



GOULD MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

President Thomas A. Isekenegbe, Ph.D., of Bronx Community College (BCC) of the City University of New York (CUNY), and Samuel G. White, FAIA, Chair of the "Save Gould Memorial Library" Advisory Board, invite you to join the effort to save one of the most important national treasures in New York, the Gould Memorial Library (GML) at Bronx Community College.

We are asking for your support for this timely preservation effort which will define the building's future. In the pages that follow you will learn more about the building, our efforts to restore it and how capital funds will help stabilize this 116 year old masterpiece by architect Stanford White. Funding for this effort will be secured through a private/public partnership, as it will take contributions from both sectors to realize our goals and restore this irreplaceable and imperiled landmark at the center of the most beautiful community college campus in the country.

We welcome your interest and support.







TODAY

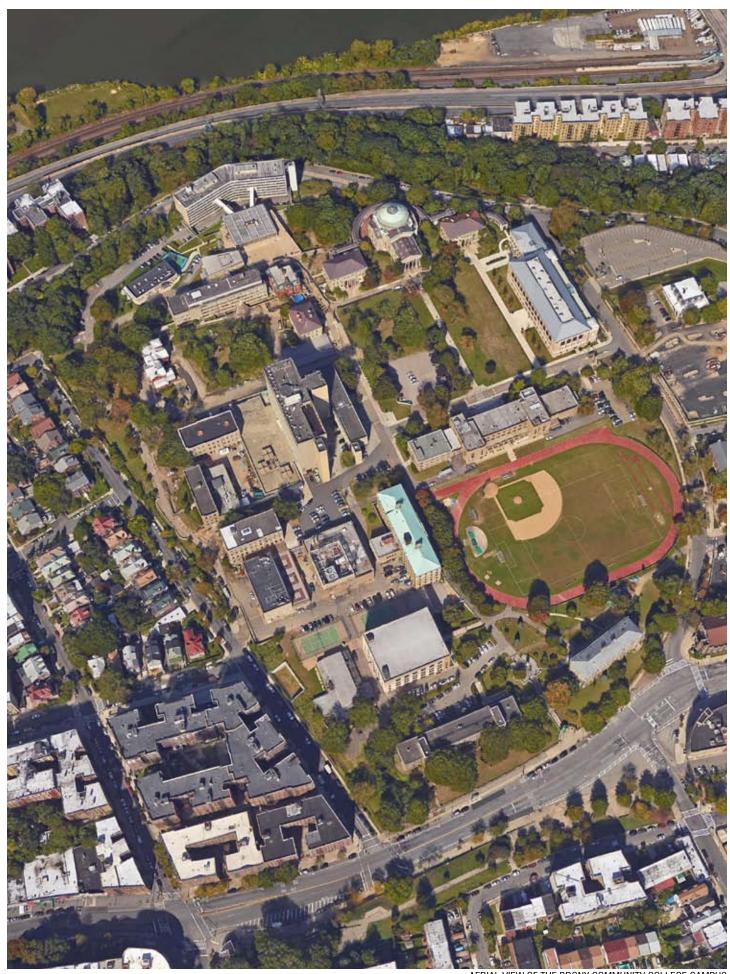


BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BCC) OVERVIEW

- Located on a 44.6 acre tree-lined campus in the heart of the 15th Congressional district *the poorest in the United States*
- Established in 1957 as a comprehensive community college offering a broad range of academic programs

Current Student Population (as of December 31, 2015)

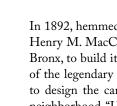
- ° 11,500 seeking degrees in over 30 academic programs
- Another 12,700 in continuing education and special programs
- 98% from traditionally under-represented groups, including 61% Hispanic and 32% Black
- o 72% live in the Bronx
- Represent 100 countries and speak 60 languages
- o 92% first-time full-time enrollees receive financial aid
- 66% are employed in at least one job
- 42% report annual household incomes of less than \$15,000
- 64% of those who graduate in AA/AS programs continue their education at a four-year college within a year of graduation.



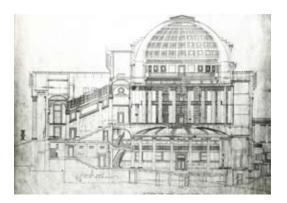
AERIAL VIEW OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS

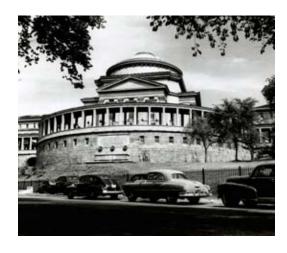
Gould Memorial Library -A National Treasure, On A Hill In The Bronx











Architect Stanford White's masterpiece Gould Memorial Library (GML) and its surrounding Hall of Fame Terrace is on the campus of Bronx Community College (BCC), but was built by New York University (NYU) in the late 19th Century as part of its Bronx, University Heights campus. Today, this treasure is in jeopardy of being lost due to the ravages of time.

NYU Builds A Masterpiece

In 1892, hemmed in and land poor in Greenwich Village, NYU, under Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken, bought the pristine 45 acre Mali estate, in the then-rural Bronx, to build its new undergraduate Arts and Sciences campus. Stanford White, of the legendary firm of McKim Mead and White Architects, was commissioned to design the campus. In celebration of this move, the City renamed the entire neighborhood "University Heights", and the main street in front of the campus was developed as "University Avenue". White's masterpiece on the campus, Gould Memorial Library, (GML) surrounded by the arcaded terrace containing the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, was completed in 1900. The library, modeled after the Pantheon in Rome, was the heart of the campus.

GML, with the Hall of Fame, is considered by many architectural historians to be Stanford White's greatest extant masterpiece. Both have been designated National Historic Landmarks and New York City triple landmarks; the GML exterior, the GML interior, and the Hall of Fame Terrace are each, individually, designated as landmarks. In 1981, when the US Postal Service issued stamps celebrating great American architects, the image selected for Stanford White's stamp was Gould Memorial Library.

Because the beautiful, delicate and exquisite, purpose-built, belle époque library was significantly outmoded by the 1950's, NYU developed supplementary library facilities on campus. GML, however, remained a library with ancillary classroom space, much loved by the students, and used, until NYU moved out. Today a new library designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects serves the campus.

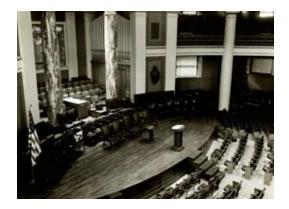
NYU Moves On

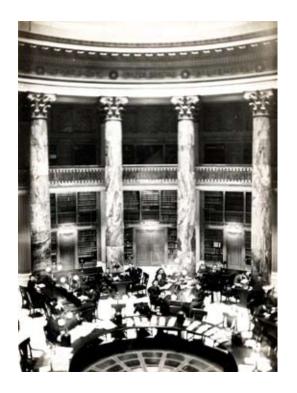
By 1973, NYU was financially stressed. Then President, James M. Hester directed the University retrenchment by abandoning the University Heights campus to concentrate on the Greenwich Village campus. New York State paid NYU \$64 million for the campus through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, and ensconced Bronx Community College on the campus.

Gould Memorial Library at Bronx Community College

Bronx Community College (BCC) moved onto the former NYU University Heights campus in the fall of 1973. The campus, with its Stanford White buildings and other NYU additions by modernist architecture master, Marcel Breuer, is probably the most beautiful and historically important community college in the country. In fact, the Stanford White Complex, including GML and the Hall of Fame, was designated a National Landmark in 2012, currently making BCC the only community college in the country with that designation.







Although there has been some limited restoration and maintenance over the last 20 years, GML has not been renovated for a new use. Limited funding and usage over the last fifty years has significantly contributed to the building's neglect.

GML is currently in a state of architectural and structural distress. Over the 116 years since it was built, the envelope systems in particular, which are a building's first line of defense, have deteriorated. Failing roofs and masonry are allowing water to saturate the structure of the dome, the masonry drum below the dome, and the steel reinforcing beams that ring the dome-which then penetrates down four levels to the rotunda where interior finishes, part of the NYC Interior Landmark designated area, are being damaged.

Saturation of the structural reinforcing above and below the drum of the dome is of particular concern for the long term stability of the building. Should the ring of the dome fail, the entire dome would need to be replaced – the process and prospect so severe and costly, it would render the building lost.

Saving Gould Memorial Library – Statement of Need

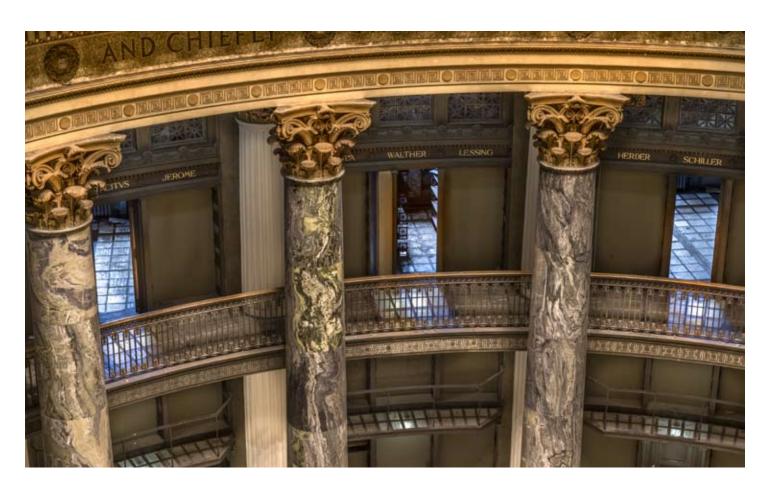
Estimates on the cost to stabilize and restore the building vary significantly depending on scope and program intent. However, only an "Existing Conditions Report," conducted by preservation architects and engineering experts, detailing repairs needed, will provide a true appraisal of the costs. Securing the \$300,000 needed to conduct this report is essential. It is the necessary blueprint required to "Save GML".

Enthusiasum around saving GML increases daily. The new leadership of both BCC and the City University of New York, have made the restoration of the building a priority. BCC has been developing usage plans for GML, including the creation of a Center for Community Development and Civic Engagement – a vision of the new president, Thomas Isekenegbe – to provide a forum to discuss community engagement and various issues affecting the Bronx. Additionally, there are plans for exhibition, event and performance space in the rotunda; gallery space under the Hall of Fame; as well as classroom and archival space.

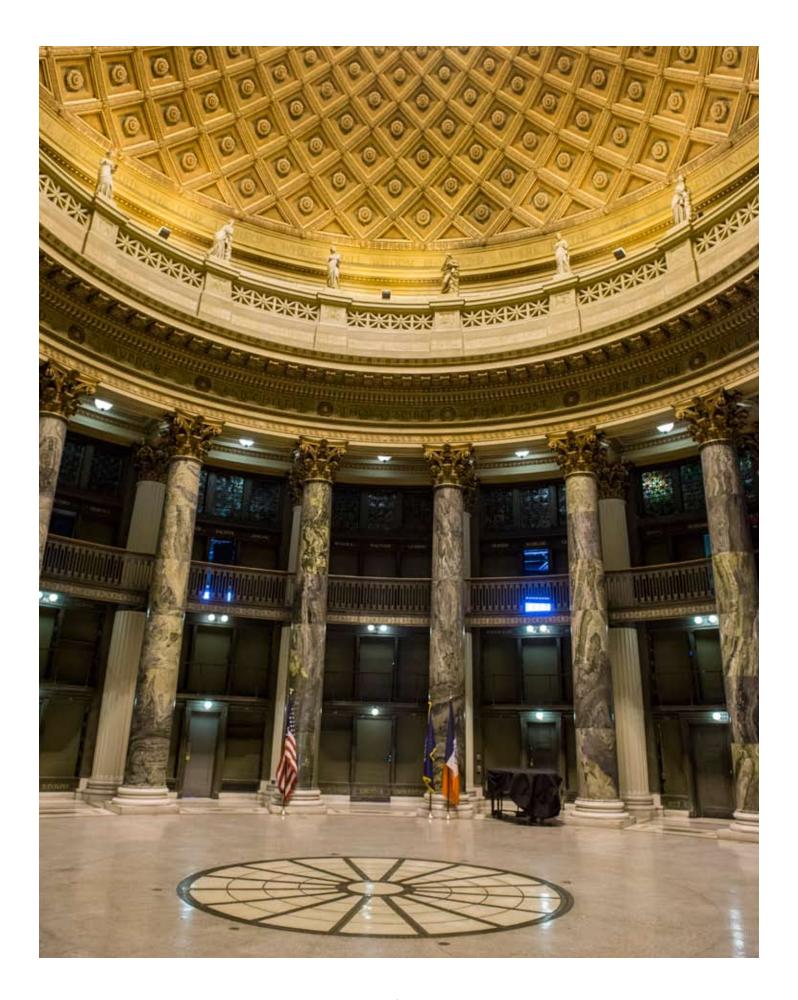
In November 2015, GML was featured in the NY Times and on March 3, 2016, it was designated a 2016-17 Seven to Save endangered property by the Preservation League of New York State which will work with the College over the next two years to develop its usage plan and seek resources to save the building.

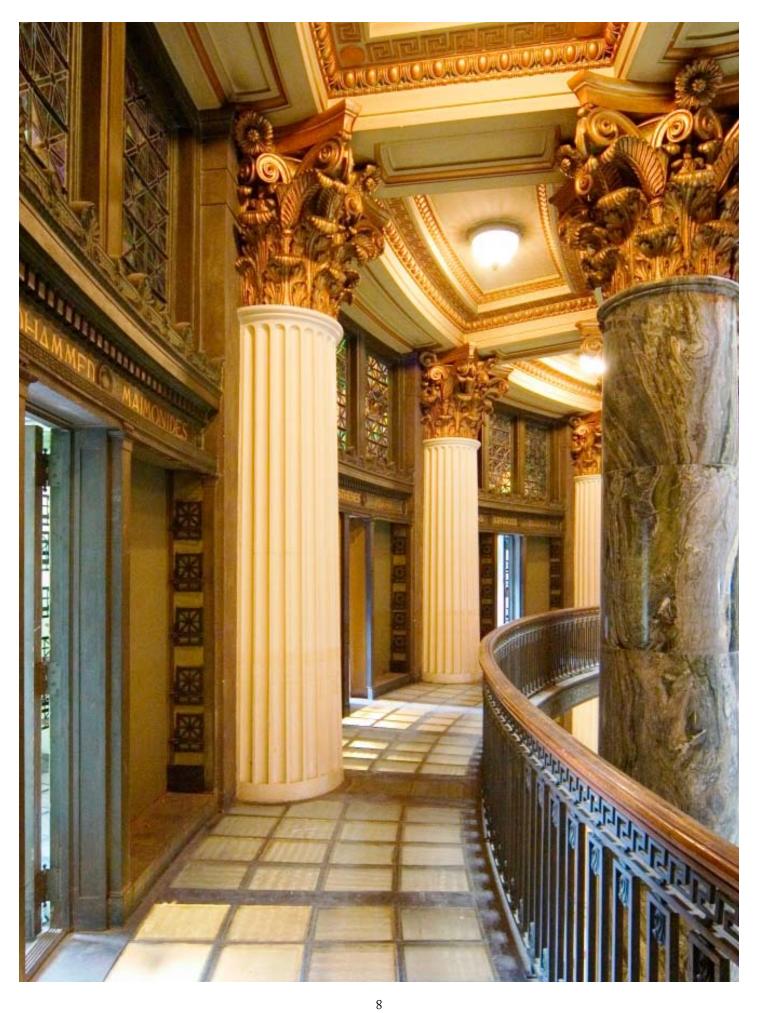
Both the city and state of New York have recognized their responsibility to this important building. Recently, the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation awarded a grant for restoration of the dome which, with the support of city state and local officials, should begin construction in 2016. But this work on the dome is only the tip of the iceberg and will just begin to address the dramatic water penetration that is happening at lower copper roofing, terra cotta roofs and the windows.

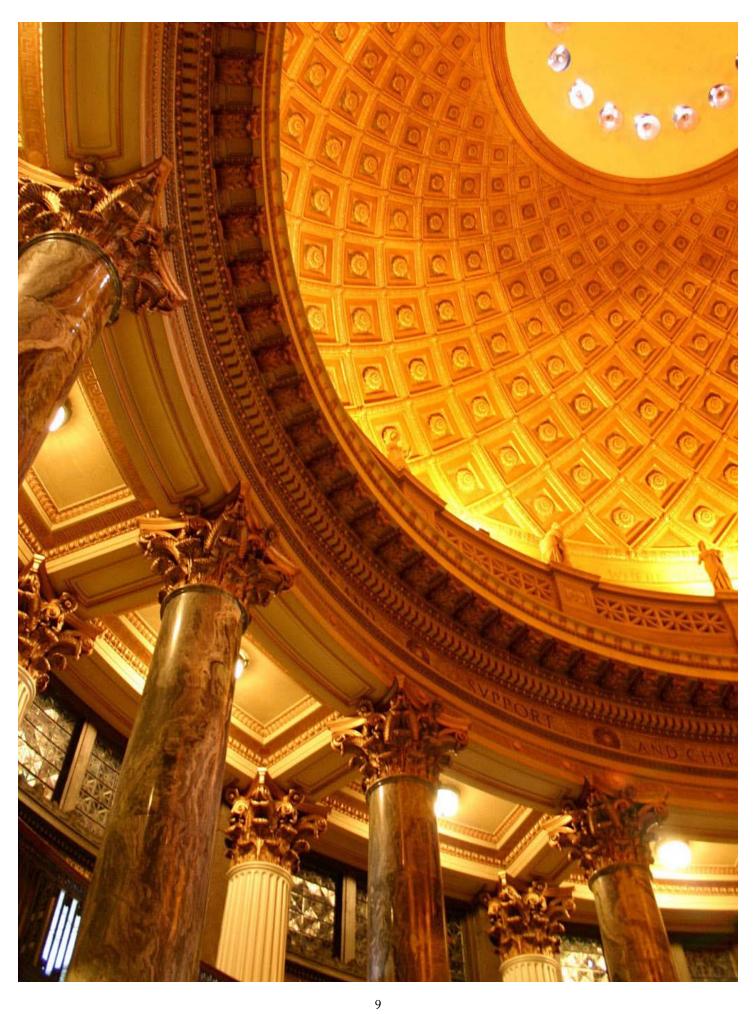
A substantial public and private effort is required to save this building and to implement an exterior and interior restoration project that will revive the building's natural function as the heart of this campus.







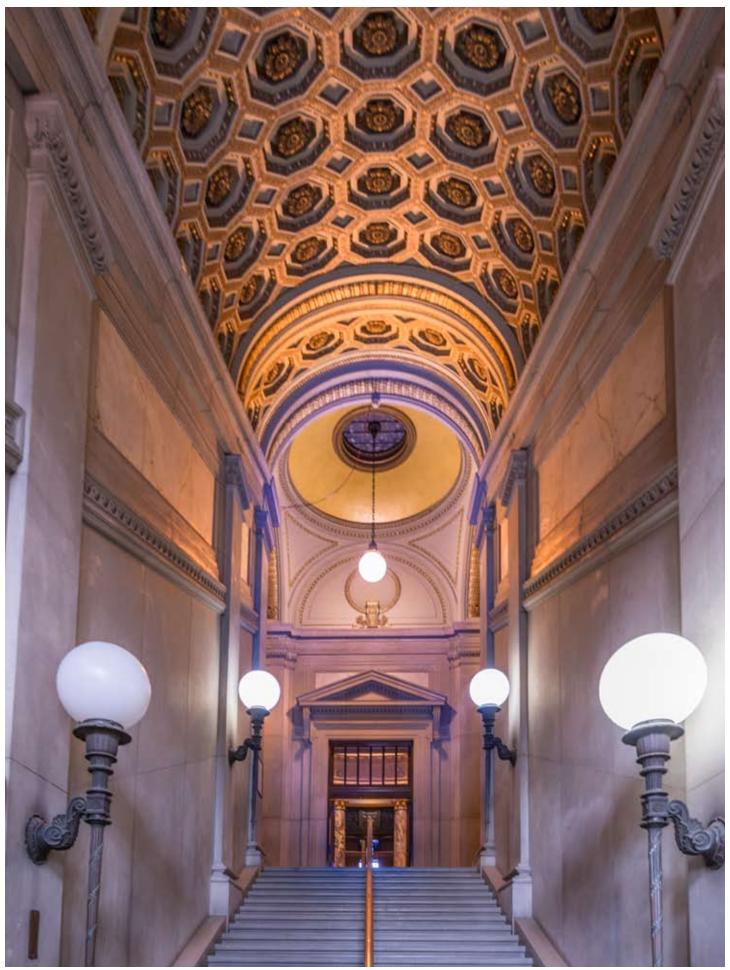




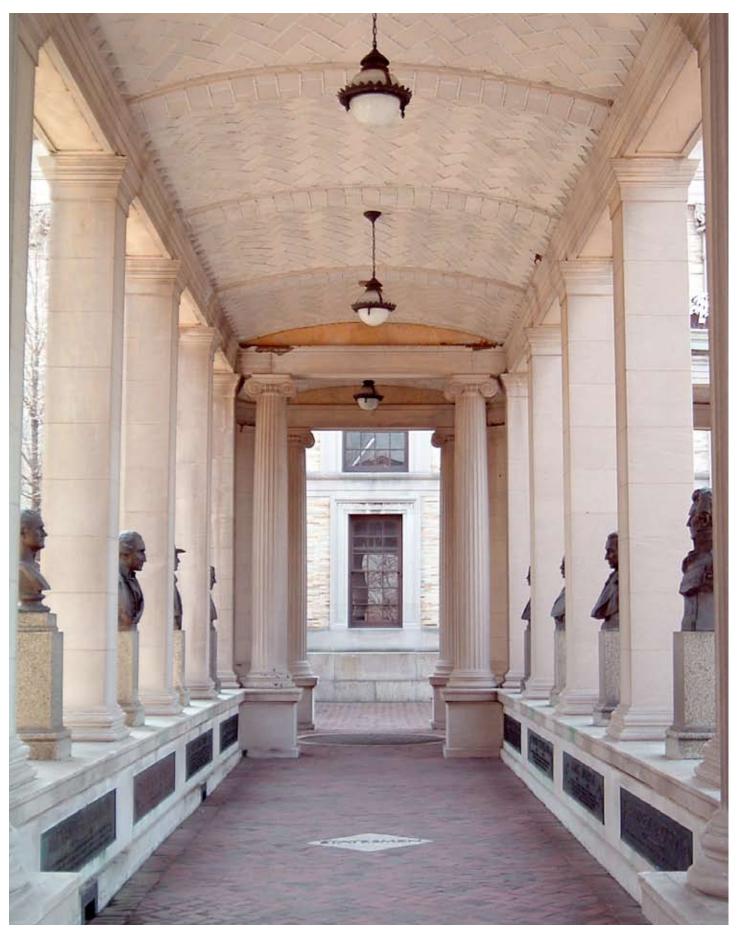




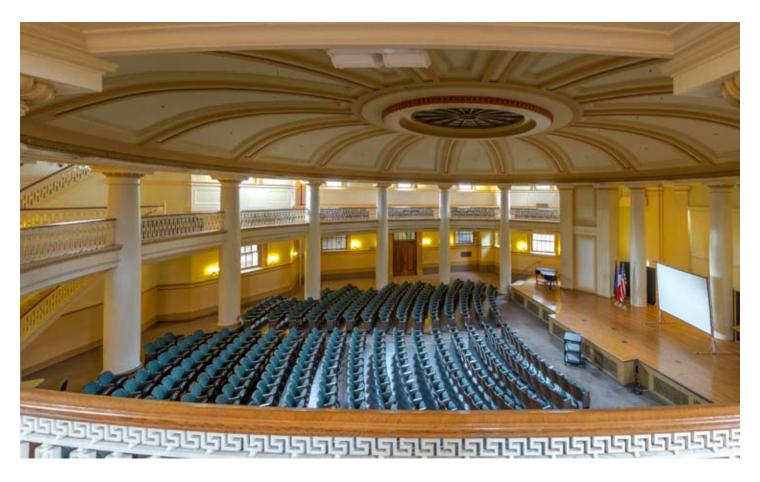


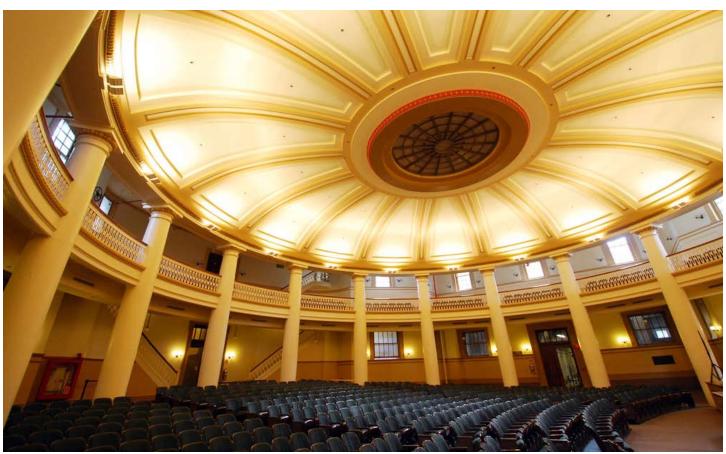


VAULTED ENTRY HALL



ARCADE OF THE HALL OF FAME FOR GREAT AMERICANS





AUDITORIUM BELOW ROTUNDA FLOOR



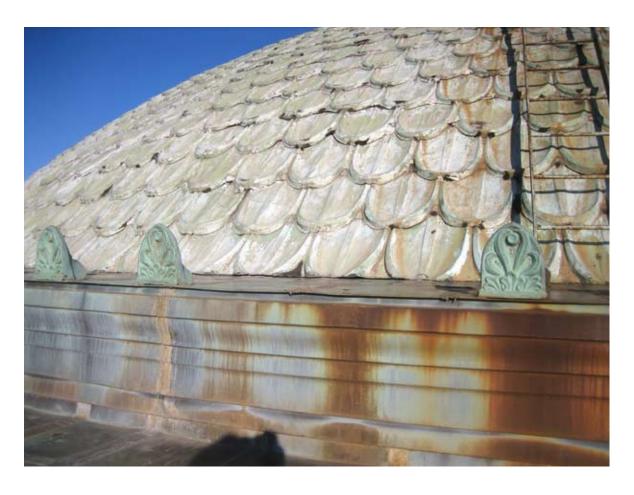






CUPOLA AND OCULUS DETERIORATION

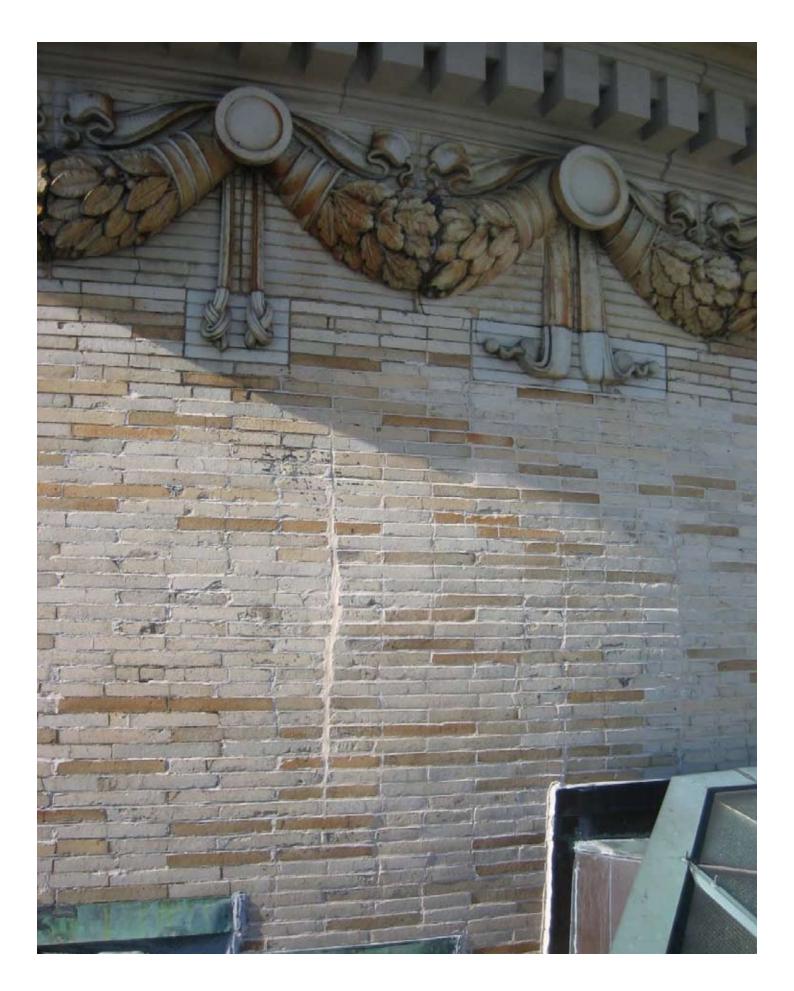
WATER PENETRATION AT STEPS AT BASE OF DOME

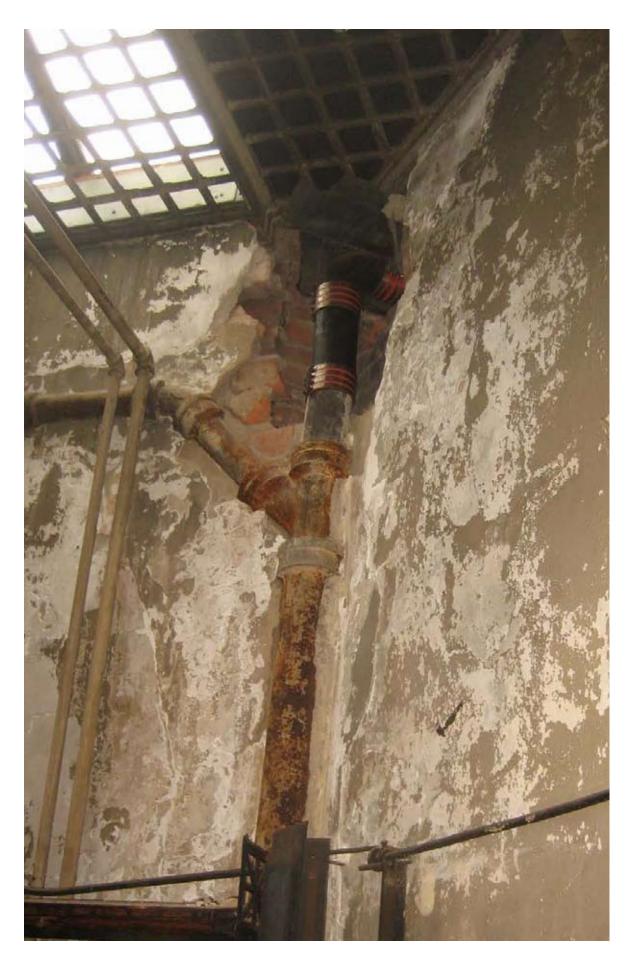




BASE OF DOME

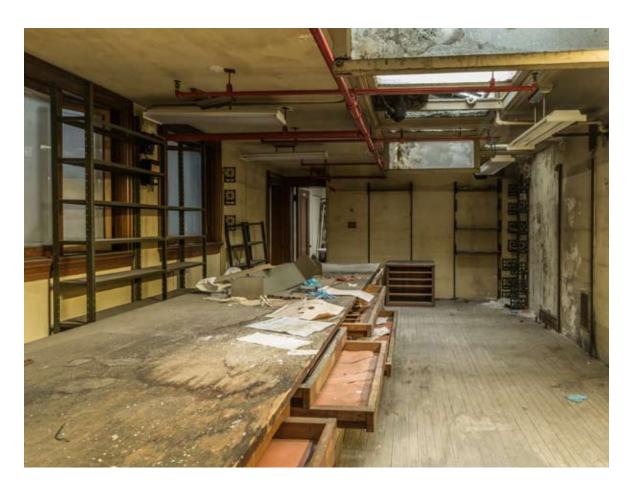
CONDITION OF
SUBSTRATE BELOW
DOME SHINGLES





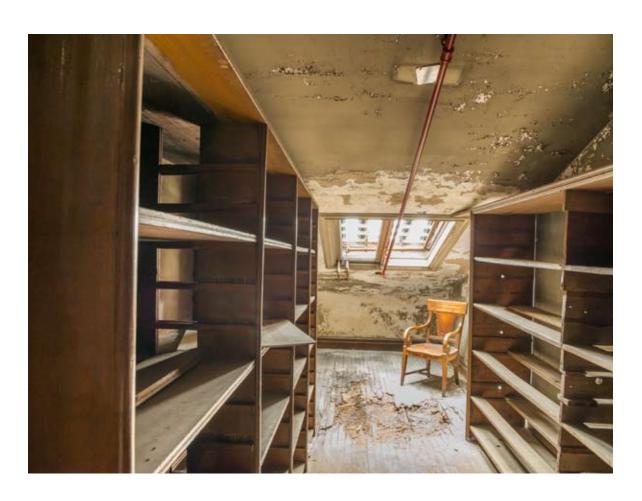
BULGING MASONRY AND CRACK AT NORTH EAST SIDE OF DRUM

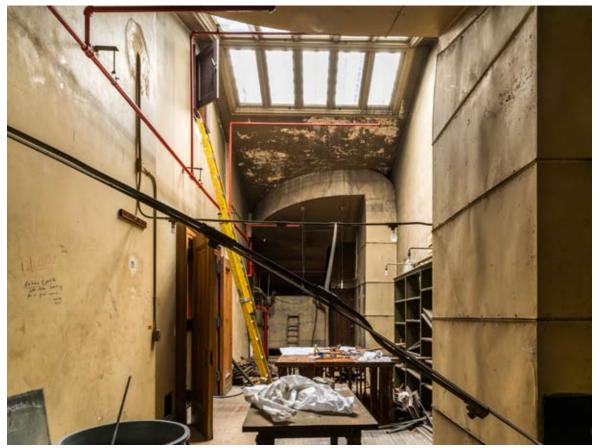
INTERIOR WATER DAMAGE AT THE 7TH FLOOR



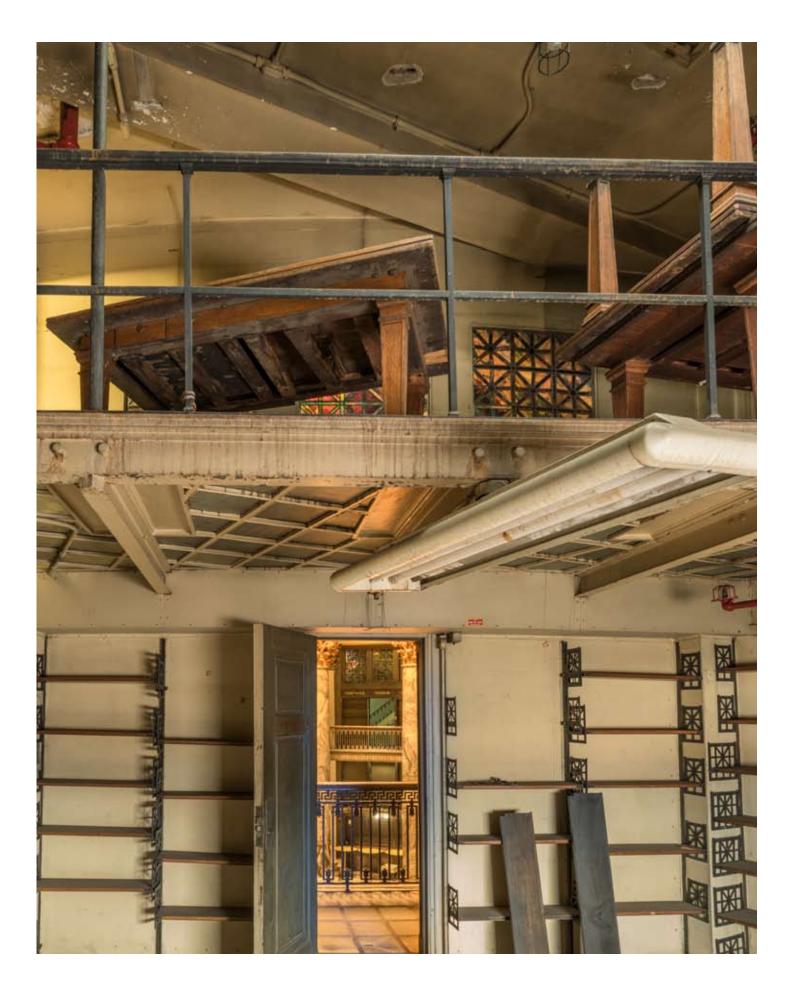


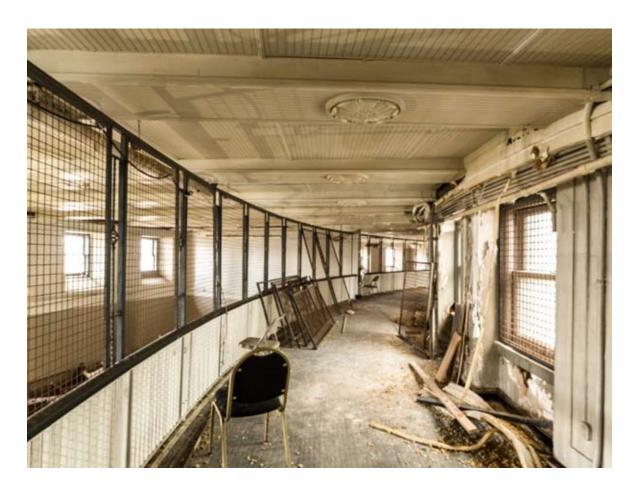
MAP ROOM STAIRWELL





UPPER MAP ROOM
GEOGRAPHY ROOM



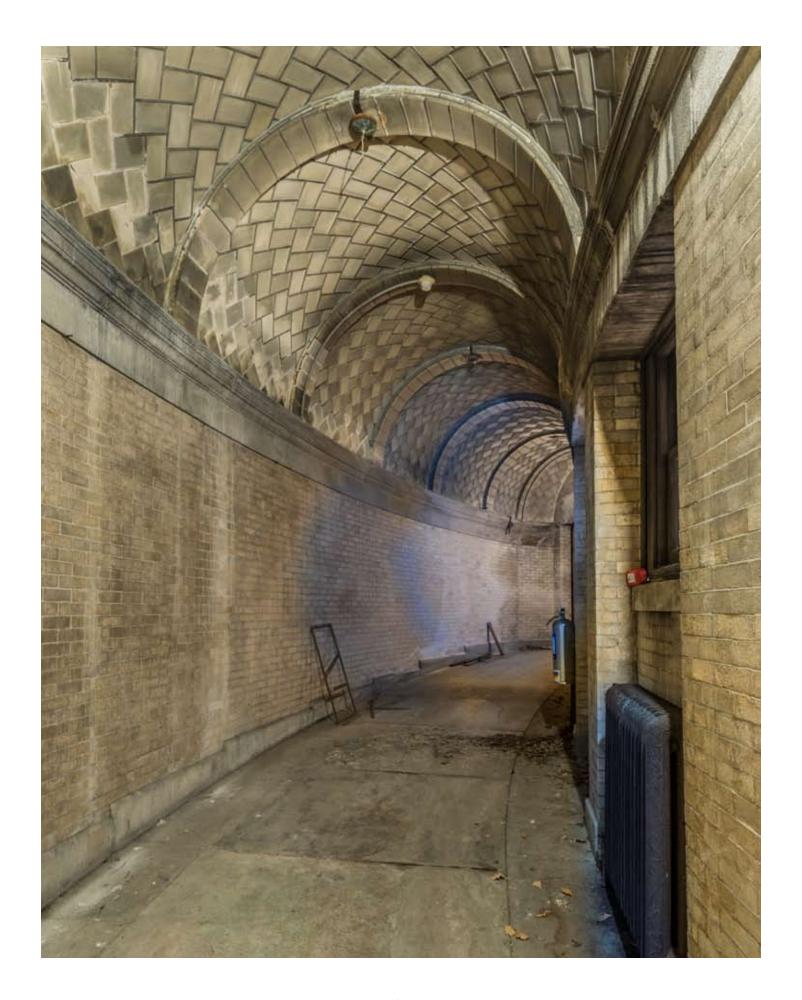




SEMINAR ROOM

GALLERY UNDER THE HALL OF FAME

GALLERY UNDER THE HALL OF FAME



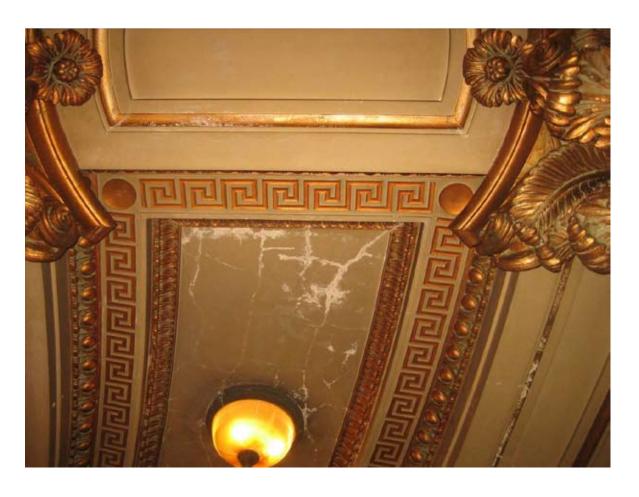


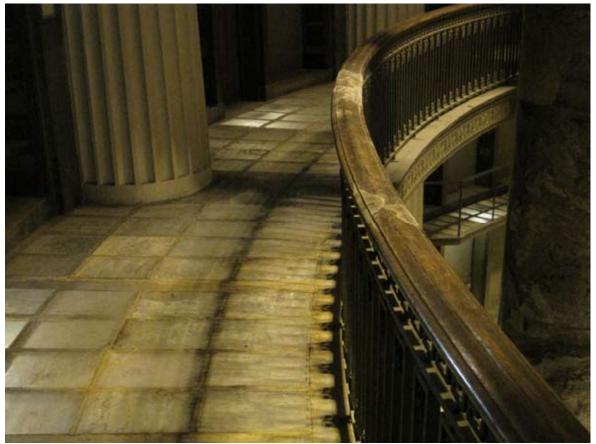


GUASTAVINO BARREL VAULTS

FORMER BOOK STACK AREA

FORMER GALLERY SPACE





WATER DAMAGE AT ROTUNDA INTERIOR LANDMARK FINISHES: PLASTER CEILING

WATER DAMAGE AT ROTUNDA INTERIOR LANDMARK FINISHES: WOOD RAILING AND GLASS FLOOR





CRYING COLUMN (WATER TRACKS ON CONNEMARA MARBLE COLUMN)

DAMAGED TIFFANY & CO STAINED GLASS



THE VISION FOR THE FUTURE

- Thomas Isekenege, President

Gould Memorial Library (GML) is a beacon and archetype of civic engagement and the pursuit of scholarship and knowledge. It stands to strengthen connections between Bronx Community College (BCC) and communities both locally and nationally. GML is a hub where the varied experiences and interests of the people of the Bronx are explored and celebrated and a place where one can advance their understanding of the history of the building, BCC, and the Bronx.

• Center for Community Development and Civic Engagement: This Center would serve as a bridge for BCC to the Bronx, State of New York, broader United States, and beyond. It creates a space for individuals and groups to address local and national issues; provide training to non-governmental organizations (NGOs); and discuss topics affecting the neighborhood, city, and state. The Center will have an advisory board and will be tasked with conducting annual presentations on a variety of topics. It will also build upon the CUNY brand; hosting long-term fellows and residents to study and conduct research. The Center will purposefully engage the community and its civic organizations to engage in meaningful work for the benefit of our students, the Bronx, and beyond.

The renovation, restoration, and utilization of GML will help renew the College's connection to the surrounding communities, additional space and financial resources, and a focus on preserving those items of historical value. This reinvigorates a sense of identity; rooting and uplifting faculty, staff, and students, who are a part of a nationally-recognized and prized institution. It further elevates the image of the college by making better use of a renowned landmark, giving it additional purpose and connection to the existing community.



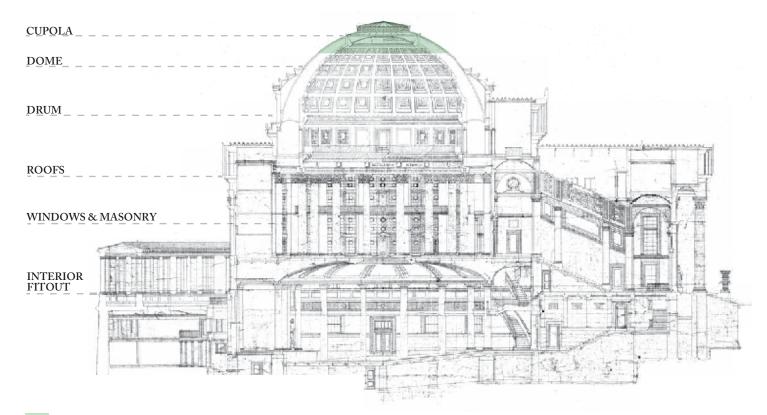


"SAVE GOULD MEMORIAL LIBRARY"

Immediate Requirements for Stabilization and Access

| Priority 1 | Dome and Cupola Preventing Structural Damage and Further Water Penetration |
|------------|---|
| Priority 2 | Drum, Oculus, Stepped Copper Roof & Flat Roofs Preventing Structural Damage and Further Water Penetration |
| Priority 3 | Clay Tile Roofs and Windows Preventing Structural Damage and Further Water Penetration |
| Priority 4 | <u>Increasing Use</u> Public Assembly Egress Stair, MEP system upgrades, Restoration of Bathrooms |
| Priority 5 | Restoration of Damaged Landmark Finishes Plaster, stone, metals, gliding, stained glass |
| Priority 6 | Increasing Access Elevator and access ramp |
| Priority 7 | <u>Ultimate Project Goal</u> |

Interior restoration and adaptation to accommodate new use





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

James B. Milliken, Chancellor Carlos Flynn, University Dean for Institutional Advancement

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Thomas Isekenegbe, President Eddy Bayardelle, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Angela Wambugu Cobb, Assistant Vice President for Development Robin Auchincloss, Director of Facilities and Planning

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Contributions may be made to:

Bronx Community College Foundation

2155 University Avenue, Philosophy Hall – 26 Bronx, NY 10453

Or online at: www.bcc.cuny.edu/Support-BCC/?p=sp-Save-Gould-Memorial-Library

For inquiries, please call: 718.289.5185

