



**THE NEW YORK
LANDMARKS
CONSERVANCY**

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CONSERVANCY

- Founded in 1973 – 50th Anniversary Year!
- Advocacy +
- Financial and preservation assistance programs
- \$59 million in loans & grants
- Generating 1 billion in restoration projects
- Expert *pro bono* technical advice
- Project management assistance



Sacred Sites Program

- Launched in 1986
- Awarded over 1,600 grants
- More than \$15.6 million dollars
- 840 congregations
- Throughout all of New York state
- Leveraging more than \$750 million in restoration projects



Sacred Sites Program

- **Technical Assistance (referrals, site visits)**
- **Matching Grants for Planning & Implementing Exterior Restoration**
- **Workshops**
- **Annual Open House**



Sacred Sites Program

Calvary Presbyterian Church

A place of RENEWAL in a RENEWING city.



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The Building



Etching from original
Architect's drawing

Frederick Clarke Withers was the architect of this acclaimed religious structure build for the First Presbyterian Church which came to be know as Calvary Presbyterian Church when two congregations eventually re-united. This 1858 building was Withers' first commission to design an American church. Here he created a landmark example of his personal principles and preferences in church architecture. At the time there was debate about the appropriateness of classical "temple" style buildings for Christian worship. Withers asserted: "It seems to have been the prevailing ides that the ancient heathen temples are the best models for our churches, instead of which they are really the worst; for, in the first place, the portico, with its monotonous repetition of columns – copied perhaps from the Parthenon – made of wood and painted white, is inconvenient; it neither affords protection front the sun, nor the pitiless blast of a winter storm; and in the next place, to reach the church it is necessary to climb some eight or ten steps, rendering it extremely difficult for the old and infirm (for whom it should be the first duty of the church to care) to ascent...Windows are long so that even on the darkest days...it would be almost impossible to sit in the church with any degree of comfort...(The

steep medieval roof is) more adapted to the climate in shedding the rain and snow..."Gothic architecture is most suite for churches (and) has the advantage over every other in its application to all sites and requirement...and if properly built cannot fail to impart some feeling of respect and awe."

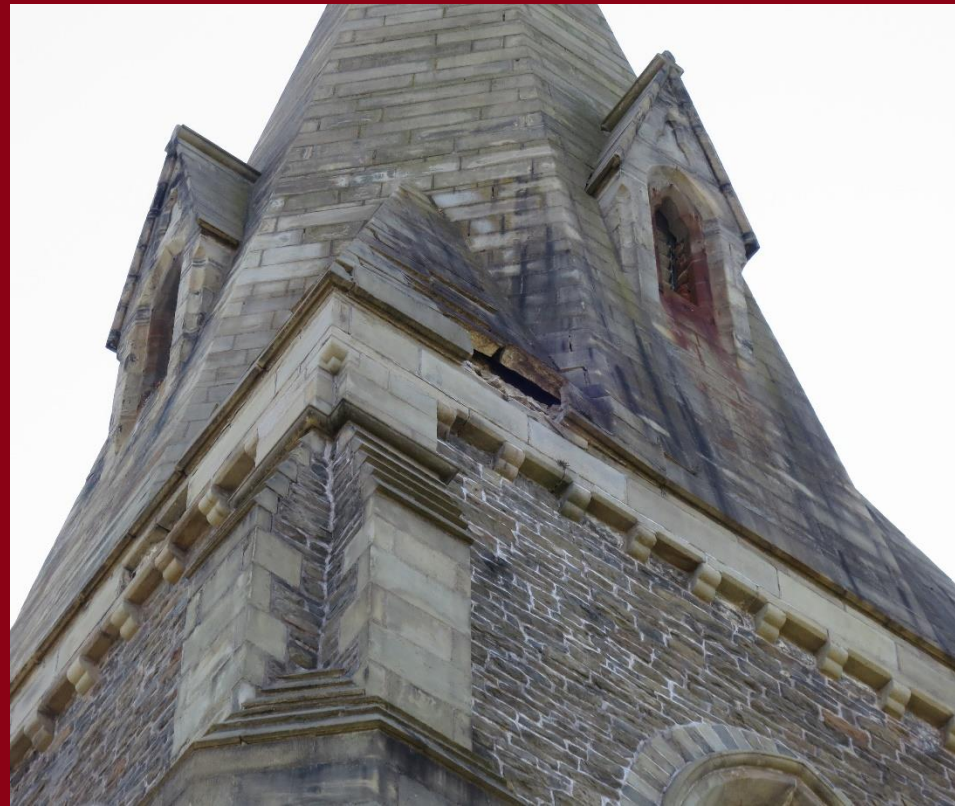
Architect Withers so succeeded that when this edifice was completed, it's perfect proportions, well-focused interior space, the multi-toned stone work and slate patterns earned critical acclaim in *The Crayon*, the era's prestigious art journal. Description of Withers' correct Gothic church was meant to be a corrective critique of churches build before the "enlightened" Newburgh example. The Ecclesiologist, which ignored American church architecture, said that while "the building was intended for the Presbyterian community ... it is hoped that the ere long it may pass into other hands."



Sacred Sites Program

Initial matching grants of up to \$15,000 fund restoration planning “soft costs”

- Conditions surveys
- Plans & Specifications
- Paint Analysis or Conservation studies



Grant Eligibility Checklist:

- ✓ Owned by a religious institution?
- ✓ Actively used for worship?
- ✓ Listed on the National Register?
- ✓ Or designated pursuant to a local landmarks ordinance?

No retroactive grants

Two grant rounds annually, 1/15 and 6/1

Grants range from \$1,000 to \$50,000

Matching grants typically fund an average of 30% of project cost





Sacred Sites Program

Sacred Sites Grants of up to \$50,000 fund major restoration projects

Typical Projects:

Slate & Copper roofs, Steeple Reconstruction, masonry repair, window restoration

Discrete Projects of \$100,000 to \$1,000,000

Experienced Preservation Professional on Board







The Challenge of the “Match”

The congregation will need to match the majority of funds needed!

- For large projects, consider a capital campaign consultant
- Consult us early re: project eligibility – we don’t fund retroactively (once you are in contract or have begun work)
- Don’t apply for funds until you have:
 1. a well defined project, consultant/contractor proposal, or construction scope, estimates
 2. a plan for raising balance of funds
 3. a substantial \$ amount raised and in hand

Conservancy's Evaluation Rubric

Sacred Sites Grant Application Evaluation
 «Religious_Institution», «City», «Grant_Round»

A. <u>Significance – Architectural and Community</u>	(0 – 25 pts.)	_____
«Overall_Significance_Score»		
• Architectural Significance	0 – 8 pts.	_____
• Community Significance	0 – 10 pts.	_____
• Cultural Significance	0 – 7 pts.	_____
 B. <u>Evaluation</u>	 (0 – 25 pts.)	 _____
• Severity of damage to the building	0 – 10 pts.	_____
• Repair plan uses preservation-friendly methods & materials	0 – 10 pts.	_____
• Preservation experience/qualification of architect/contractor	0 – 5 pts.	_____
 C. <u>Implementation</u>	 (0 – 25 pts.)	 _____
• Congregation's administrative capability	0 – 5 pts.	_____
• Congregation's experience with other capital projects	0 – 5 pts.	_____
• Facility well-maintained, repair projects addressed proactively	0 – 5 pts.	_____
• Realistic timetable that matches grant timetable	0 – 5 pts.	_____
• Realistic project budget reflecting eligible costs	0 – 5 pts.	_____
 D. <u>Leverage</u>	 (0 – 25 pts.)	 _____
• Solvent annual budget	0 – 5 pts.	_____
• Endowment and/or reserves, preservation of principle	0 – 3 pts.	_____
• Leverage potential	0 – 3 pts.	_____
• Fundraising plan potential	0 – 3 pts.	_____
• Amount newly raised for project as percentage of annual budget	0 – 3 pts.	_____
• Scale of project in relation to annual budget	0 – 3 pts.	_____
• Need (Poverty Census Tract, No Endowment)	0 – 5 pts.	_____

(Max of **100** pts.) **TOTAL POINTS**

Outreach – Community Programming



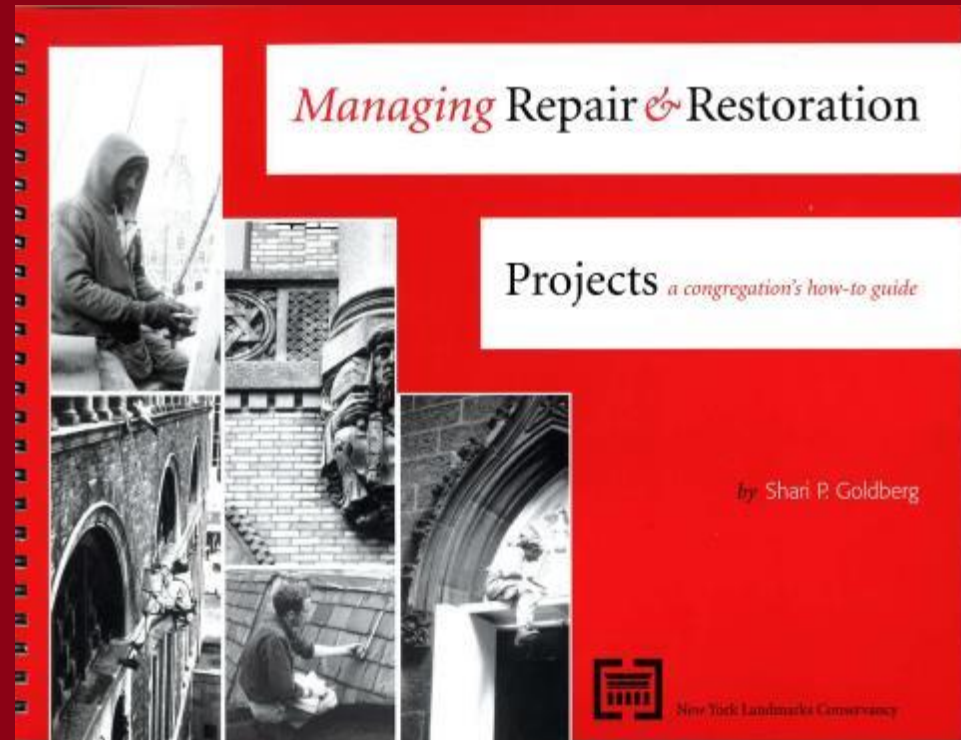
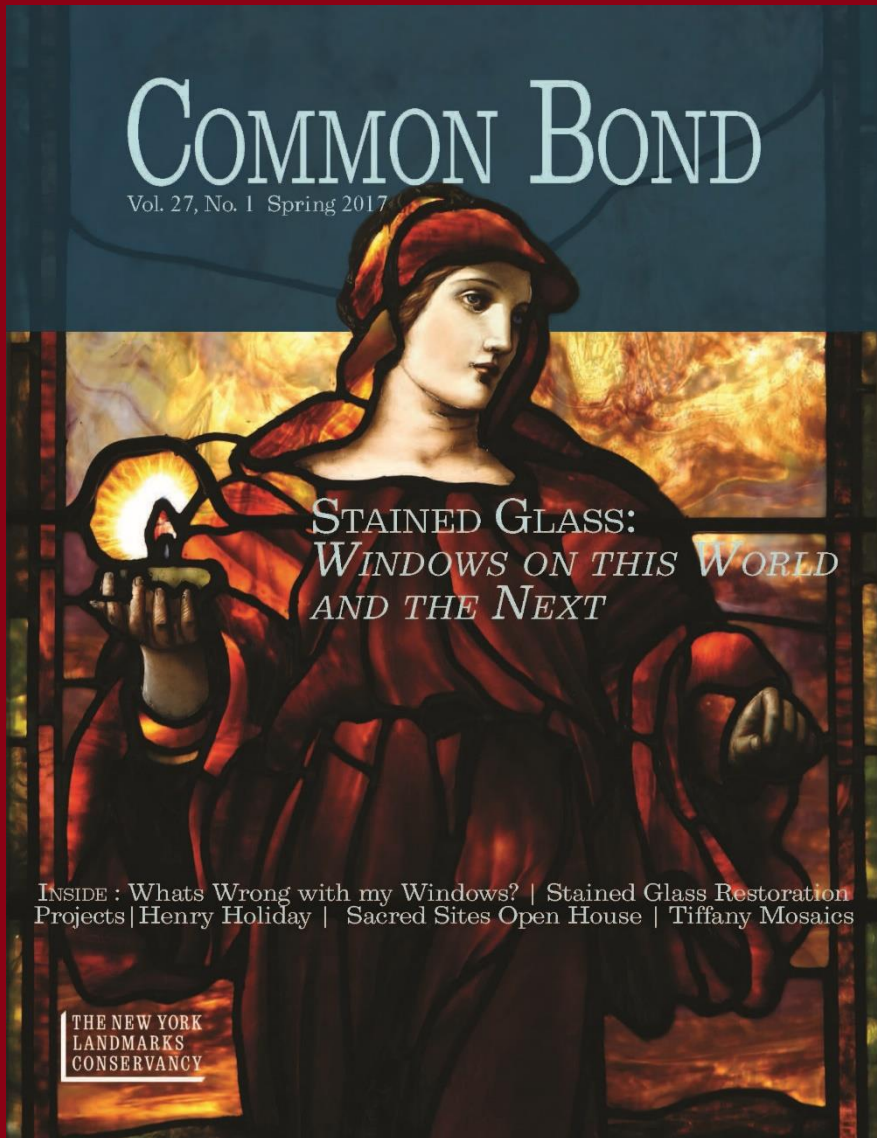
Sacred Sites Open House 3rd Weekend in May





Sacred Sites – Open House Weekend

Technical Assistance



www.nylandmarks.org

Other Resources

National Fund for Sacred Places

<https://fundforsacredplaces.org/>

LOI January, First Cut June, Final Awards October

Preserving Black Churches

<https://savingplaces.org/black-churches>

Q&A July, Applications August, Final Awards January

New York State CFA-EPF Restoration Grants

<https://parks.ny.gov/grants/historic-preservation/default.aspx>

Applications due July, Final Awards



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