



Illinois State Capitol

SPRINGFIELD, IL

Two Decades of Restoring a Second Empire Landmark

Designed by Cochrane and Garnsey with Alfred H. Piquenard, the Capitol was constructed between 1868 and 1888 as a masterwork of Second Empire design. The building integrates Renaissance Revival and Italianate influences through its massive dome, intricate decorative details, and distinctive mansard roofs.

Almost from the start of the 20th century, the building underwent ongoing alterations, system upgrades, and repairs, often compromising historic interiors and spatial volumes. Since 2000, EverGreene has maintained a continuous working relationship with the Illinois State Capitol, completing multiple restoration campaigns across the building's most significant spaces. Across these efforts, EverGreene has brought together historic finishes investigation, design studies, maquettes, studio production, and on-site conservation—pairing traditional craftsmanship with contemporary preservation practices.

Rotunda & Alcoves

Our conservators treated five significant murals, including Gustav Fuchs's monumental Treaty With The Indians and Robert Grafton's Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce. Conservation work encompassed emergency stabilization, consolidation, surface cleaning, and careful inpainting...

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/illinois-state-capitol/>

SERVICES PERFORMED

Conservation Treatments
Decorative Painting & Finishes
Faux Finishes
Gilding
Investigation, Testing & Analysis
Plaster Conservation
Plaster Survey
Plasterwork
Preconstruction Planning & Design
Surveys & Condition Assessments

PROJECT DETAILS

Client

Office of the Architect of the Capitol

Architect

Vinci Hamp

Photography

Tom Rossiter & Nels Akerlund