

A reflection on history, by Dick Craft:

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I remember the first time I entered that building. I went upstairs and noticed the electrical service coming right through the window frame in the tower; there was an old knife switch and fuse block, unenclosed, and knob-and-tube wiring emanating from that point. I'm glad the service was turned off, because anyone putting a hand on that window sill would've received quite a jolt!

I also like telling the story of the first time I led worship there, for a mid-December Christmas service. I think it was in 1988 - the first year those Christmas services were done in Rico, at the urging of Roger Henn. Ken Hazen had toiled all night to keep the fire going in the old furnace and had managed to raise the temperature a total 80 degrees - but it will still only 40 degrees inside the building. In other words, it had been 40 below outside that night! I wore a suit, an overcoat, my pulpit robe and a stole, and was still cold! Pumping the old organ helped keep my blood going. I don't know how the other folks managed to stay warm.... I may have told you this story before, but I love it!
