

Feedback on SHF Grant, June, 2012

General Issues

- Eligibility of plan that replaces yoke and modifies frame (accuracy for historical nomination) – 3
Heather Peterson, Office of Archeology and Historical Preservation, while Astrid Liverman is on maternity leave
- Responsibility for future maintenance -2
Reference of support from Preservation Fund for more major things; clarification about what's needed every year and who would take responsibility for yearly treatments
- Other preferred historical treatments – 2
Jonathan Taggart's recommendations preferred treatments then discussed with Erika; 1950 is the historical period that preservation/restoration applies (addition of base for stability not true to 1950); reversibility is key concept (epoxy not reversible)
- Planned publicity – 2
Purpose is awareness of preservation/restoration; description of how it will be done and targeted audience
- Procedures for use of bell – 2
Developed with CBAC or DPA
- Back-up documentation from contractors on real costs – 2
Actual bids from all businesses involved with the costs summarized within budget section as attachments to application
- Specificity on plaque replacement installation – 2
Who will manufacture; text/description of one like all other states; process of determination for 2nd plaque with current date line (example: 2012 or year when installed)
- Clarity about student involvement – 1
Which specific groups and how will be involved
- Defined educational benefits - 1
- Evidence that it impacts community groups or individuals – 1

Category Comments for Improvement

- A. Application Capacity
- Role of committee members with project
 - Specific factors that will contribute to success of project
- B. Property or Project History
- Eligibility for SHF funding as non-contributing
 - Misunderstanding of property's current status (#52)
 - Information regarding size and materials
 - Defined period of significance
 - Decisions related to original design and function
- C. Project Description
- "Components too deteriorated to be restored will be replaced..." doesn't fit SOI standards; therefore restoration more authentic historically
 - Raising frame by 16" for better view - not sufficient reason for modifying historical material
 - Description of replacement dedication plaques and installment
 - Concrete pad repair

D. Urgency

- Assignment of responsibility for maintenance and what that incurs
- More preferred treatments to resolve deterioration and safety issues
- Conflict of plans with eligibility for historical application

E. Timeline

- Aggressive for 2013 completion

F. Public Benefit

- PR for restoration
- Occasions bell will be rung
- Approval process for ringing bell and personnel to do so

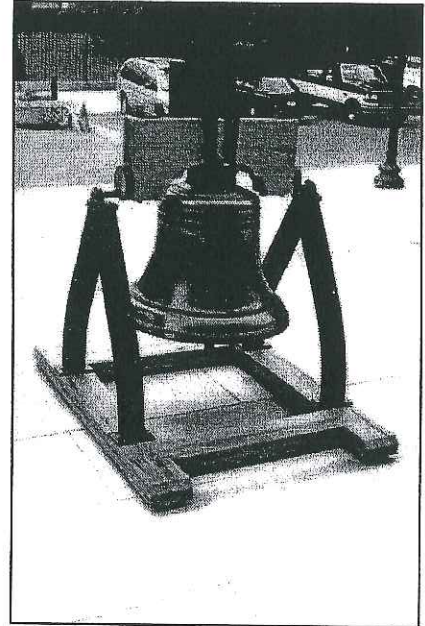
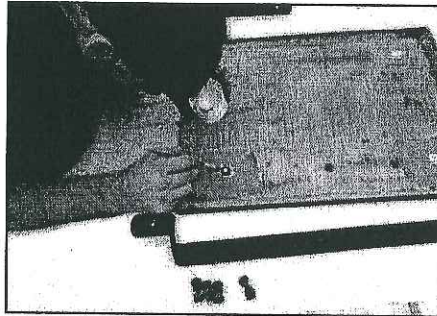
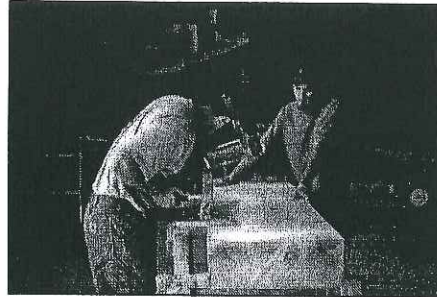
G. Relation to State Preservation Plan

- How kids get involved, role in actual restoration process,
- Reference of students' involvement in project description
- Developed tourism plan or program

H. Scope of Work and Budget

- Contractors who pulled numbers together, back-up documentation
- Determination of architect and engineering fees
- Maintenance protection plan
- Relatively high costs for preliminary work
- Author of proposed budget
- Specific deliverables
- Metal straps attached to bell to prevent from ringing in other replicas – are they original?

REPRODUCTION LIBERTY BELL US Department of The Treasury, Washington, DC



Client/Owner
US Department of The Treasury

Location
Washington, DC

Project Dates
2002

Materials
Iron
Steel
Bronze
Wood

Services Provided
Treatment
Documentation

Conservation Solutions, Inc., (CSI) was contracted by the Department of the Treasury to conserve the Reproduction Liberty Bell. The bell was transported to CSI's studio in District Heights, MD for treatment. The bell assembly was completely disassembled to facilitate the paint and corrosion removal. Existing coatings were removed from steel/iron elements by immersing them in a tank solution of hot caustic (potassium hydroxide). The pieces were rinsed, then force-dried using hot air to minimize flash rusting. Finally, they were coated with a 2-part powder coating system and oven-cured.

Old coatings were removed from the bronze elements using a solvent-based paint stripper and steam. The bronze surfaces were washed with a non-ionic detergent and loose corrosion products were removed using soft bronze wire brushes. Areas of uneven color in the existing patina were modified using a tinted black wax. The client determined the plaque should be patinated green to match the color of the bell. The bell and plaque received two applications of wax applied to a heated surface. All heavily deteriorated ferrous hardware was replaced in-kind. The two cast iron yoke bearings were replaced with suitable substitutes and coated in the same manner as the other steel/iron components.

The yoke was replicated using reclaimed elm lumber. Due to its extreme scarcity, disparate pieces were laminated together to achieve the appropriate dimension. To reduce water ingress, the yoke was sheathed with a lead-coated copper cap. The base was replicated in chestnut with mortise and tenon connections used for all joints. Steel straps were fabricated and installed to stabilize the bell, as was a custom HPDE stop to prevent movement of the bell clapper.