

Historic Preservation

Preserving and protecting historical places and landmarks requires a delicate balance between original spirit and modern life, a practical and a well-meaning intervention and commitment to heritage, while implementing durable yet cost-effective solutions.

CTLGroup's architects, engineers, and scientists apply a variety of complex structural and materials analysis techniques to address the many issues or problems associated with the current realities of historical, vintage or heritage structures.

Our firm has worked on marquis monuments and historical buildings across the globe. Government agencies to private owners rely on CTLGroup's expertise to help evaluate, preserve and rehabilitate their historic properties. Our multidisciplinary and holistic approach to restoration ensures consistency between the history of the structure, the owner's needs and the enjoyment of the end user.

Vintage construction methods and materials are often remnants of evolving technology of the time, and the rationale is foggy or lost to time. Solutions require an elevated understanding of engineering first principles and the experience gained testing these materials in a wide variety of environments.

By drawing on our combined strengths in multiple service areas simultaneously, CTLGroup can recognize vintage systems, and use a wide knowledge of its past and proposed environment to rapidly provide the appropriate level of intervention, restoration method, and compatible material to meet a project's goal.

Services

- Condition assessment
- Historical, technical, materials research & documentation
- Structural evaluation & analysis
- Service life assessment & evaluation
- Assistance with budgetary cost estimates & planning
- Nondestructive testing & evaluation to assess structures
- Deterioration mitigation
- Chemical testing
- Color analysis & matching
- Material qualification tests & petrographic evaluation of historic materials

Relevant Projects

- **Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple:** Restored 1908–09 landmark through concrete repair and phased preservation; ICRI Award of Excellence.
- **Rookery Building:** Supported tenant improvements and historic upgrades to this 1888 Burnham & Root landmark, including floor system renovations, exterior repairs, and skylight assessments.
- **Chicago Water Tower:** Investigated roof and masonry of 1869 tower; guided rehabilitation plan to extend service life.

