From letter of Arthur Roberts to Henry 12/3/72

.....

In my will I have made a bequest to Pilgrim Church in memory of your mother and honoring Mary, who is filling out the latter years of my life in splendid manner, with the suggestion that the bequest be used to put a stained glass window in place of the temporary green glass which is now there. In all probability this bequest will not be sufficient to fill the entire window. It will do the church membership good to raise some money to fill out this window. If they do so and a window is installed I would like to suggest it does not conform to the tiffany glass windows along the sides of the churchs, but that the type of glass used in the two windows in the foyer installed by St. Germain Bros. here be used. I would also suggest the window be as impersonal as possible, with no reference whatever to any donor, especially so if the church membership pieces out the cost, or in memory of whom it was given. I would like to think a suitable stained glass window would lead someone to think of the glory of God as the windows at Chartres and the Five Sisters (?) do in York Minster.

MEMORIAL SERMON - ARTHUR ROBERTS

On the day after Arthur Roberts' death, I received from him the last of several letters that he wrote to me from Tucson. Enclosed were two church bulletins, one from an Episcopal Church, the other a Congregational. Having heard that the Episcopal parish was of the extreme Anglo-Catholic variety, he decided to make a personal investigation. Rising early that Sunday he went to a 7:30 mass. He lamented in his letter that there was only a "faint touch of Cranmer" in the service. There was far too large a touch, he implied, of Stephen Gardner, the advisor to Bloody Mary. Nevertheless, Arthur observed that "the rector, a vigorous and able man, delivered a worthwhile sermon, based on a passage from the prophet Hosea."

Having conducted this investigation of St. Michael's and All Angels, he made his way that same morning to the First Congregational United Church of Christ, where he had worshipped faithfully each Sunday while in Tucson. There, he confessed, he slept through the sermon.

It was clear that Arthur Roberts was enjoying himself on that last Sunday of his life.

There is much in that letter that was typical of him. There was his interest in whatever was going on around him, the way in which his mind and spirit were continually engaged and looking into things. While he was in Tucson, he discovered the local university law library, declared it to be the best he had seen, and immediately immersed himself in it. Arthur Roberts refused to let anything put him on the shelf. Last summer when he spent several weeks in the hospital he was constantly surrounded by books and newspapers. It was impossible to walk into his room without walking out carrying a clipping.

Another quality that comes out in this last letter was his interest in history. First there was his love of English history, especially the period of the 16th and 17th centuries. He identified spiritually with forces at work in that time of turmoil, so much so that he almost seemed to be fighting the British civil wars over again. He could deliver a sermon against sacredotalism worthy of any soldier in Cromwell's army, as I discovered when I suggested that this church was in need of a cross.

But Arthur Roberts could also give the devil his due. He was always prepared to appreciate what was most worthy in a contrasting point of view. He gave the rector of St. Michaels and All Angels credit for a good sermon.

The interest in history he applied nearer to hime as well. He believed fervently in the American heritage, especially that part of it that contributes to civil liberties. Yet in him there was none of that jingoism and tribal self-righteousness that so often passes for patriotism in this country. He was, of course, a leader in the affairs of the St. Louis County Historical Society. He himself was a regular encyclopedia of information about these parts. Yet, as he was bound to tell you sooner or later, Arthur Roberts was not by birth a Duluth man. He was from Superior, Wiscinson and proud of it. In this respect as in certain others, I often felt that Arthur lived in, but not entirely of, the world in which he moved.

So there was in Arthur Roberts this interest in history, a treasuring of tradition, a cherishing of old and seasoned things. Yet unlike so many others at this moment of history, he did not panic in the face of a fast-changing world. The traditions from which he drew inspiration were traditions of freedom, of progress, of revolt against systems of oppression. In some notes that he left for his son, he observed that he was descended from "revolutionary English and Welsh peasant stock with the will and energy to get up and out." On most social questions he held progressive ideas. Once somebody remarked to me that contrary to his expectations, he found Arthur Roberts to be something of a radical. When I told Arthur that, he was very much amused. He did not deny the allegation.

He was a man of the law and for that very reason a believer in justice. He did not hesitate to suggest in a statement he once read to the congregation that from the beginning the Federal Constitution was somewhat evasive on the question of racial equality. When it came to such an issue as school desegregation, he said, a church member could walk ton the other side of the road like the Levite, or deal with the matter "from the background of his Christian belief and responsibilities."

Arthur Roberts could be something of a terror, but he was a kindly man who put himself out for others in all sorts of little ways. Sometimes in later years he may have seemed to be in a fog. But when he roused himself, he could take apart a problem with fine, logical precision. He was generous with himself and with his substance. In particular, he sought to provide help in the area of education, both through individual scholarships to local youth and through his support of Northland College.

He was greatly devoted to the church. He was a kind of connoisseur of churches. Church-going was not a routine with Arthur Roberts; it was an adventure. I received so many bulletins from Tucson that I told him that were it not for his Puritan sympathies he would have built up a sizable account in the treasury of merit.

He did not speak much about his religious beliefs. One suspects that they were far from orthodox. It was the prophetic side of Christianity that appealed to him. We may let the hymns he chose for this event stand in their contrasting ways for the breadth of his faith - Whittier's serene trust in the inward light, and Lowell's trumpet call to justice and to truth.

"The Law of the Lord is perfect",said the Psalmist, "reviving the soul." Our human law is imperfect and its practitioners are imperfect. But we find strength for living always in the faith that there is a higher rightness that gives shape to our best efforts to secure equity among men. To that higher rightness we turn now with the confidence that its sway is supreme, its judgment sure and its compassion without limit.

Mrs. Prather has won an award for Dimensional Design at al alumni art exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum College of Art; and an honorable mention for a slab glass design at a religious art exhibit in Cleveland.

Her work reflects a strong sense of design, combined with warm earthtones and a sensitivity of execution. Mrs. Prather brings variety and freshness and a seeming inexhaustible creative spirit to every art medium.

She is an artist member of Artist's Equity Association, Guild for Religious Architecture, American Society for Church Architecture, Philadelphia Art Alliance, Liturgical Arts Guild of Southern New Jersey.

Her exhibits include:

Chicago, Illinois
The Fine Arts Club, Liturgical Art Exhibit
American Society for Church Architecture Exhibits
7th Annual Ecclesiastical Arts Exhibit of the National Conference on Church Architecture.
Contemporary Liturgical Art Exhibit
Contemporary Christian Art Gallery

St. Louis, Missouri
City Art Museum, Liturgical Arts
National Liturgical Week Art Exhibit

Springfield, Massachusetts
Museum of the Fine Arts, 9th Annual Eastern States Art Exhibit

New York City
Contemporary Christian Art Gallery

Long Island, New York
New York Art League, 34th National Spring Exhibit

Cleveland, Ohio
3rd and 4th Annual Exhibitions, the Fine Arts in the Service of the Church
HONORABLE MENTION: Slab Glass Design with enamels.

Jersey City, New Jersey
Jersey City Art Museum, Painter's and Sculptor's 25th Annual

Atlantic City, New Jersey
Liturgical Art and Architecture

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Art Alliance, Art with Architecture
" " Dining Room Exhibits
" " Invited Regional, Craft and Watercolors
Liberty Federal Retrospective
Special Award for Sculpture
First Prize for Sculpture
Woodmere Art Gallery Annuals
Abington, PA, Old York Road Art Guild
Philadelphia Museum College of Art
First Award for Dimensional Design

East Aurora, New York
St. John Vienney Seminary, Art and Architecture

Aurora, Illinois
Religious Arts Festival
First Award for Sculpture
Decatur, Illinois, Religious Arts Festival

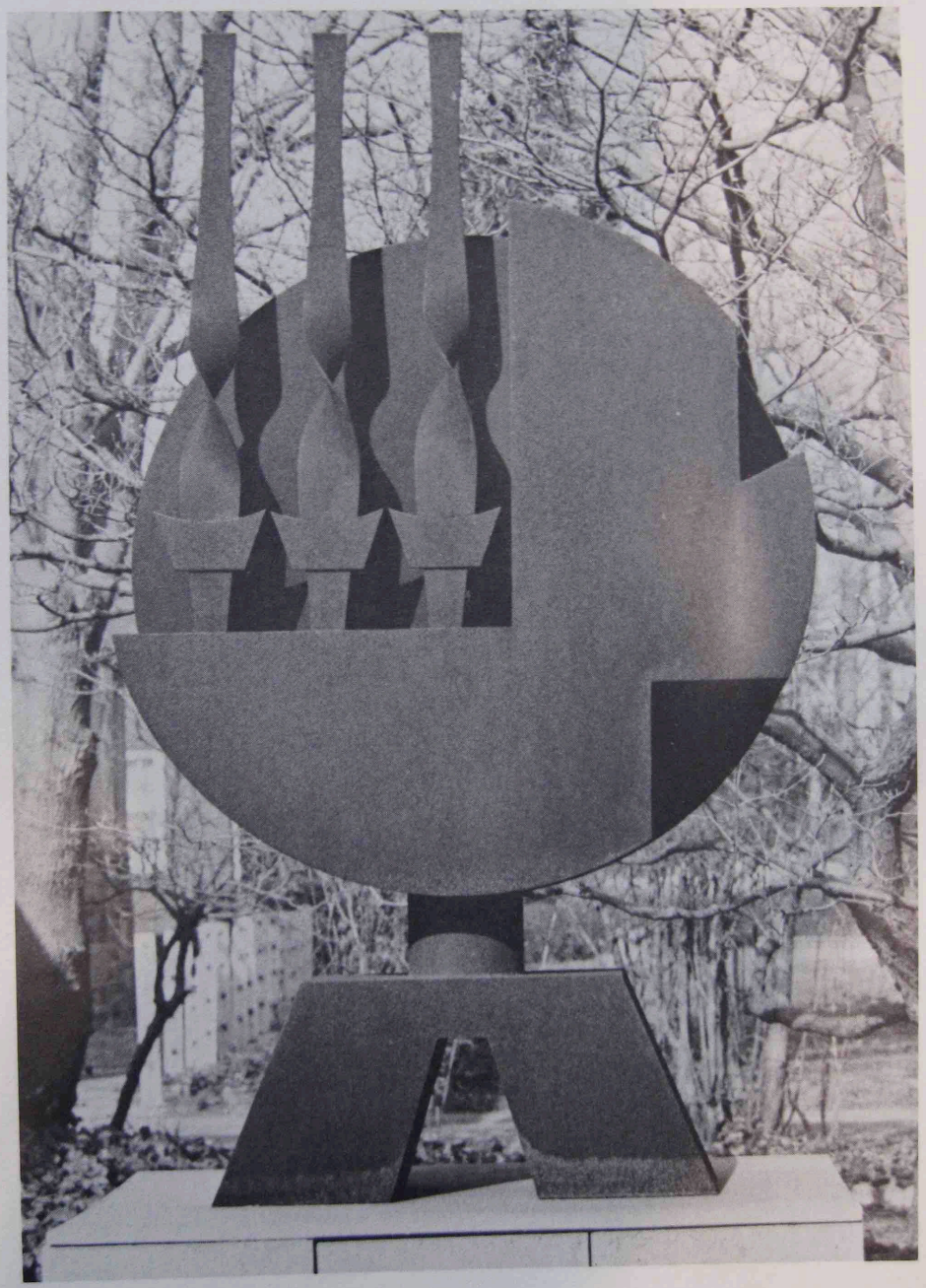
Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Southern New Jersey Liturgical Arts Guild

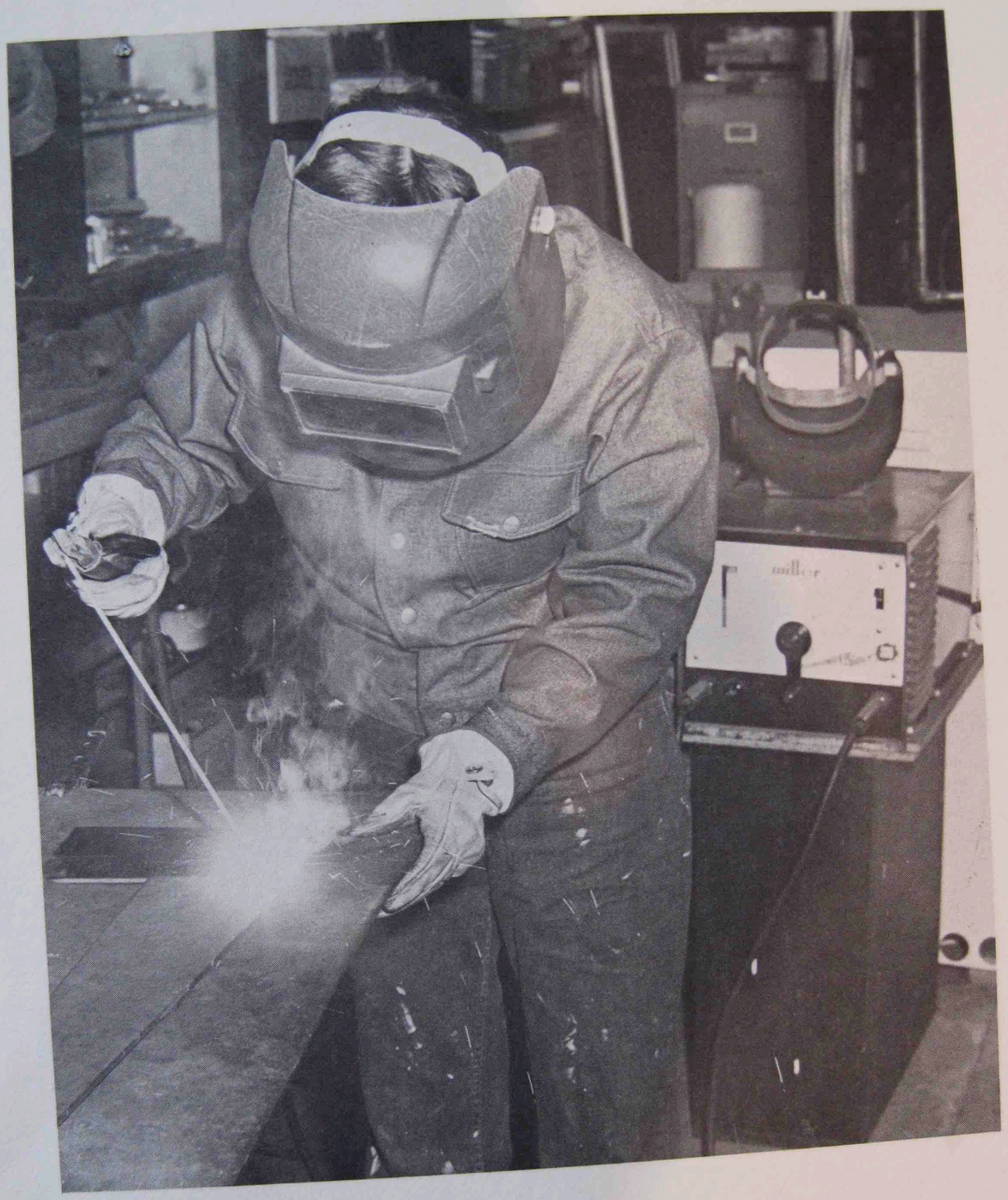
Publications in which some of her work has been reproduced include:

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD
AMERICAN ARTIST
BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS
CHURCH MANAGEMENT
BUILDING PROGRESS
STAINED GLASS JOURNAL
SATURDAY EVENING POST COVER (photo of facade she designed)
TOGETHER MAGAZINE
THE F.B.I. INVESTIGATOR (Cover and Story of the J. EDGAR HOOVER Window)
CHRISTIAN ART MAGAZINE
PHILADELPHIA EVENING BULLETIN
PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
THE WASHINGTON POST
THE KANSAS CITY STAR
KANSAS CITY KANSAN
THE FARGO FORUM
W.F.L.N. PHILADELPHIA GUIDE
ART IN FOCUS
YOUR CHURCH Magazine

Articles on Art for the church, written by Odell Prather, appeared in the following publications:
PROTESTANT CHURCH BUILDINGS, "Architecture Should Speak to Head and Heart"

ODELL PRATHER
sculptor





ODELL PRATHER

sculptor in bronze, CorTen or stainless steel.
Phone for an appointment to visit her studio
at 7444 Fourth Ave., Philadelphia 19126
(Melrose Park). Phone: 215-635-0654.

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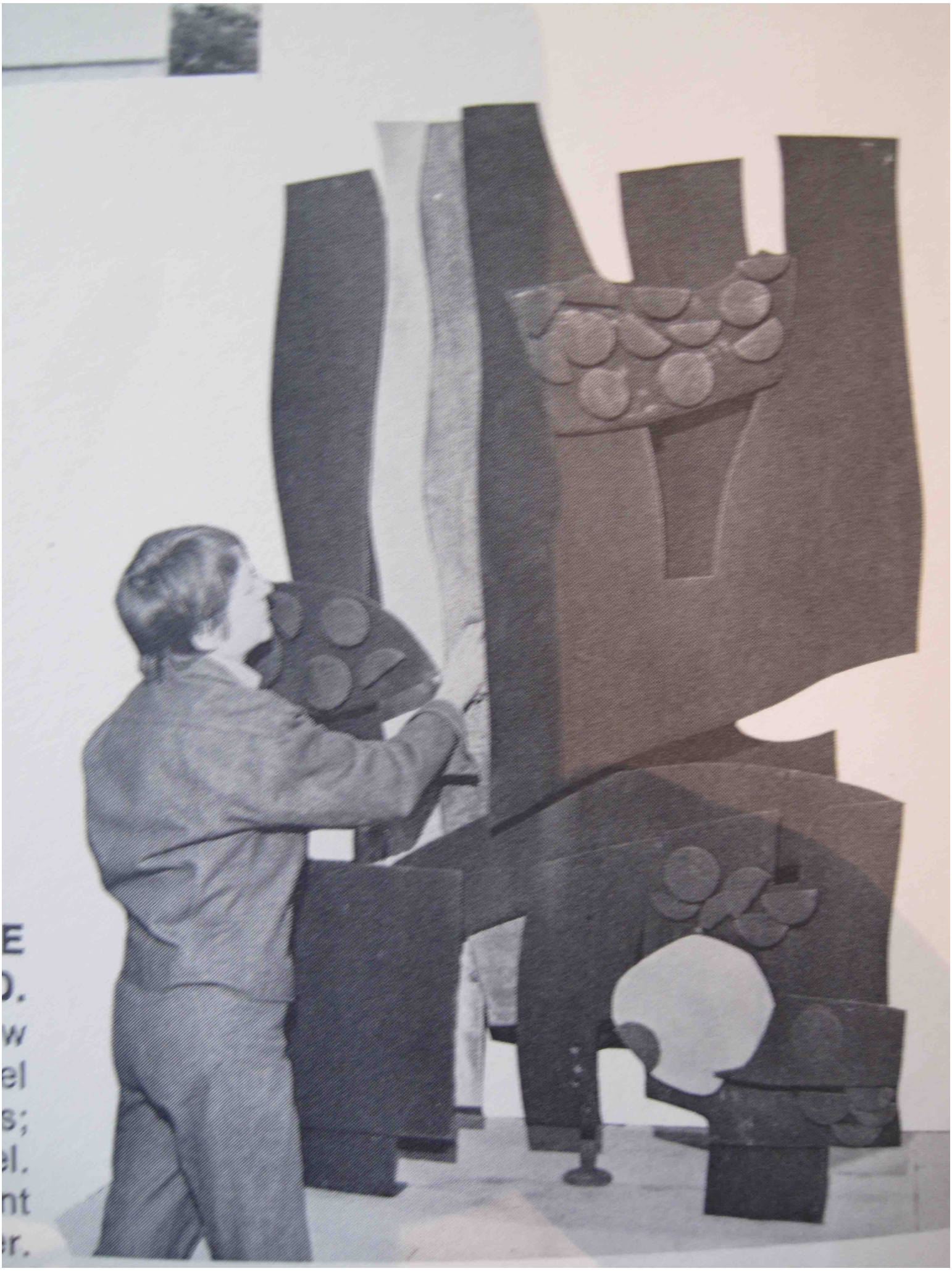

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SCAPE
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Provident
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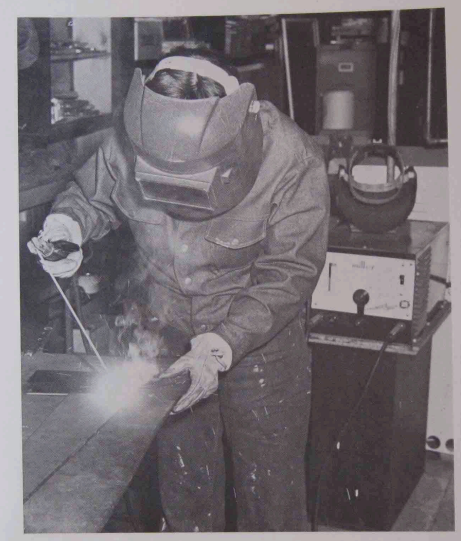
Maquette for a 15 foot fountain sculpture; water to spray from pipe bundles.

WORKS PROJECTED

Maquette for a sculpture to be 22 feet high.

Maquette for a 6 foot sculpture.



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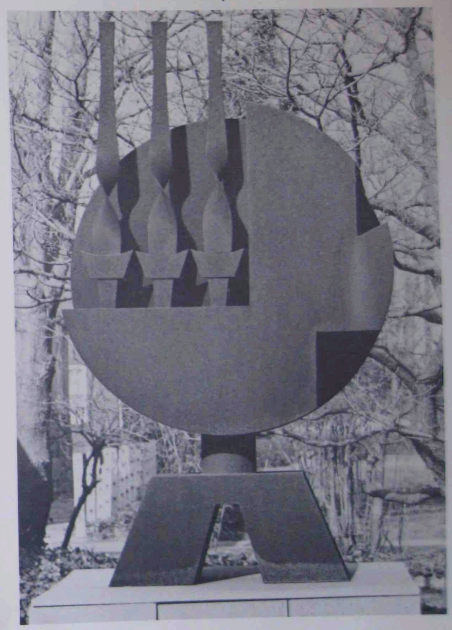

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City Art Museum, St. Louis
Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, Mass.
Contemporary Christian Art Gallery, Chicago
University of Delaware
Arts Club of Chicago
William Penn Museum, Harrisburg
Liturgical Arts Exhibit, Cleveland
North Jersey Cultural Council and others

IN PHILADELPHIA,

Civic Center
The Art Alliance
Cheltenham Art Center
Woodmere Art Gallery
McCleaf Gallery
Storelli Gallery
"Sculpture 75", Philadelphia Museum of Art Grounds
Temple University Music Festival Sculpture Exhibit
Walnut Street Theatre Gallery and others

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS include:

Dwight D. Eisenhower Foundation
Bloomsburg State College
American University
St. Simeon Church, Chicago
Holy Family Church, Chicago
Upper Moreland Junior High School
Christ Methodist Church, Washington, D.C.
Cardinal Muench Seminary, Fargo, N.D.
Fitzgerald Mausoleum, St. Louis
St. Augustine's Indian Mission, Winnebago, Neb.
St. Luke's Church, Germantown
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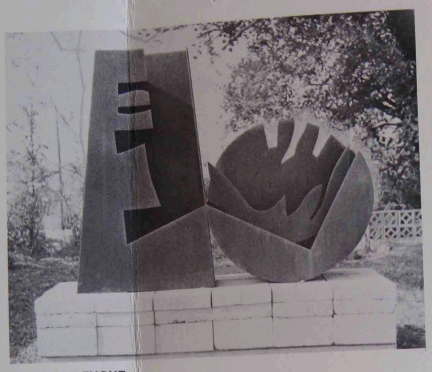

TWO-PART FUGUE
67" H. — 72" W. — 13½" D.
awarded the First Charles K. Smith Prize at Woodmere Art Gallery; shown by invitation during "Philadelphia '76" celebration at Benjamin Franklin Parkway; exhibited at the international Sculpture-In-The-Park exhibit, Paramus, N.J.

front cover:
MEMORIAL TO ECOLOGY
77" H. — 30" W. — 15" D.
Shown at Temple University Music Festival

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78" H. — 53" W. — 27" D.
Fountain Sculpture. Inspired by aerial view of landscape (up-ended). Stainless steel "river" and "lake" over which water flows; bronze "shore"; the rest, CorTen steel. Exhibited at one-man show, Provident National Bank, also at Civic Center.

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21" x 22" x 14"
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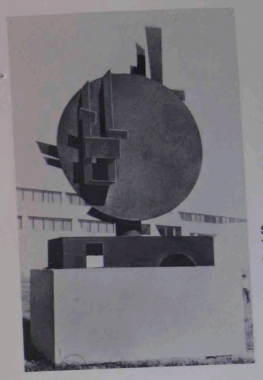

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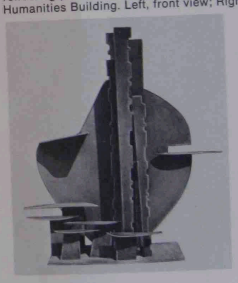
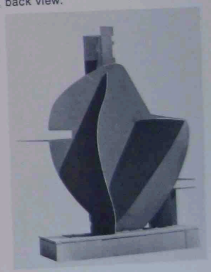
commissioned by North Jersey Cultural Council; in situ, Bergen Community College.

CLOUD, ROCKS AND REEDS 85" H. — 72" W. — 29" D.
purchased by Bloomsburg State College; installed as a fountain in a reflecting pool; now in situ in front of the Bakeless Center For The Humanities Building. Left, front view; Right, back view.





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ODELL PRATHER

ODELL PR

sculptu

reception p

sunday, march 25,

show continuing

LANGMAN G

218 old york rd., jenkin

"druid tower" bronze 18½"

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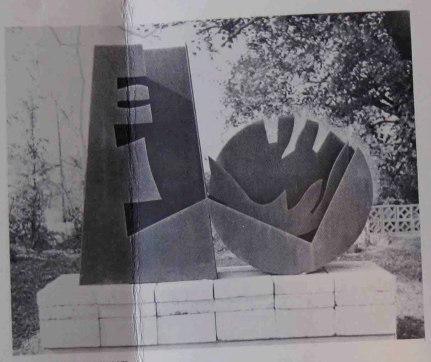

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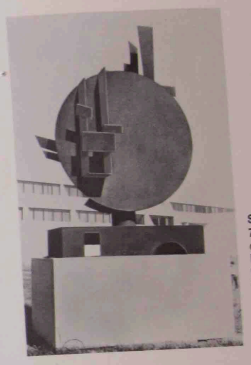

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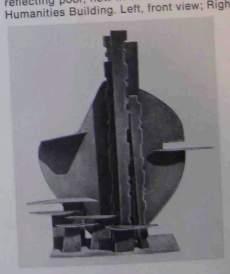

JAMES T. PREST
ATTORNEY AT LAW
901 TORREY BUILDING
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

TELEPHONE 722-1478
AREA CODE 218

November 8, 1973

Dr. Royal F. Shepard
Pilgrim Congregational Church
of Duluth
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Dr. Shepard:

As you well know, Arthur Roberts died on February 28, 1973. By Article III, Section 3 of Arthur's Will, he ordered and directed and did appoint the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) to be paid over to Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth, in memory and appreciation of two members of the church, Katherine M. Roberts and Mary M. Roberts. In making this bequest, he included in his Will the following statement:

> "Believing there is a place for beauty as well as good work in the world, I suggest but do not require that the sum hereby given to Pilgrim Congregational Church be used so far as it is possible to do so, to install a stained glass window, using glass similar to that now installed in the windows in the church vestibule, in the large window behind the choir in the west wall of the church sanctuary."

Enclosed herewith is Northern City National Bank's Check No. 30607, dated October 25, 1973, made payable to the order of Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth, in the amount of $25,000.00.

Very truly yours,

James T. Prest

JAMES T. PREST

JTP/jo
Encl.
CC: Mr. Lester Shervy
Mr. Henry Roberts
Mrs. Mary M. Roberts

LAW OFFICES
VAN EVERA, MUNDT, KOSKINEN, CLURE & ANDREW
SUITE 700 TORREY BUILDING
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

WILLIAM P. VAN EVERA
DANIEL H. MUNDT
DAVID J. KOSKINEN
THOMAS A. CLURE
THOMAS F. ANDREW

MARK T. SIGNORELLI

ARTHUR M. CLURE (1924-1956)
THOMAS M. McCABE (1924-1970)

AREA CODE 218
TELEPHONE 722-0528
CABLE ADDRESS
MCVANEV

January 7, 1974

Board of Trustees
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota

COPY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been asked to suggest terms under which the Trustees would place the Roberts bequest of $25,000 into the Second Century Fund under restriction which would tend to remind the congregation of Mr. Roberts' expressed intentions for the ultimate use of the funds and I suggest a Resolution be adopted by the Trustees along the lines of the enclosure, and that Henry Roberts be informed.

Yours very truly,

William P. Van Evera

WPVE:meb
cc: Dr. Royal Shepard
Enc.

P.S. Perhaps this Resolution should be presented to the Congregation at the annual meeting.

CONWAY

PHONE (507) 452-9209

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS INC.

OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P. O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

May 23, 1978

Mr. Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Mr. Shepard

I would like to make an appointment with you and your committee to come up and talk to you further about your window. Also, at that time, I can give you some possibilities as to doing a completely new window, or developing a design for part of the window; perhaps the central panels as you have indicated.

I think before I bring Mrs. Prather up, I would like to have a preliminary meeting with you. I would be available for a meeting anytime except the week of June 19. If you would let me know three or four days in advance, we can work around this.

Waiting to hear from you, I remain,

Sincerely yours

Larry Conway

LC/tb

DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN OF FINE MEDIEVAL AND MODERN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

November 6, 1978

Mr. Henry B. Roberts
2136 Lakeview Drive
Duluth, Minnesota 55803

Dear Henry:

COPY

It occurs to me as we move forward with respect to your father's bequest to the church, that it is about time that I brought you up to date on our progress.

The Board of Trustees appointed a committee last spring consisting of Dorothy Honigman, Charles Andresen and myself to investigate the feasibility of a window. Over the late spring and summer we interviewed representatives from five stained glass window companies in order to get their ideas in a general way as to what might be done and to determine costs. We also wanted to get some impression as to which firms seemed to have the most to offer. It was the conclusion of the committee that it would be possible to install a new window above the choir with the Roberts Fund, which now totals around $35,000. Undoubtedly, we could spend more, but it appears that the job could be done creditably for that amount and possible a little less. We were advised that in conjunction with the installation of a new window new protective glass should be installed.

The committee recommended to the Board of Trustees that preliminary designs and cost estimates be requested from four of the firms that we interviewed and that the committee be enlarged to include people from various parts of the church who have some architectural or artistic knowledge. The board has agreed to this suggestion by the committee. We have written to the four firms and we are in the process of enlarging the committee. It is part of the plan approved by the trustees that this larger committee will select one of the designs and one of the firms and present their recommendation to the board. If the board acts favorably upon this specific proposal they will then pass it on to the congregation for action.

In this way we feel that we shall have made a thorough investigation of the possibility of a window and will be in a position to present the congregation with a definite proposal that they can either approve or reject. Of course, the design would be preliminary and subject to modification were the congregation to approve our going ahead with the window.

So that is where we are. I hope that we shall have action by the church within the next three months. I cannot say what that action will be, but we are moving forward to bring about a decision.

Mary tells me that you are still looking for a spiritual home. Why don't you come and visit us some Sunday? I have no compunctions about proselytizing Episcopalians who used to be Congregationalists.

Sincerely yours,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

ODELL PRATHER

Artist

PHONE 215 - 635-0654

7444 FOURTH AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19126

November 17, 1978

Dr. Royal F. Shepard
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Shepard:

Thank you for sharing your time so generously with me this past Monday, and for airport transportation.

I have been doing some research on the history of the Congregational Church, and an idea has been forming which I believe will furnish an ideal subject for the large chancel window. I have become quite enthused about it. The subject grows out of one of the most outstanding functions of your church, extending backward in time to early colonial times, and forward to the present. It can also, I believe, avoid the pitfall of being too dominant.

I'd rather not divulge the subject until I've had a chance to reify it, because there are so many elements to consider in order to produce an overall harmony with the existing windows and architecture. I think it best to present the work in visual rather than verbal form.

Since you were inquiring about other work I have done in your area, I'm enclosing a list. You will find that quite a number of the churches listed are in your general vicinity.

It is my hope that your art committee will keep an open mind as to the subject matter for your chancel window, until I can present my design. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Odell Prather

Odell Prather

February 7, 1979

Mr. Henry B. Roberts
2136 Lakeview Drive
Duluth, Minnesota 55803

Dear Henry:

I would have written to you sooner, but I was told, perhaps incorrectly, that you were traveling away from the area. 1However, Dorothy Belt tells me that you were in the church recently.

I have a very embarrassing confession to make. Just before Christmas I received your very excellent letter in a mail that arrived very late in the afternoon. I read;your letter quickly and then put it in my pocket with the intention of taking it home to read again. Since that date I have been unable to locate it. I have communicated to the Board of Trustees and to the special Window Committee the gist of your letter as I remember it. However, if by any chance you kept a carbon copy I would very much appreciate receiving it. I am sure that at some time I shall come across your letter again, but it would be helpful if I could have the complete version to give to our trustees. Please excuse this lapse on my part. It was due to the confusion of that season.

Our enlarged committee is proceeding. I think our original committee probably made a mistake in asking the window companies to have their artists submit sketches, rather than working with an artist ourselves to arrive at a design and then assuming we used the design to be implemented, going to one of the window firms. However, we were all new at this activity and the stained glass people approach you always with the assumption that you will be using their artists. So far we have looked at two designs and have not responded very favorably to either. Two more should be forthcoming soon and it is possible that one of them will be more acceptable. If not, the committee may wish to formulate its own thinking more closely about a design before proceeding further. I should say that the chairperson of our committee is Betty Buchanan.

I sense that our committee is generally opposed to a window that has pictorial representations in it. I tend to go along with that feeling, especially if the representations are very large, but I have about come to the conclusion that while a simple design in several colors would be more interesting than what we have now, it would not be worth the expense. Perhaps the main deficiency of the decor of the sanctuary is the lack of specific symbolism related to both our larger Christian heritage and the particular denominational heritage of the church. The Tiffany windows are very beautiful and we treasure them. But they could just as well be in the public library, and the Tiffanys in the public library be in Pilgrim Church for all any of them have to say about our religious heritage. My feeling is

COPY

that if we put a new window up front it should say something about who we are in Pilgrim Church. I am inclined to feel that a window with one or more very simple symbols surrounded by a pattern of non-representational color might be the solution. Personally, I think an interesting approach would be simple to put into the center panel the official symbol of the United Church of Christ. The remainder of the window would then be quite plain though perhaps more varied in color than at the present time. I am going to throw this idea out to the committee. However, I am very conscious of the fact that your father was quite disturbed when we introduced a cross to the communion table. The UCC symbol does include a cross motif.

In any event we shall continue to pursue the feasibility of a window in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

RFS:dbb

cc. Mary Roberts
Betty Buchanan

ODELL PRATHER

Artist

PHONE 215 - 635-0654

7444 FOURTH AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19126

Description of the Chancel Window Design

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,Duluth, Minn.

Much of the church's history has been used as thematic material in the narthex windows. The theme of the chancel window design is also based on historicity, but from a different angle. The subject of this window is EDUCATION, as an extremely important part of the organized Christian work of the founding American Congregationalists. There is a most impressive record of the impact Congregationalists have had upon American institutions of higher learning. The church has founded so many famous colleges and universities, it seems to me that this important function should be celebrated.

I found a venerable book (published in 1894),"Congregationalists In America", by the Rev. Albert E. Dunning,D.D., containing pen and ink sketches of some of the university and college buildings. I selected a few of these buildings which could be simplified greatly into diagrammatic drawings; their selection hinged on the way they would combine esthetically as much as on any other factor. (In a later paragraph I shall list the buildings which were thus abstracted). The building diagrams are vignetted, arising from and fading into the background glass, to keep them from being too detailed or too dominant.

This building group is surrounded by flame-like forms which symbolize the flames of the Holy Spirit. On either side are the symbols of education, the oil lamp and the open book.

Near the bottom of the window flows the stream of Living Water, and at the far left and the far right are two tall trees which stand for the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge. At the top center of the principle panels is the symbol which represents the emblem of the United Church of Christ.

In the tracery there are a few more symbols. The Star of Incarnation is in the center quatrefoil at the top. The buildings indicated in the right and left portions of the tracery immediately above the main panels are symbolic of the Holy City, the New Jerusalem. (Esthetically, they form a balance for the buildings in the main panel.)

The colors have been chosen to harmonize with those in the existing windows. The rich reds, blues, golds and olive greens parallel the colors in the side windows. The light tints (which we think of as "whites" in glass) help to balance the light clerestories as well as some white cloud representations in the landscapes. The theme also harmonizes with the landscape windows of the nave, by using trees - not only the two symbolic ones, but also some of the native white birches.

The historic colleges and universities represented here by the diagrammatic drawings, are as follows:

Bottom: Osborn Hall, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Just above Yale, at the right (counterclockwise): Memorial Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Top right: Library, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.

Upper left: Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass.

Center (in back of Harvard): Peters Hall, Oberlin College, Oberlin,O.

Left(below Mount Holyoke): a portion of Mather Hall, Olivet College, Olivet, Mich.

These buildings are not realistically rendered; if they had been, they would have lost their character as symbols. A few main features have been used , abstracted as it were, in order to represent the part which the church has played in fostering education. It has furnished one of the principal foundation stones of American life.

Odell Prather

Odell Prather

HENRY B. ROBERTS
2136 LAKEVIEW DRIVE
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55803
PHONE: 218/724-7155

June 7, 1979

Mrs. Betty Buchanan
Chairman, Special Window Committee
Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 E. 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Betty:

I am deeply pleased and honored that you and Dr. Shepard invited me to view the drawing of the prospective chancel window design.

You asked my opinion of the drawing and in answer I will say again it is not my desires which are important, but that the intent of my father be carried out as far as is possible in conjunction with the needs of Pilgrim Congregational Church. Included with my father's will was his statement that:

> "Believing there is a place for beauty as well as good work in the world, I suggest but do not require that the sum hereby given to Pilgrim Congregational Church be used so far as it is possible to do so, to install a stained glass window, using glass similar to that now installed in the windows in the church vestibule, and a large church window behind the choir in the west wall of the church sanctuary."

Having said this, I will now comment that I find the drawing deeply pleasing and believe that my father would find it a deeply moving tribute to the church and to Katherine M. Roberts and Mary M. Roberts. Although I am no longer a member of the Congregational Church, I think the drawing captures one of the essential pillars of the church, education. The drawings of the college buildings capture this and include Oberlin College which my mother Katherine Roberts attended, Mount Holyoke which Mary Roberts attended and Northland College which both my mother and father supported. The flame like forms of the Holy Spirit, the stream of living water and other symbols capture the essence of the living church.

After our meeting I again returned to the church and viewed the drawing with sunlight falling upon it and in conjunction with the windows in the church sanctuary. The colors of the drawing harmonize with the windows along the walls and become a part of the feeling of the church sanctuary.

Arthur Roberts was a firm believer and practicer of the democratic way of life. It would please him that you, Betty, Dr. Shepard, and the special window committee have spent such effort and found such a talented artist in Odell Prather. Were he here, I am sure he would be a strong advocate in support of the window, but in the final analysis, he would accept the democratic decision of the church membership voicing its will. I look forward to and whole heartedly accept whatever that decision may be.

Once again I thank you personally and on the behalf of my father, Arthur Roberts, for your thoughtful consideration of his bequest.

Sincerely yours,

Henry B. Roberts

Henry B. Roberts

HBR:jl

CC: Dr. Royal Shepard, Jr.
Mary M. Roberts

Northern City National Bank
306 WEST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55801 PHONE 218/722-3301
CABLE ADDRESS: NORCITY
TRUST DEPARTMENT

June 13, 1979

Dr. Royal F. Shepard
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Re: Pilgrim Congregational Church Agency

Dear Dr. Shepard:

Jesse Bradley met with me yesterday to discuss the Arthur Roberts Fund and requested that I write to you and the Board of Trustees to review the investment position of the Fund.

The original bequest of $25,000 was used to purchase a $25,000 General Foods Corp. Note (cost = $23,906) and a $1,094 participation in our Northwest Bancorporation Variable-Amount Note (VAN). On June 1, 1979, the Fund consisted of the following:

		Market Value
1.)	General Foods Corp. Note, 7.50% due 3-01-84	$23,250.
2.)	Original purchase of Northwest Bancorp. VAN	1,094.
3.)	Accumulated interest from General Foods Note (invested in Northwest Bancorp. VAN)	9,536.
4.)	Interest earned on item 2 and on reinvestment of interest from items 2 and 3 in Northwest Bancorp. VAN	2,121.
		$36,001.

The market value of the General Foods Corp. Note has declined slightly from its cost due to rising interest-rate levels during the past several years.

Dr. Royal F. Shepard June 13, 1979

Mr. Bradley informed me that a church window was being purchased and that a large part of the Fund would be used within three months. We then discussed whether the General Foods Corp. Note should be sold now, with the proceeds being invested in the Northwest Bancorp. VAN (currently paying 9.97%, but subject to change daily), or later when the funds are needed. Since there is no clear indication as to the direction of interest rates in the near future, the market price of the General Foods Note could go in either direction over the next three months. My feeling is that it will probably remain at about the current level.

The General Foods Note is currently priced at about 9.75% to maturity. That is, by selling it now you would be giving up a 9.75% yield to the 1984 maturity date in favor of a variable interest rate in the Northwest Bancorp. VAN. While the current VAN rate is 9.97%, it will probably decline significantly within the next year. Apparently you will have at least $10,000 remaining in the Fund after purchasing the window. Therefore, I suggest that we sell $15,000 of the $25,000 General Foods Note now, placing the proceeds in Northwest Bancorp. VAN, and retain the remaining $10,000 Note as a permanent investment for the Fund.

I will await the Board of Trustees' decision in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Jared C. Scofield

JCS/fc

Jared C. Scofield
Trust Investment Officer

Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street Duluth, Minnesota 55812
Telephone 218—724-8503

Royal F. Shepard, Jr., Th. D.
Minister

Elsie Jean Austin
Director of Christian Education

Dorothy B. Belt
Church Secretary

June 19, 1979

Mr. Jared C. Scofield
Trust Officer
Northern City National Bank
306 W. Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55801

Dear Mr. Scofield:

Thank you for your letter with regard to the distribution of the Arthur Roberts Fund. Your recommendation sounds reasonable. However, there is one consideration that might affect the advisability of retaining $10,000 in the General Foods Note: It is quite likely that we shall wish to expend the balance of the Fund before 1984.

As you know, The Roberts Fund differs from the Second Century Fund in that it was not intended to be a long term endowment trust. We have looked upon this as a temporary investment during the time that the church was considering how best to expend Mr. Roberts' bequest. Now that the decision has been made to use a major share of it for the window, there is a good possibility that within the next year the Board of Trustees will wish to spend the balance on one or more other projects.

I shall pass copies of your letter on to Mr. Andresen, Chairman of our Board of Trustees, and to Mr. Eaton, who has been asked by the Board to oversee our invested funds. Hopefully, the Board can come to a decision regarding your suggestions at their meeting on July 9th.

Thank you again for your careful attention to our interests.

Sincerely yours,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

cc: Charles Andresen
Robert Eaton

ODELL PRATHER

Artist

PHONE 215 - 635-0654

7444 FOURTH AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19126

June 27, 1979

Royal F. Shepard,Jr.,TH.D.,Minister
Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Dr. Shepard:

Thank you very much for the kind words of approval in your letter of June 18.

In regard to the two further changes you requested, I shall be able to substitute Jubilee Hall of Fisk University for the Dartmouth building, although with some difficulty. It is, as you observed, a very horizontal building. It is also extremely complex, due to the many gables. Of course this building will have to be simplified greatly, as have all the others, and the many gables make this a problem. However, in experimenting with tracing paper sketch overlays, I see how this can be accomplished without doing too much violence to the design. I am sympathetic to this change, not as an artist, but as a long term supporter of civil rights.

I must beg your indulgence, however, in regard to the other suggested change - the substitution of Connecticut Hall for Osborne Hall. This reluctance on my part is not due to any unwillingness to cooperate fully, but to the fact that the shape of Osborne Hall is perfect for its position at the lower apex of the form which encloses the buildings. I cannot resist expressing my feeling that none of the changes has benefitted the design; rather, I feel that the whole is somewhat less aesthetic than the original.

I realize fully, though, that considerations other than the aesthetic must sometimes take precedence in commissioned work, but there is a limit to the line of balance between the aesthetic and the other. I thank you for allowing me the privilege of retaining the original in this one case. At any rate, historicity can still be served; there was once an Osborne Hall, and it must therefore remain as part of Yale's historic past.

The noted art critic, Clement Greenberg, has summed up an art credo which is difficult to live up to in commissioned work(but I keep trying to). He writes: "Art may provide other things but if it does so at the cost of aesthetic value it deprives humanity of what is uniquely art's to give. Art that does this is not forgiven in the end, and the refusal to forgive asserts and confirms the autonomy of art - or, as it's time to say, the autonomy of aesthetic value."

Thank you for giving me the freedom to draw a final limit to changes made, by your sensitized understanding.

Sincerely,

Odell Prather

Odell Prather

cc: Conway Studio

I'm enclosing a folder and a photo of some of my sculpture. Doing so is apropos only in that it shows that the serious artist who does commissioned work must also create his own art as an antidote -

O.P.

STATEMENT

Conway Universal Studios

503 CENTER STREET
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

PHONE (507) 452-9209

DATE Oct. 4, 1979

Pilgrim Congregational Church
Duluth, MN

DESCRIPTION	CHARGES
Window	$24,375.00
Down payment	8,125.00
Balance due	$16,250.00
Withhold $2,500 for lexan covering	2,500.00
Balance due	$13,750.00

HENRY B. ROBERTS
2136 LAKEVIEW DRIVE
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55803
PHONE: 218/724-7155

October 20, 1979

Mrs. Betty Buchanan
Chairman
Window Committee
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 E. 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Mrs. Buchanan:

I wish to thank you and the window committee for your long deliberations over the bequest of my father, Arthur Roberts. You carried out a difficult task and discovered one of the finest artists in the country to design the most beautiful window now in place in Pilgrim Church. As I have said before, I have no doubt that my father would be pleased beyond expression.

I trust that I may from time to time pause at Pilgrim Church and contemplate the scenes of the window. I feel their meanings will grow with time.

I am pleased that there are some remaining funds which can be used for the financial needs of the Church. Thus the Church shall have its beauty and be able to provide for some practical necessities.

Sincerely yours,

Henry B. Roberts

HBR:jl

October 29, 1979

Mr. Larry Conway
Conway Universal Studios
503 Center Street
P.O. Box 4
Winona, MN 55907

Dear Larry:

Your father may have told you that I called some days ago with regard to the lexon glass to be placed outside the new window. We feel that the window complete more than fulfills our expectations, and we were very pleased to have Odell Prather here at the dedication. Our one concern relates to the brightness of the window on sunny days in mid-afternoon. We were not much concerned about this problem in advance because we knew that the sun would not be on that side of the church during most services and events. However, depending on the time of year, the people attending an afternoon funeral or wedding might find the blinding light uncomfortable. In talking with your foreman Jerry and also with your father, I learned that it is possible to install a darkened lexon that will cut down on brightness in some degree without altering color.

Assuming that the difference in cost is not extreme, I believe that we would like to install the darkened sort of lexon. In any case, I am concerned that the protective glass be put on soon. Jerry mentioned that once the cold weather came, the work could not be done. A new window may attract vandals, and for this reason as well as for others, we would like to get the lexon in place as soon as possible. Would you please write or call me about the color options with regard to the lexon and when you think it might be installed.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Minister

RFS/cl

COPY

CONWAY

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS INC.

PHONE (507) 452-9209

OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P. O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

November 6, 1979

Reverend Royal F. Shepard, jr.
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Pastor Shepard, Jr.

I am happy that you are satisfied with your window. I am anxious to see it myself.

In regard to the brightness, you can incorporate a lexan that would diffuse the bright light if it is not comfortable. It is a solar bronze panel that has helped if there are problems as you mentioned. It is extremely expensive as compared to the regular lexan. This material would cost you $700, so this is something that you would have to consider. Also, it takes a while for us to order it, probably 60 days. If we got a break in the weather, I don't think that it would be a problem to still get it on for you if we are not doing any painting just going according to stone.

Thanking you.

I Remain Sincerely yours,

Larry Conway

Larry Conway

LC/ss

DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN OF FINE MEDIEVAL AND MODERN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Yale University Library
New Haven Connecticut 06520

Donald Brown Engley
Associate University Librarian

November 16, 1979

Mr. Wildey H. Mitchell
Alworth Building
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

Thank you for sending us the material concerning Yale's Osborn Hall in the Pilgrim Congregational Church in Duluth. We very much appreciate your thoughtfulness. It is being forwarded to the University Archivist for inclusion with other records concerning Osborn Hall.

Sincerely yours,

Donald B. Engley Jr.

Donald B. Engley
Associate University Librarian

DBE/jkw
cc: Judith Schiff (with enclosures)

November 19, 1979 - Xerox copy mailed to Mrs. Arthur Roberts
Xerox copy mailed to Pilgrim Congregational Church, Attention Rev. Royal F. Shepard

Wildey H Mitchell

November 21, 1979

Librarian
Fisk University
17th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37203

Dear Friend:

Recently our church installed a new stained glass window emphasizing the theme of the contribution of the Congregational churches to higher education. The artist who designed the window, Odell Prather of Philadelphia, conceived the idea of including vignettes of early buildings on the campuses of several colleges founded by the Congregational churches in the center panel of the window. The artist worked from sketches in Dunning's "Congregationalists in America", a book that appeared in the 1890's. Some of the selections of colleges are hers, but we asked her to make some changes that would be appropriate to the interests of the late Arthur Roberts who donated the funds for the window. It was decided that we should include Jubillee Hall of Fisk University because of Mr. Roberts' interest in racial justice and also in the colleges that were represented recently in the 17/76 fund.

Enclosed is the artists description of the window. We thought that you would like to have this information for your records.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Minister

RFS/cl

November 21, 1979

COPY

Librarian
Mount Holyoke College
South Hadley, MA 01075

Dear Friend:

Recently our church installed a new stained glass window centered in the theme of the contribution of the Congregational churches to higher education. The window was designed by Odell Prather of Philadelphia, who used sketches from Dunning's "Congregationalists in America" of buildings of colleges founded under Congregational auspices. One of these buildings vignetted in the center panel of our window is the early Mt. Holyoke building pictured on page 384 of Dunning's book.

It happens that the widow of the late Arthur Roberts who donated the funds for the window is an alumnus of your school. Her maiden name was McGonagle. She was later married to Dr. Tibbetts and following some years after his death was married to Mr. Roberts. She is an ardent alumnus of Mt. Holyoke and not long ago returned for the 50th anniversary of her graduation. The window is partly in memory of her, and partly in memory of Mr. Roberts' first wife who was a graduate of Oberlin College.

We thought that you would like to have this information for your records.

Sincerely yours,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Minister

RFS/cl

November 21, 1979

Librarian
Oberlin College
Oberlin, Ohio 44074

Dear Friend:

Recently our church installed a new stained glass window designed by Odell Prather of Philadelphia and dedicated to the theme of the contribution of the Congregational churches to higher education. The pictures in the center of the window are early buildings from colleges founded by the Congregational churches. Among these is Peters Hall of Oberlin College.

The donor of the funds for the window was the late Arthur Roberts of this community. The window is a memorial in part to Mr. Roberts' first wife, the late Katherine Matter Roberts, who was a graduate of Oberlin College.

We thought that you might like to have this information for your records.

Sincerely,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Minister

RFS/cl

OBERLIN COLLEGE ARCHIVES
OBERLIN, OHIO 44074

November 27, 1979

Rev. Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Pilgrim Congregational Church
of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minn, 55812

Dear Mr. Shepard:

Your recent letter and clipping reporting the installing of the new stained glass window designed for your church have been sent on to us and we are delighted to have them. It was indeed thoughtful of you send them. It is the first time we have received word of this sort of thing, and we plan to file your letter and the clipping with our file on Peters Hall which is still in use. It was dedicated in January 1887.

It interested me to see that the window is in part the memorial to Katherine Matter Roberts who was a member of the Class of 1922. I have several good friends from that class and shall be sure to mention this stained glass window when I see or write to my friends. I shall also call it to the attention of my niece, Mrs. Gilbert G. Smith, III and her family who live in a Duluth suburb.

With all good wishes for your important work, and appreciation for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Gertrude Jacob
Miss Gertrude Jacob

Williston Memorial Library
MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE
South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075
Telephone 413 538-2225

November 28, 1979

Dr. Royal R. Shepard, Jr., Minister
Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Dr. Shepard:

How thoughtful of you to send us the clipping about the new stained glass window at the Pilgrim Congregational Church at Duluth which features Mount Holyoke's early building, and the information that it honors our alumna, Mary Mc Gonagle Tibbetts Roberts. This is a very touching tribute on the part of the late Arthur Roberts to the memory of both his wives and their respective alma maters.

We are delighted to have this information to add to our historical and alumnae records.

Sincerely yours,

Anne C. Edmonds
Librarian

ACE:jc

December 21, 1978

Board of Trustees
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East 4th Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55812

Dear Board Members:

Reverend Royal Shepard has requested that I indicate my desires with respect to the use of the funds left to the Church by my father, Arthur Roberts. In answer, I do not think it is my desires which are important, but that the intent of my father be carried out as far as is possible in conjunction with the needs of Pilgrim Congregational Church.

> Article III, Section 3 of my father's will stated "...I order and direct and do hereby appoint that the sum of $25,000 be paid over to Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth in memory and appreciation of two members of that Church, Katherine M. Roberts and Mary M. Roberts,..."

In making this bequest my father included in his will the following statement:

> "Believing there is a place for beauty as well as good work in the world, I suggest but do not require that the sum hereby given to Pilgrim Congregational Church be used so far as it is possible to do so, to install a stained glass window, using glass similar to that now installed in the windows in the Church vestibule, and a large Church window behind the choir in the west wall of the Church sanctuary."

If I were to interpret my father's wishes, I believe he realized the divergent demands, financial and otherwise, which are made upon the Church body, and yet he also had an appreciation of beauty and tradition. I think it was his intention to add to the beauty of the Church, but if the Church body felt otherwise or if financial demands became of paramount importance, the Church was free to weigh the issues and make its own decision.

I am sure that my father would be pleased with the sincere efforts the Church is making to carry out his bequest. I understand that several firms are submitting prospective designs for a stained glass window behind the choir. I also understand that a special committee has been formed to consider the proposals and that eventually the Board of Trustees or perhaps the Church itself will decide upon the use of the bequest.

Without doubt the Church has thrown itself wholeheartedly into an issue which can be resolved in a number of ways. The needs of the Church are many and the opinions of people diverse. I look forward to the decision of the Church with anticipation, and am confident that I can abide by the outcome.

Certainly heartfelt thanks should be expressed to all of the Church who have spent long hours in approaching a decision. I am sure my father would join me in expressing appreciation and thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Henry B. Roberts
HBR:jl
CC: Mrs. Mary M. Roberts

FISK UNIVERSITY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

Office of Librarian

January 10, 1980

The Reverend Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Minister
Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Rev. Shepard:

Thank you kindly for your recent letter and for enclosing a clipping of the stained glass window in your church which includes Jubilee Hall in the design. We are especially grateful to you and to your congregation for the attention which you have given to Fisk. We respect your concern for Mr. Roberts' interest in racial justice. His interest parallels Fisk's long and continuing concern for wholesome race relations.

President Walter J. Leonard joins me in expressing appreciation to you and your congregation for selecting Jubilee Hall as a part of the window's design.

Sincerely yours,

Jessie Carney Smith

(Mrs.) Jessie Carney Smith
University Librarian

hap

cc: President Leonard

Ms. Ann Allen Shockley
Associate Librarian/Public Services

CONWAY

PHONE (507) 452-9209

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS INC.

OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P. O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

January 30, 1980

Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Pastor Shepard:

We have not forgotten you need. We are waiting for the weather to get better. We have to have it 35° or warmer out so that the silicone can set up.

Thanking you for past favors.

I Remain sincerely yours,

Larry Conway

Larry Conway

LC/ss

DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN OF FINE MEDIEVAL AND MODERN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

CONWAY
UNIVERSAL
STUDIOS INC.
OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P.O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

April 22, 1980

Mr. Larry Conway
Conway Universal Studios, Inc.
503 Center Street
P.O. Box 4
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Larry:

I want to remind you again that we are looking for you to install the protective lexan outside our new window. A good deal of time has elapsed now, and our board feels that this task should be completed. Since I will be leaving the country for several months, I would like to have the work completed before I go. Would you please let me know within a few days when the installation will be made.

There is one other item with which you might help us. Our Tiffany windows are insured for $6,000. each. Although we realize that they cannot be duplicated, we doubt that they could be replaced by a process imitating as near as possible the original installation for such an amount. Would you have an opinion as to what the square footage replacement cost for such a window would be?

Sincerely yours,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

RFS/cl

COPY
DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN OF FINE MEDIEVAL AND MODERN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

CONWAY

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS INC.

PHONE (507) 452-9209

OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P. O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

April 24, 1980

Pastor Royal Shepard, Jr.
Pilgrim Congregational Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Pastor Shepard, Jr.:

We are finishing up some work in Iowa and plan to have your work completed by the middle of May.

On those Tiffany windows, this is a tough question. There are a number of ways of looking at it. The windows could be duplicated if we had something to copy them from, perhaps a sketch or if one of them was broken, the broken pieces of glass.

I don't think I could put a price of them as I have no idea how to arrive at it by a square footage replacement cost. If you have them insured for $6,000 I think that is ample, but who is to say. I would suggest that you would cover them from the exterior with lexan. It is unbreakable. It would insure against vandalism from the exterior.

Thanking you.

I Remain sincerely yours,

Larry Conway

Larry Conway

LC/ss

DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSMEN OF FINE MEDIEVAL AND MODERN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

May 12, 1981

Mr. Larry Conway
Conway Universal Studios
Box 4
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Mr. Conway:

Near the center of the large window that you installed in our church there are two sections of what appear to be clear glass. From time to time people have suggested to me that perhaps a mistake was made there, and that the glass should be the same color as the surrounding area. Some time ago I checked some colored slides that were made at the time of the window's installation and it appeared to me that the clear glass area was present from the very beginning, and that nothing had dropped out of that section.

However, I wonder myself whether an error may have been made at that point. Perhaps some time when you are in the area, or one of your workers, you could take a look at the window again and let us point out to you the place in question. It may be that you still possess the original artist's transparency of the total window and could check that against the finished product. We would appreciate your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.

RS/cl

CONWAY
UNIVERSAL STUDIOS INC.

PHONE (507) 452-9209

OFFICES AND STUDIO
503 CENTER STREET
P. O. BOX 4
WINONA, MINN. 55987

May 19, 1981

Royal F. Shepard, Jr.
Pilgrim Congregation Church
2310 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55812

Dear Royal:

From your letter of May 12, 1981, I have examined our design and there are 2 sections of glass that appear clear, but this is part of the design. It would be difficult for me at this time to make a comment without first taking a look at the window itself.

I haven't been in the Duluth area for a while, but I will make it a point to stop, and if we are in error, I will certainly correct it.

Thanking you for past favors.

I Remain sincerely yours,

Larry Conway

Larry Conway

LC/ss

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