

Church of the Pilgrims,  
Provincetown, Mass.

- 1910 -

The Advocate, Thursday, September 30, 1982

A small fire of undetermined origin destroyed an office and a wall at the Metro Cinema on Commercial Street in Provincetown Sunday morning.

The fire was discovered and reported by Gene Poyant, a neighbor and owner of the bakery next to the theater. Nobody was injured but the theater remains closed indefinitely.

The fire destroyed the contents of owner Monte Rome's office. Poyant called the fire department at 8:22 a.m. Sunday.

Although Rome thinks the fire was started by spontaneous combustion, the official cause has yet to be determined.

Charles Brophy, county fire marshal, planned to inspect the site Monday, but never showed up, said Joyce Matthews, fire department secretary. The reason for the fire marshal's visit, she said, "was to determine a cause. We still don't know what started it."

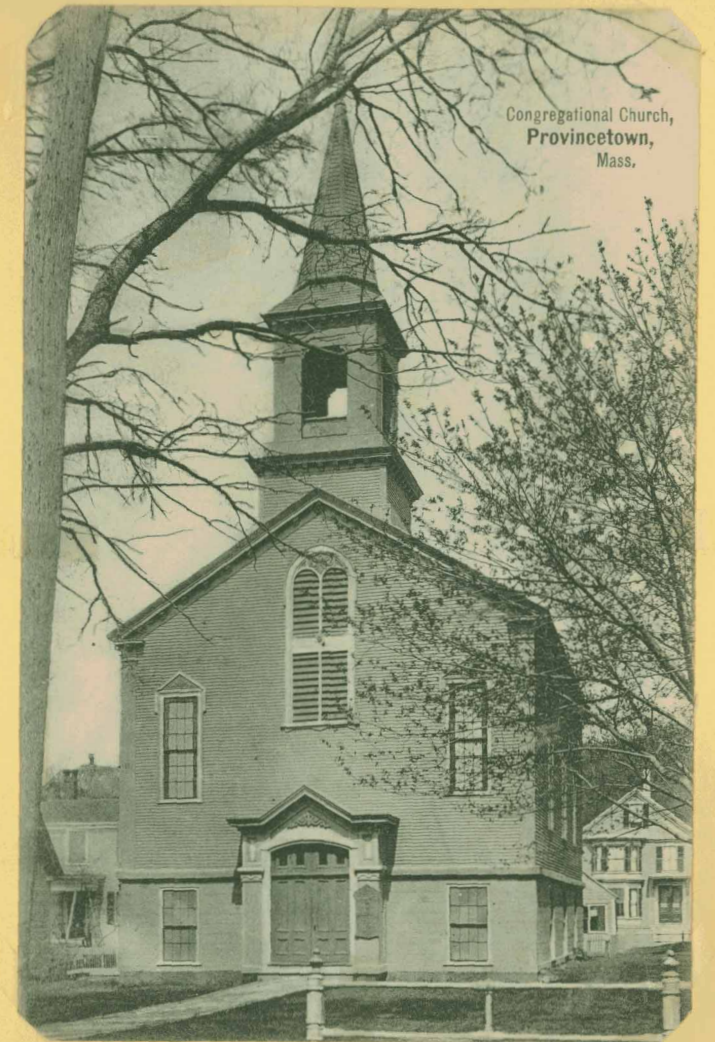
After the Provincetown Fire Department received Poyant's call, the fire was quickly brought under control. Fire Chief Clem Silva said the fire trucks were dismissed approximately an hour later, at 9:30 a.m.

Most of the damage was from smoke, Silva said, although Rome's office behind the theater's ticket booth was gutted, and the west wall destroyed. The auditorium of the theater and the staircases were not damaged, Silva said.

Rome, who also owns another Provincetown theater, The Movies, which closed for the season last week, said the fire caused \$20,000 worth of damage.

"The fire wasn't of any suspicious origin," said Rome. "I think it was spontaneous combustion."

Rome said he was just getting ready to go to work at the cinema when the fire broke out. Rome did not say why he thinks the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion, which occurs when combustible materials burst into flame because of their chemical makeup.



Congregational Church,  
Provincetown,  
Mass.

- 1908 -



In front yard of Pilgrim Congregational Church -  
Ant. Cinema - 1968



Communion Set at Church of the Pilgrims,  
Provincetown, Mass.  
First used in 1714

- 1912 -