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EVERGREEN PARK SENIOR CENTER

Citation Award

Building Type: Village Senior Center

Project Location: Evergreen Park, Illinois

Client: Village of Evergreen Park

Building Area: 14,000 sf

Cost of Construction: \$1.5 million

Date of Completion: November 2014

Architect: Craig A. Podalak Architects: Ltd.



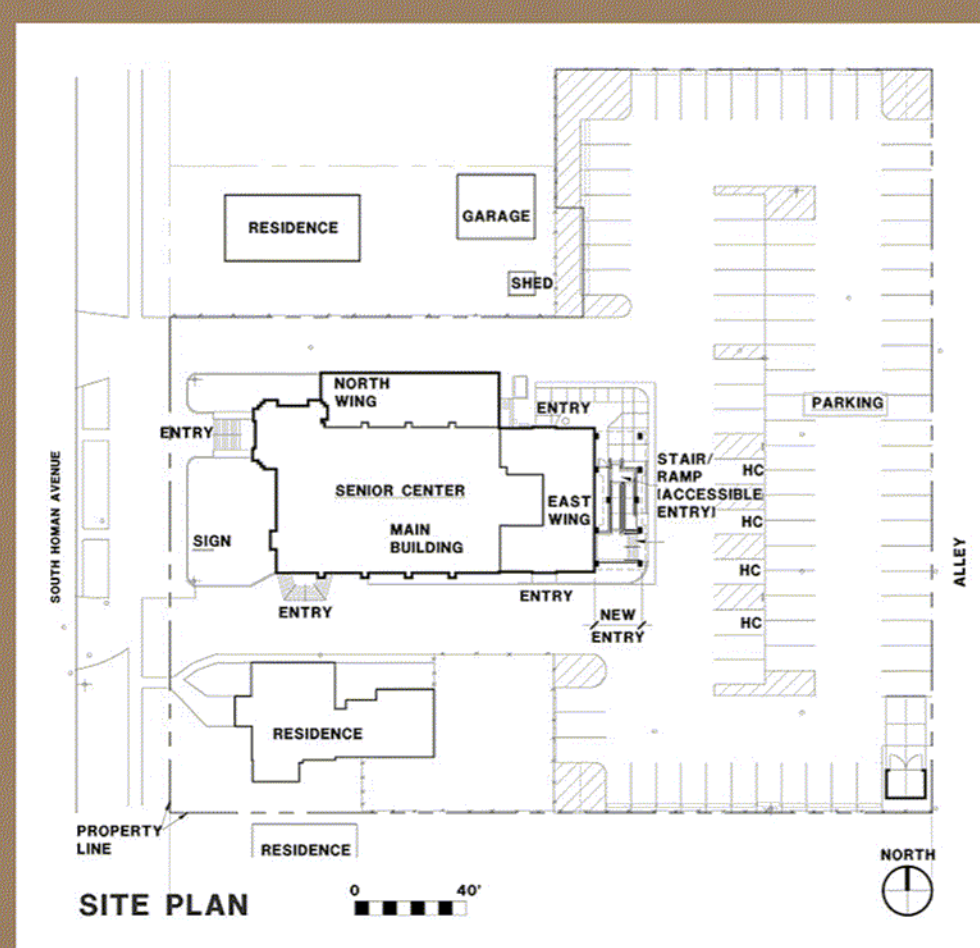
Project Description:

The building is a 70 year old abandoned church that is a community landmark and was to be renovated into a Village Senior Center for the residents. The building was in need of much repair, was not handicap accessible and had an antiquated heating system. The significant iconic character of the church, both exterior and interior, was to be maintained whenever possible. The major environmental/health/sustainability feature was providing an efficient and healthy heating and cooling system for the building.

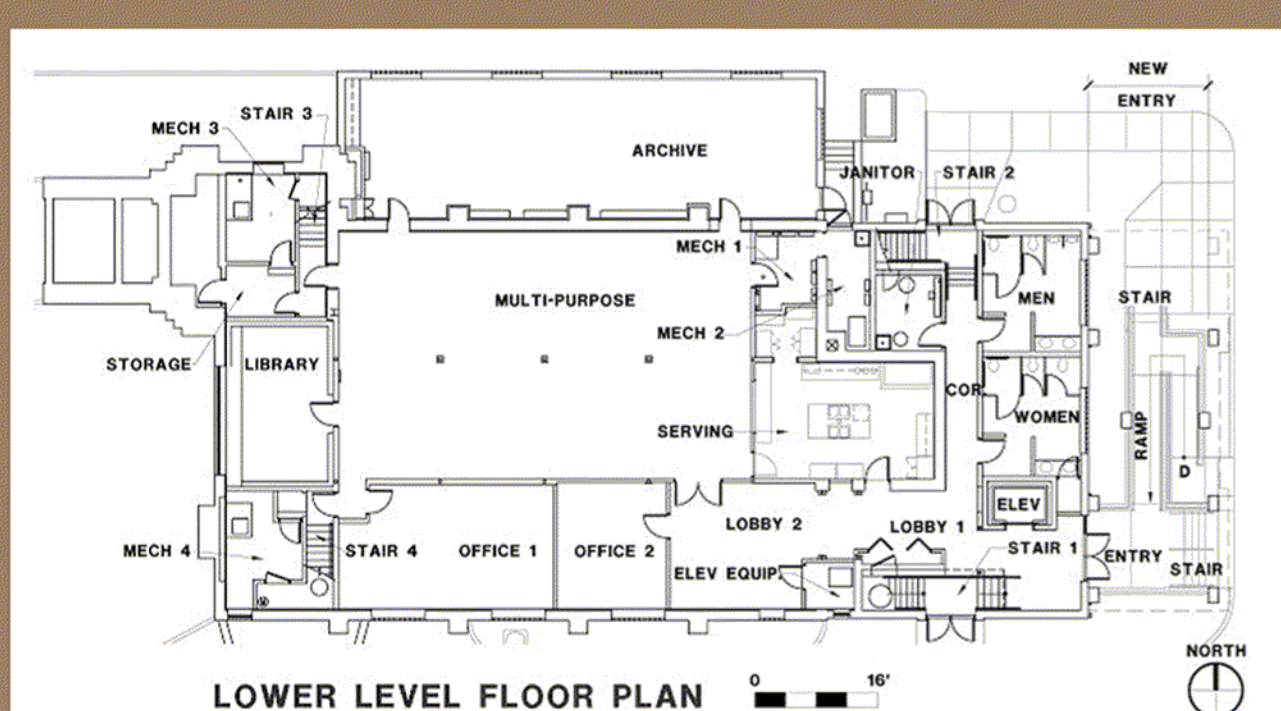
The exterior of the building was tuckpointed and masonry cleaned and washed. Stained glass windows were protected with new exterior glazing which added to the thermal value of these original windows. All roofing systems were repaired and existing wood floor, wood trim, doors and roof trusses were repaired and refinished. Original chandeliers and organ pipe bellows refurbished and became part of the new interior decor. Original pulpit area was expanded into an accessible stage. An existing balcony in the upper level meeting room was removed to visually open up this main meeting area. Lighting levels were increased for senior activities.

The new heating and cooling system of the building was divided into six (6) single zones (two (2) large meeting rooms, and one (1) each on the west, east, south, and north sides). The original system was a single zone heating system with no fresh air provided.

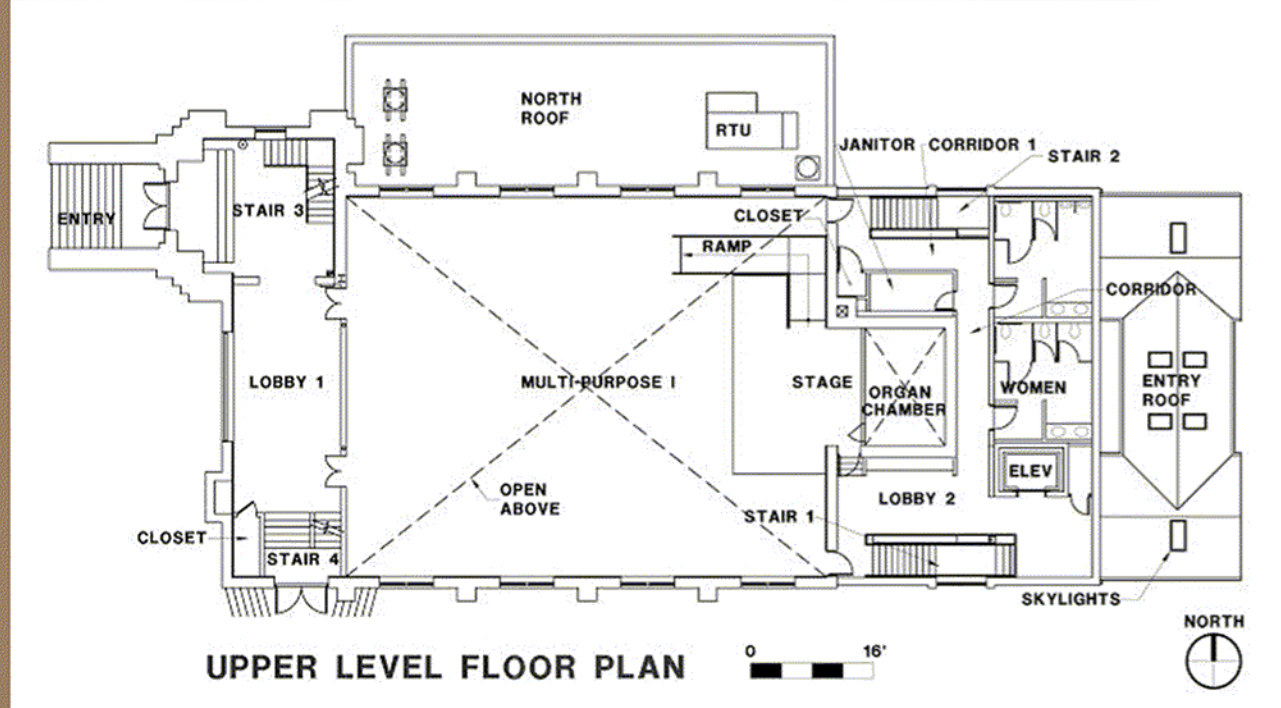
Air conditioning was provided due to summer use of the building including fresh air to all spaces. The new exposed spiral ductwork in the meeting room was routed through the existing roof truss chords and painted to match the ceiling to be less visual.



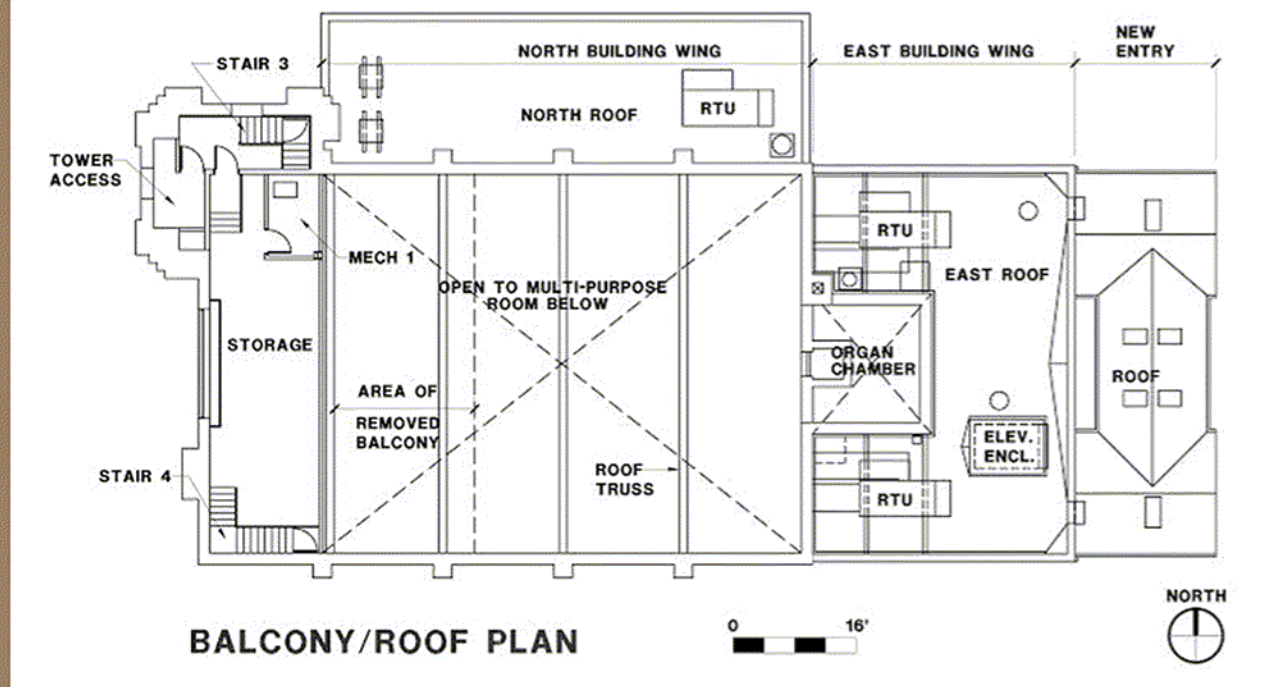
In order to make the building accessible, a new entry addition was constructed on the East side, near the main parking area, that allowed access to the lower level by a ramp or stairs. An elevator was provided in this addition that allowed access to all (3) levels. New sidewalks, lighting and landscaping linked this new addition to the existing church.



The Lower Level Plan contains the new accessible entry with elevator, a secondary multi-purpose room, food serving area, upgraded toilets, library, archive area, offices, and mechanical/storage areas.



The Upper Level plan contains the main multi-purpose room, with an expanded stage area with a ramp, upgraded toilets, elevator stop and renovated lobby and entrance areas.



The Balcony Level included removal of the partial original worship balcony seating to allow the multi-purpose room to be an unobstructed space, allowing the trusses to be the focal point. Required storage and mechanical rooms were provided.

Original East Elevation

Due to the existing building's split level floor plan, the new addition required stairs and a ramp to access the lower level where the elevator is located.



New covered East addition



New East entry addition reflects a similar wood finish and truss concept as the existing church interior.



Renovated entry vestibule

Jury Comments:

"Adaptive reuse of the church building to a function in a new capacity as a senior center presented a host of challenges and opportunities to address all the new community senior activities"



Renovated narthex became a new lobby



Jury Comments:

"Congratulations to the architect for instituting a design solution which exceeds the needs of the new users while retaining the charm of this iconic building."



Original upper level pulpit expanded



Jury Comments:

"The architect chose to highlight the inherent features of the building including much of the religious iconography."



Original upper level balcony removed

"The changes made are well considered and effective."

"Excellence In Design"



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