

# SKY LINES



**VOLUME FIFTEEN**  
**FALL 2024**

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Workers can now consolidate all of their certifications, replacing numerous individual cards with a single, streamlined card · p4

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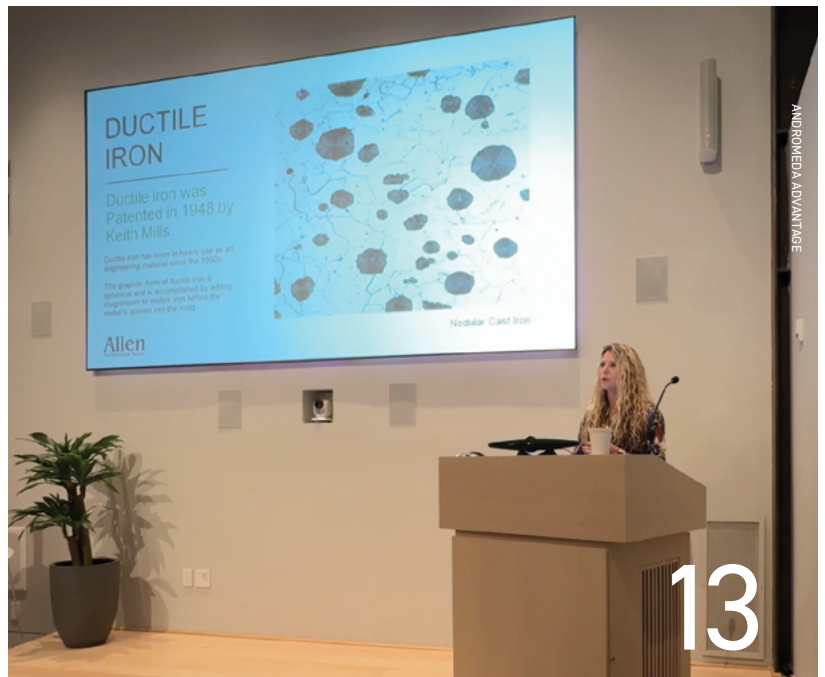
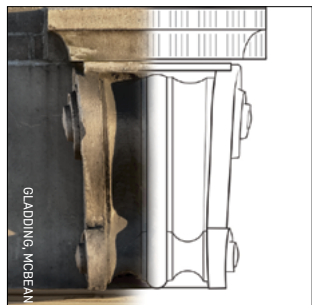
GLADDING, MCBEAN







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## WELCOME TO THE 50TH ISSUE OF SKYLINES!



Dear Readers,

As we close another year, this milestone fall edition brings you timely insights, updates, and inspiring stories from across New York's construction industry and beyond. Since our first issue, *SKYLINES* has grown into a platform for critical industry news and reaching our 50th issue is a testament to the dedication of our readers and contributors. Thank you for being part of this journey!

Our cover story, "A New Era for Terra Cotta," explores the intersection of tradition and technology. Michael Kramer, Gladding, McBean's Midwest Territory Manager, shares how new innovations are transforming terra cotta in construction. With a unique perspective on a material that has stood the test of time, Michael sheds light on how modern advances are creating new possibilities for this classic craft.

In regulatory news, the **DOB's new Worker Wallet** introduces a streamlined approach for consolidating worker certifications into a single card. This initiative aligns with the industry's ongoing commitment to efficiency and safety. We look forward to seeing its impact.

Also significant is the **revised height threshold for "Major Building" classification**, which will impact project planning and compliance across the city. As of December 11, this threshold has been lowered from 10 stories or 125 feet to 7 stories or 75 feet, a change that will affect many projects moving forward.

This issue also tackles a rising concern—**fueled insurance fraud in New York's construction sites**. With insights from Tom Stebbins of the Lawsuit Reform Alliance and updates on staged accident investigations, we offer a comprehensive look at the fraudulent claims affecting our industry.

In our educational presentations section, **Kate Allen of Allen Architectural Metals shares her expertise** and dedication to cast metal restoration, shedding light on her passion for preserving history.

We're also proud to highlight our community. **The Skyline Charitable Foundation's Second Annual Community Appreciation Event** was a heartwarming success, celebrating the people and partnerships that enrich our work.

As we celebrate this 50th issue and embark on our fifteenth year, thank you for being part of *SKYLINES*. Together, we look forward to bringing you another year of news, insights, and stories that matter.

Warm regards,

Eva Hatzaki  
[Editor@SkylinesNews.com](mailto:Editor@SkylinesNews.com)

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SCAN



Read this and all past issues of  
**SKYLINES** at [SKYLINESnews.com](http://SKYLINESnews.com)

## NEW SEVERE INJURY REPORT DASHBOARD

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has introduced an interactive [Severe Injury Report dashboard](#), providing an in-depth look at workplace injuries across states under federal OSHA jurisdiction. The new tool offers users the ability to search and download data from OSHA's severe injury report database, which tracks injuries from 2015 onwards.

Through the dashboard, users can filter data by year, industry, state, establishment name, and Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) codes. This tool is intended to help both workers and employers identify injury trends and adopt safety measures to prevent future incidents.

OSHA mandates that employers report work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations, or loss of an eye within 24 hours of an incident. The agency also provides compliance assistance and consultation services nationwide to support employers in fostering safer workplaces.

For more information and to access the instructional video on how to use the dashboard, visit [OSHA's website](#).

# NYC DOB INTRODUCES THE WORKER WALLET

Workers can now consolidate all of their certifications, replacing numerous individual cards with a single, streamlined card



The NYC Buildings Department (DOB) is upgrading the way construction workers manage their training certifications with the introduction of the new [Worker Wallet](#). Designed to enhance convenience and streamline compliance, this initiative will help workers keep all their certification information in one place, on a single card, while improving job site safety.

### KEY FEATURES OF THE WORKER WALLET

**One ID Number** for both the Site Safety Training (SST) card and the Worker Wallet, reducing the need for multiple forms of ID.

**NFC Technology:** A tap of the card automatically opens the Training Connect app (formerly the SST Validator app), making card verification quick and efficient.

The new system has been **pilot-tested** to ensure a user-friendly experience. DOB Ambassadors



**Carlos Reyes**

SST ID: SL78D8H9NS  
Eye Color: Brown  
Height: 5' 6"  
Gender: Male  
Address: 6063 Broadway Bronx, NY 10471

Phone: 212-999-9999  
Email: [carlosreyes@reyes.com](mailto:carlosreyes@reyes.com)  
Birthdate: 1/1/1998

**Site Safety**  
Approved By: NYC Department of Buildings  
Issued On: 10/4/2024  
Expires On: 10/4/2029

**Worker Wallet**  
Approved By: NYC Department of Buildings  
Issued On: 10/4/2024  
Valid Thru: 10/4/2034

Training History					+ Add Certification
Proof	Certification	Issued By	Verified By	Issued/Refreshed On	Actions
Active	OSHA30 OSHA 30-Hour Construction Industry	NYC Department of Buildings	NYC Department of Buildings	2/1/2024	View Edit Delete
Active	SST-302 2-Hour Drug and Alcohol Awareness	NYC Department of Buildings	NYC Department of Buildings	2/15/2024	View Edit Delete
Active	SST-307 8-Hour Fall Prevention	NYC Department of Buildings	NYC Department of Buildings	2/15/2024	View Edit Delete
Active	Worker SCA-211 4-Hour Supported	NYC Department of Buildings	NYC Department of Buildings	2/17/2024	View Edit Delete

Purple banner above indicates active Worker Wallet in student profile.

will be visiting worksites to spread the word and assist workers in adopting the new process.

### SAY GOODBYE TO MULTIPLE CARDS

With the Worker Wallet, workers can now consolidate all of their certifications, replacing numerous individual cards with a single, streamlined card. The Worker Wallet will replace the following worker cards:

- Climber/Tower Crane Rigger
- Mast Climber User/Operator & Refresher
- Rigging Supervisor
- Rigging Worker
- Supported Scaffold User
- Supported Scaffold Installer/Remover
- Suspended Scaffold User

- Suspended Scaffold Supervisor
- Periodic Gas Piping Inspector

### NEW TRAINING CONNECT APP

The Training Connect app, which replaces the previous SST Validator app, will validate both Worker Wallets and SST cards. This app will be available on both Google Play and the Apple App Store.

**Starting November 1, 2024**, DOB-approved course providers will begin issuing the Worker Wallet via the NYCDob Training Connect platform. Importantly, by **July 1, 2025**, the Worker Wallet will become the **only acceptable proof** of certification for the cards listed above, ensuring that workers remain in compliance with DOB standards. ■

To ensure you remain compliant and keep all your certifications in one place, visit [nyc.gov/dob-trainingconnect](#) to learn more about Worker Wallet.



# MAJOR BUILDING DEFINITION UPDATE

Effective December 11, 2024, the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB) will revise the definition of a "major building" under Section 202 of Chapter 2 of the NYC Building Code.

The change lowers the height threshold for major buildings from 10 stories or 125 feet to 7 stories or 75 feet. This adjustment broadens the scope of buildings classified as "major," impacting compliance and safety protocols.

Additional criteria for major building status remain unchanged: structures with a footprint of 100,000 square feet or more, or those designated by

the DOB Commissioner due to unique hazards, still qualify. The updated definition applies only to permits issued or requested on or after December 11, while existing permits and requests will not be affected.

This change is part of an ongoing effort to enhance safety standards across NYC's growing construction landscape.

**The new definition of major building does not impact façade work.** The site safety trigger for façade work will continue to apply only to buildings more than 14 stories or 200 feet in height. ■



On December 11, 2023, a corner of this seven-story building in the Bronx partially collapsed.

## PROPOSED CHANGES FOR SUPERINTENDENTS



**The Department of Buildings (DOB) is proposing to amend its rules to provide specificity and uniformity on the duties and inspections performed by a licensed construction superintendent.**

The proposed rule specifies the minimum set of tasks a construction superintendent is expected to perform in fulfilling their code obligations of maintaining a safe site, ensuring compliance with [Chapter 33](#), and ensuring compliance with approved documents. This rule also proposes that the inspection performed by the construction superintendent, at sites that do not require a site safety manager or coordinator, is, at a minimum, the same as that performed by a site safety manager or coordinator. Such inspection by

a construction superintendent must comply with the same list of items to be inspected as specified in section 3310-01 of these rules.

This proposed rule will require that the construction superintendent record in a log the results of the inspection performed. The rule also cross references other obligations of the construction superintendent, including the obligation under Section 3301.13.9 of the New York City Building Code to correct unsafe conditions, and includes statements to make clear the rule does not diminish any other responsibility the code imposes upon the construction superintendent.

A public hearing was set for 10/28/24. ■



## JESSICA RAMOS CHALLENGES ERIC ADAMS FOR NYC MAYOR

State Senator Jessica Ramos, known for blocking billionaire Steve Cohen's \$8 billion casino proposal in her Queens district, has now [entered the 2025 New York City mayoral race](#). Ramos, representing Jackson Heights and Corona, is the first woman and the fourth major candidate to challenge Mayor Eric Adams. With Adams facing scandals and low approval among Latino voters, Ramos, the daughter of Colombian immigrants, aims to restore public trust in City Hall.

A labor advocate, Ramos has championed safety protections for retail workers but faces challenges in fundraising and citywide name recognition compared to her opponents, who include Comptroller Brad Lander, former Comptroller Scott Stringer, and fellow State Senator Zellnor Myrie. Mayor Adams, with \$3 million already in his campaign fund, remains ahead financially. ■

## OP-ED: NEW YORK STATE'S LEGAL SYSTEM FUELS INSURANCE FRAUD—REFORM IS OVERDUE

By Tom Stebbins

New Yorkers pay some of the highest insurance premiums in the country from auto, to homeowners, to insuring our doctors and hospitals. News of a local regional insurer withdrawing from New York is just a small piece of the puzzle. The Empire State's civil liability environment is among the most hostile, driving up costs for consumers while making millionaire trial lawyers ever richer.

Look no further than the epidemic of fraudulent claims plaguing our courts. Recent investigative reporting and Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization claims have uncovered an



Tom Stebbins is the Executive Director of the Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York in Albany.

intricate insurance fraud scheme involving unscrupulous law firms, medical mills that coax vulnerable people into unnecessary surgeries, and shadowy lawsuit funders.

The lawyers and doctors recruit workers to stage construction site accidents, exploiting New York's unique liability laws and lack of regulation around litigation financing to enrich themselves. The workers they recruit are left with nothing except a lifetime of pain and suffering from superfluous surgeries.

Lawmakers must avoid further expanding liability and, instead, crack down on these crime rings, fix the liability laws that make our courts a magnet for fraud and protect our most vulnerable from predatory lawsuit lenders. This will reduce costs down the line for insuring everything from housing to trucking to personal auto insurance. It's the right thing to do. ■

## ANNUAL MEETING IN ALBANY FOCUSES ON STAGED ACCIDENTS

On October 15th, 2024, the [Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York \(LRANY\)](#) held its Annual Meeting at the James Newbury Hotel in Coxsackie, NY. This important event brought together thought leaders and advocates in the fight against fraudulent practices affecting New York's construction industry.

Key discussions included the "Staged Accident RICO Case Update" led by William Clay, Michael Graves ([The Willis Law Group](#)), David Schwartz ([Gotham Government Relations](#)), and Rygo Foss ([Emerson Foss Law Firm PLLC](#)), and the "Staged Accident Investigative Reporting Update" presented by Emmy Award-winning investigative reporter Kristin Thorne. ■



[TOP] (L-R) Rygo Foss (Emerson Foss Law Firm PLLC); David Schwartz (Gotham Government Relations); Michael Graves, William Clay (The Willis Law Group).



[LEFT] (L-R) David Schwartz, President, Gotham Government Relations; Kristin Thorne, Investigative Reporter; Andriana Vamvakas, President, Andromeda Advantage.



# NEWS INVESTIGATION UNVEILS TREND OF FRAUDULENT LAWSUITS

*A single apartment building in the Bronx linked to 30 construction injury lawsuits*

WABC-TV Eyewitness News exposes a pattern of suspicious injury claims in New York City construction sites, sparking concerns of widespread insurance fraud and rising costs for New Yorkers.

A recent WABC-TV Eyewitness News [investigation](#), led by investigative reporter Kristin Thorne, has revealed a shocking trend in New York City's construction industry—an alarming number of injury lawsuits filed by individuals living in the same apartment buildings. The findings, based on the analysis of hundreds of public court records, expose a pattern that many in the industry believe points to widespread insurance fraud.

The investigation focused on several residential buildings in the Bronx and Queens, where dozens of residents claimed to have been injured on construction sites. For example, a single apartment building on Ellis Avenue in the Bronx was linked to 30 construction injury lawsuits, while another home across the street was tied to 21 claims. Several other nearby residences also had multiple lawsuits filed by their occupants.

## "A very big red flag"

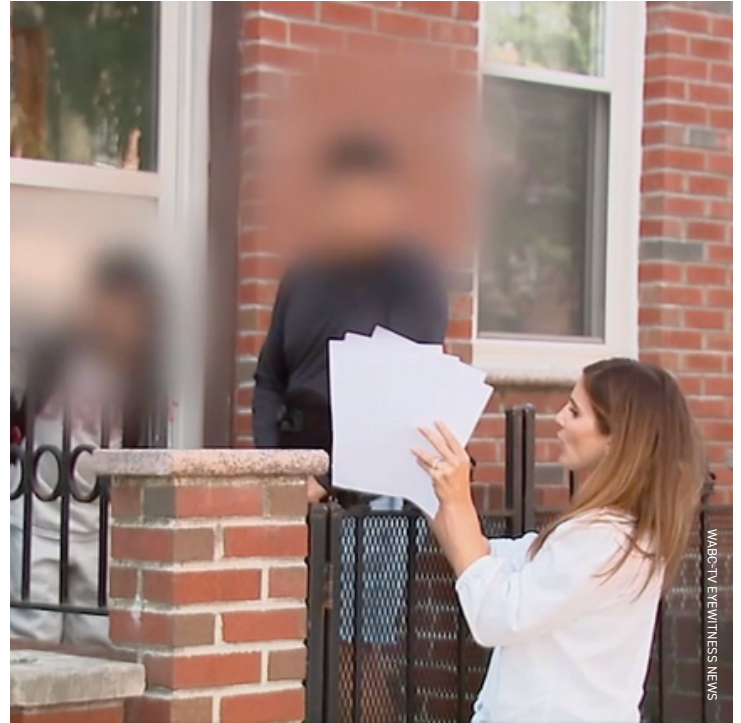
Thorne and her team shared these findings with Michelle Rafeld, executive director of the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, who raised concerns about potential organized crime behind these claims. Rafeld commented, "When you are seeing large numbers of individuals living in the same area all having a claim, that sends up a very big red flag."

Members of the construction and insurance sectors echoed these concerns. At a recent meeting on Long Island, industry professionals discussed the financial impact of fraudulent lawsuits on both the construction industry and the public. Brian Sampson, president of the Empire State Chapter of the Associated Builders & Contractors, noted that the prevalence of fraudulent claims is driving up insurance premiums, which in turn leads to higher costs for construction, home prices, and even everyday items like groceries.

## Claimants living in the same apartment

In one striking example from the investigation, two residents from the same apartment in Corona filed separate construction injury lawsuits within just one month of each other. While visiting the building, Thorne encountered one of the plaintiffs, who was using a cane and back brace. Although he admitted to filing the lawsuit, he seemed unaware of the other claimants living in the same building, a detail that raised further suspicions about potential fraud.

In addition to identifying suspicious patterns in the lawsuits, the investigation found that 30 out of 62 of these cases were handled by just two law firms. When asked for a comment,



Investigative reporter Kristin Thorne visited a building in Corona where two residents from the same apartment filed separate construction injury lawsuits within just one month of each other.

one of the firms declined to respond, and the other failed to get back to Eyewitness News.

To further understand the legitimacy of these claims, Thorne reached out to the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, which awarded compensation to 12 of the claimants after confirming their work-related injuries. However, the question of whether some of these injuries were staged remains open.

Thorne's investigation also revealed that the New York State Inspector General's Office, which oversees workers' compensation fraud, is reviewing the situation. Though they declined to provide

specific details, they emphasized their commitment to thorough investigations.

The findings of this investigation highlight the urgent need for reform in New York's construction industry. Fraudulent injury claims not only put pressure on legitimate businesses but also contribute to rising insurance costs, which ultimately burden New York residents.

As the issue gains attention, stakeholders in construction, insurance, and law enforcement will need to collaborate on effective solutions to prevent fraud, protect workers, and ensure fair practices across the industry. ■

# A NEW ERA FOR TERRA COTTA

## HOW TECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING THE GAME



GLADDING, McBEAN

By Michael Kramer  
Midwest Territory Manager  
[Gladding, McBean](#)

When it comes to preserving historic buildings, capturing accurate details on-site has always been a critical part of the job, especially for materials like terra cotta.

Known for its charm and historical value, terra cotta is often found in intricate designs that require extreme precision to replicate. Over the past 20 years, technological advancements have begun to shake up the terra cotta industry, making restoration projects faster, more accurate, and more efficient.

Gone are the days when fieldwork relied solely on tape measures and paper sketches. Today, digital scanning tools like photogrammetry and Lidar are the norm, revolutionizing how teams collect and use data

to replicate terra cotta pieces. However, the road to adopting these technologies wasn't exactly smooth. High costs, complicated software, and the need for specialized expertise held many firms back. But now, the industry is seeing some big changes, and it's all thanks to these once out-of-reach tools.

### The Old Way: Fieldwork with Tape Measures and Sketches

Back in the early 2000s, when the tech boom was just getting started, measuring, and documenting architectural details in the field was a slow, painstaking process. A single misstep—a quarter inch off here, a missing detail there—could derail an entire project. It wasn't unusual for surveyors to ask for multiple pallets of terra cotta

fragments just to ensure they had everything needed to replicate a building's intricate designs (photo below.)

After hours spent measuring, sketching, and taking photographs on-site, all that information had to be translated into digital drawings back in the office. Each hour of fieldwork usually required at least three to four hours of follow-up documentation. It was exhausting, and there was always the looming possibility of an error that could cost time and money.

Fast forward a few years, and the landscape started to shift. The introduction of digital tools like photogrammetry and Lidar opened new possibilities, though the initial high price tags and



Typical documentation in the field.





*"With the right blend of tradition and innovation, the industry is well-equipped to meet the demands of modern restoration projects while preserving the architectural beauty of the past."*

**Michael Kramer**  
Midwest Territory Manager  
Gladding, McBean



*Photogrammetry not only improved the accuracy of data collection but also dramatically sped up the process with less time spent collecting and shipping fragments and more time getting down to the actual restoration work.*



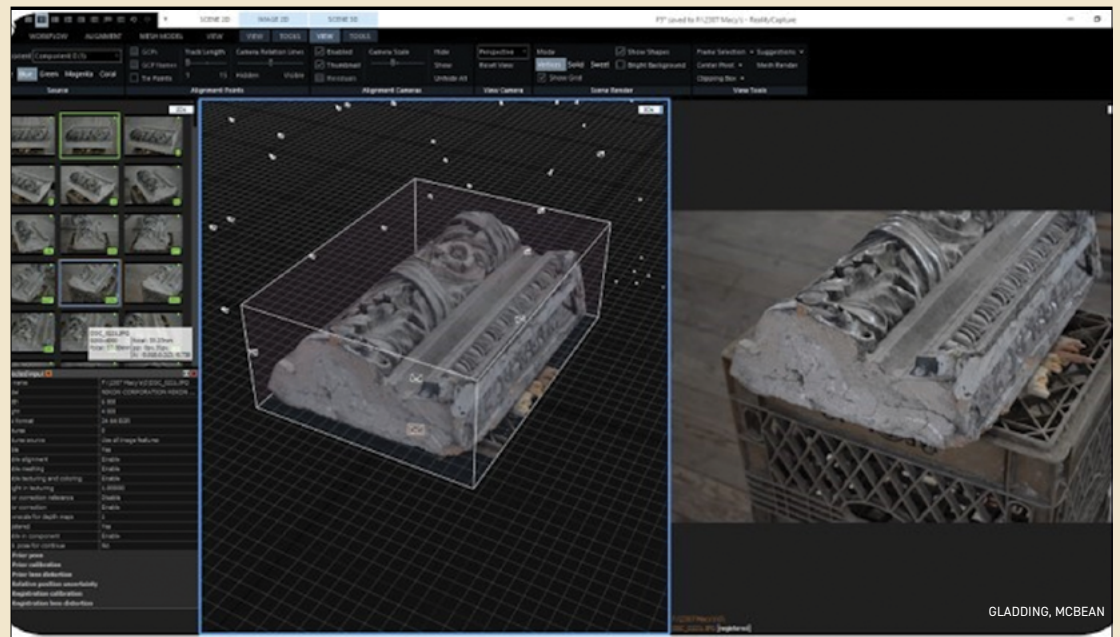
GLADDING, MCBEAN

Above: An array of images taken of a representative fragment for creating a 3D model using photogrammetry. Below: A screenshot of a 3D model.

complex learning curves kept many firms from jumping on board.

### Photogrammetry: The Game-Changer

In the last decade, photogrammetry has emerged as a real game-changer. This technology uses regular photos to create 3D models, and the best part - You can do it with just your phone. For Gladding, McBean, this was a dream come true. Suddenly, you didn't need to rely on expensive, complex equipment to get highly detailed measurements. Photogrammetry not only improved the accuracy of data collection but also dramatically sped up the process.



GLADDING, MCBEAN

Before photogrammetry, we needed multiple fragments from a building to ensure accurate replication. Now, with this new tech, the demand for physical samples dropped by around 75%. That meant less time spent collecting and shipping fragments and more time getting down to the actual restoration work.

What used to take weeks now took days, and the accuracy was through the roof.

The 3D models produced by photogrammetry were so precise, with tolerances down to 0.1mm, that it exceeded even the strictest industry requirements (photos above.)

### Enter Lidar: Taking Things to the Next Level

After the success of photogrammetry, Lidar (Light Detection and Ranging) was the next natural step. Lidar uses lasers to map out areas in incredible detail, creating highly accurate 3D models of buildings

and their features. While this tech had been around for a while, it was only recently that it became affordable and user-friendly enough for smaller firms to adopt.

Handheld Lidar scanners, designed for rugged environments, soon found their way into the field. These devices





Above: A member of the Gladding, McBean Drafting and Survey Team operating a handheld scanner at a jobsite. Below: The 3D model created directly from the scans gathered in the field.

were perfect for capturing data from hard-to-reach places, like when surveyors had to work from scaffolding or lifts. With Lidar, it became much easier to get a full picture of a building's terra cotta features without needing as many physical samples as possible.

With both photogrammetry and Lidar in their toolkit, we were able to gather data faster and more accurately than ever before. But gathering data was just the first step. The real challenge was turning that data into something useful for the drafting and production teams (photo top right.)

#### Turning Data into Action: The Shift to 3D Models

Once Gladding, McBean's field team had all the data from their scans, they needed to turn it into something the drafting and production departments could actually use. This meant



developing a workflow that could convert a bunch of images into 3D point clouds and fully meshed models in a matter of minutes.

These models were used to create shop drawings, which are the blueprints for terra cotta production. By refining this process, teams were able to produce extremely detailed,

accurate drawings much faster than before, helping to keep projects on track and within budget (photo above.)

#### CNC Modeling: Automating the Hard Work

While photogrammetry and Lidar were transforming the way fieldwork was done,

CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machines were about to revolutionize production. CNC technology allows for the automated production of complex designs using 3D models. For Gladding, McBean, as a company that had always relied heavily on hand-sculpting, this was a big deal.

CNC machines can crank out precise terra cotta models at a fraction of the time it takes to sculpt them by hand. While hand-sculpting is still an art form, and some details still require that human touch, CNC machines are taking care of the bulk of the work, freeing up skilled artisans to focus on the more intricate parts of the job.

There were some growing pains along the way. The first few CNC models didn't always match the quality of hand-sculpted pieces, so the Gladding, McBean production team had to spend time fine-tuning the process. But once they got the hang of it, the machines were able to produce models that were virtually indistinguishable from hand-sculpted ones (photos above right.)

### Collaboration is Key

One of the biggest reasons these new technologies have been so successful is collaboration, both within the industry and with external partners. Take, for example, Gladding, McBean's partnership with the [University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning \(UWM-SARUP\)](#). This collaboration helped bridge the gap between academia and industry, giving students and professionals alike the chance to learn from one another.

UWM-SARUP students brought a wealth of knowledge about the latest scanning technologies, and Gladding, McBean offered students real-world experience in terra cotta production. The partnership worked so well that one of UWM-SARUP's top students was recruited to head up the manufacturer's in-house scanning lab.



**Left: Initial test run output showing the evolution and refinement of our use of CNC. The model on the far right proved that this process could provide ornate modeling that is production ready. Right: Examples of Plaster models created using CNC and used for production.**

This collaboration didn't just benefit the students; it also helped the Gladding, McBean production team back at the plant. Field teams were trained on how to use the new scanning tools, and soon the whole company was up to speed on photogrammetry and Lidar. Thanks to this partnership, Gladding, McBean was able to streamline its processes and reduce project lead times, saving both time and money.

### Looking Ahead: What's Next for Terra Cotta Restoration?

The terra cotta industry has come a long way in the past couple of decades. From slow, manual measurements to cutting-edge 3D scanning and CNC production, the entire process has been transformed. And while the technology has advanced rapidly, it's clear that we're only scratching the surface of what's possible.

Looking ahead, there's plenty of room for further innovation. As 3D scanning and CNC technology continue to improve, production times will likely get even shorter, and the accuracy of terra cotta models will keep getting better. Gladding, McBean is also exploring how to use these technologies to cut lead times even further, helping to keep costs down and projects on schedule. One thing is sure: the



future of terra cotta restoration is bright. By embracing new technologies and collaborating with partners from all corners of the field, the industry is finding new ways to preserve our architectural heritage while keeping pace with modern demands.

### Conclusion: Blending Tradition with Innovation

The terra cotta industry is in the middle of a major evolution, blending traditional craftsmanship with cutting-edge technology. The introduction of photogrammetry, Lidar, and CNC machines has made it possible to replicate historic architectural details with more speed and accuracy than ever before.

This new era of terra cotta restoration doesn't replace the artistry of hand-sculpting but complements it. By automating the more repetitive tasks, CNC technology allows Gladding, McBean's artisans to focus on what they do best—bring historic designs back to life with an unmatched level of detail.

This transformation for Gladding, McBean began in earnest no more than two years ago. To paraphrase an adage -- Change happens slowly, then all at once. This perfectly describes the journey this 150-year-old company has made. Yes, this

technology has been around for ages, slowly growing and evolving, but Gladding, McBean has been a patient observer. In a highly regulated industry, innovation often comes with significant operational risk, making swift adaptation a gamble that couldn't be afforded. Looking back, those pressures were a good thing. Jumping into these changes too early would have caused unnecessary disruptions. Then, all at once, with the right team in place and careful strategy, Gladding, McBean transformed its vision into reality.

In the end, the future of terra cotta restoration looks bright. With the right blend of tradition and innovation, the industry is well-equipped to meet the demands of modern restoration projects while preserving the architectural beauty of the past. ■



MICHAEL KRAMER

**With over twenty years of experience, Michael Kramer serves as the Midwest Territory Manager for Gladding, McBean, specializing in historic preservation and architectural restoration. His hands-on work with structures across Chicago, the Midwest, and the nation has shaped his distinctive approach to project demands, streamlining documentation processes and increasing efficiency. A dedicated advocate for the use of terra cotta, Michael is passionate about preserving its legacy while promoting its integration into contemporary building design.**



KATE ALLEN OF ALLEN ARCHITECTURAL METALS SHARES EXPERTISE ON CAST METAL RESTORATION

# PRESERVING HISTORY WITH PASSION

On September 10, 2024, Skyline Restoration had the honor of hosting Kate Allen, President of [Allen Architectural Metals](#), for her insightful presentation, “Preserving the Past with Passion.” This in-depth session explored the cast metal fabrication process, a key area for those of us in façade restoration when dealing with the repair or replacement of damaged cast metal ornamentation.

Allen Architectural Metals is a nationally recognized resource in cast metal fabrication. Kate Allen’s presentation allowed us to understand the critical blend of engineering, artistry, and industrial skills involved in either replicating or repairing intricate metal ornaments.

As our industry embraces technological advancements that prioritize speed and efficiency,



Kate Allen offered a detailed look at the cast metal fabrication process, its importance in façade restoration, and the preservation of traditional craftsmanship for future generations.

the restoration of landmarked buildings—often adorned with prominent metal ornamentation—demands experience in traditional methods, a skill set at risk of being lost as seasoned experts retire. This presentation

highlighted the growing need for knowledge of historical fabrication techniques to successfully restore and preserve architecturally significant structures.

Attendees left with a clearer understanding of the steps involved in creating a fabrication plan for a project, emphasizing the importance of expert assessment in the development of accurate restoration specifications.

Allen Architectural Metals offers a unique, turn-key approach, combining engineering expertise, metallurgy, logistics, and operational experience to deliver comprehensive solutions for cast metal restoration. With over 28 years in the field and a National WBE certification, their commitment to preserving this specialized craft is invaluable to our industry.

To watch the full presentation, go to [vimeo.com/1013563489](https://vimeo.com/1013563489). Stay tuned for more educational opportunities for the restoration community. ■

## KEY TOPICS FROM THE PRESENTATION

**CAST IRON** Kate Allen, President of Allen Architectural Metals, underscored the significance of cast iron, a long-standing architectural material known for its durability and adaptability. She detailed the differences between gray and ductile iron, with the latter prized for its strength and malleability.

**PATTERN MAKING AND SAND CASTING** The process of reproducing missing or damaged

elements, including using original castings to create patterns, developing new patterns from drawings, and integrating hand scanning and 3D printing for efficiency was detailed.

**COMMON CAST IRON FAILURES AND REPAIRS** There was discussion on coating failures, rust jacking, and various repair techniques like epoxy repair, metal stitching, and welding.

**FEATURED PROJECTS** Highlights included work at 422 Fulton, the Woolworth Tower Residences, and restoring Gas Vault Lights.

**METAL WINDOW RESTORATION** Significant projects included the Albert Kahn Building and the 4th Avenue Window Restoration, which incorporated Vacuum Insulating Glazing for improved energy efficiency.

**BUILDING BETTER PARTNERSHIPS** Allen stressed the importance of collaboration, effective scope management, cost control, and sustainability in project partnerships.

**PRESERVING HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE** Allen concluded with a reflection on how their work preserves architectural history for future generations.



THE SKYLINE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



THE SKYLINE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

# SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNITY APPRECIATION EVENT

The [Skyline Charitable Foundation's](#) RAP4Bronx Second Annual Community Appreciation Event, held on September 21st, 2024, was a heartwarming success!

From 2 PM to 6 PM, neighbors gathered at 1967 Turnbull Avenue in the Bronx for an afternoon of celebration and connection.

The event featured lively music, arts and crafts, face painting, and plenty of delicious food and drinks for all to enjoy.

One of the highlights was the produce giveaway, which brought fresh, local goods to the community.

We're grateful for everyone who came out to celebrate the power of unity and the difference we continue to make together! ■



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(L-R) Ralph Huggins, The Skyline Charitable Foundation (TSCF); Nancy Reyes, (TSCF); Kosta Sarellis, (TSCF); Shana McCormick, Executive Director, (TSCF); Michelle De La Rosa, Revive Church; Dwayne Mack, (TSCF).



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## DONATE





# \$21M TO INSTALL EV FAST CHARGERS ACROSS NEW YORK

Governor Kathy Hochul has [announced](#) a \$21 million initiative to install electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers along major travel routes in New York State.

Funded through the federal National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program, this initiative aims to expand the state's charging infrastructure, focusing on locations north of Interstate 84 and extending to Buffalo and the Canadian border.

The Upstate NEVI Direct Current Fast Charger (DCFC) program, administered by NYSERDA in partnership with NYSDOT, will provide funding to developers for installing fast chargers on designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. Sites will need to meet federal guidelines, including 24/7 accessibility, charging capacity for at least four vehicles, and high uptime requirements.



This program is part of New York's larger efforts to electrify transportation, with over 15,000 EV chargers already installed statewide. The expansion supports New York's climate agenda, which aims for all new passenger vehicles to be zero emissions by 2035. Proposals for

the initial round of funding are due by December 4, 2024.

Additionally, federal support continues to drive clean energy investments, helping New York lead the way in green transportation and a sustainable future. ■

*Initial round of funding focuses on Upstate charging along key travel corridors*

## \$10 MILLION FOR ZERO-EMISSION HOMES

Governor Kathy Hochul has launched a \$10 million initiative to promote the development of zero-emission homes across New York State.

The Building Better Homes – Zero Emission Homes for Healthier Communities program offers financial incentives to builders and developers to design and construct clean, energy-efficient single-family homes and townhomes. This initiative, administered by NYSERDA, aims to reduce emissions, improve air quality, and create more resilient, comfortable living environments.

With incentives up to \$7,000 for homes and \$4,000 for townhomes, plus additional funding for homes in disadvantaged communities, the program encourages builders to adopt sustainable practices. Homes built under this initiative will feature energy-efficient appliances and resilient HVAC systems that perform even during power outages. Builders can also access funding for training to incorporate advanced building standards.

Governor Hochul emphasized that the program is a key part of New York's climate strategy, helping

to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and improve housing quality. The initiative is part of the state's broader goal to create two million climate-friendly homes by 2030.

NYSERDA President and CEO Doreen M. Harris noted that "this program continues NYSERDA's long history of working with the market to bring the latest in energy and efficiency measures to more New Yorkers."

Applications are open through December 31, 2025, or until funds are exhausted. For more details, visit NYSERDA's [website](#). ■



NYSERDA President and CEO Doreen M. Harris notes that this program is key to the state's clean energy mission.



JEFF SCHNEIDER



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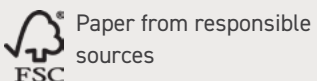
STARTING DECEMBER AT  
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a r t s p a c e



*Mosaic ArtSpace (MAS) is a multi-discipline art venue that aspires to showcase and promote various artistic endeavors with outreach to painters, sculptors, musicians, video, performance, installation artists.*

*MAS seeks to create a dialogue with issues of contemporary art practices to encourage, support and expand creativity and self-expression, forming an environment where the arts flourish and enrich the quality of life. — [www.mosaicartspace.com](http://www.mosaicartspace.com)*

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