MATT THOMAS, P.E., S.E.

Vice President

Summary

Matt Thomas joined Thornton Tomasetti in 2013 and has more than 20 years of experience in new building design and adaptive reuse. His portfolio includes high-rise design, wind and seismic design and historic restoration for higher education, healthcare, commercial, sports, residential and cultural structures.

Areas of Technical Expertise

- Forensic Structural Engineering
- Structural Renovation & Retrofit
- Structural Investigation & Repair

Education

- B.S., Civil Engineering, Structural Emphasis, 2004, Illinois Institute of Technology

Registrations

- Licensed Professional Engineer in CA, IA, IN, KY, TX, and WI
- Licensed Structural Engineer in CA, IL
- Registered California Emergency Management Agency Safety Assessment Program Evaluator

Professional Activities

- Member, American Institute of Steel Construction
- Member, Structural Engineers Association of Illinois
- Trained, ATC-20/45 Post-Disaster Safety Evaluation of Buildings

CONTACT

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Select Project Experience

Forensic Structural Engineering

Private Garage Collapse, Lake Forest, IL. Investigation of wood-framed, single-family garage which collapsed during construction of underpinning works.

Golden Gate Masonic Temple, San Francisco, CA. Investigation and repair of concrete damage due to water infiltration in 1920s concrete building, including evaluation of possible infiltration paths from adjacent property.

400 East Jamie Court, South San Francisco, CA. Investigation of damage to finishes in steel-framed building due to potential building settlement.

Confidential Hotel, Redwood Valley, CA. Investigation of four-story, wood framed hotel for design and construction issues. TT also designed repairs once deficiencies were identified.

Confidential Apartment Building, Placentia, CA. Investigation into design and construction issues on five-story, wood-and-steel framed, residential structure.

Precast Warehouse Assessment, Minooka. IL. Investigation of cracking in an existing, 1,000,000-square-foot warehouse, framed in precast concrete panels and steel. Field investigations of the interior and exterior were conducted to ascertain the cause of the cracking. Our team recommended further investigation and produced a report outlining the issues and recommended mitigation strategies.

Structural Renovation & Retrofit

Wrightwood Art Gallery, Renovation, Chicago, IL. Structural engineering services for the renovation and adaptive reuse of a four-story, 39-unit, 32,000-square-foot apartment building to a private art gallery designed by Tadao Ando. The project involved an extensive interior renovation that included a complete demolition down to the building shell.

*Denotes work performed with previous employer.

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Chicago Children's Theatre, Chicago IL. Structural engineering for the adaptive reuse and renovation of a 20,000-square-foot concrete and masonry police station into the Chicago Children's Theater home including a 149-seat performance space, classrooms, and offices. The project is LEED Gold certified.

657 + 667 Mission, San Francisco, CA. Structural engineering and underground waterproofing consulting services to merge two adjacent historic buildings into a shared office space. The project includes a total seismic retrofit of both structures and repair of distressed structural components. Additional services include consultation for roofing and related exterior envelope elements.

Rees House Relocation Project, Chicago, IL. Project management services for the relocation of a three-story main residence with a limestone and brick façade and a coach house. Built in 1888 in the Romanesque Revival style, the main residence is on the National Register of Historic Places and designated as a Chicago Landmark. Worked with the owner and public agencies to assemble a team to relocate the house, supervised the cost exercises to keep the project on budget and assisted in obtaining permits.

The Monroe Building, Historic Renovation, 104 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL.* Structural design as part of a historic renovation of a 1910s-era building on the Michigan Avenue street wall, including a 17-story infill; repair and redesign of an existing, vaulted sidewalk; and strengthening of existing office floors to support a new library.

City College of San Francisco, Alemany Campus, Classroom Building Seismic Retrofit and Renovation, San Francisco, CA. Structural engineering for the seismic retrofit and renovation of a three-story, 40,000-square-foot classroom building originally constructed in 1910. The building was seismically retrofitted in 1934 and CCSF took over the building in 1973 where it was utilized until 2015. The retrofit and renovation mitigated seismic deficiencies and updated the classrooms and environmental systems throughout the building.

Spokane International Airport, Terminal Renovation and Expansion Program, Spokane, WA. Structural engineering for the renovation and expansion of the terminal featuring a new consolidated checkpoint and two-story baggage claim building. The building will showcase a 50 foot tall glass façade along the curbside with an expressive roof design. The scope also includes the expansion of the existing Concourse C, airside elevated pedestrian walkways that connect the central checkpoint to Concourse C and Concourse A / B, and renovations of existing Terminal A / B to improve egress.

2700 North Pine Grove Redevelopment, Chicago, IL. Structural engineering services for the redevelopment to an existing church to a residential building. The project involves the removal of the interior structure and exterior north wall of an existing church on the property. The building itself consists of steel framing with composite concrete slabs on metal decks and concrete and CMU walls.

Structural Investigation & Repair

BMO Harris Bank, Parking Garage Investigation & Repair, Milwaukee, WI. Structural engineering for repair and rehabilitation of a six-story, 1960s-era parking garage. The garage was constructed of cast-in-place concrete slabs, with pan joists, beams and columns. Pre-cast "fin" façade elements surrounded the exterior of the building. A structural repair plan was developed for both the cast-in-place and pre-cast elements, which had been subject to 40-plus years of exposure to the elements. Project scope also included construction administration services for the project.

California State University, Maritime, Housing Roof Repair, Vallejo, CA. Repair of damaged wood roofing at CSU student housing.

Wrigley Field, The 1060 Project, Chicago, IL. Structural engineering for renovations to a historic Major League Baseball park originally constructed in 1914. The project included strengthening of the grandstand foundations, columns and roof trusses to accommodate increased loading. Designs and details were provided for repairs to corroded steel framing and deteriorated concrete elements. Construction was completed in five phases between baseball seasons to allow the stadium remain operational for games.

43282 Dubal Court, Foundation Cracking, Fremont, CA. Evaluation of cracks in the foundation of several single-family residences.

Sworn Testimony

Arbitration, Alex & Hillary Behar v. Mosaic Constr., November 18, 2025.

Deposition, 330 N. Wabash Avenue, L.L.C. v. Combined Roofing Services, et al. Cook County, IL. October 14, 2019

Select Papers, Lectures and Publications

"Presentation on the Relocation of the Harriet F. Rees House," American Society of Professional Estimators, Chicago, IL, February 2015 (presenter)

"Back to the Future: Renovation of a 1930s Apartment Building into an Art Gallery," ASCE Structures Congress, 2015 (presenter)

"If You Want It Done Right, Do It Yourself," Modern Steel Construction, July 2009 (author)