

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 11-7-85

date entered

Continuation sheet VICTORY SCULPTURE

Item number 7 & 8

Page 1

VICTORY SCULPTURE

35th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

Date of construction: 1927, 1936

Sculpture: Leonard Crunelle

Architect for base: John A. Nyden

At the close of World War I, movements were begun within the black community to honor the valorous achievements of the Eighth Regiment of the Illinois National Guard which served in France under the 370th U.S. Infantry. Although a memorial tablet was placed on the Eighth Regiment Armory honoring members who died in service, and the street upon which the Armory was located was renamed in 1922 in honor of Lieutenant George L. Giles, the highest ranking officer to be killed in action, the black community began petitioning for the erection of a suitable monument befitting the valor of the "Fighting Eighth." By the mid 1920s proposals for erection of a permanent monument in the parkway of Grand Boulevard in the vicinity of 35th Street were met with stiff opposition by the South Park Commission which had control over the boulevard system. The South Park Commission maintained that there was no space available for such a monument, but relented after the *Chicago Defender* began actively promoting a "vote no" campaign against the commission board, urging blacks to defeat any project backed by the South Park Commission until due recognition of the community's war heroes was realized. The monument was funded jointly by the South Park Commission and the State of Illinois, and sited to replace a fountain in the boulevard parkway at the corner of Grand Boulevard (now Martin Luther King Jr. Drive) and 35th Street, immediately across from the offices of the Liberty Life Insurance Company. The design was prepared in 1926 and consisted of a circular grey granite shaft with three symbolic inset bronze sculptural panels finished with a rich black patination portraying a black soldier, a black woman symbolizing motherhood, and the figure of Columbia, holding a tablet which recorded the locations of the regiment's principal battles. The sculpture was designed and executed by French-born sculptor Leonard Crunelle (1872-1944), a former pupil of noted Chicago sculptor Lorado Taft. The base and architectural setting of the monument was designed in collaboration with Chicago architect John A. Nyden. The completed monument was dedicated on Armistice Day, November 11, 1927 in an extensive public ceremony. In 1936, the figure of a uniformed World War I black doughboy was added to the top of the monument, the sculpture also being the work of Leonard Crunelle.

The sculpture is one of the most famous landmarks of Chicago's black community, and is the site of an annual Memorial Day ceremony when the surviving members of the "Fighting Eighth" gather to honor the memory of their fallen comrades.

M.R.A. _____
H/D (IF APP) _____
NHL NRI NRDS NRDO DOE _____
HABS/HAER NRA/TI IS IL _____
OTHER _____

PROPERTY NAME VICTORY SCULPTURE
LOCATION South side of 35th St. at King Dr. CITY/TOWN/VICINITY Chicago
COUNTY Cook STATE Illinois ZIP 60653

OWNER'S NAME Paul Karas, Commissioner of Public Works; City of Chicago
LOCATION 121 N. LaSalle Street CITY/TOWN/VICINITY Chicago, Illinois
STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION Cook County Recorder of Deeds
118 N. Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION CENTERED ON MEDIAN PARKWAY DIVIDING MARTIN LUTHER KING.
DRIVE, IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF 35th STREET, INCLUDED AS
A PART OF THE BOULEVARD SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE Less than one acre

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1927, 1936 ARCHITECT AND/OR BUILDER Leonard Crunelle, sculptor
John A. Nyden, architect

DESCRIPTION GRANITE PYLON ON CONCRETE BASE INSET WITH FOUR BRONZE RELIEF PLAQUES
FINISHED WITH A BLACK PATINATION. THE FIGURE OF A WWI DOUGHBOY WAS
ADDED TO THE TOP IN 1936 (SEE ATTACHED)

DATE AND NATURE OF ALTERATIONS FIGURE AT TOP ADDED IN 1936 TO THE ORIGINAL COMPOSITION.

OUTBUILDINGS AND/OR OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES ON PROPERTY (ATTACH SKETCH
PLAN IF APPLICABLE) N/A

SIGNIFICANCE Erected to honor the valor of the 8th Regiment of the Illinois National
Guard during World War I, the first Regiment to be entirely commanded
by blacks. The monument was the second monument to be erected in honor of
black war heroes in the United States. (SEE ATTACHED)

FORM PREPARED BY Timothy Samuelson - Commission on Chicago Landmarks
320 N. Clark Street TEL 744 3038
Chicago, Illinois

ATTACH 5" by 7" PHOTO HERE--USE MASKING
TAPE AT CORNERS

INFORMATION BELOW SHOULD ALSO APPEAR ON
BACK OF PHOTO

USE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL
PHOTOS, IF ANY

PROPERTY NAME _____
LOCATION _____ CITY/TOWN/VICINITY _____
CAMERA FACING _____ DATE _____
PHOTOGRAPHER _____
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE _____

11/7/85

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Victory Sculpture (Black Metropolis TR)
Cook County
ILLINOIS

Substantive Review

Working No. NOV 7 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 12/5/85 - 12/22/85
Action: ACCEPT
RETURN 12-10-85
REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Significance OK, but needs acreage

Recom./Criteria Return (A)
Reviewer Gardner
Discipline Historian
Date 12/10/85
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

X 10. Geographical Data

X Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UTM References _____

Please provide acreage.

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *Boyle Croonen* Date *12/10/85* Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet VICTORY SCULPTURE

Item number 7 & 8

Page 1

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NOV 7 1985

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COUNTY Cook STATE Illinois ZIP 60653

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FORM PREPARED BY Timothy Samuelson - Commission on Chicago Landmarks
320 N. Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois TEL 744 3038

ATTACH 5" by 7" PHOTO HERE--USE MASKING TAPE AT CORNERS

INFORMATION BELOW SHOULD ALSO APPEAR ON BACK OF PHOTO

USE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL PHOTOS, IF ANY

PROPERTY NAME _____
LOCATION _____ CITY/TOWN/VICINITY _____
CAMERA FACING _____ DATE _____
PHOTOGRAPHER _____
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE _____

11/7/85

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

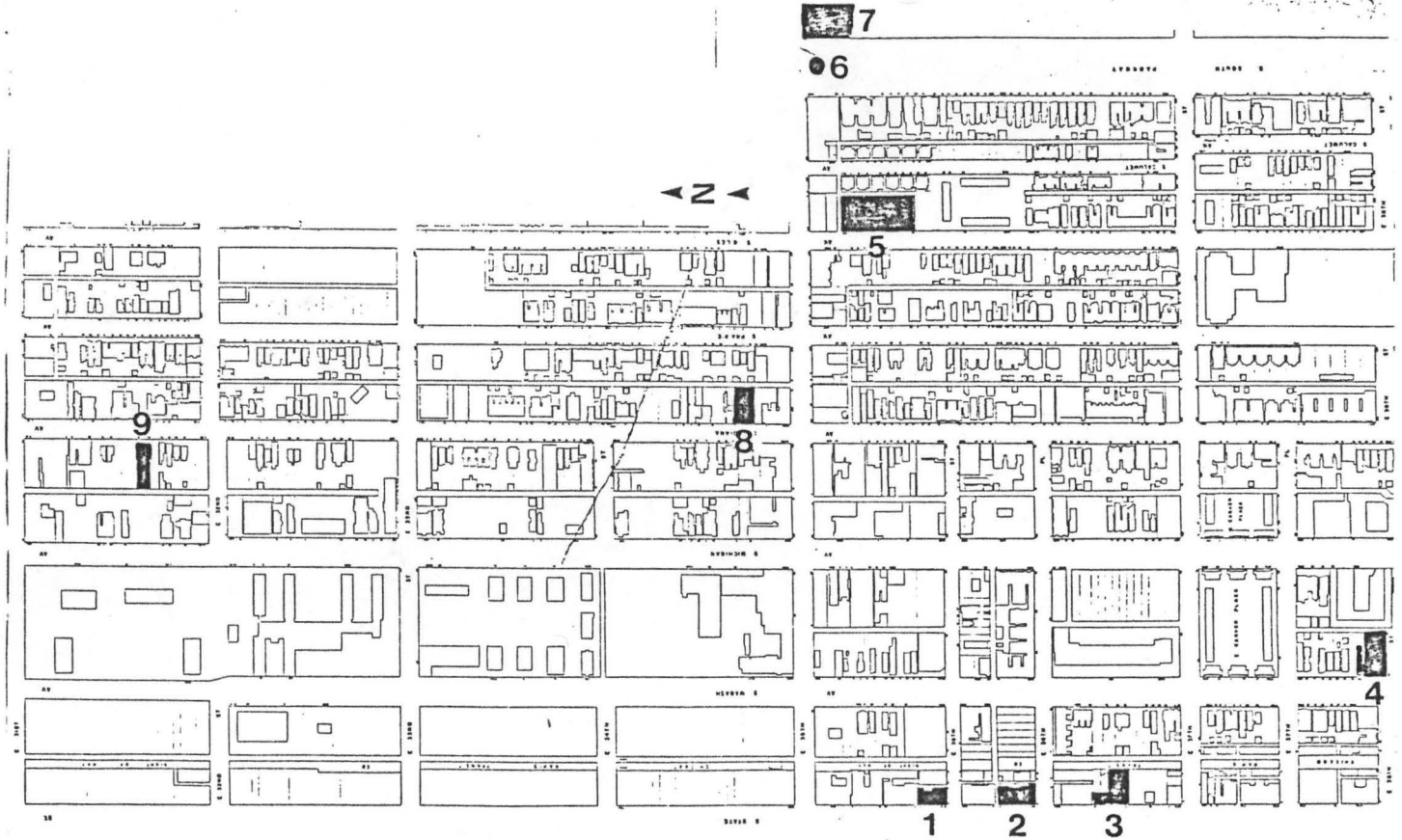
Continuation sheet 4

Item number 7

Page 2

1. JORDAN BUILDING
3539-49 S. STATE STREET
2. OVERTON HYGIENIC BUILDING
3619-27 S. STATE STREET
3. CHICAGO BEE BUILDING
3647-55 S. STATE STREET
4. WABASH AVENUE Y.M.C.A.
3763 S. WABASH AVENUE
5. EIGHTH REGIMENT ARMORY
3517-33 S. GILES AVENUE

6. VICTORY SCULPTURE
35th STREET AT KING DRIVE
7. LIBERTY LIFE/ SUPREME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
3501 S. KING DRIVE
8. CHICAGO DEFENDER BUILDING
3435 S. INDIANA AVENUE
9. UNITY HALL
3140 S. INDIANA AVENUE



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Victory Sculpture (Black Metropolis TR)
Cook County
ILLINOIS

Substantive Review

Working No. 11/7/85
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 5/12/86
Action: ACCEPT 4-30-86
 RETURN
 REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments: _____

Recom./Criteria Accept - A
Reviewer Ginsvino
Discipline Historic
Date 4/30/86
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Condition | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance *(in one paragraph)*

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

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The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Black Metropolis Thematic Resources

State Cook County, Illinois

Corn empt 12/14/85

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Victory Sculpture

Substantive Review Keeper

Beth Grossena 4/30/86

Attest

2. Chicago Bee Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melores Byers 4/30/86

Attest

3. Overton Hygienic Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melores Byers 4/30/86

Attest

4. Unity Hall

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melores Byers 4/30/86

Attest

Address 5. Chicago Defender Building

Substantive Review Keeper

Return 5

Attest

6. Wabash Avenue YCA

Substantive Review

Keeper

Beth Grossena 4/30/86

Attest

7. Eighth Regiment Armory

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melores Byers 4/30/86

Attest

8. Jordon Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melores Byers 4/30/86

Attest

9. Liberty Life-Supreme
Life Insurance Company

Substantive Review

Keeper

Return ref

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest



BLACK METROPOLIS THEMATIC NOMINATION

VICTORY SCULPTURE

35th Street at King Drive

Chicago, Illinois

Henry Reuel, Photographer

April 1984

Commission on Chicago Landmarks holds negative

View looking North

Photograph #10

Please refer to the map in the
Black Metropolis TR Cover
Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000173