

Royal Oak firm completes 2-year, \$7.4M PIME building makeover

FROM STAFF REPORTS

T. H. Marsh Construction Co. in Royal Oak recently completed a two-year, \$7.4 million makeover of the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions/PIME building at 17330 Quincy in Detroit.

Renovation of the 72,000-square-foot building, originally built in 1929, included completely gutting and remodeling the first-floor administration area and second- and third-floor living areas, completely replacing the roof, exterior brick and limestone restoration, reconstructing and restoring the original copper cross, installing new decorative fencing, and adding a new garage and parking lot.

The design and construction, which started in

September 2007 and finished in June 2009, presented unique challenges, as some of the original architecture needed to be preserved and updated, such as wooden doors with ornate hinges.

Other challenges included fixing existing drains, restoring higher-end finishes, and installing new plumbing, fire protection, HVAC and electric systems and bringing them up to code.

"It's a grand old building with a lot of old-world charm," says James Dixon of T.H. Marsh Construction Co.

"We were able to restore, preserve and modernize all at the same time.

"This project is a good demonstration of what

can be done to many of the historical buildings in Detroit."

PIME is a Society of Apostolic Life group composed of priests and laymen who dedicate their lives to missions among non-Christians on five continents.

Founded in Italy in 1850, the Institute opened its U.S. Regional Headquarters in Detroit in 1947.

T. H. Marsh Construction Co. was founded in 1954 and is at 300 Balmoral Centre, 32121 Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak, with an additional office in Wilmington, NC.

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The company specializes in commercial design and building, construction management and general contracting for new construction, renovations and tenant improvement work.

Call (248) 586-4130 or visit www.thmarsh.com for more information.