

# CHICAGO LANDMARKS



## 2011 PRESERVATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### 935 North Dearborn Street The Scottish Rite Cathedral (Former Unity Church) Washington Square District Exterior Restoration

*Recipient: The Enterprise Companies and Mesirow Financial Real Estate*

Built in 1867 as Unity Church, this building survived the Great Chicago Fire but was severely damaged – all that remained were its limestone walls. Famed Chicago architect Dankmar Adler, in one of his first commissions, rebuilt the structure's roof and redesigned the acoustics and seating arrangements. The Scottish Rite, associated with the Masonic Fraternal Organization, took over the building in 1910 and made several changes over the years, including infilling the rose window and covering over the stained-glass windows. In 2005, The Enterprise Companies purchased the Cathedral along with the adjacent mansions and vacant land. The developer took advantage of the Adopt-A-Landmark bonus to restore the exterior of the Cathedral in exchange for additional development rights for the adjacent new development project. The work on the Cathedral included stone repair, cleaning, and replacement of missing elements; the uncovering and restoration of the stained-glass windows; roof repair; and installation of a new rose window based on historic documentation. The Washington Square District was designated a Chicago Landmark on May 16, 1990 and subsequently amended in 2008 to modify the designation boundary to include part of the planned development project.



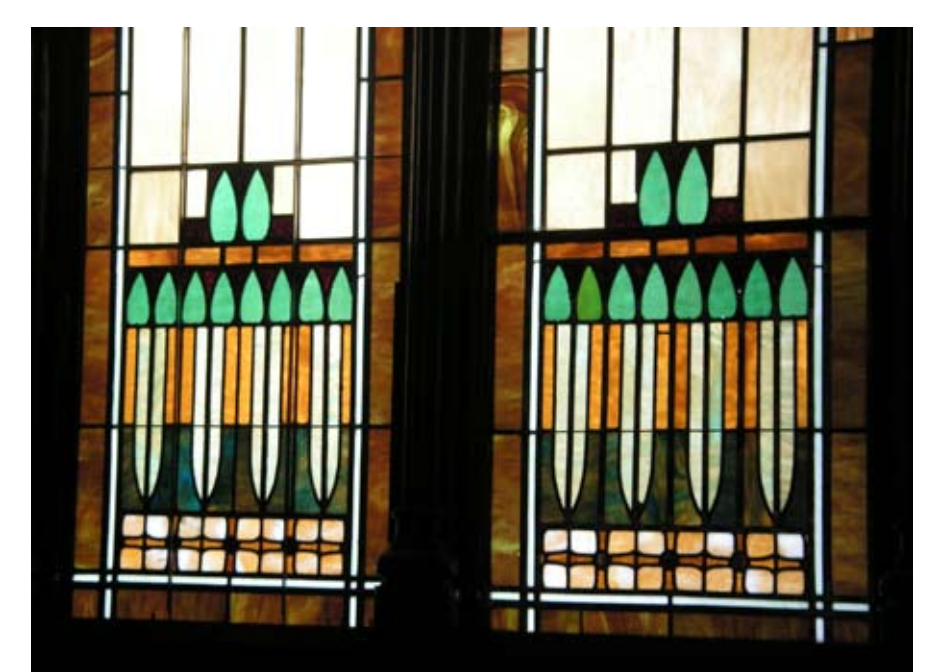
**BEFORE**



**POSTCARD**



**AFTER**



**City of Chicago**  
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

**Housing and Economic Development**  
Andrew J. Mooney, Commissioner