

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Allegheny
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Fifth Avenue at Bigelow Blvd.

CITY OR TOWN:
Pittsburgh

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Fourteenth

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

COUNTY:
Allegheny

CODE:
003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Allegheny County

STREET AND NUMBER:
414 Grant Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Pittsburgh

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Allegheny County Court House, Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
300 Ross Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Pittsburgh

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
614 Post Office, Allegheny Square West

CITY OR TOWN:
Pittsburgh

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial typifies the Beaux Arts Classicism Style. The massive stone building is situated at the top of a long slight grade. Each facade of the main part of the building is roughly two hundred feet long.

The Memorial is situated on a high two story podium with curved projecting side wings, much like Baroque pincers. The center entrances and side pavillion windows have boldly projecting flat and pedimented lintels. Richly carved festoons articulate the space between the architraves and the lintels.

The Memorial is divided horizontally and vertically into a series of subtle advancing and receding planes. The bulk of the main facade consists of eight colossal Doric three-quarter columns and pilaster three quarter column at each end 'in antis' between two massive piers. The piers project forward slightly; and have multiple joints. Between each column are blind rectangular panels. Above is a full entablature, articulated by dentils and modillions and the words "Allegheny County Soldiers' Memorial" carved in the frieze. Behind the boldly projecting cornice is an exceptionally high block course balustrade with rectangular panels and patera. The facade recessed behind this balustrade consists of seven rectangular windows. There are pilasters between them and corner piers. Above each pilaster on the entablature is a small projecting circular ornament. The cornice above has modillions. The cymatium consists of a highly ornamental richly carved design of American eagles. At the corners are acroteria, and at the apex of the pyramidal roof is a richly carved sculpture depicting the Phoenix. As a symbol of self-regeneration after destruction, the Phoenix is a most appropriate symbolic motif to crown the building. On each side of the podium entrances is a bronze statue, one of a soldier, the other of a sailor. They are authentic representations designed and cast by Frederick C. Hibbard.

The Memorial opened in 1911. The Memorial is more than a monument; it is a functional building as well. Its auditorium has a seating capacity of 2509. The banquet hall and the annex can hold 1,000 people. There are also six meeting rooms and numerous storage areas.

Sixty-three huge bronze role tablets which honor 25,930 military men of Allegheny County line the corridor of the first floor. The Memorial is still in use.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1911

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1904 the county courts gave permission for the erection of the Memorial Hall of the Grand Army. The hall was to honor the soldiers, sailors and marines from Allegheny County who served in the Army and the Navy. As a result of competition, Palmer and Hornbostel were awarded the project. Hornbostel was one of Pittsburgh's foremost architects. His best works located in Oakland-- the civic and cultural center of Pittsburgh-- include the original campus of Carnegie Institute of Technology and the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall.

The Beaux Arts Style which visually synthesized the Greek and Roman structural components, had an interesting effect on Hornbostel. The Memorial is a Romanized version of the Greek Mausolus at Halicarnassus.

It opened in 1911. The Memorial is more than a monument; it is a functional building as well. There are also six meeting rooms and numerous storage areas.

The major portion of the museum's collection includes memorabilia of the Civil War, but it also has relics from the Revolutionary to the Viet Nam Wars. Sixty-three huge bronze tablets honor veterans of Allegheny County on the first floor. The Memorial has hosted numerous international military affairs.

In 1952, James E. Alexander of the Pittsburgh Post Gazette called the Memorial the "most pretentious remembrance for the Civil War dead in the Country."

The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation has submitted a proposal for consolidating the Memorial's staff and budget while expanding the museum's operation, display and public availability.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Van Trump, James D. and Ziegler, Arthur P. Jr.
Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh;
 Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, 1967
 Van Trump, James D., "Halicarnassus. Pgh. & New Alexandria;
 a Memorial Excursion." Western Penna. Historical Mag.
 48:3 July, 1965; pp. 221-234.
 Van Trump, James D., "The Builder," 25:10 (January, 1908)
The Architectural Record 30:3 (Sept., 1911) pp. 234,
 242, 243

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40° 26' 40"	79° 57' 24"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
James D. Van Trump, Research Director

ORGANIZATION: **Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation** DATE: **March, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old Post Office, Allegheny Square West

CITY OR TOWN: **Pittsburgh** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>William J. Wewer</u></p> <p>Title <u>Executive Director, Penna. Historical and Museum Commission</u></p> <p>Date <u>9/19/74</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

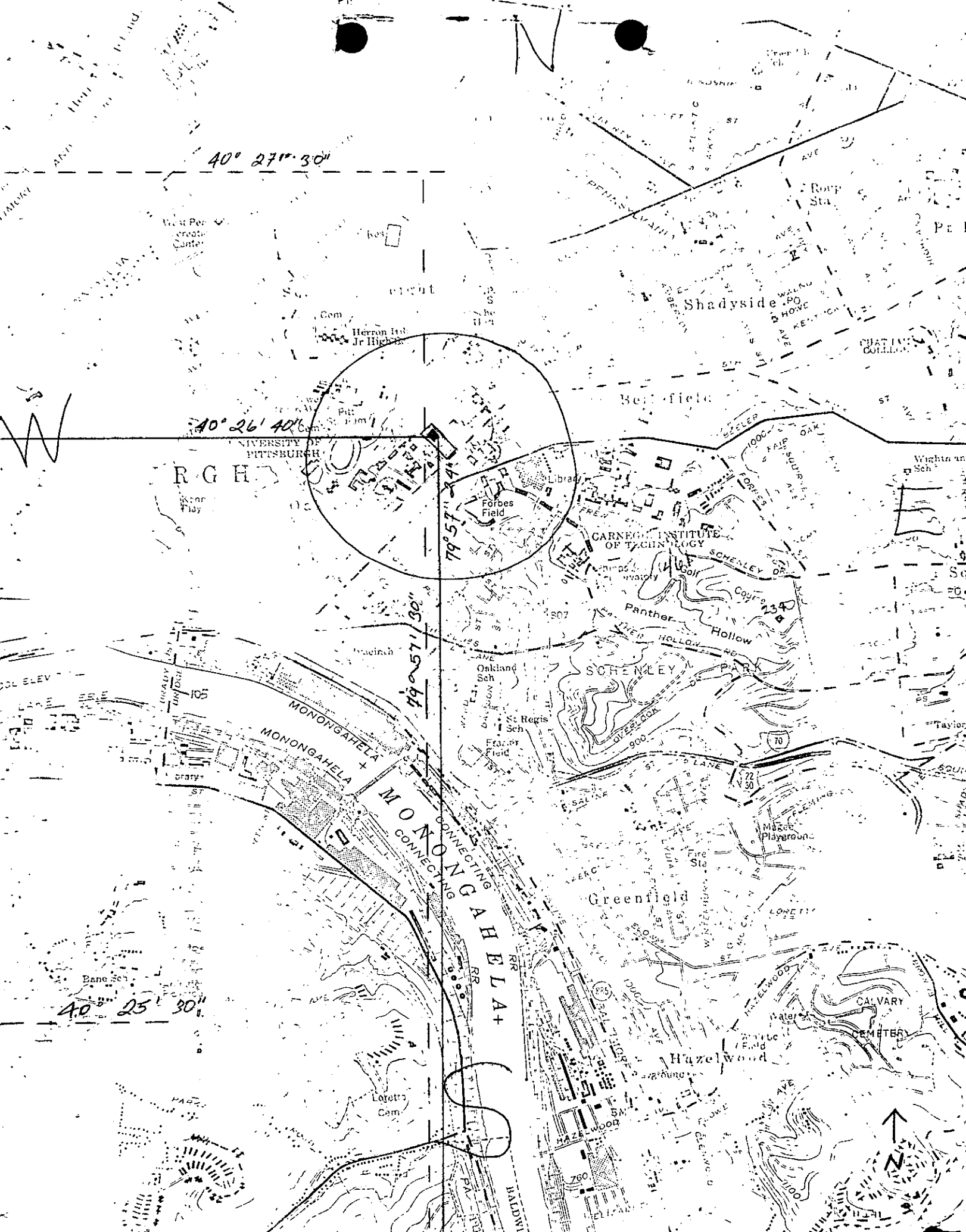
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY Allegheny	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Statement of Significance cont.
Soliders and Sailors Memorial Hall

Federal Landmark designation can only convince the board of directors of the great value of their building. Hopefully they will then broaden their operations and programs.



$40^{\circ} 27' 30''$

$40^{\circ} 26' 40''$
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

R G H

$79^{\circ} 57' 24''$

$40^{\circ} 25' 30''$

$40^{\circ} 25' 30''$

