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Calumet Heritage Partnership announces list of Most Endangered Places

Chicago (February 3, 2020) – The Calumet Heritage Partnership today announced the Calumet Most Endangered List, its inaugural list of landmarks across the bi-state, Calumet Heritage Area that are in jeopardy. The list includes a masonic temple, iconic Chicago green space, a water tower, and highlights the unique challenges facing sacred spaces. The Calumet Heritage Area includes Southeast Chicago and suburban areas in Illinois and Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties in Indiana.

Ward Miller, Executive Director of Preservation Chicago, explains “The Calumet Most Endangered List, the first of its kind in the region by a consortium of organizations and institutions, is an amazing and diverse compiling of important structures in the area.” Places included on the Most Endangered List face numerous, often complex combinations of problems including direct plans for demolition, neglect, obsolete use, structural stability, and owners who do not have the money to make repairs or are uncooperative to efforts for preservation. The list also draws attention to the immense challenges facing historic sacred places – these places of worship are among the most architecturally distinguished structures in our communities, but they suffer from declining attendance, constrained resources, and over-scaled buildings.

“The Most Endangered List will first and foremost raise awareness about the threats posed to the buildings and places that contribute to the shared heritage of the Calumet region,” says Brad Miller, a board member of the organization and director of Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office. “We hope that by listing these places, we can start or help bolster advocacy efforts to finds solutions and save these imperiled landmarks,” he adds.

Calumet Most Endangered List - 2020:

**Illinois**

- Jackson Park – South Shore Cultural Center – Midway Plaisance
- South Chicago Masonic Temple
- Loretto Academy (Institute of the Blessed Virgin)

**Indiana**

- Gary Water Tower
- Theodore Roosevelt High School
- Michigan Central Railroad Depot
- Calumet Trust and Savings Bank

**Endangered Resource**

Sacred spaces of the Calumet
To find out more about each of the places on the Calumet Most Endangered List, visit [http://www.calumetheritage.org/calumetmostendangered/](http://www.calumetheritage.org/calumetmostendangered/) or contact your local preservation organization. For more information on Illinois listings, contact Preservation Chicago at (312)443-1000 or [www.preservationchicago.org](http://www.preservationchicago.org). For more information on Indiana listings, contact Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office at (219)947-2657 or [https://www.indianalandmarks.org/contact/northwest-field-office/](https://www.indianalandmarks.org/contact/northwest-field-office/).

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**Media contacts:**

Karen Brozynski, President, Board of Directors, Calumet Heritage Partnership, , karenbrozynski@yahoo.com

**Indiana listings** - Brad Miller, Northwest Field Office Director, Indiana Landmarks, 219-947-2657 (cell 717-265-4148), bmiller@indianalandmarks.org

**Illinois listings** – Mary Lu Seidel, Director of Community Engagement, Preservation Chicago, 312-443-1000, mseidel@preservationchicago.org

**Digital photos** are available upon request to the appropriate contact above.

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The mission of the **Calumet Heritage Partnership** is to enrich lives through stewardship and interpretation of the Calumet Region’s Heritage. Founded in 1998 as a bi-state, non-profit, all-volunteer organization, the Calumet Heritage Partnership works in partnership with Calumet Collaborative and the Field Museum to manage the Calumet Heritage Area and advocates for the designation of a Calumet National Heritage Area by the U.S. Congress. For more information on the Calumet Heritage Partnership visit [www.calumetheritage.org](http://www.calumetheritage.org). For more information on the Calumet Heritage Area visit [www.calumetheritagearea.org](http://www.calumetheritagearea.org).