

## URM WEBINAR #2 Seismic Retrofit of Historic Buildings: Challenges and Opportunities

**Session Title:** Seismic Retrofit of Historic Buildings: Challenges and Opportunities  
**Date:** Tues Nov 10 2020, 1030a – 1145a PDT  
**Credits Offered:** 1.25 HSW

**Register:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5505298011231960845>



After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### Presenters and Bios:

**Matt Aalfs, AIA**, Principal  
*Building Work*

BuildingWork's Founder and Principal Architect, Matt designs innovative and carefully detailed buildings that contribute to the communities and clients they serve. He brings two decades of professional experience to our firm, specializing in the design of civic and community facilities, adaptive reuse projects, and historic preservation. Matt founded BuildingWork in 2016 in order to focus directly on work that supports the health of cities, the environment, and culture. Previously, he served as managing principal at Weinstein AU, where he led the design of public libraries, institutional, and commercial projects.

Since 2000, Matt has served as a visiting lecturer and design studio critic with the University of Washington Department of Architecture. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Seattle's ACT Theater, and on the King County Library System Foundation Board. Matt earned a Master of Architecture from the University of Washington, and studied architecture in Rome, Italy, and at the California College of Arts. He received his B.A. in Art from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is an alum of the Urban Land Institute's Center for Leadership.

**Antonio Aguilar**, Historical Architect  
*National Park Service Technical Preservation Services*

Antonio has been with the Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service Headquarters in Washington, DC since 2000. He provides technical assistance and review for projects applying for the 20% Federal Tax Credit Program for Historic Rehabilitation. He also contributes to the development of policies and guidance on the application and interpretation of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, as well as on the treatment of historic properties and materials. Among the publications he has authored is Preservation Brief # 41, *The Seismic Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings*. He received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and Master of Architecture degrees from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

**Alan Dreyfuss, AIA**, Associate Principal  
*Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.*  
BIO Pending

**Andrew Phillips, AIA**, Associate Principal  
*SMR Architects*  
BIO Pending

**Rob Thomson**, Federal Preservation Officer  
*Presidio Trust*  
BIO Pending

### Session Description:

Historic buildings can be made to meet life and safety codes and better protect the lives of its occupants and safety of their contents without losing the important qualities and elements that define their historic significance. With careful planning and execution, historic buildings can be successfully rehabilitated and

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rendered safe for continued use or adapted to a new use while preserving their historic character. This presentation will outline important considerations contained in Preservation Brief 41: *The Seismic Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings* on how to plan and execute a historic building's seismic retrofit that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The session covers the broader concepts behind sound seismic retrofit practices for historic buildings, and case studies will include examples of buildings that are not exclusively constructed of unreinforced masonry.

Case studies will explore specific applications of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to realized projects on the west coast. Examples include projects of varying programmatic needs, code requirements based on level of retrofit required, existing structural systems and building designs, and uses. Specific case studies include the Cadillac Hotel, which is now office space and a museum; Town Hall Seattle, which is still used for assembly; the Cambridge Apartments, which was retrofitted in phases to preserve low-income housing; the Hibernia National Bank Building in San Francisco, and several buildings at the Presidio in San Francisco.

