

Newton Presbyterian Church 75 Vernon St, Newton, MA

Restoration of Steeple and Building Facade

Owner: Newton Presbyterian Church, Newton, MA
Design: Edwards & Kelcey, Boston, MA
June 2001 – November 2001
Project Cost: \$291,470

Newton Presbyterian Church is a red brownstone structure with sandstone trim built for the Unitarian movement in 1881. Designed in a classic gothic architectural style, the building was utilized by the Unitarian congregation until it was adopted by the Presbyterian faith in 1946.

In 2001, an architectural firm (Edwards & Kelsey, Boston, MA) was contracted to evaluate the condition of the steeple and of the overall facade. During the investigation, it was determined the inner walls of the steeple had debonded from the outer walls causing a wide cavity to develop over time. The evaluation also revealed significant deterioration of the masonry joints on the façade due to normal “wear and tear” for a structure of that age.



Abbot was contracted to stabilize the steeple by filling the cavity with grout to establish a bond between the inner and outer widths of masonry. Abbot also power washed the entire façade to remove atmospheric debris, and repointed all of the masonry joints to upgrade the structural integrity of the building.