



Historic New England Adds Jewelry Design Material To Its Collection

BOSTON — Historic New England recently acquired material from the Frank N. Nathan Company and the Church Company. These companies were part of Boston's thriving jewelry industry in the late Nineteenth to mid-Twentieth Centuries.

From ancient times to today, jewelry has been worn as a mode of self-expression or to convey social status, to indicate religious beliefs or political views or for the sheer enjoyment of a beautiful object. The Nathan and Church designs complement Historic New England's existing jewelry collection and provide information about consumer



taste, the design process and the materials used in jewelry making.

This new collection contains 83 mounted and unmounted pencil and watercolor drawings from

the two companies that beautifully illustrate designs for rings, brooches and pendants dating from 1928 to 1960. Many of the design drawings contain handwritten information, such as

buyer names, sizing information and metal and stone choices for the jewelry. A portion of the drawings are mounted. The remainder are on brown cardstock or company stationery.

The Frank N. Nathan Company was founded in 1891 and specialized in antique and modern jewelry and silverware. It was located on Washington Street not far from the heart of Boston's jewelry center, the Jewelers Building at 371 to 379 Washington Street. The Church Company employed jewelers and silversmiths and was located at 47 Winter Street.

Jewelry can tell myriad stories about its makers and owners, and is a collecting focus for Historic New England. There are more than 2,500 necklaces, earrings, rings, cufflinks, buckles, combs and other items of adornment commemorating nearly three centuries of maker and family history in New England. Whether a set of costume pieces made in Providence, R.I., or a pair of gold bracelets purchased from Tiffany's for a favorite aunt, or a necklace and a cuff made by members of the Wampanoag and Penobscot tribes, items in the jewelry collection help tell the stories of all New Englanders.

Newport Mansions' Ad Campaign Invites Visitors To 'Live The Drama'

NEWPORT, R.I. — The Preservation Society of Newport County has launched "Live the Drama," an advertising campaign that shines a light on one of the most fascinating aspects of the Newport Mansions: the dramatic lives of the wealthy families who resided in them. The Preservation Society has partnered with Nail Communications, an award-winning creative agency based in Providence, R.I., which proposed this unconventional approach to engaging new audiences with the properties. The strategy? Dramatize the people and the stories behind these legendary houses in the style of a Hollywood blockbuster. For The Breakers, the largest and grandest of the Newport Mansions, that meant creating a trailer, billboards, landing page and all the trappings of movie marketing.

"There's no denying The Breakers is one of the most exquisite mansions of its time," said Trudy Coxe, chief executive officer and executive director of the Preservation Society. "But it's so much more than that. We wanted to bring these spaces to life by spotlighting some of the fascinating people who walked these beautiful halls."

In the case of The Breakers, that meant the inimitable Vanderbilts. The television spot alludes to several historic storylines that affected the course of the family's legacy. As one of the wealthiest households in American history, the Vanderbilts experienced an unprecedented level of influence and scrutiny. Ripe with drama, intrigue and a remarkable, historically authentic backdrop, the campaign offers a taste of what visitors will find when

visiting The Breakers.

"It's no secret our society is completely transfixed by the lifestyles of the wealthy," Nail Communications partner Alec Beckett said. "As we introduced the Vanderbilts' stories, their incredible house became one of the key characters in the drama."

With the recent popularity of period dramas like *Downton Abbey* and *The Gilded Age*, the Preservation Society and Nail recognized a unique opportunity. There is a large, younger, untapped audience who would love the chance to walk through stunning homes where the owners and their stories were real, not a screenwriter's fantasy.

"The stories of the people who lived and worked in the mansions have always been part of our tours and a favorite with visitors," said Coxe. "Now this is a significant



focus of our marketing as well."

The "Live the Drama" campaign will run throughout New England and the tri-state area through television, digital, bill-

boards and social media platforms. You can watch the trailer for The Breakers and learn more about the campaign at www.newportmansions.org/live-the-drama/.

PHLF Awards \$120,000 For Renovation Of Historic Religious Structures



First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Oakland, Penn.



St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park, Penn.

PITTSBURGH, PENN. — The Historic Religious Properties Grant Program of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) has awarded a total of \$120,000 in matching grants to 16 congregations in Allegheny County, Penn., as part of its 2023 funding cycle. The monies, which will leverage about \$500,000 raised by the congregations, will be used to fund restoration, renovation and maintenance projects on the historic structures utilized by religious organizations. The work ranges from masonry restoration to roof repairs and renovation of wooden doors, and stained glass windows, among other needs. PHLF is the only non-profit organization in Allegheny County offering a continuing program of financial and technical assistance to historic religious property owners. They have awarded more than 290 such grants totaling more than



Praise Temple Deliverance Church, Hazelwood, Penn.

\$1.5 million, and provided more than 60 technical assistance consultations, since the program's inception in 1997. This effort is made possible through individual donations, private foundations, and our Donor Advised Funds.

Grant recipients include:

Calvary Episcopal Church, Shadyside, for wood narthex entry door restoration

Church of The Ascension, Shadyside, for stone entry stair repairs

Deer Creek United Presbyterian, West Deer Township, to replace five sets of exterior doors

Fairhaven United Methodist Church, Overbrook, for stained glass window restoration



First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh, Bloomfield, Penn.

First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, Oakland, for masonry and roof repairs

First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh, Bloomfield, for stained glass window restoration

Holy Faith Tabernacle Church, Knoxville, for roof repairs and masonry repairs/repainting

King of Kings Baptist Ministries, Garfield, for masonry repairs, replace steel lintels

McKeesport Area Shared Ministry UMC, McKeesport, for slate roof repairs

McKeesport Central Presbyterian Church, McKeesport, for roof repairs to chapel

Mulberry Community Church, Wilkensburg, for stained glass window repairs

Pittsburgh New Church, Point Breeze, for masonry repairs to bell cote

Praise Temple Deliverance Church, Hazelwood, for slate and flat roof repairs

St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park, for roof replacement

Sewickley United Methodist Church, Sewickley, for masonry repairs and sealing

Trinity Cathedral, Downtown Pittsburgh, for repointing along Oliver Avenue side of building.

For more information about this program, contact David Farkas at david@phlf.org or 412-471-5808, ext 516.