



THE GRAND LOGAN LODGE

Church-to-Residential Adaptive Reuse Conversion

1847 N. Humboldt Blvd. Chicago, IL

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Located on the historic Humboldt Boulevard in Chicago's popular Logan Square neighborhood, The Grand Logan Lodge is an adaptively repurposed site that marries a new multistory apartment addition to a vintage Romanesque Chapel. The rich detailing and form of the century old original structure stand as a dramatic counterpoint to the quiet, orderly repose of the addition. The photograph below from 1908 shows the church standing to the right of the neighboring building.



Below: historic photo of the street corner taken c. 1908 showing the church building to the right.



Right: current view of The Grand Logan Lodge with addition to the right.



The site is situated on Humboldt Boulevard, which is part of Chicago's park boulevard system built in the late 1800s, connecting Humboldt Park and Garfield Park. The boulevards feature wide landscaped parkways, and flanking streets are lined with residential, commercial, and religious buildings. These "linear parks," offered relief from densely populated urban neighborhoods and continue to serve as neighborhood linkages and catalysts for development.

Today, much of Humboldt Boulevard retains a historic composition of late 19th and early 20th century structures. The neighborhood has been further enhanced by the addition of the 606 Trail, just steps away from The Grand Logan Lodge. The project has been programmed to appeal to residents who value open space, recreation, and access to alternative transportation amenities.

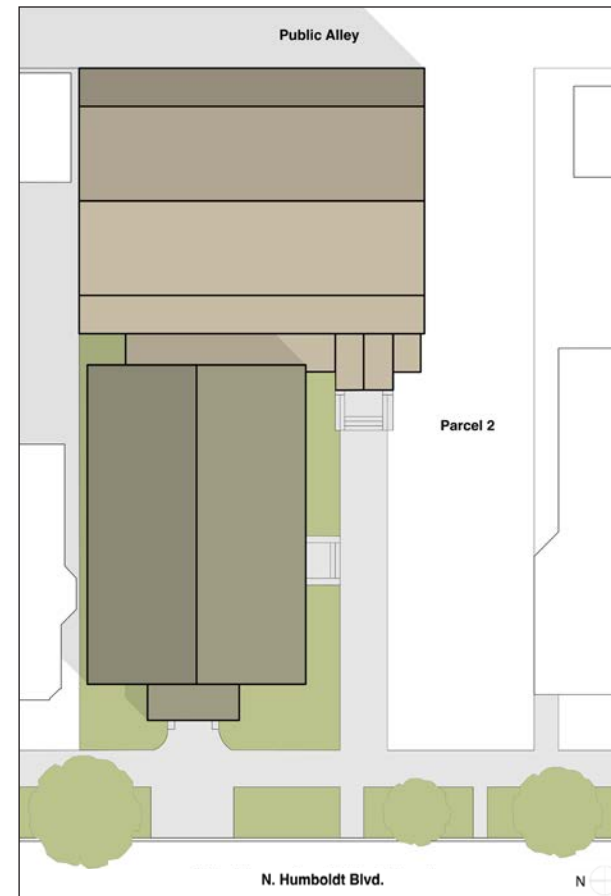


Right: church building before renovation.

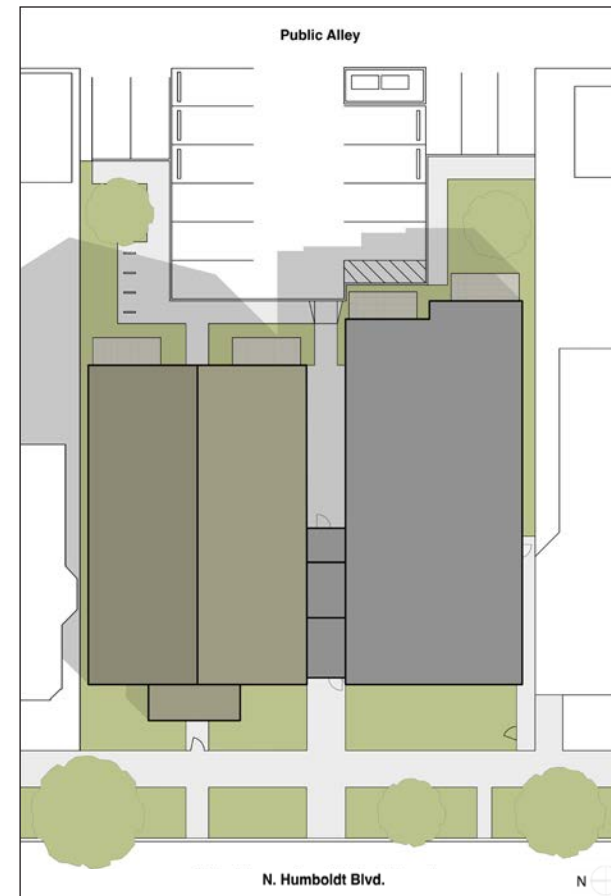
Many churches, both active and closed, can be found along Humboldt Boulevard that provide variety and geometric relief. However, a parking lot that previously served this church broke the historic street wall continuity. The development's expansion south could fill in this gap with a modest structure whose materiality, scale, and composition pursued compatibility and simplicity that compliments the existing church. A restrained modernist motif identifies it as something newer while leaving the center of attention at the original building to the north.

Resident parking was relocated to the alley behind the building, thereby eliminating a curb cut in the sidewalk and adding more parking along the street.

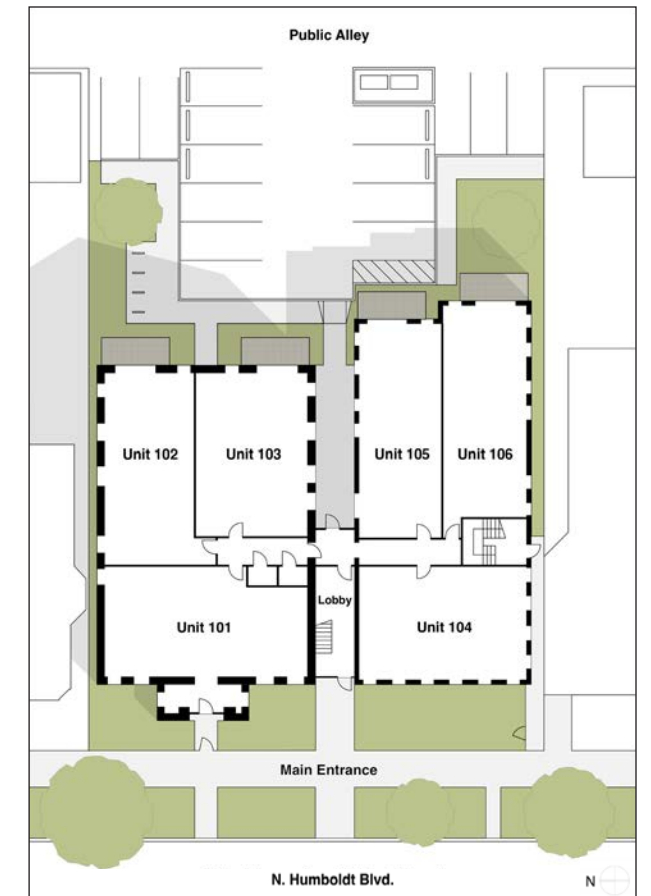
The completed project is in three parts. The existing church volume provides six dwelling units leaving the building's rusticated limestone facade unchanged. Its original central entrance is retained for the dwellings facing Humboldt Boulevard. A new double height glazed linkage is a visually discreet entry vestibule providing a reveal, joining old to new where the addition occupies the original parking lot. A non-original structure behind the church building was demolished for alley accessed parking and additional recreation area for the residents.



Before Site Plan



After Site Plan



After First Floor Plan



Street view before redevelopment.



Street view after redevelopment.

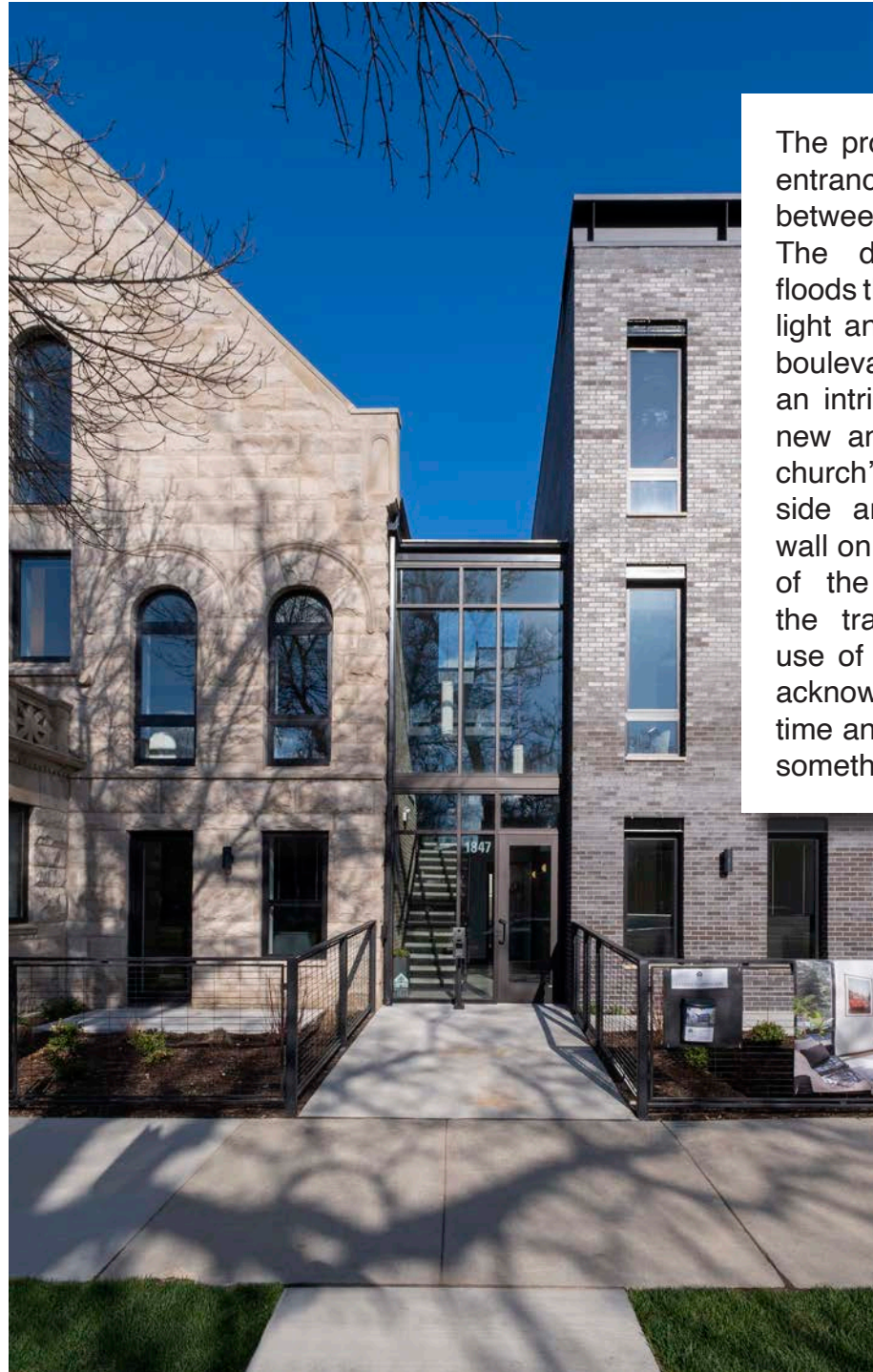


Massing and detailing of the 3-story addition are modernist inspired, incorporating a modular dark brick whose finish is variegated for compatibility with the heavily rusticated texture of the church. The ground story windows are sized and aligned for storyline continuity with the old church establishing a harmonized base. Upper level windows are restrained by simple recessed lintels painted to match their window frames and diverting attention. In this manner the rusticated stone arches and the gabled facade of the church maintain their emphasis of the tri-part stained glass window as the composition focal point.



Above: resident parking lot shown located behind the building.

Left: completed development showing the original church structure on the left and the new annex building to the right.



The project is accessed by a new entrance and stairway positioned between the old and new buildings. The double-height glazed front floods the vaulted space with natural light and offers broad views of the boulevard. This light-filled space is an intriguing juncture between the new and the old, showcasing the church's original brick wall on one side and the annex's new brick wall on the other. The transparency of the space visually highlights the transition from the previous use of the building to the present, acknowledging the passage of time and celebrating the creation of something useful for the future.

Left: glazed building entryway connecting the church and the annex building.

Right: inside the glass-enclosed building lobby.





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The building's rich history is reflected in its interior spaces, where exposed brick and soaring ceilings highlight the church's intricate wooden roof structure. Oversized windows and an open floor plan maximize natural light, while antique pieces from the original building and stained glass details provide a one-of-a-kind experience for its residents. Historic elements blend seamlessly with modern fixtures, creating a unique mix of materials that balance historic charm with modern convenience.

Left: loft apartment inside the church building showing the tall vaulted ceiling and the restored stained glass window.

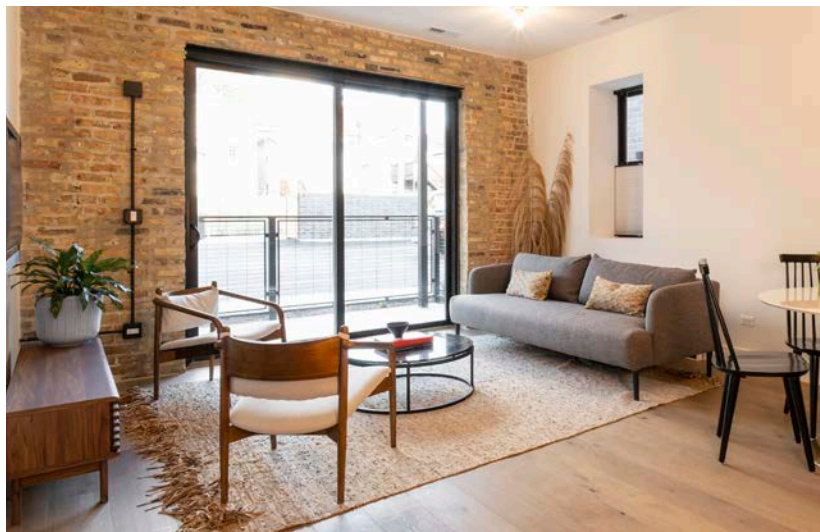
Below: living area featuring one of the church's original stained glass window.



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Above: loft space showing the exposed roof structure.



Right: living space inside a typical church unit featuring a part of the church wall.



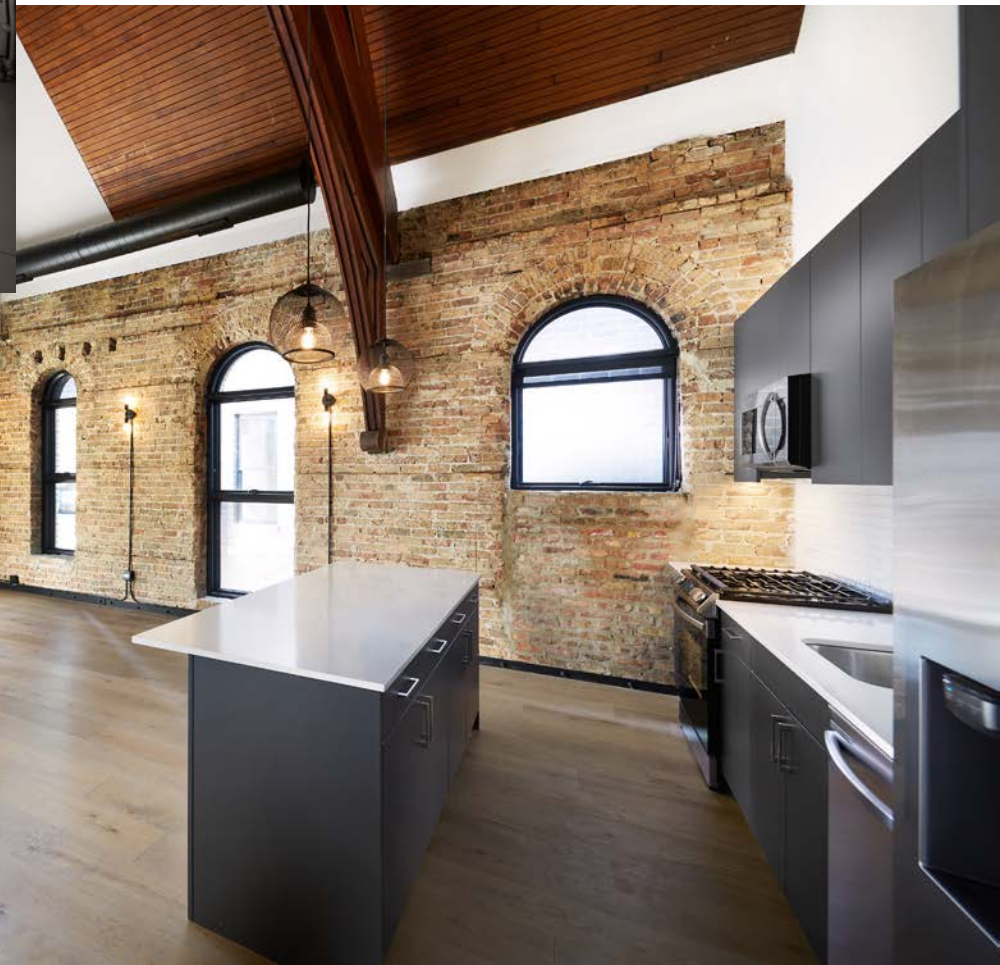
Right: view from the loft space.



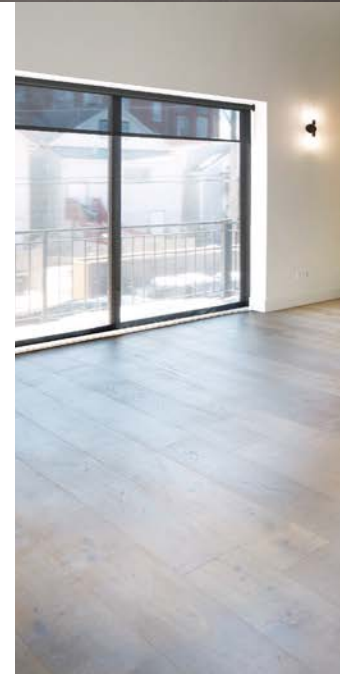
Left: kitchen inside a church unit featuring tall vaulted ceilings and dramatic exposed trusses.



Left: before photo inside the church showing the original roof structure



Below: kitchen and living area inside a church unit utilizing original window openings.

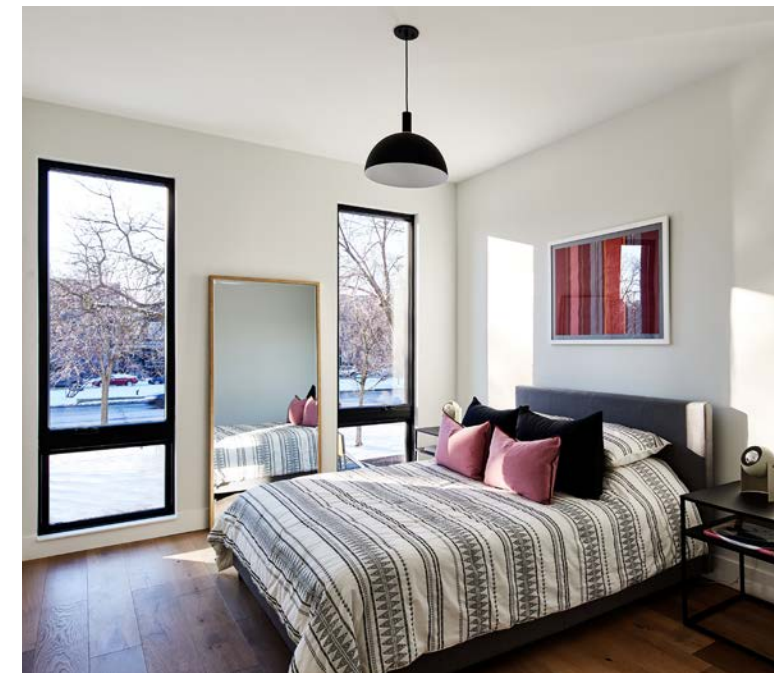




Left: street view of the building looking northeast.



Above: living area inside the annex building.



Left: bedroom inside the annex building featuring modern finishes and tall floor-to-ceiling windows.

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