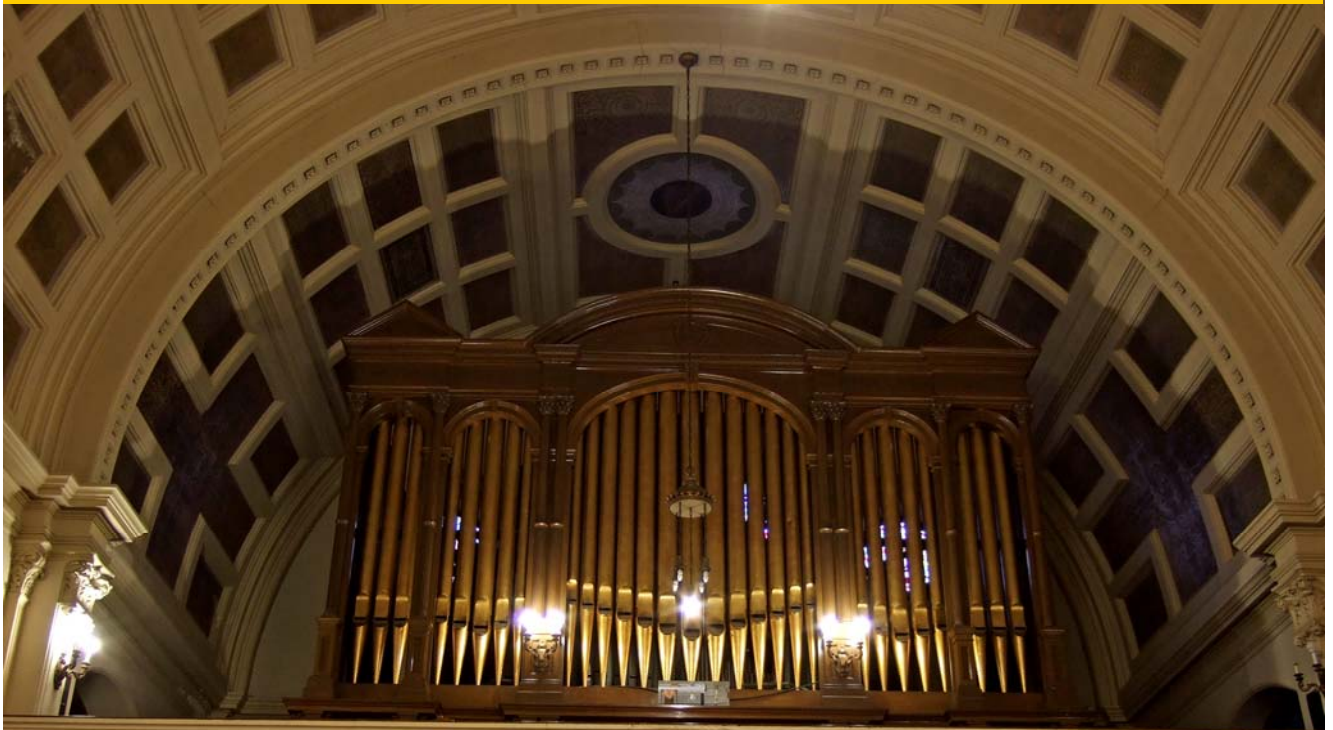


Historic Baumgarten Organ in Charlestown, MA
More information on page 9.







Barker Machine with attendant couplers





Barker Machine



Great Stop Action

Great Pipework



Pedal Offset Chest with early electropneumatic action

Choir Pipework with ventil bleeders





Swell Pipework

Saint Catherine of Sienna (Charlestown) Lower Church Organ
below



Available free

The Upper Church Baumgarten is in a case measuring 25' 4" wide by 12' 6" deep by 20' high..

Modifications to the case could allow for 19' width.

The asking price is \$10,000.

The organ must be removed by April 20, 2010.

The buyer must warrant that the instrument will be restored.

For more information please contact Lee Eiseman at
617-241-7848 or
nolisome@verizon.net

BAUMGARTEN ORGAN IN ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, CHARLESTOWN, MA.

HISTORY

When the "Great Organ," built by E. F. Walcker of Ludwigsburg, Germany, was installed in Boston Music Hall in 1863, a crew of Walcker's best organbuilders also came to install and finish it. Among them was Moritz Baumgarten. After the Boston work was completed, he elected to stay in the country and, perhaps capitalizing on the fame and success of the Music Hall organ, to begin building organs in Walcker's tonal and mechanical style. Capitalized by a group of local entrepreneurs, he opened a factory in New Haven, Conn. in 1866, and took out patents on certain mechanical innovations in the same year, including an "improved" version of the Walcker cone-valve windchest and a keyboard design that allowed the keys of the two lower manuals to be located closer together. Both of these features are found in the St. Catherine's Church organ. Between 1866 and 1869 Baumgarten is known to have built at least 21 organs, mostly in New England, but also some as far away as Ohio and Iowa, and some were of substantial size. Among organists who wrote testimonials to the firm's work were two of the organists who had performed in the opening recital of the Music Hall organ, John K. Paine and Eugene Thayer. However, Baumgarten's work as an independent organ builder came to an end in 1870, when his factory was destroyed by fire, and he spent the rest of his life working for other organbuilding firms, including Hook & Hastings.

THE ORGAN

In August of 1868 the Universalist Church in Boston Highlands (Roxbury) signed a contract with Baumgarten for a substantial organ costing \$5,500, to be installed in a recess at the front of the sanctuary, and it was dedicated in February of 1869. In January of 1894 the church was severely damaged by fire, but, perhaps because of its location in a recess, the organ was salvaged by the Woodberry & Harris firm, and with slight modifications, including new casework and a rebuilt console, as well as a standard double-rise bellows, it was installed by them in St. Catherine's Church in Charlestown, Mass. in February of 1895. As far as can be determined, with the exception of the modifications mentioned above, the interior of the organ appears to be entirely original, including the pipework, vent chests, stop actions, mechanical action and couplers, and Barker machine (Great only), all indicating excellent workmanship. Although now virtually unplayable, what can still be heard of various stops indicates a unique and colorful tonal quality that is somewhat distinct from that of much American work of the 1860s. Examination of the interior shows this organ to be quite intact in all its parts, and thus eminently restorable. As the only known surviving Baumgarten organ, it is not only of significant historical interest, but also a fine musical instrument worthy of restoration and a new life in another church, as St. Catherine's has been closed.

STOPLIST:

Great (58 notes):

Open Diapason 16
Open Diapason 8
Gedeckt 8
Viola da Gamba 8
Doppel Flute 8
Octave 4
Flute 4
Quinte 3
Super Octave 2
Mixture III (12-15-17)
Trumpet 8
Great to Pneumatic
Swell to Great
Choir to Great

Pedal (27 notes):

Open Diapason 16
Bourdon 16
Violoncello 8
Great to Pedal
Swell to Pedal
Choir to Pedal
Great to Pedal Reversible
Four Composition Pedals

Swell (58 notes):

Bourdon 16
Open Diapason 8
Stopped Diapason 8
Salicional 8
Flauto Traverso 4
Violina 4
Dolce Cornet III (12-15-17)
Oboe 8
Tremulant

Choir (58 notes):

Violin Diapason 8
Melodia 8
Aeoline 8
Flute Harmonique 4
Piccolo 2
Clarinet 8
Swell to Choir