

## PROJECT PROFILE

# SUNY at Albany Water Tower Albany, NY

**VERTICAL**  
access



### Original architect:

Edward Durell Stone (completed 1965)

### Building owner:

State University of New York

### In collaboration with:

Schafer Engineering Associates

### Building description:

The 227-foot tall water tower at the State University of New York at Albany is situated at the southwest corner of a sunken reflecting pool at the center of the the academic and administrative core of the campus. The water tower, constructed almost entirely of steel, serves not only as a water tank but also a bell tower. The water tank comprising the lower section rises from a concrete foundation to a height of 195 feet above the water level of the pool. The exterior of the water tank is clad in steel panels, painted white, and has 32 vertical T-section ribs that are painted a bronze color. Above the water tank level is an open frame superstructure almost 42 feet high, which serves as the university's carillon, topped by a 23-foot tall mast with a beacon light.

### Scope of work:

- Surveyed existing condition of steel members and weld connections between members at outboard side of tower and at all of the superstructure
- Provided live-feed video to project team during condition survey of steel
- Measured dimensions of superstructure elements to verify and augment original construction drawings
- Determined depth of corrosion at selected locations of corrosion pitting using an electric rotary grinder to remove corrosion and a straightedge and feeler gauge to measure section loss.



*Photos by Vertical Access*