

Hilbus Chapter

The Organ Historical Society, Inc.

Where the Tracker Action Is!

www.hilbus.org



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Saturday, November 17, 2007

A Day on Capitol Hill

[THANKS TO TOM PARKER FOR ARRANGING THIS DAY!]

9:30 AM

St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church

630 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20024

3-manual Roosevelt, 1887

Directions:

These directions all presume that the driver is familiar with the Southwest-Southeast Freeway in Washington, which is the route most people would take from the suburbs or even from other parts of DC. Most people now know that it is possible to get excellent driving directions on the Internet.

St. Dominic's is the large Victorian Gothic church next to the Freeway. The towering green spire is visible from most directions. To reach St. Dominic's:

From Virginia: Take the SW-SE Freeway to the Maine Avenue exit. At the end of the ramp turn Left on G Street, then Left on 7th Street. Cross the Freeway, Right on E Street to St. Dominic's (the large building connected to the church is the Priory, mostly a residence for retired Dominicans.) Parking should be available on the street, despite the ongoing construction at the old Nassif Building. Enter from the E Street (side) entrance.

From Maryland: Take the SW-SE Freeway to the 6th – 7th Street exit. The church will be right in front of you. Park on either side of the church.

[crawl information continued next page]

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Articles and news may be submitted to the Editor electronically: music.director@gracealex.org

Dues due in October: \$14, mailed to Secretary-Treasurer (Checks payable to Hilbus Chapter, OHS)

11:00 AM

St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church

19 I Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

1950's Kilgen – Case from Simmons and Wilcox, 1860's

Directions from St. Dominic's to St. Aloysius:

From E Street SW at St. Dominic's, turn left onto 7th Street. After crossing the Freeway bridge, turn left onto the SW-SE Freeway – sign says “395 North.” Take the next exit and follow the signs for “U.S. Capitol”. Continue through the 3rd Street tunnel and take the Massachusetts Avenue exit. Continue straight across Mass Avenue on 2nd Street (slight jog after crossing H). Turn right on K Street, then right on North Capitol Street. You will see the old school building on your right, then the church. Street parking is available. Gonzaga College High School is further down I Street next to the church.

Lunch at Barracks Row

Directions from St. Aloysius to Barracks Row for lunch:

Leave St. Al's and go toward the Capitol on N. Capitol Street. Turn right at H Street (old Government Printing Office.) Stay toward the left. Turn left at the sign onto the ramp down to 395. You will be back in the 3rd Street Tunnel heading south. Now follow the signs for 295 – stay to the Left. Turn left after the tunnel ends, following the sign for 295 south. You will be on an access road – but don't take the left for the Freeway – continue straight. Turn left at 8th Street SE.

Now you are at Lunch World. I am not familiar with this area but it looks like *Finn MacCool's* or the *Ugly Mug* would be good bets for lunch. There are many other restaurants – see www.barracksrow.org.

1:30 PM

Christ Church, Washington Parish

620 G Street SE, Washington, DC 20003

Hook & Hastings, 1901

Directions:

Christ Church is a couple of blocks from 8th Street (Barracks Row.) Park on the street.



OCTOBER 27TH CRAWL – CUMBERLAND, MD

A Review by Peter Crisafulli

On the morning of October 27, I set out for Cumberland, Maryland for the Hilbus Chapter's “Day in Cumberland” organ crawl. By the time I reached I-68, the clouds and rain which had covered our area for the previous three days gave way to clearing skies, thus setting the tone for what was to be a most enjoyable day.

About a dozen or so of us turned up at the shop of the Steiner-Murphy Organ Co., our first stop of the crawl. Upon entering the shop, one is immediately



greeted by the presence of an impressive three-manual pipe organ entirely enclosed in one very large chamber with glass swell louvers allowing one to view the pipe work even when the shades are closed. This instrument has been an ongoing project and comprises material from Möller Opus 2142 (1917), and Möller Opus 4077 (1924), plus many other parts. Mark Steiner tells me that the exact specification is often in a state of flux, but here is the present configuration:



Steiner shop shutters



Steiner shop console

GREAT ORGAN

16' Principal (TC)
 8' Principal – 73 pipes
 8' Melodia – 61 pipes
 4' Octave (Swell Geigen)
 4' Gedackt (Swell)
 2' Super Octave – 61 pipes
 2' Mixture III (Swell 2' + 1 1/3', 1') – 122 pipes
 8' Trumpet (Swell)
Great 16' / 4'

CHOIR ORGAN

8' Harmonic Flute (Swell)
 8' Flute Celeste (TC) – 49 pipes
 4' Principal (from Great 2', notes 1-12 from Swell Geigen Pr.)
 4' Wald Flute – 61 pipes
 2' Harmonic Piccolo (from Swell)
 1 1/3' Rohr Quint (from Swell)
 8' Clarinet – 61 pipes
 4' Trichter Regal – 61 pipes
Choir 16' / 4'

SWELL ORGAN

16' Gedackt – 12 pipes
 8' Geigen Principal – 73 pipes
 8' Gedackt – 73 pipes
 8' Salicional – 73 pipes
 8' Voix Céleste (TC) – 61 pipes
 4' Principal (from Great 8' Princ.)
 4' Harmonic Flute – 73 pipes
 2 2/3' Rohr Nazard – 61 pipes
 2' Fifteenth – 61 pipes
 16' Contra Oboe (full-length) – 12 pipes
 8' Trumpet – 61 pipes
 8' Oboe – 61 pipes
Tremolo
Swell 16' / 4'

PEDAL ORGAN

32' Subbass (resultant)
 16' Subbass – 32 pipes
 16' Gedackt (Swell)
 8' Octave (1-12 from Great) – 32 pipes
 4' Super Octave (from Octave)
 16' Contra Oboe (Swell)
 8' Trumpet (Swell)

Usual couplers

After visiting the Steiner-Murphy shop, we made our way over to Saint Patrick's Catholic Church. This is a grand and beautiful place with wonderful acoustics. The organ is Möller Opus 5081 (1929), rebuilt by Möller in 1969. Additions were made by the Steiner-Murphy Organ Company from 1995-2001. The organ sounds marvelous in this room. Especially distinctive sounds included the shimmering swell strings, a grand open wood stop in the pedal, colorful mutations and cromhorn (S-M additions), and a heroic trumpet with full-length pedal extension (also a S-M addition). [There are two consoles: 2-manual in the chancel, 4-manual in the gallery. – Ed.]

[review continued next page]

GREAT ORGAN

- 8' Principal – 61 pipes
- 8' Rohr Flute – 61 pipes
- 4' Octave – 61 pipes
- 4' Harmonic Flute – 61 pipes
- 2 2/3' Nazard – 61 pipes
- 2' Block Flute – 61 pipes
- 1 3/5' Tierce – 61 pipes
- 1 1/3' Mixture II-IV – 208 pipes
- 8' Harmonic Trumpet – 61 pipes
- 8' Trompete – 61 pipes
- 8' Cromhorn – 61 pipes

PEDAL ORGAN

- 32' Resultant
- 16' Open Wood Bass – 32 pipes
- 16' Bourdon – 56 pipes
- 16' Gedeckt (Swell)
- 8' Octave – 32 pipes
- 8' Bourdon (from 16')
- 8' Gedeckt (Swell)
- 4' Choral Bass (from Great 4')
- 4' Bourdon (from 16')
- 16' Trombone (ext. Great Har. Tpt) – 12 pipes (full-length)
- 16' Fagott – 32 pipes (half-length)
- 8' Tromba (Great)
- 4' Clarion (Great)

Usual Couplers

SWELL ORGAN

- 16' Gedeckt – 12 pipes
 - 8' Gedeckt – 73 pipes
 - 8' Salicional – 73 pipes
 - 8' Voix Céleste (TC) – 61 pipes
 - 4' Principal – 73 pipes
 - 4' Gedeckt – 12 pipes
 - 2' Octave (from 4' Pr.)
 - 2' Mixture IV – 244 pipes
 - 16' Trompette (TC)
 - 8' Trompette – 61 pipes
 - 8' Hautbois – 73 pipes
 - 4' Clarion – 61 pipes
- Tremolo*
- 8' Harmonic Trumpet (Great) (does not couple)



St. Patrick 2-manual console



St. Patrick façade



Möller Opus 36 façade

From here we preceded a short distance to our next stop, First Christian Church. This church is also known locally as the Town Clock Church due to its most prominent feature – the tower and clock. This church is home to a very early Möller, Opus 36, built c. 1880. We visited here four years ago, and the organ is still playing reasonably well. I revisited the review I wrote four years ago for the Hilbus newsletter and found that I would say much the same now as I did back then.

“The sound is rich, clear and mellow. The Great 8' Open Diapason easily fills the room with a warm, unforced sound. The 4' Principal crowns the 8' with gentle brilliance. Dulciana and Viola provide the gentlest sonorities, while the flutes offer delightful contrast. An Oboe – the sole reed stop – provides a colorful solo

[review continued next page]

voice and adds intensity to the chorus as well. In the Pedal, a solid 16' Bourdon handsomely undergirds the manuals."

GREAT (CC-c4, 61 notes)
 8' Open Diapason
 8' Melodia (TF)
 8' Dulciana (TF)
 8' Stopped Diapason Bass (CC-TE)
 4' Principal

PEDAL (CCC-D, 27 notes)
 16' Bourdon

*Swell to Great, Swell to Great Super:
 Great to Pedal, Swell to Pedal.*

SWELL (CC-c4, 61 notes, enclosed)
 8' Viola (TF)
 8' Stopped Diapason (TF)
 8' Stopped Diapason Bass (CC-TE)
 4' Flute d'Amour (open)
 8' Oboe (TF)
Tremolo

Tracker action.



Möller Opus 36 keydesk

By now, our stomachs were beginning to speak, so we made our way to a local downtown restaurant where we enjoyed good food and conversation.

The original plan had been to go to Mount Savage following lunch, but as we were leaving the restaurant, Mark Steiner, on a whim, asked if anyone was interested in walking up the hill to see Emmanuel Episcopal Church (the church for which Mark is parish musician). Well, being an OHS group, of course we all wanted to see the church!

As we were gathering outside Emmanuel, a caretaker mowing the lawn across the street at First Presbyterian Church observed us and asked if we would like to see the inside of that church! Who could resist such an offer? Once inside, it didn't take long for Ted Gustin to find the organ console unlocked, and we were soon treated to the sounds of the 1919 Möller organ as rebuilt by Lewis and Hitchcock in 2001. Here is what we heard:



First Presbyterian façade

GREAT (enclosed with Choir)
 16' Double Diapason – 73 pipes
 8' First Open Diapason – 61 pipes
 8' Second Open Diapason (from 16')
 8' Doppelflute – 73 pipes
 8' Melodia – 85 pipes
 8' Gemshorn – 61 pipes
 4' Octave (from Choir Engl. Diap'n)
 4' Harmonic Flute (Choir)
 2' Mixture III – 183 pipes
 8' Tromba – 61 pipes
 Chimes – 20 tubes, in Gallery

SWELL
 16' Lieblich Gedeckt – 97 pipes
 8' Violin Diapason – 73 pipes
 8' Gedeckt
 8' Salicional – 73 pipes
 8' Voix Céleste (TC) – 61 pipes
 4' Principal (from V. Diap'n)
 4' Gedeckt Flute
 4' Salicet
 2 2/3' Nazard – 61 pipes
 2' Flute (Gedeckt)
 1 1/3' Larigot (Nazard)
 8' Oboe
Tremulant

GALLERY GREAT
 8' Echo Flute – 85 pipes
 4' Principal – 73 pipes
 4' Fern Flute (ext.)
 2 2/3' Quint – 61 pipes
 2' Principal (ext.)
 1 1/3' Quint (from 2 2/3')

GALLERY SWELL
 8' Rohr Flöte – 73 pipes
 8' Muted Viole – 61 pipes
 8' Muted Viole Celeste (TC) – 49 pipes
 4' Rohr Flöte
 2' Flute (from Gallery Great)
 8' Petite Trompette

[stoplist continued next page]

[First Presbyterian specification, continued]

CHOIR

8' English Diapason – 73 pipes
8' Doppelflute (Great)
8' Harmonic Flute – 73 pipes
8' Gemshorn (Great)
8' Celeste – 61 pipes
4' Traverse Flute (from Great Melodia)
2' Flute (from Great Melodia)
8' Clarinet – 61 pipes
Tremulant
Harp – 49 bars
8' Tromba (from Great)

PEDAL

32' Resultant (from Bourdon)
16' First Open Diapason – 44 pipes
16' Second Open Diapason (Great)
16' Bourdon – 44 pipes
16' Lieblich Gedeckt (Swell)
8' Diapason (from Great D'ble Diap'n)
8' Bass Flute (from Pedal First Open)
8' Bourdon
16' Trombone (ext. Great Tromba)

GALLERY PEDAL

16' Gedeckt – 12 pipes
8' Flute (from Gallery Great)
4' Rohr Flöte (Gallery Swell)

*All standard couplers.
Austin console.*

The organ sounded quite well with a cohesive Diapason chorus, many lush flutes and strings, and colorful reeds.



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Like many sites in Cumberland, Emmanuel Episcopal Church has a long and interesting history, including a connection with the Underground Railroad. Inside the church is a 1951 Möller which was rebuilt by Möller in 1984. A chancel organ was added in 1997 which is mostly c. 1917 Möller material. Finally, in 2003 a Trivo Chamade was installed by the Steiner-Murphy Organ Company.

WEST NAVE ORGAN

GREAT ORGAN

8' Principal – 61 pipes
8' Holzgedeckt – 61 pipes
8' Gamba (Swell)
4' Octave – 61 pipes
2' Super Octave – 61 pipes
2 2/3' Sesquialtera II (TC) – 98 pipes
1 1/3' Mixture II-IV – 194 pipes
8' Hautbois – 61 pipes
Tremolo
Chimes – 21 tubes

PEDAL ORGAN

16' Principal – 32 pipes
16' Holz Bordun (Great) – 12 pipes
8' Octave – 12 pipes
8' Rohr Flute (Swell)
4' Choral Bass – 12 pipes
4' Gedeckt (Great)
16' Contre Trompette (Swell) – 12 pipes
8' Trompette-en-Chamade (Swell)

SWELL ORGAN

8' Rohr Flute – 61 pipes
8' Gamba – 61 pipes
8' Gamba Celeste (TC) – 49 pipes
4' Spitz Principal – 61 pipes
4' Rohr Flute – 12 pipes
2' Spitz Octave – 12 pipes
1 1/3' Quinte – 61 pipes
1' Klein Octave – 12 pipes
8' Trompette – 61 pipes
4' Clarion – 12 pipes
Tremolo
16' Trompette-en-Chamade (TC)
8' Trompette-en-Chamade – 61 pipes



Emmanuel Episcopal west façade

[stoplist continued next page]

CHANCEL ORGAN

GREAT ORGAN

8' Open Diapason – 61 pipes
8' Gedeckt (Swell)
8' Dulciana (Swell)
4' Octave (Swell)
4' Harmonic Flute (Swell)

SWELL ORGAN

8' Gedeckt – 61 pipes
8' Dulciana – 61 pipes
8' Unda Maris (TC) – 49 pipes
4' Octave – 61 pipes
4' Harmonic Flute – 61 pipes

PEDAL ORGAN

16' Bourdon – 32 pipes
8' Flute – 12 pipes

Usual couplers.

Both organs are controlled from a two manual draw-knob console located in the west nave. The chancel organ stops are controlled by tablets above the Swell manual.

Upon leaving Emmanuel, as we approached the railroad crossing, there, standing in the station in its full glory, was a fully restored 1916 Baldwin steam locomotive with its consist of cars for the Western Maryland Scenic Railway. Now, I have to ask, could the day have gotten any better? (Well actually, yes, if there had been time to *ride* the train, but that will have to be another trip.)



Western Maryland Scenic Railway engine

Finally, we made our way to St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Mount Savage, about seven miles outside Cumberland. This was another site that we visited four years ago, home to an 1856 Henry Erben organ. Again, looking back at my review four years ago, I had the same impression this time around:

“...in spite of years of neglect, the Erben is still playable, although in need of restoration. Even with pipes off-speech, and the key action out of regulation, it became immediately apparent that this is a bold and colorful instrument, worthy of preservation.”



St. Patrick's Church, Mt. Savage

MANUAL (CC-g3, 56 notes)

Open Diapason (8')
Gamba? (label missing) (TF) (8')
Dulciana (TF) (8')
Stopped Diapason (TF) (8')
Stopped Diapason Bass (8')
Principal (4')
Flageolet (4') (*not 2'*)

PEDAL (CC-G, 20 notes)

Coupled to Manual (no pedal pipes)

All pipes enclosed.

Tracker action.



Erben case

Altogether, it was a very full, satisfying day of seeing interesting churches and organs, good eating, great camaraderie, and even seeing an operational steam locomotive. I especially enjoyed this year's visit as we spent much more time in Cumberland than was the case four years ago. The historic downtown area is quite nice, and I look forward to returning to explore further (and to ride the train).

We thank Paul Roeder for arranging this day, and Mark Steiner for his hospitality.



News of Note

Note that this month's crawl is on the third Saturday of the month so that we have no conflict with the Thanksgiving holiday.

Note also that there is no crawl scheduled during December. Regular fourth Saturday crawls will resume in January 2008.



Sunday, November 18, 5:00 PM Organ Recital at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 825 S. Taylor Street, Arlington, VA. Lois Lehrer will be the recitalist. The organ is a 3-manual Rodgers with 16 ranks of Ruffatti pipes. All are welcome; no admission charge.



Erben keydesk



Erben nameplate

Have you paid your dues?
The deadline was October!

\$14 (Checks payable to Hilbus Chapter, OHS) mailed to:
SECRETARY-TREASURER Barbara Birckner
6606 Farmer Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744



Two signs found in Mark Steiner's shop!

Dates to remember:

November Crawl - Saturday, November 17th

NOTE: THIS IS THE **THIRD** SATURDAY!

January Crawl - Saturday, January 26, 2008

[No crawl in December!]

Deadline for January Newsletter:

Thursday, January 10th