

# IMI



# CASE STUDY

February 2000

**T**he Old Second National Bank building in Aurora, Illinois was constructed in 1925 and is included in the U.S. Department of Interior National Register of Historic Places. Architect George Grant Elmslie, who formerly worked with Louis Sullivan, designed the structure and the bas relief terra cotta ornamentation.

After 75 years of weather exposure, it became obvious that several of the terra cotta pieces were in need of repair. John Medermach, Vice President of the Old Second National Bank, is also a member of the Aurora Historical Society. When the bank decided to clean and repair the structure for its 75-year anniversary in the year 2000, they contacted Molter Corporation for an assessment.

Loretta Molter, President of Molter



## OLD SECOND NATIONAL BANK Aurora, Illinois

**MASONRY CONTRACTOR:** Molter Corporation



*“Will it grow old with  
grace, dignity and  
charm? I think it will.”*

*- Architect George Grant Elmslie*

Corporation, performed the assessment of the structure and estimated that the repair work would cost approximately \$75,000. It was Molter's ability to perform the work in phases that allowed the project to proceed, as the bank was better able to budget for the needed work.

The bank contracted directly with Molter and was able to stay open for business throughout the restoration. The close relationship between the owner and contractor allowed the job to move forward quickly.

The client was impressed with the individual attention given to the project by Loretta Molter. According to Medermach, "It was not unusual for Loretta to come out to the job on Saturdays to check on the progress of the work."



*The terra cotta was patched with Jahn patching compound, which only certified contractors are allowed to use. Certification is available through Jahn and the International Masonry Institute.*

*"Molter completed all the work on time, and the quality of their work was excellent. We were able to keep the bank open for business for the duration of the project."*

*- John Medermach*

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