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The Chicago Center for Working-Class Studies (CCWCS) is proud to present the Interactive Labor Trail, made possible by a generous grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. This on-line history resource builds on "The Labor Trail: Chicago's History of Working-Class Life and Struggle," a map of 140 significant locations in the history of labor, migration, and working-class culture in Chicago and Illinois. The Labor Trail is the product of a joint effort to showcase the many generations of dramatic struggles and working-class life in the Chicago area's rich and turbulent past. The Trail's neighborhood tours invite you to get acquainted with the events, places, and people -- often unsung -- who have made the city what it is today. In addition, the statewide map is just a starting point for further exploration of Illinois' labor heritage. This Interactive Labor Trail expands the number of locations and provides a greater depth of information, while giving map users the chance to add their knowledge of locations and events in the Chicago area's working-class history. We invite all individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the labor and

working-class history of Chicago, Cook County, the Calumet Region, and Illinois to contribute to the map. Users can add new sites, edit or build upon existing entries with additional text, photographs, primary sources, audio and video files, as well as links to related websites. Easy-to-use instructions for adding to the on-line version of the map are available at www.labortrail.org. More information on the Chicago Center for Working-Class Studies is available at: www.workingclasstudies.org

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6: Near West Side Neighborhood Tour

Chicago's Near West Side was one of the first industrial areas in the city and an immigrant portal neighborhood. The area was pivotal during the Great Upheaval in 1877 and the site of conflict at the McCormick Reaper Plant that led to the Haymarket Massacre on May 4, 1886. It has changed dramatically since the 1950s with the construction of the Eisenhower Expressway and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Yet, the Near West Side remains a prime example of Chicago's many generations of ethnic and working-class history.

Important sites in the Near West Side include:

- *Montgomery Ward Headquarters
- *Chicago Commons Building
- *Union Health Center
- *Jane Addams Homes
- *Jane Addams Hull House
- *Formerly the West Side Auditorium
- *St. Francis of Assisi Church
- *Formerly West Side Turner Hall
- *Former site of O Leary Cottage

32: "Hull House Riot"

In January 1915 a march of unemployed to downtown from the Hull House was beaten back by police. Lucy Parsons, Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, immigrants, and IWW members were arrested. Sophonisba Breckenridge called it a breach of free speech and the right to assemble.

36: Battle of the Viaduct

The "Great Upheaval" of 1877, which began in Baltimore, Maryland, and Martinsburg, West Virginia, as a railroad strike against wage cuts during a severe economic depression, quickly spread west and to other industries. On July 23, workers at the yards of Michigan Central Railroad (Randolph and Michigan Ave) walked off the job, beginning a virtual general strike. Streetcars, ships, and factories were quiet on July 24. Tensions peaked in Chicago on July 25 and 26, when German Furniture Workers clashed with police at Turner Hall near Halsted and Roosevelt Road (see accompanying illustration). Through the rest of that

afternoon and night, workers from the surrounding area battled police officers, federal troops, and state militia. Workers and police officers squared off at the 16th Street Viaduct. The less-than-sympathetic New York Times described the scene: By 10:30 in the morning, the New York Times reported, "there were not less than 10,000 men present. The undecided peacefulness of the horde had vanished. Their numbers seemed to inspire them with the valor of savages. They were bent on violence and hesitated at nothing. The north approach of the Halsted Street Viaduct" -- the point from which the accompanying picture was taken -- "and the structure itself was blocked with a mass of rioters." The Times described charges and counter-charges with rocks flying from the workers' side and police swinging clubs and firing rifles. By the end of the next day, at least 30 workers were dead and 100 wounded; no police officers or soldiers died, but at least 13 were seriously wounded. Employers responded to the strikes, which President Hayes called "an insurrection," by working with local police forces to maintain "law and order." The 1877 Upheaval marked a key turning point in American history. As historian Richard Schneirov has argued, after 1877 "the labor question replaced the slave question, class conflict threatened to overshadow sectional conflict, and urban-industrial issues rivaled rural-agrarian issues. Americans had to rethink their very identity." See Richard Schneirov, *Labor and Urban Politics: Class Conflict and the Origins of Modern Liberalism in Chicago, 1864-97* (University of Illinois Press, 1998), pp. 69-70.

49: Former Desplaines Street Police Station

In the alley next to the Desplaines Street Police Station, which is no longer standing, 176 police officers gathered on the evening of May 4, 1886. The officers waited for orders from the infamous Captain Bonfield to break up the gathering in Haymarket Square. Mayor Carter Harrison, who had been at the Square and decided it was a peaceful assembly, came to this station and told Bonfield to send his police officers home. After Bonfield heard that the Mayor had finally left the Square, Bonfield ordered his officers to advance. Mayor Harrison heard the bomb blast from his home on Ashland Avenue, and rushed back to the Desplaines Station.

103: Hoboville

This photograph shows a group of men in "Hoboville" at Canal and Harrison Streets.

111: National Public Housing Museum

In 1937 the Jane Addams Homes opened to working.....

112: O'Leary Cottage

Former site of the O'Leary Cottage, origin of the 1871 Chicago fire.

119: Tenement Housing Explosion and Fire

This photograph shows the remains of a tenement building, seen from across the street, after an explosion on February 2, 1917. Several onlookers are standing on the sidewalks across the street from the site. The cause was believed to be a leak in the gas main and approximately twenty-five people died. Throughout Chicago's history, working-class tenement housing was notoriously dangerous.

137: Monroe Exchange of the Chicago Telephone Company

The accompanying photograph (Chicago History Museum, ICHI-14439) shows female employees of the Chicago Telephone Company sitting in the garden at the Monroe Exchange in 1910.

144: Schoenhofen Brewery

Designed by Richard E. Schmidt and Hugh Garden, architects influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, the buildings were built by laborers for the Schoenhofen Brewing Company, founded in 1861 by Peter Schoenhofen and Matheus Gottfried. The administration building was built in 1886 and the Powerhouse in 1902.

171: Jane Addams' Hull House

Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr founded this center of Progressive Era reform that provided housing, meals, education, and work to the local immigrant community. Also a center of movements against child labor and government corruption, and for women's rights.

181: Newberry Avenue Center

Originally founded in 1883 by Elizabeth Smith Marcy, the group purchased a small building at 300 West Maxwell Street. In 1890, the association bought a small frame house on Newberry Avenue. It is now part of the Marcy-Newberry Association

184: Original Washburne School

In 1887, this school was named for the recently deceased Elihu B. Washburne, a former U.S. Representative, Secretary of State under President Ulysses S. Grant, and President of the Chicago Historical Society (1884-87). The school served elementary grades until 1919, when it became the Washburne Trade and Continuation School. The accompanying 1912 photograph shows a group of mothers watching a nurse demonstrate lessons in child care at the school. In 1958, the school relocated to a thirteen-building site at 31st and Kedzie. See: Washburne Trade School. See: Washburne Trade School .

208: West Side Turner Hall

Former site of Turner Hall. On January 4, 1874, workers formed the Workingman's Party of Illinois here. On July 21, 1877, it was the site of a torchlight meeting that marked Chicago's entry into the Great Upheaval, a nationwide uprising of railroad workers.

220: St. Francis of Assisi Church (1853)

First German Catholic parish on the West Side. Membership changed with surrounding neighborhood to become predominantly Italian in the 1910s, and later a center of the Mexican community.