

Holabird & Root

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Holabird & Root
Architecture Engineering Interiors

LOCATION: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FIRM OPENED: 1880

EMPLOYEES: 110

FIRM PHILOSOPHY

At Holabird & Root, architects, engineers, and interior designers sit side-by-side and continually challenge each other to find the best solution for their clients. Teams of experts and new talents work together, giving the firm a reputation as a learning ground for architects and engineers.

HISTORY

In 1880, William Holabird and Ossian Simonds founded a Chicago architecture firm called Holabird & Simonds. In 1883, two years after Martin Roche arrived at the firm, it was renamed Holabird & Roche. The firm designed several of Chicago's first skyscrapers, such as the Tacoma and Marquette buildings. During the 1890s, the firm employed about 40 draftsmen. Twenty years later, that number increased to nearly 100 draftsmen, making it one of the largest firms in the United States. In 1927, the firm changed its name to Holabird & Root when William Holabird's son, John, and John W. Root took over the firm. Holabird & Root has won multiple awards over the years. Their recent rehabilitation of the J&J Arnaco Monroe Building won them the award for Restoration Project of the Year, Chicago Architecture Foundation Patron of the Year Award, and Friends of Downtown Best Historic Renovation Project.

PROJECT TYPE

Holabird & Root is a "full-service firm." Their services include architecture, interior design, MEP/FP engineering, structural engineering, and graphic design and illustration. They have designed recreation and fitness centers, theaters, cultural institutions, corporate offices, government buildings, schools/colleges, libraries, and affordable housing projects. A few of their specialties include theater planning, early education through higher education planning, and investigative studies.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Booth Library renovation & expansion, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL
McCormick-Tribune Campus Center, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL
Peninsula Players Outdoor Theater, Fish Creek, WI
City of Davenport Pedestrian Skybridge, Davenport, IA

REFERENCES

Holabird.com. Holabird & Root, n.d. Web. 25 Nov. 2012. <<http://holabird.com/>>.

Wilson, Mark R., Stephen R. Porter, and Janice L. Reiff. "Holabird & Root." *Encyclopedia of Chicago*. N.p., n.d. Web. 25 Nov. 2012. <<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/2704.html>>.

Chicago Board of Trade Building

LOCATION: CHICAGO, IL
COMPLETION: 1930
BUILDING TYPE: SKYSCRAPER



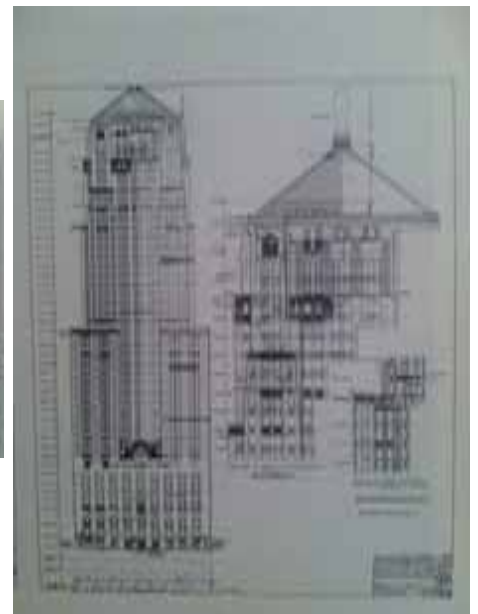
BUILDING TYPE + PROGRAM

The Chicago Board of Trade is forty-five stories tall and is located at the south end of LaSalle Street. The Chicago Board of Trade building was the first in Chicago to exceed a height of 600 ft (180 m) and was the tallest building in Chicago until 1965. At the time it was created, the building included the board's executive offices, the Exchange Room with sunken trading pits, rental offices, and retail space.

BUILDING DESIGN INTENTIONS

In 1925, the Chicago Board of Trade commissioned Holabird & Root to design the building. The Chicago Board of Trade presented an integrated expression of the late twenties American skyscraper. It was one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture that attempted to express the modern world by the use of cubic forms, geometric ornament, and sleek surface materials. This is mainly seen in the buildings setbacks. The building was designed with the intention to be the country's most powerful agricultural trading center.

BUILDING PLANS, SECTIONS, ADDITIONAL IMAGES



REFERENCES

"Chicago Board of Trade Building." *The City of Chicago's Official Site*. Chicago Landmarks. Web. 20 Nov. 2012.

Blaser, Werner. *Chicago Architecture: Holabird & Root 1880-1992*. Basel: Birkhauser Verlag, 1992. Print.