



The Wrigley Building consists of two towers, a breezeway connecting the two towers at grade, and a sky bridge between the two towers at the 14th floor. The South tower rises 28 stories above Upper Michigan Avenue and was completed in 1921. The North Tower was completed in 1924. The Wrigley Building is clad with architectural terra cotta.

Both towers were constructed with a structural steel frame with floor systems consisting of hollow clay tile flat arches. Many tenants have occupied the commercial spaces since The Wrigley Building was constructed. In some cases, modifications to the structure were necessary to accommodate different needs of the various tenants, and to modernize the spaces to make them more desirable for future tenants.

BTC has been involved with several interior rehabilitation projects along with other structural modifications at The Wrigley Building. In some cases, the rehabilitation included adding slab penetrations. In other cases, additional loading was expected due to a change in usage (i.e., conversion to file storage). Our services for such projects typically included a review of the proposed changes and a field investigation to evaluate the condition and configuration of the structural components that would be affected by the proposed changes. We performed structural calculations and provided recommendations for reinforcement, if necessary, along with estimated costs associated with such repairs.

Due to the complexity of flat tile arch construction, even the smallest of proposed floor penetrations had to be analyzed to ensure a continuous load path and structural integrity were maintained.

BTC also designed removal slab panels at vaulted sidewalks along the perimeter of the building, custom davits for accessing the facade at the Clocktower, and a new steel-framed fire escape.

Project Name:

*Miscellaneous Structural Modifications
Wrigley Building*

Project Location:

Chicago, Illinois

Client:

Various

Approximate Construction Cost:

Confidential

Years Completed:

Various

Nature of Services:

*Evaluation, Structural Analysis, Repair
Design, Construction Monitoring*

