¾

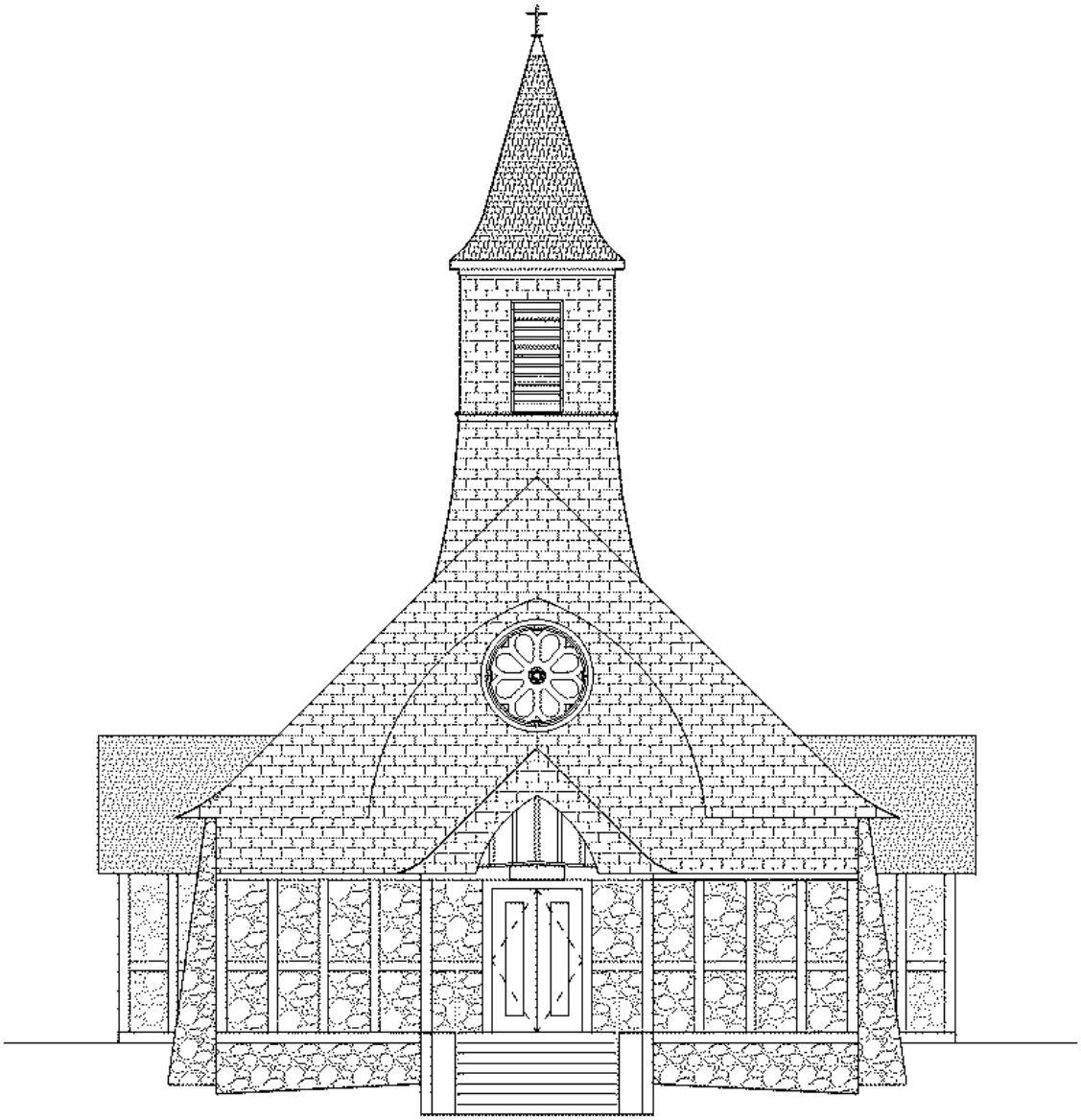
ALL CONNECTIONS (1) ¾" Ø THRU BLT


TOENAIL
8" x 8" RS
TYPICAL FLOOR BEAM JOINT AT PIER
RS 2'x12"
SHIMS AS NEEDED
ST PETERS BY THE SEA 12/19/2021
RUBBLE MASONRY PIER APPROXIMATELY 2' x 2'
2x12 RS
APPROX 12"
PLAN VIEW OF TYP PIER
3 COURCES BRICK
2" x 12" RS
HEIGHT VARIES
SOUTH WALL SECTION AT BEAMS
8"x8"
2"x12"
POTENTIAL SPREAD FOOTER
1'-8"
FLOOR AT ALTER
FLOOR JOISTS 2'OC
2x4 SHIM
T/G FLOORING
2x12
8'x8'
8'
9'
2'-2" MASONRY PIER
8x8 BEAM

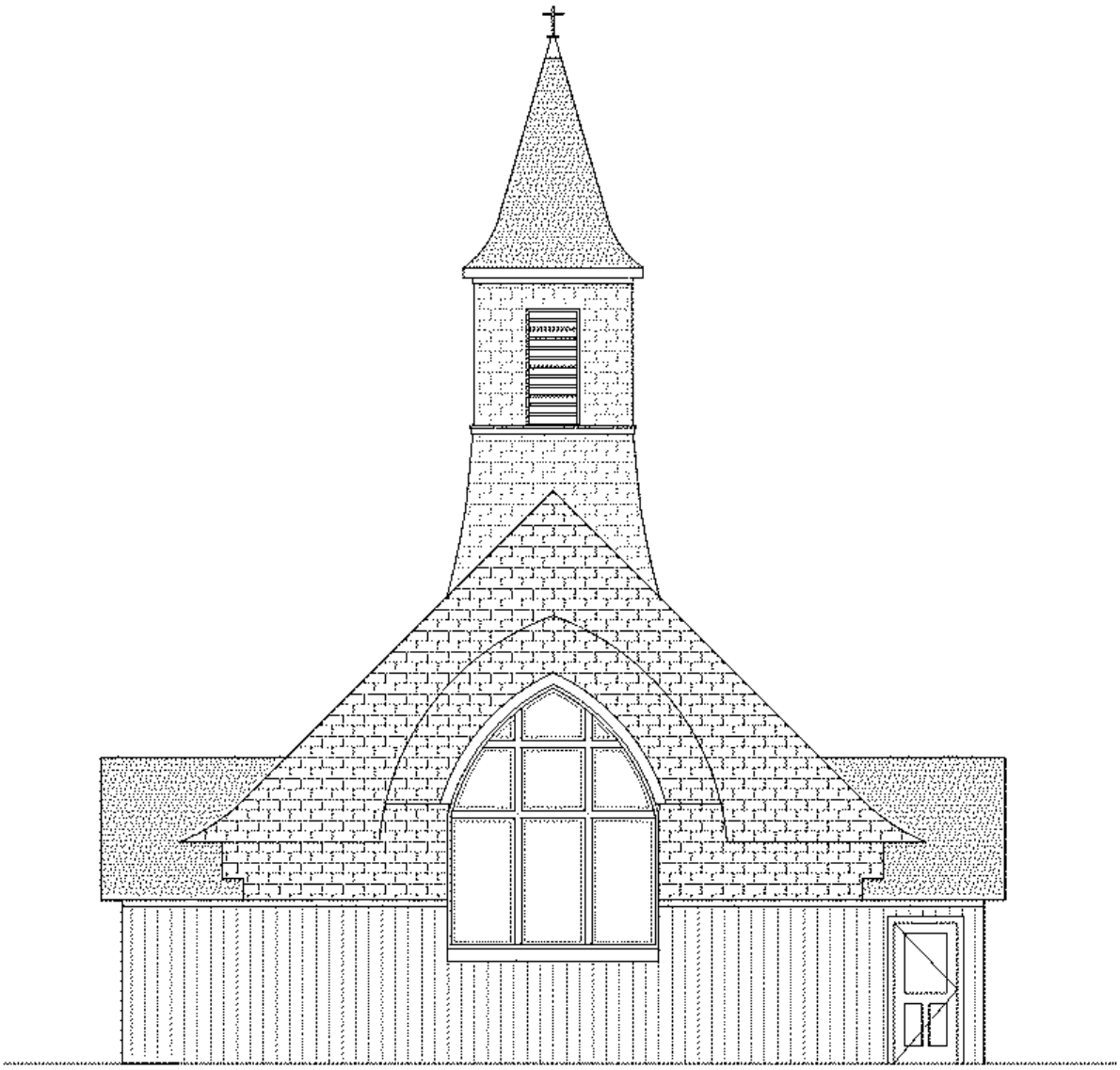
APPENDIX D: ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS


A
B
C
D
E
F
G
1
2
3
4
12'-6"
52'-5"
10'-0" TYP.
9'-10"
9'-11"
40'-10"
19'-0"
10'-6"
10'-5"
SACRISTY
3
FIN. FLR. ELEV. 0'-0"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +1'-6"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +2'-6"
ALTAR
2
FIN. FLR. ELEV. +3'-4"
FIN. FLR. ELEV. 0'-0"
SANCTUARY
4
VESTIBULE
5
10'-4"
VESTRY/COLUMBARIUM
1
3'-0" TYP.

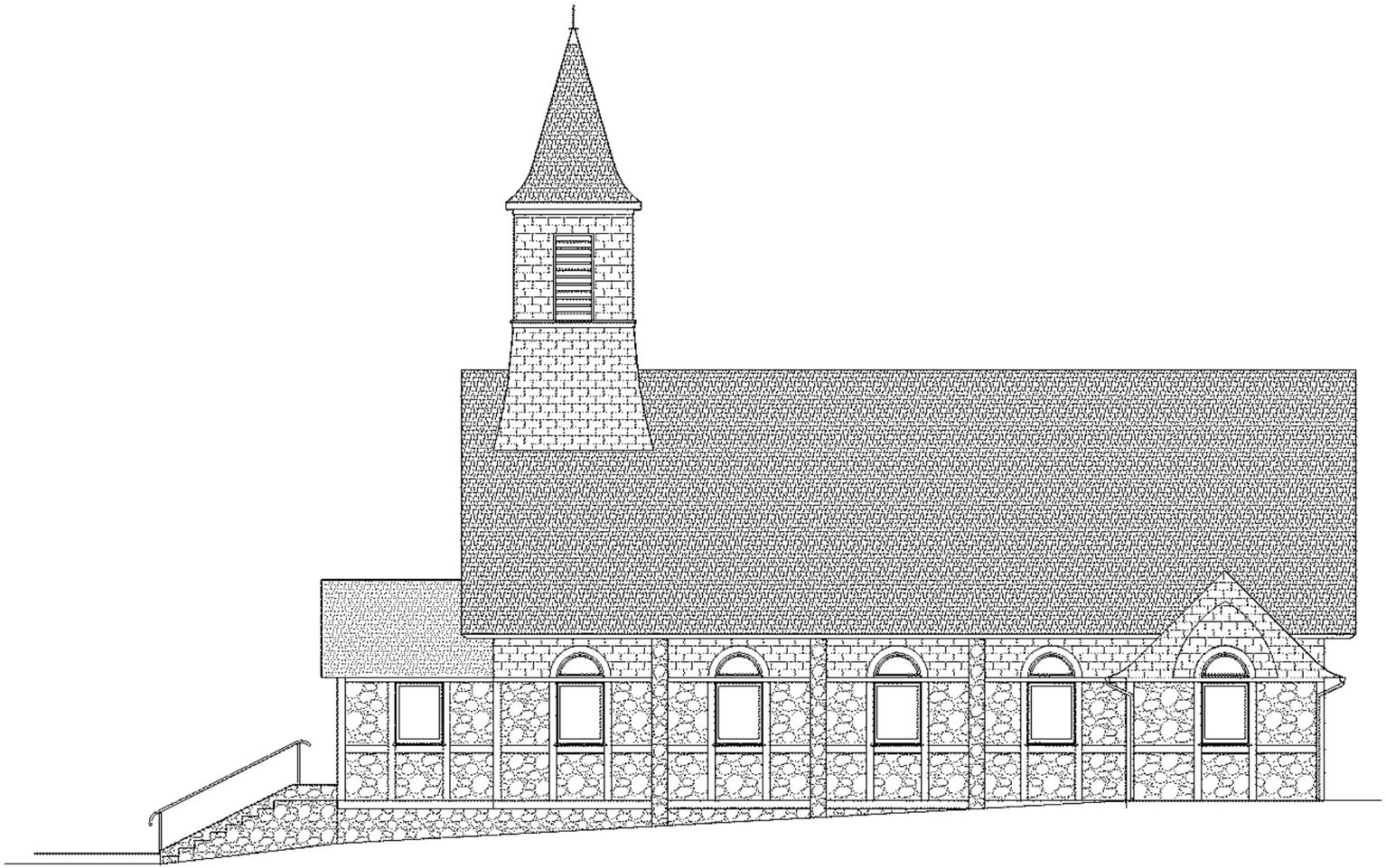
Floor Plan



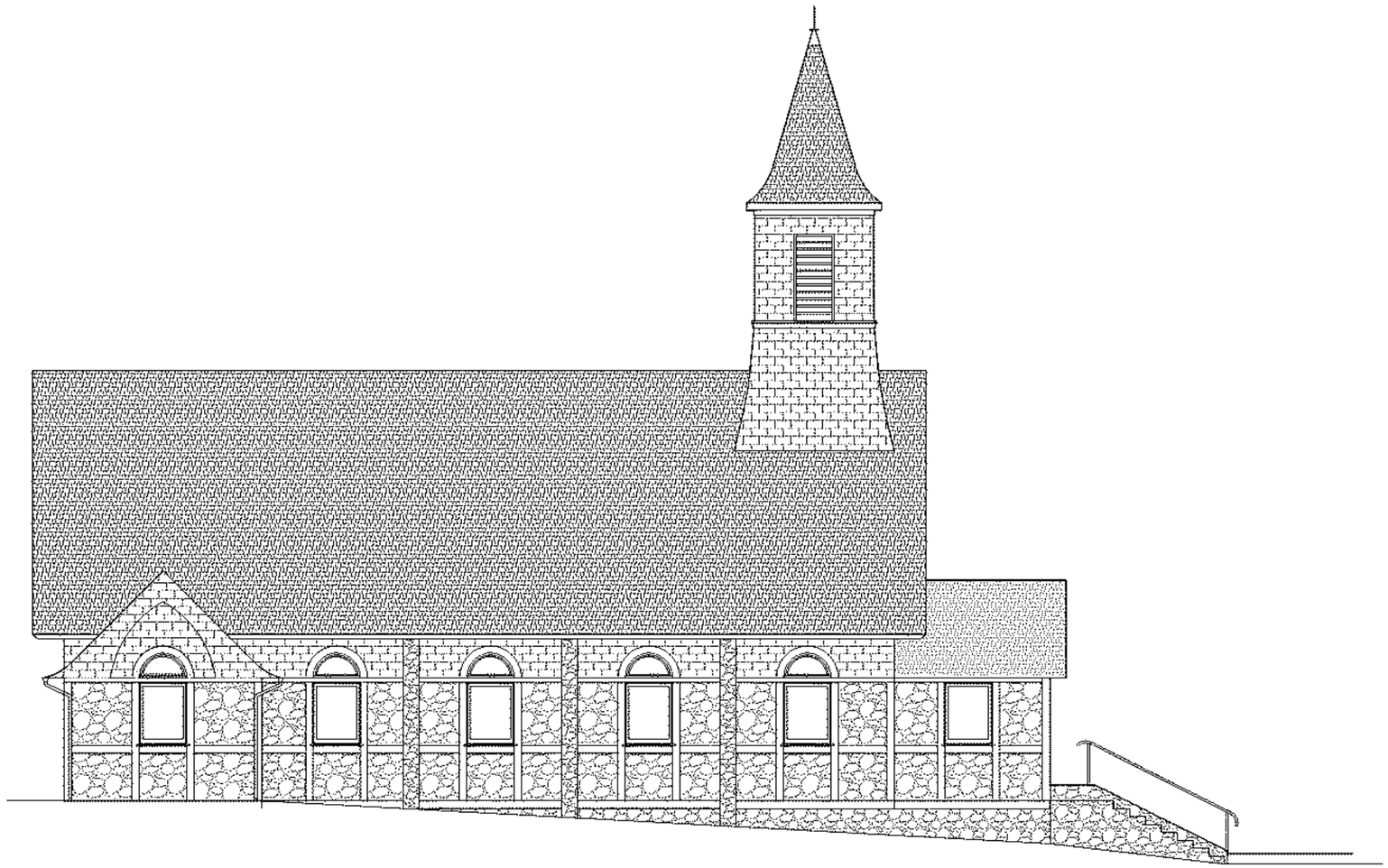
South Elevation



North Elevation



East Elevation



West Elevation