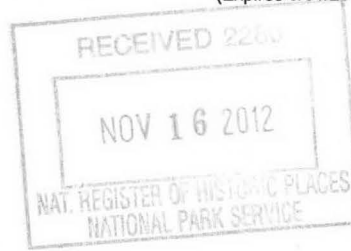


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1114

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 984 North Milwaukee Avenue not for publication

city or town Chicago vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Cook code 031 zip code 60642-4101

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

[Signature] DSHPO 11-9-12
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

[Signature] 1.2.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Ethnic (European) Historic Settlement in the City of Chicago (1860-1930)

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall
 COMMERCE/TRADE/Financial Institution
 SOCIAL/Civic
 EDUCATION/Library
 RECREATION AND CULTURE/Museum
 COMMERCE/TRADE/Business
 COMMERCE/TRADE/Professional

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall
 SOCIAL/Civic
 EDUCATION/Library
 RECREATION AND CULTURE/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Classical
 Art Deco

foundation: Concrete
 walls: Brick
 roof: Tar
 other: Terra Cotta

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America building (PRCUA) is a four story two-part commercial block completed in 1913. The upper portion of the front façade has classical features and is constructed of terra cotta and facing brick; while the lower portion is Art Deco and incorporates those materials around large glass storefront windows. The secondary and tertiary facades are built from common brick. The construction has a unique footprint, conforming to the south side of the obtuse intersection of North Milwaukee Avenue and West Augusta Boulevard. The building is situated on the south side of the intersection, facing north. Milwaukee Avenue is a busy street that runs diagonally through Chicago lined with a mixture of both residential and commercial properties. Augusta is primarily residential. Built in the "Polish Downtown" area (1870-1950) in the West Town Community Area in Chicago's near northwest side, the building was constructed to house the national headquarters of the PRCUA and function as a cultural and intellectual center for the Polish community.

Narrative Description

The front façade of the building is dynamically arranged on the southwest corner of North Milwaukee and West Augusta Boulevard. Its ornamentation highlights the obtuse shape of the building's front angle, which is offset left of center. The piers and windows are arranged symmetrically, as if the building's front surface was flat rather than curved. The symmetry is centered on a set of centered double doors at street level. At the same time, the ornamentation on the building's face and cornice are concentrated on the obtuse angle. This creates a sense of the building having two architectural focal points. The building's street level is centered on a set of glass double doors with black anodized aluminum frames. Storefronts with black anodized aluminum window frames extend the length of the building's street frontage. Pink and maroon terra cotta frame the storefronts with glass block windows above the windows. Ornamental pink terra cotta is positioned above each doorway.

The upper portion of the building, from the second to fourth story, is largely unaltered from its original form, constructed of facing brick and terra cotta. The structural elements of the façade appear symmetrical. There are three sets of three-foot double piers. The centered set, detailed above, extends from the street-level to the fourth floor. The double piers surround a single window on each floor. The outer sets of piers do not extend to the ground, but only from the second floor to the roof. During the course of these piers, they are uninterrupted. The base of each pier between the first and second-floor is decorated with terra cotta ornamentation. Each set of piers terminates at the roof as part of the cornice. The double piers effectively separate the building into four parts, two outer surfaces, which only have a single window on each floor and two inner surfaces, which have three windows on each floor. The left inner surface is curved to accommodate the street level intersection and is more elaborately decorated than the other three surfaces.

Between the first and the second floor there is double-band of terra cotta, separated by a foot of brick. The band is only interrupted by the ornamentation on the bottom of three-foot double-piers and by the some of the ornamentation on the left inner surface. There are similar bands between the second and third floors and the fourth floor and the cornice. In those instances however, the horizontal bands are interrupted by the vertical three-foot double-piers. Going from the third-floor to the cornice were smaller one-foot wide piers between all of the windows that were not flanked by the three-foot double pier sets. These smaller piers begin at the terra cotta double band between the second and third floors, terminating near the cornice with a brick rustication and terra cotta composite capitals. Also, between the third and fourth floor, there are diamond brick-patterned spandrels bordered vertically by the piers and horizontally by the windows.

The curve, which disrupts the structural symmetry of the building, is accentuated by more elaborate white terra cotta decoration. Extending from just above the first floor to the third floor are terra cotta piers and horizontal detailing that surround the three, second-floor windows. The nodes of this framing, between the second and third floors have additional ornamentation. The brickwork above the second floor windows is corbelled and framed in white terra cotta. The pilasters of this section located between the windows and paired piers have composite capitals. Above these caps across the top of all three windows and between the double piers is a terra cotta cornice, which has the Polish words, "DOM-ZJEDNOCZENIS -POLSKIEGO-R.K." engraved in one-foot tall lettering, translating loosely to mean, "Home of the Polish Roman Catholic Union." The parapet has terra cotta coping.

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The sides and rear of the building, which do not face the street, are comprised of common brick. Glass block windows punctuate the south and northeast sides of the building. Black anodized aluminum fixed 1/1 window frames are present on the second floor of the northeast side of the building. The outlines of the former arcade windows are apparent from on the northeast side of the building.

The ground floor of the building houses the Polish Museum of America (PMA) library (44'-6"), research center, and offices; a print shop and press offices; two social halls (49'-2" x 43'-2" and 38'-2" x 19'5") with an institutional kitchen; and offices. Two decorative staircases with granite floors, marble wall panels, and detailed wood railings are located inside the two main entrances on the ground level facing Augusta Boulevard. Many of these are located in the building's former storefronts. Several walls have been altered to accommodate these uses, which remain within the bounds of the building's intended use. Wood panels line the ground floor hallways and several of the rooms on the ground floor. The walls in other rooms, such as the library, are plaster. Floor materials vary from room to room, but are generally tile. The library possesses hardwood floors and wood built-in shelving. The basement, constructed of painted brick and concrete, contains both maintenance materials and shelving for institutional records.

The second floor houses the PRCUA offices and the PMA's Paderewski Room (49' x 27'-8"). The offices predominate on the floor, with a lobby of several removable partitions. The second floor retains a great deal of integrity and is free of significant alteration. Extensive oak woodwork with intricate detailing define the main lobby and executive boardroom. The main lobby resembles a turn of the century bank lobby and retains the building's original vault and woodwork. Offices on the second floor retain these building materials as well. The Paderewski room, facing Milwaukee Avenue, houses an exhibit dedicated to Polish pianist, composer, diplomat, politician, and prime minister Ignacy Jan Paderewski. The room retains its dark woodwork and intricate crown molding.

The Great Hall (87' x 71'), which currently houses the PMA's main exhibition gallery and is used for meetings and events, dominates the third floor. Its walls are white-washed with black trim around the arches of the former arcade windows, the stage area, and crown molding. An exhibition corridor extends across the front of the building and leads to several small exhibition galleries. These rooms are plaster walls with their wood window frames painted black. Two storage areas are located behind the stage of the Great Hall. The fourth floor contains the former Great Hall balcony, which has been walled off and retrofitted to accommodate an art gallery (54'-2" x 25' x 11"). It faces Augusta Blvd. Toward the inside of the building off of the balcony, the floor is open to the Great Hall on the third floor. Archival storage and offices face Milwaukee Avenue.

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America building retains sufficient integrity for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The most significant alterations—the renovation of the exterior storefronts and the conversion of the Great Hall into a museum space with its arcade windows bricked over—took place well within the period of significance to meet planned institutional needs as the PRCUA and PMA matured. Subsequent changes up to the present have been relatively minor and do not significantly detract from the building's ability to communicate its significance. Despite changes in the neighborhood's ethnic and built composition, most of the iconic buildings that characterized Polish Downtown remain. The construction of Kennedy Expressway obliterated the old built environment east of Milwaukee Avenue and Noble Street, but much of the area to the west remains unchanged. New and old buildings are interspersed among one another throughout the neighborhood, the latter being abundant enough to retain the area's feeling and association. Most importantly, major intersections, especially the angular type defined by diagonal Milwaukee Avenue, retain their historic character. The area bound by the intersections of Division Street and Ashland and Milwaukee Avenues, the original center of Polish Downtown, is a salient example of this retention of character. Iconic buildings such as St. Stanislaus Kostka and Holy Trinity Churches, as well as those of other adjoining parishes, remain standing, as do St. Stanislaus and Holy Trinity High Schools. The PRCUA building remains in good company in this historic built environment.

In 1936, the PRCUA renovated the second floor rental offices into a space for the Polish Museum of America. Its entryway on the main stairwell, also had lavish classical dome vaulted ceiling and extensive painting on the ceiling. The painting is carried out on the ceiling throughout the exhibit space near the edges with numerous Polish and Catholic icons. This space also features extensively detailed oak walls and display cases. As the collection for the Polish Museum of America has expanded, it moved most of its collection to the upper floors of the building and the second floor space has become the "Paderewski Room" in honor of Ignacius Paderewski, featuring many of the famous Polish statesman's artifacts. This space has remained largely unchanged.

In 1941, the PRCUA converted the storefront rental space for institutional needs, namely a library and the newsroom for their organizations national newspaper, the *Narod Polski*. These changes were planned to occur once the PRCUA had the property paid for and took place between 1940 and 1941. On the interior the PRCUA altered the interior to better accommodate their needs with larger rooms. The Great Hall was converted from a banquet space to a museum exhibition hall. On the exterior the original storefront, which consisted of large plate glass display windows with cast iron sills with prism glass transoms and wire mesh bulk heads, was replaced with the existing terra cotta Art Deco storefront. The copper awning was removed and was ultimately donated to a scrap metal drive during the Second World War.¹ Four

¹

"Alterations of Store Fronts & Main Entrance of the PRCU building," March 13, 1941, blueprint, PRCUA office documents. Chicago Permit

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windows on the west side and two on the east were bricked over during the 1940 renovation in order to protect the cultural artifacts in the museum exhibition hall from sunlight.

The changes that have occurred to the property outside of its period of significance have not affected the building's overall integrity. In 1976, the original parapet, which was adorned with pedimented stepped gables –two with large terra cotta cartouches with the PRCUA signia and one with "HALLA" inscribed in stone -- was removed and replaced with a center double-pier cap with a simplistic cap with the letters "ZPRK" and a cross in concrete on brickwork. Also at this time, an oval sign hanging on the center of the building was removed. A large rectangular sign with "POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION" was erected in the center of the parapet facing Augusta Boulevard. Additionally a large digital clock was affixed on top of this sign in 1982.² In the 2000s, the balcony was closed off and converted into an art gallery. At that time, the four windows on the fourth floor facing Augusta Boulevard were bricked in. The windows on the upper floors of the front elevations and many of the windows on the back and sides of the building were replaced after the period of significance with double-paned energy efficient windows. The original window openings on the secondary and tertiary elevations were altered to fit factory stock windows.³

The main interior spaces remain largely intact from the period of significance. The most noticeable features, the second-floor PRCUA lobby and boardroom have extensive oak woodworking with Art Deco detailing. The lobby of the PRCUA was created with elements of a turn of the century bank lobby, complete with a large teller desk that separated the employees from the customers and featured iron teller windows. The lobby also featured a massive vault. Since its creation in 1913, the only major alteration of the room has been the removal of the iron teller windows, which were replaced with glass. The boardroom also features Art Deco woodwork. It has numerous Catholic icons and PRCUA insignias, especially around the doorways and at the head of the room. This space has remained largely the same as well, although a minimum of the woodworking has been removed because of deterioration. The recreational spaces on the ground floor have been remodeled with newer paneling, partition walls, and dropped ceiling, but these changes are in the back of the building and do not negatively impact the integrity of the property.

no. 123957, March 11, 1941, *City of Chicago Building Permits - February 21, 1872 - June 30, 1954*, University of Illinois at Chicago Special Collections.

² "PRCUA building Picture, 1976," x2007.004.0060, Polish Museum of America Digital Photograph Archive [here after PMADPA]. "PRCUA building Picture, 1982," x2007.002.0001, *ibid*.

³ Flizikowski, 1912. "Gathering at the Polish Museum of America (1940s?)," x2007.002.0010, PMADPA.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance extends from the building's construction in 1913 to 1962, the fifty year cutoff for significance listing in the National Register.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Ethnic Heritage/European

Period of Significance

1913 - 1962

Significant Dates

1913, 1935, 1939, 1941

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Flizikowski, John S.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA) Building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Ethnic Heritage. It is locally significant for its association with Chicago's immigration settlements as defined in the Multiple Property Listing, *Ethnic (European) Historic Settlement in the City of Chicago (1860 – 1930)*. The property meets the registration requirements for the fraternal building property type as described in the Multiple Property Document. The PRCUA Building continues to house the organization and the Polish Museum and Archive which it founded, and is affiliated with the development of an institutionally complete Polish community and the cultivation of Polish identity in Chicago (the largest Polish community in the United States) during its period of significance extending from the building's construction in 1913 to 1962, the fifty year cutoff for significance in the National Register. The oldest national Polish fraternal in the city, the PRCUA established its headquarters in Polish Downtown in 1913. The Union, formed in 1873, was first and foremost a mutual-aid society benefiting the Roman Catholic membership of its constituent parish-based fraternal societies, but also functioned as a social and civic center, contributing to the institutional completeness of the Chicago Polonia. The building continues to serve as an integral part of this neighborhood and was financed, designed, and built by PRCUA members who served their community from within its walls. The building's continued use in its originally-intended capacity and its status as one of Polish Downtown's iconic buildings contribute to its high degree of integrity.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Chicago has been one of America's premier destinations for a wide array of immigrants of myriad ethnic origin since its emergence as a major manufacturing center and transportation hub during the middle decades of the nineteenth century. These groups established cohesive communities in the city in order to maintain their ethnic identity and traditions—all the more apparent to them in a foreign urban environment—and to adapt to life in their new home. Between the mid 1800s and 1930s, most of these immigrants were of European origin and arrived in successive, though often overlapping waves defined by place of origin. Two broad periods of immigration punctuated this period of massive immigration that both coincided with and fueled the growth of Chicago and other heavy manufacturing cities in the United States. The first wave arrived from Northern and Western Europe, the latter from Southern and Eastern Europe.⁴

The Poles were the largest ethnic group to arrive in Chicago during this second wave. In order to maintain their ethnic identity—which was all the more apparent to them in a foreign, often hostile urban environment like Chicago—and to provide a supportive environment to adapt to life in their new home, Chicago's Poles established a nearly institutionally complete ethnic community by the end of the nineteenth century. This community, which included churches, fraternal organizations, ethnic parochial schools, newspapers, orphanages and other welfare organizations, youth groups, businesses and services of all sorts, integrated within and organized themselves by ethnic parish. Polish neighborhoods emerged around the areas of heavy industry whose jobs attracted the immigrants.

The largest and most homogenous Polish neighborhood, Polish Downtown, was located on the northwest side just west of the Goose Island industrial corridor and centered on the intersection of Milwaukee and Ashland Avenues with Division Street. This neighborhood was established in the 1860s by a small number of Polish immigrants and emerged as the largest, most institutionally complete Polish colony in the city and functioned as the cultural, intellectual, and spiritual center of Chicago Polonia by the end of the nineteenth century. Several Polish organizations of national importance located their headquarters there, most notably the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA) and the Polish National Alliance (PNA), two rival national fraternal organizations that contributed to the institutional completeness of their communities and shaped Polish identity in Chicago.

The PRCUA, the oldest of the two national fraternals, established its headquarters in Polish Downtown in 1913. Its role in Chicago Polonia dates back to the organization's inception in 1873. The Union was first and foremost a mutual-aid society benefiting the Roman Catholic membership of its constituent parish-based fraternal societies, but also functioned as a social and civic center, contributing to the institutional completeness of the Chicago Polonia. This building, which continues to house the organization and the Polish Museum and Archive which it founded, is associated with the development of an institutionally complete Polish community and the cultivation of Polish identity in Chicago (the largest Polish community in the United States) during its period of significance extending from the building's construction in 1913

⁴ Victoria Granacki, Jennifer Kenny, and Greg Rainka, *Ethnic European Historic Settlement in the City of Chicago, 1860-1930*, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2008.

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to 1962, the fifty year cutoff for significance to the National Register. The building stands as still-functioning built remnant of this community, whose members financed, designed, built, and served their community from within its walls. It is, therefore, eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under significance Criterion A. The building's continued use in its originally-intended capacity and its status as one of Polish Downtown's iconic buildings contribute to its high degree of integrity.

To understand the significance of the PRCUA or its headquarters it is important to know the forces behind Polish immigration to Chicago and the nature of Polish settlement there. For a historic context of Polish immigration and settlement in Chicago, please refer to the Multiple Property Listing, *Ethnic (European) Historic Settlement in the City of Chicago (1860 – 1930)*.

Polish Downtown supported hundreds of societies and clubs of all sorts. Most of these local societies were associated with a Catholic parish or a national fraternal organization and ranged from mutual-aid fraternal and building and loan organizations to choir clubs and youth groups. These organizations provided a social and cultural institutional base covering virtually all interests and are too numerous to discuss in detail. Polonia's most nationally significant organizations located their headquarters in Polish Downtown. These included two of Polonia's two largest fraternal associations, the PRCUA and the PNA—national bodies of local mutual aid societies that provided that provided economic benefits to workers and their families in case of illness, disability, or death and served as a center for social and cultural activities. The fraternal were a driving force behind the community-parish building (especially the PRCUA), cultivating Polish national identity, and organizing material and political support for establishing a free Polish state.¹³

The PRCUA, the oldest of the two associations, was founded in 1873 in Detroit. Barzynski was among its founders. It began as a loose association of like-minded societies scattered across several cities, though heavily concentrated in the Chicago area, and only built its headquarters in 1913 following a restructuring of the organization that made it more centralized. The organization sought to preserve the Catholic faith and Polish nationality of immigrants through education, charity, and fraternal aid. The organization carried out this immigrant community-building mission by supporting the development of social and community institutions, especially schools and churches, serving as a venue for local societies and clubs representing a wide range of interests (youth, choir, welfare associations), and providing insurance to its Roman Catholic membership. Following centralization, which took place largely as a response to competition from the PNA, it was increasingly involved with cultivating material support for a free Polish nation-state.¹⁴

The PNA, the largest of the two associations, was founded in 1880 in Chicago and Philadelphia. The centralized organization relocated its headquarters to Polish Downtown in 1896. Its primary aim was to cultivate political, financial, and material support for a free Polish state. Although an overwhelming majority of its membership was Catholic, the PNA emerged largely in reaction to dissatisfaction with the religious and domestic preoccupations of the PRCUA.

The rivalry that emerged between the two fraternal organizations centered differences in priorities as well as competing visions of what constituted "Polishness." In practical terms, the PRCUA prioritized Polish community development in America and the preservation of Roman Catholicism and Polish culture. The PNA prioritized the cultivation of modern forms of nationalism, the "imagined community" in sociologist Benedict Anderson's terms, to cultivate political support for a free Polish state. This conflict in aims was largely the result of ideological differences in what constitutes Polish identity. The PRCUA favored Roman Catholicism as the unifying feature of Polonia. This assertion was in part the result of older traditions of consciousness endemic to Poland, especially after the state's erasure from the European map. Poland was a large territory comprised of several distinct regions, and its people were largely agrarian and identified with their family, village, and religion above the nebulous idea of some common Polish nation. The PNA, on the other hand, viewed the Polish language as the common unifying factor and, although most Poles were Roman Catholic, rejected Catholicism as a criteria for Polish identity for fear that it would impede religious freedom in the community. This competition surfaced especially between the 1890s and 1910s, in the associations' newspapers and in their interactions with one another. On the ground, these ideological differences mattered little. Poles typically joined the society of their coworkers, community members, or family. While immigrants initially identified with home region and Catholicism, their

¹³ Granacki, Kenny, and Rainka, 102.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*; Radzilowski, 87-114.

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minority status in America heightened their sense of Polishness as they settled in communities based on ethnicity and language. Poles typically retained old notions of identity while adopting a more modern nationalist identity as well.¹⁵

The PRCUA contributed greatly to the institutional completeness of Polonia and Polish Downtown. Its provision of economic benefits to members in the event of illness, disability, or death was an obvious contribution. Polish immigrants were predominantly unskilled workers living on the economic margins of society. Such support provided an essential social safety net for workers and their families as they established themselves and pursued home ownership and other aspirations.

Community-parish building was another preoccupation that contributed greatly to Polonia's institutional completeness. The PRCUA was a driving force behind the establishment of new Polish parishes. They assisted Polish communities in building parishes, establishing a church, and constructing the complex network of institutions, especially schools, described above. In addition to cultivating these institutions, PRCUA associations served as a conduit for other organizations, largely social, cultural, and welfare associations to establish themselves and coalesce. Once the PRCUA established its headquarters in Polish Downtown in 1913, its building served as a physical social and cultural center for Polonia. It served as a venue for social and cultural organizations, a cultural center serving the public, and an intellectual center for greater Polonia.¹⁶

The PRCUA built their headquarters at 984 N. Milwaukee Ave in 1913. The PRCUA "home" was several blocks Southeast of the center of Polish Downtown, at the intersection of Milwaukee, Ashland and Division. The leadership of the PRCUA made the decision to centralize both the organization's services and structure. Such a change was well received by the Union's membership. This shift was an extension of their competition with the PNA, which had a headquarters in the neighborhood since 1896, but in the early years of the twentieth century had begun to concentrate insurance premiums to leverage greater benefits for their members. The PRCUA mirrored the action to stay competitive in business, but also to reframe their organization as a cultural and intellectual center of Polonia.

The proposal to build a headquarters was raised by PRCUA leadership in late 1911. The plan was promoted as a great opportunity to strengthen the organization. A central headquarters was framed as a "precious community resource," which could be used for more than just business. There were plans for a library, as well as a great meeting hall for community celebrations and meetings. Moreover, PRCUA leadership reassured its constituents that financing would not be a problem. They had planned to create rental space to pay the mortgage and further bolster the Union's investment portfolio. In a special election during February of 1912, the plan to construct a new building was overwhelmingly approved by the Union's membership. After the proposal passed, the election was hailed as a great moment in the unification of the Polish people.¹⁷

Approval for the construction was attained through a popular vote of all of the PRCUAs subsidiary societies across the United States. Once the building was completed, the rental spaces were leased by Polish businesses. The PRCUA's leadership consciously hired Polish contractors and laborers to keep their money within the Polish community. The building was literally paid for and built by Polish immigrants.¹⁸

The designer of the building was an architect of merit within Chicago Polonia. John Flizikowski designed 197 buildings in the Chicagoland area.¹⁹ The majority of those structures were located within Polish communities.²⁰ Flizikowski specialized in commercial buildings, churches and schools. Virtually all of the structures he designed were located in traditionally Polish areas of the city, especially on its northwest and southwest sides. Among the many buildings he designed aside were the PRCUA building the headquarters for the Polish National Alliance at 102 W. Division St, White Eagle Brewery in South Chicago and the second Northwestern Trust and Saving Bank (the largest Polish bank in Chicago) at 1201 N. Milwaukee Avenue, which also housed the Polish National Alliance's publications facilities.²¹ Flizikowski also designed the Sacred Heart of Jesus church and parish house at the Back of the Yards neighborhood. Historian Dominic

¹⁵ Radzilowski, 87-114.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ "UWAGI," [Comments], *Narod Polski*, February 2, 1912, Polish Museum of America Library, Chicago, Illinois [hereafter PMAL].

¹⁸ "Sprawozdanie wydatkow na budowe Domu Zjednoczenia, do 26 wrzesnia 1913 roku.," [Union Building Expense Report, on September 26, 1913], *Narod Polski*, November 5, 1913, PMAL. "UWAGI," [Comments], *Narod Polski*, February 7, 1912.

¹⁹ "J.S. Flizikowski" and "Flizikowski & Kaiser" in Chicago Historical Society, *Index to American Contractor's Chicago Building Permit Column, 1898-1912*, Available at <http://www.chsmedia.org/househistory/1898-1912permits/search.asp>, accessed 4/22/2011. Chicago Landmarks, City of Chicago, "Historic Resources Survey," available at <http://webapps.cityofchicago.org/landmarksweb>, accessed 4/22/2011.

²⁰ University of Chicago Local Community Research Committee, "Social base map of Chicago, showing industrial areas, park, transportation and language groups," (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1926), available at <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/su/maps/chisoc/>, accessed 4/22/2011. This map, created near the end of Flizikowski's career clearly places the majority of his constructions within Polish neighborhoods.

²¹ Granacki, *Chicago's Polish Downtown*, 74. Weston Arthur Goodspeed and Daniel David Healy, editors, *History of Cook County Illinois* (Chicago: Goodspeed Historical Association, 1908): 723-724.

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Pacyga has noted that construction and financing this compound of parish buildings was also “an entirely Polish affair.”²² The fact that Flizikowski designed both headquarters for the PRCUA and the PNA as well as Catholic churches is deserving of consideration. Businesses and organizations hired him to make a statement about the importance of their services to the community.

The building was recognized as a “Polish Catholic Fortress” with which contributors were proud to be associated.²³ The PRCUA had hired the finest architect in their community to design the building and were proud to pay their own people to build it as well. The PRCUA Building is the embodiment of the institutionally complete Polish community in Chicago.

Once construction was complete, a grand opening ceremony and banquet was held on October 5, 1913, corresponding with the Thirty-third annual meeting of the PRCUA. Meeting minutes reveal how the PRCUA’s leadership ascribed the structure’s meaning to the Union. The building was memorialized as a “monument to the union.” The leadership noted its important location near the heart of Chicago Polonia at Polish Downtown. It was also heralded as the most beautiful building of any of the fraternal organizations in Polonia. Leaders boasted of its “unbreakable foundation.” The building would be available for the “poorest to the richest,” for generations to come. The new building was “created by the Polish Nation” and would be their home.²⁴ The PRCUA’s newspaper *Narod Polski*, called it the “Polish Center of Chicago.”²⁵

Beyond pronouncing the cultural meaning of the building, the PRCUA’s meeting minutes and newspaper articles also outlined how the building’s spaces were designed to function in the coming years. Of primary importance, the organization had included six storefronts on the first floor, as well as rental office space on the second floor, which were available for local businessmen to lease. The PRCUA also planned to rent their boardroom as well as the banquet hall and stage, which was complete with a catering kitchen. The hall reportedly held 2,000 people. It was projected that they would be able to repay the mortgage through these means within fourteen years. The PRCUA sought Polish businesses as tenants. Evidence suggests they were largely successful in this pursuit. Once the mortgage was paid they intended to reevaluate and repurpose the space for other institutional uses.²⁶

The PRCUA also championed their new home as a Polish cultural and intellectual center. From the beginning the building included a library. Also, the banquet hall and stage were the largest such facilities in Polish Downtown, making it an automatic choice for large formal celebratory occasions within the community. The building also featured a picture and art gallery on the fourth floor. It would be the “Center of Polish National Life,” serving to promote, “art, knowledge and entertainment.”²⁷

Over the next three decades, the PRCUA repurposed most of the building’s rental spaces into venues for cultural and institutional resources. In 1935, the board of directors of the PRCUA, led by their newly elected president, Joseph Kania, voted to create a Polish Museum and Archives (PMA) to preserve the cultural heritage of Poland. President Kania framed the idea to the board of directors as an opportunity to elicit greater reverence for Polish heritage:

Having concluded after extensive study that it is the museums and archives that most accurately reflect national culture and historic event, and that they not only record the high degree of a nation’s learning but serve as a center and workshop for academic and scientific research, contributing to the growth of enlightenment, and that there, in Polonia, they will evoke the respect of others for Poles in America, I propose the establishment of a permanent Museum and Archives of Polonia at the Polish Roman Catholic Union.²⁸

Soon thereafter the PRCUA renovated three of the second floor rental offices into museum and archival space. A grand opening ceremony was held in 1937. At the celebration Kania declared, “In the Archives and Museums, which we have created in PRCUA Headquarters, we wish to gather, not for ourselves and not for our organization, but for the entire American Polonia, all of the priceless memorabilia, which will be handed down to new generations.”²⁹ The PRCUA always

²² Dominic A. Pacyga, *Polish Immigrants and Industrial Chicago* (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1991):135.

²³ “Polish Catholic Fortress,” Thirty-Third Meeting of the PRCU, October 6-11, 1913, Meeting Minutes,” PMAA, PRCU, SEJMY 29, 30-35 (1907-1917).

²⁴ “Polish Catholic Fortress,” Thirty-Third Meeting of the PRCUA, October 6-11, 1913, Meeting Minutes, in the Polish Museum of America Archives [hereafter PMAA], PRCUA, SEJMY 29, 30-35 (1907-1917).

²⁵ “Dom Zjednoczenia P.R.K.,” [Home of the Polish Roman Catholic Union] *Narod Polski*, August 6, 1913, PMAL.

²⁶ *Ibid.* “Polish Catholic Fortress,” Thirty-Third Meeting of the PRCUA, October 6-11, 1913, Meeting Minutes, in the Polish Museum of America Archives [hereafter PMA], PRCU, SEJMY 29, 30-35 (1907-1917).

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ Polish Museum of America, *The Polish Museum of America: History and Collections* (Warsaw: Polish Museum of America, 2003): 25.

Chicago Permit no. 98453, June 5, 1936, *City of Chicago Building Permits - February 21, 1872 - June 30, 1954*, University of Illinois at Chicago Special Collections.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 29. “Altered Second Floor Plan, NE Corner, PRCU building,” June 3, 1936, blueprint, PRCUA office documents.

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
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saw the museum as an opportunity to unify Polonia beyond its organization and preserve Polish history for the future.

The museum further expanded in 1939, acquiring a huge collection of materials from the Polish contingent's exhibit at the World's Fair in New York. The collection could not be returned to Poland, which had been invaded and occupied by both Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia. The PRCUA converted the third floor great hall into an exhibit hall to house the expanding collection. Also during this time, the fourth floor gallery was converted into archival space. Finally in 1941, the storefront rental spaces on the first floor were renovated and the eastern half of the first floor was turned into a new library space, while the western half was designated for other PRCUA functions, such as publication offices for the *Narod Polski*.³⁰ This newspaper played a crucial role in the conflict with the PNA and in shaping Polish identity in American Polonia.

Beyond creating cultural spaces to share and preserve Polish heritage, the PRCUA building also functioned as a focal point for community civic activity. The building's role as a community center during the First and Second World Wars as well as the Great Depression is especially noteworthy. However, its role extended beyond these major historic moments as the building was always a home to Polish community activities.

With the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, the wedge in American Polonia began to dissolve. Both "nationalists" (of the PNA) and "religionists" (of the PRCUA) identified the war as an opportunity for the creation of a Polish state. With the United State's entrance into the World War in 1917, the PRCUA building became an army recruitment center for both the US Army and the Polish Army. President Woodrow Wilson condoned recruiting non-naturalized Polish immigrants into the "Blue Army" of the Polish Military, which fought in France. The PRCUA recruiting center enlisted 2,500 Polish immigrants to serve in the "Blue Army."³¹

After the First World War, tensions between the "religionists" and "nationalists" largely disappeared thanks to the creation of the Polish state. As a result, the PRCUA and PNA worked together more often on community aid projects, which frequently were based out of the PRCUA building, which was far larger and better equipped than the PNA headquarters. During the Great Depression, the PRCUA building became a food collection and distribution location for the surrounding community's unemployed and hungry. During the Second World War, the PRCUA and PNA banded together to collect food, clothes and medicine to send to displaced Poles. The PRCUA building was the collection point for these materials.³² Similarly, the PRCUA building was also the collection point for scrap metal drives for the United States' cause and they even donated their copper awning.³³

Beyond the association with these important moments in American History, the PRCUA building also functioned as a venue for numerous community events and organizations. The banquet hall was the largest such facility in Chicago's Downtown, until its renovation in 1939. The space was used for many large banquets for the PRCUA, the surrounding St. Stanislaus Kostka parish and many others.³⁴ The PRCUA also became home of many other community groups in pursuit of its larger institutional goals to support youth education, Polish culture and community.³⁵ The building continues in this capacity as the home of the PRCUA and the Polish Museum of America, as well as a community center for Polish America.

Once the PRCUA had paid the mortgage for the building, largely thanks to the storefront rental space, it remodeled the first and second floor storefronts and rental properties for institutional needs, namely a library, museum, and the newsroom for its organization's national newspaper, the *Narod Polski*. This renovation was planned before the building was even constructed. These interior and exterior renovations enabled the PRCUA and PMA to further its role in the community as a cultural and intellectual center.

To this day, the building and organization have served most of its originally-intended functions. The PRCUA continues to offer members the wide array of benefits it is historically known for: residential mortgage loans, educational loans, educational scholarships, a student scholarship grant program, certificate loans, an orphan benefit, a new child

³⁰ *Polish Museum of America*, 31-33. "Alterations of Store Fronts & Main Entrance of the PRCU building," March 13, 1941, blueprint, PRCUA office documents.

³¹ Paul Valasek, *Haller's Polish Army in France* (New York: White Hall Printing, 2006): 16, 35-37. Victoria Granacki, *Chicago's Polish Downtown* (Chicago: Arcadia, 2004): 115-116. "Recruitment Center no. 2," x2008.013.0001 in the Polish Museum of America Digital Photograph Archive [hereafter PMADPA]. "Volunteers to the Polish Army in France, standing in front of the PRCUA," x2008.013.0006 in *ibid*.

³² Granacki, *Chicago's Polish Downtown*, 116. "Food Baskets in front of the PRCUA building," x2007.001.0172, PMADPA. "Supplies for Europe, 1939," x2007.007.0010, *ibid*. The Polish Museum of America Digital Photograph archive has many great pictures of these events at the PRCUA building, these are just two examples.

³³ Radzilowski, 209-230.

³⁴ "Banquet in honor of Joseph Palczynski, July 30, 1923," x2008.011.0029 in PMADPA. "Banquet in honor of Frank Chech, newly elected PRCU treasurer, October 8, 1928," x2007.004.0067, *ibid*. "Banquet in honor of Rev. Celichowski, April 26, 1926," x2007.004.0068, *ibid*. "PRCU board of directors banquet, 1934," x2007.004.0085, *ibid*. "Banquet in Honor of Rev. Sztucko, July 7, 1917," x2008.011.0036, *ibid*. The Digital Photograph Archive has dozens of examples of these banquets, these are but a few.

³⁵ Radzilowski, 176-190, 256-265.

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benefit, and a subscription to the *Narod Polski* newspaper. The building also houses a youth group, dance groups, and a number of other associations. The building hosts numerous events throughout the year catering to the Polish-American public and all other interested persons including an annual Pulaski Day convention that has become a popular destination for local politicians as well as the public. The building continues to house the PMA, which is open to the public and is a main attraction to the building.

This building, which continues to house the organization and the PMA which it founded, is associated with the development of an institutionally complete Polish community and the cultivation of Polish identity in Chicago (the largest Polish community in the United States) during its period of significance extending from the building's construction in 1913 to 1962, the fifty year cutoff for significance to the National Register. The building stands as still-functioning built remnant of this community, whose members financed, designed, built, and served their community from within its walls. These associations and its high degree of integrity merit its listing in the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of its significance under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- "Altered Second Floor Plan, NE Corner, PRCU building." June 3, 1936. Blueprint. PRCUA Office Documents.
- "Alterations of Store Fronts & Main Entrance of the PRCU building." March 13, 1941. Blueprint. PRCUA Office Documents.
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- Chicago Permit no. 123957. March 11, 1941, *City of Chicago Building Permits - February 21, 1872 - June 30, 1954*, University of Illinois at Chicago Special Collections.
- "Dom Zjednoczenia P.R.K." [Home of the Polish Roman Catholic Union]. *Narod Polski*, August 6, 1913. Polish Museum of America Library.
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- Granacki, Victoria Jennifer Kenny, and Greg Rainka. *Ethnic European Historic Settlement in the City of Chicago, 1860-1930*. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. 2008.
- Greene, Victor. *For God and Country: Polish and Lithuanian Ethnic Consciousness in America, 1860-1910*. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1975.
- Kantowicz, Edward R. "Polish Chicago: Survival Through Solidarity," in *The Ethnic Frontier: Essays in the History of Group Survival in Chicago and the Midwest*, ed. Melvin Holli and Peter d'A. Jones. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1977.
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- Parot, Joseph. *Polish Catholics in Chicago, 1850-1920: A Religious History*. DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1981.
- Polish Museum of America. *The Polish Museum of America: History and Collections*. Warsaw: Polish Museum of America, 2003.
- Radzilowski, John. *The Eagle and the Cross: A History of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

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"Polish Catholic Fortress." Thirty-Third Meeting of the PRCUA. October 6-11, 1913. Meeting Minutes, in the Polish Museum of America Archives. *PRCUA, SEJMY* 29, 30-35 (1907-1917).

"UWAGI" [Comments]. *Narod Polski*, February 2, 1912. Polish Museum of America Library, Chicago, Illinois.

Valasek, Paul. *Haller's Polish Army in France*. New York: White Hall Printing, 2006.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: Polish Museum of America Library, Loyola University Library

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16 T</u>	<u>445172</u>	<u>4638851</u>	3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is bounded by Milwaukee Avenue to the Northwest, Augusta Avenue to the North, Elizabeth Street to the South, and the lot occupied by 1355 and 1357 Noble Street to the West.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These boundaries correspond to the nominated building's footprint and parking lot.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Ippen and Daniel Ott
organization Loyola University Chicago date 10/17/2011
street & number 659 W. Wrightwood Ave. Apt. 101 telephone (815) 540-5710
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60614
e-mail wippen@luc.edu

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
City: Chicago
County: Cook
State: IL
Name of Photographer: Daniel Ott
Dates of Photographs: April 15, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0001
North and Northeast facade, camera facing south

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0002
West rear and north facade in 2011, camera facing southeast

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0003
West rear from parking lot in 2011, camera facing east

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0004
South rear from parking lot in 2011, camera facing north

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0005
Board room in 2011, second floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0006
Main lobby, second floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0007
Recreation room and kitchen, ground floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0008
Library, ground floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0009

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
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Record storage, basement

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0010
Paderewski Room entrance, second floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0011
Ground level PMA entrance

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0012
Paderewski Room, second floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0013
PMA hallway, third floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0014
Great hall, third floor

IL_Cook County_Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_0015
Art gallery, fourth floor

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

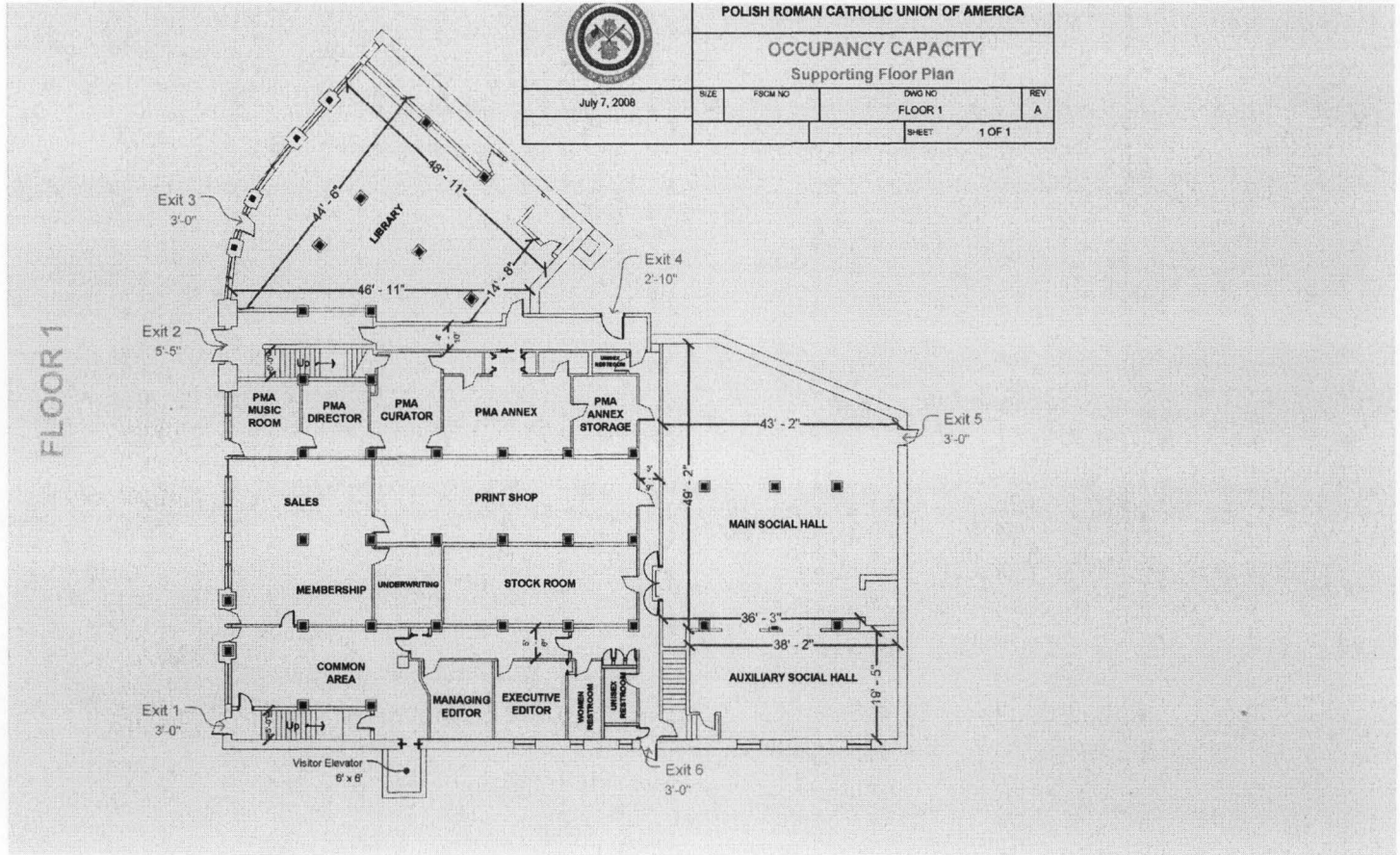
name Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
street & number 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. telephone 1-800-772-8632
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60642-4101

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

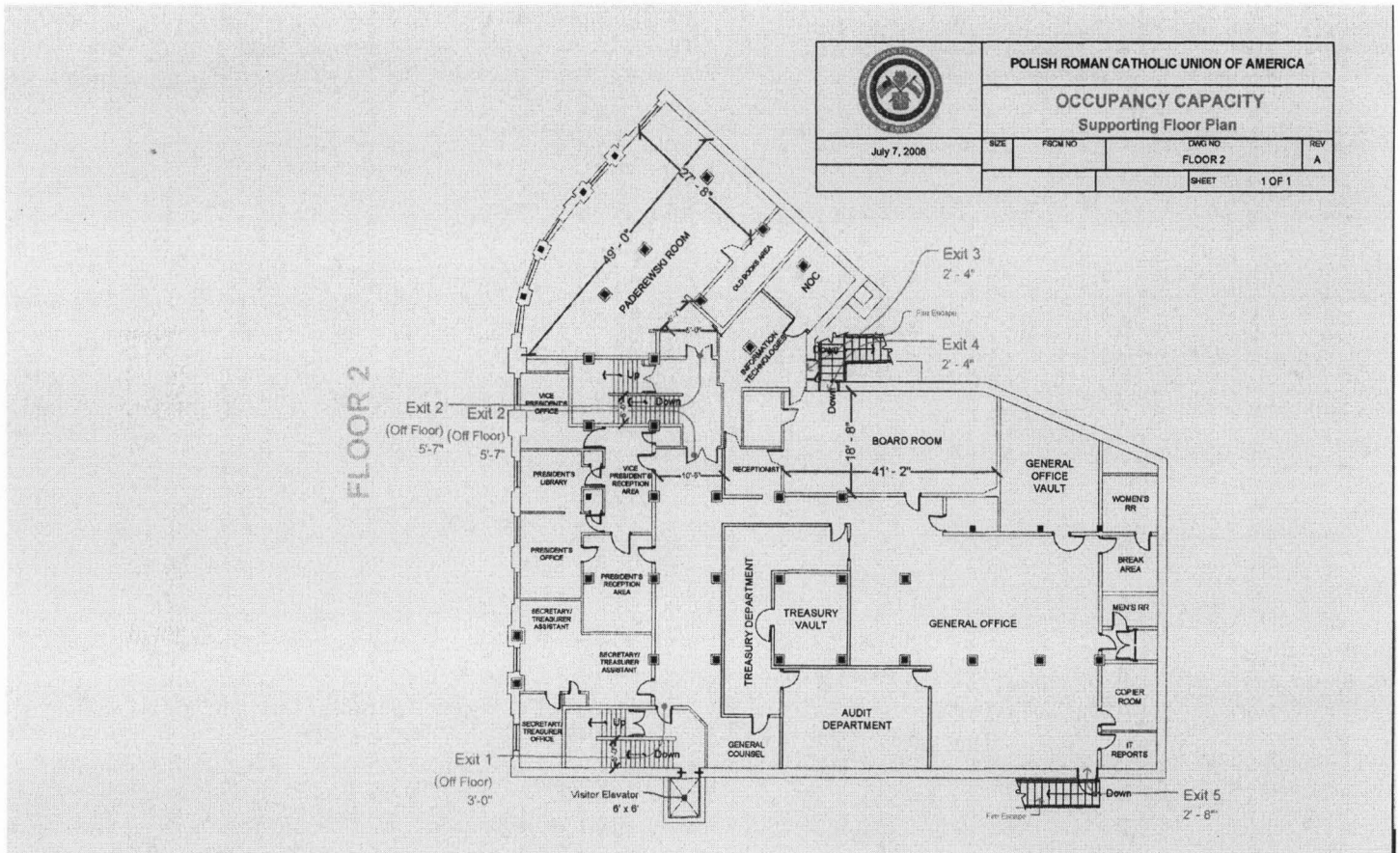
Cook, Illinois
County and State



First floor plan of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
 Name of Property

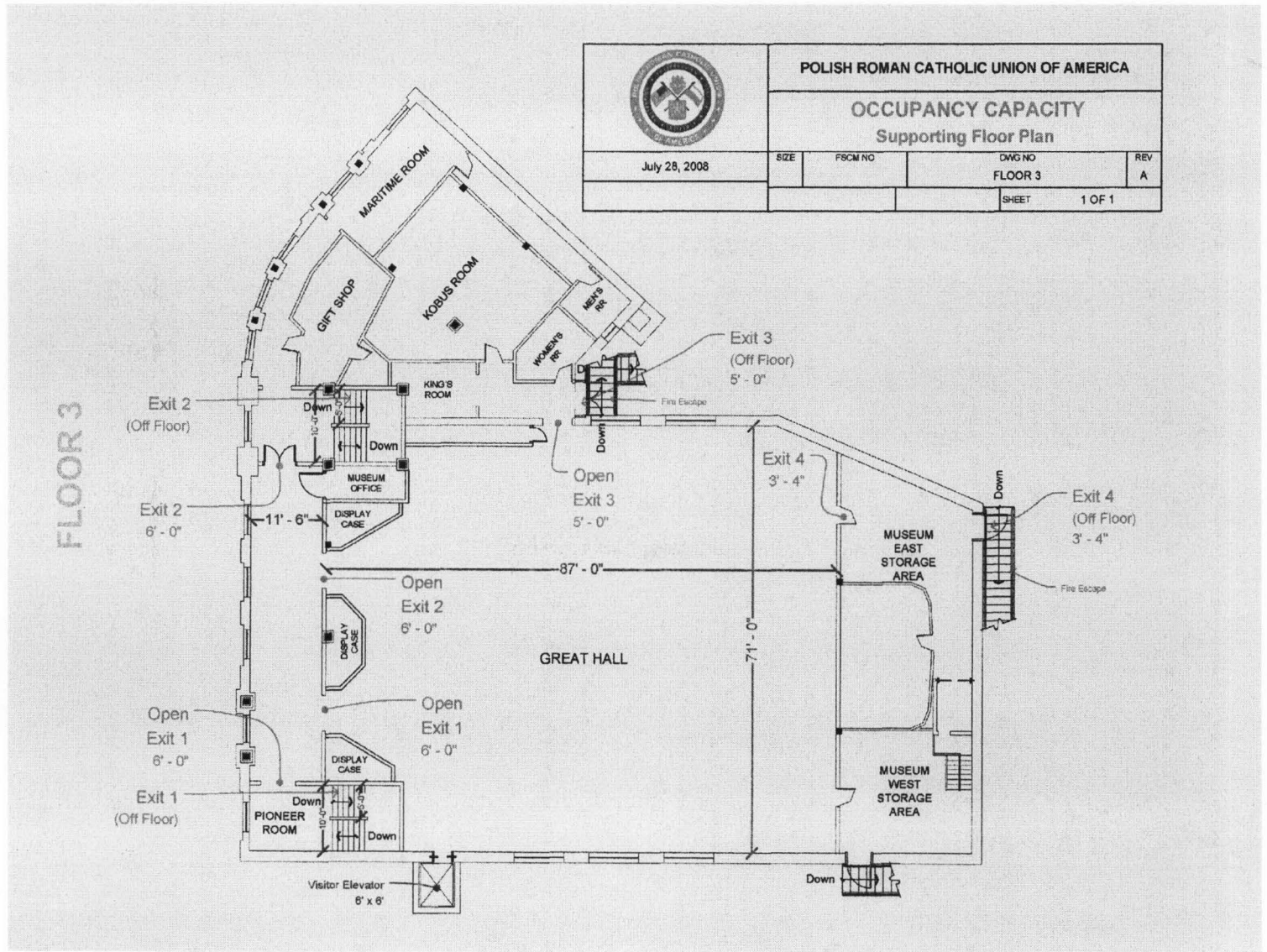
Cook, Illinois
 County and State



Second floor plan of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
 Name of Property

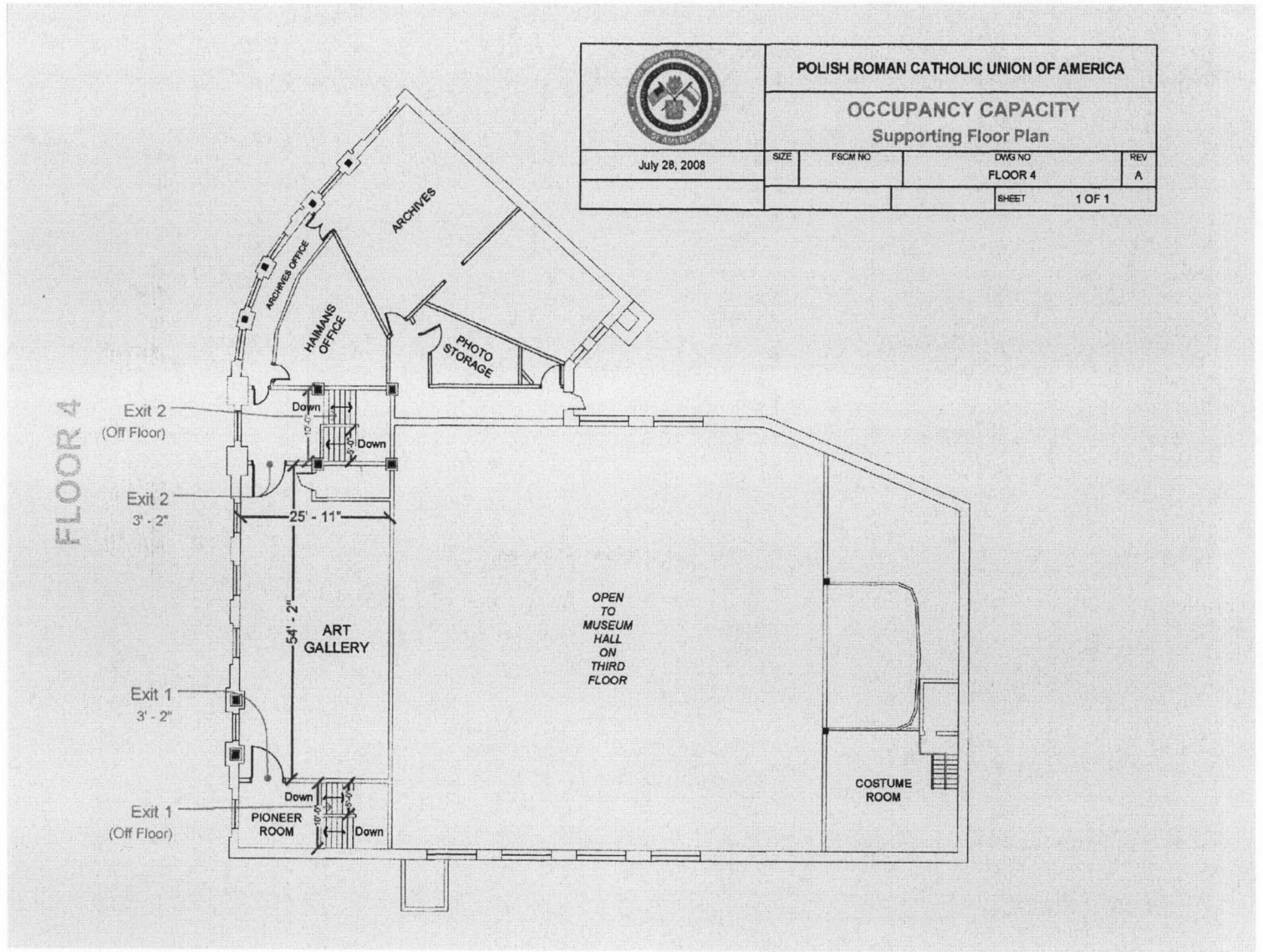
Cook, Illinois
 County and State



Third floor plan of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
 Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
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Fourth floor plan of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
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Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_
"Front Elevations," drawing, 1912

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

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County and State



Polish Roman Catholic Union Building
Banquet in great hall in 1916

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
County and State



Polish Roman Catholic Union Building
Great hall c.1940s, n.d.

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
County and State



Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_
North and northeast facade in 1913

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
County and State



Polish Roman Catholic Union Building_
North and northeast facade in 1941

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Name of Property

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Polish Roman Catholic Union Building
Ground breaking in 1912, facing unknown

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
NAME:

MULTIPLE Ethnic (European) Historic Settlement in the city of Chicago
NAME: 1860-1930 MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Cook

DATE RECEIVED: 11/16/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/14/12
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/31/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/02/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12001114

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1-2-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION



POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

PRCUA BUILDING
Cook Co, IL
1 of 15

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
**Polish Roman
Catholic Union**
OF AMERICA

FOR LEASE OR
RENTAL
PRIVATE
PARKING

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

PRCUA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
2 of 15



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Polish Roman
Catholic Union

OF AMERICA

POLISH MUSEUM OF
AMERICA

VISITORS WELCOME

(773) 782-2600

PRC UA BUILDING

COOK CO, IL

3 of 15



PREUA BUILDING

COOK CO, IL

4 of 15



PEQUA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL

5 of 15



EXIT



PECHA BUILDING

COOK CO, IL

6 of 15



PRCUA BUILDING

COOK CO, IL

7 of 15



PERUA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
8 of 15



EXIT
←

DC
15015
15015

DC
15015
15015

DC
15015

Prcua Building
Cook Co, IL
9 of 15



MUSEUM I MUZEUM
KONSTANTYNA PAŁACU

PADEKOWSKI
BOOZ
I
SALA
PADEKOWSKIEGO

← MUSEUM

PECUA Building
Cook Co, IL
10 of 15

EXIT



PRCVA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
11 of 15



TRU A BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
12 of 15



PECUA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
13 of 15



TRCUBUILDING
COOK CO, IL
14 of 15



PECUA BUILDING
COOK CO, IL
15 of 15

349 1/16 IN (8.876 CM) RISE

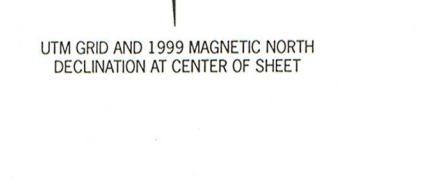
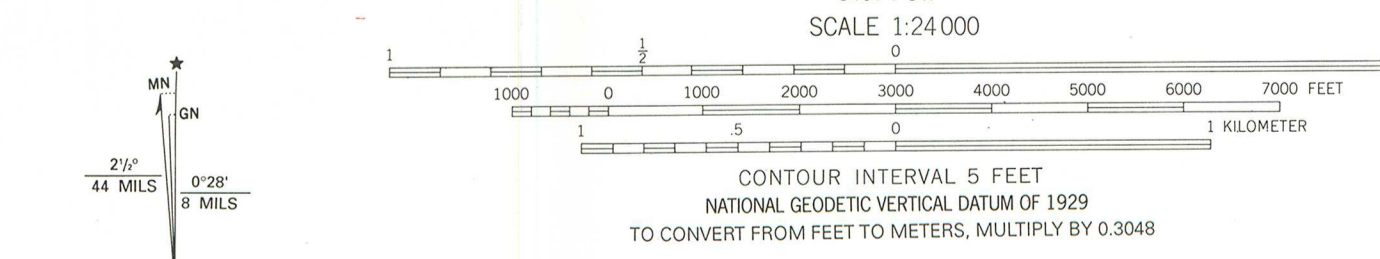


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

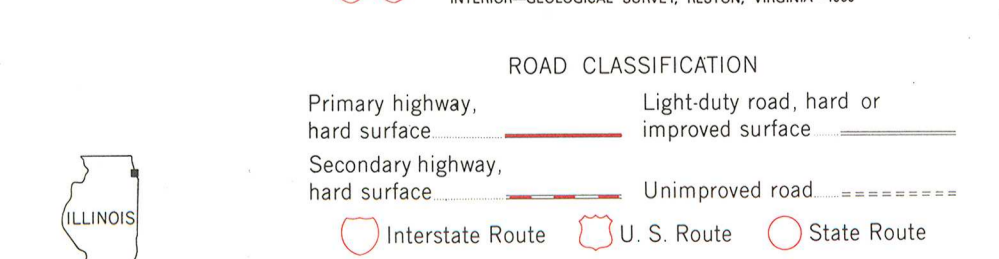
CHICAGO LOOP QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS-COOK CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Derived from imagery taken 1988 and other sources. Photointerpreted using imagery taken 1997; no major culture or drainage changes observed. PLS and survey control current as of 1992.
Boundaries, other than corporate, verified 1999.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: Illinois coordinate system, east zone (transverse Mercator).
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16.
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
AND ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



CHICAGO LOOP, ILL.
1997
NIMA 3467 1 NW-SERIES V863

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building
Chicago, Cook County, IL
UTM Reference: 16T 445 172.78 / 46388 51.23





Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • www.illinois-history.gov

November 13, 2012

Ms. Barbara Wyatt
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW Suite NC400
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed for your review are the following National Register Nomination Forms that were recommended by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Village Hall (Sheffield, Bureau County)
Zoe Theater (Pittsfield, Pike County)
Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Building (Chicago, Cook County)
The Neuville (Chicago, Cook County)
Vesta Accumulator Company Building (Chicago, Cook County)

Please contact me at the address above, or by telephone at 217-785-4324. You can also email me at andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov if you need any additional information or clarification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures