BBB led a team of architects, historians, artists, and craftsmen in the restoration of New York’s famed Empire State Building.

The Empire State Building, designed by Shreve, Lamb and Harmon and completed in 1931, is a National Historic Landmark, as well as a New York City interior and exterior landmark. Modifications to the building over time obscured the grandeur of its original Art Deco design, and BBB was commissioned to lead a specialized team in restoring the lobby and contiguous public spaces. Following two years of research—including the review of historical documents, photos, sketches, and blueprints, and a forensic analysis of existing architectural elements—BBB returned the lobby to its original vision. The work includes a faithful restoration of a stunning Art Deco ceiling mural, the addition of upgraded technology systems, and improved tenant and visitor services. Concurrent with the lobby restoration, BBB also prepared a Conceptual Master Plan that addresses important planning and design issues throughout the lobby, street entrances, corridors, elevator bank areas, retail spaces and public floors.

**Client**  Empire State Realty Trust  
**Size** 150,000 SF  
**Completion Date** 2009  
**Construction Cost** $13 million (lobby restoration)