

306 Dartmouth Street

Boston, Massachusetts

ENGINEER – Edwards and Kelcey, Boston, MA

CONTRACTOR – Brisk Waterproofing, Boston, MA

DISTRIBUTOR – Garvin Construction Products, Boston, MA

Stone Repair
October 2002 –
September 2003

PROJECT TASK

Restore and preserve 120 year old brownstone landmark in the historic Back Bay section of Boston.

PROJECT SOLUTION

Recreate the ornate architectural features with a repair mortar that matched the physical and aesthetic characteristics of the structure.

PRODUCTS

Matrix



Top three photographs are "before" and "during"; the bottom three were taken after the work was completed.



PROJECT HISTORY

Captain John Ames founded The Ames Company in 1774 which today is recognized as the oldest manufacturer of shovels in the United States. His son, Oliver Ames moved the business to Easton, Massachusetts in 1803. Ames prospered supplying shovels to railroad companies, the Union Army in the Civil war, as well as prospectors during the mid-1800's gold rush.

Oliver Ames retained well-known architect Henry Hobson Richardson to design three buildings for the family. Richardson's style was a unique American interpretation of the Romanesque style, which has become known as "Richardson Romanesque". Richardson designed three structures for Ames including the Ames Memorial Library, in N. Easton, Massachusetts and this building, which was the family's primary Boston residence.

The severe environment of Boston had taken its toll on the brownstone.

Water damage caused shalling of the stone. Much of the detail of the architectural elements was severely eroded.

The owner was determined to restore this landmark to as close to original as possible. The contractor used historical data to help recreate the intricate architectural details. This is the work of craftsmen in the truest sense. Matrix was chosen as the stone repair material because of the ability to precisely match the parent stone and the relative ease of carving.