



*Façade ordinance inspection in Philadelphia*

Vertical Access has been retained by numerous institutions and design professionals to perform building façade inspections in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston. Other cities in the United States with city-mandated façade inspection programs include Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and St. Louis. In addition, the province of Ontario also has a façade ordinance. Although the specific requirements of each city's façade ordinance differ, the underlying commonalities of the regulations are that inspections be performed at regular intervals to identify hazardous and "safe with repair" conditions, and that hands-on inspection be performed at representative areas.

In accordance with the various regulations, VA performs the hands-on inspections required by the various façade ordinances under the direct supervision of architects and engineers who are ultimately responsible for the inspection reports. Industrial rope access techniques have proven to be an appropriate, safe, efficient and cost-effective option for many façade inspection projects. The lightweight rigging of rope access allows for multiple drops in the same mobilization, minimal disruption to building occupants and the general public, and the ability to reach difficult-to-access features such as towers, steeples, high parapet walls, cupolas or chimneys.

VA assists the architect or engineer of record by providing photographic and annotated drawing documentation of the conditions identified in the close-up inspection. VA's Tablet PC Annotation System (TPAS<sup>®</sup>) allows for the efficient documentation of existing conditions through on-site annotation of AutoCAD drawings with hyperlinked digital photographs. Block libraries of specific condition notes are customized for the scope of the façade inspection, streamlining the annotation and report delivery process.

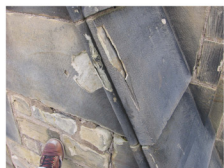
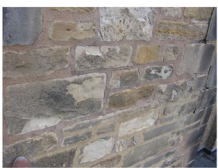


VA also has on staff a registered Professional Engineer who is a Qualified Exterior Wall Inspector (QEWI) with the New York City Department of Buildings. Our staff is able to file NYC Façade Inspection & Safety Program (FISP) reports via our subsidiary, VA Engineering.

For more information on city-mandated façade ordinance inspections, see Vertical Access' website: [www.vertical-access.com/facade\\_ord.html](http://www.vertical-access.com/facade_ord.html)

More information on the TPAS system is found on our website at: [www.vertical-access.com/tpas.html](http://www.vertical-access.com/tpas.html)

Material	Stone	TPAS Code	Exf
Condition	Surface Exfoliated	Severity Units	Depth of loss in 1/8" increments
Condition Description	Loss of outer surface of a masonry unit in layers.	Amount Units	Area affected in sq. ft.
		AutoCAD Layer	Stn SurfLoss Exfol

	
Exfoliation in sandstone 3.jpg	Exfoliation in sandstone 2.jpg
	
Exfoliation in limestone 3.jpg	Exfoliation in limestone 4.jpg

*Brick spall missing*