

APC

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#1 Resource for Painting Contractors

www.paintmag.com

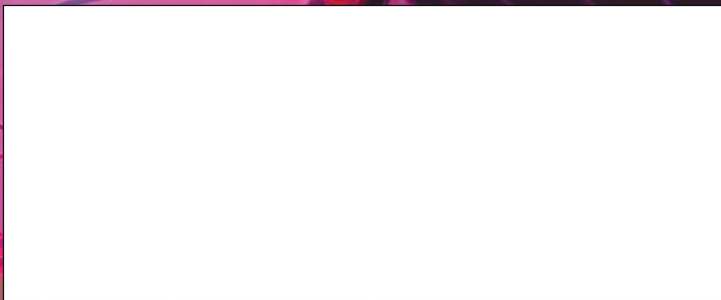
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www.johnneillpainting.com



▲ The church tower is 120 feet high.

Turning 200 Painting a historic church exterior

The Tenth Presbyterian church has a two-century history of service in downtown Philadelphia. It was founded in 1829; its current home dates from 1857. In 1893, architect Frank Miles Day was commissioned to design a Byzantine décor in the church interior, much of which still stands.

John Neill Painting was hired to spruce up the church's exterior (perfect, since the Tenth is on Spruce Street), and if you're tasked with a job of this nature, it already speaks to your reputation and trustworthiness. Their mission was to paint the entire exterior — the sanctuary, the school, the building between that connects the two, and the tower. It added up quickly. "Areas painted included fascia and soffits, trim and eaves, panels, windows, window frames and grills, ironwork, front entrance, all painted doors and frames, porch vestibule, stucco ceilings, fire escapes, and the framing around the church sign on the sidewalk," said Neill.

They selected historic colors to match the original scheme, and then just like painters in the 1850s, they hand-brushed the entire project. Unlike those fabulous '50s, they had Abatron Epoxy on hand to repair any wood rot before prepping and painting. "It took nearly 2,000 hours and over 60 gallons of finish paint to complete the job," said Neill.

Much use and strategy were made of booms and lifts to access the significant heights of all three of the buildings, capped by the tower, which rises 120 feet up toward the heavens. **APC**

Key Products

- Abatron Epoxy



▲ This exterior repaint by John Neill gives the Tenth Presbyterian renewed standing against the Philadelphia skyline.



▲ This shot shows many of the windows and ornaments that needed painting.