CHICAGOLANDMARKS



2010 PRESERVATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

860-880 North Lake Shore Drive Ground-Floor Restoration and Plaza Reconstruction

Recipient: 860 Lake Shore Drive Managing Trust

These twin towers, completed in 1951, were designed by world-renowned, International Style-architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and are among the best examples of the city's post-World War II-era architecture. As with many of Mies' black metal-and-glass highrises, these towers also stand on a large travertine plaza and have a glazed inset lobby. Over the years, the lobby's steel mullions had began to rust, the stone of the plaza deteriorated, and the plaza itself began to experience drainage problems leading to leaks into the garage below. The owners decided to completely rebuild the plaza using new travertine pavers and incorporating a better drainage system, including modifying the underlying concrete slab and pavers to accommodate a sloped surface as well as new drains hidden under the paving system. The project also included repair of the lobby storefront system, replacement glazing, new lighting, and repainting the metalwork on the two towers. The project utilized the 20% Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. 860-880 Lake Shore Drive was designated as a Chicago Landmark on April 29, 1998.







