Tim Samuelson, cultural historian for the City of Chicago and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, has been instrumental in celebrating and protecting Chicago's past. His job is that of a spokesperson, historian and storyteller, a wide-ranging position that requires him to tell the spirit and the history of Chicago through exhibits, public programs, and collaboration with other cultural institutions. Samuelson is highly regarded for his stewardship of the cultural and architectural history of the city at the Commission on Chicago Landmarks and the Chicago Historical Society. In 2004, Cartoonist Chris Ware and Ira Glass of “This American Life” published “Lost Buildings,” a book and DVD based on Samuelson’s life and the preservation of Chicago’s historic buildings.

(photo credit: Thomas Marlow)