

No 3492

Place Reading, Massachusetts,

Building First Congregational Church, Woburn St.\*

Date of ~~April 1~~ <sup>June</sup> 1, 1954. (9/9/53)  
Completion

Mrs. Howard J. Alling, Donor.

*By for sale 1953 1/17/53 4/23/53*

Persons Interested Correspondence to be with Mr. Albion E. Metcalf, Home: 16 Longview Road, Reading. Tel. Reading 2-1123. Studio at 33 Newbury St., Boston, Tel. Ken. 6-8258 - where he is on Tuesday and Friday.

Minister Dr. Paul Sheldon.

Denomination Congregational.

Architect Adden, Parker, Clinch and Crimp, Boston. (Mr. Clinch).

Retain vents in outer panels, omit upper vents in Vents. 2 center panels.

Price: \$6000. (\$44.80)

*Keep Confidential*  
*Profit .08 7/8 %*  
*\$516.83*

Position East  
in Church West transept window, Faces Sanborn St.

Height from floor About 6 feet. Protection Glass.

Groove Rabbet. Metal Stone Wood.

Exposure East.

Footage 134 feet

Inscription None in window - to be on bronze plate below.

We ordered brass plate from McGann, with oxidized finish to look like bronze - with cream-filled letters: "In Memory of James Wilson Grimes."

Design wanted soon. Donor coming to Boston in May to see design. For meeting early in June.

Staging

Templates

Blueprints

General Information \*just out of the Square.

This is to be kept confidential - especially the price. Do not disclose even to church authorities. Design is to be approved not only by Mrs. Alling, but also by the Church Architect, and the Church Committee.

The window is to be in memory of Mrs. Alling's first husband - the Honorable Mr. Grimes, who was a lawyer in Reading, also a representative - a man mixed up in community affairs, - one of the Board of Trustees at the First National Bank Reading. The Grimes never had any family, much to their disappointment, so a Christmas Window was proposed. Perhaps include some symbol of Mr. Grimes profession - lawyer?

The donor is very fond of blue. Does not like medallion type.

First make a rough sketch to show Mr. Metcalf, then carry further for approval of donor and architect and church authorities.

Design for the East Transept Window,  
The Grimes Memorial  
The First Congregational Church,  
Reading, Massachusetts.

Charles J. Connick Associates

This entire composition is designed as a Christmas Window, - the Incarnation of Our Lord.

His Nativity is represented in the two central panels, with Mary the Mother and the Christ Child in the Manger at the left, and Joseph with his traditional flowering staff at the right.

Above the Child is the Star of Bethlehem, shedding rays of light downward to the thatched roof, suggesting the humble setting.

In the outer panel at the left are three shepherds with the lamb; and at the right, the three kings bearing their gifts.

In the central tracery members are herald angels; while flames of heavenly zeal are suggested in the smaller pieces.

The field is enriched in growing conventional vine pattern, flowering in the red rose of Divine Love; while the blue border, patterned in cloud forms, is accented with stars of heavenly steadfastness.

The entire composition is kept brilliant and luminous, although the over-all palette is rich and colorful.

In the lower portion, small symbols of the Scales of Justice and the Lamp of Truth and Enlightenment suggest the great Christian principles as related to the one in whose memory the window is dedicated.

This small scale color sketch is designed to represent color and light in action, and all the exquisite detail of line and form is left for development in the full size drawings and the actual glass.

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This window is envisioned as a possible beginning for a series that could be developed through the nave in significant events in the life of Our Lord, culminating in the Ascension which could be beautifully designed to complement and balance it in the opposite transept.