



New York Public Library Ceilings

NEW YORK, NY

EverGreene's recurring work at the New York Public Library is a partnership between the Library's stewardship and our shared commitment to excellence in fulfilling the original design intent in maintaining the historic Stephen A. Schwarzman Building. In 2019 EverGreene restored three vaulted stair ceilings in the North Wing and McGraw Rotunda to the grandeur intended by architects Carrere and Hastings in 1911. The work encompassed investigation of historic finishes, development of color palettes and stencil patterns, ornamental plaster repair, decorative painting with polychromatic accents, metallic leaf, stenciling, and glazing, and marble cleaning.

EverGreene Conservators untangled a mystery at the New York Public Library Stephen A. Schwarzman Building's McGraw Stairs' vault ceilings. Our conservators collected 20 samples from the south rotunda and made three (3) large reveals to expose the original stencil design found in a historic photo of the space. They discovered that these historic stencil designs were similar to the stenciling found in both the Rose Reading Room and the Bill Blass Room within the Library. The conservation team's findings served as a design roadmap for our design team and decorative painters as they restored the historical paint. Paint colors and glazes were matched to the historic palette and culminated in the ultimate restoration of the ceilings, which now match the architectural context and intent of the space.

North Stair Beginning with the North Stair, where a scaffold was in place below the vaulted ceiling, EverGreene conservators analyzed paint samples and performed exposures to identify the historic color palette behind post-historic white paint at the cove and laylight...

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/new-york-public-library-vault-ceilings/>

SERVICES PERFORMED

Conservation Treatments
Decorative Painting & Finishes
Gilding
Historic Finishes Investigation
Investigation, Testing & Analysis
Mortar Identification & Analysis
Plasterwork

PROJECT DETAILS

Client

New York Public Library

Architect

Wiss Janney Elstner Associates Inc.



