

Brooke House **107 Park Drive, Boston, MA**

Restoration of Exterior Façade

Owner: Community Resources for Justice, Boston MA
Design: Criterium-Turner Engineers, Goffstown, NH
Timeline: March – November 2006
Project Cost: \$717,000

Located at the corner of Park Drive and Jersey Street in Boston's historic Fenway district, the Brooke House is a 1920s brick and terra cotta building whose design reflects the architectural style of the era, featuring a slate mansard roof and ornamental metal coping.

One of the unusual characteristics of the building was the existence of a fire escape on each floor that traversed the entire length of the Jersey Street side. In 2006, the owner decided to upgrade the appearance of the building and wanted the fire escape to be removed. Complicating matters was the need to create an alternate means of egress that was accomplished by construction of an interior staircase.



To coincide with the removal of the fire escape and the restoration of the exterior of the building, the owner brought in an engineering consultant (Criterium-Turner Engineers, Goffstown, NH) to evaluate the entire structure. Based on the engineering recommendations, Abbot was contracted to perform a total restoration of the façade, including the following:



- Removal of the fire escape
- Power washing the masonry
- Complete repointing
- Installation of new windows
- Repair and painting of metal coping
- Removal and replacement of deteriorating slate on the mansard
- Replacement of the roof

A complex portion of the project involved repair to the façade in the area where the fire escape was removed. Abbot removed all of the imbedded iron supports, repaired the holes in the brick, and installed new matching brick and stone to replace the areas damaged by removal of the fire escape.