

Historic Structures Symposium

April 6-7, 2017

Look But Don't Touch: Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE) of Historic Buildings – Fundamentals and Real World Applications



Documentation can comprise many layers of information from various sources, relying on visual assessment and physical measurement in many cases. What tools are available to preservationists when there is a requirement to understand construction arrangement and condition below the surface? This symposium is designed to introduce the audience to the variety of technologies available, describing the fundamental methods for collecting and analyzing data and taking a look at the limitations of those tools in real word applications. Topics covered will include Ground Penetrating Radar, Infrared Thermal Imaging, Ultrasonic and Magnetic Testing, Laser Scanning, Photo-documentation and Backscatter X-ray Imaging.



Sponsored by:
Historic Preservation Program,
School of the Art Institute of
Chicago

American Institute of Architects,
Chicago Chapter, Historic
Resources Committee



Association for Preservation
Technology Western Great Lakes
Chapter

Glessner House Museum



This two-day, free symposium is open to practicing preservation professionals and any students of historic preservation, architecture or allied fields. Participants may attend either or both sessions. Advanced registration is required. Please visit: <http://www.aptwglc.com/event-2484923>

Session One:

April 6, 2017

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Introductory Lecture

Non-Destructive Evaluation of Historic Buildings

Presenters: Alex Bell & Alan White, GB Geotechnics USA Inc.

Location Host:

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Historic Preservation Program Studio

116 South Michigan Avenue, 15th Floor

Session Two:

April 7, 2017

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Glessner House – Hands-On Demonstration Sessions

Infrared Thermography, Ground Penetrating Radar and Metal Detection and Photo-documentation.

Location Host:

Glessner House Museum

1800 South Prairie Avenue, Chicago



Image: www.gbg-us.com

Our Presenters:

Alan White is the Director of Operations for GB Geotechnics USA Inc. (GBG), with almost 20 years of preservation experience, ranging from hands-on restoration of medieval properties in the UK to implementation of emerging technologies for the non-destructive evaluation and measured survey of historic structures across the US. With a background in engineering (University of Hertfordshire, UK, BEng. (Hons.) and expertise in data collection & analysis (10 years' experience with GBG), he specializes in the documentation of the built environment, providing highly accurate and detailed construction arrangement and condition assessments. Located on the West Coast, he serves on the Board of the APT Western Chapter and is actively involved with the California Preservation Foundation.

Alex Bell is the Managing Principal of the New York City office of GB Geotechnics USA Inc. (GBG). He is a Civil/Structural Engineer with 18 years' experience in undertaking, coordinating and managing innovative structural investigations of varying magnitude using intrusive and non-destructive evaluation (NDE) techniques within the built environment. He has conducted a wide range of structural investigations and condition assessments of contemporary and historic structures, both in the USA and the UK. With a dual degree background, he is currently dividing his professional responsibilities between managing NDE-based and crossover structural investigations and providing engineering support to domestic and international GBG office. Moreover, he has carried out hundreds of building pathology investigations and assessments, utilizing a full range of non-Intrusive investigation tools and calling on his knowledge of the behaviour of structures and materials under various distress conditions.