# SLOVENIAN WORKMEN'S HOME

**CLEVELAND LANDMARK NOMINATION** 

15335 WATERLOO ROAD



# Slovenians to America

- Slovene settlement in Cleveland beginning in the 1880s
- Immigration heaviest in 1890-1914, 1919-1924 and 1949-60
- 1910 Census 14,332 in Cleveland
- 1970 Census 46,000 foreign born or mixed parentage Slovenes in Cleveland



## Slovenes to America

- Original settlement in the Newburgh area
- By late 1880s early 1890s a large community was settling along St. Clair Avenue
- Early 1900s saw another sizable community appear in the Collinwood area and into Euclid
  - Many worked at places like the Kuhlman Car Company, New York Central Railroad and the Collinwood Brick Yards.
  - Settled on Ivanhoe Road, East 152<sup>nd</sup> Street, Waterloo Road, and Holmes Avenue

# Slovenes in Cleveland

- In the late 1890s and early 1900s, those who had come to America realized they would likely not return to Slovenia
- A rise in formation of national parishes, mutual insurance companies, singing and drama clubs, and businesses
- 1899 First Slovene-language newspaper in Cleveland
- Increase in U.S. Citizenship
  - Large surge during World War I
- Held cultural events at local halls that were eventually deemed too small

## Slovenian Workmen's Home

- First meetings for the establishment of the hall were in 1914
- Building was delayed as there was no agreement as to the location
  - Holmes Avenue
  - Waterloo Road
- May 3, 1916 formation of the committee to create the new home
- November 1916 delegates from the different lodges and clubs meet
- August 1917 first step to build the home was to raise \$10,000

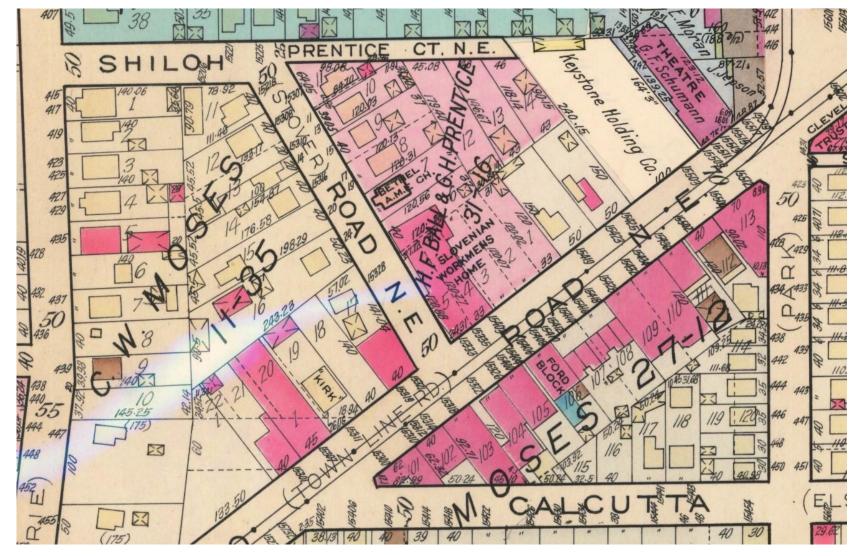
- 1917 Committee organized a daily Slovenian newspaper, Enakopravnost, to help promote the building on national homes
  - Favored the Waterloo site
- January 26, 1919 Singing Society SOCA held a meeting and announced they preferred the Holmes Avenue site
  - Split of the two sides and each would build their own hall
- 1920 Lodges formed the Waterloo Club and began raising money for construction

- August 5, 1925 Plans to start building
  - Total Cost \$86,700 (\$1.35 million in 2021)
- Architect Alexander C. Wolf
  - Active from 1911 1954
  - Member of the City Planning Commission 1922-1927
  - Architect with Cleveland Transit System during WWII
- May 31, 1926 Groundbreaking
- July 25, 1926 Laying of cornerstone
- January 1, 1927 Grand Opening

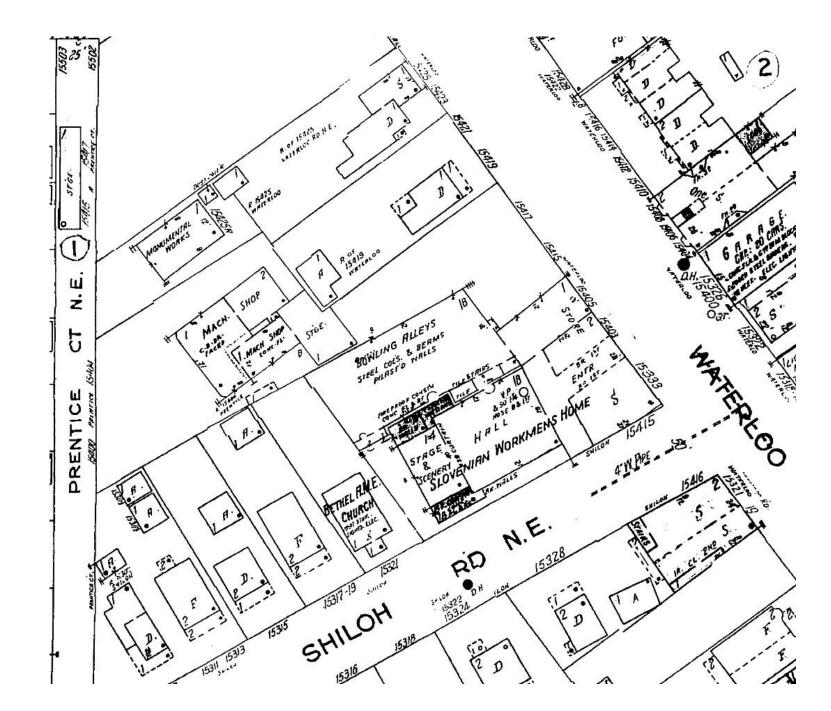
**SLOVENIAN HALL** TO COST \$76,000 Eighteen Societies Will Lay Stone July 25. Eighteen Slovenian fraternal socicties will unite in building a \$76, 000 hall at Waterloo and Shiloh roads N. E., two stories high. will be financed by a bond issue. Lodge rooms will occupy the 60 by 150-foot basement, with an audiforium seating 400 on the first floer. Diffices, janitor's suite and two lodge rooms will occupy the second floor. Slovenian organizations from other cities have been invited to the a vornerstone laying July 25. Several -9 bands will be present. John Rozence, 15721 Waterloo road N. E., is president of the representatives of the fraternal organi-7 rations. Т С Warren Iron & Steel Sold

- 1935 Addition of Public Bar Room
  - R.P. Brosch (?)
- 1939 Addition of Bowling Alleys
  - Architect Harry B. Hoener
  - Dedicated September 16-17, 1939
- 1945 Ladies of the Progressive Slovene Women of America Circle No. 1 helped with the installation of the monument honoring the deceased war veterans
- 1973 Purchased the property next door to tear down the house for parking

# Map 1927



# Map 1950



#### AMATEUR STARS ON MITT CARD

Morse Opper, chairman of the committee of the boxing show to be staged by the Collinwood Hebrew Unity Club at the Slovenian Hall, 15333 Waterloo Road, Wednesday night, has four claimants of city titles carded in the eight bouts.

In the 100-pound feature Poe Polumbo of the Knights of Columbus clashes with Joe Dienes of the Wargo A. C. Polumbo is a newcomer. However, he has been winning the majority of his bouts lately and at the present time is considered being one of the best boys in his class in the simon-pure ranks.

The best bout of the evening should be furnished by Nick Martin and Jack Sharky, both 160-pounders. Martin is the heavier hitter of the two.

Some of the other star bouts bring together Frank Chatterton, Preston A. C., and Tony Marcellino, Avon A. C., 135-pounders; Joe Botta and Vito Mazio, 112 pounds; Harry Thomas and Santa Wargo, 125 pounds.



	Samuel R. Siegel Physician and Surgeon
TORS Members of Bowling Proprietors Ass'n of Northem Ohio Members of Ohio State Bowling Proprietors Assoniation Members of Bowling Proprietors Ass'n of America COMPANY ers for Reservations D RECREATION EAST 185th BOWLING CENTER DD. IVANNOR 9595	announces his release from active duty in the Armed Forces and his return to private practice OFFICE: 15335 WATERLOO ROAD Slov. Workmen's Home
	Hours: 2 to 4 p. m. except Wednesdays; 7 to 8 p. m. except Wednesdays and Saturdays Office phone: IV 2119 Res.: YE 1114



Waterloo Style Shoppe 15333 WATERLOO RD. v Slov. del. domu OBLEKE ZA DEKLETA IN ŻENE DO MERE 52 Izdelujemo obleke po meri ter popravljamo obleke. Govorimo slovensko.





We Urge Our Secretaries to Avail Themselves of this Space to Report the Progress of Teams as well as Individuals

#### 1939



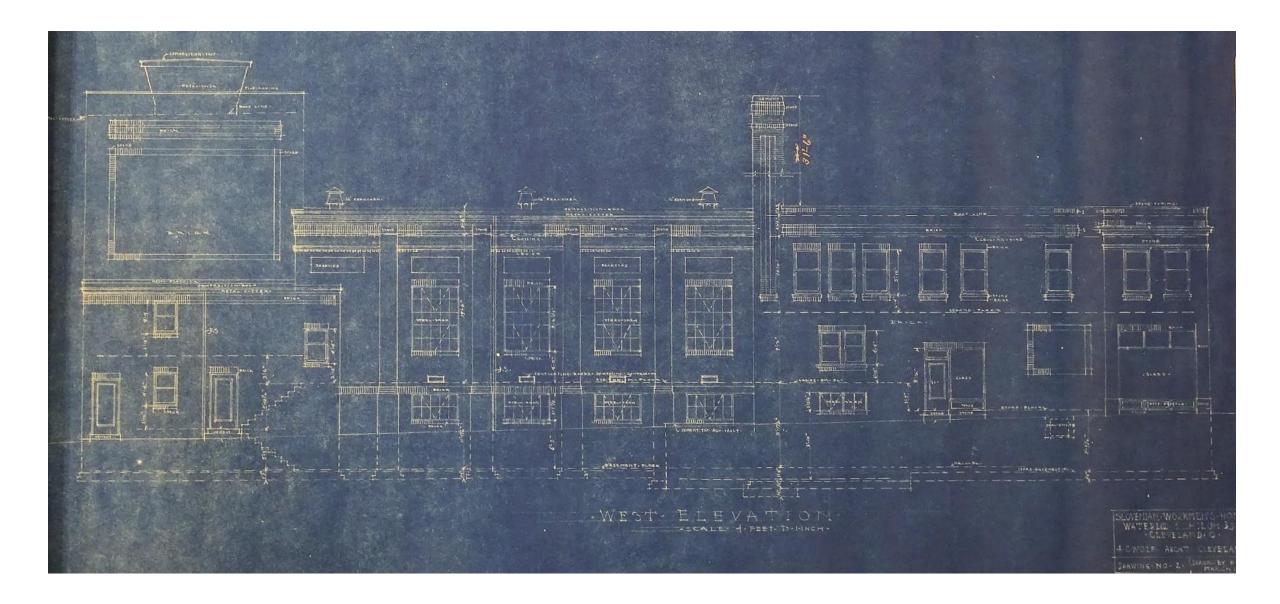
#### Plan to be drawn to scale in ink. Show all lot lines and all lot dimensions Show all street and alloys bounding property Give distances from buildings to lot and street lines, and other buildings on same lot, also to buildings within 10 feet on adjacent lots. Line 152,23. WATCH and RP. Avenue .....Avenue Street SOLVERS 誦 69 I. .... ¥ 1111111111 Vinne 141 500 .407 WAE 0

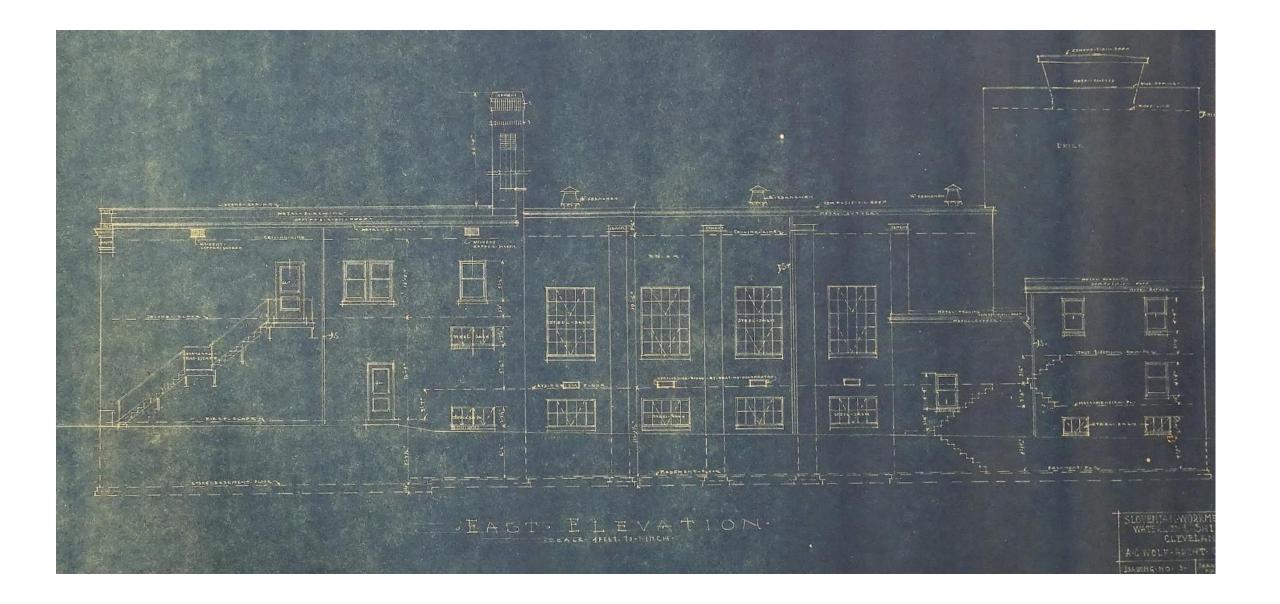
SITUATION PLAN

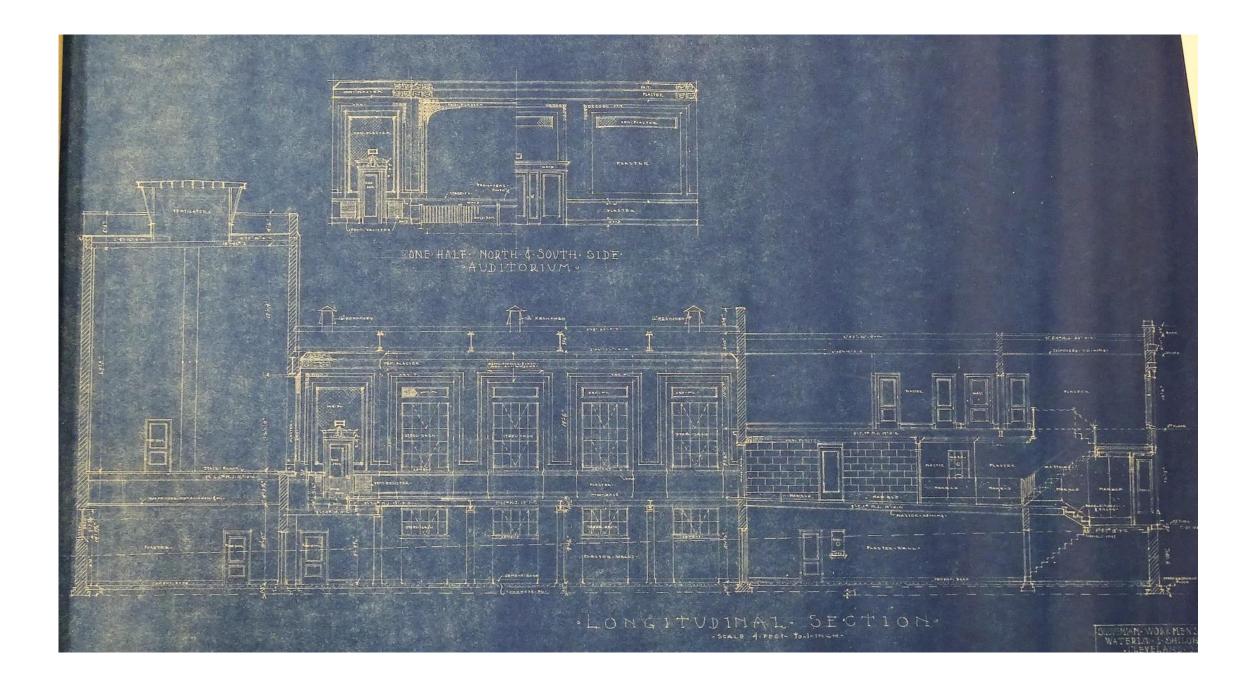
- 1947 Addition of second story to 1935 addition
  - Architects Paul Matzinger and Rudolph Grosel
  - Croatian Liberty Home (1949)
- 1958 Storefront plate glass removed and replaced with glass block and brick face in tavern only
- 1977 Alteration to west storefront to match
- 1980s Murals in windows added
- 2014 Removal of glass block for new storefront windows

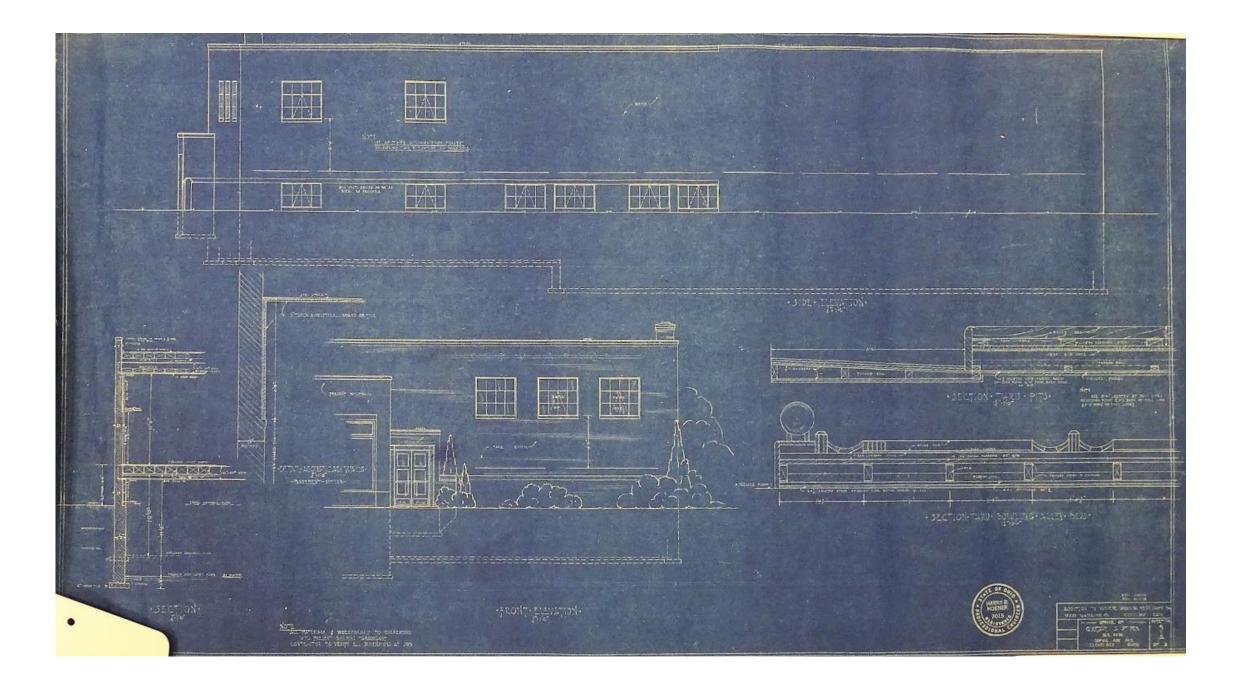












#### Monument

- Gold Star
  - 14 Killed in Action
- 548 Service members from the neighborhood
  - Names on bronze plaques



One of the first monuments to be built in honor of World War II veterans will be dedicated Sunday by Slovene organizations meeting in the Slovene Workman's Home,

Financed by the combined lodges of the Slovene Workmen's Home, the monument is 13 feet high. A pillar eight feet high contains names of 14 men in the neighborhood who were killed in action. The 15th name is that of Presiden

The base of the monument contains four bronze plaques with names of 548 men of the neighborhood who served. The monument was built by Frank Kosich of 15425

Sunday's dedication program will include a parade at 1:30 p.m. and a speaking program in front of the monument at 2 p. m.

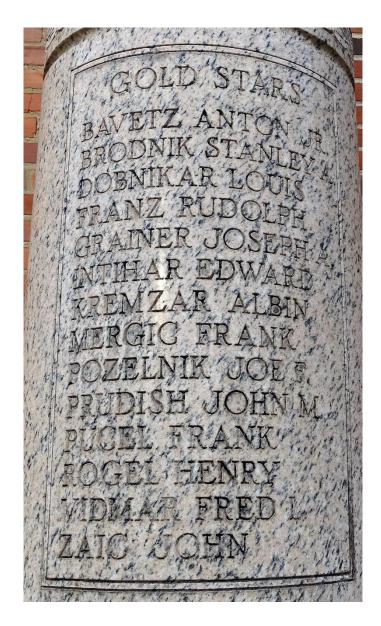
to servicement to be dedicated by Slovenes Sunday at 15335 Waterloo Rd.

#### Monument



#### Monument





#### **Current Conditions**









# Significance

- Its character, interest or value is part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or the United States.
- The historic property exemplifies the cultural, economic, social or historic heritage of the City.
- The historic property embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- The historic property relates to other distinctive areas which are eligible for preservation activities, based on a historic, cultural, or architectural motif
- The historic property's location or its singular physical characteristics represent the establishment or are a familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or City.

#### Sources

- Encyclopedia of Cleveland History
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Slovene Workmen's Home program (1976)
- Cleveland City Building Permits