The first comprehensive restoration in Union Terminal’s 85-year history revitalizes a community icon and National Historic Landmark for future generations.

**Restoration**

In restoring Union Terminal back to its original 1933 condition, some of the most important work we did is invisible to the public, yet it ensures the health and longevity of this beloved institution. This renovation meticulously repairs exterior and interior structural damage and includes all new mechanical, electrical, plumbing, security, and data systems.   
  
Highlights:

1. The Fountain, located on the main plaza, is actually a roof over museum spaces below. All finishes on the plaza were removed, including the entire fountain, down to the structural deck so that it could be re-waterproofed. The fountain was rebuilt in its original configuration and the original stones put back in place. The new fountain finish is rustic terrazzo which matches the look and feel of the original 1933 design.
2. The Losantiville dining room, once Union Terminal’s main lunch room, has been completely restored and re-opened for public dining once again. New terrazzo matches and complements the original remaining floor and the geometry depicts the long-lost serpentine counter that once graced the room. Damaged by water, a stunning series of original painted murals by French artist Pierre Bourdelle have been restored and re-installed in their original locations.
3. Limestone and brick facades of the building were comprehensively cleaned and repointed with mortar matching the original mix; damaged stones were removed, the steel behind was stripped of rust and repainted, and the stone re-installed. Brick parapets around the entire building perimeter were removed, re-inforced, and rebuilt, re-using as many original bricks as possible. This work was done in tandem with re-roofing the entire building.
4. The brick drum walls that enclose the rotunda surrounding the restored mosaic murals and support the massive dome, were completely removed and rebuilt with new concrete masonry and brick tied directly to the building’s steel structure. Expansion joints were introduced to allow thermal movement. A mix of new and original bricks was used to rebuild the wall and match the adjacent portions of the building.

**Renovation**

But historic preservation is only part of story. The way visitors experience the Cincinnati Museum Center has also been transformed. Exhibit spaces have been reorganized and are more visible; new galleries, classrooms, laboratories, and dining options have also been added. Experiential hubs allow guests to self-select exhibits rather than be forced down linear paths.   
  
Highlights:

1. The lower level lobby was re-organized to expand gathering and transition space for visitors. Visitors can see the entrance to 4 museum spaces from the same spot to help orientation. This lobby now provides an entrance to the Museum of Natural History and Science and the Cincinnati History Museum allowing a more flexible exhibit experience.
2. To create more public spaces and points of access to galleries and classrooms, the mezzanine lobby was carved out of former gallery space and is a new way for visitors to directly access exhibit galleries and classrooms. A new elevator was installed from the rotunda to the lower level lobby. Hints of the building’s history have been exposed (such as the 1930s parking garage’s numbered columns) to remind visitors of the building’s unique past.

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