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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 4400-4418 West 26th Street not for publication
city or town Chicago vicinity
state Illinois code IL county Cook code 031 zip code 60639

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

Chris E. Haas DSHPO, 1-14-13
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): _____

For Edson N. Beall 3-6-13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
 Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
 County and State

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.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
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

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRIAL/manufacturing facility

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCIAL STYLE/Sullivan-esque

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Masonry

roof: Asphalt

other: _____

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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 Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is a two-and-three-story U-shaped brick industrial building at the northwest corner of West 26th Street and South Kostner Avenue in the North Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago. The building, completed in 1925, is of post-and-beam construction with a concrete foundation and masonry exterior walls. The roof is flat and houses two large metal air handlers as well as the structural supports for two water tanks. The building is regularly fenestrated and retains the majority of its original multi-light steel sash windows. The primary south elevation of the building is clad with red face brick and features white “Sullivan-esque” terra-cotta detailing manufactured by the Midland Terra Cotta Company. The limestone door surrounds at the southwest corner of the building are Art-Deco style alterations that may date from the late 1930s, when a third story was also added to the building. Two 300-foot long brick “wings” extend north from the primary south elevation, separated by a rail spur that serviced the building. These wings are connected across the rail line at three points along the second story by simple masonry and metal passageways. Both wings are divided into three sections by masonry firewalls; otherwise, the interior of the building is open and utilitarian, with exposed structural elements.

Narrative Description

Setting and Site

The Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is located at the northwest corner of West 26th Street and North Keating Avenue, just east of the Chicago-Cicero city limits. The building is located within what was once an extensive grouping of early-twentieth-century industrial and manufacturing facilities that grew up around the juncture of two major rail supply and transport lines in Chicago’s North Lawndale neighborhood. Of the dozens of manufacturing facilities that once comprised this industrial district, the Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is one of only five surviving structures, three of which are scattered remnants of the massive Western Electric Hawthorn Works complex just west of Storkline.

The building is oriented north-south, fronting south onto West 26th Street and east onto North Kostner Avenue. The building is built up to the property line on both the east and south elevations. East of North Kostner Avenue, development is primarily residential, with commercial buildings along the major thoroughfare of West 26th Street. Railway lines separate the building from the mixed industrial, commercial, and residential development to the north. The land immediately west and south of the building consists of vacant lots where former industrial buildings stood.

Structure

The Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is a U-shaped building of post-and-beam construction with a concrete foundation, exterior masonry walls, and a flat roof. The primary elevation of the building faces south onto West 26th Street; behind this façade, two 300-foot long “wings” extend north, constructed around a railroad

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spur that allowed for easy transport of materials and products to and from the building. Both wings were originally constructed as two-stories; a one-story addition was added to the west wing in two phases between 1936 and 1939. Two second-story passageways cross over the rail line to connect the east and west wings. Each wing is divided into three sections by masonry firewalls with sliding metal fire doors. The building contains three enclosed metal stairs with simple pipe railings—two in the east wing and one at the southernmost firewall of the west wing. Metal supports that once held large wooden water tanks are located on the building's roof, along with two large, deteriorated metal air handlers that originally served to remove sawdust from the factory. Three metal fire escapes remain on the building—one on the west elevation near the southwest corner of the building, one on the east elevation just north of the entrance, and one at the north elevation of the west wing.

Exterior

The Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory features two-street-facing elevations—a primary façade fronting West 26th Street and a secondary elevation facing east onto North Kostner Avenue. The south elevation along West 26th Street and the southernmost bays of the east elevation along South Kostner Avenue are clad in red wire-cut brick in running bond and feature white “Sullivan-esque” terra cotta ornament (produced by the Midland Terra Cotta Company) and a simple stepped parapet with terra cotta copings; the remaining portion of the east elevation is common brick in running bond and is unadorned. Both elevations are regularly fenestrated primarily with multi-light steel sash windows with operable hoppers. A small number of window openings on the first floor at the southeast corner of the building and along the first floor within the interior rail yard contain glass block infill. A large non-historic overhead rolling door occupies the first floor level at the west end of the south elevation. The primary entrance into the building is located at the southeast corner, with a doorway facing east onto South Kostner Avenue. The limestone door surrounds, which feature ribbed patterning and simple panels, are not original to the building's 1925 construction and have been altered in subsequent years. The non-historic door and glass block windows were installed when changes were made to the interior at that corner of the building, which appears to have been damaged by fire. The *Chicago Daily Tribune* reported in December of 1945 that a 5-alarm fire swept through the building and caused an estimated \$55,000 worth of damage.

The north elevations of the two wings and the interior elevations of the railroad spur “courtyard” are common brick laid in running bond with no applied ornamentation. Like the rest of the building, they are regularly fenestrated with primarily steel sash windows. All of the window openings are currently boarded up. On the north elevation of both wings, there is evidence of painted signage that reads “Storkline Furniture Corporation.”

The west elevation is similarly utilitarian and unadorned, of common brick in running bond with no ornamentation and regularly fenestrated with boarded-up steel sash windows. This elevation originally faced the neighboring Arrow Mill Company Building at 4420 West 26th Street, which was completed in 1926 and was later purchased by the Storkline Furniture Corporation in the post-war period and was used to manufacture baby buggies. The building is no longer extant.

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Interior

Typical of early-twentieth-century manufacturing buildings, the interior of the Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is open and utilitarian, with exposed wooden post-and-beam structural system and very few permanent partitions. Although Storkline did have offices in the building, Henry A. Feldman, Jr., grandson of company president Abraham G. Feldman and former employee of the Storkline Furniture Corporation, confirmed that the first floor of the building was primarily given over to manufacturing, with a small office space at the southeast corner having a few partially enclosed offices along the perimeter of this space. A 1950 Sanborn map of the building shows only a small tiled enclosure on the first floor, just north of the southeast corner entrance.

On the first floor, remnants of non-historic masonry and drywall partition walls are located near the southwest corner of the building. On the east wall is a masonry enclosure which most likely served as a varnish room or painting room. Apart from stair, elevator, and small restroom enclosures, and the masonry fire walls, these are the only interior partitions in the building. The historic interior walls are all exposed brick.

Integrity

Overall, the building retains a high degree of integrity, with no major non-historic additions or alterations. On the first floor of the east and south elevations, a number of the original multi-light steel sash windows have been replaced with glass block, particularly near the southeast corner of the building. Most of the original factory steel sash windows remain on the upper floors, although the vast majority has been broken out by vandals and damaged by deferred maintenance and are now boarded up. At the southeast corner of the building, terra-cotta panels that may have originally contained Storkline signage have been parged over, the grade on the east facing entryway has been changed, and non-historic doors and windows have been added within the limestone framework. A ground-level loading entrance with an overhead garage door has also been added at the west end of the south elevation.

A one-story rear addition to the east wing, which was constructed after the original building was built and housed dry kilns and lumber, is no longer extant.

On the interior, the space is open and utilitarian, as it would have been when the Storkline Company manufactured furniture there. The entrance at the southeast corner of the building has been reconfigured.

The cumulative effect of these minor alterations does not impact the overall architectural integrity of the building and its ability to convey its original function as a major furniture manufacturing facility in what was once a large industrial district on Chicago's west side.

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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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce

Period of Significance

1925-1960

Significant Dates

1925

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Sidney Minchin

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance corresponds to the period when the building served as the main manufacturing facility for the Storkline Furniture Corporation.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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

Constructed in 1925 with additions through the mid-to-late 1930s, the Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Storkline Furniture Corporation, one of the largest manufacturers of infant and juvenile furniture in the country from the 1920s through the mid-1960s. The company, first incorporated in 1915 under the name of the Glass Novelty Company, reorganized as the Storkline Furniture Corporation in 1926 to capitalize on the popularity of the trade name under which their products were sold. Storkline's signature products—ranging from baby carriages and cribs to school furniture—were produced exclusively in this plant for over thirty years and were distributed to over 6,000 retail concerns across the country. The factory on 26th Street, designed by Chicago architect Sidney Minchin, was a reflection of the company's tremendous success during its first ten years in operation. The building is a well-preserved example of an early twentieth century industrial building with "Sullivan-esque" detailing and is one of the only remaining structures in what was once a thriving pocket of industrial development on Chicago's far west side.

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

The Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory at the corner of West 26th Street and South Kostner Avenue is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with one of the most prolific and successful twentieth-century furniture manufacturing concerns in Chicago. The Storkline Furniture Corporation, under the leadership of founder and President Abraham G. Feldman, became one of the country's largest manufacturers of infant and juvenile furniture by the 1920s and remained a dominant force in the Chicago furniture industry through the 1950s. The Storkline name was recognized by a generation of parents for the quality of its products. The success of Storkline exemplified the growth and development of Chicago's furniture industry during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

The building is a rare surviving component of a once vast industrial district that developed in the early-twentieth century between Chicago's North Lawndale community and the neighboring town of Cicero. The district—roughly bounded by Cicero Avenue, West Cermak Road, South Kostner Avenue, and West 31st Street—grew up around the juncture of two major rail supply and transport lines and was dominated by the massive Western Electric Hawthorn Works.

Designed by Chicago architect Sidney Minchin, the Storkline factory at 4400 West 26th Street is an excellent example of an industrial building designed in the Sullivan-esque vernacular that became popular in Chicago during the 1920s. The building is featured in architectural historian Ronald Schmitt's study of the Sullivan-esque vernacular in Chicago as one of the larger industrial buildings in Chicago designed in the Sullivan-esque vernacular.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

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Chicago's Furniture Industry

Chicago emerged in the mid-nineteenth century as a leader in furniture production. Extensive railroad connections provided access to lumber and retailers, and the city's German and Scandinavian immigrants provided a ready pool of skilled labor. The early Chicago furniture industry consisted primarily of small craft shops (many of which were owned and operated by first generation immigrants) producing a wide range of products. These manufacturers were located along the North and South branches of the Chicago River, close to their labor force, the lumber yards, and the meatpacking industries that supplied the furniture industry with hair, leather and glue for its finished products.

By the early-twentieth century, the depression of the 1890s had destroyed many of these smaller immigrant-lead furniture producers, and increased the size and influence of the mid-sized and large manufacturers that survived. In 1900, Chicago's 100 furniture plants averaged 70 workers per firm. By 1910, over 200 furniture manufacturers in Chicago employed over 10,000 workers. By the early 1920s, Chicago manufactured one-fifth of the country's furniture, and the city ranked second only to New York in value of furniture produced. Having cornered the manufacturing end of the furniture trade, furniture producers and retailers turned their attention in the mid-1920s to the problem of effectively and efficiently marketing Chicago's vast array of furniture products—then produced in scattered manufacturing plants—to potential buyers. A 1925 publication by the Chicago Association of Commerce noted that:

Large scale production has widened the gap between the producer and consumer to such an extent that direct contact between the two is almost impossible...The furniture salesman cannot carry samples. Nor can the careful buyer depend upon photographs and catalogs for his intimate knowledge regarding quality, style, finish and construction. He must go to the source of production, or meet the manufacturer at some central point. The economy of centralization is obvious.¹

Such centralization was accomplished in the early 1920s, when Chicago furniture salesman William H. Wilson and investment bankers Lawrence and Frank Whiting worked with Chicago's furniture manufacturers to create a plan to "bring all of the city's wholesale furniture operations under one roof into a mammoth exposition center" called the American Furniture Mart. The sixteen-story building, completed in 1924 at 666 N. Lake Shore Drive, covered an entire city block and was the world's largest building devoted to a single industry.² The success of the American Furniture Mart and the subsequent Merchandise Mart—the largest commercial building in the world when completed in 1930—also dictated the way in which Chicago furniture manufacturers designed their factories. Only the largest furniture manufacturers and those located closest to downtown continued to devote space within their own buildings to product showrooms.

Although the number of furniture manufacturers continued to grow through the boom years of the 1920s, many of these companies would not survive the Great Depression, when demand for most furniture products dropped

¹ America's Greatest Furniture Mart (American Furniture Mart Building, 1925).

² Darling, Sharon S. *Chicago Furniture: Art, Craft, and Industry 1833-1983*, (Chicago Historical Society, 1984), 292-295.

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dramatically from its 1927 peak. The notable exceptions were manufacturers of small, inexpensive pieces of furniture that people could still afford.³ One of the most successful of these specialty furniture companies in Chicago was the Storkline Furniture Corporation, founded in 1915 as the Glass Novelty Company by Romania-born entrepreneur Abraham G. Feldman (1887-1975).

The Glass Novelty Company and the Storkline Furniture Corporation

The Glass Novelty Company was one of a group of specialty furniture manufacturing concerns founded by entrepreneurs that emerged in Chicago after World War I. These new firms were able to compete successfully against such large and well-established second- and third-generation companies such as Horn Brothers, Johnson Chair, and Krussink Brothers because they produced inexpensive specialty products for niche markets. Initially, the Glass Novelty Company was incorporated to produce “novelty furniture”—small, inexpensive pieces such as baby cribs, curio cabinets, magazine racks, and radio cabinets. Company president Abraham G. Feldman made a decision early on to specialize even further by producing only baby furniture—primarily cribs and carriages—under the brand name “Stork Line.” The company initially operated from leased space on the Near South Side, at 1411 South Throop Street.

By the mid-1920s, the Stork Line products were so successful that Feldman decided to reorganize the company as the Storkline Furniture Corporation to capitalize on the popularity of the brand. The tangible result of the success of the Storkline Corporation was the construction of a large manufacturing plant at the corner of West 26th Street and South Kostner Avenue, in the heart of a newly flourishing industrial district on Chicago’s far west side. By the mid-1920s, many wooden furniture manufacturers—including the Milano Furniture Company and the Martin Polakow Corporation—were locating within the Central Manufacturing District (CMD) on the city’s Near South Side. Storkline’s location in the Chicago-Cicero district offered many of the same advantages—access to multiple rail lines and a vast labor force—without the restrictions of the tightly-regulated CMD.

The *Chicago Daily Tribune* announced in December of 1924 that the company would soon start work on “a \$500,000 two-story plant at the northwest corner of 26th and Kostner, on a 200x600 site, from plans by Sidney Minchin.” Greenbaum Sons Bank and Trust Company issued \$210,000 in bonds for the project, which they described as a “new high-grade, two-story mill-constructed, sprinkled building...equipped in most modern manner [with] private switch track facilities.”⁴

Sidney H. Minchin (1893-1951)

Architect Sidney H. Minchin was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1900. He studied architecture at the Lewis Institute in Chicago and attended the University of Illinois in 1911 and 1912 before joining the Chicago School of Architecture and receiving a degree from the Armour Institute (now the Illinois Institute of Technology) in 1915. Minchin formed several short lived partnerships—Minchin & Weller and Minchin, Spitz & Company—during his early years as an architect. Minchin, Spitz & Company produced

³ Darling, 296.

⁴ *Chicago Daily Tribune*, October 21, 1928, page 30.

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primarily eclectic designs, including a submission for the Chicago Tribune Building Competition in 1922. By 1924, Minchin had established a solo practice in Chicago. Minchin also designed the Arrow Mill Company building at 4420 West 26th Street, which was completed in 1926 and which would later be acquired by the Storkline Furniture Corporation.⁵

Minchin's design for the Storkline factory was a departure from the earlier eclectic designs he had completed for Minchin, Spitz & Company. The three-story brick pier and spandrel industrial building with large expanses of projecting steel windows served as a minimalist background for a variety of Sullivanesque architectural terra cotta pieces designed by the Cicero-based Midland Terra Cotta Company. Midland was primarily known for its popular lines of stock terra cotta ornament and decorative trim. In the 1910s, the company developed a line that was based on the decorative motifs and geometric patterns created by architect Louis Sullivan. As architectural historian Ronald E. Schmitt described in *Sullivanese: Urban Architecture and Ornamentation*, "These terra cotta pieces were slightly smaller than Sullivan's original and were simplified for manufacture and ease of placement during construction. The assembled pieces had right-angled perimeter configuration with dimensions modulated for brick coursing." The availability of these decorative pieces for commercial and industrial buildings with modest budgets led to the development of a unique vernacular in Chicago, in which Sullivanese details gave "distinction and focus to utilitarian buildings." The Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory is featured in Schmitt's study of the Sullivanese vernacular in Chicago as one of the larger industrial buildings in Chicago designed in the Sullivanese style. The building, Schmitt states, "exhibits the utilitarianism of an industrial structure tempered by Sullivan-like ornament from Midland stock."⁶

The factory was completed in September of 1925; by 1928, the Storkline Furniture Corporation was producing over 100 products at its new location and had established itself as the largest manufacturer of infant and juvenile furniture in the world, with over 6,000 retail distribution accounts with major retailers across the country. The Storkline brand was sold in every leading department store in the country, including: Marshall Field & Company; R. H. Macy & Company; Gimbel Brothers; May, Stern & Company; Mandel Brothers; The Boston Store; Maison Blanche; and Weil & Company. Storkline products were available by mail order from Sears, Roebuck & Company and Montgomery Ward. The company held patents on its unique designs for, among other things, a collapsible stand support bath, a sanitary teething rail for cribs, and braking mechanisms and foot controls for baby carriages. Henry A. Feldman, Jr. recalls that the company was always associated with high-quality, well-made products. Storkline carriages, he says, were known as the "Cadillac" of baby buggies.

Feldman's early decision to specialize in baby furniture proved a sound one—although there were many companies producing a variety of novelty products, the company had no direct competitors in its niche in Chicago during the 1920s and early 1930s. Kroll Brothers, the only other major Chicago concern that specialized in infant furniture during the first half of the twentieth century, did not start production until 1936.⁷

⁵ *Who's Who in Chicago* (1926) page 611. Schmidt, Ronald E. *Sullivanese: Urban Architecture and Ornamentation* (University of Illinois Press, 2002) page 329.

⁶ Schmidt, Ronald E. *Sullivanese: Urban Architect and Ornamentation* (University of Illinois Press, 2002) 245-247.

⁷ Darling, 370.

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Abraham G. Feldman (1887-1975)

Abraham G. Feldman, remembered by his grandson, Henry A. Feldman, Jr., as a driven and uncompromising businessman as well as a talented furniture designer, was an integral part of the Storkline Furniture Corporation's success. Feldman was born in Romania in 1887 and immigrated to the United States in 1902, one of thousands of Jewish immigrants fleeing persecution in Eastern Europe. Feldman established the Glass Novelty Company with funding from two other partners, Samuel Gilst and Nathan M. Stone. In the early years of the company, Feldman served as the designer and superintendent—many of the company's early patents are for his products that he designed. By the late 1910s, he had taken complete control of the company, and served as president and general manager of Storkline until he retired in 1960. During the Great Depression, he helped guide the company through the economic downturn by recapitalizing and taking a \$5,000 annual pay cut. Later, he positioned Storkline to take advantage of the post-World War II baby boom by establishing a separate division of the company devoted entirely to baby carriages. In addition to running his business, Feldman was an active member of Chicago's Jewish community, serving on the boards of the Hebrew Theological Seminary and Mt. Sinai Hospital during the 1930s.⁸

Storkline's success in the postwar period led to physical expansion as well. In October 1944, the company unveiled plans for a new factory at the corner of 18th Street and South Kilbourn Avenue that was to be used solely for the manufacturing of their popular line of baby carriages. The sprawling one-story plant (no longer extant), was designed by architect R. Bernard Kurzon and completed in 1945. However, the separate complex proved to be more of a burden than a benefit for Storkline. After just two years in operation, the company sold the property to the Borden Dairy Company, which retooled the facilities for production of ice cream. Storkline purchased the former Arrow Mill Company building (no longer extant) at 4420 West 26th Street, immediately west of its original furniture plant at South Kostner Avenue and West 26th Street, and moved the baby carriage operation into these adjoining facilities.

The Storkline Furniture Corporation continued to grow through the 1950s under Abraham G. Feldman's leadership. In 1954, the Chicago Chamber of Commerce listed Storkline as one of the nation's leading furniture manufacturers in its profile of the Chicago furniture industry.⁹ The company expanded into school furniture design with its Scholar line of combination desks and chairs; in 1958, Feldman announced the formation of a new division called Kitchens by Storkline, which produced wood and plastic kitchen cabinets. A 1959 article in the *Chicago Daily Tribune* highlighted Storkline's new line of interchangeable bedroom pieces, "Danish in style," that were "as useful for teenagers and the college student as for a baby."¹⁰

In the mid-1960s, only a few years after Feldman's retirement, the Storkline Corporation was purchased by MPI, Industries, Inc., a company that manufactured wooden containers for television tubes. After MPI acquired the Storkline Corporation, it ceased production of furniture at the factory at 4400 West 26th Street. The factory was occupied by various other concerns after MPI left the building; the building is currently vacant. In the mid-

⁸ *Who's Who in Chicago: The Book of Chicagoans*, 1931 and 1936.

⁹ "The Chicago Story" (Chicago Association of Commerce, 1954) 142-144.

¹⁰ "Furniture for Baby – And Teen," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 11, 1959, page C13.

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1990s, the former Arrow Mill Company building at 4420 West 26th Street, which had served as the manufacturing plant for Storkline carriages during the late 1940s and through the 1950s, was demolished, along with most of the other manufacturing and industrial buildings that had once formed a vibrant industrial corridor along West 26th Street.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

America's Greatest Furniture Mart (American Furniture Mart Building, 1925).

Chicago Building Permit Records.

Chicago Daily Tribune, October 21, 1928, page 30.

Darling, Sharon S. *Chicago Furniture: Art, Craft, and Industry 1833-1983*. Chicago: Chicago Historical Society, 1984.

"Furniture for Baby – And Teen," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, December 11, 1959, page C13.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps.

Schmidt, Ronald E. *Sullivanque: Urban Architecture and Ornamentation*. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2002.

"The Chicago Story," Chicago Association of Commerce, 1954.

Who's Who in Chicago (1926)

Who's Who in Chicago: The Book of Chicagoans, 1931 and 1936.

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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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/ Longitude Coordinates
See attached maps

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

The entire parcel of land associated with the Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the entire parcel of land associated with the Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory in Cook County, Illinois.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Emily Ramsey
organization MacRostie Historic Advisors date June 26, 2012
street & number 53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1323 telephone 312-786-1700
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60604
e-mail eramsey@mac-ha.com

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**

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- **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: Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
City or Vicinity: Chicago
County: Cook **State:** IL
Photographer: Emily Ramsey
Date Photographed: July 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 11: South (primary) elevation and east elevation, looking northwest across 26th Street
- 2 of 11: South (primary) elevation and west elevation, looking northeast across 26th Street
- 3 of 11: West and north (rear) elevations, looking southeast
- 4 of 11: North (rear) elevation, looking south
- 5 of 11: Entrance on south end of east elevation, looking west
- 6 of 11: Terra cotta detailing on south elevation
- 7 of 11: Courtyard between two wings, looking north
- 8 of 11: Roof, looking south from northwest end of building
- 9 of 11: Typical interior, first floor
- 10 of 11: Typical interior, showing exposed masonry walls and original steel sash windows
- 11 of 11: Typical interior

Property Owner:

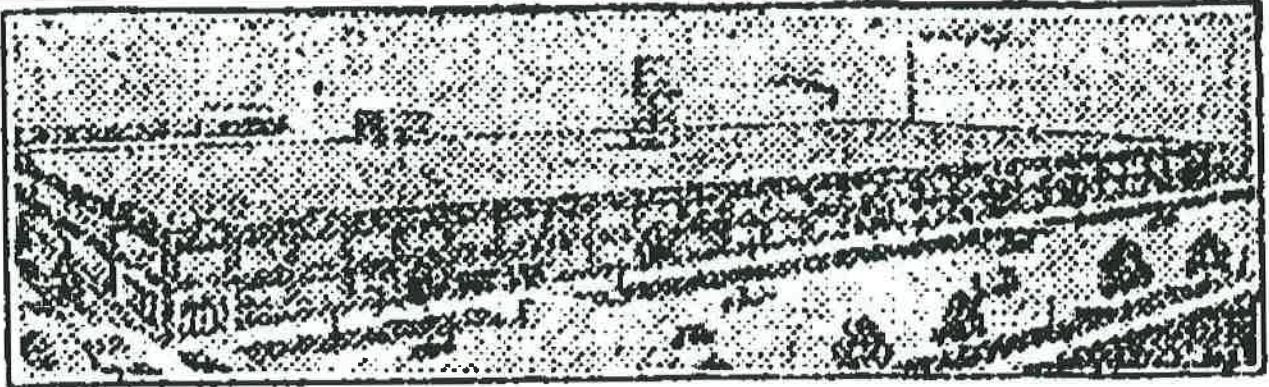
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
County and State



GLASS NOVELTY CO. BUILDING
N. W. Cor. 26th St. and Kottner Ave., Chicago
\$100, \$500, \$1000 Bonds. Maturing 2 to 10 Years
Interest Payable August 1 and February 1

Figure 1: Advertisement for construction of the factory, *Chicago Daily Tribune*, January 11, 1925



Figure 2: Storkline logo, circa 1930.

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
County and State

Are you a DANGER-MOTHER?

This mother is **not** the National Safety Council points out 30 other ways you may be. We will make these, and other things the babies will gladly send you the Council's helpful leaflet FREE

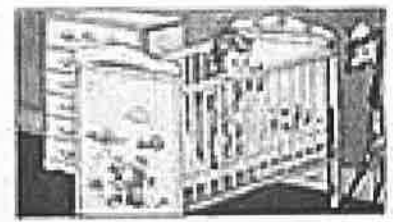
It is the mother's responsibility to be a danger-mother. The National Safety Council points out 30 other ways you may be. These ways may be grouped under three main categories: (1) the mother's own actions, (2) the mother's actions toward the baby, and (3) the mother's actions toward the baby's environment. The National Safety Council's leaflet "Are you a Danger-Mother?" will help you find out if you are one of the 30 danger-mothers. It will also tell you how to avoid these dangers. It is a free leaflet and is available to all mothers. Write for your free copy today.

... baby's own actions, (2) the mother's actions toward the baby, and (3) the mother's actions toward the baby's environment. The National Safety Council's leaflet "Are you a Danger-Mother?" will help you find out if you are one of the 30 danger-mothers. It will also tell you how to avoid these dangers. It is a free leaflet and is available to all mothers. Write for your free copy today.



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Free - To get the National Safety Council's leaflet "Are you a Danger-Mother?" write for your free copy today. It is a free leaflet and is available to all mothers. Write for your free copy today.



Storkline

THINKS OF EVERYTHING

Figure 3: Advertisement for Storkline baby carriages, circa 1940

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
County and State



Figure 4: Abraham G. Feldman, founder of the Storkline Furniture Corporation, with his wife, Eva in 1953

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
County and State

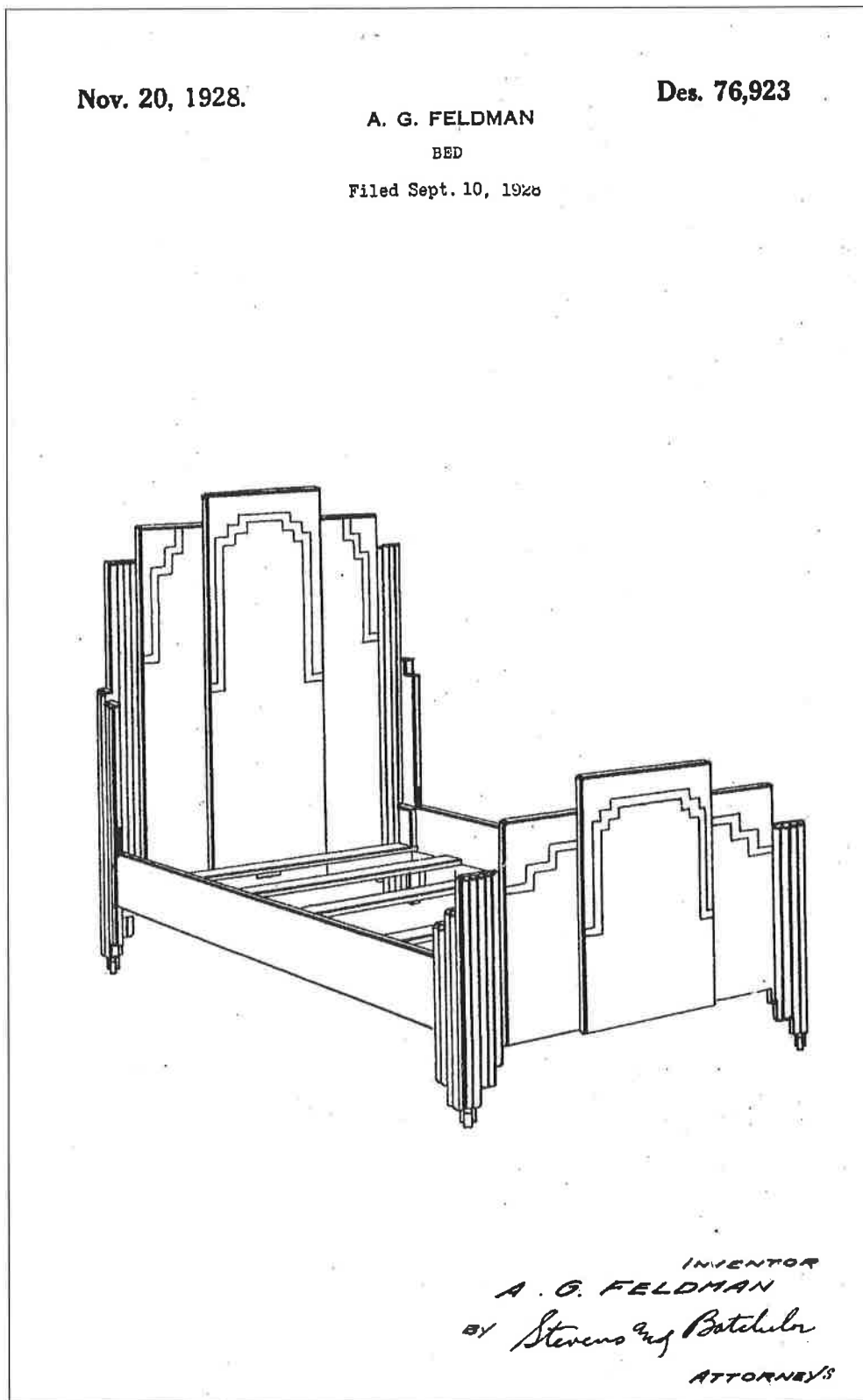


Figure 5: Patent for a child's bed, A. G. Feldman, 1928

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

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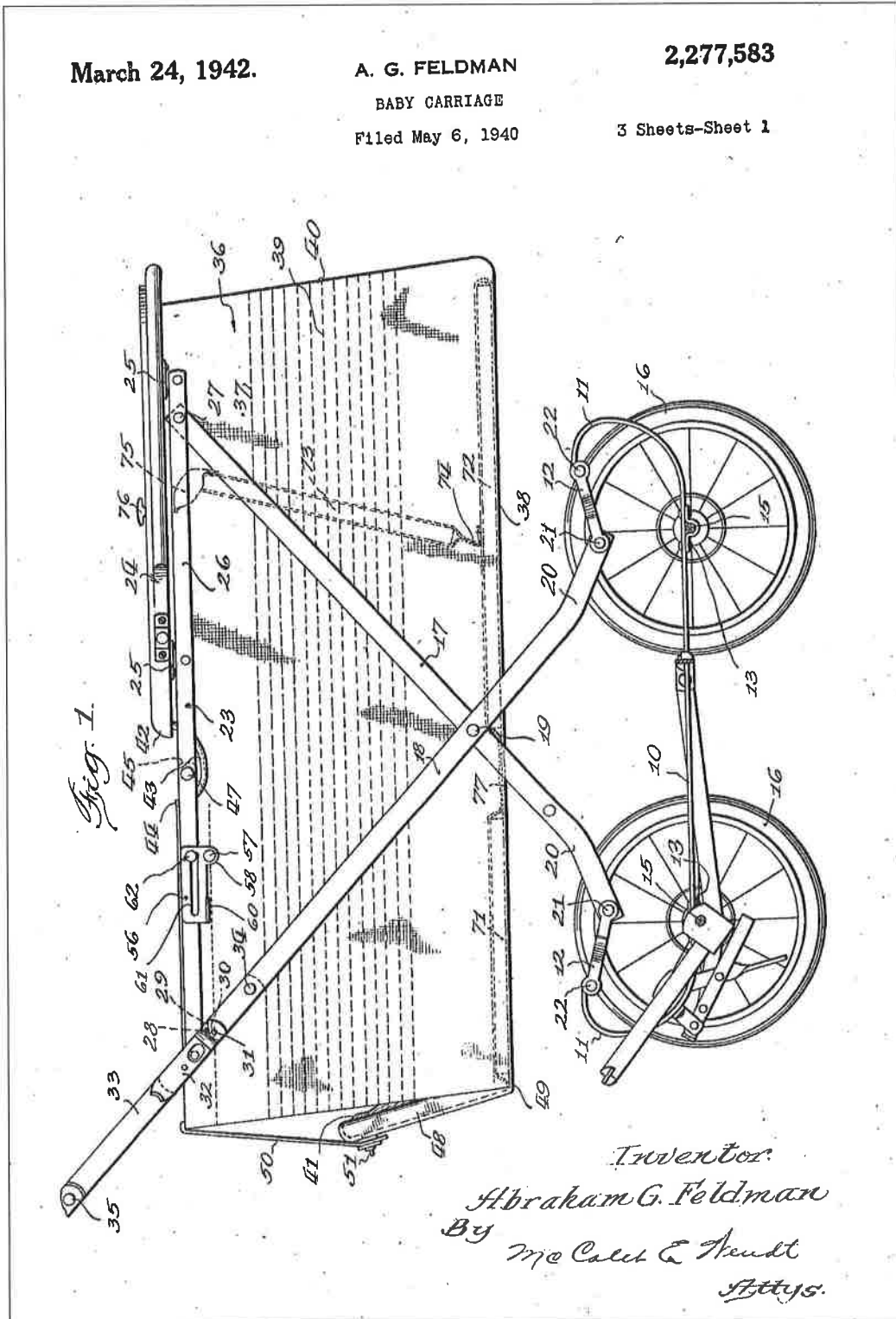


Figure 6: Patent for baby carriage, A. G. Feldman, 1940

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
Name of Property

Cook Co., Illinois
County and State



Figure 8: Photograph of Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory circa 1988




Google earth



Storkline Furniture Factory Building 4400-4418 West 26th Street
Cook Co. Illinois Coordinates: 41.844894, -87.734795



Get Google Maps on your phone
Text the word "GMAPS" to 466453




Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory

4400-4418 West 26th Street
Cook Co, Illinois

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 Placemark 1



ROSTNER
24th St

24th St
2400 S

LOZANO

715-1725



ROAD
CONSTRUCTION
AHEAD







PUBLIC NOTICE
[Illegible text]

STREET
[Illegible text]











UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Cook

DATE RECEIVED: 1/18/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/06/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000049

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 3-6-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

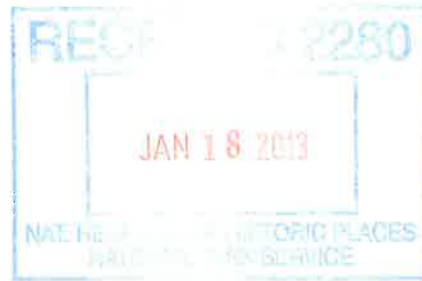
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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



**Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency**

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



January 14, 2013

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:

Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory, Chicago, Cook County
Passionists Fathers Monastery, 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