

# Nixalite® Project Case History

## Project Case History

**Name:** Baha'i Temple

**Location:** Wilmette, Illinois

**Installer:** Anderson Pest Control

**Purpose:** Protect the Temple's ornate castings and stonework from nuisance birds and the mess caused by bird inhabitation.

### Problem:

When 'Abdu'l-Bahá, son of the founder of the Bahá'í faith, laid the cornerstone of the Bahá'í Temple in 1912, he left his mandate to the faithful: *"this first house of worship for the Bahá'í in the U.S. was to last a thousand years"*.



*Baha'i Temple*

Construction began in 1920. Difficulties arose almost immediately, due to the intricate design patterns of the Temple's elaborate ornamentation. Finally a specialized concrete consisting of quartz and white cement was recommended. The Temple was finally dedicated in 1953.

Almost from the beginning, pigeons and starlings posed a significant problem. The innumerable nooks and crannies provided by the building's design made attractive nest sites. Adding to concerns was the erosion of the metal structural supports due to the acid in the bird guano eating through them.

### Solution:

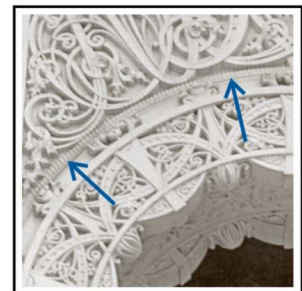
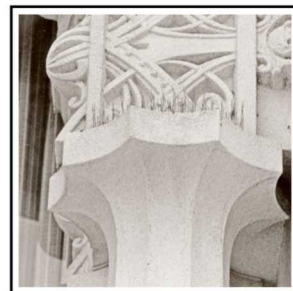
"We tried everything," says Erik J. Anderson, Temple Conservation Engineering Technician. "Sound, rubber snakes, fake birds, 'hot foot' gel, you name it. The problem is that these repellents work fine for a few weeks or a couple of months. But pigeons are determined and intelligent. They soon cease to be dissuaded by anything they can circumvent and they can circumvent almost anything."



*Photos courtesy of Baha'i Temple, Wilmette, Illinois*

### End Result:

The Temple Conservation Corps found out about the Nixalite bird control spikes and bird netting from the US Army and immediately ordered spikes for the Wilmette Temple. The results were profound. "Nixalite is 90-95% effective," says Mr. Anderson. "We've had no pigeon nests for three years, although pigeons remain in the area."



*Premium Nixalite Spikes, bird netting and clear Plexiglas panels were added to problem spots to help protect the ornate quartz and white concrete castings.*

### Summary:

Erik Anderson and his team from Anderson Pest Control rely on a combination of proven Nixalite bird control products, fine mesh bird netting and simple physical blocking of Plexiglas to protect the Baha'i Temple. Anderson Pest Control and the Temple Conservation Corps plan to continue these products for as long as the Temple lasts. Maybe for a 1,000 years.

**If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Nixalite of America Inc**



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