

4804

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 Polvino Building  
other names/site number N/A  
name of related multiple property listing N/A

### Location

street & number 216 Central Park

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Rochester  
state New York code NY county Monroe code 055 zip code 14605

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local  
R. Daniel Mackay 11/1/2019  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
DS4PV  
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:  
X 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] 12/23/2019  
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	<b>Total</b>

**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

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/business

FUNERARY/mortuary

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Vacant

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

No style

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: concrete

walls: steel frame

brick

roof: membrane

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**

Built in 1925, the Polvino Building is a modest three-story mixed-use beige brick commercial building of steel and beam construction, with large storefront openings across the first floor, wide four-part windows on the upper floors, and a narrow corbeled cornice. The roof is flat and has a narrow parapet topped with tile coping. The building is located on a triangular lot in the northeast quadrant of the city of Rochester, Monroe County, New York, east of the Genesee River and at the junction of Central Park, Niagara and North Union Streets. It is built to the lot lines on the south and east sides, with primary elevations facing both Central Park and Cumberland Street. Owing to the acute angle of the lot, the building itself is wedge-shaped, measuring six bays wide along Niagara Street, four bays wide along its southern Central Park elevation, and only a single bay wide on its canted north end. The main entrance is in a one-bay, angled section that features the name and date of construction near roof. The first floor has large storefront windows that are infill in the lower portion and glass above. The second and third floors consist of large windows that have four double-hung sash with four transoms above, several boarded but still extant. Windows share a continuous cast concrete sill. The major elevations have a decorative design of soldier coursed brick outlining a brick panel over each third floor window. The interior of the floors are largely open areas with wood and concrete floors, pressed tin ceilings and boxed support posts. Despite the window and door infill, the building is still an excellent example of early twentieth century factory and commercial construction and retains a high degree of integrity, especially in terms of design, workmanship and materials.

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### **Narrative Description**

The Polvino Building is located at 216 Central Park in northeast Rochester, New York, at the northeast corner of Central Park and Niagara Streets, east of the Genesee River and approximately two-thirds of a mile north of the Inner Loop. Along with a similar commercial building on the corner to the east and the grounds of the Rochester Public Market across the street to the south, the building forms a small mixed-use node at the center of an otherwise primarily residential neighborhood. Central Park itself is one of the primary east-west traffic streets in the neighborhood and, east beyond the nominated property, has a wide, grassy median down the center with a one-way lane to either side and properties set back approximately thirty-six feet from the road on both sides. A few modest commercial buildings from the twentieth century are present along Central Park and a

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church is located at the east end. A large, historic school building sits at the end of the adjacent block to the east with a large park located across the street. The remainder of the neighborhood in each direction, however, is characterized by modest, wood-frame housing stock that range in dates from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth century to more modern homes from the 1960s.

Built in 1925, the Polvino Building is a modest three-story, steel and beam, mixed-use beige brick commercial building, with large storefront openings across the first floor and wide fenestration in the upper floors. It is built to the lot lines on the south and east sides with primary elevations facing both Central Park and Niagara Streets. Owing to the acute angle which Niagara Street forms with Central Park, both the lot and the building itself are wedge-shaped with the building measuring four bays across its south end fronting Central Park and only a single bay on its canted north end. From 1925 until 1932, Anthony Polvino operated his Central Park Furniture Company out of the building, using each of the floors as showroom and sales space. In 1929, his nephew joined him at the building and ran an undertaking business, selling caskets alongside his uncle's furniture. The two struggled during the Depression; the furniture company closed in 1932, followed by the undertaking business in 1934, and the Polvinos left the building in 1935.

From the late 1940s until recently, the building functioned as an auto garage and auto parts shop. Despite the building's shift in purpose to an auto garage, the Polvino Building still maintains a high level of integrity from when it served as a furniture store and housed an undertaking business. The few changes that were made during the auto retail and repair occupancy required the infill of windows, especially the storefront openings, and the addition of larger garage bays along with partitioning some of the interior. While some alterations were made to accommodate machinery and office space at the first floor, the remainder of the building was relatively untouched and so remains quite intact. The open interior spaces are punctuated by paneled square columns, hardwood floors, and decorative pressed tin ceilings. The exterior is also largely intact, only missing the original entry door and some infill of storefront windows. Several upper floor windows have boarded sections but are generally intact. Overall, the building is an excellent and unusually intact example of a small neighborhood commercial building dating to the first quarter of the twentieth century and it continues to play an important role in the history, identity, and character of the neighborhood.

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## **Exterior**

The three-story building measures four bays across its south elevation by six bays deep along the east elevation. The south and east are the primary elevations; these, as well as the north elevation, are all executed in beige brick with standard red brick at the west elevation. Large window openings separated by flush brick piers characterize the south and east elevations while the remaining two elevations are much simpler and mostly solid wall construction. A brick parapet wraps the building on all four sides and is capped by a camel-back clay tile coping. On the south and east elevations, the building's large window openings at the second and third floors originally had paired windows at the center with narrower flanking one-over-one sash at the sides and short transoms across the top. Currently, approximately half of the original sash remain in the form of the transoms and narrower units and the remainder are filled in with plywood or replacements. All have flat steel lintels clad in brick and simple concrete sills.

### **Primary (south) Façade**

The four-bay south façade is largely symmetrically composed with a wide window opening at each story in each bay. Central Park slopes gradually to the west and the grade line across the building also slopes, revealing a taller concrete base at the west end coursed to resemble blocks. At the first story, the three eastern bays have large openings sized for storefront windows and all have a metal panel filling in the lower three-quarters with transoms across the top, a few of which appear to be original. The westernmost bay has a tall double door opening at the western edge and a tall window opening adjacent to the east. The doorway currently has a single flush metal door and an infilled sidelight with a short, original, single-light transom across the top. A second, taller, transom area above is filled in with plywood. The adjacent window opening has glass block at the lower portion and also retains its original single-light transom above. The second and third floors are identical and have a large window opening in each bay. At the parapet, a panel motif is picked out in the brick above each of the windows and a denticulated brick cornice runs across the elevation.

### **East Elevation**

The east elevation is composed of five regular bays to the north and a canted bay at the south end. The regular bays are identical to the south elevation with a few exceptions. On this side of the building, the bays and window openings are wider and so contain two windows in the center and a total of four transom windows across the top, whereas the south elevation only has three. At the first story, the center bay has an entry door and

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an overhead metal garage door set into the metal panel infill and the northernmost bay has a second metal overhead door at its center with plywood infill in the remainder of the openings. Like the south elevation, above the third floor windows is brick soldier course panels and a narrow denticulated cornice. At the south end, the canted bay was originally the main entry point to the building. It has a wide doorway opening at the first story and a tall square opening at the each of the two floors above. The first story opening has been mostly infilled with a flush similar brick and has a single glazed entry door at the center, likely dating to the 1950s or 1960s. The openings at the second and third floors are similar but slightly narrower than those elsewhere. Over the third floor window is a wide cast-stone plaque set into the brick panel which bears the words *A. Polvino Building* with the date of 1925 centered above it.

### **Side (west) and Rear (north) Elevations**

The side and rear elevations of the building are very simple by contrast. The west side of the building is solid brick, lacking any openings. The rear elevation is only one bay in width and has a wide door opening at the first story, and a single window opening at the second story, both of which are infilled with painted panels. The infilled window has a recessed metal lintel and a concrete sill. Discoloration in the brick indicates that another building abutted the building at one time.

### **Interior**

The interior of the nominated building is quite intact and very simple. Each floor has an open floor plan punctuated by regularly spaced columns that could be flooded with light from the windows on the south and east walls. An original elevator and stair are centered on the western wall and access each floor. This layout is highly consistent with the historic use of the building as a showroom and furniture sales shop, providing easy access to each floor, all of which are spacious, well-finished, and well lit.

The second and third stories of the building have hardwood floors throughout and flat plaster walls with projecting piers between each of the window bays. The regularly spaced steel structural columns retain their original stained millwork casings with a panel on each face, a heavy square base, and a small trim wrapping the top. Above, the ceiling is clad with patterned pressed tin and has a pressed tin cornice wrapping the perimeter of the room, as well as each of the beams at the ceiling. Additionally, most of the original painted wood casings are present on the perimeter walls framing the windows.

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The first floor of the building is similar; however, several of the finishes are covered over by later finishes installed for the auto shop, including stamped metal panels at the floor and some pegboard at the walls. The tin ceiling remains visible, as do most of the cased structural columns. At the south end, evidence in the tin ceiling indicates that the building originally had a recessed entry at the canted southern bay, which faces the street. The basement is a more utilitarian space and may be where the undertaking side of the business took place. This level of the building has concrete floors and painted masonry walls along with pressed tin ceilings and cornices throughout.

On the west wall, the main stair has treads and risers of stained wood and straight square balusters with a molded handrail. Each flight and landing has stocky square newel posts with a simple trim cap. A second stair that runs between just the first and second floors is present in the southwest corner, but this stair was added later and is built of stock lumber. Adjacent to the main stair, the original elevator remains in place and served patrons well, allowing access to all floors. On the interior, the cab has slender steel panels on each side each all topped with a short cast-iron panel of pierced fretwork and a coved ceiling above. Currently the features are all painted, however it remains in good condition and is an unusual and rare surviving feature in the building.

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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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Commerce

Ethnic Heritage: European

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1925-1935; 1949-1968

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1925, 1929, 1935, 1949, 1955, 1968

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**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 building has two distinct periods of significance. The first period begins with the building's construction (1925) and extends through the lifetime of the two significant businesses that occupied it until 1935. The second (1949-1969) recognizes its association with an auto-parts store for most of the twentieth century and reflects the growth of automobile ownership in post-World War II Rochester.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) NA**

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

The Polvino Building is locally significant under Criterion C in Architecture as a good example of neighborhood commercial development of Central Park (street) after World War I, when a number of Italian-owned businesses were opened in small shops in the mixed-use buildings along Central Park before relocating west across the river to Lyell Avenue and Jay Street in the 1930s.<sup>1</sup> While much of the commercial presence on Central Park before 1920 consisted of storefront additions to residential buildings, the 1925 Polvino Building contributed a larger footprint and formal street presence at a prominent intersection. The building followed the traditional design an American commercial design style, defined by large ground-floor storefront openings, regular divided windows on the upper stories, decorated parapets, and masonry walls over a steel frame.<sup>2</sup> The original features and finishes are almost entirely intact on the interior and exterior, with very few additions or intrusions installed later when used as an auto parts/repair shop.

The Polvino Building is also significant under Criterion A in Commerce and Ethnic History for its connection to the furniture and undertaking businesses in the Italian community in Rochester. Anthony Polvino immigrated to the United States from Sicily around 1902 and established the Central Park Furniture Company in 1922 in his house at 37 Niagara Street. In 1925, he acquired the adjacent property to the south where he replaced the older buildings on the site with a new facility to house his furniture company. In Rochester, expansion of railroads and wholesale distribution points made furniture retailing easier and more lucrative. Polvino's business on Central Park was located just north of the New York Central Railroad and he was able to gain quick access to shipments of furniture delivered to his store. As a result, Polvino regularly stocked a broad variety of fine home furnishings in his multi-level showrooms.<sup>3</sup>

In 1929, Polvino's nephew, Anthony T. Polvino, opened an undertaking business in the building. Mortuary-related businesses were among dozens that emerged in Rochester as the funerary industry increasingly became a recognized professional trade in early twentieth century. American citizens increasingly looked to professional undertakers to perform all aspects of the funeral process, including embalming, transportation of the decedent, a funeral ceremony, and cemetery burials. Due to a lack of Italian undertakers, Anthony T. Polvino became an

<sup>1</sup> Silvano D. Orsi, "Historical Narrative, Italian Settlement and Migration, City of Rochester, NY – Lyell Avenue Corridor," Revised May 17, 2017, 5.

<sup>2</sup> Also known as the Chicago Style. Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, "Commercial Style 1890—1920," August 26, 2015. Online at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/commercial.html>.

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undertaker at the encouragement of his family and started his business.<sup>4</sup> At a time when funerals and wakes were still held in the home, he performed the embalming in the basement of the Polvino Building and sold coffins alongside his uncle's furniture.<sup>5</sup> Later in his career, he was one of the first funeral directors in Rochester to conduct services in a funeral home and one of the first to have scheduled visiting hours.<sup>6</sup>

The period of the significance begins in 1925 with the construction of the Polvino Building and breaks with 1935, when both the furniture and undertaking businesses vacated the property. A second period of significance (1949-1969) recognizes the building's long history as an auto parts and repair shop that served the local neighborhood for the remainder of the twentieth century. Both businesses at first catered to the predominately Italian community around Central Park. Demographic shifts changed the character of the neighborhood and the auto business remained in operation until the year 2000.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### **Rochester's Northeast**

The history of northeast Rochester closely pertains to the waves of European immigrants that settled and established ethnic enclaves in the area. The first settler to the northeastern portion of Rochester was James Dowling, an Irish immigrant who purchased an acre of land on the east bank between present St. Paul Street and the river gorge. Other Irish immigrants soon joined Dowling and established the settlement of Dublin in the 1820s.<sup>7</sup> In the following decade, newcomers from Germany began to arrive and settled on the eastern edge of Dublin where Baden Street was laid out north of Kelly Street, and Holland and Rhine Streets east from St. Joseph Street. Many of these residents built modest frame cottages on St. Paul, Clinton, St. Joseph, and North Streets.<sup>8</sup> When Rochester was incorporated into a city in 1834, the small settlement of Dublin was incorporated into the city's boundaries.

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<sup>3</sup> *The Rochester Directory*, (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1929), 263.

<sup>4</sup> "Anthony T. Polvino, Innovative Rochester Funeral Director," (Obituary), *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, NY), October 18, 1982, 12.

<sup>5</sup> Drew Boyle, "Interview with Lana Polvino Sullivan," Telephone Interview, September 6, 2018.

<sup>6</sup> "Anthony T. Polvino, "Innovative Rochester Funeral Director," 12.

<sup>7</sup> Blake McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," *Rochester History* 2 (April 1967), 1.

<sup>8</sup> McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," 2.

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With the completion of the Rochester and Auburn Railroad in the late 1830s, the northeast section of the city became more accessible, allowing more German immigrants to make their way into the area in the 1850s and 1860s.<sup>9</sup> Many found work in the nearby factories along Water Street or in the western portion of the city. In 1874, Bausch and Lomb, manufacturers of hard-rubber spectacles and other optical products, opened a new factory on St. Paul Street, adding to the prosperity of the area, drawing members from the German community with skills in glass grinding and polishing to the streets around the factory.<sup>10</sup> The Italians, who began arriving in Rochester in the 1870s and 1880s, found opportunities as unskilled laborer in factories and soon displaced the older German population, settling on German Street and Central Park, both located in Rochester's Marketview Heights Neighborhood.<sup>11</sup>

Central Park developed as one of the main roads located in the northeast quadrant of Rochester within the city's Marketview Heights neighborhood, an area that attracted an influx of European immigrants, including Germans and Italians, in the late nineteenth century. The name of the neighborhood originates from the establishment of the Rochester Public Market on 280 North Union Street in the early nineteenth century. The neighborhood was bounded to the north by Clifford Avenue, East Main Street (and later, the Inner Loop) to the south, North Goodman Street to the east, and North Street to the west. Central Park ran directly through the center of the Marketview Heights neighborhood, beginning at Portland Avenue and running eastward to North Goodman Street.

Central Park as an avenue first appeared in the 1874 edition of *The Rochester Directory*.<sup>12</sup> The original street was significantly smaller than its present size. The eastern half of the avenue ran from Portland Avenue to Niagara Street and was referred to as "German Street" until it merged into Central Park in 1897.<sup>13</sup> In the early decades of the twentieth century, a new wave of Italian immigrants arrived in Rochester from southern Italy and Sicily.<sup>14</sup> Many located on the east side of the Genesee River in rented single family homes along Central Park and the surrounding streets in the Marketview Heights Neighborhood.<sup>15</sup> The ethnic character of the neighborhood quickly changed as Central Park and the surrounding area quickly shed its German character and became known for its Italian population. In 1914, Central Park was identified in the magazine *The Common-*

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<sup>9</sup> McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," 2.

<sup>10</sup> McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," 4.

<sup>11</sup> Blake McKelvey, "The Italians of Rochester: An Historical Overview," *Rochester History* 4 (October 1960), 4.

<sup>12</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Drew, Allis, & Co., 1874), 24.

<sup>13</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: The Drew Allis Company, 1897), 35.

<sup>14</sup> Boris H. Mikolji, "Ethnic Groups in America. The Italians of Rochester," *II Politico* 36 (December 1971), 662.

<sup>15</sup> Edwin Alfred Robert Rumball-Petre, *The Common-good of Civic and Social Rochester: Volume 7*. (Rochester: E.A. Rumball, 1914), 173.

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*good of Civic and Social Rochester* as being a predominately Italian American community.<sup>16</sup> Many were attracted by the avenue's close proximity to the Public Market, as well as factory jobs along the New York Central Railroad lines just a few blocks to the south.<sup>17</sup>

## **The Marketview Heights Neighborhood and Central Park**

Marketview Heights began as a working-class neighborhood, laid out by the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward Association in the last two decades of the nineteenth century.<sup>18</sup> During this time, Germans moved into the area from other parts of the city, indicated by *The House Directory of Rochester* (1892), which contained German surnames such as Rhinhardt, Wagner, Stehler, Homan, Weisberger, Steffenhagen, and Kluin, all living on German Street.<sup>19</sup> Central Park followed a similar layout with resident surnames such as Hauptenthal, Kohn, Emrich, Steifel, and Schoenhardt.<sup>20</sup> On the site of what became the Polvino Building was Julius Armbruster's residence and grocery store. Armbruster was a German immigrant and a Civil War veteran.<sup>21</sup>

By the late nineteenth century, the residents of German Street and Central Park pushed for improvements in transportation. In 1897, they called for the widening of German Street for better traffic efficiency.<sup>22</sup> In April 1897, the long-awaited Central Park Street rail line opened, which designated Central Park as a key transportation route into Rochester's downtown central business district.<sup>23</sup> In that same year, the avenue absorbed German Street, running from Portland Avenue to North Goodman Street.<sup>24</sup>

Many industries located in the neighborhood as well by the turn-of-the-twentieth century. The construction of a railroad spur by the New York Central Railroad in the late nineteenth century attracted a variety of industries, including the Bartholomew Brewing Company, the Genesee Brewing Company, the Rochester Gas Works, Curtice Brothers canned goods factory, Yawman and Erbe (office furniture), Stecher Lithographic Company, and Vogt Manufacturing (makers of trim for caskets and hearses). Also scattered throughout the district were numerous clothing manufacturing shops a few blocks south of the tracks.<sup>25</sup> Located just two blocks south of

<sup>16</sup> Rumball-Petre, *The Common-good of Civic and Social Rochester: Volume 7*, 173.

<sup>17</sup> Rumball-Petre, *The Common-good of Civic and Social Rochester: Volume 7*, 173.

<sup>18</sup> McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," 7.

<sup>19</sup> *The Rochester House Directory* (Rochester: The Drew Allis Company, 1892), 217.

<sup>20</sup> *The Rochester House Directory* (Rochester: The Drew Allis Company, 1892), 100.

<sup>21</sup> Bob Marcotte, "In Search of Julius Armbruster: Rochester Civil War soldier," *Rochester History* 4 (Fall, 2001), 12.

<sup>22</sup> "Property Owners in Arms," *Saturday Globe* (Rochester, NY), April 24, 1897.

<sup>23</sup> "The New Street Cars," *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, NY), October 24, 1897, 12.

<sup>24</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: The Drew Allis Company, 1897), 35.

<sup>25</sup> McKelvey, "Rochester's Near Northeast," 6.



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This influx of Italian immigrants changed the Central Park and surrounding neighborhood in a number of ways. In 1917, the Italians of the neighborhood established Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church (1917, no longer extant) on Niagara Street north of the nominated property.<sup>27</sup> Also to the north was the East Side Americanization Club at 35 Niagara Street, a settlement-type community center that offered classes in English and other practical subjects.<sup>28</sup> Many of the Italian children in the neighborhood attended school at Susan B. Anthony School 27, located across the street from the nominated building and by 1929, nearly all of the students were of Italian descent.<sup>29</sup> Italian owned businesses were also common along Central Park, one being Anthony Polvino's Central Park Furniture Company.

## **The Commercial Development of Central Park**

A sparse commercial presence along Central Park at the start of the twentieth century expanded to serve the growing neighborhood. By 1888, the area was mostly residential, with some commercial buildings and vacant lots scattered on the east side of Central Park and within the surrounding streets. Portland Avenue featured several large buildings, with fewer on Central Park, the southern block between Alexander (later renamed Niagara) and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Central Park originally had a few small commercial storefront buildings and Anthony Polvino was part of the trend of replacing these older shops with newer larger commercial buildings. This new construction secured the street's commercial function with a commanding street presence and, often, a single retail use.

Between 1888 and 1892, eight dwellings, four commercial buildings and one church were erected on Central Park, east of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, signaling new growth in that part of the neighborhood. Each commercial building contained two stories and was located either on a corner or adjacent to an existing commercial corner building. Modest growth continued along Central Park until 1897 when the Central Park streetcar line opened. By 1900, seven more homes, a German Lutheran Church, and two commercial buildings with two storefronts were built in the 300 block, one being brick while the other building was wood-frame construction.

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<sup>27</sup> Mikolji, "Ethnic Groups in America: The Italians of Rochester," 672.

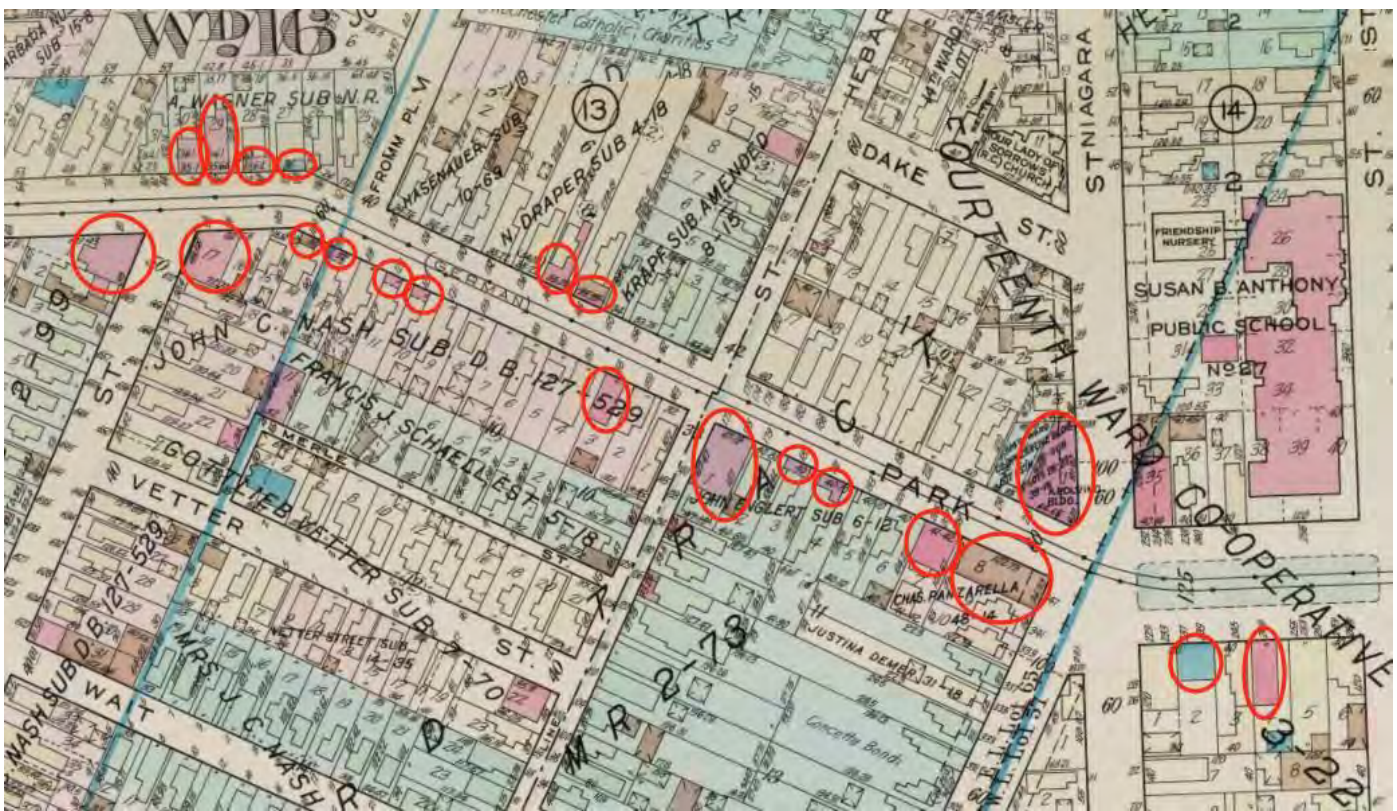
<sup>28</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1926), 1820.

<sup>29</sup> Emily Morry, "Retrofitting Susan B. Anthony School 27," *Democrat & Chronicle*, March 15, 2015, online at <https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/local/rocroots/2015/03/15/retrofitting-rochester-susan-anthony-school/70169582/>.

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Development continued into the first decade of the twentieth century, as builders contributed almost a dozen new residential buildings, two commercial additions to existing residential buildings, and one new commercial building at 172-176 Central Park at the northeast corner of Hebard. This three-story brick building featured a saloon, drug store, and third storefront below a second story clubhouse. No. 171-175 Central Park's location at the southeast intersection of Hebard allowed a storefront on each corner. On the eastern end of the street, a new commercial building at 473-477 Central Park (the southeast corner of Seventh Street) contained two storefronts with a rear dwelling. Central park continued this pattern of mixed commercial and residential construction; however, the commercial function began to dominate. New storefront additions and commercial buildings contrasted with the residential footprints and setbacks and were masonry construction rather than wood. At that time, the only other masonry building was the Susan B. Anthony School.



New construction and storefront additions on Central Park between 1910 and 1935.

Between 1911 and 1935, the streetscape changed notably with storefront additions at more than one dozen locations and over twenty new buildings infilling empty lots or replacing previous buildings. During this period, commercial development significantly outpaced residential development on the street. A stretch east of Niagara

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Street remained the densest commercial area and featured several large commercial buildings. Anthony Polvino built his factory building in 1925 on the site of a frame commercial building that filled the corner of the lot. It was located where Central Park and Niagara Streets met and the building along with two others transformed the corner. The two additional buildings were 205-209 Central Park, constructed of brick, and a stone building at 345 North Street on the southwest corner.

The commercial growth of Central Park in the early twentieth century coincided with the increased number of Italian-owned shops in the area. A number of Italians who immigrated to Rochester in the years preceding World War I established small businesses as indicated by city directories. The most active commercial development of the avenue was between 1911 and 1935, with a number of Italian entrepreneurs opening shops along Central Park, including Granata Vincenzo, who operated a grocery store out of 232 Central Park. Others were Emmanuel Bondi, the proprietor of a drug store at 297 Central Park; Nicholas Fiore, a florist at 233 Central Park; and barber Salvatore Rizzo, whose shop was located at 185 Central Park.<sup>30</sup> Anthony Polvino commissioned the construction of one of the largest commercial buildings on the avenue in 1925. The building housed Anthony Polvino's Central Park Furniture Company and, in 1929, his nephew Anthony T. Polvino's undertaking business.

Born in Sicily around 1885, Anthony Polvino immigrated to the United States in 1902 and newspaper records indicated that he purchased property on Central Park in 1911.<sup>31</sup> In 1922, Polvino filed a certificate for doing business as the Central Park Furniture Company.<sup>32</sup> City Directories revealed that Polvino lived and operated a retail furniture business at 37 Niagara Street in 1923, in a house (no longer extant) located adjacent to his Central Park property.<sup>33</sup> In 1925, Polvino lived at 192 Bay Street, about two blocks north of the store.<sup>34</sup> The date of the construction of the nominated building (1925) indicates that Polvino was living at this address when he commissioned the construction of the Polvino Building.

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<sup>30</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1925), 1719.

<sup>31</sup> "Yesterday's Business Transactions," *The Daily Record* (Rochester, NY), 1911.

<sup>32</sup> "Certificate to Do Business Under an Assumed Name," *The Daily Record* (Rochester, NY), February 8, 1922.

<sup>33</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1923), 913.

<sup>34</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1925), 1191.

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# CENTRAL PARK FURNITURE CO.

ANTHONY POLVINO, Prop.

## *Complete Home Furnishers*

**Rugs, Linoleums, Lamps, Beds and Bedding,  
Refrigerators, Stoves and Ranges**

**216 CENTRAL PARK**

**ROCHESTER, N. Y**

*Phone Culver 1792*

Advertisement from *The Rochester Directory* for 1929.

The retail furniture industry in Rochester was closely linked to that of the city's furniture manufacturing businesses. In the United States, the relationship between furniture manufacturers and furniture retailers began in the 1840s, when the innovation of railroads allowed for products to be moved efficiently across the country. Furniture wholesalers constructed warehouses and stored goods for the use of merchants in surrounding communities along the rail lines. Previous to this arrangement, furniture manufacturers relied on peddlers, merchants who carried a variety to goods, to transport their products on boat to villages near waterways.<sup>35</sup> Rail lines allowed for a broader range of markets to be reached, establishing the furniture retail business as a middleman between furniture manufactures and consumers.

By the early twentieth century, Rochester boasted several prominent furniture companies. These included the George J. Michelsen Company, manufacturers of bedroom furniture; Langslow Fowler, primarily a chair maker; the Miller Cabinet Company, makers of tables and mission furniture; the Hayden Company, craftsmen in custom woodwork and mantels; and Hubbard, Eldridge, and Miller, Rochester's largest furniture manufacturer.<sup>36</sup> When the Polvino Building opened in 1925, Central Park Furniture was among ninety-five furniture dealers in Rochester.<sup>37</sup> Located just north of the New York Central Railroad, Polvino's business was

<sup>35</sup> Clark B. Kelsey, "Wholesale Furniture Business" *Journal of Marketing* 14 (September 1949), 340.

<sup>36</sup> "George J. Michelsen Furniture Factory," *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 2012, Section 8, Page 3.

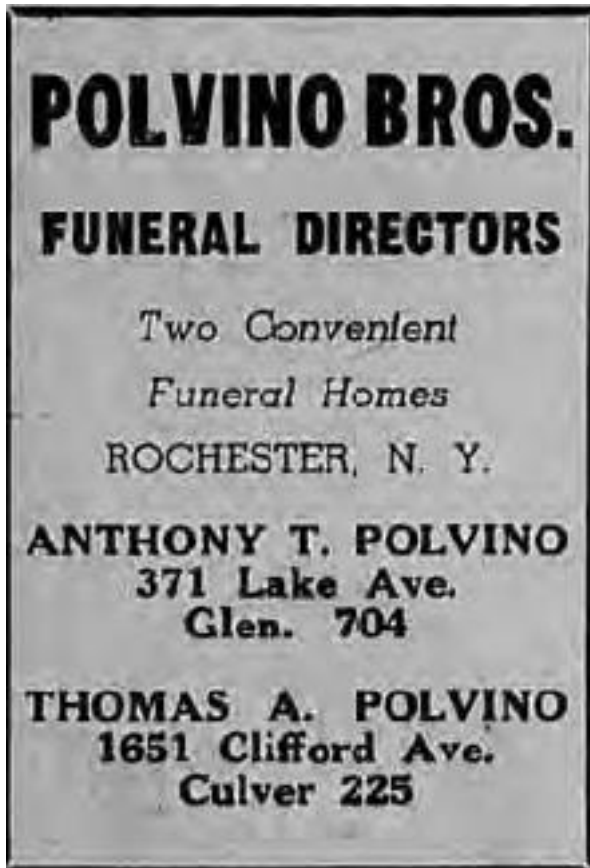
<sup>37</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1925), 2085.

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able to gain ready access to shipments of furniture delivered to his store. This accessibility was demonstrated by the variety of products Polvino sold to consumers, which included pre-fabricated goods such as rugs, linoleum flooring, lamps, beds, bedding, refrigerators, stoves, and ranges.<sup>38</sup>

After the outbreak of the Great Depression, many of Rochester's furniture manufacturers and retailers, including Hubbard, Eldridge, and Miller, were forced to shut down and by 1935, only 55 stores remained.<sup>39</sup> Anthony Polvino's Central Park Furniture Company went out of business around 1934.<sup>40</sup> He briefly joined his nephew in the funeral business, but the Depression impacted that business as well. The *Rochester Times Union* reported in 1933 that Anthony T. Polvino filed for bankruptcy; however, the undertaking business was able to emerge from



economic crisis and operated well into the twentieth century.<sup>41</sup> In 1936, Polvino partnered with brothers Joseph and Thomas to form the Polvino Brothers Funeral Home, operating at Clifford Avenue, 225 Culver Street, and 704 Glen Road.<sup>42</sup> Ten years later, they relocated to 371 Lake Road, on the west side of the city, where Anthony T. Polvino remained active until his death in 1982.<sup>43</sup> At present, the legacy of the Polvino Funeral Home in Rochester continues under the direction of Polvino's niece, Lana Polvino Sullivan, and her son, Gregory Thomas Sullivan, with the Thomas Funeral Chapels in Rochester.

Anthony T. Polvino's undertaking business reflected the increasing importance of professional undertakers in American society, as citizens increasingly looked to them to perform all aspects of a funeral, including embalming, transportation of the

Advertisement from September 1945 *Veterans Viewpoint*.

<sup>38</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1929), 263.

<sup>39</sup> "George J. Michelsen Furniture Factory," Section 8, Page 3; *The Rochester Directory*, (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1935), 1158.

<sup>40</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., Publishers, 1934), 974.

<sup>41</sup> "Files Bankruptcy Papers." *Rochester Times Union*, November 25, 1933, 8.

<sup>42</sup> "Funeral Directors," *Rochester Times-Union* (Rochester, NY), December 11, 1936, 39.

<sup>43</sup> "Anthony T. Polvino, Innovative Rochester Funeral director," 12.

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remains, burial, and if needed, the funeral ceremony. He was described in his obituary as an “innovative funeral director,” and was one of the first directors in Rochester to conduct funerals in a funeral home, rather than in the decedent’s home, as well as one of the first to schedule visiting hours.<sup>44</sup>

As previously mentioned, Anthony T. Polvino was the nephew of the owner of the Polvino Building on Central Park. Born in Rochester in 1911, his father, Orazio Polvino, passed away at an early age, leaving him and his two brothers under the care of their uncle.<sup>45</sup> The young Anthony left school at age fourteen, but continued his education years later and received a certificate in commerce from the Rochester Business Institute. He was encouraged by family members to become an undertaker largely due to the lack of Italian-American undertakers who understood the language and customs of the immigrant community.<sup>46</sup> He was also active in the 11<sup>th</sup> District Funeral Directors Association, often serving as an officer and a member of the board of directors.

The professionalization of the funerary industry had its origins in the late nineteenth century. Previously, funeral arrangements were the responsibility of the grieving family, friends, and church officials. Coffins were supplied by carpenters and cabinetmakers, and undertakers arranged for transportation and grave digging.<sup>47</sup> The Civil War marked a turning point as the high number of casualties required new approaches in of undertaking. Improvements in embalming allowed soldier’s bodies to be returned to their families for private burial. Other factors that impacted the funerary industry and role of the undertaker were increased standards for personal hygiene and public sanitation in urban areas. It also coincided with the growth of professionalization in medicine and the increase in the number of hospitals. This removed the all too-common occurrence of dying at home and made it more likely that people would die in a hospital. With these changes, the public welcomed the aid of an undertaker who took charge of preparing the remains for viewing and interment. As the industry entered the twentieth century, training became standardized and professional publications kept practitioners informed of the latest advances. By 1940, the term “funeral director” replaced “undertaker,” indicating the change in identity of the funeral home owner as having a combined set of scientific, social, psychological and business skills.<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> “Anthony T. Polvino, Innovative Rochester Funeral Director,” 12.

<sup>45</sup> Drew Boyle, “Interview with Lana Polvino Sullivan,” Telephone Interview, September 6, 2018.

<sup>46</sup> “Anthony T. Polvino, Innovative Rochester Funeral director,” 12.

<sup>47</sup> Zena Beth McGlashan, “Caring for the Dead: The Development of the Funeral Business in Butte,” *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 56 (2006), 34.

<sup>48</sup> “H.W. Gates Funeral Home,” (Kansas), *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, Section 8, Page 5.

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In 1882, Rochester hosted the first convention for the National Association of Funeral Directors, a reflection of the number of prominent companies and individuals involved in the industry.<sup>49</sup> One of these companies was the Stein Manufacturing Company, founded in 1870 by Samuel Stein. The company invented the cloth covered “show-case” casket, an item marketed to the upper-classes as it featured wood panels, silver handles, an interior lined with Venetian lace, silk tassels, and satin. Stein showcased his casket at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876, setting a new standard for advertising caskets in public. The Cunningham Carriage Company had a large carriage factory and for many years produced hearses, advertised through a trade journal known as *The Casket*, published in Philadelphia.<sup>50</sup> Rochester resident Auguste Renouard was an expert on embalming and wrote the first textbook on embalming and undertaking called *The Undertakers’ Manual*. He also founded the Rochester School of Embalming in 1883.<sup>51</sup>

By the early twentieth century, Rochester boasted a significant number of undertakers and funeral directors.<sup>52</sup> One of the undertaking businesses to emerge during this period was that of Anthony T. Polvino. Working from his uncle’s building, Anthony T. Polvino performed the embalming and had his own motorized hearse to transport remains. He also sold coffins, which he displayed in the storefront of the Polvino Building.<sup>53</sup>

## **Post-War Automotive Expansion**

After the Polvinos vacated the property in 1935, the building was listed as vacant in Rochester’s city directories until the late 1940s. In 1931, the Bausch Street Bridge opened across the Genesee River, linking the east side to the bustling “Little Italy” that had formed in the vicinity of the Lyell Avenue corridor. A significant portion of the surrounding Italian community relocated west across the river, further impacting businesses hit hard by the Depression and subsequent war.<sup>54</sup> By 1949, the building was occupied again after fourteen years, this time as an auto garage and retailer called Phil’s Auto Parts.

The post-war period was an era of intense growth and productivity nationwide. Between 1947 and 1956, the gross domestic product increased by nearly 70 percent, with similar increases in wages. Individual purchasing

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<sup>49</sup> McGlashan, 36.

<sup>50</sup> Suzanne E. Smith, *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2010), 38.

<sup>51</sup> Smith, *To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death*, 36.

<sup>52</sup> *The Rochester Directory* (Rochester: Sampson & Murdock Co., Inc., 1929), 2009 and 2078.

<sup>53</sup> Drew Boyle, “Interview with Lana Polvino Sullivan,” Telephone Interview, September 6, 2018.

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power grew by around 40 percent, giving families the capital to buy new homes and automobiles.<sup>55</sup> In 1947, 68 percent of families owned a motor vehicle. By 1957, family car ownership increased to 75 percent. Automotive retail and repair was in high demand in response to the 65 million vehicles on the road. One in six businesses was auto-related, employing one in seven people in the workforce in 1957. The wholesale value of automotive parts and accessories hovered around \$1.8 billion throughout the 1950s.<sup>56</sup>

Phil's was a local parts retailer commonly found in urban areas throughout the country and was one of fifty-seven independent retailers and 113 service garages in Rochester in 1947, a number that remained relatively stable into the 1960s.<sup>57</sup> Phil's made few significant changes to the Polvino building during its long occupancy. In 1955, Phil's Auto Parts was joined in the building by the Rochester Clutch Company, a car repair business. Phil's Auto Parts remained in the building until 2000, after which it was solely occupied by the Rochester Clutch Company.

## **Criterion C: Architecture**

The Polvino Building is a modest three-story beige brick building that is an example of the American commercial style of architecture from the early twentieth century that got its start with advances made in building technology in eastern U.S. cities such as New York and Philadelphia, beginning in the 1880s. It was a foundational steel-framed masonry form, where in Chicago, it was further developed through the erection of hundreds of tall, simply adorned commercial buildings that included early skyscrapers, and smaller, much more modest, multi-story structures. Although this building form was sometimes referred to as the Chicago style, these buildings owe their early manifestation to groundwork in coastal cities, and the style was exported and repeated all over the country, where it was modified and adapted to local settings through the 1930s. Hallmarks of the style included steel and beam frames with masonry curtain walls and flat roofs, three-part windows, projecting bay windows, decorative parapets, ground-floor storefronts with large display windows or garage bays, and simple classical detailing throughout.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Orsi, "Historical Narrative, Italian Settlement and Migration, City of Rochester, NY – Lyell Avenue Corridor," Revised May 17, 2017, 5.

<sup>55</sup> Rochester Automobile Dealers Association, Inc., *Holidayland, 1957 Auto Show, January 26 – February 2, War Memorial*, 1957, 12.

<sup>56</sup> Rochester Automobile Dealers Association, Inc., *1958 Rochester International Auto Show, War Memorial, Feb. 1-8*, 1958, 15.

<sup>57</sup> *The Rochester Directory*. Rochester: R.L. Polk & Co., Inc., Publishers, 1947; *The Rochester Directory*. Rochester: R.L. Polk & Co., Inc., Publishers, 1960.

<sup>58</sup> Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, "Commercial Style 1890—1920," August 26, 2015.

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Although only three stories in height, the Polvino Building's unobstructed piers on each elevation provided a subtle vertical emphasis, drawing the eye upwards to upper panels that created the illusion of a fourth level to the elevation. The canted southeast corner, which faced the intersection and served as the main entrance of the building, had a large cast-stone plaque with the words *A. Polvino Building* and the date 1925 above the third story window. Large windows, a brick cornice, and a flat roof were consistent with common commercial design trends of the 1920s. The entire first floor consisted of transparent storefront windows, emphasizing the commercial purpose of the building and minimizing the perceived barrier between potential customers outside of the building and the showroom within.

Designed as a showroom for Anthony Polvino's Central Park Furniture Company, the Polvino Building was one of the only large-scale commercial buildings constructed during Central Park's commercial development in the early twentieth century. As a furniture showroom, the interior included fashionable interior decorative features such as decorative tin that wraps the beams and the ceiling, and the original cast-iron panels topped with decorative cast-iron fretwork in the elevator.

Each floor contained an open floorplan with plaster-finished perimeter walls and ornate tin that wrapped the beams of the ceiling. This large open plan was representative of the building's flexibility to serve multiple commercial uses. The spacious and ornate design of each floor, particularly the decorative tin and the detailed cast-iron fretwork within the elevator, indicated the high level of finish Anthony Polvino desired to outfit his furniture showrooms with and the perceived status it granted to both the owner and the customer. With the increasing popularity of larger furniture department stores, the showroom was highly important for smaller furniture retailers such as the Central Park Furniture Company to effectively display its products in simulated household arrangements.<sup>59</sup>

## **Conclusion**

The Polvino Building at 216 Central Park in Rochester achieved importance for its relation to the community as both a furniture and undertaking business and later, as an auto parts dealer and repair shop and retains its status as a locally significant historic building in Rochester's Marketview Heights Neighborhood. The building added to the growing number of businesses, most of them owned by Italian immigrants that showed a sense of permanency even as the Italian American community migrated to other parts of the city. The building briefly

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<sup>59</sup> Clark B. Kelsey, "Wholesale Furniture Business," *Journal of Marketing* 14 (September 1949), 340.

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reflected the professionalization of the funeral industry and served as a springboard for the continued family's funeral business that continues at another location.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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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: Preservation Studios LLC

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

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

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>289513</u> Easting	<u>4782802N</u> Northing	3	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing
2	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing	4	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing

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

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary is the same as for the period of significance.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Drew Boyle, Kelsie Hoke, M. Arch., Katy Stuck (Associate Architectural Historian)  
organization Preservation Studios LLC date 4 September 2019  
street & number 170 Florida Street telephone 716-725-6410  
city or town Buffalo state NY zip code 14208  
e-mail katystuck@preservationstudios.com

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### Additional Documentation

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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.)

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### Photographs:

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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.

Polvino Building  
Name of Property

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Name of Property: Polvino Building

City or Vicinity: Rochester

County: Monroe State: New York

Photographer: Mike Puma (Preservation Studios)

Date Photographed: September 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0010: Polvino Building, looking northwest, showing south and east elevations
- 0002 of 0010: Looking north, showing south elevation.
- 0003 of 0010: Looking northeast, showing west elevation.
- 0004 of 0010: Looking southwest, showing east elevation.
- 0005 of 0010: Looking south, showing north elevation.
- 0006 of 0010: Looking northwest, showing basement.
- 0007 of 0010: Looking north, showing first floor.
- 0008 of 0010: Looking south, showing first floor.
- 0009 of 0010: Looking northwest, showing second floor.
- 0010 of 0010: Looking north, showing third floor.

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**Property Owner:**

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

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name N/A  
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.).

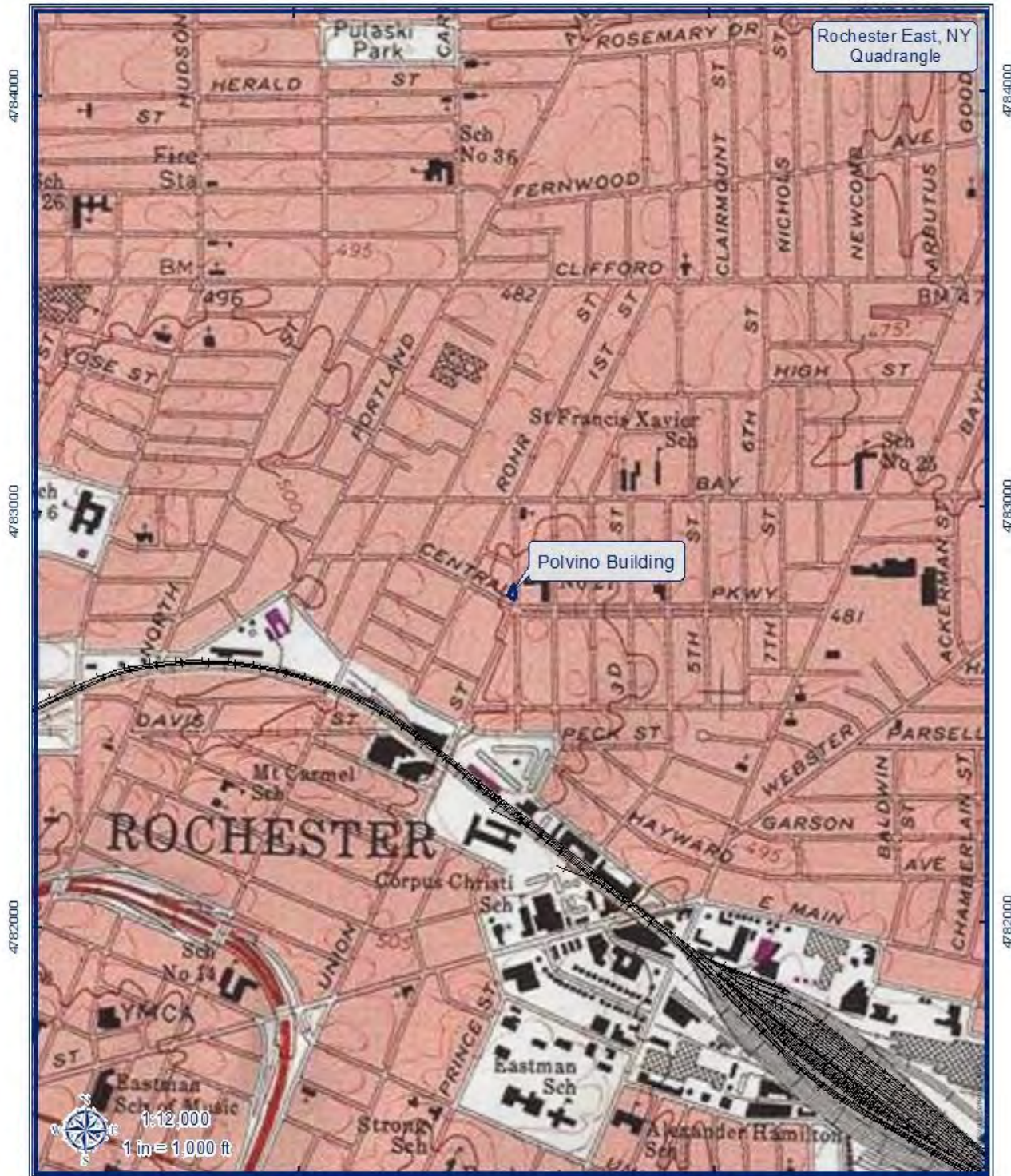
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form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

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Polvino Building  
City of Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

216 Central Park  
Rochester, NY 14605



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



 Polvino Building



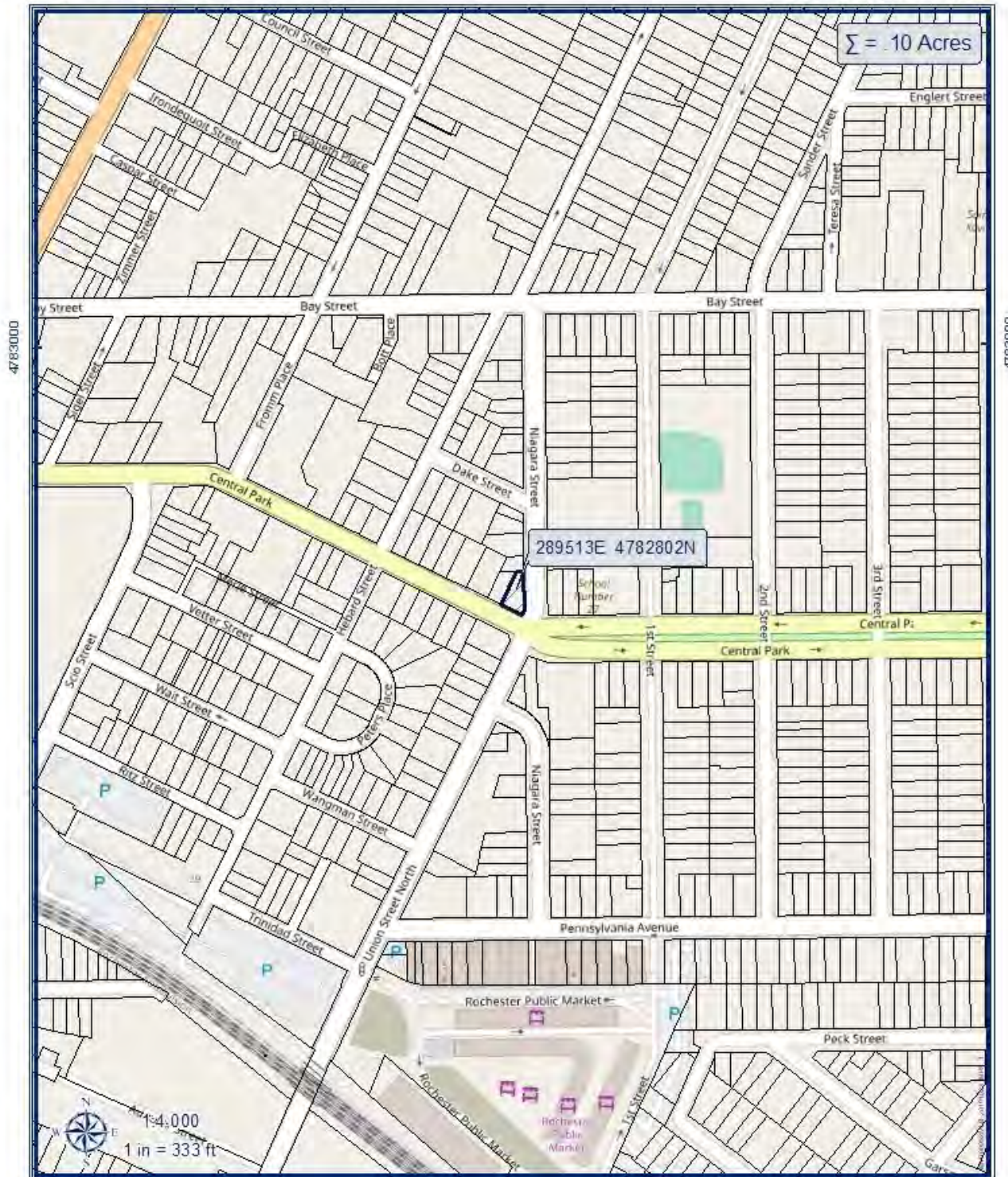
Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

Polvino Building  
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Monroe County, New York  
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**Polvino Building**  
City of Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

216 Central Park  
Rochester, NY 14605



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



 Polvino Building



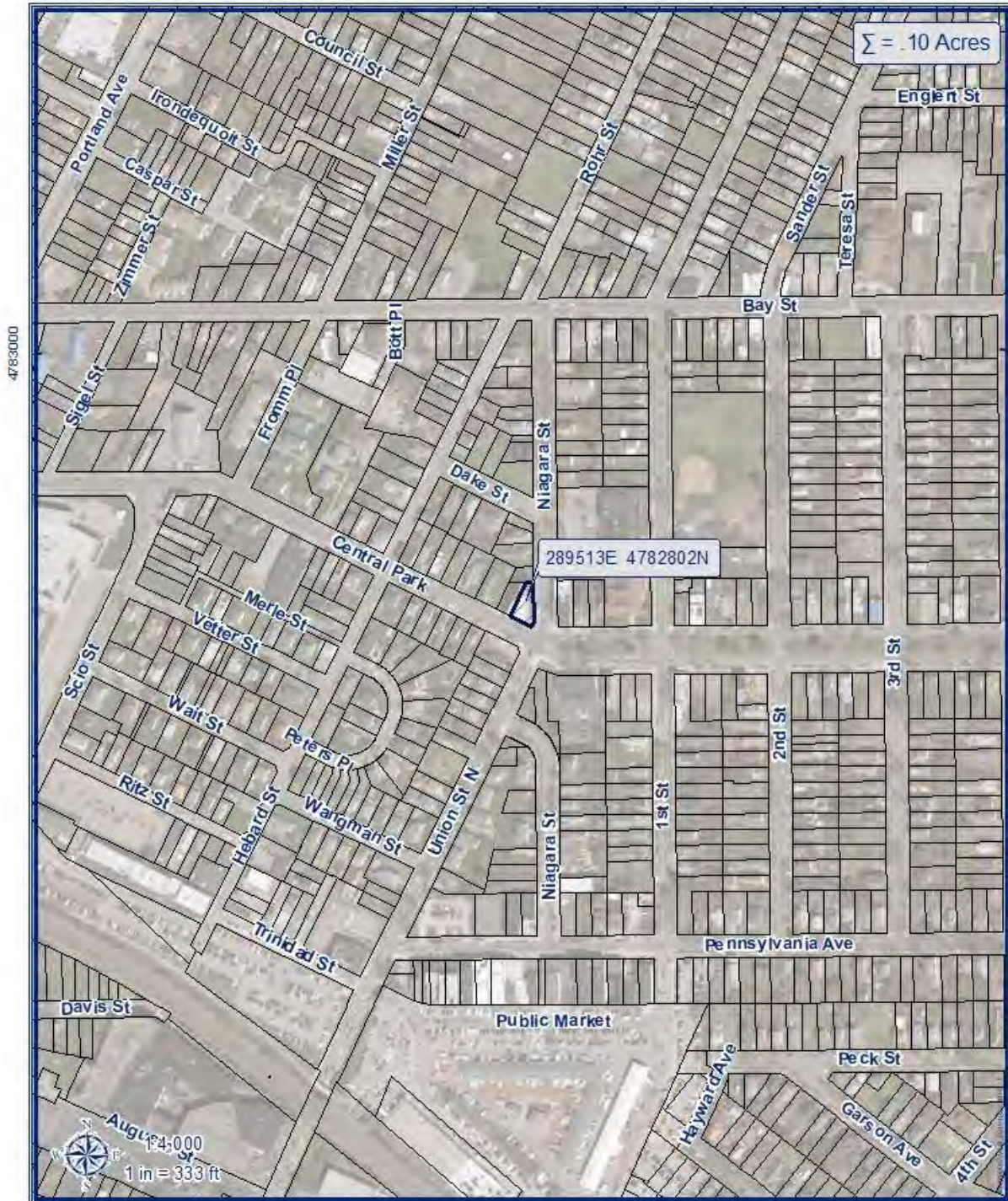
Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

Polvino Building  
Name of Property

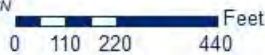
Monroe County, New York  
County and State

Polvino Building  
City of Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

216 Central Park  
Rochester, NY 14605



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



 Polvino Building



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation



1929  
A. POLVINO BUILDING

ONLY

NIAGARA

CENTRAL PARK

FOR SALE / LEASE  
705-4116

ROCHESTER  
CLUTCH BRAKE

BIKE LANE



ROCHESTER  
**CLUTCH & BRAKE**  
35 NIAGARA ST.

BIKE LANE  
ANY TIME





ROCHESTER  
CLUTCH & BRAKE  
24 HOURS

CUSTOMER  
PARKING  
24 HR  
TOW ZONE

24 HR  
TOW ZONE

24 HR  
TOW ZONE

CUSTOMER  
PARKING  
24 HR  
TOW ZONE

CUSTOMER  
PARKING  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 11/6/2019      Date of Pending List: 12/6/2019      Date of 16th Day: 12/23/2019      Date of 45th Day: 12/23/2019      Date of Weekly List: 12/30/2019

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |                                       |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver       | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other        | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      12/23/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**ERIK KULLESEID**  
Commissioner

4 November 2019

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places

Mail Stop 7228

1849 C Street NW  
Washington DC 20240

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following six nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Amsterdam Free Library, Amsterdam, Montgomery County  
First Presbyterian Church of Watkins Glen, Watkins Glen, Schuyler County  
Richard Pousette-Dart House and Studio, Suffern, Rockland County  
Clyde Downtown Historic District, Clyde, Wayne County (52 owners, 0 objections)  
Boarding House at 72-74 Sycamore Street, Buffalo, Erie County  
Polvino Building, Rochester, Monroe County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office