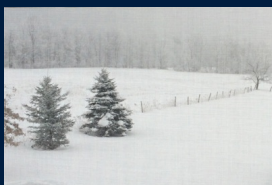


Winter Greetings ~



This issue of The Quarterly comes to you out of the depths of frigid, wintry weather here in the Northeast. The full-color photo above is a scene outside of our Ithaca office in Upstate New York.

No matter, we've been busy with projects, proposals, conferences, presentations, writing, and government lobbying.

See you in the spring!

Conferences and Lectures

30th Annual RCI International Convention and Trade Show, March 5-10, San Antonio, TX. Evan Kopelson attending.

ANSI Meeting, March 24-26, Des Plaines, IL. Keith Luscinski and Kelly Streeter attending.

International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI) 2015 Spring Convention, March 25-27, New York, NY. Berta De Miguel attending.

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. Mid-Century Modern Structures: Materials and Preservation 2015 Symposium, April 13-16, St. Louis, MO. Evan Kopelson presenting with Nancy Hudson of Robert Silman Associates.

2015 ASDSO Northeast Regional Conference, May 11-13, 2015, Ocean City, MD. Booth # 31.

12th North American Masonry Conference, May 17-20 2015, Denver, CO. Kelly Streeter presenting "Mechanical Anchor Strength in Stone Masonry".

Society for Industrial Archeology 44th Annual Conference, May 28-31, Albany, NY.

5th International Congress on Construction History, June 3-7, 2015, Chicago, IL. Kent Diebolt presenting with Ron Anthony.

2015 ASDSO National Conference, September 17-19, New Orleans, LA. Booth #810.

Scaffold Law Reform Alliance Day in Albany



Vertical Access was a proud sponsor and participant in **Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York Reform Day** at the Capitol on February 10. Teams composed of general and trade contractors, insurance

brokers and underwriters, lawyers, material suppliers and consultants met with State Senators and Assembly Members to discuss the inequities of Labor Law 240.

This law, first enacted in the 19th century and sometimes referred to as the Scaffold Law, is the only law of its kind in the country that imposes absolute liability on owners and contractors, without regard to cause and with virtually no opportunity for defense as part of a due process procedure. This has had a huge economic impact on construction costs, ultimately costing New York taxpayers an estimated \$785 million annually.

Overall, the feeling at the end of the Day at the Capitol was that there was a much more positive reception from the New York legislators we met with this year than there has been in the past and this may finally be the year of Reform.

Learn more at [Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York](http://LawsuitReformAllianceofNewYork.org) and www.ScaffoldLaw.org.

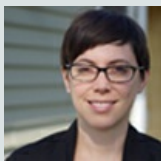
Can You Identify This Building?

Test your knowledge of historic and iconic buildings in the U.S. (and beyond!) in this series of "guess the building" blog posts.



HINT: The materials, round arches, and façade treatment of this building are unmistakably Richardsonian Romanesque, and a prominent clock tower marks this as a civic building. The majority of Henry Hobson Richardson's work can be found in New England, with quite a few buildings in New York and Pennsylvania as well. This building's host city is home to another, even more well-known Richardson building. Where is it? [Get the answer here.](#)

Staff Updates



Kristen Olson gave a presentation via Skype to students in the University of Buffalo's department of [Urban and Regional Planning](#). She discussed Vertical Access' approach to the investigation and documentation of historic buildings. [Read more here.](#)

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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Newsletter Archives

View earlier *Vertical Access* *Quarterlies* [here](#).



Keith Luschnski and Mike Gilbert attended the 2015 SPRAT Annual Meeting held this year in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. It was a busy few days filled with committee meetings and presentations. [Read about it here.](#)



Kelly Streeter has been guest lecturing to students pursuing the Historic Masonry Preservation certificate at the [International Institute of Masonry](#) in Bowie, MD. Topics covered include, *Using Direct-to-Digital Documentation Systems in Historic Restoration Projects*, and *Performing Facade Inspections on Historic Skyscrapers using Industrial Rope Access.*



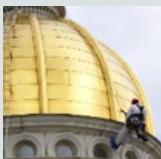
Berta de Miguel's review of the book *Rammed Earth Conservation*, by C.Mileto, F. Vegas, and V. Cristi was published in the *APT Bulletin | Journal of Preservation Technology* / 45:4. She found it to be "an exceptionally valuable reference on earthen architecture worldwide."

Recent Project Highlights



INSPECTION AND EXISTING CONDITIONS DOCUMENTATION St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City

Investigated the interior of the decommissioned chimney at the northeast corner of the cathedral. Scope of work included obtaining measurements and video-recording the interior of the chimney from top to bottom. Separately, documented the existing configuration of the chandelier system in the attic. Client: [Structure Tone](#)



PERIODIC INSPECTION New Jersey State House Dome, Trenton, NJ

Assisted with the periodic inspection and survey update of the existing conditions at the exterior of the dome. Clients: [H2L2 Architects and Planners](#), [Preservation Design Partnership](#)



WATER INFILTRATION TESTING Empire State Building, New York City

Conducted water infiltration test on replacement louvers and adjacent masonry at the 83rd floor. Scope of work included performing several tests using spray rack at exterior and infrared thermography to monitor interior. Water testing designed by [Commercial Roofing Analysts, Inc.](#)