

United Memorial Church

KAYE STREET

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

MINISTER:

REV. NORMAN C. MARPLE, B.A., M.DIV.
5350 YOUNG STREET
455-2774



123 1235-00
J & MACLENNAN
KAYE STREET
455-2774

October 17, 1979

City of Halifax,
Real Estate Division, P.O. Box 1749,
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5

Attention: Mr. Woods

Dear Sir:

The following items are as recorded in the minutes of meetings of United Memorial Church:

From Congregational Meeting, August 11, 1975 'Proposal #2 - As a memorial, the bells could be removed and placed on a cement slab in front of or to one side of the Church'. 'Bill Orr then reported on an interview he had with Mrs. T. W. Thompson, the donor of the bells. Because of the problems arising from the structural failings of the tower, Mrs. Thompson agreed the bells could be removed and sold: the proceeds from the sale of the bells to be donated to the Church for revenue. It was suggested a smaller bell could be purchased and a suitable plaque affixed to commemorate the original donation.'

From Official Board Meeting, March 31, 1976 'Mr. Marple reported on a letter received from Alderman Sullivan to the effect that the city could not afford to purchase the bells, and suggested as an alternate proposition that he and Alderman Walker might raise funds to buy the bells privately and donate them to the city. This idea did not appear to be favorably looked upon by the meeting. Rev. Mr. Marple suggested that an ad for the sale of the bells be placed in the United Church Observer and this was agreed to. Roy Wilson suggested a price of \$25,000 would be a reasonable basis for negotiating a sale, with some flexibility between \$20,000 - \$25,000. Motion to this effect was made by Annie Grant, seconded by Dorothy Currie and carried.'

From Official Board Meeting, December 4, 1976 'Harry Eisnor reported that there was nothing new on a buyer for the bells. After some discussion it was agreed that if the Wolfville Baptist Church was interested in buying them that we would offer them for \$10,000, this payment to be spread over a period of from 5 to 10 years, with some down payment. This was moved by Roy Wilson, seconded by George

cont'd

SITE

Mitchell, Development Control

Woods, Real Estate

October 2nd, 1979

Millon Bells-United Memorial Church

This will confirm our meeting of October 1, at Fort Needham, on the above subject.

It was generally agreed at the meeting that the most appropriate site for placement of the bells on Fort Needham would be in the northern most section of the hill, approximately 100-150 feet north of the fence surrounding the playing field.

This site was so considered as it is a fairly flat area which is presently undeveloped and would expand the usable area of the hill. It would be possible, at the same time, to relocate the memorial on the southern section.

The site was also considered as it would be the farthest distant point from any of the houses in the immediate area and hence would be less disruptive to the neighbourhood.

It was agreed that Local Planning and Design would start working on the design criteria for a structure to house the bells to be used as a basis for my report to Council. At the same time, Recreation will look at the overall positioning of the play areas as they now exist with a view to possibly extending the soccer pitch southward to alleviate its present intrusion on the ball diamond at the northern end.

Mr. Murray is also to confirm to this Division that the site indicated per our meeting, is acceptable to the Recreation Department so that an approximate area can be designated in my report.

In the meantime, I will be investigating the costs of electrification of the bells at the suggested site as well as costs of relocation from the church site to the top of the hill.

MPW/sfs
C.C. N. Murray


M.P. Woods
Development Assistant

SITE.



M. P. Woods, Real Estate

1. FOLLOW UP

N. R. Murray, Recreation

2. FOLLOW UP

October 9, 1979

3. FOLLOW UP

cc: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

4. COMPLETION DATE

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In reference to your memo of October 2, 1979, we feel that the site most appropriate would be at the Northernmost end of Fort Needham - we will have to ensure that our point of installation is equidistant from residences in the area or if we could have more information as to the sound level created we may be able to consider this factor in the proposed structure to house the bells.

Playfield extensions would be orientated to the Southern portion of the site and this aspect will be carefully orchestrated with this proposed project.

N. R. Murray, Supt.
Research & Development - Recreation

CC: Howard J. Oehmen

TO: His Worship the Mayor

FROM: G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

DATE: November 30, 1983

SUBJECT: The Memorial Bells - Fort Needham

The Memorial Bells were donated to the United Memorial Church by Mrs. T.W. Thompson as a memorial to her family, the Orrs, who perished during the 1917 explosion. The bells were presented by Mrs. Thompson (nee Barbara Orr) in 1920, but the opening ceremony was not held until 1921 at which time Mrs. Thompson played the carillon.

The bells were made by the Meneely Company, an American firm. They were erected atop the church tower and stayed there until 1975, although the bells were inoperational since 1965. It was discovered in 1975 that the sheer weight of the bells and the vibrations they had produced had caused structural damage to the church tower.

In 1975 the bells were removed and kept under canvas on the church lawn until July 26, 1983, when they were removed to the naval gun factory in Dartmouth for storage and refurbishing. Since the bells were removed in 1975 the church congregation and interested citizens have worked to find an alternate arrangement for the bells.

Members of the congregation of the United Memorial Church first considered selling the bells and using the proceeds to purchase a smaller set of bells with the rest of the money going towards the Church revenues. Mrs. Thompson was contacted and approved.

The bells were first advertised in 1976 for \$25,000, but the Church fathers decided they would accept \$20,000. Between 1976 and 1978 the only viable offer was made by the Wolfville Baptist Church. The Wolfville congregation offered \$10,000 for the bells.

Early in 1976, Aldermen Sullivan and Walker had offered to raise money for the purchase of the bells with the intent that they would donate the bells to the City. This idea was turned down by the congregation in 1976 but by 1979 the Church approached City officials to see if the City would want to purchase the bells directly. Due to the cost of buying the bells and the eventual cost of the re-installation, City officials, at that time, agreed to consider the cost of the project as long as the bells were donated to the City. By January 1980, the church trustees had concurred.

2.....

When the City first considered allocating funds for the bell structure, it was anticipated \$40,000 would be needed (see report November 27, 1979). During the Capital Budget discussions for 1980, \$40,000 was set aside for the relocation. Although all discussions of the bell relocation were tentative at this time, a site on the southern end of Fort Needham was purposed as being ideal for the carillon (see enclosed site diagram). This proposed site was never discussed before Council, although the matter of the Fort Needham site was raised at a Finance and Executive meeting on July 23, 1980.

At this time Alderman Sullivan mentioned the Ford Needham site, in passing, as he recommended that the City approach the other two levels of government for funding. This recommendation was put before Council on July 31, 1980, the matter was passed. Letters were sent to Mr. Edmund Morris, the MLA for Halifax Needham, and Mr. Gerald Regan, MP for the Halifax Riding. Though both letters were acknowledged, no confirmation was made by either Mr. Morris or Mr. Regan (so far as we know).

The only further mention of financing the project was Mr. Morris' interjection in April of 1981 that he did not agree with inter-government financing nor did he believe that using funds from the 'Relief Fund' would be appropriate owing to the situation.

Except for the motion of locating the monument at Seaview Park, there was little activity on the Memorial Bells between 1980-1983. In the interim the cost of the project sky-rocketed.

It is only since the organization of the Memorial Bells Committee in July 1983 - the first meeting was held September 29, 1983 - that the Ford Needham relocation has resurfaced. Earlier in November, 1983, Mr. Morris, who instigated the organization of the Committee announced that the Provincial Government would be prepared to match 'dollar for dollar to a maximum of \$100,000' the money raised by private sector contributions,,,,. Oland Breweries has apparently undertaken the project of raising private sector funds. The Committee soon after announced the chosen location for the bells with the plan that the building would be open on December 6, 1983, the 67th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

Mr. Mike Woods, of the Development Department, who has been involved with the bells project since its onset, stated that, to his knowledge, no one in his department was consulted about the present proposed location.



G.I. BLENNERHASSETT
CITY CLERK

/pn

SITE AND EXPENSE

His Worship Mayor Edmund Morris

Michael Woods, Development Assistant

November 27, 1979

Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

The Development Department has met with the Recreation Department at Fort Needham, and a site on the northern portion of the hill, approximately 100 feet north of the fence surrounding the play field, was chosen as the most appropriate location for relocating the bells.

The City Architect is presently preparing a conceptual design for the housing of the bells, and this is expected to be completed shortly. The terms of reference have been formulated with respect to the structure, and it is now a matter of incorporating these items into an appropriate design and costed as well.

An inquiry was made of Irving Equipment as to the cost of relocating and placing the bells on the structure, and this was estimated at \$300.

The Department had further discussion with Reverend Marple of the United Memorial Church concerning the cost to the City of acquiring the bells. It was explained to the Reverend that the City would be facing considerable costs in relocating and setting the bells up on Fort Needham and that in view of these costs, it is felt that the bells should be donated to the City. Reverend Marple concurred with this suggestion but added that the final decision would rest with the Board of Trustees.

The Reverend indicated that he is prepared to take the matter to the Board and recommend in favour of donating the bells to the City. He mentioned that probably the most appropriate time to do so would be at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, which is usually held during the last week in January but that an emergency meeting could be held at any point in time prior to that if so requested.

Letters were written to the Meneely Bell Company, the original installers of the bells, in addition to I.T. Verdin Machine Company and Schulmerich Carillon Incorporated in an attempt to receive some technical information concerning the actual installation of the bells and their operation once relocated to Fort Needham. Unfortunately, all of the companies are located in the United States, and staff has not received any response thus far.

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In the meantime, inquiries were made to local churches in the area; and we were fortunate to receive considerable information from St. Agnes Church. A meeting with Father Ryan of St. Agnes' indicated some basic but nevertheless important considerations:

- (1) The structure should consist of structural steel beams and steel cross members and can be faced with appropriate materials. Steel is necessary to reduce the damaging effect of the heavy vibration of the bells on materials such as cement.
- (2) The top of the structure should be open, yet the bells should be concealed as much as possible by grill work of some sort to minimize the possibility of vandalism.
- (3) The structure should be approximately 20-25 feet in height, again to discourage vandalism.
- (4) Consideration has to be given to some form of heat, electrical, solar, or otherwise, to prevent freeze-up of the mechanical equipment. A rough estimate of the cost of housing the bells and their related equipment is as follows:

Excavation	-	\$ 2,000
Construction	-	12,000
Electrical	-	3,000
Mechanical	-	5,000
TOTAL	-	<u>\$22,000</u>

As far as the operation of the bells is concerned, there are a number of alternatives that the City could consider. For example, St. Agnes Church has an automated program controlled by a slave clock which activates the scheduled ringing of the angelus on half-hour intervals throughout the day. Their system also includes a roll player with a number of tunes pre-programmed which can be played when deemed appropriate, in addition to a manual piano keyboard, which can be activated at any time and takes up relatively little space.

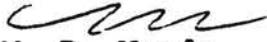
The total cost of the complete system installed by the church in 1964, which included an 18 bell carillon, was \$18,264, with the cost of the bells and transportation from Holland representing \$12,600 of the total. Assuming that the bells would be donated and without the services of a qualified installer to quote an exact price for installation, it would appear that in today's dollars, it would cost roughly \$18,000 for a system equivalent to that of St. Agnes Church. Deletion of any one of the above-noted modes of operation would not reduce costs significantly.

St. Agnes' usually engages the services of Tony Elderhorst from Pennsylvania to do the periodic maintenance of their bells. Apparently, he is a fairly well qualified individual and could advise the City as to the most suitable system to install and the cost of same.

Perhaps the City might wish to consider engaging his professional services. We would have to pay his travel expenses.

Total indicated costs are, therefore, as follows
(assuming bells are donated):

Erection of suitable structure	-	\$22,000
Relocation of bells to Fort Needham	-	300
Estimated cost of electrification	-	<u>18,000</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$40,300</u>


M. P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW/me

FINANCE & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
M I N U T E S

Council Chamber
City Hall
Halifax, N. S.
December 17, 1979
2:20 P. M.

A special meeting of the Finance & Executive Committee was held on the above date.

Present: His Worship the Mayor, Chairman; and Aldermen Maley, Shannon, Downey, Sullivan, Clarke, Wooden, and Hamshaw.

Also Present: City Manager, City Clerk, and other staff members.

The meeting was called for the purpose of continuing consideration of the:

1980-1984 PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

The City of Halifax Proposed Capital Expenditures document for the years 1980 - 1984, was submitted.

Information reports dated December 7 & 12, 1979, were submitted.

His Worship suggested the Committee commence by reviewing the report dated December 7, 1979 which was in response to questions raised at previous Capital Budget meetings.

With respect to Question #1 dealing with Local Improvement Policy - Corner Lots, His Worship noted that Council is presently in possession of a report on the matter.

With respect to Question #2(a) dealing with Sidewalk Renewals, Morris Street (Dresden Row - Birmingham) (N), the Committee agreed that the sidewalk be renewed dependent upon agreement and funding by the Core Committee of NIP II.

His Worship then reviewed Question Nos. 2(b) to 2(f) and, on the matter of 2(f) relating to Sidewalk Renewals Coburg Road (Oxford - LeMarchant) (S), the Committee agreed the item as it appears on Page #9 of the budget book, be changed to read "North" instead of "South", and that staff be asked to consult with Dalhousie University to see if the University sidewalk on the south side coincident with the City doing the North

After reviewing the remaining questions contained in the report, His Worship noted that as a result of a review of the staff report dated December 7th., there were no budget implications for the 1980 budget. His Worship then suggested the Committee turn to the report dated December 12th.

In referring to the information contained in the submitted report, His Worship noted the Committee is \$298,000 ahead of where it was before the budget discussions commenced and questioned whether the members wanted to stop at this point or to include some of the shopping list items in the budget.

A discussion ensued with respect to the education budget following which it was MOVED by Alderman Wooden, seconded by Alderman Clarke that the three items listed on Page #42 of the budget book dealing with Central Spryfield, Elizabeth Sutherland, and Addition and Major Renovation to the John W. MacLeod School, remain in the budget.

A short discussion followed and His Worship advised the motion was not necessary as no member of the Committee intended to make a motion that the items be deleted from the budget document.

The Committee then agreed to review Appendix "D" attached to the report of December 12th for the purpose of developing a priority shopping list. At the request of the Chairman, the Committee agreed to add an item relating to the moving of the Church bells at the United Memorial Church to Fort Needham, as Item #3 under "Miscellaneous Items" in the amount of \$40,000 prior to formulating priorities.

The Committee then made a preliminary review of the shopping list as presented in Appendix D attached to the staff report dated December 12, 1979.

Under Sidewalk Renewals, Alderman Sullivan suggested that Item #1 dealing with Kane Street, could be placed at the end of the shopping list. The Committee agreed that Item Nos. 2 to 11 under Sidewalk Renewals, should remain on the shopping list.

A short discussion ensued with respect to Item #12 dealing with Inglis Street and the Chairman noted the project was scheduled for 1981. Alderman Maley referred to the sidewalk in front of the grey or brown apartment building which is in a deteriorated condition. Alderman Maley indicated she did not mind if the Inglis Street project was not carried out but asked that staff patch the sidewalks in the NIP area and that they all be renewed at a later time. The City Manager noted that patching would be carried out with asphalt.

His Worship suggested that the Inglis Street renewal was a matter that should be taken up by the NIP Committee.

The Committee then turned to Item #13, Coburg Road, and His Worship noted the item was previously taken care of as the Committee switched the designation from South to North in the budget document. The Committee then agreed that the item be deleted.

Finance
December 17, 1979

Alderman Moore arrived at the meeting.

The Committee also agreed that Item Nos. 14 and 15 under Sidewalk Renewals be left on the shopping list as well as Item Nos. 1 & 2 under Paving Renewals.

Discussion ensued with respect to the Ross Street Connector item under Traffic Improvements, and the Committee agreed that an amount of \$20,000 be included for 1980 and that an amount of \$160,000 be included in the budget for 1981.

Alderman Meagher arrived at the meeting.

With respect to Item No. 2, Herring Cove Road, under Traffic Improvements, staff advised that the item involved line markings and that an amount of \$5,000 would be appropriate, and the Committee agreed that such an amount be included in the shopping list for 1980.

The Committee also agreed that the two items listed under Miscellaneous Items be included in the shopping list and that Item No. 3 dealing with Church Bells, Fort Needham, in the amount of \$40,000 which was previously added, also be included in the shopping list.

Under the heading Recreation, the Committee agreed that an amount of \$100,000 be included in the budget for the year 1981 for the item "Competitive Track", and that the item dealing with the Replacement, Spryfield Recreational Centre, be included in the shopping list for 1980.

At the request of Alderman Clarke, the Committee agreed that the London Street item under Paving Renewals, be moved from 1984 to 1981.

The Committee then proceeded to develop a priority shopping list, as follows:

Item No.

1. Kane St. (Isleville-Agricola)
(S) SW, C&G
2. Kane St. (Isleville-Agricola)
(N) SW, C&G
3. Kane St. (Isleville-Agricola)
P, C&G
4. Norwood (Cambridge-Beech)
(N) SW, C&G
5. Quinpool Rd. (Oxford-Kline)
(Alderman Meagher abstained)
6. Replacement Spryfield Recreational Centre
7. Central Commons Egg Pond,
Walkway Lighting
8. Ross St. Connector, P, C&G, SW,
S, T, LIP
9. Hennessey (Agricola-Isleville)
(S) SW, C&G

Item No.

10. Barrington (Prince-Sackville)
(E) SW, C&G AND
Barrington (Sackville-Blowers)
(E), SW, C&G
11. Quinpool Rd. (Connaught to Approx.
Armcrescent)
12. Gottingen St. (Cornwallis-Prince
William) (E), SW, C&G
13. Drysdale Rd: - North Side Improvements
14. Herring Cove Rd. (Turning Area in
front of Wendy's)
15. Wren St. (Flamingo-Pioneer)
(E) C&G, SW, ST, LIP
16. St. Margaret's Bay Road (Quarry Road
to North West Arm Drive, New Sidewalk,
South Side
17. Edward (University-South) (W), SW, C&G
18. Barrington (Blowers-Sackville)
(W), SW, C&G AND
Barrington (Sackville-Prince)
(W), SW, C&G

His Worship noted the Committee established a shopping list but that it had not moved any items into Appendix A of the staff report which presents the results of the deliberations of the Committee as of today's date. His Worship said the shopping list presents a list of projects that could be carried out if any money were not spent and suggested the Committee was not directing that the first \$298,000 of the shopping list be added to the budget.

A further short discussion and questioning of staff ensued and Alderman Wooden, in referring to funds that were included in the budget in 1979 for a library in Mainland South, indicated she would like to see an item included in the budget for 1981.

Following a short discussion, it was MOVED by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Clarke that the matter of a budgetary provision for a possible mainland south public library be reserved pending receipt of a report of a joint Library and School Board Committee.

Motion passed with Alderman Wooden against.

MOVED by Alderman Sullivan, seconded by Alderman Meagher the Finance & Executive Committee recommend that City Council adopt the 1980-1984 Proposed Capital Budget funding levels as presented in Appendix "A" attached to the staff information report dated December 12, 1979.

Motion passed.

R. B. Grant, Director of Development

M. P. Woods, Development Assistant

April 25, 1960

Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

The Mayor's Office is following up on this project and it appears as if the project will not be able to proceed as quickly as that office would like it to.

To date, the following action has been taken:

1. The writer met with officials of the Church and discussed the terms with which the bells would be made available;
2. the writer, Dick Murray and Ted Mitchell met on site and determined an appropriate location for the bells;
3. Irving Equipment provided a rough indication of moving the bells at a cost of \$300.00;
4. the writer had further discussions with Reverend Marble in an attempt to have the bells donated to the City;
5. letters were written to various companies in the United States in an attempt to obtain technical information and, hopefully, have a representative visit the site and provide an accurate indication of costs involved;
6. The writer and Mr. Mitchell met with Father Ryan, of St. Agnes Church and viewed their bell system;
7. a letter was received from Schulmerich Carillon Incorporated, indicating the cost of \$10,000, in U. S. funds, for the automated equipment necessary;
8. the writer and Mr. Mitchell met with a local sales representative for Schulmerich who provided brochures as to various types of possible installations and suggested that we write the head office and gain an approximate indication of installation costs with the aid of an aerial plan showing the approximate setup we are proposing;
10. the writer received a phone call from Schulmerich regarding a suggested installation setup and the letter is expected shortly in that regard.

The Mayor was provided a rough indication of costs of

a structure to house the bells estimated at \$22,000 in an earlier memo.

Mr. Mitchell presently has a number of other design projects which are being given priority.

Possibly, we should be recommending a report to Council that we hire a consultant to design and cost a structure, if the expertise is available, to house the bells or, perhaps, pay the travel expenses and cost for the Shulmerich representative to design same.

Either option appears necessary if the project is to come to a conclusion within the near future. Can we meet to discuss?


M. P. Woods
Development Assistant

MPH/bfh

cc - C. L. Dodge, P.Eng.
A. W. Churchill
C. E. Mitchell

Committee of the Whole
July 23, 1980

TO: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Paul Calda, P. Eng., City Manager
DATE: July 9, 1980
SUBJECT: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

During the Capital Budget discussions, Council placed \$40,000 in the 1980 shopping list, item 16(a), for the relocation of carillon bells - Fort Needham. ~~The bells were donated by a parishioner of the United Memorial Church as a memorial to a number of members of that particular family who lost their lives during the Halifax explosion. The Church found it necessary to remove the bells in recent years owing to the considerable stress on the Church tower which was deteriorating over time through their use. The bells are currently stored under cover on the Church property.~~

Staff has met with members of the Board of Trustees who have indicated that in view of the circumstances in which the Church received the gift, it would be necessary to create some other form of memorial to the family. It was also considered quite appropriate to select a site on Fort Needham as an alternate location in consideration of its proximity to and the view it affords of the actual location of the explosion. A site has been tentatively selected on the southern end of Fort Needham in the area as shown on the plan attached. The area considered consists of a small park-like setting and was chosen because of its economic advantage to other locations on the hill in terms of making the bells operational.

The proposal as discussed with the Board of Trustees would involve the erection of a tower on Fort Needham and the relocation and placement of the bells by crane. The bells could be operated by a manual keyboard tied into the United Memorial Church so that they could be played by remote control from at the Church. It was also proposed to provide an outlet at the base of the tower so that the bells could be played by the portable keyboard on site for special occasions. The top of the tower would have to be open, yet the bells should be concealed as much as possible by grill work of some sort to minimize the possibility of vandalism.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

NO OF SESSION:
JILL A MACLENNAN
1 ACADIA STREET
455-0220

MINISTER:
REV. NORMAN C. MARPLE, B.A., M.DIV.
5350 YOUNG STREET
455-2774

TREASURER:
GEORGE ROY
116A ADELAIDE AVENUE
443-8452

RECEIVED

JUN 10 1980

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

To His Worship

The Mayor of the City of Halifax.

Dear Sir,

The undersigned are members of the United Memorial Church, duly appointed to consider future use of the Carillon Bells, formerly housed in the Church Tower.

Our Committee is in agreement with the intent of the City of Halifax to further explore the use of the bells as outlined in the proposal presented to the committee by Mayor Morris on the 27th of May, 1980.

Also we agree that, until further notice, Mr. Roy Wilson be the liaison person for our committee in any exploratory moves regarding the said bells.

Dated at Halifax, N.S. June 6, 1980 and signed by the committee members.

R. E. Inglis
R. E. Inglis

H. I. MacGregor
H. I. MacGregor

Roy Wilson
Roy Wilson

FINANCE

Committee of the Whole
July 23, 1980

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The bells were manufactured in the United States and

there are no local companies involved with the installation and supplying of such equipment. Staff has corresponded with the Schulmerich Carillon Company of Pennsylvania who have forwarded brochures as to the possible types of structures that could be constructed to house the bells.

The City could design a structure which would support the carillon chimes but there are other factors such as resonating characteristics, proper seating of the bells, etc., which are beyond the expertise of City staff. The tower itself would represent the major cost in the relocation of the bells and it is estimated that this cost alone could exceed the \$40,000 placed in the shopping list. In addition there would be added costs in running heavy gauge cable from the Church to the proposed site to permit their operation. It is staff's understanding with the Board that the bells would be donated as a condition of proceeding with the project.

It is questionable whether this is a gift the City can afford to accept. In light of other priorities for capital funding staff is reluctant to recommend an expenditure of such magnitude. Since the project would continue to be a memorial to the explosion, it seems that the logical source of funding would be the other levels of government who administer the Relief Fund.

Council is asked to give staff direction on the matter.


Paul Calda, P. Eng.
City Manager

MPW:T

Attachment

Committee of the Whole
July 23, 1980

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The bells were manufactured in the United

States and there are no local companies involved with the installation and supplying of such equipment. Staff has corresponded with the Schulmerich Carillon Company of Pennsylvania who have forwarded brochures as to the possible types of structures that could be constructed to house the bells.

The City could design a structure which would support the carillon chimes but there are other factors such as resonating characteristics, proper seating of the bells, etc., which are beyond the expertise of City staff. The tower itself would represent the major cost in the relocation of the bells and it is estimated that this cost alone could exceed the \$40,000 placed in the shopping list. In addition there would be added costs in running heavy gauge cable from the Church to the proposed site to permit their operation. It is staff's understanding with the Board that the bells would be donated as a condition of proceeding with the project.

If it is Council's wish to pursue the project further, it is recommended that staff be authorized to hire a consultant to provide a complete indication of the cost of making the bells operational at the proposed site on Fort Needham.

Staff work is asked to Council ~~should~~ give staff direction on the matter.

Paul Calda, P. Eng.
City Manager

MPW:T

Attachment

** It is questionable whether this is a gift the City can afford to accept. In light of other priorities for capital funding staff is reluctant to recommend an expenditure of such magnitude. Since the project would continue to be a memorial to the explosion it seems that the logical source of funding would be the other levels of government who administer the Park Fund.*

Finance
July 23, 1980

Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

A staff report dated July 9, 1980, was submitted.

Deputy Mayor Sullivan referred to the donation of the Bells and the possibility of the Bells being housed as a memorial at Fort Needham.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Sullivan, seconded by Alderman Hamshaw the Finance & Executive Committee recommend that the Provincial and Federal levels of government be approached to contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church.

Motion passed.

July 31, 1980

Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Sullivan, seconded by Alderman Wooden
that, as recommended by the Finance & Executive Committee, the
Provincial and Federal levels of government be approached to
contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United
Memorial Church.

Motion passed.



TELEPHONE
902-426- 6429

CITY OF HALIFAX

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 3A5

September 4, 1980

The Hon. Edmund Morris
Minister of Fisheries & Intergovernmental Affairs
10th Floor, Maritime Centre
P.O. Bc.x 2223
Halifax, N.S.
B3J 2N3

Re: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

Dear Mr. Minister

You are aware of the recent efforts by the City of Halifax to establish a memorial on Fort Needham to commemorate the victims of the Halifax Explosion.

I understand that staff had noted in an earlier meeting in May that the cost of erecting a memorial utilizing the gift of chimes could be upwards of \$80,000, possibly higher, depending on the size of the structure erected. You had further indicated a willingness at that time to explore the possibility of utilizing funds from the former Halifax Relief Commission Fund presently administered by the Federal Minister of Finance to be used in establishing the memorial.

The matter was considered recently by City Council and in general, members supported the proposal in principle. However, in view of the sizeable expenditure and the particular circumstances involved, Council requested that the Provincial and Federal Governments be approached with a request for funding assistance.

In consideration of your earlier offer, the City would appreciate any assistance you could provide in procuring funding to help defray the costs of this proposal.

Your earliest response would be appreciated.

Yours truly

Ronald Hanson
M A Y O R



TELEPHONE
902-425- 6429

CITY OF HALIFAX

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 3A5

September 4, 1980

The Hon. Gerald Regan
Minister of Sport & Fitness
House of Commons
Ottawa, Canada

Re: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

Dear Mr. Minister

The City of Halifax is currently considering a proposal to erect a tower housing a chime of bells on Fort Needham to serve as a memorial to the victims of the Halifax Explosion. The Bells were donated to the United Memorial Church by a parishioner as a memorial to a number of members of that family who died during the explosion. The Bells are currently not in use and the Church is prepared to donate them for the above purpose.

A site has been tentatively selected on the southern end of Fort Needham in the area as shown on the attached plan. The area considered consists of a small park-like setting and was chosen because of its economic advantages to other locations in terms of making the Bells operational. It is proposed that the Bells be operated by a manual keyboard tied into the United Memorial Church by overhead cable. Preliminary cost projections indicate that the project would cost upwards of \$80,000, or slightly higher depending on the size of the structure erected.

City Council is in general agreement with the proposal but feels that funding assistance is warranted in view of the former circumstances involved. The assets, of course, from the former Halifax Relief Commission Fund are now administered by the Federal Minister of Finance. It is my understanding that the City would require the concurrence of the Canadian Pension Committee in utilizing a portion of the fund to erect a memorial.

As Member of Parliament for the constituents of the Halifax riding any assistance you could provide in procuring funding to defray the costs of this worthwhile project would certainly be appreciated.

I await your response.

Yours truly

Ronald Hanson
M A Y O R

His Worship Mayor Ronald Hanson

R. B. Grant

September 9, 1980

Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

You probably recall a recent resolution of Council that the City approach the Provincial and Federal levels of government for funding assistance to erect a memorial on Fort Needham in memory of the Halifax Explosion victims.

Attached are two suggested letters to the attention of Mr. Edmund Morris, MLA for Halifax Needham and Mr. Gerald Regan, the Member of Parliament for the Halifax riding.

I trust the wording is satisfactory.



R. B. Grant
Director of Development

MPW:T

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY HALL, 1841 ARGYLE STREET



FINANCE

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 3A5

September 11, 1980

Dear Mr. Minister

Re: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

You are aware of the recent efforts by the City of Halifax to establish a memorial on Fort Needham to commemorate the victims of the Halifax Explosion.

I understand that staff had noted in an earlier meeting in May that the cost of erecting a memorial utilizing the gift of chimes could be upwards of \$80,000, possibly higher, depending on the size of the structure erected. You had further indicated a willingness at that time to explore the possibility of utilizing funds from the former Halifax Relief Commission Fund presently administered by the Federal Minister of Finance to be used in establishing the memorial.

The matter was considered recently by City Council and in general, Members supported the proposal in principle. However, in view of the sizable expenditure and the particular circumstances involved, Council requested that the Provincial and Federal Governments be approached with a request for funding assistance.

In consideration of your earlier offer, the City would appreciate any assistance you could provide in procuring funding to help defray the costs of this proposal.

Your earliest response would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald J. Hanson
RONALD J. HANSON
MAYOR

Honourable Edmund Morris, M.L.A.
Minister of Fisheries
Province of Nova Scotia
Post Office Box 2223
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia
B3J 2N3

Sept. 10/80
→ Mr. CHURCHILL
mg

September 11, 1980

Dear Mr. Minister

Re: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

The City of Halifax is currently considering a proposal to erect a tower housing a chime of bells on Fort Needham to serve as a memorial to the victims of the Halifax Explosion. The bells were donated to the United Memorial Church by a parishoner as a memorial to a number of members of that family who died during the Explosion. The bells are currently not in use and the Church is prepared to donate them for the above purpose.

A site has been tentatively selected on the southern end of Fort Needham in the area as shown on the attached plan. The area considered consists of a small park-like setting and was chosen because of its economic advantages to other locations in terms of making the bells operational. It is proposed that the bells be operated by a manual keyboard tied into the United Memorial Church overhead cable. Preliminary cost projections indicate that the project would cost upwards of \$80,000. or slightly higher depending on the size of the structure erected.

City Council is in general agreement with the proposal but feels that funding assistance is warranted in view of the former circumstances involved. The assets, of course, from the Halifax Relief Commission Fund are now administered by the Federal Minister of Finance. It is my understanding that the City would require the concurrence of the Canadian Pension Committee in utilizing a portion of the fund to erect a memorial.

. . . 2

*PT. 12/80
MR. СНОУСНИК.
MJA*

NON

KAYE STREET, UNITED MEMORIAL CHURCH
- CARILLON BELLS

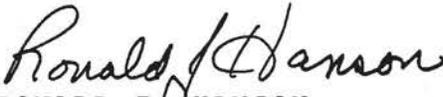
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Honourable Gerald A. Regan, Q.C., P.C., M.P.
Page Two
September 11, 1980

As Member of Parliament for the constituents of the
Halifax riding any assistance you could provide in procuring
funding to defray the costs of this worthwhile project would
certainly be appreciated.

I await your response.

Yours sincerely,


RONALD J. HANSON
M A Y O R

Honourable Gerald A. Regan, Q.C., P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport
House of Commons
OTTAWA, Ontario

RJH:cll
Enclosure

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR HALL, 1841 ARGYLE STREET



HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
B3J 3A5



FINANCE

September 11, 1980

Dear Mr. Minister

Re: Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church

The City of Halifax is currently considering a proposal to erect a tower housing a chime of bells on Fort Needham to serve as a memorial to the victims of the Halifax Explosion. The bells were donated to the United Memorial Church by a parishoner as a memorial to a number of members of that family who died during the Explosion. The bells are currently not in use and the Church is prepared to donate them for the above purpose.

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City Council is in general agreement with the proposal but feels that funding assistance is warranted in view of the former circumstances involved. The assets, of course, from the Halifax Relief Commission Fund are now administered by the Federal Minister of Finance. It is my understanding that the City would require the concurrence of the Canadian Pension Committee in utilizing a portion of the fund to erect a memorial.

. . . 2

SEPT. 12/80
→ MR. CHURCHILL
mj

copy
Director of Development
Sept 30/80

SEP 25 1980



His Worship Mayor Ronald J. Hanson
City of Halifax
City Hall
1841 Argyle Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Hanson:

Thank you for your letter of September 11th, 1980,
providing information about the proposal to erect
a bell tower in memory of victims of the Halifax
Explosion.

I am currently awaiting the comments of Mr. A.O.
Solomon, Chairman of the Canadian Pension Commission.

Once I have heard from him I will be in touch with
you again.

Meanwhile, thank you for giving me the opportunity
to look into the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald A. Regan
Gerald A. Regan

MR. CHURCHILL.
MR. WOODS *RW*



RECEIVED

SEP 30 1980

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

RE: FINANCE

7617

October 8, 1980

Mr. Roy Wilson
 116A Adelaide Ave.
 Halifax, N.S.
 B3N 2P2

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Re: United Memorial Church -
 Carillon Bells

I noted in reviewing our file that we inadvertently neglected to keep you up-to-date as to the current events regarding the above project. I apologize for the oversight as I thought you had been informed.

After receipt of your letter of June 10, the matter was brought before City Council and on July 31, 1980, the following resolution was passed.

"moved by Deputy Mayor Sullivan, seconded by Alderman Wooden that, as recommended by the Finance and Executive Committee, the Provincial and Federal levels of government be approached to contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church."

Letters were sent from Mayor Hanson to Mr. Edmund Morris, the MLA for Halifax Needham in addition to Mr. Gerald Regan, member of Parliament for the Halifax Riding, in response to the Council resolution. Both letters have been acknowledged and we are currently awaiting, hopefully a favourable response, with regards to funding.

Hopefully we will have some positive news shortly.

Yours truly,

M.P. Woods
 M.P. Woods
 Development Assistant
 Real Estate Division
 Development Department

MPW/sfs

RE: FINANCE



WJ

TO: A. W. Churchill, Supervisor, Real Estate
Division

FROM: M. P. Woods

DATE: April 14, 1981

SUBJECT: Bells - United Memorial Church

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

A meeting was held in the office of Mr. Edmund Morris on April 6, 1981. Also in attendance was David MacKeen, Executive Assistant to the Minister.

Mr. Morris summarized events prior to his departure from the City. He then asked for an update as to any progress that has been made.

It was explained that a report had been taken to Council, and although Council generally favoured the idea, that it was not given priority in terms of the Capital Budget. It was noted that \$40,000 was put on the shopping list in 1980 and that there was no provision in the 1981 Capital Budget. It was also noted that Council moved a recommendation that the Provincial and Federal Governments be approached to contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church.

Mr. Morris then proceeded to go on one of his tangents and lectured the writer on Council's attitude about depending on other levels of government for financial assistance.

He mentioned that he would like to see the project get going despite Council's attitude but was reluctant to recommend the use of the "Relief Fund" because of the present Mayor's earlier campaign platform. Apparently Mayor Wallace stated that he would like to make the surplus fund available to surviving members of present recipients' families. In Mr. Morris' opinion, this left the fund open to abuse.

Mr. Morris is prepared to recommend to Cabinet that an expenditure of up to \$50,000 be authorized for the relocation provided that the City is willing to contribute an equal share.

A letter is to be sent to the Mayor's Office confirming the above.

M P Woods

M. P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW:T

Halifax Relief Commission closes books

Tower, chimes suggested as memorial

By ALEX NICKERSON

This week, nearly sixty years after the detonation of a shipload of explosives destroyed the North End of this city, the books will be closed on the Halifax Relief Commission. Henceforth, the remaining assets of the local commission that has now only 63 recipients of pensions on its rolls, will be administered by the federal government's Canadian Pension Commission.

Those assets, according to Labor Minister Walter Fitzgerald, speaking in the Legislature last March "amount to somewhere around \$3 million." This is what remains, after six decades of the more than \$27 million given to Halifax for rehabilitation and relief, in particular of those who had suffered incapacitating injuries, especially blindness, when the French munitions ship Mont Blanc blew up after colliding in the Narrows with the Belgian relief ship Imo.

The blast was, until an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, the greatest man-made explosion in history. About 1,000 people were instantly killed and 600 more died later of injuries. Later estimates were given of 1,963 dead, 9,000 injured, 199 blinded.

The faces of many who took months to lie were marked by a peculiar bluish tinge — almost a tattoo — that could be traced to the great cargo of TNT and associated explosives destined for war-torn Europe that the ill-fated Mont Blanc carried.

The State of Massachusetts took the lead in succoring the distressed city. A special train carrying doctors, nurses, medical supplies, blankets and clothing was early on the scene. In addition, the American state that had such a close association with Nova Scotia, sent a large sum of money, supplemented by contributions for countless organizations and individuals throughout New England.

Major grants were made by the federal government and the British government, according to former Alderman J. G. DeWolfe, this was the breakdown of the original contributions to the stricken city:

Federal government, \$18,000,000
British Government, 4,815,500

however, it was designated simply, The Halifax Relief Commission.

Initially, the commission disbursed about \$4 million in emergency aid and \$20 million for damage claims and reconstruction. At the same time, the commission undertook to pay pensions to the permanently disabled. By 1920, there were 1,028 Halifaxians on the list; today only 63 are still in receipt of pensions. They will continue to receive cheques inadequate as they are in the light of today's economy, as long as they live.

A monument to the commission is the area in Halifax North known as the Hydrostone. This building project was patterned after one that had been highly praised in Britain. Built of a material that resembles cement blocks, the homes were attractive, ultra-modern for the time and, as the passing years have demonstrated, extremely durable.

In all, the commission constructed more than 300 units in the area to the west of Fort Needham. An office block and a number of shops were also built of hydrostone. The commission, as landlord, operated the Hydrostone for many years. Subsequently, the homes were sold to the tenants.

In recent years there has been a growing belief that Halifax should have a monument, other than a housing development, to the devastation caused indirectly by a world war, on December 6, 1917.

One of the concerned Halifaxians is Ron Wallace, MLA.

Cognizant of a suggestion made in this column some months ago that thought might be given to purchasing the no longer used chimes of the United Memorial Church and re-erecting them in a small tower somewhere in Richmond, as the devastated area was once known, Mr. Wallace brought the matter to the attention of the House when the Members were debating a Bill to dissolve the Halifax Relief Commission and have the federal government administer the residual funds Mr. Wallace said:

"With the money remaining (from the commission funds) I would like to suggest that this government ask — well, they'll have the decision perhaps themselves, when the money is returned — that consideration

but for the generosity of those, the federal government, Massachusetts, United Kingdom, and others who came to the rescue of this city.

"There is a site, a triangle at the corner of Kaye Street, Young Street, and Gottingen which would make an ideal location for such a tower. An alternate location could be Fort Needham. — Wallace.

"Mr. Speaker, it's particularly good news that the balance of the fund, which will be substantial, will be used for the rehabilitation of the area, largely the area affected, according to the Bill, and I hope that recreation besides is accepted as one legitimate use for the balance of the fund.

"I hope, Mr. Speaker, that we don't wait for the last pensioner to die — I believe there are 65 to 67 now. Last year, the amount paid out was slightly over \$100,000. There are five widows remaining, eleven totally blind, a number partially blind and so on. But, it should be possible to take an amount of this money to amortize the payment that will be required for the future instead of waiting perhaps 15 or 20 years before this balance of the fund is put to the very useful purpose that the Bill suggested.

"If the pension that is paid these people, and it isn't a large one — it's well under \$200 for the widow — has not been recently raised, then it is not correct and if they're sitting there with a couple of million dollars, they can't say that we can't afford it. If the money is there, it was given for that purpose and they should take a very good look at the dollar value of those pensions today.

"The final point, Mr. Speaker, would be this — that it would be completely wrong to leave an amount of \$2 million lying in some vault, not paying interest over the years, when they're paying out an amount that is now \$100,000, which will gradually, and quite quickly diminish, but we shouldn't have to wait 20 years before this money, which was not given to Ottawa but was allotted to Halifax, is returned to Halifax to continue the purpose, that is, rehabilitation, that it was originally given for." (Applause)

He was speaking on "An Act to Provide

for the Dissolution of the Halifax Relief Commission." Earlier, in debate on this Bill, Mr. Fitzgerald had explained to the Assembly:

"Under the Halifax Relief Commission, which was incorporated by Chapter 61 of the Acts of Nova Scotia, 1918, we're moving that this commission be dissolved and the assets be transferred to the Minister of Finance for Canada to be held in trust. Under the terms of that trust, the finance minister must continue to pay all pensions and allowances currently being paid by the commission and pay the pensioners, or allowances to any people whom the Canada Pension Committee determined might be eligible as a result of the death or injury that was experienced in the explosion of 1917."

The transfer to the federal minister of finance has been made. All that now remains — and it will be dealt with at a small ceremony to be held here on Friday — is to officially relieve the Province of Nova Scotia of any further responsibility for the management of the funds of the now dissolved Halifax Relief Commission.

The future of those who are receiving pensions is assured. But there is, locally, understandable uneasiness about what may happen to the bulk of the \$3 million that was turned over to the federal government.

Will it be difficult to persuade Ottawa to part with some of the funds for the "continuing rehabilitation of the area of Halifax damaged in the 1917 explosion," in the words of the phrase so frequently used in connection with this matter?

Will the Canadian Pension Committee agree with Mr. Wallace that some of the money should be spent to erect a suitable memorial, viz, a tower housing chimes that were originally given to the United Memorial Church to honor citizens killed in the explosion?

There are many pertinent questions to be asked in connection with this historic transfer of funds of the Halifax Relief Commission. Ron Wallace, a dedicated and determined Halifax member of the Legislature, will be looking for answers this week.

Opinion page
As others see it

Proposed north end park still sparks controversy

Controversy over a proposed park at the north end of Halifax was rekindled yesterday at a regular committee-of-meeting.

5 Alderman Gerald O'Malley at the Seaview Memorial Park in the north end he asked for information on the proposed monument for the historic site. He also wants the park to fall under the jurisdiction of the Point Pleasant Commission.

The monument would commemorate the Halifax Explosion, sinking of

Duc D'Anville's fleet, settlement of Africville and assembly of the Second World War convoy in Bedford Basin.

The kiosk would house bells from the United Memorial Church and four plaques — one for each of the historic sites in the neighbouring area.

Ald. O'Malley said the federal government would pay for the monument with money from a 65-year-old fund for Halifax Explosion victims. However, Mayor Ron Wallace said the federal

government refuses to admit the funds are available.

Two aldermen denounced the park, which was approved by council last year despite a staff recommendation that it be used for industrial land.

Deputy Mayor Alf Hamshaw asked for a staff report from the Halifax Industrial Commission on the most appropriate use for the land.

"The rumours I've heard are that the land could be used for something to bring tax dollars back into the city."

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--- report dated March 16, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley, in referring to the submitted report, advised that he would like to clarify the matter of the memorial and went on to refer to a service held at the United Memorial Church at which time there was an indication from the City to attempt to bring the chimes into a memorial structure.

Alderman O'Malley advised of a subsequent meeting which he had with representatives of the Church including Dr. McGregor and indicated it was never intended that the bells would ring but rather an interest of erecting a permanent memorial for the Halifax explosion by placing the bells, or part of the bells, on a four sided configuration out of the reach of vandals. Alderman O'Malley expressed the view that the costs presented in the report were in excess of what he had in mind and suggested a memorial could be erected at a far lower cost than has been projected.

2 The City Manager referred to the weight of the bells and the design requirements and advised it was staff's understanding that the bells had to be operational. The City Manager advised that the City would have to obtain something in writing from the church indicating that the church will make the bells available and for what purpose, and Alderman O'Malley asked if that could be carried out. His Worship suggested that a letter could be forwarded to Dr. McGregor and the City Manager indicated that if a positive response is received, a proper design, both architecturally and structurally, would have to be undertaken suggesting that the cost would be in the \$15,000 range.

Alderman O'Malley questioned whether alternatives were not available such as through the Nova Scotia Technical College.

April 6/83.

PLEASE DISREGARD OTHER TELEX

Metro

See also page 25

Bell tower memorial

Design commemorates 1917 Halifax Explosion

By Jim Gowen
Staff Reporter

The proposed design for a memorial bell tower to commemorate the Dec. 6, 1917 Halifax Explosion was unveiled Thursday at a public meeting of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee.

Committee chairman Reginald A. Prest said the design was chosen because it makes a dramatic statement, suggesting an image of destruction while simultaneously evoking the energetic spirit of civic renewal displayed following the devastation.

Planned for Fort Needham, on a site donated to the city by the Halifax Relief Commission, the \$200,000 structure would overlook the Narrows, the scene of the 1917 explosion. It is intended for the structure to be visible from both sides of the harbor.

The structure, described by design architects CORE Design Group as 60 feet high at the peak and sloping out 150 feet to merge with the side of the hill, will be built of monolithic hydrostone with copper sheathing protecting the exposed surfaces and bell enclosures.

At Thursday's meeting, Halifax-Needham MLA and Social Services Minister Edmund Morris, honorary co-chairman of the committee, gave a brief history of attempts during the last few years to develop plans for the memorial.

Mr. Morris indicated the provincial government is prepared to match "dollar for dollar to a maximum of \$100,000" the money raised by private sector contributions for the fund required to build the tower.

Plans call for the tower to incorporate a chime



BELL TOWER — Plans for a proposed bell tower to commemorate the Halifax Explosion, were unveiled at United Memorial Church Thursday night. Frank Harrington, architectural advisor, left, reviews the design with Mrs. T. W. Thompson, centre, donor of the bells and Mrs. Janet Kitz, a historian specializing in the period of the Halifax Explosion. Wamboldt-Waterfield

of bells or carillon. The bells were originally donated to United Memorial Church by Mrs. T. W. Thompson, the sole member of her family, the Orrs, to survive the explosion.

The bells were removed from the church steeple several years ago when it was discovered that the bell tower was unable to support the carillon.

HALIFAX WRECKED

More Than One Thousand Killed In This City, Many Thousands Are Injured And Homeless.

MORE than one thousand dead and probably five thousand injured, many of them fatally, is the result of the explosion yesterday on French steamship Mont Blanc, loaded with nitroglycerine and trinitrotoluol. All of Halifax north and west of the depot is a mass of ruins and many thousands of people are homeless. The Belgian Relief steamer Imo, coming down from Bedford Basin, collided with the Mont Blanc, which immediately took fire and was headed in for Pier No. 8 and exploded. Buildings over a great area collapsed, burying men, women and children. Tug boats and smaller vessels were engulfed and then a great wave washed up over Campbell Road. Fires broke out and became uncontrollable, stopping the work of rescue. Not a house in Halifax escaped some damage, and the region bounded on the east by the harbor, south by North street and west by Windsor street, is absolutely devastated.

THE wounded and homeless are in different institutions and homes over the city. The Halifax Herald is collecting information regarding the missing, and citizens who have victims of the disaster at their homes are requested to telephone to The Herald office. Hundreds of the bodies which were taken from the ruins are unrecognizable and morgues have been opened in different parts of the city. Citizens' committees are being formed for rescue work. Bulletins will be issued throughout the day giving information for the assistance of those who have lost relatives and friends. While practically every home in the city is damaged, those who are able to give any temporary accommodation are asked to notify some of the committees.

Military and naval patrols are keeping order and superintending the rescue work.

THE AWFUL STORY OF DISASTER

AT 9.05 o'clock yesterday morning a terrific explosion wrecked Halifax killing over a thousand, wounding at least five thousand, and laying in ruins at least one-fifth of the city.

The Belgian Relief steamer Imo coming down out of the Basin in charge of Pilot William Hayes collided with the French steamship Mont Blanc in charge of Pilot Frank MacKay. The French steamer was loaded with nitro glycerine and trinitrotoluol. Fire broke out on the Mont Blanc and she was headed in for Pier 8. It was eighteen minutes after the collision when the explosion occurred. The old sugar refinery, and all the

buildings for a great distance collapsed. Tug boats and steamers were engulfed and then a great wave rushed over Campbell road carrying up debris and the corpses of hundreds of men who were at work on the piers and steamers.

Without the loss of a moment hundreds of survivors rushed to the rescue of those buried in the ruins. Fire broke out in scores of places and soon the great mass of wreckage was in the grip of an uncontrollable fire checking the work of rescue.

The military and naval authorities almost immediately took charge of the situation. Fearing that the fire would reach local magazines of explosives military messengers were sent over the city warning the people

out of the buildings and advising them to take to the citadel and open spaces. This was not by authority.

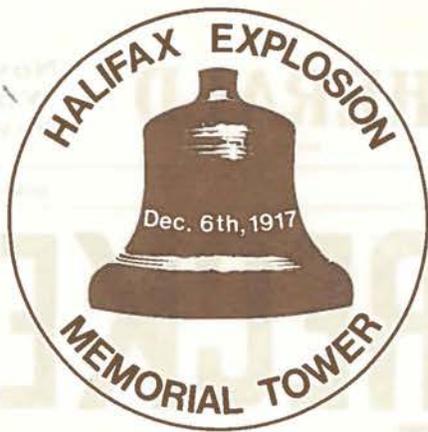
Practically every house in the city was damaged. The entire business district was windowless and to prevent pillaging patrols from warships in port were paraded thru the streets.

All along Gottingen street and throughout the northwest part of the city there was a pitiful scene as women and children lacerated with flying fragments of glass rushed from their homes. Truckmen, hackmen, and taxi-cab drivers rushed victims to the hospitals for dressing. At the Naval hospital many of the sick sailors were badly cut and, fearing an explosion from the magazine at the Wellingford barracks, they were taken away.

THE home of The Halifax Herald and The Evening Mail is badly wrecked. Every pane of glass and window in the building is smashed. Partitions have been blown down. Our press is filled with glass. Some employees have lost their homes and families. Our power service is cut off.

We are sending out a copy of this hand printed bulletin to every town in order that as many of our readers as possible may know at least some of the details of the disaster. We hope to be in a position to publish tomorrow. In the meantime we ask for patience.

A public meeting is called for city hall at 11.



PRESS RELEASE

Monument Design Unveiled

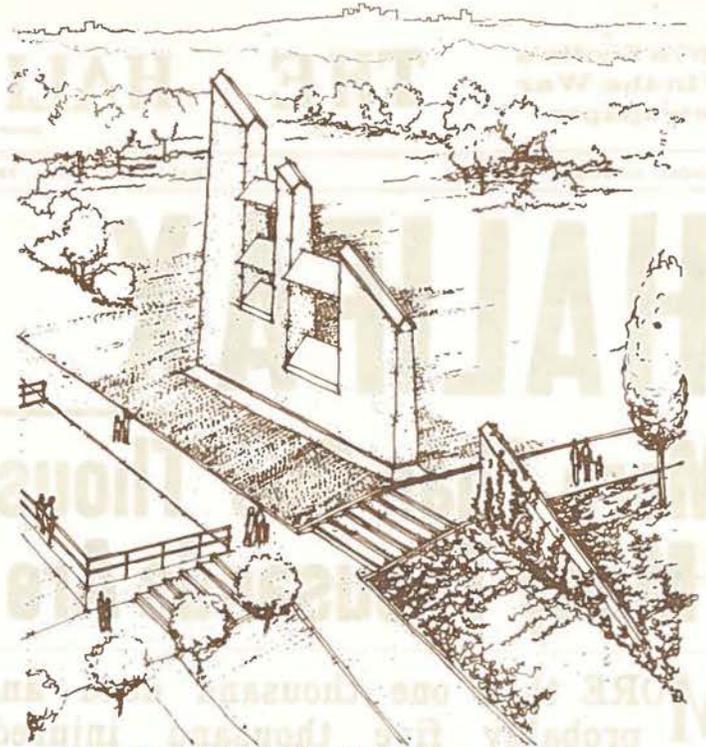
HALIFAX, N.S. — The design of a bell tower to commemorate the 1917 Halifax Explosion was announced last evening at a public meeting in United Memorial Church.

Reginald A. Prest, Chairman of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee said the design was selected because it makes a dramatic statement suggesting an image of destruction while simultaneously evoking the energetic civic renewal that followed the devastation.

Placed on a granite platform, the \$200,000 structure is proposed for the north-east corner of Needham Park. The site, donated to the city years ago by the Halifax Relief Commission, overlooks the Narrows where the collision of the Imo and Mont Blanc took place. The monument will be clearly visible from both the surrounding area and the Harbour shores.

The narrow, angular construction will be 60' at the highest point, sloping 150° to disappear into the side of the hill. Several rectangular openings will house bells of the carillon donated in 1921 to United Memorial Church in memory of the Samuel Orr family. Placed perpendicular to the harbour, the form will direct viewer attention to the explosion site.

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view from union st. entrance

HALIFAX EXPLOSION MEMORIAL BELLS

by core design group,
keith i. graham with
n. fowler , j. rowe , j. thomson

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Ornamental plantings will compliment the structural form. There will be opportunities for commemorative tree installations around the base. Walkways and paths will be upgraded minimally in the immediate area and strong lighting installed to highlight the monument.

It will be possible to play the carillon from both United Memorial Church and the monument platform.

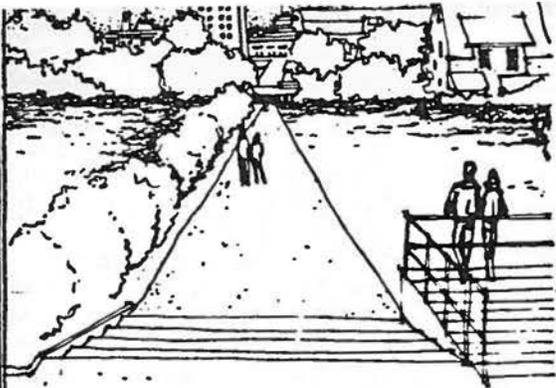
Prest stated, "We feel that the structure, with its simplicity, boldness of form and sympathetic setting will become an important addition to Needham Park and its vicinity, as well as a significant feature of the Halifax-Dartmouth area."

The project dedication date is December 6th, 1984, the 67th anniversary of the Explosion.

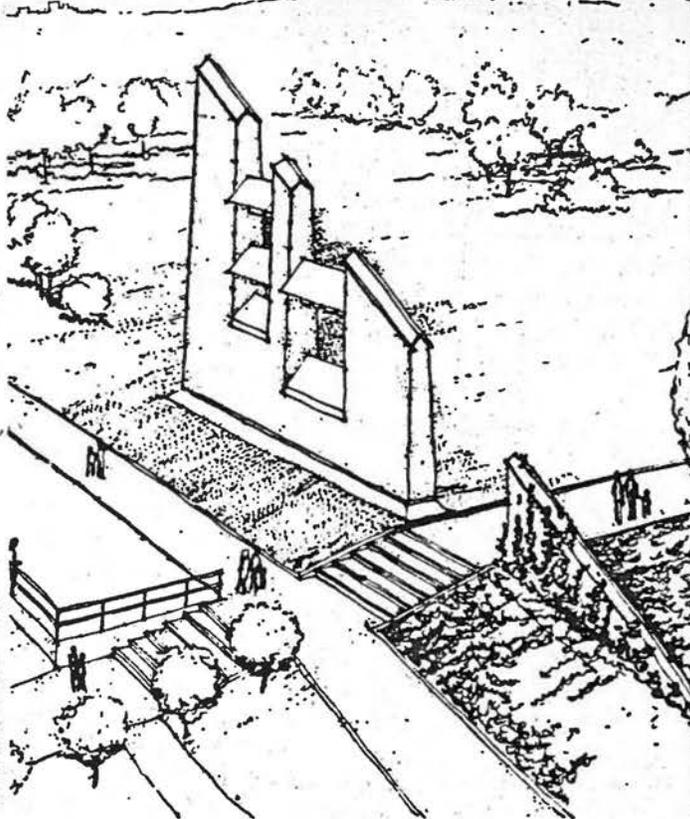
Support the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Fund



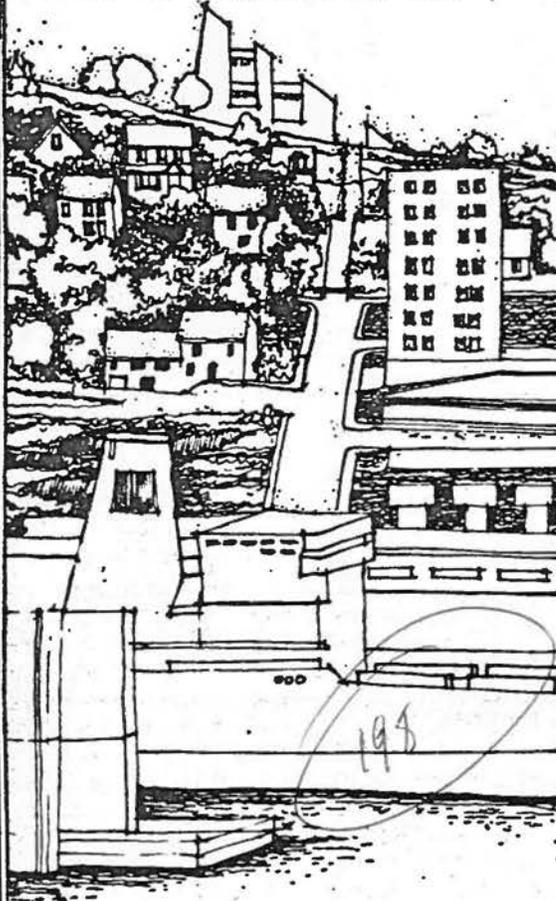
**HALIFAX EXPLOSION
MEMORIAL BELLS COMMITTEE**
P.O. Box 1267 Halifax
North Postal Stn. B3K 5H4



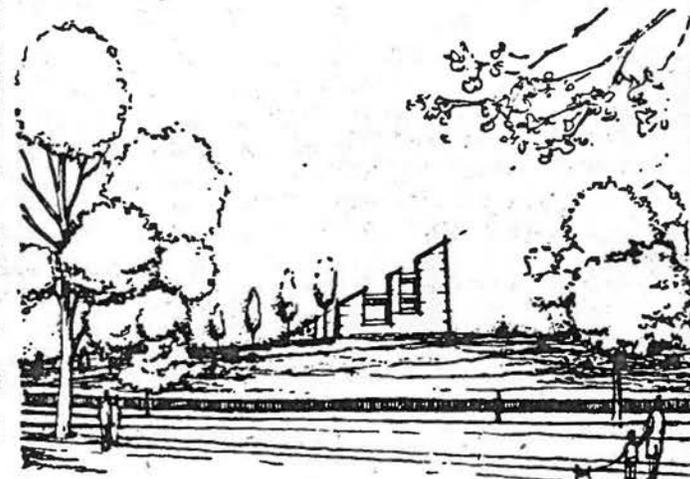
view to explosion site



view from union st. entrance



view from dartmouth



view from gettingen st.

Halifax Explosion memorial: Project nears fruition

By Jim Gowen
Staff Reporter

A project initiated almost 20 years ago is finally nearing fruition as the Halifax Memorial Bells move from the conceptual to the realization phase.

The project is the first official monument to those who died when Halifax was rocked by the Dec. 6, 1917, explosion.

Originally conceived when Social Services Minister Edmond Morris was mayor of Halifax, the project moved beyond the planning

stage July 26 when, on the steps of United Memorial Church, a proclamation was read announcing to the world the beginning of the campaign to erect a memorial tower.

The plan centered around a set of chimes — a carillon, originally donated to United Memorial Church by Mrs. T. W. Thompson.

The carillon had been placed atop the church bell tower where it was played until 1975. At that time the weight of the bells, and the vibrations generated, were found to have caused structural damage. The

tower was weakened to the point where it was unsafe for the nine bells to be left in place.

The carillon was removed from the tower and sat under canvas on the Kaye Street lawn of the church until last July.

The bells were then hoisted on a flatbed trailer and removed to the naval gun factory in Dartmouth for storage and refurbishing, pending their installation in a tower which was to be erected in Fort Needham, overlooking the explosion site.

See Project page 2

*Mail Star
November 26/83*

Project nearing fruition

continued from page 1

A design competition was held and recently, at a meeting in the hall of the United Memorial Church, architectural drawings submitted by the successful design team — CORE Design Group — were unveiled for public approval.

The tower is a sloping structure rising 60 feet at the peak and descending in a graceful, gradual curve, to merge with the slope of the hill.

The bells will be mounted along the top of the curve in the stone structure and capped with copper sheathing to protect them from the weather.

Reginald A. Prest, chairman of the Halifax Memorial Bells Committee, said the design was picked

because it makes a dramatic statement, suggesting an image of destruction while at the same time evoking the energetic civic renewal following the devastation.

With an estimated construction cost of \$200,000, the memorial building is to be privately financed. In a statement made at the unveiling, however, Mr. Morris committed the provincial government to match private donations dollar-for-dollar to a maximum of \$100,000.

Present plans call for the building to open Dec. 6, 1984, the 67th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

*Council
Nov 17 / 83*

Question Alderman Meagher Re: Installation of Bells, Fort Needham

Alderman Meagher advised that he has heard rumors and read in the press about the possibility of bells being installed on top of Fort Needham. Alderman Meagher noted that Fort Needham is owned by the City and questioned whether the City has been approached on the matter, and the City Manager advised that no such approach has been made to his knowledge. Alderman Meagher said he would like the City Manager to assure that bells are not installed until Council has a full discussion on the subject.



2 a
(ii)

RECEIVED
NOV 29 1983
CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

TO: MEMBERS OF HALIFAX CITY COUNCIL
FROM: RON WALLACE, MAYOR
DATE: NOVEMBER 28, 1983
SUBJECT: HALIFAX EXPLOSION MEMORIAL BELLS

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

*Attached is a report on the Halifax
Explosion Memorial Bells.*

*The Committee has requested an opportunity
to make a 20 minute presentation to Council. This will
be at the start of the Council December 1st.*

RON WALLACE
M A Y O R



2a(11)

TO: P. Calda, P. Eng., City Manager
FROM: G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk
DATE: December 5, 1983
SUBJECT: Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

Please be advised that City Council, at a meeting held on December 1, 1983, approved the following resolution:

"That the matter be referred to City staff for review and Council establish a Committee composed of representatives of City staff from the Engineering and Works Department and the City Manager's Office, and Aldermen O'Malley and Grant for the purpose of providing Council with a report on the feasibility of the proposed memorial."

Alderman Meagher expressed the desire that a report be submitted to a meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council as soon as possible.

G.I. Blennerhassett
G.I. BLENNERHASSETT
CITY CLERK

/pn

cc: Alderman O'Malley
Alderman Grant
P. Connell, Director Eng. & Works
C. Blakeney, Clerk's Office

TO: His Worship the Mayor

FROM: G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

DATE: November 30, 1983

SUBJECT: The Memorial Bells - Fort Needham

The Memorial Bells were donated to the United Memorial Church by Mrs. T.W. Thompson as a memorial to her family, the Orrs, who perished during the 1917 explosion. The bells were presented by Mrs. Thompson (nee Barbara Orr) in 1920, but the opening ceremony was not held until 1921 at which time Mrs. Thompson played the carillon.

The bells were made by the Meneely Company, an American firm. They were erected atop the church tower and stayed there until 1975, although the bells were inoperational since 1965. It was discovered in 1975 that the sheer weight of the bells and the vibrations they had produced had caused structural damage to the church tower.

In 1975 the bells were removed and kept under canvas on the church lawn until July 26, 1983, when they were removed to the naval gun factory in Dartmouth for storage and refurbishing. Since the bells were removed in 1975 the church congregation and interested citizens have worked to find an alternate arrangement for the bells.

Members of the congregation of the United Memorial Church first considered selling the bells and using the proceeds to purchase a smaller set of bells with the rest of the money going towards the Church revenues. Mrs. Thompson was contacted and approved.

The bells were first advertised in 1976 for \$25,000, but the Church fathers decided they would accept \$20,000. Between 1976 and 1978 the only viable offer was made by the Wolfville Baptist Church. The Wolfville congregation offered \$10,000 for the bells.

Early in 1976, Aldermen Sullivan and Walker had offered to raise money for the purchase of the bells with the intent that they would donate the bells to the City. This idea was turned down by the congregation in 1976 but by 1979 the Church approached City officials to see if the City would want to purchase the bells directly. Due to the cost of buying the bells and the eventual cost of the re-installation, City officials, at that time, agreed to consider the cost of the project as long as the bells were donated to the City. By January 1980, the church trustees had concurred.

2.....

When the City first considered allocating funds for the bell structure, it was anticipated \$40,000 would be needed (see report November 27, 1979). During the Capital Budget discussions for 1980, \$40,000 was set aside for the relocation. Although all discussions of the bell relocation were tentative at this time, a site on the southern end of Fort Needham was purposed as being ideal for the carillon (see enclosed site diagram). This proposed site was never discussed before Council, although the matter of the Fort Needham site was raised at a Finance and Executive meeting on July 23, 1980.

At this time Alderman Sullivan mentioned the Ford Needham site, in passing, as he recommended that the City approach the other two levels of government for funding. This recommendation was put before Council on July 31, 1980, the matter was passed. Letters were sent to Mr. Edmund Morris, the MLA for Halifax Needham, and Mr. Gerald Regan, MP for the Halifax Riding. Though both letters were acknowledged, no confirmation was made by either Mr. Morris or Mr. Regan (so far as we know).

The only further mention of financing the project was Mr. Morris' interjection in April of 1981 that he did not agree with inter-government financing nor did he believe that using funds from the 'Relief Fund' would be appropriate owing to the situation.

Except for the motion of locating the monument at Seaview Park, there was little activity on the Memorial Bells between 1980-1983. In the interim the cost of the project sky-rocketed.

It is only since the organization of the Memorial Bells Committee in July 1983 - the first meeting was held September 29, 1983 - that the Ford Needham relocation has resurfaced. Earlier in November, 1983, Mr. Morris, who instigated the organization of the Committee announced that the Provincial Government would be prepared to match 'dollar for dollar to a maximum of \$100,000' the money raised by private sector contributions,,, Oland Breweries has apparently undertaken the project of raising private sector funds. The Committee soon after announced the chosen location for the bells with the plan that the building would be open on December 6, 1983, the 67th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

Mr. Mike Woods, of the Development Department, who has been involved with the bells project since its onset, stated that, to his knowledge, no one in his department was consulted about the present proposed location.



G.I. BLENNERHASSETT
CITY CLERK

/pn

MEMORIAL BELLS

by core design group,
keith l. graham with
n. fowler, j. rowe, j. thomson

PRESS RELEASE

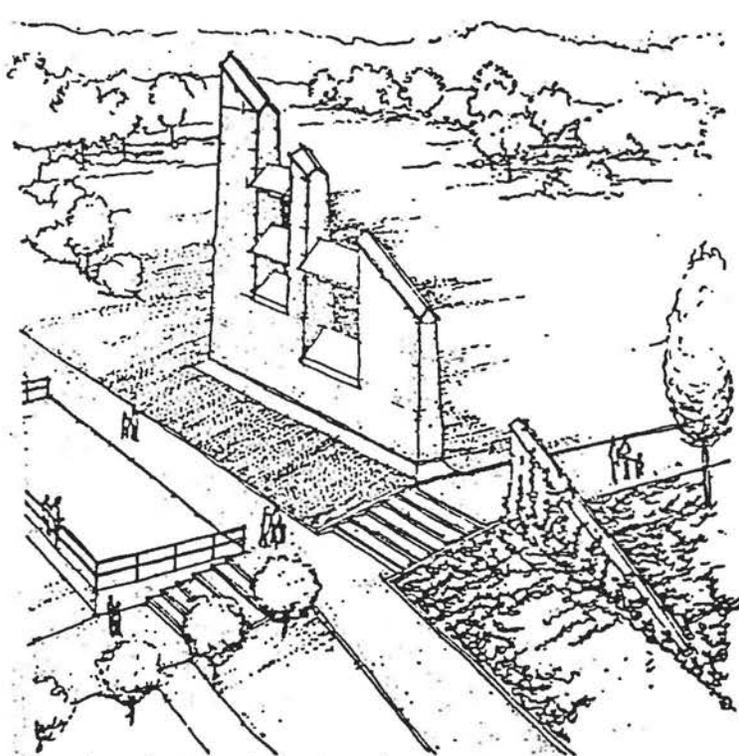
Monument Design Unveiled

HALIFAX, N.S. — The design of a bell tower to commemorate the 1917 Halifax Explosion was announced last evening at a public meeting in United Memorial Church.

Reginald A. Prest, Chairman of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee said the design was selected because it makes a dramatic statement suggesting an image of destruction while simultaneously evoking the energetic civic renewal that followed the devastation.

Placed on a granite platform, the \$200,000 structure is proposed for the north-east corner of Needham Park. The site, donated to the city years ago by the Halifax Relief Commission, overlooks the Narrows where the collision of the Imo and Mont Blanc took place. The monument will be clearly visible from both the surrounding area and the Harbour shores.

The narrow, angular construction will be 60' at the highest point, sloping 150° to disappear into the side of the hill. Several rectangular openings will house bells of the carillon donated in 1921 to United Memorial Church in memory of the Samuel Orr family. Placed perpendicular to the harbour, the form will direct viewer attention to the explosion site.



view from union st. entrance

Monolithic hydrostone will be the principal building material, with copper sheathing for the inclined surfaced and to protect the bell enclosures. "Traditional materials will reflect the history and character of the adjacent neighbourhood and project a feeling of stability and permanence," Prest noted.

Ornamental plantings will compliment the structural form. There will be opportunities for commemorative tree installations around the base. Walkways and paths will be upgraded minimally in the immediate area and strong lighting installed to highlight the monument.

It will be possible to play the carillon from both United Memorial Church and the monument platform.

Prest stated, "We feel that the structure, with its simplicity, boldness of form and sympathetic setting will become an important addition to Needham Park and its vicinity, as well as a significant feature of the Halifax-Dartmouth area."

The project dedication date is December 6th, 1984, the 67th anniversary of the Explosion.

HALIFAX EXPLOSION MEMORIAL BELLS COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 1267
Halifax North Postal Stn.
B3K 5H4
(902) 421-6730

SCOPE OF PROJECT

Construct a carillon tower of nine Historic Bells at the North end of a public park, on the site of old Fort Needham. Provide electrical conversion so carillon can be played on site or, remotely, from a nearby church.

COST ESTIMATE

Foundation	\$ 6,000
Superstructure	30,000
Platform Framing & Structure	11,000
Cladding, Granite, Copper Louvres and Mesh	38,000
Mechanical A - C	3,000
Electrical	3,000
Exterior Lighting	3,000
Site Improvements	4,000
Setting of Bells	2,000
Automating Equipment	33,000
Installation of Bells	9,000
Design Fees	12,000
Consulting Fee	2,500
Contingency - 10%	15,600
Endowment - Perpetual Care	<u>27,900</u>
	\$200,000

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Private Sector	\$ 80,000
Community - Individuals	20,000
Government of Nova Scotia	<u>100,000</u>
	\$200,000

Honorary Co-Chairmen
Mr. R.E. Inglis
Hon. Edmund Morris
Chairman
Mr. Reginald A. Prest
Treasurer
Mr. Fred R. Nickerson
Secretary
Mr. R.H. (Dick) MacLean
LCdr. Bernard D. Allard
Mrs. Jean Harrington
Mr. Frank Harrington
Mrs. Janet F. Kitz
Dr. H. Ian MacGregor
Mr. J. Rod McLeod
Mr. Bruce Nickerson
Mr. William B. Orr
Mr. Harold Shea
Mr. Terry Sullivan
Mr. Charles A. Vaughn
Mr. Roy Wilson



SITE AND PROPOSAL FOR



TO: Paul Calda, P. Eng., City Manager

FROM: M.P. Woods, Dev. Assistant, Real Estate

DATE: October 18, 1983

SUBJECT: United Memorial Church Bells

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

A working Committee has been established to locate the bells on Fort Needham.

I understand from Terry Sullivan, one of the Committee members that the Province is committed to funding \$100,000. I believe that this is subject to this amount being matched locally. Terry advises that Olands has undertaken to raise the private sector funds.

As I understand, the City is being asked to make a site available on Fort Needham as its contribution towards the project. You might be receiving a call in that regard this week.

I will be arranging a site meeting later this week and will prepare the necessary report to Council.

(2) Oct. 19/83
~~MR. CHURCHILL~~
 to Note. 124

M.P. Woods
 M.P. Woods
 Development Assistant
 Real Estate Division
 Development Department

MPW/rck

There will be no staff involvement in this matter. Council decided against this location and until we get different direction from Council we will keep out of it.

I talked to T. Sullivan today and advised him to make a submission to Council.
 No 12-5

Paul Calda, P. Eng., City Manager

M.P. Woods, Dev. Assistant, Real Estate

October 18, 1983

United Memorial Church Bells

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M.P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW/rck

SECRET



W. P. Grant, Director of Development
J. S. Blennerhassett, City Clerk
April 11, 1983

Seaview Park - Memorial - Finance & Executive
- Finance - April 6, 1983

A staff report dated March 16, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley, in referring to the submitted report, advised that he would like to clarify the matter of the memorial. He went on to refer to a service held at the United Memorial Church at which time there was an indication from the City to attempt to put the chimes into a memorial structure.

Alderman O'Malley advised of a subsequent meeting which he had with representatives of the Church including Dr. McGregor and indicated it was never intended that the bells would ring but rather an interest of erecting a permanent memorial for the Halifax explosion by placing the bells, or part of the bells, on a four sided configuration out of the reach of vandals. Alderman O'Malley expressed the view that the costs presented in the report were in excess of what he had in mind and suggested a memorial could be erected at a far lower cost than has been projected.

The City Manager referred to the weight of the bells and the design requirements and advised it was staff's understanding that the bells had to be operational. The City Manager advised that the City would have to obtain something in writing from the church indicating that the church will make the bells available and for what purpose, and Alderman O'Malley asked if that could be carried out. His Worship suggested that a letter could be forwarded to Dr. McGregor and the City Manager indicated that if a positive response is received, a proper design, both architecturally and structurally, would have to be undertaken suggesting that the cost would be in the \$15,000 range.

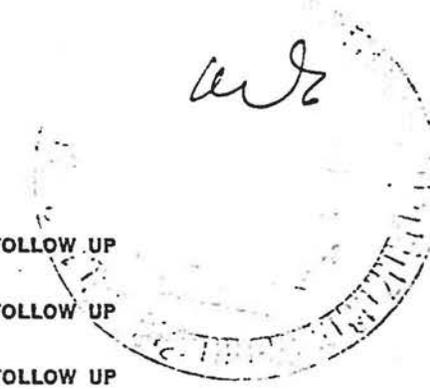
Alderman O'Malley questioned whether alternatives were not available such as through the Nova Scotia Technical College.

✓

RE: FINANCE.



aw



TO: A. W. Churchill, Supervisor, Real Estate
Division

FROM: M. P. Woods

DATE: April 14, 1981

SUBJECT: Bells - United Memorial Church

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

A meeting was held in the office of Mr. Edmund Morris on April 6, 1981. Also in attendance was David MacKeen, Executive Assistant to the Minister.

Mr. Morris summarized events prior to his departure from the City. He then asked for an update as to any progress that has been made.

It was explained that a report had been taken to Council, and although Council generally favoured the idea, that it was not given priority in terms of the Capital Budget. It was noted that \$40,000 was put on the shopping list in 1980 and that there was no provision in the 1981 Capital Budget. It was also noted that Council moved a recommendation that the Provincial and Federal Governments be approached to contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church.

Mr. Morris then proceeded to go on one of his tangents and lectured the writer on Council's attitude about depending on other levels of government for financial assistance.

He mentioned that he would like to see the project get going despite Council's attitude but was reluctant to recommend the use of the "Relief Fund" because of the present Mayor's earlier campaign platform. Apparently Mayor Wallace stated that he would like to make the surplus fund available to surviving members of present recipients' families. In Mr. Morris' opinion, this left the fund open to abuse.

Mr. Morris is prepared to recommend to Cabinet that an expenditure of up to \$50,000 be authorized for the relocation provided that the City is willing to contribute an equal share.

A letter is to be sent to the Mayor's Office confirming the above.

M P Woods

M. P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW:T

RE: FINANCE

7617

October 8, 1980

Mr. Roy Wilson
 116A Adelaide Ave.
 Halifax, N.S.
 B3N 2P2

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Re: United Memorial Church -
 Carillon Bells

I noted in reviewing our file that we inadvertently neglected to keep you up-to-date as to the current events regarding the above project. I apologize for the oversight as I thought you had been informed.

After receipt of your letter of June 10, the matter was brought before City Council and on July 31, 1980, the following resolution was passed.

"moved by Deputy Mayor Sullivan, seconded by Alderman Wooden that, as recommended by the Finance and Executive Committee, the Provincial and Federal levels of government be approached to contribute to a memorial to house the Carillon Bells - United Memorial Church."

Letters were sent from Mayor Hanson to Mr. Edmund Morris, the MLA for Halifax Needham in addition to Mr. Gerald Regan, member of Parliament for the Halifax Riding, in response to the Council resolution. Both letters have been acknowledged and we are currently awaiting, hopefully a favourable response, with regards to funding.

Hopefully we will have some positive news shortly.

Yours truly,

M.P. Woods
 M.P. Woods
 Development Assistant
 Real Estate Division
 Development Department

MPW/sfs

*Copy to ...
Director of Development
Sept 30/80*

SEP 25 1980



His Worship Mayor Ronald J. Hanson
City of Halifax
City Hall
1841 Argyle Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Hanson:

Thank you for your letter of September 11th, 1980, providing information about the proposal to erect a bell tower in memory of victims of the Halifax Explosion.

I am currently awaiting the comments of Mr. A.O. Solomon, Chairman of the Canadian Pension Commission.

Once I have heard from him I will be in touch with you again.

Meanwhile, thank you for giving me the opportunity to look into the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald A. Regan
Gerald A. Regan

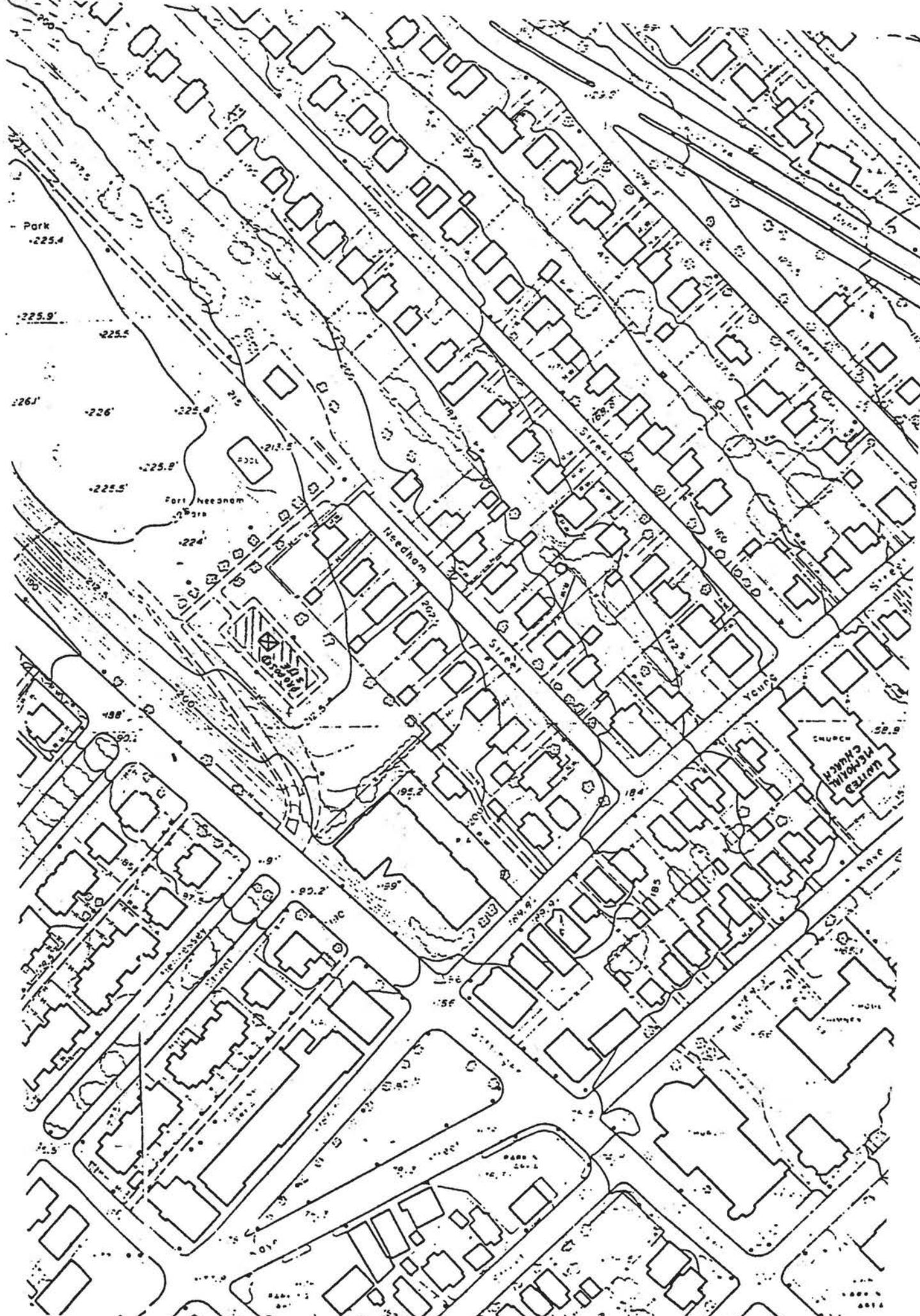
*MR. CHURCHILL.
MR. WOODS*



RECEIVED

SEP 30 1980

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL





✓ R.B. Grant, Director of Development

G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

May 3, 1983

SUBJECT: Seaview Park - Memorial

Please be advised that City Council, at a meeting held on April 28, 1983, approved the following resolution:

"That staff be directed to incorporate into the design of Seaview Memorial Park an appropriate but inexpensive memorial to commemorate the Halifax Explosion, the Settling of the Black United Empire Loyalists in Africville, and the Merchant Marine participation in World War 11."

G.I. Blennerhassett
G.I. BLENNERHASSETT
CITY CLERK

/pn

cc: M. Woods, Development

*MR. Woods
WHO IS GOING
TO LOOK AFTER THIS?
NY*

Tender No. 526933 - Sports Equipment

A staff report dated April 20, 1983 was submitted.

MOVED by Alderman Downey, seconded by Alderman Nolan
the Finance and Executive Committee recommend to City Council that
Tender No. 526933 for Sports Equipment be awarded to Cleve's
Sporting Goods, 1558 Argyle Street, Halifax, N.S. in the amount
of \$18,545.05.

Alderman Dewell addressed the Motion and asked if
in future, consideration might be given to splitting the tender
so that more than one sporting goods store might submit a tender.

The City Manager advised the matter would be reviewed.

The Motion was put and passed.

Mainland South Community Centre

A staff report dated March 11, 1983 was submitted.

MOVED by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Nolan
the Finance and Executive Committee recommend to City Council that
Council authorize His Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk to sign
a construction agreement between the City of Halifax and the
Province of Nova Scotia, approved as to form by the City Solicitor,
for the administration of the construction phase of the Mainland
South Community Centre project.

Motion passed.

4:10 p.m. - The City Solicitor arrives at the meeting.

Seaview Park - Memorial

This item was deferred to this meeting from the Council
meeting held on April 14, 1983.

A staff report dated April 18, 1983 was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley addressed the matter and advised of
the information received from the United Memorial Church and the
position taken. Alderman O'Malley referred to correspondence
exchanged over the past years relating to this matter; apologizing
to the Committee of his unawareness of the conditions placed upon
the chimes.

MOVED by Alderman O'Malley, seconded by Alderman Dewell
the Finance and Executive Committee recommend to City Council
that staff be directed to incorporate into the design of Seaview Memorial
Park an appropriate but inexpensive memorial to commemorate the
Halifax Explosion; the Settling of the Black United Empire Loyalists
in Africville and the Merchant Marine participation in World War II.

May 2
306/46

2. Seaview Memorial Park

Mr. Dodge has written a memo with respect to the bell tower design, but has asked that work be put on hold. In the interim, the School of Architecture has been approached on the subject and has suggested that the fall term would be the most appropriate to include the project in their program.

Committee of the Whole
April 20, 1983

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paul Calda, P.Eng., City Manager
Date: April 18, 1983
Subject: Seaview Park - Memorial

The attached minutes outline the discussion in Committee of the Whole on April 6, 1983, regarding the proposed memorial for Seaview Park.

In response to the approved motion, Dr. MacGregor was contacted by phone on Friday, April 8, 1983, and a follow-up letter was forwarded on Monday, April 11, 1983. The written reply from the Board of Trustees is attached and is self-explanatory.

Also at the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 9, 1983, two questions were asked by Alderman O'Malley.

1. That staff investigate the possibility of funding for Seaview Park through the Halifax Disaster Relief Fund as well as other sources.
2. And, the feasibility of Seaview Park coming under the jurisdiction of the Point Pleasant Park Commission.

The balance of the Halifax Disaster Relief Fund, formerly administered by the Halifax Relief Commission, was transferred to the Canadian Pension Commission in 1976. The powers of the original commission were conveyed to the Canadian Pension Commission under the authority of the Halifax Relief Commission Pension Continuation Act. (see attached excerpt from the Act).

While considering the erection of a memorial on Fort Needham in 1980, utilizing the chime from the United Memorial Church, staff enquired, at Council's direction, about the possibility of utilizing a portion of the relief fund for this purpose. The response received from Mr. A.C. Solomon, Chairman of the Canadian Pension Commission, was that the existing legislation did not provide the authority for paying grants or capital contributions from the fund so long as there were pension recipients alive to whom a pension is payable. It was pointed out, however, that when funds are no longer required for pension purposes, that the legislation (Section 6) provides for the transfer of the balance to a provincial or municipal body for the continued rehabilitation of the area that was devastated by the explosion.

With regard to question 2, it is noted that the Halifax Commission on City Government is suggesting that the Management Board of the Point Pleasant Park Commission is no longer necessary and is recommending "that a new standing committee for Parks and Gardens be established to advise Council and the City Administration in respect to all City parks and gardens". As this recommendation has not yet been considered in detail by City Council, further comment from staff would be inappropriate at this time.

In the event that Council decides to retain the Point Pleasant Park Commission in its present capacity, it would be necessary to amend the existing legislation which incorporates the directors of Point Pleasant Park if the Commission was to assume an expanded role.


Paul Calda, P.Eng.,
City Manager

MPW/sfs
Attachs.

Prepared by:

M.P. Woods, 
Development Assistant

Approved by:

R.B. Grant, Director
Development Department 



United Memorial Church

KAYE STREET

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

REV. LAWRENCE W. BONE, B.A., M. DIV. MINISTER

5350 YOUNG STREET
455-2774



TREASURER
GEORGE ROY
175A ADELAIDE AVENUE
443-8457

K OF SESSION
EL A. MACLENNAN
ACADIA STREET
455-0220

April 18 1983

Mr. M. P. Woods,
Development Assistant, Development Dept.,
City of Halifax

Dear Mr. Woods:

Re: Seaview Park (United Memorial Church Chime)

According to your letter of April 11, 1983 you mention that the intent of the Memorial Bells was to be placed in a tower and that they be erected as a symbolic gesture only with a suitable plaque and that they be non-functional.

a. We would like to inform you that this intent does not comply with the wishes of United Memorial congregation. At present it is a mandatory stipulation of their gift that the bells be made operational at the chosen site with a suitable plaque. These bells were given as a memorial to be played.

b. The site preferred by the congregation is Fort Needham.

c. The congregation has gone on record at its Annual Meeting of January 31, 1982 "that the Bell Committee of our Congregation continue to negotiate along these lines making sure that the bells do not lose identity and that in the event the City does not carry through, the bells remain the property of the Trustees of United Memorial Church."

Yours Truly,

Ian MacGregor
Dr. H. Ian MacGregor,
Chairman, Bell Committee
United Memorial Church

*Sorry I can't attend the committee meeting
harden M. Wilson.*

[Signature]

Alderman Gerald O'Malley

M.P. Woods, Development Assistant, Real Estate

April 12, 1983

Seaview Park (United Memorial Church Chime)

The City Manager has asked that you be kept informed on the status of the bells.

I have talked with Dr. MacGregor on April 8, 1983, and a follow up letter (attached) was sent requesting written confirmation of our discussion.

In brief, Dr. MacGregor indicated that the Board of Trustees preferred that the bells be relocated to Fort Needham but would probably not be opposed to using a site within Seaview Park provided that they be made functional. It is my understanding that the gift to the City will be conditional upon the bells being made to operate at either site.

Dr. MacGregor indicated that he would consult with the other members of the board as soon as possible and that a formal reply will be sent to this office.

A copy of that reply will be forwarded to you when received.


M.P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW/sfs
c.c. Paul Calda
Attach.



7:27

April 11, 1983

Dr. H. Ian MacGregor
5591 Duffus Street
Halifax, N.S.
B3K 2M7

Re: Seaview Park (United Memorial Church Chime)

Dear Dr. MacGregor:

To confirm our conversation of April 3, 1983, Halifax City Council is currently discussing the possibility of erecting the bells on a tower constructed of concrete block or similar materials, at a site to be selected within Seaview Park. The intent is that they be erected as a symbolic gesture only, with a suitable plaque and that they be non-functional. Council has considered the idea of holding a design competition for the tower.

Prior to proceeding with plans for the design of a tower, Council is asking for a commitment from the congregation that the bells will be made available for the intended use. With this in mind, could we have a letter from your Board of Trustees indicating whether:

- 1) A site within the boundaries of Seaview Park will be considered acceptable for the relocation of the bells.
- 2) Will it be a mandatory stipulation of the gift that the bells be made operational at the chosen site or will the proposed symbolic use be acceptable at this time?

The matter is scheduled for further discussion in Committee of the Whole on April 20, 1983, and your response preferably by April 18, 1983, would certainly be appreciated.

An invitation is also extended to any members of your board who might wish to attend the meeting and possibly clarify any questions that might arise.

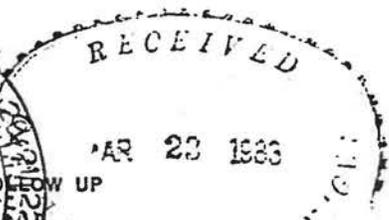
Yours truly,

M.F. Woods

H.F. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

awf
MPW/sfs

1/ B Grant



Paul Calda, City Manager

G. I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

March 22, 1983

Questions - Seaview Park - Alderman O'Malley

During a telephone conversation with Alderman O'Malley on the above date he indicated to me that there are two outstanding questions he had asked in relation to Seaview Park.

The two questions are as follows:

1. That staff investigate the possibility of funding for Seaview Park through the Halifax Disaster Relief fund as well as other sources.
2. and, the feasibility of Seaview Park coming under the jurisdiction of the Point Pleasant Park Commission.

I vaguely remember these questions being asked, but I am unable to locate them in the minutes.

G. I. Blennerhassett
G. I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

GIB/jan

MR. DODGE
MR. CHURCHILL ✓
MR. WOODS.
? M



CONFIDENTIAL

P. Calda, P.Eng., City Manager

M.P. Woods, Dev. Asst., Real Estate

March 22, 1983

Seaview Park - United Memorial Church Bells

In response to a request from Alderman O'Malley to Peter Connell, which was directed to me, a call was made to a Dr. MacGregor who sits on the Board of Trustees of the Church.

I indicated that a report was going to Committee of March 23, 1982, requesting further clarification from Council prior to proceeding with the planning & design stage.

In the course of the conversation Dr. MacGregor indicated that it was his understanding that the parishoners want the bells operational, and preferably installed on Fort Needham.

It appears to me as if the Alderman and the parishoners are working at odds on this one and that possibly the bells might not be made available for the symbolic use as proposed.

I believe that Mr. Ray Wilson, who also sits on the board, will be attending tomorrow's meeting.

MPW/sfs

M.P. Woods
Development Assistant

Committee of the Whole
March 23, 1983

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paul Calda, P.Eng., City Manager
Date: March 16, 1983
Subject: Seaview Memorial Park

At the City Council meeting of March 17, 1983, staff was asked to prepare a report incorporating a number of suggestions which were discussed on March 9, in Committee of the Whole. The instructions given to staff as contained in the attached minutes require further clarification prior to proceeding.

For the benefit of those members not familiar with the Bells, the chime in its existing form consists of 10 bells ranging in size from a weight of 1800 lbs. and 43 inches in diameter (largest) to 175 lbs. and 20.5" diameter (smallest) for a total weight of 6150 lbs. They are currently supported on heavy timber beams which adds considerable weight and mass to the bells.

Alderman Grant, a parishoner of the United Memorial Church, the parish which presently owns the bells, has expressed the desire that they be made operational at least once a year during services commemorating the victims of the Halifax Explosion. During earlier attempts to have the bells relocated to Fort Needham it was staff's understanding that the bells were to be made operational.

On the other hand, the Alderman for Ward 5 has suggested that the bells need not be made functional and that they could be placed on an inexpensive support structure with appropriate plaques as a symbolic gesture.

As noted in an earlier report, the bells can be made functional, but at considerable cost in doing so. The \$40,000 cost mentioned in the March 1, 1983, report is based on mechanical equipment suggested by Mr. Creed Freeman of Schulmerich Carillons, Inc. The figure incorporates a 1979 equipment quotation, updated for inflation and does not include installation, erection costs, or the cost of supplying power to the site.

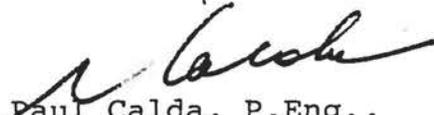
If an expenditure of the above magnitude is to be made, it is imperative that the bell tower be so designed as to hopefully eliminate the possibility of the equipment which would be stored at the base of the tower being vandalized. Any tower design, simple or otherwise, should also incorporate some provision for protecting the bells, or in all likelihood, they will be subject to acts of vandalism. At the very least, even if the bells are not made operational, they should be protected by concealing them as much as possible in the enclosure so constructed. This implies

added costs, but in staff's opinion is a very important consideration.

At present, there is no money allocated in the budget and this project would have to be funded from other sources or added to the budget now or later.

Council's approval with the concept of the tower and bells is required prior to expending funds. If Council's authority is given to proceed, the planning and design costs which are estimated to range from \$10,000.00 - \$15,000.00 could be covered by the Engineering & Design Reserve Account.

MPW/sfs


Paul Calda, P.Eng.,
City Manager

Prepared by:

M.P. Woods, Development Assistant

Approved by:

R.B. Grant, Director 
Development Department



R. B. Grant, Director of Development

G. I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

March 10, 1983

Re: Seaview Memorial Park - Finance & Executive Committee - March 9, 1983

A staff report dated March 1, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley addressed the matter noting that the structure as outlined in the staff report was much more elaborate than what he had initially intended. He requested that a further report be prepared outlining a simple structure commemorating the explosion and incorporating the plaques and placing the bells at the top of the structure as a purely symbolic use.

The City Manager suggested that staff make arrangements for a mini competition with regard to the design, noting that the Nova Scotia School of Architecture might possibly be an avenue which could be used.

Alderman Grant indicated that he would like to see a structure which would allow the bells to be rung at least once a year during the memorial service.

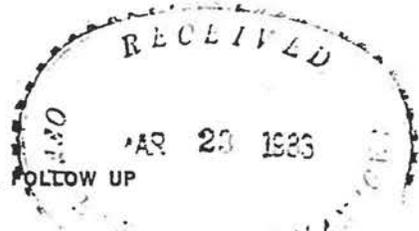
G. I. Blennerhassett

G. I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

/jan

cc M. P. Woods, Real Estate

Grant 24/3/83



paul Calda, City Manager

G. I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

March 22, 1983

1. FOLLOW UP

2. FOLLOW UP

3. FOLLOW UP

Questions - Seaview Park - Alderman O'Malley 4. COMPLETION DATE

During a telephone conversation with Alderman O'Malley on the above date he indicated to me that there are two outstanding questions he had asked in relation to Seaview Park.

The two questions are as follows:

1. That staff investigate the possibility of funding for Seaview Park through the Halifax Disaster Relief fund as well as other sources.
2. and, the feasibility of Seaview Park coming under the jurisdiction of the Point Pleasant Park Commission.

has answered letter to Com. of Relief Comm.

I vaguely remember these questions being asked, but I am unable to locate them in the minutes.

G. I. Blennerhassett

G. I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

GIB/jan

*MR. DODGE
MR. CHURCHILL
MR. WOODS. ?*



*4- Mike to check with Maysi's office today re (1)
3/4- all questions to go in Apr: 20
1 report for Com: Maysi
see report Apr: 18*



1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

B. Grant, Director of Development

G. I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

April 11, 1983

Seaview Park - Memorial - Finance & Executive Committee - April 6, 1983

A staff report dated March 16, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley, in referring to the submitted report, advised that he would like to clarify the matter of the memorial and went on to refer to a service held at the United Memorial Church at which time there was an indication from the City to attempt to bring the chimes into a memorial structure.

Alderman O'Malley advised of a subsequent meeting which he had with representatives of the Church including Dr. McGregor and indicated it was never intended that the bells would ring but rather an interest of erecting a permanent memorial for the Halifax explosion by placing the bells, or part of the bells, on a four sided configuration out of the reach of vandals. Alderman O'Malley expressed the view that the costs presented in the report were in excess of what he had in mind and suggested a memorial could be erected at a far lower cost than has been projected.

The City Manager referred to the weight of the bells and the design requirements and advised it was staff's understanding that the bells had to be operational. The City Manager advised that the City would have to obtain something in writing from the church indicating that the church will make the bells available and for what purpose, and Alderman O'Malley asked if that could be carried out. His Worship suggested that a letter could be forwarded to Dr. McGregor and the City Manager indicated that if a positive response is received, a proper design, both architecturally and structurally, would have to be undertaken suggesting that the cost would be in the \$15,000 range.

Alderman O'Malley questioned whether alternatives were not available such as through the Nova Scotia Technical College.

AG

Seaview Park - Memorial
Finance & Executive
April 6, 1983

R.B. Grant, P
G.I. Blenner
April 18, 1
Seaview Pa

MOVED by Alderman O'Malley, seconded by Alderman D
that staff be authorized to forward a letter to the United
Memorial Church on the matter so that Council will be inform
whether the bells are to be operational, what site is accept
etc.

Alderman O'Malley asked if the matter could proceed
expediently and suggested that a member of City staff visit
Dr. McGregor or invite him to attend the next meeting of the
Committee of the Whole Council. His Worship expressed the vie
it would not take too long to obtain the requested information

Motion passed.

Alderman O'Malley asked if a member of staff would con
Dr. McGregor and His Worship suggested that such would be the c

meeting
resolut

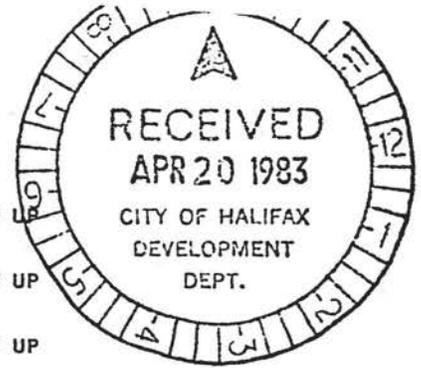
G. I. Blennerhassett

G. I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

/jan

cc M. Woods

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✓ R.B. Grant, Director of Development

G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

April 18, 1983

Seaview Park - Memorial

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

Please be advised that City Council, at a meeting held on April 14, 1983, approved the following resolution:

"That the matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee of the Whole Council."

G.I. Blennerhassett
G.I. BLENNERHASSETT
CITY CLERK

/pn

cc: M. Woods, Development
Carol, Clerk's office



R. B. Grant, Director of Development

G. I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

March 10, 1983

Re: Seaview Memorial Park - Finance & Executive Committee - March 9, 1983

A staff report dated March 1, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley addressed the matter noting that the structure as outlined in the staff report was much more elaborate than what he had initially intended. He requested that a further report be prepared outlining a simple structure commemorating the explosion and incorporating the plaques and placing the bells at the top of the structure as a purely symbolic use.

The City Manager suggested that staff make arrangements for a mini competition with regard to the design, noting that the Nova Scotia School of Architecture might possibly be an avenue which could be used.

Alderman Grant indicated that he would like to see a structure which would allow the bells to be rung at least once a year during the memorial service.

*11/3
MR. CHURCHILL
MS*

*15/3
A W C
memo to Ed
McNeill under CLD's
signature asking him
to contact school of architecture
& T.U.N.S re possibility of
design competition
follow with McNeill
in one week. M.P.W.
15/3*

G. Blennerhassett

G. I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

/jan

cc M. P. Woods, Real Estate

Committee of the Whole
March 9, 1983

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paul Calda, P.Eng., City Manager
Date: March 1, 1983
Subject: Seaview Memorial Park

This is in response to a request for a staff report dealing with the implications of erecting a tower and installing the bells from the United Memorial Church at a site within the planned Seaview Memorial Park.

In brief, the bells were donated by a parishoner of the United Memorial Church as a memorial to a number of members of that particular family who lost their lives during the Halifax Explosion. The Church found it necessary to remove the bells in recent years owing to the considerable stress on the Church tower which was deteriorating over time through their use. The bells are currently stored under cover on the Church property.

The ten bells in their existing form have an approximate weight of three tons, exclusive of their support structure which consists of heavy timber beams approximately 10 inches square. As staff understands it, the design of a tower must not only be capable of handling the structural load but must also be able to withstand the resonating effects produced by the striking action of the bells. It was this stress that was causing the deterioration of the Church tower where they were formerly located.

Perhaps a more important consideration than the tower design is the method of making the bells operational. When considering Fort Needham, it was suggested that the bells be tied in by cable to the nearby United Memorial Church and that they could be played by a manual keyboard located in the Church. This option would appear to be ruled out at the park site because of location and cost factors necessitated by the use of heavy co-axial cable. The bells could be activated by mechanical equipment and/or a manual keyboard (on site) which would necessitate voltage of 220 AC single phase being supplied to the site.

Based on earlier quotations received from Schulmerich Carillons Inc., Pennsylvania, for automated equipment, it would appear that this equipment would cost somewhere in the order of \$40,000 today, exclusive of installation and erection costs. As staff understands, the tower would have to be enclosed at the base to house the equipment and necessary switching assemblies and would require a small degree of heat in the winter to prevent freeze up of the gears. In view of the relative isolation of the site, the tower design should provide for the concealment of the bells by ornamental grill work which makes them less susceptible to acts of vandalism.

In most cases, St. Agnes' Church for example, they are able to store the mechanical equipment in a Church basement or rectory which keeps the equipment safe from the elements and vandalism. In the case of St. Agnes', the priests are able to handle minor technical problems and some servicing. This aspect presumably would be handled by the Engineering and Works Department.

As noted above, it is estimated that the mechanical equipment would probably cost in the area of \$40,000 and the cost of installation is presently unknown. The cost of the tower itself would depend upon the design requirements needed to handle the structural and stress loads noted above and could easily be in excess of the \$50,000 range.

Staff has had several conversations with a Mr. Creed Freeman Jr., Campanologist of Schulmerich Carillons Inc., Pennsylvania, who is an expert in his field. Mr. Freeman indicated in 1979 that he would be prepared to come to Halifax, for expenses, and make appropriate recommendations. Mr. Freeman's Company can supply the necessary mechanical equipment, does complete installations and also manufactures certain pre-designed towers and has suppliers for others.

In view of the many technical aspects as outlined above staff would recommend that Mr. Freeman's services be engaged prior to proceeding with this project as there may be other hidden costs involved of which staff is not aware. A budgetary allowance of \$1,500. to cover flights and accommodation for 3 days should prove adequate. Funds are available in Account FA041.

The obtaining of any of these services will not inhibit the planned implementation of the development of Seaview Memorial Park. The 1983 project includes final grading, topsoil, plantings and hydro-seeding of the western portion of the park as well as the installation of required storm sewer. Planning and construction of a campanile for the bells, subject to Council approval, could be completed in 1984. For the information of Council, tenders for the 1983 project are planned for March with construction starting in the late spring.

Council is asked to give staff direction regarding the proposed bell tower installation.

MPW/sfs


Paul Calda, P.Eng.,
City Manager

Prepared by:

MPW
M.P. Woods, Development Assistant

Approved by:

RG
R.B. Grant, Director
Development Department

ATTENDED YOUR CALL
2/2
OFF YOU



CITY OF HALIFAX

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

EX 019-22641
PHONE
2-3-

January 13, 1983

Atlantex Ltd.
P. O. Box 100
Lake Charlotte
Halifax County, N.S.
B0J 1Y0



Attention: Mr. Gordon Hammond

Dear Sir:

Your letter dated January 4, 1983 is acknowledged.

The City is, at this time, completing the landscaping aspects of Seaview Memorial Park. Alderman O'Malley has requested a memorial at Seaview Memorial Park to commemorate Merchant Marine contribution in World War II, Africville, the Duc D'Anville epic of history and Convoy gathering in the Basin. Such a memorial is under discussion by staff and may go to a design competition.

Thank you for your interest. Your correspondence will be filed at this time pending completion of ground works and determination of design of a memorial or memorials.

Please feel free to contact us in about six (6) months for an update of this project.

Yours very truly,

W. A. SULLIVAN, P. ENG.
CHIEF ENGINEER

WAS/klz

c.c. Mike Woods, Real Estate

ANY NAME
LOC.
MISS
MR.
EYE OU



R. B. Grant, Director of Development

1. FOLLOW UP

G.I. Blennerhassett, City Clerk

2. FOLLOW UP

December 29, 1982

3. FOLLOW UP

Seaview Memorial Park (Alderman O'Malley - Finance & Executive Comm. - Dec.22/82)

4. COMPLETION DATE

This matter was added to the agenda at the request of Alderman O'Malley.

Alderman O'Malley addressed the matter noting that the funding for the Seaview Memorial Park had been approved by Council and development of the Park would be carried out in the near future. Alderman O'Malley, with the use of a sketch of the area, outlined four events of historical significance being the Halifax Explosion, the settling of black United Empire Loyalists in Africville, the loss of the French Fleet referred to as the Duc D'anville tragedy and the part played by the Merchant Marine in the Second World War. Alderman O'Malley suggested that this park would be an appropriate location for a memorial commemerating these historical events. He indicated that he would like to see a tower erected, using the bells from the existing United Memorial Church, which would be donated to the City if such memorial were to be erected.

He suggested that funding could be obtained through the Halifax Disaster Relief Fund as well as other sources.

He requested that staff investigate the possibility of such a tower being erected on this site.

Discussion ensued with certain Aldermen expressing concern with the exact location of the memorial in relation to expected industrial development. Further discussion ensued.

It was agreed that staff prepare a report including possible designs, estimated cost figures and possible sources of funding.

Deputy Mayor Hamshaw requested the report contain information from Industrial Commission on proposed industrial development in the area.

G.I. Blennerhassett

G.I. Blennerhassett,
City Clerk

report for Mar. 3

33

25.
JULLIVAN

44.

89
all

10/83

105

OTHER
ON BELLS.

Jan 2/83
FEB 3/83
RAY

D. Corkum, Acting Executive Director
of the Halifax Industrial Commission
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INFORMATION REPORT

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paul Calda, P.Eng., City Manager
Date: January 18, 1984
Subject: Relocation - United Memorial Church Bells

This report is in response to questions raised in the attached letter of January 9 from Alderman O'Malley who was appointed by Council along with Alderman Grant to examine the matter of locating the United Memorial Church bells on Fort Needham. Questions are answered in the order as presented.

1. A preliminary aerial plan has been prepared for display which incorporates an affected area boundary, of Duffus, Macara, Barrington and Agricola Streets. Schools within this area are shown in blue and day care centres are colored green. Staff will attempt to determine by January 23, which centres regularly use the site. There are a total of five access points to the park which are off Union Street, Novalea Drive and Needham Street and are shown in yellow. Due to time constraints, and site conditions, staff was unable to locate precisely the playground area and baseball diamond but the appropriate location is annotated.

2. The location, area and approximate dimensions of the bell tower and viewing platform proposed by the sponsors have been superimposed on the aerial plan. Staff is unaware of any parking facility or proposed traffic to be accommodated on Fort Needham. With respect to parking on-street, all streets whose curb lines are not colored red are available for parking.

3 & 4. Answers to these questions will be supplied by the next regular meeting of Committee of the Whole Council (February 8).

5 & 6. The number of residences contained within the subject area as noted in section one is approximately 750 and some guidance from Council or the Bells Committee is requested as to the extent of the suggested poll. A proposed format for a questionnaire will be available at or before the next regular Committee of the Whole meeting.

7. Staff is not prepared to comment on the long term structural adequacy of the proposed structure nor the effect of the water course/hill drainage. However, the Memorial Bells Committee's consultant has indicated core samples will be taken by professional soils analysts, Jacques Whitford & Associates Ltd., to determine the substructure of the hill. As a matter of course the structural adequacy of any plans submitted would be reviewed prior to the issuance of any building permit and they must be certified by the applicant's consultants.

8. The architect (Core Design Group) has indicated an overhead pole line would be run from the United Memorial Church on Young Street up Union Street to Fort Needham. The line would then be buried most likely in or adjacent to the crushed stone roadway to the viewing platform. An electrical junction box would be attached to the platform. An underground line would connect the junction box and the actual strikers in the bell tower.

Legally speaking, the City should give an easement over the underground portion for possible future servicing requirements. The proponents would be responsible for ascertaining whose poles are located along Union Street and obtaining permission from that body to run the cables together with paying any necessary pole rentals. The proponents have indicated earlier at Council that a trust fund would be established to cover ongoing future costs, one of which would be the pole rental.

9. Mr. Roy Wilson, Committee member of United Memorial Church, has indicated that the old frame was comprised of oak. It was not designed to support the weight nor the vibrations of the bells. The largest bell weighs 1,800 lbs. while the total weight of the bells and the tower was approximately two tons.

The tower base was not originally designed to bear this weight and as such, water seepage resulted within the old tower and also within the church rooms below. Representatives from L.E. Shaw Limited and other groups studied the tower in 1974, prior to the removal of the top 25' of the tower, to ascertain if it could be redesigned to support such a weight. It was concluded this was not possible.

Any further opinion required in this regard should be received from independent structural engineers rather than from City staff.

10. The following statement with respect to the Halifax Memorial Library (North Branch) has been provided by the Chief Librarian:

"The North Branch Library building is a memorial to those who lost their lives in the Explosion of 1917. Funding for the construction of the building included \$100,000 from the Halifax Relief Commission.

The sculpture in front of the building was designed to be symbolic of the Halifax Explosion and the City's rebirth after the catastrophe. The sculpture includes a piece of metal donated by Elizabeth Anne Freeman who in 1966 resided at 1038 Robie Street, Halifax. This piece of metal struck the home of Elizabeth Anne Freeman's parents, Mr. Mrs. W.B. Freeman at 158 Windsor Street on December 6, 1917."

11. Further staff information or advice, if any, will be provided at or before the February 8 meeting of Committee of the Whole.

MPW/JDB/sfs



P. Calda, P.Eng.,
City Manager

Prepared by:

M.P. Woods, Development Assistant
J.D. Bauld, Management Assistant

Approved by:

R.B. Grant, Director, Development Department
P.S. Connell, Director, Engineering & Works



January 9, 1984

Mr. Paul Calda
City Manager
City of Halifax
P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5

Dear Mr. Calda:

Prior to the Christmas Holiday season, as you will remember, Alderman R. Grant and I were appointed by Council to look into the matter of locating the Bells of "United Memorial" on Fort Needham.

I have received, in this regard, a very brief and uninformative paper from the Real Estate Department of the City. In order that we assess this matter for our report to Council, I would ask the following be responded to.

1. A complete drawing of the Fort area outlining a) playground area; b) minor league baseball area; c) surrounding schools and day care centers whose children regularly use the playground facilities (a questionnaire may be sent) and finally which accesses to the area are used by these children.
- 2) The exact location, area and geometric configuration which would be taken by the proposed memorial. If in fact vehicles of any kind are to be accommodated close to the proposed monument (such as tour busses, tourist cars, vehicles attending the "Bells Concerts" proposed for the platform fronting the proposed monument. If so, where are said vehicles to be accommodated, i.e. is a parking facility on the Fort or traffic over it proposed? If not, on which streets surrounding the area will parking be accommodated.
3. If a defined geometric configuration of land is assigned will a deed of transfer be made or will the city retain ownership? If the latter, will the city have legal ownership and therefore all time legal liability for the Bells and their housing?

...../2



ALDERMAN
CITY OF HALIFAX
NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. Paul Calda
January 9, 1984
Page 2.

4. Are there any restrictions, legal or financial, to the transfer of such land if required?
5. We would like an outline of the number of residences and location for a reasonable surrounding distance of the Fort site in order to have a City administered pole taken of the views of those adults and children who use the Fort site as a park on a daily basis.
6. We would like a proposed format of such a questionnaire for such a poll which would outline all of the formal facts as a prologue to asking the necessary public question.
7. We would like staffs engineering judgments on the long term structural adequacy of the proposed structure vis-a-vis effect of water course or hill drainage, etc.
8. We would like an outline of the proposed method of running connecting cables between the church and the proposed site and any city implications associated with this legally and financially now and in the long run.
9. We would like a staff opinion on the feasibility of reconstructing the existing "Bell Tower" on United Memorial Church and replacing the carillon thereon with appropriate plaques.
10. We would like a complete outline of this development and status of Halifax North Memorial Library as a formally established monument to the victims of the Halifax Explosion. You might contact the Library Board for a copy of the Opening Ceremonies in 1967 of this branch of the Library.
11. Finally, we would like any additional information, not included above, related to City costs in the short and long run, and any other information staff in their wisdom may provide which would fully analyze this proposal.

...../3

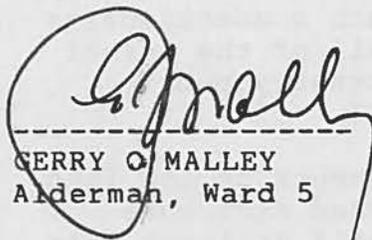


ALDERMAN
CITY OF HALIFAX
NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. Paul Calda
January 8, 1984
Page 3.

Your co-operation in assembling the foregoing is appreciated.

Yours very truly,



GERRY O'MALLEY
Alderman, Ward 5

GO'M/DR

Halifax City Regional Library Board

Appointed by City of Halifax

Judge Nathan Green, Chairman (Building Committee)

Mayor Charles A. Vaughan

Alderman Allan O'Brien (Building Committee)

Alderman L. E. Moir

Mrs. Angus L. Macdonald

Mr. A. L. Caldwell (Building Committee)

Mrs. W. C. Dunlop

Appointed by Province of Nova Scotia

Mrs. J. J. Powell

Mr. Walter M. Piers

Mary E. Cameron, Chief Librarian & Secretary.

In addition to the Building Committee, consisting of Chairman, Judge Green, Alderman O'Brien and Mr. Caldwell many others have devoted much time and thought to making the building functional as well as attractive. These participants are Mr. Lincoln Cheng of the City Planning Department, and from the Library staff, Miss Mary E. Cameron, Miss Ellen P. Webster, Miss Pauline Home, Miss Kathleen Currie, Miss Edith Clare and Miss Adelia Amyoony.

The library will be open regular hours for inspection and registration of borrowers October 25 + 29. Books may be borrowed November 1 and after.

HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 1:30-5:30 P.M. and 6:30-9:00 P.M.

Wednesday 10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. and 1:30 - 6:00 P.M.

Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

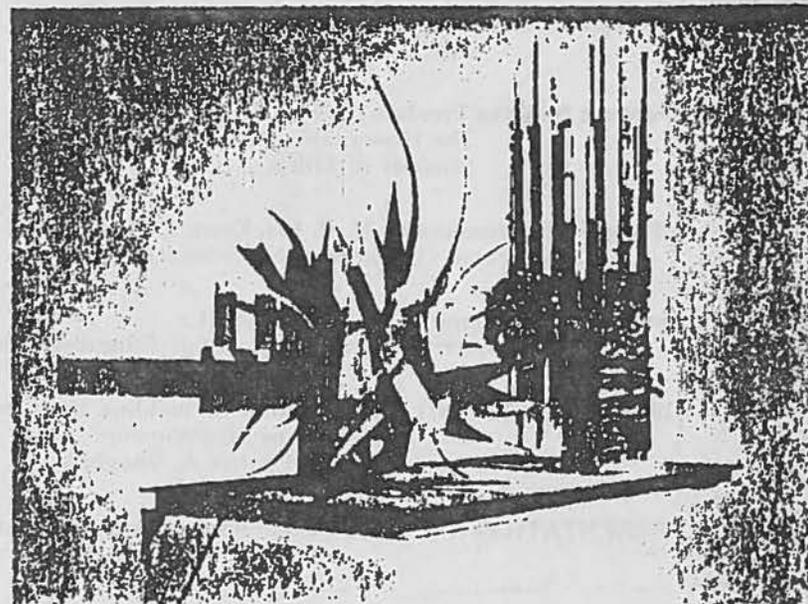
Halifax City Regional Library Board

OFFICIAL OPENING

of

HALIFAX NORTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Monday, October 24, 1966 at 2:30 p.m.



HALIFAX NORTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2285 Gottingen Street

OFFICIAL OPENING

Monday, October 24, 1966, 2:30 p.m.

PROGRAMME

Invocation - Rabbi Joseph Deitcher.

Chairman's remarks - Judge Nathan Green, Q.C.,
Chairman, Halifax City Regional Library
Board.

Greetings from Halifax Relief Commission
Chairman, Deputy Mayor A. M. Butler.

Greetings from Federal Representative
Mr. Robert McCleave, M.P.

Greetings from the Province of Nova Scotia
The Honourable Donald M. Smith,
Minister of Mines.

Address - The Honourable H. P. MacKeen, C.D., Q.C.,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

Dedication - Reverend W. P. Oliver, D.C.L.,
Regional Representative, Adult Education Division

OFFICIAL OPENING - Presentation of building to citizens of
Halifax by His Worship
Mayor Charles A. Vaughan.

PRESENTATION OF KEY - Contractor to Architect to Chair-
man to Chief Librarian.

BENEDICTION - Reverend Gibson Hallam, S.J.,
Librarian, Saint Mary's University.

When the Halifax Memorial Library opened on November 12, 1951, it was known that a branch building in the north end of the city would be required immediately if equitable library service was to be provided. From that time the Library Board has worked indefatigably to obtain this objective.

As a result of the Board's efforts, the interest and financial support of City Council, and the generous gift of \$100,000 from the Halifax Relief Commission it was decided to build the library branch as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the Explosion of 1917. Realization of the project came on September 8, 1965, when, as Chairman of the Halifax City Regional Library Board, the late Alderman Abbie Lane turned the sod for this building.

Area: 24,000 sq. ft.

Building costs: \$571,616.00

Furnishing and equipment: \$ 58,653.00

Architect's fees: \$ 40,165.00

Total cost: \$670,434.00

Total book capacity: 63,540 volumes main floor; storage 51,400 volumes.

Population of the City: 92,511 (1961)

Building materials: brick and concrete, red cedar decoration and teak wood entrance doors.

Architects: Keith L. Graham & Associates
J. D. Solomon & Associates Ltd.

General Contractor: Fundy Construction Co., Limited.

Sculpture by Jordi Bonet

The Sculpture is symbolic of the Halifax Explosion and the City's rebirth after the catastrophe. It is made up of four parts.

Facing the street (west) is the explosion which wrecked Halifax on December 6, 1917, snuffing out 1600 lives and causing hardship and suffering to thousands of citizens.

The north side depicts the human aspect of the tragedy. Polished bronze, strong brass, and battered wood are used. The faint outline of a doll is indicative of the hundreds of children who lost their lives. An authentic piece of the ammunition ship, the Mont Blanc, is seen in the davit at the base. Curved iron strips encircling the shattered bronze symbolize the fraternal embrace of the nation to the stricken city.

On the south side facing the entrance walk, is industry represented by the classical symbol of a wheel, shattered but recognizable. Here also, appears the symbol of life, a flower.

On the east side (facing the building) appears a vertical symmetric and orderly form which depicts the rebirth of the City.

Campaign launched to raise funds for memorial

By JIM GOWEN

In 1977 Edmund Morris was mayor of Halifax. He was also "a northend boy" who grew up in the area hardest hit by history's largest man-made explosion in a non-laboratory environment. Growing up in the area, he was thoroughly familiar with the stories of the Dec. 6, 1917 blast, although it had occurred several years before he was born.

He was also well aware that though there are several small monuments to the explosion in various parts of the city

— Fort Needham itself is a living memorial, having been deeded to the city of Halifax as a memorial park by the Halifax Relief Commission — there was no clearly defined site which could be referred to as THE memorial to the victims of the explosion.

This fact led eventually to a conversation between Mr. Morris and Dr. Ian MacGregor, an elder of Memorial United Church. Mr. Morris and Dr. MacGregor were friends from their days at Dalhousie University.

As Mr. Morris put it "I

was in law and he was in the medical school but with the enrolment in the Dal of those days, you got to know everyone else." The subject under discussion was a chime of bells, a carillon, which had been donated to United Memorial Church in the 1920's by Mrs T.W. Thompson (Barbara Orr) in memory of Mrs. Thompson's family, the Orrs, who had died in the blast.

The carillon was originally hung in the bell tower of the church, however, age, vibration and the weather had taken

their toll and the bells were lowered to the ground as the tower was considered to have deteriorated to such an extent it could no longer safely support the 10 massive bells.

Mayor Morris, with both his personal and political feet firmly anchored in the north end, was looking for a memorial which would symbolize the city "rising from the ashes like the Phoenix of mythology."

"After all, except for a few shells on the Atlantic coast of the United States, Halifax was the

only part of the western hemisphere to feel the brunt of the war. In addition, four churches, St. Marks Anglican, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, Grove Street Presbyterian and Kaye Street Methodist disappeared in the holocaust."

Mr. Morris said "It is appropriate for Halifax, which is becoming one of the greatest small cities in the world, to have a memorial to commemorate to all generations of Haligonians the resurrection of the city after this catastrophe."

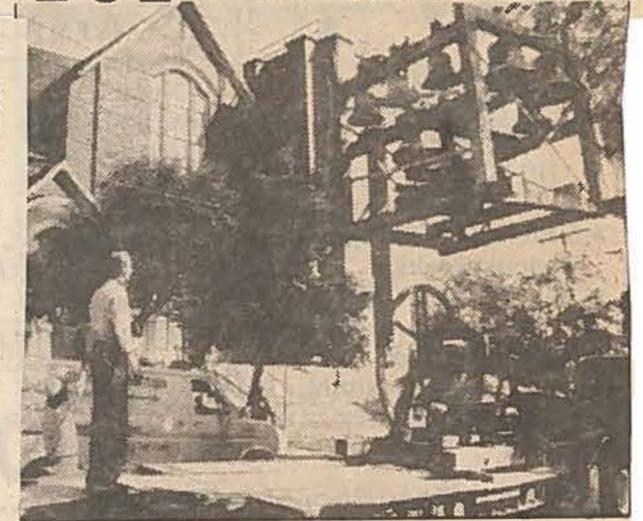
Further discussions were held later with

Judge Robert E. Inglis and the elders of Memorial United Church (itself a memorial to the regenerative spirit demonstrated by the residents of Halifax north and created when the congregations of two north end churches destroyed in the explosion combined) with a view to incorporating the bells in a structure dedicated to the memory of the victims of the explosion.

The state of the bells was evaluated by their manufacturer who considered them suitable for continued use. By this time Mr. Morris had left

the mayor's chair and the matter of the bells, and the memorial, went into limbo until July of this year when Mr. Morris — now MLA for Halifax-Needham and provincial minister of social services — met with interested parties to renew the drive for a memorial.

An exchange of letters took place and the elders of the church made a provisional offer to loan the bells to the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee for inclusion in a tower to be erected on Fort Needham, the highest point in the area.



Bells are removed from United Memorial Church for storage pending installation in the memorial tower.

A committee was formed under the chairmanship of north end businessman Reginald A. Prest and having as members Dr. Ian MacGregor, Judge Robert E. Inglis, Roy Wilson, Mrs. Janet F. Kitz, a Halifax historian specializing in the period of the Halifax explosion, R. H. Dick MacLean, Bruce Nickerson, Fred R. Nickerson, Bernard D. Allard, Jean Harrington, Frank Harrington, J. Rod McLeod, William B. Orr, Harold Shea, Terry Sullivan, Charles A. Vaughan and R. Lorne White.

Edmund Morris, and

Judge R. E. Inglis, were appointed honorary co-chairmen of a drive to raise \$200,000 dollars to construct a monument on Fort Needham which would integrate the bells in a permanent structure.

The committee will, in reality, only have to raise \$100,000 as the province of Nova Scotia has made a promise to match funds raised on a dollar-for-dollar basis to a maximum of \$100,000.

The committee functions under a mandate which requires the bells to be erected and in operation on the 67th anni-

versary of the explosion, Dec. 6, 1984.

Should the committee fail to meet its objective or be blocked in its efforts to complete the project by Halifax city council, the bells would revert to the church and, as was pointed out by a visiting British architect this summer, there would be no permanent memorial to those who died in the explosion.

Summarizing his feelings as the campaign to raise \$100,000 begins, Mr. Morris said "This is one of the most evocative things to happen in the north end for years."

Time of explosion decided?

By Estelle Small
Staff Reporter

A local geophysicist and a U.S. scientist might finally give history an exact time on the Halifax Explosion's occurrence in 1917, putting to rest 66 years of speculation as to what time devastation hit the city that day.

The explosion's impact equalled that of an earthquake, sending tremors as far away as northern New Brunswick, Alan Ruffman, a principal with Geomarine Associates, said last night at the Nova Scotia Museum. Its damage was just as great, with 1,500 deaths and several thousand injuries.

Mr. Ruffman pointed out that Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, coordinator of the development of the atomic bomb, used the Halifax Explosion as a comparison of the impact of a nuclear weapon.

The explosion was the result of a collision between ships Imo and Mont Blanc, a munitions vessel with 580 tons of

TNT and benzene aboard. It was the worst man-made explosion prior to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Mr. Ruffman and Dr. David Simpson of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Columbia University, N.Y. have noted the impact of the tremors from the recordings of a 1917 seismograph at Dalhousie University.

While most historical accounts peg the time of the disaster to 9:05-06 a.m., some people, among them sports writer Ace Foley of the Halifax Herald Ltd., say the explosion occurred before nine o'clock on Thursday, Dec. 6.

Mr. Foley said in a 1977 column in the Herald, he had to be to school by nine, and he was on his way to school the day the explosion took place.

Mr. Ruffman said Mr. Foley's column generated about 57 letters-to-the-editor in the paper and only 17 people believed the explosion occurred after 9 a.m. Dalhousie University seismograph

recordings, now stored at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, show jagged lines in the graph between 9:04 and 9:10 a.m. A photograph of the 1917 seismograph recordings also shows a short series of crooked lines again at 10:07 a.m.

Mr. Ruffman said he and Dr. Simpson do not see any evidence of a later explosion, even though witnesses have related of how rumblings first occurred, followed by an explosion.

The time on the seismograph corresponds to watches and clocks on Dec. 6, 1917 which stopped shortly after nine.

Then, what about the recounts of Ace Foley and others like him?

Mr. Ruffman's explanation is that local schools had just switched to their winter hours, which meant students now had to be to class by 9:15 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. Most of the explosion's witnesses might remember going to school, but neglected to recall the new winter hours. They had to be there at 9:30 a.m., not nine.

INFORMATION REPORT

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Paul Calda, P.Eng., City Manager
Date: April 16, 1984
Subject: Fort Needham - Halifax Explosion Memorial

Further to the approved recommendations of City Council on March 1, 1984, staff of the Legal Department is currently working on the documentation for the license agreement between the City and the Memorial Bells Committee. A proposed agreement should be forthcoming shortly for Council approval.

The site has been surveyed and an appropriate legal plan is being prepared for attaching to the license. In an effort to meet construction deadlines so that the memorial will be completed prior to December of 1984, the Committee has been given permission to commence procedures for the soils investigation. This will involve a shallow dig with a small backhoe through the middle and approximately the full length of the site.

In conjunction with the above excavation, staff has met with the Civic Historian and an official of the Nova Scotia Museum (Archaeology Division) as well as representatives of the Bells Committee, to coordinate procedures in connection with the archaeological dig.

The current plans are to initiate the shallow dig on Thursday, April 19, 1984, weather permitting and to monitor this cut with the appropriate archaeological official(s). Any further action necessary will be dependent upon the findings in this initial excavation.

MPW/sfs

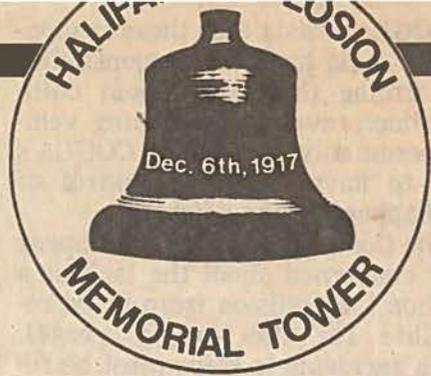

Paul Calda, P.Eng.,
City Manager

Prepared by:

M.P. Woods, Development Assistant

Approved by:

R.B. Grant, Director
Development Department



Mar 23/84 m/s

HALIFAX EXPLOSION MEMORIAL BELLS COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 1267,
Halifax North Postal Stn.,
B3K 5H7
(902) 421-6730

Your Support Will Help To Build The Halifax Explosion Memorial Tower

*The Name Of All Donors Will be Recorded
In A Memory Book*

Please make cheque or money order payable to:
(Charitable tax receipts will be issued for contributions of \$5.00 or more.)



**HALIFAX EXPLOSION
MEMORIAL BELLS COMMITTEE**
P.O. Box 1267, Halifax
North Postal Stn., B3K 5H4

Name

Address

.....

Postal Code Tel.

TAX RECEIPTS ISSUED: \$5.00 minimum
Charitable Registered Tax Number 0662320-52-03

The memorial bells were donated to United Memorial Church by Mrs. J. W. Thompson as a memorial to her family the ones who perished during the 1917 explosion. The bells were made by the Meneely Bell Company, an American ^{bronze} company. They were erected atop the Church bell tower and stayed there until 1975, ^{although they were no part of} ~~when~~ ^{St. John's} it was discovered ^{in 1975} that the sheer weight of the bells and the vibrations produced were causing structural damage to the Church tower.

In 1975 the bells were removed and kept under canvas on the church lawn until July of 1983 when they were removed to the naval gun factory in Dartmouth for storage and refurbishing. Since the bells were removed in 1975 the church and concerned citizens of ~~the Fort Needham area~~ have worked to find an alternative arrangement for the bells.

Members of the congregation of United Memorial Church first considered selling the bells and using the proceeds to purchase a smaller set of bells with the rest of the money going towards the Church revenues. The bells were first advertised in 1976 for \$25,000, but the Church fathers decided they would accept \$20,000. Between 1976 and 1978 the only viable offer was made by the Wolfville Baptist Church, Wolfville.

The whole committee -
first.

Provis' investigation,

Mon. 4 July / 83

from that meeting comes Sept. 1st / 83.

De Zeger

Reg. Cust

Morris.

Robert

congregation.

2 offered \$10,000.

Early in 1976 Aldermen Sullivan and Wathen had offered to raise money for the purchase of the bells with the intent they would be donated to the city. This idea was turned down in 1976 but by 1979 the Church approached the City to see if the City would buy the bells. Due to the cost of buying the bells and the expense of the eventual installation, city officials offered to pay for the reinstallation of the bells if they were donated to the city. The Church trustees concurred in January of 1980.

When the City first considered allocating funds for the bell structure it was anticipated approximately \$40,000 would be needed. (see report.

Nov. 27/79) During the Capital Budgets discussions for 1980, \$40,000 was set aside for the relocation ^{and} ~~estimation~~

Although all discussions of the bell relocation at the time were tentative at this time, a site for the relocation was proposed, ~~in~~ ^{on} the southern end of Fort Needham was proposed as being the best if the bells were to be operational. This tentative site was never ^{discussed per se} ~~proposed~~ before Council, although the matter of the Fort Needham site was mentioned at a Finance and Executive meeting July 23, 1980.

At this time Deputy Mayor Sullivan mentioned the site in passing as he recommended that the City approach

the two other levels of government. This recommendation was put before Council on July 31, 80, the motion was passed. Letters were sent to Mr. Edmond Morris, the MHA for Halifax Needham, and Gerald Regan, MP for the Halifax riding. Though both letters were acknowledged no confirmation was made by either Mr. Morris or Mr. Regan. The only further mention of ~~the~~ financing the erection of a tower the project was Mr. Morris' interjection in April of 1981 that he did not feel that using surplus funds for the "Relief Fund" would be appropriate, and he also did not agree with co-90.

Except for the ~~motion~~ ^{proposal} of ~~the~~ ^{the} Seaside Park locating the bells at Seaside Park, there has been little activity on the memorial bells since 1980. ^{on the other hand the projected costs have skyrocketed.} It is only since the organization of the Memorial Bells committee, Sept. 29 July, 1983 - the first meeting was held Sept. 29, 1983 - that the Seaside Park relocation has been resurged. In Aron Egan in November Mr. Morris, ^{who may comm.} announced that the provincial government would be prepared to match, "dollar for dollar to a maximum of \$100,000" the money raised by private sector contributors. Thus far Seaside remains the project the private sector funds. The committee announced their proposed location for the bells November 26, with the plan

that building would open on Dec. 6, 1983, the 67th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

Mr. Mike Woods, in Development, who has been involved in the with the bells projects since the onset in 1970, stated that, to his knowledge, no one in his department was consulted about the present proposed location.

What, no explosion memorial?

By Jim Gowen

It took a British architect visiting the metro area less than two weeks to identify something missing from Halifax — a Halifax Explosion memorial.

Brian Carter, a member of the London architectural firm of Arub and Associates, is a guest lecturer at the Technical University of Nova Scotia.

Here for two weeks as part of a program sponsored by the university to introduce students to practicing architects who

specialize in various types of design, Mr. Carter saw Halifax had no permanent memorial to the thousands of Haligonians who died in the Halifax Explosion of Dec. 6, 1917.

Breaking his class into syndicates he assigned a project which requires them to design a small building on the Halifax waterfront, in the vicinity of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. The proposed building is to include space for displays in two wings, other features the students are

required to include in their designs are amenities, office space and a viewing area with a view of the harbor. Unfortunately the plans will never go beyond that stage being an academic exercise only.

"The Halifax Explosion had a profound effect on the city so I thought I would like to do something to mark the explosion as a project for my students," he said in an interview.

Mr. Carter said that Halifax provides a wide variety of styles of architecture which would test the budding architect's imagination in blending their design with existing structures.

He said that Halifax had been given a chance extended to few cities. Pointing to the Hydrostone area, completely devastated in the explosion, as an example of the re-design potential available at that time.

Having been involved in many exhibition-type design competitions, Mr. Carter is well qualified to lecture on the subject. His London-based firm is one of the design finalists for an extension to the National Gallery in London's Trafalgar Square. Mr. Carter leaves Halifax today to return to London.

While Mr. Carter is correct in that there is no explosion memorial at this time, there is one in the planning stage. There is a committee called The Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee headed by Halifax businessman R.A. Prest.

This group has taken the carillon, donated to United Memorial Church by Mrs. T.W. Thompson, the sole-survivor of the Samuel Orr family, in its memory, and which was removed from the building for structural reasons. The group is now in the process of selecting a design for a memorial in the Fort Needham area.

This memorial will take the form of a tower incorporating the carillon which will be capable of being played either on site or, by remote control, from the church on Kaye Street,

Morris contends: Needham should be site

By Estelle Small
Staff Reporter

The site for the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells tower should be at Fort Needham, not Seaview Memorial, Social Services Minister Edmund Morris said last night.

He said the proposed Seaview Memorial, a remembrance of the 1917 explosion, is an inappropriate site.

Seaview Park lacks pedestrian access, is on the outer edge of the peninsular city, and is topographically unsuited, he said.

"Compared with Fort Needham, it is relatively a security risk," he said.

Alderman Gerald O'Malley is obstructing the approval for the tower for his own political purposes, the Halifax-Needham MLA said.

The alderman's proposal for the Seaview Memorial would cost taxpayers money, and since the city is unlikely to allocate funds for that purpose, it probably won't get done, Mr. Morris said.

The bells' electrical link to United Memorial Church from Seaview would also be more costly, he said. The site for the explosion's memorial has been referred to city staff.

The \$200,000 bells are a gift to the city from Barbara Orr whose family died in the explosion. Mr. Morris contends their place should be within view of the site of the 1917 explosion. The Fort Needham property, donated to the city years ago by the Halifax Relief Commission, overlooks the Harbour Narrows where the vessels Imo and Mont Blanc collided 66 years ago causing the devastating explosion.

Reginald A. Prest, chairman of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee, said in a news release the design was selected because "it makes a dramatic statement suggesting an image of destruction while simultaneously evoking the energetic civic renewal that followed the devastation."



Edmund Morris, minister of social services, left, discusses plans for the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Tower with Judge Robert E. Inglis and Reginald A. Prest.

Warrboldt-Waterfield

HALIFAX EXPLOSION MEMORIAL BELLS COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 1267
Halifax North Postal Strn.
B3K 5H4
(902) 421-6730

MODES OF SUPPORT - RECOGNITION

- Donations under \$1,000 - Names of corporations and individuals will be preserved in a time capsule, to be inserted within the structure.
- Donations over \$1,000 - Names of corporations and individuals will be etched on a bronze plaque, to be placed in a prominent exterior location on the carillon.
- Sponsor-A-Bell - \$5,000 - Corporations and individuals may choose to sponsor one of the nine bells. Appropriate recognition and publicity is assured.

Honorary Co-Chairmen
Mr. R.E. Inglis
Hon. Edmund Morris
Chairman
Mr. Reginald A. Prest
Treasurer
Mr. Fred R. Nickerson
Secretary
Mr. R.H. (Dick) MacLean
LCdr. Bernard D. Allard
Mrs. Jean Harrington
Mr. Frank Harrington
Mrs. Janet F. Kitz
Dr. H. Ian MacGregor
Mr. J. Rod McLeod
Mr. Bruce Nickerson
Mr. William B. Orr
Mr. Harold Shea
Mr. Terry Sullivan
Mr. Charles A. Vaughn
Mr. Roy Wilson

SEND DONATIONS TO:

Halifax Explosion Memorial Bells Committee
P.O. Box 1267
Halifax North Postal Station
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3K 5H4

(Donations are tax deductible.)



H B Grant



SITE AND PROPOSAL FOR

TO: Paul Calda, P. Eng., City Manager
FROM: M.P. Woods, Dev. Assistant, Real Estate
DATE: October 18, 1983
SUBJECT: United Memorial Church Bells



1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

A working Committee has been established to locate the bells on Fort Needham.

I understand from Terry Sullivan, one of the Committee members that the Province is committed to funding \$100,000. I believe that this is subject to this amount being matched locally. Terry advises that Olands has undertaken to raise the private sector funds.

As I understand, the City is being asked to make a site available on Fort Needham as its contribution towards the project. You might be receiving a call in that regard this week.

I will be arranging a site meeting later this week and will prepare the necessary report to Council.

(2) Oct. 19/83
MR. CHURCHILL
to Note. *MPW*

M.P. Woods
M.P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW/rck

There will be no staff involvement in this matter. Council decided against this location and until we get different direction from Council we will keep out of it.

I talked to T. Sullivan today and advised him to make a submission to Council.

Mr 12

Paul Calda, P. Eng., City Manager

M.P. Woods, Dev. Assistant, Real Estate

October 18, 1983

United Memorial Church Bells

A working Committee has been established to locate the bells on Fort Needham.

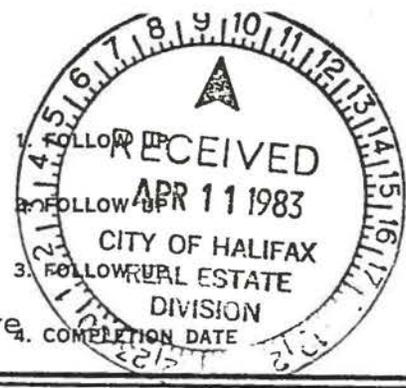
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M.P. Woods
Development Assistant
Real Estate Division
Development Department

MPW/rck



B. Grant, Director of Development
 W. L. Blennerhassett, City Clerk
 April 11, 1983

Seaview Park - Memorial - Finance & Executive
 - Finance - April 6, 1983

A staff report dated March 16, 1983, was submitted.

Alderman O'Malley, in referring to the submitted report, advised that he would like to clarify the matter of the memorial. He went on to refer to a service held at the United Memorial Church at which time there was an indication from the City to attempt to place the chimes into a memorial structure.

Alderman O'Malley advised of a subsequent meeting which he had with representatives of the Church including Dr. McGregor and indicated it was never intended that the bells would ring but rather an interest of erecting a permanent memorial for the Halifax explosion by placing the bells, or part of the bells, on a four sided configuration out of the reach of vandals. Alderman O'Malley expressed the view that the costs presented in the report were in excess of what he had in mind and suggested a memorial could be erected at a far lower cost than has been projected.

The City Manager referred to the weight of the bells and the design requirements and advised it was staff's understanding that the bells had to be operational. The City Manager advised that the City would have to obtain something in writing from the church indicating that the church will make the bells available and for what purpose, and Alderman O'Malley asked if that could be carried out. His Worship suggested that a letter could be forwarded to Dr. McGregor and the City Manager indicated that if a positive response is received, a proper design, both architecturally and structurally, would have to be undertaken suggesting that the cost would be in the \$15,000 range.

Alderman O'Malley questioned whether alternatives were not available such as through the Nova Scotia Technical College.

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