



NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL
REGIONAL OFFICE, EASTERN CAPE:
OLD GAOL, 40A SOMERSET STREET, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

RAAD VIR NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE
STREEKKANTOOR, OOS-KAAP:
OUTRONK, SOMERSETSTRAAT 40A, GRAHAMSTAD 6140

Telephone: (0461) 4615-24615
P.O. Box 599
Grahamstown
6140

Telefoon: (0461) 4615 24615
Posbus 599
Grahamstad
6140

Ref./Verwys.: 9/2/003/17

Enquiries/Navrae

Your Ref.:
U Verwys.:

20 March 1991

The Honorary Secretary
Trust Properties Committee
Commemoration Methodist Church
P O Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Mr Laing

COMMEMORATION CHURCH, HIGH STREET, GRAHAMSTOWN: ROOF REPAIRS

Thank you for your letter dated 18 March 1991.

Attached please find a copy of "A guide to applying for financial assistance for owners of national monuments", together with the necessary application form.

It would be appreciated if you would complete the form and return it to this office so as to enable me to submit your application to my Regional Committee when it considers such applications for the 1992/1993 budget.

Yours faithfully

A C LILLIE
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE : EASTERN CAPE

Commonwealth
Church
(Trust Properties)
Box 409
Grahamstown

Re Local Representative
Name
Grahamstown

Dear Sir, Re: Commonwealth Organ

I write to enquire what the prospects are of having the Organ in Commonwealth declared a National Monument and what the implications might be. It is widely regarded as one of the best organs in the country and has a long history which could be fully detailed. It requires considerable renovation as

a cost which we simply
can't meet at present.
Could you let us have
your views?

Yours faithfully

Mans

Hon Secretary

RECEIVED / ONTVANG
30-04-1991
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: EASTERN CAPE STREKREKTORE: OOS-KAAP

(5)
Afskrif vir inligting
RNG (Oos-Kaap)
Copy for information
NMC (Eastern Cape)



NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL
REGIONAL OFFICE, EASTERN CAPE:
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Telephone: (0461) 4645 24615
P.O. Box 599
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6140

Ref./Verwys.: 9/2/003/17

Enquiries/Navrae

Your Ref.:
U Verwys.:

2 May 1991

The Honorary Secretary
Trust Properties Committee
Commemoration Methodist Church
P O Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Mr Laing

ORGAN, COMMEMORATION CHURCH, HIGH STREET, GRAHAMSTOWN

Your undated letter refers.

As the organ is a fixture in the church it is in fact already included in the national monument, as are all the pews and other permanent furnishings.

You are welcome to submit an application for financial assistance in this regard. Attached please find the necessary application form. Please note that any application for financial assistance during the 1992/1993 financial year should reach this office before the end of July 1991.

Yours faithfully

A C LILLIE
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE : EASTERN CAPE

Afskrif vir inligting
RNG (Oos-Kaap)
Copy for information
NMC (Eastern Cape)

NMC REF:.....

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(Section 5A of the National Monuments Act, 1969)

1. PROPOSED PROJECT

1.1 RESTORATION OF A MONUMENT

1.1.1 NAME AND ADDRESS OF MONUMENT:

..... Commemoration Methodist Church
..... HIGH STREET (Box 409) GRAHAMSTOWN
.....

1.1.2 NMC PERMIT FOR WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

REF. NO: DATE:

ISSUED AT

1.1.3 PREFERRED CONTRACTOR:

NAME: COOPER GILL + TOMKINS (PTY) LTD
ADDRESS: BOX 3329 CAPE TOWN 8000
.....

1.1.4 HAVE YOU ATTACHED TWO QUOTATIONS (INCLUDING THAT OF THE ABOVE CONTRACTOR)?

1.2 OTHER CONSERVATION PROJECT

1.2.1 PLEASE DESCRIBE AND MOTIVATE FULLY: (Continue on a separate page if necessary. Supporting documentation may be attached.)

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APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- 2 -

1.3 PLANNED COMMENCEMENT DATE OF PROJECT:

1.4 ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE OF PROJECT:

2. EXPENDITURE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLIED FOR:	R	<u>86000</u>
YOUR OWN CONTRIBUTION:	R	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	R	<u>106000</u>

(PLUS 15% ^{IN} FROM MARCH 1991)

3. APPLICANT

3.1 NAME: COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

3.2 ADDRESS: HIGH ST, GRAHAMSTOWN

a) Postal PO BOX 409, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

..... Code: 6140

b) Residential / Office PO BOX 409

GRAHAMSTOWN

..... Code: 6140

3.3 TELEPHONE NUMBERS: a) Office 0461 - 27210

b) Home

4. DECLARATION

I/We RICHARD ANDREW LAING, Hon. SECRETARY
COMMEMORATION CHURCH TRUST PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

hereby declare that the information in this application is, to the best of my/our knowledge correct and undertake to observe the by-laws and directions of the National Monuments Council in respect of any financial assistance rendered to me/us.

SIGNED: [Signature]

DATE: 5/8/91

Afskrif vir inligting
RNG (Oos-Kaap)
Copy for information
NMC (Eastern Cape)

N.M.C. - N.S.
RECEIVED

13-08-1991

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL EASTERN CAPE
SIKHEKHEKHEKO OZ OOR - OOR

8

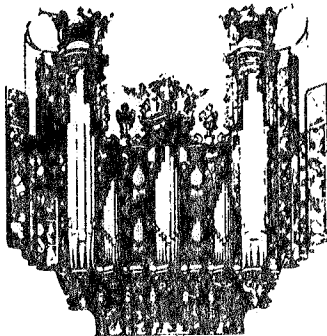
Cooper Gill & Tomkins

Proprietary Limited

Incorporating

Cape Organ Builders

(Reg. No. 05/00509/07)



P.O. Box 3329
Cape Town
8000
Telegrams: "ORGANS" Maitland

Phone:
CAPE TOWN (021) 593-2129
JOHANNESBURG (011) 402-7212
PORT ELIZABETH (041) 73-1321
DURBAN (031) 21-2650

Regd. Office & Workshop
"ORGAN HOUSE"
871 Voortrekker Road
Maitland
7405

Directors:
J. S. Riadore
J. v. d. Spuy (Alt.)

JSR/GM

26th March, 1991

Commemoration Methodist Church
P O Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Sir

Re: Annual up-date of Quotation

Thank you for your letter received today regarding an up-to-date estimate of the cost of renovations and modifications to the organ.

I am afraid inflation goes on eroding away and my quotations become quite out of date in a short space of time. In general I find that prices quoted in early 1987 have now doubled!. Where will it all end?.

The prices now will read as follows:-

Item 1)	R20,780.00
2)	R23,853. 00
3)	R20,200. 00
4)	R4,550. 00
5)	R25,500. 00

All prices will incur General Sales Tax at 13%.

Terms of Payment are as follows:-

Item 1) Overhaul of Organ: One-third on placing order, one-third on completion and the final one-third two months after completion OR The full amount 30 days from invoice.

Item 2) Solid State Coupling System and new Key Contacts and wiper: One-third deposit on placing order, balance on completion of installation.

Item 3) Solid State Capture System: Same as Item 2.

Item 4) Supplying of extra bellows for the Pedal organ: Payment, 30 days from invoice.

Item 5)

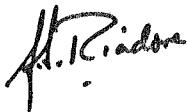
2.

Item 5) To modify the underaction, fitting Heavy Duty Electro magnets in place of the electro pneumatic action: Payment can be the same as Items 1) or 2).

I hope it will be possible for you to accept these quotations before the Rand becomes like the Italian Lire; and we look forward to your instruction.

With Best Wishes.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. S. Riadore".

J S RIADORE

A SCHEDULE OF WORK FOR THE RESTORATION
OF THE ORGAN IN THE
COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH, GRAHAMSTOWN

1. a) To partially dismantle the organ and remove the pipework to obtain access to the internal parts. All dust and grit to be removed and all moving parts to be made easy in working.
- b) The Drawstop Boxes of the Great, Swell and Choir organs to be dismantled and re-leathered with the best quality sheepskin.
- c) The Reservoirs and wind connections to be checked for any leakage and made good, if defective.
- d) The Swell and Choir shutter actions to be lubricated and made easy in working.
- e) The main supply of wind from the blower to be modified so that there is effective control of the volume of wind to the organ when full organ is played.
- f) The whole organ to be finally tuned and regulated to the satisfaction of an authorised representative of the Church.

The foregoing work to be carried out for the sum of R9,769.00, excluding General Sales Tax.

2. a) The Console to be stripped down, and the existing key contact system removed, also the Pedal board contact action. The Keys would then be fitted with Key springs and wipers, and a contact block with four silver-plated wire contacts. The Pedal board will have a reed switch and magnet fitted to each pedal. The three manuals and the pedals would then be connected up to a Solid State coupling system which would be placed in the organ chamber, and the various soundboards would be connected to the output side of the Solid State system.

The Cost of installing the Solid State ^{Coupling} capture system will be R13,608.00, excluding General Sales Tax.

3. a) To supply and fit a Solid State Capture System for the Stop action, to the specification as set out on page 17 of the brochure and to re-set out the Drawstop Jams, bringing them closer to the Keyboards.

The Cost will be R10,158.00, excluding General Sales Tax.

4. a) To supply a new single rise reservoir for the feeding of wind to the Pedal Open Diapason 16' and Violone 16' soundboards.
- b) Re-trunk the other soundboards of the Pedal Section with a suitable diameter wind trunk to each chest. (The reservoir will be fitted with a "roller valve" method of wind control so that the wind supply will be quite steady).

The cost will be R2,599.00, excluding General Sales Tax.

5. a) ...

①

5. a) To change the underactions from the existing Electro/Pneumatic/Tracker action to one of Heavy Duty Solenoids for each pallet. To encase these magnets under the soundboard so that they are in the soundboard wind supply.

The Cost will be R18,106.00, excluding General Sales Tax.

The Quotations hold good for three months.

The Quotations are based on the rates of foreign exchange as at 21.9.1987, and should there be any fluctuation at the time of importation of parts from overseas, the difference will be passed on to your credit or debit.

The workmanship and materials are guaranteed for ten years by Cooper, Gill & Tomkins. The Solid State parts are unconditionally guaranteed by that firm also for ten years. (We have systems installed for over fifteen years which have proved absolutely reliable).

The complete restoration will take about ten weeks to complete and during that time the organ would be out of commission.

Work could commence in the latter part of 1988.

Should the quotations be acceptable to you (or any part thereof), the total figure would be payable in four equal parts. The first quarter on placing the order, the second instalment on the shipment of the imported parts, the third on commencing work on site, and the final payment upon completion of the contract. Of the final payment 10% may be retained for a three month period to ensure complete satisfaction. The General Sales Tax is added at the time of the final invoice, at the current rate at that time.

22nd September, 1987



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Ref./Verwys.: 9/2/003/17

Enquiries/Navrae

Your Ref.:
U Verwys.:

15 August 1991

The Honorary Secretary
Commemoration Church Trust Properties Committee
P O Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Mr Laing

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: ORGAN, COMMEMORATION
METHODIST CHURCH, HIGH STREET, GRAHAMSTOWN

Your application dated 5 August 1991 refers.

The application will be submitted to the next meeting of the
NMC's Eastern Cape Regional Committee and will then be forwarded
to the Council's Budget Committee which meets early next year.

You will be advised as to the outcome of your application once
the budget for the 1992/1993 financial year is finalised.

Yours faithfully

A C LILLIE
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE : EASTERN CAPE

ROOFING DIVISION

P.O. BOX / POSBUS 1800
P.O. BOX / POSBUS 346
P.O. BOX / POSBUS 1890

PORT ELIZABETH
GEORGE
EAST LONDON
OOS-LONDEN

TEL: (041) 43-2336
TEL: (0441) 74-5113
TEL: (0431) 5-5385

FAX: 43-6126

WATERPROOFING
FEDERATION
SOUTHERN AFRICA



CONTRACT/KONTRAK



NAME / NAAM: COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

ADDRESS / ADRES: HIGH STREET GRAHAMSTOWN - ATTENTION MR. HEALE
P.O. BOX 409 GRAHAMSTOWN

TEL. No. (H) TEL. No. (W) 0461 22023 FAX. No. 0461 29715
X 314

SPECIFICATION OF WORK / WERKSPESIFIKASIE

A SUPPLY AND FIT HARVEY TUFFSPAN OVER EXISTING CORRUGATED
IRON TO CHURCH ROOF AND REAR FLAT ROOF.
PRICE R42850.00

B REMOVE EXISTING ROOF COVERING AND CART AWAY. SUPPLY
AND FIT HARVEY TUFFSPAN TO CHURCH ROOF AND REAR
FLAT ROOF. CORRUGATED IRON TO BECOME PROPERTY OF
CONTRACTOR PRICE R40,140.00
ISSUE A 15 YR. HARVEYTILE GUARANTEE.

AREAS EXCLUDED / UITGESLUIT: ALL NOT MENTIONED.

N.B. - GREEN COLOUR TUFFSPAN WILL BE 10% EXTRA COST.

TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDING TAX /
TOTALE KOOPSPRYS INSLUITENDE BELASTING R

DEPOSIT / DEPOSITO R

PAYABLE ON COMPLETION / BETAALBAAR OP VOLTOOIING R

DETAILS OF TERMS / BESONDERHEDE VAN TERME:

CASH ON COMPLETION.

I/We accept your contract as specified and certify that I/we have read the conditions stated overleaf and fully understand the contents thereof.

Ek/Ons aanvaar u kontrak soos omsyde uiteengesit en bevestig dat ek/ons die voorwaardes aan die omsyde geleses het en die inhoud daarvan ten volle verstaan.

Signed / Geteken W. D. Grew
Contractor Company / Maatskappy

Signed / Geteken:
Customer / Kliënt

Date / Datum 16-2-93

Date / Datum



D & A Timbers (Pty) Ltd

(Co. Reg. No. 04/01608/07)

Timber - Boards - Roof Trusses - Building Material - Paint
Sanitaryware - Tools - Hardware

QUOTATION
6758

BOX 5 / MAIN STREET
PHONE (0464) 41103
PORT ALFRED 6170

BOX 110 / KENTON ROAD
PHONE (0464) 81300
KENTON-ON-SEA 6191

Mr. <u>B. D. Long</u>	CONTRACT	<u>Re-roofing Settler House, Salem</u>
	DATE	<u>20-2-91</u>

QUOTATION

DESCRIPTION	DISC.	QTY.	UNIT	PRICE	AMOUNT
<u>.05 x 610 Corrugated Iron</u>					
<u>29) 5.830 ; 25) 5.700 ; 25) 2.500</u>					
<u>25) 3.470 ; 25) 4.420</u>	N	571.32	m	13.50	7712-82
<u>OR</u>					
<u>.06 x 762 Corrugated Iron</u>					
<u>23) 5.830 ; 20) 5.70 ; 20) 2.500</u>					
<u>20) 3.470 ; 20) 4.42</u>	N	455.89	m	18.40	8388-38
<u>Galv ridging 1.80</u>	N	9	ea.	13.45	121-05
<u>65x152 S&P fascia</u>	N	95.7	m	5.04	482-33
<u>38x152 S&P rafters 15) 6.00 ; 17) 6.00</u>	N	216	m	5.98	1291-68
<u>38x114 S&P rafters 16) 2.70</u>	N	43.2	m	4.47	193-10
<u>50x76 S&P purlins</u>	N	378	m	4.30	1625-40
					3713-56

Materials quoted based on external view only.

TERMS:
DELIVERY: To site

For and on behalf of:
D & A TIMBERS (PTY) LTD.

for Manager
CONTACT K.D. Kennedy

Whilst every effort will be made to hold the prices quoted firm, they are subject to:
(a) Stocks being available at date of receipt of order;
(b) Price ruling at time of delivery is subject to a "rise and fall" clause covering gazetted price adjustments and/or price changes brought into effect by our suppliers, over which we have no control.

NOTE: (a) In taking off the quantities every care has been taken but we do not accept responsibility for errors and/or omissions. Clients are advised to check the quantities before ordering. This quotation is valid for 30 days only.
(b) SALES TAX NOT INCLUDED.

C.M. HEUNIS BUILDING CONTRACTORS^{BK}_{CC}

Reg. Nr./No. CK 85/08708/23

1 Glanvillestraat / Street
Grahamstad / Town 6140
Telefoon / phone (0461) 22541
Faks / Fax (0461) 26254

05 March 1993

77/93

The Maintenance Committee
Methodist Church of S.A.
Commem Office
P.O. Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

ATTENTION : MR J HEPPLER

Dear Sir

GRAHAMSTOWN : COMMEN COMPLEX HIGH STREET : QUOTATION

We have pleasure in submitting our quotation as follows:

- 1 Remove existing corrugated iron roof sheeting and cart away.
- 2 Supply and fix new 0,6mm Longspan Chromodek Coloured Sheeting to existing purlins.
- 3 Supply and fix ridge capping, sidewall flashings and counter flashings.

All for the sum of R39 105.00 nett, including ^{*}10% ^{*}VAT.

Our quotation is valid for 60 days, but does not include any replacement of defective timber i.e. purlins, fascias, rafters etc.

We trust that the above meets with your approval and assure you of our prompt and courteous attention at all times.

Yours faithfully
CM HEUNIS BUILDING CONTRACTORS CC


C' du T HEUNIS

* now 14% VAT. R40527

VAS

35550

35550

39105

now

35550

H. 4977

R 40527

we would expect that however 'superior' it was it would not be adequate for the large building.

From this point the story is taken up by Mr John Birch who was in charge at the Organ Centenary, and has left us a detailed report on the instrument:

The first pipe organ at Commem. was a small six-rank extension instrument of one manual and pedals, and the 219 speaking pipes were enclosed in a swell box. It was purchased by Rev. W. Impey in 1867 and offered to the church for £110. Although it was considered when purchased that it would be "amply strong enough to lead the singing, but not so powerful as to drown the voices", it proved to be inadequate for a building the size of Commem.

Urged by the organist in 1873, Mr Ben Attwell, the Trustees agreed to erect a new organ. It was ordered from Messrs Bevington and Company of Soho, London. At special services held on 20 June 1875 the new organ was opened by the organist of the Cathedral, Miss Kennelly.

It was overhauled in 1883 and 1887, but on the recommendation of the organist in 1891, Mr Speed, the Trustees agreed to a rebuild, requiring further alterations to the front of the church. This work was done by Mr G.W. Price, the local organ builder, and the rebuilt organ was opened at special services on Sunday, 9 December 1894.

During the early years of the 1900's Commem. seems to have had a variety of organists, and in March 1904, the position was offered to Percy Scholes at £50 per annum. This was refused, but he did agree to become organist at £60. Only six months later a special meeting of the Trustees was called to discuss his "apparent want of ability as an organist" and to decide to dispense with his services. Little did they know that he would become a household name in musical circles as a famous lexicographer and music writer.

The next rebuild was undertaken by Cooper, Gill and Tompkins in 1914, with pipes and other parts supplied by Messrs Norman and Beard. In 1925 an electric motor was installed to replace the petrol

engine introduced in 1914. In 1944, Cooper, Gill and Tompkins undertook repairs and replacements.

Various organists of note have given recitals on Commem. organ over the years. These include Alfred Hollins the blind organist from Britain whose music was very popular in his day, and Dr. George Thalben-Ball the renowned English Church musician who is City Organist of Birmingham and has been organist and choirmaster at the Temple Church, London, for over fifty years. He will be known to many by the old 78 rpm recording of his choir and the boy soprano Ernest Lough singing Mendelssohn's "Hear my Prayer".

Mr Chantler, organist in 1955, reported the need for a complete rebuild. This was carried out by July 1961 by S.A. Organ Builders, and "satisfactorily completed . . . despite a counter-attack by the local rodent population which gnawed their way in at about the same time!"

Mr Birch's account concludes: "Commem. organ is now valued at R45 000 and we owe a great deal to the many who have given time and money over the years to give us a truly fine instrument to lead our worship and praise of Almighty God".

What 'Commem.' commemorates

Like every place of Christian worship, 'Commem.' was built first and foremost for the worship of God "who has visited and redeemed his people"; but this place commemorates particular deliverances for a particular people — the British Settlers of 1820. The Settler founders associated with 'Commem.' have made a notable contribution to the life of their city, their community and their country, as the memorials in the church testify.

The contribution of English-speaking South Africans as a whole has been given recognition in the National Monument which through its many services is making possible not only a just appreciation of that contribution, but an enrichment of it.

'Commem.' commemorates Christian education. This church values its association with the schools, colleges and the University: Graeme College, Victoria Girls High School, the Convent, St

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1.3 PLANNED COMMENCEMENT DATE OF PROJECT:

1.4 ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE OF PROJECT:

2. EXPENDITURE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLIED FOR:	R 23527	R 39105 + VAT
YOUR OWN CONTRIBUTION:	17000	R.....
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	<u>R 40527</u>	R.....

3. APPLICANT

3.1 NAME:

3.2 ADDRESS:

a) Postal

Box 409

GRAHAMSTOWN

Code: 6140

b) Residential / Office

HIGH ST.

GRAHAMSTOWN

Code: 6140

3.3 TELEPHONE NUMBERS: a) Office: 0461-27210

b) Home

4. DECLARATION

I/We RICHARD ANDREW KING as SECRETARY

OF COMMEN. TRUST PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

hereby declare that the information in this application is, to the best of my/our knowledge correct and undertake to observe the by-laws and directions of the National Monuments Council in respect of any financial assistance rendered to me/us.

SIGNED: Man

DATE: 23 June 1993

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(Section 5A of the National Monuments Act, 1969)

1. PROPOSED PROJECT

1.1 RESTORATION OF A MONUMENT

1.1.1 NAME AND ADDRESS OF MONUMENT:

..... Commemoration Methodist Church
..... High St GRAHAMSTOWN

1.1.2 NMC PERMIT FOR WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

REF. NO: DATE:

ISSUED AT

1.1.3 PREFERRED CONTRACTOR:

NAME: CM HEUNIS BUILDING CONTRACTORS

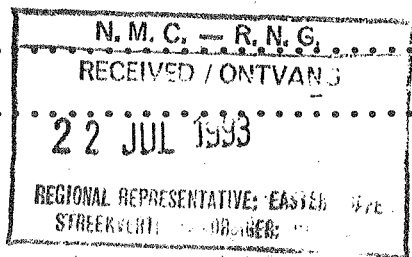
ADDRESS: 1 GRANVILLE ST, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

1.1.4 HAVE YOU ATTACHED TWO QUOTATIONS (INCLUDING THAT OF THE ABOVE CONTRACTOR)? YES

1.2 OTHER CONSERVATION PROJECT

1.2.1 PLEASE DESCRIBE AND MOTIVATE FULLY: (Continue on a separate page if necessary. Supporting documentation may be attached.)

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NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(Section 5A of the National Monuments Act, 1969)

1. PROPOSED PROJECT

1.1 RESTORATION OF A MONUMENT

1.1.1 NAME AND ADDRESS OF MONUMENT:

..... Commemoration Methodist Church
..... High St. GRAHAMSTOWN

1.1.2 NMC PERMIT FOR WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN:

REF. NO: DATE:

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1.1.3 PREFERRED CONTRACTOR:

NAME: CM HEUNIS BUILDING CONTRACTORS

ADDRESS: 1 GRANVILLE ST, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

1.1.4 HAVE YOU ATTACHED TWO QUOTATIONS (INCLUDING THAT OF THE ABOVE CONTRACTOR)? YES

1.2 OTHER CONSERVATION PROJECT

1.2.1 PLEASE DESCRIBE AND MOTIVATE FULLY: (Continue on a separate page if necessary. Supporting documentation may be attached.)

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N. M. C. - R. N. G.
RECEIVED / ONTVANG
22 JUL 1993
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: EASTERN
STREETS: OR: GEB:

The Methodist Church of Southern Africa
GRAHAMSTOWN COMMEMORATION CIRCUIT

Office: 2 7210
Manse: 2 7263

P.O. Box 409
Grahamstown
6140

23.06.93

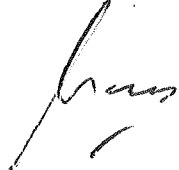
The Regional Representative
National Monuments Commission
Box 599
Grahamstown 6140

Dear Mr Jackson

In completing your application for financial assistance to replace the Church roof, I see that the proposed work must have been approved in principle.

I enclose two quotations and a certificate^{*} by McNamara and Associates and would be grateful if you could arrange for the issue of a permit for the work.

Yours sincerely



R Laing

* To follow after festival.

Could you submit the application to your next meeting for inclusion in the Budget.

N. M. C. -- N. R. C.
RECEIVED / ONTVANG 22 JUL 1993
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: EASTERN CA STREEKVERTEENWOORDSBER: OUS-KAA

9/2/003/17

14 DIP 27/4/93

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

GRAHAMSTOWN COMMEMORATION CIRCUIT

P.O. Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

21 July 1993

The Secretary
National Monuments Council
P O Box 4637
CAPE TOWN
8000

Dear Sir,

COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH : ASSISTANCE FOR RESTORATION OF ORGAN

We enclose herewith a copy of our letter dated 25th May to your Regional Representative and would be grateful if you could advise us of the outcome of our application.

Yours faithfully,



HON. SECRETARY

N M C - R N G
RECEIVED
1993 -07- 26
HEAD OFFICE - HOOFKANTOOR

The Local Representative
National Monuments Council
P O Box 599
GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

25.05.1993

Dear Mr Jackson

Re : ASSISTANCE COMMEM ORGAN

With reference to our telephone conversations I confirm that we are anxiously awaiting the outcome of our application for assistance which appeared not to have been lodged by your predecessor in respect of the previous budget period.

The quote of Mr Jan Pikelharing, the cheaper, (enclosed), was accepted in respect of parts A and B, and we were ultimately obliged to raise the money to pay the account ourselves as per enclosed receipts.

Your further advices are awaited as soon as possible.

Yours Faithfully

R LAING

McNamara & Linsley ARCHITECTS

34 NEW STREET
291
GRAHAMSTOWN
CAPE 6140
(0461) 311641
FAX (0461) 22631

A member of the Kerry McNamara Architects Group
WINDHOEK • GRAHAMSTOWN

Attention : Richard Laing

c/o The Methodist Church of Southern Africa
P.O.Box 409
Grahamstown
6140

Our Ref : Gen/105/g1
Date : 09/08/93

Dear Richard

INSPECTION OF COMMEMORATION CHURCH ROOF

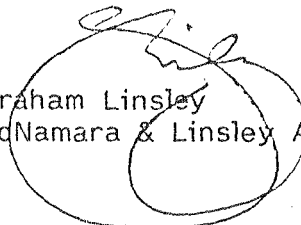
Further to your communication of 0/06/93 regarding the replacement of the roof covering on the above-mentioned building, we confirm that we undertook an in-situ inspection on 6/08/93, the following were our findings :-

- The existing corrugated profile galvanised sheeting showed signs of deterioration arising from loss of protective galvanising, paint covering and evidence of white rust at the lap joints.
There was also evidence of extensive puncturing of sheeting (not at fixing positions), this latter defect may have been the major contributing factor to the ingress of water into the ceiling space which was noted on our inspection of the ceiling space some 5 years ago.
- In the area which was stripped for inspection, Oregon Pine battens supported on yellowwood boarding generally appeared in good condition, there was however evidence of ingress of water and certain of the battens may require replacement, this will be undertaken subject to inspection at the Contractors' discretion as the re-roofing proceeds.
- In conclusion, I concur that replacement of the roof sheeting is desirable if damage to the ceiling and interior of the Church is to be avoided.

An item outside of the scope of my inspection of the roof sheeting, was the observation that fascias and gutters should be inspected and be replaced if necessary. A visual inspection of gutters and downpipes on the Eastern facade of the Church, indicates areas of significant deterioration which could in time lead to damage to stonework and interior plaster.

I trust that this report meets with your requirements.

Yours Faithfully


Graham Linsley
McNamara & Linsley Architects.

PARTNERS

Graham Linsley

Kerry McNamara

P. Arch (UCT), Arch (SAL) MIA

9/2/003/17

COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Tel: (0461) 272105

12 August 1993

The Regional Representative
National Monuments Council
P O Box 599
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Sir,


APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE : ORGAN AND ROOF

With reference to our telephone conversation when you advised that our application for assistance with the repair of the Commem Organ had been turned down, my Committee has asked if you could possibly furnish us with some details regarding the reason for the rejection of the application. I confirm that you have re-submitted the application for consideration at the next meeting and as support therefor, I enclose an Extract from the book by the late Dr Leslie Hewson on the History of Commem which deals specifically with the Commem Organ and highlights its historical value. The organ is widely recognised as being probably the best in the Eastern Cape and I have no doubt that I will be able to obtain confirmation from authoritative persons to this effect.

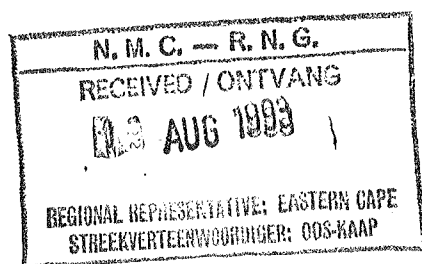
Regarding the application for assistance for the roof, I enclose a report from Messrs McNamara and Linsley Architects confirming that replacement of the roof sheeting is desirable so as to avoid damage to the ceiling and interior of the Church. I trust that this will be of use in our submission for assistance in the funding of the work. I should mention that upon payment of the Contractor's account for the work (which had to be done urgently in view of the leaks) the Church's funds will be totally depleted and there will be no reserves available at all. I therefore trust that the application will be successful in order to maintain our historical monument.

My Committee would much appreciate it if you could let us have your acknowledgment of our previous applications and a written report on the outcome of the application in due course for our file. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours faithfully,



HON. SECRETARY



COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Tel: (0461) 272105

12 August 1993

The Regional Representative
National Monuments Council
P O Box 599
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Sir,


APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE : ORGAN AND ROOF

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Regarding the application for assistance for the roof, I enclose a report from Messrs McNamara and Linsley Architects confirming that replacement of the roof sheeting is desirable so as to avoid damage to the ceiling and interior of the Church. I trust that this will be of use in our submission for assistance in the funding of the work. I should mention that upon payment of the Contractor's account for the work (which had to be done urgently in view of the leaks) the Church's funds will be totally depleted and there will be no reserves available at all. I therefore trust that the application will be successful in order to maintain our historical monument.

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Yours faithfully,



HON. SECRETARY

N. M. C. -- R. N. G.
RECEIVED / ONTVANG
12 AUG 1993
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: EASTERN CAPE
STREEKVERTEENWOORDBER: OOS-KAAP

we would expect that however 'superior' it was it would not be adequate for the large building.

From this point the story is taken up by Mr John Birch who was in charge at the Organ Centenary, and has left us a detailed report on the instrument:

The first pipe organ at Commem. was a small six-rank extension instrument of one manual and pedals, and the 219 speaking pipes were enclosed in a swell box. It was purchased by Rev. W. Impey in 1867 and offered to the church for £110. Although it was considered when purchased that it would be "amply strong enough to lead the singing, but not so powerful as to drown the voices", it proved to be inadequate for a building the size of Commem.

Urged by the organist in 1873, Mr Ben Attwell, the Trustees agreed to erect a new organ. It was ordered from Messrs Bevington and Company of Soho, London. At special services held on 20 June 1875 the new organ was opened by the organist of the Cathedral, Miss Kennelly.

It was overhauled in 1883 and 1887, but on the recommendation of the organist in 1891, Mr. Speed, the Trustees agreed to a rebuild, requiring further alterations to the front of the church. This work was done by Mr G.W. Price, the local organ builder, and the rebuilt organ was opened at special services on Sunday, 9 December 1894.

During the early years of the 1900's Commem. seems to have had a variety of organists, and in March 1904, the position was offered to Percy Scholes at £50 per annum. This was refused, but he did agree to become organist at £60. Only six months later a special meeting of the Trustees was called to discuss his "apparent want of ability as an organist" and to decide to dispense with his services. Little did they know that he would become a household name in musical circles as a famous lexicographer and music writer.

The next rebuild was undertaken by Cooper, Gill and Tompkins in 1914, with pipes and other parts supplied by Messrs Norman and Beard. In 1925 an electric motor was installed to replace the petrol

engine introduced in 1914. In 1944, Cooper, Gill and Tompkins undertook repairs and replacements.

Various organists of note have given recitals on Commem. organ over the years. These include Alfred Hollins the blind organist from Britain whose music was very popular in his day, and Dr. George Thalben-Ball the renowned English Church musician who is City Organist of Birmingham and has been organist and choirmaster at the Temple Church, London, for over fifty years. He will be known to many by the old 78 rpm recording of his choir and the boy soprano Ernest Lough singing Mendelssohn's "Hear my Prayer".

Mr Chantler, organist in 1955, reported the need for a complete rebuild. This was carried out by July 1961 by S.A. Organ Builders, and "satisfactorily completed . . . despite a counter-attack by the local rodent population which gnawed their way in at about the same time!"

Mr Birch's account concludes: "Commem. organ is now valued at R45 000 and we owe a great deal to the many who have given time and money over the years to give us a truly fine instrument to lead our worship and praise of Almighty God".

What 'Commem.' commemorates

Like every place of Christian worship, 'Commem.' was built first and foremost for the worship of God "who has visited and redeemed his people"; but this place commemorates particular deliverances for a particular people — the British Settlers of 1820. The Settler founders associated with 'Commem.' have made a notable contribution to the life of their city, their community and their country, as the memorials in the church testify.

The contribution of English-speaking South Africans as a whole has been given recognition in the National Monument which through its many services is making possible not only a just appreciation of that contribution, but an enrichment of it.

'Commem.' commemorates Christian education. This church values its association with the schools, colleges and the University: Graeme College, Victoria Girls High School, the Convent, St

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 1993 AT 32 BIRD STREET, PORT ELIZABETH

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CUYLERVILLE

9/2/003/1

A submission dated 16 August 1993, by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.

It was DECIDED to recommend to Council that a grant of R300 be awarded for the restoration of the above church.

DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA

9/2/005/4

A submission dated 17 August 1993, by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.

It was DECIDED that the requested assistance NOT be granted.

COMMEMORATION CHURCH, GRAHAMSTOWN

9/2/003/16 17

A submission dated 24 August 1993, by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.

It was DECIDED that the proposed materials were totally inappropriate and that this matter be referred back to the Regional Committee.

KARIEGA BAPTIST CHURCH

9/2/008/1

A submission dated 17 August 1993, by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.

It was DECIDED to recommend to Council that a sum of R 10 000 be granted for the above restoration.

1850 METHODIST CHURCH, SALEM, ALBANY DISTRICT

9/2/003/29/2

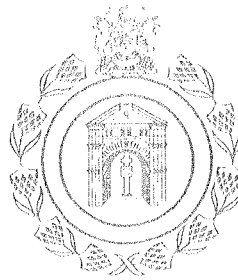
A submission dated 17 August 1993, by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.

It was DECIDED that the Regional Manager speak to Architect Martin Goldswain and if necessary, a grant of R2000 be recommended.

DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH, JANSENVILLE

9/2/046/7

A submission by the Regional Manager, had been circulated.



RAAD VIR NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE · NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

ONS VERW. OUR REF.

9/2/003/17

U VERW. YOUR REF.

NAVRAE ENQUIRIES

DATUM DATE

22 June 1999

OU TRONK SOMERSETSTRAAT 40A GRAHAMSTAD 6140 OLD GAOL 40A SOMERSET STREET GRAHAMSTOWN 6140
POSADRES POSTAL ADDRESS
POSBUS 599 GRAHAMSTAD 6140 PO BOX 599 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140
TELEFOON (016) 622 1615 TELEPHONE (016) 622 1615
FAKS (016) 622 3928 FAX (016) 622 3928

The Methodist Church of Southern Africa
Grahamstown Commemoration Circuit
P O Box 409
Grahamstown
6140

Attention Hon. Secretary: Trust Properties: Mr R. Laing

Dear Sir

RE: COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH'S ORGAN

Your letter, dated 17 June 1999, in connection with the church's organ, has reference.

Your letter, together with the quotations (one still to come) will be submitted to our next Regional Committee. The meeting is due to be held in September this year. This office is not in the position to make any promises but we can try and hope that some money for the repair of this very important historical organ will be forthcoming. We will keep you informed of the outcome, first after the Regional Meeting and then the Council's decision, which is normally held about a month later.

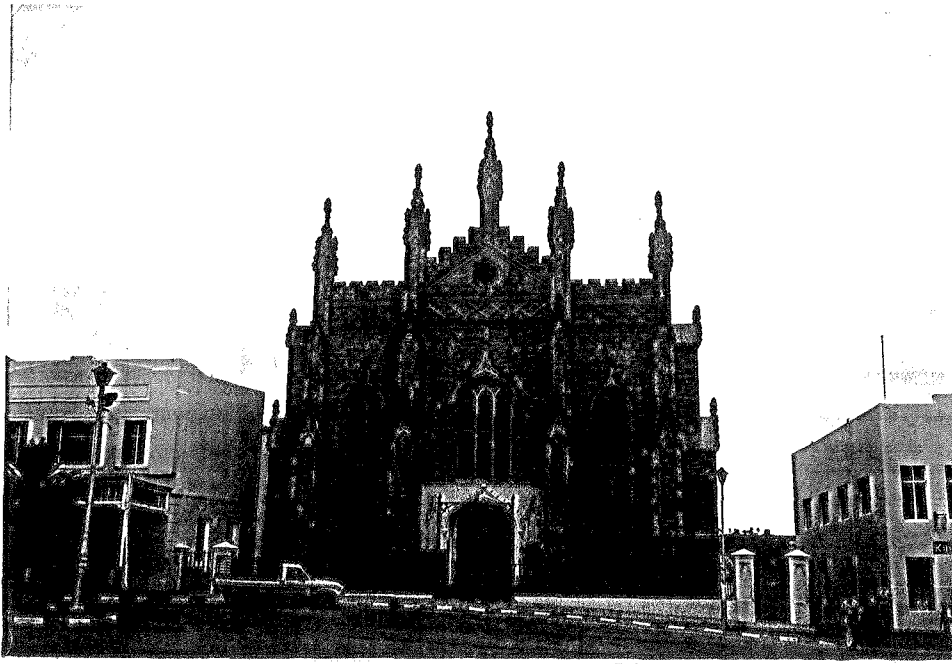
Yours faithfully

B. Kretzmann
for T. Lungile: Regional Manager
Eastern Cape

9/2/003/17

SUBMISSION TO EAST CAPE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMMEMORATION CHURCH, GRAHAMSTOWN



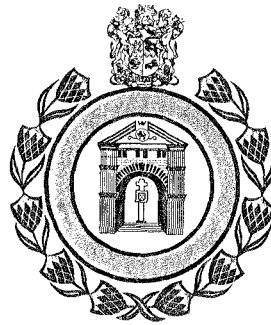
The attached letter have reference. According to Mr Richard Laing, the congregation has raised R17,000, however a further R23,000 is urgently required.

For Consideration

Brian Jackson
24 September 1993

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

RAADVIRNASIONALEGEDENKWAARDIGHEDE



(0461) 24615
599
Grahamstown 6140

(0461) 24615
599
Grahamstad 6140

Ref./Verwys: 9/2/003/17

Your Ref.:
U Verwys.:

Enquiries / Navrae:

Grahamstown Commemoration Church
P O Box 409
Grahamstown 6140

Att: Mr R. Lang

Dear Sir

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, COMMEMORATION CHURCH

Your application for financial assistance was discussed at the recent meeting of the Regional Committee of the National Monuments Council.

While the National Monuments Council is willing to aid the Commemoration Church, it was suggested that the material stated in the quotation was inappropriate and that it was preferable to have the church re-roofed with corrugated iron.

This matter will be re-discussed as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

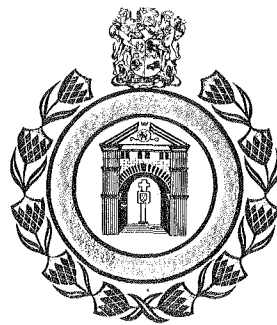
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Jackson'.

BRIAN JACKSON: REGIONAL MANAGER
EASTERN CAPE

23 Sept. 1993

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

RAADVIRNASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE



☎ (0461) 24615
✉ 599
Grahamstown 6140

☎ (0461) 24615
✉ 599
Grahamstad 6140

Ref./Verwys: 9/2/003/17

Your Ref.:

U Verwys.:

Enquiries / Navrae:

Mr Richard Laing
c/o The Methodist Church of SA
P O Box 409
6140 Grahamstown

26 July 1994

Dear Mr Laing

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO RENOVATE THE ORGAN AND
ROOF OF THE COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

We have just received written confirmation that R 20 000 has been awarded to the above church for restoration.

Claims for payment must be sent to our local office for submission to our finance department.

Please also be advised that plans must be submitted to this office for submission to the Plans Committee which meets every last monday of each month.

Yours faithfully

pp B. Jackson

BRIAN JACKSON: REGIONAL MANAGER
EASTERN CAPE

9/2/003/17

COMMEMORATION METHODIST CHURCH

c/o P.O. Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Tel: (0461) 27210

21 September 1994

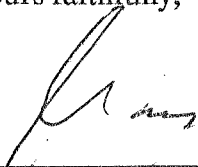
The Regional Manager (Eastern Cape)
National Monuments Council
PO Box 599
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Mr Jackson,

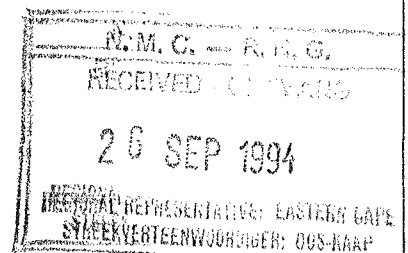
APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE : ORGAN AND ROOF

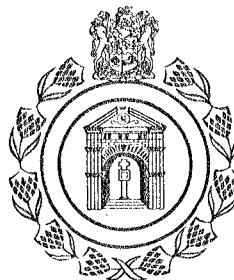
On behalf of the Trust Properties and Finance Committee, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to you and the National Monuments Council for the assistance which was made available to the Church and for ensuring that the cheque was processed so expeditiously. I can assure you that this is sincerely appreciated by the Church Council and members.

Yours faithfully,



HON. SECRETARY





RAAD VIR NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHED E · NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

ONS VERW OUR REF

9/2/003/7

U VERW YOUR REF

NAVRAE ENQUIRIES

Mr Jackson

DATUM DATE

17 April 1996

OU TRONK 40A SOMERSETSTRAAT GRAHAMSTAD 6140 OLD GAOL 40A SOMERSET STREET GRAHAMSTOWN 6140
POSADRES POSTAL ADDRESS
POSBUS 599 GRAHAMSTAD 6140 PO BOX 599 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140
TELEFOON (0461) 4615 TELEPHONE (0461) 4615
FAKS (0461) 23928 FAX (0461) 23928

Commemoration Methodist Church
P O Box 409
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Dear Sir

COMMEM CHURCH: STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Your application for the repair of the stained glass windows was submitted to the Regional Committee Meeting in October 1995.

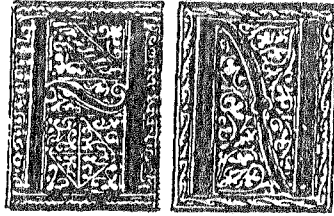
We regret to inform you that unfortunately there are no funds available for the next financial year (1996/97). We would very much like to oblige and will re-submit the application at the next Regional Committee Meeting.

We apologise for this late reply.

Yours faithfully

pp. H. Bothraam

BRIAN JACKSON: REGIONAL MANAGER
EASTERN CAPE



9/2/003/17

HUNTER NESBIT STAINED GLASS
21 PROSPECT HILL
CENTRAL, PORT ELIZABETH 6001
P O BOX 22491, PE 6000
TELEPHONE (041) 563206

30 June 1995

Rev Robin Wright
Methodist Commemoration Church
P O Box 409
Grahamstown
6140

Dear Rev Wright

STAINED GLASS RESTORATION

Our inspection of Tuesday 30 May 1995 refers.

1. Urgent attention is recommended to seven fine stained glass windows set in the east wall of the church, namely :
 - 1.1 three Geo Familoe windows (each approximately 660 mm x 2 800 mm) :
 - He leadeth me beside the still waters;
 - Suffer little children.
 - The memory of the Just is Blessed.
 - 1.2 The four Evangelist windows (downstairs) :
 - SS Luke & John (each approximately 660 mm x 2 800 mm).
 - SS Mark & Matthew (each approximately 660 mm x 3 070 mm).

2. Condition

These windows all reveal the problems of age and the South African climate :

- Waterproofing putty reduced to powder.
- Oxidised solder joints.
- Broken and loose tie-wires and horizontal saddle bars : all problems which have contributed to bulging and sagging windows, with resulting breakage and fracturing of precious painted glass.

3. Treatment

- 3.1 Loose glass is taped firmly in position, and the panels are eased from their positions on site for transport to Port Elizabeth. *4.1
- 3.2 The glazing grooves are cleaned and the fitting measurements for the restored panels taken. Temporary glazing or hardboard will be provided to close up the vacant spaces. *4.1
- 3.3 In Port Elizabeth, each panel is placed on the studio glazing bench and carefully traced onto architectural film; dis-assembled, all glass pieces are carefully cleaned of dirt and old putty and laid in position on the tracing cartoon.
- 3.4 Broken and fractured pieces are analysed and those that cannot be saved (by end-gluing with epoxy glue or lead stripping) are replaced with new antique glass cut to size, duly etched with hydrofluoric acid where necessary, painted to match with vitreous oxides and stains, and kiln-fired for permanence.
- 3.5 The completed panel is releaded with new lead calme, soldered, waterproofed with putty and left to dry for three days before cleaning and polishing. New tie-wires are soldered in position and the panels are stacked to dry for at least a week before installation.

4. Removal, making-good, transport, installation

- 4.1 Removal of windows from site, making good of cement work, closing up apertures, transport of windows to Port Elizabeth back to Grahamstown after restoration and re-installation to be effected by Mr Harry Rama, P O Box 777, Grahamstown (tel. no. 22748), in which respect a separate quotation will be following.

4.2 Insurance

Please note that insurance must be provided by the client in respect of the windows from their removal to their re-installation.

5. Estimate

- 5.1 To the restoration of seven stained glass windows as described in 2, 3 above (price ex-studio), measuring a total of approximately 9.5m² : R33 250
- 5.2 Progress payments will be required.
- 5.3 Estimated duration of project : 3 months.

Note : If necessary (and by arrangement with Mr Rama), it may be necessary to divide the contract into three sections, taking out and replacing the windows in sequences of 2, 2 and 3.

I look forward to your comments.

Yours faithfully



HUNTER NESBIT

Copy to Mr H Rama

The Methodist Church of Southern Africa

GRAHAMSTOWN COMMEMORATION CIRCUIT

9/2/003/17

Office: 6227210
Manse: 6227263

P.O. Box 409
Grahamstown
6140

THE MANAGER
NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL
PO BOX 599
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

17th JUNE 1999

Dear Mr Longile

22 JUN 1999

Re: Commemoration Methodist Church's Organ

My committee has requested me to write to you regarding our Church Organ which is housed in Commem Church, a declared National Monument. The organ was originally ordered at the end of 1873 and commissioned in June 1875, nearly 125 years ago. In 1891 it was rebuilt and portions of the church extensively altered to accommodate the changes. Thereafter it was re-commissioned in 1894.

The organ is, we understand, one of the finest pipe organs in the Eastern Cape and has over the years been used for recitals by renowned organists, apart from its traditional use for our services. The renowned English organist, George Thelben Ball, for 50 years organist at the Temple Church London, is included in those having given such recitals.


Unfortunately the years have taken their toll on the organ (valued at R1.4 million) and we have been informed by professional advisors that the organ is in need of a substantial overhaul and updating. The estimated cost is R96 000.00 and whilst we have a fund of R30 000.00 due to the generosity of a past member of the congregation who bequeathed monies in her will, the balance is beyond the resources of our congregation.

I have been requested to enquire whether, having regard to the historical significance of the organ housed in one of the monuments under your jurisdiction, you would be willing to include a provision for its restoration in your budget. A copy of the cost estimate is attached and we are in the process of obtaining a further quotation.

We are concerned that if funds are not forthcoming, we could well ultimately be compelled to "mothball" the organ, a step which would only be taken as a last resort.

We look forward to your favourable response in due course.

Yours



R LAING (Hon Secretary: Trust Properties)

22 JUN 1999

The installation of additional couplers (Swell and Choir -sub&octave- to Great and Pedal) is not recommendable. Although this would enhance to a certain extent the total volume of the instrument, it will drain the present air-supply, which is not designed for this extensive coupling of pipes. If the full organ sound (at present) is enlarged by coupling within its own system, a distortion and very unbalanced overall sound is produced, which will more often offend than please.

I have pleasure in quoting an amount of R 75400-00 plus VAT for the rebuilding of the console as above.

CHOIR ORGAN

The choir organ is positioned in such a way, that effective and audible control of the overall sound is poor. Considering the present internal organ layout, a positional change cannot be done, as space does not allow for this. A more audible sound and effective control of the volume would be possible, if the choir box received additional doors for volume control. In order to add additional doors to the box, the Tuba 8' stop would have to be placed elsewhere in the organ, which is possible.

I quote for the shifting of the Tuba 8' stop and the manufacture and installation of additional doors to the choir organ an amount of R 7365-00 plus VAT.

SWELL ORGAN.

The reeds on the Oboe 8' stop (top two octaves) need replacing. The present reeds do not stay in tune for long, due mainly to fatigue of the brass reed involved. Supply and installation with voicing of the new reeds would cost R 1850-00 plus VAT.

IMPROVEMENT OF OVERALL ORGAN ACTION.

(See correspondence dated 15 January 1992).

The overall organ action has worked well during the past few years, and I cannot see any justification at the present for further work to be done here. It just needs on-going maintenance and service as performed on tuning services.

The above quotations are valid for three (3) months. Work could be done during 1999 DV. The cost of procurement of the import components i.e. packaging/ insurance/transport, customs and duties, and import agency fees as per their bill is not included in the quotation and will be for the account of Commemoration Methodist Church.

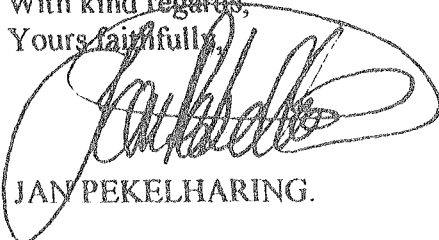
Payment would be a deposit of R 5000-00 plus VAT upon acceptance of the quotation, plus import components payable upon invoice from overseas suppliers.

The balance would be divided into 2 progress payments:

- a) work done in workshops at Port Elizabeth, and
- b) commencement of installation in Comm. Church.

Should you require any further information I will gladly assist.

With kind regards,
Yours faithfully,



JAN PEKELHARING.