REUSE ALTERNATIVES FOR PRENTICE
Supporting Medical Research. Strengthening Chicago’s Economy.

Former City officials, leading experts, and architects in Chicago have unveiled a series of reuse alternatives for historic Prentice Women’s Hospital. Each proposal accommodates Northwestern’s space and facilities needs through a combination of new construction for medical research and the reuse of Prentice as a support facility. This approach would deliver significantly greater economic benefits than Northwestern’s current proposal — including an additional 600 temporary jobs, 980 permanent jobs and $1.1 million in annual tax revenues.


REUSE ALTERNATIVE:
CYRIL MARSOLLIER & WALLO VILLACORTA

QUICK FACTS
25 STORY ADDITION
320 LAB SPACE MODULES
1.12M TOTAL SQUARE FEET

Proposal Details
The proposal by Cyril Marsollier & Wallo Villacorta imagines the preservation of Prentice in its entirety but introduces a new, 25-story structure on the site that envelops Prentice at its midpoint. Only one half of the Prentice tower would remain exposed outside of this new structure; however, Goldberg’s landmark would appear whole. This effect is produced through the use of reflective glass on the façade of the new structure.

“Through an appreciation of the validity of Northwestern University’s need for a new functional facility and the public’s interest in preservation, conflicting interests can be reconciled with thoughtful negotiation.”
The new structure would house 320 medical research lab modules. Prentice would provide vital auxiliary support for medical research work and other university functions. Figure A represents a typical floor plan and shows medical research workspaces in the new structure, with new library space in Prentice.

Maintaining Prentice celebrates the possibilities of free space, and its embrace by a new structure with an intersecting facade preserves its complete iconic image.

The idea of losing yet another architectural icon prompted Cyril Marsollier & Wallo Villacorta to submit their winning entry to the Chicago Architecture Club design competition, “Future Prentice.” Prentice is a one of a kind modernist work that has made a strong visual impact on the Chicago landscape. Prentice is the sort of scarce, iconic treasure of architectural significance that a city should preserve for its tremendous value to the world. Of these treasures in Chicago, Prentice stands out as one of the most ambitious.

Through an appreciation of the validity of Northwestern University’s need for a new functional facility and the public’s interest in preservation, conflicting interests can be reconciled with thoughtful negotiation.

**DESIGN TEAM PROFILE**

**Cyril Marsollier & Wallo Villacorta**

ABOUT: Cyril Marsollier & Wallo Villacorta were awarded first prize for their Prentice reuse design for “Future Prentice,” the 2012 Chicago Prize Competition sponsored by the Chicago Architectural Club. Originally from Paris, France, and Lima, Peru, respectively, Cyril & Wallo are currently based in Chicago. Their architectural practice seeks to attain an understanding of the city through its by-products and artifacts.

After receiving his BS Arch from the University of Illinois, Wallo worked in Zurich, Switzerland, at architectural firm E2A (Eckert Eckert Architekten). Currently Wallo works at the branding and design studio Someoddpilot and is the director and curator of Public Works Gallery. Prior to arriving in Chicago, Cyril worked at Work Architecture Company in New York City and at L’AUC in Paris. He holds a Masters of Architecture with distinction from the National Superior School of Architecture in Versailles.

The Save Prentice Coalition would like to thank Cyril Marsollier & Wallo Villacorta, who together contributed 175 pro bono hours developing their reuse alternative for Prentice.