

## Ionic Hall and St. Luke's Chapel

150 Roxbury St., Roxbury, 1801; 1893

### Project Development Costs

- St. Luke's Chapel: \$1.6 million
- Ionic Hall: \$7.0 million

### Project Size

- St. Luke's Chapel: 1600 sf
- Ionic Hall: 15,000 sf

### Proposed Uses

- Church Uses
- Community Space

### Status

- Pre-Development; (feasibility study complete)
- Fundraising
- Feasibility study completed

### HBI Role

- Consultant to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts and the parish of St. John St. James

### Designations

- Located within the John Eliot Square National Register District

### Community Impact

- Reactivates Roxbury's Oldest Brick Building
- Public access to prominent community building
- Creates new residential opportunities in John Elliot Square

### Owner

- Parish of St. John St. James
- Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts



St. Luke's Chapel

### Background

The Episcopal parish of St. Johns St. James is a collection of two buildings on the northern edge of Roxbury's John Eliot Square: Ionic Hall and St. Luke's Chapel.

Ionic Hall is Roxbury's oldest brick building, built between 1800-1804. The building was designed in the Federal Style and built by Captain Stoddard of Hingham as a home for his daughter, Sally Hammond. By 1876, the house had been purchased by the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts which opened St. Luke's Convalescent Home there. St. Luke's Chapel, a Gothic Revival style chapel, was designed by Ralph Adams Cram and was constructed between 1893-1900. The structure is accented by a wooden reredos and cross decoration by the Boston-based wood carver Johannes Kirchmayer, a frequent Cram collaborator. Ionic Hall was used for worship and meetings. Its upper floors are vacant and have suffered from water damage in recent years. St. Luke's is a greater challenge. It has had severe water penetration through holes in the roof, and the interior has experienced substantial deterioration and damage.

The remaining members of St. James's continued to meet separately after their church was demolished until 1968, when the two parishes "came to recognize the value of combining their resources" and merged as the new Church of St John/St. James. The new parish began worshipping on the former St. Luke's site in a modern addition to the Ionic Hall building.



Ionic Hall

