

JAMES W. FEUERBORN, JR., P.E.

Managing Principal



Summary

James Feuerborn has more than 27 years of experience in developing and supervising structural analysis, design, peer review, due diligence and condition assessment, failure and forensic investigation, renovation, litigation support, and property loss consulting projects. He has worked on a variety of building types, including commercial, residential and educational structures, new and existing construction, in both the private and public sectors. James has extensive experience with a range of construction materials, including reinforced concrete, steel, aluminum, cast iron, masonry and timber.

Areas of Technical Expertise

- Forensic Structural Engineering
- Deconstruction Engineering
- Emergency Response
- Structural Stabilization and Construction Monitoring
- Peer Reviews and Standard of Care

Education

- M.S., Engineering Mechanics, 1994, Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Science
- B.S., Civil Engineering, 1993, Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Science
- B.A., Humanities, 1993, Columbia College

Registrations

- Licensed Professional Engineer in CT, FL, MA, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, and US Virgin Islands.
- Safety Assessment Program Evaluator, Post-Earthquake Evaluation of Buildings, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)
- 30-hour OSHA Course in Construction Safety and Health
- 2-hour OSHA Course in Hazard Communication with GHS

Professional Activities

- Member, American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)
- Member, Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY)
- Member, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- Associate Member, American Bar Association (ABA)
- Associate Member, Loss Executives Association (LEA)

Select Project Experience

Forensic Structural Engineering

West 37th Street, New York, NY. Forensic investigation to determine the cause of an existing underpinning collapse during new underpinning.

Roof Collapse, Brookville, NY. Forensic investigation to determine the cause of a below-grade roof structure's collapse during construction.

Manufacturing Facility, Amsterdam, NY. Forensic investigation to determine the cause of a warehouse roof partial collapse following a snow storm.

Tropicana Casino, Atlantic City, NJ. Forensic engineering services following a garage collapse during construction. Scope also included reviewing other investigators' nonlinear finite element models.

Deconstruction Engineering

341-347 Madison Avenue, New York, NY. Engineering of systematic removal of a series of three 13-20 story structures neighboring MTA and Metro-North.

One Madison Avenue, New York, NY. Engineering of systematic removal of select upper floors and portions of a 16-story steel-framed structure phased in conjunction with renovation work.

Charles Poletti Power Plant Unit 6, Queens, NY. Engineering of systematic removal of Unit 6 (boiler, turbine house and heater bay), several smaller buildings, water intake structure, pedestrian bridge and switchyard.

130 Liberty Street, New York, NY. Engineering of systematic removal of a 41-story steel moment framed structure phased in conjunction with the environmental abatement.

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Emergency Response

17 Leonard Street, New York, NY. Emergency response and on-site presence for emergency stabilization of building damaged by adjacent construction.

303 East 51st Street, New York, NY. Emergency response and continuous on-site presence for emergency stabilization of surrounding structures damaged by a crane collapse.

Trump Soho, New York, NY. Emergency response following a concrete formwork collapse during construction of this new residential tower's 42nd floor.

Castle Village, Washington Heights, NY. Emergency response and continuous on-site presence for emergency stabilization following the collapse of a retaining wall adjacent to a Parkway.

World Trade Center, New York, NY. Immediate damage assessment of buildings in the collapse area, assistance with demolition and temporary stabilization procedures, design of grillages and analysis of existing structures to support construction equipment, coordination of the survey monitoring of existing damaged structures, and subsequent inspection of hundreds of buildings in the area surrounding the collapse site.

Structural Stabilization

221 West 17th Street, New York, NY. Design of emergency stabilization following a fire during renovation of a building with exterior unreinforced masonry, internal steel/cast iron framing, and timber floor joists.

Trump Soho, New York, NY. Design of emergency stabilization following a concrete formwork collapse during construction of this new residential tower's 42nd floor.

Cromwell Recreation Center, Staten Island, NY. Design of emergency stabilization following a steel framed building and pier structure's partial collapse.

99 Washington Street, New York, NY. Structural condition assessment and monitoring, including the design and detailing of reinforcement measures to the existing structure to prevent damage by future neighboring construction.

Peer Reviews

Frank Sinatra School, Astoria, NY. Structural peer review of multiple design errors and omissions in the design of the school structure.

St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY. Structural peer review of interior and exterior scaffolding. Performed periodic structural inspections of the scaffold structure during its construction.

Yankee Stadium, Bronx, NY. Peer review of the contractor's engineered drawings, calculations and model for the deconstruction of the old stadium.

Tropicana Casino, Atlantic City, NJ. Structural peer review following a garage collapse during construction. Included reviewing other investigators' nonlinear finite element models.

Construction Monitoring

15 St. Marks Place, New York, NY. Construction monitoring of an existing structure during neighboring construction.

20 East End Avenue, New York, NY. Deconstruction monitoring of an existing structure during deconstruction operations.

104 Gansevoort Street, New York, NY. Structural condition assessment and monitoring of an existing historic structure during neighboring construction.

Atlantic Yards, Brooklyn, NY. Structural condition assessment and monitoring of existing historic and non-historic structures surrounding a 22-acre neighboring construction site.

Standard of Care

Miami Train Station, Miami, FL. Review and analysis of the pertinent documents with regard to the standard of care during the structural design of the train station.

Orlando Cessna Service Center, Orlando, FL. Review and analysis of errors, omissions and misrepresentations contained in the contract documents. Reviewed structural design drawings and details for compliance to local, state and federal codes.

Westchester County Courthouse, Westchester, NY. Review and analysis of delays caused during construction, to determine if postponements were attributed to information contained within the issued structural design contract drawings.

Federal Building and United States Courthouse, Islip, NY. Review and analysis of delays caused during construction of this 11-story, 735,000-square-foot courthouse.

Sworn Testimony

Deposition, OHI Asset (NY) 93rd St., LLC v. Consigli Constr. Co., Inc., regarding damage during construction operations. December 15, 2021.

Deposition, 217 W. 17th St. LLC v. Allied World Surplus Lines Ins. Co., regarding claim for insurance coverage. August 28, 2019.

Deposition, ADF Int'l, Inc. v. Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP, regarding errors, omissions, conflicts and changes to the plans and specifications. August 23, 2019.

Deposition, Rodriguez v. Brit. Airways PLC and Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., regarding airplane jet bridge issues. December 6, 2017.

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Deposition, CAC Atlantic LLC v. Hartford Fire Ins. Co., New York, NY, regarding design and/or construction defects. March 21, 2017.

Hearing, 836 6th Ave., New York, NY, regarding Environmental Control Board hearing on structural stability violation. March 24, 2016.

Hearing, 3417 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY, regarding Environmental Control Board hearing on professional engineering violation. February 25, 2015.

Hearing, 17 Leonard St., New York, NY, regarding Environmental Control Board hearing on damage from adjacent construction. June 11, 2014.

Trial, Holt Constr. Corp. v. Grand Palais LLC, et al., Queens, NY, regarding construction and design defects of this residential apartment building. November 21, 2011.

Trial, Quevedo, et al. v. ACC Constr. Corp., et al., New York, NY, regarding construction and design defects of this commercial space fit out. October 5, 2011.

Deposition and Trial, Turner Constr. Co. v. Gen. Services Admin., Islip, NY, regarding delays caused during construction of this 11-story, 735,000-square-foot courthouse. November 18, 2005 and December 8 and 9, 2005.

Litigation

3585 Graystone Avenue, New York, NY. Structural evaluation of the as-built conditions. Litigation support with regard to construction defects. Reviewed the as-built structural conditions and details for compliance with local, state and federal codes. Evaluated and analyzed key aspects of the as-built conditions, using computer modeling as required, to review the adequacy of both the gravity and lateral designs.

Orlando Cessna Service Center, Orlando, FL. Review and analysis of errors, omissions and misrepresentations contained in the contract documents. Reviewed the structural design drawings and details for compliance with local, state and federal codes.

Westchester County Courthouse, Westchester, NY. Review and analysis of delays caused during construction to determine if postponements were attributed to information contained within the issued structural design contract drawings.

Federal Building and United States Courthouse, Islip, NY. Review and analysis of delays caused during construction to determine if delays were attributed to errors and omissions contained within the issued structural design contract drawings.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Roger's Island, Thimble Islands, CT. Mediation regarding construction and design defects of this residential home renovation and new pool pavilion.

Residential Home, Greenwich, CT. Mediation regarding damage claims alleged by neighboring construction blasting.

Brooklyn Park Bridge, Brooklyn, NY. Mediation regarding construction and design defects of a timber bridge traversing a park and roadway.

Frank Sinatra School, Astoria, NY. Mediation regarding design errors and omissions in the design of this school.

Honors and Awards

Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) Special Disaster Recovery Award, from the American Society of Civil Engineers for the World Trade Center Disaster Site Recovery Project; 2003.

National Recognition Award, from the American Council of Engineering Companies Engineering Excellence Award Competition for the World Trade Center Disaster Response Project; March 2003.

Engineering Excellence Grand Award, from the American Council of Engineering Companies for the World Trade Center Disaster Response Project; March 2003.

Certificate of Appreciation, from the New York City Department of Design and Construction for structural engineering services during the World Trade Center rescue and recovery operations.

2002 Project of the Year Award, from New York Construction News for the World Trade Center Recovery Project.

2002 Project of the Year Award, from New York Construction News for the UBS Warburg Trading Floor Expansion Project.

Select Papers, Lectures and Publications

"Interplay Between Experts and Counsel in Addressing Claims," A/E ProNet Spring Conference, Las Vegas, NV, March 16-18, 2022 (co-presenter)

"20 Years Later – Recovering the World Trade Center Site After 9/11," Vanderbilt University School of Engineering 13th Annual Project Management Symposium, Nashville, TN, March 10, 2022 (presenter)

"20 Years After 9/11: Lessons Learned & More to Research," Keynote Presentation, NCSEA Structural Engineering Summit, New York, NY, February 14-17, 2022 (co-presenter)

"Evaluating Existing Structures due to Adjacent Construction," International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE), Guimaraes, Portugal, March 27-29, 2019 (co-author)

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"Environmental Loading on Temporary Structures Based on the 2014 NYC Building Code," ASCE Forensic Engineering 7th Congress, Miami, FL, November 15-18, 2015 (co-author)

"Dangers of Lot Line Retrofits and Construction," International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE), Helsinki, Finland, February 11-12, 2015 (co-author)

"Mitigation of Damage to Structures Adjacent to Construction Sites in Urban Environments," Lorman Educational Services Seminar, Garden City, NY, September 20, 2012 (presenter)

"Building Collapses in the City of New York – What the Property & Liability Insurer Need to Know," New York Association of Independent Adjusters, Inc. Spring Seminar, New York, NY, May 2, 2012 (presenter)

"Mitigation of Damage to Structures Adjacent to Construction Sites in Urban Environments," Lorman Educational Services Seminar, Plainview, NY, September 27, 2011 (presenter)

CONTACT

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