

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Illinois	
COUNTY:	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
70-412-0009	4/17/70	

## 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Rookery Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

## 2. LOCATION

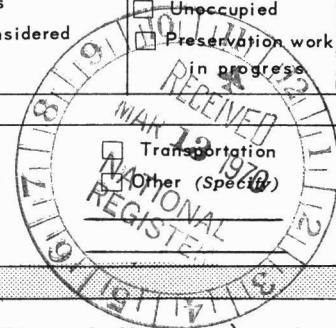
STREET AND NUMBER:  
209 South LaSalle Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chicago

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Illinois	12	Cook	031

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments			



## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
J. Parker Hall (land leased from the City of Chicago) as trustee under  
Rookery Building Trust A

STREET AND NUMBER:  
111 W. Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chicago

STATE:	CODE
Illinois	12

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Cook County Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
County Building

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chicago

STATE	CODE
Illinois	12

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
National Survey of Historic Sites (HABS 1)

DATE OF SURVEY: August, 1963

Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Department of Interior

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE	CODE
District of Columbia	08

STATE:  
IllinoisCOUNTY:  
CookFOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>The Rookery is composed of <u>eleven</u> stories and a basement. It reaches a height of 164 feet and rests on spread foundations employing beam and rail grillages.</p> <p>Square in plan, the building covers the entire lot. It is bounded on the north by Adams Street, on the south by Quincy Street, on the west by LaSalle Street, and on the east by an alley, and has a <u>large</u> interior light court. Thus the building is naturally lighted on all four sides and in the interior. In the Adams and LaSalle Street facades, the first two stories are of granite, the upper stories of dark brown brick and terra cotta. The walls of the light court and the first two stories along Quincy Street and the alley are constructed of <u>cast-iron</u> columns and spandrel beams. Thus, the building uses both masonry and skeletal construction.</p> <p>The court lobby was remodeled by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1905. Wright removed most of John Root's original iron ornament and replaced it with simple geometric plans. The staircase was encased in white marble. Rectangular urns, also of marble, and rectangular light fixtures were also designed by Wright.</p>						
SEE INSTRUCTIONS						



## B. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Completed 1886

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanistic	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rookery is a prime example of the development of the multi-story commercial structure, utilizing the best construction methods then available. Its use of skeletal construction and fine ornamental detail place it directly in the mainstream of the "Chicago School" of architecture.

Regarding the ornament of the Adams and LaSalle facades, architectural historian Carl Condit states that "The architectural excellence of the Rookery's outer elevations grows chiefly out of the extraordinary openness of the walls, the airy yet vigorous articulation of the elevations, precise scale and pleasing proportions, and the firm integration of many diverse elements of decorative detail. The main entrances of the building, on Adams and LaSalle Streets, are among the best features of the outer elevations and are expressive of Root's love of richly ornamented entranceways." The Rookery is also noteworthy for its pioneering plan, which provides shops and offices around a graceful, semi-private square.

Daniel Burnham and John Root were two of Chicago's most significant and influential "Chicago School" architects. Their partnership was formed in 1873 and continued until Root's death in 1891. During this time they were responsible for approximately 250 structures throughout the country. The majority of their Chicago structures have been demolished.

The Rookery Building was presented a citation by the Commission on Chicago architectural Landmarks in 1962.



## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Burnham Library, Art Institute of Chicago, Adams Street and Michigan Avenue, Microfilm: Roll 25, Frames (1-19)  
 Roll 27, Frames (1-86) Daniel Burnham's letters and diaries

Condit, Carl, The Chicago School of Architecture, Chicago:  
 The University of Chicago Press, 1964. pps. 56-58, 63-65  
 Copies in file  
 Seven photographs.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			O R	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	41	52'	45"	87	37'	54"	
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .7

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Mrs. Susan Benjamin

ORGANIZATION

Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks

STREET AND NUMBER:

320 North Clark Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

CODE

12

DATE

November 24, 1969

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local 

Name Dan Malcomson

Title Acting Director

Date February 17, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Emmett Allen Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date APR 17 1970

ATTEST:

William J. Murphy  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 MAR. 27 1970

Date MAR 27 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Illinois	
COUNTY	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
70-412-0009		

(Number all entries)

9 condt.

Cyclopedia of Architecture, Carpentry and Building, Chicago:  
American School of Correspondence, 1909. Vol. 5, pps 18-19.

Hoffman, Donald, The Meaning of Architecture: Buildings and Writings of John Wellborn Root, New York: Horizon Press, 1967, Plates 31-45.  
Several excellent photographs.

Industrial Chicago: The Building Interests, Vol. 2, Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1891, p. 122.

Inland Architect and News Record, Vol. II, NO. 8, July, 1888. Rendering of exterior, Details on contractors for building.

1888. , Vol. XII, No. 2, September, 1888.

Photos and plan.

1907, p. 36. , Vol. 50, No. 3, September,

"Frank Lloyd Wright, Architect for Remodeling; Work Executed by the Davis Marble Co., Chicago."

Kooper, Frederick, Illinois Architecture, From Territorial Times to the Present: A Selective Guide, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1968., p. 50

Randall, Frank, History of the Development of Building Construction in Chicago, Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1949. p. 112.

Randall, John D., A Guide to Significant Chicago Architecture of 1872 to 1922. Glencoe, Illinois, P.O. Box 345, 1958. p. 18.

Rebori, A.N., "The Work of Burnham and Root, D.H. Burnham & Co., and Graham, Burnham & Co," The Architectural Record, Vol. 38, July-December, 1915, p. 42ff.

Siegel, Arthur, Ed., Chicago's Famous Buildings, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1965, p. 62.

Tallmadge, Thomas E., Architecture in Old Chicago, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1941, pps. 145, 149ff, 186, 190, 198, 203-05, 208.





34-A

# PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

### SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME	Rookery Building		
COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:	209 South LaSalle St.		
CITY OR TOWN:	Chicago		
STATE:	Illinois	CODE	COUNTY:
	12	Cook	
3. PHOTO REFERENCE	Municipal Reference Library of Chicago		
PHOTO CREDIT:			
DATE OF PHOTO:	1950?		
NEGATIVE FILED AT:	Department of Conservation, Springfield, Illinois		
4. IDENTIFICATION	DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		
Looking southeast at the Rookery Building which remains unchanged from the time of this photograph			

STATE	Illinois	
COUNTY	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	70-4-12-0013	
DATE		4/17/70

RECEIVED  
MAR 19 1970  
NATIONAL REGISTER

34-4

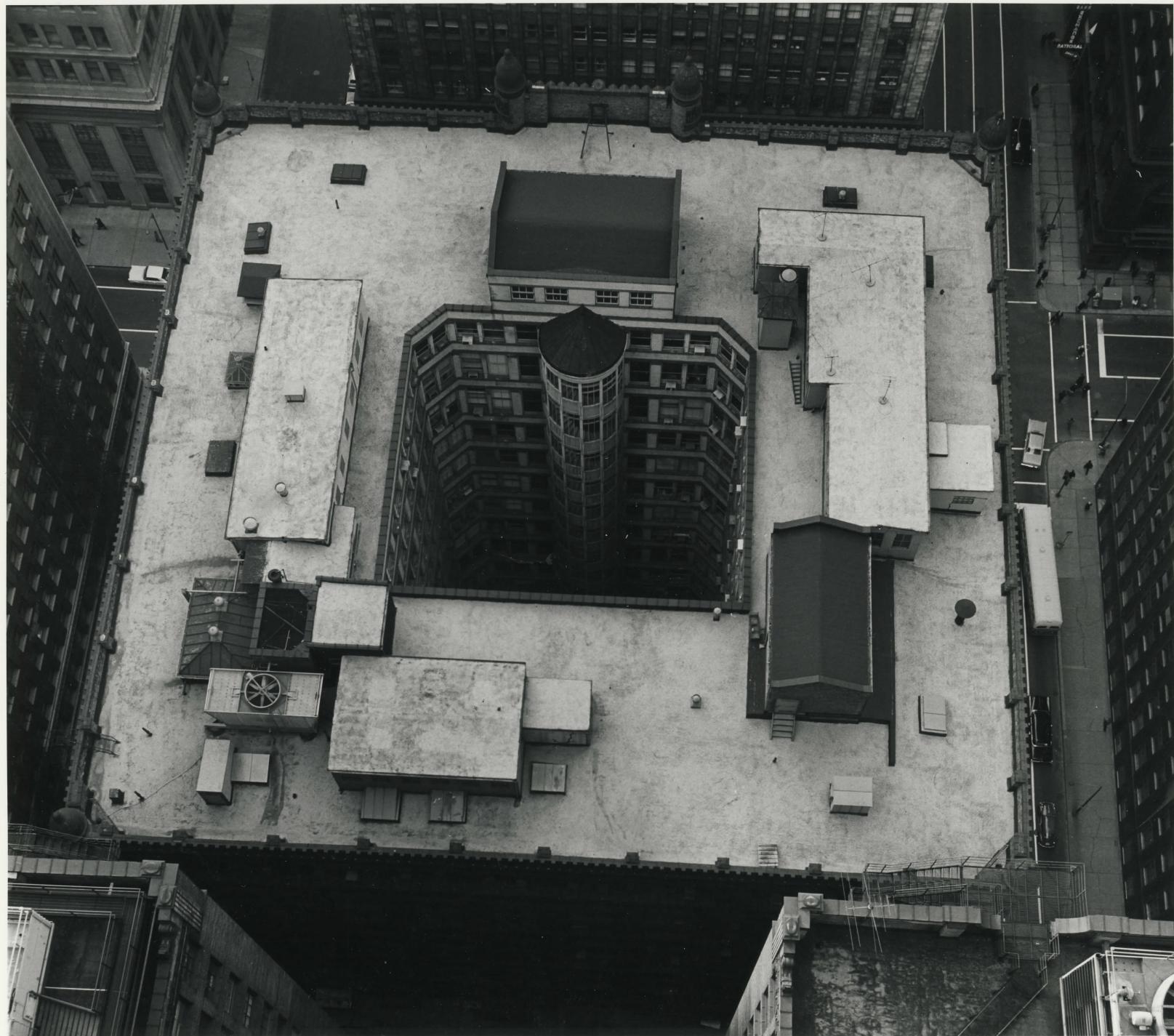
Rookery Building

Looking southeast at the Rookery Building which remains unchanged from the time of this photograph

Loc. Court Room  
Title: Rookery Building  
NPS Number 70-4-12-0013  
15 x 9 1/2

Daniel

67W



Rookery Building  
Chicago

REGISTER

## SESSIONS INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE		STATE Illinois						
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES		COUNTY Cook						
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM		FOR NPS USE ONLY						
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)								
<p><b>1. NAME</b>          COMMON: <b>Rookery Building</b>          AND/OR HISTORIC:</p>								
<p><b>2. LOCATION</b>          STREET AND NUMBER:  <b>209 South LaSalle St.</b>          CITY OR TOWN:  <b>Chicago</b>          STATE:  <b>Illinois</b></p>								
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>CODE</td> <td>COUNTY:</td> <td>CODE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td><b>Cook</b></td> <td>031</td> </tr> </table>			CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	12	<b>Cook</b>	031
CODE	COUNTY:	CODE						
12	<b>Cook</b>	031						
<p><b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>          PHOTO CREDIT: <b>Richard Nickel, Photographer</b>          DATE OF PHOTO: <b>1965</b>          NEGATIVE FILED AT:  <b>Office of Richard Nickel, Park Ridge, Illinois</b></p>								
<p><b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>          DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  <b>Courtyard of the Rookery Building from an adjacent building</b></p>								

NPS Number 1000

Geek Geek Geek

R. Nickel



The Rookery, Chicago, Illinois  
Interior Lobby

Photo: Chicago Landmarks Commission

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Illinois	
COUNTY	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
70-4-12-0013	4/17/70	

1. NAME		Rookery Building		
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:		209 South LaSalle Street		
CITY OR TOWN:		Chicago		
STATE:		ILLINOIS	CODE 12	COUNTY: Cook
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		<p>PHOTO CREDIT: Cervin Robinson, Photographer</p> <p>DATE OF PHOTO: 1963</p> <p>NEGATIVE FILED AT: Historic American Buildings Survey, Washington, D. C.</p>		
4. IDENTIFICATION		<p>DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.</p> <p>Interior and staircase of the court lobby as remodeled by Frank Lloyd Wright</p>		

1972.391

Commission on Chicago  
Historical and Architectural  
Landmarks  
320 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610



The Rookery, Chicago, Illinois  
Interior Stair well

Photo: Chicago Landmarks Commission

Commission on Chicago  
Historical and Architectural  
Landmarks  
320 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610

Defaule - cap 1(b)

1972. 567

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

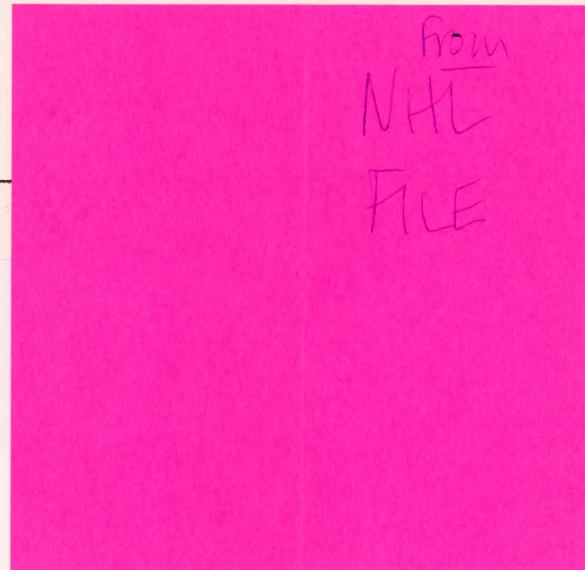
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Illinois	
COUNTY	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
70-4-12-0013	4/17/70	

1. NAME		
COMMON: Rookery Building		
AND/OR HISTORIC:		
2. LOCATION		
STREET AND NUMBER: 209 South LaSalle St.		
CITY OR TOWN: Chicago		
STATE: Illinois	CODE 12	COUNTY: Cook
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Nickel, Photographer		
DATE OF PHOTO: 1961		
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Office of Richard Nickel, Park Ridge, Illinois		
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Detail of the ornamentation		



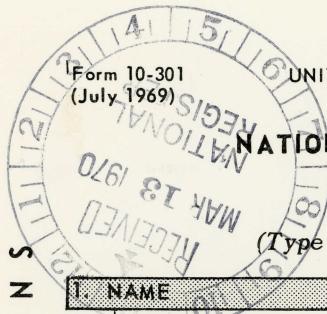


THE NEW ROOKERY CORNER ADAMS & LA SALLE STS.

Commission on Chicago  
Historical and Architectural  
Landmarks  
320 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610

1972. 180

Rookery



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Illinois	
COUNTY	Cook	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
70-4-12-0009	4/17/70	

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Rookery Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

209 South LaSalle Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Chicago

STATE:

Illinois

CODE

12

COUNTY:

Cook

CODE

031

**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE:

USGS- Chicago Loop Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series

SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1963

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

The Rookery,  
Chicago, Ill



**Commission on Chicago  
Historical and Architectural  
Landmarks  
320 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610**

1972.380

*Hoobey*



APR 27 1970

sgt-m

Sen. Frank Annunziato  
Senate of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Annunziato:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Illinois and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Ralph T. Erdahl and Charles Harting Purdy have also been provided with this information. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

Interest in the National Register

APR 17 1970

cc:

Mr. Don Maloyich, Acting Director, Department of Conservation, State Office Building, Springfield, Illinois 62706

Director, Northeast Region

LL-Mr. Melvin

T

HR

RGamble:mn

4/8/70

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

234-mm

Properties added to the National Register of Historical Places

ILLINOIS

Bentley Building	Chicago, Illinois
Leiter I Building	Chicago, Illinois
MetLife Building	Chicago, Illinois
Carew, Pirie, Scott and Company Building	Chicago, Illinois
Roosevelt University	Chicago, Illinois
Auditorium Building	Chicago, Illinois
John J. Glessner House	Chicago, Illinois

ROOKERY BUILDING

(Resource Name)

COOK

(County)

10000238

(Reference Number[s])

ILLINOIS

(State)

5 / 18 / 88

(Date form completed)

Ostapenko

(Completed by)

STATUS:

1. MISSING \_\_\_\_ 2. REMOVED/ \_\_\_\_ 3. NHL  4. TR \_\_\_\_ 5. MRA \_\_\_\_ 6. OVER- \_\_\_\_ 7. NPS - \_\_\_\_ 8. DOE - \_\_\_\_ 9. RESTRICTED  
DEMOLISHED

EXPLANATION:

1. Missing Status: Entire Folder ( ); Nomination ( ); Map(s) ( ); Photos ( )  
Available on: Microfiche ( ); Optical Disk ( )

2. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Cause for removal)

/ /  
(Date Removed)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(NHL Name, if different than NRHP Name)

/ /  
(Date Designated)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(If multi-state/county TR, state/county where filed and location)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(TR or MRA Name)

5. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(If multi-state/county MRA, state/county where filed and location)

6. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Location of oversize file)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Current source of partial documentation)

/ /  
(Target Date)

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

(Where found, or source of replacement)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Found/Replaced)