

NEW YORK BUDDHIST CHURCH

More than 70 Years of Service to the Community

Founded in 1938 by Rev. Hozen Seki the NYBC was the first Buddhist church in the tri-state area and is one of the more than 60 temples and organizations that comprise the Buddhist Churches of America, headquartered in San Francisco. NYBC has continued under the guidance of our resident ministers, Rev. Shunshin Kan (1984–87), Rev. T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki (1994–2010) and Rev. Hoshu Y. Matsubayashi (2010–present).



Today the NYBC continues to play a leadership role in the Buddhist community on a local, regional and national level as it fulfills its mission. Its goals are to:

- Increase understanding of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist teachings for the *sangha* membership and larger community
- Disseminate information on Buddhism in general, in part, through support of the American Buddhist Study Center and other Buddhist communities
- Support the practice of Buddhist teachings in our daily lives and deal with issues confronting society

- Provide understanding of Japanese, Asian and Asian American culture and relate the influences of Buddhist philosophy and aesthetics to the art forms when applicable

To fulfill these goals the NYBC, its resident minister and affiliated organizations provide the community with the following:

- Weekly Dharma service, monthly memorial services, the full range of Buddhist rituals, and observances of the cycle of Buddhist holidays and commemorations, such as New Year and Obon
- Introductory courses in Shin teachings and meditation, sutra study and adult courses in English and Japanese; and Minister's Assistant Program and lay teachers training
- Regular seminars, lectures and Dharma learning retreats; developing Dharma school for children
- Active participation in the Eastern Buddhist League, the Buddhist Churches of America and the Buddhist Council of New York
- Supervision of other Jodo Shinshu *sanghas* on the East Coast
- Trips to Buddhist sites led by the resident minister
- Hiroshima-Nagasaki and September 11th memorial services
- Liaison for Hongwanji and Buddhist Churches of America to the United Nations and other Buddhist groups in the area
- Various classes and activities by affiliate and independent organizations, including Japanese classical and folk dance, taiko drumming, other performing arts, calligraphy and other visual arts and martial arts
- Flea markets, cultural festivals and social activities for the local community organized by the Adult Buddhist Association



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New York Buddhist Church

FUND FOR THE FUTURE

*Renovation and
Expansion Update*



FUND FOR THE FUTURE — RENOVATION AND EXPANSION UPDATE



A.

Timeline—Fund For The Future

1993–2003

Phase 1—Completed acquisition, restoration and renovation of 331 Riverside Drive (former American Buddhist Academy, now American Buddhist Study Center) for public spaces, minister's residence and guest rooms; raised \$1 million

2007–present

Phase 2: Stage 1—Renovation of Hondo (main religious hall) at 332 Riverside Drive nearing completion

Future Phase 2: Stages 2 and 3—Expansion of 332 Riverside Drive—additional multi-purpose floors, glass-enclosed facade and elevator

Artist's renderings of renovated church: (A.) Hondo, (B.) Church Facade, (C.) Entrance



From 2007 the New York Buddhist Church (NYBC)

has been conducting an appeal for Phase 2: the renovation and expansion of its 332 Riverside Drive building, which houses the *Hondo* (main religious hall). Following the plan for a contemporary church building designed by the award-winning Smith and Thompson Architects, the NYBC has made much progress. The Hondo renovation is nearing completion. This renovation and expansion will provide a peaceful, serene and rewarding environment and sustain the dream of the NYBC's founder Rev. Hozen Seki to serve the religious, social and educational needs of a diverse and growing Buddhist community.

Phase 2 To Date: Successful completion of the following: new roof; ceiling panels and overhead lighting fixtures; skylight over the *onajin* (altar); slate floor; new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC); sound insulation in the *dojo* (church gym) used for martial arts, taiko drumming practice and other activities; new church office; and repainting and repair of the *Hondo* facade. Renovation costs to date total \$671,000, were raised primarily from individual and corporate contributions and reserve funds.

CURRENT NEED: To finish Phase 2 Stage 1 the NYBC will need to raise approximately \$250,000, which includes \$150,000 in renovation expenses and \$100,000 to replenish the church's reserve funds.

Stage 1 **\$250,000**
Funds Required for Completion

Shoji-style wall panels, sound system and equipment for hearing impaired, vestibule cabinets and new seating. Replenish reserve funds.

Future Plans: Expansion of 332 Riverside Drive. The Board at the *sangha's* direction will consider a timeframe for Stages 2 and 3 of the project, which is estimated to cost an additional \$1,064,700.

Stage 2 **\$755,200**
Entrance, glass facade, elevator and additional floors

Stage 3 **\$279,500**
Finish Interior of additional floors



C.