

The Historic Medina Clock



Renovation by:
Construction Trades
Nick Albanese &
Robby Wells

Background Information

The Cast Iron "Street Timepiece" was first placed in 1911 by George F. High, a Jeweler. The clock was used at this time for people to set their pocket watches. The city of Medina took possession in 1981. The clock was first restored to its original design in December 1983 with funds from the City of Medina.



Sun photo by Ron Linek

Voila!

The cover was whisked away and there stood High's street clock in all its refurbished glory. The clock was absent from Public Square for several months while it was being cleaned and repaired and a small ceremony was held Saturday to welcome it home. Mayor Bill Lamb did the unveiling as Councilman Steve Klein (left) and about 30 others looked on.

1983-4

What Needed Restored

When we received the High Street Clock at the Medina County Career Center, it needed a good restoration. We received the clock with the head-dress rotting away, the plexiglass scratched up and weathered, as well as the wiring harness being outdated. Throughout the disassembly on both faces of the clock, the bolts were seized and broken off, forcing us to extract and replace the bolts with stainless steel bolts. Eliminating the potential of being damaged when next maintenance.

Repairing Process

First, we started by carefully laying the clock on its side and disassembling the clock faces.



Head Dress Restoration

Next, we took off the headdress and started disassembling the inside of the clock faces. We programmed the CNC machine in our Construction Trades lab to create our new headdress. The material used to shape out a new headdress was a piece of 4 x 8 sheet of Azek PVC wood, made to last at least 35 years or more.



The Restoration of the Clocks Faces

We then gutted the clock of it's internals, added new LED lights as well as ordered new motors for the faces.



Head Dress Mounting

We then fit the new headdress to the clock's top with the three aluminum brackets that were on the original clock, lining up the brackets to the holes on the top and shaping them to the clock's top. We painted the clock's headdress and mounted it to the top of the clock, successfully finishing the headdress.



Restoring the Clock's Internals

After we had shaped the head dress to line up with the top of the clock, we had used the original brackets to brace a new set of LED lights inside of the clock to give the clock face a brighter appearance than ever before. We then ran the new wiring harness into the bottom of the base and fed it out through the top to connect to the motors. We had to add a wood 1x6 to brace the new 99B-MI Clock Controller to the base of the clock. After successfully finishing that we went on to finish restoring the clock faces.



Plexiglass Restoration

Next, we purchased plexiglass to protect the face of the clock. We took the old plexiglass and made a stencil out of it. We then set our new piece of plexiglass on top of our stencil, tracing it out with a router. We then took the ring that holds the plexiglass and tapped all the holes out, and screwed the new plexiglass in.



Motor Restoration

We then received new motors, mounted them to the clock face, and leveled the faces on straight. After that, the clock face was bolted in and lined up. After finishing the faces, we mounted the clock arms onto the new motors. We then mounted the ring that mounts the plexiglass onto the clock face. Then, we used silicone for all the connections, so the clock was waterproof and sealed from the weather.



Awesome Sauce

Last, we plugged the clock in, and the clock looked astonishing.



Best Buddies :-)

We were able to learn a lot through working on this clock. We were able to learn how to work with the CNC machine, how to wire and mount motors and electronics, as well as painting and overcome obstacles when things didn't work out. We were happy to work on the medina clock, and now every time we go in the square, we are able to see the work we did.

