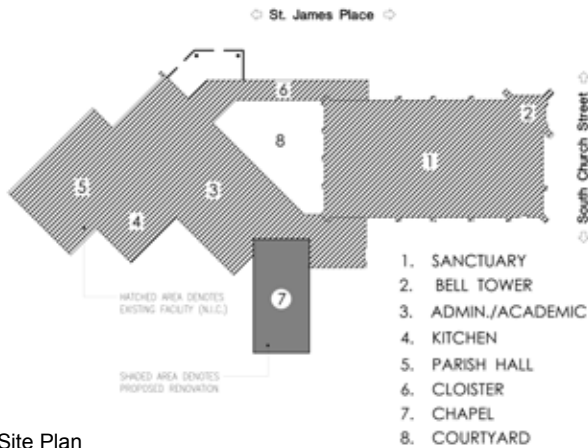


St. James Episcopal Church

Primary Service: Architecture
Type: Historic Preservation
Owner/Client: St. James Episcopal Church
Location: Goshen, New York
Cost: Unknown (Insurance Claim)
Square Footage: Existing
Completion Date: Spring 2005
Contact: Father Carl Lunden
 Pastor
 845.294.6225



PROJECT #4.0131.03



Site Plan



Front Elevation - After



Sanctuary Space - After

Project Scope:

Late, one cold December night on Friday December 27, 2002, the chapel fell casualty to a devastating fire which completely gutted the 1869 structure rendering it unusable. Its cause was attributed to faulty electrical wiring. Local fire departments responded immediately which saved the extent of the masonry structure and the adjoining church building. Several of the original stained glass windows were broken out in an effort to fight the fire and vent the building. The chapel, used for schooling, was divided equally into two separate rooms with a storage closet and a bathroom. It also had a flat suspended acoustic ceiling which concealed the original vaulted ceiling. The purpose of the project was to restore the chapel space to the original condition and function for the use of small congregations.

The process undertaken to restore the landmark began with investigating and documenting the existing conditions which included field measuring the entire structure and taking photographs. Little information was obtained through historic records and photographs in determining the period of significance which was estimated to be around 1870. Materials were identified and detailed dimensions were taken of all interior wood moldings, the roof cornice, all finishes, doors, windows, and the framing system. An architectural report was compiled of the collected data and a structural analysis report of the load bearing masonry structure was concluded. Construction drawings were drafted and a specification manual was produced in May of 2003 in accordance with the Building Code of New York State, Energy Conservation Construction Code, and ICC/ANSI for Accessible Buildings. A conscious effort was also made to adhere to the Department of Interiors standards for historic preservation. Construction was completed in the spring of 2005.

One of the primary design issues addressed was the horizontal force exerted on the existing load bearing, masonry walls. The new roof structure utilizes wood truss framing designed to counteract the horizontal force, effectively negating the outward thrust. This eliminated the need to install horizontal tension rods across the interior of the chapel. The building was braced and stabilized as the cost effective, new roof truss framing was set into place. The bottom chord of the new truss design was shaped to reproduce the original vaulted ceiling to restore the interior volume. Additional work for the project included structural, mechanical, electrical, lighting, all new finishes, slate roofing, copper flashing, stained glass windows, custom wood doors with new architectural hardware, a thermally insulated envelope, emergency egress, ADA upgrades, fire detection system and masonry cleaning and repair.

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