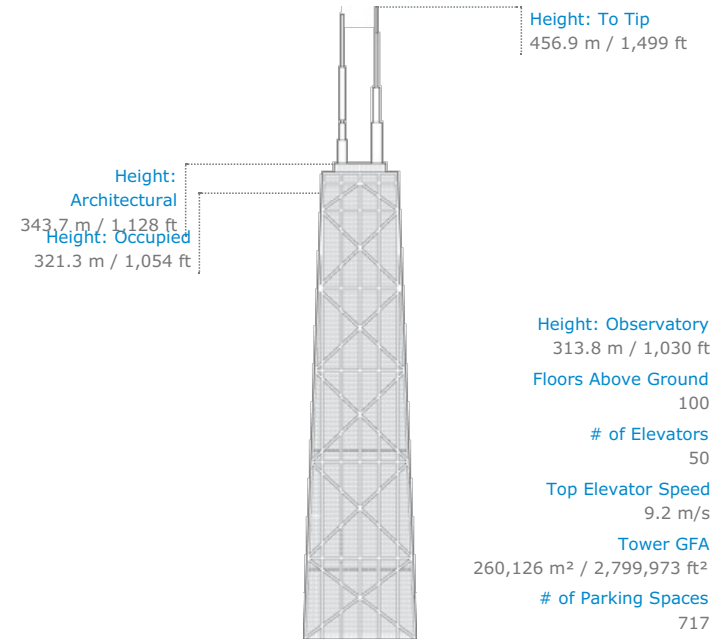


## 875 North Michigan Avenue



Click an image to view larger version.



### Facts

Official Name	875 North Michigan Avenue
Other Names	Big John, 175 East Delaware Place, John Hancock Center
Structure Type	Building
Status	Completed
Country	United States
City	Chicago
Street Address & Map	<a href="#">875 North Michigan Avenue</a>
Postal Code	60611
Building Function	residential / office
Structural Material	steel
Construction Start	1965
Completion	1969
Official Website	<a href="#">360 Chicago John Hancock Center</a>

### Rankings

	Click arrows to view the next taller/shorter buildings	
Global Ranking	#67 Tallest in the World	⬆️ ⬇️
Regional Ranking	#9 Tallest in North America	⬆️ ⬇️
National Ranking	#9 Tallest in United States	⬆️ ⬇️
City Ranking	#4 Tallest in Chicago	⬆️ ⬇️

### Companies Involved

Owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current: Hearn Company; Mount Kellett Capital Management; The Lynd Company</li> <li>Past: Golub &amp; Company; John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.; Shorenstein Company, LP; Whitehall Street Real Estate Fund</li> </ul>
Developer	Jerry Wolman Associates; John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Architect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design: Skidmore, Owings &amp; Merrill LLP</li> </ul>
Structural Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design: Skidmore, Owings &amp; Merrill LLP</li> </ul>
Main Contractor	Tishman Construction
Other Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property Management: Sudler Property Management</li> <li>Wind: Alan G. Davenport Wind Engineering Group</li> </ul>
Material Supplier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cladding: Cupples</li> <li>Elevator: Otis Elevator Company</li> <li>Fire Proofing: Grace Construction Products</li> <li>Sealants: Dow Corning Corporation</li> <li>Steel: American Bridge Company; Arbed</li> </ul>

### About 875 North Michigan Avenue

Over forty years after completion, the 875 North Michigan Avenue has established itself as one of the world's most recognized skyscrapers and an iconic example of late twentieth century Chicago design, construction, and engineering. The building's structural, programmatic, and architectural innovations combine to create a design that is heralded for its elegant simplicity.

As one of the world's first mixed-use tall building projects, the John Hancock Center design was influential in its internal organization. The complex programmatic design placed commercial space on a sub-level concourse and the first five levels. This was followed by levels of parking, office, residential, and finally dining, observation, and broadcasting facilities.

The architecture of the tower is informed by its expressive structural system and gently sloping façades. This innovative form was designed to efficiently accommodate the variety of uses contained in the building. The gentle inward slope creates optimally-sized floor plans for both the

lower parking and office levels and the higher residential floors. Additionally, the tapered form significantly reduces wind loads, allowing for a reduction in the size of structural members. For Chicago's busy streetscape, the building's shape increases the visual verticality of the building; adding perceived height to an already impressively tall tower.

The architectural form of the 875 North Michigan Avenue represents a radical departure from established aesthetics of the time. Initially, critics labeled the building as too industrial, but over time it has come to symbolize the gutsy tradition of structural expression in Chicago. It is often characterized as super-rational, logical, and a representation of the machine age of architecture. It exhibits its true structure much in the tradition of bridge construction. These qualities are at the heart of why the building has endured in the minds of so many.

## 875 North Michigan Avenue

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### CTBUH Initiatives

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#### [In Their Own Words: The Story of the John Hancock Building](#)

12 Sep 2019 – Event Report

#### [CTBUH 50th Anniversary: Moments in History #3](#)

28 Mar 2019 – Conference Activity

#### [2019 Tall Building Predictions for the Year to Come](#)

22 Jan 2019 – CTBUH News

[More Initiatives](#) →

### Videos

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#### [Interview: Fazlur Khan Winner: Clyde Baker](#)

7 Nov 2013 – Clyde N. Baker, Jr., AECOM

#### [Interview: Management of Tall Buildings](#)

20 Sep 2012 – Tony Long, CBRE

#### [Material-Saving Design Strategies for Tall Building Structures](#)

3 Mar 2008 – Kyoung Sun Moon, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### Research Papers

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#### [Tall Buildings in Numbers: 50 Years of Tall Building Evolution](#)

Oct 2019 – CTBUH Journal 2019 Issue IV

#### [Dynamic Interrelationship between the Evolution of the Structural Systems and Façade Design in Tall Buildings](#)

Mar 2018 – International Journal of High-Rise Buildings Volume 7 Number 1

#### [An Overview of Structural & Aesthetic Developments in Tall Buildings Using Exterior Bracing & Diagrid Systems](#)

1 Dec 2016 – International Journal of High-Rise Buildings Volume 5 Number 4

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