

News Release

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Mississippi Valley Division/
Mississippi River Commission
cemvd-pa@mvd02.usace.army.mil

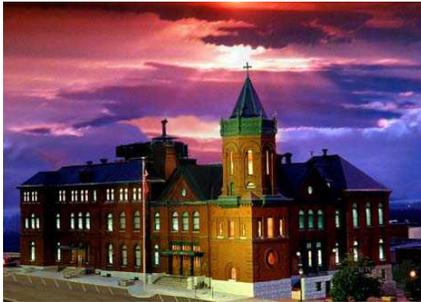
Release #: 01-12

For Release: June 26, 2001

Contact: Public Affairs Office

Phone: 601-634-5760 / 7783

MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION BUILDING WINS THE OFFICE BUILDING OF THE YEAR "TOBY" AWARD In the Historical Category



Vicksburg, Miss, June 26, 2001 --The Mississippi River Commission Building, headquarters for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Commission and Mississippi Valley Division, was honored last week with the commercial real estate industry's most coveted and prestigious award -- The Office Building of the Year "TOBY" Award.

http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil/offices/pa/photos/mrc_bldg_night_2.jpg

The Mississippi River Commission Building was recognized for excellence in office building management and operations in the Historical Building category at the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International's 94th Annual Convention and The Office Building Show® in Baltimore, Md., Tuesday, June 19.

This accomplishment marks the third time the Mississippi River Commission Building has received top recognition in this category prior to advancing to the International competition. All entries had to first win at local and regional competitions, which were held across North America throughout 2000 and this year.

The Mississippi River Commission Building was built in 1894 and was extended in 1914. Owned by the U.S. General Services Administration and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Mississippi River Commission Building has 48,650 square feet and is located in downtown Vicksburg overlooking the Mississippi River.

-more-

2-2-2 MRC Building Award

Since July 1944, this building has been the exclusive home of the Corps of Engineers' Mississippi River Commission and Mississippi Valley Division. These offices serve as the focal point of the Corps' navigation, flood control, environmental and related programs throughout the Mississippi Valley from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

Over the last 10 years, The Mississippi River Commission Building, in coordination with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division, has been completely renovated. The objective was to retain the historically significant features of the building while updating interior spaces to meet the contemporary office needs in terms of efficiency, comfort, safety and cost of operations.

As an entry in the TOBY Awards program, the Mississippi River Commission Building underwent a vigorous judging process throughout the year. A team of expert industry professionals conducted a building tour and examined building standards, impact on community, tenant and employee relations programs, energy management systems, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, emergency evacuation procedures and training programs for building personnel.

Founded in 1907, the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International is an international federation of 106 local associations. The mission of BOMA International is to advance the performance of commercial real estate through advocacy, professional competency, standards and research.