

February 9 2011

Correcting a persistent water infiltration problem into masonry

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the owner of a brick home built in 1850. Since 1999 I've had a problem of water coming in through the bricks. This water problem covered one quarter of the original part of my house, and over eleven years was spreading from the living room to the dining room.

Through the years I hired many experts trying to solve this problem. Local contractors, general contractors, three different restoration experts, engineers and well known Lehigh Valley architects specializing in restoring old homes in this area. All of them offered their solution to the problem after carefully studying the house. Each summer I started a new solution only to find the house returning to its original problem by spring. So many threw up their hands and walked away from the project, having run out of ideas of how to solve it. It has been a very frustrating, frightening and expensive problem and I was worried that I would never get this mystery solved.

It was by chance, through yet another mason who worked on my house that I learned of deGruchy masonry. One phone call to the pleasant and knowledgeable person who answered the phone and an appointment was made for Mr. deGruchy himself to look over the situation. After years of experts going through my house from top to bottom, of course my expectations were low with this visit. Mr. deGruchy was at a disadvantage with me because I was skeptical before he even arrived. But within that initial 4 hour visit and inspection of my house Mr. deGruchy was pretty confident he found the problem and solution. Mr. deGruchy took the time to go over every detail of his study and followed up with written step by step plan. He answered all of my questions, as well as the ones I didn't know to ask. It was a big leap of faith for me, but one that I felt was worth a try.

I am overjoyed to report that the water problem seems to be solved. The plaster in the house has been dry for three months now, during heavy rainstorms and thawing and refreezing of ice – the normal culprit that seemed to always bring me back to square one. Mr. deGruchy has installed a moisture monitoring systems in multiple areas of the walls and all readings are indicating that the moisture levels within the core of the walls have gone down. He will continue to monitor the readings himself for the next few months.

I would also like to mention that his work staff was excellent. It was obvious that they have passion and pride in their work. Their main concern was always to do the best job possible and they exceeded all of my expectations, which were set quite high. I was impressed by their

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attention to detail, their love and knowledge of this art of restoration and their cheerful and courteous attitude. They arrived promptly each morning with a smile on their faces, were serious about their work and at the end of each day the work area was cleaned up and nearly spotless. They always made a point each morning to tell me what they were going to do that day, what they did the day before and what obstacles they faced and conquered. I have never met a more professional, sincere and honest group of men who you could see really loved what they do. Besides knowledge, which they obviously have, this attitude and work ethic is what sets the great apart from the mediocre. I am more than pleased, and yes relieved, with the work that has been done by deGruchy Masonry and I commend Mr. deGruchy for hiring and motivating an exceptional staff such as his. It is so rare to see such character in people today and it did not go unnoticed.

I would highly recommend Andy deGruchy and his staff. I feel a great burden has been lifted in the solving of my water problem.

Sincerely,

Patrice M Salezze

