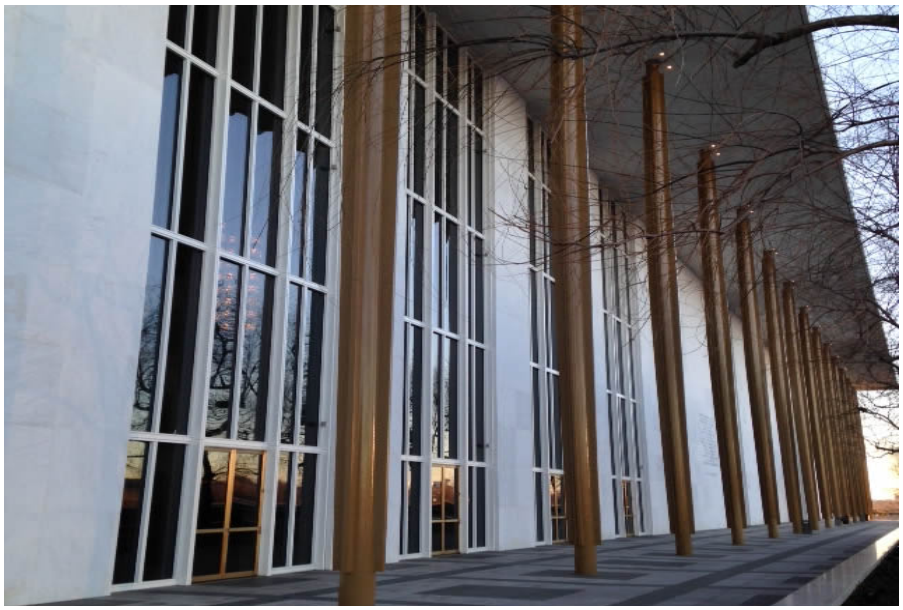

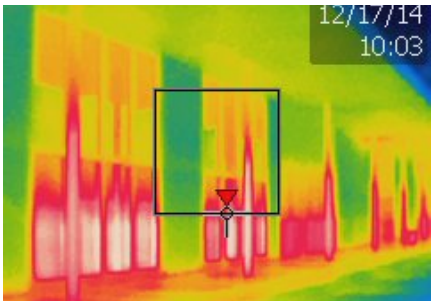

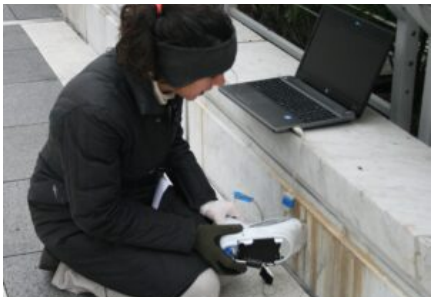

Kennedy Center For The Performing Arts

WASHINGTON, DC

As preservation consultants for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, EverGreene served as part of an interdisciplinary investigative team to conduct a comprehensive exterior condition assessment of this internationally recognized landmark. The building's luminous white marble façade—central to Edward Durell Stone's International Style design—defines its monumental presence on the National Mall. When persistent stains began to compromise the façade's appearance, the Kennedy Center sought a deeper technical understanding after repeated cleaning attempts proved ineffective.

EverGreene contributed to the Comprehensive Building Plan by leading the evaluation of the exterior building envelope, with particular focus on staining of the marble façade and granite pavers. Our assessment also encompassed fountains, roofing systems, curtain walls, and other critical exterior components. Using advanced diagnostic tools—including X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) thermography, and field microscopy—we conducted in-depth analysis to identify the composition and behavior of the staining. Targeted testing was performed using chemical cleaning agents and Nd:YAG laser treatments to evaluate safe and effective removal options.

Findings revealed multiple complex and interacting mechanisms contributing to the deterioration and discoloration of the stone. EverGreene provided strategic recommendations for additional analysis, investigation of the Plaza-level drainage system, and development of a long-term maintenance program...

MORE INFORMATION:
https://evergreene.com/projects/kennedy-center/

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