

Nick Black cemeteryrenewal.com <u>cemeteryrenewal@gmail.com</u> 504-401-2989

Invoice

Landry Tomb Ascension of Our Lord Cemetery Donaldsonville, Louisiana

Scope of Work

Completion of all work as specified or indicated in the contract documents for said tomb. The Work is generally described, but not limited, as follows:

- Locate and collect all existing elements of the tomb that have become detached from the structure (limestone moldings, fragments of blocks, etc.).
- Assemble temporary braces and stands where necessary.
- Carefully remove all vegetation growing on the structure. (This step will several days to complete. Currently there are vines and at least one tree that is located on the platformed roof. This vegetation is deeply rooted in the joints of the limestone segments which form the roof structure. In order to ensure re-growth does not occur the joints must be raked clean of organic materials and all roots excavated.)

Roof Structure and Cupola

- Beginning at the cupola, rake out all loose and deteriorated mortar in the joints between stone sections. (During this step, each section of stone will be examined for structural soundness. Areas of stone that require realignment will be marked and documented. Additionally, stone in need of patching will also be recorded.)
- Secure any stone (ornamental or structural) members into position that is found to be at risk of moving until it can be permanently affixed.
- Working from the cupola to the first roof platform, clean the limestone with a solution formulated for natural stone. Ensure all joints are thoroughly cleaned in preparation for re-pointing.
- Re-position stone segments back to their original position. (Blind pinning will likely be necessary to permanently affix the sections together. Additionally, an appropriate structural mortar compatible with historic limestone will be used in the resetting of the stone.)
- Repoint all joints that were previously cleaned on the roof and cupola. (A proper structural grout compatible with historic limestone will be used.)

Cornice Molding

- Rake out all deteriorated or loose mortar located in the joints between the cornice molding sections.
- Clean the cornice with a biological solution formulated for natural stone.

- Re-point all joints on the cornice molding in need of new grout.
- Patch areas of the cornice that have deteriorated with a blended limestone material suitable for historic stone.

Walls

- Where limestone wall blocks have cracked, clean fracture joints and fill the crack with a structural grout appropriate for limestone.
- Furnish a new cast limestone section to replace the missing exterior left base of the stairway.
- Rake out all deteriorated and loose mortar in the joints of the walls.
- Clean the walls of the tomb with a biological solution formulated for natural stone.
- Re-point the wall joints with a proper structural grout.
- Where appropriate, patch and fill surface areas of the block walls that have deteriorated or broken away.

Interior

- Clean the interior of the tomb with a biological solution formulated for natural stone.
- Replace or repair any section of stone on the interior walls in need of renewal.
- Close any vaults that are currently open.
- Repair the broken marble closure tablets. (If the tomb is still to be used, it is recommended the original tablets be mounted elsewhere on the tomb and new marble closure tablets installed. This will eliminate the risk of the original tablets breaking upon opening the vaults for new interments.)

November 22, 2022 Email

Hi Ms. Canella,

This is an update regarding the preservation of the Landry tomb.

We continue working on Phase I which is the cleaning of the tomb. As of now half of the roof structure and tomb built on top has been cleaned in addition to the right-side wall. The process of cleaning is taking much longer due to the stone's deterioration. Deciding what is salvageable and what is "lost" can be grueling at times. This is especially true when there are large areas of limestone that simply crumble or flake off with the lightest touch. In short, not much has changed from my initial email a few months ago. The condition is disappointing. With that said, we are working at drastically slowing down further decay and stabilizing the surface of the stone.

As for filling or patch work on the deteriorated areas, this will be done only if the stone in that section is not delaminated or breaking apart. Otherwise, the repair will just come off (it's no different than painting over rotted wood.) Additionally, the molding that fell from the rear of the tomb and the area of molding missing on the front will stay like this. Drilling and pinning that section runs a good chance of doing more damage. The stone is just too fragile and will not hold the weight bearing on the pins. I will however patch and repair the ugly brick repair on the front (the red bricks used to fill in) this will be done when I re-grout and point the tomb. As for the areas of missing stone that are leading to water intrusion, I will order some stone blocks for use in filling these sections (right now it is only on the front facing roof where half of the stone block is gone entirely.)

While I have been working on cleaning the roof, my assistants have been tackling the inside. What a mess....to say the least. They filled three 50-gallon bags full of literal garbage. To make matters worse there are human remains in the

center area, which was covered up by garbage, debris, concrete, etc. This was clearly the "receiving vault" for the tomb. Large slabs that used to cover the vault in the floor have either been taken or broken up. Someone had the genius idea of pouring concrete over the area which basically destroyed everything there.

The plan will be to reconstruct the inside the best way possible. Since there are now two raised areas on both sides of the interior, we may make them into benches. Right now, there is a step down into the tomb which is the result of the floor collapsing and people taking stones. My idea is to level the center and install a stone floor. Additionally, a stone step will be used to access the space. It will require some ingenuity, but I think we can pull it off. Initially I thought that the interior just needed cleaning out. I did not include reconstructing it in the proposal. Since I will not be able to patch most of the stone on the exterior due to it being either delaminated or having too much surface deterioration, the reconstruction work on the inside will likely even the cost out.

I apologize for the long email. It's important to me that everyone knows what the expectations are based on the condition I am finding the tomb to be in, especially the more I work on it. Like I stated previously, cleaning, regrouting, stopping water intrusion in addition to reconstructing the interior, are my tasks for preserving the tomb the best way possible. It's not the "like new" restoration we wanted, however without these conservation efforts there will be less and less of the tomb each year.

-Nick

March 10, 2023, Completion

Furnished all materials and labor and performed the services described above for the price of: Nineteen Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Dollars (\$19,680)

Check may be made payable to Nick Black

Address:

Nick Black 3008 South Palm Dr. Slidell, LA 70458