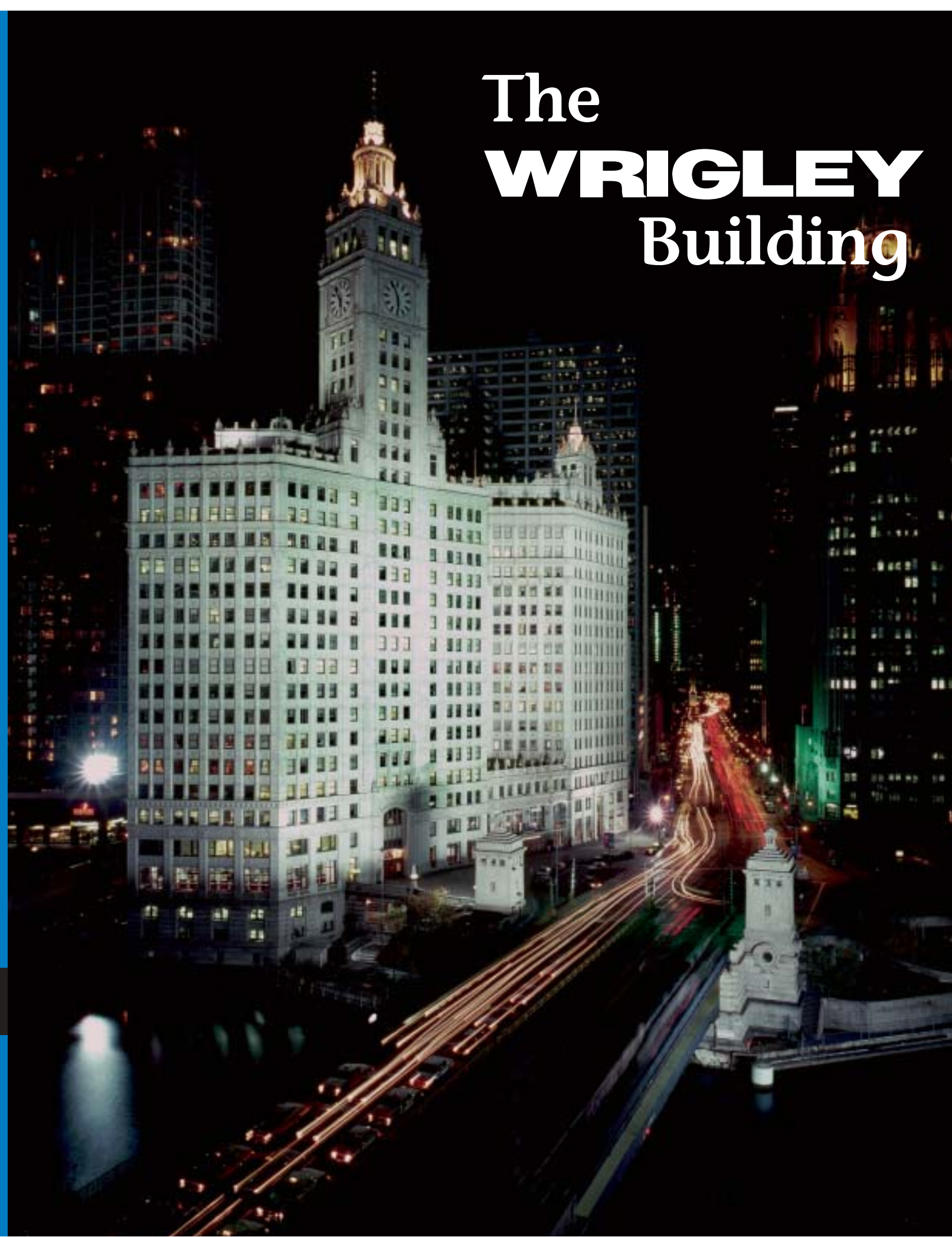
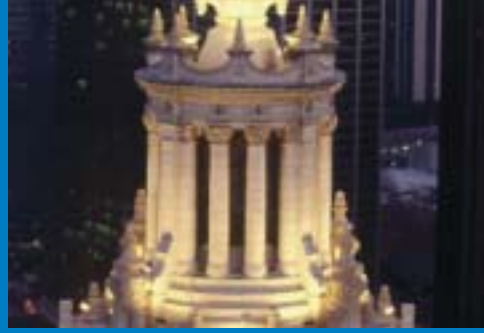


Wm. **WRIGLEY** Jr. Company

410 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

The **WRIGLEY** Building



The Wrigley Building



1920, when excavation for the building began, the Michigan Avenue Bridge was under construction, and the portion of the avenue north of the river was then known as Pine Street. The Wrigley Building became the pioneer structure in the development of the north Michigan Avenue business district, anchoring the south end of what would come to be known as "The Magnificent Mile."

The architectural shape of the Wrigley Building is patterned after the Seville Cathedral's Giralda Tower in Spain. However, the ornamental design of the building is based on an American adaptation of French Renaissance style. Mr. Charles Beersman, chief designer for the building's architects, Graham, Anderson, Probst and White, used his talent and imagination to combine the two concepts.

On November 11, 1920, the building's cornerstone was laid for the southern tower. Office space in this part of the building was already entirely rented when construction was completed in April of the following year. In May of 1924, the north tower was completed and connected to the south section with walkways at street level and between the third floors. Later, in 1931, a 14th floor walkway was put in place.

The two towers, not including the levels below Michigan Avenue, have a combined area of 453,433 square feet. While the north section of the building is equivalent to 21 stories, the south section, with its clock tower, totals 30 stories. From upper Michigan Avenue, the distance to the spire at the top of this tower is 425 feet. The giant two-story clock in the south tower features four dials, each 19 feet, 7 inches in diameter. Each dial has an hour hand that measures 6 feet, 4 inches and a minute hand that is 9 feet, 2 inches long. These clock hands were originally made of redwood, but were recently refashioned in aircraft-grade aluminum to increase their durability.

One of the most striking features of the Wrigley Building results from being clad in approximately 250,000 individual glazed terra cotta tiles, the most



extensive use of terra cotta in the world during the time of construction. Each tile is uniquely identified in a computer database that enables consistent tracking and maintenance of each and every tile located on the building. The interior of the building contains extensive brasswork throughout each of the tower's lobbies, including the entryway, elevator doors and lobby clock.

In addition to housing the international headquarters of the Wm Wrigley Jr. Company, the Wrigley Building is home to many other companies. Tenants include investment management companies, advertising agencies, marketing firms, a full-service bank, and foreign consulates. Over 1,300 people come to work each day in the Wrigley Building.

The nighttime floodlighting of the Wrigley Building is one of the nation's major commercial lighting displays. Illumination of the building is provided by several banks of lights, including 116, 1,000-watt metal halide lamps

mounted on the south side of the Chicago River. These, along with another seven lamps at street level, keep the Michigan Avenue and Chicago River sides of the building brightly lit. West of the Wrigley Building an additional 16, 1,000-watt metal halide lights are used. To help create the effect of gradual brightness toward the top, 62 lights were installed on the building itself.

Except for the years marked by World War II, a three-month period in the winter of 1971 when a new system of lights was being installed, and nine months in 1973-1974 when an energy crisis called for stringent conservation of all natural resources, the illuminated Wrigley Building has been a bright feature of Chicago's evening skyline since the lights were first turned on in 1921. The decision to illuminate the building again beginning on August 17, 1974, was made only after assurances by Commonwealth Edison, the local power company, that this off-peak use of electricity would not drain any essential fuel from the city's power sources.

For over three-quarters of a century, the Wrigley Building has been recognized as one of Chicago's most



attractive buildings. Its sparkling white terra-cotta cladding, well-proportioned architecture and nighttime floodlighting have established it as a symbol of Chicago in many books, motion pictures and television programs, and is an unforgettable nighttime sight for Chicago's residents and visitors.

Blueprints and construction photos of the Wrigley Building

