

Innovation and Change for Factories and Workers

As one of the great workshops of the world, the Calumet region lays bare epic stories of entrepreneurship, industrial development, the struggle for decent working conditions and wages, and of what happens when certainties crumble.

- **Manufacturing and industrial urbanism.** Icons of industry like Pullman, Carnegie, Gary, and Rockefeller forged a unique industrial region that became the western buckle of the American Manufacturing Belt. Over a century it grew to become the nation's premier steelmaking district.
- **Labor takes a stand.** Workers' struggles for better conditions, wages, and rights captured national attention in the Pullman strike of 1893, the Memorial Day Massacre of 1937, and the founding of the first African American labor union by A. Philip Randolph. Many now press for a quality of life that makes the most of the region's environmental assets.
- **Deindustrialization.** An era of drastic industrial shutdowns dramatically changed the region's industrial powerhouse and caused widespread job loss.
- **21st century innovations.** Despite deindustrialization, heavy industry remains active in the region, with notable efforts from both industry and labor to find a more comfortable relationship with nature in the highly fragmented landscape.



U.S. Steel Employment Office; sign written in six languages



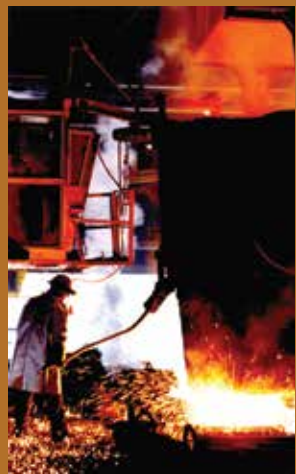
Petcoke, gravel, and salt along the Calumet River, South Chicago



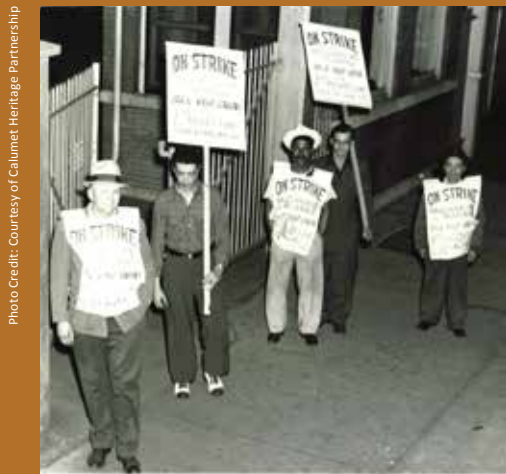
Ore Walls on US Steel Southworks site, South Chicago



Memorial Day Massacre Monument, East Side



Steelmaking, Riverdale



US Steelworkers Local 65 picket at Carnegie South Works, South Chicago

