



## Balustrade Restoration

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, DC

The Department of Veterans Affairs building, located in Washington, DC, is a limestone clad structure built in 1916. We performed stabilization and restoration work on the damaged and broken balusters on the building's parapet. After surveying the conditions and identifying the causes and necessary treatment, we implemented the work.

Iron pins centered on each of the balusters had deteriorated and expanded, splitting a number of the massive limestone turnings. The most urgent goal was the removal of any life/safety threats posed by the balusters. Each damaged baluster was carefully cut out by raking and saw cutting of the mortar. Next, the sources of the damage, embedded iron pins and failed skyward facing coping joints, were replaced or restored. New limestone balusters, exactly matching the originals, were turned and either replaced in total or fitted to the originals as dutchman repairs. Restored balusters were then replaced in the parapet using new stainless steel custom fabricated drop anchors. The joints were then painted to match the existing historical mortar and lead caps were installed atop the upper joints to eliminate further water infiltration.

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://evergreene.com/projects/va-building-balustrade/>

## SERVICES PERFORMED

Conservation Treatments  
Surveys & Condition Assessments

