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## At least 30 remain displaced after weekend Mission Hill fire

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The blaze caused an estimated \$1.2 million in damage and started because of built-up lint in a second-floor clothes dryer at 37 Calumet St., the Fire Department said.

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

At least 30 people, many of whom are area college students, remain displaced after a five-alarm fire ripped through two connected three-decker Mission Hill homes early Sunday.

The blaze caused an estimated \$1.2 million in damage and started because of built-up lint in a second-floor clothes dryer at 37 Calumet St., Boston Fire Department spokesman Steve MacDonald said. Two residents taken from the scene to a hospital, but no serious injuries were reported, he said.

MacDonald said by phone today he did not know the plight of the displaced residents, “a lot of [whom] were college students[.]”

The fire broke out around 12:45 a.m. Sunday during a seasonally-early snowstorm and “basically burned the roof completely off,” at both 37 and 39 Calumet St., leaving the two residential buildings “uninhabitable,” he said.

The fire caused residents in eight other surrounding buildings to be evacuated, according to MacDonald.

Around 60 people evacuated from 6 to 16 Wait St. -- two separate structures

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that each house three even-numbered addresses -- after electricity was cut there by firefighters, he said. Most of those residents were expected to have been able to move back in late last night, except for around a dozen who live in the basement where water flooded in from the “tens of thousands of gallons” used to extinguish the nearby fire.

Another dozen people were removed from 35 Calumet St., where power was also cut, and around one dozen more evacuated 41 Calumet St., which received damage from smoke, water used to put out the fire and broken windows, he said.

Both 35 and 41 Calumet St. are next to, but several feet apart from, the two connected buildings between them where the fire burned, the spokesman said. Residents from those buildings on either side of the fire were also expected to be able to return late last night.

Around 130 firefighters responded and an 8-month-old pit bull at 37 Calumet St. died in the fire, the Globe reported. At least 22 cats along with two birds, two dogs, and two turtles were rescued, but the residents and their pets were forced to leave their homes during a rare October snowfall.

“The weather just made it lousy for everyone,” MacDonald told the Globe on Sunday. “It just makes it harder to fight when you have snow coming down and wind.”

Officials from the Red Cross and the city’s neighborhood services department were on scene to aid displaced residents and the nearby Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences set up a shelter to take them in, MacDonald said.

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