

Project Profile



The Arthur Rubloff Building is part of Northwestern University's law school. The roofing system consists of several low-slope roofs at various elevations. Smith Arcade is a single-story corridor adjacent to the Gary Law Library. Wieboldt Hall is a 9-story building with several low-slope roofs at various elevations. The roofs at Rubloff and Wieboldt are primarily drained through internal roof drains. Smith Arcade's roof drained via throughwall scuppers and into copper collector boxes and downspouts.

BTC specified a fully adhered reinforced PVC roofing system for each of the buildings. The system was selected as a costeffective assembly that provided versatility for the variety of roofing conditions, met the requirements of the City of Chicago energy code, and met the logistical challenges during installation. Each building presented unique detailing challenges. Low flashing heights were a concern at both Rubloff and Smith Arcade. These were addressed with specific flashing details for each condition. Wieboldt Hall had several equipment curbs requiring specific details for each.

Included in the design at Smith Arcade was a flashing system that protected the parapet wall limestone caps that were identified as a potential leak source. Replacement of the scupper liners, collector boxes, and downspouts was also implemented in the design.

Because the replaced sections of the roofs at Rubloff Building were visible from upper floors, BTC included a decorative pattern in the design of the roofing system to match some of the vertical elements of the adjacent curtain wall system.

BTC also provided bidding assistance and field observation services during the construction phase of the project.

Project Name:
Partial Roof Replacement,
Arthur Rubloff Building, Smith Arcade,
and Wieboldt Hall

Project Location: Chicago, Illinois

Client:

Northwestern University 710 North Lake Shore Drive Chicago, Illinois 60611

Approximate Construction Cost: Rubloff Building — \$600,000 Smith Arcade — \$75,000 Wieboldt Hall — \$163,000

Year Completed: 2011

Nature of Services:
Design of New Roofs, Bidding
Assistance, and Contract
Administration Services



