
C. B. Fisk, Inc.

DESIGNERS & BUILDERS OF PIPE ORGANS

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Opus 55

Old West Church

Boston, Massachusetts

1971

29 voices, 46 ranks, 2,361 pipes



Great, Manual II

Bourdon 16'

Prestant 8'

Spire Flute 8'

Octave 4'

Doublet 2'

Sesquialter II

Mixture IV-VI

Trumpet 8'

Clarion 4'

Choir, Manual I

Stopt Diapason 8'

Prestant 4'

Night Horn 4'

Nazard 2 2/3' *

Doublet 2'

Sharp IV

Cremona 8'

* hookdown adds 1 3/5'

Swell, enclosed, Man. III

Violin Diapason 8'

Stopped Diapason 8'

Spitz Flute 4'

Cornet III

Fourniture III

Contra Hautboy 16'

Trumpet 8'

Pedal, 32 notes

Bourdon 16'

Octave 8'

Rohrpipe 8'

Spillpfeife 8'

Superoctaves 4' & 2'

Trombone 16'

Couplers and Accessories:

Choir to Great

Great to Pedal

Swell to Great

Positive to Pedal

Swell to Choir

Swell to Pedal

Tremulant Balanced Swell Pedal Crescendo Pedal Manual 61 notes CC-c₄ Pedal 32 notes CC-g₁

Casework contains many carvings and panels from a mid Nineteenth century Appleton organ found in Ipswich, MA. The main case is made from a 3 tower/2 flat case with missing cornices. The lower case, impost, tower tops and additional carvings are all new. The original case resembled the Choir case, which is entirely new. The new woodwork does contain a number of old panels.

In May and June 2000 the organ was extensively cleaned, 42 volt 3 phase slider motors replaced with solenoids and a modern 128 level combination action was added. Tonal regulation was focused upon the reeds.

Originally tuned in Equal Temperament the organ has been retuned into Vogel V and is presently in Fisk I, a nearly equal temperament developed by Charles Fisk for Opus 78, House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul MN, in 1979.

The present combination action has 8 generals (4 to thumb pistons & 4 to toe studs), 2 divisional to each division. The Great tutti & Great cancel thumb pistons may be reprogrammed to become additional divisional. The Great to Pedal reversible toe stud may be reprogrammed to reverse any combination of stops or couplers. Changes to the normal operation of the pistons can be done on any level of memory without affecting other levels. A builder's Crescendo and 3 programmable Crescendos are available. A simple sequencer, when engaged, converts all pistons into "Next" functions; the Great to Pedal is converted into "Back" function.