

CHICAGO LANDMARKS



2016 PRESERVATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

3140 South Indiana Avenue Unity Hall, Black Metropolis-Bronzeville District Adaptive Reuse

Recipient: Tom Boney/TRB Properties LLC

Unity Hall was originally built in 1887 as the Lakeside Club, a Jewish social organization. Beginning in 1917, it became the headquarters of the Peoples Movement Club, a political organization headed by Oscar Stanton DePriest, the first African-American elected to the Chicago City Council and the first northern African-American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Designed by architect L.B. Dixon, the building is faced in red pressed brick with stone accents and decorative metal trim and is an excellent example of the type of buildings found in this community in the 1880s. By 2012 however, the building was sitting vacant and the windows had been boarded. After years of deferred maintenance, the new owner converted the building into multi-unit residential use. Work included tuckpointing, select brick replacement, masonry cleaning, window replacement, replacement of the roofing, and repairs to the cornice and dormers. The restored building now stands as a testament to the resurgence of this important South side neighborhood. Unity Hall is located in the Black Metropolis-Bronzeville District which was designated a Chicago Landmark on September 9, 1998.



before



After photo courtesy of PMPC Architects



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