

## Hanging the Sam May Marble Tablet December 30, 2006

A group of volunteers and witnesses gathered on this cold and dreary day to participate in the hanging of the repaired Sam May marble tablet on the outside east wall of the church overlooking the Memorial Garden. The tablet used to hang on an inside wall in the former James St. church. It was removed, broken into three pieces during the removal, and stored in the basement of the Onondaga Historical society forgotten and thought lost until the summer of 2005. SU Professor Ron DeRutte was commissioned to repair and supervise the hanging of the plaque. He was ably assisted by MMUUS member, Dale Sherman, and the repair effort was fantastic. The following photos provide a pictorial memory of that historic event.

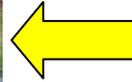


Professor DeRutte describes the lifting process to the assembled volunteers



The lifting from the repair cradle built by Dale Sherman begins. This tablet weighed 600-700 pounds

Note the support pin in the back pocket of a volunteer. Each pin could support several hundred pounds (two were used on the top and two on the bottom). A hole was drilled through the block wall and the pins pushed through the metal support frame and wall were secured by nuts and washers.



A 2x4 below the lower metal frame aids the volunteers as they slide it up out of the cradle to the top mounting holes



The top support pins are being driven home and locked on the other side of the block wall



The cradle has been removed; the bottom pins are being driven home and then secured on the other side of the wall



Dale Sherman, Ron DeRutte, and Rog Hiemstra with the final product



The volunteers and several of the witnesses to the tablet hanging event



Home at last. Sam May would be so proud of our efforts.