

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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 3147-3155 Penn Avenue

City or town: Pittsburgh City State: PA County: Allegheny

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B C D

	Division Chief	December 8, 2015
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>PA Historical and Museum Commission</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	

Signature of commenting official:	Date

Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

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:) _____

Patrick Andrus
Signature of the Keeper

2/2/2016
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION – Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS – Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, STONE/Sandstone, STONE/Bluestone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building is located at the northwest corner of Penn Avenue and 32nd Street in the Strip District neighborhood in Pittsburgh, PA. The building is bounded by Penn Avenue to the south, 32nd Street to the east, Mulberry Way to the north and a paved parking lot to the west. The south and east elevations also have concrete sidewalks. To the north and south of the c. 1955 addition are paved parking lots.

Located on a site that slopes slightly to the south, the building consists of a 1- and 4-story section to the east, which fronts on Penn Avenue and 32nd Street and dates to 1903 and a 1-story section to the west, which dates to c. 1955. The 1903 section was designed in the Classical Revival style and is clad in brick with sandstone, bluestone and painted wood detailing and a stone base. It also has a masonry structural system. The 1-story portion contained a foundry and the 4-story portion contained the company operations. The c. 1955 section is clad in painted CMU and was used for storage and shipping. The roofs of all sections are primarily flat.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

The surrounding area primarily consists of low-scale industrial buildings that primarily date to the first half of the 20th century. There are also extensive parking areas and open lots, including a completely open block on Liberty Avenue between 32nd and 33rd Streets. The area continues to operate as a center for light manufacturing in Pittsburgh. The Allegheny River is located .3 miles to the north and there are railway lines immediately to the north, south and east. The Strip Historic District (NR 2014) is located ten blocks to the west. The Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building retains its integrity, as the building remains virtually intact since the time of construction.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The south, primary, elevation is three bays wide and 4-stories in height. It is clad in red brick. The base consists of one course of rusticated sandstone block. The 1st floor brick has been painted, and brick pilasters with brick capitals separate the 1st floor bays. There are also jack bluestone arches above the windows, a bluestone stringcourse below the windows and a bluestone lintel on the 1st floor entrance. The easternmost bay contains paired 1-light double-hung wood windows with 1-light wood transom windows. The center bay contains two double-leaf paneled wood doors, which have 1-light wood transoms and are located up four sandstone steps. Above the entrance is a shallow, bracketed painted wood lintel. The westernmost bay contains a 1-light double-hung wood window with a 1-light wood transom window and next to it, a single-leaf door opening that was infilled with plywood in c. 1980, above which is a 1-light wood transom. This door is located up four sandstone steps. Between the 1st and 2nd floors is a painted metal stringcourse. The 2nd and 3rd floors are architecturally unified by double-height brick pilasters with brick capitals that separate the bays. The 2nd floor openings contain tripartite 1/1 double-hung wood windows with wood surrounds. Between the 2nd and 3rd floor windows are painted wood spandrel panels. The 3rd floor openings contain tripartite arched 1/1 double-hung wood windows with wood surrounds. The arched windows have arched brick heads with bluestone keystones, which spring from the double-height pilasters. Above the windows is a simple brick stringcourse that is topped by a painted metal stringcourse. Between the stringcourses is a faded painted black and white sign reading "Pittsburgh Brass M'f'g. Co." The 4th floor contains three 1/1 double-hung wood windows with bluestone heads in each bay. Above the windows is a painted wood cornice. There is also a simple brick parapet along the roofline, which has some graffiti.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

The east elevation is 4-stories in height in the nine southernmost bays and 1-story in height in the seven northernmost bays. It is clad in red brick, which has been partially painted on the 1st floor. The southernmost bay matches the south elevation in design. It has a rusticated sandstone base. The raised basement contains a 2-light wood window with arched brick heads. The 1st floor contains a 1/1 double-hung wood window with an arched brick head and bluestone sill. Above the window are two brick stringcourses. Between the 1st and 2nd floors is a painted metal stringcourse. The 2nd and 3rd floors are architecturally unified by double-height brick pilasters with brick capitals that flank the bay. The 2nd floor openings contain a tripartite 1/1 double-hung wood window with wood surrounds. Between the 2nd and 3rd floor windows is a painted wood spandrel panel. The 3rd floor opening contains a tripartite arched 1/1 double-hung wood window with wood surround. The arched window has an arched brick head with a bluestone keystone, which springs from the double-height pilasters. Above the windows is a simple brick stringcourse that is topped by a painted metal stringcourse. The 4th floor contains three 1/1 double-hung wood windows with a continuous bluestone head. Above the windows is a painted wood cornice. There is also a simple brick parapet along the roofline, which has some graffiti. The remainder of the raised basement contains the rusticated sandstone base. The openings contain 2-light wood windows with arched brick heads in the second through fourth bays from the south. The seventh and eighth bays from the south each contain a single-leaf wood door with an arched brick head; these are located below grade. The entrances are accessed by stone steps with a metal railing. In the remainder of the 1st floor, the second through fourth and seventh and eighth bays from the south contain 1/1 double-hung wood windows with arched brick heads and bluestone sills. The fifth and sixth bays from the south have no openings. The ninth bay from the south contains an elevated double-leaf paneled wood door with an arched brick head below a steel I-beam. Above the I-beam is a loading beam. The tenth bay from the south contains a 2-light wood window with an arched brick head above a half-height opening that was infilled with a double-leaf flush metal door in c. 2000. The eleventh through fourteenth bays from the south contain 1-light double-hung wood windows with 1-light wood transom windows, arched brick heads and bluestone sills. The two northernmost bays were infilled with brick and a louvered metal vent in c. 2000 but the arched brick heads remain visible. Above the second through ninth bays from the south is a painted metal stringcourse. On the remainder of the 2nd through 4th floors, the second through ninth bays from the south contain 4/4 double-hung wood windows with arched brick heads and bluestone sills. Above the 4th floor openings is a stepped brick parapet with a stone cap. The center of the elevation also has a prominent, mid-20th century metal fire escape, which extends between all floors. The landings are located at the roofline above the seventh bay from the

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

south, at the eighth and ninth bays from the south on the 4th floor, at the fourth and fifth bays from the south on the 3rd floor and at the eighth and ninth bays from the south on the 2nd floor.

The north elevation is clad in white painted brick and the 2nd through 4th floors are substantially recessed from the remainder of the elevation. It is six bays wide on the 1st floor and five bays wide on the upper floors. On the 1st floor, all the bays have one 1/1 double-hung wood window with an arched brick head and painted bluestone sill. Contemporary metal security screens have been installed in front of all the 1st floor windows. There is a simple metal cornice and painted metal gutter along the roofline. On the 2nd through 4th floors, each bay contains a 6/6 double-hung wood window with arched brick head and painted bluestone sill. The bays are irregularly spaced on the elevation.

The west elevation is also clad in white painted brick with a stepped brick parapet along the roofline. The elevation is divided roughly in half by the c. 1955 addition that is described below. The exposed northern portion of the west elevation is clad in painted CMU block and has a double-leaf metal door. There are no other openings. The exposed southern portion has a single-leaf metal door that is accessed by a concrete ramp with a painted pipe metal railing. There are also three 6/6 double-hung wood windows with arched brick heads and painted bluestone sills at the north end of the 3rd and 4th floors. The c. 1955 addition extends from the center of the elevation. Its south elevation has a garage-style metal door to the west and no other openings. The west elevation has exposed brick on the lower half and a single-leaf metal door at the south end. The upper half is painted CMU block. The north elevation is clad in painted brick and cinderblock. On the 1st floor, the two westernmost bays have garage-style metal doors. The easternmost bay contains a single-leaf metal door. On the 2nd floor, the three westernmost windows contain painted infill that dates to c. 2000. The easternmost opening contains a small garage-style metal door and there is a loading beam above the opening. The roof of the 4-story portion is flat with a low penthouse in the northeast corner and a truncated brick chimney in the northwest corner. The roof of the 1-story portion is flat with a centered mechanical unit.

Interior

The interior of the building has two partial stairways and one freight elevator. One stairway is located near the center of the floor plate of the 4-story portion of the building and provides access between the basement and 2nd floor. The second stairway is located at the south end of the west elevation of the 4-story portion of the building and provides access between the 2nd

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

and 4th floors. Both straight-run stairways have wood treads and risers. The freight elevator is located in the northeast corner of the 4-story portion of the building. It provides access between all floors. Because of a change in grade there are short flights of steps between the 1st floor of the 4-story portion of the building and the 1-story portion of the building and to the exterior on the east elevation.

The interior of the building is largely open in plan with columns bisecting the floor plate from north to south. In the basement, the finishes include exposed concrete floors, painted brick walls, steel beams and girders and wood floor joists. On the 1st floor, there is a small entry vestibule with double-leaf glazed and paneled wood doors with a 1-light wood transom in front of the eastern entrance on the south elevation. In the remainder of the southern half of the 1st floor, the finishes include wood floors, plaster and brick walls, wood columns and girders and exposed wood floor joists. Both the wood and brick elements are a combination of painted and unfinished. In the northern half of the 1st floor, the finishes include concrete floors, painted brick walls, round steel columns and exposed painted wood floor joists. On the 2nd through 4th floors, the finishes are the same as those in the southern half of the 1st floor. In the c. 1955 addition, the 1st floor has a concrete floor, painted cinderblock walls and exposed painted wood floor joists. A partially complete wall also bisects the space and dates to c. 2000. The 2nd floor has a wood floor, painted cinderblock walls, painted steel columns, steel girders and exposed wood floor joists.

Historic documentation indicates that the interior function of the building and the manufacturing process followed standard methods. The raw materials would be poured into coke furnaces, of which the company eventually had five. The number of furnaces to some degree indicates the output capacity of the company, so that number is an effective way to evaluate its scale. The melted metal was then poured into molds or casts and then manipulated, either through rolling or cutting machines into the desired product.

A 1903 trade journal also stated that the building was

Equipped with the latest approved appliances for successfully carrying on the manufacture of brass and brass goods. Electric power is distributed throughout the building for the operation of the machinery by motors, connected to the lime shafts of the light machines and on the heavy machinery direct; for the operation of a freight elevator, which connects the upper floors with the shipping room, and for supplying

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

light. The power plant is situated in the basement, and consists of a 55 horsepower gas engine belt connected to a 37 ½ KW generator.¹

A 1905 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows that the building contained office and storage space on the 1st floor, a machine shop on the 2nd floor, finishing space on the 3rd floor and a brass foundry on the 4th floor. The rear, 1-story portion was also used as a larger scale foundry with four coke furnaces in the southwest corner.² A small space on the 3rd and 4th floors was also rented to the Comstock-Oberndorf Brass Works.³ A 1911 journal article also referred to the company's twelve molders and five furnaces.

A 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows minimal changes from the 1905 map, with the exception of the addition of printing space on the 3rd floor and two melting kettles in the foundry space. The southwest corner of the 1st floor was also rented out as a Western Union telegraph office.

Integrity

The Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company retains integrity. On both the interior and exterior, the building remains virtually intact since the time of construction. Although the manufacturing equipment has been removed, there have been no other significant changes to the building, allowing the original feeling and association to remain present. The design, workmanship and materials of the building all represent a typical example of the era in which the building was constructed. The building is typical of a small-scale industrial enterprise with masonry construction; limited but deliberate brick and stone detailing; large and regular windows; separate building functions clearly expressed on the exterior; an open interior floor plan; regularly spaced wood columns and utilitarian finishes, including exposed wood flooring, columns and ceiling systems; and exposed brick walls. Unusual for a building of this age, what appear to be the original doors and windows are also intact throughout. The immediate setting and location of the building remain and there have been no changes to the adjacent streetscape.

¹ "The Pittsburgh Brass Company." *Iron Age*, (8 October 1903): 25.

² A coke furnace is one that is fueled by the gasses produced from coke production to then generate secondary power.

³ The Comstock-Oberndorf Brass Works seem to have rented the space temporarily while they were completing construction on their own factory. They specialized in the manufacture of "everything pertaining to compression work used by plumbers." "Pittsburgh and the South." *The Plumbers Trade Journal* (1 November 1903): 398. As their products were all produced in ingot copper, they likely shared some of the manufacturing capabilities of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

While the larger neighborhood is still industrial in function, many of the historic factories and work yards have been demolished or infilled. A 1906 advertisement for the company, designed shortly after construction was completed on the building, shows absolutely no change to the exterior of the property other than the absence of a sign along the cornice line, a chimney and a flagpole (Figure 4). The only additions to the building are the c. 1950 fire escape on the east elevation and the c. 1955 addition.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

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.)

- 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.)

INDUSTRY

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

Period of Significance

1903-1968

Significant Dates

1903

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Beatty, J.L.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building is significant under Criterion A, Industry, as an independent specialty metal manufacturer in Pittsburgh. Categorized as a “brass founder and finisher,” the company manufactured bronze, brass and aluminum products and was “one of the largest brass manufacturing concerns in the Pittsburgh district.”⁴ At this property, the company manufactured products for industrial clients, including those from the iron and steel industry. The company also manufactured ornamental metal work and developed new products, such as the frost-proof water closet, a product with which they cornered the market, and the patented bronze roto-flex ball pipe joint, a non-leaking flexible joint with applications in numerous industries. The period of significance begins in 1903, when the building was constructed, and ends in 1968, as the company moved to Irwin, PA, at this time.

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

A Brief History of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company

The company was founded in 1899 by Thomas Ward (1846-1915) with a capital of \$30,000 (Figure 1).⁵ It was originally located at 105-107 Wood Street in downtown Pittsburgh with a separate foundry space on 46th Street. Harry W. Ward (1873-1928), Thomas’s son, was also involved with the company from the outset and initially held the position of treasurer and secretary. The business, which had always focused on the manufacture of brass goods, was a “success from the start, making it necessary to secure larger quarters.”⁶ On December 26, 1902, Annie Ward, wife of Thomas, purchased the lots at 3153 and 3155 Penn Avenue, both of which were owned by F.R. Schlenstead. Shortly thereafter, Ward commissioned a fireproof brass foundry and finishing shop from Pittsburgh architect John L. Beatty for his company.⁷ In

⁴ “General News.” *Mill Supplies* 5 (1915): 67.

⁵ “Pittsburgh Brass Mfg. Co.” *Iron and Steel Metal Directory* (1915): 434.

⁶ “Thomas Ward Called by Death.” *Domestic Engineering* 70:11 (13 March 1915): 353.

⁷ John L. Beatty dubbed one of the “most successful architects” in Pittsburgh, was a Pittsburgh architect who began practicing professionally in 1890. After briefly working for J.P. Bailey, Beatty established his own practice, completing a range of projects, including private residences, churches, hospitals, schools, apartment buildings and cemeteries. His most significant commission was the West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

contrast to their earlier arrangement, the new building was to have all of its operations under one roof with a brass foundry, machine shop, erecting shop and a shipping room.⁸ The new building was to double the capacity of the earlier operation.

In 1903, city directories still show the company located at 105-107 Wood Street, and an article in March of that year in a trade journal stated that the new building was to be completed in July.⁹ A 1904 city directory shows the company as being on Penn Avenue and the building first appears on a Sanborn Fire Insurance Map in 1905 (Figure 2).

Although it is not precisely known why the exact location was chosen, the neighborhood was the center of metal manufacturing in Pittsburgh. Period maps demonstrate that within a two block radius alone, other similar companies included the Crucible Steel Company of America, Park Works Copper Mill, Pittsburgh White Metal Company, Pittsburgh Gage and Supply Company, Pittsburgh Rivet Company, Vilsack Martin Ornamental Iron and Wire Works, W.N. Kratzer Ornamental Iron Works, Springfield Foundry Company, Pittsburgh Malleable Iron Company, Iron City Tool Works and the Keystone Axle Works. The neighborhood also had the added convenience of having an immediately adjacent B and O Railroad spur and the Allegheny River to facilitate the transport of raw materials in and finished products out.

A 1911 journal article also referred to the company's "fine plant" on Penn Avenue, which produced "aluminum specialties, for small work, such as patent sweepers and finer machinery. Its brass production is largely for interior ornamental work, and its capacity in brass is 30,000 pounds a month. The business of this company has been growing steadily and its territory is broader each year."¹⁰

During World War I, the company completely shifted into production of material for the war effort but returned to the original product line once the war ended. This is attested to by a 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, which shows the consistent industrial use, in addition to the southwest corner of the 1st floor, which was rented out as a Western Union telegraph office. Although it is not known if the building was constructed with the intent of renting out tenant

⁸ "The Pittsburgh Brass Company."

⁹ "Trade Notes." *Heating and Sanitary Age* (7 March 1903): 53.

¹⁰ F.C. Wilkes, "The Metal Industries of Pittsburgh." *The Metal Industry* (May 1911): 201. For reference, the enormous brass foundry of the Westinghouse Electric and Brass Company had an output of 400,000 pounds per month.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

space, the original supplemental entrance at the west end of the south elevation indicates that this might always have been a possibility.

When Thomas Ward died in 1915, his son, Harry Ward became the president of the company and Edwin Gray Donaghay became the secretary. W.S. Montgomery was the sales manager and R.J. Ulrich was the foundry superintendent. The continuity of family management and the ongoing prosperity of the enterprise meant that little changed in terms of type or scale of production over the years. Within approximately one year of its opening at Penn Avenue until the mid-20th century, the company maintained a fairly consistent number of employees, ranging from eighteen to thirty-five.¹¹

A 1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows no change from the 1927 map other than the absence of the telegraph office. In c. 1955, the company purchased the lots located at 3147 to 3151 Penn Avenue and constructed a 1-story addition, which was used for storage and shipping. The lots had previously contained three 3-story dwellings fronting Penn Avenue and four 2-story dwellings fronting Mulberry Way.

From the relocation of the company to Penn Avenue through this period, the company focused on the development and production of industrial and ornamental bronze, aluminum and brass products. The industrial products ranged from castings and pipes to tubing, valves and fittings. The ornamental products ranged from grills and door plates to church railings and signage. Their most successful product line, however, was the frost-proof water closet, which transformed the daily lives of residents in and the municipal composition of downtown Pittsburgh.

The company continued to manufacture brass products at Penn Avenue until 1968, when they relocated to Irwin, PA.¹² They currently remain in operation at that location.

Criterion A Significance for Industry

¹¹ *Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, PA: 1916, 1920, 1922 and 1935).

¹² Irwin is located twenty miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

Products of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company

The most successful product line of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company was the frost-proof water closet. In period journals and magazines, advertisements for the water closets far outweighed those for any other product and notices for the company almost always mentioned them specifically. The company began to specialize in frost-proof water closets almost from the outset, with the earliest notation about them dating to 1902, while the company was still located on Wood Street. There were two primary versions, the Payne and the Pittsburgh, each of which had a number of sub-models.

The Payne was invented by and named for Thomas F. Payne, a sanitary engineer, in c. 1900 (Figure 8).¹³ Although the specific timing is not clear, it appears that Payne invented the toilet just prior to his association with the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company and brought the invention with him at the beginning of his employment. The Payne was designed to function as an outdoor water closet for those locations that would have below-freezing temperatures during the winter, of which Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas were no exception (Figure 6). The water closet primarily achieved this by positioning both the trap and valve below the frost line, which meant that it was impervious to freezing and therefore breakage. The flushing mechanism was automatically operated by the raising and lowering of the seat, so that when the seat was in use, water passed through the valve and filled the closet and when the seat was unoccupied, the stored water would flush out the waste. Its advantages over other similar products included the omission of a ground box, which meant that it could be repaired or adjusted from above the floors; the use of a valve seat, which could be removed without being dug up; the absence of weights, chains, levers and pins, which not only made it more economical to produce, but also facilitated installation and management; and piping that came in six lengths to accommodate a variety of settings. According to a period advertisement, it was the “only complete frost proof combination on the market” with no comparable product featuring “the advantageous features possessed by the Payne [causing it to be] endorsed by Boards of Health everywhere.”¹⁴

¹³ Payne was later a plumbing inspector for the Pittsburgh Department of Public Health, a professor of plumbing and sanitary engineering in the Carnegie Technical Schools and Superintendent of the Closet Department at the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company.

¹⁴ “Mr. Payne Superintendent of Closet Department of Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co.” *The Plumbers Trade Journal* (15 November 1909): 602.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

The omission of a ground box, also known as a collection pit or vault, led the model to be known as the “Pitless Closet.” This was a significant advance in public hygiene as *The Pittsburgh Survey* described collection pits as “noxious and omnipresent,” “indescribably foul,” “polluting the atmosphere” and as “contributing a large quota to the mortality and morbidity of the community by serving as breeding places of disease germs to be distributed by flies.”¹⁵ Moreover, it was a legal necessity. In 1901, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Health outlawed the draining of the water closet into a vault and also the connection of a vault to a sewer. Without this specific design implementation, the Payne Frost Proof Water Closet would have essentially been illegal.

In 1908, the company debuted the “Pittsburgh” frost proof closet (Figure 7). The new features of the model were that the “valve gives a perfect drain to all pipes, has a large opening for supply, cannot hammer or rebound and is not operated by chains; no cumbersome weights are used to give the seat automatic action and the tank outfit is constructed in such a manner as to eliminate the use of any movable part in filling and emptying the tanks automatically.”¹⁶ The new model also featured an enamel rim hopper, a “never split” hardwood seat and parts made of red brass, which was a specific alloy of copper, zinc and tin that made it particularly durable. The primary advantage of this model was that the primary valve was moved to a position above the closet floor. This significantly increased both its hygienic nature and its maintenance.

Period advertisements claimed that the “modern, practical” Pittsburgh model would improve the value and marketability of your property, reduce your winter repair bills and that your “sanitation [would be] purified and made healthful if you [would] abandon the extinct cesspool or backyard closet.” Because the water closet came completely assembled and connected directly to an existing sewer line, it required no specific knowledge of installation or plumbing. Additionally, it allowed every single closet to be tested by the manufacturers prior to shipping.¹⁷ This strong quality control was particularly important as the water closets had to accommodate a range of environmental conditions, including daily temperature swings of fifty degrees and variations in water pressure in different areas from twenty pounds to 150 pounds.¹⁸

¹⁵ Paul Underwood Kellogg, ed., *The Pittsburgh Survey: The Pittsburgh District Civic Frontage* (New York: Survey Associates, 1914): 92.

¹⁶ “With the Makers.” *Domestic Engineering* 44:10, (5 September 1908): 294.

¹⁷ “Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.” *Engineering Review* 26 (June 1910): 78.

¹⁸ “Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.”

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

In addition to serving the rural homeowner, the closets were also designed to “meet the extreme conditions found in Pittsburgh on account of the large foreign element living there in the class of properties where outside closets are installed.”¹⁹ The often-touted durability of the water closets was seen as an additional advantage in this context as it was necessary for the Board of Health “to post placards in these outhouses in three different languages, setting forth the rules and regulations governing the use of these closets, and penalties for breaking the law in this respect. [Consequently] some idea may be formed of the use to which outside closets in Pittsburgh are subjected.”²⁰

These numerous attributes led the Pittsburgh Board of Health to endorse these water closets and install them throughout their jurisdiction wherever necessary.²¹ Period advertisements stated that, “thousands of our closets have been installed in localities where the service is unusually severe, and they have stood the test like a battleship” (Figure 5).

The manufacture of the frost-proof, pitless water closet arose from a serious need in the market and is significant not only as an original invention by the company but also because it is illustrative of larger reformist trends in Pittsburgh at that time. The effort was two pronged, with one, more humanitarian group advocating for the welfare of immigrant and poor populations, those people most reliant on the outdoor water closet. The improvement of hygiene was a straightforward way in which general living conditions and overall health could be immediately addressed for a group of people whose population was only increasing along with Pittsburgh industries. The other prong was more political and involved passing new laws and engaging the Board of Health to adopt more stringent and progressive policies.

In Pittsburgh in the late 19th century, “the most pressing housing problem was the inadequate water and sewerage facilities supplied to workers. By 1900, only 110 miles of the 450 miles of city streets were adequately sewered and even in 1917, one could still witness raw sewage running through open gutters.”²² Prior to the invention of the durable, sanitary and frost proof water closet, the earlier versions were “often situated in muddy, unpaved courtyards, the

¹⁹ “Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.”

²⁰ “Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.”

²¹ “Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.”

²² Peter Shergold. *Working Class Life: The American Standard in Comparative Perspective, 1899-1913* (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1982): 153.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

wooden closet sheds were ‘of the flimsiest character,’ provided little privacy were cramped (92.5’ by 3.5’ was normal), had no lights for use at night and were often slept in by derelicts.”²³

Beginning in 1903, a campaign was instituted to improve the level of public hygiene in the city, in part inspired by a similar effort in Chicago, which was seen as a model of civic improvement. Mayor George W. Guthrie instituted such reforms as the Pittsburgh Civic Commission, one of whose subgroups was the committee on sanitation and public hygiene. Laws were promptly passed to regulate the number, location and quality of water closets, including such specific regulations as no privy, vault or cesspool could be constructed without the explicit approval of the city and, in those instances where permission was granted, all outdoor facilities had to connect directly to the public sewer.²⁴ 1,131 of these vaults were removed in 1910, with another 4,118 in 1911.²⁵

As both the Payne and Pittsburgh models fully complied with all of the new laws and regulations imposed by the city, the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company quickly cornered the market, and it was one of only two Pittsburgh manufacturers in 1915 and the only one in 1918.²⁶ A 1909 article noted that the plant was “operating on full time and to its capacity [with] a rush of business [caused by] a very heavy demand for the new ‘Pittsburgh’ frost proof closet, due to a number of new and special features which are contained in this fixture. A large number of them are being installed at present in and around Pittsburgh in outhouses and exposed places where it is imperative to have a non-freezing water closet.”²⁷ It was product lines such as this that solidified the notion that Pittsburgh has “one of the largest markets for brass products in the country.”²⁸

The company also found a foothold in larger markets, including Staten Island, New York, where the Building Bureau of Richmond Borough contracted the company to install the Payne

²³ Shergold, p. 153.

²⁴ “Municipal Ordinances, Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Public Hygiene.” Pittsburgh, PA (1 January 1910): 1972.

²⁵ Kellogg, 93.

²⁶ “Water Closet Combinations, Frost Proof.” *Engineering Directory*, (Chicago: Crawford Publishing, 1915): 362. The other was the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company, also located in the Strip District; “Buyer’s Directory.” *Domestic Engineering* 83:13 (29 June, 1918): 80.

²⁷ “Notes from Pittsburgh and Vicinity.” *The Metal Worker, Plumber and Steam Fitter* 72:2 (30 October 1909): 65.

²⁸ “Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.” *Gazette Times* (21 December 1914): 12.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

frost proof water closet throughout its facilities.²⁹ The manufacture of water closets by the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company continued through the 1920s.

Period advertisements and directories indicate that the company also manufactured a large range of brass, bonze and aluminum items during the period of significance, but always under the larger umbrella of “brass founders and finishers.” These items were produced for a range of industrial applications, such as for furnaces, refineries and rubber plants. Some of the products included brass, bronze, aluminum and acid-proof rough or machined castings; Babbitt metal; gas cocks; brass and bronze grilles; brass pipe; door plates; church railings; cleanout tongs; brass tubing and fittings; gas, steam and thermostat valves; hydraulic and tuyere cocks; blast furnace valves and fittings; special design valves; and malleable iron fittings.³⁰

A 1940 sales catalog for the company promoted “bronze tuyere cocks, tuyere fitting, roto-flex ball pipe joints and specialties for blast furnace and steel mill operations [as well as] rubber, oil, gas and chemical plants.”³¹ Other offered items included hose clamps, hydraulic crosses and tees, barge unions, square head pipe plugs and tuyere cock wrenches. The catalog also placed a strong emphasis on the company’s ability to design and manufacture fittings to meet special requirements and specifications.

Typical of both the era and the area in which the company operated, one of their most successful areas of production was tuyeres, which are a specific type of adjustable valve through which air is forced into a furnace. The tuyere has several components, all of which were manufactured in brass and included cocks, unions and ball joints that could be variously configured to accommodate varying needs (Figure 9). Although it is not specifically known to whom the tuyeres were sold, it is plausible to assume that the enormous local industry took advantage of a local supplier.

Another successful product for the company was the patented bronze roto-flex ball pipe joint (Figure 10). The part was a non-leaking, flexible joint that could be used in any location where pressure and temperature change were the primary factors, such as in pipe lines conveying

²⁹ “Pittsburgh Notes.” *The Metal Worker, Plumber and Steam Fitter* 63:8 (25 February 1905): 56.

³⁰ *Pittsburgh Commodity Index* (1913). https://archive.org/stream/pittsburghcommod00pitt/pittsburghcommod00pitt_djvu.txt. Accessed on September 3, 2014. A tuyere cock is a valve that regulates air or water pressure in a furnace.

³¹ *Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, Catalog Number 3* (2 July 1940): 1; “Industrial Literature.” *Chemical Engineering News* 18:11 (10 June 1940): 518.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

steam, water, oil, gas or air. The 1940 trade catalog details a variety of situations in which the pipe joint could be employed: on water cooled steam vulcanizers in rubber plants; on cinder car connections; on open hearth doors; and on steam or hydraulic mud guns in steel plants, railroad round houses, oil refineries and service and filling stations.³²

In addition to their less glamorous utilitarian products, the company also produced ornamental metal work, including church railings and door plates. One of their most prominent commissions was two bronze tablets measuring 36" by 48" for the Fort Pitt National Bank in 1905 (Figure 3). The tablets were positioned on the exterior of the building and read "Fort Pitt National Bank." At the time, an industry journal noted that, "the company is making a specialty of this work and at present employ steadily two modelers making patterns and casts."³³

Although the product lines of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company shifted slightly during the period of significance, away from water closets and towards industrial applications, the company not only continued a significant scale of production but also continued to innovate within its field. In 1941, the company patented a device to synchronize the choke, throttle and ignition of an engine through the precise operation of the spark timer.³⁴ In 1957, they were issued a patent for a coupling that would connect a conduit to a threadless pipe.³⁵ Lastly, in 1963, 1965 and 1968, they patented a new type of flush ball valve to be positioned on the bottom of a toilet tank.³⁶ As the company continued to both manufacture and innovate through the 1960s, it is appropriate that the period of significance extend to 1968 when the company moved to Irwin, PA.

Context of Brass Manufacturing in Pittsburgh

Metal manufacturing began in Pittsburgh in the early 19th century and was initially concentrated in the Strip District. Bounded by 11th Street on the west and 33rd Street on the east, the neighborhood was best known for its iron, coal and glass factories, but was also home to equally important steel, coke, bronze, brass, copper, aluminum and lumber manufacturers. The industrial prowess of the Strip District grew throughout the 19th century, with its primary

³² *Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, Catalog Number 3* (2 July 1940): 26-27.

³³ "Trade News." *The Metal Industry* 3:4, (April 1905): 77.

³⁴ "Throttle and Ignition Control for Internal Combustion Engines." United States patent #2,256,948 (23 September 1941).

³⁵ "Coupling for Threadless Pipes." United States patent #2,805,873 (10 September 1957).

³⁶ "Tank Bottom Flush Valve." United States patent #3,367,623 (6 February 1968).

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

period of industrialization dating from 1861 to 1915. It was home to such nationally important companies as the first mills of Andrew Carnegie, George Westinghouse and the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA), as well as the Juniata Iron Works and the Black Diamond Steel Works. The success of metal manufacturing in Pittsburgh came not only from the close proximity of natural resources but also from the availability of transportation methods for both the import of raw materials and the export of finished products. The Strip District in particular had immediate access to the Allegheny River; the Pennsylvania Main Line Canal; and the Pennsylvania, Allegheny Valley and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads, as well as express lines, trolley freight lines and parcel post. Although perhaps best known for the roles played by iron and steel, the Strip District was also “one of the largest manufacturing centers in the United States” for brass.³⁷

The first brass producing plant was established in Pittsburgh in 1806. From then on, “brass has been one of the important products of Pittsburgh, not only for its own use but for sale to all portions of the United States.”³⁸ In 1857, the city had four brass foundries and, by 1870, there were eleven brass foundries.³⁹ By the end of the century, there were fifteen brass foundries with approximately 400 employees. The foundries ranged from the manufacturing of brass castings to “natural gas fittings” and “artistic brass goods”, and had a value of nearly \$1,000,000.⁴⁰

As with other metal industries, the brass manufacturers had the advantage of having access to all of the base elements – copper spelter, lead and zinc – within a maximum of a one-hour train ride from Pittsburgh. Thomas Ward, president and founder of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, spoke about this benefit saying,

Our chief advantage in handling brass products... is the fact that our shipping facilities are so well organized that brass products, which have usually to be cast or manufactured after the buyer is out of stock, can be secured quickly here. If any one

³⁷ “McKenna Company Specializes in Brass and Bronze Work.” *The Gazette Times* 11 February 1918): 15.

³⁸ “Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.”

³⁹ George H. Thurston. *Allegheny County's Hundred Years* (Pittsburgh, PA: A.A. Anderson and Son, 1888): 223; *Pittsburgh: Its Industry and Commerce* (1870). <http://books.google.com/books?id=b8J3R-by8nkC&pg=PA92&lpg=PA92&dq=brass+industry+pittsburgh&source=bl&ots=ysIDEmIoc3&sig=AG5wc7UzLNm-mYB8EcHGwrnMgl0&hl=en&sa=X&ei=opkAVPuLEsrzgwS94oDYAg&ved=0CB0Q6AEwADgK#v=snippet&q=brass&f=false>. Accessed on September 12, 2014.

⁴⁰ Thurston, 223.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

attempted to secure brass fittings outside of Pittsburgh, his first obstruction would be in the delay in placing the order and then the shipping of the order into the city. He pays as much or more and meets with delay that is an important factor in his business.⁴¹

During its peak period of production from the mid-19th to early 20th century, Pittsburgh was a considerable producer of brass in the United States, which it not only exported throughout the country but which it also, because of its “enormous brass consuming power,” used locally, making it “one of the largest users of brass in the country.”⁴²

Brass foundries often operated as independent entities, as was the case with the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, but they also existed in conjunction with larger steel manufacturing operations. In 1914, there were over twenty brass foundries, sixteen of which operated independently.⁴³ It is perhaps because of this dependence on and close association with other industries that brass manufacturing has never gained the same level of prominence in Pittsburgh history as that of iron or steel. A 1911 journal article addressed this discrepancy saying, “while it is possibly one of the largest producers of brass in the country, and also one of the largest consumers of the same, the individual brass foundry of Pittsburgh is relatively hard to find.”⁴⁴

Even within the independent firms, there were various levels of productivity. A review of period industrial directories indicates that the majority of these independent firms had an average of five employees. Cross referencing these businesses with fire insurance maps shows that, in most cases, the businesses, while independent, did not have their own foundries, but contracted out that work and therefore could operate with a limited number of in-house workers. The Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, by contrast, was an independent firm of fairly substantial size with its own foundry.

In addition to the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, other prominent companies included the McKenna Brothers Brass Company (First Avenue and Ross Street), which manufactured metal cutting tools; Republic Manufacturing Company (Northside), which manufactured spacing tables; the Damascus Bronze Company (928 South Avenue), which

⁴¹ “Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.”

⁴² “Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.”

⁴³ “Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.”

⁴⁴ Wilkes, 197.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

manufactured bronze castings; Pittsburgh Gage and Supply Company (Liberty Avenue between 30th and 31st Street), which manufactured industrial gages; and Pittsburgh White Metal Company (3114 Penn Avenue), which manufactured anti-friction and Babbitt metals.

However, the two companies that are the most comparable in terms of scale, location and type and method of manufacture are the A.W. Cadman Manufacturing Company and the Keystone Bronze Company. The A.W. Cadman Company was located at 2814-2816 Smallman Street, just a few blocks northwest of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building. Founded in 1860, it is cited as being either the oldest or second oldest brass manufacturer in the city. Originally located near the Monongahela River, like the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, the company moved to the Strip District in the early 20th century. Also like the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, the A.W. Cadman Manufacturing Company began as a family enterprise and continued as such for several decades with a comparable number of employees, consistently around thirty. The company closed in the 1990s. Comparably, the A.W. Cadman Manufacturing Company manufactured numerous bronze, brass and aluminum items, but specialized in the production of bearing metals, which they fabricated in their own foundry. A bearing metal is created by a process in which Babbitt metal – the combination of tin, copper, antimony and lead – is combined with an alloy, such as aluminum, to make it stronger and more durable. The A.W. Cadman Manufacturing Company was the first company to perfect such a technique and it was one of its most successful and enduring contributions to the industry.

The Keystone Bronze Company was located at 29th Street and the Railroad, also just northwest of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company. Founded in 1887, the company was located in the Strip District since its beginning. Slightly larger than the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, the Keystone Bronze Company had approximately forty to fifty employees until it closed in the mid-20th century. Similar to the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, the Keystone Bronze Company specialized both in the general manufacture of copper, bronze, brass and aluminum castings but also received several patents for modifications to blast furnaces to give them better temperature control. As this was the great era of Pittsburgh industry, achievements in blast furnaces would necessarily have been a highly prized accomplishment.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

“Brass Making an Important Factor in Local Trade.” *Gazette Times* (21 December 1914): 12.

“Buyer’s Directory.” *Domestic Engineering* 83:13 (29 June, 1918): 80.

“Coupling for Threadless Pipes.” United States patent #2,805,873 (10 September 1957).

“General News.” *Mill Supplies* 5 (1915): 67.

Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg, PA: 1916, 1920, 1922 and 1935.

“Industrial Literature.” *Chemical Engineering News* 18:11 (10 June 1940): 518.

Kellogg, ed., Paul Underwood. *The Pittsburgh Survey: The Pittsburgh District Civic Frontage*. New York: Survey Associates, 1914.

“McKenna Company Specializes in Brass and Bronze Work.” *The Gazette Times* (11 February 1918): 15.

“Municipal Ordinances, Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Public Hygiene.” Pittsburgh, PA (1 January 1910): 1972-1975.

“Mr. Payne Superintendent of Closet Department of Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co.” *The Plumbers Trade Journal* (15 November 1909): 602.

“Notes from Pittsburgh and Vicinity.” *The Metal Worker, Plumber and Steam Fitter* 72:2 (30 October 1909): 65.

“Pittsburgh and the South.” *The Plumbers Trade Journal* (1 November 1903): 398.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, Catalog Number 3. 2 July 1940.

“Pittsburgh Brass Mfg. Co.” *Iron and Steel Metal Directory* (1915): 434.

Pittsburgh Commodity Index
(1913). https://archive.org/stream/pittsburghcommod00pitt/pittsburghcommod00pitt_djvu.txt.
Accessed on September 3, 2014.

“Pittsburgh Frost Proof Closets.” *Engineering Review* 26 (June 1910): 78.

Pittsburgh: Its Industry and Commerce. Pittsburgh, PA: Barr and Myers, 1870.
<http://books.google.com/books?id=b8J3R->

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

_____ 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): N/A

Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 40.460629 Longitude: -79.970204

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

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

The boundary of the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building is shown as a dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building: National Register Boundary." The scale of the map is 1" = 10'0".

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the entire parcel on which the building is situated and includes all resources historically associated with the nominated property. No extant historically associated resources have been excluded.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: Logan I. Ferguson, Senior Associate

organization: Powers and Company, Inc.

street & number: 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1717

city or town: Philadelphia state: PA zip code: 19107

e-mail logan@powersco.net

telephone: (215) 636-0192

date: April 30, 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
 Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA
 County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

City or Vicinity: Pittsburgh City

County: Allegheny

State: PA

Photographer: Robert Powers

Date Photographed: October 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

<i>Photograph #</i>	<i>Description of Photograph</i>
1.	South elevation, view north
2.	South elevation, Window detail, view north
3.	South elevation, Entrance detail, view north
4.	South and east elevations, view northwest
5.	East elevation, view west
6.	East elevation, Entrance detail, view west
7.	East elevation, view west
8.	East and north elevations, view southwest
9.	North elevation, view south
10.	North and west elevations, view southeast
11.	West and south elevations, view northeast
12.	South elevation, view northeast
13.	Basement, view northwest
14.	1 st floor, view southwest

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA

Name of Property

County and State

15.	1 st floor, view north
16.	1 st floor, view southwest
17.	1 st floor, view south
18.	1 st floor, view northwest
19.	1 st floor, Foundry section, view north
20.	1 st floor, Foundry section, view south
21.	1 st floor, C. 1955 addition, view south
22.	2 nd floor, view north
23.	2 nd floor, Stairway, view south
24.	2 nd floor, view southeast
25.	2 nd floor, C. 1955 addition, view northwest
26.	3 rd floor, view north
27.	3 rd floor, view east
28.	3 rd floor, view south
29.	4 th floor, view north
30.	4 th floor, view south
31.	4 th floor, Freight elevator, view north

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 100 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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 1

Index:

<i>Figure #</i>	<i>Description of Figure</i>
1.	Thomas Ward, 1905.
2.	Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1905.
3.	Fort Pitt National Bank, c. 1905.
4.	Advertisement, 1906.
5.	Advertisement, 1909.
6.	Advertisement, 1910.
7.	Advertisement, 1912.
8.	Thomas F. Payne, 1917.
9.	Advertisement, 1922.
10.	<i>Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, Catalog Number 3 (2 July 1940): 26.</i>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 2

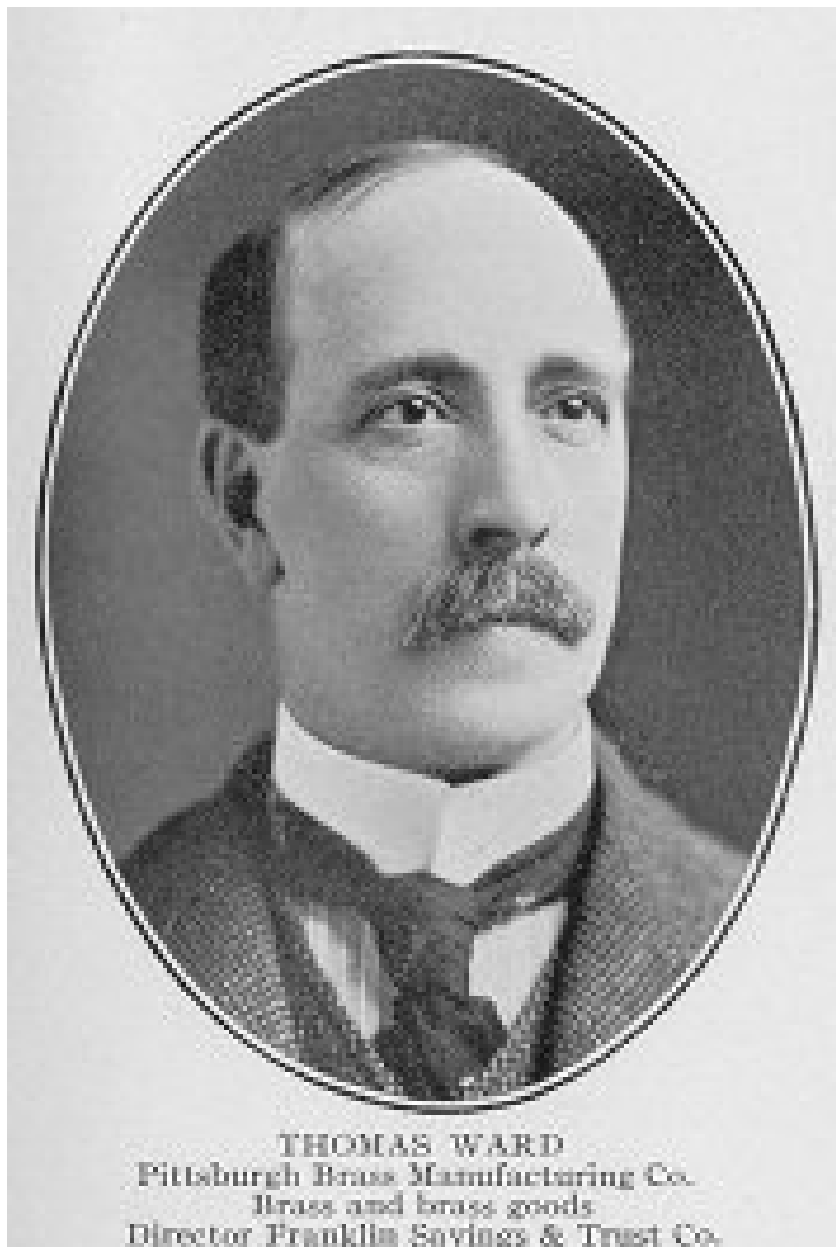


Figure 1 – Thomas Ward, 1905.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 3

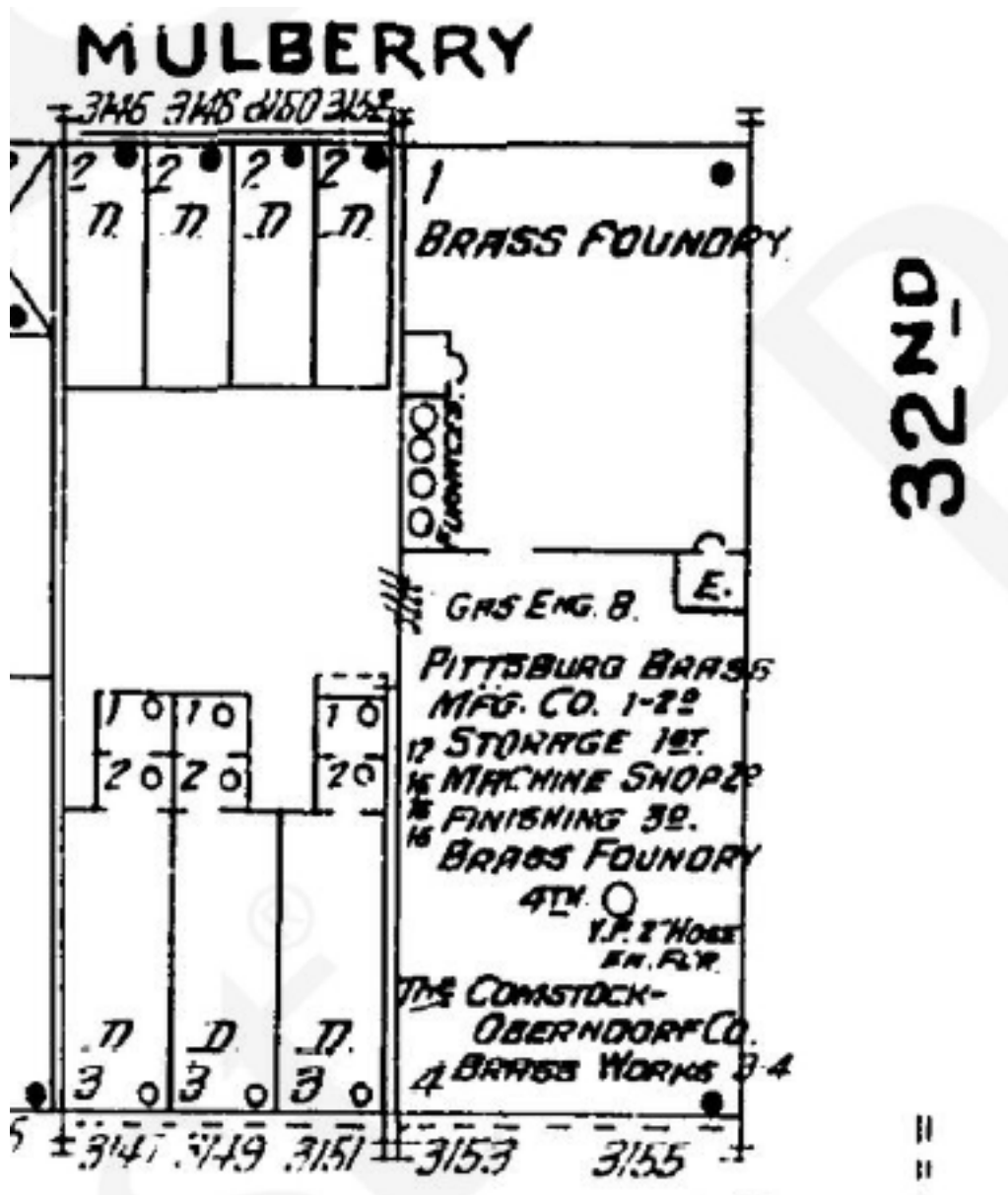


Figure 2 – Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1905.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 4



Figure 3 – Fort Pitt National Bank, c. 1905.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Historic Images Page 5

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A



Figure 4 – Advertisement, 1906.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 6

THE PITTSBURGH BOARD OF HEALTH



adopted the Payne Frost Proof Closet after numerous tests to determine the efficiency of other so-called "Frost Proof" Closets.

Thousands of our closets have been installed in localities where the service is unusually severe, and they have stood the test like a battleship.

We Know Why. Do You?

Buy a Payne outfit and you will not wonder long.

Advantages? There are too many to talk about. Order a Payne and see.

Your Jobber has them.

Pittsburgh Brass Mfg. Co.,
Penn Ave. and Thirty-second St.,
Pittsburgh, Penn'a.

Figure 5 – Advertisement, 1909.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

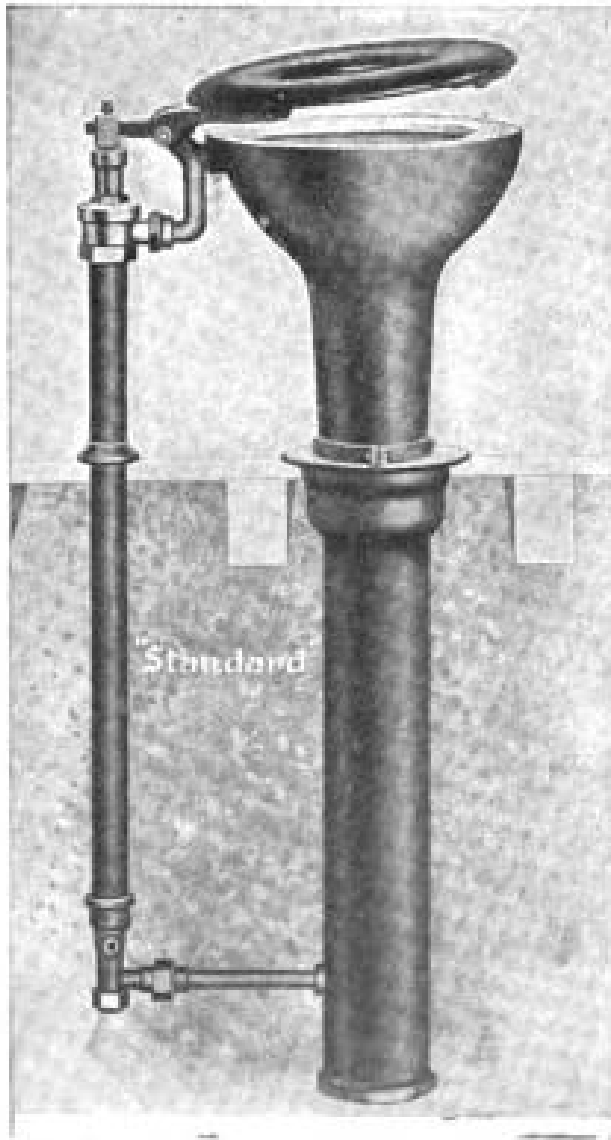
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 7



"Standard" Payne Frost Proof Closet, Fig. 1. Combination No. 1

Figure 6 – Advertisement, 1910.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 8



The PITTSBURGH

An Absolutely Frost Proof Water Closet.

Comes Completely Assembled.

In any Length of Soil Pipe.

Ready to Set on Trap and Connect to Water.

Manufactured by
PITTSBURGH BRASS MANUFACTURING CO.

Figure 7 – Advertisement, 1912.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property
Allegheny County, PA
County and State
N/A

Historic Images Page 9



Thomas F. Payne of Pittsburg, Pa.

Figure 8 – Thomas F. Payne, 1917.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Historic Images Page 10

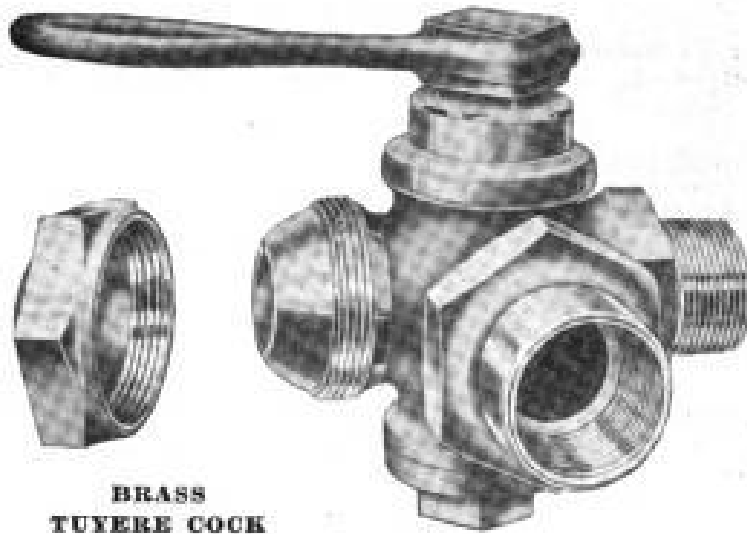
Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building

Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

County and State

N/A



**BLAST FURNACE and
OPEN HEARTH FITTINGS**

Designed and constructed to give thoroughly reliable service in Blast Furnace and Open Hearth Service. Blast Furnace and open hearth fittings of all kinds, Brass Tuyere Cocks, Tuyere Unions, Universal Ball Joint Unions, Extra Heavy Brass Cocks, etc.

Write us regarding your requirements

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Co.
PENN AVENUE AT 32ND STREET
PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

Figure 9 – Advertisement, 1922.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building**

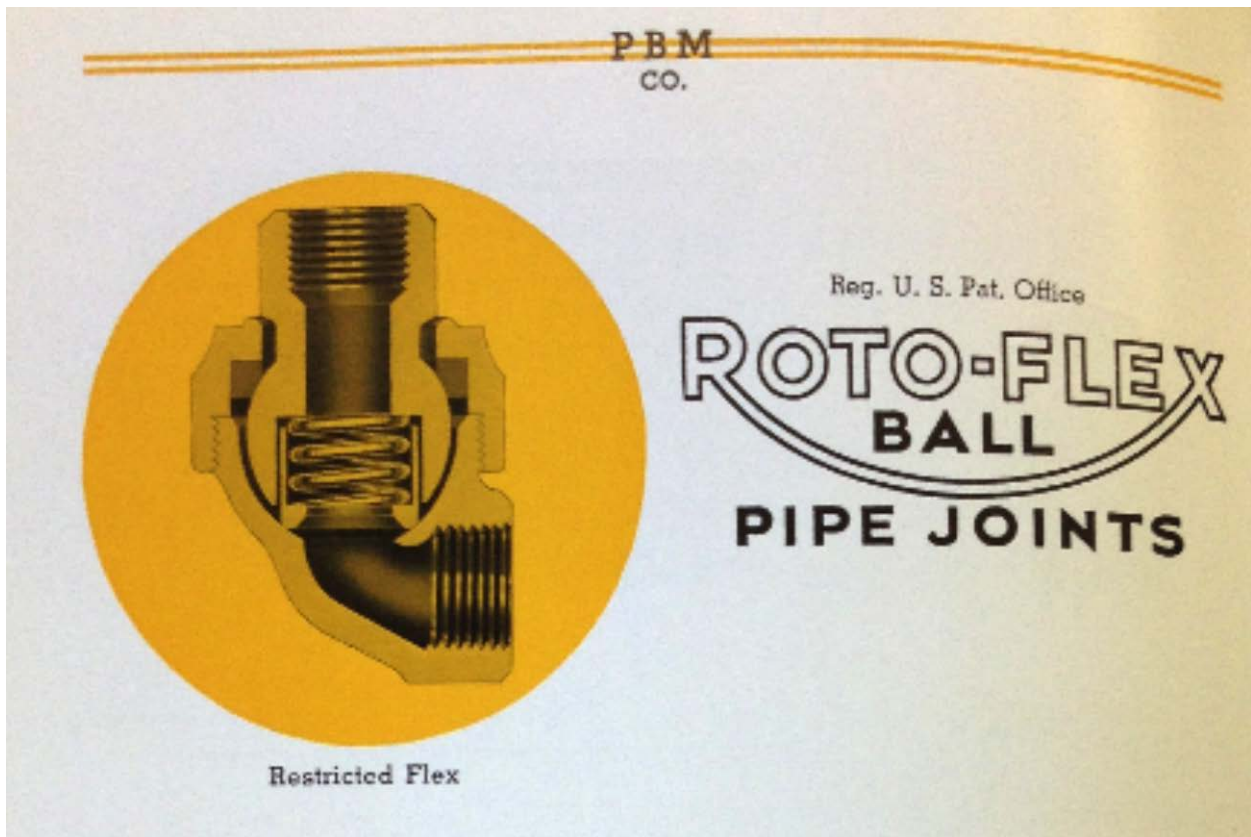
Name of Property

Allegheny County, PA

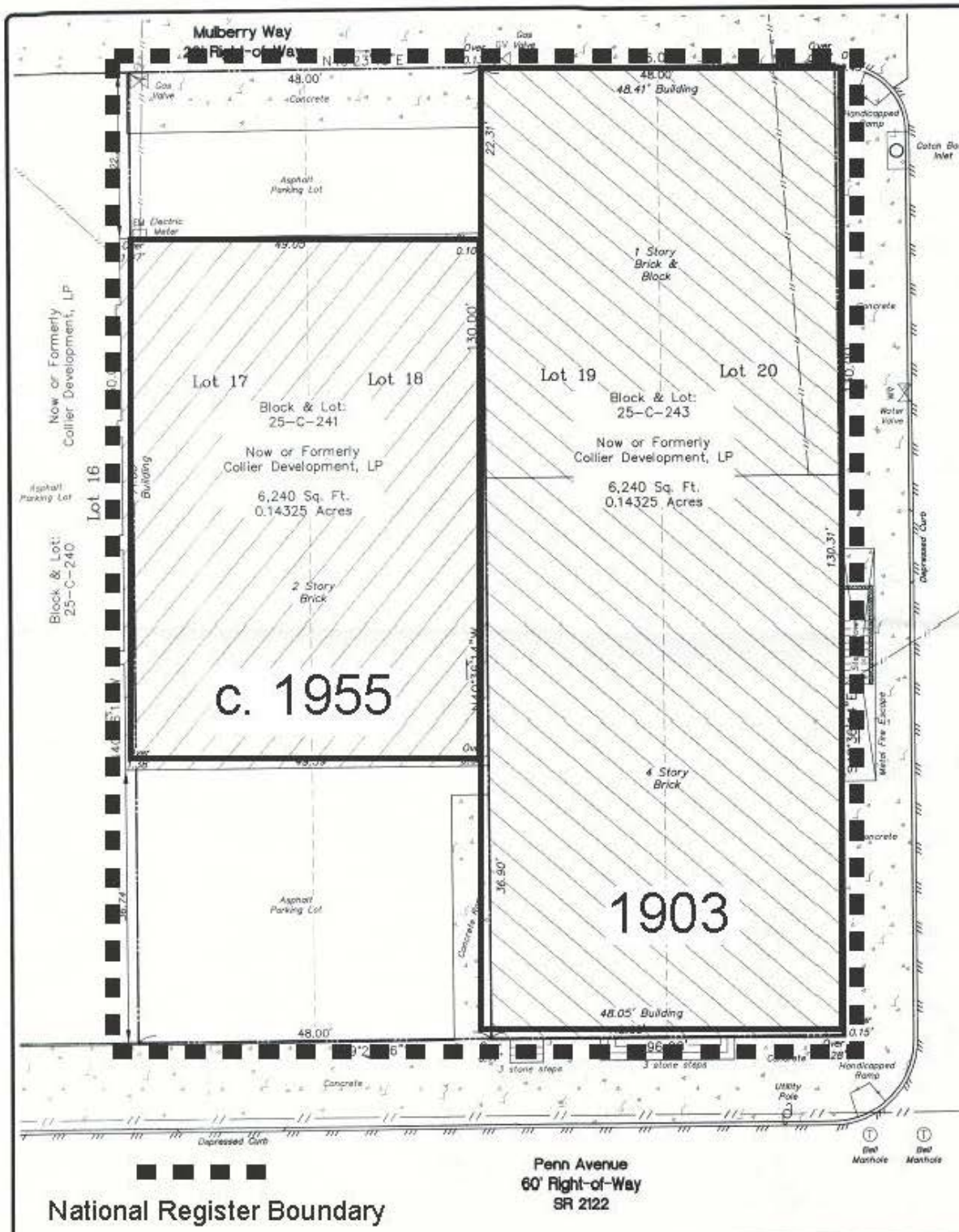
County and State

N/A

Historic Images Page 11



**Figure 10 – Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, Catalog Number 3
(2 July 1940): 26.**



Total Property Area
12,480 Sq. Ft.
0.2865 Acres

Note:
The Site is not located within any
FEMA designated special flood hazard
areas inundated by 100-year flood.
FEMA Map #: 42003C0353F
Map Revised July 5, 2000



Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building
Allegheny County, PA

HAMPTON
TECHNICAL CENTER
123 RIDGE RD. SUITE B
VALENCIA, PA 15009
35 WILSON STREET, #201
PITTSBURGH, PA 15223
PHONE: (412) 781-9044
FAX: (412) 781-9044
TOLL FREE: (800) 412-7811
WWW.HAMPTON-TECHNICAL.COM
EMAIL: HAMPTON@TECHNICAL.COM

TECHNICAL ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING LAND SURVEYORS
ESTABLISHED 1960

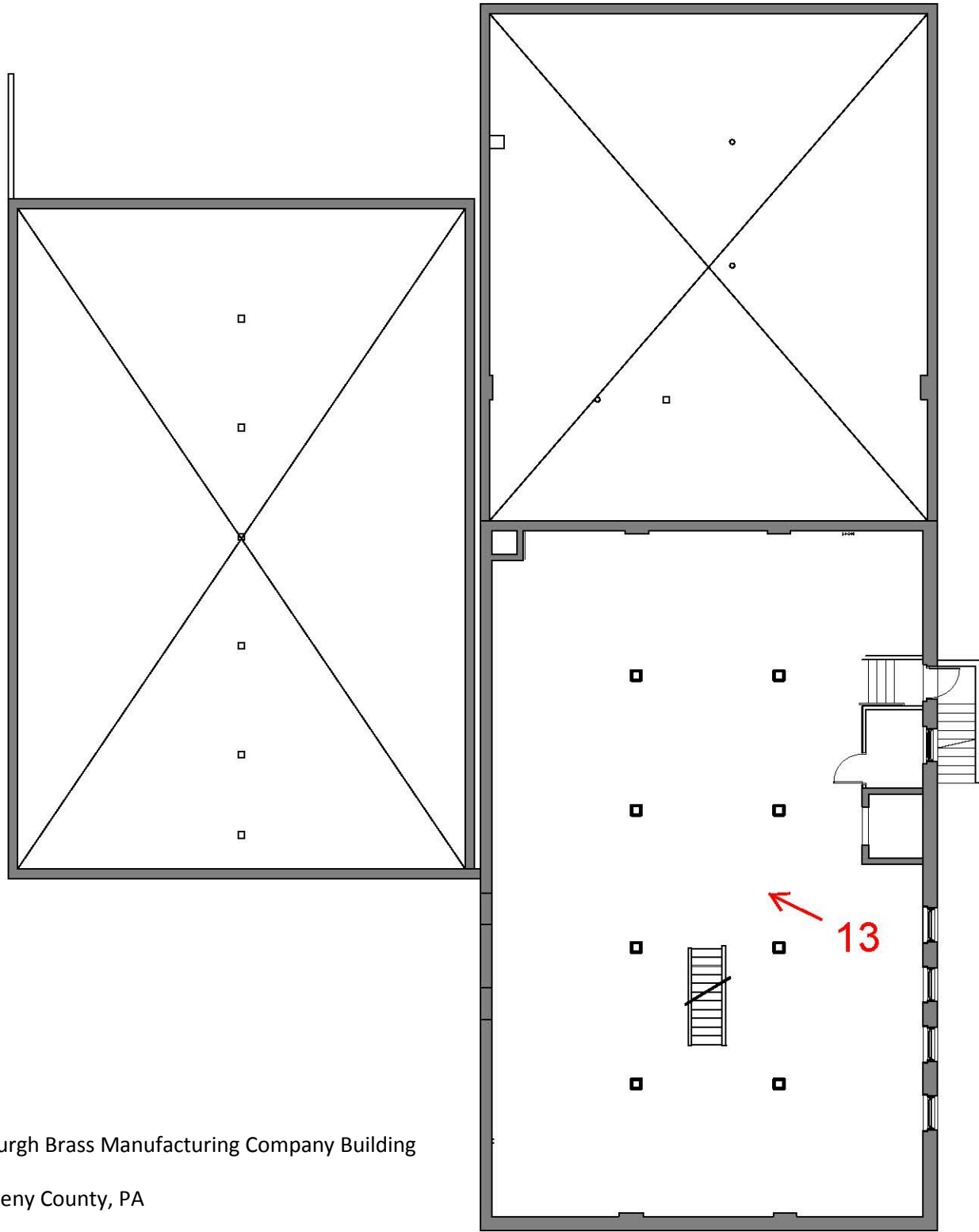
SCALE: 1" = 10'
CAD FILE: 14-11301.plot.dwg
DRAWN BY: GJP
CHECKED BY: CMS
APPROVED BY: MBE

TITLE: Lots 1 to 4 P.B.V. 6, Pgs. 180-187
Springfield Farm Plan of the Denny Estate
6th Ward - City of Pittsburgh Allegheny County, PA

CLIENT: Indovina Associates Architects
5800 Ellsworth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15223

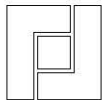
DATE ISSUED: May 28, 2014
SHEET: 1 of 1
Plot
RITA PROJECT #: 14-11301





Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building

Allegheny County, PA



**Indovina
Associates
Architects**

Project Name	The Brass Building
Project Number	14-15
Date	07.10.2014
Scale	1/16" = 1'-0"

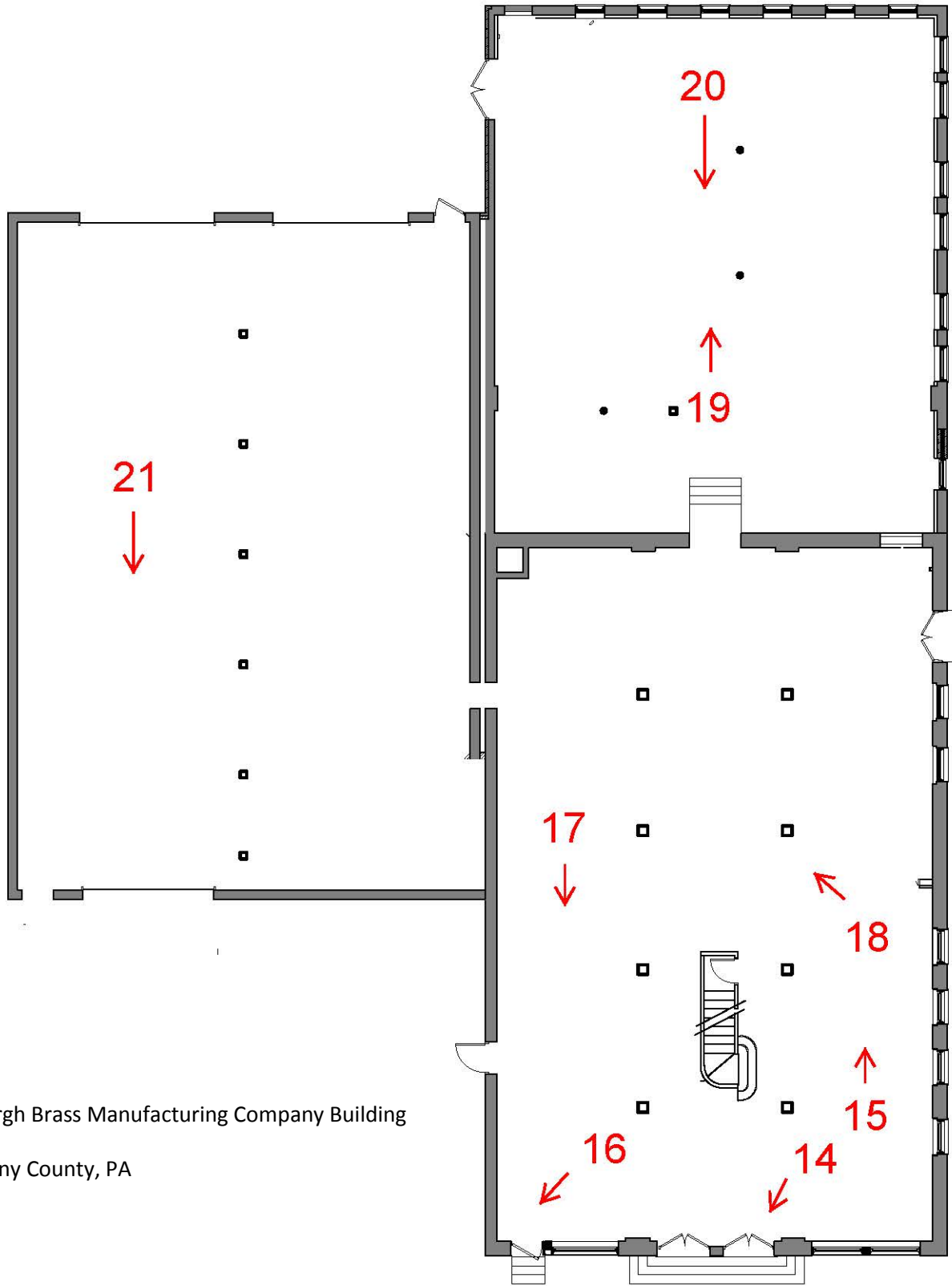
SK-1

All dimensions and existing conditions shall be checked and verified by Contractor at the site. Any discrepancy shall be reported to the Architect in writing.

© Indovina Associates Architects, L.L.C. 2014

Basement





Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
 Allegheny County, PA



Project Name	The Brass Building
Project Number	14-15
Date	07.10.2014
Scale	1/16" = 1'-0"

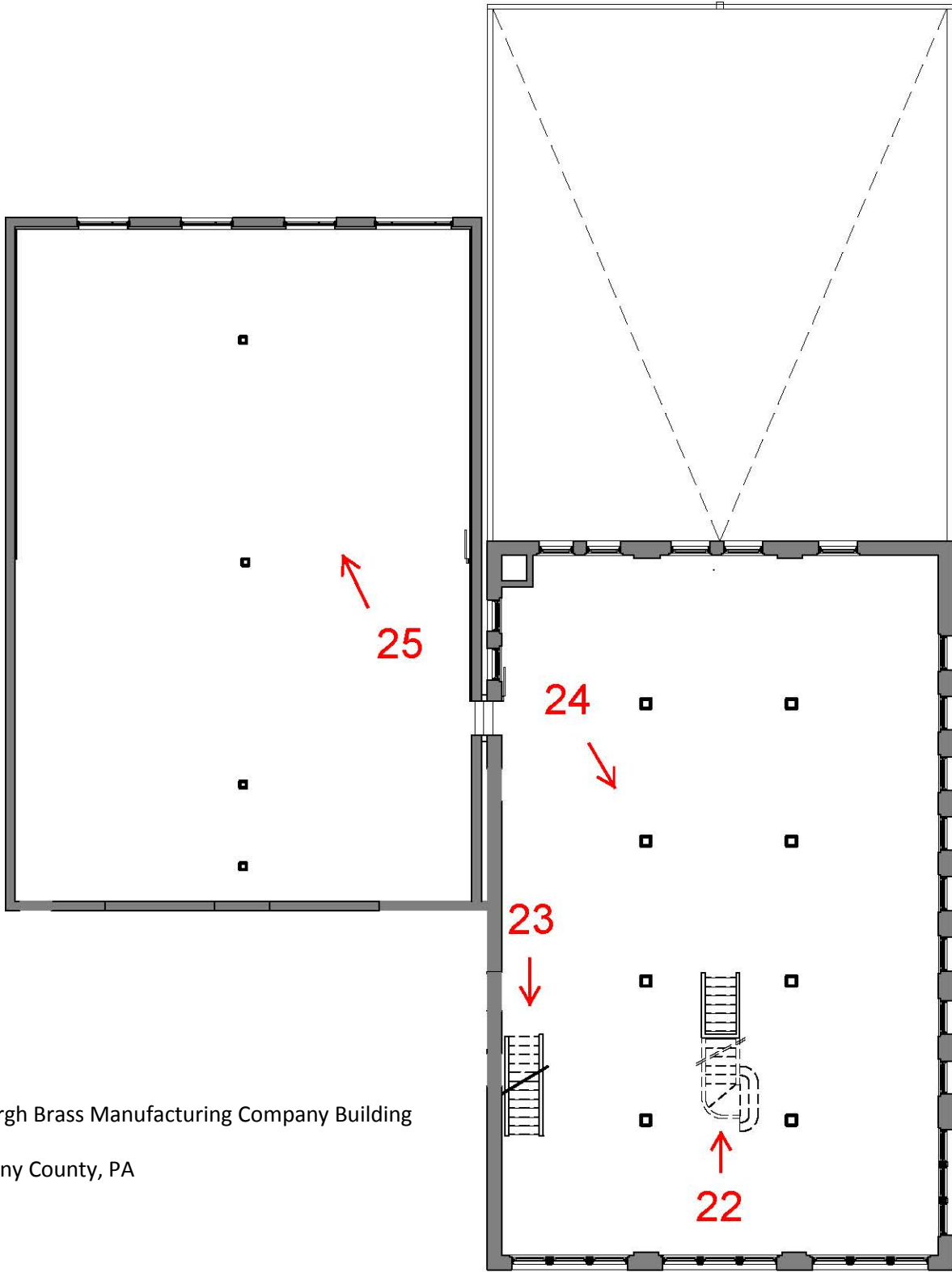
SK-1

All dimensions and existing conditions shall be checked and verified by Contractor at the site. Any discrepancy shall be reported to the Architect in writing.

© Indovina Associates Architects, L.L.C. 2014

1st Floor





Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
 Allegheny County, PA



Project Name The Brass Building
 Project Number 14-15
 Date 07.10.2014
 Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

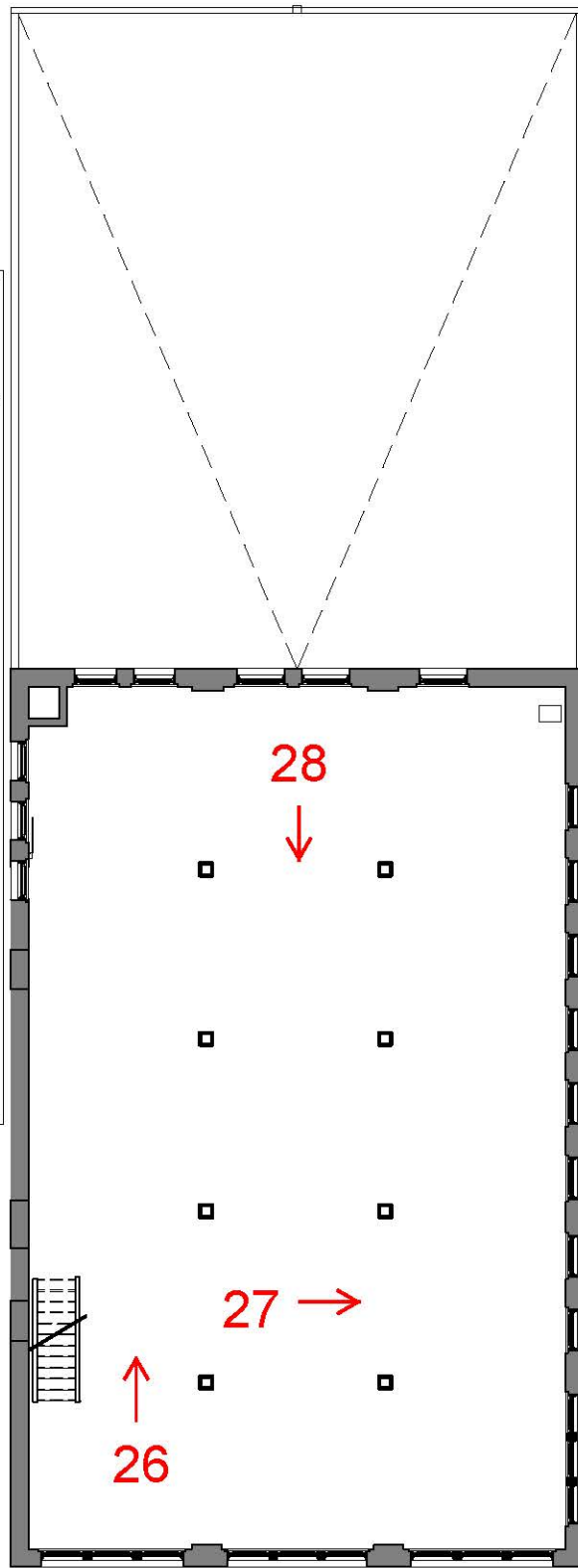
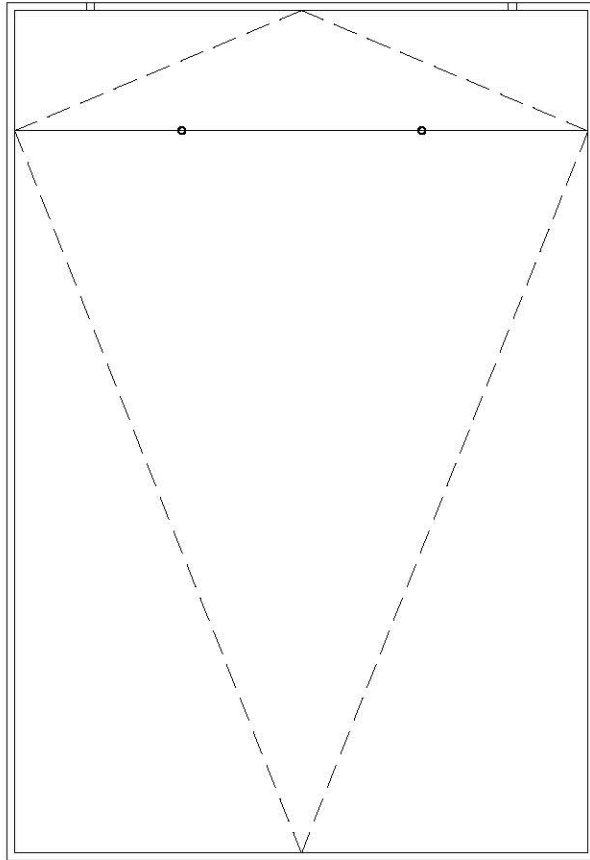
SK-2

All dimensions and existing conditions shall be checked and verified by Contractor at the site. Any discrepancy shall be reported to the Architect in writing.

© Indovina Associates Architects, L.L.C. 2014

2nd Floor





Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
 Allegheny County, PA



Project Name The Brass Building
 Project Number 14-15
 Date 07.10.2014
 Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

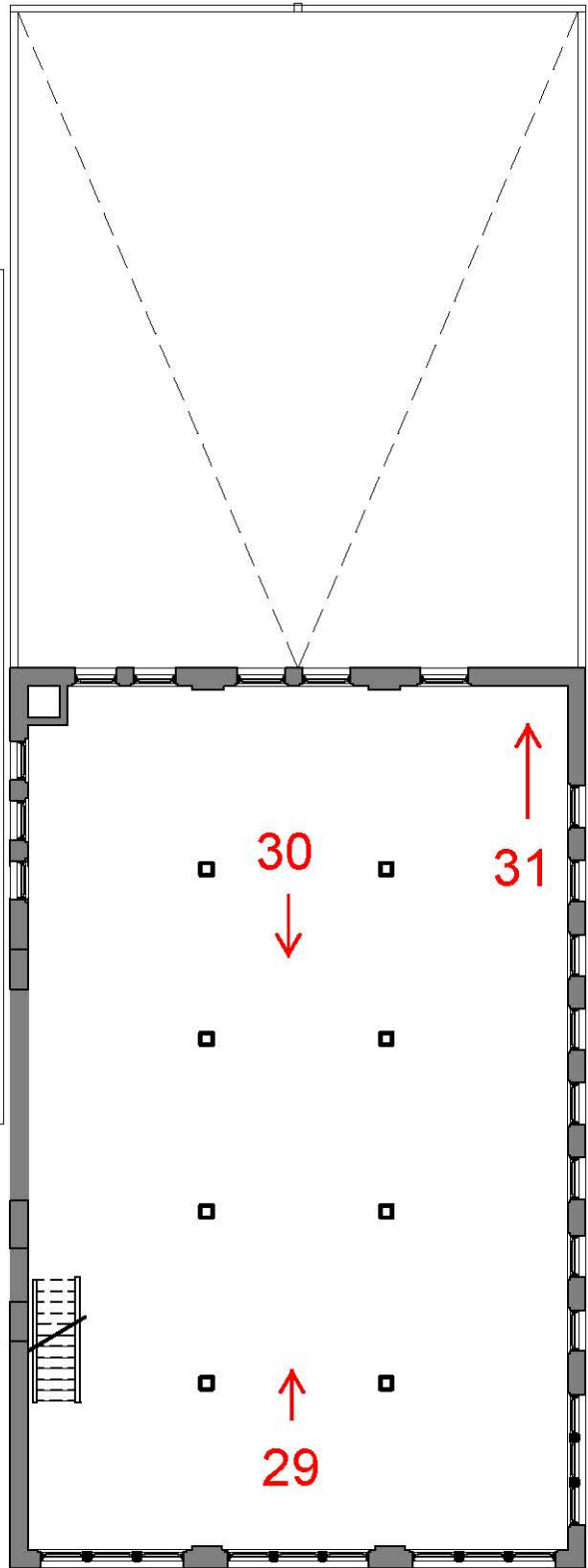
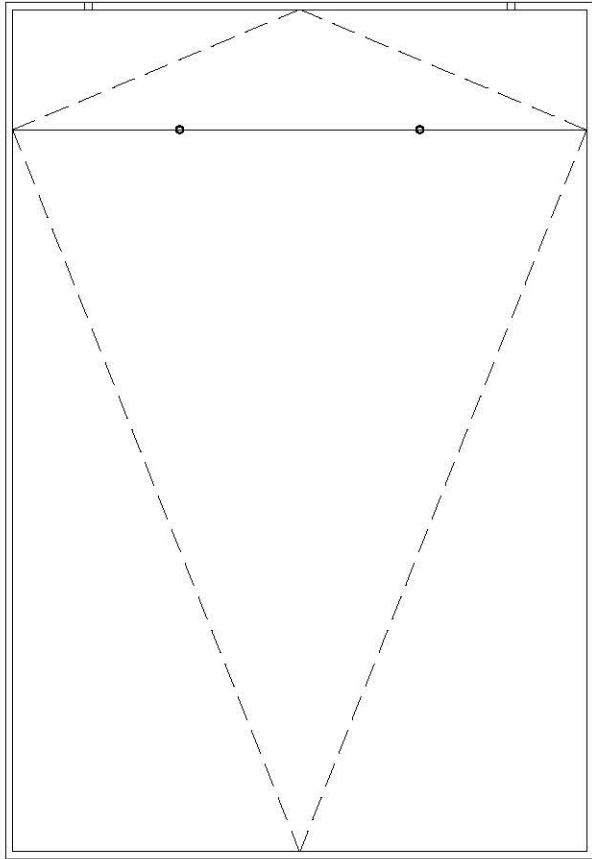
SK-3

All dimensions and existing conditions shall be checked and verified by Contractor at the site. Any discrepancy shall be reported to the Architect in writing.

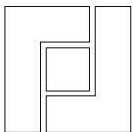
© Indovina Associates Architects, L.L.C. 2014

3rd Floor





Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
 Allegheny County, PA



**Indovina
 Associates
 Architects**

5880 Ellsworth Ave.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15232
 p 412.363.3800
 f 412.363.0483

Project Name	Brass Building
Project Number	14-15
Date	09.10.14
Scale	1/16"=1'-0"

SK-4

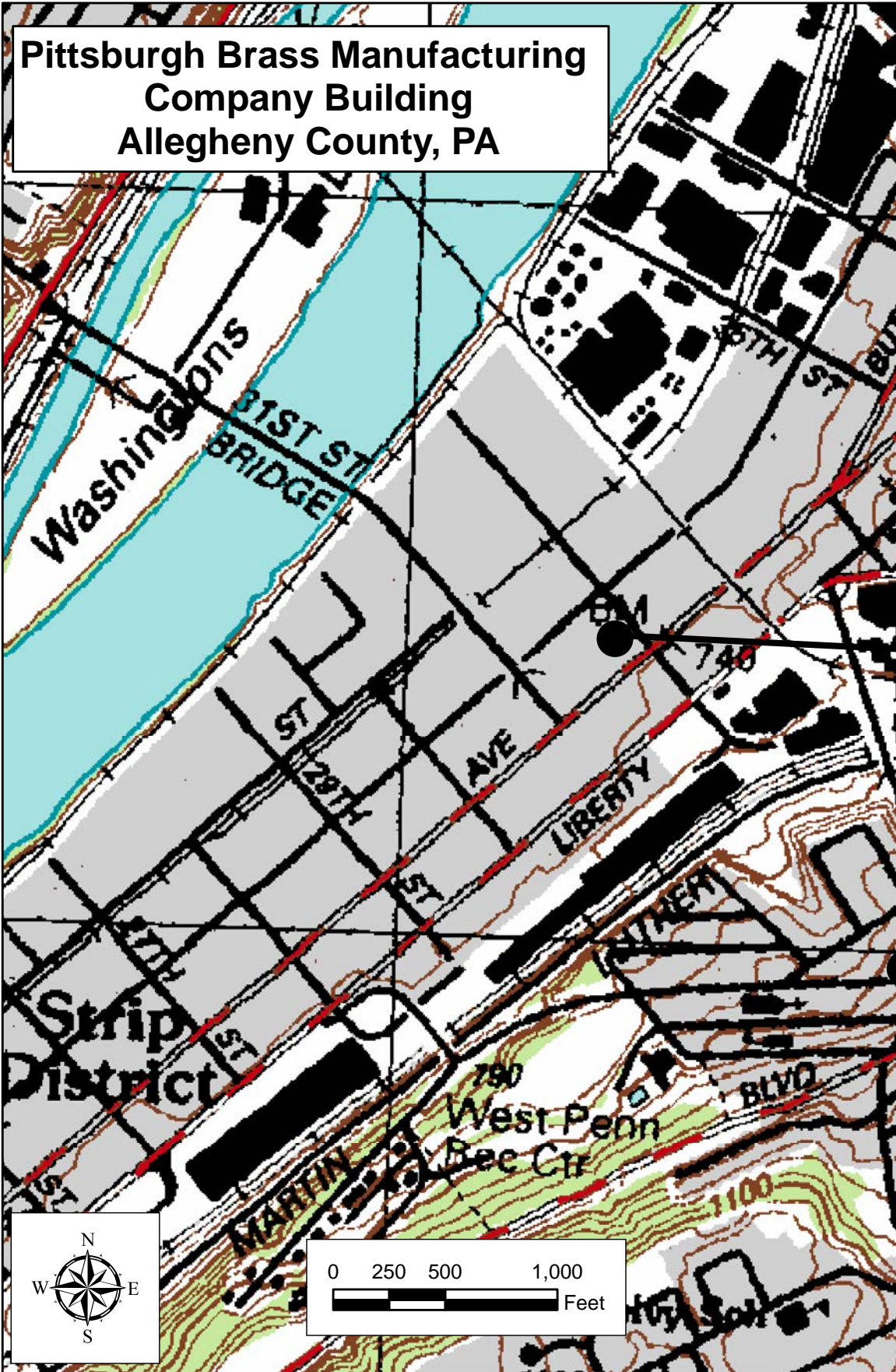
All dimensions and existing conditions shall be checked and verified by Contractor at the site. Any discrepancy shall be reported to the Architect in writing.

© Indovina Associates Architects, L.L.C. 2014.

4th Floor



**Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing
Company Building
Allegheny County, PA**



Latitude: 40.460629
Longitude: -79.970204
NAD 1983

CHUS
HART

SPRINT

PITTSBURGH BRASS MFG. CO.

FEDERS

FOR RENT
50 FT
412-221-3435

1st St

← 15 →







PRINT
1911

PITTSBURGH BRASS MFG CO.

FOR RENT
CALL
412.210.4411

FOR RENT
CALL
412.210.4411

Handwritten graffiti on the brick wall.



SUNNY

TRIP

NO PARKING

NO PARKING



BTK
GEMSO





PITT OHIO

Watch for Bicycles

GMC



419-430-4488

PORTABLE TOILET





PITTSBURGH BRASS & CO.







NO
REENTRY



































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Allegheny

DATE RECEIVED: 12/18/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/01/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/02/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15001030

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 2/2/2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A
REVIEWER Pattide Andrus DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 2/2/2016

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.



October 2, 2015

Keith Heinrich
National Register and Survey
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pa 17120-0093

RE: Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building, Pittsburgh City, Allegheny County, Key #009528
The Salvation Army Building, Pittsburgh City, Allegheny County, Key #004528

Dear Mr. Heinrich:

As requested in your letter dated July 31, 2015; the following is meant to fulfill the City of Pittsburgh's obligations as a Certified Local Government for providing comment on National Register Nominations.

The public involvement process included emailing notices to interested parties, including members of both the Historic Review Commission and the Planning Commission of the City of Pittsburgh and members of the press. Written comments from the public were requested at that time. The nomination was also posted on the City's website on August 19, 2015. No comments on the nomination were received. The City's position on the nomination is outlined below.

Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building, Pittsburgh City, Allegheny County

The City of Pittsburgh supports this nomination because the property meets the requirements of National Register Criterion A in the Area of Industry. We agree that the building is representative of a time when metal manufacturing was an important part of industry in the Strip District neighborhood.

The Salvation Army Building, Pittsburgh City, Allegheny County

The City of Pittsburgh supports this nomination because the property meets the requirements of National Register Criterion A in the Area of Social History. We agree that the building played a significant role in the history of charitable social services institutions in Pittsburgh.

In addition, we agree that both properties retain sufficient integrity to reflect their historical significance and that they should be protected and preserved. At this time, neither property is listed on the Local Register of Historic Places. One of the goals of the City's preservation plan is to list additional properties on the National Register.

I can be contacted at 412-255-0739 or via email at sharon.spooner@pittsburghpa.gov.

Regards,

Sharon Spooner
Historic Preservation Specialist
City of Pittsburgh



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

RECEIVED 2280

DEC 18 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

December 11, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Program
National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: NR nomination discs

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following nomination forms are being submitted electronically per the "Guidance on How to Submit a Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on Disk Summary (5/06/2013)":

Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275, Westmoreland County
Nesbit-Walker Farm, Washington County
Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building, Allegheny County
Plantation Plenty (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation), Washington County
The Salvation Army Building, Allegheny County
Slusher, David, Farm, Washington County
Temple Ohave Israel, Fayette County

The enclosed discs contain the true and correct copy of the nominations for Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275; Nesbit-Walker Farm; Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company Building; Plantation Plenty (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation); The Salvation Army Building; Slusher, David, Farm; and Temple Ohave Israel. The proposed action is listing in the National Register.

If you have any questions regarding the nominations please contact Keith Heinrich at 717-783-9919.

Sincerely,

Keith T. Heinrich
National Register and Survey

Historic Preservation Services
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093
www.phmc.state.pa.us
The Commonwealth's Official History Agency