FRIENDS OF
PUMP HOUSE

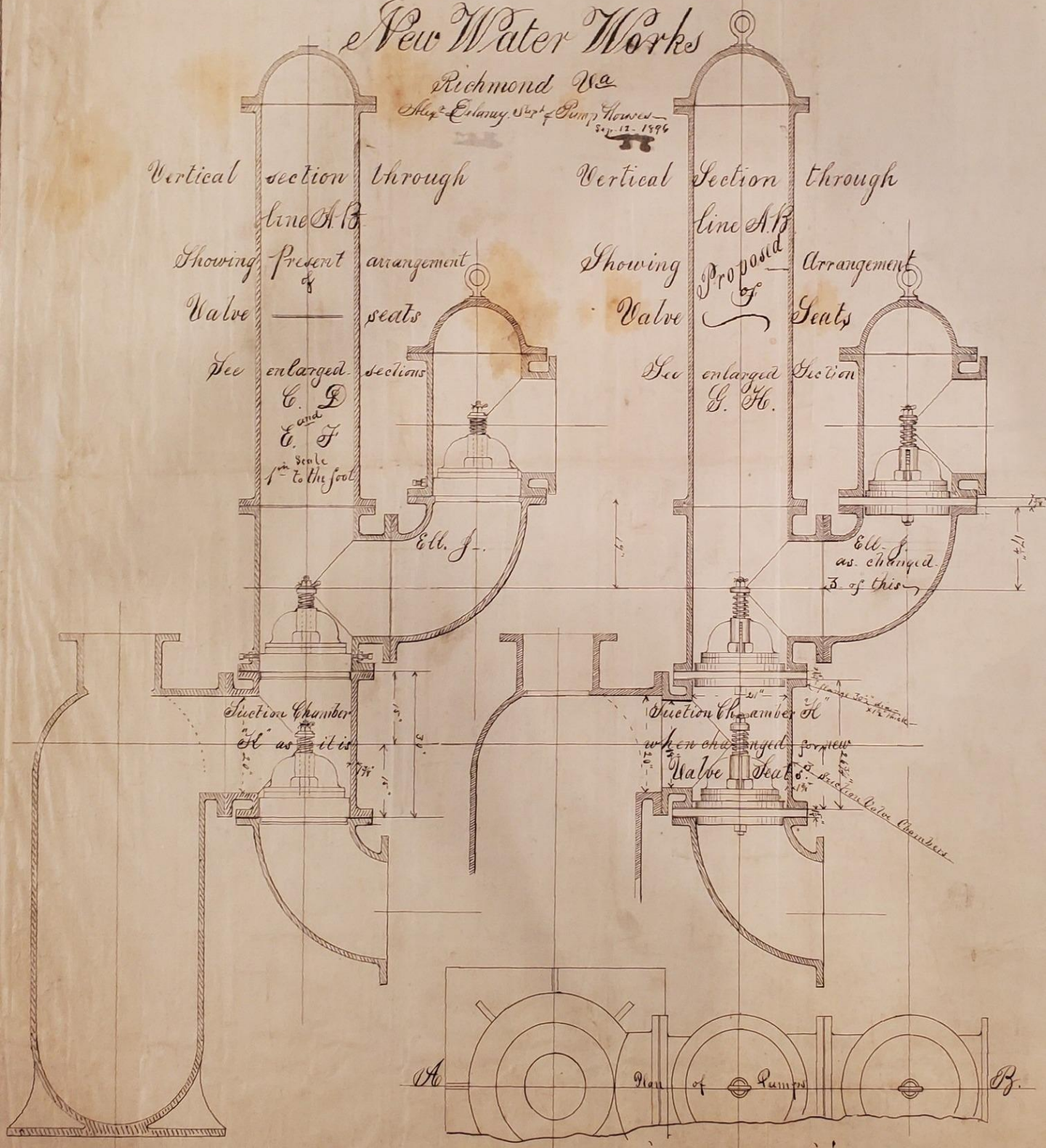
2025 Annual Report

Proposed Arrangement of Pump Valves & Seats at the New Water Works

Richmond Va

Alex^r Delaney Sup^t of Pump Houses

Sep. 12 - 1896



President's Message

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our latest annual report, and my first as President. This year saw the culmination of several projects that were years in the making. The generous grant we received from the Roller-Bottimore Foundation allowed us to finish replacing all of the windows in the lower level of the building. Now completed, this has transformed the external appearance of the Pump House, provides better protection from the elements, and brought natural light into the pump room for the first time in decades.

After years of work from our dedicated volunteers and students from Virginia Commonwealth University, we debuted virtual reality at the Pump House. Visitors have the opportunity to virtually step back in time by seeing what the original machinery looked like.

In 2025 we grew in many ways. Foremost, we added three new Board members; Annie Delaroderie, our new Treasurer, Brie Hayden, our communications coordinator, and Walker Smith, our new Arm & Hammer team lead. These new faces bring talent, passion, and excitement for our work and our organization and help ensure that we continue to have a supply of capable leadership.

This year we reassessed what it means to be a 'member' of Friends of Pump House. Historically, a member was anyone that provided an annual donation of at least $25. To better recognize the various ways the community contributes to our work, members are now anyone who supports our work, weather through a donation, volunteer hours, advocacy, event planning, and countless other ways of engagement.

Our dedicated team of Arm & Hammer volunteers have been busy this year. The most notable workday projects have been the floor stabilization and repair in the pump room, the complete refresh of the walkway around the southwest corner of the boiler room, and much needed repairs to the pump room catwalk.

None of this would be possible without the support of our members, who are the driving force of our organization. I am humbled and honored to be leading a group with such focus, passion, and dedication. Thank you for your continued support.

Jack Dawson
President,
Friends of Pump House

By The Numbers

Engagement with the Pump House continues to grow. This year we focused on a more consistent social media presence, which expanded our presence our channels grow every day.
Financial support has slowed in 2025, which is to be expected given the limited events and tours we were able to host during our window project.

552 Members
↑ 17

3,573 Instagram followers
↑ 472

3,758 Facebook followers
↑ 158

62.6k Facebook visits
↓ 45.7k

502 Volunteer Hours
↓ 503

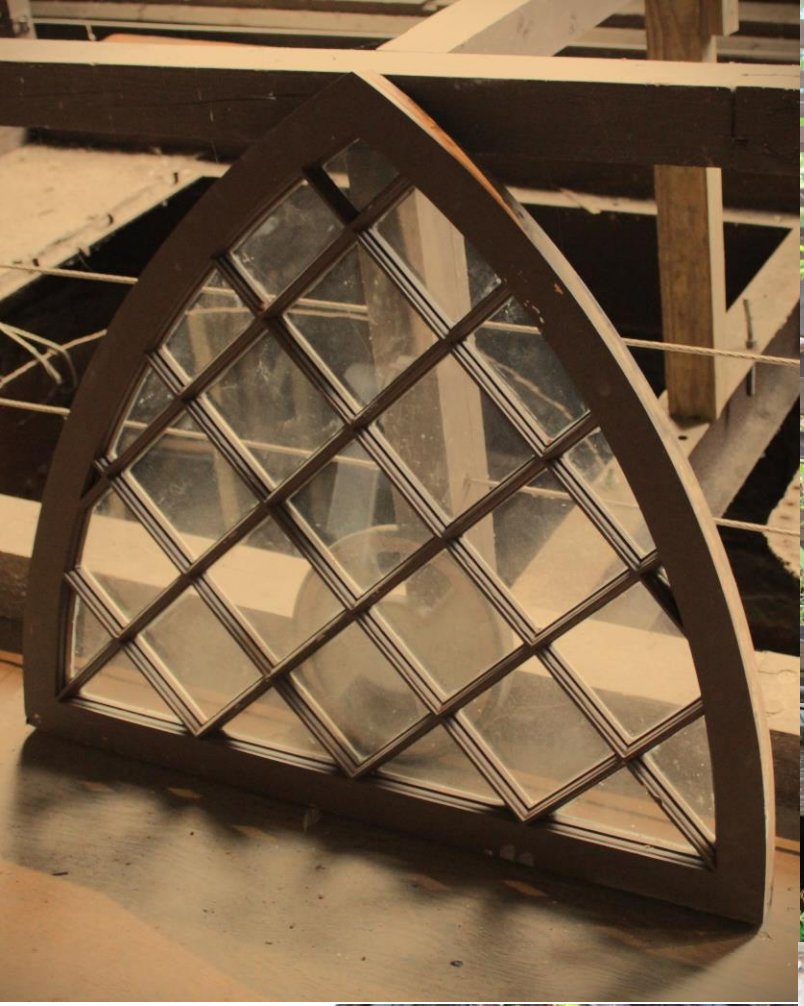
$2,052 Total online donations
↓ $4,814

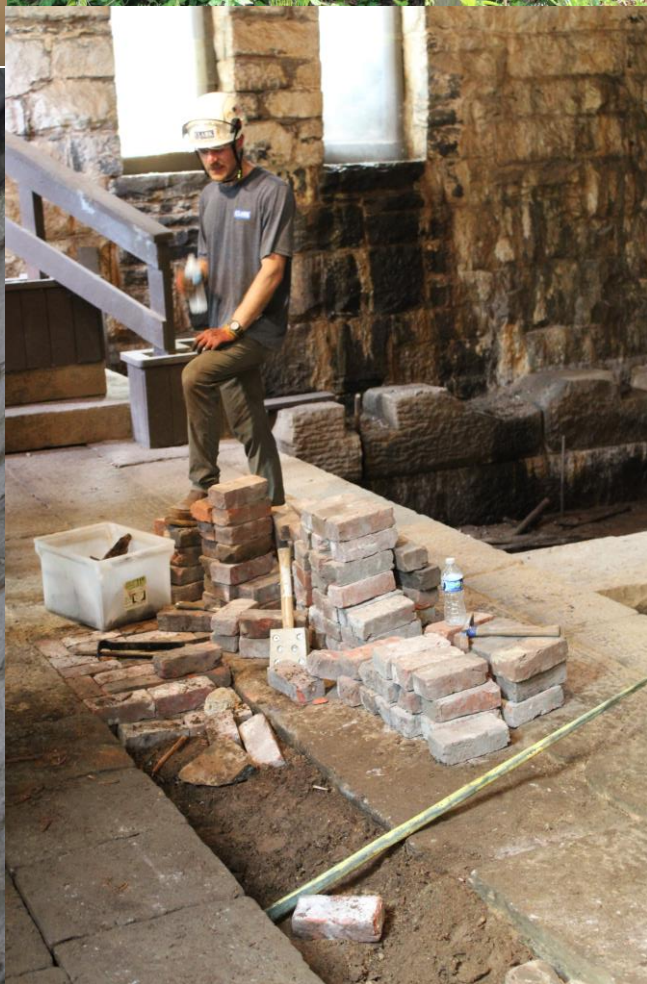
Volunteers raise a railroad frog from the park for cleaning and preservation.

Our Finances

Expenses		**2024**	**2025**
Administrative		3,683	3,594
Communications Coordinator		1,683	-
Event Expenses		4,123	1,364
Tools and Supplies		2,548	1,985
Window Restoration		-	141,320
	Total	**$12,037**	**$148,263**
Income			
Donations		7,960	2,532
Events		6,194	3,827
Grants		7,000	-
Interest		-	3,851
	Total	**$21,154**	**$10,210**

Volunteers straighten stator laminations. These thin sheets of metal are the only pieces of the original machinery remaining.

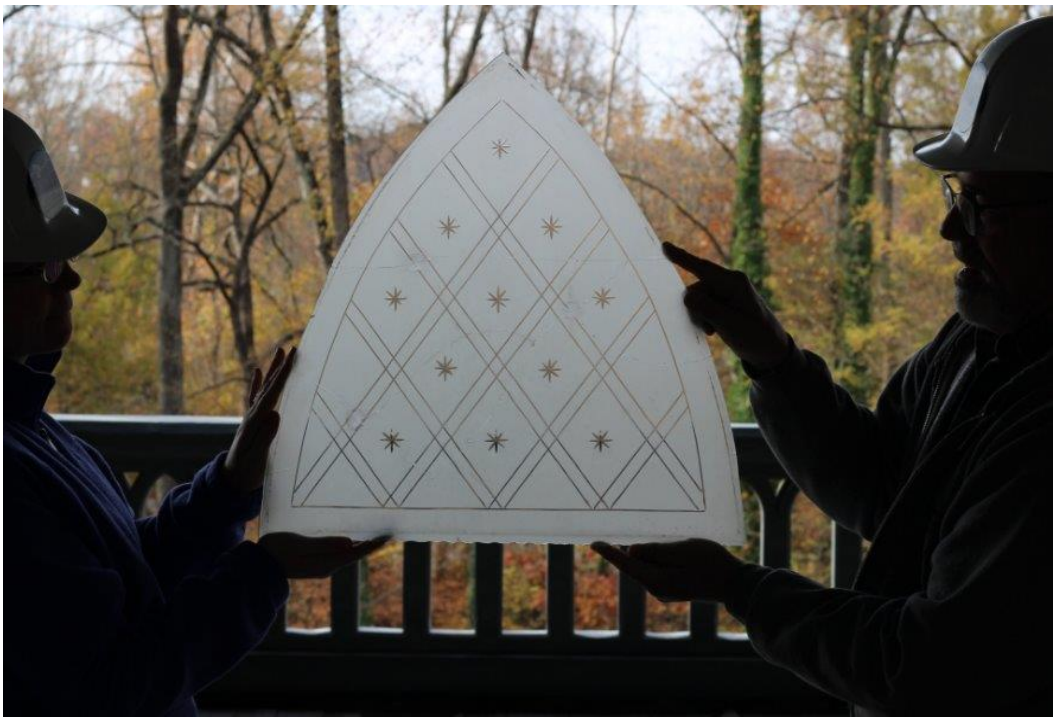




In September we hosted Historic Richmond's Quoit Club for tours of the building & canal.

Arm & Hammer volunteers working on the southwest walkway

A guest participating in a paranormal activity investigation



Original etched glass that was professionally restored this year

Looking Forward

2026 will be a year defined by the start of the roof replacement. This will be the most significant investment made in the building in over 100 years, and, to us, means that the building and its rich history will be saved. While this project will limit how we can use the building in 2026, our work of preservation, restoration, and education continues.

Strategic Planning
Once the roof replacement has been completed, the next step will be to seek even larger amounts of funding to begin the process of restoring the rest of the building. This will require significant effort and changes in our overall strategy, and will require the support and consent of the City of Richmond. We will remain engaged with our elected officials to ensure that they're aware of both our accomplishments and the many potential benefits of having a revitalized Pump House.

Fundraising
Raising funds to continue to support our work will be a priority in 2026. As events will be limited, we will explore grant opportunities as well as donation drives to support specific, small dollar projects.

Projects
As we anticipate the start of the roof replacement project, there is some uncertainty about what we'll be able to accomplish in the building this year. Some projects that we will pursue this year include:

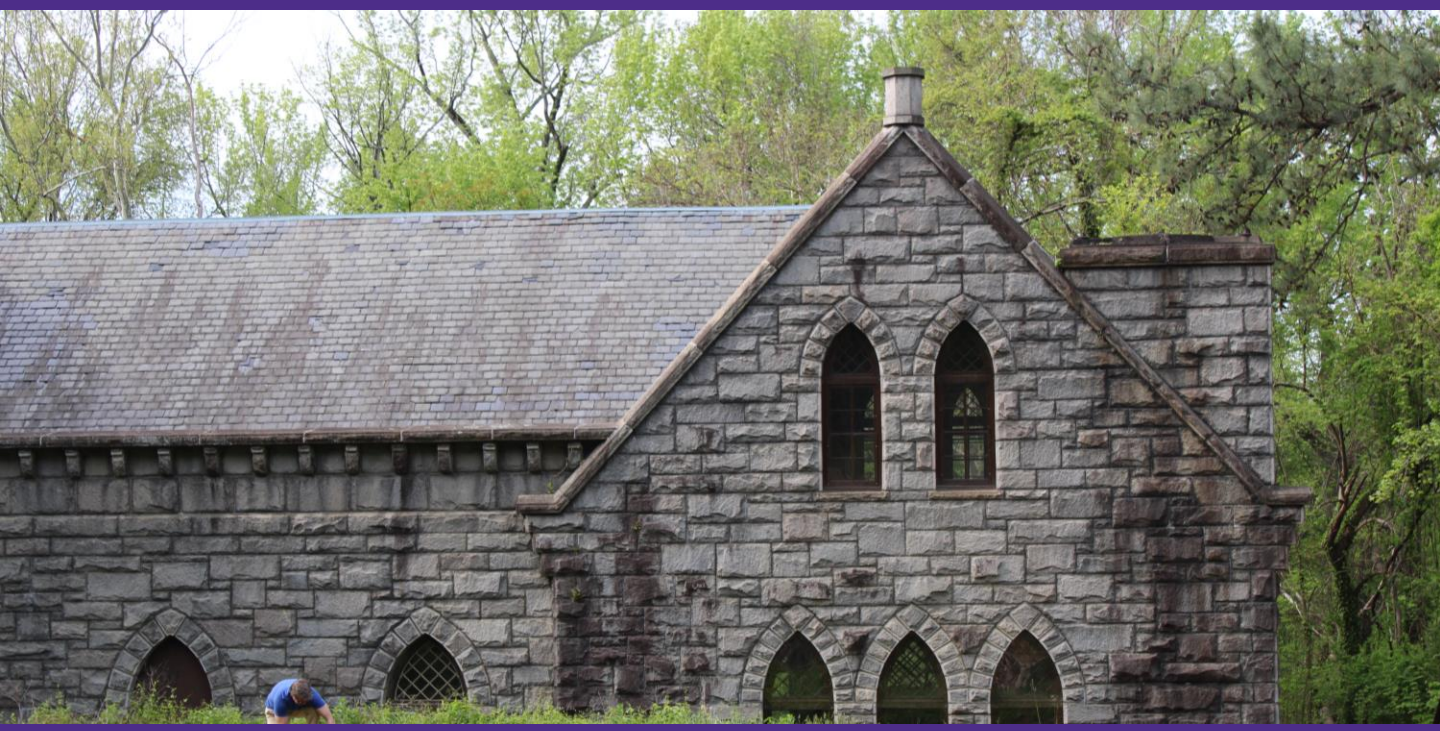
- Creating a mock-up display of remaining stator laminations
- Display of restored original window
- Repair of deteriorated flooring
- Cleanup of upstairs workrooms
- Preservation of the railroad frog

Engagement
We will continue to engage with the community as much as possible in 2026. While limited access to the building restricts our ability to host events and tours, it provides us the opportunity to expand our scope to the park at large. We have had great feedback on our guided tours of the James River & Kanawha Canal, which we can continue to provide independent of building access.

About

Founded in 2017, Friends of Pump House is a volunteer-led non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and restoring the historic New Pump House in Richmond, Virginia. Our members devote their time and energy to this cause in a variety of ways, including participation in monthly workdays, hosting tours and educational events, advocacy, historic research, and fundraising.

Friends of Pump House is fiscally sponsored by the Friends of the James River Park.



Board of Directors

Rob Comet
Joe Costello, Founder
Jack Dawson, President
Annie Delaroderie, Treasurer
Shane Harper
Brie Hayden
Kerin James
Chris Knoop
Lyn Lanier
Penn Markham
Jackie Merrick
Cassie Patterson
Walker Smith
Mac Wood, Vice-President & Secretary

© 2026 Friends of Pump House
Logo by C.J. Danielsen, Mozaik Creative