

HISTORIC RESTORATION

1896 M.P. MOLLER OPUS 188
ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EAST GERMANTOWN, INDIANA

THIS ORGAN WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT FOR ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN NEARBY RICHMOND, INDIANA. IN 1933 ST. PAUL'S ACQUIRED A LARGER MOLLER, AT WHICH TIME OPUS 188 WAS MOVED TO ZION'S "BY TWO FARMERS AND A MECHANIC," ACCORDING TO LOCAL TRADITION.

WHILE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE SUPPORTS THE NOTION THAT THE 1933 MOVERS WERE NOT TRAINED ORGANBUILDERS, THEY WERE EVIDENTLY SKILLED GENERAL CRAFTSMEN, AS MANY ASPECTS OF THE MOVE WERE CARRIED OUT WELL. UNFORTUNATELY, NO PROVISION WAS EVER MADE FOR SERVICE ACCESS, AND GENERALLY POOR SUBSEQUENT WORK FURTHER CONTRIBUTED TO A DETERIORATING ORGAN WHOSE BASIC MAINTENANCE NEEDS WENT UNADDRESSED FOR MANY YEARS.

WE BEGAN A FULL RESTORATION IN MAY OF 2012 AND ANTICIPATE FINISHING IN SEPTEMBER 2012. THE ORGAN HAS BEEN COMPLETELY REMOVED, WITH CHAMBER REPAIR, SEALING, AND PAINTING BEING ACCOMPLISHED AT THE SAME TIME. KEY FEATURES OF THE 2012 WORK INCLUDE THE FABRICATION OF A REPLICA OF THE ORIGINAL 5' X 8' DOUBLE-RISE RESERVOIR (DESTROYED DURING THE 1960S) AND THOROUGH REPAIR OF WINCHEST SPONSILS AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURE. PIPEWORK IS FORTUNATELY IN GOOD CONDITION APART FROM ASSORTED TORN TUNING SCROLLS; THESE WILL BE REPAIRED AS A MATTER OF COURSE AS THE ORGAN IS RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL PITCH OF A-435.

GREAT

OPEN DIAPASON 8'
DOPPEL FLUTE 8'
GAMBA 8'
DULCIANA 8'
OCTAVE 4'
TWELFTH 2-2/3'
FIFTEENTH 2'

PEDAL

BOURDON 16'
FLUTE 8'

GREAT FORTE & PIANO PEDALS
SWELL FORTE & PIANO PEDALS
BELLOWS SIGNAL

SWELL

BOURDON BASS 16'
BOURDON TREBLE 16'
VIOLIN DIAPASON 8'
GEDECKT 8'
AEOLINE 8'
VIOLINA 4'
HARMONIC FLUTE 4'
BASSOON BASS 8'
OBOE 8'
TREMOLLO

GREAT TO PEDAL
SWELL TO PEDAL
SWELL TO GREAT

M. P. Rathke, Inc.

*Designers, Builders, and Conservators
of Mechanical-action Pipe Organs
(317) 903-8816 - www.rathkepipeorgans.com*