Paul E. Gaudette

Principal, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

Biography

Since joining Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., over thirty years ago, Paul has been involved in a wide range of investigation and repair projects. The majority of his experience includes the repair and preservation of various types of historic and contemporary concrete structures.

Paul's work on modern concrete structures includes Mies van der Rohe's Promontory Apartments building in Chicago, Illinois; Richard Neutra's Wright Brother Memorial Visitor's Center in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina; Louis Kahn's Salk Institute in LaJolla, California; Welton Becket's addition to the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Los Angeles; and Eero Saarinen's Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, among others. Paul has also served as historic concrete preservation consultant for John J. Earley's Baha'i House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois; Edison Memorial in Menlo Park, New Jersey; Fountain of Time and Jackson Park 63rd Street Beach House in Chicago; the Centre Street Bridge in Calgary, Alberta; the Queen Anne Water Tank in Seattle, Washington; and the Jefferson Davis Monument in Fairview, Kentucky; among others.

Paul has authored numerous papers on repair of modern and historic concrete, and is co-author of National Park Service Preservation Brief 15: Preservation of Historic Concrete. Paul also co-authored a chapter on reinforced concrete in Twentieth-Century Building Materials.

Paul is a Fellow of the American Concrete Institute (ACI) and a Fellow of the Association for Preservation Technology International (APT). He has been a course leader and instructor for five multi-day "Repair of Historic and Modern Concrete" courses for APT, most recently at the APT 2015 conference in Kansas City, Missouri, as well as numerous courses on concrete repair for ACI and a historic concrete workshop for Docomomo.

Compensating Loss: Conserving Modern Concrete

The presentation will address technical challenges encountered as part of the conservation of modern and historical concrete, illustrated by case studies from the speaker's experience. Beginning with discussion of character-defining features such as exposed aggregate and board-form finishes, the presentation will then address developing a protocol for trial repairs, as well as designing appropriate conservation and repair measures, and ensuring successful implementation. Standards and guidelines for appropriate conservation and repair approaches will be discussed. A methodology for assessment, repair, and implementation of conservation treatments will be presented, illustrated by several examples that involved different technical challenges. Examples will include the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California (Louis Kahn), Jefferson Expansion National Monument (Eero Saarinen), and North Shore Congregation Israel (Minoru Yamasaki).