

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	NWB.183
Historic Name:	People's United Methodist Church
Common Name:	
Address:	64 Purchase St
City/Town:	Newburyport
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	25-12
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	Gould and Hazlett
Architectural Style(s):	Renaissance Revival
Use(s):	Church
Significance:	Architecture; Art; Religion
Area(s):	NWB.F: Joppa District NWB.L: Newburyport Historic District
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (8/2/1984)



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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NWB. 183

FORM B - BUILDING

Area F+L	Form no. 183
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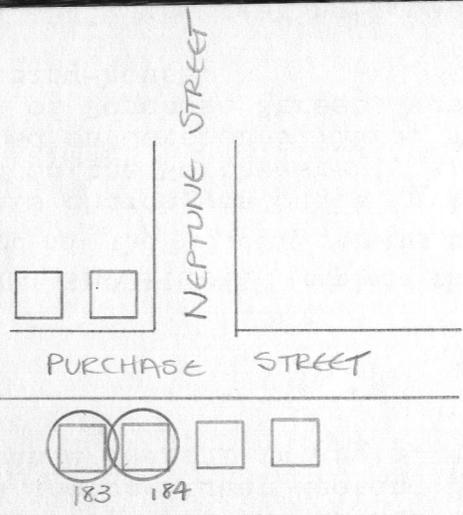


Town Newburyport
 Address 64 Purchase Street
 Historic Name People's Methodist Church
 Use: Original Church
 Present Church
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization People's
United Methodist Church
 Public
 Original owner The Trustees of the
Methodist Episcopal
Church of Newbury and Newburyport

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1825, 1845
 Source Currier, "History of Newbury"
 Style Renaissance Revival
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, rusticated
boards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) tower
added (1888)

Moved about 10-15 feet Date mid-19th
on site century
 Approx. acreage 6,900 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of
predominantly eighteenth century
single family dwellings adjacent to
the banks of the Merrimack River.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community
Development
 Date 11-4-80

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This church was influenced by the Renaissance Revival popular during the 1840's and 1850's. Important architectural features that are illustrative of this influence are the rusticated ground story, the bold cornice, and the arched windows. The tower was added in 1888. The Washington Street Meeting House in Newburyport's North End is also Renaissance Revival in style.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

This church was built in 1825 by the Methodist Episcopal Church in a field on the Northwesterly side of Marlboro Street. The church was dedicated on October 5, 1825. A few years later Adelphi Street, now a portion of Purchase Street, was laid out to give an unobstructed way to the meeting-house.

In 1845, the meeting-house was raised and remodeled. At that time a new vestry was built in the basement. Later the church was moved back ten or fifteen feet from the street, the stairway and vestibule were enlarged and other improvements made.

In March 1827, John Adams, Cutting Pettingell, Josiah P. Noyes, Joseph L. Thurlow and others were incorporated as the "Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Newbury and Newburyport". The meeting-house was built in a section annexed to Newburyport in 1851. The name was then changed to "The People's Methodist Episcopal Church of Newburyport." In 1859 the property was conveyed to the First Methodist Church from the trustees.

The meeting-house was remodeled in 1869 and 1888. In 1901 the interior was painted and social rooms were renovated.

The angel weathervane on the church was crafted by Gould and Hazlette of Boston in 1840. It was originally on the Universalist Church that was destroyed by fire. It was placed on this church about 1895. It was refurbished by the W.P.A. and again in 1965. It was pictured on the Christmas postage stamp of 1965.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980
 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
 J. J. Currier, History of Newbury, Mass. 1635-1902, Boston, 1902.
 Newburyport Daily News, July 15, 1965.
 Newburyport Daily News, July 26, 28, 30, 1968.

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NEW BURYPORT

SOS! Survey Questionnaire

Save Outdoor Sculpture!, National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property
3299 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007 (1-800-421-1381)

- Read the entire form carefully before beginning the survey.
- Type or print using a ballpoint pen when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information; an answer of "Unknown" is more helpful.
- For sculptures with several separate sculptural components, complete one questionnaire for the entire work. If necessary, complete relevant sections of the *SOS! Survey Questionnaire* for each component and staple them together.
- If possible, attach a photograph, photocopy, slide or other reproduction of the sculpture to this form.
- Refer to *SOS! Handbook* for further clarification of terminology.
- Contact your local SOS! Project Coordinator if you have any questions.

PART I: BASIC DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Title of Work (if unsure, note "unknown"; if artist named work "Untitled," note accordingly)

Angel Gabriel Weatherstone

Alternate Title(s)

People's Methodist Church weatherstone

Primary Artist(s)

Gould + Hazlett

Person(s) responsible for the overall conception and creation of the work. Frequently the artist's name will appear toward the back, lower edge or another inconspicuous place on the sculpture, followed by the abbreviations "Sc." "Sculp" for sculptor/sculpted.

Other Collaborators (check as many as apply).

- Carver _____
- Designer _____
- Architect _____
- Other (Designate role, e.g., landscape architect, engineer) _____

Foundry/Fabricator

If the piece was cast, the foundry name or monogram symbol, as well as cast date, may appear on the base of the sculpture or another inconspicuous place.

Execution Date (often found by sculptor's name) 1840

Other Dates (check as many as apply) ¹⁹³⁸ 1965 copper repaired + regilded, 1980 moved in des
Other dates to report might include the date the sculpture was commissioned, copyrighted, cast (often found beside the foundry's name) or dedicated.

- Cast _____
- Copyright _____
- Dedicated _____

190949525181

Media (material(s) sculpture/base made of)

Sculpture: Ceramic Concrete Glass Metal
 Plastic Stone Water Wood
 Undetermined Other (specify) _____

If known, name specific medium (e.g., bronze, Cor-Ten steel, oak, fiberglass)
_____ gold leaf over ~~brass~~ / copper _____

Base (if media differs from sculpture, please indicate)

Ceramic Concrete Glass Metal
 Plastic Stone Water Wood
 Undetermined Other (specify) wood spire of Church

If known, name specific medium (e.g., granite, marble, limestone, concrete)

Was information obtained by direct observation? Yes No

If no, attach photocopy of source.

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure)

Always measure from the tallest and widest points.

Sculpture: Height 34" Width 6.2" Depth .074 or Diameter 38 lbs
Base: Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____ or Diameter _____

Markings/Inscriptions (check as many as apply)

Is the artist's signature visible on the piece?

- Yes, examined and found signature
- No, examined sculpture/base but did not see any signature
- Unable to determine, couldn't get close enough to check

If signature is visible, record here: _____

Does the work have foundry/fabricator marks?

- Yes, examined and found foundry marks
- No, examined sculpture/base but did not see foundry mark
- Unable to determine, couldn't get close enough to check

If foundry mark/mark is visible, record here: _____

Record the signature(s) and any additional markings or inscriptions that appear on the sculpture or base. Indicate their location (e.g., back of base, lower left). Use a slash (/) to indicate separate lines of inscription.

_____ N/A — inside trumpet but not _____
_____ decipherable _____

Record the text of any associated nearby identification or commemorative plaques.

Are any inscriptions badly worn or unreadable? Yes No Unable to determine

PART II: LOCATION/JURISDICTION INFORMATION

The sculpture is currently located at:

Street address or site location 62-64 Purchase St. - People's Methodist Church

City Newburyport County Essex State MA

Owner/Administrator (name of agency, institution or individual that currently owns or administers the sculpture and is responsible for its long-term care)

Name People's Methodist Church

Department/Division Buildings Committee

Street Address 62-64 Purchase St

City Newburyport State MA Zip Code

Contact Name Telephone ()

If sculpture has been moved, please list former location(s) or owner(s).

Originally designed in 1890 for Newburyport's Universalist Church which was later abandoned. Weather vane was removed & stored in a barn until late 1800s when People's Meth. Church raised funds to purchase it & re-install it atop their new steeple at Purchase St. bldg. In 1980 it was taken down & replaced with a replica (see photos). The original is currently on display in the lobby of Newburyport's 5 Cent Savings Bank at 63 State Street.

PART III: CONDITION INFORMATION

Structural Condition (check as many as apply)

Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

	Sculpture	Base
Is the armature/internal support unstable/exposed? (look for signs of exterior rust)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any evidence of structural instability? (look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any broken or missing parts? (look for elements (i.e., sword, rifle, nose) that are missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (look for fractures, straight-line or branching, which could indicate uneven stress or weakness in the material)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Surface Appearance (check as many as apply)

	Sculpture	Base
Bird guano (e.g., bird droppings, other animal/insect remains)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black crusts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Etched, pitted or otherwise corroded (usually applies to metal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metallic staining (e.g., run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organic growth (e.g., moss, algae, lichen or vines)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White crusts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalky or powdery (applies to stone only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Granular, sugary or eroding (applies to stone only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spalling or sloughing (applies to stone only) (parallel splitting off of the surfaces)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g., applied adhesives, spray paint, graffiti, gouges)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

good condition

Does water collect in recessed areas of the sculpture and/or base?

- Yes No Unable to determine

Surface Coating

Does there appear to be a coating?

- Yes
- No
- Unable to determine

If known, identify type of coating.

- Gilded
- Painted
- Varnished
- Waxed
- Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition?

- Yes
- No
- Unable to determine

Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the sculpture?

- In urgent need of treatment
- Well-maintained
- Would benefit from treatment
- Unable to determine

PART IV: OVERALL DESCRIPTION

Briefly describe the sculpture, its subject/theme and its overall condition. For figurative works, use the abbreviations PR (proper right) and PL (proper left) to indicate the right or left side of the statue from the perspective of the statue (i.e., your right or left side if you were positioned on the base facing in the same direction as the statue). For abstract works, describe the predominant forms, colors, shapes and textures. For descriptions of either abstract and figurative pieces, avoid judgmental language. For condition, indicate any broken or missing parts and describe evidence of cracks, graffiti, etc.

Weather vane is made of ~~the~~ gilded copper
 It is unique in that its trumpet is 3-dimensional

PART V: SUPPLEMENTAL BACKGROUND MATERIALS

In addition to your on-site survey, any supplemental secondary information you can provide related to the artist or portrait subject, to the historical commissioning, patronage or funding of the work, as well as previous conservation treatment histories will be welcomed. When citing sources, provide enough detail to enable researchers to locate the information easily. Include the full citations of each source (i.e., author, title, publisher, date, pages). If possible, photocopy source materials and attach. Make sure attached sources are clearly identified.

Book _____

Magazine or journal article Yankee Weatherwones - by Megra Kaye

Newspaper article or account _____

Unpublished archival or manuscript materials Info from Newburyport's 5 Cent Savings Bank

Other (specify) Mass. Hist. Comm. - Survey Form ✓
SOS' - U.S. D Form

Where can a photograph or illustration of the work be obtained?

If photographic image is attached, please identify type of image.

- Photograph
- Photocopy
- Slide
- Illustration
- Other (specify) _____

PART VI: SURVEYOR INFORMATION AND WAIVER

Date of On-site Survey 12/97

Waiver of Liability, Photographic and Data Rights for Volunteers, Agents or Employee Participants

I acknowledge that I am a participant in Save Outdoor Sculpture!, a project cosponsored by the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property (NIC) and the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. The project's purpose is to determine the location, description and basic condition of sculpture in the United States, to raise awareness about the condition of our nation's sculpture and to promote its long-term care and maintenance.

In furtherance of these objectives, I will record certain information on the *SOS! Survey Questionnaire*, provide certain illustrations and take certain photographs. I hereby declare that, to the extent these text, illustrations and photographs may be eligible for copyright protection, all of my rights and interest in them are hereby waived. It is my intention to place these written works, illustrations and photographs in the public domain and I warrant that I will not assert any copyright claim in them.

I further declare and acknowledge that I am a volunteer, agent or employee for my sponsoring organization and am not a volunteer, agent or employee of the Smithsonian Institution or the NIC. I agree to hold harmless the NIC and Smithsonian, its museums, bureaus, entities, employees and officials from any and all damages, injuries or claims that may arise out of my participation in the SOS! project.

This waiver shall be effective as of the date below.

Kim Konrad
Typed or Printed Name of Participant

30 Peterboro St #27
Address

Boston MA 02215
City State Zip

Kim Konrad
Signature of Participant

Fill in blanks below and return to your local SOS! Project Coordinator.

Name LYNNE SPENCER

Address Box 58 City NAHANT

State MA Zip Code 01906 Telephone (617) 593 5631

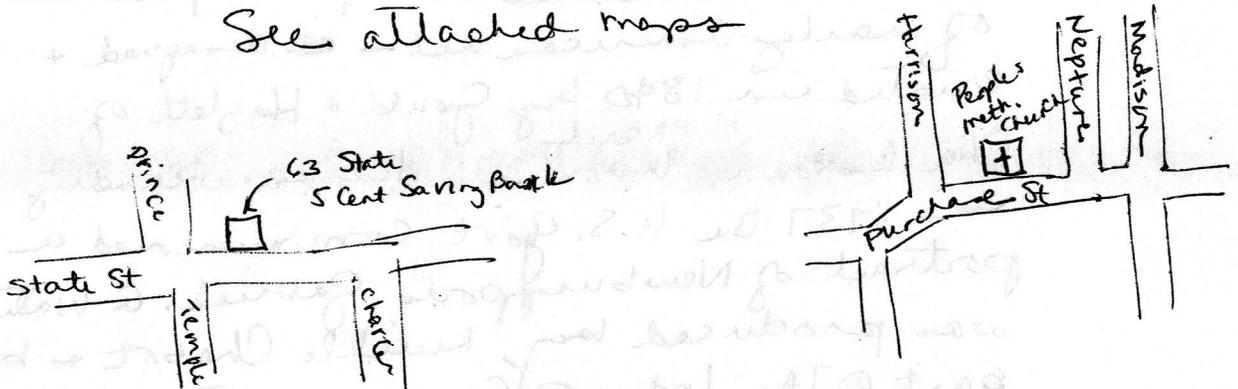
Massachusetts Save Outdoor Sculpture!

Addenda # 1:

Massachusetts SOS! requests the following additional information to assist with our state-wide survey for inclusion in the Massachusetts Historical Commission records:

SKETCH MAP: Draw a map showing the sculpture's location in relation to the nearest cross street and/or major natural features. Show all buildings and their relationships to the piece. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventories sculpture. Indicate north.

See attached maps



SKETCH MAP FOR COMPLEXES: Provide a sketch map for sculptures that are part of a larger complex such as a plaza, courtyard or the like:

Addenda # 2

This is optional but valuable information which synthesizes your research as directed on page 7 of the SOS! form --

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE: Explain the history of the sculpture and how it relates to the development of the community. This can explore its intention or use, its association with specific individuals and groups, and its relationship to local historical trends and events. Associations include those connections with artists, designers, owners, groups or organizations. If the sculpture is commemorative, describe the event (s) or person (s) commemorated.

The graceful Gabriel Angel weather vane has been considered a superb specimen of early American art - ~~is~~ designed + created in 1840 by Gould + Haylett of Charlestown. ^{Nearly} Upon its 100th anniversary in 1937 the U.S. Govt commissioned a portrait of Newburyport's Gabriel. A water color was produced by Lucille Chabot + became part of the Index of American Design housed in the Nat'l Gallery in D.C. The U.S. Postal authorities chose this subject for the 1965 Christmas Stamp + Newburyport's Gabriel was portrayed on 1.2 billion Stamps.