

29 W 57th Street

New York, New York

CONTRACTOR – Bellet Construction Co., Inc., New York, NY

ENGINEER – Epstein Engineering, P.C., New York, NY

DISTRIBUTOR – Garvin Brown Construction Products,
Long Island City, NY

Exterior Wall Systems

Protective Coatings

June-September 2005

PROJECT TASK

Remove the exposed remnants of a party wall, and restore an elegant exterior.

PROJECT SOLUTION

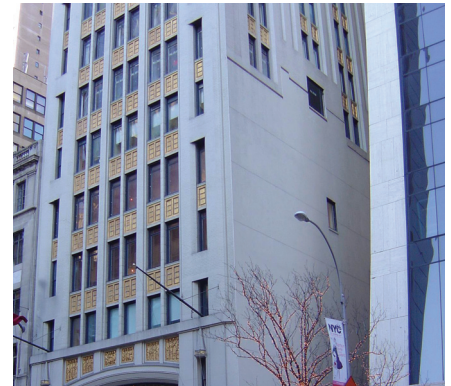
Remove the existing un-reinforced stucco, and install a new Exterior Wall System. Consolidate existing (failing) paint and apply a protective coating.

PRODUCTS

Conpro Lastic
Structural Skin
Conpro Point 5



Top three and bottom left photographs were taken "before and during" and the bottom center and right were taken "after" the work was completed.



PROJECT HISTORY

In the 1920s, the American Piano Company, maker of the Chickering grand piano, opened a new building amongst its rivals along 57th Street. While small and elegant in stature, the building packed a design punch intended to taunt Piano Row's other inhabitants. Along the roof line of the new building were huge replicas of the Imperial Cross of Napoleon III's Legion of Honor, which were awarded to Chickering at the Paris Exposition of 1867. Chickering and Steinway had spent vast sums of money

vying for top honors in the 1800s, and an opportunity to gloat, while simultaneously advertising itself to the wealthy residential denizens of 57th Street, proved too hard to resist.

57th Street is still home to top piano makers, and the 29 West 57th building is still a curiosity, (and a piano store). When a neighboring building was demolished, exposing an unattractive shared wall, it was time for a restoration.

The entire building was pressure washed to remove flaking paint. The "party wall",

which had been attached to the original brick with un-reinforced stucco, was removed. To restore the integrity of the brick exterior wall, Structural Skin was applied over wire lath. This created a uniform, waterproof surface.

Conpro Point 5 was applied over the existing paint to improve adhesion, in order to prime the surface for a new coating. Conpro Lastic elastomeric coating was used on the entire building. This coating offers protection from carbonation, water and contaminant entry.