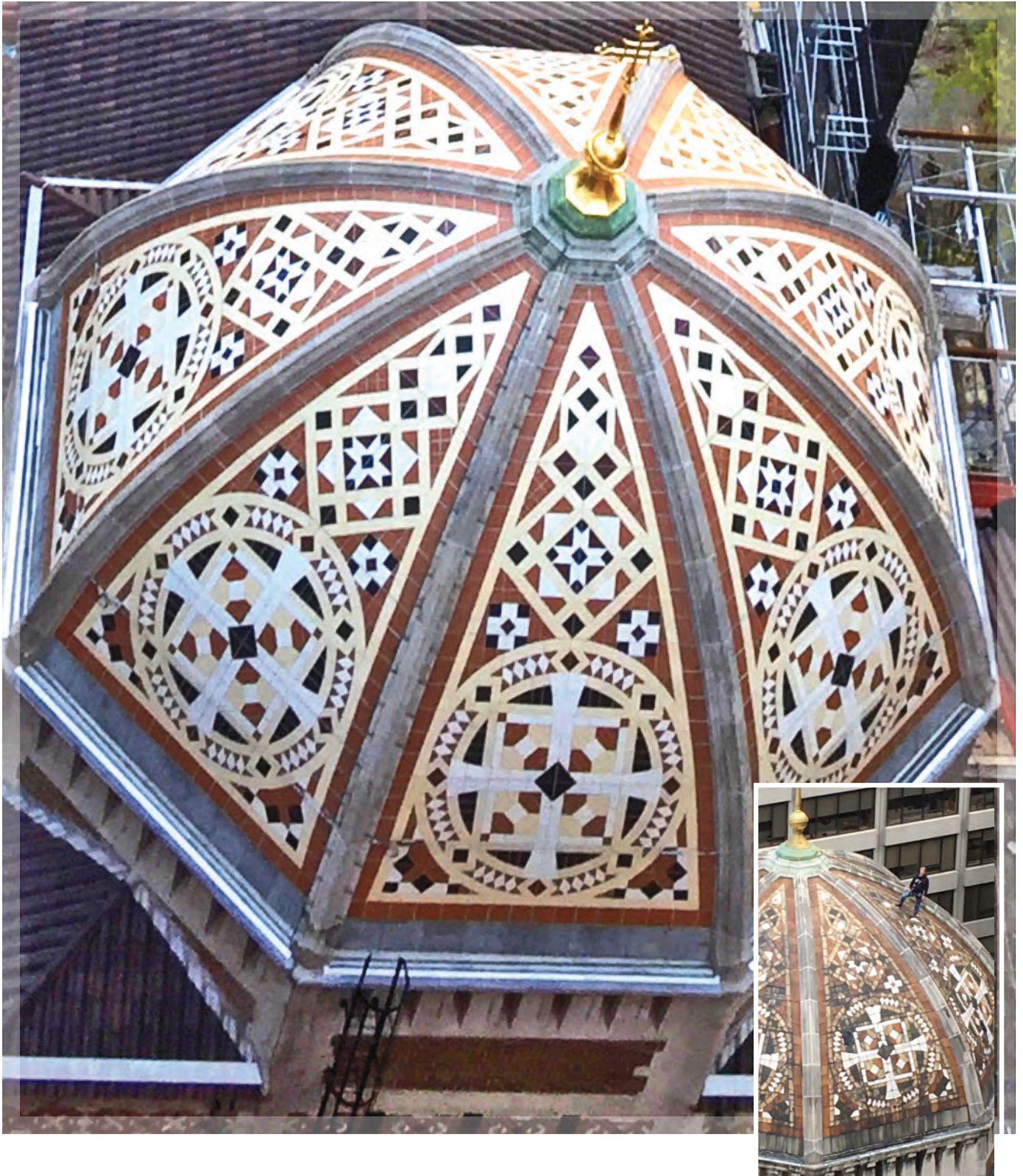


St. Bartholemew's Church



masonry restoration • façade cleaning • pointing • historic restoration • terra cotta

by **GRACIANO**
GIVING A FUTURE TO THE PAST™

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St. Bartholemew's

"The design and installation of a specialized scaffold system, plus our long-storied history of restoring historic structures, were key in securing the St. Bart's dome contract," says Graciano Corporation president Glenn Foglio.

Like many Graciano projects, the restoration involved a beloved landmark, technical challenges, artistic craftsmanship and meticulous project management.

Construction of St. Bartholemew's on Park Avenue began in 1918. Architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue completed most of the design work before dying in 1924. His successors at Goodhue Associates conceived the distinctive "Great Dome" that eventually capped the lofty transept.

By the early 2000s, many parts of the Romanesque-Byzantine Church and its adjacent Community House were overdue for repair or restoration. The dome was a high priority; full access to its exterior would require a dense cage of scaffolding. But, conventional scaffolds and rigging would impose unacceptable stress on the lightweight shell.

After a painstaking survey, during which Graciano crews rappelled down and across the exterior taking samples and measurements, "We devised a one-of-a-kind solution. We'd suspend the scaffolding from the center of the terra cotta dome, so no part of the scaffold would come in contact with the dome." Instead, a complex system of chain-supported decks, catwalks and platforms would provide workspace within easy reach of the dome's eight segments. The whole web of wood and steel would rest on the projecting corners of the square tower that supports the dome.

Once they had a solid foothold, Graciano team proceeded with the restoration program:

- Removing and replacing over 6300 terra cotta tile pieces
- Installing steel-reinforced waterproof mortar
- Recreating the original mosaic tile patterns
- Completely replacing the cementitious and waterproof surface underlayment
- Completing every task in compliance with demanding historical specifications. (St. Bart's is a designated New York City landmark and is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.)

"We were thrilled to be hand chosen to restore another New York City landmark. We knew dismantling and rebuilding the entire dome would be very challenging, but our entire team took on the challenge and exceeded everyone's results," stated Dan McIntyre, Executive Vice President.

Innovation, craftsmanship and excellent project management were the components to another award-winning project.

Graciano was awarded the Lucy Moses Award for the best historic restoration project of the year.

Since 1916, Graciano Corporation, with offices in Pennsylvania and New York, has been a complete source for structural restoration, beautification and repair. With a heritage of pride in craftsmanship, acknowledged technical leadership and the finest restoration team in the industry, Graciano is "Giving a Future to the Past."

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