

# CHICAGO LANDMARKS



## 2011 PRESERVATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### 600 South Michigan Avenue Historic Michigan Boulevard District Exterior Restoration

*Recipients: Columbia College Chicago*

The Historic Michigan Avenue Boulevard District exemplifies the city's development as a handsome lakefront metropolis during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As the location of many significant cultural institutions, clubs, hotels, and prestigious office buildings, the district played a decisive role in the social, economic, and cultural history of the city and contains some of Chicago's finest buildings. Designed by prominent architect Christian Eckstorm in a Neoclassical style, this building was completed in 1906 as the headquarters of the International Harvester Company. Acquired by Columbia College in 1975, it is the university's main building for their South Loop campus and houses their administrative offices, the Museum of Contemporary Photography, a 180-seat theater, photography rooms, television studios and classrooms. As part of an overall campus improvement plan, the college undertook an extensive masonry repair project for this building. The visually distinctive bracketed stone cornice was severely deteriorated and had to be completely replaced with a new glass-fiber-reinforced-concrete cornice in a design to match the original detailing. Other work included significant brick and limestone repair, window lintel repair, and masonry tuckpointing. The Historic Michigan Avenue Boulevard District was designated as a Chicago Landmark on February 27, 2002.



**BEFORE**



*1984 Bob Thall*



**AFTER**



**City of Chicago**  
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

**Housing and Economic Development**  
Andrew J. Mooney, Commissioner