

HISTORICAL LANDMARKS, VAULTED SIDEWALKS

The Rookery



PROBLEM

Once serving as Chicago's City Hall, the architectural gem known as The Rookery was originally completed in 1888 with a design by legendary architects Burnham & Root and a stunning lobby created by Frank Lloyd Wright. After 121 years, the vaulted sidewalk along Adams St. was threatening to collapse. Zera was called in to replace the leaking topping and limestone structural slabs, while taking great care with the unstable rubble wall, high-end storefronts, and extenuating circumstances that threatened to delay the project at every turn—not to mention all of the unforeseen challenges lying in wait for over a century below ground...

SOLUTION

- Laterally braced the brick & limestone rubble wall holding back the street and sub-grade with I-beams, C-channels and turnbuckles to prevent its collapse
- Built temporary enclosures separating the work area from the Brooks Brothers tailor shop
- Supported retail storefronts with 4x4 and steel beam shoring
- Replaced structural I-beams supporting the vaulted sidewalk
- Managed pedestrian traffic with jersey barriers without incident
- Counteracted extenuating circumstances by working around the clock for over a month to complete the project on-time

Zera is an expert in Concrete & Structural Restoration repairs of all kinds, including:

Parking Garages ■ Building Restoration ■ Historical Landmarks ■ Facade Restoration ■ Plazas ■ Stadiums ■ Vaulted Sidewalks

DETAILS

WORK

Vaulted sidewalk restoration

LOCATION

Chicago, IL

BUDGET AND SCOPE

Price: \$760K; 3K SQFT

OWNER

Metzler North America
Managed by John Buck Co.

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER

Wiss, Janney, Elstner, Inc.

