National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

and/or common	Inner Loop Mille	iple Resource Area	• •	
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street & numbe	r various			not for publication
city, town Roch	nester	vicinity of		
state New	York c	code 036 county	Monroe	code 055
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure	<u> </u>	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible	Present Use agriculture _`X commercial _X educational _x entertainment	museum park private resider religious
site object source_area	Public Acquisition $\underline{\underline{NA}}$ in process $\underline{\underline{NA}}$ being considered	X ves restricted	government industrial military	scientific transportation other:
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7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The historic resources of the Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area, the central business district of Rochester, New York, were identified by means of a comprehensive survey of structures and sites conducted by the Landmark Society of Western New York in 1981-82. The study area was determined by the Inner Loop, a circumferential highway which encircles Rochester's central business district. The multiple resource area is characterized by Rochester's monumental commercial structures. Properties outside of the multiple resource area include discrete historic residential neighborhoods, many of which contain small-scale commercial nodes. Modern residential neighborhoods and commercial structures and large industrial complexes also lie outside the multiple resource area. All properties included in the multiple resource area were recorded on New York State buildingstructure inventory forms and systematically evaluated against the National Register criteria of eligibility. The nominated properties include five historic districts, two thematic groups and 37 individual components in a 448-acre area, a total of 132 contributing elements. There are no non-contributing structures.

The nomination encompasses all those properties within the Inner Loop whose historic, architectural or archeological significance can be determined from information currently available and does not preclude the nomination of additional properties in the future if further information becomes available to substantiate their significance. Fifteen historic resources within the Inner Loop are already fisted on the National Register and are identified on a separate list.

The city of Rochester is situated on the Genesee River in the center of Monroe County, nine miles south of Lake Ontario, in western New York State. The area surrounding Rochester, the Genesee River Valley, is largely rich farmland. The Genesee River, its gorge and falls intersect the city as the river flows north to the lake. Fertile land and a climate tempered by the lake fostered agricultural production in the valley, while water power and transportation encouraged diversified light industry and commerce in the city proper. Initial settlement of Rochester occurred naturally along the riverbanks, gradually radiating to the east and west as the city grew. The architectural character of early Rochester was diversified, containing building types generally associated with burgeoning, self-contained settlements: residences, mills, churches, schools, commercial and civic buildings.

As the city prospered in the nineteenth century, commercial activities concentrated in the multiple resource area and the small-scale building types associated with the village of Rochesterville were replaced by larger, taller structures used for commercial purposes. Of these early buildings, few survive unaltered. Those that do remain and retain their architectural and/or historic integrity are included in this nomination. In general, residential development moved out of the multiple resource area as industry and commerce developed.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the commercial core of the city of Rochester was characterized by densely populated urban streets with rows of similarly scaled commercial structures. Civic and religious buildings were also a part of the streetscapes. Residential neighborhoods were developing on the outskirts of the commercial core, although small residential enclaves and isolated residences could still be found in the multiple resource area. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Rochester reached the peak of its historical development, and the architectural character of the present multiple resource area was established at this time.

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Advances in technology fostered the construction of multiple-story buildings, and the popularity of the City Beautiful movement, an outgrowth of L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts in France and, more immediately, the Chicago Exposition of 1893, were influential in shaping the architectural character of the commercial area of Rochester. Existing buildings were renovated in the popular styles of the day with additional stories, facade changes, and period embellishments. New construction produced buildings used for cultural purposes were added to the established variety of commercial structures. The central business district, despite the evolution of building types and uses, was still an area of dense urban streetscapes. Buildings of diverse scale, style and ornamentation co-existed in uninterrupted rhythmic patterns which reflected the growth and prosperity of a major city in New York State.

In general, the multiple resource area retained its architectural character as it existed by the mid-1930's until post-World War II. Historic buildings began to be demolished, a trend that gathered momentum with the creation of urban renewal programs in the 1950's through the early 1970's. The result of these programs left commercial Rochester's surviving historic structures scattered randomly throughout the multiple resource area. A large percentage of the land is now devoted to parking lots. New construction has occurred as well, although it has been relatively minimal compared to the demolition of existing structures. Because the continuity of historic urban settings no longer exists in the multiple resource area, the nominated properties consist of small isolated historic districts and a relatively small group of individual components, nine of which have been grouped into two themes.

There are areas within the multiple resource area that are still densely populated with unbroken blocks of buildings, many of which are historic. However, these areas also contain intrusive modern construction, randomly placed, which interrupts historic streetscapes. Additionally, many historic buildings which have been dramatically altered no longer retain their architectural integrity. The effects of new construction and alteration to historic buildingshave created streetscapes of a disparate nature that have lost their historic sense of scale, materials and setting. This has precluded the delineation of large historic districts which remain essentially intact. The demolition of historic buildings in the multiple resource area appears to have occurred without a determined pattern. There are several instances where isolated, intact historic structures are surrounded by large expanses of open space or parking lots. The same is true for small groupings of extant historic structures. The physical changes to which the multiple resource area has been subjected post-World War II have dictated the selection of nominated resources and only those structures that retain their historic appearance and overall architectural integrity are nominated.

A broad range of building types, architectural styles, and periods of construction dating from 1817 to 1939 are represented in the multiple resource area. Although residential, industrial, commercial, cultural, religious and civic building types are located within the multiple resource area, multiple-story industrial and commercial structures dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries predominate, often executed in the Romanesque Revival and Neoclassical styles. There are a number of frame buildings represented, primarily in the residential components, but the

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Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area Page 3 majority of nominated structures are of masonry construction. Also noteworthy are civic structures, imposing in their finely articulated Neoclassical styles, and religious structures executed in variations of the Romanesque Revival style. The predominance of commercial and industrial structures and their visual impact, true of civic and religious structures as well, can be attributed to the fact that many of these buildings were designed by prominent local architects. The nominated properties are described by type in the following paragraphs. Additional information on the five historic

Residential

inventory forms.

Examples of residential architecture are relatively few within the multiple resource Those that do remain are varied in style and building materials and date from area. 1825 to c. 1900. As commercial activities came to dominate building construction in the multiple resource area, early residences and later residential neighborhoods began to disappear. Structures remaining from Rochester's initial period of development include the Ebenezer Watts House (1825) at 47 South Fitzhugh Street (individual component), a transitional Federal/Greek Revival style brick structure which is the oldest residence in the multiple resource area, Also surviving from this period are the Loomis House (c. 1830) at 62 Cascade Drive in the Bridge Square Historic District, a small frame Greek Revival style cottage and a Greek Revival style brick townhouse (c. 1840) at 32-34 North Washington Street (individual component). Two particularly fine residential structures have already been listed on the National Register: The Jonathan Child House (1837) and the Brewster Burke House (1894) which make up the Jonathan Child-Brewster Burke Historic District (listed 1971).

districts, two thematic groups, and 37 individual components is found on the accompanying

The Grove Place Historic District is the only remaining residential neighborhood in the multiple resource area and contains 22 structures of frame and masonry construction executed in the popular styles of the period c. 1845 to c. 1900. Detached and townhouse building types of two-and three-stories predominate, and styles represented include Greek Revival, Italianate, Eastlake, Queen Anne, and Gothic-Tudor Revival, with late nineteenth century styles being the most prevalent. The district retains considerable architectural integrity and is unique in the multiple resource area as a concentrated enclave of residential structures.

Late nineteenth century residential construction is represented in the multiple resource area by a brick Romanesque Revival style apartment house (c. 1890) at 118 Franklin Street (individual component). Although other individual examples of residential buildings exist in the multiple resource area, loss of architectural integrity has precluded their inclusion in this nomination.

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Industrial

Industrial resources, abundant in the multiple resource area, date predominantly from the late nineteenth century, although examples range in date from 1817 to 1928. The earliest surviving industrial resource is the Johnson and Seymour Race (1817) (individual component), used to divert water from the Genesee River to power early mills. Constructed of large, rock-faced cut limestone blocks, only the southern portion is intact.

Two concentrations of industrial buildings exist in the Bridge Square and North Water/St. Paul Streets historic districts, logically sited near historic sources of power and transportation. Other industrial structures are scattered randomly throughout the multiple resource area. In general, the buildings are characterized by masonry construction of stone or brick. Many are utilitarian in design, while others are richly embellished with decorative detail. The Romanesque Revival and Neoclassical styles are most often employed for these functional buildings.

The earliest surviving industrial structure in the multiple resource area is the Arcade Mill (1840) at 26-32 Aqueduct Street (individual component), a Federal style rubble stone structure distinguished by segmentally arched windows and a first story round-arched arcade. Now a rare example of an early industrial building, the Arcade Mill typifies what was once a common building type in the multiple resource area.

Industrial structures of mid-nineteenth century Rochester are no longer extant or have lost their architectural integrity. The Bridge Square Historic District contains six industrial structures which date from 1872 to 1915 and are typically four-and fivestory brick and stone structures of utilitarian design. They are located at the historic junction of West Main Street and the Erie Canal (now removed) and near the termination of two railroad lines, no longer extant. Paired double-hung windows set between brick pilasters and corbelled cornices are characteristic of these structures.

In contrast to the low scale, utilitarian character of Bridge Square are the multiple-story, monumental brick industrial structures of the St. Paul/North Water Streets Historic District, many of which are embellished in the Romanesque Revival style. Dating from 1885-1928, structures exhibit decorative details executed in a variety of materials including sandstone, pressed metal and terra cotta. Large Romanesque Revival style arches, cast-iron storefronts, and corbel tables are typical details. Local architects Charles and Harvey Ellis and Oscar Knebel are represented in the historic district, which is bounded by the Genesee River, Rochester's major historic source of power and transportation.

Individual industrial structures within the multiple resource area illustrate late nineteenth and early twentieth century design features. The most distinctive of these buildings is the H.H. Warner Building (1883) at 82 St. Paul Street (individual component), designed by New York City architect Louis P. Rogers. It is an eight-story masonry structure with an intact elaborate cast-iron facade in the Venetian Gothic style, and it is the only building of its type in the multiple resource area. The National Casket



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<u>Company Building</u> (1888) at 142 Exchange Street (individual component), designed by Harvey Ellis, and the <u>Michaels Stern Building</u> (1893) at 87 Clinton Avenue North (individual component) are multiple-story brick structures with Romanesque Revival style detail in stone and brick. The <u>Cox Building</u> (1888) at 48 St. Paul Street, a component of the Department Store Thematic Group, also exhibits Romanesque Revival style features with carved sandstone pilaster capitals, round brick arches and a bracketed metal cornice.

Early twentieth century industrial buildings exhibit Neoclassical style design The Kirstein Building (1908) at 242 Andrews Street (individual component) is elements. constructed of brown brick and is similar in style to the industrial buildings of the Bridge Square Historic District with its large pilasters separating paired, double-hung windows and its corbelled cornice. The Neoclassical influence is also evident in two structures built for the Rochester Gas and Electric Company in the Eastman Historic The Power Station No. Eight (1924) at 60 South Swan Street is a highly District. embellished two-story brick structure designed by local architects Gordon and Kaelber with a central raised parapet, cartouche and metal grillwork. The Steam Plant (1926) 15-17 Lawn Street is a four-story brick Neoclassical style structure with a balustrade at at the roof, a three-story arcade with compound arches and a projecting cornice between the first two stories. Although smaller in scale and of a later period, these two structures are similar to the industrial buildings in the St. Paul/North Water Street Historic District in their display of well articulated stylistic details, unusual in buildings of this type. The Gannett Building (1927-28) at 55 Exchange Street (individual component) was built to house the printing and office functions of a national newspaper and publishing firm. It was designed by the Cleveland firm of Howell and Thomas who designed other newspaper plants in the country. As the last industrial structure to be built within the multiple resource area, the Gannett Building is different from the others of its type. Sheathed in Indiana limestone, the six-story building features restrained Neoclassical style details which anticipate the streamlined Art Deco style. Smooth stone pilasters with stylized bases and capitals adorn the front facade as does a decorative bas-relief panel after the third story. The arcaded fenestration of the lower floors is accented by inlaid marble in each arch.

Commercial

The nominated resources associated with the commercial development of the multiple resource area encompass the period 1825 to 1939. They represent a broad range of building types, scales, and architectural styles which chronicle Rochester's development from a small riverfront village to a large prosperous city. In general, commercial structures date from the late nineteenth century, are of masonry construction, and are located throughout the multiple resource area. Commercial structures already listed on the National Register include the elaborate, Second Empire style Powers Building (1869), listed in 1973, the Neoclassical style Rochester Savings Bank (1923), listed in 1973, and the Art Deco style Times Square Building (1929) listed in 1982. Three of the nominated historic districts contain concentrations of commercial properties: State Street Historic District, Bridge Square Historic District, and Eastman Historic District, while the



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remaining commercial resources are scattered throughout in isolation of other structures or in areas of altered historic buildings and/or new construction.

The earliest commercial structures are located in the <u>State Street Historic District</u>, a continuous row of twelve buildings of which all but two date from 1850-1860. These ten Italianate style buildings are all constructed of brick, are four stories in height, have regular rectangular fenestration, and are embellished with corbelled cornices and limestone window sills and lintels. Their uniformity of size, scale, density, design and construction was typical of State Street and adjacent streets which formed the wholesale, commercial and market center of the city in the mid-nineteenth century. The building at 141-147 State Street (c. 1825) is a two-story brick Federal style structure which survives (with a two-story 1888 addition) from an earlier era. The building at 171-173 State Street (1878), also four stories in height, has decorative elements of the Romanesque style in its bluestone facade, round-arched windows and heavily embellished metal cornice.

Bridge Street Historic District is associated with the commercial and industrial development of the multiple resource area from the Erie Canal era through the early twentieth century. The majority of the commercial structures, located on West Main Street, date from the late-nineteenth century, although earlier and later examples survive as well (a description of the industrial structures in the historic district is included in the previous section.) The buildings, all constructed of brick, range in height from three to four stories and are predominantly Romanesque in style and detailing. Round arch or rectangular windows with plain or elaborate stone sills and lintels, corbelled brick cornices and cast-iron storefronts are typical stylistic traits of these buildings constructed between c. 1880 and c. 1890 (164, 174, 202, 201-205 and 207-209 West Main Street)

Earlier commercial structures in the district include the United States Hotel (1826) at 212-214 West Main Street, a rare survivor of canal era construction. It is a four-story brick and fieldstone Federal style building with a stepped gable roof with chimneys and louvered fanlights in the gable ends. Also of earlier construction is the Holmes Building (c. 1865) at 150 West Main Street, a two-story brick structure with a simple corbelled cornice, round-arched and rectangular fenestration with stone sills and lintels, and a first story storefront that retains its original entablature despite early twentieth century alterations.

Early twentieth century commercial structures in the district include two, twostory brick structures at 158 (1920) and 168-170 (1928) West Main Street and a three-story brick and cast-stone structure (c. 1915) at 217 West Main Street.

The Eastman Historic District contains a distinctive concentration of early twentieth century Neoclassical style structures, seven of which are commercial in use. (Christ Church, constructed in 1883, is also included in the district.) The buildings range in size from two to thirteen stories and in date from 1911 to 1926. All share elements of the Neoclassical style executed in brick and stone. The earliest of these buildings is the three-story brick Rochester Club (1911) at 120 East Avenue which has Georgian Revival stylistic elements such as decorative coats-of-arms, arched windows

CMB No 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900-8 Exp 10-31-84 250 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service For MPS use and **National Register of Historic Places** received Inventory-Nomination Form data entered Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area Item number 7 Page Continuation sheet Rochester, Monroe Co., NY 7 with projecting keystones, a first-story arched arcade with recessed windows and corner

quoins. The Webb Building (1915) at 125-127 East Avenue is a modest, two-story masonry structure with restrained embellishment at the projecting cornice consisting of modillions and a scroll frieze. Similar in scale and materials is the Hunt Building (1918) at 104-108 East Avenue, a two-story structure with cast-stone parapet panels and spandrels decorated with swags. Both buildings have plate-glass windows and altered storefronts. The Moress Building (1925), also two-stories in height, is a stylized, finely articulated stone structure with a stepped parapet, recessed arches with carved swags and wroughtiron balconets. Between the first and second floors is the building (1925) at 100 East Avenue, is a four-story stone structure with period details including marble spandrels separating Chicago style windows, pilasters, a rusticated voussoir arched entrance and plate-glass storefronts. It was designed by Gordon and Kaelber, prominent local architects.

Larger brick commercial structures in the Eastman Historic District include the thirteen-story Columbus Building (1926) at 50 Chestnut Street and the ten-story Rochester Gas and Electric Company Building (1926) at 89 East Avenue. The latter was designed by Gordon and Kaelber with McKim, Mead and White.

Individual commercial structures located within the multiple resource area date from the last half of the nineteenth century through the 1930's. Most are of masonry construction and distinctive design. The <u>Nusbaum Building</u> (1875) at 148 Clinton Avenue North (individual component) is an especially fine example of the Second Empire style. It is a three-and-one-half-story brick structure with intact period details including a richly embellished cast-iron storefront, round arch windows with cast-stone surrounds, a corbelled, bracketed cornice, and a polychrome patterned slate roof pierced by elaborate dormers and corbelled chimneys.

There are four individual commercial structures in the multiple resource area constructed in the late 1880's in the Romanesque Revival style: The <u>Adam Brown Block</u> (1885) at 480 East Main Street, designed by noted local architect Harvey Ellis, the <u>Wilder Building</u> (1888) at One East Main Street (individual component) and the <u>Ellwanger</u> <u>and Barry Building</u> (1888) at 35 State Street (individual component), both designed by prominent local architect A.J. Warner, and the <u>Cox Building</u> (1888) at 48 St. Paul Street (a component of the Department Store Thematic Group). These multiple-story, brick and masonry structures are distinctive interpretations of their style featuring round arch windows, corbel tables, solid massing and the interplay of building materials in the use of detail.

Two examples of late nineteenth century commercial design are the <u>Granite Building</u> (1893) at 124 East Main Street (a component of the Department Store Thematic Group) and the <u>Sibley-Triangle Building</u> (1897) at 20-30 East Avenue (individual component). Both structures were designed by local architect J. Foster Warner, A.J. Warner's son, in the Italian Renaissance style. The Granite Building is a twelve-story brick department store structure richly embellished with granite. Although smaller in scale and less ornate than the Granite Building, the five-story brick Sibley-Triangle Building is a flatiron shaped structure with limestone, marble and terra cotta details.

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Several examples of early twentieth century Neoclassical st exist within the multiple resource area, many of which, like the style structures, are the work of prominent local architects.	e Romanesque Revival

style structures, are the work of prominent local architects. These buildings exhibit a broad range of stylistic influences and were constructed with skeletal steel frames in anticipation of modern skyscrapers. All are of monumental proportions and richly detailed in brick, stone and terra cotta. The <u>Sibley</u>, <u>Lindsay</u> and <u>Larr Building</u> (1904-1924) at 228 East Main Street (a component of the Department Store Thematic Group) was designed by A.J. Warner in the Chicago style. It is a monumental brick structure which occupies an entire city block and, with the exception of a Baroque clock tower, exhibits sparse ornamentation. The <u>Duffy Powers Building</u> (1906) at 50 West Main Street and the <u>Edwards Building</u> (1908) at 26 St. Paul Street (both components of the Department Store Thematic Group) are representative of the work of Crandall and Strobel, a local architectural firm. These structures are unique in the multiple resource area for their white terra cotta sheathing, highly embellished with floral motifs, a trademark of the

firm.

The First National Bank (1924) at 45 State Street (individual component) designed by Mowbray and Uffinger, is unique in the multiple resource area as the only Neoclassical style banking house to survive. Constructed of stone, the five-story structure is dominated by a highly ornamented triangular pediment supported by four fluted Italian marble columns with Corinthian columns.

Georgian Revival style elements are displayed in three individual structures, the <u>National Building</u> (1924) at 159 East Main Street (a component of the Department Store Thematic Group), the <u>Yawman and Erbe Building</u> (1928) at 41 Chestnut Street (individual component), and the <u>University Club</u> (1930) at 26 Broadway (individual component). All are the works of local architects J. Foster Warner, R.R. Converse, and Leon Stern, respectively, and share a commonality of building materials and design elements. The interplay of brick and stone and the use of details such as projecting, segmental window surrounds, roof balustrades, and metal embellishment are combined in particularly refined designs.

There are two commercial structures within the multiple resource area associated with the streamlined Art Deco style: The Reynolds Arcade Building (1932) at 16 East Main Street (individual component) and the Hallman Chevrolet Building (1911/1939) at 200 East Avenue (individual component). Executed in limestone to the design of local architects Gordon and Kaelber, the Reynolds Arcade Building is an eleven-story stone commercial structure with vertical massing and stylized metal applied decoration including window panels and a name block in period type. Protruding stone elements in the Art Deco style also embellish the building. The Hallman Chevrolet Building, a two-story automobile showroom, was constructed in 1939, incorporating an earlier (1911), non-descript brick structure. Its facade employs stainless steel and black and plate glass in a configuration unique in the multiple resource area. The two-story entrance, oriented to the corner, is flanked by fluted steel columns and topped by a round neon lit clock designed with the Chevrolet logo. Neon lights which spell Chevrolet in a period type face are applied to the entrance and to the building's south elevation. Remarkable in its lack of alteration, the Hallman Chevrolet Building is an exceptional example of the Art Deco style.

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In the early twentieth century, new building types were introduced into the otherwise commercially structured multiple resource area. The city's economic prosperity and twentieth-century technological advances created a philosophical climate which extended beyond mere wage earning. The accumulation of wealth and the increase in leisure time were physically manifested by the construction of monumental philanthropic and cultural institutions and luxury hotels. Influenced by the City Beautiful movement, many of the new buildings were executed in Neoclassical styles. There are six structures in the multiple resource area associated with this phase of Rochester's architectural development.

The <u>Central YMCA Building</u> (1914) at 100 Gibbs Street (individual component) was designed by local architect Claude Bragdon. It is a massive eight-story Renaissance Revival style brick structure topped by an imposing arcaded roof loggia. The application of decorative detail, Bragdon's trademark, is evident in the multi-colored terra cotta tiles around the first story windows, in the decorative brickwork at the cornice, and in such interior features as the wood paneled lobby and the pool room, sheathed entirely in tile.

Similar in function to the YMCA is the Jewish Young Men's and Young Women's Association complex (1931) at 400 Andrews Street (individual component). Like the YMCA, this building housed residential, social, athletic and cultural functions. It consists of a six-story brick and stone Georgian Revival style administration building, a two-story Georgian Revival style theater/auditorium building, and a five-story utilitarian brick gymnasium building, all connected. Limestone and cast stone are used for decorative elements including window sills and lintels, window and door surrounds, water tables, belt courses, panels and entablatures. The complex was designed by local architect Sigmund Firestone.

Two hotels survive from the period which are relatively intact examples of Neoclassical styles. The Sagamore Hotel (1920), at 111 East Avenue (a component of the Eastman Historic District) is a nine-story brick and stone structure with distinctive Spanish Colonial Revival style features. The building, designed by John Armstrong of Chicago with Gordon and Kaelber, consists of two identical structures connected by a two-story stone hyphen. Ornate stone parapets top the buildings embellished with terra cotta niches and polychromatic tile. The first two stories and the hyphen are of rusticated stone. More modest in size is the eclectic <u>Elks</u> <u>Hotel</u> (individual component), a five-story brick and stone structure with a variety of Neoclassical details. The entrance, obscured by modern signs, is topped by a wide stone entablature. Second story windows have protruding segmental window surrounds. Rusticated stone quoins define the front facade and the building is topped by a red terra cotta pent eave .

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The Eastman Theater and Music School (1922) at 435 East Mai	-

the Eastman Historic District) is an imposing five-story Renaissance Revival style structure designed by Gordon and Kaelber with McKim, Mead and White. It is the most monumental of Rochester's early twentieth century structures in its massing, design and use of detail. The rounded building occupies an entire block and is distinguished by an embellished metal awning which wraps around the building. Neoclassical details include Ionic columns and pilasters, marble panels with swags, pedimented window caps, iron balconets and a classical roof parapet. In 1926, a ten-story brick and limestone school annex was added to the building. The buildings, constructed to house cultural and educational activities, were endowed by George Eastman, founder of Eastman Kodak Company.

The theaters connected to the Eastman and Jewish Young Men's and Young Women's Association buildings are large structures associated with major cultural, social and humanitarian organizations. In contrast, the <u>Little Theater</u> (1928) at 240 East Main Street (individual component) was built solely for the showing of quality films. It is an Art Deco style two-story structure sheathed in black glass block with period details. The original metal entrance marquee and vertical sign set above the marquee feature stylized type with the theater's name outlined in neon. Along with the Hallman Chevrolet Building (individual component), the theater is a fine example of small-scale, streamlined Art Deco styling.

Transportation

Resources associated with Rochester's transportation history are scarce in the multiple resource area. The Erie Canal has been filled in and railroad passenger stations and freight complexes have been demolished. Although nothing remains of the Erie Canal, the Lehigh Valley Railroad Passenger Station Building (1905) at 99 Court Street (individual component) survives as the only historic railroad station within the multiple resource area. It is a two-and-one-half-story buff brick structure of eclectic styling designed by F.D. Hyde and sited dramatically over the Genesee River by means of steel I-beams and limestone piers.

Also associated with the Genesee River is the Stone Arch Bridge Thematic Group, consisting of three bridges which span the river linking the east and west sides of the multiple resource area. The stone arch design of all three bridges appears to be patterned after that of the Erie Canal Aqueduct (1842) which is the earliest bridge spanning the river (listed on the National Register in 1976). The <u>Main Street Bridge</u> (1857) is the oldest in the thematic group, while the <u>Andrews Street Bridge</u> and <u>Court Street Bridge</u> were constructed in 1893. All are low in scale and have broad sandstone or limestone arches. Each bridge has a new road surface and iron railings, but is otherwise intact.

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<u>Civic</u>

Of the extant historic civic structures in the multiple resource area, four have been previously listed on the National Register and encompass the majority of civic properties constructed in the nineteenth century. The City Hall Historic District (National Register, 1974) contains: Rochester Free Academy (1874), Old City Hall (1874), Monroe County Court House (1894). The Federal Building (1888) at 30 Church Street was listed on the National Register in 1972. The Bevier Memorial Building (1914), constructed as a technical institute, was listed in 1973. The six historic civic structures in this nomination span the period 1817 to 1936, with the majority dating from the early twentieth century.

<u>Washington Square</u> (1817/1893), defined by Clinton Avenue, Court Street, South Swan Street and Woodbury Avenue (individual component), is the oldest designated park space in the multiple resource area, donated by an early settler. A plot of less than one acre, the park received a formal landscape plan in 1893 by the Olmsted Bros.who devised its present layout. A statue of and memorial to Abraham Lincoln was centrally placed in the park with pathways and plantings radiating from the statue.

Flanking Washington Square at 75 Woodbury Boulevard is the <u>Naval Armory</u> (1869) (individual component), designed by A.J. Warner. When constructed, the armory was a two-and-one-half-story brick Second Empire style structure with round-arched windows, stone window hoods and quoins, and a denticular cornice. In 1908, J. Foster Warner designed two Neoclassical style wings which were added to the structure. Despite alterations to the structure and the removal of the mansard roof in the 1950's, many original features are intact; however, its nomination is based on the historic significance of the political, social and cultural events which occurred in the building.

The remaining four civic structures in the multiple resource area were constructed in the early twentieth century in variations of Neoclassical styles. The <u>Chester Dewey</u> <u>School No. 14</u> (1915) at 200 University Avenue (individual component) was designed by Edwin S. Gordon, architect of many Rochester schools. The two-story brick structure with stone details exhibits elements of the Collegiate Gothic and Italian Renaissance styles. Protruding bays contain multiple windows delineated by stone surrounds and the roof parapet is also decorated with vertical stone elements. An eleven-bay arched colonnade with stone columns dominates the structure and rises a full two stories in height. It is the only school building in the multiple resource area.

The <u>Chamber of Commerce Building</u> (1918) at 55 St. Paul Street (individual component) is a five-story Neoclassical style stone structure designed by local architect Claude Bragdon. Tall, vertical fenestration is embellished with metal and a three-bay decorative metal balcony is placed above the second story. A protruding stone entrance surround with console brackets distinguishes the asymmetrical, recessed entrance. Stylized lettering is carved in stone on the front and west elevations. The choice of building materials and restrained Neoclassical style detailing devised by Bragdon are combined in a particularly refined and sophisticated structure.

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The <u>Rundel Memorial Building</u> (1935) at 115 South Avenue (individual component), designed by local architects Northrup and Kaelber, is similar to the Chamber of Commerce building in its use of building materials, Neoclassical style details, and size. It is a four-story stone structure which sits on stone arcaded piers above the Johnson and Seymour Race. The tripartite entrance features fluted columns with stylized capitals. Decorative metal panels are applied between the floors, rectangular windows are defined by a recessed stone border and have pronounced mullions, the smooth roof entablature contains a protruding architrave molding and Art Deco style decoration and bas-relief sculptures flank the stone piers. The building's dramatic site, distinctive design, and placement and variety of decorative elements are finely articulated in a building of considerable refinement.

The <u>Rochester Fire Department Headquarters</u> (1936) at 185 North Street (individual component) is an intact example of the Art Deco style. Designed by architect Joseph A. Flynn, the two-story streamlined limestone structure is distinguished by the use of bas-relief details. Door and window surrounds are embellished with limestone figures of firemen and fire-fighting apparatus.

In general, all of the civic structures in the multiple resource area are distinctive examples of major architectural styles. Prominent local architects were commissioned to design these highly visible, publicly oriented structures.

Religious

The multiple resource area contains eleven religious structures, four of which are already listed on the National Register: St. Luke's Church (1823, listed 1974), St. Joseph's Park (1842, listed 1975), First Presbyterian Church (1874, listed 1973), and First Universalist Church (1908, listed 1971). This nomination encompasses seven additional religious structures which are representative examples of American ecclesiastical architecture. Constructed between 1853 and 1925, all are of masonry construction, five of which are sheathed in brick and two in stone. There are five church structures executed in variations of the Romanesque style, one English Gothic style structure and one highly unusual skyscraper structure combining a house of worship and office space.

The earliest of the churches is St. Mary's Church (1853) at 15 South Avenue (individual component). The brick, Romanesque Revival style structure features an imposing campanile and an elaborate rose window with stone tracery. Stone is also used in the arched window surrounds, water tables and foundation. A later protruding, one-story entrance addition and an attached brick rectory are sympathetic to the original design.

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The Brick Presbyterian Church (1861/1903) at 121 North Fitzhugh Street (individual component) is a brick Romanesque style structure designed by A.J. Warner. The structure was enlarged with a compatible addition in 1904. At the same time, a four-story Neoclassical style building was constructed and attached to the church by a two-story brick hyphen. These additions were designed by J. Foster Warner. Typical details of the Romanesque style are found on the church: round arch windows surrounded in stone, corbel tables and cornices, flying buttresses, and a rose window with stone tracery. Distinctive features of the church are two large campaniles of differing height which flank the church's central portion.

A.J. Warner also designed <u>Our Lady of Victory Church</u> (1868) at 10 Pleasant Street (individual component). Although essentially Romanesque in style, this brick church has distinctive design elements which reflect the taste of its French and Belgian congregation: the roof has long flaring eaves and terminates in a round-arched, broken pediment, and the building is flanked by two slender towers with concave roofs. The entrance is recessed inside a single-story protruding section which is dominated by a semi-circular stained-glass window.

The <u>Salem German Evangelical Church</u> (1873) at 230 Franklin Street (individual component) is a brick Romanesque style structure designed by local architect Charles Coats. It is similar to the Brick Presbyterian church with two flanking towers of unequal size. Corbelled cornices, stone water tables and columns, and a rose window with stone tracery are typical stylistic details. In 1923, an attached church school was added which was designed to complement the original church structure.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Reformation (1900) at 33 Grove Street (individual component) was designed by William Brockett, A.J. Warner's nephew, and is the most elaborate of the Romanesque style churches in the multiple resource area. The church is sheathed in sandy grey brick and is richly embellished in stone. Its roundarched windows, corbel tables and stone window tracery are stylized distillations of nineteenth-century Romanesque style churches. Two towers which flank the central section of the church are of differing sizes and are individually detailed. The smaller tower has four protruding corner pinnacles rising from a flat roof and separated by stepped parapets. The larger tower has a steeply pitched pyramidal roof pierced by identical corner pinnacles. A three-story, less elaborate brick dependency is attached to the church by a small single-story brick hyphen.

Located in the Eastman Historic District is <u>Christ Church</u> (1888) at 141 East Avenue. Designed by Robert Gibson, the church is a monumental English Gothic Revival style structure executed in coursed, rock-faced red medina and grey sandstone. Distinctive details include a slate shingle roof with metal cresting, flying buttresses, gargoyles, round and pointed arch windows and interior mosaics and stainedglass windows by Frederick Wilson of Tiffany Studios. A tall bell tower was added in 1905 which is distinguished by four corner pinnacles. In 1920, a detached brick and limestone annex in the Collegiate Gothic style was constructed and is separated from the church by a planned churchyard, still intact.

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A unique religious structure in the multiple resource area i	a the Pertiat Torolo

Building (1924) at 14 Franklin Street (individual component). Gordon and Kaelber designed the twelve-story skeletal frame limestone clad structure in the Collegiate Gothic style. Located in the heart of the multiple resource area, the-building is surrounded by commercial structures. Built to house both religious and commercial functions, the building contains first-story church rooms with carved oak paneling and ornamental plasterwork. On the second floor, the sanctuary contains Gothic Revival style details in oak and plaster. The remaining floors, dedicated to commercial office use, have a separate entrance from the church related space.

The properties in the multiple resource area represent the development of Rochester's central business district from its inception as a small riverfront village to its flowering as a major New York State city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The historic resources associated with this evolution are representative examples of major American architectural styles, many of which were designed by prominent local architects. The majority of components are late nineteenth and early twentieth century multiple-story masonry structures finely articulated in Romanesque Revival and Neoclassical styles. Also included in lesser number are residential, civic, religious and cultural resources which also illustrate local interpretations of popular architectural styles as they evolved in Rochester from 1817 to 1939.

B. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-C	heck and justify below		
	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art x commerce	community planning conservation economics X education x engineering exploration/settlement	music	e X religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian X theater X transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	c. 1817-1939	Builder/Architect V	various	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area encompasses the historic commercial center of the city of Rochester. It contains 132 contributing features dating from 1817 to 1939 that are architecturally and historically significant examples of commercial, industrial, residential, cultural, religious, and civic architecture. A broad range of American architectural styles is represented in the multiple resource area, including the works of prominent local architects. The multiple resource area consists of five architecturally distinctive historic districts: State Street Historic District, Bridge Square Historic District, St.Paul/North Water Streets Historic District, and Eastman Historic District, which contain the historic commercial and cultural core of the city, and Grove Place Historic District, the only remaining enclave of historic residential structures. Also included are forty-six individual components which are significant as the most intact, architecturally distinguished examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century urban architecture in the multiple resource area. Nine of these individual properties are combined in two thematic groups; the Stone Arch Bridge Thematic Group and the Department Store Thematic Group.

The properties in the multiple resource area depict the historical development of Rochester's central business district from its settlement as a self-contained riverfront village to its growth as a major New York State city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Nominated properties are associated with persons and events significant in local, regional and national history.

The majority of components are late nineteenth and early twentieth century masonry commercial structures finely executed in Romanesque Revival and Neoclassical styles. Several of the properties were designed by locally and regionally prominent architects, most notably A. J. Warner and his son, J. Foster Warner. Additional architects represented include Harvey Ellis, Claude Bragdon, Crandall and Strobel and Gordon and Kaelber. Also included in the multiple resource area are residential, civic, religious and cultural properties which illustrate local interpretations of popular architectural styles as they evolved in Rochester from 1817 to 1939. As a whole, the multiple resource area is a heterogeneous mix of building types and architectural styles which chronicle the historical development of a prosperous city in western New York State. (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Historical Development

The area which is now Rochester was once a part of the Iroquois Confederacy and belonged to the Seneca Nation. After the American Revolution, titles for the land west of the Genesee River were disputed: native Americans laid claim to them, but colonial speculators saw great promise in this vast wilderness area. Through a series of treaties culminating with the Treaty of Big Tree (Geneseo) in 1797, the native Americans renounced their claim to western New York and the lands were sold to speculators for settlement. During these proceedings, a large parcel encompassing the mouth of the Genesee River and the surrounding area was sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathanial Gorham in 1788. The Phelps and Gorham Purchase gave title to 100 acres of land near the falls of the Genesee River to Ebenezer Allen (more notoriously known as the rogue Indian Allen). In 1789, Allen built a grist mill and saw mill just west of the Upper Falls (near where the Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing

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complex stands today) to secure his title to the 100-acre tract. The Phelps and Gorham Purchase extinguished the η_i ative American claims to a large portion of the Genesee Country, as well as to the territory later encompassing Monroe County, and opened the area for the rapid development of the lower Genesee River. Allen, however, did not succeed in his efforts to begin settlement. His mills failed and he abandoned the location. In 1803, his 100-acre title passed to three speculators from the south: Colonel Nathaniel Rochester, William Fitzhugh and Charles Carrol. Rochester was the only one of the three to settle in the area, and when he moved here in 1811, he noted that other tracts of land surrounding his were being rapidly developed. Rochester set out to establish a village plan with streets and to subdivide To ensure quick development of his tract, Rochester his 100 acres. required that lots purchased from him be developed within one year or the title would revert back to him. The U.S. Hotel (1826)

(Bridge Square Historic District) sits on lot #225 of this 100-acre tract and is the only surviving commercial building dating from the original 100-acre parcel subdivision by Rochester. (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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The multiple resource area was a mix of industrial and commercial buildings near the river and canal. Residential buildings filled the areas adjacent to the commercial development.

Many of these homes survived until the twentieth century; however, only a few remain that meet the criteria for listing on the National Register.

Colonel Rochester named his settlement Rochesterville, and the village flourished, quickly overtaking other nearby villages as the most important area of settlement. Other speculative settlements on the river such as Carthage, McCrakenville and Franklin were quickly surpassed by the village of Rochesterville and were eventually absorbed by it later in the century.

The earliest industrial and commercial development in Rochesterville was located on the river banks and parallel streets and westward out the present West Main Street (Buffalo Road). The village grew rapidly after 1825 when the Erie Canal was constructed to link the Genesee River to the canal system. By 1834,___ the New York State legislature had granted a city charter and

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Rochesterville became the city of Rochester. Rochester's boomtown growth that followed was due to the existence of abundant water power from the Genesee River and access to transportation from the newly constructed Erie Canal. Rochester became the point of transfer and manufacture for raw materials and grain arriving from the fertile Genesee Valley to the south before their departure via the canal to the markets of the east.

By 1850, Rochester was established as a flour milling capital, producing more flour annually than anywhere else in the world. During the years 1834-1860, the Genesee Valley, with its tremendous grain output, earned the nickname "Breadbasket of the Nation," while at the same time, Rochester acquired the title of "Flour City." The Genesee River Valley and Rochester experienced great economic growth due to the demand for goods and flour required by the expanding nation.

The flour mills and canal wharves were located along the Genesee River, the adjacent raceways, and the Erie Canal in the very center of the multiple resource area. Few mills remain from the first days of the village. A rare survivor FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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of early milling in the city is the limestone <u>Arcade Mill</u> (ca. 1835), (Ind. Comp.) now part of the Lawyer's Co-operative Publishing complex. By the time of the Civil War, the river was completely lined and hidden from view with similar stone and brick mills from the Court Street Bridge(Stone Arch Bridge Thematic Resources) north to Middle Falls. Soon after the Civil War, many were replaced or remodeled with newer flour and industrial mills. From this period only the Lawyer's Cooperative buildings survived; however, because of extensive alterations, they are not eligible for listing on the National Register.

These mills were powered by three major raceway systems which diverted water away from the river. On the east bank was the Johnson & Seymour Race (1817)(Ind. Comp.); on the west bank were two raceways, the Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carrol Raceway (1818) and Brown's Race (1816).

Brown's Race, situated just north and outside of the multiple resource area, is historically linked to the multiple resource area and may be nominated at a future date. The Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carrol Race is not extant. The Johnson & Seymour Race (Ind. Comp.) on the

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east side of the river is partially in place and flowing. River water is diverted for the race through the headgates located adjacent to the Mohawk Dam (1917) and runs parallel and adjacent to the river in a raceway constructed of large rock-faced cut limestone blocks. This raceway runs under the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station (Ind. Comp.), Court Street Bridge (Ind. Comp.), Rundel Memorial Building (Ind. Comp.) and back into the river through a series of picturesque arches under the Rundel Memorial Building. Originally, it extended north under the Erie Canal aqueduct (NR listed 1976),

ran below Water Street, and then returned back into the river after passing under Main Street.

The race provided power for the mills that lined both its sides on Water Street. The northern section of the race was discontinued in 1917 when a subway system was installed in the old Erie Canal bed. The existing southern section of the raceway remains intact and acts as a reminder of the earlier power and transportation modes that spurred the city's development. Its survival, along with the adjacent Erie Canal Aqueduct (1842) (NR listed 1976), and the Lehigh Valley Railroad Station (1906),

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(Ind. Comp.) in this small area in the heart of the city is a conspicuous reminder of nineteenth-century power sources. The raceway nomination includes that section of the Johnson and Seymour

Race between the aqueduct and the headgates, the headgates, the limestone piers and walls of the raceway, and the piers under the present Lehigh Valley Railroad Station.

The second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries brought great physical change to downtown Rochester. Through the time of the Civil War, Rochester was the flour city, providing processed grain to the emerging nation from its mills along the Genesee River and adjacent raceways. By the end of the Civil War, industrial development in Rochester became more diversified into areas such as iron, textiles, horticulture and technological concerns. For the most part, the earlier buildings along the river were adapted from milling uses to accommodate these new economic needs. At the same time, downtown was losing its industrial and trade oriented character. New multiple-story buildings replaced the wharves, mills and early nineteenth century canal structures. The character of downtown

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changed from an industrial, low-scale market area to a financial and legal center with large, late nineteenth century high-style office buildings, skyscrapers and retail establishments. The industrial core moved out of the downtown and relocated near railroad centers in the outlying area on the east and west of the city.

The only industrial activity to remain downtown was the garment industry, concentrated in the northeast guadrant of the multiple resource area. Many earlier milling buildings were adapted for new uses with major alterations and additions and incorporated into the garment district, which evolved into a distinctive area of highstyle, multiple-story industrial buildings. By 1900, downtown Rochester was a bustling commercial area with a legal, government and financial center located on the west side of the Genesee The east side of the river was characterized by the River. garment district in the northeast, department stores and a retail

center on East Main Street and residential/commercial structures in the area south of Main Street.

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The twentieth century brought Rochester into the age of technology and highly skilled industries. Eastman Kodak, Gleason Tooling Works and Taylor Instruments represented the new economic base. The only blue collar industry downtown

was the garment industry which thrived until World War II. Rochester's mail order seed nurseries were also an important economic force in the city from the 1870's to 1930's. Rochester became the world center for mail order seed and horticultural nurseries and was known as the "Flower City." The nurseries were located

in the outlying areas of the city, not in the central business district. However, the proprietors of these nurseries, Ellwanger and Barry, Vick and Harris, did construct their own speculative office buildings downtown. Ellwanger

and Barry donated vast park spaces, and street malls and parkways were created and landscaped with lush varieties of trees and shrubs. George Eastman brought the City Beautiful movement to downtown with the construction of the Eastman Theater in 1922 (Eastman Historic District).

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The city installed decorative street lights in the 1920's; these lights are unique in the country, only a few exist within the multiple resource area. and may be nominated at a future date. Twentiethcentury Rochester took on a new cosmopolitan look and shed the trappings of an industrial area by mid-century.

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Until the end of World War II, Rochester retained the economic vitality and architectural character which had developed by the early twentieth century. The post-war period, however, brought a decline to the central business district, due in large part to the popularity of the suburban philosophy and its physical expression in urban renewal programs. During these decades, the architectural continuity of the multiple resource area was disrupted by the planned demolition and general neglect of historic buildings. The existing architectural character of the multiple resource area, as discussed in the following paragraphs, reflects the broad history of downtown Rochester.

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Architectural Character

<u>Residential</u>

The pre-1850 center of the city was densely populated with industrial, commercial and residential buildings in close proximity to one another. Within the Inner Loop, residential structures were crowded along the streets adjoining the commercial and industrial sections. Before 1850, South Fitzhugh Street, Plymouth Avenue, South Clinton Avenue, South Washington Street and East Avenue in particular were characterized by large stylish Rochester's unusually large number of people with high. homes. paying, skilled jobs contributed to the preference for single The predominant type of housing for all classes family homes. in the city has always been single family, detached dwellings. Few rowhouses were ever constructed in Rochester. However, a few examples of this uncharacteristic housing type exist within the Inner Loop and are included in the nomination. Two early Greek Revival style townhouses (ca. 1840) survive virtually intact at 32-34 North Washington Street (Ind. Comp.); two ca. 1890 townhouses survive at 21-23 Grove Place (Grove Place Historic

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District) and a row of English Tudor Revival style townhouses from 1878 survive at 128-152 Gibbs Street, (Grove Place Historic District).

Several modest 1-1/2-story brick vernacular Greek Revival style worker cottages remain scattered throughout the northeast section of the multiple resource area; however, they have been severely altered and do not retain their architectural integrity. The Greek Revival style Loomis House (ca. 1830) at 62 Cascade Drive (Bridge Square Historic District) is a rare survivor from this period and a representative example of the modest size and style house that once characterized the residential streets near the commercial districts in Rochester's downtown.

Inree large pre-1850 residences survive: the Jonathan Child House (1837) and Brewster Burke House (1849) which constitutes the Jonathan Child Brewster Burke Historic District (NR listed 1971) and the <u>Ebenezer Watts House</u> (1825) at 47 S. Fitzhugh Street (Ind. Comp.), the oldest surviving residence within the multiple resource area.

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Several distinctive examples of residential architecture dating from the third and fourth quarters of the nineteenth century are included in the <u>Grove Place Historic District</u>. Most notable of these are two Queen Anne style houses at 158 Gibbs Street and 51 Windsor Street, a vernacular Eastlake style house at 164 Gibbs Street, and the Ward Family house (ca. 1855), an Italianate style residence at 18 Grove Place.

The only other distinctive residence from this period within the Inner loop is the Second Empire style Haag House at 10 Charlotte Street. Although completely intact, the structure has lost its integrity of setting with the complete encasement of the building within a later commercial structure and is therefore no longer eligible for the National Register. A single distinctive apartment house in the Romanesque Revival style is located at 118 Franklin Square (Ind. Comp.). FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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Industrial

Industrial buildings within the multiple

resource area exist as growings in the St. Paul/ North Water Street, Historic District, the Bridge Street Historic District and as scattered individual components:

Kirstein Building (1908),

Michaels Stern Building (1893), Gannett Building (1927), National Casket Building (1888), and H. H. Warner Building (1883). These buildings represent various types and periods (1840-1929) of industrial activity.

After the end of the Civil War, railroads, westward expansion and new national trade centers usurped Rochester's position as the flour milling capital of the nation. Forges, ironworks and other local industries began to flourish in the old mills and warehouses along the river, while newer, heavy industry developed outside the city along railroad lines and the Erie Canal. New industrial growth in the downtown area

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occurred during the last half of the nineteenth century. Just to the east of the earlier mills and buildings that lined Water Street and St. Paul Street, Rochester's important garment district developed and eventually occupied the entire area north of East Main Street and between St. Paul Street, Clinton Avenue and the New York Central Railroad embankment on the north. Modern manufacturing and warehousing space requirements were filled with new buildings covering nearly all of this once residential area.

The earliest industrial buildings in Rochester were generally of a rectangular stone construction with little or no decorative detail. Only one of these early buildings survive in the multiple resource area, the Federal style stone <u>Arcade Mill</u> (c1840, ind. comp.) at 26-32 Aqueduct Street. Industrial buildings (of the late nineteenth century which housed Rochester's extensive clothing manufactories and related industries, however, were larger, and more stylish than their earlier counterparts. Little survives to indicate the overall industrial character of the late nineteenth century, although one cluster of buildings remains virtually intact between the Genesee River and St. Paul Street and between Andrews Street and the Inner Loop highway and dates from ca. 1885 to ca. 1910.

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This group of buildings constitutes the <u>St. Paul/North Water</u> <u>Streets Historic District</u>, significant as the only concentration of late nineteenth century industrial buildings remaining within the multiple resource area.

The tall industrial buildings along North Water Street and the river are clearly utilitarian, while the more stylish buildings along St. Paul Street are for mixed use with light manufacturing in the upper floors and retail space at the ground level. On the east side of St. Paul Street, the larger buildings delineate the beginning of the garment district which once extended east to Clinton Avenue. The most popular style employed in this district is the Romanesque Revival.

Architectural styling and detailing were important in the garment district to convey an image of success and to give particular firms strong identities Many superb, architecturally distinctive manufacturing, warehouse and commercial buildings were built in the garment district during the last quarter of

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the nineteenth century. By 1900, the entire area was characterized by seven- and eight-story masonry and cast-iron manufacturing and commercial buildings. Three , <u>Michaels Stern Building</u>,(1893) (Ind. Comp.), H.H. Warner Building (1883) (Ind. Comp.) and the Cox Building (1888) , are exceptional examples (Department Store Thematic Resources) of the quality of materials and design that characterized Rochester's The earliest and most unusual of the three garment district. is the H. H. Warner Building (82 St. Paul Street), built in 1883 by Rochester entrepreneur and patent medicine king, H. H. Designed by New York City architect Louis P. Rogers, Warner. the distinctive eight-story masonry building with its unique Venetian Gothic style cast-iron facade housed the sales, shipping and manufacturing operations for the Warner Safe-Cure. Used as a wholesale warehouse today, the H. H. Warner Building remains intact as an exceptionally distinguished example of cast-iron architecture. The 1888 Cox Building (48 St. Paul Street) was constructed in two sections: the Mortimer Street section was the Cox Shoe factory and the St. Paul Section was specifically designed for the wholesale business and manufacturing divisions

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of the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company Department Store. The seven-story Romanesque Revival style brick and Medina sandstone building occupied the entire block between Division and Mortimer Streets. In 1904, the southern third of the Cox Building was destroyed in the Great Sibley Fire which consumed the Granite Building, part of the Cox Building and several other buildings to the east of the Granite Building. The northern section of the Cox Building remains intact. The Michaels Stern Company Building was constructed in 1893 at the corner of North Clinton Avenue and Pleasant Street for the manufacturing and wholesale headquarters of Rochester's most prestigious clothing manufacturer. It was designed as a seven-story red brick Romanesque Revival style building by the Rochester firm of Nolan, Nolan & Stern and remains intact as built.

A fourth individually significant industrial building (although not located in the garment district) survives within the multiple resource area at 142 Exchange Street. The National Casket Company (Ind. Comp.) factory, warehouse and showroom was built in 1888 to the design of prominent Rochester architect FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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Harvey Ellis. The building was once part of a group of industrial and warehouse buildings that lined this section of Exchange Street near the former Erie Railroad Station and freight yards (demolished ca. 1955).

The only twentieth-century industrial building remaining in the garment district is the distinctive six-story <u>Kirstein Building</u> (Ind. Comp.)^{at} 242 Andrews Street . Built in 1910 as the manufacturing and wholesale headquarters for the nationally known and Rochester based Shur-On Optical Company, the triangularshaped building with Renaissance Revival and Neoclassical style detailing is in sharp contrast to its Romanesque and Gothic Revival style predecessors in the area. Several low scale late nineteenth and early twentieth century industrial buildings also remain in the Bridge Square Historic District.

Commercial

Commercial architecture of all periods is scattered throughout the Inner-Loop and dates from 1826 to 1939.

This development includes early canal related

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commercial buildings like the U.S. Hotel (1826) in the Bridge Square Historic District; mid-nineteenth century retail and warehouse structures as found in the State Street Historic District; late nineteenth and early twentieth century department store as found in the Department Store Thematic buildings Resources; twentieth-century retail and showroom construction as found in the Eastman Historic District and in the Hallman Chevrolet Building (1939 Ind. Comp.) legal and financial office buildings which include the Wilder Building (1887), First National Bank (1924), Ellwanger and Barry (1888); Yawman and Erbe (1928), Sibley Triangle Building (1897), Reynolds Arcade (1932) (all Ind. Comp.); and two late retail buildings which constitute the nineteenth century Nusbaum Building (1875) and Adam Brown Block (1883) (both Ind. Comp.).

Early development near the Genesee River and the Erie Canal was oriented to flour milling and transportation. Mid-century commercial development

occurred north of Main Street, clustered around an early nineteenth century open market on Front

Street (no longer extant). This area became densely populated with commercial

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wholesale and retail buildings that provided basic goods and services

for the community. On the east side of the river, commercial development occurred later in the nineteenth century, encouraging construction of department stores and supporting retail

structures on East Main Street.

surviving commercial structure is the An early 1826 Federal style United States Hotel at 212-224 West Main Street. It is located in the center of the Bridge Square Historic District, a small-scale commercial and industrial district adjacent to the former junction of the Erie Canal and West Main Street. The district is characterized by late nineteenth century threeand four-story Italianate and Romanesque Revival style masonry commercial buildings and early twentieth century industrial buildings. The development of the district is linked to the Erie Canal and related commercial and industrial activities. The Bridge Square Historic District derives its name from the junction of the former Erie Canal, West Main Street, Clarissa Street and Elizabeth Street (presently Cascade Drive). Two

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non-extant large lift bridges spanned the canal here, one on West Main Street and one on Clarissa Street. The bridges were diagonally adjacent to each other and, together with the Erie Canal, defined an area known as Bridge Square.

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An imposing row of mid-nineteenth century brick commercial buildings <u>Street Historic District</u>. It differs from Bridge Square Historic District in scale and character and is the only surviving row of brick utilitarian structures representative of those that once characterized the commercial area on State and Front Streets.

Two additional examples of distinctive commercial architecture are scattered within the multiple resource area at isolated locations. The Adam Brown Block (Ind. Comp.) at 480 East Main Street (1885) is a fine example of Harvey Ellis's commercial design. The building is characterized by a large multi-story Romanesque style design with several ornate, corbelled brick arches on the front facade. The Nusbaum Building (Ind. Comp.) (1875) at 150 North Clinton Avenue stands alone as a pristine FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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example of well-articulated Second Empire style commercial architecture.

Rochester's twentieth-century retail market had its beginnings in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Retail department stores began to flourish in the multiple resource area after the Sibley, Lindsay and Curr Co. was established in 1869 as the largest between New York and Chicago. Shortly thereafter, retail concern other department stores began to cluster around the well-established Sibley's location on East Main Street. Several distinctive examples of these retail buildings remain in the downtown area and constitute the <u>Department Store Thematic Group</u> which consists of the Cox Building (1888), the Granite Building (1893), the Sibley's Building (1904), the Edwards Building (1900), the Duffy-Powers Building (1906) and the National Building (1924). These six buildings recallthe development of Rochester's retail industry between 1888 and 1924. Architecturally, they are significant as fine examples of period commercial styles. Three of the six buildings (Granite, Sibley's and National Buildings) were designed by prominent Rochester architect J. Foster Warner. This large and distinstive

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grouping on the east side of the river established the area as the retail and commercial core of downtown, close at hand to the industrial garment district near St. Paul Street. Romanesque Revival, Renaissance Revival, and Beaux-Arts styles are represented in the thematic group,

There was a conscious effort by the city to upgrade the appearance of the downtown area in the early twentieth century as a result of the City Beautiful movement. Philanthropist George Eastman led the way in 1922 with the construction

of the palatial Neoclassical style Eastman Theater and Eastman School of Music at 435 East Main Street. Designed in a collaborative effort between McKim, Mead, and White and the Rochester firm of Gordon & Kaelber, the monumental limestone edifice set an architectural precedent for this section of downtown. The present Eastman Historic District and the surrounding area were heavily developed with buildings designed in early twentieth century interpretations of classical styles. In 1926, construction of the Rochester Gas and Electric Company's eleven-story office building at 89 East Avenue continued the trend. Architects McKim, Mead and White

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and Gordon & Kaelber designed the limestone, Neoclassical style building which features marble details. The restrained but well articulated limestone Neoclassical style Lincoln Building is a commercial structure located just behind the Eastman Theater at 100 East Avenue. Its design, detailing and scale were chosen to complement the Eastman Theater. The structure at 50 Chestnut Plaza is a Neoclassical style office building also designed in keeping with the architectural character of the area. Two very distinctive buildings designed in revival styles which belie their uses

are Rochester Gas and Electric's steam plant at 15 Lawn Street and the generating substation at 60 Swan Street. Each was executed in an industrial, utilitarian interpretation of Neoclassical style design. The Sagamore Hotel (1921) is at the center of the Eastman Historic District at 111 East Avenue. Its nine-story Neoclassical style design differs from the strict Meoclassical style designs of its monumental neighbors with the employment of stylized arabesque detail and proportions with a more human scale. It is an intact representative example of early twentieth century hotel design. The remainder of the historic district FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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of two-story commercial structures and Christ Church. is composed The most distinguished of the smaller scale commercial buildings are the Moress Building (1926, 133 East Avenue) (Ind. Comp.), with its original stylized classical facade, and the Rochester Club (1920) at 120 East with its Georgian Revival style detail. Avenue (Ind. Comp). The distinctive 1883 medina sandstone Christ Church complex anchors the east end of the district. Just outside the district, but part of the area influenced by the classical revivals, is the Georgian Revival style University Club (1929) (Ind. Comp.). The four-story brick building at 26 Broadway is a restrained example of a twentieth-century Georgian Revival style design. On the north side of the district at Chestnut Street is a finely articulated three-story Georgian Revival style office building, the Yawman & Erbe Building. (Ind. Comp) The Neoclassical revival styles also influenced the west side of the downtown area. The Gannett Company built its new corporate offices and printing building in a limestone Classical Revival style structure on the corner of Exchange and Broad Streets.

At the same time that retail activities were established on the east side of the river, financial, legal and corporate

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activities for downtown Rochester and Monroe County became concentrated at the historic Four Corners area (corner of State and Main Streets). Most of the early and mid-nineteenth century mill buildings were replaced or renovated for office use. The Daniel Powers Building (A.J. Warner; 1869; National Register,

1973) anchored the northwest corner of the Four Corners intersection. At the time of its construction, the Powers Building was the tallest building in Rochester and it dominated the Four Corners until 1888. In 1887, architect A. J. Warner designed three skyscrapers for the Four Corners area, the first of their kind in Rochester. The finely articulated eleven-story Romanesque Revival style Wilder Building (1888) (Ind. Comp.) sits diagonally across from and looks down upon the Powers Building. The second of the group, the German Insurance Building located at 35 East Main Street, has been severely altered and is not eligible for listing on the National Register. The third of these buildings is the (Ind. Comp.) at 39 State Ellwanger and Barry Building (1888) Street, an eight-story stylized Romanesque Revival style office building with a Scotch brownstone facade. All three are believed

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its type and style within the

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to employ a partial iron skeletal frame with spandrels and columns in the exterior walls and are distinctive examples of early skyscrapers in Rochester.

By the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Rochester had its share of elaborately embellished banking houses in the downtown area. Recent demands for more modest spaces and changing tastes have been responsible for the demise of all but two of these grand banking houses. J. Foster Warner, with Mc Kim, Mead and White, designed the lavish Renaissance style Rochester Savings Bank office at 40 Franklin Street in 1928

(National Register 1971). Another example is the <u>First National Bank Building</u> (1924) (Ind. Comp.) at 35 State Street. The monumental facade is characterized by four large fluted Roman Corinthian columns, a large ornate pediment with Roman detail, all executed in imported white Italian marble. It is a distinctive example of early twentieth century Neoclassical style banking house design and the sole surviving example of

multiple resource area.

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Hotels, Theaters and Humanitarian

Hotels, theaters and humanitarian residential buildings were once interspersed throughout the multiple resource area. They were of quality design and ranged in size from large to small. Of the few remaining, three theaters, three hotels and two humanitarian residential buildings appear to meet the National Register criteria of eligibility.

Of the many hotels once located within Rochester's downtown, only three survive in an unaltered condition. The Federal style, four-story brick U.S. Hotel (1826) is the oldest and is located at 224 West Main Street in the Bridge Square Historic District; the Sagamore Hotel (1921) is a

nine-story hotel building, located at 111 East Avenue in the Eastman Historic District, and the Elks Hotel, located at 115 North Clinton Avenue, is a small Neoclassical style hotel built by the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks in 1925. The Hotel Cadillac, an eight-story Neoclassical style hotel at 45 Chestnut Street, has lost its architectural Integrity and 1s not included in the nomination.

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The Eastman Theater (1922) (Eastman Historic District) is the largest and most elaborate remaining theater within the multiple resource area. Originally built by George Eastman to accommodate both film and stage shows, the theater has now been restored and renovated as the permanent home of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Eastman School of Music. The Eastman School of Music is located within the theater building and contains an original recital hall, Kilburn Hall.

The Triangle Theater (1931) is the second largest theater to survive. It is part of the <u>Jewish Young Men's and Young</u> <u>Women's Association Building</u> (Ind. Comp.) located at 380 Andrews Street. The building is an intact Georgian Revival style theater with distinctive ornamental detail in stone, plaster and brick, designed for use as a film and stage show theater. The <u>Little</u> Theater (1929) (Ind. Comp.) is a distinctive example of Art

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Deco design. It is faced with black tile and located at 240 East Avenue. All three surviving theaters retain almost complete integrity of design.

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Three prominent buildings remain that were built for humanitarian purposes in this century. The YMCA (Ind. Comp.), Jewish Young Men's and Young Women's Association Building (Ind. Comp.), YWCA were all built to help the community's homeless, poor and transient find a safe, healthy and clean place to live. The YWCA (1950), although a fine example of the International style, does not meet the age criterion for the National Register. Adjacent to the Grove Place Historic District at 100 Gibbs Street is the eight-story Central YMCA Complex (1914) (Ind. Comp.) designed by prominent Rochester architect Claude This monumental corner building of porous brown brick. Braqdon. and colored terra-cotta tile detail is significant for its unusual plan, elaborate use of colorful Adamesque style terra-cotta detail, Tuscan style roof loggia, and distinctive wood paneled lobby. Similarly, at 380 Andrews Street, the Jewish Young Men's and Young Women's Association Building(1931) was constructed in the Georgian Revival style and resembles a hotel in appearance. The triangularly shaped red brick and limestone trimmed building, designed by local architect Siegmund Firestone, is neatly detailed and contains the Triangle Theater with a stage for live performances.

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Transportation

The growth of the city of Rochester was closely connected to its proximity to transportation systems: the Genesee River, the Erie and Genesee Valley Canals, and several railroad lines. The canals were the first method of transportation to foster the city's development. They were later replaced by the railroads. Because of Rochester's physical setting with the river gorge and canal locations, nearly all the railroad companies constructed stations and freight complexes independent of one another. Each had an elaborate station (or series of them) prominently sited in the multiple resource area. Today, only one of these railroad stations remains, the architecturally and historically significant

eclectic - Lehigh Valley Railroad Station (1905) (Ind.Comp.) The brick station is uniquely sited at 99 Court Street on huge limestone piers and steel girders suspended over the Genesee River and the Johnson and Seymour Raceway.

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Also important in Rochester's transportation history are the four stone arch bridges that span the Genesee River and link the east and west sides of the multiple resource area. Three of them are included as the Stone Arch Bridge Thematic Resources: the Main Street, Court Street and Andrews Street bridges. The fourth bridge, the Broad Street Aqueduct, was listed on the National Register in 1976. The limestone arched Main Street Bridge is the oldest of the three bridges and is the third bridge to span the river at this location. Constructed in 1857, it originally ran from the Johnson & Seymour Raceway under Water Street over the river to the Fitzhugh, Carrol and Rochester Raceway on the west side of the river. After the Civil War, downtown building space was at a premium and both sides of the bridge were lined with commercial buildings supported by stone piers with cast-iron and shallow brick arches. The Genesee River could not be seen from the Main Street Bridge, and Main Street appeared as an unbroken and continuous commercial street until the demolition of these buildings in 1965. The Court Street and Andrews Street Bridges, both built in 1893, were also designed with limestone arches similar to the Main Street Bridge. The use of stone arches was somewhat unusual at this time, for bridge building

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technology had progressed to the use of the iron truss. J. Y. McClintock, design engineer for these bridges chose to retain the stone arch form for aesthetic reasons; his intent was to have these designs blend with the two existing stone arch bridges in a picturesque setting. An early twentieth century stone and concrete arch bridge was constructed over the river at Central Avenue, also similar in scale and design to the 1893 bridges. It was removed in the 1960's for construction of the Inner-Loop Highway bridge at the Central Avenue location.

<u>Civic</u>

Many of Rochester's prominent civic buildings have been previously listed on the National Register. City Hall Historic District (listed in 1974) includes old City Hall (1874), Rochester Free Academy (1874) and the Monroe County Court House (1894). The old Federal Building, (present City Hall) (1890), was listed

in 1972. Within the

multiple resource area, however, there are six additional civic properties which are historically and architecturally significant included within the the present nomination (dating from 1817 to 1936).

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The New York State Militia Armory was constructed in 1869 to design of A.J. Warner. The mansard-roofed building with massive towers overlooked the south end of Washington Square on the east side of the river. Over the years, the building assumed new uses and has been substantially altered,

thereby losing much of its original nineteenth-century architectural qualities. From 1907-1949, the building was used as a municipal auditorium where major political, civic and cultural events occurred. It is significant in Rochester's history for its association with the preeminent politicians, performers and exhibitions of the day. It is nationally significant for its association with the political career of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was nominated here for governor of New York State by the state Democratic Convention in 1910. Roosevelt frequently referred to the armory when discussing the initiation of his political career. The south

end of Washington Square and the street area in front of the

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armory have been named Franklin Delano Roosevelt Plaza in honor of the man and the 1910 convention held there.

Washington Square (Ind. Comp) itself is significant as the oldest

dedicated park space in the city. It was given to the village by Elisha Johnson in 1817 in hopes of persuading the village to construct a courthouse on the east side of the river. The village accepted the square from Johnson, named it for George Washington, and went ahead and constructed the courthouse on Colonel Rochester's square on the west side of the river. The present layout and landscaping plan of Washington Square with its central statue and memorial to President Lincoln and to the Grand Army of the Republic was laid out by the Olmsted Brothers firm in 1893. The rededicating of the square in that year attracted many important statewide dignitaries as well as President Cleveland.

Two other twentieth-century civic buildings are architecturally significant for their design and detail work. The <u>Rochester Fire Department Headquarters</u> (1936) (Ind. Comp.) at 185 North Street is especially distinguished for its highly

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Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area Rochester, Monroe County, N.Y.

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stylized Art Deco style decorations in bas-relief. The doors and windows are surrounded by stylized details in limestone depicting firemen and fire fighting apparatus. The other significant building of this period is the monumental <u>Rundel Memorial Building</u> (Ind. Comp) (1935), which houses the Rochester Public Library. The limestone building sits on the Genesee River between Broad and Court Streets with an arcade of arches carrying it over the former Erie Canal bed and the Johnson & Seymour Raceway, which spills out into the river beneath the building. Designed by Northrup and Kaelber, the structure is restrained in detail with monumental massing and is an outstanding example of a. Neoclassical style civic building.

Also built of limestone is the five-story <u>Chamberof Commerce</u> <u>Building</u> (1918) (Ind. Comp.) at 55 St. Paul Street. Designed by prominent Rochester architect Claude Bragdon and financed by local industrialist George Eastman, the exterior design is a restrained example of the Neoclassical style.

The only twentieth-century school building remaining within the multiple resource area is the <u>Chester Dewey School Number 14</u>

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located at 200 University Avenue (Ind. Comp.). Designed_in 1915 by prolific school architect Edwin S. Gordon,

the building typifies his work. Gordon was noted for his innovative school designs, not only in style but also in concept. He designed and promoted fireproof schools in Rochester. The Dewey School features a distinctive colonnade of arches across the facade in the Italian Renaissance style and has specially designed spaces for kindergarten and special education facilities, a new concept in 1915. The Dewey School is Gordon's most significant and distinctive school design. Religious

There are fourteen extant religious buildings within the multiple resource area significant for their architecture as well as for their association with Rochester's history. Of these, four have been listed on the National Register: St. Luke's Church, 1823 (NR listed 1974); First Universalist Church, 1906 (NR listed 1974); First Presbyterian Church, 1871 (NR listed 1973); and St. Joseph's Church, 1842 (NR listed 1975). Three of the other extant religious structures no longer retain their architectural integrity and are not included in the nomination.

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The seven nominated religious properties are representative examples of American ecclesiastical architecture in the period 1853-1925. All the structures are of masonry or skeletal masonry construction; no frame churches remain within the multiple resource Seven of the nominated or listed churches have brick exteriors; area. four have local stone. St. Luke's has a course fieldstone foundation using ashlar brownstone and limestone on the facade; St. Joseph's is ashlar limestone, and The First Presbyterian Church (1861, Ind. Comp.) and Christ Church (1883, Eastman Historic District) rock-faced red and grey sandstone. In contrast, the Lutheran Reform Church (1900, Ind. Comp.) is constructed of soft, sandy grey The most distinctive brick exterior is that of the First brick. Universalist Church, (1914), with its hard-fired red Roman brick. The Lutheran and Universalist Churches are the only two within the multiple resource area of basilica design. The most

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unusual ecclesiastical design is that of the Baptist Temple (1925, Ind. Comp.) which is a twelve-story commercial and religious structure. The other churches employ a more traditional nave design, with St. Mary's Church (1853, Ind. Comp.), St. Joseph's Church (NR listed 1975), Salem Church (1873, Ind. Comp1) and Our Lady of Victory Church (1868, Ind. Comp.) being the best examples of the cruciform plan. All the churches have affiliated buildings attached to them on their sites. Many of these dependencies were later additions, but all are architecturally significant and contribute to the historic character of each property.

In most cases, the religious buildings retain integrity of design from their periods of significance and represent the work of prominent local architects. A distinctive ecclesiastical structure within the multiple resource area is Claude Bragdon's Byzantine Revival style First Universalist Church.

The ubiquitous Warners designed three of the nominated churches. A. J. Warner designed the French Romanesque style Our Lady of Victory Church (1868) (Ind. Comp.), the High Gothic Revival style First Presbyterian Church (1871),

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and the Romanesque Revival style Brick Presbyterian Church (1861). J. Foster Warner Warner redesigned the Brick Presbyterian Church with Neoclassical style elements in 1903. William Brockett, a partner and nephew of A. J. Warner, designed the Romanesque Revival style Lutheran Reformed Church in 1900. The Romanesque Revival style Salem Church was designed by local architect Charles Coats and the large English Gothic Revival style Christ Church complex was designed by architect Robert Gibson in two phases in 1883 and 1920. Lastly, the distinctive and unusual Baptist Temple Building was designed in 1925 by Gordon and Kaelber in Rochester's only example of a twentieth-century Gothic Revival style skyscraper.

Built in 1853, St. Mary's Church is the oldest Roman Catholic Church in the city and is one of the three remaining Catholic churches within the multiple resource area. St. Mary's parish was founded in 1834 by Irish immigrants whose settlement coincided with the construction of the Erie Canal. Despite early nineteenth century anti-Catholic sentiment, the Irish immigrants established St. Mary's parish and built their first church. The present church is the second building on

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the site, which overlooks historic Washington Square (Ind. Comp.)

St. Mary's

is a representative example of mid-nineteenth century Romanesque Revival style ecclesiastical architecture. Built in 1842 of cut local limestone by German Catholic immigrants, St. Joseph's Church was the oldest Catholic church in the city. After a fire in 1974, only the exterior survives as an enclosure for St. Joseph's Park. - In

1868, A. J. Warner designed Our Lady of Victory Church at 210 Pleasant Street. Referred to as the "Little French Church" the design of this structure with its two small towers is said to reflect French building tradition that was popular in Belgium and the Netherlands and brought to Rochester by the immigrants from those countries who organized and built this church. The finely articulated small-scale church with its flaring eaves and rounded pediment is significant as a distinctive : example of nineteenth-century French Romanesque Revival style ecclesiastical architecture. in Rochester.

The Episcopal Church had its early and historic roots in Rochester with the founding of St. Luke's parish in 1817.

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In 1820, the parish built the first St. Luke's Church on land given to them by Colonel Nathaniel Rochester (also a member of the parish), and, in 1823, built the present St. Luke's Church.

In 1855, a growing sect of the parish broke away from St. Luke's to pursue the more stringent traditions associated with the high church. They established a new parish in 1855 on 1055 East Avenue and built a chapel which was dedicated as Christ Church. By 1883, the congregation had outgrown the chapel and commissioned the existing large English Gothic Revival style church to be built, incorporating the original chapel into the transept. Christ Church is a distinguished example of nineteenth-century English Gothic Revival style architecture, further enhanced by its setting. Christ Church and its related annex (1920) in the Collegiate Gothic style occupy an English style church garden, an expansive site in a dense urban area.

Three churches within the multiple resource area were founded by German immigrants who settled in the northeast section of Rochester and worked primarily in the garment district. The oldest extant church is St. Joseph's.

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Two Protestant congregations were also established by the Germans. The United Evangelical Church, founded in 1832, is the oldest German parish in the city; their present church building, Salem Church, constructed in 1873, is a distinctive example of the Romanesque Revival style. The Lutheran Reform Church, founded in 1872, is the second structure built on the site. It was constructed in 1900 to the design of architect William Brockett. One of the two basilica type churches within the multiple resource area, the Lutheran Reform Church is an architecturally distinctive example of the German Romanesque Revival style. It appears that Brockett's rundbogenstile design reflects the origins of the congregation.

Downtown Presbyterian Church was founded in 1972 with the consolidation of three congregations: the First Presbyterian Church, 1871 the Central Presbyterian Church (not eligible for listing on the NR), and the Brick Presbyterian Church (1861, 1903) (Ind. Comp.). The First Presbyterian Church building was given to another congregation and is still in use as a church, while Central Presbyterian Church, now used as a school of music, FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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has lost its architectural integrity with extensive alterations and additions over the years. The Downtown Presbyterian Church (Ind. Comp.) (formerly the Brick Presbyterian Church) was built in 1861 to the design of A. J. Warner, In 1903, that Church was severely damaged by fire and the congregation commissioned Warner's son J. Foster Warner, to design a church incorporating the salvaged parts of the existing structure. The building is a distinctive example of Romanesque Revival styles with its two square towers.

A unique religious property within the multiple resource area is the Baptist Temple Building at 14 North Street (1925). A combination house of worship and office building, it was built for the Second Baptist Church, which was founded in 1834 and had been located in various downtown church buildings near Clinton Avenue since that time. In 1888, the parish built a large Richardsonian Romanesque Revival style church on the present site at the corner of North and Franklin Streets. Economic pressure caused the congregation to reassess the use of this valuable downtown property as the site for its

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church. In 1924 they demolished the old church and commissioned the present Baptist Temple Building. The twelve -story building resembles the English Collegiate Gothic style popular for early twentieth century American college buildings with its brick and limestone detail. Decause of its size, massing and design, the building is clearly a skyscraper and features the Gothic detailing popularized by skyscrapers

at this time. On the first floor and to the rear of the building are the elaborately decorated Gothic Revival style church rooms with carved oak paneling and ornamental plasterwork. The feeling of this space is compact and cloistered. On the second floor is the sanctuary, also elaborately embellished in Gothic Revival style oak and plaster details. The sanctuary is characterized by large stained-glass windows, a balcony, and a carved organ chamber and pulpit area. The rest of the building is used for commercial office space and has a separate entrance from the church. The Baptist Temple Building is Rochester's only example of a religious structure that was originally built to accommodate a house of worship as well as commercial

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only twentieth-century Gothic Revival style skyscraper.

<u>Architects</u>

The multiple resource area is distinguished by numerous examples of works by regionally and nationally prominent nineteenth and twentieth century architects. Several, such as A. J. Warner, J. Foster Warner, Harvey Ellis, Claude Bragdon and Gordon & Kaelber, were local designers who gained regional and national prominence for their works in Rochester. The noted partnership of McKim, Mead & White of New York City was responsible for bringing the eoclassical influence to Rochester in their

collaboration with local firms on several commissions.

The most significant contribution to Rochester's architectural character was made by two prolific local designers, A. J. Warner (1833-1910) and his son, J. Foster Warner (1859-1937). Together, their practice covered ninety years (1847-1937) of Rochester history. Their buildings, contribute significantly to the ambiance of the multiple resource area and constitute the core of downtown's historic buildings. This nomination includes eight Warner-designed buildings. Examples of their

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work previously listed on the National Register are: Powers Building, 1869 (- listed 1973); Rochester Free Academy, 1874 listed 1974); Old City Hall, 1874 (listed 1974); Monroe (County Court House, 1894 (listed 1974); First Presbyterian Church, 1879 (listed 1973); and Rochester Savings Bank, 1924 listed 1976). The Warner buildings included in this nomination are: Downtown Presbyterian Church (1861 & 1903); Wilder Building (1888) (Ind. Con National Building (1924) (Dept. Store Thematic Resources); Sibley Building (1904) (Dept. Store Thematic Resources); Our Lady of Victory Church (1868) (Ind. Comp); Ellwanger and Barry Building (1888) (Ind. Comp.); Armory Building (1869, 1903) (Ind. Comp.) and the Granite Building (1893) (Dept. Store Thematic Resources). The architectural legacy of the Warners is remarkable for the number of buildings and the range of building types designed.

While many local architects were known as proponents of a particular style, few were as proficient as the Warners in their articulation of popular American architectural styles from 1847 to 1937.

The Warners were commissioned to design many monumental buildings in Rochester and in the region. Examples

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are: Erie County Municipal Duilding, Buffalo (1871)(NR, 1976); Buffalo State Hospital - with H. H. Richardson (1870,) (NR 1973); Corning City Hall (1893)(NR 1974); Ontario County Court House (1910)in Canandaigua (N. Main St. HI (NR 1973); St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester (1891); East High School, Rochester(NR1983) and Eastman House (NHL1966)with McKim Mead & White, Rochester (1902). The Warners's buildings were known for their distinctive architectural character - an amalgam of fine proportions, building materials craftsmanship, style and siting. The Warners had a more significant impact on the architectural character of Rochester than any single architect or firm since.

Claude Bragdon (1866-1946) was Rochester's most decorative architect of the early twentieth century. He was also an authora lecturer on art, mysticism, and mathematics, a famed stage designer, an authority on stage lighting, and a columnist for the <u>New York World</u>. For residents of Monroe County, where Bragdon lived for thirty years, he was known primarily as an architect. He designed many noted local buildings, six of which were built within the multiple resource area: New York Central Railroad Station, 1917 (demolished); First

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Universalist Church, 1908 (NR listed 1974); Bevier	Memorial Building,				

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1918 (NR listed 1973); the Chamber of Commerce Building, 1917; (Ind. Comp.) the YMCA Building, 1914 (Ind. Comp); and the Sibley Triangle Building, 1897 (Ind Comp).

Working successfully in the popular styles, Bragdon nevertheless brought great originality to his work, particularly in the area of surface decoration. The creative use of colored terra-cotta tiles, lighting, hardware and elaborate hard-fired brick patterns in exterior designs, and of marble, wood and plaster for interior details are Bragdon trademarks. Bragdon had a genius for the design of interior spaces and the use of decorative elements that incorporated a sensitive mix of Sullivanesque, Arts & Crafts and Neoclassical style motifs in distinctive arrangements. All six buildings in the multiple resource area designed by Bragdon were constructed for particular and distinct purposes. His inventive use of exotic decoration gives each building a separate interior and exterior character. Although Bragdon became nationally known for his writing on art and FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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design, he is best remembered in Rochester for his original contributions to the architectural character of the city.

The work of Harvey Ellis (1825-1904) is represented in

the multiple resource area 'by several

commercial and industrial buildings constructed in the 1880's. Although Ellis achieved national recognition with Gustar Stickley as a proponent of the Arts and Crafts movement, he was known during his tenure in Rochester for an ability to create distinctive compositions in the Romanesque Revival style. Harvey and his brother Charles formed the firm of Ellis and Ellis and were responsible for the design of the Ellis Building (1890, St. paul/ North Water Streets Hist. Dist), the National Casket Building (1881)(Ind. Comp.) and the Adam Brown Block 1885)(Ind.Comp.). Influenced by the work of H. H. Richardson, Harvey Ellis interpreted the Romanesque Revival style in a lighter vein and with a more human scale.

Edwin S. Gordon (1867-1932) designed many significant early twentieth century schools as architect for the Rochester city school district. Gordon is most noted for his partnership with William G. Kaelber (1919 to 1932) in the firm Gordon &

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Kaelber. Together, they designed many public and civic institutions v in the first quarter of the twentieth century. In some instances, Gordon & Kaelber collaborated with large outside firms. The most notable of these joint ventures was their association with McKim, Mead & White in the design of the Eastman Theater (1921) and the Rochester Gas and Electric Building (1926), both components of the Eastman Historic District. By themselves, Gordon & Kaelber designed two other buildings in this district: 100 East Avenue (Lincoln Building, 1925) and 111 East Avenue (Sagamore Hotel, 1921). Additional examples of their design are scattered throughout the multiple resource area and include: Dewey School #14 (200 University Avenue, 1915 Ind. Comp.), Reynolds Arcade (16 East Main Street, 1925 Ind. Comp.), Baptist Temple Building (14 Franklin Street, 1925 Ind. Comp.), and the Rundel Memorial Building (100 South Avenue, 1933 Ind. Comp.). Gordon, and Gordon and Kaelber designed in the Neoclassical styles, employing a broad and imaginative range of stylistic elements and building materials. The firm is still active toady as Kaelber, Meyer, Miller and Unger.

The Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area contains a wide variety of historic resources which reflect the evolution and development of a major city in western New York. Architectural styles represented in the multiple resource area are indicative

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of national stylistic trends in both high style, architect designed structures and vernacular interpretations dating from ca. 1820 to 1939. In addition, properties whose primary importance derives from their historic associations have been included. Together, these architecturally and historically significant resources depict the particular chronicle of downtown Rochester's development over more than one hundred years.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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The thematic group is comprised of six architecturally and historically significant department store buildings located within the Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area. The thematic group was identified and its components selected after completion of a comprehensive architectural and historical survey and inventory of buildings located in the multiple resource study area. The survey was conducted in 1981-82 by the Landmark Society of Western New York for the Rochester Preservation Board and with guidance by the Division for Historic Preservation staff.

Although nine extant department store buildings were identified in the multiple resource area, only the six included in this nomination appear to meet the National Register criteria of eligibility. The six properties are: the Cox Building (1888) at 36-48 St. Paul Street, the Granite Building (1893) at 124 East Main Street, the Duffy-Powers Building (1906) at 80 West Main Street, the Edwards Building (1908) at 26-34 St. Paul Street, Sibley's (1904) at 228 E. Main Street, and the National Building (1924) at 159 East Main Street. The other three department stores identified by the survey have lost their architectural integrity due to c.1960s alterations.

The nominated properties are clustered on Main Street which bisects the Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area on an east/west axis. The Duffy-Powers Building is located on the west side of the Genesee River, while the other five buildings are situated on the east side. All six buildings are associated with the growth of Rochester as a leading New York State retail market in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. All embody distinctive characteristics of their type, period or method of construction and possess a quality of materials and workmanship that distinguishes them from other downtown buildings. Despite changes in use, the six department stores are remarkably intact. Two designs are exceptional: the Granite and Sibley's buildings, which are both representative examples of the work of Rochester's master architect, J. Foster Warner.

The demand for large open retail space dictated the use of the skeletal steel frame building type as particularly suitable for department store construction. This is the predominant method of construction in the thematic group with the exception of the Cox Building which precedes the others stylistically and in construction technology.

The <u>Cox Building</u> is a remarkably intact, seven-story brick and brownstone structure of masonry load bearing construction. It is characterized by fine Romanesque style carved detailing, large stone arches and a blind arcade of windows on the top floor. The southern third of the building was destroyed in the Great Sibley Fire of 1904.

The imposing twelve-story <u>Granite Building</u> oversees the corner of St. Paul and East Main Streets. The city's first skeletal steel skyscraper, its facade is a complex mix of Second Renaissance Revival style and Beaux-Arts style classical details designed by J. Foster Warner and is characterized by recessed, monumental, four-story granite columns supporting recessed arches. In contrast to the Granite Building, the Warner-designed <u>Sibley Building</u> (1904, 1911 & 1924) is a straight-forward, Thythmic, severe Chicago style commercial building. Its structural form and horizontal plan are clearly expressed by the exterior arrangement of deeply set Chicago style windows and Roman brick sheathing. The huge building, which occupies an entire city block,

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Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area Department Store Thematic Group Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

is austere but exudes a tremendous feeling of continuity and strength. The clock tower, an original detail located on top of the center of the original five-story section, has Baroque and Renaissance style details.

The seven-story <u>Edwards Building</u> (1908, Crandall & Strobel) is in sharp visual contrast to the Sibley Building. The Edwards Building is tucked in behind the Granite Building on the corner of St. Paul and Division Streets with three bays exposed on St. Paul Street and eight bays facing the narrow Division Street. The building is elaborately clad in white terra cotta with Neoclassical details arranged in a Renaissance design. The Chicago style windows provide a sharp contrast to the elaborate classical terra-cotta detail. The predominant features are the large projecting cornice with elaborate pilaster details.

Designed by Crandall and Strobel, the seven-story <u>Duffy-Powers Building</u> occupies a commanding corner location at 50 West Main Street. Both the Main Street and Fitzhugh Street elevations are highly detailed with the main entrance on the cut-away corner elevation. Again, the architects employ white terra-cotta sheathing for the entire exterior. The first and second floors are typified by tripartite windows (although not recessed as in the Edwards Building), cast-iron railings and repeating Beaux-Arts detail of terra cotta. Above the second floor and at the top of the building are elaborate projecting cornices, also of white terra cotta.

Sibley's, Edwards and Duffy-Powers were all built within a two year period and they illustrate the distinct differences in style that were employed by contemporary architects in the first decade of the twentieth century in Rochester. Sibley's and Edwards are structurally similar with deep set Chicago style windows. However, the visual quality of the two buildings differs because of the architects choice of materials and details. Crandall & Strobel employ a more traditional Renaissance classicism reflecting the still popular architectural attitudes established by the Columbian Exposition in 1893. Warner also used an 1890s Renaissance Revival theme with the Granite Building. In the 1904 Sibley's Building, however, Warner employs the contemporary, Chicago commercial style. These contrasting styles are achieved only in the sheathing materials over what are similarly constructed skeletal buildings. Duffy-Powers is the least structural in appearance of the three buildings, although it employes a skeletal frame too. Its form and massing resemble Beaux-Arts design and arrangement.

Although earlier by nearly a decade, the Granite Building was an advanced design for its time. As the only skyscraper in the thematic group, it is also the first skeletal steel building constructed in Rochester and, as such, set the structural precedent for large buildings in Rochester including Sibley's, Edwards and Duffy-Powers. Warner and his client, Sibley's, were not afraid of innovative design; both the Granite Building and Sibley's are bold departures from the established building trends in the city at the time.

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Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area Department Store Thematic Group Rochester, Monroe Co.,NY

The last building in the group is the 1924 five-story <u>National Building</u> at 159 East Main Street. This building is distinguished by its sophisticated Neoclassical facade of limestone with a recessed glass and bronze storefront arcade at street level. The Beaux-Arts decorated building is characterized by precise carved detailing, flat surfaces with more restrained detailing than the earlier Neoclassical and Renaissance styles

All the buildings in this thematic group are characterized by distinctive period designs, high quality workmanship and fine materials. The five skeletal buildings and one load-bearing construction building, although differing in style, share qualities of design and construction that appear to have been linked to their common purpose, to attract retail trade.

8. Significance



Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The six buildings in the thematic group are architecturally significant as relatively intact, representative examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century department store design in Rochester during the period 1888 - c.1930. Additional architectural significance is derived from their association with prominent local architects: J. Foster Warner and the firm of Charles Crandall and John Strobel. The buildings chronicle the evolution of urban department store design from masonry load-bearing construction to the sophisticated skeletal steel construction associated with early skyscrapers. The thematic group is historically significant in the multiple resource area as the physical manifestation of Rochester's downtown retail trade, a major force in the city's economy. These buildings formed the bulk of a large retail center, which, sophisticated in design and imposing in configuration, had a significant impact on the architectural character of the Inner Loop.

The department and drygoods retail industry was a vital part of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century economy of Rochester. The large retailing district that centered around the Sibley Lindsay & Curr Building on East Main Street was dependent upon the garment district and related warehousing establishments lying just north of East Main Street near the river and the New York Central rail lines. (See St. Paul/ North Water Streets HD) Rochester's drygoods industry employed large numbers of German, Italian, Jewish, and Irish immigrants in its manufacturing and wholesaling divisions near the large downtown department stores. The department store industry contributed significantly to Rochester's image as a producer of high quality products. Rochester's industrial slogan "Rochester Made Means Quality" appeared everywhere, including on large electric signs downtown and on labels sewn inside of garments made and sold in Rochester. Turn-of-the century Rochester was a progressive and profitable community due in part to the success of its retail industry. The quality of design and construction of the department store buildings was an expression of Rochester's economic vitality. These new buildings contributed not only to Rochester's economy but to its architectural character as well. The six buildings in the thematic group, constructed between 1888 - c.1930, still contribute significantly to the architectural character of the multiple resource area.

The masonry <u>Cox Building</u> (1888) at 36-48 St. Paul Street is the oldest of the thematic group and the only building in the thematic group which does not employ the skeletal frame method of construction. The building is architecturally significant for its unaltered brownstown and brick Romanesque Revival style design. The twelve-story <u>Granite Building</u> (1893) at 124 East Main Street is the earliest skeletal steel frame building in the city and has a distinctive Renaissance style exterior with monumental granite columns recessed in the facade on the upper floors.

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Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area Department Store Thematic Group Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

The building was designed by J. Foster Warner to house the Sibley Lindsay & Curr Company and its offices in a fire-proof structure. The <u>Sibley Building</u> (1904) at 228 East Main Street is an example of Chicago style commercial architecture, also designed by J. Foster Warner. The monumental building, which covers an entire city block, has little ornamental detail, with the exception of a Baroque clock tower. This brown Roman brick building has had several additions, all overseen by Warner, which are compatible with the style of the original building. The <u>Duffy-Powers Building</u> (1906) at 50 West Main Street and <u>Edwards Building</u> (1908) at 26-34 St. Paul Street, both designed by the firm of Charles Crandall and John Strobel, are distinctive for their exquisitely detailed white terra-cotta exteriors, a material favored by this firm. The sixth building is the <u>National Store</u> which, with stylized Neoclassical details in limestone and unusual storefront showcase arcade, represents 1920s classicism as found in commercial architecture. The National building was also designed by Warner.

The thematic group is historically significant for its association with downtown Rochester's retail market in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The buildings are individually significant for their association with the particular retail firms they were built to house. In particular, the Granite, Cox and Sibley's buildings are historically important for their association with the nationally famous firm of Sibley Lindsay & Curr Company, Rochester's most successful department store and retail firm.

Sibley Lindsay & Curr established a store (the former Osburn House Hotel by A. J. Warner, demolished 1890) on the east side of the Genesee River in 1869. As the company grew in size and prestige, other retail firms followed, and the east side developed as the retail center for the city and for the region. By the 1890s, Rochester was a major northeast retail center, and its department stores had acquired a national reputation for size, quality and innovation, with Sibley's at the forefront. Sibley's store anchored the corner of St. Paul and East Main Streets, and grew to envelop many earlier buildings on the block. In 1888, Sibley's built the Cox Building adjacent to their Main Street store for warehouse and wholesale space. In 1893, Sibley's replaced the original store with the twelve-story fireproof Granite Building. This was Rochester's first skeletal frame skyscraper and was hailed as the most elaborate and spacious department store between New York City and Chicago. Sibley's continued to grow; however, in 1904, their assemblage of buildings on East Main Street was consumed in Rochester's largest fire, the Great Sibley Fire. Lost in the fire was the southern third of the Cox Building and all the buildings to the east of the Granite Building. Because the Granite Building was of fireproof construction, only its interior was gutted by the fire, leaving the building structurally undamaged. Sibley's quickly relocated two blocks to the east in a newly constructed Sibley's Building (their present building, 1904). The new building was enlarged in

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Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area Department Store Thematic Group Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

1911 and 1924, becoming the largest building and most visible landmark in downtown Rochester with over thirteen acres of retail space.

During this time, other fine department stores (McCurdy's, Forman's and Edward's) were built in close proximity to Sibley's, on or near East Main Street. East Main Street was also filled with smaller drygoods retail and specialty establishments, creating a cohesive downtown retail and commercial district. Customers passed freely between the major stores to shop and to compare prices, products and services as well as to seek the services of the smaller specialty shops in the vicinity. The East Main Street retail district became densely populated with many types, sizes and styles of commercial buildings. The large, carefully designed department stores gave the street a modern and progressive character at the time of construction. Today as well, these buildings lend a character of stability and familiarity to this constantly changing retail area of East Main Street. Only six of the surviving nine department store buildings retain sufficient architectural integrity to be eligible for listing on the National Register, and only one of these (Sibley's) is still in use as a department store.

Although Sibley's was the first and largest department store in the city, competition between the department stores grew keen in the early twentieth century. In 1911, the Edwards store was advertising as the "popular store for the classes and the masses," as "Greater Rochester's largest retail store." and Duffy-McInnery was billing itself Duffy-McInnery was located in the Duffy-Powers Building and was the only major department store situated outside of the established retail district on the west side of the river. Within the next few years, Sibley's would regain its claim as the largest store with the completion of several additions to its 1904 building. Sibley's, Edward's and McCurdy's continued in healthy competition until Edwards's demise in the 1960s. Today Sibley's and McCurdy's (no longer located in an historic building) vie for downtown retail business. Duffy-McInnery on the west side of the river went bankrupt in 1927.

Five of the six structures in the thematic group are associated with prominent local architects. The Granite (1894), Sibley's (1904) and National (1924) buildings were all designed by J. Foster Warner, who, with his father A. J. Warner, had a major impact upon Rochester's architectural character for nearly seventy years (c.1850s to c.1920s). The Warners were innovative in both their interpretation of popular styles and creation of structural systems, and their work encompassed all types of buildings. The three department store buildings designed by J. Foster Warner are some of his last works and although they share a common use, each has a distinct design indicative of Warner's versatility.

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Inner-Loop Multiple Resource Area Department Store Thematic Group Rochester, Monroe Co., NY

The Duffy-Powers (1906) and Edwards (1908) buildings were designed by the firm of Crandall and Strobel who practiced in Rochester from 1906 to 1921. The firm had a preference for the Renaissance style and, in particular, for sculptured floral detailing, both of which are evident in these two department store structures. Clad entirely in white terra cotta, the Duffy-Powers and Edwards buildings are variations of the Renaissance Revival style with a similarity of construction, use and size. The buildings differ in configuration and in the use of detailing. Crandall and Strobel designed a third structure, the Crandall Building (1906), in the same mode. This building is connected to the Edwards Building on Main Street by a five-story pedestrian walkway and, with the Edwards Building, formed the Edwards department store complex. A recent replacement of the Cornwall Building's white terra-cotta facade with non-historic materials precludes its eligibility for the National Register.

The six buildings in the thematic group are architecturally significant for their distinctive design, unique construction and survival as a particular building type. Their historical significance is linked to their association with the retail trade of late nineteenth and early twentieth century Rochester, a major force in the city's economy.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- 1) City of Rochester Public Records
- Historical and architectural files, Landmark Society of Western New York, Rochester 2)
- Local History Division, Rochester Public Library 3)
- 4) Rochester plat maps and city directories

10. **Geographical Data** 4 ~

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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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historic				
and/or common	Inner Loop Multipl	e Resource Area: Sto	one Arch Bridge Th e	matic Resources
2. Loca	ation See inven	tory forms 😪		
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city, town Ro	ochester	vicinity of	congressional distric t	
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4. Own	er of Prope	rty		
name	City of Roches	ster		
street & number	30 Church Stre	et		
city, town	Rochester	vicinity of	state	New York 14614
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Descriptio	on	
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7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Genesee River Stone Arch Bridge thematic group consists of three stone arch bridges that traverse the Genesee River in the center of the city within the Inner Loop MRA. They are the major means of crossing the river for the central business district. The bridges are the Main Street Bridge, Andrews Street Bridge and Court Street Bridge. All are low in scale and have broadly sprung low sandstone or limestone arches. The bridges appear to have been closely designed after the successful Erie Canal Aqueduct which crosses the Genesee River just south of the Main Street Bridge. Built in 1842 (NR listed in 1976) the Erie Canal Aqueduct design has withstood the immense ice flows and high spring waters that destroyed bridges and aqueducts of earlier and less formidable design as have the three bridges in the thematic group.

The Main Street Bridge (1857) is the oldest of the three bridges and consists of five segmental arches with spans of 30 to 42 feet and rises of $8 - 11\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Two arches are concealed from view on the east side of the river where the bridge actually carries Main Street over an adjacent raceway to Water Street. Local limestone is used for the untooled and coursed stone facing on the bridge. The detailing of this bridge is utilitarian and the least decorative of the three.

The Court Street Bridge (1893) and Andrews Street Bridge (1893) were both designed by city engineer J. Y. McClintock. They are identical in design, detail and construction. The Court Street Bridge has six shallow arches over the river and two over the Johnson & Seymour Raceway and Erie Canal bed at the east side of the river. The shallow arch spans are 52 feet and the rises vary from 13 to 20 feet. The bridge is faced in a soft rock-faced red sandstone with regular coursing. At the base of each pier on the upstream side of the bridge are short round sandstone buttresses to divert water and debris from the bridge piers.

The Andrews Street Bridge (1893) is the same in construction and appearance as the Court Street Bridge. It has seven segmental arches with spans of 36 feet and rises of nine feet. All three bridges have new concrete roadways, lighting and a modern iron rail/fence along the top of the stone wall. All three survive as intact, utilitarian transportation structures which contribute to the character of Rochester.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		ng landscape architectur law literature military music	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater _X_ transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1857-1893	Builder/Architect	See inventory form	S

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Stone Arch Bridge Thematic Group comprises three significant historic transportation features within the Inner Loop Multiple Resource Each of the three components of the nomination crosses the Genesee Area. River (which bisects the Inner Loop) and with the Erie Canal Aqueduct, they constitute the major transportation link between the east and west portions of Rochester's central business district. The resources include the Main Street Bridge (1857) and the Court and Andrews Street Bridges (both 1893). Erected by local builders for strength and utility, the bridges are similar to the 1842 aqueduct in design, materials and technology and appear to have been designed to complement the earlier structure. While the Main Street Bridge represents available technology at the time it was constructed, the Court and Andrews Street Bridges reflect a style and method of construction that had been largely supplanted by more efficient and economical steel bridgebuilding techniques, possibly indicating their builder's attempt to create picturesque crossings resembling the earlier Genesee Bridges. Each component of the theme retains integrity of design and function and together they make a significant contribution to the overall historic ambience of the multiple resource area.

The first bridge to cross the river was at the Main Street location, finished in 1812 and of wooden construction. The present Main Street Bridge is the fourth on the site. Its design was controversial when built in 1857. Since the river was the power source for mills up and downstream of the site, the millers wanted wide broad arches to lessen the flow impediment of the river to the raceways, while downtown developers wanted enough strength in the design to support building construction on the north and south side of the bridge. The design incorporates both of these features and, along with shallow spring iron arches constructed parallel to the bridge, supported four and five-story commercial buildings over the river on both sides of the bridge from c. 1865 until 1964 when these buildings were demolished. The Main Street Bridge was designed to withstand the strong spring water and ice flows of the Genesee River, not to impede flow to the mill races, and also to be strong enough to support buildings constructed upon it. Because of the buildings on the bridge, the design characteristics of the Main Street Bridge were obscured from view from 1865 until 1964. The Main Street Bridge was designed to meet transportation, power and economic needs for downtown Rochester. Its shallow arch design was one of utility and represented the engineering capabilities of 1857, with esthetic qualities a secondary consideration.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Local History Division, Rochester Public Library.

10. Geographical Data

Chief of Registration

See inventory forms

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Inner Loop Multiple Resource Area: Stone Arch Bridge Continuation sheet Rochester, NY, Monroe Co. Item number 8	Thematic Resources • Page 2

By the 1890s, the masonry pier and iron truss bridges at Andrews and Court Streets were inadequate. City Engineer J.Y., McClintock, designed two new bridges to cross the Genesee River at Andrews and Court Streets, respectively. The Andrews Street Bridge (1893) is the third one at that location; the Court Street Bridge (1893) is the second one at that location. McClintock designed both new bridges in the stone arch style with a facing of coursed rock-faced red sandstone. While the Main StreetBridge's stone arch construction represented the available masonry technology of 1857, improved bridgebuilding techniques had been developed by 1893. The design of the Andrews and Court Street Bridges may, therefore, have been dictated by esthetic rather than structural considerations. In any event, the bridges were not focal features in the panoramic view of riverscape as they are today. The Andrews Street Bridge was only visible from the tops or backs of the industrial buildings along the river edge; the buildings on the Main Street Bridge obstructed its view from upstream. The Court Street Bridge was more visible and also just upstream from the earlier Erie Canal Aqueduct (NR listed 1976).

Both 1893 bridges are of the same design, construction and detailing. McClintock's identical designs may have been a cost reduction measure, although contemporary records fail to reveal a specific rationale for their identical characteristics.

Today, the downtown Genesee River vista is completely open to the eye. Industrial and commercial complexes on the east and west sides of the river have been removed and modern set-back construction replaces them. However, the four low-scale stone arch structures crossing the Genesee River in downtown Rochester create a distinctive, historic ambience that recalls the nineteenth-century growth and development of the neighborhood as the city's central business district.

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

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Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group

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11.	National Company Buildi	ng Entered in the National Regist	V Keeper	AlongByen 10/11/
			Attest	
12.	Sibley, Lindsay and Cur		fr Keeper	Thur for dry 6/11/8
	DOE/OWNER CB.	IECTION	Attest	
13.	Stone Arch Bridge Thema		Keeper	Bucher Angel 10/11
	Substantive	loview	Attest	·
14.	Main Street Bridge	Entered in the National Register	FKeeper	AloursByen 10/11/
			Attest	
15.	Andrews Street Bridge	tisansi. tipana tinangenation	f Keeper	Ailous Byen 10/11/8
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16.	Court Street Bridge Su	bstantive Review	Keeper	Thur-In Daryd 10/11/8
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17.	Duffy-Powers Building	State And And	Keeper	Muca in man 3/8/2
	a company NR	R OBJECTION	Attest	
18.			Keeper	
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Inner Loop Mul Name <u>NEW YORK</u> State	tiple Resource Area	13 	henter Angel
Nomination/Type of Revi	ew	Cont	Date/Signatúre
1. Bridge Square Histor	ric District Entered in a National Reg		Alons Byen 10/11/84
2. Grove Place Historic	: District Entered in th National Regi	ster Reeper C	AlouesByus 10/11/84
3. St. Paul-North Water District Substanti	• Streets Historic ve Review	Attest Keeper Attest	town Drugh pluty
4. State Street Histori	c District _{Entered} in the National Regist	F Keeper	Delines Byen volu / st
5. Eastman Historic Dis DOE/OWNER CI	trict Substantive Review	Attest mined Eligible Keeper Attest	Tonue Aun Daig & 10/11/84
6. Department Store The Substan	<u>matic Resources (</u> Cover) - Tive Review	— Keeper	Taun han Sunged 10/11/84
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7. Granite Building	satore 22 124 Tetiorel Restorer •	f Keeper C	AloursByan ru/a/14
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* 8. Duffy-Powers Building Result. 1/24/85- as due	g Entered in the	ficeper C	Selouskyen a/11/84
	aby.	Attest	
9. Edwards Building	Antorad in the Tabiaas i Rogisto r	f Keeper C	Almer Byen 10/11/84
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10.Cox Building Substa	ntive Review	Keeper	Buc Men By 10/11/89
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Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group

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1.	Kirstein Building	Entered in the	Keeper	Alebourd Byen 10.
		National Register	Attest	
2.		Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Helourgyun in
			Attest	
3.	Warner, H. H., Building	Intered in the	Keeper	Along Byen 14
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	National Register	Attest	0	
4.	Dewey, Chester, School No.	. 14	Keeper	Allong Byun 10
		Battored In the National Rogistor	Attest	
5.	. Jewish Young Men's and Wom	men's Association Entran d in the National Register	Keeper	Along Byen "
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5. Sibley Triangle Building _E			Keeper	XelousByen 10
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•	Court Exchange Building-Na	tional Casket Co. Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Alebren 10/4
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	Naval Armory-Convention Ha	11 Entered in the National Regis	ter	(Allows Mens) 1014
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•	Cohen, H. C., Company Buil	ding-Andrews Bldg.	Reeper	Allous Byers 10/
	. e	atered in the ational Register	Attest	<i></i>

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Inner Loop MRA Monroe County, NEW YORK

Date Listed

92000152	Brick Presbyterian Church Complex	3/12/92	intered in the Mational Registe
92000150	English Evangelical Church of the Reformation and Parish House	3/12/92	Hational Registe
92000151	German United Evangelical Church Complex		Antered 10 the
92000153	Our Lady of Victory Roman Catholic Church	3/12/92	National Registe.
92000154	St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church and Rectory	3/12/82	datared in thu Verticical Register