

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

Peoria Water Works Company - Pumping Station #1  
Pumping Station #2  
Main Well House

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Peoria Water Company Purification Plant

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Foot of Lorentz Avenue near foot of Grand View Drive Hill,  
3½ miles northeast of the central business district of Peoria

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Peoria

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

18th

STATE

Illinois

CODE

COUNTY

Peoria

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Utility

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Peoria Water Company, Inc.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

129 S.W. Monroe

CITY, TOWN

Peoria

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Peoria County Courthouse, Room 11, Recorder's Office

STREET &amp; NUMBER

324 Main

CITY, TOWN

Peoria

STATE

Illinois

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Peoria Three (published by the Architectural/Historical Survey Committee,  
Peoria Section, Central Illinois Chapter, American Institute of Architects

DATE

December 1979

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Peoria Section, Central Illinois Chapter, A.I.A.

CITY, TOWN

Peoria

STATE

Illinois

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Complex consists of three buildings - Pumping Station #1 built in 1890, Pumping Station #2 built in 1913, and the Main Well House built in 1890.

#### PUMPING STATION #1

The sources for the design of this building are perhaps the Nashville Union Station or possibly the Allegheny County Courthouse. Romanesque Revival can be seen in the rough textured stone base, deep window reveals, and the cavern-like main entrance. Of course, the main entrance also has a fine Romanesque arch with rusticated stone facing. The contrast of rough stone to the smooth brick sets off the window groupings in sets of three.

The central tower rises four full floors and is capped with a pyramidal roof of slate with a turret on each corner. (See Photograph #4) Again deep recessed windows are present with the lower ones arched in a group of three with rough stone arches.

The building gives one the sense of a substantial structure, a characteristic of the Romanesque Revival style of H. H. Richardson.

The interior of the building is finished in face brick which has been painted in recent years. The large windows on each side of the main well opening give plenty of light to the purpose of the structure. In the center is a three story deep circular opening about fifty feet in diameter. This, at one time, contained the steam engine driven pumps for the water system. Today, the electric driven pumps are dwarfed by the opening located at the bottom, some thirty feet below grade.

The tower once held offices for managers and officials and was reached by a winding stair of cast iron made by A. Lucas and Sons of Peoria, a firm still in business today. The cast iron treads and side pieces are slightly sculptural adding a certain grace to the stair. The railing is brass. (See Photograph #5) The railing around the open well for the pumps is cast iron with lamp posts of cast iron located at every other newel post. (See Photographs #6 and #7)

The framing of the roof is with light steel Fink trusses (slightly modified). They are cross-braced at the corners and between trusses with similar steel sections to those used in the trusses. In 1959 an addition was added to the building to house additional equipment. It is a conventionally framed masonry and steel addition. The brick used is a slightly brighter red than the soft red brick of the original building.

Under the floor of the deck that surrounds the well for the pumps is a lower level. It is a half flight down from grade or what is sometimes called an English basement. One can look into the well for the pumps from this level. There is a stair leading from this level to the bottom of the well area. (See Photograph #6)

The structure for supporting the main deck can be seen from this lower level. It is heavy timber or Mill construction using 7" x 13" solid timbers as main beams set about 6' apart. They span about 15'. A 3" solid wood deck spans the 6' dimension. Steel pipe columns are used for support of the beams, and they have a 16" diameter steel plate cap and base. The walls of the lower level are also solid brick with buttered joints.

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The roof of the tower is a four sided pyramid framed with full dimensioned 4" x 4" and 2" x 4" rafters which alternate. These are covered with 1" x 4" decking.

PUMPING STATION #2

This masonry and steel building is marked by its very large windows with Classical arches on each side of the building and a segmental arch window much wider at each end of the building. With stone quoins, a four-sided bay at one end, and stepped stone coping details, the building does not appear to have a definite style.

Professor of Architectural History at the University of Illinois, Alan Laing calls the building a Romanticism practiced by some architects of the early 1900's. The building is simply a collection of architectural details.

The pump well area in this building was only one floor in depth but, again, is not enjoying the full use of the space it once had. A railing of the same design as in Pumping Station #1 surrounds the open well.

The interior finish of the main room is glazed brick wainscot with plaster above. The roof is supported with light steel Fink trusses that bear on the exterior masonry walls.

MAIN WELL HOUSE

This low round building has a diameter of about 25'. The walls are brick masonry and support an eight sided pyramidal roof.

The framing of the roof is full size 2" x 8" rafters with 1" x 4" wood decking. The rafters are about 24" o.c. at the base and come together at the apex of the pyramid. Steel tension rods encircle the base of the roof framing in eight segments.

At the break point in the roof or at the roof line between faces of the roof, there are two 2" x 8" rafters spiked together that rest in a cast iron saddle which is secured to the brick bearing wall.

There is a small floor area just inside the only door to the building. This area is glass enclosed allowing a view down into the well. There is a stair at the outside wall leading down to a lower deck where the well pit, about 18' in diameter, begins. The depth to this deck is about 20'

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The exterior brick work has simple pilasters and straight line brick cornice just under the eaves. The original roof appears to have been a perfect cone shape and was finished with slate. The present roof is a barely perceptible eight sided pyramid with asphalt shingles.

A slight alteration from the original roof has been made in the addition of four small eyebrow shaped vents about halfway down from the roof apex.

The building is in good condition and in full use today as a well house.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Public Utility
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Main Well House - 1890

<p>SPECIFIC DATES</p> <p>Pumping Sta. #1 - 1890, Pumping Sta. #2 - 1913</p>	<p>BUILDER/ARCHITECT</p> <p>Moffatt, Hodgkins, and Clark - Builder/Owner (Pumping Station &amp; Main Well House) Hotchkiss &amp; Harris, Architects (Pumping Station #2)</p>
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Through the far-sightedness of a number of early Peoria citizens, a municipal water system was created which materially aided in the development of the City of Peoria as an important manufacturing center.

By act of Legislature on February 1, 1843, a company called the Peoria Water Company was chartered. The water system remained publicly owned until 1890 when the entire system belonging to the City was sold to two Eastern Capitalists, John T. Moffatt and Henry C. Hodgkins, doing business under the name of Moffatt, Hodgkins, and Clark, who agreed to straighten out the finances and construct needed additional facilities.

That Company reconstructed the entire water system at the present site. Water was first supplied from the new station on December 1, 1890, and the enlarged works were entirely completed in May 1891 (Pumping Station #1 and Main Well House). The cost of constructing the municipal water plant was estimated at \$1,250,000 but the actual cost was \$1,545,000. When these greater obligations could not be met, the Moffatt, Hodgkins, and Clark Company was put into a receivership on January 9, 1894. The Works was operated by this receiver until the year 1898, when it was purchased at a foreclosure sale by a committee of bond holders, by whom the new company was formed to operate. The Works was then called the Peoria Water Works Company.

In 1913, a substantial addition was made to the plant by the construction of a second pumping station (Pumping Station #2). With this new equipment in operation, the original pumps served as standby equipment.

This complex of buildings still in use today is almost as it was when originally constructed. The smoke stack was removed when the boilers were replaced with electric motors, and an addition was put on Pumping Station #1 in 1959.

Pumping Station #1 is very strong Romanesque Revival and, while the other two buildings do not have a definite style, the architectural design gives good evidence of their use and function. Alterations to the buildings such as the glassblock work have not seriously detracted from their style or period. As a group, they are to all Peorians the "Water Works". Fortunately, the setting is on a considerable acreage which has other Water Company structures of much later periods. This large area of land allows the group to stand independent of the new buildings and, therefore, maintain their identity even more.

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These buildings are in use today and the plans of the Peoria Water Company for the future include the continued use of these structures. Public tours are being considered on weekends and a possible establishment of a small picnic area under the trees near the buildings.

The metropolitan area has no other civic or semi-civic buildings with such a strong Romanesque Revival style as Pumping Station #1. Indeed the four Heraldic Griffins or decorative figures are well known to all Peorians as the "gargoyles". These were fabricated by the Lanyon Zinc Company of St. Louis, Missouri, and are made of zinc according to David Look of the Technological Services Division of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, in Washington, D. C.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Inventory of the Properties of the Peoria Water Works Company, Peoria, Illinois  
 Alfjord & Burdick, Engineers, Chicago, Illinois; January 1, 1918 (on file with  
 the Peoria Water Company)

Journal Transcript, 5/24/36  
Peoria News, 2/23/50

# GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY APPROX. 1 1/2

QUADRANGLE NAME PEORIA EAST

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 284450 4511110  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Peoria Water Works property nominated for The National Register is shown on the accompanying map

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Leslie H. Kenyon, Architect

ORGANIZATION Kenyon and Associates, Architects DATE September 24, 1979

STREET & NUMBER 735 N. Knoxville Avenue TELEPHONE 309 674-7121

CITY OR TOWN Peoria STATE Illinois

# STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL    STATE X LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Leslie Kenyon

TITLE Dir., Ill. Dept. of Conservation DATE 1/9/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE

ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION DATE

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Leslie H. Kenyon, Architect

ORGANIZATION

Kenyon and Associates, Architects

DATE

September 24, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

735 N. Knoxville Avenue

TELEPHONE

309 674-7121

CITY OR TOWN

Peoria

STATE

Illinois

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

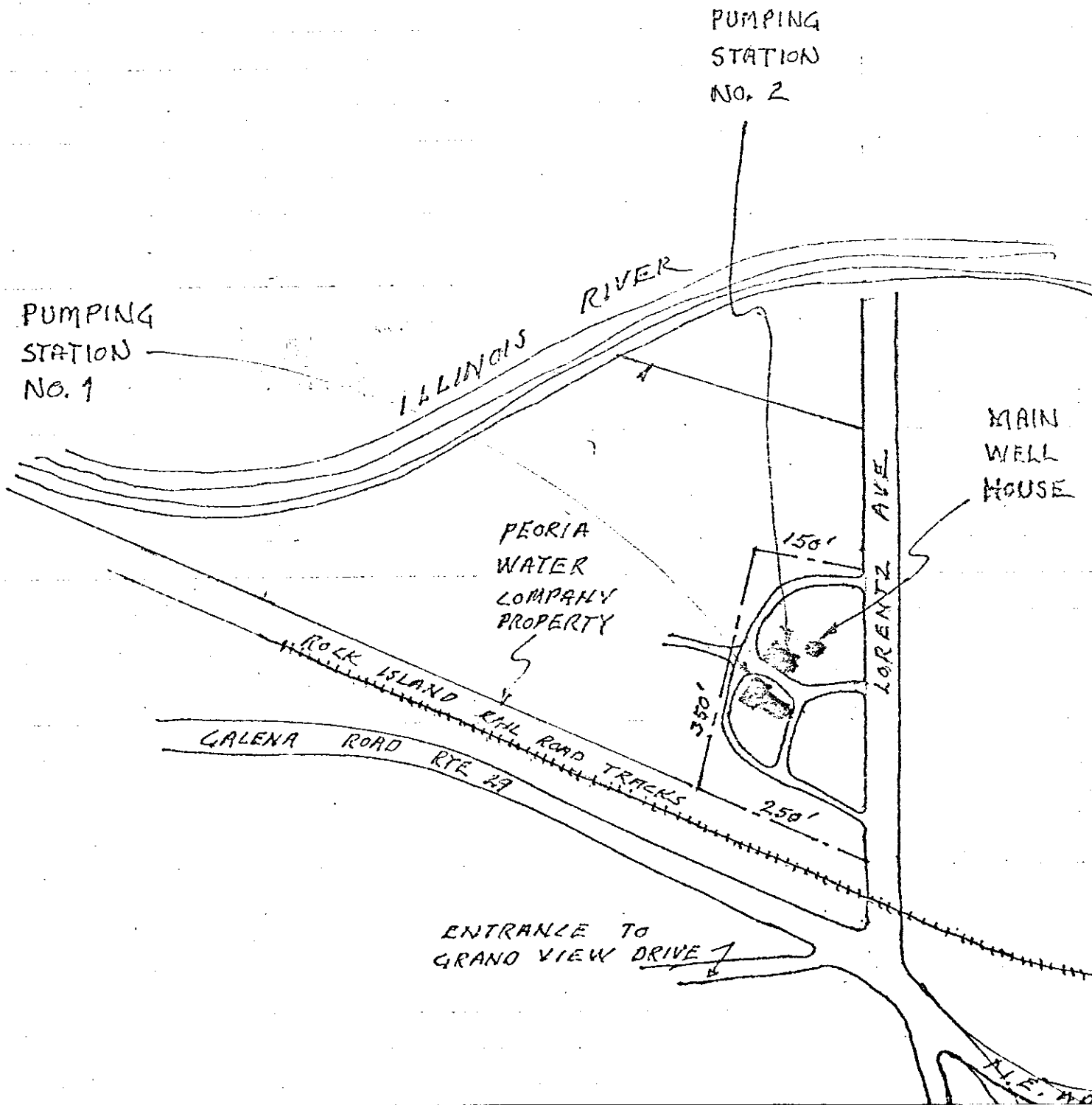
DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



BOUNDARIES RECOMMENDED  
FOR NATIONAL REGISTER  
APPLICATION

APPROX. SCALE 1" = 20'



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered MAR 18 1990

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	Peoria Peoria County
Peoria Waterworks (Pumping Station #1, Pumping Station #2, Main Well House)	Peoria Peoria County
Stevenson I., Adlai E. House	Metamora Woodford County
Keystone Building	Aurora Kane County
Paramount Theatre	Aurora Kane County
Pattington Apartments	Chicago Cook County
Felt, Cyrus, House	Hamilton Hancock County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy  
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson  
Honorable Robert H. Michel  
Honorable Tom Corcoran  
Honorable Sidney R. Yates  
Honorable Tom Railsback

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

COPY OF NATIONAL REGISTER DOCUMENT