

THE ORGAN PROJECT



GRACE CHURCH
IN PROVIDENCE

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A brief history, and a plan for renovation and expansion.

In the late 1950s – more than sixty years ago – Senior Warden Charles M. Smith wrote to Grace Church parishioners about the failing state of the pipe organs and the dire need to address those conditions. His letter stated three considerations for the Vestry:

- The seriousness of the condition and the action required to correct it
- The possibility of spreading the work and large expense involved over several years
- The best means of providing the required funds to successfully undertake such a project



The Gallery Case & Façade, designed by Hutchings Organ Co., Boston, 1886

These questions are essentially the same ones asked by our current Vestry, as we determine the best approach for the restoration of the organs at Grace. We have the answers to the first two questions – a sound and creative plan for restoration, renovation, and expansion; and a clear understanding that a multi-phased approach over many years is not practical, neither financially nor from a usage standpoint. We now seek funding from generous individuals, foundations, or corporations (or from a combination of these) in order to return this venerable instrument to its former glory and honor the vision and legacy of generations of Rhode Islanders that have come before us.

We are proposing a two-phased approach for this project. **Phase I:** enlarges, restores, and renovates the Chancel organ, addresses the most pressing and important issues with the Gallery organ, and provides for a new console. **Phase II:** would complete the restoration and renovation of the Gallery organ.

Please continue reading for more detailed information on this very exciting and monumental musical project.

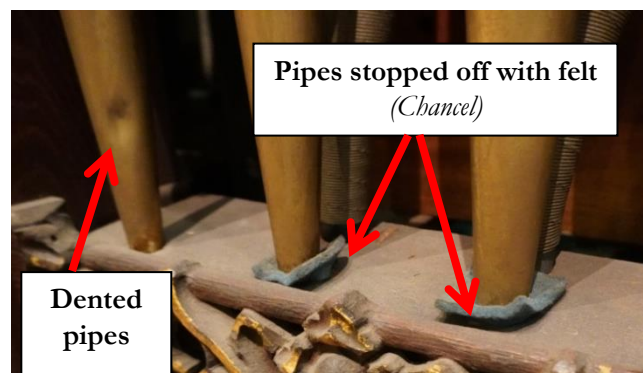
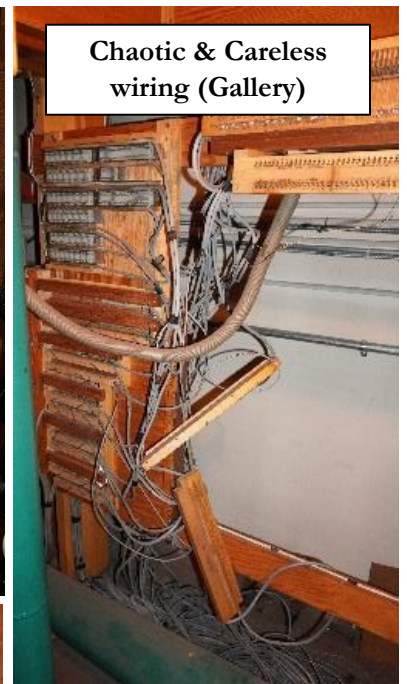


The twin Chancel cases and façade, designed by Ralph Adams Cram, 1912.

THE ORGAN'S CURRENT CONDITION . . .

The current instrument – comprised of the front (Chancel) organ and back (Gallery) organ – are in desperate need of renovation and restoration. The only reason the organ still sounds impressive during worship and concert is the large number of digital, or electronic, stops employed to cover all the issues of the pipe organ. There are hundreds of dead notes, and ciphers – pipes that play on their own and won't stop – are frequent. Again – we essentially are using an electronic organ on a day-to-day basis to avoid these problems. The organ needs to be completely re-leathered; all the pipes need cleaning, and most need repair; the organ chambers need thorough cleaning; and much rewiring and additional chamber lighting is needed. While we are dealing with those types of issues, it is the ideal time to address any other shortcomings the organ may have tonally. This project will do just that. Finally, a new console is needed to control the entire organ. The console from the 2010 project is sadly falling apart, with many broken/ askew stop-knobs, and stops that won't disengage.

Please see the pictures below and on the back of this brochure for an inside peak into the organ's current condition. And do watch our three videos found at www.gracechurchprovidence.org/organproject



THE ORGAN PROJECT SUMMARY

A BRIEF HISTORY

- 1845 – Henry Erben organ installed in the Gallery
- 1886 – Hutchings & Co. (Boston) organ installed in the Gallery including present case and façade
- 1904 – Organ action electrified and console moved downstairs to the chancel
- 1912 – New chancel built – Hutchings & Co. provided a small 2-manual organ for the new chancel
- 1923 – Casavant Frères, Ltée. builds large new 2-manual organ for the chancel
- 1959 – Casavant rebuilds the entire organ, including a new console – 103 ranks; 6122 pipes
- 2010 – A new console is installed by R.A. Colby, Inc. and 100 digital (electronic) voices added by Walker Technical Company
 - NB: *This last project was conceived and carried out by then-Music Director Mark Johnson as an alternative to restoring the pipe organ.*
- **2022** – We find ourselves with a mostly digital (electronic) organ. The problems from previous decades have only multiplied, and the actual pipe organ is virtually unusable. Additionally, 12 years on, the digital stops and Colby console are also beginning to malfunction and fall apart. In the meantime, Grace Church has: restored the exterior of the building to prevent water leakage; built The Pavilion, a state-of-the-art parish hall adjacent to the church, to be used for parish and community events; and renovated all other interior spaces that had suffered from water damage and decay over the years. And finally, our Music Program has grown to include the 40-member Grace Church Choir; 20 children involved in the Chorister program; a *Schola* to provide music for monthly Compline; and *Collegium Ancora*, a professional chamber choir in residence at Grace Church.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

It is time that our once-glorious pipe organ be restored, renovated and expanded to be in effect the largest and most versatile organ in the state of Rhode Island, as well as a landmark instrument for the East Coast. We dream of an organ that is worthy of the magnificent historical building it will inhabit. We are currently seeking funding for this monumental project. The restored and expanded organ, when complete, would contain **120 ranks of pipes and just over 7,000 individual pipes**, divided between Gallery and Chancel. **The historic Hutchings case of 1886 (gallery) and Ralph Adams Cram twin cases (chancel) would remain intact.** This would be a two-phase approach: First the Chancel organ, and second, the Gallery organ.

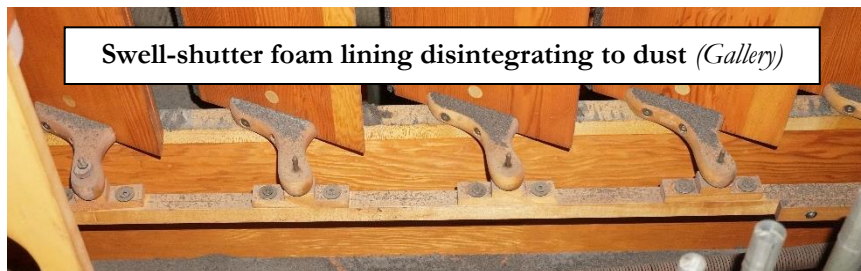
- **Highlights of the renovated and expanded organ (Phase I) will include:**
 - A new 4-manual state-of-the-art console to control the entire organ (both Gallery and Chancel)
 - A greatly expanded 4-manual Chancel organ, including new Great and Solo divisions
 - A copper horizontal trumpet (*Trompette-en-chamade*) atop the Gallery case
 - A re-use of almost all existing pipework
 - Dispensing with nearly all digital (electronic) stops and corresponding speakers in the current cases
 - Restoration/repair of all existing components and pipes in the Chancel organ, and restoration/ repair of selected stops in the Gallery organ, with the remainder awaiting “Phase II” of restoration.
- **Costs:** Phase I - \$1,600,000; Construction of new pipe chamber in Chancel - \$250,000; Endowment for future maintenance - \$150,000. Total Cost of Phase I - \$2,000,000. ***This could be a memorial project, naming the organ for a family member, or loved one.***

For more information on the Grace Church Organ Project, please contact Vincent Edwards, Director of Music vedwards@gracepvd.org; 203-984-8943 (Mobile); 401-331-3225, x 4 (Office)

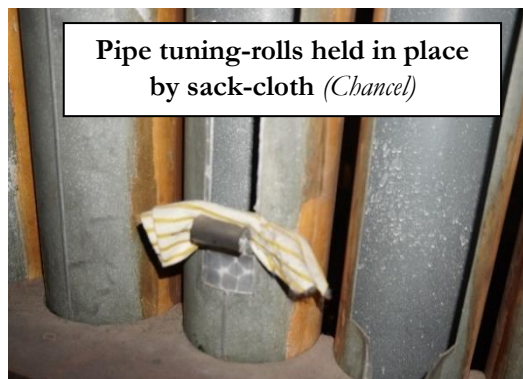
MORE PHOTOS OF THE ORGAN'S CURRENT CONDITION . . .



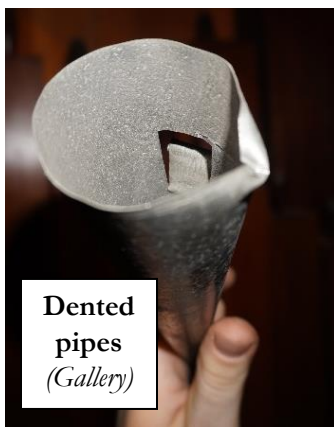
**Bent
Pipes**
(Chancel)



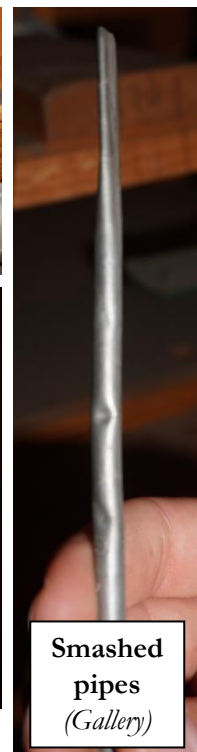
Swell-shutter foam lining disintegrating to dust (Gallery)



**Pipe tuning-rolls held in place
by sack-cloth** (Chancel)



**Dented
pipes**
(Gallery)



**Smashed
pipes**
(Gallery)



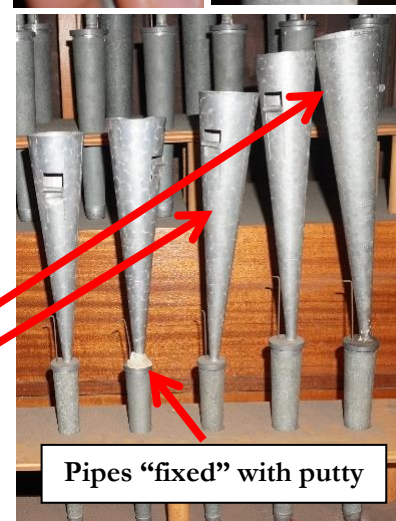
**Pipes collapsing
in on themselves**
(Chancel)



**Bent Pipes
& Decades of Dust**
(Chancel)



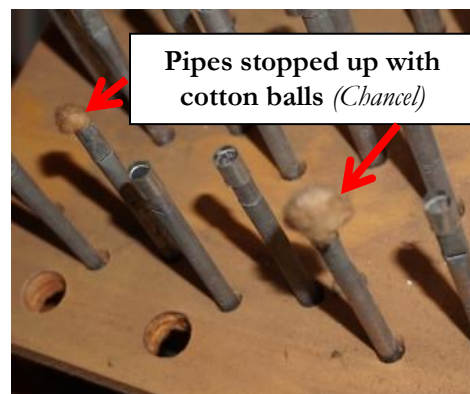
Bent pipes
(Gallery)



Pipes "fixed" with putty



**Cardboard used to
stop reservoirs
from leaking**
(Gallery)



**Pipes stopped up with
cotton balls** (Chancel)



**Chaotic
wiring**
(Chancel)

*For informative and descriptive videos
on the Grace Church organs and their current condition,
please visit: www.gracechurchprovidence.org/organproject
or scan the QR Code to the right!*



PROPOSED SPECIFICATION (STOP LIST)

UPDATED 2022

Chancel Organ, Phase I

Chancel Great (II)

16' Double Diapason
16' Lieblich Gedeckt
8' First Diapason
8' Second Diapason
8' Harmonic Flute
8' Gedeckt
4' Octave
4' Spillflute
2 2/3' Twelfth
2' Fifteenth
III-IV Mixture
8' Tromba
8' French Horn
8' State Trumpet
8' Tuba Mirabilis
Chimes
Tremulant
Great 16', Unison Off, Great 4'

13 ranks; 781 pipes, in new chamber, South side of Chancel, above console

12 notes, extension of Second Diapason

Swell

61 pipes, new

61 pipes, existing Great Diapason

61 pipes, 1-32 former Quintaton, uncapped, 33-61 new

61 pipes, new

61 pipes, new

61 pipes, new

61 pipes, new

61 pipes, new

232 pipes, new

61 pipes, new

Solo

Gallery Great

Solo

61 notes

Chancel Swell (III)

16' Lieblich Gedeckt
8' Diapason
8' Bourdon
8' Viole de Gambe
8' Voix Céleste
8' Flute Celeste II
4' Octave
4' Flauto Traverso
2 2/3' Nazard
2' Piccolo
1 3/5' Tierce
IV Plein Jeu
16' Double Trumpet
16' Bassoon
8' French Trumpet
8' Trumpet
8' Oboe
4' Clarion
8' Vox Humana
16' State Trumpet (TC)
8' State Trumpet
Tremulant
Swell 16', Unison Off, Swell 4'

18 ranks; 1,169 pipes (enclosed)

68 pipes

68 pipes

68 pipes

68 pipes

61 pipes

122 notes

68 pipes

68 pipes

61 pipes

61 pipes

61 pipes

244 pipes

61 pipes, former Chancel Pedal reed

12 notes, extension of Oboe

68 pipes, new

12 pipes, former Chancel Pedal reed

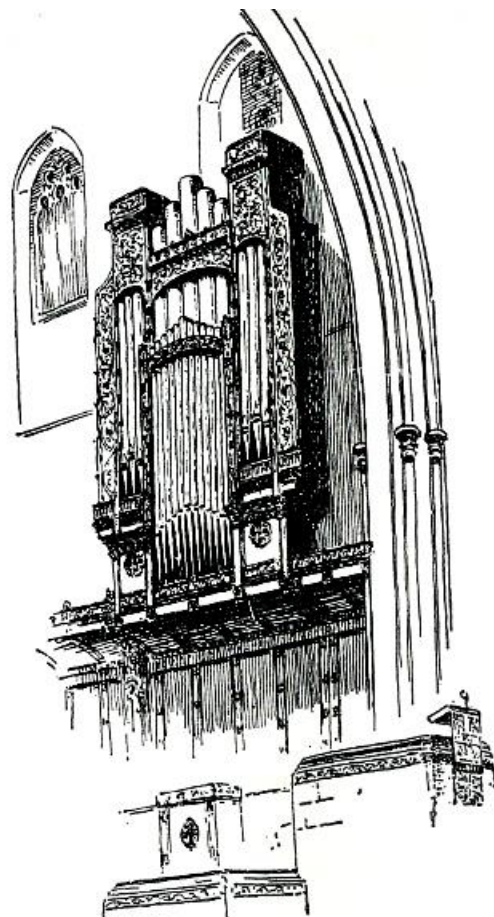
68 pipes, new

61 pipes, former Swell Trompette

61 notes

Gallery Great

Gallery Great



Chancel Choir (I)

16' Erzähler	<i>12 notes, extension of Kleine Erzähler</i>
8' Diapason	<i>61 pipes, renamed</i>
8' Kleine Erzähler	<i>61 pipes, new chest located in Solo, enclosed</i>
8' Erzähler Celeste	<i>49 pipes (TC), new chest located in Solo, enclosed</i>
8' Rohrflute	<i>61 pipes</i>
4' Octave	<i>61 pipes, former Great Octave</i>
4' Nachthorn	<i>61 pipes</i>
2' Super Octave	<i>61 pipes, former Great Grave Mixture</i>
1 1/3' Quinte	<i>61 pipes, former Great Grave Mixture</i>
8' Cromorne	<i>61 pipes, moved to Chancel from Gallery Choir</i>
8' English Horn	<i>Solo</i>
16' Tuba Mirabilis (TC)	<i>Solo</i>
8' Tuba Mirabilis	<i>Solo</i>
8' State Trumpet	<i>Gallery Great</i>
Harp	<i>Solo</i>
Tremulant	
Choir 16', Unison Off, Choir 4'	

9 ranks; 537 pipes – Pipes located on current Great chests/location (unenclosed)**Chancel Solo (IV)**

8' Diapason	<i>12 pipes, new</i>
8' Gambe	<i>61 pipes, new</i>
8' Gambe Celeste	<i>61 pipes, new</i>
4' Octave Diapason	<i>61 pipes, new</i>
8' English Horn	<i>61 pipes, from Chancel Choir</i>
8' Clarinet	<i>61 pipes, existing Skinner pipework</i>
8' French Horn	<i>61 pipes</i>
8' Tuba Mirabilis	<i>61 pipes, new</i>
8' State Trumpet	<i>Gallery</i>
Harp	<i>61 notes</i>
Celesta	<i>61 notes</i>
Cymbelstern	<i>5 Bells</i>
Tremulant	
Solo 16', Unison Off, Solo 4'	

7 Ranks; 427 pipes, located in expanded Choir chamber, new chests (enclosed)**Chancel Pedal**

32' Soubasse	<i>Gallery</i>	8' Gambe	<i>Solo</i>
32' Violone	<i>32 notes</i>	4' Super Octave	<i>12 pipes, new</i>
16' Open Diapason	<i>32 pipes</i>	4' Wald Flute	<i>32 pipes, from Gt. Flute Harmonique</i>
16' Subbass	<i>32 notes</i>	32' Contra Bassoon	<i>32 notes</i>
16' Double Diapason	<i>Great</i>	16' Trombone	<i>12 pipes, new, extension of Gt. Tromba</i>
16' Lieblich Gedeckt	<i>Swell</i>	16' Double Trumpet	<i>Swell</i>
16' Erzähler	<i>Choir</i>	16' Bassoon	<i>12 notes, extension of Sw. Oboe</i>
8' Octave	<i>32 pipes, new</i>	8' Tromba	<i>Great</i>
8' Diapason	<i>Solo</i>	8' Trumpet	<i>Swell</i>
8' Diapason	<i>Great</i>	4' Clarinet	<i>Solo</i>
8' Bourdon	<i>32 pipes, new</i>	8' State Trumpet	<i>Gallery Great</i>
8' Harmonic Flute	<i>Great</i>	8' Tuba Mirabilis	<i>Solo</i>
8' Gedeckt	<i>Swell</i>		
8' Erzähler	<i>Choir</i>		

4 ranks; 152 pipes

Gallery Organ – Primarily Phase II, with some exceptions *

Gallery Great (II)	22 ranks; 1,182 pipes
16' Sub Principal	61 pipes
8' Principal	61 pipes
8' Doppelflute	61 pipes, new - prepared
8' Hohlflöte	61 pipes
8' Violoncello	61 pipes
8' Dulcet	61 pipes, renamed from Erzähler
4' Octave	61 pipes
4' Flute Couverte	61 pipes
2 2/3' Octave Quinte	61 pipes
2' Super Octave	61 pipes
Cornet III-V	267 pipes
Fourniture IV	244 pipes
Scharf III	183 pipes
8' Trumpet	61 pipes, new – prepared
4' Clarion	61 pipes, new - prepared
8' State Trumpet *	61 pipes, mounted horizontally ('en-chamade') on top of case, new
Chimes	21 Tubes
Great 16', Unison Off, Great 4'	



Example of Copper Trompette-en-chamade

Gallery Swell (III)	20 ranks; 1,304 pipes (enclosed)
16' Bourdon	68 pipes
8' Principal	68 pipes
8' Salicional	68 pipes
8' Voix Celeste	61 pipes
8' Spitz Flute	68 pipes
8' Flute Céleste	61 pipes
8' Stopped Diapason	68 pipes
4' Principal	68 pipes
4' Flute Octaviant	68 pipes
2' Flautino	61 pipes
Plein Jeu V	305 pipes, new or revoiced
16' Posaune	68 pipes
8' Trumpet	68 pipes
8' Oboe	68 pipes
8' Vox Humana	68 pipes
4' Clarion	68 pipes
Tremulant	
Swell 16', Unison Off, Swell 4'	

Gallery Choir (I)	15 ranks; 978 pipes (enclosed)		
16' Gemshorn	68 pipes	4' Prestant	68 pipes
8' Geigen Principal	68 pipes	Sesquialtera II	122 pipes
8' Concert Flute	68 pipes	Mixture III	183 pipes
8' Gedeckt *	68 pipes, new, replaces Quintadena	8' Fagotto *	68 pipes, new, replaces Cromorne
8' Dulciana	68 pipes	8' State Trumpet	Gallery Great
8' Unda Maris	61 pipes	Tremulant	
2' Flageolet	68 pipes	Choir 16', Unison Off, Choir 4'	
4' Koppelflöte	68 pipes		

Gallery Pedal	12 ranks; 456 pipes
32' Soubasse *	<i>12 pipes, renamed from Contra Bourdon</i>
16' Open Wood *	<i>32 pipes</i>
16' Sub Principal	<i>Great</i>
16' Violone	<i>32 pipes</i>
16' Soubasse	<i>32 pipes</i>
16' Bourdon	<i>Swell</i>
16' Gemshorn	<i>Choir</i>
8' Principal	<i>32 pipes</i>
8' Violoncello	<i>12 pipes</i>
8' Rohrbordun	<i>32 pipes</i>
5 1/3' Octave Quint	<i>32 pipes</i>
4' Choralbass	<i>12 pipes</i>
4' Rohrflöte	<i>12 pipes</i>
2' Waldflöte	<i>32 pipes</i>
Mixture IV	<i>128 pipes</i>
32' Contra Bombarde	<i>12 pipes, new, prepared for</i>
32' Contra Posaune	<i>32 notes</i>
16' Bombarde	<i>32 pipes</i>
16' Posaune	<i>Swell</i>
8' Trumpet	<i>12 pipes</i>
4' Clarion	<i>12 pipes</i>
8' State Trumpet	<i>Great</i>

Chancel: 51 ranks; 3,066 pipes
Gallery: 69 ranks; 4,034 pipes (*plus three prepared stops and one 12-pipe extension*)
Total: 120 ranks; 7,100 pipes



An example of a potential new Chancel console to control the entire organ.

Phase II Project – Restoration & Rebuilding of the Gallery Organ



The Gallery (or “back”) Organ will be fully controllable by the new, four-manual console in the Chancel. **At the completion of Phase I, the Gallery Organ will play but in its current condition.** The only exceptions are the few specific elements of the Gallery Organ that will be addressed in Phase I. Our dream, of course, is to restore the Gallery Organ as well, including adding a three-manual console in the gallery that will play the gallery organ independently. This would make for exciting musical possibilities and create an unmatched “organ experience” in the state, and for that matter, all of New England.

Cost information for completing Phase II may be obtained from the Director of Music.



An example of a potential three-manual console in the Gallery, to control the Gallery organ only.

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SCAN ME



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