

Summer Greetings



Hope you're all having a great summer! And welcome to our new readers of The Quarterly. We hope

you find it to be an interesting read, and please [send us suggestions](#) for future content if there's something you would like to know more about. We would love to hear from you. All the best, Vertical Access Staff

Photo above: ornament on Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC. Photo by Vertical Access.

Conferences and Lectures

❖ [2013 New York City Bridge Conference](#), Aug 26-27, New York, NY. Kelly Streeter attending.

❖ [Dam Safety 2013](#), American Society of Dam Safety Officers, (ASDSO), Sept 8 - 12, Providence, RI. VA Exhibiting at Booth #51.

❖ [International Concrete Repair Institute \(ICRI\) New England Chapter Meeting](#), Sept 10, Quincy, MA. Kelly Streeter presenting.

❖ [SWRI Fall Technical Conference](#), Sept 15-17, Austin, TX. Kelly Streeter attending.

❖ [APT NYC 2013, "Preserving the Metropolis"](#), Oct 11-15, New York, NY. Kent Diebolt co-presenting a workshop [Hands-on Construction of Guastavino Thin Tile Vaults](#). Kelly Streeter presenting, "A Master of Science in Preservation Engineering: One Curriculum".

❖ American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Oct 15-17, Des Plaines, IL. Z359 Committee Meeting with industrial rope access demonstration.

❖ 2nd Guastavino Biennial, November 2013, Vilassar de Dalt, Spain. Now accepting research project submissions for a juried competition. [Download brochure for full entry requirements and terms.](#) Deadline for submissions is Sept 15, 2013.

❖ SE University, [Design of](#)

Project Highlight: Wyoming State Capitol Dome

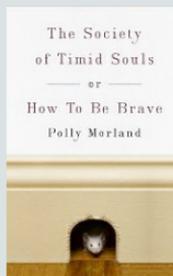


The Wyoming State Capitol was designed by David W. Gibbs, an architect from Toledo, Ohio, and later William DuBois. Constructed in several stages between 1886 and 1917, the building contains Wyoming's House and Senate chambers. The dome and lantern roof are clad in gilded copper panels, while the drum below comprises cast iron panels and galvanized sheet metal. Sheet lead is used for the high relief ornament.

To prepare for future renovations, the State of Wyoming began a scoping study that included building systems, infrastructure and lighting. Vertical Access was tasked with the investigation of the dome's interior and exterior conditions, with special concern for damage caused by a hail storm in 2011. Vertical Access worked closely with the State of Wyoming Office of Construction Management to determine the least invasive access approach, as no systems were in place to access the dome exterior, and undertook the investigation working with the design team led by [HDR Architecture](#) and preservation consultant [Preservation Design Partnership](#).

Video interview on-site, [KTWO-TV](#) "Consultants Inspect Capitol Dome", [Wyoming Tribune Eagle](#)

The Society of Timid Souls, or How to Be Brave



In April 2011 Kent Diebolt was interviewed by documentary filmmaker, Polly Morland, as part of her investigation into bravery. Her book, [The Society of Timid Souls, or, How to Be Brave](#), has just been released in the US.

Below is an excerpt of Kent's interview included in chapter seven, *Gravity*.

"A lot of climbing," explained Diebolt, "is a mind game. It's about self-control because you get in these positions where the implications of failure are pretty large. What it's about is *focus*, and that's what I tell people when they say to me 'you must not be afraid of heights.' I tell them I *am* afraid of heights. I have a rational fear of heights, and when I'm working, I'm not looking down Forty-second Street from the spire of the Chrysler Building and saying 'what if' -- because as soon as you say 'what if', you've lost the game. So you focus on the work. You're there to do a job, you've been paid well to do it, and you just do the work. And at the end of the day you're exhausted mentally, and that's part of the charm of it, that absolute focus. You're out of everything else. *Everything*. And the world has fallen away for the day."

Reprinted from THE SOCIETY OF TIMID SOULS, OR HOW TO BE BRAVE Copyright © 2013 by Polly Morland. Published by Crown Publishers, a division of Penguin Random House, Inc.

[Learn more about Polly's book and purchase it on Amazon.](#)

Mechanical Anchor Strength in Stone

Maintenance Access and Fall Protection Systems for New and Existing Buildings, Dec 11, 12:30 - 2:00, online. Kelly Streeter presenting.

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Staff Update



Mary Kate Connelly, a junior in mechanical engineering at Cornell University, is interning with VA this summer working on an anchor strength testing research project.

The goal of the research is to develop a process to correlate an applied torque to a resultant tensile force when pull-testing installed anchor. This may enable the use of a calibrated torque wrench for proof load testing of existing anchors in concrete and brick masonry. The result could be a faster and less expensive proof testing method than current practice. Mary Kate has traveled to the lab of [Masonry Solutions International](#) in Baltimore for further investigative work in conjunction with [Atkinson-Noland & Associates, Inc.](#)

She is a recreational climber at [Cornell Outdoor Education \(COE\)](#), and a SPRAT Level 1 certified rope access technician. Welcome Mary Kate!

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About Vertical Access

Vertical Access LLC collaborates with architecture, engineering and construction firms, and real estate professionals nationwide to perform specialized inspection services and condition assessments on buildings and civil structures using industrial rope access techniques and direct-to-digital information systems. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)

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Contact Us

PO 4135, Ithaca, NY 14852
607-257-4049

88 University Place, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10003
212-647-1455

1053 31st St NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20006
202-298-7333

234 E 100 S, C2
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
607-227-3366

Masonry

Mechanical anchor systems are commonly installed in historic masonry materials despite the lack of manufacturer-specified design values for this type of substrate. Scaffolding lateral supports, signage installations and telecommunication mounting systems all use these mechanical fasteners in natural stone materials.

The current lack of codes, guidelines or recommendations for tensile and shear design criteria in historic masonry materials leaves structural engineers to improvise the design and specification of these anchors.

Read the full article including study results, diagrams, photographs and conclusions as published in [STRUCTUREmag](#), and authored by Kelly Streeter and Keith Luscinski.

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APT NYC 2013 - "Preserving the Metropolis"



[Registration is now open](#) for the robust menu of workshops, field sessions and paper presentations that will be part of the Association of Preservation Technology (APT) Annual Conference to be held in New York City at the NY Marriott Marquis.

About the Event

For the first time in history, the population of cities exceeds that of the surrounding suburbs and countryside. New York City, after decades of population decline, has recently exceeded its peak 1970s population and continues to grow. Such growth, mirrored in older and newer cities globally, is countered by cities with shrinking populations in the United States and abroad. Both expanding and shrinking cities present new challenges that require preservationists to think broadly and collaboratively, themes that will be highlighted at APT NYC 2013.

"Preserving the Metropolis" will open the discussion on protecting urban cultural heritage in the 21st century by exploring best practices and viable solutions from New York and around the world, all while earning attendees a year's worth of CEUs. In addition to presentations with international relevance to cities of all sizes, the conference and related events will provide the opportunity to present lessons learned from one of the oldest international metropolises, and demonstrate why New York City remains a magical and unequalled place to live and visit. [Visit the website and learn more.](#)

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Aluminum: History, Technology and Conservation - Call for Papers and Posters

48 Moose Hill Road
Guilford, CT 06437
917-749-0998

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[Blog](#) | [Twitter](#)

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Did you know
the top point of
the Washington
Monument is
solid aluminum?
Click to read more...

The [International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation Metal Working Group](#), in partnership with the [Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation](#) and the [Lunder Conservation Center](#), is pleased to announce the first ever conference on the history, technology and conservation of aluminum alloys. This interdisciplinary conference will bring together specialists from the fields of conservation, scientific research, and industry to facilitate an exchange of knowledge and expertise in the deterioration and conservation of aluminum alloys. This will be the first conference convened to address these fundamental issues.

The three-day program (April 7-9, 2014) will feature lectures by invited speakers, as well as submitted presentations. An optional one-day workshop (April 10) on the identification of aluminum alloys and finishes will also be offered as a professional development opportunity.

Papers and posters discussing any of the following conference themes are invited for submission. Case studies are especially welcome. Paper abstract deadline: August 30, 2013. Poster abstract deadline: August 30, 2013. Accepted papers and posters deadline is December 30, 2013.

[Download the call for papers.](#)