

February 13, 2002

Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Attention: Melissa Curran
1785 Massachusetts Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20026

Dear Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund:

The Boston Preservation Alliance is pleased to support Trinity Church's application to the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors. Trinity Church is a national treasure and one of H.H. Richardson's finest works. It is deserving of support by the National Trust for Historic Preservation through this grant application.

The Boston Preservation Alliance is Boston's citywide nonprofit preservation advocacy organization and spends much of its time and effort saving historic structures from certain ruin.

As a society, we often forget about the importance of our icons. Buildings that define Boston's architectural identity like Trinity Church have an impact far beyond the boundaries of our city, state or even country.

Completed in 1877, Trinity Church not only represents the fine work of H.H. Richardson, but also an entire style that grew out of Richardson's work. The name Trinity Church often follows the phrase "Richardsonian Romanesque" as a way to identify this style to the public. But Richardson is not the only great name associated with the art and architecture of Trinity. The interior of the Church boasts an impressive list of the best artists and artisans from the late 19th century, a high point in American art and architecture. This list includes: John Le Farge, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Daniel Chester French and William Morris & Co.

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund grant will support the production of a case statement for Trinity Church's capital campaign. Trinity is first approaching their parishioners for contributions to their \$53 million capital campaign goal. They will then reach out to organizations and individuals in the larger community to achieve their goal. The case statement will be used to tell the story of this important landmark to potential contributors. The Alliance applauds the Church's thoughtfully planned approach to their capital needs.

As a National Historic Landmark, Trinity Church deserves the support of preservationists and others far beyond our city and state. A grant from the National Trust will help tell the story of Trinity and provide a much-deserved endorsement of the restoration of this icon.

Sincerely,

Susan Park
President

Albert Rex
Executive Director